

Chapter Report – Pittsburgh Chapter
By Wen-Ching Yang

The major events participated by the Pittsburgh Chapter included the 51st Annual Pittsburgh Folk Festival over the Memorial Day weekend (May 25 through 27) at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, an exceptional expression of local communities on the “Unity in Diversity”. Altogether, 22 ethnic backgrounds were represented. This is one of the major fundraising events for the Pittsburgh Chapter. Dancing programs were provided free by the OCA Youth Performance Ensemble and Lotus Blossom under the leadership of VP of Cultural Affairs, Chia-Pih Shaw. Cultural displays focusing on travel and kid’s workshop on Chinese crafts were also provided free under the guidance of Phanny Yang and Sarah Liu. Chinese foods and Chinese souvenirs were also on sale at the Food Booth responsible by William Liu and Sue Joy and Marketplace by Kim Kuehn. Many OCA members contributed to the success of this event, including Dali Li, Tong Lee, Yue Fang Lee, Dorothy Lee Green, Jimmy Cheng, and many others. The Pittsburgh Folk Festival is the longest continually running international heritage festival of its kind in the United States. Some of the activity photos are included here.

On 4th of July, OCA Pittsburgh Chapter also participated in the parade of Brentwood community, a local Pittsburgh neighborhood, under the organization of Sharon Dailey and Tong Lee.

In the First Annual Greater Pittsburgh DiverseCITY Festival on August 18, OCA along with TRFCC (Three Rivers Families with Children from China) help to organize and present the Asian programs with participation of other Asian groups in the Pittsburgh area under the leadership of Frances Wong, Kim Kuehn, Karen Yee, Dali Li, Julie Wen, Tong Lee, and many others.

Under the leadership of Frances Wong and Dorothy Lee Green, a Chinese Senior Center was set up with the funding from the Allegheny County and the State of Pennsylvania. The Senior Center now has a full-time Chinese speaking staff and has a computer with Chinese language. The Center provides fitness

activities and always has several tables of Mah-Jongg in progress. (see enclosed photos)

All those events required a substantial support from our members and friends and they indeed came out to volunteer to make it all possible.

It is also my pleasure and honor to report that our VP of Cultural Affairs, Chia-Pih Shaw, was honored as the General Motor Unsung Hero Award by the OCA National at the OCA National Convention at Sacramento, CA, July 27 – July 29. (see enclosed photo). Her exemplary volunteer work for the OCA-Pittsburgh Chapter was also just recognized by WQED Multimedia and Dominion as a winner of 2007 Dominion VITA Award (Volunteer in the Arts Award). As a result, Dominion will award OCA-Pittsburgh Chapter a \$2,000 gift in Chia-Pih's honor. If Chia-Pih becomes a Grand winner, OCA-Pittsburgh will receive an additional \$2,000 gift. In addition, she will be featured in Pittsburgh Magazine, radio, and WQED-13.







