



China Council Quarterly



美國西北區中國協會

NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL

127 NW 3RD AVENUE, PORTLAND, OR 97209

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The China Council will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2005 and we are working to make it a banner year. Things are off to a good start with the winter-spring series of programs, "From Quiet Spring to Roaring City: Exploring the Yangzi River in Myth, History and Modernity", made possible with a grant from the Oregon Council for the Humanities and the support of several partnering organizations (see page 3). We are also looking forward to a busy year teaching Chinese. Last year was an exceptionally good one, with a record number of participants attending weeknight classes for adults and the continued growth of weekend classes for children. Language instructor Willow Zheng has done a great job leading and developing the classes.

Another success story is the China Business Network (CBN), overseen by China Council board members Lillian Tsai, Judith Woo Poutasse and David Kohl. The 2004 CBN monthly luncheon events were consistently first-rate and have proven to be valuable information and networking resource for area business professionals.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the great work of the entire China Council board, including our newly installed members, who show every indication of providing the kind of vision and leadership that will make our 25th year a very good one.

Happy Year of the Rooster!

Rosario Agialoro

CHINA COUNCIL NEWS

Remembering Iris Chang

On November 9, 2004, the author and activist Iris Chang committed suicide near Los Gatos, California. She was 36 years old.



Earlier last year, she was researching a book on American soldiers who served in tank units on the Bataan peninsula before World War II. It has been reported that she became severely depressed and was hospitalized.

In spring 2003, Iris Chang was in Portland to introduce her latest book, *The Chinese in America, a Narrative History* at Powell's Books. A few days before her arrival, we contacted her publisher and arranged to have dinner with Iris and a few Council friends at Good Day Restaurant in Chinatown. We asked the chef to surprise us: prepare a meal fit for a special guest, and he did. Iris told us that a good meal was exactly what she needed. She had been eating poorly and rushing around the country on the book tour.

Her first book, the *Thread of the Silkworm*, was published in 1995, when she was just 27. The book chronicles the life of Tsien Hsue-shen, a Chinese-born scientist deported from the United States during the McCarthy era. Her next book, *The Rape of Nanjing*, was published in 1997, the 60th anniversary of the massacre of tens of thousands of Chinese by Japanese soldiers occupying the city. This book, on *The New York Times* bestsellers list for ten weeks, made Iris Chang famous, and controversial.

Iris' reading at Powell's that April evening demonstrated her intelligence and her intensity. She was on a mission. She wanted us all to understand that the Chinese American experience had been a great struggle against prejudice and injustice. Melissa Fusco, in an article for the May 7, 2004 *Stanford Daily*, wrote the following: "When asked how she was able to work for long periods of time on graphic and emotionally wrenching material, Chang said, 'I work with an ache in my heart, but I do believe in the power of one person to make a difference.'"

Iris Chang made a difference. She will be sorely missed.

Dr. Wing Sam Won of Portland, recipient of the Northwest China Council 2002 Flying Horse Distinguished Service Award, died Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2005. He was 73. Dr. Won, who earned degrees from the Western States Chiropractic College and the National College of Naturopathic Medicine and worked as a chiropractic and naturopathic physician and acupuncturist for more than 30 years.

Dr. Won served as president of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, the Chinese American Citizen Alliance and the Portland Lee On Dong Family Association and was among the Chinese leaders responsible in the 1980s for the installation of street lamps and the Chinatown gate in downtown Portland and the launching of dragon boat race events.



Dr. Won at the 1999 NWCC Dinner and Auction.

The Won family is a long-time supporter of the China Council. Dr. Won will be fondly remembered for his volunteer help at the Council's annual Chinese New Year fundraiser, where he served, graciously, as a fortune teller.

Remembrances may be sent to the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association Scholarship Fund, the Portland Lee On Dong Family Association, the Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp or the Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church.



PROGRAM NOTES

November may not be a great time for gardening but garden enthusiasts were out in force to attend lectures by architectural historian **Che Bing Chiu** and the renowned botanist **Peter Valder**. On November 3, professor Chiu was at Portland State University to talk about the legendary gardens of the Yuanmingyuan palace complex, the summer retreat of the Qing rulers until it was destroyed by the British in 1860. An interesting article on Chiu's research can be found at the UCLA International Institute website (www.isop.ucla.edu). Valder, here as a guest of the Portland Classical Chinese Garden gave talks on November 6 and 9 on Chinese gardens and Chinese plants. ♦ Journalist **Seth Faison** read from his memoir *South of the Clouds: Exploring the Hidden Realms of China* at Looking Glass Books. Faison, who was the China Council's annual meeting keynote speaker in 2000, also talked about his coming of age as a cub reporter and a young man living in working in a rapidly changing China. ♦ **Reed College's** November 13 **China Day** lectures for high school students provided an excellent opportunity for young people to attend a variety of talks on Chinese culture, art and contemporary life. The all-day event, coordinated by Reed's Special Programs department should be back next fall. Don't miss it! ♦ Council executive director **Rosario Agliatoro** was the featured speaker for the Chinese Scientists Engineers and Professional Association monthly dinner on November 20 at the Sam Ho Restaurant in Northeast Portland. This was the first event in a series of talks titled "Travels around Dunhuang," a Chinese Silk Road site that Rosario has been visiting since 1994. The final talk in the series is on January 25 at the China Council.

第一屆 中文角 晚會

The NW China Council **Chinese Language Corner Party** was held at the Rogue Distillery & Public House at 1339 NW Flanders in the Pearl District on December 8, 2004. Almost 30 NWCC Chinese language students and 15 guests joined teacher Willow Zheng for an evening of fun and games.

The party space was made festive with Willow's brightly colored calligraphy hangings, which doubled as languages games for students competing for free beverages, mugs and other goodies by showing off their language skills. The First Annual NW China Council Language Student Writing Samples were displayed during the event. Jeff Schultz, David Frierman and Nina Yonezawa won prizes for their language achievements. Based on the rave reviews from participants ("great fun, good brew, tasty treats, highly educational"), we will be sure to have another language party next year. Many thanks to Jeff Schultz & Junxi Huang, for providing free beverages and door prize donations of a Rogue T-shirt, bottles of Rogue Ale, Matt Fildes of Pacific Corneta for donating beautiful beverage mugs, Karen and John Drain from Fine Earth Trading for the embroidered coin purses and luxurious all-natural soaps, and Ron Smith for providing the game prize treats. Our very special thanks to Junxi Huang, Ru Wu, Xiaoyang Wang and Antonia Agliatoro for their great help with checking the game answers during the party. Most of all, many thanks to Willow Zheng, Ron Smith and Xiaoyang Wang for all their hard work in organizing the party and providing such beautiful decorations. See you at next year's party!

Northwest China Council
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CHINA BUSINESS NETWORK

The CBN November 3 speaker was Mr. **Gareth Chang, Chairman and Managing Partner of GC3 Associates**. Chang, the former chairman and chief executive of STAR TV Group, spoke frankly about the successes, failures and challenges ahead for the Chinese leadership, the Chinese people and the difficulties of navigating the country's complex economic environment. ♦ **James Butler, Global Channel Manager for NW Analytical** shared his experiences as a hands on manager in the Chinese marketplace at the December 1 CBN luncheon. Butler, who began his China business career with the Burroughs Company in 1984, summarized the key factors for developing a workable business strategy for the Chinese marketplace.

LANGUAGE TRAINING for the BUSINESS TRAVELER

Over the past two years, an increasing number of professional people have been adding Chinese language study to their long-term career planning strategy. The China Council has been teaching Mandarin language classes since the 1980's is currently offers four ten-week sessions at the Council and on-site training in a variety of formats. Please call Council executive director Rosario Agliatoro at 503 973-5451 for details.

CBN Calendar

Ted Fishman, author of *China Inc.: How the Rise of the Next Industrial Superpower Challenges America and the World.*

Ted Fishman is a seasoned financial and economic journalist whose work has appeared in the *New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *Money*, *Harper's*, *Worth*, *Esquire*, *USA Today*, *GQ*, *Chicago Magazine* and *Business 2.0*. He has served as a commentator on Public Radio International's "Marketplace."



Mr. Fishman was a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange from 1985-1992 during which time he ran his own trading firm and served as a floor trader in currencies, cattle and equity stock indexes.

When: Monday, Feb. 14th, 12-1:30pm

Where: House of Louie Restaurant,
331 NW Davis, Chinatown

Cost: Lunch & Talk: \$20 members; \$30 General, \$15 for students with valid ID. \$5 surcharge for walk-ins

Register with credit card to 503 973-5451 by Feb. 13th.

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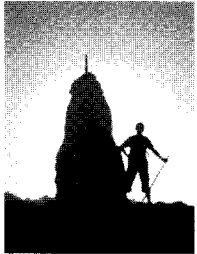
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EVENTS CALENDAR

Travels around Dunhuang

Join China Council executive director Rosario Agliodoro for the final talk in the "Travels Around Dunhuang" series. Rosario spent the summer working at the Dunhuang Research Institute and traveled around the area to Buddhist cave sites, the Mongol County of Subei, and more. The talk will focus on people and local culture with lots of people portraits contrasted with Rosario's image collection of stupas (Buddhist reliquaries).

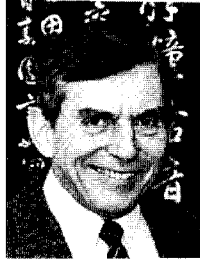


When: Tuesday Jan. 25, 7 PM
Where: NWCC / PCCG office
Kida Bldg. 127 NW 3rd Ave.
Cost: Free
Members* only: pre-registration
required to 503 973-5451
* NWCC & PCCG members

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Exploring China's Yangzi River

Join us for the opening lectures of the series, *From Quiet Spring to Roaring City: Exploring China's Yangzi River in Myth, History and Modernity* sponsored by the Northwest China Council with a generous grant from the Oregon Council for the Humanities and support from Linfield College, the Portland Classical Chinese Garden, the Institute for Asian Studies & the Department of History at Portland State University.



Our very special guest is Stanford University emeritus professor Lyman P. Van Slyke. His first talk on **January 26** will provide a geographical and historical overview of the Yangzi River from its source waters in the Himalayas to its outlet into the sea near Shanghai. The **January 27** talk will consider the river through the classic Chinese novel, *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, as a way of understanding the Yangzi River's importance in China's cultural and historical development.

Van Slyke earned a MA and PhD in Asian history at the University of California, Berkeley and joined the Stanford University faculty in 1963. His published work includes the critically acclaimed book, *Yangtze: Nature, History, and the River*.

When: Wed & Thursday Jan. 26 & 27, 7pm
Where: PSU Smith Memorial Ctr., Room 236
1825 SW Broadway near Harrison
Campus parking available in Parking Structure #1 on SW 6th (metered parking until 7PM, free after 7PM)
Cost: Free **Registration:** None Required



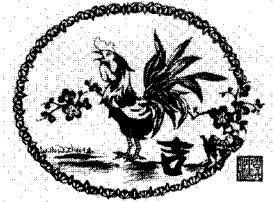
Tibetan Culture along the Yangzi's Upper Reaches

Dave Bleye and Dr. Pamela Logan will trace the "Long River's" passage through the eastern Tibetan plateau, home to the Khampas, ethnic Tibetans whose lives and livelihoods are closely connected to the river. Dr. Logan is the executive director of the Kham Aid Foundation and a project scientist for the Silk Road Project, China Exploration & Research Society. Dave Bleye was U.S. Consul General in Chengdu, China from 2000-2003 and currently a board member of the Northwest China Council.

When: Thursday, February 17, 7pm
Where: PSU Smith Memorial Ctr., Room 236
See 1/26 program notes for complete venue information
Cost: Free **Registration:** None Required

Year of the Rooster Dinner & Auction

Join us for the Council's Fifteenth Annual Chinese New Year Dinner & Auction. Whether you are attending the party or not, we hope you will consider donating something to the auction. Call 503 973-5451 for tickets and donation information. Download invitation and donor forms at www.nwchina.org.



When : Saturday Evening, February 26, 2005
Where: The Great China Seafood Restaurant,
336 NW Davis Street, Chinatown
Cost: Individual seats \$45.00; Table of Ten \$400.00*
Patron Table \$500.00**

*Single payment of \$400 required to reserve.
**Preferred seating; mention in auction program

Yangzi Programs in March & April

In March **Ma Jun & Diedre Chetham** will focus on the Yangzi river in contemporary times. Ma, currently a visiting fellow at Yale University, is a former environmental reporter for the South China Morning Post and author of China's Water Crisis. Chetham, author of *Before the Deluge: The Disappearing World of the Yangtze's Gorges*, is the executive director of the Harvard University Asia Center. The final talks in April will focus on Shanghai, which sits near the terminus of the Yangzi and is modern day China's flagship enterprise for the push toward economic prosperity and international prominence. Speakers include **Stella Dong**, author of *Shanghai: The Rise and Fall of a Decadent City*, and *Shanghai: Gateway to the Celestial Empire, 1860-1949*. **Susan Glosser** an associate Professor of History at Lewis & Clark College and author of *Saving the Nation: Chinese Visions of Family and State*. She regularly visits Shanghai and is very interested in the city's contemporary development. **Joseph J. Borich** is the Executive Director of the Washington State China Relations Council and formerly the U.S. Consul General in Shanghai from October 1994 through June 1997.

Event dates and location will be posted as soon as possible at www.nwchina.org and sent to e-mail subscribers and by post to members.



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Celebrate the Year of the Rooster
February 26, 2005
at the
Great China Seafood Restaurant
With the Northwest China Council

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