



Fort Wayne Chinese Families & Friends Association

Newsletter

www.fortwaynechinese.org

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2010 Chinese New Year Celebration Party

The Association successfully hosted a Chinese New Year celebration party on February 20, 2010 at the IPFW Walb Union. More than 300 members and friends, including many guests of honor from IPFW and Fort Wayne Sister Cities International, participated and enjoyed. It was very encouraging to see many friends from various groups celebrated together.

The Walb Union Ballroom was decorated with many traditional Chinese New Year decorations, celebration programs (designed by Jing Liu), fruits, and colorful balloons to create a Chinese festival atmosphere. Before the celebration officially started, many children wearing qi-pao or/and tiger head-bands (instructed by Jia Zhou) were running around while Gloria Chen diligently wrote beautiful calligraphy on red paper for many admirers. Greetings and chatting from one another added more joyful excitement to the celebration.

Delicious food is a must to celebrate Chinese New Year. Thanks to Xiulin Yan who arranged the food with local restaurants, Great Wall Buffet II and Golden China. Many yummy dumplings were also prepared beforehand by the families of Yanni Qu, Yi Wang, Lixin Li, and Hong Yuan. It was very comforting that we could keep this tradition of eating dumplings in the new-year feast.

The 15 well-prepared performances that highlighted many essential facets of our Association caught people's eyes. From traditional to modern, from classical to pop, varieties of singing, dancing, acting, sharing, instrument playing, and slide-show presenting all touched our hearts. Performances were contributed by Chinese School (instructed by Zhanfu Duan and Ann Slen), FW Chinese Christian Church (instructed/coordinated by Lixin Li and Xiulin Yan), Chinese Program at IPFW (instructed by Prof. Xianchun Gu), representatives from adoptive families (the families of Jones and Snell), and many individuals. Emcee Suining Ding and Audio/Video Control Yihao Deng were two of the key factors that made the celebration party pleasant and smooth. Thank you all for the support, contribution, and participation you have offered to make this celebration unforgettable.

Special thanks go to several IPFW leaders and spouses, including Charles O'Connor, Pilar O'Connor, William McKinney, and Brian Mylrea, for their courage to show their talent in learning Chinese after a quick 5-minute's intense training instructed by Lidan Lin. In addition, many thanks go to the donations from our members and friends. They are:

Stanley Barker
Robert Darling
Williams Donald
Michelle Hu
Lawrence Lee
Chaoqian Li
Panjian Li
Wilson Liang
Lidan Lin
John Lohman
Haihong Mao





In order to introduce our culture to the public, our Association participated in the annual Fort Wayne FAME Festival the second time. FAME, the Foundation for Art and Music in Elementary Education, has a mission to foster and perpetuate creativity through multicultural arts education.

The festival lasted one and a half days, the whole day on Saturday, March 13 and the afternoon on Sunday, March 14, at the Grand Wayne Convention Center. Before the festival, Jun Ma, Xiaoyi Fan, Lixin Li, Yanni Qu, and Li-Ming Liu kindly took out their collection at home to help decorate the booth or donated several cultural items (postcards, paintings, paper cuttings, crafts, etc) for sale in the festival. The Association thanks for their generosity.

Lixin Li, Gloria Chen, Lidan Lin, Yi Wang, Mingxin Yan, Sarina Fischer, Xiaoying Wang, Yan Liu, Yanni Qu, Quan Liu, Li-Ming Liu, and Zhanfu Duan volunteered to host our booth. Their main task was to involve visitors with Chinese culture by answering their questions or explaining the meaning and history of those items displayed.

As seen in the Chinese New Year Celebration party, Gloria Chen performed a live demonstration of Chinese calligraphy in the festival. Gloria first translated children's English name into a Chinese name and then wrote it on a bright red paper with a brush and black ink. You could feel the excitement inside those children.

Another 'traditional' program was to write Chinese characters on postcards. Children first picked their favorite postcard among many selections and then our volunteer would write their name or greetings in Chinese on the card. It sounds easy and plain to most of us, but this writing 'trick' amazed almost all visitors.

All volunteers felt very excited to be able to promote Chinese culture and fund raise for the Association at the same time. 'We need more tables and space next year!' 'We hope to display more beautiful pictures, paintings, etc. to show our culture further next year!' Stay tuned for the opportunity you can participate next year!

The Association is very glad to announce that a donation has been made to FAME this year. The rest of the proceeds have been forwarded to our Association fund.



2010 Ping Pong Tourney Has Chinese Flavor



By Jenning Li

The Friendship Ping Pong Tournament took place shortly after noon at Messiah Lutheran Church, where the hollow sound of bouncing ping pong balls mingled with discussion and laughter.

The above title and words are copied from The Journal Gazette in February 2009 after the First Ping Pong Tournament in our Fort Wayne Chinese Association. It came again this year. Our Association held the Second Ping Pong Tournament on March 27, 2010.

We had 5 players in men's group, 5 players in the women's group, and 2 players in children's group. The competition took 4 rounds as so-called 'Round Robin'. Jacob (Zesheng) Chen won the 1st place and Guodong Tian got second in men's group. Lidan Lin won the 1st place and Yanni Qu got the second in women's group. Tyler Li won the 1st place and Kevin Wang got the second in children's group.

Jacob is one of regular members in a table tennis Club. Somewhat like a professional player, he obtained the championship with easy. With traditional Chinese style of close table and fast offensive playing, Guodong won second without any question.

Traced back as a champion in an elementary school in China, Lidan won another title here at Fort Wayne. Our former association president Yanni did not win last year and won 2nd place this year. She could do some practices in last one year.

The event representative from Chinese Association and the organizer, Zhanfu Duan, issued certificates and awards to the winners after the tournament finished.

There is a very good table tennis club in the Fort Wayne named Three River Table Tennis Club. Please see its website www.trttc.org. The owner, Tom Dannenfelser, founded the club at Fort Wayne 10 years ago. Currently, there are 66 listed league members. One member, Bob Hall, is 73 years old and he has adopted grandchildren from China.

Original English name for this sport is Table Tennis. After 40 years that both Chinese men's and women's teams dominated the ping pong event in the world, the Chinese word Ping Pong becomes international languages. As a Chinese or a friend of Chinese, do you feel some kind of proud in playing this sport? Moreover, starting from the Chinese pingpong player, Zhuang Zedong, and the American player, Glenn Cowen, had an incident of contact in Japan in 1971, the famous historical Ping Pong Diplomacy caused many Chinese can live now in the Fort Wayne. Do you appreciate this sport?

I like to see our Chinese Association to have such Friendship Tournament each year as one of our traditions in future. I encourage you participate in the sport of ping pong and to join in this tournament in future. Without your participating, well, I would lose my super-honored title as a head coach.



Announcements

1. We have sent out member directory to each of our members. Please let us know if you are a member but didn't receive it yet. Please also let us know if there is anything you'd like to make change in the directory. Thanks.
2. On our website www.fortwaynechinese.org, you can find the association's latest news and event bulletins, as well as photos collected from previous activities. If you have any comments or suggestions for our organization, you can [contact us](#) through our website. And we have "Info Channel" through which our members and friends can share and exchange information. You can post your advertisements or special needs in the Channel, as long as they will benefit our members and are not for commercial purposes only. Please send your information to our officers so they will judge the appropriateness of the posting and place it on the website if it's appropriate.

The [bylaws](#) of our association are available on the website in English and Chinese versions. Anyone can join our organization by filling out the registration form online (or downloading it), printing it out, and returning it to the location indicated on the form.



Upcoming Events

1. FWCFFA plans to have a picnic to celebrate Dragon Boat Festival. Detail information will come soon.
2. Three Rivers Parade will be on Saturday morning, July 10th. Those who are interested in participation, please contact with Li-Ming Liu, Yihao Deng, Jing Liu, Lixin Li or Zhanfu Duan. We may practice for it during Dragon Boat Festival celebration. See separate announcement for further information.

