



COLORADO SPRINGS
CHINESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE
科泉市中華文化協會

茶葉香談

TEA LEAVES

SPRING 2008

WWW.CSCCI.ORG

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CHINESE PROVERB

“Three feet of ice do not result from one day of freezing weather.”

FENG SHUI TIP

There are five feng shui elements: wood, fire, earth, metal and water. These elements interact with each other in certain ways, generally defined as the productive and destructive cycles. Each feng shui element is represented by a specific color and, therefore, using color is one of the easiest ways to bring more harmony into your space.

A tribute to Jack Flannery, departed CSCCI founder and board member

In May of 2000, John P. “Jack” Flannery joined a delegation, led by then-mayor Mary Lou Makepeace, representing the City of Colorado Springs on a trip to its sister city – Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The distinguished delegation also included Mr. Terry Sullivan, Dr. Wally Astor and Ms. Mali Hsu. Enthusiasm about the experience in Taiwan spawned the idea to establish an organization in Colorado Springs with a mission to promote and provide opportunities to experience Chinese culture to the community’s residents.

The following year, the mayor issued a proclamation recognizing the Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute as a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization. From the start, CSCCI benefited from the shared leadership of Jack and founding chairwoman Mali Hsu, a native of Taiwan who immigrated to the U.S. and settled in Colorado Springs. Jack, a retired Air Force colonel who became a successful aerospace industry executive, volunteered countless hours and contributed his leadership skills to the successful development of CSCCI over the past seven years.

Jack has played an active role in virtually every aspect of the organization since it was founded. However, his most significant legacy is likely to be his leadership role in the Chinese New Year Festival, which CSCCI proudly hosted from 2001-2007. Regrettably, the Festival was suspended in 2008, in large part because of Jack’s need to step back from his role after a battle with melanoma. The overwhelming feedback CSCCI received made it clear that the Festival has become a valued tradition within the community. One past participant captured the general sentiment when she wrote, “Your event was sorely missed.” The CSCCI Board of Directors has made it a strategic priority for the organization to host the Festival again in the future.

Jack passed away on Sunday, February 24, 2008, surrounded by his loving family. Among the many dear things he leaves behind is an organization that is committed to fostering an understanding of Chinese culture to the people of Colorado Springs. The Board and all of those who have benefited from CSCCI’s various programs are grateful for Jack’s extraordinary service to the organization over the past several years. We are committed and determined to extend Jack’s legacy in the CSCCI for many generations to come. ●

Reflections from the boardroom:

“Jack represented the essence of our organization. We will remember him very fondly.”

- Mali Hsu, *Chairwoman and Founding Board Member*

“Jack was the heart and spirit behind the founding of CSCCI. He will be missed.”

- Dr. Wally Astor, *Vice Chairman and Founding Board Member*

“Future generations will benefit from his vision and commitment to the organization.”

- Herman Tiemens, *President and Board Member*

“Jack has left us and the community of Colorado Springs with a wonderful legacy through CSCCI.”

- Lorne and Kena Kramer, *Board Members*

“Jack has provided guidance, inspiration and business leadership that has sustained CSCCI since its inception.”

- June Chan, *Board Member*

Bringing back the Chinese New Year Festival

HERMAN TIEMENS II

The Chinese New Year Festival has been an important component of CSCCI's mission for the past seven years. The commitment to host this event is significant and in the past the event has been organized on a strictly voluntary basis.

The CSCCI Board made the decision to step back from the event in 2008 and reassess our approach. Our objective is to host the event again in the future, but only when we are confident we can do so in a way that showcases Chinese culture in the best way possible.

We are considering various options going forward, including the formation of strategic partnerships in the community, involvement of new volunteers, engagement of a professional event planner and the evaluation of alternative venues.

CSCCI is a nonprofit, volunteer-based organization, and a strong membership base is critical to our ability to offer programs such as the Chinese New Year Festival. If you have an interest in volunteering to help organize the Chinese New Year Celebration or other CSCCI events in the future, please contact CSCCI by calling (719)287-7624. ●



The Colorado Springs Youth Symphony

Youth connect Colorado Springs and China with music

LARRY BARRET

Sixty-six musicians from the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony will be performing in China in June 2008. Leaving for two weeks on June 3, the first performance will be in Beijing at the Golden Sail Concert Hall with the Beijing Youth Orchestra.

An overnight sleeper train will take these ambassadors of music to the next stop at the world-class Luoyang Opera House. From there, they will travel to the ancient capital of Xi'an for a performance with the Conservatory Orchestra. Along with performances, the musicians and their adult chaperones will be mixing in visits to gardens, tea houses, temples and museums, such as the Museum of the Terra Cotta Legion in Xi'an and the Great Wall outside Beijing.

Performances are also scheduled at the Nanjing People's Theater, Hangzhou Concert Hall and Shanghai Grand Theater. The youth symphony members are looking forward to meeting and performing with fellow musicians in China as well as learning about the language, cuisine and culture.

Since not all students are readily able to afford the expense of the trip, the Symphony is encouraging supporters to "adopt a musician" in order to defray some of their expenses. If you wish to learn more about the tour, contact the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony at (719) 633-3901 or Larry Barrett at (719) 634-4468. ●

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You & Us



Ringling in the Year of the Rat

WALLY G. ASTOR, PH.D.
Vice Chairman

Chinese New Year's Day was February 7, 2008, introducing the Year of the Rat – 4706 in the Chinese lunar calendar. A more comfortable term, which is being used more and more, is the Year of the Mouse. But in Chinese the word is simply “shu,” which can be translated as either “rat” or “mouse.” The Rat is the first animal sign in the 12-year Chinese zodiac animal cycle.

Why is the rat the first animal symbol in the zodiac? One of the legends notes that the Jade Emperor commanded all of the animals to attend a meeting with him. To do so they had to cross a river. The rat could not swim, so it jumped on the back of the ox. At the shore, the clever rat jumped off and was the first to arrive at the palace, and the ox was close behind. The pig, being slow, was the last to arrive and therefore became the last of the signs.

An Asian New Year tradition is keeping an image of the Kitchen God in their kitchen. The Jade Emperor sent the Kitchen God to Earth to observe all family events, both good and bad, throughout

the year. A week before New Year's Eve, the Kitchen God goes to heaven to give his report. He returns from heaven on the last day of the year. As a representation of this trip, families will burn the image of the Kitchen God so that he can rise in the smoke. The family does not want the Kitchen God to report bad things so, before the image is burned, sweets are given to the Kitchen God. During the time that the Kitchen God is gone, the family will clean up the house, buy new clothes, and renew or strengthen old friendships, so that everything will be in good shape for the Kitchen God's return and the New Year.

Some famous Rats, past and present, include George Washington, Shakespeare, Mozart, Winston Churchill, Prince Charles, Gwyneth Paltrow, Hillary Clinton, Dick Cheney, John McCain and Ben Affleck. As the first animals of the zodiac, Rats are hardworking and practical leaders. They are also alert, intelligent and pioneers who are often passionate and charismatic. On the other hand, Rats can also be sly, ambitious and cunning. They sometimes are strong-willed, quick-tempered and aggressive. They can also be controlling and often promote their own agendas, which coordinate an incredible light show. ●

STIR-FRIED BEEF WITH SPINACH

serves 4

marinade:

- Chinese barbecue sauce: 1 Tbs
- Soy sauce: ½ tsp
- Sugar: ½ tsp
- Garlic (minced): 1 tsp
- Cornstarch: 1 tsp

other ingredients:

- Beef: 2 ⅔ oz
- Spinach: ½ lb
- Green onion: six 1 ¼" pieces
- Ginger root (shredded): 1 Tbs
- Salt: ⅓ tsp
- Vegetable oil: 2 Tbs

- 1 Cut beef against the grain into thin pieces. Marinate for about 10 minutes.
- 2 Cut spinach into 1 1/2" -long sections.
- 3 Heat vegetable oil. Stir-fry beef in medium heat oil until color changes. Remove afterwards.
- 4 Stir-fry green onion and ginger until fragrant in the remaining oil.
- 5 Add salt and spinach and stir-fry.
- 6 Add beef and stir-fry until well-mixed.
- 7 Remove and serve. Enjoy!

Recipe Courtesy of www.xianzai.com

Become a member

Join Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute! To become a member, call (719) 287-7624 or print your information and send in 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 _____
Fax _____
E-mail _____

Annual Membership
_____ Student \$10
_____ Individual \$15
_____ Family \$25
_____ Business/Organization \$100
_____ Silver Patron \$150
_____ Gold Patron \$250
_____ Platinum Patron \$500





CSCCI returns to China to discover more

On the heels of last fall's very successful tour of mainland China, CSCCI has assembled two new tours in tandem with China Travel and Tour to allow visitors to discover fascinating dimensions of a country on the other side of the world.

Beginning on September 15, the Southern China Special provides a 12-day journey from Taipei to Beijing, with stops in Hong Kong, Macau, Yangshuo, Chengdu and more. When the Southern China Special ends, travelers have the option of extending the trip with a six-day extension through Tibet.

On October 15, a second trip – the Introduction to China Tour – will depart from Colorado and arrive in China. From there, travelers will take in the entire spectrum of China's wonders. Starting in Beijing, the trip will then visit sites like Xi'an's terra cotta warriors (the "eighth wonder of the world"), the Three Gorges Dam and more.

With the aid of tour guides, translators and other helpful staff, travelers will be welcomed into day-to-day culture throughout China, experience cuisine in local restaurants, and find treasures to bring home with them. The early bird registration deadline is April 22. Those wanting to attend should attend a special travel workshop, which will be held on April 14th at City Hall. Please RSVP to (719)287-7624. ●

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mali Hsu <i>Chairwoman and Founder</i>	June Chan <i>Board Member</i>
Dr. Wally Astor, Ph.D. <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Lorne C. Kramer <i>Board Member</i>
Herman Tiemens II <i>President & Tea Leaves Editor</i>	Kena Kramer <i>Board Member</i>
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Dean Beukema <i>Liaison, Office of the City Council</i>	

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CALENDAR

Please submit future events to tea.leaves@cscCI.org

APRIL

14
Free CSCCI Travel Workshop, City Hall, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Learn about the CSCCI-sponsored China trips and important tips on traveling through China. Please RSVP to 719-287-7624.

22
China trip early-bird discount deadline. Save \$100/person!

MAY

01-31
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

15
CSCCI Quarterly Dinner, China Village, 203 N. Union Blvd. Speaker: Jason Christie with AsiaPacific Access. \$25 for non-members, \$20 for members. RSVP by check to CSCCI, P.O. Box 2625, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

JUNE

01
China trip deposit and registration deadline.

JULY

26-27
Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, Sloan's Lake Park, Denver, CO.

AUGUST

16-17
Boulder Asian Cultural Festival and Film Festival, Pearl Street Mall, Boulder, CO.

SEPTEMBER

15-26
CSCCI Southern China Tour, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Guilin, Yangshuo & Chengdu.

25-30
CSCCI Optional Tibet Extension, Xining & Lhasa.

OCTOBER

4-31
All Pueblo Reads featuring *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

15-30
CSCCI Introduction to China Tour, Beijing, Xi'an, Chongqing, Yangzi Cruise, Yichang, Hangzhou, Suzhou, Shanghai.