

## ISSUE NO. 104 October-December 2006

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On September 16<sup>th</sup> China Council board members and executive director took part in a facilitated half-day meeting to discuss the state of the Council. A considerable amount of work was done beforehand to develop a framework for the morning's discussion. Current and former board members responded to surveys and were interviewed by the facilitator, and feedback was received from China Council members who returned surveys sent with the last newsletter.

At the meeting, the discussion was driven by what the needs and interests of our members and the broader "China community" are today and how well NWCC is prepared to meet these needs over the next three to five years.

The rapid growth of China's economy has resulted in a significant rise of interest in China among businesses and business professionals, a need that the Council has been working to address through the China Business Network. The same can be said regarding the dramatic growth of participation in NWCC Chinese language classes at the Council and offsite. A good deal of time was spent considering how well we are doing in these areas and what else we might or should do to stay apace of developments.

It was agreed that the greatest challenge, however, is to be responsive to all our members—a very diverse constituency—and to continue to work in partnership with organizations who have similar missions.

We are working at it and invite your comments and suggestions, as always. --Rosario Agliarolo

### Save the Date!

The Council's 17<sup>th</sup> annual auction fundraiser and dinner will be held on Saturday evening, February 24<sup>th</sup> at Legin Restaurant in southeast Portland. The Year of the Pig (Boar?) is on the way and we have some very special holiday programs in the works.



17<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction & Dinner Fundraiser  
February 24, 2006

### CHINA COUNCIL NEWS

#### Old Town Chinatown Festival Streets Open

The weather could not have been better for the **Under the Autumn Moon Festival** and the NW Davis & Flanders festival streets opening in Old Town Chinatown. Things got started with the official ribbon cutting on Friday evening, September 29 with Mayor Tom Potter and city councilor Sam Adams in attendance. The ceremony marked the culmination of a six-year project to upgrade and improve the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> avenues corridor between Burnside and Glisan, including the creation of the festival streets.

On Saturday morning, September 30 activities began with a gala parade that made its way from the north Park Blocks through the Chinatown gateway at NW 4<sup>th</sup> and Burnside, and into the heart of the historic Japantown-Chinatown district.

This was followed by two days of music and dance on the two festival street stages, food demonstrations, a global arts and crafts bazaar, a variety of arts, culture and history tours, a Saturday night outdoor movie and a fine fireworks display.

The Council's energies were focused on helping with the Arts Culture & History (ACH) activities which included guided tours of Old Town Chinatown in the 1930s and historic Japantown and the Japanese Riverfront Memorial. There were also gallery tours organized by the Portland Arts Center (a great new venue on NW Couch and 5<sup>th</sup>), and a tour of the recently installed bronze oral history plaques, designed by the architect and artist, Suenn Ho. (We have enclosed a "Walk Historic Old Town" map, produced by ACH, which we hope you will enjoy and find useful.)



Cultural stage, NW Davis St., October 1, 2006

See additional photos on page 2

Northwest China Council  
Celebrating 25 Years of Service



## PROGRAM NOTES

On July 20 at Portland State University, Professor **Doug Lee** talked about his soon to be published book, **The Origins of Cantonese Chinese America**. This and a subsequent program by Professor Anne Fulton's **PSU Capstone class on Chinatown's in Transition** (August 17 at PSU) provided a forum for students, China Council members and people from the local Chinese-American community to come together and learn about Chinese American history in the Northwest.



Professors Doug Lee (foreground, center) and Anne Fulton (foreground, right) at the July 20 event.

## CHINA BUSINESS NETWORK

On September 14 at the House of Louie, **Jeffrey Wilson**, a lawyer with the Baker & McKenzie China Practice Group, Shanghai office, reviewed China's draft Labor Contract Law and other recent developments related to Chinese labor law. Mr. Wilson, a graduate of the University of Washington Law School, also provided an interesting overview of China's state-controlled labor union organizations and the Chinese government push to unionize workers employed by large multi-national companies including Wal-Mart, Dell and McDonalds.

**Mark your calendar!**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chinese Language Party**  
**Saturday, December 2, 2006**

Last year's Chinese language party was a great success, attended by 五十多个喜欢玩儿(和学习) de 学生和朋有.

We are still putting all the pieces together, but wherever we gather there will be food, drink and fun, with challenging language games and many opportunities to speak Chinese, including a Chinese writing contest which we hope all students will participate in and work hard to prepare for. No pressure! Just come, chat in Chinese (聊中文), play word games (玩游戏) and welcome the New Year (迎新年).

第三屆  
中文角  
晚會

## UNDER THE AUTUMN SUNSHINE—NW DAVIS FESTIVAL STREET



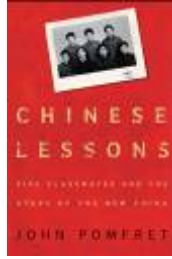
(Top row) Saturday morning September 30<sup>th</sup> featured a colorful parade which started out in the North Park Blocks and proceeded down NW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue past the festival streets. The major attraction was the CCBA dragon, brought to life by dozens of volunteers, and the acrobatic feats of the Shaolin Monks (upper right), who leapt and tumbled their way down NW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the delight of the crowd. The parade also provided a fine excuse for dressing up in colorful traditional Chinese costumes. The tours organized by the Old Town Arts Culture and History group proved to be a very popular offering. Bruce Wong from the Old Town History Project (against wall, lower left) and June Schuman from the Nikkei Legacy Center (lower right) were among the tour leaders.

Coming events, including tour opportunities, will be posted at [oldtownchinatown.org](http://oldtownchinatown.org)

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### China Council Annual Meeting

Join us at the Council 2006 annual meeting for dinner and a talk by Washington Post journalist and author, John Pomfret. Formerly the Post's Beijing bureau chief, he is now the Los Angeles bureau chief and author of the critically acclaimed book—*Chinese Lessons-Five Classmates & the Story of the New China*.



As a 20 year old exchange student from Stanford University, Pomfret spent a year at Nanjing University in China. His fellow classmates were among those who survived the twin tragedies of Mao's rule, the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, and whose success in government and private industry will come to define the country's future. On the occasion of the 20th reunion of his Nanjing class, he decided to reacquaint himself with his classmates. *Chinese Lessons* is their story and his own.

*"John Pomfret shows why he is one of the great China correspondents of his generation. His approach to China has no tint of romanticism or awe; the lives he discovers and the stories he tells, including his own, are unvarnished, unexpected, and riveting."*

—Steve Coll, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Ghost Wars*.

**When:** Thursday evening, October 19<sup>th</sup>  
**Where:** Hi Hat Restaurant, 11530 SW Pacific Hwy Portland  
**Cost:** \$30 members, \$35 general  
RSVP with credit card to NWCC at 503 973-5451 or send to NWCC, 127 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. PDX 97209.

### North Korea: What Next?



Join PSU Political Science professor Mel Gurtov and Lewis & Clark economist professor Marty Hart-Landsberg for a discussion on the North Korean crisis. Professor Gurtov, a Senior Fulbright Scholar in South Korea in 1994, is editor-in-chief of *Asian Perspective*, an international quarterly journal published in Seoul, and author of several books, including *China Under Threat: The Politics of Strategy and Diplomacy*. Professor Hart-Landsberg has served as consultant for the Korea program of the American Friends Service Committee. He is the author of *Korea: Division, Reunification, and U.S. Foreign Policy*.

**When:** Thursday evening, November 2 at 7 PM  
**Where:** PSU, Smith Memorial Union, Room 228  
**Cost:** Free  
Sponsored by the NW China Council and the Institute for Asian Studies at Portland State University

NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL  
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## Mapping China--Two Geography Events:

**The Geopolitics of Sino-Japanese Reconciliation: Report from the Int'l Conference on China-Japan Relations**  
A presentation by PSU graduate student Joe Narus; part of the PSU Geography Department Colloquium. (Joe recently joined the Mapping China group).

**When:** Wednesday, November 8, 4-5 PM  
**Where:** PSU, Cramer Hall, Room 418  
**Cost:** Free

### Mapping China—Meeting # 3

The second "Mapping China" meeting moved us as step closer to our goal of identifying a few worthwhile projects to take to the next level. The group decided to focus on taking a close look at US-China geography from a comparative perspective. We used the map below to get oriented and consider what comparative features we would like to focus on and will pick up this discussion in meeting #3, paying special attention to creating very tactile "hands-on" maps for use in the classroom. We can play with them too, and learn quite a bit about Chinese, and U.S. geography in the process.



A comparative map of China & the U.S.

**When:** Tuesday, November 14, 6 PM  
**Where:** Kida Bldg., 127 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Chinatown  
**Cost:** Free. RSVP by November 13 to 503 973-5451

### Ride the "Sky Train" to Lhasa—Summer 2007

The 2005 China Council tour to the Eastern Tibetan Plateau was a heavenly success.



Ganden Monastery, near Lhasa

Join us in summer 2007 for a tour to central Tibet (12-14 days) in late July, early August with stops in Beijing, Xining, Lhasa, Shigatze, Gyantze, Tsedang, Chengdu, and Shanghai. We will ride the "sky train" from Xining to Lhasa, across the Qinghai plateau.

The tour will be led by Dave Bleyle, NW China Council board member and for U.S. Consul General (2000-2003) in Chengdu.

*A detailed itinerary will be available in November 2006 at [www.nwchina.org](http://www.nwchina.org). A brochure will be mailed to members as soon as possible.*

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## **NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS**

(July 20-October 16, 2006 )

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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**YEAR OF THE PIG FUNDRAISING AUCTION & DINNER**  
**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2007**