# 纽约橙郡华人协会新闻简报

### OCCA NEWSLETTER Nov 29, 2016

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#### OCCA/OCCS 30 周年会庆系列文章(三) <<OCCS - How we started the school in 1989 >> <<OCCA Highlights 1987-1994>> By OCCA Former President and OCCS 1<sup>st</sup> Principal Mrs. Audrey Osofsky 关慧莲(转第3-4版, page3-4)

#### Dear OCCA Friends and Families,

During this Thanksgiving month, OCCA would like to thank you all for your diligence, commitment and dedication on our community. Wish you and your family a fulfilled holiday with joy.



#### 2017 CHINESE NEW YEAR & OCCA 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION GALA



Date and Time: 21-January-2017, 1:30PM - 10:00PM Place: Monroe Woodbury Middle School Orange County Chinese Association 授 郑 華 入 協 會



二家一六十一月

Farewell Party for Dr. Shuimei Wang 数十年呕心沥 血,今朝根深叶茂时一华人协会前会长王淑美博士座谈会

在橙郡华人协会前会长王淑美博士举家迁往华盛顿之前,协会专门于11月19 日上午11点在中文学校小餐厅举办座谈会,一是重叙过往二十多年王博士为 协会、中文学校辛苦付出;二是为故交旧友与王博士熟识人士创造机会,正式 话别;三是激励当前协会董事会、志愿者以及中文学校等方面支持者,持续奉 献与付出!

座谈会在现会长吴康健的主持下准时召开。首先是会长以幻灯片的形式向在座的各位介绍王淑美博士在协会成立与发展壮大过程中,特别是中文学校转址问题上发挥的主导性作用;积极寻求社会各届、各种组织的援助并发掘不同渠道的资源;历数经历的坎坷与困难,为协会的壮大,为中文学校的成长积极建言献策,身体例行;面对工作的繁忙与压力,经受家庭的迫切需求,各种社会事务的分心,从点滴开始,以协会与学校的建设为大局,克服困难,励精图治。 (转第二版, page2)

《INVITATION FOR CELEBRATION GALA OF OCCA 30<sup>™</sup> ANNIVERARY AND 2017 CHINESE NEW YEAR 纽约橙郡华人协会成立 30 周年会 庆暨 2017 年春节晚会邀请函》(CHINESE VERSION)

各位协会会员、中文学校教师/学生/家长以及关心/支持协会的各界朋友们:

橙郡华人协会自 1986 年创建以来, 弹指之间已经走过了三十年! 三十年前, 长辈们为中国文字与中华文化的薪火相传, 为海外炎黄子孙的团结互助, 成立 了协会, 创办了中文学校。协会与学校, 齐头并进, 积极参与社区各项社会活 动, 相辅相成, 共同发展。三十年的寒暑交替, 凝聚着长辈们无私的心血与奉 献, 吸引着后来者的认同与支持。为了总结历届接棒人的成绩, 接续过往经验 迈向明天, 经协会董事会成员全体商议, 拟定于 2017 年 1 月 21 日下午 1 时在 MW 中学举办橙郡华人协会成立 30 周年纪念活动暨 2017 年春节晚会。特邀请 您及家人届时光临, 我们将以饱满的热情欢迎您!

#### 橙郡华人协会 10/28/2016

#### [OCCA Brief News]

- Dr. Jim Jiang, on behalf of OCCA, submitted a grant proposal to Orange County Tourist on 30Nov2016.

- OCCA/S website is combined under WWW.OCCANY.ORG

- More Volunteers needed for preparing the Celebration Gala of  $\,\,2017$  Chinese New Year and OCCA  $30^{\rm th}$  Anniversary.

Continue to Call Articles for OCCA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 协会卅周年会庆约稿

(Continued from page-1 数十年呕心沥血,今朝根深叶茂时)特别是在协会进入而立之年,各方面通畅顺和之际, 回顾既往岁月,激励当下众人。座谈会上,王淑美博士感慨良多,对各位朋友的到来表示感谢,而且顺便将过往完成的一些食品安全检验研究给予简要报告,既是表明工作与人的健康生活密切相关,也是预示协会与学校只有积极 健康的运作与投入,才能枝繁叶茂。座谈会结束之际,王淑美把诸多与中文教学有关的物品转赠中文学校,以表达 她的热情与爱心! 最后,协会对王博士经年的付出和支持表示由衷的感谢! (Please visit OCCA websites for more photos: www.occany.org or www.facebook.com/occany/) (协会 秀全)



## OCCA Hosted An Expanded Board Meeting 举行扩大董事会

十一月五日,00CA 董事会在 CV 小学举行扩大董事会,就协会 30 周年会庆和明年初举办的新年文艺晚会广泛的征求大家的意见 。在短短的一个多小时的时间里,各位董事首先汇报了所分管的事务,任务的进度和结果。协会的顾问们也献计献策,特别是 梁北生董事,作为老会长校长,凭借多年为社区服务的经验,给协会提出的多项的改进意见以及实施步骤,正应了中国的古话 :家有一老是个宝。梁先生最近身体有恙,依然坚持为华人教会和华人协会倾心奉献,不计报酬,实为社区楷模,也是我们这 些后继晚辈的学习榜样。吴康健会长和其它辉瑞制药的员工也一直致力与让企业为华人协会捐款,使得 00CA 近年彻底摆脱了 财务窘境,同大使馆和各周边中文学校的交流也使得 00CA 的知名度大长。会上大伙就 30 周年会庆和新年文艺晚会事务进行了 详细的安排,相信一定能顺利举办。



## 纽约橙郡华人协会新闻简报

(Continued from page-1)

## OCCA/OCCS 30 周年会庆系列文章(三)

二零一六年十一月

## Orange County Chinese School - How We Started the School in 1986

By Mrs. Audrey Osofsky 關惠蓮

#### Foreword

Any culture that survives the challenges of time and history carries a depth and merit. The five thousand years of Chinese culture is rich in the teachings of discipline and integrity. Its wisdom serves me well as a moral compass in a world of conflicting values and challenges. I take pride in having grown up in the Chinese culture. When asked by a young reporter, Shelly Green, of the Times Herald Record in 1991, why I (and other parents) started the Chinese School, I replied, "It is to make them (our children) aware that being Chinese is something to be proud of. We have a very old culture." Naturally parents want to give their children the best of what they have. For me, teaching my children about our heritage is the best gift I can offer.

#### Orange County Chinese School (OCCS), 1986-

Thirty years ago, in the summer of 1986, a few Chinese-American families got together and decided to create a neighborhood Chinese language school for their children to learn Mandarin and about their heritage. None of us had any training or experience in setting up a school; we therefore invited the late Theresa Hung of the Chinese American Cultural Association of Rockland (County) to give us a crash course on the how-tos. By the fall of that year, the Orange County Chinese School (OCCS) was founded in Monroe. We rent out the fellowship hall of the St. Paul Lutheran's Church on Still Rd, Monroe. Using portable blackboards, we divided up the space into three mini-classrooms. I served as the school principal, Jeanette Sung the head teacher. About fifteen students enrolled initially (my six year old daughter included). They were then grouped into three levels of learning: introductory, intermediate and advanced. Willing parents took turns teaching the student body, and sometimes students ended up in their mom's class (happily or unhappily). The (Taiwan) Chinese Cultural Center of NYC sent the School a free supply of text books and school supplies. The tuition of \$25 / student/semester went to pay the rent, utilities and other expenses. Teachers were not paid, nobody got paid. Nobody was concerned about getting paid. The only concern was keeping the school running. And the school kept running. Every Sunday afternoon the students, ages six through thirteen, recited Mandarin aloud in unfamiliar intonations, and practiced writing the pictographic characters in the small squares of their exercise books. Parents gathered in the adjoining kitchen conversing over tea and snacks (Mr. Frank Lin attentively served everyone tea). As the foliage faded into snow, the initial awkward intonations eased into natural rhythms; it was music to the parents' ears. Yet like any pioneering project, unforeseeable problems arose as time went by. Sporadic attendance (a perpetual clash between Sunday classes and birthday parties /playtime), dwindling enrollment, snow storms, unexpected dropouts, and frustrated teachers drove the School to face some difficult challenges. For no other reasons than being young and resilient, our teachers braved on. Their courage re-minded me of the little blue engine in the popular children's classic, "The Little Engine that Could" by Watty Piper (1930), in which the little engine repeats to himself when facing the harshest challenge, "I think I can, I think I can." Our teachers were just as determined as the little blue engine. For we shared one dream - that the seeds we sowed today would grow strong tomorrow. Then dawn broke after a long night, as the School hosted its very first Chinese New Year celebration in January. The Year was 4687, according to the Lunar calendar, the year of the rabbit-an astrological sign for peace and auspiciousness.

On that cold sunny afternoon, parents, family members and friends arrived in festive spirits, looking their best. They crowded into the School for the very first New Year celebration the School hosted. They self-introduced in their native dialect (Cantonese, Mandarin, Taiwanese, English), greeting and well-wishing each other with "Kung hay fat choy". Mothers streamed in and out of the kitchen with the homemade New Year sweets and delicacies, hollering for help at times. Pastries were brought in fresh from Chinatown and needed to warming up. The air was thick with the aroma of festive food. Everyone was in high spirits. Parents and staffs decorated the stage in gold and red , paper cutouts of rabbits, plus motifs symbolizing an auspicious start of the new year were home-made. When the curtain was finally drawn, students in beautiful costumes graced the narrow stage, and in elegant moves, danced sprightly to the beat of the festive music. Rounds of applause and encores roared throughout the hall. Cameras flashed non-stop. Then someone sang Formosa love songs from the sixties, sweeping the old timers among the audience into flashbacks of a politically unsettling era. A "big head" Buddha fanned his way into the hall, followed by a dancing papier-mache lion bowing and shimmying through the excited crowd. Everyone young and old rose from their seats to join in the fun. The extended parade swerved around the fellowship hall to the front door of the Church then back through the narrow hallway to the kitchen and turned back for a second round. People chased and cheered the lionhead dance along, stepping and stumbling on each other. It was just so much fun. One of the parents, Ma Hung-on, said with delight in an interview, "The School is the center of culture in the community. I hope by this time next year we will have more people for an (Chinese com-munity) association." (TH-Record, Jan 26, 1987)

Ma's notion of a Chinese community association struck a chord. The School could use every support provided by the community to alleviate some of its problems- it had been underfunded and under-staffed. Once classes resumed I set out to work towards this goal. I called for a general meeting in early March. In late April, 1987, The Orange County Chinese Association was born. The board of seven members promised that the Association would give its full support to the School. Bravo!! Meanwhile the School decided to add an extra half hour of cultural activities, including paper folding, Chinese calligraphy, and Chinese chess to lighten the intensive language program. Our first school field trip, in the spring, brought us to Mandarin Soy Sauce factory in Middletown, NY. J.C. Wu, the President then, gave us (*Next to page-4*)



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(*Continued from page-3*) a history of soy sauce making in ancient China, followed by a tour of the factory. A very warm-welcoming trip. In June, we held our first picnic in the beautiful Orange County Park, thus wrapping up the School's very busy and challenging first year.

二零一六年十一月

#### Afterwards:

I can't possibly thank enough the teachers and parents for all their hard work that first year to make the School a success. Nothing could have stopped us in those days. We were concerned and passionate parents -- we did what we thought we were best at-- teaching our heritage to our children. Whether we succeeded at passing on our legacy to our students, well, the students will be judges of that. But one thing is certain, we did it. We gifted our children a unique path to travel on together, support one other in the learning and understanding of their complex heritage. Many of our past students are now married with their own families, and have become established in their chosen professions. Students of twenty five years ago are today's financiers, lawyers, doctors, scientists, artists, architects, teachers, published writers...Some of them have also ventured to China to pursue personal growth and/or professional interests. But no matter what they are and where they are, they should remember we are always one big family. Many of these graduates remain close friends today, and many parents enjoy reminiscing about the first Chinese New Year celebration when every family brought in their favorite dishes. We treasure those old folksy days, don't we. May the Chinese School enjoy more success and a Happy 30th Anniversary!!!

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### Orange County Chinese Association Highlights: 1987 - 1994

#### By Mrs. Audrey Osofsky 關惠蓮

**1987** An unsuccessful written protest against Cablevision for eliminating the Chinese programming on Friday nights for the Middletown audience indicated our interests and market share did not fare well in Cablevision's commercial concerns.

**1989** About 40 OCCA members including Chinese School students and parents joined the Greater Middletown Interfaith Council peaceful protest denouncing the crackdown of the June 4th pro-democratic movement at Tiananmen Square. Mr. Donald Wong of OCCA spoke to the rally of 150 local residents, "Your presence here tonight shows your interest in the cause all Americans share in." (TH-Record, 6/12/89, pg. 3)

#### 1991 OCCA Newsletter 1991-1995, in English and Chinese.

A bimonthly newsletter dedicated to current and upcoming events of OCCA and OCCS, plus financial reports, local announcements of related interests, and profiles on new members. Secretary: Helena Chiou, Editor: Audrey Osofsky, Distributor: Ming Sung.

Ms. Li Mu-lan and her two daughters of Newburgh, NY, represented OCCA in an international cultural event sponsored by the Newburgh Free Library in Nov. Li's programs on Chinese paper cutting and origami were well received. OCCA began the long process for filing non-profit status in Dec. In applying for the Certificate of Incorporation, Audrey Osofsky wrote the purposes of the OCCA are:

1) To promote understanding of Chinese culture, heritage and traditions in the community.

- To operate a school that offers instruction in Chinese language and culture to members of Chinese-American families, and others who are interested in learning about the language and culture.
- 3) To provide information and assistance to the Chinese-American community.

1992 Application for the not-for-profit status with the New York State Education Dept. was approved on Jan 7, 1992 under section 509(a)(2).

**1993** OCCA By-laws were reviewed and revised by the Board in a series of meetings in April. The Board summed up two primary functions of OCCA:

- 1. To fully support the instruction of Chinese language, culture and history in Chinese School.
- 2. To promote a greater understanding of Chinese culture to local community groups and organizations. (OCCA Newsletter, Vol. 3, no.3, 12/93)

OCCA held its first student concert at the Unitarian Meeting Center in Rock Tavern, NY in May. Students ages 8 -16 played cello, violin and piano music to an audience of 100. Concert pianist Zhao-fang of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music performed classical music. One concert goer said to the TH-Record as she congratulated the performers, "This gives me hope in this country's future." (TH-Record May 10, 1993)

Application for <u>not-for-profit</u> status with the US. Internal Revenue Service was approved on Oct 28,1993, under IRS 501(C)(3). Special thanks to all the involved and concerned parties for their strong support.

**<u>1994</u>** Theodore Sly, the late Orange County Historian, invited OCCA to celebrate Chinese culture and heritage with the Orange County community on Aug 20th, at the Goshen Historical Society housed in 1841 Goshen Courthouse.

The full day celebration was packed with programs on Chinese medicine, Chinese folk music, and Chinese soy sauce- the presentations "From Chinese folk songs to the emergence of Chinese characters" by Porfessor Gao Hou-yung of Nanjing, "The Making of Soy-sauce" by David Zhang of Middletown Mandarin Soy Sauce, acrobat performance by Ju-Zhen Wu, qi-gong demonstrations, plus student performances. Master Mark of The Eagle Claws Martial Arts School, Montgomery, NY performed a traditional Lion Dance to finish the day in high note. A display of Chinese artifacts and memorabilia organized by Pak Leung was showcased in the Courthouse exhibition hall for an entire month. An in-depth interview with Pak Leung was featured in the Times Herald Record. (Th-Record, 8/17/1994) (*Next to page-6*)

**OCCS Teachers' Training 授业接地气, 润物细无声 - 小记佩斯大学孔子学院与 OCCS 联合教师培训** [12Nov2016] 初秋天高气爽, 纽约橙郡中文学校的各个教室的朗朗书声在清脆的下课铃声中嘎然而止, 孩子们欢快的离开校园, 而各位老师 们则开始了年度计划中的第三次联合培训。佩斯大学孔子学院的王文琴院长带领培训主讲人卫华老师不顾舟车劳顿, 旋即开始了讲座。橙郡 中文学校各年级老师, 代课后备老师以及部分协会成员都积极参加聆听。讲座的第一部分着重介绍了国家有关汉语水平考试 (HSK) 的项目 , 级别以及组织过程, 特别是针对海外中文独立办学机构参加类似考试的注意事项给予重点讲解, 并允将来为海外学子参加考试提供及时有 效的专业指导。讲座第二部分针对中美学生文化背景与学习习惯、教学方式等差异性进行梳理与分析, 突出教学实际当中遇到的常见问题, 如保持学习兴趣, 适当强化鼓励与激励机制, 合理评价方法等逐一阐述。讲座信息量大而直接, 足见准备充分, 十分具有针对性。特别值得 一提的是, 本次培训更像一次深入而开放的讨论, 不拘泥于讲与听的表面形式, 诸位老师的随时提问和内心感受的表达贯穿在整个讲解过程 中; 在热烈互动与交流中, 教学理论与教学实际发生碰撞, 心得体会与改进措施愈加明晰。培训结束之际, 双方都觉得中文教学需要随时注 意差异化的存在, 因此要合适的教材, 经验丰富的教师, 以及与传播中国文化并行。文化的传播可以实现基本了解与弥合差异, 而更有助于 中文的学习与推动。中文学校对佩斯孔院的大力支持表示由衷的感谢, 同时也希望双方的合作在积极、稳妥、有效的基础上更加深入!



[Editor Words] OCCA/S is working together with Mirs. Walker and will publish her works at a special column in OCCA/S website

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November 28, 2016

2017 Chinese New Year and OCCA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Gala Date and Time: January 21 (snow date: January 28), 2017, 1:30 pm – 10:00 pm Place: Monroe-Woodbury Middle School, 199 Dunderberg Rd, Central Valley, NY 10917

Dear OCCA Friends and Family,

It is with great pleasure we invite you and your family to join our celebration gala for the 2017 Chinese New Year and 30th Anniversary of the Orange County Chinese Association/School (OCCA/S). The gala is scheduled for January 21 (snow date January 28), 2017 from 1:30PM to 10:00PM in the Monroe-Woodbury Middle School, Central Valley, New York.

Our association and its subsidiary Chinese School was first established in 1986 with a small group of Chinese folks living in the Orange County-Hudson Valley area. Through the past three decades, our association has witnessed tremendous growth, expansion, and advancement in supporting cultural tolerance, creating a vibrant cultural community, and fostering an increased support among residents in the community. We have the privilege and pleasure of offering the best Chinese Language and Chinese Culture learning programs in the community. Our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a particularly memorable occasion for us. As a non-profit organization, our goal is to provide cultural, educational, and instrumental programs to promote cultural heritage and enhance quality of life in the community. We also look to our vision in this rapidly advancing discipline. This celebration gala provides a precious opportunity for our old friends and family to reunite and for our fellows to share and discuss our further development.

The Annual Chinese New Year Celebration is the most culturally enriching day for our community. This combined celebration gala is comprised of a show, an exhibition/seminar, and a dinner. The show is performed by the students of the Orange County Chinese School and adults (volunteers and professionals) from our association. The exhibition/seminar cover highlights of OCCA/S's history, present, and future. The dinner is provided by the members of our Orange County Chinese Association as well as local caterers. The event is open to the public. The show is free, and the dinner is \$10 for OCCA members and \$12 for non-members.

We would be extremely grateful if you would attend this occasion and be part of our celebration. Please RSVP by December 31, 2016 via email or phone.

Yours Faithfully,

Kangjian Wu, President Orange County Chinese Association Website: <u>www.occany.org</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/occany</u> Email: <u>wuk2014a@gmail.com</u> or <u>president@occany.org</u> Tel: (845) 282 – 3635

druguan Shis

**Our History** 

Peter Xiuquan Shi, Principal Orange County Chinese School Email: <u>xiuquanshi25@gmail.com</u> Tel: (631)482-2448

(Continued from page-4 in the article << OCCA Highlights: 1987-1994)

OCCS celebrated Chinese New Year with:

- Central Valley Elementary School, Monroe-Woodbury, NY (1991) (OCCS received a state grant to foster the understanding of Chinese culture);
- Washingtonville Taft School, Washingtonville, NY (1992);
- Boy Scout Association. Local Chapter in an international event (1992);
- The elderly at Arden Hill Life Care Center in Goshen, NY (1993 and 1994);
- Newburgh Free Library, Newburgh, NY (2009).

Student Literary Journal compiled by Amy Louie (Head Teacher) 1992-96

An annual collection of students' writings of all grades in Chinese language: stories, satires, critical essays, drawings/illustrations, and photos, a must read for all parents.



### ---Community News 社区见闻-

十一月初, Monroe-Woodbury 校区举行一年一度的小学 Cross Country 越野跑, OCCA 的 Allen Yi 和 Lucas Wen 分别代 表 2 年级和 1 年级参加了比赛。Lucas 还获得了第二名的好 成绩。Andrew Yi 做为 9 年级 CrossCountry 越野跑冠军, 为 所有小学年龄组领跑。



Dr. Lan Jiang attended a Chinese Literature Conference in Beijing 06Nov2016

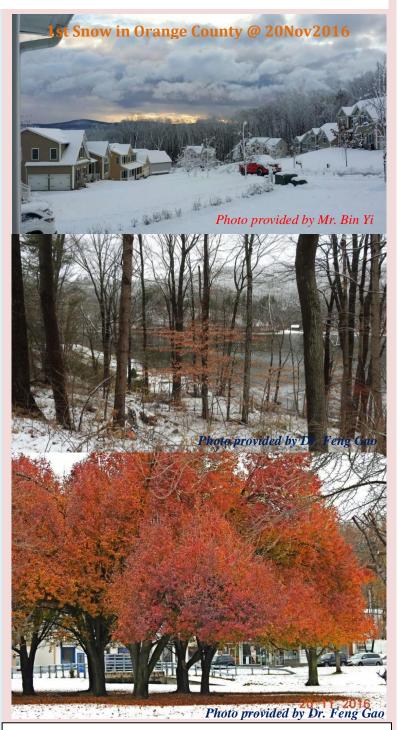




Congratulation Assemblyman James Skoufis for His New Term

#### Update on OCCCC

- OCCCC Hosted its Annual Thanksgiving Party in St. Paul Church on 20Nov2016
- OCCCC New Construction Site Building Foundation Plan Map was Received Recently.
- ✓ Dr. Susan Qu is leading Christmas Gift Collection (爱心奉献) Program for kids.



--- Update on Community News 下月重要活动 ---



- Law Seminar on 17Dec2016
- The Initiation Preparation Meeting for Celebration Gala of the 2017 Chinese New Year & OCCA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in OCCS @ 3Dec2016. ALL OCCA members / Friends are invited.



OCCA Board of Directors: Fang Chao, Chenghua Deng, Lan Jiang, Xiuquan Shi, Bin Yi, Guiying Zhang, Kangjian Wu。 Editor in-Chief 责任编辑: Bin Yi