



The Cleveland AsiaTown community did not let the snow or cold weather prevent a wonderful Year of the Ram celebration for Lunar New Year on February 14-15. The event was presented by Asian Town Center and OCA Cleveland Asian American Advocates. Organized as an outreach effort, the event included many Asian-themed performances, food options, Culture, Shopping, and Fun. The event was sponsored by Confucius Institute at Cleveland State University, Margaret W. Wong & Associates, Third Federal, Asia Food Company, and Siam Cafe. Media Partners for the event were Image Lab Media Services, Cleveland People.com, Ohio Asian American News, and Erie Chinese Journal. Wayne Wong was the MC and Host, Alex Alarcon was the DJ, and Lisa Wong organized the event along with the Asian Town Center management.

Crowd favorites for the event were the OCA Cleveland Dragon Dance (in partnership with Confucius Institute at CSU) on Saturday and the Kwan Lion Dance on Sunday. Additional performances and demonstrations were provided by Yin Tang Dance Company, Balloon Bender Dave, Integrated School of Internal Arts, Bloom Flower Hmong Dance Group, Rising Star Acrobats, Shaolin Kung Fu Institute, Mame Daiko, Sho-Jo-Ji, A-PoP (LB), Viva Dance Studio, Confucius Institute, Rosa's Guzheng Studio, Great Wall Enrichment Center, Westlake Chinese Culture Association, CWRU Yo-Yo club, and Cleveland Aikikai. Additionally, very competitive speed eating contests were sponsored by Asia Food Company each day featuring spicy Kimchi Udon Noodle soup. Happy New Year!

## President Obama speaks to the City Club of Cleveland

by Wayne A. Wong

President Barack Obama along with other Ohio congressmen arrived in Cleveland on Air Force 1 on March 18, 2015 to attend a City Club of Cleveland event with about 500 attendees held at the Global Center for Health Innovation. President Obama gave a prepared speech for 37 minutes, and then answered questions from the audience for an additional 40 minutes. The speech was about the importance of middle-class economics and he talked about the significant economic recovery in the USA over his two terms so far. In his speech, the President highlighted the decrease in unemployment, the healthy stock markets, reduction in the National deficit, the lower gas prices, healthcare coverage, advancements in renewable solar and wind energy and lower reliance on fossil fuels, and the recovery of the automobile industry. The question and answer session was particularly interesting with some very good questions, many from students. President Obama is known for giving very good speeches, but his charisma, charm, and humor especially came through during his unscripted responses.

City Club Tickets for the event, while free, were hard to get and quickly "sold out" due to the smaller capacity venue. The City Club extended an invitation to Cleveland AsiaTown community leader Lisa Wong, President of OCA Cleveland Asian American Advocates and Co-Founder of the Cleveland Asian Festival. Lisa attended along with her three guests, OCA VP Wayne Wong, OCA VP Deborah Yue, and Alex Alarcon - host of OCA's AsiaTown Voice weekly radio show. While OCA is a non-partisan non-profit organization, the OCA Cleveland leadership very much welcomed the rare opportunity to attend the memorable and impressive Presidential visit. Thank you to the City Club of Cleveland.



## Cleveland Asian Festival in St. Patrick's Day Parade

by Wayne A. Wong



Once again this year, leaders of the Cleveland Asian Festival and affiliated groups represented the AsiaTown Community by marching in the 57th Annual Cleveland St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17, 2015. The group was one of about 200 marching units that paraded for the estimated 125,000 attendees that lined Superior Avenue in Downtown Cleveland. The Asian Festival has participated in the parade for the last six years, and was joined this year by representatives of OCA Greater Cleveland Asian

American Advocates, Yume Daiko Japanese Taiko Drums, Yin Tang Dance Company, Shaolin Kung Fu School of Arts, OCA Cleveland Dragon Dance Team (a partnership with Confucius Institute at CSU), CAF Panda, and volunteers that helped with transportation. Li Wah Restaurant also supported the group by providing an after-parade meal. In the parade were: Lisa Wong (unit organizer), Wayne Wong, Dorjan Scott, Siu Yan Scott, Scott Child, Yin Tang Dance, Chris Blackfire, Eva Fong, Matthew Richards, Samantha Clark Werstler, Werstler Child, Rey Galindo, Prakash Sinha, Stacey Ortman, Ahmed Alruwaili, Wasil Klash and the very popular CAF Panda!

## 一對服務社區的華人夫婦

Wayne A. Wong and Lisa Wong 這對夫婦近幾年來一直活躍在克利夫蘭華人圈里，現任克利夫蘭美華協會主席的 Lisa 還有她在宇航局工作的 Wayne，夫婦攜手為社區服務，有時他們還帶着一對兒女一起為華人社區做有意義的事情。

認識 Wayne A. Wong and Lisa Wong 很久，他們倆都是 ABC，雙方家族的前輩都在克利夫蘭開餐飲業，前輩華人在美國

打拼經歷激發他們倆為華人社區做好事。

從克利夫蘭慶祝中國新年，克利夫蘭醫院搬家，到克利夫蘭警察局開會，克利夫蘭華人社區的大小事情都能見到他們的身影。

克利夫蘭亞洲節他倆也是主幹之一，克利夫蘭華人感謝您們，相信未來的克利夫蘭唐人街一定會有更大的規模，有更多的熱心服務於社區的人們。

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