



韦恩堡中华联谊会

Fort Wayne Chinese Families & Friends Association

Newsletter

August 2008



Three River Festival Parade

On June 12, our association participated in FW's 40th TRF parade, for the first time with both our own banner and with over 30 participants dressed in either traditional costumes or our association's T-shirts, thanks to the successful preparation by Li-Ming Liu, our event organizer in charge of the parade. Much to everyone's excitement, we won the third prize for the Special Unit Award (see photo on next page). Hurrah!

Our procession began with FWCFFA's banner, carried by four gorgeous-looking ladies dressed in beautiful traditional QiPao, followed by the dragon and the lions dancing and waving to the audience, all dressed in bright yellow silky costumes. Next in line were our side drum performers in bright red costumes, marching and performing graciously in unity, accompanied by Chinese festival music. Last but not least, we also presented wonderful

Words from the President



I am most excited and proud to share with you all the great news that we, FWCFFA, won the third prize for the Specialty Unit Award for the 40th Three Rivers Festival Parade. Congratulations to us all!

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of FWCFFA, to thank all of you who put a lot of time and efforts into the endeavor and made this great success possible! In spite of the rain and the forecast of the storm, all the volunteer participants came and we pulled it off successfully. Our boys and girls did a wonderful job, so did the rest of our team. We would also like to thank our enthusiastic members who came to cheer for us and took pictures for our group. I am sure that all of us are and will be greatly encouraged by our success this year and the recognition we received for our great efforts. We will keep our hard work to make our association thrive and grow stronger.

Please share this great news with all our families

posters (all nicely done by Mr. Zhanfu Duan) of the 2008 Olympic Games logo and the five Fu Wa (welcoming dolls).

There are many individuals we need to acknowledge, whose participation and contributions have made our parade possible and successful. Li-Ming Liu, our event organizer in charge of the parade, did a tremendous amount of preparation work to coordinate the event. We would like to thank Mrs. Jian Wu for her special efforts in taking care of the customized order and shipping of the costumes for our association, without which our parade participation would not have been as successful. In addition, Mrs. Jian Wu and Mrs. Yinghui Fitzgerald both contributed a great deal in providing instructions, coaching the dancers and helping with the practice for the parade. We would also like to thank Sarina Fischer and Jenning Li for the support from the Chinese School during the parade. Working with the Chinese School parade team, we adjusted our participants to present the theme for each team. The success of the parade this year is the result of collaboration between our Chinese organizations. Most importantly, we extend our sincere thanks to all our young and adult participants, who joined us in the parade regardless of the rain and came for the practice in spite of the high price of the gas. Thank you all!



Donation for the Sichuan earthquake relief efforts

In response to the devastating impact of the deadliest earthquake in Sichuan Province of China since 1976 that claimed over 80,000 human lives, FWCFFA launched two rounds of donation campaigns. Many of our association members and friends extended a helping hand to the disaster relief efforts and the people affected by the disaster; the total amount of individual donations our association received in a short period exceeds \$2,500. Including FWCFFA's \$300, all the funds were sent, through the Chinese Consulate in Chicago, to the Sichuan earthquake victims. We know that our donations constitute part of the overall relief

and friends! The information about our prize is listed at the following website:

(<http://www.fortwayne.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/JG/20080712/LOCAL/149208389>).

--- Hao Sun ---

(originally sent as email on Sat. July 12)

The Prize Plaque



Library gathering



In response to our members' suggestion for more social opportunities, we held an informal gathering at 2 pm on April 12 to view the recording of the 2008 Spring Festival celebration performances of Beijing at the Main Library.

We had approximately 30 attendees, including some new comers to FW. Those who came enjoyed the opportunity to view the recorded performances and the time to chat with friends.

The Duan Wu Festival Picnic



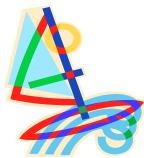
As planned, our association's Duan Wu Festival picnic took place at 3:00 pm on June 8th. As over 120 people gathered in Franke Park, this was truly a great opportunity for our members, friends and new comers to socialize and enjoy the beautiful weather together outdoors, to celebrate our cultural tradition, and to prepare for the Three-Rivers-Festival parade. The principal of the Chinese school -- Mrs. Sarina gave a brief history to

efforts now being undertaken in China. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our donors, members and friends alike, for the support and compassion each of you has shown; our contribution will make a difference for the earthquake victims in Sichuan.

We are aware that for the same purpose of joining the relief efforts for the victims of the earthquake, some of our members and friends have sent donations to other organizations, for which we don't have the specific information but we thank all donors who contributed to this great cause. In this letter, we would like to thank several anonymous donors, the FW Chinese School and the following individuals/families who sent their donations to FWCFFA for the Sichuan victims (in alphabetic order):

Yihao Deng, Zhanfu Duan & Yanni Qu, Han Fei & Hao Sun, Andy Huang's family, Kevin & Beth Greenwell, Chaoqian Li & Xiaoying Wan, Jianning Li & Ming Gong, Wilson & June Liang, Lidan Lin, Yanfei Liu, Richard & Nancy Lou, Hongli Luo & Bingxin Tian, Yifei Pan & Yan Liu, Velimir & Mingsun Petrovic, Sarah & Michael Trittipio, Jiaxin Zhao & Jia Zhou, Xinyang Zhou & Xiao Lin.

Upcoming Events/Activities



1 Mid-Autumn Festival & 25th FWCFFA Anniversary Celebration

Time: 5:00 p.m. September 13th, 2008

Place: Walb Union, IPFW

For: Celebration of Mid-autumn Festival, celebration of FWCFFA's 25th anniversary, approval of by-laws, and election of our next president.

2 We will soon send a draft of our association's by-laws (to be approved at our Mid-autumn Festival meeting) to all the members of FWCFFA for your review and feedback. Please watch out for our next email message or letter.

attending young kids about Chinese Duan Wu Festival (AKA: Dragon Boat Festival) and also introduced Chinese food – Zong Zi, one of our major foods at this picnic. All attendees brought some food, fruits or drinks to share with others. This was truly an enjoyable occasion and a wonderful get-together.

Many volunteers worked diligently behind the scene for this picnic and made the joyous gathering possible. We would like to thank everyone who helped with the Duan Wu picnic in one way or another. In particular, we extend a huge Thank You to the following people who helped with making the delicious Zong Zi (or brought Zong Zi to the picnic): Wansu Chen, Weichen He, Shaojun Sui, Linda Slaubaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Thong, Jian Wu, Zhanfu Duan and Yan Liu. Unfortunately some of these volunteers were not even able to come to the picnic for various reasons, but we really appreciate their tremendous efforts of all these volunteers, whether they attended the picnic or not.

Although we enjoyed our gathering and the life we live here, we did not forget the disastrous earthquake in China. At the beginning of the picnic, we held one-minute silence to mourn the loss of many lives in Sichuan's earthquake.

Our logo



Thanks to Mrs. Zhou Jia's excellent design, FWCFFA now has a formal logo to represent our association after several rounds of serious and fruitful discussions with our members by e-mail.

The well-crafted logo, which is in the shape of a Chinese knot, represents both a part of the Chinese culture and the nature of our association - to connect with and help each other in unity.

As you may have noticed, this logo is printed on our association's banner, which was carried during the Three-Rivers-Festival parade as well as shown on the acknowledgment letter to our Sichuan earthquake donors.

Most significantly, our logo has appeared on our

* All members please return the attached form for nomination for our association's president to Hao Sun **before August 20** (sunh@ipfw.edu or 6303 Black Oak Blvd. FW 46835).

** Anyone interested in presenting a performance please return the attached form for performances to Lidan Lin **before August 20** (linl@ipfw.edu; 249-0497; 7205 Sandyridge Place, Fort Wayne IN, 46835).

*** Everyone/family planning on attending the Mid-autumn Festival please return the attached registration form to Dr. Yihao Deng along with a check **before August 25** (5615 Old Dover Blvd, Apt. 7, Fort Wayne, IN 46835; dengy@ipfw.edu).

association's T-Shirt, and every member family should have already received one FWCFFA T-shirt for free by now, if so desired and indicated.

We hope our logo will help our association thrive and will keep us linked, united, and energized. It will serve as our association's symbol for many years to come.



See you @ next issue!