

Shopping at the new Austin Chinatown Center

Last Sunday I took a friend from San Antonio to MT Market at 10901 North Lamar here in Austin. The place was bustling with shoppers. The new, larger and brighter Asian market (formerly My Thahn at Lamar and Morrow) was so busy that Mr. Alex Tan and Mrs. Lan Tan were even bagging groceries. When I got to the front to pay and Alex began to put my groceries into bags for me I was laughing to find the real estate developer helping customers and he said, “Yes, everyone is working!” Now that is a good businessman.

Synchronicity – The Gears and Wheels of Time

Changes: Perhaps the term synchronicity is too lofty a word to use in this instance, but I find the timing and circumstances interesting that the same month I (that is, Carmen Canann) was to take an early retirement leave from AAACC in order to stay home and care for a baby grandson coincided with the same month Lisa Nguyen’s job for the past few years as a Nanny would end and she’d be available to begin working fulltime at AAACC. As you may know, Lisa has been with the Chamber for the last few months.

The good news to you as an interested supporter of AAACC is that as one enthused and dedicated person steps down, another enthused and dedicated person steps up as, in a sense, Lisa and I “trade places” beginning September 1, 2006.

Good-bye and Thank You: I’d like to thank AAACC for the opportunities it has allowed me in learning experiences and, more importantly, in meeting so many wonderful, interesting and dedicated people since 2002. I’d especially like to thank Immediate Past Chair Niyanta Spelman for her mentoring skills.

Looking Ahead: With the Board of Directors lead by current Chair Paula Hui and with Roger Chan at the helm of benefactor recruitment, along with Lisa Nguyen in the office each day and Gina Chiang bringing her education and skills to business development, AAACC continues on its upward mobility and will continue to serve the community along with its partners in the Network of Asian American Organizations (NAAO) and the Texas Federation of Asian American Chambers of Commerce (TFAACC).

Watch for upcoming news reports and email updates on both the office move to the Austin Chinatown Center this year and on the developing plans on the Austin Asian Resource Center.

Roger Chan has joined AAACC to add his experience in revenue building – specifically for the new office space at 10901 North Lamar next to MT Market.

Contact Roger or Lisa to see how you or your company may assist. Take an online peek into the new Austin Chinatown at <http://www.chinatownaustin.com/>.

Monthly Events Report

June 21 – The Texas Board of Professional Engineers made a presentation to friends and members at a luncheon seminar held at Origami Express restaurant on Anderson Lane. The well-received topic was Ethics in Engineering.

June 26 – A toasty ROAST took place at Reed’s Jazz & Supper Club as an AAACC fundraiser. Laughter as well as money was raised when friends of Channy Soeur gathered to poke fun at him. Texas State Representative Martha Wong spelled out CHANNY saying C is for Charming, H is for H _ _ _ , A is for Attitude, N is for Naughty, N is for Nice and Y is for Yes. Former Mayor of Austin, Gus Garcia, said “Channy has drive – he drives you crazy.” Deputy City Manager Garza, told C. Soeur he was “a legend to last a lifetime and with your appetite that’s a very very long time”. Another longtime friend joked that Channy “can make a Hindu eat octopus”.

July 11-16 - AAACC helped the Healing Tao Institute in Austin promote the tour of Taoist Monks from Wudang, China to Austin during the month of July. Blessings, martial arts and ceremonial music, complete with swords, costumes and traditional Chinese instruments were enjoyed at Barton Springs Pool, the State Capital, the City Hall Plaza and a local high school.

July 19 – “Identity Theft” was the hot topic at the AAACC July luncheon seminar held at the Veranda Restaurant at North Cross Mall.

August 16 – Austin’s Barton Springs Aquifer was the educational topic for AAACC’s August luncheon seminar held at Kevin Le’s 888 Vietnamese Restaurant on East Oltorf. K. Le is a business client of the AAACC.

MEMBER MIXER scheduled for September 22.

For a chance to meet other AAACC members, friends of the Chamber and people from both small and large businesses, please join us on Friday, September 22, from 7-9 at Dandelion Café, 1115 E. 11th Street for an art show Mixer. This is a FREE event and is hosted by AAACC member Austin Unique. <http://www.austinunique.com> .

Business Development Opportunities:

Are you starting a new business or planning to expand but don’t know where to start? AAACC helps small businesses on various development levels from start up to securing a loan.

AAACC provides technical and educational services in the following and other related areas: Business plan writing; Marketing; Cash Flow Management; Revenue Forecasting; Preparing Financial Statements; Business Taxes; Business loan packaging; and Financial Assessment.

Referrals: Please be aware that many businesses and government agencies ask AAACC for assistance in finding contractors and subcontractors for various business and/or

employment opportunities. *AAACC* refers its members to many great opportunities to contract with local area companies.

AAACC members also enjoy: Business Referrals; Networking Opportunities; Fun Activities/events; Business classes/training; Discounts for various seminars, and more. You may contact Gina Chiang of Business Development or Lisa Nguyen of Administration and Events for more detailed information: