



COLORADO SPRINGS  
CHINESE CULTURAL  
INSTITUTE

## 茶葉香談

# TEA LEAVES

FALL 2007



Left to right: Mali Hsu, Chairwoman of CSCCI, Eva Johnson, Kaohsiung Sister Cities Committee, Tracy Jaw, Membership Chair of CSCCI, and Huey Jen Pan, Colorado Springs Chinese Language School.

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### CHINESE PROVERB

"He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever."

### FENG SHUI TIP

Feng shui literally translates as "wind-water." It is the ancient Chinese practice of placement and arrangement of space to achieve positive "Qi" or "flow of energy."

## Public school to offer Chinese

In August, Chinook Trail Elementary will become the first public elementary school in the Pike's Peak region to offer Chinese language classes. The new school, located near Powers Boulevard and Briargate Parkway in Colorado Springs, will offer young students instruction in Mandarin Chinese. Jen Pan, who has taught Chinese in Colorado Springs as a volunteer for 14 years, has been hired to help coordinate the language curriculum at the new school.

Students in Colorado Springs have had private-schooling options for learning Chinese for many years. Specifically, the Colorado Springs Chinese School, founded in 1987, has allowed people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds to discover Chinese language and culture through a wide variety of programs. Anyone interested in learning more about the Chinese School and its programs can find out more at: [www.cschineseschool.org](http://www.cschineseschool.org). Under the continued leadership of Principal Cynthia Aki, the school is preparing for its thirtieth year of fall classes, beginning in September, for children of age 2½ and ranging all the way to adulthood. With all these options available, there's no reason not to explore and learn more about Chinese language and culture. ●

## China and the Internet: an inside look

On Thursday, July 12th at the Jade Dragon, the Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute hosted another successful dinner event to further its mission to provide a forum for greater appreciation of Chinese culture through education and social interaction.

The Jade Dragon fulfilled the Chinese tradition of providing more food than anyone could devour, including egg rolls, crab rangoon, fried rice, noodles, sesame chicken, seafood on cabbage, and more. Conversation at the tables was lively, as everyone seemed to enjoy the meal.

The highlight of the evening was a wonderful presentation by John Wolf entitled "The Great Firewall of China." John is a former Air Force officer who settled in Colorado Springs in 2000. While in the Air Force, he worked in the Pentagon, Strategic Air Command, Defense

Intelligence Agency and on several overseas assignments. These include duty as a military attaché in the Soviet Union in the early 1980s and in China during the late 1990s. While in China, he also served as the military attaché to Mongolia. He currently works as a consultant for a defense contractor and specializes in Chinese matters, particularly with regard to Internet communications. He and his wife Liz still enjoy travel overseas and their last trip back to China was in 2005.

John's presentation focused on whether China's leadership has been successful or can be successful in controlling information in an Internet-enabled society. China is run by the Communist Party, and the flow of information is not free. The leadership does not permit dissent or challenges to Party control. At the same time, China is deep into the Internet age, with more Internet users than any country

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## *CSCCI plans exciting trip through China*

The Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute has arranged a fabulous 16-day tour of China through the Boulder, Colorado-based firm of China Travel and Tour. The 16-day trip will commence on Saturday, October 13, with return to the United States on Sunday, October 28th.

CSCCI worked with China Travel and Tour to design a special trip, including many of China's most popular tourist destinations and capturing the essence of Chinese culture, both old and new. The trip begins with a few days in the nation's capital of Beijing, including visits to all the popular sites, such as the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and Summer Palace, plus a walk on the Great Wall and rickshaw rides through the Hutongs (traditional residential alleys).

On the fifth day, we fly to Xi'an for a couple of days to marvel at the more than 6,000 life-size terra cotta warriors, chariots and horses arranged in battle formation to be found there. This army was built during the Qing Dynasty in 221 B.C., but was only recently discovered in 1974 when workers were digging a new well. It is considered one of the most significant discoveries in contemporary archaeology. The other main attraction in Xi'an is the Big Wild Goose Pagoda that was built in 652 A.D. during the Tang Dynasty.

Then it is on to Chongqing – the largest city in China, with a population of 30 million – where we visit the Three Gorges Museum and later board the four-star Victoria Cruise in the evening. The three-day cruise includes spectacular views of each of the gorges – Qutang, Wu and Xiling – with stops at Fengdu, the Ghost City, the Three Gorges Dam and Yichang City. This promises to be a highlight of the trip.

Following the cruise on the Yangtze River, our group will fly to Hangzhou for a few days to enjoy more Chinese culture, such as the Tower of Six Harmonies, a cruise on West Lake and a tea production village.

The remaining days are planned for Shanghai and all its ancient to modern-day cultural and architectural flavors. There will be opportunities to visit the Bund, Tiger Hill, the Ancient City, Jade Buddha Temple and other sites of interest. The trip will climax with a ride on the high-speed Maglev train from the city to the airport. The world's first commercial application of magnetic levitation whisks passengers 18.6 miles at speeds of up to 268 mph in just seven minutes and 20 seconds.

It sounds like a trip of a lifetime for the 27 people already signed up. That is the maximum size this year, but we will be taking a standby list and plan to repeat these travel opportunities in the future. If you are interested in the details of the trip, would like to be on the standby list or might want to consider a future trip, please go to our Web site, [www.csccl.org](http://www.csccl.org). ●



*Last year's Moon Festival Fundraiser Event (left to right): Yan Rui, CSCCI Treasurer, Chiu-Fen Buczynski, Past President, June Chan, Event Host, and Mali Hsu, Chairwoman*

## *Celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival at CSCCI's premier annual fundraiser event*

Three thousand years of Chinese folkways, the man in the moon, conspiracy, revolution and creation of the "brightest" of all Chinese dynasties are all wrapped up in a mid-autumn festival moon cake. The Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute invites its family and friends to sample a moon cake and join us in celebrating the Mid-Autumn Chinese Moon Festival. On September 22, CSCCI will offer a traditional Moon Festival, including entertainment and banquet-style cuisine, to bring this holiday home to Colorado. The Moon Festival is CSCCI's premier annual fundraiser.

As the name suggests, the moon cake is usually in the shape of the moon at its brightest and roundest. The moon cake is representative of the second most important lunar festival in the Chinese culture. The Festival occurs on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, which falls on September 25 this year. This is also the time of the autumnal equinox and the harvest moon festival in many areas of the United States.

The Chinese, like most other agrarian cultures, have been fascinated by the moon for thousands of years. The moon has been celebrated at least since the Xia Dynasty (2070-1600 BC). Moon festivals were noted in the Zhou Dynasty (1066 BC-221 BC), and the first record of the moon cake appeared in the Southern Song Dynasty (1127 AD-1279 AD). Secret messages baked in moon cakes were instrumental of the revolt against the Qing (Mongol) Dynasty and the establishment of the Ming ("Bright") Dynasty.

The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival also signals the end of harvest and the abundance of food which can be shared among family and friends. Since the harvest moon is a perfect circle, this is also a time of friends gathering around and of family circles – which is why CSCCI is so excited to take part. ●

in the world except the United States. The Chinese government works hard to filter and control Internet information, but that task has become increasingly complex.

He pointed out that in 1997 China was in the midst of a capitalist revolution with domestic media still being closely controlled. At that time, with the Internet being a new phenomenon, there were only about 100,000 users. Today, there are more than 140 million Internet users in China and more than 400 million cell phones available for text messaging. This has greatly increased the Chinese access to foreign information and internal communication.

The Chinese government employs laws, regulations, technology, censorship and propaganda in attempts to regulate the use of these new communications technologies, but has had mixed results, and its policies have shifted over time. For example, several years ago, media sources like CNN, NBC and the *Washington Post* were blocked from access to Chinese Web users; today they are not. However, many sites, such as search engines, chat

rooms and blogs, are under "strict supervision" to curb the circulation of "harmful" information online.

As the users have become more sophisticated, they have found ways around the government intervention attempts. Whether government control or savvy users prevail will remain to be seen. It is safe to say, however, that the Internet, mobile phones and future innovations will play a powerful role in the outcome. And the outcome is likely to have a profound effect on the country. ●



### MOON CAKES

- Lotus seed paste: 1 can (17 oz)
- Finely chopped walnuts: 60 g
- All-purpose flour: 900 g
- Dried milk powder: 115 g
- Salt: 1/2 tsp
- Eggs: 3
- Sugar: 115 g



- Solid shortening, melted and cooled: 115 g
- Egg yolk, lightly beaten: 1

- 1 Mix lotus seed paste and walnuts together in a bowl and set aside.
- 2 Using electric mixer, beat eggs on medium speed until light and lemon-colored, add sugar and beat for 10 min. or until mixture falls in a thick ribbon. Add melted shortening and mix lightly.
- 3 While egg mixture is beating, sift flour, milk powder, baking powder and salt together into a bowl.
- 4 With spatula, fold in the flour mixture.
- 5 Turn dough out on a board, lightly powdered with flour. Knead for 1 min. until smooth and satiny. Divide dough in half, roll each half into a log and cut each log into 10-12 equal pieces.
- 6 To shape moon cake, roll a piece of dough into a ball. Roll out on a lightly floured board to make a 4" circle, approximately 1/8" thick.
- 7 Place one heaped tablespoon of lotus seed paste mixture in center of dough circle.

### Become a member

We hope you will join Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute. To become a member, please print your information and send us this form along with a check or money order to:

COLORADO SPRINGS CHINESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE  
PO BOX 2625  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901-2625

Benefits of membership:

- Support awareness of Chinese culture in the community
- E-mail announcements of all future events
- Discounts on all CSCCI-sponsored events
- *Tea Leaves* newsletter mailed to your home quarterly

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Annual Membership

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student \$10
- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$15
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$25
- \_\_\_\_\_ Business/Organization \$100
- \_\_\_\_\_ Silver Patron \$150
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gold Patron \$250
- \_\_\_\_\_ Platinum Patron \$500





# AKASAKA

## Japanese Restaurant

SUSHI / SASHIMI / TEMPURA / SHABU SHABU



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Colorado Springs CO 80918

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DINNER: Sun - Thur 5:00 - 9:00 / Fri - Sat 5:00 - 10:00



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### For more information, contact

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### CALENDAR

#### AUGUST

**18**  
Multicultural Fair, Sponsored  
by Diversity Forum, Downtown  
Colorado Springs, CO

Korean Independence Day  
Celebration, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. with  
program from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.,  
Memorial Park, Colorado Springs, CO

**18, 19**  
Boulder Asian Cultural  
Festival and Film Festival,  
Pearl Street Mall, Boulder, CO

#### SEPTEMBER

**22**  
CSCCI Moon Festival  
Fundraiser, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Members \$40, Individual \$50,  
Couples \$90, RSVP by Friday, Sept 7  
at 719.287.7624, June Chan's  
Residence, 11650 Columbine Hills Rd.,  
Black Forest, CO

#### OCTOBER

**13-23**  
CSCCI-sponsored trip to China  
(see article on page 2)

#### NOVEMBER

**8**  
CSCCI Quarterly Dinner,  
6:30 p.m., Members \$20,  
Non-Members \$25, China Restaurant,  
6523 N. Academy Blvd., Please  
RSVP by sending check to:  
CSCCI, PO Box 2625,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

**10**  
Japanese Bazaar and  
Cultural Festival 2007,  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Business of Arts  
Center, Manitou Springs, CO

Please submit future events to [tea.leaves@csccl.org](mailto:tea.leaves@csccl.org)