

緬因州華美聯誼會

Chinese & American Friendship Association of Maine

P. O. Box 10372 Portland ME 04104 — www.cafammaine.org



通訊 二零一一年。五月至六月

NEWSLETTER – MAY-JUNE 2011

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Saturday, June 11, 4:00, **Annual CAFAM Summer Potluck**. Woodfords Congregational Church, Portland.

Friday, July 15, 7:00 PM, **CAFAM day at the Sea Dogs**. Hadlock Field, Portland.

September 16 to 18, **US China Peoples Friendship Association** national convention, Kansas City MO.

AND BY THE WAY...

HAVE YOU EVER TOYED WITH THE IDEA OF GETTING MORE INVOLVED?

WE NEED HELP WITH NEXT YEAR'S NEW YEAR CELEBRATION AND WE ALWAYS NEED NEW BLOOD ON THE BOARD.

INTRIGUED? CONTACT AMANDA SZALA: aashilan@aol.com

SUMMER POTLUCK

CAFAM and USCPFA members and friends:

JOIN US IN a SUMMER afternoon of food, relaxation, AND ENTERTAINMENT.

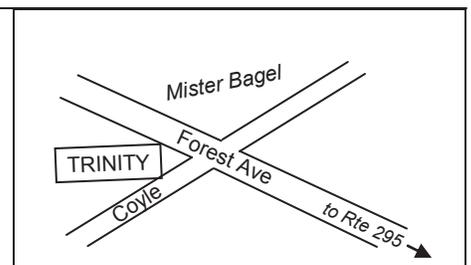
IT'S THE annual summer potluck, WHERE we ALSO elect the new Board of Directors.

SATURDAY, June 11, 4:00 TO 6:00 PM.

WHERE: Trinity Episcopal Church, Forest Ave at Coyle St. (There is plenty of parking and a very nice playground for children.)

BRING: **A DISH, PREFERABLY CHINESE, BUT "AMERICAN" WILL DO FINE.**

BRING A FRIEND!



TAKE US OUT TO THE 棒球賽



For the second year in a row, CAFAM members will take themselves out to the ballgame to root for Chinese players. On July 15 the Portland Sea Dogs will play the New Britain Rock Cats.

The Sea Dogs roster includes outfielder Chiang Chih-Hsien and Lin Che-Hsuan. Chiang was born in a small town in southeast Taiwan and grew up in the port city of Kaohsiung. Lin was born in Hualian, Taiwan and grew up in Tainan. He is an outstanding fielder and a good base stealer.

Also a new player this year on the Dogs is shortstop Jonathan Hee, Hawaii-born of partial Chinese ancestry.

Meanwhile in the opposing dugout will be infielder Ray Chang, a second generation Chinese-American raised in Kansas City MO. Last year he played with the Dogs, but he has moved to New Britain. We will cheer him on anyway!

The first 1000 kids that enter stadium receive a Sea Dogs T-shirt!!



Lin Che-Hsuan



Chiang Chih-Hsien



Jonathan Hee



Ray Chang

USCPFA NATIONAL CONVENTION

The US China Peoples Friendship Association will hold its national convention in Kansas City, September 16-19. Some CAFAM members also belong to USCPFA Portland Maine Chapter, and any can join for an additional \$12 annually.

If you would like to get more information about this convention and its interesting programs, go to <http://www.uscpfa.org/> and click on "Going to Kansas City."

The Newsletter is edited by Craig Dietrich and is published five times a year. Contributions and comments are welcome. Please contact the editor at 688-4826 or dietrich@maine.rr.com. The next issue will appear in mid-September. Deadline for submissions: early September.

WEBSITE UPGRADE UNDER WAY

CAFAM's website www.cafammaine.org will soon have a new look. To make our site more flexible and easier to manage and update, Jay Collier and Melissa Lin have been busy working with WordPress web software to make these changes. Jay is a CAFAM member and a computer professional. Melissa is a member of the CAFAM board.

WordPress is an "open source" free software project created by thousands of users over the past several years. Its most widely used application is for blogs, and claims to be the most widely used blogging tool in the world, used in millions of sites. Under the expert guidance of Jay and Melissa it will also give new possibilities to our website. Robert Rovner, who has greatly improved the site and kept it current, will continue in that role, and perhaps be joined by others.



Jay



Melissa

MAINE-CHINA LINKS by Suzanne Fox

When I first moved to Maine in 1999, I was so happy to be back in a state that I love but I wondered what I could possibly do with my 20 years of China experience here in the Pine Street state. Eleven years later I continue to be amazed at the China related activity bubbling all over the state. From the far corners of Millinocket and Washington County to Orono, Bangor and Portland, there are exciting China related initiatives across the state.

Ten years ago Fox Intercultural Consulting Services was born. The purpose to build stronger business and educational ties between China and Maine. A decade later it has been an honor to be part of a group of dedicated Mainers with China ties in helping to make this happen. Kudos to Bob Sargent who started the ball rolling in 2002 with a simple premise and a great conference. The Maine China Networking Conference brought in Mainers from across the state for a day of building bridges and making connections. The foundation for the Maine-China link was laid.



Now we have an active data base of Mainers with China interest across the State and inside China. Initiated by FICS last winter, the China Business Networking Roundtables have brought together educators and business professional on a quarterly basis to share China stories and make connections.

In Bangor, The Chinese Language and Culture Center has received federal funding for the NSLYI initiative for Maine high school students to travel to China this summer for an intensive language program. It is exciting to see not only Chinese students coming to Maine but Mainers traveling to China. What an amazing opportunity for our young people to experience China for themselves. From the private boarding schools, to the public schools, the University of Maine System and the private colleges, China initiatives are starting or strengthening everywhere.

With that, we are working with Maine Tourism on a targeted program to introduce more of what Maine has to offer in terms of recreational and business opportunities beyond the campus walls. All of our efforts are aimed at bringing together the business and educational communities in branding the State of Maine inside China so that when people ask us where we are from we can say more than we are "Two hours north of Boston".

***Is your membership current?
Remember CAFAM relies on your support.
Please check mailing label for expiration.
Thanks.***

MECEP REPORT ON MAINE'S ASIANS

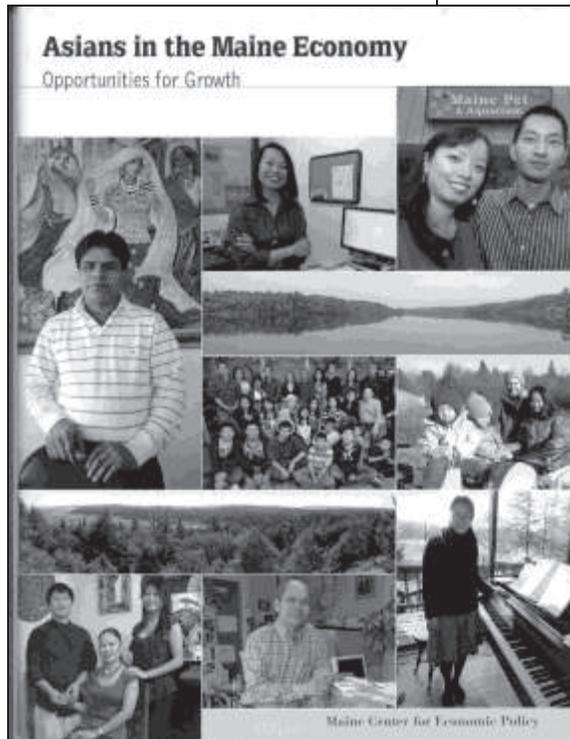
In May, the Maine Center for Economic Policy (MECEP) released a study, "Asians in the Maine Economy: Opportunities for Growth."

Over a period of months the MECEP staff identified and interviewed a number of individuals in Maine who have come from "Asia" (meaning the region from Pakistan eastward through Japan and including Southeast Asia). The study also gathers and presents historical, demographic and statistical information about this group.

Among its key findings are the following: In recent decades the numbers of Asians in Maine has increased significantly. They are to be found in every county. They are a heterogeneous group that immigrated for a variety of reasons.

Asians in Maine have relatively high educational levels and contributions to the state economy in a variety of ways. At the same time, Asians remain connected to their native culture and their countries of origin.

The study makes a number of policy recommendations to Maine's lawmakers. Perhaps first and foremost, "Maine should reject policies that attempt to isolate, scapegoat, target of stereotype immigrants." Policies to integrate new immigrants into the community in ways that will benefit everyone would include: expanding English language programs, recruiting and supporting immigrant students, and advocating for increased work vouchers for Maine employers. The state should also develop data collection standards, promote entrepreneurship among



Asians, build cultural understanding among non-immigrant Mainers, and support law enforcement that engages immigrants.

The report contains a special section entitled, "A Brief History of Chinese Immigration from an Immigrant Perspective." Among the Chinese who are featured in the section describing individual Asians and their families are Ahkau and Sally Ng from Portland, Alex and Sharon Yeung from Ellsworth, Yueying Bloomer from Fort Fairfield, Yichang Jia from Bar Harbor, Wei-Teh Tai and her daughter Karen Morency from Freeport, and Jing Zhang and Suzhong Tian from Bangor. Also one of the compilers and authors of the report is Connie Zhu from Waterville.

Various members of CAFAM were helpful in the initial stages of identifying Chinese in Maine who might be of interest to the report's compilers.

As for individuals from other parts of Asia, there are profiles of people from: Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Pakistan, Indonesia, Cambodia, Burma, Japan, Thailand, India, Laos, Korea, and the Philippines.

This very interesting and well presented report may be accessed in its entirety at www.mecep.org.

ASIAN CLUB AT FALMOUTH H.S.

by Alex Han, sophomore

Falmouth High School is now the home of a small group organized around Asian culture. The Falmouth Asian Culture club is a new student organization started in the winter of 2011.

The club started as a Facebook group that I created, which included the small network of Asian students



in the school and other interested students. At first, the members of this virtual group and I simply shared tidbits of cultural information, but as the group grew in size and legitimacy, I decided that it was possible to turn this group into an actual school club.

Having moved here from Maryland, I was not used to the lack of diversity in Falmouth. So my overall goal was to introduce a bit of cultural diversity at my school. I hope the group will serve multiple purposes. First, we will hold fun social events that informally expose members to Asian culture. We already had a successful kickoff party where we made dumplings, played ping-pong and mah-jong. Second, we will educate members in ways that will foster more cultural understanding, such as teaching about traditional Asian arts, languages or beliefs. Finally, once the club grows in size, prominence, and gains contacts with larger associations throughout Maine—such as CAFAM—I hope the club can organize more public-outreach events and address Asian issues.

Already, the club's size is increasing and members of the group want to become more involved in helping spread cultural awareness. I am hopeful that this club will continue to grow and make a difference.

THE CRIME OF TSI SHENG LINN

by Gary Libby

The early Chinese in Maine were hard working and law abiding people. But a search through newspaper archived reveals that there is one case of a Chinese serving time at the Maine State Prison for a serious crime. Tsi Sheng Linn, from Hong Kong, was a junior government major at the University of Maine in Orono. He was in his mid-twenties, and in June of 1911 he was convicted of assaulting a woman with intent to kill.

Linn appears to have been a desperately lonely and perhaps unbalanced individual. In any case he became enamored and obsessed with a certain Miss Shaw, a pretty 25-year-old Latin teacher at Orono High School who had tutored him two years earlier.



She had urged him to cease keeping company with a woman and other people of ill repute in Orono. Thereupon he declared his love for her, even as she reminded him that she was engaged, and made him promise to drop the matter. However he did not stop. When Miss Shaw went to Blue Hill to teach, he sent her letters and post cards.

Returning to Orono, she was shocked to find that he was renting a room from her mother. Forthwith ejected from there, he was sent to the sanatorium at Hebron, claiming to suffer from tuberculosis, a diagnosis which doctors later disputed. Upon his return he resumed what we would today call stalking. This time Miss Shaw complained to a university professor.

Rejected again, he vowed to slay Miss Shaw and then kill himself. And so on a summer evening, as she was returning home from a dance with her younger brother and sister, he accosted her on a bridge and shot her with a .32 caliber pistol. A bullet entered behind her right ear and lodged over her right eye. Luckily, a doctor happened along in time to attend to Miss Shaw's wounds and she was taken to the Eastern Maine Hospital where she was treated and survived.

Meanwhile Linn had been found lying near the crime scene, the apparent victim of suicide, although no poison could be found in his stomach. He admitted his murder/suicide plan. Authorities found many unsent letters to Miss Shaw on his person.

His trial two months later was a local sensation. Miss Shaw testified. His attorney put on very little defense. The jury took just fifteen minutes to convict. He was sentenced to fifteen years at hard labor and remanded to the prison at Thomaston, but not before he had made a couple more, mostly theatrical, attempts to take his own life.

After serving about five years, Linn himself and other advocates for Chinese students began petitioning and negotiating for his release. Finally in 1918 the governor of Maine pardoned him, upon which Federal agents immediately took charge of him. They accompanied him to New Orleans and then San Francisco, from where he was deported.

LETTER FROM SHIYANG, YUNNAN

by Mason Philip Smith

In April I was in Yunnan province for two weeks with a friend from Portland, Bill Bisson. Much of those two weeks was spent in the Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture, located about 150 miles northwest of Kunming, the province's capitol. Once I left Kunming for the Yi ethnic people region I never saw another foreigner until I returned to Kunming, where I ran into a German tourist in a coffee shop.

Of the 8 million Yi people in China, over 4.5 million live in Yunnan province. Most are farmers, herders of cattle, sheep and goats and nomadic hunters. In Yunnan some of the Yi have been influenced by Buddhism through the Han culture.

The highlight of our tour was a visit to the mountain-surrounded town of Shiyang, home of a 368 year old Confucius temple, built in 1368 CE. One unique feature of the temple is the world's oldest bronze statue of Confucius, which is seven feet six-inches tall.

We visited the temple late one afternoon and the next morning returned to the temple to observe a special ceremony honoring Confucius.

Three hundred Bus Transportation Association members, who had been attending an association convention in the nearby city of Chuxiong had journeyed to the temple that morning in 15 large buses to take part in a ceremony honoring Confucius's ideas and contributions to society.

Everyone was there to take part in the ceremony. There were no other observers, only Bill and I and our guide Mr. Ma. The minute we stepped into the temple courtyard we were shown to a platform which ran around the area, and were then presented with Western chairs. Later, several Chinese photographers arrived and took up positions in the courtyard.

Soon the participants, 350 strong, dressed mostly in dark business suits and wearing special yellow scarves, marched into the courtyard. The ceremony began. Since the Chinese photographers started to move around and on the theory, "You can't photograph from a chair," I decided there was no need for me to remain seated either. I proceeded to seek out a variety of good camera positions, including one behind the speaker directly facing the crowd.

Led by a young girl, there was much bowing upon command. A Confucian priest gave a talk and several dignitaries gave addresses. Various floral and other tributes were carried into the temple itself. A very interesting and moving experience.

After the ceremony, the Confucian priest, seated behind a table, used a brush to write greetings and sayings on people's scarves. Then the fun started. The most important dignitaries sought me out in the crowd and began to greet me and shake my hand. Then they insisted on Bill and I being photographed by the Chinese press photographers. Another handshake and the moment was over. This happened about four times with various officials.

Around noon everyone returned to our hotel for a banquet in conjunction with the ceremony. Tables and awnings were set up in front of the hotel. The concrete ground surface was strewn with a carpet of large pine needles. There were 350 place settings. Bill and I were shown to a table adjacent to the head table. We had the only Western chairs in the place, everyone else sit on low Chinese stools.

The meal consisted of 16 courses, plus walnut milk and liquor. The best course was the Yunnan ham. It was terrific. The only problem was that various dignitaries kept coming over to toast us and be photographed with us, making it hard to eat. This happened about eight times, and we began to mutter, "Enough is enough!" But it didn't end there. The TV crew wanted an interview about my impressions of the ceremony. After I spoke, Mr Ma gave a translation in Chinese.

One man, who had been in the front row of the ceremony and seemed cold and serious, turned out to be a very nice guy. He was the Minister of Transportation for all of Yunnan province. He greeted us, toasted us and then thanked America for sending the Flying Tigers to Yunnan in World War II.

Just another day in my uneventful life.

子曰學而時習之不亦說乎。

有朋自遠來不亦樂乎。

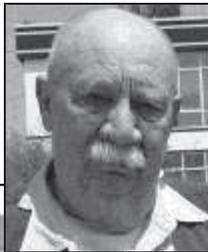
The Master said: "Isn't it a pleasure when one can practice what one has studied? Is it not delightful to welcome friends from afar?" *Analects I:1.*



Celebrants at the Confucian ritual.



Confucian priest adorning scarves.



The author at work.



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USCPFA, Portland, ME Chapter

____ Membership & Subscrip. to "US-China Review" \$12

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