



NEWSLETTER

A Quarterly Publication of
The Chinese Association of Greater Kalamazoo (CAGK)
P.O. Box 42, Portage, MI 49081-0042
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Summer Picnic

The CAGK 2008 summer picnic will be held at Ramona Park on June 7, 2008. Ramona Park is on Sprinkle road one block south of Centre Ave. in Portage. The park is by the long lake and has a swimming area with sandy beach and life guard on-duty. It also had a playground for younger children, as well as sport facilities for baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis and fishing. Bring your sport equipments and enjoy a good game with friends. The lunch will be served at noon. Children activities will start at 1:00 pm. The event will be **free** for all members. You are welcomed to bring your friends. For non-members, the cost will be \$5/adults, \$3/children 3-12, and free for kids under 3. **Please e-mail CAGK with the number of adults and children that will be attending by Monday, May 19.**

There is a \$5.00 charge per vehicle if parks by the beach. However, there is ample free parking space by the baseball field which is just a short walk to the beach. Furthermore, to support the green effort, CAGK will recycle the plastic containers at the end of the picnic. Members are encouraged to bring reusable plates and utensils to help reduce the waste. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kalamazoo Ethnic Diversity Celebration

This year's Kalamazoo Ethnic Diversity Celebration will be held at Mayor's Riverfront Park on Saturday, July 12. The CAGK board has decided to set up a booth to promote Chinese Culture and Language at this event. Various affiliated organizations will be performed at this event too. The organization of this group is looking for monetary as well as cultural oriented items that they can sell at their world market to raise funds. Those who are interested in donation, please send the check or items to "Ethnic Diversity Celebration, 2925 Portage St. Kalamazoo, MI 49001."

Change of the Board Member

On April 4, board accepted Kenny Jeng's resignation due to job relocation. Vice President, Min Jay Wu will serve as the acting treasure with the assistance from Yimin Li.

Chinese Schools

Chinese classes are offered through the two regional Chinese Schools, Kalamazoo Chinese School and Portage Modern Chinese School. Both schools offer Chinese classes on Friday nights for a nominal fee. If you would like to have your children learn Chinese, please contact either one of the following school principals for your learning needs.

Kalamazoo Chinese School:

Founded in 1990, Kalamazoo Chinese School focuses on teaching the Chinese Language through Hanyu Pinyin, phonetic pronunciations and traditional Chinese characters. KCS holds its lessons at Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church (7028 Oakland Drive, Portage). Kalamazoo Chinese School plans to open a beginner's class for children from first grade to third grade in Fall 2008. This class is designed for children whose parents speak Mandarin Chinese at home. Class time is 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday evenings. Families who are interested in this class can contact Jofen Han at 321-8795 or e-mail the school (kzocs@yahoo.com).

Portage Modern Chinese School:

Portage Modern Chinese School (PMCS) offers students opportunity to learn Mandarin Chinese, including pinyin and simplified Chinese characters that are used in mainland China and by overseas Chinese. Portage Modern Chinese School will have a summer picnic at 1:00 pm on May 31st in Texas Park (located on Texas Drive). We will have Chinese recital as the last class of this term at 7:30 pm on June 6. Families interested in learning more about our Chinese school are welcomed to these events. Please feel free to contact one of the following school officials for more information: Zunxue Chang, (principal, 353-6301), Yuanlong Liu (treasurer, 353-6360) or Sisi Jin (teaching affair, 544-0818). Thank you all for your support to PMCS. We are looking forward to seeing you in September.

Lion Dance Troupe

Curious about what is like to wear sparkly pants and be the mighty lion? Lion dance troupe is always looking for new members, adults and kids are all welcome. If interested, please contact Chunwu Wu at 269-353-7189.

Ping Pong Clubs

Looking for a great indoor exercise? How about the Ping Pong? About 10-16 Members have participated in this weekly event regular. You can join the fun at 7:30 pm on Tuesdays at the Kalamazoo Chinese Christian Church. Contact Shucheng Zhang 913-645-5242 for more details.

Member News

Birth Announcement

Kuanchin (KC) Chen and Jia-Jiun Jou joyfully announce the birth of their twin daughters, Adelle (齊紘) and Bonnia (齊笙) Chen born in the morning of February 26, 2008. Four little hands, four tiny feet and two mouths to feed. Now their family is delightfully complete.

CAGK congratulates to the following 2008 graduates and their proud parents

Ken Chung (son of Grace Chung)

Rachel Han (daughter of Bernard Han and Jofen Wu)

Jasmine Huang (daughter of Wei-Chiao and Wei-Jang Huan)

Jordan Huang (son of Hsimin Hwang and Huiling Tang)

Hsin-Hsin Lee (daughter of Chao-Hsien Lee and Chung-Hui Lee)

Gary Xia (son of Yun Xia and Jenny Zhao)

Margaret Xu (daughter of Guoqi Xu and Ann You)

Charles Zhu (son of Jim Zhu and Lilly Zheng)

Art Show at Portage District Library by the CAGK members

July 22 – August 20

Lisa Underdall Mixed media

Jamie Lesman Jewelry

Meet the Artists Reception

Saturday, July 26th 2:00 -4:00 pm

Go (圍棋) Workshop

Kalamazoo Go Club invites CAGK members who play Go to participate in a workshop led by Jennie Shen (沈靜), Chinese 2P, in the evenings of June 27 through June 29. The workshop will be held at the W.E. Upjohn Institute at 300 S. Westnedge, Kalamazoo and the registration fee is \$100. Additional information about this event can be found at KGC's website:

<http://volar.org/kgc/workshop/>

Financial Report

As of May 9, 2008, CAGK has maintained a healthy bank balance of \$10845.54. This is after a successful fund raising led by Yimin Li. Please contact CAGK Acting Treasurer Min Jay Wu (544-2757) for further details or questions.

Donation

Donation is an invaluable source of budget for CAGK. It helps maintain the high quality services CAGK has been able to provide. Please forward your donation to **CAGK, P.O. Box 42, Portage, MI 49081-0042.**