

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

The Asian American Bar Association of Houston
invites you to a

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

in observance of New Year 4705:
THE YEAR OF THE BOAR



Friday, February 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Tay Do Restaurant II

11201 Bellaire Boulevard • Houston, Texas 77072 • 281.988.8939

featuring an eight-course banquet meal (including lobster)

\$20 for law students / \$30 for AABA members / \$40 for non-members

\$5 for kids aged 5-15 / FREE for kids under 5

Ring in the New Year with the AABA!

2007 is the Year of the Boar! An annual time of reunion and thanksgiving, New Year festivities begin on February 18th with the new moon and end on the full moon 15 days later.

The 15th day of the New Year is reserved for the Lantern Festival, which originated in ancient times as a ceremony to usher in the light and warmth of the sun after the winter's cold.

The Boar is the twelfth among the twelve zodiac animals in the Asian horoscope.

The Boar is associated with contentment and security. People born in the Year of the Boar (1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995) are genuine, kind, and strong. They are highly regarded for their chivalry and pureness of heart, and often make friends for life.

For Boars in 2007, look forward to a year in which to really shine!

Famous people born in the Year of the Boar include Thomas Jefferson, Ernest Hemingway, Alfred Hitchcock, Lucille Ball, David Letterman, Steven Spielberg, and the Dalai Lama.

RSVP by February 21st to Catherine Than at ctha@delgadoacosta.com or 713.437.4502.

2007 OFFICERS

Emily T. Kuo

President
Nabors Industries Ltd.

Catherine Than

President-Elect
Delgado, Acosta, Braden & Jones, P.C.

Judy Y. Liu

Vice President of Membership
CenterPoint Energy Service Company, LLC

Lynn Chuang Kramer

Vice President of Programs
Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Warren S. Huang

Vice President of Community Relations
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.

Emily Nguyen

Vice President of Development
Crady, Jewett & McCulley, LLP

Steve C. Bae

Treasurer
Germer Gertz, L.L.P.

Julie Pi Evans

Secretary
David M. Verbit & Associates, P.C.

DIRECTORS

Debra Baker

Connelly • Baker • Maston • Wotring • Jackson LLP

Alex C. Chae

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Theresa Chang

Harris County Attorney's Office

Harry Gee, Jr.

Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. & Associates

Bruce Hiran

Monks & Hiran, P.C.

Honorable Jay Karahan

Harris County Criminal Court at Law No. 8

John S. Tsai

Waste Management, Inc.

Hoang Quan Vu

Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, LLP

David E. Warden

Yetter & Warden, L.L.P.

Honorable Ted Wu

The AABA presents:

Developing Your Legal Practice and Managing Your Legal Career

Thursday, March 1, 2007
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP
1000 Louisiana, Suite 3400

11:30 a.m. – Registration and Lunch
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. – Program and Q&A Session

Featured Speakers:

Alex C. Chae, Partner, *Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP*

John S. Tsai, Vice President & Assistant General Counsel – Corporate & Securities, *Waste Management, Inc.*

Michelle Hoogendam Cash, Founder, *Pemberton Legal Search* (Moderator)

Our panelists, attorneys with significant law firm and in-house experience, will discuss their perspectives on the successful practice of law. More details TBA.

1 hour MCLE credit pending

Lunch will be provided

Cost: **FREE** for AABA members; \$15 for non-members

If you plan to attend, RSVP with Lynn Chuang Kramer at lkramer@munsch.com no later than February 26, 2007.

MENTORS NEEDED!

We're hoping to sign up as many Mentors as possible for this year's AABA Mentorship Program, due to the great response we have received from potential law student and new attorney mentees.

If you would like to be a mentor this year or know someone who does, please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter as soon as possible so that we can get a better idea of how many mentees we can accommodate at our **MENTORSHIP KICK-OFF RECEPTION**, scheduled for 6:30 p.m., February 28th, at Tropioca, 2808 Milam Street.

Mentee applications are also welcome!

For more information, and to RSVP (by February 23rd) for the Mentorship Kick-Off Reception, contact Jane Nguyen Vuong at jnguyen@njclaw.com or 713.780.4982.

2007 INSTALLATION BANQUET



On January 11, 2007, the AABA held its 2007 Installation Banquet at the beautiful Café Le Jadeite to welcome the incoming Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs for 2007. In the left picture (from the left): Ted Wu, Linhuyen Pham, Sherry Scott, and Steven Wu. In the right picture (from the left): Jane Nguyen Vuong, Joseph Yao, Jason Luong, and Alex Chae.



The AABA would like to thank the Honorable Wanda McKee Fowler, Justice of the Fourteenth Court of Appeals (and an AABA member), for presiding over the installation ceremony. In the left picture (from the left): Judge Jay Karahan, Justice Wanda McKee Fowler, Emily Kuo, and Catherine Than (photo courtesy of Yellow Magazine). In the right picture are the newly inducted 2007 Officers (from the left): Warren Huang, Judy Liu, Emily Kuo, Catherine Than, Justice Wanda McKee Fowler, Emily Nguyen, and Julie Pi Evans (missing: Lynn Chuang Kramer and Steve C. Bae).

2007 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee:

Anderson Lee

Audrey Chang
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee:

Jane Nguyen Vuong
Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen, PLLC

Tan Pham
Baker & McKenzie LLP

Eunice Song
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Gala Committee:

Joyce Kao Soliman
Porter & Hedges LLP

Steven Wu
Chevron Services Company

Corporate Counsel Committee:

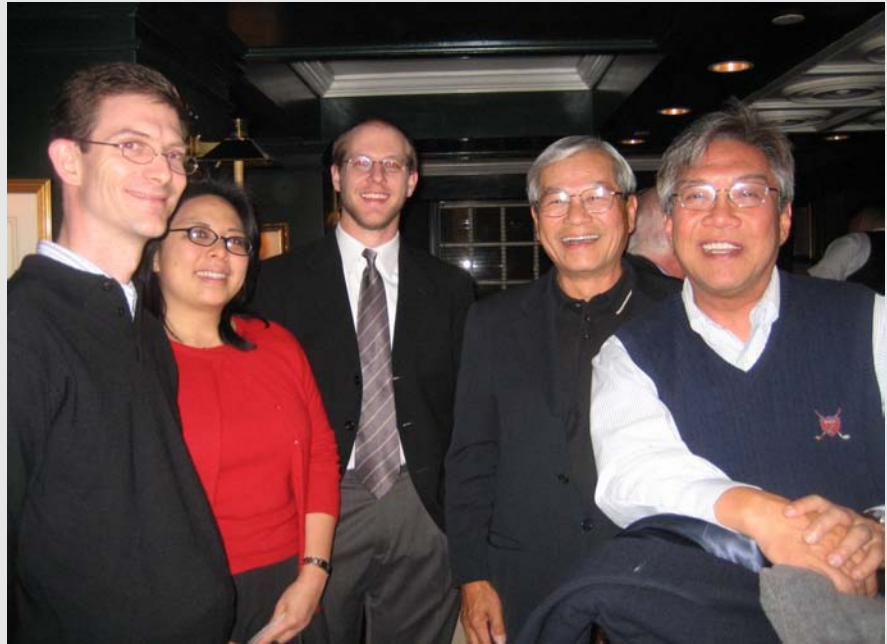
Jason Luong
*Smyser Kaplan & Veselka,
L.L.P.*

Cathy Sun
Yetter & Warden, L.L.P.

Benjamin Bai
Jones Day

Phillip Woo
Univation Technologies

AABA NIGHT AT THE SYMPHONY



On January 18, 2007, the AABA held its Night at the Symphony event with a Pre-Concert Happy Hour at Bistro Lancaster, followed by a performance by Yo-Yo Ma at Jones Hall. Above, pictured from the left are Don Gibbons, Michele Gibbons, Jonathan Shumate, George Yang, and Gordon Quan.



Pictured from the left:
Julie Tsai and Catherine Than.



Help Build Two Habitat Homes - Deadline Extended!

**So far the Houston Bar Association has raised \$108,860!
In order to build two houses, they need to raise \$118,000.**

**Please consider making a donation to the HBA's Habitat project
by February 15, 2007. Donations may be sent to:**

**Houston Bar Association
Attention: Rusty Bienvenue
1001 Fannin, Suite 1300
Houston, TX 77002**

The AABA hopes to volunteer to help build these houses in the spring of 2007!

CONGRATULATIONS!

**To Lily Hoang and her husband, Paul,
on the birth of their daughter, Jasmine Ngoc Yen.**

January 20, 2007

5:10 a.m.

6 lbs 0 ozs

19.5 inches

CONGRATULATIONS, GORDON QUAN!

**This year the Friends of MHMRA will honor
Leonel J. Castillo and Gordon Quan for their dedication and support
to improve the lives of people with mental disabilities throughout our community.**

**THE 3RD ANNUAL MARDI GRAS EVENING
WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE MHMRA OF HARRIS COUNTY**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2007 6:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.
WESTSIDE TENNIS CLUB
1200 WILCREST DRIVE, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042**

Tickets may be purchased online at www.friendsofmhmr.org.

If you would like to publicize community news, job opportunities, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact Julie Pi Evans at juliempi@earthlink.net.

OPPORTUNITIES

Transactional Counsel

Location: Houston, Texas

Experience: 2-3+ years

Responsibilities: General transactional matters, including contract drafting and negotiation, M&A, finance, general corporate issues, and operational support.

Compensation: Competitive base salary, benefits, bonus.

Responsibilities:

The transactional counsel will provide general transactional support to the company on transactional and operational matters. This lawyer will provide advice and guidance on all legal matters affecting the organization. Examples of responsibilities include:

- All types of contract drafting and negotiation, including purchase and sale agreements, vendor agreements, real estate documents, and other commercial contracts
- Mergers and acquisitions support
- General finance matters
- Occasional employment issues, intellectual property matters, and coordination of litigation with outside counsel

Required Experience and Skills:

The successful candidate for this position will have the following experience and abilities:

- High academic credentials from a top law school
- 2+ years of general transactional experience with a law firm and/or corporate law department
- Experience in general transactional matters, such as contract drafting and negotiation, mergers and acquisitions, commercial agreements, purchase and sales agreements, and other types of business issues
- Experience in employment matters and litigation management a plus
- Business sense - knowledge of the company's business and business acumen
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills; positive attitude
- Highly responsive to clients and co-workers

Why Consider This Position?

Great legal team, directly reporting to General Counsel; Opportunity to join a strong company in a busy industry; Continued legal development through highly varied projects and strong mentoring; Competitive compensation and benefits; Comfortable offices and relaxed dress code.

Submission Process

Interested candidates should e-mail resume to michelle.cash@pembertonlegal.com, or call Michelle Cash at 713.300.1395.

NAPABA Convention Request for Programs: Planning is underway for the 2007 National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Annual Convention, which will be held at the JW Marriott Resort and Spa in Las Vegas. NAPABA invites you to submit a proposed program for the annual meeting. All requests will be reviewed by the Programs Committee, and programs selected will be announced April 30, 2007. Deadline for submissions is Friday, March 30, 2007. For more information, e-mail Ruthe_Ashley@CalPERS.ca.gov.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Asian Chamber of Commerce - 2007 Entrepreneur of the Year Award:

The Asian Chamber of Commerce is soliciting nominations for its 2007 Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. Anyone may nominate a candidate for Entrepreneur of the Year. The Awards will be given to entrepreneurs who have succeeded on an individual level or who have been instrumental in the success of the company where they work, whether they are the owner or a decision-maker, and who have used their success to give back to Houston's Asian American community. The awards will be presented at the Asian Chamber of Commerce Gala on April 27, 2007, at the Westin Galleria Hotel. All nominations are due February 12, 2007. For more information, please contact Elsie Huang at 713.782.7222.

Asian Chamber of Commerce - Monthly Luncheon Sponsored by Shell:

11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m., February 14, 2007

Westin Oaks Hotel, 5011 Westheimer.

Keynote Speaker: John Nguyen, Regional Head Americas, Shell Global Solutions US Inc.

Topic: "Bottom Line Results Through Leadership and Coaching."

Cost is \$30 for ACC Members; \$35 for Non-Members. Reservations may be made online at www.asianchamber-hou.org, or contact Faye Chin at the Chamber office at 713.782.7222.

ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference:

Save the date for the American Bar Association / National Legal Aid & Defender Association Equal Justice Conference 2007. This year's topic is "Justice in a Changing, Diverse World: Preserving the Rule of Law Through Inclusive High Quality Legal Services to the Disadvantaged." The conference will be held March 22-24, 2007, in Denver, Colorado at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center. To make a reservation call the hotel at 303.436.1234 and refer to the ABA/NLADA 2007 Equal Justice Conference. The conference room rate is \$150.00, exclusive of tax.

Center for Asian Pacific American Women Seminar:

The Center for Asian Pacific American Women presents a professional and personal growth series for high potential Asian/Pacific women on Saturday, February 24, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Pennzoil Building at 700 Milam Street, 20th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002. For registration and more information, please visit <http://apawomen.eventbrite.com> or call 281.679.3305. The deadline to register is February 16, 2007.

Rice University Asian American Film Festival:

Rice University proudly presents the Asian American Film Festival on February 23-25, 2007. Highly acclaimed, award-winning movies from Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, and the U.S. will be shown at the Rice Media Center, which features Houston's only silver screen. Parking is available next to the media center, accessible from Entrance No. 8 on University Boulevard at Stockton. Tickets for adults are \$6 for each movie, but a festival movie pass to see all four films is available for \$15. Tickets must be purchased at the box office, which opens 30 minutes prior to each screening. Students should bring their school I.D. to qualify for free admission. Director of the film "Only the Brave," Lane Nishikawa, will speak at the festival debut on February 23, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

2007 Spirit of Excellence Awards Luncheon:

On Saturday, February 10, 2007, the American Bar Association Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession will hold its 2007 Spirit of Excellence Awards Luncheon in Miami, Florida. For more information, please contact Sandra Yamate at 312.988.5638.

COMMUNITY NEWS

OCA-GREATER HOUSTON UNVEILS THE FIRST EVER ASIAN AMERICAN PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

The Greater Houston Chapter of OCA (OCA-GH), in partnership with the Asian American Legal Center of Texas (AALC), has released the Asian American Pro Bono Legal Services Directory providing information to the Asian Pacific American (APA) community on where to seek low-cost assistance for legal issues. The 50-page directory emphasizes legal service providers, but also includes other community organizations geared to help members of the APA community. The directory features descriptions of community services in English, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Each listing also indicates what languages are spoken at each organization. This free directory will be distributed throughout Houston at APA businesses and community service organizations.

The directory is a product of the first Asian American Pro Bono Summit, held on November 2, 2006 and organized by OCA-GH and AALC. The summit was moderated by Texas Access to Justice Commissioner and former AABA Director Daniel David Hu. Summit participants included community leaders and representatives of over 40 organizations serving the low-income APA community. The summit and directory were supported by a grant from the Asian American Bar Foundation, with additional funds for directory printing costs from McDonald's Corporation.

For more information on OCA or the legal services directory, and to obtain free copies of the directory, please contact Angela L. Lee, OCA-GH Legal Advocate, at 281.822.0261 or angela@ocahouston.org.

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Joy Al-Jazrawi

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a party/events coordinator.

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is . . . anywhere in Austria.

The best dessert in the world is . . . Tres Leches Cake.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . going on vacation.

Most AABA members probably don't know . . . that I like to fish.

The best restaurant in Houston is . . . Ruth's Chris Steakhouse.

The sports teams that I root for are . . . Colts! Suns! Astros!

I recommend reading . . . the Harry Potter books.

You forgot to ask me about . . . my dogs. Zoe & Brady!

NEW MEMBERS

The AABA would like to welcome the following new and renewing members!

Debra Baker

Connelly • Baker • Maston • Wotring • Jackson LLP

Alexander C. Chae

Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Indranil Chowdhury

Chowdhury & Georgakis, P.C.

Tiffany Lim Garraton

Lily Nguyen Hoang

Thompson & Knight LLP

Jenny Hyun

Weingarten Realty Investors

Theodore Lapus

Law Offices of Lai and Associates, PC

Florence Luk

Quan, Burdette & Perez, P.C.

Linhuyen Pham

Heard & Medack, P.C.

David Quan

Law Office of David J. Quan

Michael Roebuck

Gilbreth Roebuck

Xiaoxu "Cathy" Sun

Yetter & Warden, L.L.P.

John Tang

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Hoang Quan Vu

Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP

David Warden

Yetter & Warden, L.L.P.

Ted Wu

Ted Wu, Attorney at Law

Arati Bhattacharya

Leashanne Chen

Wolf Family Management Company, LLC

Chris Evans

Griffith Land Services

Harry Gee, Jr.

Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr. and Associates

Warren Huang

Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP

Gary Ilagan

Ilagan Bachman, P.C.

Shin-Yueh "Anderson" Lee

Tina Nguyen

Tina H. Nguyen, Attorney at Law

Tan Pham

Baker & McKenzie LLP

Pam Rea

Delgado, Acosta, Braden & Jones, P.C.

Sherry Scott

Vinson & Elkins LLP

Lisa Takeuchi

Fahl & Takeuchi, P.C.

Joseph Tung

Schlumberger Technology Corporation

Jane Nguyen Vuong

Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen, PLLC

Phillip Woo

Univation Technologies

Judge Jay Karahan

Harris County Criminal Court at Law No. 8

Law Students

Afhan Aman
Jaekwang Bae
Angela Ban
Amber Boyd
Stephen Chen
Dinah Chung
Tonya Condell

Marco DeLuna
Jesse Garcia
Jennifer Ho
Mai Huynh
Kenny Kincaid
David Kuo
Bao-Luan Le
Chung Lee

Jonathan Lee
Paul Lein
Bao-Uyen Le-Pham
Willis Ma
Linda Nguyen
Ly Nguyen
Truc-Ly Nguyen
Vi Nguyen

David Park
Frances Quintin
Vankata Thiagaraian
Tina Tran
Robert Vuong
Fransheneka Watson
Amy Zolkoski

Mentor Application – AABA 2007 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist law students and new attorneys better define their legal career path through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. In order to maximize the benefits of this program, Mentees and Mentors will be matched as closely as possible according to their areas of interest and practice, respectively. *Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to schedule a meeting once per month to 6 weeks and to remain in contact with each other on a regular basis throughout the year.*

Eligibility: Attorneys with 3 or more years' legal experience are eligible to apply to be Mentors.

If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the form below.

The deadline to apply is February 22, 2007.

Name _____

Employer _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____ State Bar Number _____

Law School _____

Year of Graduation _____

Year(s) in Practice _____

Practice Area(s) _____

Your Goals & Expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Please mail/fax/e-mail a completed Form to:

Jane Nguyen Vuong
Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen, PLLC
6150 Richmond Avenue, Suite 227, Houston, Texas 77057
E-mail: jnv@njclaw.com Tel: 713.780.4982 Fax: 713.893.4981

Mentee Application – AABA 2007 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist law students and new attorneys better define their legal career path through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. In order to maximize the benefits of this program, Mentees and Mentors will be matched as closely as possible according to their areas of interest and practice, respectively. *Mentees and Mentors are encouraged to schedule a meeting once per month to 6 weeks and to remain in contact with each other on a regular basis throughout the year.*

Eligibility: Law students and attorneys with up to 2 years' legal experience are eligible to apply to be Mentees.

Please note: Matches will be subject to availability. If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the form below.

The deadline to apply is February 22, 2007.

Name _____

Employer (for Attorneys) _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____ State Bar Number (Attorneys) _____

Law School _____

Year of Graduation or Current Law School Year _____

Year(s) in Practice (for Attorneys) _____

Practice Area(s) of Interest _____

Your Goals & Expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Please mail/fax/e-mail a current Resume and a completed Form to:

Jane Nguyen Vuong
Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen, PLLC
6150 Richmond Avenue, Suite 227, Houston, Texas 77057
E-mail: jnv@njclaw.com Tel: 713.780.4982 Fax: 713.893.4981



Asian American Bar Association of Houston
2007 Membership Application/Renewal

- Law Student • Retired Attorney
Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner • Auxiliary Member*
Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney
Attorney with 8+ years in practice

Bar Number and Jurisdiction

Last Name First Name

Employer

Address

City State Zip

Office # Home #

Fax # E-Mail

Area(s) of Practice

Law School and Graduation Year Language(s)

How would you like to receive the AABA Newsletter? E-Mail Fax

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2007 AABA Directory? Yes No

Please give us any comments or programming suggestions you might have:

Please indicate any committees on which you would be interested in serving:

- Gala Fundraising Programs Social/Networking Communications
Community Relations/Pro Bono Corporate Counsel Mentorship/Law School Relations

Please make checks payable to AABA and submit application and fee to:

AABA
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 1554
Houston, TX 77251

Please send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to
membership@aabahouston.com,
or contact Judy Y. Liu at 713.207.5465.

*Auxiliary membership is open to attorneys who neither reside nor practice in the Greater Houston area.