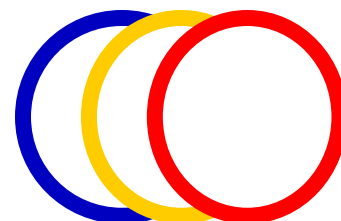




The Link



THE MALAYSIA SINGAPORE & BRUNEI CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Unit 238-2680 Shell Road, Richmond, British Columbia, V6X 4C9, CANADA

Website: www.msbca.com

email: msbcahq@gmail.com

An Editorial

A New Year

and a New Beginning....

by Richard Liew, VP Malaysia

With the horse, I can feel that MSBCA is galloping into a new beginning with new ideas and a strong showing of urgency to rebuild MSBCA from a new direction. Two new directors are injecting new blood into the system. We have young Stephanie Lim contributing articles for our young members to read, 'a breath of fresh air'.

The survey taken during the New Year's Eve Party signaled the beginning to see where we have to change for our next New Year's Eve party. Director Fred Shim (right) truly believes that going out to the members and friends by way of a survey, much improvement can be achieved by the club. We always want 'YOUR OPINIONS'. The survey will be published in the next issue of The Link.



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Photo showing some of the 220 guests enjoying the dance music by the Northern Lights during the countdown at the **New Year's Eve Party** in Floata Seafood Restaurant.



Christmas Party—December 07, 2013: There were 12 kids at the party. Later on, the adults and kids had a buffet dinner, catered by Ms. Kim Kook Lee. Life Member William Chong was kind enough to play Santa again. He has been the Santa for the past four years after Past President Christopher Chung retired from that role. Above right photo is a line of tasty desserts.

EVENTS TO WATCH.....

Chinese Lunar Dinner-February 01, 2014

MSB Fun Night (Brunei) -March 08, 2014

10th Anniversary Celebration—June 14, 2014(to be confirmed)

Annual BBQ Picnic-July 05, 21014

MSB Fun Night (Singapore) -August 09, 2014

MSB Fun Night (Malaysia)-Sept. 06, 2014

Annual General Meeting-Sept. 27, 2014

Children's Christmas Party-Dec 06, 2014

New Year's Eve-Dec 31, 2014

(Above dates are subject to change)

Monthly Activities: Pot-Luck on every last Saturday of the month @ MSBCA Club House.

CHINESE NEW YEAR—FEBRUARY 01, 2014

Please make plans to join us celebrate Year of the Horse at **Continental Seafood Restaurant in Richmond** on **February 01, 2014**. Tickets are \$45.00 each and you can purchase them, a great for family members and friends.. Bear in mind that this family event sells out fast and you do not want to be disappointed. We have Royal Pacific Social Club to perform the Lion Dance for us. And also there are other performances to follow during dinner.



Message from the President....

I wish all our members a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Without much of a break, after completing a successful event on the 31st of December, the Chinese New Year dinner is approaching very fast and we are working hard to get it all arranged for another successful event.

Thank you to the 66 members who attended the AGM. The meeting went very well as it was chaired by Past President/ Founder Mr. Guilbert Ho. He was assisted by Past President Polly Voon. I am happy to welcome two new directors to the Board and they are no strangers to the Association. Frederick Shim was a committee member before. Danny Thong was a Past President. He is now the VP of Brunei. I know their contribution will bring the Association to a new level.

The directors are hard at work now in planning the three MSB Fun Nights at the clubhouse. Also, the 10th Anniversary of the clubhouse is in the planning stage. Looks like we have a lot of work to do this year and I hope members will come out in full force to support the events. Thank you very much.

Best regards,
Stanley Low, President

**Please inform us by email at
msbcahq@gmail.com
if you are moving or have moved or
have changed your email address.
Also, inform us if you like your email
address removed from our list.**

EDUCATION FUND

MSBCA is now in the position to receive application from member's children, who are attending Grade 12 this year (2013-2014) with the intention to compete for the two awards, each \$250.00.

Awards will be handed to the successful applicants based on

- Academic Achievement (final grades),
- Services volunteered to the Association, measured in hours, and
- Community work outlining the experience achieved as result.

Closing date for application is 31 March, 2014.

Supporting documents are required to be submitted for final review by the Board at the end of the school year along with year-end grade results. Deadline is June 15, 2014. Please notify in writing if you intend to withdraw your application prior to the deadline.

Members must be in good standing for their children to qualify. The definition of children under their parents membership is 18 years old and under. If you are over 18 of age prior to graduation, a separate membership as 'single' would be required to qualify.

Application indicating your intention to compete for the one-time award shall be in the form of a letter with your name and address, age and your parent's name, telephone number and email address. You can send your letter application electronically to 'msbcahq@gmail.com' to the attention of Mr. Richard Liew, Director.



10th Anniversary of the Clubhouse

Time really went ticking by and in April we would have owned the clubhouse, our home base, for 10 years. Above photo is Mayor of Richmond Mr. Malcolm Brodie with late Ms. Gillian Chee dedicating the grand opening of the clubhouse on April 17, 2004. More details to come in the next issue.

Board of Directors (2013-2014)

President: *Mr. Stanley Low*
(604.889.9288)

VP Malaysia: *Mr. Richard Liew,*
(604.377.1201)

VP Singapore: *Mrs. Fanny Chua,*
(604.222.2323)

VP Brunei: *Mr. Danny Thong,*
(604.649.2931)

Hon. Treasurer: *Ms. Miew Leng Teo,*
(604.808.3938)

Hon. Secretary: *Mr. S.K. Chin*
(604.862.1887)

Director in-charge of Membership:

Mrs. Julie Chaki
(604.437.0676)

Director: *Mr. Wen Ching Shieh,*
(604.325.1347)

Director: *Mr. Wen Wong,*
(604.944.6781)

Director: *Mr. Frederick Shim,*
(604.448.0951)

Immediate Past President:

Ms. Miew Leng Teo

Editor: *Mr. Richard Liew*

Honorary Advisors:

Mr. Guilbert Ho

Mr. Yeo Sing Lim

Ms. Polly Voon



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The change has already happened with the cancellation of the annual camping. Interest waned off as the young kids are now teenage adults who are pursuing their own interest. Therefore, we need to change and get into their trend of things, said new director Fred Shim.



Our Hon. Advisor Mr. Yeo Sing Lim, (left) indicated that only 5% of Associations in the Lower Mainland have its own clubhouse. MSBCA is one in the 5%. The grass root of this club are our Members and Life Members and MSBCA thank them for helping the Association in attaining that goal. This year we will dispense a small sum of money from the Education Fund to member's children who have done well in school.

There is a need to mend fences along the way with some of our Past Presidents and Past Directors. They have worked very hard for the association and are always well respected. Some members also have contributed greatly to the success of this club. The club needs them back into the fold. Improvement of relationship between directors and the members is a priority and of utmost importance.

Moving ahead, the first function in the clubhouse this year is to fill the event with 100 people, back to where we started before, renting next door for food and line dancing. The main floor in the clubhouse will be for ballroom dancing and it is hoped we can have live band music for a change. This is where we should start. On that day, March 08, 2014, we will also commemorate Brunei National Day. Watch for more details.

For golfers, this year could be the year to restart our Golf Tournament. I am banking on new Director Danny Thong (right), an avid golfer himself to organize the tournament. Danny served two terms as President from 1980-1982. If you want to help, please give him a call.



The website, 'msbca.com' will soon be undergoing construction as it was done 20 years ago. With today's technology, the new website when completed will be easier to manage and navigate.

All in all, this year is going to be a hectic one. As VP Malaysia, planning the celebration at the clubhouse on September 06, 2014, will be in the works soon.



Richard Liew, VP Malaysia,

Obituary

Gillian Chee passed away on December 06, 2013 at the age of 57. Sadly missed by members who knew her. Her father, late Robert Chee was the first President and co-founder of MSBCA. She lent her expertise, being a lawyer, to club issues when approached, in a very professional manner. She gave her last advice to the club in late October last year without a hint of not being well. For that, we truly appreciate her contribution.



Her memorial service was attended by well over 400 people. Six Past Presidents of the Association were in attendance including current President Stanley Low.

Newsletter Advertising Rate

Back Page (colour)	\$200
Inside Front & Inside Back Page (B/W)	\$150
Inside Pages (B/W)	\$100
1/2 Page (B/W)	\$ 50
Business card	\$ 25

Advertisers wanted. Please call 604-377-1201

Clubhouse Rental Rates

The rental rates are as follow:

Member- \$15 per hour;

Non-member -\$ 20 per hour.

Rates are subject to change without notice.

Rental is subject to availability.

Agreement Form to be completed.

Deposits are required.

Audio/Visual Equipment and Food Catering not included.

No alcohol permitted in the premises.

Capacity: 50 people

Please contact any for the directors for rental.

MEMBERSHIP

Please make your cheque payable to:

MSBCA
Unit 238-2680 Shell Road,
Richmond, B.C.
V6X 4C9.

Please call: Julie Chaki
(604-437-0676)

for
Membership Form or visit our website to print the form.

Annual Membership Fee
(From August 01st, current year to July 31st, the following year):

	General	Life
Single/Seniors (60 & over) -	\$25.00	\$250.00
Family (excluding children over 18 years) -	\$30.00	\$300.00

Christmas Party-Dec 07, 2013



Below: Children sharing stories of Christmas while waiting for Santa to arrive from north Pole. Santa did arrive after all.



New Year's Eve Party-December 31, 2013

Photo on the right at the reception table:
L-R: Membership Director Julie Chaki, Doris Wong, Aster Liew and Kallen Low.
Below photo: Guests danced to the music of Northern Lights.



The Youth of Today
by Stephanie Lim



I am part of the millennial. We are the generation that span from the 1980's to the early 2000's. We live in a very different world than those before us. We are the age of both advancement and recession, of ambition and ignorance, of technology and isolation, but most of all, we are the age of change.

In the past, it sufficed to try your best in school, to do your best and you would get a post secondary education, you could graduate with a degree after 4 years, and earn a stable job with relative security. Today, that is no longer enough. Schools are looking for at least 200 volunteer hours, for straight A's or an above 90% average, to be perfectly all rounded with a knowledge of the arts and a firm grasp of the technical skills, and we, the youth of today are under constant pressure to perform and meet these expectations. Even if we do, there is no guarantee for success. Often, we leave college or university with massive student's debt, and we are still unable to find a job. The price of living is rising, and we must plan wisely if we want to stay afloat.

The problems we face are dire. We are left with issues like global warming, with constant war and with obesity. We are forced to take environmental pollution and the deterioration of the ozone layer in stride, but while all that is going on, we must still push to make the world a better place. To assure that equality will be achieved, where misogyny can be part of history and that everyone will be judged not by the colour of their skin but by the strength of their character. That is who we strive to be. Many may call us lazy or ungrateful, ignorant to the trials and tribulations of the past where hard labour plagued their daily lives, however we are much more than that.

We are ambitious and creative, compassionate and aware. Reality has accustomed us to a life that isn't necessarily always pretty. We know of hate crime, of cyber bullying and of child labour. Illiteracy is as evil as war. Mere decades ago, these problems would have been swept under the rug and ignored, however, the youth of today are striking back. That is why we have LGBTQS (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Straight) clubs, where initiatives like pink shirt day and WE day exist. To unite the youth of today in our common goal of making the world a better place. We are not naive enough to believe that such a dream will come easily, but to question our youth is to question our knowledge, and more often than not, we are not lacking. Willing are we to take doubt in stride, but the truth remains that we are the future and hopefully, our efforts will be rewarded.

Far left photo: Guests arriving to party, led by Big Jim on the right. Hing Tee (left) gave a big smile for the cameraman.
Life Members Steven and Helen Ng in the mood for a great time, back from Brunei for holidays.