



January – March, 2008 Issue 108
China Council Quarterly

127 NW 3rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97209

www.nwchina.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

2007 was one of the most challenging years for the NW China Council due to unexpected, sudden death of our dear friend and colleague, Executive Director Rosario Agliandolo, in July. Our sincere condolences to his family. We created the "Rosario Agliandolo Memorial Fund" to assist his daughter, Antonia, with her transition to college this Fall. We are fortunate that Rosario's widow, Willow continues to teach our Mandarin classes.

In August, the board of directors and the executive committee met the challenge of filling Rosario's position immediately, which we did through December with Paul Millius as interim executive director. We wish to thank Paul for his loyalty and dedication to the China Council.

We are in the process of interviewing candidates for a permanent Executive Director position and should have announcements shortly.

Additionally, in September, we appointed John Wong, a long time Council member, who took a leave of absence from his Board position to fill in as part-time Office Manager. His hours at the Council office are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, predominantly to keep our administrative house in order, and to lend his wisdom to our programs and activities. Thank you, John.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

In November, we were very fortunate to have three new members join the Board: Michael Bloom, Eric van Naerssen, and Craig Fisk, bring individual talents and strong backgrounds with Chinese business, society, and culture. Their advice and vision have already been felt. Existing board members and board committees have also stepped up to fill the void in programming with Rosario's death; you will be hearing lots more about new and exciting programs in the near future.

President-Elect, Melanie Tang, and I are co-functioning daily to address the immediate needs of the organization, and planning for the future. I will be stepping down as of June 30, 2008 at which time Melanie will be the President.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Before Rosario's passing, the Board began discussing how the Northwest China Council would meet the challenges as we look to our second quarter century, and to the accelerating changes in China. We are using these times and a E.D. search as opportunities to move forward with our strategic plans.

We urge all of you to remember the China Council as you plan your annual philanthropic giving in 2008 so that we may continue to provide you, our loyal members, with the high quality programs that you deserve.

Happy new year! Xin nian kuai le! Sun neen fai lock!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lillian Tsai".

Lillian Tsai

ANNUAL MEETING

On Oct. 11, 2007, about 70 members and friends of the China Council gathered at Jin Wah Restaurant in Beaverton for the Annual meeting. Lillian Tsai reported on the state of the Council, and three new Board members (Michael, Eric, and Craig) were elected. Attendees enjoyed an eight-course Chinese dinner, and listened to Jack Elder, a 1972 Olympian, give an entertaining historical talk about the Olympics, what it meant for different cities; and what impact it will probably have on Beijing, and its relation to the rest of the world.

SURVEY RESULTS

A "thank you" to members who filled and returned a survey from the summer newsletter. We are glad about high level of satisfaction with China Council program and events, and that we should continue offering programs in areas of culture, contemporary affairs, and business. Even with more people receiving information from e-mail, there is still strong interest in the printed newsletter.

2008 FLYING HORSE AWARD RECIPIENT



Gloria F. Lee

Shortly after the Portland Chinese Classical Garden's grand opening on September 14th, 2000, Gloria Lee became the Executive Director for the newly built authentic urban Suzhou style garden. In the first year of operation, the garden attracted 257,000 visitors and was awarded the PORTLAND Award by POVA for overall contribution to the promotion of Portland and Oregon's visitor industry for 2001. Today, the Garden is positioned as a leading cultural heritage destination that contributes to a 3.6 billion tourism industry for Portland, a living museum of Chinese horticulture and offers an outreach K-12 education program throughout the state of Oregon, bringing Chinese culture to schools from Bly to Astoria, Oregon.

Over the past 8 years, she has been instrumental (in addition to her 60+ hour weeks as ED of the Garden) as a catalyst in changes in OldTown/Chinatown during various projects that transformed the neighborhood. She has worked in close collaboration with the City of Portland, PDC, PDOT as well as numerous OldTown/Chinatown Committees, from visions to land use to business to arts, culture and history.



*18th Annual Chinese New Year Dinner & Auction
Saturday evening, February 23, 2008*

*Celebrate the Year of the Rat, and
Enjoy an eight-course Chinese banquet dinner,
Fabulous silent and oral auction items,
And Lion dance and Cultural performance*

\$45/person, \$400/Table, \$500/Patron Table

For more information, see the website:

www.nwchina.org, or call office at 503-973-5451

CBN NEWS

In the last half of 2007, the China Business Network continued to bring experienced speakers to Portland to share business intelligence about China with our members and the community. CBN committee chairperson Cathy Chinn led her team of co-organizers through a time of transition for the NWCC and has set goals for the committee to bring even more value to our business members in 2008. We are excited by the speaker line-up and the improvements in store for 2008.



August 8, 2007, "Perspectives on Current U.S.-China Trade Issues" lunch presentation by **Congressman Earl Blumenauer** at the House of Louie. Congressman Blumenauer shared his views on possible Congressional actions relating to urging China to float the yuan and also recent press coverage of quality control problems with Chinese imports.

September 19, 2007, **The Hong Kong Trade Development Council** presented an overview at the Hilton Hotel in Portland of economic growth and options for U.S. business entry into China with the assistance of the HK Trade Development Council. [CBN co-sponsored event].

October 3, "Assisting American Exporters in China Trade," lunch presentation by **Frances "Chip" Peters**, Commercial Officer, Shanghai office of the U.S. **Commercial Service**, at the House of Louie in Portland.

November 16, 2007, **Li Haiyan**, Chinese Economic Consul from Washington, DC, keynoted the China Business Conference at the Hilton, co-sponsored with the Portland Business Alliance. [CBN co-sponsored event].

December 5, 2007, "Beyond Outsourcing: Selling Your Products in China" morning seminar and lunch session at the Port of Portland by **H and Y Law Firm** (Shanghai), and by **Taylor Global Law** and **Buckley LeChevalier** (Portland). Also included was a lunch talk by **Derrick Olsen** of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department.

January 9, 2008, "Preventing Liability for Your Products from China" lunch presentation by **Josh DeCristo** of the law firm of **Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt** at House of Louie in Portland.

ROSARIO AGLIALORO, by Lina Agliodoro



1946-2007

Rosario "Russ" Joseph Agliodoro was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 30, 1946. He died suddenly at home on the evening of July 12, 2007. He had been Executive Director of the Northwest China Council since 1998.

Rosario was known for his dedication and passion for the work of the China Council and worked endlessly with creative and innovative force, building bridges between the Chinese and American communities both locally and internationally. His cultural studies extended beyond China as he was fascinated by the lives of everyday people, their art and their lands across the globe.

While his work and his interests often overlapped, he found most joy in the simple things. Rosario was a lover of everything baseball. To spend his 60th birthday at Yankee stadium, he said, was a highpoint in his life. He found solace and excitement both in a wide variety of music and developed a collection of LP's that dominated his basement office/sanctuary.

Choosing not to drive a car, Rosario loved to walk and think and move his six-foot frame after a long day in the office. With his music and Yankees hat on he was most content cruising at a natural pace across Portland's bridges and China's Gobi Desert. Food and wine were among his favorite things and he was known for his talent for Italian cooking, always paired with "an everyday red".

Rosario was always an avid reader and his extensive knowledge of literature, poetry and cultural studies were apparent in all aspects of his public and personal work. He was a gifted writer and artist, a popular teacher with his students, and a photographer of all varieties of this world's beauty. Most of all, Rosario Agliodoro was a beloved member of his family and his community. He will be sorely missed.

IN MEMORIUM, by Charles Wu

Rosario,
You were not a setting sun,
not by a long shot;
Yet you disappeared like a meteor
from the zenith of that Pacific night.

Rosario,
I always called you Luo Laoban, Ross the Boss,
as I did the afternoon before you moved on;
Not just because I love teasing a dear friend,
but because I love to see a boss like you.

You were like a lone star,
shining in the northwestern corner of the sky;
But you gathered around you a galaxy of bright stars,
lighting up both sides of the Pacific Lake.

Like a true West Coaster you seemed quite laid back,
with plenty of patience, plenty of ease;
Yet like a New Yorker, you worked and produced
talks and tours, biz lunches and noodle nights.

Rosario,
I will miss calling you Luo Laoban,
miss your welcoming smile, your brotherly pat;
But I will keep looking in for your chair, desk, and pin-ups,
every time I pass through where you played your best part.

Rest in peace, Luo Laoban!

LANGUAGE CLASSES, by Willow Zheng

I am starting my 9th year teaching Mandarin at the NW China Council, and students continue to fill up the front conference table at the China Council office each evening Monday through Friday. One notable trend is the increase in the number of students continuing Mandarin beyond the Beginner level. I now teach two Intermediate-level classes.

One intermediate class is finishing up the Level I Part II text and will start the Level II text next term, and one class that has started its third term using the Level II text.

My students are also getting more involved with Mandarin outside of the classroom, through activities such as weekend chat groups and spending a month or two in China immersing themselves in the language and culture. Last year, three China Council students spent 1-2 months each in Beijing studying Mandarin. This year, several students already have plans to go to China to study. The number of people studying Mandarin for professional reasons continues to grow. One of my students gave a presentation last year at a dinner meeting, all in Mandarin, to a partner company in China. His talk brought applause and cheers from the Chinese. As China continues to become more visible and important to the rest of the world, I see demand for the China Council's language program continuing to grow.

If you are interested in studying Mandarin here in Portland (or in China), please contact me through China Council 503-973-5451.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THE NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL

Phoenix Circle

China Consultants NW, Davis Wright Tremaine, KIC Group, HSBC Bank NA, Jane Leung Larson, Frank & Barbara Nelson, Linfield College, Northwest Airlines, Offshore Solutions, Melanie Tang

Patrons

Atiyeh International, Ruben Chong, Katherine & Gordon Keane, JingLing Li & Csaba Mera, Ray & Bonnie Olson, PACCESS, Bruce & Gloria Wong

Major Donors

Thomas Albert, Homer Chin, Columbia Forest Products, Margaret S. Davis, ECD Inc., Gunderson Inc., Craig Fisk, Mike & Sue Hoffman, KPMG LLP, Lewis & Clark Law School, Laura Mattingly, Miller Nash LLP, Millbank Materials USA Ltd, Mincepa Inc., Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, Port of Portland, Sunstone Circuits, Tektronix Inc., TsaiComms, UBS Financial Services, Jan & Carol Vreeland, Joanne Wakeland, Marcia Weinstein

Sponsors

Associated Services for Int'l Adoption, David & Kathy Bleyle, Ed & Cathy Chinn, Bruce Fitzwater, Happy & Marsh Hieronimus, Joanne Jene, Eugene & Patsy Lee, Pamela Wong & Neal Linegar, David Kohl & Stephanie Tung, Norman & Janet Locke, Tom Ryan, LuWayne Sammons, Robert Sang, David & Carolyn Savage, Small Business Development Center, Ron Smith, Jane Stackhouse & Paul Millius, Denise & Andrew Vetterlein, John Wong, Waiyee Wong

Membership Form

For Northwest China Council membership benefits information, visit www.nwchina.org or call (503) 973-5451.

Northwest China Council Members receive invitations to China Council events, a subscription to the quarterly newsletter and discounts on admission fees and books.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Email _____
Occupation _____
Special Interest in China _____

I would like to volunteer to help the China Council with:

- Assisting at events
 Publicity
 Hosting/Escorting speakers/Chinese students and visitors
 Office Work
 Fund-raising
 Recruiting members
 Research

Membership Category - Please check the category you wish:

Individual	_____ \$40	Major Donor	_____ \$250+
Family	_____ \$45	Patron	_____ \$500+
Full-Time Student	_____ \$15	Phoenix Circle	_____ \$1000+
Sponsor	_____ \$125+	Dragon Circle	_____ \$5000+

Please detach and return with a check payable to the Northwest China Council. To use Mastercard or Visa, please complete the following information.

Card No. _____ Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

The Northwest China Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization primarily supported by its members. Our mission is to increase understanding of Chinese culture, contemporary affairs and business in "Greater China", i.e. China, Taiwan, Hong Kong SAR, and the Chinese diaspora.