

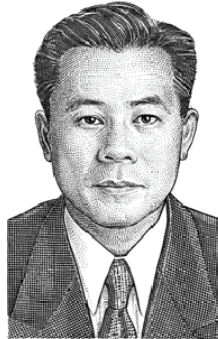


April - June 2014 - Issue 130
China Council Quarterly
221 NW 2nd Avenue, Suite 210-J, Portland, OR 97209
www.nwchina.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear China Council members:

As we move past the Spring Equinox, it signals the beginning of nature's renewal and transformations along with our progress and development here at the Northwest China Council. We have been hard at work in advancing the organization's mission and planning as well as producing impactful quality programming.



This year's Banquet & Auction Gala was a success as evidenced by the turnout. Many members expressed to me that they'd had a wonderful time. I want to thank everyone who attended and was involved in this year's event. We had 100% board participation which shows our board's dedication to the organization. More importantly, I feel fortunate to have such fantastic NWCC members who we've been able to lean on through the years. And many thanks to our major sponsor, Delta Air Lines, for their long-term support.

For this year's Flying Horse Award, it was exceptionally gratifying for us to be able to recognize the Chinese Immersion Programs in our community that are committed to educating our future leaders: The Hope Chinese Charter School, The International School, and Woodstock Elementary School. Their efforts will certainly translate into long-lasting global benefits. Congratulations - 祝贺你们!

Our own programs are in full swing. The Business Network (CCBN) events have been fantastic. Our language program run by Willow Zheng continues to be in demand. The Education Network (CCEN) has slated its programs for next year. The Culture Network (CCCN) is launching the "Drink in China" three-part series which explores the history and cultural significance of alcoholic beverages in China. The first event starts **May 16th** and is titled, "Uncorking the Chinese Past: The Archaeological and Chemical Discovery of the World's Oldest 'Wine'" featuring Dr. Patrick E. McGovern from the University of Pennsylvania. It will be educational, enlightening, and of course, fascinating. Don't miss this program, as you are sure to get a "buzz" from it.

On April 17th, the Northwest China Council received The Asian Reporter Foundation's "Exemplary Community Volunteer" Award. It is a great honor to be acknowledged for there are numerous other organizations doing extraordinary work in the community. I want to thank The Asian Reporter Foundation for the tremendous goodwill they generate in Portland's pan-Asian community. Only good can come from this and I will continue to strive to make the Northwest China Council even more significant and enriching for our members.

- Victor W. Lam, President

BUSINESS PROGRAMS

The first quarter of 2014 was a very active one for the China Council Business Network. On February 6th we held another in our series of CCBN Mixers: an event entitled, "Hear What Young Insiders Have to Say About China". After networking, a panel of millennial and recent graduates from China and the U.S. shared their experiences in teaching, working, studying, and living in both countries. Their reflections and world perspectives were fascinating and led to an interactive discussion with the attendees. We thank our panelists Ryan Hiebert, Jason Thalacker, Josh Thorpe, Mengyao Luan, and Sally Zhao for their time and much-appreciated contributions to our program.

On March 13th, we were honored to have as our guest luncheon speaker Mr. Kok-Chi Tsim. Mr. Tsim is Managing Director and Senior Relationship Executive at JPMorgan Chase Bank. He gave an enthusiastically-received talk on the "The Impact of Recent Financial Developments in China". Our diverse luncheon audience of local and international business people, academics, and interested members of the community engaged him in an active Q&A discussion on topics such as the internationalization of the RMB and the impact of shadow banking on China's banking and financial systems. CCBN thanks Mr. Tsim for his valuable time and excellent presentation. We also thank CCBN committee member Shiao Yen Chin-Dennis of K&L Gates for inviting Mr. Tsim to be our speaker.

Please refer to the Northwest China Council website as well as other announcements for more information about our events planned for the second quarter and the summer months.

- Jeff Smith, Chair, CCBN

IN MEMORIAM: FRANCES LAU, JUNE 15, 1950—MARCH 31, 2014

Frances Shui-Sin (Wong) Lau, of Portland, died March 31st, 2014, in Hong Kong. She was 63. She and her husband, Andrew Lau, had been traveling in China. She caught an infection and died of pneumonia.

Shui-Sin Wong was born June 15th, 1950, in Meixian, Guangdong, China, to Tung Hwan Wong and Wah Yung Chan. The family moved to Hong Kong in 1957.

Frances met Andy in seventh grade at the Ho Fuk Tong Memorial School and they became high school sweethearts. They graduated from Whitworth College in 1973 and were married at the campus church the following month. Frances earned her master's in Library Science from the University of Oregon.

Frances joined Blackwell of Oxford, UK, selling books to major university libraries in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Korea and Japan. She remained with Blackwell until they closed their local office in 2009. In 1985, she spoke on American library practices at the Fujian Provincial Library and offered to help the library to become the sister library of the Oregon State Library. She



then worked with the Northwest China Council to form the Oregon-Fujian book exchange committee which sent more than two shipping containers of books to Fujian libraries.

The book exchange project expanded to a triennial exchange of librarians which continues today.

Frances loved bringing people together. She and Andy loved each other deeply and teased each other affectionately. She lived life grateful for the blessings she had received and was eager to comfort and encourage others.

Since 2009, Frances had suffered from multiple myeloma and had undergone an autologous stem cell transplant. Since 2010, she had been in remission.

Frances brought her mother, Wah Yung Chan, and her elder brother's family to Oregon. She is survived by her husband, Andrew Chi Leung Lau; brother, Kwok Miu Wong; sister-in-law, Hing Ha Cheung, and many other relatives.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, April 19th, 2014, at Southminster Presbyterian Church in Beaverton.

MOVIE NIGHT PROGRAM: SCHEDULE FOR MAY-AUGUST 2014

"Movie Night" provides an opportunity to watch a Chinese movie with friends in an intimate setting, followed by a post-film discussion led by a Northwest China Council director or volunteer.

As one of the Northwest China Council's educational programs, the objective of Movie Night is to facilitate further understanding of China-oriented affairs from the perspective of cinematic expression. It is a year-round program which takes place every month of the year.

Join us at 6:30pm every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Robe Tea House, located at the corner of NW 3rd & Davis, just a block from the Northwest China Council office. Feel free to arrive at 6:00pm to allow time to order beforehand from Red Robe's tantalizing array of teas, snacks and dinners available for your dining pleasure. The venue is reserved just for us; its rich and inviting interior, superb menu and thought-provoking films and discussions make for memorable evenings steeped in Chinese culture.

Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5 per person. Hope to see you there!

May 13: Little Big Soldier (2010) - Set during China's war period, this film features a soldier and a general from opposing states. The soldier aims to kidnap the general and bring him back to his state for a reward, but when they're confronted by danger, they must join forces in order to survive.

June 10: Red Obsession (2013) - A film about power, passion and the fine wine game. The link between the insatiable appetite of the Chinese market for good wine and the revered winemaking region of Bordeaux is explored; how will this unpredictable tie ultimately affect Bordeaux?

July 8: Drug War (2012) - This is the hair-raising (fictional) story of a condemned drug manufacturer whose sole chance to avoid execution rests on turning informant and helping to bring down the powerful cartel he's been cooking for...but the sting spins out of control.

August 12: The Sorcerer and the White Snake (2011) - This special effects film, based on a Chinese legend, tells the story of a sorcerer monk who falls in love with a white snake disguised as a woman. Upon learning her true identity, he goes to battle, believing he is restoring order between man and the supernatural.

DRINK IN CHINA: ANCIENT ALES - MAY 16, 2014



DRINK IN CHINA
ALES, WINES & SPIRITS

NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL
PRESENTS

UNCORKING THE
CHINESE PAST

*The Archaeological and Chemical Discovery
of the World's Oldest Wines*

A lecture by Dr. Patrick McGovern,
University of Pennsylvania

LECTURE: Friday, May 16, 2014, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
University of Oregon White Stag Building
70 NW Couch, Portland, OR 97209

FREE and open to the public. *Registration is required.*

RECEPTION to follow: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

TICKETS: \$20.00 | NWCC Members \$15.00

For registration and tickets please visit:

www.nwchina.org | email: info@nwchina.org

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HOST FAMILIES NEEDED: REED COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The International Student Services Office at Reed College is now recruiting host families for the 2014-15 academic year. Each fall Reed College welcomes more than 35 new international students and language scholars to Portland. International students and scholars come to learn and grow in the classroom and on campus, but they also seek to learn about the U.S. and Portland by spending time in the local community. Through pairing students and scholars with a local family that serves as an American friend, the Host Family Program provides the opportunity for cultural exchange and a mutually rewarding relationship.



campus with their host families. There has been an increase in the number of Chinese students applying to Reed and anticipate several will attend our institution this fall. We'd love to connect our Chinese or other international students with those involved with the Northwest China Council.

If you are interested in participating or want to learn more about the program please contact Dana Bays (baysd@reed.edu). More information can be found on the International Student Services webpage (<http://www.reed.edu/iss/hostfamily.html>).

*-Dana Bays, Assistant Dean of Students for
International Student Services*

Reed's students and scholars live on campus—so it's not a home stay—but students and scholars spend time off-

NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL'S 24TH ANNUAL CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET & AUCTION

Members and friends of the NWCC celebrated the Year of the Horse at the 24th Annual Chinese New Year Banquet & Auction on Saturday, February 22nd, 2014, at Wong's King Seafood Restaurant, sponsored by Delta Air Lines. Over 220 guests and volunteers attended the event, enjoying music, lion dancing, and a multi-course banquet.



The evening began with the silent auction, which included many popular items such as artwork, scrolls, ceramics, and gourmet items. Many attendees had also participated in our first-year online silent auction leading up to the event. The Wall of Wine and the Heads or Tails jackpot made reappearances at this year's event. Thank you to the Northwest Dragon and Lion Dance Association and the Wisdom Arts Academy Musicians for performing.



The 2014 Flying Horse Award went to not one, but three recipients (see next page)!

Mitch Lambley returned as auctioneer, and the live auction included a NY apartment stay, Delta Air Lines tickets, a catered Shanghai-style dinner, a coastal condo getaway, an Atiyeh Oriental rug, and a casino overnight.



This year's Fund-A-Need campaign supports the upcoming "Drink in China: Ales, Wines, and Spirits" program series. This year's event raised \$20,000!



We appreciate all the support and donations to this year's endeavor. The funds generated from this event support continuing efforts and help create new programs. Thank you!

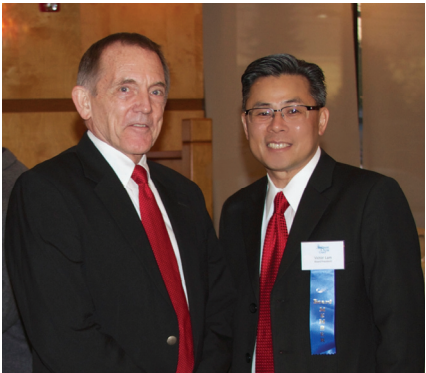
NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL'S 2014 FLYING HORSE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Three Portland-area schools specializing in Chinese-language immersion programs for children each received the NWCC's 2014 Flying Horse Award at the annual Chinese New Year Banquet & Auction held on February 22, 2014. Profiles of each school are as follows:



Hope School Principal Julie Rickman & NWCC President Victor Lam

Hope Chinese Charter School is a public charter school that provides a Mandarin Chinese immersion education to elementary school students. It is the first Chinese immersion public school in the Beaverton School District. The school opened Fall 2012, is currently offering grades K-1, and will add an additional grade each year thereafter, up to 8th grade. Its mission is to provide a comprehensive bilingual and bi-literate education that nurtures students to be highly proficient in all academic subjects, but with a special emphasis on Mandarin Chinese, English and mathematics. By doing so, HCCS will prepare students to become highly skilled, caring world citizens who will lead innovation and collaboration in the global marketplace.



International School Head Robert Woods & NWCC President Victor Lam at the 2014 NWCC Auction & Dinner

The International School is Portland's first International Baccalaureate elementary school. It was founded in 1990 and today educates over 480 students from age 3 through 5th grade. It provides a warm multicultural environment where children are fully immersed in Spanish, Japanese or Chinese language and culture. Children become fluent in another language, at home in other cultures, and engaged in math, science, social studies and arts. The International School inspires children to become global citizens by providing a rigorous and comprehensive education within a nurturing, student-centered environment of full immersion in multiple languages and cultures.



Woodstock School Principal TJ Fuller and Chinese language teacher Shen Yin with NWCC President Victor Lam

Woodstock Elementary School offers a Mandarin Immersion Program that is part of the Oregon Chinese Flagship, a K-16 program. They offer a 50/50 instructional model from kindergarten through 5th grade. Students spend half their day learning in English and the other half learning in Mandarin. The program is structured on the total language learning approach incorporating content-based instruction, explicit language instruction, and experiential language learning practices. Students learn the simplified Mandarin writing system, or *hanzi*. Expressive and receptive language development is emphasized in all stages of the program. Their goal is that by completion of the K-12 program their students will be functionally proficient in speaking, reading, and writing in Mandarin and have a strong appreciation for cultural diversity.

THE REVOLUTIONARY: SIDNEY RITTENBERG MOVIE NIGHT

On March 11th, participants in the NWCC's Movie Night Program were treated to a change of pace and genre with a showing of *The Revolutionary*, a 2011 documentary about the life and experiences of Sidney Rittenberg, an American who experienced firsthand and participated in the post-WWII years of the ascendancy of the People's Republic of China.



Carson Tavenner introducing "The Revolutionary"

Rittenberg was born in 1921, in Charleston, South Carolina, into a social activist family. He attended military school, then turned down a full scholarship at Princeton to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He majored in philosophy and joined the Communist Party.

Disenchanted by the Stalinist purges, he left the Communist Party, but retained his interest in social activism. He worked as a leftist labor organizer during and after college, until he was drafted into the Army in 1942. His facility for languages got him an assignment to the Military Language Instruction program at Stanford. Initially assigned to study Japanese, which he did not like, he arranged to be shifted to the smaller Chinese program, and fell in love with the language.

Rittenberg arrived in China in 1944 as a U.S. Army Chinese language expert. At the end of the war, he asked to stay on in China, and was discharged there. He wound up as a liaison with the Communist forces in Yan'an. There he quickly became enthralled by the vision of a new China, based on fair treatment of the peasantry, and freed from both the old imperial system and the corruption of the Nationalist regime. He was one of the few foreigners to join the Chinese Communist Party. In the process he married the young cadre who was his aide.

Mao Zedong wanted to have good relations with the United States. Rittenberg drafted and sent two messages to that effect to then-President Truman, who rejected them. Rittenberg believes that had Truman decided to talk to Mao, both the Korean War and the Vietnam War could

possibly have been averted.

He became an intimate of the Party's leadership, including Mao, Zhou Enlai, and Zhu De. Subsequently, he gained prominence at the Broadcast Administration, one of the foremost agencies of government, promoting the vision of the New China to the masses. As such, he wrote and produced English-language materials for broadcast abroad, and Chinese for domestic consumption. He worked for both XinHua, the government news agency; and Radio Beijing.

In 1949, at Stalin's instigation, Rittenberg was imprisoned in solitary confinement for supposedly being a member of a spy network of foreigners attempting to overturn the revolution, in connection with a supposedly international spy network "uncovered" in the Soviet Union. For one year, he was kept in a completely dark room, and was kept for five years after that before he was finally released, after Stalin's death. While in prison, he and his wife divorced. He returned to play a prominent role in broadcast journalism. He married again, starting a family.

He had bought into the system and for many years supported the various disruptive movements of the 50's and 60's, including the Cultural Revolution. In 1967, as part of the fallout among factions of the Cultural Revolutionaries, Rittenberg was again imprisoned, as was his wife. He was kept in solitary confinement for most of the next ten years.



He was released and 'rehabilitated' in 1977, after the downfall of Mao's widow Jiang Qing and "The Gang of Four". Rittenberg finally recognized the failures at the heart of the system in China and the growing corruption of the CCP. He returned to the U.S. with his wife and children in 1980. They now live on Fox Island in Puget Sound. He has found a new career working as a consultant and agent for large corporations seeking success in China.

(continued on pg 8)

CCBN: KOK-CHI TSIM TALK

On March 13th, 2014, at the Multnomah Athletic Club, Kok-Chi Tsim, Managing Director, International Banking at Chase Bank in Hong Kong, addressed an eclectic group of bankers, attorneys, businesspeople and students about recent developments in China's banking and finance systems. Kok has had a 30-year career in banking in Asia, most recently spending 15 years with Chase in Hong Kong. He is now their Client Team China Specialist.



He began by citing the long history of financial relationships between the U.S. & China. The relationship, however, has been marked by misunderstandings and a variety of issues. He sees organizations such as the NWCC as playing an important role in clarifying these issues and providing a platform for discussion.

In his almost 30 years in banking, he is still surprised by the misunderstandings of the Chinese system that still persist. He characterized the Chinese system as boring, complex, and different from its western counterparts. We cannot assume that it is the same as the U.S. system. Understanding how banking and finance work in China is essential to doing business there successfully. The Chinese system is emblematic of the economic issues China faces today.

His address focused on two recent developments in China's financial system. The first topic was Foreign Exchange controls which regulate the flow of RenMinBi (RMB) in and out of the country. The major components of this control are restriction of cross-border funding, limits on use of RMB outside the country, and control of Foreign Exchange rates.

To begin with, there has traditionally been no trading of RMB outside of China. Forward contracts for hedging RMB outside China are non-deliverable, and can only be used inside China.

In July 2009 China held over US\$3 billion in foreign currency reserves, mostly in U.S. dollars. In the financial crisis that began that year, China's ForEx reserves suffered significant losses. The People's Bank of China

(PBOC) saw the need to change; to develop mechanisms through which RMB could be used for both import and export trading. Allowing the RMB to be used for foreign trade meant building enough reserves outside China for use in settlement.

In typical Chinese fashion, the PBOC took some small steps to try a new system. At first only 350 companies in a limited number of provinces were allowed to use RMB to settle foreign accounts.

As of July 4th, 2012, all international trade settlements can be made in RMB. RMB accounts can be opened in banks outside China. Hong Kong is the most popular place to do so, followed by Singapore, Taiwan, and London. There are now two types of RMB: CNH is used for RMB accounts in Hong Kong, CNY inside China. RMB can now be used to buy and sell, and to hedge RMB exposure in trading accounts.

The new system seems to be achieving its goals. In 2010 only 1% of China's trading was done in RMB. In 2013 this had risen to US\$485 billion. In 2014, RMB passed the Swiss franc as a trading currency, with US\$145 billion in RMB deposits in Hong Kong banks.



Victor Lam, Jeff Smith, Shiao Yen Chin-Dennis, Kok-Chi Tsim

There are still controls and regulations surrounding using RMB as a trading currency. Regulations define eligible transactions and eligible parties. Anyone outside China can have a foreign RMB account, but only corporations, not individuals, inside China can do so. This is to prevent private individuals from sending large amounts of money out of the country.

Regulations require all trading transactions to use the same documentation; there must be a legitimate reason to use RMB for trades in either direction. Foreign Exchange rates are still controlled but are slowly and incrementally being allowed to respond to market forces. Chinese exporters can claim the same VAT tax rebate whether their export transaction is settled in foreign currency or in RMB.
(see next page)

CCBN: KOK-CHI TSIM TALK (CONT.)

All trade transactions are subject to the same customs duty and regulations whether they are settled in foreign currency or in RMB.

The impact of these changes on U.S. companies includes there is no change in RMB currency peg rates, but there is potential for problems. Although trade can be done in RMB, companies are exposed to changes in exchange rates during the course of a transaction.

There are opportunities for exporters using RMB to see increased transparency in contracts, and long-term supply contracts can be locked in. Whether to use USD or RMB in transactions is a choice to be made. Kok suggested traders get prices quoted both in dollars and RMB. It is sometimes possible to see a 3-5% savings by doing the transaction in RMB.

The Chinese banking system is still less flexible than those in foreign countries. Buying and selling using RMB in both directions can save currency conversion and foreign exchange costs. The Ministry of Foreign Commerce allows Foreign Direct Investment. Both capital injections and intercompany loans can be done in RMB. Subsidiaries and joint ventures can be funded with RMB.

Both the PBOC and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) play roles in these regulations and transactions. Companies must check the benefits and other considerations for using RMB as a trading currency.

Foreign companies which want to do RMB transactions first must confirm that the Chinese supplier is eligible to trade in RMB.

- First, ensure that your supplier has the appropriate import/export licenses (it probably already does since it can export to you in USD).
- Ensure that your Chinese supplier is registered with

its banking provider in the RMB Cross-Border Payment Management Information System (RCPMIS).

- Ensure that the Chinese supplier is not an individual.
- Make sure the supplier's account name and number are correct and matched with the record in RCPMIS.
- Request the supplier's English name be registered in RCPMIS and is provided to you for settlement.
- Obtain the supplier's bank routing code, the CNAPS code, and/or branch details, including the name and address of a sub-branch, if applicable.

China is now changing the ForEx regulations, but economics drives the ForEx rates. PBOC is gradually letting the RMB appreciate against foreign currencies. For example over the last 20 years it has gone from 8.3 to 6.14 to the U.S. dollar.

To be a true international currency the forex rates must be set by the international market economy. PBOC can continue to control the flow and supply of RMB to the market, thus influencing the movement up or down of the ratios.

In October 2011 and July 2012, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the People's Bank of China (PBOC) announced new regulations permitting the use of RMB for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Both capital injection (Registered Capital) and intercompany loans can be denominated in RMB. Subsequently the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) announced changes to regulations governing FDI in foreign currency (e.g. USD). There are both benefits and risks in using RMB instead of USD for capital injection and intercompany loans. U.S. companies should carefully consider their options before deciding which currency to use for their FDI in China.

– Paul Millius

THE REVOLUTIONARY (CONT.)

In the film Rittenberg admits to having been seduced by the access to power that he had achieved, and how it had blinded him to the perversion of that vision of the new ideal socialist society that had first entranced him in Yan'an.

Rittenberg captivates the audience with his exceptional intellect, uncompromising honesty, and engaging personality. Over a five-year period, award-winning former CBS journalist and China specialist, Irv Drasin, interviewed Rittenberg to produce a compelling, complex and unique understanding of the 20th century's biggest revolution. From first meeting Mao in the caves of Yan'an, to becoming famous and powerful during the Cultural Revolution, to battling insanity in soli-

tary, Rittenberg's journey and his profound insight illuminate a history few Chinese are aware of, let alone many Americans, told by an American who was there.

The evening was hosted by Carson Tavenner, a retired Air Force officer, who has had a longtime interest in fostering better US-China relations. His organization, The Tai Initiative, is devoted to understanding and bridging social and cultural differences between the two societies. The post-film discussion was marked by participants whose families had lived through the Cultural Revolution. They observed that even now, 40 years later, few are willing to talk about what went on in those years.

– Paul Millius

DR. CHARLES WU: LECTURE ON THE *DAO DE JING*

On Wednesday, April 16th, Dr. Charles Wu spoke to a large audience at the UO White Stag lecture hall, on his book, *Thus Spoke Laozi -- Dao De Jing: a New Translation with Commentary*. The free public lecture was sponsored by Northwest China Council, Lan Su Chinese Garden, and National Resource Center for East Asian Studies at University of Oregon.

The *Dao De Jing* is the classic text of Daoism, and along with the *Analects of Confucius*, comprise the two most influential text of philosophical thought in China.

Dr. Wu asks: "With the many English translations of the *Dao De Jing*, why another?" Well, with the richness of the ideas in the *Dao De Jing*,

coupled with the richness of both the Chinese language and the English language; there is an infinite way of translating, and none can be called truly definitive. So, as Dr. Wu says, he joined the fraternity of *Dao De Jing* translators. With a background as a linguist, translator, and literary scholar in both English and Chinese, Dr. Wu is eminently qualified to create a translation as close to the original Chinese words as possible, as was his aim. So rose the title of the book, *Thus Spoke Laozi*. Charles's translation is a line-by-line bilingual translation. Those who know both Chinese and English will appreciate the layout of his book.

Using Chapter 8, the famous chapter on water ("The highest good is like water"), as an example; Dr. Wu showed two well-known translations. Both are excellent, and expressed the essence of the Dao; however, Dr. Wu thought there was something missing. Using the original words of Laozi, he discussed two kinds of "good" (善) in this chapter. There is not just moral uprightness, but also being good (e.g., efficient and effective) at something. "Good" is not just the opposite of "evil", as in Confucian teaching. One can be morally upright, with good intentions and good behavior, but can also be "good for nothing!" In Laozi's mind, both kinds of good are important and integral. The last two lines in Chapter 8 are: "Because there is no contention, there is no blame". This reinforces the concept of water, and the moral attribute of humility. Athletes compete, but good athletes care less about beating the other guy than performing well by their own standards.

Quoting Walter Benjamin in *The Task of a Translator*, Charles says our "best" translations proceed from a wrong premise: turning a foreign language to our own culture. We seek the most fluid, readable translation. Charles invites the reader to step out of their native language comfort

zones from time to time, to visit the wisdom and beauty of the language of a different and ancient culture.

Chapter 20 expresses the idea that rules of conduct and distinctions are not as important in the Dao; and describes the mentality of the lone Daoist who has seen through the worldliness of conventional people. Charles talks about translating Chinese "word doubling" into English alliteration for emphasis. The chapter speaks of ordinary people who

may feel overly confident, where the master feels inadequate, and is always striving. The "mother" referred to in this chapter, is the great mother -- the Dao. Laozi refers frequently to the mother, not the father. In terms of yin and yang; Laozi says it is important to know about the masculine, but to situate in the feminine. Charles says that Laozi is not a feminist, nor is he a sexist.

The last part of Charles's talk centered on the concept of "Dao". Chapter 14 talks about qualities of Dao: that which is invisible, intangible, and unnamable. In Chapter 15, because Dao is intangible, Laozi says that it may be best to understand it through the demeanor of sages who practiced the Dao: humble, self-effacing, yet who could "calm the muddy till it slowly clears: and "stir the quiet till it slowly revives." Charles described Chapter 25 as the core of the *Dao De Jing*, beautifully describing the metaphysical characteristics of the Dao, that it is "undifferentiated and yet complete, born before Heaven and Earth." Dao is a thing, not an abstract concept. It follows its own ways, and in turn governs the behavior of the cosmos.

Unfortunately time ran out, and the *Dao De Jing* is a vast subject. Many audience members wanted to hear more from this articulate speaker. Those who wish to read more of the *Dao De Jing*, and Dr. Wu's insightful commentaries can find his book on amazon.com.

- John M. Wong



Dr. Ann Wetherell, Dr. Charles Wu, Jane DeMarco

NWCC WINS AWARD FROM THE ASIAN REPORTER FOUNDATION

Representatives of the Northwest China Council were very excited to attend The Asian Reporter Foundation's 16th Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet, held on April 17th at the TAO Center in Portland. In addition to networking and meeting friends old and new, the NWCC took great pleasure in receiving The Asian Reporter Foundation's "2014 Exemplary Community Volunteer" Award. This award is given to groups that demonstrate exceptional service to the community. The other recipient of this award was the Asian Family Center at the Im-



President Victor Lam with ARF's Jody Lim

migrant & Refugee Community Organization. President Victor Lam, Board Member Sam Ruda, Program Manager John Wong, and Newsletter Editor Shireen Farrahi were present at the event. Attendees

enjoyed a delicious banquet-style dinner catered by Wong's King Restaurant, as well as delightful Asian-themed entertainment. The event also featured a silent auction, which generated much interest and activity.

One of the evening's highlights was a celebration of the lives of three elders in the community, who were all presented with the "2014 Most Honored Elder" Award. Another celebration was

for 17 high school students, who were all recognized as "2014 Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars", thereby showcasing different generations in the community.

All told, it was a very memorable evening.

NWCC AT THE CHINESE-AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE NEW YEAR DINNER

On Sunday, March 16th, representatives from the Northwest China Council attended the Chinese-American Citizen's Alliance Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner at Wong's King Seafood Restaurant. They included: Victor Lam, President; Raymond Cheung, Board Member; and Shireen Farrahi, Newsletter Editor. Another board member who was working at the event was Gloria Lee, who also serves as Grand Representative for the CACA.



(L-R): Ed Gor, Governor Barbara Roberts & friend, Stephen Ying, Gloria Lee, Victor Lam

The evening's guest of honor was The Honorable Barbara Roberts, Governor of Oregon from 1991 to 1995, who was presented with the Citizen's Award by CACA National President Ed Gor. This honor is awarded to those individuals (and organizations) who "develop leadership, serve

the community, and promote civil rights." Local politicians as well as CACA's partner organizations were present to see her receive this award.

This event was also a celebration of the 93rd anniversary of the Portland Lodge, for which a beautiful commemorative cake was featured. Other highlights of the evening included a raffle drawing, live auction, and much banter between

guests and emcee Stephen Ying!

The event provided a special opportunity for attendees from the NWCC to show their support for another Chinese organization in the Portland area and to spread the word about the Northwest China Council.

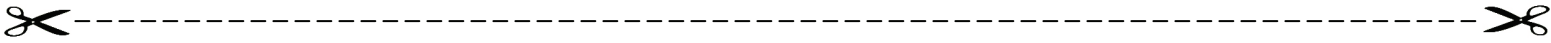
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Movie Night: *Little Big Soldier*
Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 6:00 - 9:00pm
 Red Robe Tea House, 310 NW Davis St, Portland, OR 97209
 Movie is free (food and drink available for purchase).
 Register at www.nwchina.org

Drink in China: Ancient Ales
Friday, May 16, 2014,
6:00 - 7:30pm, Lecture, Free and open to the public
7:30 - 8:30pm, Ticketed Reception, with sample tastings of Chateau Jiahu
 UO White Stag Building
 70 NW Couch St., Portland, Oregon
 Register at www.nwchina.org

[CCBN] China eCommerce, by Paul Swenson
Monday, May 19, 2014, 12:00pm - 1:30pm
 K&L Gates LLP
 One SW Columbia St. Suite 1900
 Portland, OR 97258
 \$20 NWCC members, \$28 general, \$15 students

*For more information and updates on these programs,
 please visit www.nwchina.org*



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

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

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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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