

CAGT NEWSLETTER



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*Spring/Summer
2013*

Volume 5 Issue 5

<http://www.toledochinese.org/>

5/13/13

Chinese Community at the 2013 Toledo International Festival

by Jing Meyer



On Saturday, April 13, Toledo Sister Cities International held its annual Toledo International Festival at the University of Toledo. The local Chinese community actively participated in this fun and culture rich event.

Toledo's Chinese sister city is Qinghuangdao. The sister city relationship was primarily initiated

by Michael Cicak of Glasstech in cooperation with Mayor Donna Owens in 1985. Since then, many Chinese and American community leaders and colleagues have developed and supported various initiatives between Toledo and Qinghuangdao, including educational and cultural exchange, business and economic development, medical and health collaboration, and many other areas.

Within Toledo Sister Cities International, there is a China-Qinghuangdao committee. The committee had two tables at the event displaying pictures of Qinghuangdao, Chinese arts and crafts, as well as teaching people how to make Chinese good luck and friendship bracelets.

CAGT organized a variety of performances from the Chinese community to participate in the event. These performances received wonderful comments.



CAGT Outstanding Service Award

The Service Award Committee



To recognize the outstanding contributions and services that CAGT members have provided to the community, an individual member will be awarded the "Outstanding Service Award" annually for his/her significant services. The winner of this award in 2012 is Olivia Onest.

CAGT Chinese Language/Culture Awards

The Language & Culture Award Committee



Each year, CAGT honors several students and teachers who made significant contributions with the **CAGT Chinese Language / Culture Awards**.

The recipients of this year's awards are:

- The Chinese Language Education Award
 - Pickering Lee (Ottawa Hills High School)
 - Shikun Li (Toledo Chinese School)
- The Best Overall Grades in Chinese Language Study Award
 - Benjamin He
 - Nora Li
 - Kelvin Liu
- The Excellence in Chinese Language Study and Community Service Award
 - Erika Chen
 - Starr Jiang
- The Most Improved Grades in Chinese Language Study Award
 - Lang Liang

- Albert Zhu
- The Most Effort Contributed to Chinese Language Study Award
 - Robbie Heuring
 - Sydney Onest
 - Nikki Sizemore
- Honorable mention: Chinese School Teacher Yue Gu for her dedication and outstanding contribution to Toledo Chinese School.

2013 First Quarter CAGT Membership Report

The CAGT Membership Committee would like to thank all those members who have renewed their CAGT membership during the 1st quarter of 2013. Special thanks to the following members for upgrading their memberships to lifetime memberships:

Yanfa and May Yan

Joseph Chao and Jane Chang

Peter You and Lily Li

Caren Steinmiller

We also would like to welcome those people who joined CAGT during the 1st quarter of 2013:

New Lifetime Business Member

5 Lakes Global Group

New Family Members

Matt and Kristy Baird

New Student Member

Jiayue Guo

On Saturday, March 2nd, 2013, the CAGT dancers were invited to perform at the "A Circus Around the World", at the Plaza Hotel, Toledo, OH



Two faces of a dancer: Cassandra in performance, and in her dance her studio, Minneapolis, MN.

Cassandra has focused her dance study & performance on the Egyptian Raks Sharqi & folkloric dances since 1974. Her serious studies began in San Francisco with the legendary performer Jamilla Salimpour, and have continued since 1980 through regular research trips to the Middle East. Cassandra began her career as a cabaret performer, and her work in this area of Oriental Dance continued until 2010.

Since 1984, she has widened the scope of her artistic expression by presenting the dance on the theater stage. In 1989, Cassandra founded Jawaahir Dance Company, dedicated to bringing the rich heritage of the Middle East to the theater stage as a living art form. She is currently serving as Artistic Director and Choreographer for the Company. Cassandra is a past recipient of the Minnesota Dance Alliance/McKnight Foundation Resident Choreographer's Award, as well as the MDA/Jerome Foundation Sponsor Pool and Dancer Pool Awards. She taught Arabic women's dance classes as adjunct faculty through University College at the University of Minnesota for 15 years, and is a featured artist at the Southern Theater.

Cassandra teaches & performs world-wide, and has earned an international reputation as an Oriental dance teacher, researcher, and performer. She regularly offers workshops, concerts and master classes worldwide, in locations such as Cairo, Egypt, Marrakech, Morocco, as well as Finland, Great Britain, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and throughout the US & Canada. To learn more about Cassandra and The Jawaahir Dance Company, please visit www.jawaahir.org.

CIRQUE AUTOUR DU MONDE

This showcase of live music, song, dance, & other talents from around the globe, conjures the whimsical feeling of the carnival midways around the turn of the century with a variety of exotic delights, and features *Cassandra*, one of the most sought after Mid-East dance artists in the US and abroad today.

OVERTURE:

RAQ THE CASBAH & THE MAGIC OF MARTIN JARETT

ACT 1: "ON THE MIDWAY"

NA'IMAH

CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER TOLEDO

SABRINA BINT AL WAHA

LAPIS LAZULI

ASIMA

ALMA DRUM & DANCE

LEAH & TORY UNVEILED

CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER TOLEDO

SABRINA BINT AL WAHA

CASSANDRA!

INTERMEZZO: RAQ THE CASBAH

ACT 2: "DOWN THE BOARDWALK"

CASSANDRA!

MEZNOTIK

ALMA DRUM & DANCE

YASMINA AMAL

LAPIS LAZULI & ALMA

NA'IMAH

THE HABIBI DANCERS

SABRINA BINT AL WAHA

LEYLA & RAQ THE CASBAH

FINALE



Na'imah



Unveiled



Chinese Assoc. of Greater Toledo



Sabrina Bint al Waha



ALMA Drum & Dance



Asima



Leah



Yasmina Amal



Asima & Meznatik



Lapis Lazuli



World Tai Chi and Qigong Day

On April 27th, local Tai Chi groups and Tai Chi fans gathered at Wildwood Metropark to celebrate the 15th annual World Tai Chi and Qigong Day. This event is held in more than sixty countries on the last Saturday of April to promote the related disciplines of Tai Chi Chuan and Qigong. It begins in the earliest time zone of New Zealand at 10 am, and then participants across Oceania, Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, and South America take part, ending with the final events in the last time zone of Hawaii, almost an entire day later.



Tai Chi Class – Summer 2013

There are many physical and mental benefits of practicing Tai Chi. One of the benefits of Tai Chi is the reduction of stress. Stress affects all of us in many different negative ways, stiffness, pain, worry, anxiety, etc. Through deep breathing and continuous slow movements, Tai Chi practice gives our mind and body complete rest and relaxation. One of the articles by the Mayo Clinic staff calls Tai Chi “A gentle way to fight stress”.

To promote Chinese culture and improve our health, CAGT will offer Tai Chi lessons and practice. The summer session will run from **May 11, 2013 to August 24, 2013** (15 weeks ~Exception: 6/1/2013, which will be CAGT picnic day).

Our focus will be:

1. **Tai Chi Fundamentals**
2. **Tai Chi Form 24 (太极拳 24 式)**
3. **Eight Section Brocade (八段锦)**

Date & Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am, **Saturdays**

Location: Woodlands Park

429 East Boundary Street, Perrysburg, OH 43551

Cost: FREE for CAGT members, \$30 for non-CAGT members*.

*Non-CAGT members may join CAGT at the 1st class for member rates (CAGT annual membership rate: \$25 family, \$10 student family; \$15 individual, \$5 student individual)

Beginners are welcome. Your payment for the class or membership to CAGT will be collected at your first class. Class fees are non-refundable. These fees will be used to support CAGT's activities.

Square Dance (广场舞) Class – Summer 2013

To promote Chinese culture and improve our health, CAGT will offer Square Dance (广场舞) lessons and practice. We will dance with beautiful Chinese music while we have strong exercise. The summer session will run from May 12, 2013 to August 25, 2013 (13 weeks ~ Exceptions: 5/26/2013 and 6/16/2013).

Date & Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am, **Sundays**

Location: Woodlands Park

429 East Boundary Street, Perrysburg, OH 43551

Cost: FREE for CAGT members, \$30 for non-CAGT members*.

*Non-CAGT members may join CAGT at the 1st class for member rates (CAGT annual membership rate: \$25 family, \$10 student family; \$15 individual, \$5 individual student)

Beginners are welcome. Your payment for the class or membership to CAGT will be collected at your first class. Class fees are non-refundable. These fees will be used to support CAGT's activities.

CAGT/FCC Friendship and Culture Exchange

In a previous issue (Spring 2012) of the CAGT Newsletter,

The "CAGT/FCC Friendship and Culture Exchange" was introduced.

<http://www.miraclebookends.com/toledochinese/news/Spring2012.pdf>

As part of the "CAGT/FCC Friendship and Culture Exchange", we will be featuring one family from CAGT and one family **from FCC (Families with Children from China) in each newsletter.**

FCC Family: Meet the Marmions



1. Who is in your immediate family? (names of all, ages of kids)

Mary Pat

Andy

Thomas – 2 ½

2. Where do you work and what do you do there? (answer for all who have a job)

Andy works at Owens-Illinois a Manager, Accounting Services. Mary Pat works part-time at Pilkington as a systems analyst with SAP.

3. How long have you lived in Toledo?

Mary Pat was born in Toledo, but after college lived in Columbus, San Diego and Detroit, before moving back home 15 years ago. Andy was born in Dublin, Ireland and spent 6 years living in Italy, Germany and the UK before moving to Toledo nine years ago.

Thomas was born in Chongqing and joined our family almost 2 years ago.

4. What does your family enjoy doing together?

Walking or cycling at the Metro Parks

5. For each family member to answer:

a. What would your friends be surprised to learn about you?

Thomas – how much I am talking these days.

Mary Pat – I have a Twitter account

Andy - I have never had a speeding ticket

b. Name 2 things that you are very good at

Thomas – playing with trains and anything that can be a drum

Mary Pat – baking and growing tomatoes

Andy - cooking and foreign languages

c. What are your hobbies or interests?

Thomas – trains and marching bands

Mary Pat – gardening, traveling and sports

Andy - gardening, traveling and music

6. What is on the menu for your family's favorite evening meal?

Lasagna

7. Do you have any pets?

No

CAGT Family: Meet Aige Guo and Shichang Hu



1. Who is in your immediate family? (names of all, ages of kids)

My name is Aige Guo. My husband is Shichang Hu. We have a 21-year-old son, Dingzhong Hu.

2. Where do you work and what do you do there? (answer for all who have a job)

Aige works at The University of Toledo in the area of international studies and programs. She enjoys designing and developing educational programs. She teaches undergraduate through doctoral level courses in educational psychology and higher education. She also works full-time at home.

Shichang is an entrepreneur with business in China and the US in the bearing industry.

Dingding is a senior student studying art at UT.

3. How long have you lived in Toledo?

We have lived in Toledo since 1997.

4. What does your family enjoy doing together?

It varies over the years when Dingzhong grows up. Currently, playing together with our dog Isis is what our family enjoys doing the most, teaching her tricks and watching her being silly and laughing together.

5. For each family member to answer:

a. What would your friends be surprised to learn about you?

Aige – I don't really know. I don't keep secret to my friends, so my friends all know me very well.

Shichang – I compose and write "Spring Festival Couplets" (aka chun lian) every year for Chinese New Year and for other occasions.

Dingzhong -- Not much, I usually reveal everything surprising about me immediately to get a good first impression. Just kidding, I guess it used to be that I can cook, but most of my friends now know that.

b. Name 2 things that you are very good at.

Aige – playing with babies and taking care of others

Shichang – Chinese calligraphy and buying good clothes for Aige

Dingzhong -- Listening and understanding people and being patient, though I guess they go hand in hand.

8. What are your hobbies or interests?

Aige – rearranging furniture and cleaning house

Shichang – hiking and traveling

Dingzhong -- Most of the things I enjoy doing involves putting things together or taking them apart. I enjoy problem solving games, and end up taking a problem solving approach to most games I play.

9. What is on the menu for your family's favorite evening meal?

Our favorite evening meal is hand-made noodles with stir-fried tomato and eggs that Dingding makes.

10. Do you have any pets?

Yes, we have a dog. She is two years old. Her name is Isis, and her Chinese name is Ai Shui Shui, or 爱谁谁, meaning *whatever*. Isis is a French Beauceron.

2013 Chinese Communities Summer Picnic

Saturday, June 1st

1PM-4PM

Wildwood Metropark, 5100 W. Central Avenue, Toledo

Co-Sponsored by:

- **Chinese Association of Greater Toledo (CAGT)**
- **5 Lakes Global Group**
- **Louisville Title Agency**
- **Chinese Center of Toledo (CCT, aka Chinese School)**
- **Toledo Chinese Alliance Church (TCAC)**
- **Families with Children from China (FCC)**

Connect with old friends and make new friends!

Enjoy the delicious food!

Play games!

Adults and kids welcome ~ bring the entire family, friends too!

Please bring a dish or two to share...

(Check your email if it is raining~ event may be delayed or canceled)

CAGT will provide all the plastic utensils, napkins, etc.

5 Lakes Global Group will donate pizza, chicken, water, etc.

Louisville Title Agency will donate chips and soft drinks

Games: Sack Races (CCT)

Egg-Citing Egg/Spoon (CCT)

Tai Chi Practice (CAGT)

The Square Dance (CAGT)

Volleyball & soccer (TCAC)

(Children may bring jump ropes, balls, kites, Frisbees, bubbles, etc.)

If you are not CAGT member or have not renewed your membership yet, please consider joining/renewing your membership. Your support is very critical and greatly appreciated. Both check and cash are accepted for your membership.

Fall Registration for Chinese Center of Toledo Now Open

Dear Parents~

If you know of any new students who are interested in taking Chinese courses at the Chinese Center of Toledo, please forward the following web link for online registration.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17H-Tx_JvBVXRnF4Bx8v9vRrNzrvtYGYIFsxc-LKGqL8/viewform

May 10 is our last day of spring semester. We hope all your family members will join us to see our student performances and contests in the library area. Students will go to their regular classroom at 6:30 and go to the library at 7:00. The celebration program will be 7:00-8:30 pm. We'll appreciate if all parents could help their child's teacher when needed or help keep everything in good order on Friday.

Thank you again for your support and participation in your child's education! We look forward to seeing you all on May 10 and again in the fall semester of 2013!

Sincerely,

An Chung Cheng & Meng Zhang

School Website: <http://www.chinesecentertoledo.org/>

Congratulations!

Hong Zhu received an outstanding service award for her 10 years of service as a Chinese language teacher on May 11, 2013. This award was presented by The Confucius Institute of Cleveland State University and The Ohio Association of Teachers of Chinese.

