



Summer 2015

CAGT NEWSLETTER



Volume 8 Issue 2

<http://www.toledochinese.org>

Summer 2015

Contents

President's Message	2
2015 CAGT Membership Report by CAGT membership Committee	3
SPRING PICNIC	4
World Tai Chi & Qigong Day.....	14
托萊多市世界太极拳日活动.....	16
2015 Toledo International Festival.....	16
An Enjoyable Mother's Day Fieldtrip	18
ESSAY CONTEST.....	20
"The Future and Challenges of Chinese Language Programs in Northwest Ohio High Schools"	21
老大学中文的趣事.....	24
The Chinese Association of Greater Toledo Tai Chi Club	26

President's Message

Dear CAGT members,

It's an honor to serve as the president for CAGT for a second year. Thank you all for your trust and support.

Over the last year, CAGT transitioned well when some changes were made to the Board. Several board members, Mr. Guangzhong Chen, Ms. Luanne Billstein, Ms. Xiaoyan Gong and Mr. Philip Xie, retired from the Board due to career changes and family reasons. We thank them for their vision, leadership and dedicated service to CAGT and the Chinese community. Meanwhile, we welcomed four new Board Members: Mr. Ying Liu, Mr. David Bodner, Mr. Joseph Xu, and Mr. Fei Li. As new board members, they have brought to the table plenty of new ideas and dedicated service to CAGT.

We continued to participate in, organize, and host some of our traditional events, such as the Chinese New Year Celebration, World Tai Chi Day, Toledo Sister Cities Festival, Dragon Boat Race, Community Picnic, and the Toledo Blade Holiday Parade. As an organization, we also looked for ways to adapt and meet the changing needs of our members. The newly-added event, the Ping Pong Tournament, was a great success for CAGT, with more than sixty competitors in the tournament. Our Youth Committee has been very active in the past years. Under the leadership of Yuan Tian & Olivia Onest, two music programs were hosted by our talented young musicians who put on very impressive music performances for the senior citizens in local nursing homes over the summer and around Christmas. The Youth Music Program is a great way for our children to get an early start in learning to care for others, get involved, and be part of the community.

CAGT will participate the most exciting event, Toledo Dragon Boat Race, on 6/20/2015. You all are welcome to become a paddler in our "China Dragon" team. Last year, the "China Dragon" team earned the highest ranking in CAGT history, and we expect more success this year. On the same day, CAGT will organize a Chinese cultural festival, "China Village". There will be eight sessions of Chinese

cultural performance from multiple organizations. You are welcome to participate and support this great event.

CAGT will continue to serve as the platform in the Greater Toledo area to promote Chinese culture, heritage, and language through our various events and activities. We look forward to any new ideas and suggestions on how CAGT can better serve you and your family. Moreover, we look forward to your active involvement and participation in our activities.

Thank you for your interest and support! Please find out more about CAGT at our website: <http://www.toledochinese.org>. You can reach us by email: cagt1965@gmail.com.

Sincerely!

Lingling Du

President, CAGT

2015 CAGT Membership Report by CAGT membership Committee

CAGT Membership Committee would like to thank all those members who have renewed their CAGT membership in 2015.



We would like to welcome those people who have joined CAGT in 2015:

- Chen, Weina/Zhang, Yue/Zhang, Joshua
- Ross, Bobbi
- Wang, Dawei/Liu, Yanan
- Xiao, Mingli/Yang, Xiangui/Yang, Daniel/Yang, Evan

A donation of 500 dollars was made to CAGT by *HCR ManorCare Gives* through their Employee Volunteer Grant Program. On behalf of CAGT, the board would

like to thank Olivia O'Nest for her hard work that makes this donation possible. We encourage all CAGT members to see if such donations or similar programs are available through their employers.

SPRING PICNIC

On May 16, 2015, TCAC (Toledo Chinese Alliance Church) and CAGT (Chinese Association of Greater Toledo) jointly hosted the Spring Picnic event at Oak Openings Preserve Metropark.

Before noon, rain stopped, and the BBQ started. While the shelter was getting packed, the picnic table was getting crowded with all kinds of delicious authentic food.

2015年5月16日，多丽都华人宣道会和多丽都华人协会在Oak Openings Preserved Metropark 联合举办了春季野餐会。清晨的小雨居然在午餐会快开始的时候停了，而且直到大家吃好玩好，尽兴而归的时候都没有再下。

当烧烤的香味在空气中弥漫的时候，野餐桌也慢慢地被大家带来的各种美食所占满。







Kids surprised us with some happy dances.



吃饱喝足，孩子们表演了欢快的舞蹈。



Traditional Chinese instrument and Taichi! Were we space-traveling to a People's Park in China?

京胡，笛子，太极等国粹让人恍惚中以为回到了国内的人民公园。



Young or old, everyone found a way of having a fun: chasing others around at playground, hiking in the woods, playing a volleyball game, or just digging for worms in the dirt ...

爬爬小滑梯，去森林里探探险，来一场激烈的排球友谊赛，或者挖土找小虫钓鱼。。。一个春日的下午就这么悠闲地过去了。







Smiling faces and precious friendship will stay in our memories!

留下的是开心的笑脸和美好的回忆。。。。。



World Tai Chi & Qigong Day

Olivia Onest

On April 25th, despite the below normal temperature and bitter winds, we had a great turnout for the World Tai Chi and Qigong Day at Wildwood Park.

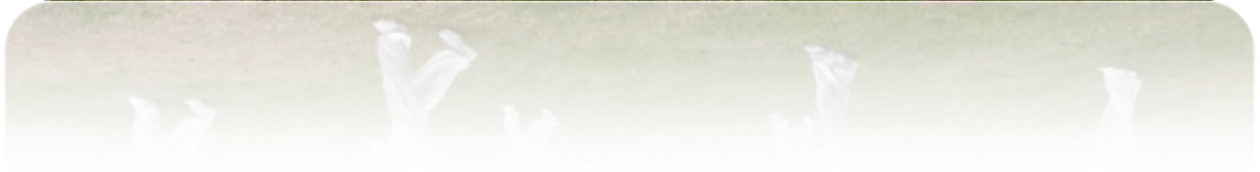
This is an annual event that takes place throughout the world, on the last Saturday in April to promote the health benefits and awareness of Tai Chi and Qigong. CAGT has been playing an important role in organizing and sponsoring this wonderful community event for many years.

A big “pat on the back” to the CAGT Tai Chi Group performers, Amy Chen, Jiquan Chen, Lingling Du, Fei Li, Liping Mo, Olivia Onest, Li Xue, Mr. Xiong (Father-in-law of our CAGT President, Lingling) & Olive Wu. The performance was just amazing and we had great feedback and inquiries of our group.

A special “thank you” to our CAGT volunteers, Ping Liang, Lijia Wei, Peter You, & Jun Yu. We appreciate you taking the time to support us.

Last but not the least, a big “thank you” also goes to our members who came out and participated in the event.





托萊多市世界太极拳日活动

By Moxuan Xiong

今晨，托萊多市冷风嗖嗖，气温较低，可公园草皮广场，小车一字长蛇阵，美中兩國拳友及观众却热情洋溢。一块英文横幅写着：世界太极拳日，同世界、同呼吸，今天世界七十多个国家相继纪念太极拳日。托萊多市的这活动由华人协会牵头，龙跃武术学校、狼溪YMCA、孔子学院等团体及个人拳友参加，表演项目有拳、球、扇、刀等十四项。表演在悠扬音乐伴奏下进行，个个节目到位，人人身手不凡，观众掌声雷动。

太极拳健身运动是中华灿烂文化一部份，是中國民间古老传统健身真功夫，现在能吸引美國人民如此热爱、能由华裔同胞发扬光大，能表演得如此淋漓尽致，让在场者感叹不已！

我练太极自“知天命”到“古稀”，二十多年，坚持不懈，从而解脱了中青时体弱多病困扰，很少吃药打针，是实在受益者。今天，有幸华人协会邀我表演，我以京歌“梨花颂”音乐伴奏陈式56式太极拳献艺，表达我爱太极如唐明王爱杨贵妃之深切情怀。参与活动的美國及华裔拳友和观众报以热烈掌声，并预约我向他们传教。我觉自己又一次在实践我着自己早年写的的书法条幅：闻鸡起舞练太极，添福添寿添友谊！

查看全部30张照片 [查看详情](#)

2015 Toledo International Festival

On Saturday, April 18, 2015 Toledo Sister Cities International held its annual Toledo International Festival at the University of Toledo. This festival highlights Toledo's vast ethnic diversity. It features music, dance, martial arts, food, a language corner, cultural exhibits, souvenirs and crafts from several nationalities. Various media were present to cover this event, including, WTOL11/WUPW FOX Toledo which interviewed two Toledo Sister Cities International board members, Kristi Pawlak and Jing Meyer regarding the festival.



Toledo's Chinese sister city is Qinhuangdao. Qinhuangdao is a port city located just northeast of Beijing. The sister city exchange, business and economic

development, medical and health collaboration and many other areas. This year Toledo and Qinhuangdao celebrate their 30th year anniversary as sister cities.

Within Toledo Sister Cities International, there is a China-Qinhuangdao committee. The committee had a booth at the event to display pictures of Qinhuangdao, Chinese arts and crafts, and to demonstrate Chinese calligraphy.



CAGT organized a variety of performances from the Chinese community for the event. The performances were very entertaining, and were very well received by the many people who attended the festival.



An Enjoyable Mother's Day Fieldtrip

Jing Meyer

On Sunday, May 10, the CAGT Tai Chi Club organized a delightful Mother's Day field trip with fourteen ladies participating.

The group had an authentic Cantonese dim sum at the Shangri-La Chinese Restaurant, 6407 Orchard Rd, West Bloomfield, MI. After lunch, the group headed to Great Lakes Crossing Outlet Mall for a shopping spree. We had a great time socializing, eating, and shopping. Here are some of the comments from the participants:

"Thanks, ladies, for making this Mother's Day so special. I am looking forward the next Mother's Day!" - Hong Xiao

"Thank you all for making this Mother's Day such a wonderful and happy day!" – Olive Fang-Yun Wu
"I had a wonderful day yesterday because of all of you! Thank you very much for everything! Let's do that more often in the future!" – Lingling.





Without telling you, you know we had a great time because our faces say so.

ESSAY CONTEST

The Toledo-Lucas County Public Library announced the winners and winning essays of their 2015 Ruth Blank Venner & Mary Jane Blank McCormick Essay Contest!

More than 1,300 students from grades K through 12 entered the beloved annual contest to answer a simple question in essay format: If you had three wishes, what would they be?

Bryan Li, a fifth grader, won third place and a \$50 gift certificate.

If one day, a wise man would ask me what three wishes I would want in my life, I would tell him that my first wish is that all disease and sickness in the world were gone, meaning no more, no new ones will ever come. My next wish is that anyone could eat and never gain extra weight, but remain healthy and fit. My last wish is that I had infinite money so that I would never have to worry about it. Although that last wish does sound selfish, I will explain everything later.

My first wish is that all diseases were wiped out and gone. For example, I want cancer to be eradicated from the face of the Earth because it has killed so many people and still is every day, and caused so much pain and sufferings to patients and their families as well. I am personally not diagnosed with cancer, but my grandpa had cancer. I still remember that scary moment when my family heard the news. My mom and brother had to rush back thousands of miles away to his home to see him, while my dad and I stayed home because of school. We were sad and frightened. I don't ever wish that experience upon anyone. Also, many other diseases such as flu, infectious tropical diseases, the plague or the Black Death, killed thousands upon thousands of people. The Black Death happened long ago, but still made a great impact today. If there wasn't any disease in the world, then people are likely to live longer.

My next wish is that anyone could eat to her or his heart's content without feeling stuffed and gaining unwanted weight. For a selfish reason, I am a big eater and I don't want to be full when some food is tempting me. Many people are also like me, so this wish will help everyone live a satisfactory life without the worry of getting overweight. They could taste all kinds of cuisines without ever fearing the health issues. Good foods do enrich life.

My last wish of having infinite money may sound selfish, but I want this wish granted so that I would have limitless resources to help people in need. First of all, I will donate money to anyone who is suffering, and I will donate to charity organizations, too to help the needy. I would buy necessities and give it to the hungry and the poor. People would never get hungry, never worry about taxes, and we would live a happier life. So do my family and I. I would solicit the help from a genie, explain the importance of my wishes and why his help would be necessary in my pursuit of three wishes. Then, he would set out, with me along his side to help, to the world to make my wishes come true. I firmly believe once that happens, everyone will be happy!

“The Future and Challenges of Chinese Language Programs in Northwest Ohio High Schools”

by Louisa Ha

The Chinese Center of Toledo (CCT, aka Toledo Chinese School) organized the panel “The Future and Challenges of Chinese Language Programs in Northwest Ohio High Schools” on May 1 in the k-auditorium of Maumee Valley Country Day School. Dr. Louisa Ha, former CCT board chair, a professor in Bowling Green State University and a parent of CCT student was the moderator of the panel. She introduced to the attendees how the mass retirement in high schools this year due to the change in benefits in the Ohio State Teacher Retirement System after 2015 has created an opportunity for public high schools to consider Chinese as a foreign language option for their students. Currently, several private high schools offer Chinese such as St. John’s Jesuit High School, Notre Dame Academy and St. Ursula Academy. Perrysburg is a public school that will begin offering Chinese in fall 2015. According to Kadee Anstadt, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning in the Perrysburg school district, apart from offering Chinese courses in high school, Perrysburg schools will be adding short courses (9-12 weeks) of Chinese culture for their junior high students to build interest in the Chinese language course.

Mr. Lei Wang, former interim director of Confucius Institute, current instructor of Chinese at the University of Toledo, former teacher of Chinese at the St. John's Jesuit High School explained to the audience that the Confucius Institute only provide elementary school Chinese programs to Toledo Public Schools so high schools are not covered by Confucius Institute except Central Catholic. He compared his experience teaching Chinese in St. John's Jesuit High School with teaching Chinese at the University of Toledo. He said that it's important to arouse interest of students learning Chinese and encouraged them because they can be easily frustrated. Usually the students in St. Johns have parents doing business in China so they are motivated to learn and encouraged by the parents. In the University of Toledo, he adopted a policy of not allowing native Chinese speakers in the class (he has to pick the students). They just want easy A and would not learn from the class. Mr. Wang suggested parents whose children are in high schools that do not offer Chinese as a foreign language to make use of the new Ohio College Credit Plus program and let their children enroll in the Chinese classes offered in the University of Toledo for free and gain college credits for them.

Luanne Billstein is a parent of the Ottawa Hills School. The school offers Chinese to high school students but the highest level combined 11th and 12 grade students. The school is struggling with the Chinese program because there are not enough students especially when it goes to more advanced level. Teacher quality makes an important difference. In addition, students already have French or Spanish in junior high and they are reluctant to change to Chinese when they are in high school. Students also found Chinese hard to learn and preferred to stay with French or Spanish. She worked hard to keep the Chinese classes in Ottawa Hills by demonstrating the necessity to teach Chinese to students for them to learn about Chinese culture and fulfilling their obligations as parents of Chinese adopted children to provide Chinese language and culture learning for their children. The importance of China as a trading partner and future job opportunities are good reasons for mainstream public schools to offer Chinese classes.

Dr. Anchung Cheng, Director of the Chinese school and Associate Professor of Department of Foreign Languages at University of Toledo discussed learning Chinese from a foreign language learning perspective and explained the

resistance and difficulties of students in learning foreign languages. French and Spanish are culturally closer and easier to American students than Chinese. So it is no surprise that Chinese is not a popular foreign language program in high schools. Many schools faced the difficulty of not having enough students for advanced level classes in foreign languages. But parents should realize the importance of foreign language learning and their support is necessary to make Chinese learning a success. Based on her grant-writing experience, foreign language adoption in schools is based on military and political strategic importance of the language and the Department of Defense is the one that funds foreign language programs such as StarTalk which is the Chinese teacher training program Dr. Cheng is involved. Chinese is considered by the U.S. government as one of such languages. The Chinese school does not compete with high schools on Chinese language teaching. So there is a vacuum for our high school students.

Ha mentioned now is critical because public schools are reluctant to change their language programs due to existing teachers. Chinese school students usually do not continue their Chinese classes after elementary school or at most junior high due to busy school schedule, heavy workload and fear of being isolated. Hence Chinese classes in high schools will let these students to study along with their classmates and be proud of knowing Chinese. These course credits can also be counted as a foreign language in colleges and university. BGSU, for example, waived students' foreign language requirement if they have four years of course work in a foreign language in their high school. Teaching Chinese at high schools is not just for the benefit heritage Chinese students, but also for American students. Ha has an American student honors student who is minoring Chinese in BGSU. Her student attributed her interest in Chinese due to her former junior high school Chinese class taught by a current CCT teacher.

The panelists and attendees saw this is the beginning of a long process of having Chinese be institutionalized as a major foreign language to be included in the curriculum. Everyone was encouraged to participate in the parent organizations and school boards to facilitate the process.

老大学中文的趣事

彭桂香

有個星期日，几个小男孩用中文回答我的问题让我惊奇，我便问他们是否平日学中文？他们说。我又问他们是否想听我大儿子学中文的一件趣事？他们异口同声的说想。我就给他们说了这件趣事如下。“我的大儿子名叫 Franklin，他有机会到中国北京上商学课程，也在那里拜一位老师学中文。那位老师说学中文发音准确是非常重要的，不然就容易闹笑话。举例说：[肚子饱了] 若说成 [兔子跑了]、[肚子跑了] 或 [兔子飽了] 都不好哩”。我很吃惊他们都听懂了这趣事，因为他们听完都互相摸肚子说 [兔子跑了]，[肚子跑了] 或 [兔子飽了]，笑成一团。更有甚者，有位学生在下一个星期一看见我摸著他的肚子笑著说 [兔子跑了]。

以上趣事让我回想起老大往日学中文的其他趣事，也在这里分享。

老大說他最喜歡中國字裏的[東西]這兩個字，實在非常好用，因為很多的東西都可以叫 [東西]，學中文可以免學好多的[東西]。我正在炒菜他指著鍋子問我在煮什麼 [東西]，他指著魚缸的金魚說那[東西]好漂亮，他拿著一包微波爐玉米花指著電視問我可以不可以看那個[東西]和吃這個[東西]。在餐桌上孩子提說要喝汽水，我說一罐汽水含有八至十個湯匙的糖分，喝多了不好，尤其說老大幾乎天天喝實在不健康，他剛學會[囉唆]這兩個字就派上用場對我說：[媽媽妳好囉唆]。老大向來風趣幽默，在許多事情上我責備他，他多是輕鬆溫柔的用中文對我說：[媽媽對不起]。我責備他光是說太多的對不起而不改善事情是沒有用的，他又回答說：[媽媽對不起，因為我說太多的對不起]。他惹火我了罵他，他又溫柔的說：[媽咪，實在很多很多的對不起啦]。老大從他三歲起我就教他鋪床，教了好多年還是沒把他教會鋪床的習慣。他不只不鋪床，房間常是亂得一踏糊塗，而且是亂到無踏腳之處的那種。我看了就要唸他，才要開口，他就以極其溫柔的口氣說：[媽咪，我的房間亂七發燒對不對？聽他把 [亂七八糟]說成 [亂七發燒]，我氣也氣不成了，只好讓他的房間去 [發燒]。

他上大學認識了一位從臺灣來的同學，有天那位同學請他吃早餐，是稀飯配許多好吃的中國小菜。他告訴我他吃得極其愉快，惟一遺憾的是以前我們家常常吃稀飯，可是媽媽就沒教會他[稀飯]這兩個字。這位同學又送給他一瓶極辣的小魚乾辣椒醬，那個週末他要回家之前打電話要求我準備水餃給他吃，他剛踏進家門就獻這辣椒醬給我看，他指著罐標上的[大辣]兩個字以中文念出，問我大辣是不是很辣的意思？他說水餃配這大辣是一級棒。往後的許多個週末，他就捧著這罐大辣來去於學校和回家吃水餃之間。大辣即將見底，他問我去中國店買一瓶給他好嗎？我仔細研究這大辣瓶標，告訴他這是澎湖原產恐怕不易買到，果真我走遍許多家商店都沒買著。

有個星期日他從學校回來，看我坐在沙發上寫稿，就好奇的湊過來念我寫什麼。他讀會了題目中的前四個字[我的一人]，後面兩個字[餐館]不會了，乾脆要我念給他聽。我說我只念最後一段，就蓄意的念了那一段，我蓄意的意思是要讓他知道我的夢想是想要有一部小型的露營車，其實也是夢想他將來會賺錢時能記得老媽的夢想。那知他用中文回答說：[聽不懂，太難了]。我心裡犯難說：看來夢想要他幫忙我實現這個夢想是[太難了]。



The Chinese Association of Greater Toledo Tai Chi Club



Who Are We?

The Chinese Association of Greater Toledo Tai Chi Club is part of the Chinese Association of Greater Toledo (CAGT). CAGT is a nonprofit and 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. CAGT membership is open to anyone who is interested in CAGT's activities or desires to learn about China, Chinese culture and language. For more information about CAGT please visit <http://toledochinese.org/>

The CAGT Tai Chi club offers CAGT members the opportunities of learn Tai Chi and Qi Gong. Our mission is to promote the awareness of Tai Chi and Qi Gong as excellent exercises for relaxation and the achievement of physical and mental health. We also want to improve our Tai Chi performance and serve the community through demonstrations. Our members can perform Tai Chi forms 8, 24 and 42, Tai Chi Gong Fu Fan, Tai Chi

Class Information

We organize summer, fall, winter and spring Tai Chi/Qi Gong classes and practice. Classes are free to CAGT members. There is a small fee for non-CAGT members. However, non-members are encouraged to join CAGT and take the classes for free.

Summer 2015 classes begin 5/30 – 8/22, every Saturday, from 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Location: Side Cut Park, 1025 W. River Rd, Maumee

Class content: Session 1 - Eight Section Brocade (八段锦), Ma Wang Dui Qi Gong (马王堆导引功), 9:30 – 10:30

Session 2 - Tai Chi sword (need to bring your own sword), 10:30 – 11:30

You can attend one or both sessions. Free to CAGT members, \$40 for non-member

Contact Information

Jing Meyer Jinghua.deng@aop2u.com 419.873.0739

Olivia O'nest oliviaonest@gmail.com 419.842.4141

Amy Chen minchen1111@hotmail.com 419.987.4666

CAGT

Tai Chi Club

