

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.

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CELEBRATE NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH WITH THE AABA!



AABA Golf Invitational (Friday, May 20, 2005) – The First Annual AABA Golf Tournament will take place Friday, May 20th at the Hermann Park Golf Course. The scramble tournament begins at 1:30 p.m. and will be followed by a BBQ dinner at 6:30 p.m. Golfers at all levels are invited to either enter individually or submit four-member teams to compete for prizes and raise funds for the Asian American Bar Foundation (AABF). Regular and reduced members' fees for the golf tournament and Mixer/BBQ are:

<u>Registration Date</u>	<u>Golf Tournament and Mixer/BBQ</u>	<u>Mixer/BBQ</u>
On or before May 12 th	\$64.99/\$59.99	\$22/\$15
After May 12 th	\$85.00/\$74.99	\$35/\$25

Even if you cannot make the tournament, please attend the mixer. Questions regarding the tournament or sponsorship may be directed to Tournament Director Mark Gilbreth at 713.667.1200 or by e-mail at jmark@gilbreth.org.

UPCOMING AABA SEMINARS

Corporate Tax & Living Will (dates to be announced)

SAVE THE DATE

AABA 21st ANNIVERSARY GALA & SILENT AUCTION

Hotel Derek

Friday, August 26, 2005

(details to be announced)

**The AABA and Houston Bar Association Contribute to the Tsunami Relief Fund Through
The American Red Cross**



Houston Bar Association (HBA) members contributed \$69,000 to the American Red Cross International Relief Fund through the Tsunami Relief Fund, set up by the Houston Bar Association, the Houston Bar Foundation, the Asian American Bar Association (AABA) and the South Asian American Bar Association (SAABA). Representatives from the sponsoring organizations presented the check on March 24th to Davis Henderson, CEO of the Greater Houston Red Cross. Pictured here, from left: Lynn Kamin, 2004 chair of the HBA; HBA President Rocky Robinson; Davis Henderson; Ashish Mahendru, an HBA member who was instrumental in establishing the fund; and Hoang Quan Vu, president of the AABA. Also influential in setting up the fund were Jay Chadha, President of SAABA and Lola Lin, immediate past president of the AABA.

**STATE BAR OF TEXAS ASIAN PACIFIC INTEREST SECTION
10TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE (AUSTIN, TX)
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005**



APIS Chair and AABA Board Member Russell Wong presents Judge Karen Johnson with the 2005 Justice Wellington Chew Award.



The State Bar of Texas Asian Pacific Interest Section (APIS) celebrated its 10th Anniversary on April 23, 2005 with a retreat and CLE program in Austin, Texas. Formed in 1995, APIS was created to be a state-wide umbrella organization to advocate and promote the common professional interests of lawyers of and interested in Asian Pacific American heritage, community and culture.

Asian Pacific American attorneys from all over Texas gathered to network at the annual retreat. "Counseling Your Growing Client" was the theme of this year's CLE program.



Attendees Lisa Calico and Chi Paek along with the AABA's Andrea Tran, Emily Kuo and Lola Lin



Donna Rene Johnston from the State Bar of Texas, APIS Chair Wesley Young, Brian Min and Council member Toni Nguyen

Distinguished speakers explored a variety of topics facing emerging companies including employment matters, ethics involving Sarbanes-Oxley and governmental/regulatory inquiries. APIS also presented the Justice Wellington Chew Award to Judge Karen Gren Johnson of the Dallas County 95th District Court for her leadership and generosity to the legal and Asian American communities.



Anton Montano moderates the employment law panel featuring Trang Tran, Emily Kuo and Lu Pham.



Russell Wong introduces the panel on responding to governmental and regulatory inquiries with moderator Daniel Hu, Emily Chiu, Ed Burbach and Michael Chu.

Following the program, the AABA hosted a cocktail reception at The Oasis on Lake Travis to celebrate APIS' 10th Anniversary. For more information about APIS, please visit www.texasapis.org or contact Chair Wesley Young at wyoung@baronbudd.com.



The Oasis was the scene for the post-conference reception and dinner.



APIS participants dine and mingle while sharing the view of Lake Travis.

SIDEBAR

Dr. T. Chyau Liang is now a name partner at Osha Liang, an intellectual property law firm.

Charlene Tsang-Kao, formerly a partner at Baker & McKenzie, has recently joined Solvay America, Inc. as labor/employment, litigation and corporate counsel.

OPPORTUNITIES

AABA COMMITTEES. The AABA has many opportunities for members who would like to be more active in the organization! If you are interested in participating on the Membership, Community Outreach, Networking and Programs, Professional Development, Gala, Law Students and/or Newsletter Committees, please contact Emily Kuo at 281.775.4869 or by e-mail at emily.kuo@nabors.com.

Texas State Bar Chief Disciplinary Counsel Position. The State Bar is accepting applications through May 6, 2005 (1:00 p.m. CST) for the position of Chief Disciplinary Counsel. For an employment application and additional information about the position, please visit the State Bar of Texas website at www.texasbar.com/jobs.

TMAP Networking Event. The Texas Minority Attorney Program (TMAP) is a one-day CLE seminar and networking event geared towards minority and women solo and small firm practitioners. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the issues facing the solo and small firm and discuss various client development strategies. The program will be held on Friday, May 20th at Locke Liddell, 3400 Chase Tower, 600 Travis Street. The fee is \$50 if registered before May 6th and \$60 if registered afterwards. Register online at www.texasbarcle.com or call 1.800.204.2222 ext. 1574.

Friends of TFA – Board Member and School Supply Drive. Teach For America (TFA) is looking for nominees to serve on its Board. TFA is a national corps of outstanding recent college graduates who commit two years to teach in public schools serving low-income communities. This year, Teach For America placed over 210 corps members in the Houston metropolitan area, reaching over 18,000 students. Friends of Teach For America is a group of young professionals in Houston who coordinate different volunteer and support efforts to Teach For America and its corps members. Potential Board members should have an interest in education and prior experience in working with other community service or public interest organizations. In addition, TFA is looking for offices, corporations, and law firms to participate in its 2005 School Supply Drive. Last year, TFA collected over 500 boxes of supplies from area business, law firms, and individuals that were used in the classrooms of new TFA corps members teaching in the Houston area. Teach For America hopes to exceed last year's tremendous success. If you would like to participate in the School Supply Drive or nominate someone to the Board of Friends of Teach For America, please contact Jason Luong at Beck, Redden & Secrest, LLP, (713) 951-6205 or jluong@brsfirm.com.

First Annual AABA Gala Award. The AABA is pleased to announce that at our Gala this year, we will be presenting an award to an outstanding Asian Pacific American (APA) attorney in Houston. If you are a member of the AABA and would like to nominate an APA attorney in Houston who you think is deserving of the award and demonstrates outstanding qualities such as legal expertise, leadership, community service or dedication to the AABA, please email Quan Vu at hvu@mayerbrownrowe.com.

Annual Symposium on International Law. The Annual Symposium on International Law: "China's Remarkable Rise – Business and Legal Challenges and Responses" will take place on June 14-15th in Plano, Texas. Led by co-chairs Ira Shapiro (Greenberg Traurig, Washington D.C.) and Larry Pascal (Haynes and Boone, Dallas), this program is designed for in-house and privately practicing international lawyers. It will take a look at business and legal issues surrounding China's economic rise, which has been described as "unprecedented in human history." The program is sponsored by the Institute for International and Comparative Law. Discounted room rates and tuition apply before June 1, 2005. The full brochure is available at www.cailaw.org/iicl/Symposium.html.

MEMBERSHIP

Get involved with the AABA! If you have not done so already, please take a moment to fill out the membership form and send it to AABA, Attn: CTT, P.O. Box 1554, Houston, TX 77251. Membership is at no cost to law students and retired attorneys, and ranges from \$ 25.00 to \$ 75.00 annually for attorneys, depending on number of years in practice. We are pleased to introduce an auxiliary membership, at a reduced cost of \$25.00 annually, for attorneys who reside and practice outside the Greater Houston area.

For more information regarding membership, please contact Catherine Than at 713.252.7297 or by e-mail at cthan@aol.com. The membership form can also be downloaded at www.aabahouston.com.

We would like to welcome the following new members for the month of May:

Andrew Gee
Law Office of Harry Gee, Jr.

Steve Bae
Germer Gertz, LLP

Gary Ilagan
Ilagan Bachman, P.C.

COMMUNITY

5th Annual Houston Dragon Boat Festival. This year's Dragon Boat Festival will take place at Allen's Landing in downtown Houston on Saturday, May 7th at 8:30 a.m. For more information, please visit www.houstondragonboat.com or contact director@houstondragonboat.com.

NAAAP Charity Date Auction. Let the bidding begin - and help send a kid to college! The National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) Houston Chapter's annual charity date auction draws over 100 attendees and brings together a stellar collection of young professional auctionees. The auction will be held on Saturday, May 7th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at After 5 Karaoke Bar on 9888 Bellaire Blvd. #118. Admission is free for NAAAP members and \$5 advance online (\$7 at the door) for non-members. Visit www.naaaphouston.org for event details.

Cities in Transition Reception. Please join Chase, the City of Houston, Center for Houston's Future and Art League of Houston for a reception launching Cities in Transition, the Opening of the Art Exhibition *Affinities*, and Honoring the Asia Society's Asia House on Monday, May 9, 2005 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The reception will be held at the JPMorgan Chase Building, 707 Travis (between Rusk and Capitol), Heritage Hall North Lobby. RSVP to 713.216.7032.

Texas Minority Leadership Summit. The State Bar of Texas is hosting a networking event for bar association representatives from across Texas at the Minority Leadership Summit. The summit will be held on Tuesday, May 17th in Austin at the Texas Law Center from 12:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. There will be a CLE presentation and reimbursement for travel (up to \$100). For more information, please contact Kristie Brasfield at kbrasfield@texasbar.com.

HYLA Fun Run. The Houston Young Lawyers Association (HYLA) will host its annual Fun Run on Thursday, May 12th at Sam Houston Park beginning at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Aspiring Youth of Houston and the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation. For more information and to register online, please visit www.hyla.org.

13th Anniversary Asian/Pacific American Heritage Association (APAHA) Gala. The Asian/Pacific American Heritage Association (APAHA) will celebrate its 13th year Anniversary on Friday, May 20, 2005 at the Hilton Post Oak Hotel. At this year's Gala, APAHA will be honoring the country of Japan and the contributions of the Japanese American community. For more information or to RSVP for this event, please contact Jerome Vielman at 713.784.1112. To learn about APAHA, please visit www.apaha.org.

If you would like to publicize any opportunities, community events or SIDEBAR news, please contact Andrea Tran at 713.767.1598 or by e-mail at atran@powersfrost.com. Publications in the newsletter are at the discretion of the AABA.