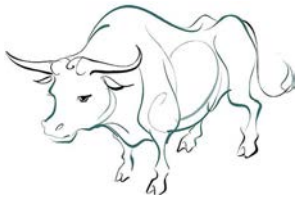
**CBA NEWS**
**Dec 2009**



*Year of the Ox*

CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

CBA NEWS

# Vincent J. Chang elected President 2010

Resulting from what has been described as a "heavy campaign", a record number of about 180 members turned out for the Chinese Benevolent Association's annual general meeting on Sunday, November 1, 2009 at the CBA Centre.

This was in stark contrast to the past decade or so when barely 50 members have turned out to meet the quorum required for annual general meetings. Be that as it may, it is heartening to see that by their attendance, members have displayed an interest in community affairs and, once again, affirmed their involvement in the Chinese Benevolent Association. We hope this will continue throughout the coming year and in years to come, and that members will keep themselves better informed and have their say on developments at CBA.

Election proceedings were conducted by Cecil Chuck and recorded by Natalie Shim, Secretary. David Chang served as Returning Officer with Richard Tenn, Wayne Chang, Tommy Lyew, Don Chin See and David Wong Ken as scrutineers.

Those elected to serve in office for the year 2010 are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| President: | Vincent J. Chang |
| Vice President: | Karen Hoo |
| Secretary: | Marcia Harford |
| Treasurer: | Damian Chin |

Nine Other Committee Members:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gregory Hugh Sam | Patrick Chin |
| Johnny Chuck | Willie Chung |
| Sandy Chung | Tyrone Chen |
| Lloyd Hoo | Natalie Shim |
| Neil Yap Sam | |

Reserve Committee Members:

| | |
|---|---|
| Paula Lee | Joseph Clarke |
| Oliver Chang | Suzette Hugh Sam |

Supervisory Board:

| | |
|---|---|
| Anthony Chen | David Wong Ken |
| Dalton Yap | Exley (Busta) Hoo |
| David Chang | |

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# From the Editor

**Phyllis Kong, Editor**

Time marches on and so we've come to the end of our term in office. A new management committee will be sworn in early January 2010, to be headed by President Elect Vincent J. Chang. CBA NEWS wishes Vincent and his team all the best in the coming year.

Those retiring from office at the end of December 2009 include President Wilson Look Kin, completing three consecutive years at the helm; treasurer Cynthia Lyew; executive members Sharon Wan, Phyllis Kong, Karen Lee, Clarence Chin Fatt, Eldores Yap; reserve members Melvin Chin, Jimmy Lowe; supervisors Robert Lee, Tommie Lyew; and reserve supervisor Wayne Chang. Although also retiring, executive members Gregory Hugh Sam, Sandy Chung, Lloyd Hoo, Neil Yap Sam, Willie Chung and Natalie Shim have been elected to serve on the 2010 management committee. The full 2010 slate is listed on page 1.

The Chinese Benevolent Association expresses sincere thanks to these volunteers for service and commitment in the past year.

A number of CBA members have requested clarification on the significant asset transfer to the CBA, namely, 18 Trinidad Terrace. A timeline summary outlines events leading to the transfer to CBA on page 5.

We pay special tribute to one of our unsung heroes—Ms. Winnie Hue who had served in the Admin Office during the 1990s into early 2000s. Sadly, she passed away recently. Miss Winnie's 1995 "Reminiscence" is an autobiography of sort with anecdotes about the earlier Chinese in Jamaica (page 13).

We started two new Outreach programmes this year as ongoing events: the monthly CBA Street Feeding Programme for the wider society, initiated by Lloyd and Pearline Hoo; and the CBA Sun Yat Sen Tuition Assistance Programme for children of the CBA community, headed by Greg Hugh Sam (page 7-8). Both programmes are commendable and are in keeping with the altruistic nature of the Chinese Benevolent Association.

After ten years of organizing the annual CBA Open Badminton Tournament, Robert Lee has handed over the baton this year to Clarence Chin Fatt, who has done a tremendous job (page 15). CBA lauds Robert for his great community spirit and in developing the tournament into a national pride.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". May you be blessed for the invaluable "gifts" you give this Christmas!

Farewell from this Editor.

## *Annual General Meeting held Sunday Nov 1, 2009 at the CBA Centre*

# The President's Report 2009

Wilson Look Kin

It is my duty and pleasure to report to you – the general membership of the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) on the activities of this administration during my tenure in office for this year up to October 31, 2009. We have accepted the charge and the responsibility that you have placed on us and we report as follows.

For this Year of the OX, we have staged at our Spring Festival Celebrations our immensely successful Miss CBA Cultural Beauty Pageant 2009, at which Amanda Chin was voted "Miss CBA 2009". More importantly, this event represented an enabling process towards **change** and greater participation and involvement of the younger members in our community to view the CBA as their Association. These contestants and their friends continue to participate in activities undertaken by the CBA.

**Gah San – Ching Ming Festival**

We continue to uphold and maintain the time-honoured traditions of our ancestral homeland at a time when we pay tribute and honour the lives of our departed and to provide for them in the afterlife in an ecumenical Chinese religious and Christian ceremony at the Chinese Cemetery on Waltham Park Road, on Sunday April 5. Of particular note is the increased attendance and participation of members of the community.

**Tianjin Folk and Music Ensemble**

In July we welcomed the Tianjin Music group. This was a collaborative effort by the Ministry of Culture, the Chinese Embassy and the CBA in the staging of three performances in Kingston, Mandeville and Montego Bay. This was well received by the Chinese community and the wider national society.

**60th Anniversary Celebrations**

On October 4, we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China with a particularly successful garden party, highlighting a rejuvenated museum with artefacts, pictures, video presentations, brochures and newspaper supplements, and stage performances by participants in the 2009 cultural beauty pageant, Keith Lyn, and German opera singer Nastassja Nass who sang jazz-pop items. Very special thanks and appreciation to Chairperson Karen Hugh Sam Lee and her committee for this outstanding event.

**Chinese Home for the Aged**

We have now refurbished the home and its surroundings at 1 North Street. We have provided improved availability of medical care to the five residents, the overall quality of care offered and increased visitation, especially by young members of the Chinese community.

We are indebted to Lloyd Hoo for his continuous committed voluntary service to this project. Support for the home represents the bedrock and an aspect of our culture on which the Chinese Benevolent Association was established by your forefathers.

**Street Feeding Programme**

The Chinese Benevolent Association has begun a charitable program of providing meals at least once per month to the less fortunate in the wider national society, mainly in the downtown area.

The gratitude expressed by recipients is heart rending and is adequate testimony to the desirability of continuation of this community service. We commend the active and enthusiastic participation of young members of the Chinese community to these two projects – an example of volunteerism and charity.

**Downtown Kuan Kung Temple**

Restoration of the roof and flooring in the main building has been completed but the altar requires further restoration. There are plans in place for overall major restoration of the entire site to enable this complex to become a significant National Heritage location.

**Chinese Cemetery**

The perimeter wall of this 12-acre property has now been completed at a total cost of $16 million. There has been no further restoration work for this year as the Cemetery Subcommittee is still formulating their proposals.

**Mandarin Classes**

We resumed instruction classes earlier this year as we awaited the arrival of the replacement teacher from China. A second teacher is being recruited through the Chinese Embassy to teach the cultural art of song and dance to the younger children in our community. The necessary work permit approval is now being sought.

**Tai Chi Classes**

We have begun a programme of Tai Chi classes, under Mr. Thomas Chin, which have been well received by our more mature membership. These classes are held twice per week at no charge.

**The CBA Museum**

Through Sandy Chung's great efforts, we have reorganized a display of artefacts.

**Outreach within the Chinese Community**

**- Sun Yat Sen Education Trust**

We have formulated and successfully implemented a tuition assistance programme, under the chairmanship of Gregory Hugh Sam, for needy students of Chinese ancestry who have main-

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

tained a high scholastic standard. Continuous funding has been put in place from the engagements received from the now defunct Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society. This is a long recognized need within our community and requires continuation.

**Legacy Issues**

We had undertaken to resolve **all** legacy issues, some of which date back over 15 years.

**- 18 Russell Heights**: This property was transferred to the Chinese Benevolent Association from past trustees of the CBA. Due to the caveats attached to this property, it required a 'non-objection' from both the earlier Republic of China (Taiwan) and the People's Republic of China to enable this transfer from the deceased trustees to the CBA. It also required the very senior members in the community to attest to the Registrar that the property was continuously held by the CBA.

**- Bound Brook, Port Antonio**: This property was a donation to the CBA some years ago from the Chinese sports club in Port Antonio, through the instrumentality of Mr. Jimmy Lowe. As two of the four trustees are deceased, particular legal problems were posed and these have been overcome and transfer documents are now awaiting to be stamped.

**- 1 North Street**: The Chinese Home for the Aged and the CBA Public Health and Dental Clinic are located on these premises. The property is still registered in the names of trustees of CBA who have died many years ago. We are in the process of taking all necessary legal steps to effect the transfer of this property to the CBA. It was necessary to engage new attorneys and obtain requisite valuation and survey plans. This remains a work in progress.

**- 112 Barry Street**: We have been able to get requisite planning approval to construct a three-unit shop, permission to demolish existing structure, and the required financing for construction. Further action was deferred as there was reluctance to incur debt.

**- 42 Matthews Lane**: In order to provide funding for construction of the CBA Centre at 176 Old Hope Road, this property was sold and full payment was received 17 years ago. The non-transfer of this property is an embarrassment to the CBA. We had continuously received assurances from attorneys Wong Ken & Co. over the years that the transfer "was being completed shortly." We must now offer our profound apologies to the purchasers who have been particularly patient.

Instructions have been given in May of this year to obtain the requisite subdivision and approvals from the relevant Government Departments. We have also engaged the firm of Deanna Lee & Co. to also finalize this sale after all planning approvals are obtained.

**- 18 Trinidad Terrace** (Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society): On June 9, the general membership of the CBA overwhelmingly (61 members in favour) accepted the transfer of 'all engagements" of the Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society, with assets of cash and property in excess of $85 million.

Members are aware that the purported gift of 18 Trinidad Terrace to the Anglican Church has been a very grievous issue, which has engaged the Chinese community since 1997. Numerous moral suasion and pleading efforts over the years were unsuccessful. Legal recourse was required and it became necessary to resuscitate the long dormant Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society by 24 founding members representing the Chinese community as the vehicle to mount the necessary challenge to this purported gift. It then required the preparation of a suitable caveat expressly forbidding the transfer of this property without receiving the approval of the membership of the resuscitated SYSBS.

We must express our gratitude to Livingstone, Alexander & Levy for outstanding legal work and to Mr Norman Grant of the Department of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies for facilitating us.

**Articles of Incorporation of 2009**

The Chinese Benevolent Association (1932) was created from the earlier Chinese Benevolent Society. In 1996 concerted effort by your Past Presidents enabled Charitable Tax Status to be obtained and noted in an amended Memorandum of Association in 1996. In 1997 the membership passed a resolution to amend the Articles of Association but this was not registered as the required approval of the Minister of Finance was not sought.

Recently this administration has engaged the law firm Dunn Cox to harmonise the Articles of Association with the Memorandum of Association in a new Articles of Incorporation, which we intend to bring to you for requisite approval in December and which we look forward to receiving. In the meantime, we are legally bound to use the 1932 Articles as this is the registered document.

**CBA Open Badminton Tournament 2009**

November 6-9 and 13-16, we staged the Annual CBA Open Badminton Tournament 2009, coordinated by Clarence Chin Fatt. The events received wide media coverage with CBA placed in a positive light.

I now wish to thank the members of my executive team who have provided overwhelming support for tasks and responsibilities undertaken as a board of management team. My thanks and appreciation especially to team members Lloyd Hoo, Phyllis Kong, Gregory Hugh Sam, Sandy Chung, Clarence Chin Fatt, Karen Lee, Willie Chung, Cynthia Lyew, Natalie Shim, Sharon Wan and Eldores Yap. Finally, thanks to Kendel Trade and my business partner Delores Look Kin for giving me time off to devote to CBA affairs. I sincerely thank all members of CBA for having elected me the past three years to lead this organisation.

**- Wilson Look Kin, President**

# Timeline Summary of Sun Yat Set Benevolent Society Asset Transfer to the Chinese Benevolent Association

Assets of Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society (SYSBS) consist of property (18 Trinidad Terrace, New Kingston) and cash. The events leading to the transfer of assets to the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) are summarized in a timeline as follows:

**1993 July 3**: SYSBS Trustee Charles Moo passed purported Resolution to give property known as 18 Trinidad Terrace to the Anglican Diocese and all monies held in the bank to deserving students of Anglican Schools and the Chinese Alms House.

**1995 December 21**: Application to the Department of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies to facilitate this 'gifting' of property to the Anglican Diocese by the Trustees of SYSBS (Charles Moo).

**2001 June**: Chinese Benevolent Association President (Vincent J. Chang), Chinese Cultural Association and Chee Kung Tong appeal to the Anglican Archbishop not to accept this 'gift'.

Attorney Deanna Lee advise the CBA to institute legal action but this advice was not accepted.

**2001 August 21**: Further appeal by Dr. Keith Lowe was made to the Anglican Diocese not to accept.

The Secretary of the Anglican Church maintained that the assets were properly given and the church accepted.

**2007 January**: New CBA President (Wilson Look Kin) sought an audience with the Anglican Archbishop who never responded.

**2007 February**: CBA engages the legal firm of Livingstone, Alexander and Levy (attorney at law Seyon Hanson) and mandates that legal action be instituted to recover 'donated' SYSBS property (18 Trinidad Terrace).

**2007 March 24**: Registrar of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies requested to formally recognize the newly resuscitated SYSBS under the new SYSBS Chairman Wilson Look Kin.

**2007 March**: New SYSBS recovers $5.4 million held at Scotia Bank, Knutsford Blvd.

**2007 April**: Attorneys execute CAVEAT forbidding the transfer of 18 Trinidad Terrace to any party without the express consent of the NEW SYSBS

**2007 April**: The NEW SYSBS takes formal possession of 18 Trinidad Terrace.

**2008 September 30**: NEW SYSBS calls Special General Meeting for the voluntary dissolution of the NEW SYSBS.

**2009 April**: SYSBS Special General Meeting was called to rescind the resolution of September 30, 2008, and agree to a new resolution: "Transfer of all SYSBS Engagements (Assets and Liabilities) to the Chinese Benevolent Association". This was done on the helpful advice from the Registrar of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies and resulted in a saving of about $3 million in fees.

**2009 May**: The Registrar of Cooperatives and Friendly Societies requests that a Special General Meeting of the Membership of the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) be convened to accept the Transfer of Engagements from the SYSBS.

**2009 June 9**: The President (Wilson Look Kin) calls a Special General Meeting of the Chinese Benevolent Association. Members (61) overwhelmingly agree to accept the transfer of all Engagements of the Sun Yat Sen Benevolent Society (asset value exceeding $80 million) to the CBA.

**2009 June 16**: Assets transferred to the CBA and the SYSBS is dissolved. The transfer is Gazetted on June 16, 2009 and SYSBS ceases to exist.

This asset contributes over $500,000 monthly to the CBA.

The successful resolution of another (15 year old) CBA legacy issue.

**- Wilson Look Kin, President**

18 Trinidad Terrace

# *Street Feeding Programme*

On the last Sunday of every month, CBA management committee member Lloyd Hoo and his wife Pearline work tirelessly to organize and execute the feeding of up to 200 homeless street people on King Street, Parade, Cross Roads and New Kingston. Their commitment to this programme is inspiring. It includes: gathering the ingredients of meats, rice, oil, seasonings, vegetables, drinks and containers, etc., during the month; arranging the preparation and cooking of the food early on the Sunday morning; packaging the food and loading into igloos for transportation via vans; transporting the lunches; managing the safe and orderly distribution at each location; and clean-up of the facilities.

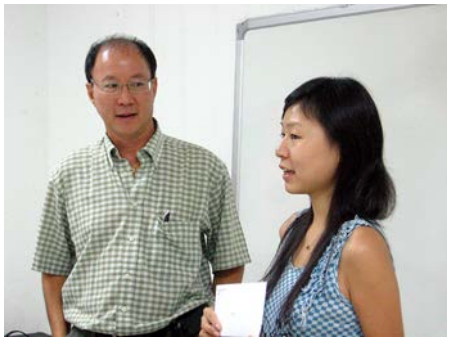
I have a strong personal interest in this programme, as I believe the youths can greatly benefit from active community service to the less fortunate in our society. Initially, it was so easy to invite my daughter and her friend to join this well organised operation. At first they were very nervous when it came time to distribute the food to the crowds of the homeless. But this was quickly replaced by caring and pride in helping the less fortunate. They are now committed and enthusiastic participants. Additionally, the parents of my daughter's friend have expressed their gratitude for allowing her to participate. Also participating were students who benefited from the CBA SYS Tuition Assistance program and Kadeshia Chang, a participant in the 2009 CBA Cultural Beauty Pageant. Kadiesha's enthusiasm has been shared with her younger siblings who have requested to be involved next month.

Additionally, after the distribution on King Street and Parade downtown, the youth are taken on a visit to the CBA Chinese Home for the Aged to meet and greet the residents. Some of the youths are also involved by helping to feed a few of the residents.

For students who participate in this activity, we have letters available from the CBA so that their participation may be recognised as part of their school community service requirement. We are now preparing for the Christmas feeding treat and would like your assistance to prepare a special meal along with gift packages of basic items for the homeless.

**- Gregory Hugh Sam**

# *Providing for our children's education*



Early in 2009 the President Wilson Look Kin requested that I form a committee to investigate the requirement for a scholarship program for children within the CBA community. The program would be funded by the interest earned from a deposit transferred from the SYSBS. The initial committee was formed with myself as chairman and Wayne Chang as the additional team member, and with the assistance of input from CBA member Nicole Ho Fatt. I reviewed the existing local scholarship programs and information available from local service institutions such as Rotary and also information available on the internet. Data was gathered on the local costs re education in High Schools and Tertiary Institutions.

Based on the proposed budget, we quickly realised we could only fund a very limited scholarship program. We therefore decided the program should be structured as a tuition assistance program to assist children of families in need of financial assistance and who are committed to the education process. At this point, the committee had no idea of the level of the existing needs within the CBA community.

The CBA SYS Tuition Assistance application form was finalised in June 2009 and information on the program distributed via the **Blue Mountain** and **CBA News**. Members of the CBA management committee were also requested to spread the word. The initial plan was to receive applications by August 2009, review the applications and conduct the interviews to be able to make the awards and so remit the funds to the educational institutions for the new school year.

In the space of one month, we received 12 applications. More surprising than the number of applications was the variety of the requests, as they came for children enrolled in primary schools, high schools and tertiary institutions.

The committee including the President interviewed the applicants, both student and parents to evaluate needs and determine how we could assist. Awards were made based on the assessed needs and the available budget.

On a personal note, meeting the students and the parents was enlightening as all the students were bright, enthusiastic children and the parents were dedicated, caring adults in unfortunate financial circumstances. My involvement in this program was a tremendously rewarding experience and I must thank the President and the management committee for supporting the CBA SYS Tuition Assistance Program.

There is a real need in our community for the CBA SYS Tuition Assistance Program. My plans for the future of this program is to expand the awards by requesting private contributions to fund named scholarships.

**- Gregory Hugh Sam**

# CBA celebrated China's 60th

Karen Lee
Chairperson

# *Anniversary - October 1, 2009*

"Keith Lyn in Cabaret"

# Timeline on Resolution of Legacy Issues — Other CBA Properties

At CBA annual general meetings held 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, Peter Fung had pointed out each year that several CBA properties continued to be held in the names of long deceased trustees and had called on the incoming Executive for action to be taken to resolve same.

**- 31 RUSSELL HEIGHTS**

**1967 August**: Property held in the names of Trustees Willie Lyn Ah Woo, Chen Kung Yee and Charles Moo for the Republic of China, but managed by and for the CBA.

**1997**: Application made in court by the legal firm of Livingstone, Alexander and Levy (attorney Warrington Williams) to regularize and vest the property in CBA's name but the then CBA President failed to attend court 3 times on CBA's behalf. The title remained in the names of the deceased trustees and the matter went into dormancy.

**2007 February**: Attorney Warrington Williams received fresh instructions from new CBA President Wilson Look Kin to resurrect the issue and to take all necessary steps to transfer the property to CBA.

**2008 February 8**: Title to the property now stamped and transferred to CBA (after 15-year lapse). A 'non-objection' from the People's Republic of China, public notifications, together with sworn declarations of President Wilson Look Kin and several older members of CBA were required to satisfy the Registrar of Titles that CBA was entitled to take legal possession of this property.

This property issue is settled.

**- 1 NORTH STREET, KINGSTON**

This property housed the former Chinese Sanatorium, the CBA Public Health and Dental Clinics, and the current Chinese Home for the Aged. The title has been held in the names of deceased trustees for over 20 years.

**2007**: David Chang advised that the legal firm of Wong Ken & Co. was earlier requested to resolve the Title issue and in 2008 the files were sent to attorney Jerome Lee for appropriate resolution.

**2008**: There were no further developments

**2009**: Attorneys Deanna Lee & Co. were given instructions to now undertake all steps necessary to effect the transfer from long deceased Trustees to CBA. There was also an earlier attempt by a descendant of trustee to lay claim.

Requisite valuation and survey reports have now been completed and appropriate declarations that this is CBA's property are being prepared. It is expected that this will be completed in early 2010.

**- BOUNDBROOK, PT. ANTONIO**

**2000**: Then President Cecil Chuck had received the Title for the Boundbrook property, registered in the name of the Port Antonio Athletic Club as a donation to CBA through the instrumentality of Jimmy Lowe and Wilson Lee Sang.

**2007**: Jimmy Lowe enquired whether CBA holds title to property.

**2007**: Title has not been transferred to CBA.

Attorneys Deanna Lee & Co. were then instructed to undertake the transfer, but two of the trustees are long deceased and the Registrar of Titles has insisted that irrefutable proof be provided.

**2009 November**: The Title has now received stamping approval and is vested in the name of the CBA.

This property issue is settled.

**- 40 MATTHEWS LANE**

This is part of the CBA Downtown Temple complex on Barry Street.

**1992**: The property was sold and monies collected in full by the CBA to fund construction of the CBA Centre at 176 Old Hope Road.

Transfer documents have been held by Wong Ken and Co. with no final resolution. Past President Richard Tenn followed up extensively to settle issue.

**2009 April**: The file on 40 Matthews Lane was retrieved from Wong Ken & Co. by the CBA for onward transmission to new attorney Deanna Lee & Co. for execution.

**2009 May**: Subdivision approval from **all** Government Agencies are now being sought.

**2009 November**: The National Water Commission and Fire Services have given their approval. The Attorney is awaiting consideration by the KSAC.

The CBA has apologized to the purchasers for this 17-year delay. CBA must be committed to resolving this issue and transferring this 'paid for' property to the Rose Hugh Sam family. Completion date—early 2010.

**- 122 BARRY STREET**

**2007**: After a three-year hiatus and earlier rejection of plans by the KSAC, new plans were prepared and Planning Approval was obtained to construct a 3-unit shop building in late 2007. Feasibility and favourable financing were obtained but all further actions were stopped as some Past Presidents favoured a car park, instead, which was not feasible.

A Declaration that the existing structure is unsafe was obtained, and it is currently occupied illegally. CBA should strive to optimize revenues from its assets.

**- Wilson Look Kin, President**

# Fundraising and Charity 2007-2009

**1. Chinese Cemetery Restoration Project**

Local Chinese business leaders and other members in the community were targeted to contribute to the Chinese Cemetery Restoration Fund. Over $4 million was collected in cash contributions for the 2007 – 2008 period.

Other fundraising efforts in 2007 – BBQ organized by Fay Chang-Allen, Elaine Chang and their team; and Suey Mein Nights (three) organized by Robert Lee and his team to raise funds for the Chinese Cemetery Restoration.

**2. Disaster Relief – February 2008 Severe Winter Storms in China**

Unusually severe winter weather conditions in central and southern China caused loss of life, destruction and hardship for thousands of people. CBA spearheaded efforts with Chee Kung Tong, Chinese Cultural Association, and Jamaica-China Friendship Association to collect funds for relief work in China. A total of $3.189 million was collected and presented to the Chinese Ambassador, who thankfully received same in February 2008.

**3. Disaster Relief – May 2008 Great Earthquake in Sichuan, China**

The great earthquake in Sichuan, China on May 12, 2008 was so strong, it could be felt in nearby countries. It caused loss of life, severe injuries and hardship for thousands of people made homeless.

CBA, through volunteers Rose Hugh Sam, Maisie Lau, Winston Chung, Wayne Chang and Katherine Yu, collected over $5 million from members of the Chinese community on Sunday May 18, 2008. A presentation was made to the Chinese Ambassador, which was also greatly appreciated.

**4. Children Magic Show Benefit – May 2008**

A Benefit performance by our own Jamaica Chinese magician Richard Lyn – "Tricky Ricky" – on May 26, 2008, was free to CBA members and their children. A collection was taken totaling $20,000 that was donated to the Maxfield Children's Home in observation of 'Child's Month'.

**5. Boundbrook Rent Subsidy – Outreach in facilitating Education**

The Boundbrook premises have been occupied by a small private school for young, needy children in neighbouring areas at a nominal rental. The commercial rent for this property far exceeds $50,000 per month and the CBA subsidy of over $400,000 per annum goes towards its Outreach Programme in Education Assistance – School Facilities for young, needy children.

**6. Street Feeding Programme - 2009 Ongoing Outreach Project**

This Outreach project is headed by Lloyd and Pearline Hoo as an ongoing programme, involving the youth in our community as volunteers (see separate article) .

**7. SYS Tuition Assistance Programme — 2009 ongoing Outreach Project within the community**

This Outreach project for our community is headed by Gregory Hugh Sam and Wayne Chang. Since the start of the current school year, 12 students in our community at various levels have been awarded financial assistance to continue their education (see separate article).

**2007-2008: Outreach to Downtown Wholesalers and Retailers**

Several meetings were held on their behalf pertaining to the challenges entailed in operating their businesses in Jamaica.

1. Spate of robberies both downtown and on their way home.

Senior Police personnel and Security firms spoke at length on preventative measures to be adopted and reporting of crimes.

# New Articles of Incorporation 2009

**2009**: It was discovered by President Wilson Look Kin that the CBA's revised Articles of Association of 1997 were never registered and is thus invalid. Also, the approval of the Minister of Finance was never sought for this document.

The CBA Memorandum of Association was amended in 1996 and registered but the amendments to the1932 Articles of Association was not registered.

The legal firm of Dunn Cox & Company was retained to:

1. Protect the tax-free status of the CBA obtained in 1996.

2. Harmonize the 1932 Articles of Association with the 1997 Amendments and the 1996 Amended Memorandum of Association.

3. Ensure the document is in line with the new 2004 Companies Act of Jamaica.

4. Seek the approval of the Minister of Finance.

Many meetings were held by the President to review and approve the Dunn Cox recommendations. These discussions proved both frustrating and futile. As a result, the matter has not yet been finalized.

2. Compliance

Following very adverse press reports on labour practices, we succeeded in informing them on the Laws governing their business operations and the need to cooperate fully with the relevant authorities.

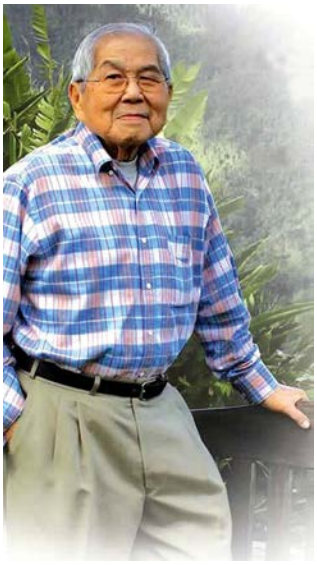
3. Food Handlers Permit

We arranged meetings at CBA to educate them and to facilitate requisite tests for obtaining Food Handlers Permits, for which they applied en masse.

**Other Activities 2007-2009**

*(Continued on page 16)*

# Transition



## Rufus Ronald Chang

Passed away peacefully on November 4, 2009. He is survived by children Annette (Suigin)/Victor Salazar, Sharon/Derrick Chin, Vincent/Debbie, Patricia, Anthony/Erin, Virginia, Nicola/Trevor Murphy; grandchildren Victor/Suzanne, Ivan/Lucia Ribes, Marissa/Rafa Cerda, Javier/Vanessa Khouri, Oliver and Esteve Salazar; Alexander/Alejandra Tejada, Gabriel and Tristan Kong; Brandon and Brittany Chang, Matthew Chang; Maximillian and Caelan Murphy; great grandson Victor Manuel Salazar; devoted nephew and his family Thomas, Sheila and Danielle Chin, other relatives and friends.

Funeral service was held at Stella Maris Church on November 14, 2009.

Rufus was the last surviving sibling of Edward, Gim Gow, Vincent, Gladstone, Violet, Vera, Leonard and Hazel. Up to the time of his passing at age 86 years, Rufus was an active chairman of Consolidated Bakeries (Ja) Ltd (Purity Bakery), which was originally founded as Valentine Bakery by their father Joseph Chang Gin Sang (1886-1969).

Rufus Chang was the father of CBA President Elect 2010 Vincent J. Chang. Our condolences to Vincent and the entire 'Purity' Chang family.

## Winnie Hue

Age 84 years, late of Bridgeport, St Catherine, made her transition on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the University Hospital. Winnie leaves behind sisters Esme and Myrtle, brother-in-law Luddy, adopted sons, nieces, nephews, cousins and grand-nieces. Funeral services were held on Saturday, October 24, 2009, at Church of Reconciliation in Bridgeport, St. Catherine. Interment followed in the Dovecot Memorial Park.

Miss Winnie was the first English Administrative Secretary at the Chinese Benevolent Association, who served for a number of years from the early 1990s to about 2002. She had returned to Jamaica to retire, having lived abroad for many years. She had accepted the position at CBA to continue to be productive and to work with the Chinese community in helping to preserve its cultural practices. She would sometimes tell stories about the customs of the Chinese community during her youthful years in Jamaica.

Miss Winnie was an elegant, proper lady who was well spoken and commanded respect. She worked with Richard Tenn, David Chang and Cecil Chuck when they each served as President during her tenure in the 1990s and with whom she had a good working relationship. She was instrumental in establishing the administrative office at the new CBA Centre when construction was completed., and she helped tremendously in organizing the administrative affairs of the CBA.

Rest in peace, Miss Winnie.

## Johnny Ho Chen

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at Scarborough General Hospital. Predeceased by his first wife, Jacqueline. He was the loving father of Stephanie, Kimberly and Victoria. Survived by wife Zarema and children's mother Patricia Ho Chen, mother Suke Chin and stepfather Leslie Cha Fong, brother To-Ming (Maureen), sisters, Shirley (Andrew), Margaret (Paul) Sandra (Alain), nieces and nephews: Mark, Yvonne, Wayne, Ada, Richard, Kathryn, Sheena, Kerrie and Danielle.

Friends were received at Ogden Funeral Home, in Scarborough on Monday evening, August 10, 2009. A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Scarborough. Interment at Holy Cross Cemetery, Thornhill. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Oncology and Palliative Care Unit at Scarborough General Hospital would be appreciated. The family gratefully acknowledges all the care and support of the medical team at the hospital.

Johnny previously operated Kowloon Restaurant at Sovereign Centre for a number of years before moving later to Toronto. A doting father, he used to bring his young daughters to CBA Centre to participate in children activities and perform in garden party shows.

Gone too soon, Johnny.

# Reminiscence

## From early days Barry Street Chinatown to 176 Old Hope Road

### by Winnie Hue - January 1995

I remember my father Hue Chit Chong (Henry Hue), the only Chinese barber in the then Chinatown. He was not always a barber; he used to be a small businessman, who had a small grocery store in the country, John's Hall in Clarendon. But I believe gambling is inherent in certain members of the Chinese community. He lost the business through gambling in Barry Street Chinatown where he went every Sunday. But I am getting ahead of myself.

My father came from Canton (Guangzhou) China. The only son of farming parents, he was sent to Panama to an uncle to learn the grocery trade. He came through Hong Kong, however, and not having the proper immigration papers for Panama, he was not allowed to land there. However, he had British papers and so he was able to land in Jamaica. It is not very clear to me how got to John's Hall, Clarendon, where he met and married my mother, the late Kathleen Hamilton, and where they carried on business until it went bankrupt from playing "Pi Q". With a wife and two children (my two older sisters were born in John's Hall), my grandfather assisted him to come to Kingston where they settled in Chinatown. I was born in Kingston and I remember living in houses on Barry Street, Matthews Land and on Princess Street in an upstairs house next door to Chin Yee's businesses.

My father always spoke to us in Chinese. He wanted us to learn the "Chinese way" (culture). He taught us many things of the "old country" and told us many stories of his life on the farm in Canton. This is where I have vivid memories of Barry Street – Chung Fah Fuicon and Chee Kung Tong. Every Sunday my father would take us to Chung Fah Fuicon where we would play on the grounds, running through the big halls and at the end of the afternoon, he would take us upstairs to the Temple where we would burn incense and pray with bamboo sticks to Buddha. My father was not a Christian, but he brought up all his children in the Catholic faith under the influence of Father Shea, S.J., a Jesuit priest who spoke his Chinese dialect and who tried to convert him to Catholicism. I think he stole heaven as he was converted on his deathbed. He died in 1952 and received all the rites of the Catholic Church with many priests attending his funeral at the Holy Trinity Cathedral on North Street. But, again, I am getting ahead of my story.

My father always wanted us to know all about his culture. He sent us to Chinese School, which was situated on North Street, Kingston. There my three sisters, a brother and I attended school. Our curriculum was half-day Chinese and half-day English. I remember my school days there were very happy. Our English teachers were Miss Hill and Miss Barrett and our Chinese teachers were Mrs. Wong and Mr. Chen.

Growing up in Jamaica of ethnic minority, we were subjected to abuses and ridicule from the majority. Because of this, we children were reluctant to speak our language in public, but we were always very proud of our heritage. In our home we practiced the Chinese culture. Our food consisted mainly of Chinese dishes with the occasional Jamaican dish. My father tried to practise the Asian custom of arranged marriages. He believed in the Confucius saying "Place a kettle of water on the stove, it's cold but when fire is added, it can reach boiling point", meaning passion will come later. My sisters and I were put through what we thought then was a Sunday ritual. When we were of marriageable age, almost every Sunday afternoon we were told to sit down in the parlour and were visited by prospective suitors from the country; they usually had grocery stores and wanted wives. My father nearly succeeded once when my second oldest sister relented and agreed to a marriage. All the preparations were made, but at the last minute she backed out and everything had to be cancelled and presents returned, much to our embarrassment. My father didn't feel he lost face however. Today she is still happily married to the partner of her choice. My older sister and I were to strong-willed and defiant and would not consider any arranged marriage.

We did all the things and participated in all that was going on in the Chinese community – going to banquets and garden parties for Chinese New Year's. I remember the strings and strings of firecrackers being set off on Chinese New Year's at Chung Fah Fuicon on Barry Street, the streets were lined with people to see the display.

On the annual visit to the Cemetery (Gah San), we at the Chinese School made paper flowers (boutonnieres) and sold them, "Sen Sang Mi doh fah" (Mister, please buy a flower?). The moneys raised helped to maintain the cemetery.

I have always admired my Chinese people who have always shown compassion for the less fortunate members of their community. I remember the Home for the Aged which was then on Matthews Lane. I used to visit the folks there; they were always glad to have the young ones visit. Now we have a Health and Dental Clinic, not only for Chinese but primarily for the indigent people in the area and which is located on (the corner of) North Street and South Camp Road. We still

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## *Reminiscence*

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maintain the Home for the Aged exclusively, however, for ethnic Chinese, which is also situated on North Street, Kingston.

We have come a long way. I remember the labour riots in 1938 when our school was closed for days. Whenever there were civil disturbances, the ethnic Chinese were always targeted. Most recently during the political troubles in the 1960s, we were again the target; many members were injured and their businesses destroyed. However, today we do not look back with bitterness, and I believe we are taking a prominent place in the Jamaican society where our National Motto is "Out of Many One People". My "people" Jamaican born of Chinese ancestry have contributed much to our society without glitter and fanfare; even in the smallest shop in the smallest rural village, the Chinese have contributed to Jamaica, and we continue to contribute to this our home and our heritage.

We now have undertaken a very ambitious dream to build a Chinese Cultural Centre. This is progressing rapidly at the site of 176 Old Hope Road. It has been a long road from Barry Street to Old Hope Road, but many of our luminaries, businessmen and professionals, some of whom grew up on Barry Street and its environs, are making this dream a reality

# CBA October 2009 Garden Party celebrating the 60th China National Day

On the morning of Sunday October 4, while final preparations were under way, the skies turned grey and the rains poured down. Around noon, the heavy rains held up but it continued to drizzle and preparatory work continued nonetheless. At the mercy of the powers that be, the grey clouds soon cleared away to reveal lovely blue skies as the sun came out in all its splendour, when the gates of CBA Centre were opened to patrons at 3:00 p.m.

This was the day of the Chinese Benevolent Association's October 2009 garden party to celebrate the significant 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

In the early afternoon, patrons mingled with their friends and relatives while the children head for the games and rides area. They visited the CBA Museum's display of artefacts and things of the past Jamaican Chinese community, organized by Sandy Chung. They visited display stalls by Kendel Ginger Tea, Wisynco and Choco Listo, who had sample product giveaways. They visited the CBA Info Desk with computer displays set up by Greg Hugh Sam. They sat down to a sumptuous dinner catered by Golden Gate and Orient Express restaurants and drank Coco-Cola, Bigga, Ocean Spray and other drink products supplied by Wisynco.

The event's entertainment started at 5:30 p.m. with German singing star Nastassja Nass (whose mother is Chinese) performing outdoors in front of patrons who were dining, waiting to be served, or milling around. Although described as a "classical musical star", Nastassja's versatile repertoire includes all-time favourite classic jazz-pop songs such as 'Stormy Weather', 'Fever', 'Cry me a River', which she melodiously sang to the enjoyment of patrons gathered in front of her. Spontaneously, she sang a duet 'Stand by me', with our own Keith Lyn and it was obvious they had a lot of fun doing an unrehearsed item.

The formal part of the evening's programme soon got underway with the Lion Dance performance by Wing Lung Kung Fu inside the hall, which was decorated in elegant fashion by Gail Chung. The huge banner that formed the backdrop on stage showed an image of Tiananmen Square where Mao Tse Tung had declared the founding of the People's Republic of China 60 years ago. Another scene in the banner was the unique Great Wall, a symbolic image of China.

Following the welcome address by CBA President Wilson Look Kin and greetings from Chinese Ambassador Chen Jinghua, the CBA Children sang a song in Mandarin called "I love China". The song highlighted the 56 ethnic minority groups of different cultures in China, but who are all one family of Chinese roots and who love their country China.

Four of the performers in the next segment of the show, who had participated in the 2009 CBA Cultural Beauty Pageant held earlier in the year, displayed their yet unrevealed talent. Joanna Sadler (2nd Runner-up) performed a splendid musical presentation on flute called "You and Me" taken from the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics 2008. This was done alongside a music video of the same song.

Next was a performance on acoustic guitar by Leanne Morrison (1st Runner-up) and Jason Kong, as Leanne sang a pop song called "Breathe" by Taylor Swift.

A modern version of the Chinese Ribbon Dance by Simone Neilson (participant) followed next, to the music of "A Love before Time" from the movie "Crouching Tiger, Hidden

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Clarence Chin Fatt

The Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) held its annual badminton tournament over the weekends of November 6-9 and November 13-16, 2009. This year marked the 11th anniversary of our tournament and the beginning of the second decade of this event. With over 330 entries, including numerous entries from the inner-city players and from Mandeville in four divisions, the CBA tournament is the largest event on the Jamaican badminton calendar.

The tournament produced one "Triple" winner in Garron Palmer in the "Open" division. After winning the Men's Single event, he teamed up with Alya Lewis to win the Mixed Doubles and with Kashif Bernard to win the Men's Doubles. Nigella Saunders, an Olympian, easily won the "Open" Ladies Singles over Carla Grant. Sheinell Hyatt was the only double winner when she won the Ladies Single and the Ladies Doubles in the "C" division. As in the previous year, inner-city and Mandeville players dominated the tournament as they won the majority of the events.

The tournament received excellent media coverage as both television stations, TVJ and CVM, aired matches and interviews during their prime time sports news, and the Observer carried reports in two days' editions. In so doing, the Association received exposure which conveyed Chinese Jamaican's contribution to the development of Jamaican society. Coaches, players, and media personnel commented that the event was "well organized" and several coaches expressed their appreciation of the organizer's thoughtfulness for the players' welfare. In particular, many persons felt that the layout with the barriers around the courts was an excellent idea and was the first time that they had encountered such a feature in Jamaica. Overall, whilst there is room for improvement, the general consensus was a well run tournament with many positive features and that the "bar" has now been raised for the second decade.

CBA wishes to pay tribute to our two main sponsors, Tastee Ltd and Continental Baking Co. Ltd., for their continuous sponsorship that included providing the T-shirts for the players. Significant contributions also came from Atlantic Hardware & Plumbing, Daytona Sales Ltd and Max Value Supermarket of Santa Cruz, all of whom donated the shuttlecocks for the tournament. The trophies for the 4 divisions were sponsored by Tastee, Continental Baking, Kendel Trade Corporation, Premier Optical and Young's Sport. We acknowledge donations from individuals and other companies, too many to mention, and express our appreciation. Many thanks to all the CBA members and other volunteers who assisted when called upon. Pearl and Alison Lue Taim, Sally Chung, Ann-Marie and Denise Chin-Fatt, Dionne Pinnock, Richard Gregory Wong, and Richard Gordon manned the desk which ran the tournament for the eight days. We thank Willie Chong, Pearline and Lloyd Hoo, Sharon Wan, Marcia Harford, Nicole Hoo Fatt and Melvin "Mello" Chin for their invaluable service in the refreshment bar.

Special praises must go to Robert Lee, the Tournament Director since the inception of this event eleven years ago, who laid the foundation with his decade of unselfish service and who has established the CBA tournament as a fixture among badminton players. For this year, Robert handed over the mantle of Tournament Director to Clarence Chin-Fatt.

**- Clarence Chin-Fatt**

CBA NEWS

**CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION**

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Dragon" sung by Coco Lee.

The final item in this segment was a beautiful ballet performance by Amanda Chin (Miss CBA 2009) to the music of "Hans Zimmer—Panda Po" from the soundtrack of the movie "Kung Fu Panda".

Highlight of the evening's entertainment was "Keith Lyn in Cabaret". In introducing this final item, a brief tribute was made to Keith Lyn:

"He was recently recognized for his contribution to Jamaica's musical heritage the annual awards show 'A Tribute to the Greats', which showcases Jamaica's musical pioneers.

A former member of Byron Lee & the Dragonaires, he wrote and sang 'Jamaica Ska' and helped to popularize the Jamaican music and dance across the Caribbean and North America. But it was his enchanting love ballads that spoke to his versatility as a musician and singer, with his soothing and endearing style.

He is Keith Lyn, affectionately called 'The Love Man' who has honed his art to become a well respected international musician, songwriter and vocalist."

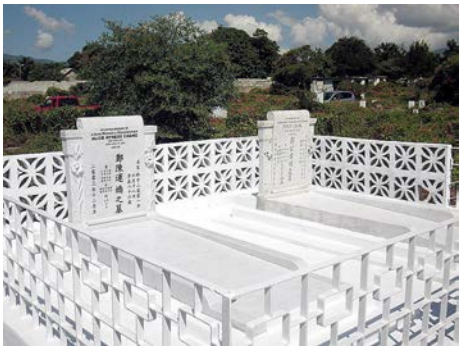
Keith sang his popular hit songs to the enjoyment of the audience, some of whom got up from their chairs to dance and sing along.

This musical act brought a fitting closure to the entertainment section as patrons came out of the hall with broad smiles on their faces and remarking what an enjoyable evening they had at this garden party.

Special thanks to Karen Hugh Sam Lee for agreeing to lead the planning of this event, which was an obvious success. Special thanks also to team members Wilson Look Kin, Phyllis Kong, Willie Chung, Greg Hugh Sam, Lloyd Hoo and all others who assisted in many ways, including Gail Chung and David Chang. Special thanks, of course, to the sponsors including Kendel Trade Corp, Central Trading Co Ltd, Country Pride Supermarket - St. Ann's Bay, Wisynco, National Continental Corp, Tastee Ltd, and Power 106.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Chinese New Year of the Tiger 2010 falls on February 14, 2010. Details of CBA's celebration of this event will be announced.



Gah San falls on Monday, April 5, 2010. Details of CBA's plans for Gah San will be announced.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES 2007-2009

**- June 16, 2007**: The Deputy Director-General — Overseas Chinese Affairs and delegates from Shenzhen, China visited Jamaica and a Banquet was held in their honour at Bamboo Village Restaurant, under the patronage of the Chinese Ambassador, Mr. Chen Jinghua. This event was attended by over 90 community members.

**- November 25, 2007**: The CBA Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Professor Anthony Chen at a banquet held in his honour. This was in recognition of his contribution as a team member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which won the Nobel Peace Prize 2007. This event was well attended by the Chinese community at large.