



OCCA Newsletter V2 Issue 3, March 26, 2014

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Orange County Chinese School

--Come and Learn to Speak, Read and Write Chinese Language and Explore Chinese Culture

The Orange County Chinese School, located at 45 Route 32, Central Valley, NY (at the Central Valley Elementary School), is the premier Chinese language institute in the Hudson Valley. The school is a non-profit organization and its mission is to provide educational programs to promote Chinese cultural heritage. Our qualified, experienced Chinese teachers create schedules that allow students to go beyond the classroom and experience Chinese conversation first-hand. Students will also have opportunities to learn more about Chinese culture during class sessions and on field trips.

The Orange County Chinese School offers group lessons in Mandarin Chinese on Saturdays for children from kindergarten through 12th grade as well as for adults in small classes that focus on practical, spoken Mandarin that maybe use socially, for work or for travel.

Programs include:

- Mandarin Chinese language and culture programs for all levels
- Interactive Chinese for beginners
- Intensive Mandarin Chinese SAT II course
- Business language in Chinese
- Corporate Chinese language group training
- Chinese conversations for traveling

In addition to the language programs, our school also provides enriched extracurricular activities such as Chinese yo-yo games, Chinese chess, origami, folk dancing, calligraphy, Chinese painting and others. Currently our school has ten classes with more than 80 students. Many of our students participated China's national standardized test - Chinese Proficiency Test - and Chinese Subject SAT-II. The exam pass rate of our school is one hundred percent.

For more information, e-mail (qianhluo@gmail.com or jiangq01@gmail.com) or call the school office at 845-633-1159. (Jim Jiang, OCCA)

OCCA Prepares for 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration

Is it too early to prepare 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration? Not really. Leading by Mr. Ken Chan, OCCS assistant principal, OCCA board special committee member, OCCA is currently working on an application for a governmental art grant to support New Year celebration. The Arts Grants we worked on are awarded annually to individual artists, organizations and venues in Orange County to support the positive and powerful impact the arts have on the community and economy. (Continue to page 4)

--Jenny Q. Lu MD PLLC--
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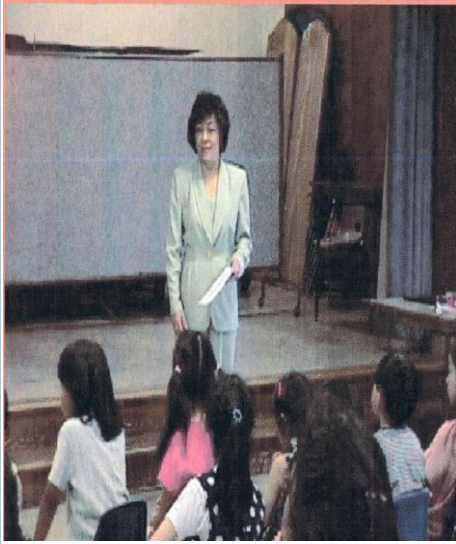
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中文学校历史溯



華人協會/中文學校之先驱--王淑美女仕

文/梁北生

當我翻看華人協會收藏的一箱歷年記錄文件時,我發現其中一半的文件是屬王淑美女仕 1999-2003 在任校長和會長的事工文件。從收集文件中,可以看出當年辦事滿有計劃,溝通,和完整的紀錄。當年科技遠不及今日的發達,但重要活動都有圖文紀錄。每年領收捐送禮物,都發出收據謝卡片。王博士做事認真。在她任校長時,中文學校由路德教會搬至今日仍在用的中谷小學上課。不只教學地點大大改進,就讀學生人數也陸續增加。她還大力推行華僑文教,表章優秀教師;為美國家庭開辦特殊華語班;推薦教師電腦培訓班;舉辦中文學校學生頒獎日(Award Day);學生家長教師會議(PTA);并設立電話/電郵聯絡網(Phone and email chain)。在王博士任會長期間,她極力為協會多方籌款。其中有如華僑文教的資助;國際紙業公司機構資助;United Way Donner Choice Program 等等。在王博士任會長期間舉辦了特別協會籌款,為協會購買第一部 laptop 電腦;LCD 投影機;Xerox 翻印機;第一部擴音機;OCCA/OCCS 網站也在當年建立;2002 年新年節目安排在第六台電視廣播....。1999-2003 年是華人協會/中文學校滿有成就的幾年,它奠定了華人協會/中文學校的基礎,使華人協會的後續發展更上一層樓。

王淑美女仕是我們協會的理事們的典範。華人協會需要的就是王博士那樣的帶頭人!

Origami at the Orange County Chinese School

Esther Chao, Orange County Chinese School

In the Orange County Chinese School on Saturdays, students not only learn Chinese language, but also have opportunity to learn Chinese culture in the after school session with arrays of extra-curricular activities. One of the most favorite after-school activities of the Orange County Chinese School is origami. Origami is the traditional paper folding, which started in the 17th century AD. It has since then evolved into a modern art form. The goal of this art is to transform a flat sheet of paper into a finished sculpture through folding and sculpting techniques. The number of basic origami folds is small, but they can be combined in a variety of ways to make intricate designs. In general, these designs begin with a square sheet of paper whose sides may be different colors or prints.

Mrs. Li Na, the origami teacher at the school, holds an origami class after students released at 11:30 am. Using authentic origami paper, she teaches her students a new design every week. Each lesson is taught step-by-step, guaranteeing the children a successful origami model to bring home. Models are chosen according to the season or holiday; there are designs related to spring, Chinese New Year, and even Halloween (as seen in the picture). No matter what they learn, the kids are always pleased with the outcome and eager to show off their new models— at least, until they discover an even cooler design the next week.

For more information, e-mail (qianhluo@gmail.com or jiangq01@gmail.com) or call the school office at 845-633-1159.



OCCS Afterschool Programs

Orange County Chinese School provides enriched extracurricular activities. One of the interesting programs, Mrs. Ping Moroney teaches her students the magic Chinese characters.

橙郡中文學校有着丰富多彩的課後活動。它施教于樂,給枯燥乏味的漢字教育帶來些許輕鬆。學生們有機會通過課後活動不僅強化語言學習,而且有機會進一步接觸和了解新奇而古老的中華文化。

堆雪人

文/Andy Wong, OCCS 學生

早上起床,我看了看外面,草地上一片白茫茫,原來昨晚下了一場大雪。雪後的景色真是美呀!妈妈说,“今天大雪學校不上課,我們大家一起堆雪人吧。”我聽了以後很高興,穿上外套就往外沖。外面小雪繼續下着,妈妈很快給我準備一個大桶,桶里面有紅羅卜,紅棗和圍巾。我先用桶裝了幾桶滿滿的雪,把雪全部倒出來,然後用手拍了拍雪堆,雪人的身體就做好了。接着我又把桶里面有紅羅卜,紅棗和圍巾分別放在雪人的頭部,又用樹枝給雪人裝上了手,這樣雪人就堆好了。我和我妈妈非常高興。太陽終於出來了,有雪人的雪景在太陽的照耀下十分美麗!

编者按:本刊歡迎 OCCS 學生的中文寫作!



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OCCA 2014 年春游活动通知 (OCCA Bear Mountain Hike)

日期：四月十九日 (星期六) April 19th 2014 (No Chinese School)

集合时间：上午十点半 - 下午四点半 (10:30AM to 4:30PM)

集合地点：停车场 (Parking lot near the Merry-go-Round)

橙郡华人协会将于四月十九日 (星期六) 在大熊山 (Bear Mountain) 举行春游活动。我们热情欢迎您参加此次活动。我们将在十二点半左右在大熊山山顶会餐，请您携带您的佳肴 (请带足够您家庭的分量) 与大家分享。华人协会 将提供水和零食。秋游活动节结束后请参加我们在山下草坪举办的活动如排球，足球，拔河等。OCCA is warmly inviting you and your family to attend the OCCA Bear Mountain Hike on April 19th 2014. We will meet at the parking lot near the Merry-go-Round (please look for OCCA red flag) and our hike event will start at 10:30 AM. We will have lunch around 12:30 pm at the top of Bear Mountain. Please bring your favorite dishes (Enough for your party) to share with friends and families. OCCA will provide bottled water and light snacks.



Chinese Yo-Yo

Esther Chao, Orange County Chinese School

Many people have heard of the yo-yo. It usually comes with some faint childhood memory of playing one, being hit by one, or simply getting a finger stuck in the slip knot. Although yo-yos are often only considered as "toys," they require a lot of skill to fully master. Now imagine the common yo-yo, only larger and even harder to control. Imagine the same lifting-and-dropping motion of the string, but with two sticks, one in each hand, alternating with desperate attempts to keep the yo-yo spinning. That is the Chinese yo-yo. The Chinese yo-yo was found during the Ming dynasty; roughly 1386-1644. Early yo-yo were originally made of two round, wooden ends contented in the middle by a horizontal piece. This simple toy was nevertheless an integral part of ancient Chinese culture.

Always trying to keep the Chinese culture alive, the Orange County Chinese School offers Chinese yo-yo as one of its after-school activities. It is performed annually at its Chinese New Year celebrations. The program has been at the school for a long time and continues to amaze its viewers with its shows. Now, after roughly a decade, old members of the program have graduated and a new group of younger students have taken over. Their ability to focus and learn difficult tricks at such a young age is astounding to watch. The Chinese yo-yo requires concentration and dedication to master. However, with a group of young kids at the helm, this program has demonstrated that the Chinese yo-yo truly is a pastime for people of all ages.

For more information, e-mail (qianhluo@gmail.com or jiangq01@gmail.com) or call the Chinese school office at 845-633-1159.



Chinese Characters and Calligraphy

Shelyn Yang- Orange County Chinese School

The Chinese characters have many users around the world. The characters are like the many pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. First, one must understand the correct strokes that make up the character. Next, after the first couple of strokes are complete, a radical is formed. Take "湖" as an example. The radical 氵 means water. The other part 胡 (Hú) indicates the pronunciation. Once the two are put together, you now have 湖 (Hú), means an inland body of water, that's Lake. As all pieces of the Chinese character come together, the puzzle is now complete.

Calligraphy is the traditional art of writing Chinese characters. After centuries of creation and evolution, it has become a unique form of art. Chinese calligraphy is just like a painting with its many strokes. One must understand that the Chinese brush is to be held straight vertically with the tip of the brush elegantly staining the paper, slowly forming strokes until at last a character comes out. Stroke by stroke, character by character, each little piece comes together to create a beautiful painting.

The orange County Chinese School provides a basic Chinese Calligraphy lesson at the afterschool program. For more information, e-mail (qianhluo@gmail.com or jiangq01@gmail.com) or call the school office at 845-633-1159.

OCCA 2014 Free Seminar Series) 过敏症讲座

日期 (Date)：四月五日 (星期六) April 5th 2014

时间 (Time)：上午十点 - 十一点 (10:00AM to 11:00AM)

地点 (Location)：中文学校(OCCS)

Seasonal Allergies Including Demographics, Symptoms, Diagnosis and Treatment Options

By Dr. Jinlin Du





OCCA Free Seminar Series - “家庭税务理财讲座”

3月15日(周六)上午,由“橙郡华人协会”与纽约“美国华人创业投资协会”合办的“家庭税务理财讲座”在 Central Valley Elementary School 举行。

主讲人于恺先生(纽约州 CPA)重点讲解了美国政府出台的《美国居民海外金融资产申报规定》,着重分析了政府缺钱的大背景下出台该申报规定的目的和配套措施以及申报标准。主讲人提请华人朋友把握趋势、妥善筹谋家庭的境外财产。另一位主讲人杨松林先生(纽约人寿保险公司业务代表)从如何保障家庭生活水平稳定提高的角度,深入浅出的介绍了人寿保险的保障功能和税务优惠待遇,呼吁华人朋友善加利用人寿保险这一得力、有效的家庭财务保障工具,为家庭幸福保驾护航。讲座得到了与会的几十名华人朋友的积极反响和赞许。一些朋友还就个人或公司的财务问题进行了咨询,还有一些朋友当场表示,愿意就自己或家人的人寿保险计划进行深入沟通。如您需要进一步了解有关服务,请直接与他们联系。他们的电邮地址是 yangsonglin66@hotmail.com 和 kaiy@ywlcpa.com.

橙郡华人协会董事会特别工作委员会会议 二〇一四年第一次会议纪要

史秀全

2014年3月7日晚,协会特别工作委员会召开第一次电话工作会议。成员从不同角度积极建言献策。现将主要事项整理如下:

- 第一, 协会特别工作委员会成员: 吴康健, 江岚, 史秀全, 彭小东, Ken Chan.
- 第二, 特别工作委员对协会负责, 将协助协会完成 2014 年度工作计划制定和具体工作方案。
- 第三, 讨论确定工作委员会主要工作方向和重点。加强外联, 扩大赞助, 协助中文学校招生等。
- 第四, 讨论确定基本分工和合作。逐步形成工作方案。
- 第五, 提出需要进一步明确的问题, 容下次会议讨论完善。

Special Committee Meeting Minutes

The OCCA Special Working Committee hosted a teleconference on March 7, 2014. All members actively engaged in the discussion on various topics. The major talk points are summarized as followed:

- 1) Committee members: Kangjian Wu, Lan Jiang, Peter Shi, Derek Peng, and Ken Chan.
- 2) The committee is an extension of the OCCA board and is responsible for the board. The main goal of the committee is to assist OCCA carry out its main programs.
- 3) The scope of the committee was discussed. In 2014 the committee will work on public relations, recruiting students to the Chinese school and OCCA fundraising.
- 4) The committee will work together for a common goal, where each person is assigned an individual task.
- 5) Members will review their respective tasks and come up with a plan for discussion in the next meeting.

(Cont'd from page 1)

OCCA Prepares for 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration

The purpose of the art fund is to bolster Orange County's growing arts community while providing an artistically and culturally enriched environment to both residents and tourists. The program achieves this by providing funds to support projects available to the public which are executed by individual artists, arts and cultural organizations, and arts venues in Orange County. A panel comprised of Orange County individuals from the arts and business community reviews the applications and makes recommendations to the Executive for final grant approval.

An overview of the application process and documents is offered by the organizer on March 20 2014. Ken Chan and Jim Jiang attended one of the information sessions. Per the organizer the grants are very competitive and up to \$5000 will be awarded to the grantee. The application deadline is on April 16 2014.

Honorable artists Mr. Pei Ke, Mrs. Gao Fang, Dr. RuthAnne Schempf and Mrs. Ping Moroney co-sponsor the grant application.

为筹备 2015 新年晚会, 橙郡华人协会协会特别工作委员会成员 Ken Chan 正在领军申请政府基金。如果成功, 橙郡华人协会将得到数千元美金的政府资助。

橙郡华人协会结盟 Woodbury Gazette

为推介橙郡中文学校与中华文化, 橙郡华人协会与地方双周刊报纸“Woodbury Gazette”联络, 建立了互助合作关系。Woodbury Gazette 主编 Meyers 先生决定 Woodbury Gazette 将为橙郡华人协会提供版面供我们发表与中华文化与橙郡中文学校有关的英文文稿。因是长期(一年左右)合作, 我们需要大量文稿。如你有兴趣在 Woodbury Gazette 发表文章, 请与 Jim

Jiang(jiangq01@gmail.com) 联系。下月春游是个好机会, 请为本刊供稿。本期所刊登的由 Esther, Katie, Shelyn 所创作的文章已提交 Woodbury Gazette 供其连续发表。

OCCA partners with Woodbury Gazette, a local newspaper to promote Chinese School and Chinese Culture. Woodbury Gazette agrees to regularly publish articles provided by OCCA community.

I love Chinese calligraphy – Katie Luo

Chinese calligraphy is so beautiful; I want to practice more.
- U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama, March 21 in Beijing

Today I read a piece of news: on March 21, the U.S. President's wife Michelle Obama visited a middle school in Beijing where she and high school students learned Chinese calligraphy together. Because I have not studied Chinese calligraphy since my childhood, I do not understand Chinese calligraphy very well. However, I have always thought Chinese calligraphy is simply one of the world's most beautiful pictures.
(Cont'd to Page 5)

Cont'd from Page 4)

I love Chinese calligraphy – Katie Luo

When I was ten, I first heard the names of the four treasures of Chinese. That year our family went to China and my parents took my brother and me to a Chinese stationery shop, where I first saw the four treasures. After my mother opened the exquisite packing box, I saw the Chinese brush pen, ink stick and stone, and Chinese calligraphy paper.

After returning to the U.S. and New York, my cousin Connie and I were practicing calligraphy and painting landscapes at home. The result was not calligraphy; instead, there was black ink splashed all over the floor.

The question still begs to be answered: how is Chinese calligraphy so great, luring fans from around the world to learn and study calligraphy? The answer is that Chinese calligraphy is not just a way of placing words upon a sheet of paper; it is an ancient art. Chinese calligraphy came from oracles and their stone drums, and the font of Jin evolved to Seal, resulting in Seal Script, official script, cursive script, regular script, running script, and more. Calligraphy has always exuded the charm of artwork.

Traditional and simplified Chinese characters differ in that simplified versions have less to do with the majestic art of calligraphy. Traditional strokes are complicated, but they bring attention to the intention of Chinese characters, and they appear wondrous when written in calligraphy. Simplified strokes are simple and easy to write and read, but they are not favored by calligraphers because they have lost the charm of traditional Chinese characters. However, I am glad that our Chinese school uses Simplified Chinese, or my Chinese would be even worse, and I wouldn't recognize or write as many Chinese characters!

Chinese culture and history is so great and unique that all Chinese descendants should feel very proud of their heritage. I know the Orange County Chinese School provides a good environment for learning Chinese culture and language, and I hope that the school and I myself will learn and understand our studies even better in the future. It's just as Mrs. Obama has said recently: "Chinese calligraphy is so beautiful; I want to practice more."



我爱中国书法

橙郡中文学校十一年級学生 罗凯迪

中国书法太美了，我要多练习。

——美国总统奥巴马夫人米歇尔 三月二十一日于北京

今天我看到一条新闻：美国总统奥巴马夫人米歇尔 于三月二十一日参观了北京的一所中学，她和中学生们一起学习中国书法，并且感叹中国书法太美了。因为我从小没有学习过中国书法，所以我不太懂中国书法，只是觉得中国书法是世界上最美的图画之一。我十岁的时候，才第一次听说文房四宝这个名称。那一年我们全家去中国，我的父母带我哥哥去中国文具店，在那里我看见了文房四宝。当妈妈打开精致的包装盒子的时候，我看见了中国毛笔，墨块，砚台和中国宣纸。回到美国纽约后，我和我的表妹康妮在家一起练习写毛笔字和画山水画。结果是毛笔字没有写几个，黑色的墨汁泼的满地都是。

小的时候我就很好奇：为什么中国书法这么伟大，能吸引全世界的书法爱好者来学习和研究书法呢？后来才知道中国书法不仅仅是一种文字，而且她是一门古老的艺术。网上说中国书法从甲骨文、石鼓文、金文演变而为大篆、小篆、隶书，草书、楷书、行书等，书法一直散发着艺术的魅力。“阅读了一些网上的文章后，我还稍微有一点点理解了繁体字和简体字的区别。繁体字笔画复杂，但是重视汉字的本意，而且写书法时很漂亮。简体字笔画简单，方便书写和识字，可是书法家们都不喜欢用简体字，因为写出来的汉字不好看，而且失去了汉字的魅力。我很庆幸我们的中文学校使用的是简体字，要不然我的中文就更差了，会写会认的汉字就更少了。

中国的文化和中国的历史是这么伟大和独特，作为一个中国人的后代，我们应该感到无比的自豪和骄傲。有时候当我听到一个美国人讲一口流利的中国话时，我会觉得他太聪明了，怎么会比我讲的还好，字比我还人的多呢？我知道橙郡中文学校给我这样的孩子提供了一个学习中国文化和中国语言的良好环境，我希望我和我的朋友们都能更好地学习中国语言和中国文化。因为就像 美国总统奥巴马夫人米歇尔说的那样：**中国书法太美了，我要多练习。**

Seal Cutting

Shelyn Yang

In China, seal cutting is recognized by all circles and is popular today among young people. Seal cutting is just like owning private property. One can use various types of resources that are available such as jade, bamboo, stone, and ivory. Then, taking the specific material and on the left edge face the name of the carver as well as the date of the carving are carved. Characters can also be carved in either relief or deep in the material.

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