

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



PRESIDENT
KHIN CHEW

Dear members;

It is with mixed feelings that I am writing this January 2005 President Message. While I am wishing everybody a Happy New Year, I am also feeling the suffering and sadness of the losses caused by the South East Asian tsunami disaster. The magnitude 9.0 earthquake that occurred on December 26th, 2004 triggered one of the most tragic and deadliest tsunamis in history. Over hundred thousand lives were lost, destruction to properties and facilities were unimaginable – many homes and villages and cities were virtually wiped out. This disaster has altered the livelihood of tens of thousands of people worldwide - family members, relatives and friends were lost in matter of seconds, with countless number of orphans resulted from this disaster.

Amongst other countries, the tsunami waves struck Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, and as far away as Africa. With the rapidly increasing death tolls and deteriorating conditions in all these disaster stricken areas, it is important that we act quickly to help in the relief and rebuilding efforts presently being carried out by the many relief agencies from many countries of the world.

MSBCA-Calgary – has reacted to this disaster by donating to the Red Cross and is calling on all members to sup-

port the relief efforts by cash donations or join fundraising activities. Many of our members are already participating in fundraising activities such as fundraising dinners and events organized by the various Chinatown organizations. Believing that more funds can be raised by joint efforts from other organizations and groups, MSBCA-Calgary has joined the call from MLA Wayne Cao and has formed a fundraising team - the **Calgary Committee for Tsunami Relief** – to organize a fundraising dinner that is to be held on Friday, January 21, 2005, at the Telus Convention Centre in downtown Calgary. This fund raising dinner targets a total ticket sale of 1,000, priced at \$75.00 per ticket, with a large portion of the ticket cost eligible for charity tax deductibles. Program of the fundraising dinner includes cultural performance from several cultural groups and a silent auction. You can support and participate in this event by purchasing the tickets to this dinner and donating items for the silent auction. Values of the donated items are also eligible for charity tax deductible. Please contact myself for your ticket reservation and May Lee for the donation of items for the silent auction.

Your donations, whether it being cash or items for silent auction, or participation in fund raising dinners and events, will go a long way in the relief and rebuilding efforts. While I am still on this subject, I like to thank Harry and Becky Win for their generous offer to print the upcoming tsunami relief fundraising dinner poster at their cost, May

Lee for her active participation in this fund raising event, and everyone who volunteers to help in this event.

During the December Board members meeting, the first draft of the partially revised MSBCA-Calgary Bylaws was presented to the Board for comments. Ken and Kim are continuing with the review with comments received from the Board members. A door bell unit, with built-in camera and video-audio monitor has been purchased and will be installed very soon. This enhances the security and safety by preventing unexpected guests or intruders during the use of the clubhouse. A key-containing unit, with numbered combination lock, has also been purchased. This will improve accessibility to the clubhouse for our members, especially the volunteers who need to have frequent access for preparation works etc. Once this is installed, all you need to do is call one of the Board members for the combination number, which will be changed frequently, to gain access to the keys.

While the Board members are working together to improve operation of the association and the clubhouse, we would also like to hear from our members. Please forward your comments and suggestions to any of the Board members so that we can continue to improve.

Khin Chew

the editorial

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004/2005

NOTE: CHANGE OF EMAILS

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Electronic Copy is also
available:

www.msbcacalgary.ca

Where were you on December 26th 2004? Sleeping in? On your way to church? Boxing Day shopping even? I don't need to tell anyone what happened that day in South East Asia, nor do I believe that it's my place to analyze or find some moral to explain the tragedy. I had planned to write an editorial about the tsunami, perhaps include some facts, previous events, that sort of stuff. But the more I think about it, the more inclined I am to ignore that topic for a short while and look towards other things.

So begins the new year. This year, more so than others it seems, with a look backwards to the chaotic events of 2004, mostly because of the tsunami. The tsunami was, as MSNBC's headline news writes: a day after Christmas with a reminder that we're really not all that important. We lucky Canadians shouldn't forget that the tsunami wasn't the only major natural disaster to hit the world last year. Do you remember when Florida and the East coast was hit repeatedly by the hurricanes? I had thought that those were the worst that could happen... and yet, as a friend of mine kept saying, "it's the year of the Monkey, stuff like this is supposed to happen..." (really?)

It appears to me that last year was a year focusing more on people than on the environment. It was a year where Saddam Hussein was finally returned to Iraq to await punishment, a year where President Bush was re-elected to another four years as the head of the United States, where Klein was re-elected to the Albertan government (maybe not so important to others but it could affect us!) and Yasser Arafat died leaving Palestinians leaderless.

It was a year when Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction" dominated the headlines until a terrorist bombing in Madrid, Spain reminded the world of more pressing matters. A year when 300 children, teachers and parents died in Beslan, Russia because of unresolved

Chechen problems.

The impeccable Martha Stewart went to jail last year, and the man best known as Superman, Christopher Reeve, died from complications stemming from a simple cold. The Red Sox *finally* beat the New York Yankees and went on to win the championship, Vince Carter left Canada, the NHL locked out their players, (when is it going to come back?!) and Canada's superhuman hockey players dominated both the junior and senior World Hockey Championships.

Crude oil topped \$50 US for the first time in 20 years, then dropped again, leaving many of us wondering just how long it'll be before our Calgary gas pump prices hit \$1.

Whew that's all I can think of. One door closed, one opening. Happy New Year everyone, I wish you all the best in the coming year.

Rachel Wong
From the Editorial Board

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WEBSITE!!**

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DOMAIN!**

**Inside This
Month's Issue:**

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Sunday Lunch Announcement

For January

January 16th

- **CANCELLED** -

January 23rd

- Soto - by Lee Pow Lim

(Profits go to Tsunami Relief)

February 6th

- To be confirmed -

Joke corner

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two elderly gentlemen were talking, and one said, Last night we went out to a new restaurant, and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly."

The other man said, "What's the name of the restaurant?"

The first man knits his brow in obvious concentration, and finally said to his companion, "Aahh, What is the name of that red flower you give to someone you love?"

His friends replies, "A carnation?"

"No. No. The other one," the man says.

His friend offers another suggestion, "The poppy?"

"Nahhhh," growls the man. "You know the one that is red and has thorns."

His friend said, "Oh! -- Do you mean a rose?"

"Yes, Yes that's it. Thank you!" the first man says.

He then turns toward the kitchen and yells, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"



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Chinese New Year Banquet

Saturday February 19th 2005

| Tickets: | Members | Non-Members |
|------------|---------|-------------|
| 4 & under: | Free | Free |
| 5-11: | \$8 | \$12 |
| 12-17: | \$15 | \$20 |
| 18 & up: | \$25 | \$30 |

Treasures of China

130 - 3rd Avenue SE, doors open at 6PM

- Ten course Dinner
- Lion Dance
- Magic Show
- Martial Arts Demonstration
by MSBCA Youngsters
- Red Packets
- Scholarships to be handed out
- Karaoke & more!

Call Jane Lim 375-0828 or Jennie Soo 280-0327



Sports Update "Friday Nights"

January 7 to June 24 2005
Total 24 sessions @ 2 hrs

4 courts - 8PM to 10PM

Talisman Centre

Prices: (non-bingo prices in brackets)

Single \$65 (\$75)

Double \$130 (\$150)

Family \$160 (\$190)

Drop-In Fee: \$5/person/
session

No prorate fee.

Fees will be reduced by
50% after March 15th.

Change of address???

Let us know by
sending a letter to:

MSBCA Newsletter
c/o MSBCA Cultural
Centre
#301, 114-3 Ave SW
Calgary AB T2P 0E7

VOLUNTEERS FOR BINGO!!

**We need 16 volunteers for
Sunday March 27, 2005 eve-
ning @ 5:00PM**

*Call Jesse Cheah
@ 274-3541*



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2005 Membership Renewal.

Please note that deadline for membership renewal is February 28, 2005. You may renew your membership by mailing your cheque to MSBCA-Calgary clubhouse, to the attention of Khin Chew. You may also e-mail Kchew@shaw.ca if you are using your Bingo Points to renew your membership. Failure to renew your membership before February 28 will see your Bingo Points default to 0 and your membership default to New Member, which will affect scholarship award to your children because you need to be MSBCA-Calgary member for two consecutive years in order for your child/children to qualify for the scholarship award.

\$250 lifetime membership cost!

Looking for a central venue to hold a meeting, presentation or a social event in downtown core?

MSBCA Center has a full feature restaurant-style kitchen with large open space of about 1000 sq feet. We have a seating capacity of 80 people.

- members (inclusive of sound system):
 - 4 hours \$60
 - full day \$110
- non members (not inclusive of sound system):
 - 4 hours \$80
 - full day \$130
- Additional \$100 will be applied for the use of the sound system

#301, 114 - 3 Ave SW Calgary
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**DAMAGE DEPOSIT FOR MEMBERS AND
NON-MEMBERS** (refundable):

- building rental \$100
- sound system \$400

For more enquiries, contact Eric Ng @ 280-4165 or
Geraldine Sng @ 242-2621.

YuMei Xun, a new member who recently immigrated from China, is seeking employment as a Project or Controls Engineer. YuMei has worked in Singapore with an Instrumentation Engineer from Canada who is presently working in China. YuMei can be reached at 390-9935.

Chinese Zodiac: What will 2005 bring?

Rooster:

- This year you will encounter big changes
- Moving houses, change of jobs
- Breaking up of couples
- Business will be good, promotions possible
- Health not so good- possible surgery, go do a physical examination
- Watch for accidents

Dog:

- Big ups and downs
- Business will be good, hard work will pay off
- Will have misunderstandings with people
- People will cause harm to you
- People relationships not good (with couples coworkers and partners)

Pig:

- Good year better than last
- May have accidents, be careful
- Will feel depressed this year
- Pigs will have someone to help them this year
- When faced with a problem, it will be answered
- Business will go smooth – promotion

Rat:

- Overall good year
- Good love life this year- good year for marriage or babies
- You will have good inspiration this year
- Will have arguments involving money with people
- May go through court to resolve them

Cow:

- improvement in business
- will get good credit for what you do
- when business is going good, people will not be at ease with you, jealousy

Tiger:

- more easy going than last year
- but cannot say it will be very good
- will get a lending hand from a special person, making work easier for you
- money will not be good
- a year where “everything will slowly get better”



Rabbit:

- not a good year
- marriage, kids, change work, or move house is good to divert bad luck
- be prepared for changes
- promotion, salary increase, but will have problems at work
- have to have patience, time will solve things

Dragon:

- good year
- everything will go smoothly
- wish for stuff and it will come true
- there are some months where everything will go good, but there are other months where you will see nothing but bad luck with everything

- “have patience and consideration for everything, this can calm even the most disturbed waters”

Snake:

- be prepared to answer to obstacles
- lots of gossip
- gossip from coworkers
- need to travel, travel will be good

Horse:

- promotion, salary increase, or help from people
- school is excellent, great year for taking tests
- business is great
- accept assistance from others
- love life will be best out of the 12 zodiacs
- caution with problems with relationships though, because your love life is so plentiful, there might be problems with a love triangle
- will be very optimistic this year, even if something bad happens you will think nothing much of it

Ram:

- big ups and downs
- health is not good
- when traveling for work or vacation, be careful
- when faced with a problem someone will be there to help
- will feel lonely and depressed
- love life not good
- take caution for family’s health

Monkey:

- may have to change jobs again even if you changed last year
- health is not good
- will have someone to help you when faced with a problem
- friends and family will be very supportive this year in whatever you choose to do

Bingo and Casino Update

| Casino 2005 @ Casino Calgary 1420 Meridian Road NE tel: 248-9467 | | | | |
|--|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Feb 26 (Sat) | Feb 26 (Sat) | Feb 27 (Sun) | Feb 27 (Sun) |
| | 10:30 am - 7:30 pm | 7:15 pm - Close | 10:30 am - 7:30 pm | 7:15 pm - Close |
| General Manager | Priscilla Wong | Lily Chiew | Kim Roe | Khin Chew |
| Alternate GM (10:30 am to 2:00 pm) | Eric Ng | Not Required | Eric Ng | Not Required |
| | | | | |
| | 10:30 am - 7:45 pm | 7:30 pm - Close | 10:30 am - 7:45 pm | 7:30 pm - Close |
| Banker | Khin Chin | Jennie Soo | Teng Hau Chong | Jesse Cheah |
| | | | | |
| | 11:00 am - 7:30 pm | 7:00 pm - Close | 11:00 am - 7:30 pm | 7:00 pm - Close |
| Cashier | Jane Lim | Tony Quek | Juliet Teng | Kok Sim |
| Cashier | Pui Chin | Karen Boon | Wendy Lee | Sue Law |
| | | | | |
| | 11:00 am - 7:30 pm | 7:15 pm - Close | 11:00 am - 7:30 pm | 7:15 pm - Close |
| Chip Runner | Bradley Martin | George Chin | Ken Lee | Calvin Chew |
| Chip Runner | Ron Chiang | Andrew Chiew | Nelson Chan | Chua Siang Kok |
| | | | | |
| | | 10:00 pm - Close | | 10:00 pm - Close |
| Alternate GM | Not Required | Jeff Wong | Not Required | Alvin Kang |
| Count Room Supervisor | Not Required | Peter Tan | Not Required | Kim Chan |
| Count Room | Not Required | Cliff Son | Not Required | Jack Ng |
| Count Room | Not Required | Jessie Son | Not Required | Ah Chee |
| Count Room | Not Required | Jenny Lewis | Not Required | Jik Chan |
| Count Room | Not Required | Khoo Mok Yong | Not Required | Chiew Keng Wei |

Attached is the Casino schedule for Feb 26 & 27. My apologies for not being able to call each and everyone of you to confirm the time slot I've allocated. So if the time assigned isn't suitable please give me a call & I'll do my best to re-schedule. For those names that are shaded I need you to let me know if you can help volunteer. All other person names listed have already indicated they would like to volunteer for casino.

Some of the rules have changed slightly in particular only people in positions for General Manager, Alternate GM, Banker & Count Room Supervisor need to sign form. But everyone must bring in their photo ID. Some pointers & rules for volunteers:

1. No alcohol and gambling (including slot machines) before/during/after your shift for the entire 2 day event.
2. Volunteer assigned to a position at the beginning of the casino CANNOT change to another position during the 2 day event.
3. All volunteers MUST have a photo identification with them at all times during the casino event.
4. All volunteers must sign in before their shift.
5. No outside food or beverages are to be brought into the casino unless person has special dietary restrictions.
6. Budget \$300 per day for concession.
7. Please arrive on time for your shift.
8. Please notify myself at 880-8885 at least 2 weeks prior if you need to cancel.
9. Please park anywhere. General Manager & Banker have their own designated stalls.
10. Hospitality Suite is equipped with TV, VCR, fridge, microwave and complimentary coffee.
11. No smoking in Hospitality Suite, Cash Cage & Count Room.

Continued on page 7...

Casino Update Continued...

12. Casino operates from 12:00 noon - 2:00 am but Count Room typically leave later to reconcile the money.
13. If desired a security guard can escort any volunteer to their car at the end of their shift.
14. Training & support will be provided by the Casino staff people for all the above positions. We will have 2 paid employees during our 2 day event. I.e. the Cash Cage Advisor and Count Room Advisor.
15. Thank you and have fun!

MSBCA CHRISTMAS PARTY 2004



Scholarships Awards

Grade 6

Chai, Russell
Lee, Nicholas
Quek, Natradee
Vogt, Stephanie

Grade 9

Ng, Cheryl B
Chan, Benjamin G
Gupta, Grismika
Son, Claire
Quek, Tanapat
Martin, Mayme
Tong, Calvin W
Roe, Matthew

Grade 12

Tan, Amanda
Yow, Jessica Shijia
Khoo, Ee Harn
Wong, Whei
Liew, Li Ming
Tong, Felicia Wen Yi.
Wong, Ben J.

If you have submitted your child's name and it is not on the above list please contact Priscilla - 275-5613 as soon as possible.

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- \$50/month

MSBCA Newsletter has a readership of approximately 200 families and organizations.

contact:
ads@msbcacalgary.ca



Goodbye

MSBCA would like to wish our departing sports director Peter Cheng all the best as he returns to Ottawa. Thanks Peter!

IMPORTANT EVENT!

Tsunami Relief Fund Raising Dinner
presented by The Calgary Committee for Tsunami Relief.

Friday January 21, 2005
starts at 6:00 pm
The Telus Convention Centre
(120 Nineth Avenue SE)

Program includes Dinner, Cultural Show, Silent Auction, Invited Honourable Guests are Premier Ralph Klien and Mayor Dave Bronconnier.

Ticket price \$75.00/ person, with portion of the ticket cost eligible for tax deduction.

All proceeds to Red Cross.

Call Khin Chew 605-6638 for tickets. Tables of 10 and 12 available.



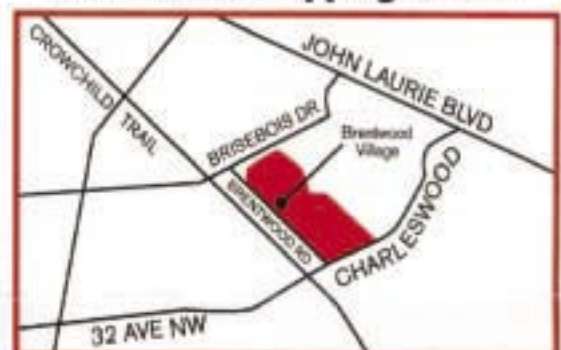
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