

康寧華人協會

CORNING CHINESE ASSOCIATION

Since 1960

Corning, New York

www.cca-ny.org

Editor: Jinxin Huang

CCA Q1 2018 NEWSLETTER

Our Mission: To facilitate networking and personal/professional development amongst the Chinese community and those who are interested in Chinese culture; to promote Chinese culture in the Southern Tire Region of New York State; and to provide a means to bridge the Chinese and American cultures.



Table of Content

- *Chinese New Year*
- *CCA bowling event*
- *Taste of world*
- *Ballroom dance club*
- *New Member Introduction*
- *Upcoming events*

CCA Chinese New Year













Chinese New Year celebration at Sullivan Park

CORNING, N.Y. - Dr. Polly Chu opened the annual S&T Chinese New Year Celebration with a story from her childhood that likely resonated with many other members of the host Corning Chinese Association (CCA).

Born and raised in New York City, Dr. Chu told CCA members and their guests at the Feb. 26 celebration at Sullivan Park about joining her extended family - about 20 people from three generations - for dinner every Sunday in Chinatown when she was a child. Some were immigrants and some were born in the United States, but all were there to provide support to one another, she said.


"I have always felt it's important for me to feel connected to my roots and be aware of where my family came from," said Dr. Chu, a CCA board member. "CCA serves that same purpose for the Chinese community in the Southern Tier. Just as my extended family has grown over the decades, CCA has grown from a handful of families that first met in the 1960s to more than 300 members today. The group provides a sense of extended family for members and their families."

The members of the employee resource group and their families welcomed the Year of the Dog, the Lunar New Year, with music and dance and food for the 14th year in a row in the Sullivan Park Atrium. The Chinese New Year was Feb. 16, and on Feb. 17, CCA started its celebrations with a similar community event at Corning-Painted Post Middle School.

"The celebration at Sullivan Park reflects how Corning values its employees from many different cultures," said Ying Zhang, senior research scientist with S&T and the chair of CCA. "Our members and their families look forward to sharing our rich cultural heritage and traditions with colleagues."

At the celebration, Ying said that in 2017, the group welcomed five speakers from Corning Greater China to strengthen ties with employees in Taiwan and China. In addition, the group had three fundraisers and more than 50 members completed volunteer work.

Lin Lin, a CCA adviser and former chair, said the food served after the program is very popular, and sparks memories for her. She said Ma Ball, deep-fried glutinous rice balls with sesame, is a classic holiday snack in southern China. "It is crisp on the outside, soft and sweet inside," said Lin, a senior thin film scientist. "It reminds me of the Chinese New Year celebrations in China when I was a child."



David Morse, Chief Technology Officer, and Charlie Craig, Senior Vice President, Research and Development, praised members for an entertaining and educational program.

“I have attended these programs since the first one every time I have been in town, and every year they get bigger and better,” David said. “Our Chinese community has grown tremendously over the years. Thank you for today’s program, and let’s keep doing this every year.”

Charlie, the group’s sponsor, thanked the CCA leadership team and its members. “They practice very hard in preparing for this day,” he said. “Every year, the performances are successful and memorable. Thank you to the employees and their families for their exceptional work.”



Dr. Chu said in addition to what CCA does in the Corning Valley, it also plays a big role in reaching out to Corning locations in Taiwan and China. “They help employees who are moving to get quickly connected in different locations and smooth the logistics involved with transitions.”

The Sullivan Park celebrations are about more than sharing Chinese food and culture, Dr. Chu said.

“I believe that sharing our culture, holidays, and language helps us to better understand how different groups think and approach problem-solving,” she said. “Sullivan Park benefits from this diversity. Yes, there are differences, but by working together, we can better solve problems and deliver for Corning.”

Chinese New Year Dragon Dance

Bin Yang

In Chinese culture, dragon is a symbol of power, strength, and good luck; dragon dance is a must-have performance in the traditional celebrations of Chinese new years. This year CCA organized a dragon dance team, which consists of dancers/volunteers across different divisions of Corning. Every team member was very excited and could not wait to be part of the show, with the best wishes they want to bring to the community. We were very proud to perform in Sullivan Park for our colleagues, especially with the fact that most team members did not have any dragon dance experience before. We were glad to see that the audience liked our show and it would be some unique memory for everyone.



CCA winter activity -- bowling event

Hank Wang

Winter in corning is really long and cold. It usually begins from the end of October and ends at the mid of April. It brings an unpleasant experience to people who are not used to the cold weather. The normal outdoor activities like tennis, basketball, and hiking are not quite enjoyable any more.

However, there is still much fun which can be found here even in the winter. At Dec. 15th, more than 50 CCA members participated in the first CCA winter activity which was held in a local bowling house. This is doubled the bowling activity than two year ago.

It was two hours of fun. Parents brought their children with them and enjoyed a wonderful family time. Many of them took this opportunity to teach their little kids how to play bowling. It was also a very good time for the little kids to play with each other. As the winter continues, there will be more winter activities provided by CCA in the next year.



CCA members volunteered in “Taste a World of Flavor” event and won a Prize

Liying Zhang

Food is a universal language across the world. It is great that CCA had three volunteers this year to attend the Taste a World of Flavor event. This event was sponsored annually by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, a non-profit organization for the annual scholarship fundraiser event.

Mar 25th, a lot of local chefs came together to Big Flat. All kinds of food were presented, including Italian, American, Indian, French, Chinese, etc. The event proceeds benefit the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc Scholarship fund.



There were lots of efforts to prepare the food which need to be enough for 50+ people to taste, and of course the high quality is the number #1 priority. Victoria Card, Shufen Qin and Zhengji Zhang attended this event representing CCA. They presented French Macaron, Chinese home-made moon-cake and braised pork ribs in the event.



Ballroom dance club

Sean (Xiao) Li and He Jing

Another indoor activity sponsored by CCA has brought more color and warmth to CCA members and friends' winter lives. Along with Sean Li, an experienced ballroom dance instructor and award winner, CCA has offered four ballroom dance lessons at Hope Church.

Not even freezing temperature or snow could stop people coming from all parts of the town to take the class, the enthusiasm was phenomenal. Within four lessons, Sean was able to share beautiful movements in harmony with lovely music, and provide our dance lovers with guidance of how to achieve the basic movements. He designed "warm-up" exercises to help people to understand the movements of each dance and to build muscle memory. People actually burned Calories while enjoying beautiful music, as Sean often said: "Ballroom dancing is the most effective yet effortless way to lose weight." From the pictures, it is not hard to see how much our members and friends were interested in the teaching and everyone had tons of fun. Moreover, all of the attendees have fruitful learning experience after four lessons.



Our instructor Sean created a WeChat group for all classmates and dance enthusiasts. You really need to see the pages of hot discussions we had every day. CCA members and friends share dance information, provide class feedback, and become better friends there.

We are very lucky to have Sean Li, a 10+ year competitive ballroom dancer in Corning as our instructor. Seeing the people's enthusiasm in ballroom dancing, CCA decided to officially form a ballroom dance club and continue to support the dance classes. What wonderful news! Please do not hesitate to attend the follow-up activities if you are interested.

New Member Introduction

Yuan Lei and his family

Hi all, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our Clemson Tiger family to all CCA members. My name is Lei Yuan, and I have been in Corning Inc. for only 6 months as a Research Scientist (Laser Processing) in the group of Applied Optical Physics(S&T). I got my Ph.D. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering(ECE) from Clemson University in May 2017. My wife Jie Liu, who also obtained a ECE Ph.D. degree from Clemson University last year, just joined Corning Inc. as a Precision Mechanical Engineer in the group of Connectivity Research(S&T) in March 2018. My son Leo Yuan, who is almost 5 years old, is going to join Erwin Valley Elementary School in September this year. All of us are big Clemson Tiger football fans. Leo and I never missed any homecoming games in "Death Valley" in the past 3 years. Jie likes cooking authentic Chinese food (i.e., You Po Mian, Rou Jia Mo, Liang Pi, You Tiao, and etc...). Leo and I like a lot of indoor/outdoor activities, and we can go hiking, fishing and swimming, play soccer/basketball/football, and enjoy playing the piano, guitar, and drum sets. Corning is a nice place for raising family and we are looking forward to enjoying life here with all CCA members.





Upcoming Events

- Mother's day celebration 5/12/2018 3-7pm Corning Chinese Church
- Colonial day parade
- Corning Intern Meets
- Dragon boat team & Race