

President's Message



VINCENT CHIEW

Warm greetings to one and all,

Spring is finally here, but, so are the mosquitoes. While these little creatures are feasting on me, I had the pleasure of feasting on exotic food at our premier Cultural Night

(CN) 2011. I was hoping the foreign food flavours would make my blood less appetizing to Canadian mosquitoes. I am sad to say that it is not working. I am happy, though, to report that we had another successful CN this year. It was an evening of colourful performances and great variety of food. As I mentioned in my speech that night, there were always people at our club house practicing, planning, dancing, or cooking, in the morning, in the afternoon, and even at night, all for the preparations of CN. My role was to babysit my son while my wife and girls were practicing their routines. I can drag on and on to talk about CN, but since a picture is worth a thousand words, I'll just have our editor post some pictures to entice you to come to our next CN in 2012.

A week later, I am at it again, eating Singapore Laksa at our last Sunday Lunch for the summer. Adeline and many of the volunteers have done a great job again. Sometimes, MSBCA seems like a feasting and eating club to me. I have no complaint as I enjoy eating and socializing. Another interesting observation is that we are starting to see new faces and gaining new members through our Sunday Lunches.

I have just been informed that the dancing group is still practicing cultural dances at the club house every Friday night over the summer time. All members are welcome. If you are interested in dancing, exercising, and/or socializing, this is the group to join. For more information please see the cultural dance group's ad in this newsletter.

Here are a few FREE events being planned for the month of July and August:

- July 2, Pre-Stampede Dance (Free for members and friends), 8pm to 11pm
- July 23, Kids' Games & Movie Night (Free for members' kids and friends), 7 pm to 10pm
- Aug (TBD), Family Karaoke & Dance Night (Free for members family), 8 pm to 11pm
- Aug (TBD), Social Party Night (Free for members ages between 15 to 25 and friends), 8 pm to 11pm

Please R.S.V.P. to president@msbca.ca with the number of people to which specific event. Also, if you can help to plan or volunteer for the above events please email me.

Please do not forget to start thinking about volunteering for a board position. It is a gratifying experience to be able to give back and serve the community, and all the while having fun doing it. Feel free to email me if you have any questions regarding roles, responsibilities, and expectations you may have.

Until our next newsletter, have fun and play safe. :-)

Vincent

FREE Information Session on Cervical & Breast Cancer

Dr. Lai Mooi Cheong, a long time MSBCA member, will be providing a cancer information session entitled "Listen to the Whispers". Dr. Lai Mooi Cheong's presentation will be on Cervical & Breast cancer.

Sunday, June 19, 2011
2pm to 3pm

MSBCA Clubhouse

Contact: Jeannie Soo at soojennie@hotmail.com or call Lai Mooi at 403.288.8767

DO YOU LIKE TO DANCE?

See page 5 on how to get involved!

In this month's issue:

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travel editorial

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Taking the free Melbourne city train for tourists.

I just wanted to share some more photos with you of my trip to Melbourne and to Phillip Island.

We weren't supposed to take photos of the Penguin Parade at Phillip Island, but a friend I met managed to sneak a photo of the little blue penguin and she has let me share it with you all.

After coming back from Melbourne, I had a day in Newcastle. I also got to check out Port Macquarie for day. A great spot to visit and they had these painted rocks that are done by tourists from all over the world along the Breakwall. It's just an hour from where I am staying too. There is also a couple wineries close by as well.



Melbourne shopping centres in the city centre or what they call the CBD (central business district).

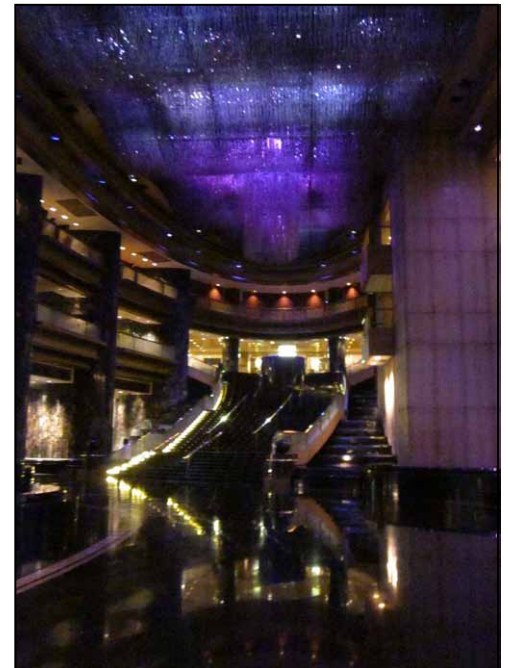
During my down time I am just working from home. I have a few projects on the go including the MSBCA Newsletter! Driving to nearby spots to do a bit of the tourist thing, reading and relaxing. I'm also looking to see if there is any casual work for me to do around here. The weather is getting a bit cooler now

and moving into their winter season. So I should be heading up North to where the warm weather is which I will be doing at the end of July or so!

I'm also getting very excited for my upcoming trip to New Zealand for about 10 days the beginning of July. Going with a few girls I met here. The plan is to go to Christchurch, then rent a car and drive to Queenstown and do some snowboarding while we are there and see the beautiful sights! You'll be hearing about that in the next editorial or so!



I went to an AFL (Australian Football League) game, which is the big sport in Melbourne where a lot of people follow it.



We went to the Crown Casino in Melbourne a couple times. A pretty touristy spot with a huge casino, lots of high-end shopping, pubs and night clubs.

Membership Renewal? Change Member Info?

Please contact Cynthia Tung at
membership@msbca.ca
to keep your details current!

travel editorial



First time seeing a furry cow. This was along the way to Churchill Island (part of the Philip Island tour). This baby cow was curious about our tour bus!



One of the hundreds of little blue penguins from Phillip Island after watching the famous penguin parade. My friend quickly snuck a photo.



Kookaburra, this one was taken at the Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation but there are tons of them in the wild almost everywhere you go.



I didn't expect dingos to look like this. These ones were at a Moonlit Sanctuary and were very cute and fluffy.



The Tasmanian Devil at a Moonlit Sanctuary. Doesn't really resemble the cartoon one hey?



At Newcastle, Queens Wharf. I love how they really take advantage of being by the water. So many pubs and restaurants by the water



At Port Macquarie on a beautiful sunny Sunday.



At the Breakwall at Port Macquarie.

upcoming events

-----MSBCA CALENDAR ----- of events proposed for 2010-2011

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!

June 2011

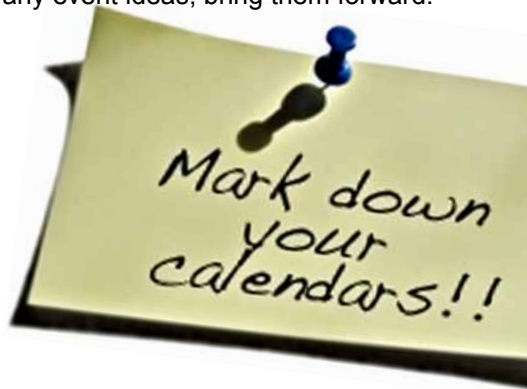
- 4th - MSBCA Cultural Night
- 12th - Sunday Lunch
- 19th - Free Info Session on Cervical & Breast Cancer

July 2011

- 2nd - Pre-Stampede Dance
- 23rd - Kids Games & Movie Night

August 2011

- TBD - Family Karaoke & Dance Night
- TBD - Social Party Night



SUNDAY LUNCH

MSBCA Clubhouse
Our popular Sunday Lunches will be back in the fall.

Stay tuned with the newsletter and website.

Highlights from the last Sunday Lunch is on page 8

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

With our sincere appreciation to all the volunteers, the 2010/11 MSBCA committee would like to invite you and your family to attend our annual Volunteers Appreciation picnic.

Sunday, August 7, 2011

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

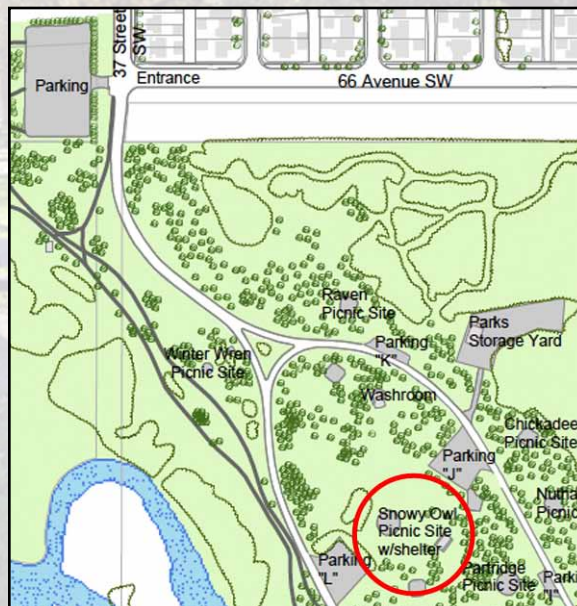
North Glenmore Park

Snowy Owl Site
Picnic Area
(West End),
7305 24 Street SW

RSVP by July 24

Jade Tarbet at
jbtarbet@shaw.ca or
call 403-698-1092
(please leave a message) for headcounts.

Hope to see you all there!



Pre-Stampede Dance

Saturday, July 2, 2011

MSBCA Clubhouse

8pm to 11pm

Free for Members!!!
More details to come

KIDS' GAMES & MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, July 23, 2011

MSBCA Clubhouse

7pm to 10pm

Free for Members!!!
More details to come

COME AND JOIN US FOR FUN AND SHARING OF OUR CULTURES

MSBCA has been providing the Calgary community with cultural dancing for more than 8 years. We've performed for many cultural events attended by Federal leaders, Provincial leaders and the public. Normally we perform 12 to 14 times a year for the club and other cultural associations.

So come and join us for some cultural experience, socializing, fun and exercise, even if you do not wish to perform. Whether you're young or young at heart, male or female, you are all welcome. MSBCA Dance Group practices about 2 hours a week throughout the year. We usually practice more frequently nearer to a scheduled performance.

**MSBCA Dance Group schedule:
Fridays from 7pm-9pm**

Please contact Jade Taret at jbtaret@shaw.ca for more information.

MSBCA NEEDS YOU!

The Revival of MSBCA

Due to an oversight from past Committees, the Societies Acts of Alberta dissolved MSBCA from March 2, 2011 to March 14, 2011. We are pleased to inform the members that the current Board has corrected the issue and put the Association in order again with the revival of MSBCA on March 14, 2011.

The information is published for transparency purpose only and not for soliciting any feedback.

CULTURAL NIGHT 2011 – IN APPRECIATION

CN 2011 could not have happened without the support and generous contributions of sponsors, donors, and volunteers. MSBCA is grateful and appreciates:

- The Sub-Committee for organizing the grand event on 4 June 2011 at the Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre.
- The chefs who prepared and cooked to feed over 600 people;
- Helpers who went alongside the chefs in food preparations working hand in hand;
- Servers for serving over 600 dishes including desserts to hungry guests;
- Tickets & Coupons Sellers for overselling the event till they were asked to stop;
- Doormen for seeing to crowd control at the entrance;
- Logistics crew in transporting and setting up the food stalls and stage for the evening;
- Performers for their many hours of practices to bring an evening of life entertainment to the audience;
- Guest Performers from Christina Gu, Alberta Thai-Canadian Association, Hap Ki Moo Do Academy, Static Group, Ji Hong Wushu & Tai Chi College for their support in participation;
- Choreographers' dedication and hardwork to put together performances that are entertaining and well coordinated;
- Backstage helpers including facial makeup, fog maker, curtains and tear down group;
- Stage prop, lighting and MC for making the evening more colorful and entertaining;
- The DJ for the coordinating all the music for the performers;
- Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre for the use of the facilities;
- And all who came and supported the event with praise and encouragement.

MSBCA could not have done it without your support. On behalf of MSBCA we thank and bless everyone for making CN 2011 a successful and memorable event.

See you all at the CN 2012.

Adeline Chan

(Event Coordinator)

Casino volunteer name missed

We apologise for missing out Tony Quek in the list of volunteer appreciation for the Casino from March 18/19 2011 in the May newsletter. Thank you and all the volunteers for your participation.

"So come to the pond,
or the river of your imagination,
or the harbor of your longing
and put your lips to the world"
— Mary Oliver

CN 2011 Extravaganza

Story by Philip Chan

Photos by Vincent Chiew

Cultural Night 2011 was met with resounding success. A remake of the 2001 Cultural Night 10 years ago when MSBCA held the event at the Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre. The theme for this year's Cultural Night was "Pasar Malam di Tanjung Katong". This year the event was held on Saturday June 4, 2011 from 6.00pm to 10.00pm.



More than 600 guests turned up for this grand occasion. Tickets were oversold and many including some at the door had to be turned away. We apologise to those who were keen but could not come because of the overwhelming response. Perhaps MSBCA could think of holding the Cultural Night in a bigger venue the next time. MSBCA Cultural Night has grown in popularity and this is the result of the commitment and dedication of each passing Board of Committee within MSBCA over the years in organizing the annual Cultural Night event.



In total, more than 1000 man-hours of volunteers' time and effort have gone into CN2011. These include all volunteers preparing and cooking to feed a massive appetite of an expectant crowd, all eagerly waiting to try our authentic



street hawker food. And the crowd was not disappointed...they got what they expected...spicy and tasty foods that are close, if not better than the original...the food was that good. These are MSB foods at their best here in Calgary. Kudos to all our cooks for Chicken, Beef & Pork Satays, Beef Rendang, Nasi Lemak, Chicken Biryani, Hainanese Chicken Rice, Vegetarian Noodles, Mee Siam, Curry Noodles, Penang Char Kuay Teow, and to top it off with Rojak, Nyonya Bak Chang, Curry Puffs, Ang Ku Kueh, Kueh Lapis, Rice Kueh, and Ice Kachang.



Comments from the guests include "Waah...so fast sold out", "Wish there were more Curry Puffs and Nyonya Bak Chang to take home", "Love the Rojak" and "What will MSBCA be cooking next?" All the foods were a sell-out. Two thumbs up to all our MSBCA culinary cooks.

After a hearty and tasty meal of hawker food, the audience were treated to a program of a variety of colourful shows including the Japanese Taiko Drumming, the Chinese Fan Dance, the Chinese Quzhen, the Thai Dance, the Korean Mar-

tial Arts, the MSBCA Butterfly Dance, the MSBCA Choir, the African Dance, Piano Vocalist, Indian Dance, Chinese Martial Arts, the Nyonya Dance, Vocalist, the Malay Sabah Dance and rounding off the evening with the colourful Costume Parade of Asia (see the enclosed program).



Months of planning, preparation, and practices for the Cultural Night 2011 paid off with applause of praise...the "woo's" and the "wah's" and whistles from the audience.

The performance for the evening started off with the singing of "Oh Canada" by the MSBCA Choir, followed by MSBCA President, Vincent Chiew's speech. The program went into overtime with many door prizes to be won. The top prize



CN 2011 Extravaganza



was a travel voucher to anywhere in the world, be it by air, land or sea... a pretty good prize at no additional cost to the winner for the lucky draw. Thanks to all our Sponsors for our guest performers and travel voucher worth a total of \$1000 from Vincent & Susan Chiew, Bob & Diana Bird, Ah Nga & Anna Bong, Michael & Elaine Lo, Ken & Rita Preston, Hau Chong & Juliet Teng, Kim & Irene Chan, Ben & Paula Lim, Ling Ling Chiang and Michael & Jojo Ho.

Over a hundred MSBCA volunteers came forward to help and got involved in this year's Cultural Night. A lot of painstaking work went into the planning and preparation, but it paid off when the CN2011 went smoothly and orderly albeit some minor hiccups during the evening. Everything from the food to the performances had to run smoothly and on schedule. Although the evening at the Cultural Night 2011 was chaotic, just like any "Pasar Malam" back home in Malaysia, Singapore or Brunei, getting positive comments and feedback were encouragements that we did the right thing in holding and organizing a bigger than expected event and was done well to the satisfaction of everyone.

Managing such a big event is not without challenges. Challenges include manpower for logistics, setting up the food



stalls, decorating the stage, stage lighting, tabling, running out of plates & cutlery, drinks, and food coupons during mealtime, performances running overtime. Everything had to work clockwise and on time. Food had to be coordinated, cooked and prepared ahead and delivered from all over Calgary to the point of consumption. Costumes had to be fitted and presented looking their best with the right make-ups for the models and performers.



One audience commented, "...Seems like the program will never end." Is this a positive or negative feedback? For a \$20 package with entrance, meal, dessert, drinks, life entertainment and door prizes, it must be a positive comment. No wonder CN2011 was a sell-out.

Although MSBCA Sub-Committee for CN2011 was able to print more tickets



to accommodate the demand, we were restricted from doing so due to fire and safety regulations in the Chinese Cultural Centre, and the volunteer cooks ran out of hands to cook for so many more. MSBCA is a non-profit organisation of volunteers, not a commercial restaurant.

To all our volunteers, sponsors, donors, performers and guest performers, MSBCA cannot say "Thank you" enough for getting yourself involved in this year's



grand event. CN2011 would not have happened and succeeded without your help, support and encouragement. This is what MSBCA is all about... 3-in-1, our strength lie as one united people in community building and showcased at the Cultural Night.

The Sub-Committee for this year's Cultural Night consisted of Joo Teh, Cliff Son, Jennie Soo, Josephine Tse, Choo Yeu Chuan, Philip & Adeline Chan. The



MC for the evening was Calvin Chiew, the DJ was Peter Yong & Company, Facial Make-ups by Juliet Day Spa, Choreography by Adrine Chong, Clara Chiew and Judy Tan. Costumes by Tourism Malaysia (Vancouver) and MSBCA members and friends.

We hope you have enjoyed yourself at the Cultural Night 2011 for an evening of authentic hawker food and life entertainment brought to you exclusively by MSBCA Calgary.



sunday lunch highlights

Makan Sedap IV



Story by Philip Chan
Photos by Vincent Chiew

Makan Sedap V was “Singapore Laksa” by Adeline Chan. This is another favourite street hawker dish that is very popular in Katong Singapore brought to you by MSBCA. A number of newcomers and others who experienced the food at CN2011 last week spilled over to try this authentic spicy dish from Singapore on Sunday, June 12 2011. A number of Caucasians and friends from Hong Kong and China came to savour this exotic Peranakan dish after hearing about it, by words of mouth or through the internet. A Frenchman who came to try the dish said, “I’ve waited 5 years in Calgary to finally find and get to eat one of my favourite dishes from Singapore”. Another Hong Kong lady was enjoying her Laksa when we spoke with her to find out that she loves spicy MSB food when she was with friends in Hong Kong’s MSBCA club.

The Singapore Laksa was made from fragrant hot chilly spices ground and brewed with a chicken stock base rich

in coconut milk. Lots of tender, loving, pounding went into preparing the ingredient. This rich flavourful Laksa gravy is then added into a bowl of rice noodles and then topped off with prawns, fishballs and fishcakes, taupok, shredded chicken and sprinkled with Laksa leaves to give you the tasty aromatic Peranakan dish at its best.... So lemak, so sedap. Desserts for the day include “Durian Ice kacang”. It was a real treat for everyone.

Our supportive volunteers came without fail to help in the kitchen and to assist the chef as well as serving the guests on the day. Thanks to our chef for the month, Adeline Chan for sharing her signature dish with MSBCA, helpers Jennie Soo, Joo Teh, Ee Pin, Sally Teh, Paula Lim, Erik Ang, Grandma Chew, Jill Heng, Pauline Tan, Cecilia Chong, Janette and Yeu Chuan Choo.

The monthly “Makan Sedap” held at the clubhouse achieved several objectives. To some, the Makan Sedap was an experience and adventure of food from Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, whilst

to others it was the love for authentic hawker food we recall and crave for. Yet there are those who enjoy the art of cooking hawker food and sharing their specialty dish for a worthy cause, that of raising funds, of bonding and of community building among members and friends. Again there are many who came out just to support the club and what better way than a Sunday Lunch at the clubhouse to meet with new and old friends over a meal. Makan Sedap was also an avenue for fund raising with proceeds from the Sunday lunches going to support the scholastic awards for our members’ children.



Thank you to everyone who came to support the monthly “Makan Sedap” event. We trust everyone who came by to enjoy the street hawker food had had some nostalgia and fond memories of hawkers from the back street of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei...the famous “Wee Ah Kut” and “Soh Ah Wee” competing kopitiam or Indian sarabat stalls across the street of an old town. We hope to continue to hold such events again in the fall with new office bearers for MSBCA.



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- \$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 Tracey Bong. Taken at Breakwall, Port Macquarie. I thought this painted rock was really creative, turning it into a shark.

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.