



The MSBCA is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Southeast Asian heritage & culture. Visit us online at [www.msbcacalgary.ca](http://www.msbcacalgary.ca)



## From the President's desk

Dear members,

Please join me in extending heartfelt condolences to the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Ahmad Abdullah Badawi on the loss of his beloved wife, Endon Mahmood who recently passed away due to breast cancer. Our thoughts, wishes and prayers are with the Prime Minister and his family during this difficult time.

To begin with, I want to thank everyone who attended and made the AGM 2005 another successful event. My appreciation also goes to all volunteers who worked hard to ensure that the AGM went smoothly. The new committee now consists of six members in total, including myself.

Once again, I'd like to thank the committee members of 2004-2005 for doing such a great job. It is the dedication and hard work of these individuals that led MSBCA-Calgary through another eventful year.

Due to the handover in editorial responsibilities, this issue of the newsletter is late, and we apologize for this. A big "thank you" to our outgoing editors who took on the task of improving communications within the club – their efforts and hard work in setting up

the new website is much appreciated.

Of course, we must also not forget the previous editors whose initial efforts laid the foundation and nurtured this publication to what it is today. We welcome George Heng, who'll be taking over as our new editor this year.

As you may be aware, we're conducting Martial Arts and Tai Chi classes on Sundays, thanks to instructor Tan Chin Hock who has graciously volunteered his time to help members improve their overall health and wellbeing. And on Fridays, the folk dance group holds practices at the clubhouse – putting our new dance floor and mirrored walls to good use.

The formation of the cultural group, led by Daniel Sario, Tina Hoang and Sonia Rozario is another positive step in promoting and preserving Southeast Asian culture. The cultural dance group participated in the fundraising dinner organized by the Calgary Reaches Out committee led by MLA Wayne Cao.

Calgary Reaches Out is a registered Non-Profit Volunteer Organization that represents a mosaic of caring Calgarians, individuals, cultural groups and community associations – united and committed to providing support to victims of global disasters.

The most recent fundraising event on 12 November was a great success, and will be featured in the next issue of the newsletter.

The proceeds will be equally divided amongst the victims of the South Asian earthquake and Hurricane Katrina in the southern US. There'll also be a silent auction and karaoke fundraising.

Some upcoming events include the children's Christmas party, which will be held at the clubhouse on December 17<sup>th</sup>; a New Year's Eve party scheduled for December 31<sup>st</sup>, and a Chinese New Year's Dinner planned for February 4<sup>th</sup> 2006, at the Treasures of China Restaurant. Details of all events will be announced in upcoming newsletters.

In closing, I'd like to once again thank all members, family members, and friends who got me into this "hot seat" for another year. I will try my very best to cool the seat down a little before the next President takes over.

Khin Chew



**Thank you to all volunteers and participants of Calgary Reaches Out — it was a great success!**

## Highlights

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**Remember — this is your newsletter: it can be as interesting, entertaining and useful as you want it to be.**

## Editorial

Greetings!

Most of you were probably wondering if this issue was ever going to be published...

Unfortunately, you're receiving this a lot later than originally planned but this does happen from time to time.

As the new editor, I will try my best to ensure that future issues are produced in a more timely fashion.

You'll also notice that the layout of the newsletter has been changed; due to human limitations (mine, I'm afraid), I've had to re-design the newsletter from scratch, using software that I'm more familiar with.

Please bear with me as the layout is refined and improved over time.

Although it's a little early for New Year's resolutions, I've also decided to set 3 goals for myself: first, to make the newsletter more useful and interesting to read; second,

to maintain a high editorial standard; and third, to develop the newsletter into a more effective marketing tool for the club. Wish me luck; I'm going to need it...

Seriously though, with the support of the new committee, and indeed, the active participation and cooperation of all members, I believe it can be done.

"Many hands make light work" or so the old saying goes; something I'm certain any Singaporean male who's completed National Service will attest to.

Down the line, it is my hope that you'll find the revamped newsletter more informative, useful, and perhaps even insightful.

There are many changes in store but at the end of the day, the success of these ideas will largely depend on member participation and interaction.

Feel free to drop me a line

anytime by email or phone to discuss how you can contribute and participate in this process.

At the end of the day, we may be a non-profit organization, but that's no reason not to do things professionally, responsibly and mindfully.

Remember — this is *your* newsletter: it can be as interesting, entertaining and useful as you want it to be.

On that note, I'll end my first editorial here — there's a lot to do, so let's get started!

George Heng  
Editor



## A word from your secretary — AGM 2005

This report on our AGM held on Oct 8 at the MSBCA Clubhouse is a long time coming – our sincere apologies.

Thanks to all who managed to squeeze time from your busy schedule to attend the AGM and a big congratulations to all the Grade 6, 9 & 12 students for your stellar achievements. If I may leave with you a message: aim higher and always do your best!

I'd like to give credit to the past committee members for doing such a fine job in keeping us financially on track, maintaining & improving the atmosphere in our clubhouse, planning our social activities and creating a strong membership base.

As mentioned many times, our "pillars" of success rely on strong leadership, financial stability, healthy activities & a solid membership base. Let's all cooperate and work towards our common goals and values as stipulated in our bylaws.

A major objective for the AGM was to obtain feedback

from members about our new proposed bylaws. The bylaws of an organization are critical as they help us operate in a responsible, professional manner, ensuring that integrity in our association is maintained.

We feel there is a need to extend our existing bylaws, but also agree that there are still areas that need fine-tuning.

Thanks for your patience and for approving the newly revised bylaws during the AGM. Please watch for an announcement in our newsletter where we will invite members to a bylaw-understanding session.

The last major item of the AGM was of course the election. Every year the committee strives to recruit nominees for the executive positions prior to the AGM. And every year like all other volunteer organizations we struggle to find candidates.

The size of our community makes our situation even more challenging. The night ended with 4 elected positions i.e. Khin Chew as

President, Kai Loo as VP Malaysia, myself as Secretary and Peter Tan as Social Director.

I also want to mention that during our 1st committee meeting on Oct 18, our past Treasurer (Jennie Soo) and VP Singapore (Geraldine Sng) volunteered to continue their duties in their respective roles.

This brings us to a total of 6 committee members for 2006, and we are looking forward to the upcoming year's activities with anticipation & enthusiasm. I would greatly appreciate it if you can convey your best wishes to the above people when you next meet them.

Last but not least I would like to extend my special thanks to both Rachel Wong & Tracey Bong for doing a fine job on our newsletter and especially for their efforts in building our website.

Please visit us online at [www.msbcacalgary.ca](http://www.msbcacalgary.ca)

Yours truly,  
Jesse Cheah



### **Bylaw discussion**

**14 Jan 2006**

**Potluck**

**All are welcome!**

**Stay tuned for more details**



## CONRAD'S CAR CARE CLINIC



**Date: 27 November 2005 — 9 a.m. to 12 noon (conducted in Cantonese)**

**Venue: Customer First Auto Care - 221 41 Ave. N.E.**

**Cost: Free (donations to the food bank will be appreciated)**

**Registration: Call 276-8001 (Monday to Friday) 8 am — 5 pm**

Topics: Basic car maintenance; where to get information; how to deal with emergencies (changing spare tire); winter preparation; shop tour and intro to computer diagnostics



## Tropical Impressions— by Heather Thompson



I had wanted to go to Malaysia ever since the '80's when I had spent a year traveling across Asia with my sister and had run out of time before getting there.

So when my hubby showed an interest in the Formula 1 race in Kuala Lumpur last year I enthusiastically agreed and started planning. We had settled on five weeks for the trip thinking that would be lots of time.

After talking to friends familiar with the country we soon realized that it was not nearly enough! The hardest part of planning was deciding what we would have to miss.

Our flight over with MAS was great. Wonderful service, very good food and best of all, the flight was empty enough that we could lie down across several seats to nap! Still, it was 33 hours in total from home until leaving the airport in Penang and we were very tired.

As we stepped out from the terminal we were hit by the heat and light. The sun was so intense! We started to wilt immediately. After being dropped at our hotel by a friendly and talkative taxi driver we ventured out for a short ½ hour walk. It got us just as far as the first air-conditioned mall.



After checking out every store, we came to the conclusion that Malaysian women certainly love their shoes and had our first Malaysian meal at the food fair before staggering back to our hotel for a long nap. We had finally arrived!

The days we spent in Penang proceeded at a very leisurely pace as we tried to get used to the heat. We visited the temples and historical sites, gardens and of course Penang Hill. Everywhere we met friendly, hospitable people and gradually we got more and more adventurous with the spicy food.

One of the first things that strike people from a temperate climate when they arrive in the tropics is the lush growth around you. The sec-



ond thing is the accelerated pace of decay! It is mind-boggling how much work must be involved in keeping those buildings looking clean and white as everywhere streaks of mildew advance down building walls.

We were struck by the amount of industry and growth we saw and our first impression was that things were going well here. Everywhere we saw evidence of a thriving middle class.

We learned things from taxi drivers that were not in any

of the books we had read, such as there are different schools for Malay, Chinese or Indian children. It seems like a complicated system but other than talking with taxi drivers and tour guides we did not get a chance to learn more about it.



From Penang we headed south to our hotel near the F1 track in Sepang. Things were well organized and the track was great. It is a very attractive facility and very well laid out for spectators allowing excellent views of large portions of the track at one time.

Friday and Saturday there were very few spectators and even on race day the place was not packed. (The 39° temperature may have had something to do with that!)

Gary immediately decided to go home and write an article for the local sports car club newsletter encouraging everyone to visit. He has been to many F1 races and was very impressed by the way this one was set up.

After the races we spent the next two weeks touring around the peninsula...

*Stay tuned for the conclusion in the next issue... Ed.*



*"We were struck by the amount of industry and growth..."*

*Everywhere we saw evidence of a thriving middle class."*



## Job Corner — IT positions

If you're interested in the positions below, contact Choo Yeuchuan at 403.256.0155

### OPEN POSITIONS - Edmonton

**Business Support Analyst** — A business support resource is required to support all Edmonton accounts. This individual will administer and monitor SAP time reporting, monitor schedules and deadlines for project set-ups, rate/role assignments, and billing policies maintenance; processes monthly billings, create client invoices and coordinate and develop the SOXA regulatory filings.

**G.I.S Analyst** — The successful candidate will need to be proficient with VB programming and have some training or experience with GIS applications, preferably in a Microsoft/Oracle environment.

**Tester** — Systems Testing and involvement in User Acceptance Testing. Creation of Test Plans, Test Scenarios, Test Cases as well as execution of the test cases.

**Mainframe Developer** — Cobol, DB2 mainframe developer may be required.

**Systems Analysts** — A couple of positions are available for Intermediate Systems Analyst with strong skills in java, .Net, and Oracle forms development. Must also be able to lead requirements and design workshops.

**COGNOS Developer** — Solid experience with the COGNOS Toolset Version 7.0 (Including Powerplay, Impromptu, Architect) required. Experienced with Oracle 8i, 9i or 10g technology. Experienced with and understanding of SQL and relational databases

**Application Support Manager**— ASM Manager will use their knowledge and experience to lead the support and maintenance of a major application written in a combination of .Net and Powerhouse technologies.

**.Net Developer** — Experienced object oriented developer with at least 2 years of Microsoft .NET and SQL development. 3 years OO Concepts/Development, 1 year MS BizTalk.

**.Net Developer** — Resource will be part of the .NET Application Management Services Team to provide Production Support Services. 2 years of .NET Development skills are required, 1 year of C#, 2 years of SQL language. Some exposure to BizTalk is desirable. Knowledge of the RUP process and Rational tools (Clearcase, Clearquest, Rational Robot) is also desirable.

**Business Support** — Project Management Support - Project support role for the delivery and project managers at AGS. Duties include tracking project time reporting, consolidating status and metric reporting, and overall support for the teams. Backup for the financial support team at AGS.

*Editor's note: Our thanks to Yeuchuan for sending this information. If you or your company would like to post jobs in the newsletter, please contact any of the MSBCA committee members or email: [editor@msbcacalgary.ca](mailto:editor@msbcacalgary.ca)*



***"If you or your company would like to post jobs in the newsletter, please contact any of the MSBCA committee members."***



### ***Opinion poll***

***Would you be interested in MSBCA arranged networking nights?  
Give us your feedback!***

**Bingo Points updated to Oct 24, 2005 (excluding AGM)**



Bird, Diana	70	Lee, Brenda	20
Bong, Ah Nga	50	Lee, Ken	30
Bong, Jimmy	20	Lee, May & Jean-Michel	85
Bong, Tracy	20	Lewis, Jenny	30
Chai, Peter	60	Li, Raymond	20
Chan, Jik&Yen	35	Liew, Peter & Megan	14
Chan, Kim Yee	30	Lim, Eng	0
Chan, Nelson	20	Lim, Jane	70
Cheah, Jesse & Melissa	57	Lo, Michael	10
Chee, Leong	14	Loo, Kai	20
Chee, Ah	20	Looi, Kok Sim	60
Cheung, Paul & Anna	1	Ng, Eric	40
Chew, Khin & Siew	180	Ng, Jack	20
Chiang, Ian	11	Ng, Keith	10
Chiang, Ron	9	Poh, Kwong Wee & Jackie	0
Chiew, Andrew & Lily	30	Poon, Chester	0
Chiew, Calvin	40	Quek, Chong Hin	10
Chiew, Clara	10	Quek, Tony & Shyut Moi	96
Chiew, Keng-Wei	5	Roe, Kim	40
Chin, Ching Fatt	20	Rumjahn, Conrad, Rebecca, Arthur, Lara	110
Chin, George & Karen	85	Sario, Daniel, Julia & Pam	65
Chin, Khin & Cindy	80	Son, Cliff & Jessie	43
Chong, Alex Lye	2	Soo, John & Jennie	126
Choo, Yeu Chuan & Janette	0	Tan, Edmund	23
Chu, Kam	65	Tan, Jack	6
Gigi	40	Tan, Peter	0
Hau, Andy	20	Tan, Irene	20
Heng, Peter	25	Tan, Tuan Sing	8
Kang, Ferlin	10	Tang, C.K.	50
Khoo, Mok Yong	24	Teng, Hau Chong & Juliet	60
Koong, Nora	15	Teo, Ah Eng	10
Krishnasamy, Terrance & Sonia	50	Win, Becky	130
Lau, Fred	30	Wong, Joyce	35
Lau, Kong	10	Wong, Priscilla	95

## MSBCA Children's Xmas Party 2005



*MSBCA is pleased to welcome 15 children from Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Calgary who will be attending the Christmas Party!*

*Please join us in making our guests feel at home!*



- Date:** Saturday 17 December      **Time:** 11.30 a.m. — 3.00 p.m.
- Venue:** MSBCA clubhouse
- Cost:** Free for children under 12  
\$5 for adults (includes lunch; parents & immediate family only)
- Menu:** Pizza, hot dogs & popcorn (children), Laksa (adults)
- Activities:** Cartoon shows/movie, face painting, magic show, games (trivial pursuit, obstacle race, limbo rock, lipstick challenge, ice cube challenge, etc.), Christmas carols, presents, lucky draw for the Gingerbread House, and of course, a visit from SANTA!!
- To register:** Please call Kim Roe at 289.6096 to register by 11 December latest.  
Or email her at: [KimYoon.Roe@CalgaryHealthRegion.ca](mailto:KimYoon.Roe@CalgaryHealthRegion.ca)

## MSBCA New Year's Eve Party

**Usher in the New year with us!**

- Where:** MSBCA clubhouse
- When:** Sat 31 December 2005 (7pm -1 a.m.)
- Cost:** Children under 14 - free;  
Adults - \$5.00 each (for champagne & party gifts)
- Menu:** Potluck (please - entrees only; dessert optional)  
Free coffee & tea; cash bar (pop & beer)
- Entertainment:** Singing & games in the early evening  
Dancing from 10 pm onwards with live DJ
- Registration:** Starts 1 Dec and ends 23 Dec  
Limited to max. of 70 attendees (incl. children)

Contact Peter Tan at: [pttan@shaw.ca](mailto:pttan@shaw.ca) or call 280-2011 to register



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Tel: 123.4567
- (B) Rice cooker  
\$35.00 obo  
Tel: 123.4567

Limited to one selling  
(S) and one buying (B)  
ad per member.

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**MSBCA Sunday Lunch**

**27 November**

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Assorted dessert available for sale

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Canadian Red Cross.

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