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Spring 2017

# NEWSLETTER

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传递社区新闻

联接华人的纽带 **January 20, 2017**

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<http://www.toledochinese.org>

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## 2017 Chinese New Year Celebration

*You, your family and friends are all invited to the 2017*

*Chinese New Year Celebration for the Greater Toledo Area,*

*with delicious food and wonderful cultural performances.*

**Location:** Student Union Auditorium at the University of Toledo, 2801 W. Bancroft St, Toledo, OH 43606

**Date & Time:** January 29, 2017, Sunday, 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**Sponsors:**

Chinese Association of Greater Toledo (CAGT)

Chinese Center of Toledo / Toledo Chinese School (CCT)

Confucius Institute at the University of Toledo



**Tickets:**

**Pre-paid tickets are required for admission . There will be no tickets for sale at the door .**

- **Members:** Adult (≥13yrs): \$10 /each; Child (<13yrs): \$5 /each
- **Non-members:** Adult (≥13yrs): \$15 /each; Child (<13yrs): \$10 /each
- **VIP Donation Tickets:** \$50 /each

There will be a maximum of 400 tickets for sale . First come, first serve .

**Parking will be free of charge on UT campus during the weekend .**

**Tickets will be available for sale starting 12 /16 /2016 at Chinese School . Representatives from sponsors will sell tickets as well . For ticket information, please contact :**

Joe Chao at [jchao500@gmail.com](mailto:jchao500@gmail.com)

Meng Zhang at [mengzhang18@yahoo.com](mailto:mengzhang18@yahoo.com)

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Olivia Onest at [oliviaonest@gmail.com](mailto:oliviaonest@gmail.com)

Lingling Du at [dulingling\\_\\_2006@yahoo.com](mailto:dulingling__2006@yahoo.com)

You can also contact other CAGT board members or CCT board members for ticket information.

**\*\*\*\*\* If you buy tickets after 1/21/2017, please contact Lingling Du at [dulingling\\_\\_2006@yahoo.com](mailto:dulingling__2006@yahoo.com) only\*\*\*\*\***

We look forward to seeing you and your family at the celebration.

Wish you all a Happy New Year!

CAGT Chinese New Year Celebration Committee





## CAGT Civic Engagement Activities

**By Rui Shao**

2016 was an exciting and stressful year for many, partly due to a heated general election that may have had a lasting impact on our society. Coming out to vote and letting our voices be heard is more important than ever. However, Chinese Americans have historically lower voter registration and turnout rates than rest of the population. On top of that, relatively few of us voice our concerns to elected officials. Such inaction often leads to our rights being ignored in the policy-making process.

This year, CAGT has taken up the challenge to change the status-quo. We organized or participated in events to educate our community, to reach out to state and local officials and to get more people out to vote. By doing so, our organization has reached a new milestone. Some of those events were made possible with the tremendous help from Asian Services In Action, Inc. (ASIA, Inc.), a 503(c) nonprofit serving Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in Ohio. The following is a recap of our accomplishments.



The Presidential Election Workshop: Dr Melissa Miller giving the talk (left), the audience (right)

On September 9th, we invited Dr. Melissa Miller, associate professor in political science from BGSU, to give a presentation on Ohio's role in general elections. Using detailed data analysis,

Dr. Miller illustrated why Ohio, recognized as the most important swing state, has always picked the winning presidential candidate since 1960. Since the sentiment in Ohio most closely reflects the nation's mood, candidates spend much more effort to win over voters here than those in perennial red and blue states. A key takeaway from the presentation is that we are so lucky to be in Ohio and we should all value our votes.



The 6<sup>th</sup> Ohio AAPI Legislative Day: Toledo delegates are on the right side of row 1 and 2.

On October 4th, five people from Toledo, including myself, attended the 6th AAPI Legislative Day at the Statehouse in Columbus. This annual event was organized by the Ohio Asian American Health Coalition and was open to AAPI members from across the state. The purpose was to learn about current issues, engage with speakers and attendees, and advocate to legislators. We met with the aide for the 45th district representative, which includes Toledo, to talk about the voter registration issue. In the panel discussion session, several state reps from Columbus and Cleveland areas answered questions brought up by the audience. At the end of the event, they stressed the importance of holding follow-ups by inviting state reps to formal discussions or community events, such as picnics or New Year celebration.

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, we held a round table discussion on presidential candidates. People shared their views on both Trump and Clinton and explained why they support one over the other. Special thanks to New Empire Restaurant owner for providing delicious pineapple bread as snack.



Round table discussion on Presidential candidates

Our get-out-the-vote events were held in the two weeks leading up to the Election Day. We had amazing participation: there were twenty-one and eighteen volunteers for two phone banking events and seven for the door-to-door. More than half were high school volunteers. CAGT provided certificates to those who needed to meet school requirements for community service hours. In the first phone banking, we called at least four hundred and seventy-nine households (a total of 1,012 voters) in NW Ohio. In the second phone bank session, we called AAPIs across Ohio. (ASIA, Inc. has yet to provide the number of people we reached out to). During the door-to-door, we knocked on ninety houses (a total of 139 people) on a nice Saturday to distribute voting information. People we met were all very friendly. They expressed appreciation for what we did.

Next year, we will continue with a series of new civic engagement activities. We hope more people, especially the younger generation, will get involved to lead, participate and give ideas. A little more effort by everyone will lead to a significant improvement to our community!



The first get-out-the-vote phone bank: Meilian Wang and Amy Sun are reaching out to voters by phone (left).  
Group photo of participants (right)

贵在参与



## Spotlight Family

### **Rui Xiao and his Family**

#### **Who is in your immediate family?**

My wife Bo He, my son Alex (age 9) and my daughter Emily (age 6)



#### **Where do you work and what do you do there?**

I am a development engineer in First Solar. I am responsible for process improvement and production scale up development. Also, I am responsible for coater process and hardware development.

My wife is also a development engineer at First Solar, in the same area, Research & Development!

#### **How long have you lived in the Toledo area?**

We moved to Toledo in 2008 and have been living here for about eight years.

#### **What does your family enjoy doing together?**

Traveling, watching movies, dining in outside restaurants, hiking, biking.

#### **What would your friends be surprised to learn about you?**

I am a good console gamer and good at roller skating!

**Name two things you are good at?**

Organizing family trips. Photography. I am very good at photography and very proud to be able to take family photos for my friends. I do enjoy capturing beautiful moments of my kids and friends with my camera.

**What are your hobbies and interests?**

Watching movies and photography

**What is on the menu for your family's favorite evening meal?**

My wife Bo is a very good chef. Our favorite dinner is Bo's secret noodle recipe which everyone enjoys!.

**Do you have any pets?**

I do have a tank of tropical fish. I like to stare at them in the night under LED light and enjoy the peaceful moments, which are hard to find in my busy life.

欢迎投稿

下期是你们家啦



## Reflection of the Year in China

*November 16, 2016*

### **Qin Shao**

I took a sabbatical leave from the University of Toledo for the academic year 2015-2016 and spent a fruitful and successful ten months with my son in Soochow University, Suzhou, China. Suzhou is a city 50 miles away from Shanghai with over 2,500 years of history. It is one of the top tourist attractions in China, full of stone bridges and meticulously designed ancient gardens. These gardens have been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List, and according to UNESCO "they represent the development of Chinese landscape garden design over more than two thousand years," and they are the "most refined form" of garden art.

The sabbatical gave me a chance to concentrate on several papers I had been working on. The joint work with my host Dr. Lijian Yang was accepted by one of the four most prestigious journals in Statistics: *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Statistical Methodology)*. I also revised several research papers with my doctoral students, and these papers have also been accepted for publication.

My son, Christopher, started his first step of the life-long-learning process in a local public elementary school in Suzhou. The school marked this important moment of the first graders by holding a grand ceremony in front of a 750-year-old temple on campus. At the beginning, it was an enormous challenge for him because his knowledge of Chinese was almost non-existent. It took him such a long time to do homework everyday that he had no time for fun at home. He had to carry a heavy backpack full of textbooks and notebooks everyday.

Although he was submerged by school work, he was happy and enjoyed playing with the 45 other classmates.

By the end of the spring semester, my son had made such impressive progress that he had almost caught up completely with his classmates and was performing at or near the top (in graded exams!) in Chinese, English and Mathematics.

Our life there was full of excitement and challenges. The friendship of my collaborator, Dr. Lijian Yang, as well as that of his family and many new friends, made our life there so much easier, happier and so much more enjoyable than we had expected. We miss them very much.



Chris's First Day of his Lifelong Education Journey, 2015

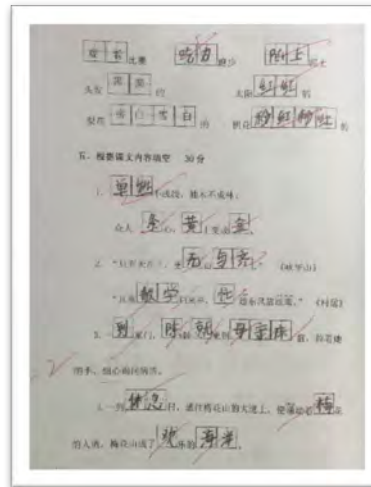
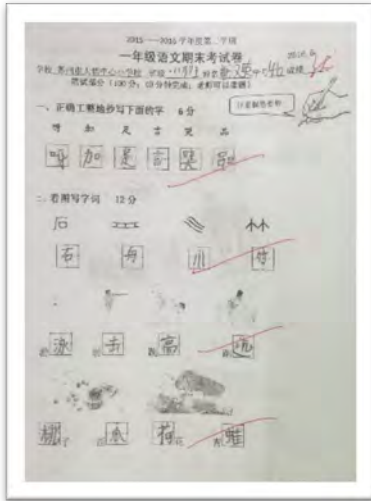


Grand Ceremony of First Grader Life Long Education Journey, 2015

(the temple behind is 750 years old)



Going Home in the Afternoon, 2016



Chris' Final Exam in Chinese, 2016



## Students from Qinhuangdao High School Attended the 2016 Toledo Sister City International Youth Academy

Students from Qinhuangdao High School Attended the 2016 Toledo Sister Cities “International Youth Academy” This summer seven high school students and two chaperones from the Qinhuangdao, Toledo’s sister city in China, attended the Toledo Sister Cities “International Youth Academy” at the University of Toledo. This is a two- week program for sister city high school students to work to improve their conversational English, develop a new understanding of different cultures, increase team building skills, become familiar with the city of Toledo, and to create lifelong friendships.



Toledo Qinhuangdao Committee members with Academy students & chaperon



Qinhuangdao student presenting at the farewell dinner

## Holiday Parade

### Olivia ONest

We would like to provide a brief recap of the holiday parade that occurred on November 12, 2016. Most importantly “thank you” to our wonderful volunteers for your hard work.



Eighty-six local groups participated in the holiday parade with a crowd estimated at 20,000 people. We were blessed with the warmest weather in the last several parades. The parade route was re-designed this year and the celebration ended with a "after-parade" show. Please see the link below from the Toledo Blade.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2016/11/12/Calysta-Bevier-Santa-highlight-Blade-s-Holiday-Parade.html>

As always, our volunteers jumped in and made this parade another huge success:

- Chinese School volunteer, Rob Sizemore, volunteered to build the trailer with overhangs to make the beautiful China Village. For those who don't know Rob, he's one of the board members in Chinese School and has been very active serving different Chinese School and community events.
- Jun Yu spent hours decorating the trailer and volunteered her time working with our youth and adult waist drum group.
- Rui Shao headed the project of purchasing all the new parade equipment.



- Waist Drum Group: Jun Yu, Hannah Chen, Hongxia Wang, Adam Zhang, Henry Shao, Nathan Li, Eric Tang, Robbie Zhang, Ben & Ken Liu, Alex Ban & Joshua Wang.
- Panda: Yuan Southworth & Meilian Wang
- Banner Team: Chao Zhang, Man Zhang, Liang Tang, Fei Li, Wenming Wang & Zhigang Ban.
- Big Headed Buddhas: Andrew & Brian Lum.
- Lion Dance: Fan Zhang, Arthur Zhang, Sydney Onest, Bryan Li, Tallon Southworth, & Kenny Zhang.
- Drum & Cymbals: Weixin Li & Rui Shao
- Candy Team: Marlene Sizmore, the Sizmore sisters, Ting Wang, Bo He & their lovely kids.
- Camera crew: Rui Xiao, Shirley Lum & Lingling Du.
- Treasurer, Qingjuan Kong, for reimbursing our parking fee right on the spot!
- We also want to thank Chinese School for their support and partnership, and Confucius Institute for the costumes.

Thanks for another successful parade, and we wish everyone a Happy Holiday.







希望明年见到你和国宝熊猫  
一起合影留念

## Summer Tennis Play

### Lindsay Onest

The CAGT tennis play was a huge success! Seventeen tennis players of all different levels came together to enjoy a sport that they love. The kids enjoyed a dinner of pizza, watermelon and chips. Players then divided themselves into three skill levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Beginner players had some fun while being introduced to the sport, intermediate players sharpened their skill set, and advanced players played real matches against one another! Tennis pro Brian at Perrysburg Tennis Center helped out with the younger kids and assistants Lindsay and Sydney Onest managed the intermediate and advanced players. The tennis play was a fun, enjoyable time for players of all ages and levels!







## Fall Picnic

### Olivia ONest

We had a great time at the Fall picnic at the new location, Providence Metro Park. Despite the rain, we still had a very nice turn-out. The rain stopped, the sky cleared around noon, and we got out of the shelter and enjoyed the outdoor activities. The kids had lots of fun with the tug of war, and tried to catch some fish while playing in the water. The adults had fun playing volleyball, and simply catching up with old friends and making new friends.

A huge thank-you to the Chinese School and Chinese Alliance Church for their partnership with CAGT in hosting this picnic.

Thanks to Jun Yu & Qingjuan Kong for being the CAGT lead on organizing this picnic.

Thanks to Fei Li for being the "Grill Man".

Thanks to all the volunteers for all your work and support.

















## Poem

Yiwei Chen

星空

陈一唯

高远的、澄澈的

秋日的天空

当夜色覆盖橘黄和枫红

星星的语言你懂?

坚定不移的是北极星

大勺子能否舀起掉落的彩虹?

西边的铁三角

东方的人马座

还有头顶埃及艳后的皇冠

依然闪烁着千年的雍容

牛郎织女还隔着银河

星空却没有国界

在天文馆的望远镜里

我看见了月亮的瞳孔

没有嫦娥、吴刚、和玉兔

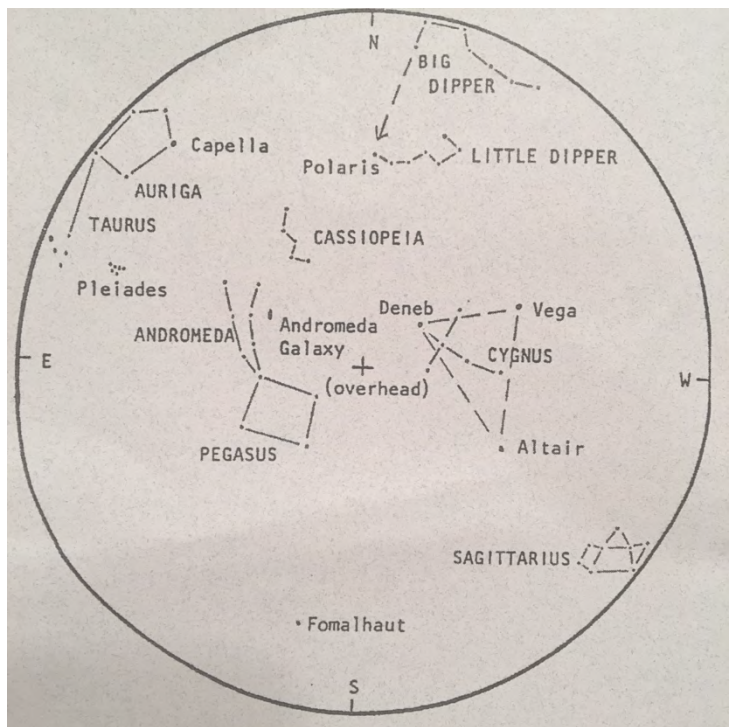
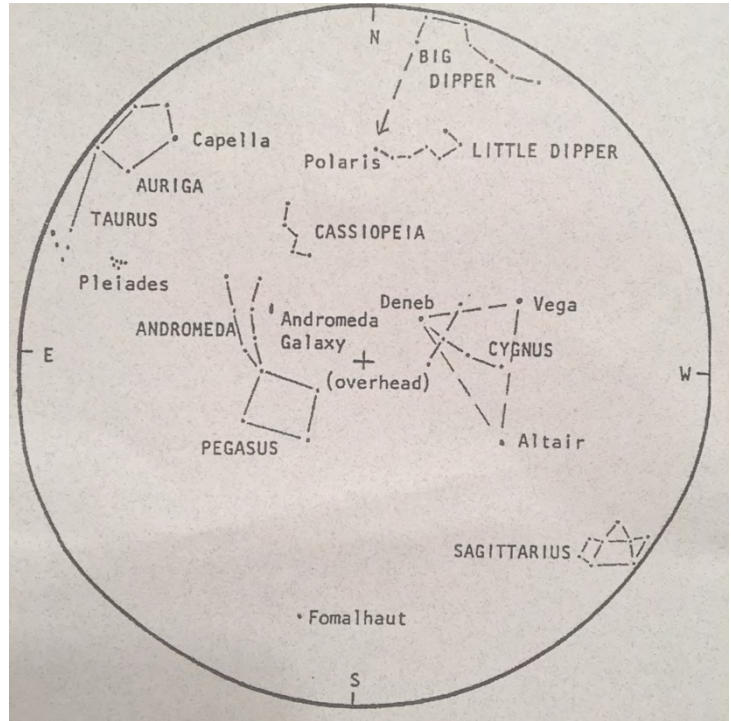
只有无边的寂寥汹涌

难怪它正在缓慢地远离地球

走向自己的苍穹

倘若人类再次登上月球

我想知道那儿有没有风?



**\*11/6/16 BGSU Planetarium: Back to the Moon for Good**



*You're Invited to*

# 2017 Toledo Chinese New Year Celebration

*Bring your family and friends to enjoy a wonderful night  
with delicious food, performance and friendship.*

Where: UT Student Union Auditorium

When: January 29, 2017 4:00pm - 9:00pm

Tickets: Members \$10, \$5 <13 years old

Non-members \$15, \$10 <13 years old

## Sponsors

Chinese Association of Greater Toledo

Chinese Center of Toledo

Confucius Institute, University of Toledo



**Credits:**

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Dawei Wang

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