

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Now that our lovely Oregon summer is finally upon us, I hope you are enjoying the sunny weather as much as I am. This has been a busy time at the Northwest China Council. In addition to our normal programming, we have devoted much time to strategic planning and thinking carefully about the organization's future.

The Board recently adopted a new strategic plan, following our February retreat and many thoughtful discussions. If you would like to receive a copy or to share your ideas, please contact me at chinncl@nwchina.org.

I would like to share with you our updated mission statement, adopted along with the strategic plan. Some of you may recognize this as our earlier mission statement with a few minor modifications:

The mission of the China Council shall be as a bridge between the people of Oregon/Southwest Washington and the Chinese world in order to promote mutual understanding of culture and contemporary affairs; to be a community resource for educational programs, information services, and foreign trade; and to be a forum for issues in Pacific Northwest-Greater China relations.

We are very appreciative of the generosity of the late Marcia Weinstein, who left the Northwest China Council part of her estate. The newly formed **Marcia Weinstein Committee** will develop recommendations on how best to use Marcia's funds to serve the long term best interests of the Northwest China Council.

The committee consists of current long-time and past directors: Frank Nelson, serving as Chair; Jeffrey Barlow; Michael Bloom; all former China Council Board Presidents; Paul Millius, founding member and past Interim Executive Director; and Elsa Porter, a distinguished retired public administrator who served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce under President Carter. Their recommendations are expected around the end of July.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you in our upcoming programs. In

this year of the 100th anniversary of the 1911 Chinese Revolution led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen that brought about the beginning of modern China, we plan to offer programming to commemorate the special historic event. We would also like to recognize the contributions by earlier generations of Americans and Chinese Americans. If you have knowledge of any local residents that contributed to Dr. Sun's efforts, please contact us at the Northwest China Council. We are most interested in collecting histories of the Pacific NW and Oregon involvements.

- Cathy Chinn, President

CHINA BUSINESS CULTURE WORKSHOP

The Northwest China Council is now offering an intensive and practical 4-hour business and cultural intelligence workshop, specially designed for busy professionals engaging in business trips and delegation tours to China. These sessions will equip professionals with tools and information that will help to ensure positive and sustainable results from the trip and maximize their return on the travel investment of time and money.

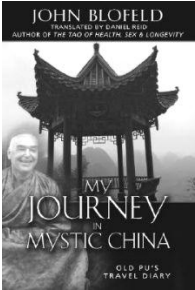
Many delegation members and business travelers to China find that although their China trip was pleasant and interesting, they were not able to fully recognize or leverage the opportunities presented to them in a professional sense. This is true even though many official trips to China have extensive itineraries designed to facilitate business development and the establishment of cooperative relationships. You should get more out of your China trip than just a stack of business cards and happy memories of drinking parties.

The key to a successful business trip or delegation tour is being personally prepared before the trip so that one can read situations correctly, approach the most useful contacts, and ask effective questions in an appropriate manner. Of equal importance is knowing how to interpret information gathered during the trip and utilize it effectively in the future.

The China Business Culture Workshop is a powerful resource for equipping those who would make the most of their opportunities in China. For detailed information regarding curriculum and session format, visit www.nwchina.org or email david@nwchina.org.

- David W. Kohl, CEN Chair

NW CHINA COUNCIL BOOK CLUB



My Journey in Mystic China: Old Pu's Travel Diary, by John Blofeld.

John Blofeld (1913-1987) was an eminent British sinologist, humanist, and author of many books on Chinese culture and religion, including the I-Ching, Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism. He was the first prominent westerner of the 20th century to bring Chinese spiritual and mystical traditions to wide attention in the west.

In *My Journey in Mystic China: Old Pu's Travel Diary*, Blofeld documents his years of living in and exploring the China he loved. This is a rare, personal, and uncensored glimpse into pre-communist China that few Westerners have been exposed to. Blofeld wrote this book in the final years of his life as a remembrance. It was written in Chinese, and completed before his death from cancer in 1987. Daniel Reid translated this memoir to English in 2007.

Blofeld had the distinction of living in China in the 1930's and 40's, at a time when the rich thousands of years-old cultural and spiritual traditions were relatively intact. As a well-off westerner of "modern times," he was able to travel freely throughout the country. His spiritual seeking and search for knowledge took him on sojourns to sacred mountains, Buddhist monasteries, and Taoist hermitages.

It was a chance encounter with a small statue of Buddha in an English seaside shop, that foreshadowed Blofeld's lifelong quest. He immediately fell in love with the statue and cried until his aunt bought it for him. His search for understanding of the statue brought him to Buddhism and China. From an early age, Blofeld wanted to live and work in China. In his second year at Cambridge University, he could not wait any longer and despite family objection, dropped out of school and left for China.

Hong Kong was his first landing. Blofeld describes the lifelong friendships he made there; visits to teahouses, opium dens, ancestral temples; a visit with a prominent Tibetan monk; learning Confucian etiquette; and his love for the mountain monasteries.

After a couple of years in Hong Kong, Blofeld obtained a job near Peking, the city of his dreams, and he was able to move to the mainland. He describes the layout of Peking; and the city's famous restaurants, teahouses, theatres, brothels, bookshops, antique stores, and marketplaces.

One of the more interesting parts of the book is Blofeld's description of entering Hua Ting Monastery to gain

enlightenment. The abbot was reluctant at first, but after a few weeks of residence, allowed Blofeld to shave off his hair, put on monk's robes, and enter the monastery to devote himself to practice--the first westerner allowed to do so. He describes the fundamentals of Chan Buddhism and monastery routine, but after 10 months of intensive study and practice, came to the conclusion that he would not reach enlightenment in his lifetime, so he left. In returning to the "dusty world," he would create a legacy of books on China's great traditional religions and culture.

The next book club selection is *The Man who Loved China* by Simon Winchester. Northwest China Council members are welcome to join us on Monday, August 15th, to discuss the book. For more information about the NWCC book club, contact johnw@nwchina.org.

- John M. Wong

CHINA EDUCATION NETWORK

The inaugural China Education Network (CEN) streaming event held on May 25th at the University of Oregon's historic White Stag building in downtown Portland was a great success. The event featured Dr. Jeffrey Barlow of Pacific University and the Berglund Center for Internet



Studies. Dr. Barlow discussed internet use in China and resources for Chinese studies on the web. The program was streamed live to our remote viewing location in Bend, Oregon. The program inspired a lively discussion, with participants both in Bend as well as Portland engaging with Dr. Barlow throughout the event.

We are excited about this new format and are looking forward to the next streaming event to be scheduled in late August or early September. Details of this event will be emailed to members of the CEN mailing list later this summer. We are also developing other cooperative programs with area universities to provide more lecture-based and social events in an effort to bring the China education community together.

As always, if you or anyone you know is an educator or has an interest in education related to China, please contact the Northwest China Council office to be added to the CEN mailing list. We also welcome any educational institutions who wish to collaborate with CEN on program development or sponsorship.

Information about the CEN and upcoming events can also be found on the Northwest China Council website at www.nwchina.org.

- David W. Kohl, CEN Chair

CHINA BUSINESS NETWORK

Paul Swenson, Oregon's Representative for Greater China based in Shanghai, was our keynote speaker for the May 17th China Business Network (CBN) meeting. Paul provided us with an update on the China market and gave us thoughtful advice on doing business in China.

On Thursday July 7th, we look forward to having two legal specialists from Shanghai, China, to update us on the latest Chinese labor laws and immigration issues. Becky Xia will discuss the issues in the increasingly complex area of PRC immigration, including visa issues for both in-bound and out-bound employees from multinational corporations and Chinese companies, into and out of China.

Becky holds a LLB degree from China Southern Yangtze University School of Law, and led the immigration practices in a Chinese law firm and then a U.S. employment law firm. She is currently General Manager for Fragomen, one of the world's largest business immigration firms. She works exclusively in China immigration law.



The Labor Law presentation by Jeffrey Wilson will touch on the latest developments in unions, collective bargaining, and wages in China. He will also provide an overview of the new Chinese Social Insurance Law.



Jeffrey, an Oregon native born and raised in Corvallis, received his undergraduate degree from Lewis and Clark College, and his law degree and M.A.I.S. degree in Chinese Studies from the University of Washington. He first went to China in 1986 to teach at Fuzhou University and source products for Atiyeh International. He also worked at Portland's Norcrest China

Company, which was located in the White Stag building. This is truly like a homecoming for Jeffrey as this meeting will take place at the White Stag building, now operated by the University of Oregon.

Please check our website (www.nwchina.org) for more information, and to register.

- Cathy Chinn, CBN Chair



China Business Network Annual Sponsor

OCOM GROUNDBREAKING

Cathy Chinn and John Wong, Northwest China Council President and Office Administrator, were among approximately 150 people attending Oregon College of Oriental Medicine's (OCOM) groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday, June 28, 2011, at the Globe Hotel, located at 88 NW Davis Street. Portland Development Commission Chair Scott Andrews emceed the event. Speakers included Mayor Sam Adams, OCOM President Michael Gaeta, Brad Malsin of Beam Development, OCOM Board Chair Peter Martin, and other community leaders.

The ceremony was held under light rain, which is an auspicious sign. The \$16.4 million yearlong project will convert the 1911 Globe Hotel (also known as the Import Plaza building) into a state-of-art LEED Gold certified building, housing about 40,000 sq. ft. of classroom, research, and clinic space. The project is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2012, in time for Fall term classes.



Founded in 1983, OCOM is a single-purpose professional graduate school that offers two degree programs: Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MAcOM) and Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM). OCOM's mission and vision is the transformation of western health care through the application of acupuncture and Oriental medicine. OCOM's 1,050 graduates practice, teach, and research traditional Chinese medicine in 37 states, and world-wide, and have provided an estimated 10 million treatments over the past 28 years.

OCOM will move 129 staff and faculty, and nearly 300 students, into the new building for Fall 2012. It will bring about 30,000 clinical patient visits a year to Old Town/Chinatown.

The Northwest China Council collaborates with OCOM, helping to bring traditional Chinese medicine educational programs to the public. We welcome OCOM to the Old Town/Chinatown neighborhood.

- John M. Wong

CELEBRATING HISTORY: CHINESE AMERICAN AVIATORS IN PORTLAND, 1918-1945

Last year, Portland resident Keith Lee asked if the Northwest China Council had ever considered doing a program on the American Volunteer Group (AVG), or Flying Tigers, led



by General Claire Chennault. The AVG was a U.S. covert operation launched in 1941 that assisted the Chinese air force in the fight against Japanese aggression and helped maintain access to strategic areas through protection of the Burma Road. Keith's father, Pak On Lee, a Chinese immigrant who arrived in the U.S. in 1935, trained as an airplane mechanic and returned to China in 1941 as one of only ten Chinese or Chinese American members of the AVG. The story of the Chinese members of the Flying Tigers, and the Chinese contribution to American aviation history in general, has been largely overlooked. Popular books, histories and memoirs on the Flying Tigers have focused predominantly on the experiences and heroics of the white pilots. Pak On Lee and other Chinese members of the AVG were trained in the critical areas of mechanics, instrumentation, and ignition--in short, what kept the pilots up in the air.

Keith Lee has extensive materials on his father's history in the Flying Tigers that chronicled the story of his service in China with the U.S. military, and his subsequent immigration to Portland following World War II. The Lee family story led to additional discoveries about other Portland-area Chinese that were considerably involved in aviation in the first half of the 20th century. From the early pioneer, Henry Wong in 1918, through the end of the World War II, Portland-area Chinese immigrants and Chinese American men and women distinguished themselves in both domestic and military aviation, as mechanics, pilots, and trainers for the Chinese Air Force in the 1920s and 30s and the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. These aviators became local heroes and heroines whose achievements were heralded in the *Oregonian* newspaper.

Chinese American aviation emerged in Portland as the result of several factors. First, the invention of the airplane and development of flight technology in the U.S. in the early part of the 20th century coincided with dramatic political and social changes in China. The Qing dynasty fell in 1911, replaced by a nascent republic that was desperate to modernize and saw aviation as a hallmark of a modern nation. In addition, increasing aggression by Ja-

pan led to the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945), in which aviation proved a key defense. When America entered World War II in 1941, Chinese Americans either enlisted or were drafted into all branches of U.S. military service.

During this same period of time, Portland was rapidly developing as a center for aviation in the Pacific Northwest. By 1921, Portland's six aviation schools had combined enrollment of 300 men and women, along with one airplane manufacturer that was located in this city to be near the seemingly endless supply of spruce wood used in building planes. In 1927, the new airport on Swan Island was complete. By 1930, Portland aviation schools had graduated eight Chinese Americans.

The earliest local Chinese American aviator was Henry Wong, a Portland native. A 1918 news article in the *Oregonian*, entitled "Call of Air Heeded," extolled Wong's accomplishments as builder, pilot, and, especially, as an American patriot, when at 18 years of age he attempted to enlist for service in World War I as a U.S. Signal Corps pilot, but was turned down because he was too young.

Henry Wong had been interested in flight for several years; at age 16, after completing grammar school he left for Ohio, where he worked in an airplane factory and learned to build planes, and then trained as a pilot at the Beam school of aviation in Chicago, where he graduated with honors. Upon his return to Portland, he was followed in print as a local hero and favorite son.



The increasing aggression by Japan toward China in the 1920s and 30s rallied Chinese Americans across the U.S. to demand that the Chinese government repel the Japanese invaders. In November of 1931, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) of Portland called for a resolution to establish a flight school to train Chinese pilots for service in the Chinese air force, and received \$20,000 in contributions from all over the country. With these funds the Chinese Aeronautical School in Portland purchased a training plane and signed a contract with Allan Greenwood of the Adcox School of Aviation to serve as chief flight instructor. The mission of the school was to "train aviation talent to strengthen China's defenses against foreign aggression and to develop a domestic aviation industry, but never to participate in any political struggle or civil war."

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CELEBRATING HISTORY: AVIATORS (CONTINUED)

Between 1931-32, the Chinese Aeronautical School graduated two classes each of 35 Chinese American students from all over the U.S. These students were required to sign a pledge that they would forfeit their life for China. Upon graduation, 32 of these young pilots left for Canton and Shanghai.

The graduates included Portland native Hazel Ying Lee (1912-1944), who received a commission as second lieutenant in the Chinese air force but was rejected as a combat pilot due to her gender. When the U.S. entered World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor, she joined the newly formed Women Air Service Pilots (WASPs) as the first Chinese American woman to fly for the U.S. military. Arthur Chin (1913-1997), also from Portland, left for China in 1932 and became a major in the Canton provincial air force in Guangzhou. Between 1937-1939, Major Chin destroyed eight Japanese aircraft in combat. He is now recognized as a World War II Ace for the Chinese air force as well as America's first World War II flying ace.

The Chinese Aeronautical School in Portland closed for lack of funds after graduating those two classes, yet several of the graduates continued to distinguish themselves as aviators and officers in the Chinese Air Force. Mai Euon Lam became a test pilot for the Chinese central government's air force. In 1937, the year of the horrific Nanjing massacre, Lam wrote a letter to Allan Greenwood, filling him in on the news of his former students, claiming that together the Portland pilots had shot down 60 Japanese planes.

In U.S. military service, Pak On Lee was one of only four Oregonians, and the only Chinese aviator from this state, who served as a member of the original Flying Tigers. Arriving in Portland from China in 1935 at age 17, he enrolled in a fourth grade class to learn English and then attended Benson Polytechnic High School. In 1941 Pak responded to a notice in a Chinatown newspaper advertising mechanics training for the Central Aviation Manufacturing Company (CAMCO), the recruiting arm of the AVG. He served with the AVG in 1941 and continued on with the U.S. Army Air Force until the end of the war in 1945.

After the U.S. joined the war, Chinese Americans were drafted into U.S. military service. Charlie Kee, Sheldon Low, and Moon Lee from Portland served in the 14th Air Force or Air Service Group.

In addition to military aviation, Chinese Americans distinguished themselves in domestic aviation. Female pilot

Leah Hing of Portland studied at the Tex Rankin School of Flying and acquired her pilot's license in 1934.

The Northwest China Council's program on Chinese aviation, slated for 2012, will center on some of the aviators included in this article. The program is projected to include an exhibition of documents, photos, and memorabilia at the Multnomah County Library; public lectures; a reception; and a presentation by World War II Chinese American aviation veterans from the 407th Air Service squadron who will hold their annual reunion in Portland in September 2012.

We invite your help on this project! We are still gathering names and contact information for additional Chinese and Chinese American aviators and their descendants. Please contact Ann Wetherell, 503-249-1104 or minghua@easystreet.net or contact John Wong at the Northwest China Council office.

- Ann Wetherell



FILM PRESENTATION: DOOMAN RIVER

Dooman River is writer-director Zhang Lu's fascinating window into a rarely seen Korean community in rural China that revolves around 12-year-old Chang-ho, living with his grandfather and mute sister along the frozen river-border with North Korea. Although fraught with unemployment and other tensions, his community is sympathetic toward the Korean refugees fleeing famine and misery; Chang-ho even bonds over soccer with one young border-crosser who comes scavenging for food for a sibling. But he soon turns on his new friend as suspicions mount against the illegal immigrants and his sister reels



from unexpected aggression, provoking a quandary over his loyalties in an exquisitely detailed story of compassion and strife across an uneasy geopolitical border.

Dooman River, a film presentation by the NW Film Center, plays Sunday, August 7, 2011 (one day only) at Whitsell Auditorium. The Northwest China Council is a community sponsor. For more information, visit our website at www.nwchina.org.

- John M. Wong

RESTAURANT REVIEW: SERES



Seres Restaurant, formerly known as Sungari Pearl, has been in business since 2003. The restaurant, renamed in 2010 after the ancient Roman word for China, is situated a block from Jamison Square, in the Pearl District. The corner

location lends itself to tall glass windows and many modern touches fill the space. There were only a handful of guests during the early Saturday dinner hour, and only a few more patrons came and went during the evening.

Seres has made a name for itself as the only Chinese restaurant in the Portland area to use organic produce and locally-sourced ingredients. The dishes feature naturally raised meats, sustainably-caught or naturally-raised seafood, natural soybean oil, and bean curd from Portland's OTA Tofu Company.

The cuisine originates from classic Szechuan and several other regions in China. The menu offers vegetarian and gluten-free options, including wheat-free Tamari sauce as a substitute for soy sauce. The expansive happy hour menu also includes several dishes that fit these options.

Starting with the happy hour menu, the pork in tangy sauce included many vegetables, and the sauce was spicy but not overpowering. The salt and pepper calamari was well cooked but too salty. The spring rolls were also prepared well, but not unique in flavor.

The rainbow scallops sported a large selection of accompanying vegetables. The spicy salt and pepper prawns, like the salt and pepper calamari, were too salty.



The bean curd with black mushrooms was a popular dish, as the bean curd was distinctly OTA. The sauce was light and used sparingly. The spicy sesame chicken, served over crispy rice noodles, rounded out the meal. The chicken was cooked well and not over sauced.

The restaurant touts a substantive history regarding its sauces, originating from the legendary Uncle Chen who first brought Portlanders...Peking duck, General

Tso's...and many more that have become synonymous with most Chinese restaurants today. Despite this history, the dishes did not boast particularly remarkable flavors.

Despite these shortcomings, the service was pleasant and attentive, the atmosphere was relaxed, the space clean, and portions decently sized. Prices vary across the menu (\$6-19, with seasonal seafood and Peking duck from \$29-45), and very reasonable happy hour items (\$3-7).

The commitment to organic produce is seen through a variety of dishes, where vegetables are plentiful. All the dishes were cooked well, and other than a couple of the dishes being too salty, the sauces were not overused. Rather, Seres allows the natural ingredients to stand out.

Seres Restaurant
1105 NW Lovejoy St, Portland, OR 97205
971-222-7327, seresrestaurant.com

- Jennifer Li

LUSHAN BOTANICAL GARDEN LECTURE

As part of the Lushan Botanical Garden delegation visit to Oregon's many gardens in July, Director Zhan Xuanhuai will be giving an illustrated lecture on Tuesday, July 26th. Hosted by the Hoyt Arboretum Friends, and cosponsored by the Northwest China Council and the National Resource Center for East Asian Studies, the lecture will detail the Lushan Botanical Garden's special collections and the East Asian-North American disjunction plants, found in both Oregon and China.



The Lushan Botanical Garden, founded in 1934 with Boxer Rebellion reparation funds, is China's first botanical garden and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Garden shares Oregon's sub-alpine climate and plant life, particularly conifers, ferns, and rhododendrons. In 1947, the Dawn Redwood, also known as the living fossil, was discovered in Lushan and now resides at the Hoyt Arboretum. The Garden is committed to conservation and protection of rare and endangered species.

The lecture is an ideal opportunity for Portland's gardening community to meet the delegation and learn about our horticultural connections to China. Please visit our website at www.nwchina.org for details.

- Jennifer Li

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

"Illustrated Lecture" by Zhan Xuanhuai,

cosponsored by Hoyt Arboretum Friends and the National Resource Center (NRC) for East Asian Studies
Tuesday, July 26, 2011

6:30pm Registration and reception, 7:00 - 8:30pm Lecture

Room 140/142, White Stag Building, University of Oregon, 70 NW Couch St, Portland, OR 97209
 Admission: \$5 members of NWCC and/or Hoyt Arboretum, \$10 non-members, \$5 full-time students
 Registration deadline: Monday, July 25, 2011, 1pm (Registration accepted at door; please add \$5 to above)

Dooman River, presented by the NW Film Center

Sunday, August 7, 2011, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Whitsell Auditorium, Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave, Portland, OR 97205
 Admission: \$9 General, \$8 PAM members, \$6 Friends of the NW Film Center

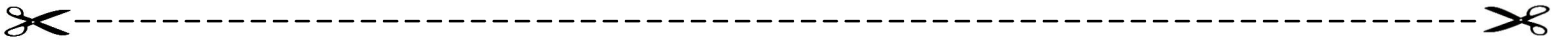
China Business Culture Workshop

Monthly, Date TBD

Please visit our website or contact david@nwchina.org.

**For more information or updates on these programs, please visit www.nwchina.org or email johnw@nwchina.org.*

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 and to be a forum for issues in Pacific Northwest-Greater China relations.



Northwest China Council Membership Application Form

Northwest China Council Members receive invitations to China Council events, a subscription to the quarterly newsletter and discounts on admissions 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 visitors
 _____ Office Work
 _____ Fund-raising
 _____ Recruiting members
 _____ Research

Membership Category ô Please check the category you wish:

Individual	_____ \$40	Major Donor	_____ \$250+
Family	_____ \$50	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
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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, and the Chinese Diaspora.



Northwest China Council
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