

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.

END OF SUMMER FAMILY BAR-B-Q

On Sunday afternoon, August 12, 2007, nearly 60 AABA members, guests, and families escaped the oppressive Houston heat to convene at the beautiful residence of AABA Director Harry Gee, Jr. and his wife Antje for the AABA's End of Summer Family Bar-B-Q. AABA members relaxed and caught up with one another while enjoying hot dogs, burgers, and sandwiches catered by the Original James Coney Island. AABA kids also had fun exploring and playing in the Gees' expansive upstairs game room.



The friendly staff of James Coney Island



Dustin Cook, Chia-Ching Cheng, and Jet and Justice Yao



Hoang Vu, Steve Wu, Daniel Albert, Van-Anh Diep, and Minh Tran



Antje Gee, Minh Tran, and Judge Herbert Gee



Monica and Catherine Huang, Daniel Hu, Warren Huang, and Chris and Julie Evans

The AABA wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Gees for their generosity in opening their home to and sharing their hospitality with our members. Many thanks also to AABA Social Co-Chair Audrey Chang for her tireless efforts in organizing this wonderful event.

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AABA Ethics CLE Luncheon

On Friday, August 10th, the AABA presented its Summer CLE Luncheon at the offices of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, entitled "Can We Talk? Ethical Considerations for In-House Lawyers Regarding Conflicts of Interest and the Attorney-Client Privilege." AABA members were privileged to hear from David Gerger (pictured below center), one of the nation's premier white collar criminal defense attorneys, and Gil Melman (pictured below right), former lead attorney for Enron Corp.'s private equities group, as they provided their insights on potential conflicts that may arise between a corporation and its employees in the course of civil litigation and criminal investigations. The distinguished panelists also entertained audience members with numerous personal anecdotes from their remarkable careers.



Thanks to the speakers for contributing their time and wisdom to this interesting and informative program; and special thanks also to AABA Corporate Counsel Committee Co-Chair Jason Luong for moderating the panel; to Gardere for providing facilities for the event; and to the law firm of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. for generously sponsoring the lunch fare.

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VP of Community Relations
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AABA Community Service Corner VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

AABA People's Law School for the Asian Community Scheduled for Saturday, October 13, 2007

The People's Law School will be a half day program that the AABA hopes to provide Asian American residents of Greater Houston to educate them on their legal rights and to address common legal issues faced by the Asian American and immigrant communities. The event will be held at Metro Bank's community center in the new Chinatown. Although we are still finalizing the curriculum for the school, please contact AABA Vice President of Community Relations Warren Huang at whuang@fulbright.com or 713.651.3633 today if you would be interested in serving as faculty for one of the classes (tentatively 45 minutes long each). We will be focusing on immigration, consumer, small business, family, and trust and estate law. While we hope to be able to teach the classes in Vietnamese or Chinese (Mandarin/Cantonese), being bilingual is not a requirement.

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program - Lawyers Needed

The HVLP continues to need lawyers – especially bilingual lawyers – to represent Asian American residents in the Houston area. If you are interested in taking a case, please contact Warren Huang, who will forward your name to the appropriate representatives at HVLP. If you are a law student, remember that you can agree to take cases through legal clinics at your law school!

15th Annual Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition Southwest Regional in Houston, October 19-20, 2007



CALL TO LAW STUDENTS! Enter the Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition for your chance to win scholarships totaling \$10,000! The Competition is open to all students, but is especially designed to reach out to Asian Pacific American law students and provide them with an opportunity to showcase their writing and oral advocacy skills.

The Southwest Regional competition will be held at South Texas College of Law, and the deadline to enter is **September 20, 2007**. Please submit the entry form and fee of \$150 per team at <http://www.napaba.org/napaba/showpage.asp?code=moot>. Payment may also be made by sending a check. For more information, please e-mail ttmootcourt@gmail.com.

ATTORNEYS AND JUDGES! We need judges for the 2007 Thomas Tang Moot Court Southwest Regional Competition! The rounds requiring judges are listed below:

Friday, October 19
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 20
9:00 am to 10:30 am

We are also looking for brief grading judges. Briefs will be available for grading approximately 2 to 3 weeks prior to the tournament. We anticipate that each judge will grade 4 to 6 briefs. If you are interested, please contact Joseph Tung at jtung@sugar-land.oilfield.slb.com or at 281.285.7026.



**15th Annual Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition
Southwest Regional in Houston, October 19-20, 2007**



Houston has volunteered to host the 2007 Southwest Regional of the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition. Over a two-day period in October, teams from regional law schools will converge at South Texas College of Law to argue federal jurisprudence. Top teams from each regional competition will advance to the National Competition in Las Vegas, NV, to be held in conjunction with the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Annual Convention on November 15-18, 2007.

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston and the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) of South Texas College of Law will present this worthy event, and we need your financial support. Proceeds will offset host expenses and will provide awards to the first place team, best oralist, and best brief writer.

Your organization will be recognized in the event's brochures and on T-shirts that will be distributed to participating team members, volunteers, and judges. **The deadline to sponsor is September 21, 2007.** Thank you for your consideration in sponsoring this event!

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Sponsor Name (as to appear on advertising materials): _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Facsimile: _____ E-mail: _____

SELECT YOUR SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:

Partner (\$1500)

Advocate (\$1000)

Friend (\$500)

Please return this form and check payable to "AABA of Houston" to

John A. Tang
Strasburger & Price, LLP
1401 McKinney Street, Suite 2200
Houston, Texas 77401
713.951.5623

Questions? Please e-mail TTMootCourt@gmail.com.

The Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition was founded in 1993 by the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association at South Texas College of Law. It is now administered by the NAPABA Law Foundation and the NAPABA Judicial Council. The Competition honors the late Judge Thomas Tang, a champion of individual rights, an advocate for the advancement of minority attorneys, and an ardent supporter of NAPABA. Judge Tang served on the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals from 1977 until his passing in 1995. Judge Tang's wife, Dr. Pearl Tang, continues his legacy and participates in the administration of the Competition every year.

The Competition is open to all students and provides them with an opportunity to showcase their writing and oral advocacy skills and compete for scholarships totaling \$10,000, which are generously sponsored by the Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. Additional information concerning this national competition may be found at www.napaba.org. Thank you for your support!

ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON 2007 GALA & SILENT AUCTION

Friday, September 14, 2007

6:30 p.m. Reception & Silent Auction ↻ 7:30 p.m. Dinner & Program
InterContinental Houston Hotel ↻ 2222 West Loop South

Keynote Speaker:

Tommy M. Shi, Esq.

Corporate Development and Transformation Officer, Mercedes-Benz USA

AABA Impact Award Recipient:

The Honorable Hannah Chow

Former Judge, Harris County Criminal Court at Law No. 5

Many thanks to our

PLATINUM DRAGON UNDERWRITER

GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP

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Hon. Ted H. Wu

**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON
2007 GALA & SILENT AUCTION
SPEAKER AND HONOREE**



**TOMMY M. SHI, ESQ.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Tommy Shi is Corporate Development and Transformation Officer at the Montvale, New Jersey headquarters of Mercedes-Benz USA, reporting directly to the President and Chief Executive Officer. He provides strategic direction for the development and implementation of MBUSA's cultural transformation and diversity strategy.

Prior to this appointment, Mr. Shi served 10 years as Counsel in MBUSA's Legal Department and was an associate at Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti before joining MBUSA.

Shi received a 2002 National Asian American Corporate Achievement Award from the Organization of Chinese Americans and was selected by the American Council on Germany as an American representative to the Annual American-German Young Leaders Conference.

He also served on the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Character and is on the Leadership Advisory Council of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association.

Tommy Shi received his law degree from Boston College Law School and earned his B.A. from The John Hopkins University.



**HON. HANNAH CHOW
2007 IMPACT AWARD**

The Hon. Hannah Chow is a special assistant to Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee. She presided over Harris County Criminal Court at Law No. 5 for twelve years, from 1987 to 1998. Prior to being elected, she was engaged in the private practice of law. Born in Hoiping, China, she grew up in Lougheed, Alberta and Houston, Texas.

Judge Chow is the first woman of Chinese origin to be licensed by the State Bar of Texas, and she is the first elected Asian American judge in the State of Texas, as well as the first Asian American elected to any public office in Harris County. She earned her B.A. from the University of Houston and received her law degree from South Texas College of Law.

Former president of the Asian American Bar Association of Houston, Judge Chow was awarded the 1995 National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Trailblazer Award. Judge Chow has also been honored with the Robert W. Kneebone award as United Way's Volunteer of the Year and was named the Young Women's Christian Association's Woman of the Year in Government. She was also recognized as a Pioneer by South Texas College of Law at the 2004 State Bar Conference.

**ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON
2007 GALA & SILENT AUCTION**

**Friday, September 14, 2007
InterContinental Houston Hotel ↻ 2222 West Loop South**

**6:30 p.m. Reception & Silent Auction
7:30 p.m. Dinner & Program**

TICKET RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Company/Law School: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Primary Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please indicate below the number of tickets requested:

Law Student: \$50 ____ / AABA Member: \$75 ____ / Non-Member: \$100 ____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

For nametag purposes, please list the name and affiliation (if any) of each attendee:

Please indicate whether a vegetarian meal is requested: _____ (# of vegetarian meals)

.....
Return this form and your check made payable to "AABA of Houston" to:

Joyce Kao Soliman, Gala Co-Chair
Porter & Hedges, L.L.P.
1000 Main Street, 36th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

- Underwriting levels include tickets to the Gala. Feel free to contact us for more information!
- You will receive a confirmation of your ticket reservation via e-mail.
- The deadline to reserve tickets is September 7, 2007.
- Interested in joining the AABA? A membership form is attached and is also available at www.aabahouston.com.
- Questions? Please contact us at aaba.gala@gmail.com or 713.226.6685. Thank you for your support!

NAPABA ELECTIONS

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, AABA President **Emily T. Kuo** and AABA Director **Alexander C. Chae** are running in contested races for positions on the 2007-2008 board of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), of which the AABA is a local affiliate. All attorney members of the AABA are members of NAPABA and thus eligible to vote in these elections.

The AABA supports and endorses both candidacies and hopes that you will do the same. NAPABA recently sent out the latest edition of its *NAPABA Lawyer* newsletter, which contains the election ballots on the back page. Please return your ballots and vote for Emily for Vice President – Membership and Alex for Vice President – Communications. Ballots must be submitted to NAPABA by mail or by fax by 5 p.m. on September 28th. More information on all of the candidates and their list of endorsements may be found at <http://www.napaba.org/napaba/showpage.asp?code=BoardElections2007d>.

Because these races are contested, every vote is absolutely critical, so please remember to vote! Thank you for your consideration!

Get to Know an AABA Member!



D. Ryan Nayar
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.

If I weren't an attorney, I would be... This is a trick question because I really enjoy being a lawyer – it is what I have wanted to do since junior high. But if I had to choose, I would say a chef because I love to cook, and I'm just not good enough to be a professional tennis player.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is... brownie ice cream from the Chocolate Bar right here in Houston.

Most AABA members probably don't know that I... am the second oldest of nine children.

The best restaurant in Houston is... Do I have to pick just one? I really like Café Red Onion, the Original Ninfa's, and Américas.

My favorite place in Houston is... any tennis court on a sunny day.

The sports teams I root for are... Texas Longhorns (football and basketball), San Antonio Spurs, and Houston Astros.

If I won the lottery, I would... buy my parents a new house, set up college funds for my younger brothers and sisters, donate a lot to charity (primarily children's research hospitals), and of course, travel!

I recommend reading... To be honest, I can't remember the last time I read something other than the Natural Gas Act or Interstate Commerce Act. But I have heard that the Harry Potter books are pretty good. I also enjoyed Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead*.

You forgot to ask me about... my favorite movie. Again, I can't pick one, so I will have to say *A Beautiful Mind*, *Braveheart*, *Donnie Darko*, and the *Star Wars* saga (yes, all six, although some were definitely better than others).

OPPORTUNITIES

Associate Positions with Baker & McKenzie

The Houston office is currently recruiting for two associates to join its Corporate & Securities / Mergers & Acquisitions practice group. We are seeking a candidate with 1-2 years experience and another with 4-5 years experience. Candidates must be admitted to the Texas Bar and have corporate experience including public company securities law matters. Successful candidates will also have experience in public and private securities offerings of equity and debt, periodic reporting, M&A, and financial transactions, and must possess strong analytical and writing skills, exceptional speaking and interpersonal skills, and superior academic records. Interested candidates should contact Tan Pham at tan.pham@bakernet.com or 713.427.5019.

Vice President of Legal Services

Well-funded Development Firm seeks VP of Legal Services to oversee a four attorney legal department. This individual needs to be able to run transactions, manage the team, hire outside counsel, and work with other VPs on higher level corporate issues. Requires 12+ years experience in-house or with a large law firm focusing on retail real estate (buy/sell, REA, public private financing, leasing etc.). Compensation includes salary, bonus, and equity. For confidential consideration, please contact Mark Dremely at markd@rwr.com or 713.358.7245.

Internship with Houston-based Publishing Company

Bretton Woods Press, a successful Houston-based financial publisher, has two paid internships available for the fall 2007 and spring 2008 semesters. They are seeking highly motivated students who are able to express themselves with flair. Foreign language skills are not a requirement for this internship; however, as they specialize in covering China financial markets, preference will be given to students who speak and write either Mandarin or Cantonese. Job duties will include: drafting press releases; making pitch calls to national print and broadcast media; maintaining and communicating with an existing database of media contacts; interaction with foreign-based research and web programming staff; drafting website copy; writing e-zines; on-line marketing tasks; customer surveys; and other miscellaneous tasks. Salary will be based on academic history, experience, and availability for work and will be increased based on performance. Please e-mail or fax your resume to jtrippon@trippon.com or 713.669.0503.

Houston Minority Business Council EXPO 2007: Opening the Doors of Opportunity... Where Supply Meets Demand! ~ September 11-12, 2007

HMBC's EXPO 2007, now in its 31st year, is an elite marketing event and the largest minority business development marketplace in Texas. Held inside the George R. Brown Convention Center, the spectacular EXPO provides owners of minority business enterprises (MBEs) with access to over 1,300 key decision makers from over 200 major corporations, government agencies, and financial and educational institutions. Special forums will help you market your business, regardless of size, and will present valuable insights into key sectors of the Houston marketplace, exploring emerging business opportunities in the energy, technology, medical, space, education, transportation, and finance areas. Networking events will allow you to meet other minority business owners, and one-on-one sessions with representatives from major businesses and organizations will enable exhibitors and MBEs to discuss potential contracting opportunities. For more information, please visit www.hmhc.org.

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary Julie Pi Evans at juliepievans@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bollywood Blast 2! ~ September 2, 2007

Sanskriti Society for Indian Performing Arts presents "Bollywood Blast 2007," an explosion of soul, style, and splendor of the world's largest film industry. This show for the entire family features foot tapping dances, hand clapping music, and fascinating film visuals, hosted by Sunil Thakkar of Masala Radio and Masala Cruises. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m. at Miller Outdoor Theatre, and admission is free. For more information, please contact Rathna Kumar at 281.265.ARTS.

2007 World Trade Gala ~ September 8, 2007

The Greater Houston Partnership presents its annual World Trade Gala, "Around the World in 80 Years: Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Houston World Trade Center," at Hotel ZaZa, 5701 Main Street. This year's event, chaired by Clarence P. Cazalot, president and CEO of Marathon Oil Corporation, will include an ethnically diverse dinner, dancing, and entertainment highlighting the cultures of regional trade partners, as well as a silent auction showcasing items of international intrigue. It's an evening you will not want to miss! For more information, please contact Kristin Culwell at kculwell@houston.org or 713.844.3694.

History and Women's Rights Issues – A Novelist's Perspective with Bapsi Sidhwa ~ September 11, 2007

Pakistani-American novelist and playwright Bapsi Sidhwa offers her perspective on the politics and history of one of America's most important Asian allies at the Baker Institute at Baker Hall, 6100 Main Street, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Sidhwa, who resides in Houston, is well known for her collaborative work with filmmaker Deepa Mehta, writing both the 1991 novel *Cracking India*, which is the basis for Mehta's 1998 film *Earth*, and the 2006 novel *Water*, based on Mehta's 2005 film of the same name. The novel *Water* recently brought to Sidhwa Italy's prestigious 2007 Premio Mondello award. Sidhwa's play, *An American Brat*, had its U.S. debut at Stages Repertory Theatre earlier this year. Admission to this lecture is free.

Asian Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheon ~ September 12, 2007

The Asian Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to its September monthly luncheon, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. in the West Alabama Room of the Westin Galleria Hotel, 5060 West Alabama. A keynote address will be presented by Dr. Abe Saavedra, superintendent of the Houston Independent School District, who will discuss the 2007 HISD bond proposal. If you are a Houston taxpayer or have children attending HISD, you should definitely attend. Admission is \$30 for ACC members, \$35 for non-members, and \$40 for walk-ins. Reservations may be made on-line at www.asianchamber-hou.org or by calling the Chamber office at 713.782.7222.

Texas Federation of Asian American Chambers of Commerce 4th Annual Business Symposium ~ September 15, 2007 in San Antonio

The Alamo Asian American Chamber of Commerce invites you to the 4th Annual TFAACC Business Symposium, to be held at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel, 101 Bowie Street, in San Antonio. The Symposium is a collaborative effort of the Texas Federation of Asian American Chambers of Commerce and features panel discussions on business development in Asian countries; doing business with government entities in Texas; Asian Americans in politics; and more. Goals of the Symposium are to develop leadership; to provide management and business development workshops to member chambers of commerce; and to encourage new business relationships to be developed between participants and sponsors. 200-400 attendees are expected. For more information, please contact info@alamo-aacc.org or 210.777.8899.

Tokyo String Quartet ~ September 18, 2007

The Tokyo String Quartet has captivated audiences and critics alike since it was founded more than 30 years ago. Regarded as one of the supreme chamber ensembles of the world, the Tokyo Quartet has collaborated with a remarkable array of artists and composers, built a comprehensive catalogue of critically acclaimed recordings, and established a distinguished teaching record. Performing over one hundred concerts worldwide each season, the Tokyo String Quartet has a devoted international following that includes the major capitals of the world and extends to all four corners of the globe, from Australia to Estonia to Scandinavia and the Far East. Co-sponsored by Houston Friends of Music and Asia Society, the Tokyo String Quartet will perform at 8:00 p.m. at Stude Hall in the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University (Entrance 8 or 18 from University or Rice Blvd.). For tickets and more information, please visit www.rice.edu/friends.

COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)

Asian Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Mixer ~ September 20, 2007

This mixer will be held from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza Houston Suites, 9090 Southwest Freeway. Come for a fun time of networking, and bring lots of business cards to pass around. The admission fee is \$10 per person. Reservations may be made on-line at www.asianchamber-hou.org or by calling the Chamber office at 713.782.7222.

Chambermaid Book Party and Reading by Author Saira Rao ~ September 20, 2007

Chambermaid, the debut novel of lawyer-turned-writer Saira Rao, is a satire about one young Indian-American lawyer's yearlong clerkship for a highly powerful/deranged/hilariously eccentric federal judge. Kirkus Reviews calls *Chambermaid* one of 2007's most promising debut novels; and *Blood Diamond* producer Paula Weinstein recently optioned it for a future television series. *Chambermaid* has already sold around the world (Spain, Turkey, France, Thailand, and Germany thus far) and has created quite a scandal since its publication. In addition to being featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Chambermaid* has also made the front page of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and received rave reviews from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *India Abroad*, *Indian Express*, *India in New York*, and *Nirvana Magazine*. Ms. Rao is a graduate of the University of Virginia and New York University School of Law and a former law clerk for a long-time judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Please join her for a book party and signing at 7:00 p.m. on September 20th at the home of Randhir and Sunila Sahni, 10 Pine Tree Lane. To RSVP, e-mail Sunila at sksahni2000@yahoo.com or call 713.806.3181. For more information, please visit www.sairarao.com.

Houston Business Development Mission to China ~ September 21-29, 2007

The City of Houston, Greater Houston Partnership, and the U.S. Department of Commerce Houston Export Assistance Center invite you to participate in the Houston Trade Mission to China from September 21-29, 2007. Members of the delegation will have the opportunity to attend the 2007 International Sourcing Fair (ISF) on September 24-27 in Shanghai. The ISF is hosted once a year by the Ministry of Commerce and the Shanghai Municipal Government and is the largest reverse sourcing fair in China. If you are interested in joining as an exhibitor in the Houston booth, please contact icch@cityofhouston.net or 713.247.1453 or 713.844.3637. Booth exhibitors will be limited to six companies, and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Disney Movie Showing at Chinese Community Center ~ September 22, 2007

Looking for some light, fun, and engaging entertainment for the whole family? Then come to the Chinese Community Center, 9800 Town Park Drive, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. on September 22nd for a showing of *The Bracelet of Bordeaux*, Disney's newest film not yet released to the public. Afterward, the cast will be on hand for autographs. *The Bracelet of Bordeaux* revolves around the adventures of two pre-teen girls and their dogs and has all the elements of a mystery drama, plus chuckles aplenty for both kids and their parents. This outdoor-style event will be held indoors, and the community is invited to bring blankets and pillows to watch this wonderful movie. Tickets are available at the Chinese Community Center and are \$5 each. For more information, please contact Rebecca Maitland at 713.271.6100, ext. 102.

Houston World Affairs Council: China & India ~ September 26, 2007

Only a few years ago, both China and India were among the poorest countries in the world. Now they are two of the world's fastest-growing major economies, competing with the United States for foreign investment, access to oil and gas, and diplomatic clout. How do their economic systems compare? Will the Indian approach, based upon entrepreneurship and democracy, surpass the Chinese model of government authority as a formula for making poor countries rich? Can China's growth be sustained? Please join us for a discussion with Adam Segal, senior fellow for China studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Mira Kamdar, senior fellow at the World Policy Institute, associate fellow of the Asia Society, and award-winning author of *Planet India: How the Fastest-Growing Democracy is Transforming America and the World*. This program will be held from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Junior League, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. For more information, and to RSVP, please visit www.houstonworldaffairs.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)

A Cook's Tour of Indian Kitchens ~ September 27, 2007

Take a verbal tour of regional Indian kitchens with author and Indian cooking expert Suneeta Vaswani. Her new book *Complete Book of Indian Cooking* explains regional differences in the spicing and cooking techniques of the north, south, east, and west of India. The cuisine of the vast sub-continent is demystified and made more accessible with 350 recipes that range from the simplest to some that are more challenging, but always worth the effort. Asia Society Texas Center presents this favorite author on Asian cuisine to discuss her latest collection of Indian recipes, followed by a book signing. The talk and book signing will be held at 7:00 p.m. at River Oaks Compass Bank, 2001 Kirby, preceded by a reception at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free of charge; however, reservations are requested (by calling 713.439.0265), and donations to support Asia Society programs are always greatly appreciated.

11th Houston Grand Taiko Festival ~ September 28-29, 2007

Each of two evenings beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Miller Outdoor Theatre, Kaminari Taiko will present 2.5 hours of non-stop energetic Japanese taiko drumming and Japanese classical dancing by dance master Takahamaryu Mitsujuroku. This year's guest artist is world-renowned Big Mountain Family, presenting a Native American Indian stage show. Admission is free. For more information, please visit www.milleroutdoortheatre.com, or contact Jay Mochizuki at email@ilovetaiko.org.

First Annual Texas Kimchee Fest ~ September 29, 2007 (Tentative)

The Korean Chamber of Commerce of Houston will be having a steering committee meeting to plan the First Annual Texas Kimchee Fest, where the world's best kimchee award will be presented by popular vote. The purpose of the festival will be to popularize kimchee to mainstream Texans and to promote personal and commercial makers of kimchee in Texas, that is, moms, restaurants, grocery stores, and kimchee factories. Houston Community College (on I-10 at Beltway 8) has graciously agreed to provide the venue. The tentative target date of the event is September 29th, Korean Harvest Day. For more information about getting involved, please contact Kristopher K. Ahn at ahnlawfirm1938@sbcglobal.net.

2007 Community Leadership Awards Reception ~ October 2, 2007

Gigi Lee, President of Asia Houston Network, and the Honorary Host Committee cordially invite you to the 2007 Community Leadership Awards Reception, to be held Tuesday, October 2nd from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Kim Son Downtown, 2001 Jefferson. Miya Shay of KTRK-TV Channel 13 will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies honoring Rogene Lee Calvert, co-founder and president of the Asian American Health Coalition/HOPE Clinic, and Glen Gondo, chairman of the Mayor's International Affairs & Development Council. Sponsorship levels range from \$500 to \$2,500 and individual tickets start at \$35. Proceeds will benefit the University of Houston and Asia Houston Network Scholarship Funds. To RSVP, contact Darcy at rsvp@asiahouston.org or 713.697.8991 by September 25th. Please mail your check to Asia Houston Network at P.O. Box 130676, Houston, TX 77219.

National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys ~ October 26-27, 2007 in Southern California

Please save the dates of October 26-27, 2007, to join the Second National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (NCVAA), to be held at Chapman Law School, located at One University Drive in Orange, California. This year's conference theme is "Reaching New Heights" and will focus on strengthening existing relationships, building new ones, and bringing together Vietnamese American attorneys from all over North America to discuss topics affecting Vietnamese Americans in the legal and at-large communities. A welcoming reception will be held on Friday evening, October 26th, followed by keynote speakers, panels, and a closing gala banquet on Saturday, October 27th. Stay tuned for upcoming details and event information, which will be updated at www.ncvaa.org. If you would like to volunteer to launch this exciting program, please contact Conference Co-Chairs Tita Nguyen (tita.nguyen@doj.ca.gov; 213.897.2060) or Luan Tran (klt@leeandtran.com; 213.612.3737) or VABASC President Derrick Nguyen (lsnguyenhoangdung@yahoo.com; 714.418.0600) or VABANC President Minh Hoang (mthoang@duanemorris.com; 415.957.3075). For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sponsorship Chair Mai Phan at mai@maiphanlaw.com or 408.975.9321.

The AABA welcomes the following new and renewing members!

Janis Chang

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.

Anh-Thu Dinh

University of Houston Law Center

Philip Lau

Locke Liddell & Sapp PLLC

Khanh Pham

Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Patty Chang

ExxonMobil Corp.

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2008 MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE NOW JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH THE AABA TODAY!

The AABA would like to extend to you a special membership invitation. Join the AABA now, and your yearly membership dues will cover the remainder of 2007, as well as all of 2008. You may apply for AABA membership on-line at www.aabahouston.com or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the printed Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!

NEW ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The newly updated AABA website now contains an on-line membership directory, searchable by name, practice area(s), and language capability(ies). Participation by AABA members is completely voluntary, and members may edit their directory information themselves through the on-line profile editor, using their e-mail address and an assigned password. If you would like to be included in the on-line membership directory, please contact AABA Vice President of Membership Judy Liu at membership@aabahouston.com.

RETURN OF "BROWN BAG" MANDARIN CHINESE CLASSES

The AABA is pleased to announce that it will once again offer Mandarin Chinese classes in the fall of 2007. These classes will meet once a week over lunch in downtown Houston, for a period of twelve weeks. The classes will be taught by a Rice University instructor with over 20 years of experience teaching Chinese and are aimed at beginners with a focus on teaching conversational Mandarin skills. Class sizes will be kept small, and enrollment will be limited. The AABA will open this semester of language classes to the community at large; however, AABA members will receive priority enrollment and a discounted class fee. Stay tuned for more information, and if you have any questions, please contact AABA Vice President of Membership Judy Liu at membership@aabahouston.com.



Asian American Bar Association of Houston
2008 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 #

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Area(s) of Practice

Law School and Graduation Year Language(s)

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

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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

Make checks payable to AABA and submit application and fee to:

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

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.