



西南佛州華人聯誼會
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CHINESE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

佛州西南部華人協會月訊



Upcoming Events 活動

Wed, April 7 – FGCU Zoom Symposium: “AAPI & COVID-19: Reflections 1 year later”

Sat, April 24 – Youth Game Night!

Sat, June 12 – Dragon Boat Festival

Message from the President

Greetings SWFCA! As president of the association, I wanted to first and foremost wish you and your family a happy new year! Gong xi ni fa cai! This year is represented by the ox in the Chinese Zodiac and I find it a very fitting symbol for this year in particular. You know, the ox was going to be first to arrive at the emperor's party (we're punctual!) but ended up being tricked by the rat and so arrived second.

Although it might seem like a bummer, the ox is the kind of animal that is just happy to be here and doesn't need the attention or spotlight on them. And that's how I feel about 2021. We don't need the spotlight on us; we're just happy to be here and have a community in Southwest Florida. I've gotten to meet many members, both old and new, at our events in the first quarter of this year and I know there are many more still who are waiting for the right time to join in on the fun. In case you didn't make it to the celebrations so far this year, here's a **quick recap** of what we've been up to.

We celebrated the Lunar New Year with our Spring Festival party at Mercato in Naples. Thirty-nine members attended and we enjoyed food from AZN and entertainment from some of our talented members as well as the White Dragon Lion Dancing team. For the Lantern Festival, we met at Lakes Park in Fort Myers to celebrate the end of Spring Festival and 75 members attended. There was live music, dancing, the children's lantern walk, lions, water balloons, outdoor games, and a comedy routine. We were fortunate to enjoy perfect weather on both event days. Here's a link to Jimmy Wolff's [photos from the Lantern Festival](#).

As a reminder, our association no longer asks for membership fees. We would love to see you in the next event and to invite a friend! Our big goal this year is to develop and grow this community and provide opportunities for our members to connect with each other. We have a growing list of business sponsors who support this group and our culture and help make these events possible. Let's show

Member Benefits

Free with Membership:

- Newsletters
- Chinese Cultural Classes
- Professional Counseling Seminars
- Chinese Festival Events

Discounts with Membership:

- Special Promotions
- Local businesses

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them our thanks as well. Our [business sponsors can be found here](#). If you are interested in becoming a business sponsor to our growing community, please complete the [application found here](#).

We will be having group socials for the middle and high school aged members of the community coming in April. The social will run for 90 minutes and include pizza and drinks. The theme this month is: Board Games! Please contact me, David, for more information if you are interested in attending by email to swflaca@gmail.com.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Dragon Boat festival coming up on June 12, 2021.

I can't wait to see you again in one of our future events, and on behalf of the SWFCA, happy new year!

-David Wright
SWFCA President







Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) and Covid-19

The rising increase in violence against Asian Americans since the COVID-19 pandemic has been alarming and has caused tremendous pain, anger and fear in the Asian American community. The Southwest Florida Chinese Association stands with and supports those who have been victims to hate crimes and racism and mourns the loss of our fellow Asian Americans most recently in Atlanta. Below are resources available where you can get information and report incidents of hate crimes and learn how to deal with these types of situations.

自从COVID-19发生以来，针对亚裔美国人的暴力活动日益增加，这对亚裔美国社区带来了巨大的痛苦，愤怒和恐惧。西南佛州华人协会与那些受害于厌恶犯罪和遭受种族歧视的人站在同一阵线，并为他们提供支持，还为最近在亚特兰大去世的亚裔美国同胞表示哀悼。您可以在以下的资源获取相关信息，举报仇恨犯罪事件，并了解如何处理这类的状况。

General Information: <https://www.advancingjustice-aajc.org/>

Free Training webinars: <https://www.ihollaback.org/resources/>

Report hate crimes: <https://www.standagainsthatered.org>

Other organizations:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OinO5eX4catRDTTuVf7PEjVg2NNj5-J4h_bWD67-AAk/edit

How to Protect Yourself: <https://mailchi.mp/aafederation/aaf-landing-page>

Call 1-844-9-NO-HATE for reporting and resource purposes.

COVID Resources in Chinese:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XePaKv7Ar59PG7z37Qqzlb8WfynEx5BK5ZfK3VLXIJA/edit#gid=1101570108>

Business Members

A BIG THANK YOU to all of our [business members](#) for their support for our association and the Southwest Florida Chinese community.