

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



TONY QUEK
郭長基

Summer in Calgary comes to an end this morning with frost on the rooftops. Most children are back to school this week to start a new school year.

I hope many of you had a joyful and safe

summer as I did with my family trekking through the southern part of China, moving on to Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei. It was hot and humid for our liking but the fresh fruits, durians and the hawkers' food kept us in good spirits and happy tummies!



MSBCA had a volunteers' picnic held on Aug 28th at the Glenmore Park. It was well attended and thanks to Patrick Teoh and Chong-Hin for organizing the event. Our dancers also committed to perform at the Chinatown's Centennial Gala on Aug 29th. The MSBCA dancers put on the traditional attires of 3 nations. The display of colors won a huge round of applause from the audience. This will end the MSBCA's commitment to celebrate in this historical event in Calgary. As we are part of Chinatown community, it is fitting



for us to do our best to make it as vibrant, as colorful and as diverse for other groups with or without the same background as ours. MSBCA holds strong to our cultural background and being accepted and recognized as team player in Chinatown, I feel proud for the committee and all volunteers to work towards achieving this goal.

This committee had limited the number of newsletters for its term and removed the badminton event entirely due to heavy subsidy and low turn out. We will also celebrate a combined MSBCA Night instead of each National Day of the country of origin. Our next MSBCA casino has firmed up on January 13 and 14, 2011 at the Elbow River Casino. There are more challenges ahead of us and many will carried forward to the new team in October this year.

Two important days for your calendar are the MSBCA Night on Sep 25th and the AGM on Oct 9th. Let us all come together on these two days to celebrate our success as a community club and to elect new committee members for the next term. Please check details on the MSBCA's website or you will receive an email reminder from us.

I wish to encourage all keen and committed members to step forward to manage

In this month's issue:

- 2 >> Youth Feature
- 3 >> Treasurer Talks
- 4 >> Photos
 - Ribbon Lake Hike
- 5 >> Upcoming Events
 - Upcoming Sunday Lunch
 - MSBCA Night 2010
 - MSBCA Wants You
- 6 >> Volunteer Appreciation Recap
- 7 >> Chinatown Centennial Highlights
- 8 >> Photo of the Month

the club in the forthcoming AGM. I, for one, will continue my support to MSBCA and help in any way when called upon. MSBCA means a lot to me. It is fun to meet old friends over a bowl of Laksa or enjoy home cooked dishes at the potluck party in the clubhouse.

MSBCA belongs to all of us and I wish we all make the best of it.

Big smile and thank you!

Tony Quek



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Outstanding Youth Feature: Jian Choo's Hong Kong Experience

Story by Jian Choo

My trip to Hong Kong has really opened my eyes about life. Staying in a completely foreign environment for four months is an undertaking that gives a person so many new outlooks, ideas, and experiences.

The trip started off purely educational, as I was to be conducting research on Alzheimer's disease and long term depression in a medical laboratory within Hong Kong under Dr. Raymond Chang. Along the way however, I came into contact with a record label called Hummingbird Music, through a music/talent contest that I had entered online. I was chosen as one of the 16 finalists amongst 600 entries, and was told to come to Hong Kong to attend the finals. However, I was not scheduled to fly down to Hong Kong until months later, and wasn't to participate. Nevertheless, I kept in touch with Hummingbird and they invited me to come visit their offices once I was in Hong Kong.

Fast forwarding to my work at the research lab, I met many people from all over the world, all sharing the same interests in research. I was able to provide preliminary discoveries supporting links between Alzheimer's disease and long term depression. It was also there that I made another important discovery: I didn't want to be doing research for the rest of my life. As interesting as it sounds, the appeal is a little bit outweighed by the rather frequent days where I found myself developing films until 8:30 PM in a pitch black room, with almost nobody in the building. This motivated me to make sure that I would get into medical school, so that research would not even be a career option.

On the other side of things, I managed to meet many talented musicians and friends

through the Hummingbird music contest that I mentioned earlier. We started putting on shows throughout Hong Kong, trying to spread our music. After hearing one of these shows, the manager of Hummingbird Music, Tan Chang, invited me to sing for a TVB show called "The Voice 2". I immediately agreed, having almost no idea what TVB or "The Voice 2" was. I have absolutely no regrets however, because what was set in motion was more than I could ever ask for.



After appearing on the TV show, there was a surprising and sudden burst in fans on both my Youtube and Facebook music pages. This was all thanks to Hummingbird Music, my friends who helped me put together my music video that was broadcasted across Asia, and believe it or not, the MSBCA, who generously allowed their studio to be used by my friends and I in order to practice the dance featured in the music video.

I hope that I can continue to gain exposure as a musician, and I hope that I can continue to make the MSBCA Calgary, and all of my friends and family proud with my music. Once again, I am extremely grateful for everybody that has supported me in order to make all of this happen.

The following is a link to my YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/jjianc> and it is my hope that you will be able to enjoy the music that you hear!

Until next time.

Membership Renewal? Change Member Info?

Please contact Pei Lee Chin at membership@msbca.ca to keep your details current!

treasurer's corner

Ripley's "Believe it or Not" – The fiscal year for MSBCA came to a close on August 31, 2010. Yes! When I assumed the position of Treasurer way back when, I did not realize the heavy responsibilities that entails the position of a Treasurer.

In my "dreamy" world, I thought... Hmm... How difficult can this be? MSBCA is but a small association and all you need to do is to collect the money, bank it in and write the cheques and done! For the most part of it, that is the case...

Then I realized that the Treasurer is also responsible for the budgeting, holding the purse string of the association, responsible for accounting of the association casino account to AGLC and then doing bookkeeping and preparing the accounts for auditing! After reporting to AGLC, I thought....Relief! Digging up statements and receipts and scanning some 600 pages of documentation to AGLC.

Yes, perhaps for about 3 months or so... then one fine day, I visited Paul Teoh's Office, MSBCA's Auditor Extraordinaire! I was getting some cheques co-signed with Pei Lee, our Secretary. Paul happened to be outside.... Then the "dreaded" question came: Hey Yeuchuan... when are you going to hand me the accounts for auditing? AGM is coming soon....Hmm... I talked to myself...can't be that difficult, I thought... partly due to

work and my travel schedule, I kept looking at the calendar and nudging the gentle reminders from Paul.

Well, I guess my time was up... So 2 weeks or so ago, I started assembling the accounts, started my archaic layman "accounting" spreadsheet. Having responded to my plea for help, Cynthia, our past Treasurer asked me for a copy to review... then shock and panic sets in... No, she said! Stop what you are doing, right then and there! She offered me an alternate format to follow. My oh my... you mean I got to enter all those in a spreadsheet?

I started entering a few lines of entries... this cannot be it... Together with Tony, we went to the bank to get access to the electronic statements. After a couple false starts and "misinformation", even from the bank itself, I managed to secure a limited access to the account via the web. R E L I E F! I downloaded the statements... but the way the "statements" are presented, you can only download a maximum of 31-day period for every download! Rather dumb way... but I could not complain. So I had to do 12 times 2 downloads to get the General and Casino account "statements"...

That was but a start... Then I started "stitching" the statements together and deleting overlapping entries because of

the way the download works. Assembling the statements and the receipts was yet another thing... So I "proudly" send my "completed" spreadsheet to Cynthia. Uh ah... No... Paul says it is in our best interest to continue with Simply Accounting. So Paul, Cynthia and I had a little meeting at Paul's office – after 3 days of staying till 4am in the morning still not done?

Paul showed me that direct import from csv format is not going to cut it. I have to thank Cynthia to pull me out from this quandary by offering and assisting me to "convert" it to Simply Accounting. That means reentering all my spreadsheet entries. Thanks, Cynthia! Also, I want to express my gratitude to Paul to "slap" me in the face to wake me up and being so very patient with me. Lastly, I want to thank the members and the Board to entrust me as the steward for the MSBCA purse string for the past 12 months.

Through it all, as Paul reminded me: You learn a life-long skill. Yes, indeed. I think I do agree with Paul. I did learn a lot of things. Let this not be a discouragement to all for my own missteps and misconceptions. I would encourage, especially the younger MSBCA members to step up to take up serve in any capacities in MSBCA. You will come out of it wiser! Trust me! Thank you again "for having me"!

Special Shout Out to Doreen & Gilbert Bong: Congratulations on Your Beautiful Wedding in Mexico and Calgary.



Doreen & Gilbert 's wedding in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. August 18, 2010



Doreen & Gilbert 's wedding in Calgary, Hotel Arts. August 18, 2010



sports/recreation



Photos Top and Left: Tony Quek's travel photos.

Photo Bottom: Calgary Chinatown Centennial Closing Ceremony. Story is on page 7.



**We would like
to acknowledge
OMNI's support
for CN 2010!**



OMNI has three news shows from Monday to Friday. The news shows provide updates on local, national and international current affairs that interest to specific ethnic groups:

Mandarin edition: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm
English edition (for the South Asian community): 8:00 - 9:00 pm
Cantonese edition: 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm

How to access OMNI program:
If you are with Telus, OMNI is on Channel 5; if you are with Shaw Cable, OMNI is on Channel 4

We also have about 20 language shows available. For detail, please visit: www.omniab.ca

Ribbon Lake Hike September 4, 2010

Distance : 9.3 km one way

Difficult : Moderate

Elev gain : 650 meters

Car pool : meet at Petro-Canada station on Hwy 1 at the Bragg Creek turnoff

Time: 7 am, Sept 4th, 2010

Bring water, snack and lunch. Gain of 400 meters when hike over the Green Pass towards Ribbon Lake. Need provincial fishing licence to fish at the lake.

Phone : Tony Quek (403)-239-7438

-----MSBCA CALENDAR----- of events proposed for 2009-2010

Please note that some dates are still to be announced and that the events/functions are not limited to this list. If you have any event ideas, bring them forward!

September 2010

- 4th - Hike: Ribbon Lake
- 25th - MSBCA Night

October 2010

- 9th - Annual General Meeting



SUNDAY LUNCH

MSBCA Clubhouse

Please check back after the AGM for upcoming lunches.

MSBCA NIGHT 2010

Saturday September 25

3 NATIONS' NATIONAL DAYS EVENT!

This is the first year we are combining all the 3 nations' national days into one event at THE CLUBHOUSE.

Ticket Price:

- Children from 12 to Adult: \$12 (Member) / \$15 (Non-member)
- Children 11 and below: \$8 (member) / \$10 (non-member)

Menu:

- Chicken Nasi Briyani with mouth watering achar (Chef Adeline)
- [Children's menu: Nasi Briyani with Fried Chicken]
- Dessert – Kueh and ice kacang.
- Tea and coffee

Programs:

- Speeches from President of MSBCA to represent Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei
- Lucky Draw and Games for adults and kids

Ticket is first come first serve.

Tickets available are limited.

For tickets and reservations please contact:-
Vena (Tel: 403-695-5993 / Email: venalee@mac.com)

Come and make this a really 3-Nation event!

MSBCA Needs You



Recruitment for membership 2010

Membership Fee-Annual
(Jan 2010 to Dec 2010)

Single\$15

Family.....\$25

Lifetime.....\$250

Have you renewed?

Can you recruit?

We would love to hear from you!

email: membership@msbca.ca

VOLUNTEERS APPRECIATION

Story and Photos by Patrick Teoh



We held the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, August 28, 2010 at North Glenmore Park. There was great food and fun for all those who could make it. For those who couldn't, thank you for all your help this year and hope to catch you next time! I apologize for



missing anybody. The MSBCA has a huge number of volunteers and it is difficult to ensure that everyone receives the recognition they deserve. There are also many members who work quietly behind the scenes for only the good of the Club, with no expectation or desire for recognition. Please find below a copy of my appreciation speech to all volunteers this year, on behalf of all of us:

You know, I have been very spoiled. Every year I enjoy the Clubhouse. I go to Cultural Night, MSBCA night, and all these other great events. The formula's always the same. Great food and entertainment, and everybody having fun. It's like clockwork. But this year, I got to be part of the clock of MSBCA. I thought, "Wow, I wonder how this clock works, it must be magical or at least automatic to

deliver such consistency." Nope. It is 100% labour-driven. There are no secret MSBCA elves running around in the middle of the night taking care of everything. Perhaps the only place magic happens is in the kitchen; how else can you explain having authentic Malaysian food in Canada at minus 40 degree weather?

There are so many things to do to keep the club running and to hold events. But every year, throughout the year, our members keep always stepping up make this possible. You do this with no expectation for reward and praise. In today's world that's actually pretty magical, so maybe I was wrong about there being no magic here. On behalf of everyone who's enjoyed the club this year, thank you so much for all you do. The Club could not exist without your time and effort and it's been nothing but a pleasure to deal with such selfless and motivated people.

(Chong-hin and I would also like to thank Vena, Cynthia, Chris, Kate, Ivan, Eng, Daisy, Paul and Kathy for all their help organizing this BBQ. Without their help, we would not be able to provide you with today's delicious food.)



While the summer has come to an end, there will be more gatherings and activities throughout the fall and winter. I hope to see many old and new faces, enjoying and helping out. I encourage everyone to volunteer with the Club when opportunities arise. In my experience, it is a lot of fun and a great way to spend time with friends.

Calgary Chinatown Centennial Closing Ceremony Photos



Calgary Chinatown Centennial Closing Ceremony



Story by Stanley Vong
Pictures by Peter Chai

MSBCA is continually making history. We can be proud that our club is again in the annals of Chinatown's history. For the last few months there have been festivities celebrating Chinatown's Centennial. MSBCA was invited to participate in the Chinatown Centennial parade on June 14, 2010. Just recently MSBCA performed at the closing ceremonies on August 29, 2010. It was an honour to have been invited by the Calgary Chinatown Centennial Celebration Committee to participate in this event.

The Calgary Chinatown Centennial Celebration Committee has been busy planning this event, so it was only appropriate that the MSBCA choose a meaningful dance. For weeks we had been booked to perform, but we had juggled many ideas on what to perform. It was challenging as many of the dancers were away at various times throughout the summer, so organizing practices was not easy. When more and more dancers signed up to perform,



we were able to decide on the dance. There was a certain dance that we chose to perform that had a special MSBCA flavour as well as had many dancers. It was "One Rhythm, One Nation." You may recall that it was the closing number during Cultural Night 2009, but it was never performed since then.

It is an exciting dance piece because it has Chinese, Indian, and Malay influences, so it really showcases the multi-



cultural aspect of MSBCA. Not only are the dance moves unique, the costumes are eye catching, so the viewers are constantly looking back and forth across the stage trying to capture everything. At the end of the dance, the females all carried "Bunga Manggars," which are a beautiful Malay decoration, and the men carried the flags of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, and Canada. These flags are symbolic that the MSBCA is here in Canada and is integrating into the diverse Canadian culture.

The dance did change from last year in that there were a lot more youth dancers this time. Julia Gascoine and Melanie Gascoine gave their take on the Indian dance part, and Jessica Chin gave a powerful rendition of Chinese kung-fu movements. The big highlight of the dance was the youngest dancers Patricia Gascoine and Winston Chin. Patricia proudly strutted along with her "Bunga Manggar" while Winston proudly waved his flag. The youth dancers are truly the future of MSBCA. We are proud they did so well practicing and performing.

The program for the closing ceremony was jam packed with dances, songs, and music from various organizations in Chinatown. MSBCA had to make sure it gave their best for the full-house at the Chinese Cultural Centre. There were many special guests that included the likes of MLA Wayne Cao and Alderman Ric McIver. The performance went well, and the audience loved it. It was all captured too.

A special thank you goes out to Peter Chai who took many wonderful pictures and Jesse Cheah who filmed the performance for our club to look at with fond memories.

It is wonderful that MSBCA maintains a strong presence in the community and showcases our culture in these historical events. With perseverance and luck, MSBCA will be part of Chinatown's next centennial celebration.

Advertise with Us!

small: (2.25" X 3.0")

- \$15/month

med: (5.0" X 3.0")

- \$30/month

banner: (7.75" X 2.75")

- \$45/month

half page: (7.75" X 5.0")

- \$50/month

MSBCA Newsletter has a readership of about 200 families & organizations.

CONTACT:

editor@msbca.ca

Send your questions, comments or articles to:
editor@msbca.ca



Photo by Jade Tarbet. MSBCA youth, Jessica Chin and Julia Gascoine, participated in the Chinatown Centennial Celebration Mural painting by Silver Dragon Restaurant.



August 17th - Indonesian 65th Independence Day

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

Do you have a story to tell us? An interest to share? Questions or Concerns?

We are always looking for stories to feature in our MSBCA newsletter!

Send your questions, comments or articles to:
editor@msbca.ca

Note: the newsletter is a monthly publication.

Club House Rental

Holding a meeting, presentation or social event?

For more inquiries, contact
One of the Committee Members

**#301, 114 - 3 Ave SW
Calgary AB T2P 0E7**

Rental Rates & Terms (with effect 1 May 2006):

Rental Hours: 9 am to midnight

Members (including sound system):

Mon-Fri: \$132

Sat-Sun, Holidays: \$165

Non-members (excluding sound system):

Mon-Fri: \$180

Sat-Sun, Holidays: \$220

An additional \$100 is chargeable for the use of the sound system

Damage Deposit *Mandatory for ALL (refundable if there is no damage or loss to property):

- Building \$100
- Sound system \$400

With immediate effect, there will be a cleaning surcharge of \$50.00 if the clubhouse is not properly cleaned after each rental. If applicable, this will be deducted from the damage deposit.