



NACA NEWSLETTER

December 2008

www.naca-atlanta.org

President's Message



By Andy Wong

Greetings again NACA family and friends! Wow, what a busy and rewarding time it has been for NACA over the past few months, especially the past few weeks. In the first week of November, NACA welcomed the Qiaoban Delegation to Atlanta in a co-hosted community dinner, then a private dinner the following night at the home of Lani and Dr. John Wong. This was quickly followed on November 10th by NACA's "Harmony 2008 – Celebrating 30 Years US-China Formal Diplomatic Relations" at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia. On November 11th, NACA hosted the Shaanxi Delegation at Canton House Restaurant. And speaking of the Shaanxi Delegation, this prominent group of friends was in town to prepare and help launch the grand opening of the High Museum's "The First Emperor – China's Terracotta Army Exhibit"! Over ninety NACA members and recruits have been working closely with the High on this wonderful exhibit, its first US showing of this amazing cultural find!

Preparing for these events is no easy task. It usually begins months in advance: introduction letters, sponsorship solicitations, invitations, RSVPs, inviting and lining up speakers, programming, venue selection, menu selection, entertainment, logistical planning for out-of-town VIP guests...are you getting the picture

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Event Updates

* NACA Members are cordially invited to the **Annual NACA Members Holiday Party** scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 2008 starting at 6:00 pm. As in the past, Dr. John & Lani Wong will graciously host the holiday party at their Dunwoody residence. This is a "Grown-ups Only" event and the cost is \$5 per member, \$10 per non-member guest. RSVP to Lani at (770) 394-6542 or laniwong@comcast.net.

* Please save the date, January 24, 2009 for **NACA's Annual Chinese New Year Fundraising Banquet** celebrating the Lunar Year 4707, the "Year of the Ox". Further details will be announced shortly, so stay tuned!

* Visit **The First Emperor: China's Terracotta Army** exhibition at the High Museum of Arts in Atlanta from November 16, 2008 through April 19, 2009. Please go to <http://www.high.org/> for exhibition details and related events. For volunteer opportunities, please contact NACA's Jung Mar (jungm565@comcast.net) and Bing Zeng (bingzeng@gmail.com).

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yet? If not for the great network and efforts of NACA's Board and volunteers, none of these events would have been possible. I especially commend the tireless efforts of our Chair Lani Wong and Dr. John Wong, Ethel and Jung Mar, Nina Yu Lu, Christina Liao, Lisa Wallace, and many others who donated hours of personal time to ensure the success of NACA in furthering its mission of Bridging Cultures, Building Leaders, and Benefiting Communities.

Speaking of Benefiting Communities, NACA was proud to co-sponsor The Atlanta Women's Foundation 12th Annual Luncheon, "Numbers Too Big to Ignore" on October 30 at the Georgia World Congress Center. And how can we not recognize other leaders in our midst? Congratulations to Board Member Lisa Wallace who was awarded the Organization of Chinese Americans' (OCA) National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award on October 21 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Lisa was recognized and commended for her commitment and contributions to UPS and for her significant involvement in the community!

Be sure to check our website for updates on upcoming events such as NACA's Member Holiday Social scheduled for December 13, and our signature event, NACA's Annual Chinese New Year Fundraising Banquet set for January 24, 2009 as we celebrate The Year of the Ox.

As I've said in the past, each of you individually can make a difference. It is true that volunteerism can be a lot of work, but the rewards are great as well. I have personally come to know so many wonderful people whom I may have never met otherwise. How about feeling even more connected to the community in which we live, work, and play? Don't just sit by on the sidelines; get plugged in to community service and give something back! I encourage each of you to get involved and make a difference in the life of others, and your life too will surely change for the better.

Andy
wong.andy@comcast.net

NACA Hosted Gala Dinner in Celebration of 30 Years of U.S.-China Formalized Diplomatic Relations

Christina Liao

On Monday, November 10, NACA successfully hosted a gala dinner to celebrate 30 years of U.S.-China formalized diplomatic relations.

His Excellency Zhou Wenzhong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of China to the US, attended the dinner with his wife, Madame Xie Suming. High-ranking officials from the state, city, and local governments, major corporations senior executives, leaders and friends from the Chinese community, totaling about 300 guests, also attended the dinner. Some of the VIP guests included State Senator Judson Hill, State



UPS Chairman and CEO D. Scott Davis (middle) thanked Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong (left) for the Ambassador's keynote speech, with NACA Chair Lani Wong (right) looking on

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Representative Charlice Byrd, Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine, Atlanta City Council President Lisa Borders, Atlanta City Councilmen Jim Maddox and Kwanza Hall, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce (MACOC) President Sam Williams, and UPS Chairman and CEO D. Scott Davis.

President Georgia W. Bush, former President Jimmy Carter, Governor Sonny Purdue, US Senator Johnny Isakson, Minister Li Haifeng from the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council in China, and other high-ranking officials from the US and China sent their congratulatory letters for this event and in celebration of the special occasion of the 30-year formalized diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Ambassador Zhou started his keynote speech for the evening by thanking NACA for its dedication and contribution to the positive development and exchanges in US-China relations. Then, the Ambassador reflected upon the major milestones accomplished in the past 30 years between the two countries, with special mentions of the pivotal historic roles played by the former President Jimmy Carter, who he noted is from the State of Georgia, former President Richard Nixon, former Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger, and former Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping. On the future of the two countries' relations, Ambassador Zhou pointed out that U.S. and China are two major countries in the world, which play critical roles in the global economic development, and therefore, it is important that the two countries continue to engage in productive and constructive dialogues and exchanges in politics, culture, economy, and trade, so that the relations can reach new heights. The Ambassador further noted the importance of recognizing the differences in system and culture for more mutual understanding and the common ground that the two countries can seek while acknowledging differences. Ambassador Zhou received standing ovation as he finished the keynote speech.

Before Ambassador Zhou's keynote speech, UPS Chairman and CEO D. Scott Davis made brief remarks on behalf of the event host committee. Atlanta City Council President Lisa Borders representing the City and Mayor Shirley Franklin, State



Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong (middle) and NACA Chair Lani Wong (right) received Georgia House of Representatives Special Resolutions awards respectively from Georgia State Representative Charlice Byrd (left)

Senator Judson Hill and Metro Atlanta Chamber Of Commerce (MACOC) President Sam Williams on behalf of the two co-hosts: Georgia Department of Economic Development and MACOC, also made remarks. All speakers spoke to the importance of maintaining a strong and stable relation between U.S. and China and praised the role that NACA played in enhancing US-China relations. The speakers echoed one another in expressing sincere desire to establish a Chinese Consulate in Atlanta.

At the end of the evening's program, State Representative Charlice Byrd presented two special Resolutions passed by the Georgia House of Representatives: one to Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong, and the other to NACA Chair Lani Wong. Both Resolutions recognize the significant roles that Ambassador Zhou and Ms. Wong play in enhancing U.S.-China relations, as well as the contributions made by the greater Chinese American community in promoting better cultural understanding between U.S. and China.

The Atlanta Professional Dance Academy, Vega Quartet, and the Atlanta Chinese Contemporary Academy children's choir provided entertainments of the evening. In addition to the presence of major local media, China Central Television USA served as the media partner of the event.

NACA Supports High Museum Exhibition

The National Association of Chinese-Americans (NACA) has recruited over 90 volunteers from its members, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Georgia Perimeter College and the Atlanta Contemporary Chinese Academy to support the Terracotta Warriors Exhibition from Xi'an, China, at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta.

The exhibition, "The First Emperor: China's Terracotta Army," opened on November 16, 2008, and will close on April 19, 2009.

The Terracotta Warriors were discovered in 1974. They guarded the burial site of the First Emperor of China who unified China as one country 2200 years ago. The burial site in Xi'an, China, is considered the 8th wonder of the world and protected as an UNESCO site.

In conjunction with this important exhibition, NACA has recommended a variety of community groups to provide cultural programs for both children and adult visitors. These programs include Chinese art making for children, Chinese songs sung by a children's choir, Chinese music and traditional dances, and a Tai Chi and Chinese medicine demonstration.

This exhibition boasts over 100 original artifacts from Xi'an. Please visit the High Museum of Art web site at [High Museum](#) for more details and the NACA web site at [NACA](#) for more information.



NACA Supported Atlanta Women's Foundation 12th Annual Luncheon

The Atlanta Women's Foundation (AWF)'s 12th annual "Numbers Too Big To Ignore" luncheon was held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at Georgia World Congress Center. NACA members, led by Chair Lani Wong, and other guests and supporters of AWF from various institutions and organizations joined the event to celebrate the achievement of AWF and to support the AWF's efforts facing future challenges. NACA has sponsored this event now for three years.

The power of role model and leadership was the theme of this year's ATW luncheon. "You cannot do what you cannot see", Naomi Tutu cited her father's saying to emphasize the importance of leadership and philanthropy, especially among women, in order to promote self-sufficiency among women. Liz Abzug, the daughter of famous leader of women's movement Bella Abzug echoed Tutu's sentiment and passionately advocated for women's equal rights. Abzug said the mission that her mother set out to accomplish is still a challenge today. Although women have achieved a lot in the last generation in gaining their voice politically, Abzug still noticed a wide socioeconomic gender inequality in the society. She cited her mother's famous quote, "our struggle today is not to have a female Einstein get appointed as an assistant professor. It is for a woman schlemiel to get as quickly promoted as a male schlemiel."

Soledad O'Brien, the CNN anchor and reporter moderated the discussion. The luncheon also introduced its new chief executive officer Barbara Mosacchio to the community and presented this year's Sue Wieland Embracing Possibility Award to VOX Teen Communications and Octavia Fugerson.

Since its inception, AWF has awarded more than \$10 million in grants to nonprofit organizations in the Atlanta area to promote women's self-sufficiency in the community.

NACA Board Member Received OCA's National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award

The National Association of Chinese Americans (NACA) Atlanta is pleased to announce that its Board Member Xianqin (Lisa) Wallace has received the 2008 OCA National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award.

Once a year the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) recognizes leaders in the Asian Pacific American business community with their annual National Corporate Achievement Award. This prestigious award celebrates and recognizes Asian Pacific Americans in the corporate sector who exemplifies not only excellence in their profession, but also leadership and commitment in their respective communities. As a major national organization, OCA believes that it is essential to identify and honor "role models" who can inspire, especially the younger generation.

On October 17th, 2008, OCA awarded its annual National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award to Xianqin (Lisa) Wallace, who is also Board Member of NACA. Lisa was recognized and commended for her commitment and contributions to UPS, as well as, her significant involvement in the community. She was awarded the honor by OCA's president, Ginny Gong in a black tie gala event in Salt Lake City, Utah.

NACA Sponsored AAJA Fundraising and Scholarship Dinner

The Asian American Journalists Association Atlanta Chapter (AAJA), held its 14th Annual Fundraising Banquet on Friday, November 14, 2008, at Spring Hall Global Forum in Doraville, Georgia. Eight representatives from NACA attended the event on behalf of NACA. This year, NACA was again AAJA's sponsor.

This year's theme for the banquet was "Honoring Excellence." During the banquet, AAJA presented scholarship awards to three current college students. The recipients were: Wencong Chen of Emory University as the Broadcast Winner, Karan Sharma of SCAD Atlanta as the Multimedia Winner, and Anna Swindle of Samford University as the Print Winner.

Mr. Dan Nainan, stand-up comedian seen on the NBC show "Last Comic Standing", provided entertainment for the event. The hall was filled with laughter as Mr. Nainan drew from his own immigrant background while touching on current political and social issues.

The keynote speaker for the event was Mr. Yul Kwon who was the winner of the CBS reality show, Survivor: Cook Islands, during the 2006's controversial, racially segregated season. Mr. Kwon spoke about his experience on the show and encouraged attendees to work together to raise awareness of Asian issues and to increase the presence of Asians in the media industry.

The guests at the banquet included journalists and media professionals from the Atlanta Journal Constitution, CNN, WSBT, WAGA, Fox5, WXIA, WGCL, CBS 46 and many more.

NACA was very proud to support AAJA in AAJA's endeavor to raise awareness of Asian issues, strengthen the voice of Asians in the newsrooms around the city, and to honor excellence in the media industry.

Congratulations to NACA New Members!

June

Julia Qiu Shelters
Sophie Li
Trinh Huynh
Wendy Lu
Michael Guo
T. Timothy Wang
Trish Roerts

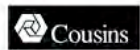
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