



**CCCTB**  
Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay  
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www.chinesechambertb.org

## What's Up ?

12/07/2024

J. Oldham, Editor, [jimnwk@aol.com](mailto:jimnwk@aol.com)

### Comments by Our President

会长致辞: Ms. Sunny Duann, President

Dear members and friends,

There is good news to report about **CCCTB** this year! Our Chamber has gained momentum in the business community in several important and interesting ways. Our staff will comment on these ways in this addition of your newsletter, but I would like to take this opportunity to tell you all that our organization has begun to assume a welcome new dimension as the year 2025 surges into its rapidly flowing second half.

**CCCTB** attendees are enjoying our business discussions. These talks provide a forum for our business members to describe how they achieved their own successful results. It is an fascinating and educational way the **CCCTB** helps improve our membership objectives.

Our meetings and community travel events have become more professional and entertaining as our group grows. It is inspiring to be a part of the **CCCTB**. A heartfelt 'Thank You' to our members and staff for the year's successful first half... All I can say is, "There is more to come!"

Sincerely Yours,

**Sunny**

### CCCTB Annual Meeting

Our May 24<sup>th</sup> the Chinese Chamber of Commerce held its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting in the Safety Harbor Museum. The event featured three outstanding speakers who presented engaging and thought-provoking talks in varied subjects. Attendees, some from as far as Ocala and Miami enjoyed a delicious luncheon catered by **Kitsune Sushi of Pinellas Park, FL**. In sum. all agreed that the event was inspiring and fulfilling.

**President Duann** shared key updates on the chamber's latest developments. These include a fully functional website, the addition of Zelle and PayPal for convenience payments and a new **CCCTB** display banner. One of the most popular developments is the new membership card offering discounts at partner restaurants. She also thanked board members **Andrew Lein**, **Justin Andrews** and outgoing member **Siyuan Chen** for their contributions to these developments.

Our first speaker, **Mr John Huang, CEO of Innovative Cabinetry, Inc**, described how he developed from a 2,000 sq. ft. shop in 2005 to operating a 130,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility today. His proprietary brand of weather-resistant outdoor kitchen cabinetry "ENDURA," has revolutionized the market. **John Huang** is an inspiring and tireless leader who shares his method of respect for others, self-discipline, humility and grace: "Finish today's tasks today; improve every day."

Our second speaker was **Mr. Andrew Lein of Lein IT Consulting**. **Andrew** is a very well qualified expert on free, open frame software for business use. His special talent has allowed him to help business clients develop lower cost IT applications to increase productivity and reduce overhead. His practical and down-to earth talk prompted many audience questions and lively discussion.

The third speaker, the charismatic **Ms. Tracy Lesh, Secretary, CCCTB**, gave a very well researched talk on the history of Tea, sharing the story of how 19<sup>th</sup> century British botanist Robert Fortune disguised himself as a Chinese farmer to learn the secrets of tea production. His efforts ultimately enabled the British to establish large-scale tea production in colonial India, currently the source of most British Tea. Tracy's storytelling captivated the audience and made an entertaining conclusion to a successful CCCTB educational presentation.

**President Duann** highlighted several of the years successful events including the Lunar New Year gathering, the exclusive and highly-sought after visit to the Ringling Museum and new CCCTB Board of Directors.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors, President Duann presented a plaque and Certificate of Appreciation to past president **Sue Xu**. **Mrs. Xu** gratefully accepted the honor and offered heartfelt wishes for the Chamber's continued success.

*Thanks to **Dr. Peter Simons** for this summary*

## **New CCCTB Development**

**CCCTB** Director, **Dr. Peter Simons**, has rolled out the **CCCTB Leadership Development Program**. The goal of this division of CCCTB is to find and develop new community leaders to expand the role of our **CCCTB**, and by extension, the Chinese-American business community in the greater Tampa area.

Dr. Simons introduced the first LDP Intern to this program, 16-year-old High School student Ms. Emily Ding, and shared his hopes of mentoring young leaders through the Chamber's support.

## **Recent Events of Note**

### **CCCTB Takes the Spotlight at AAPI Heritage Month Celebration**

CCCTB President Sunny Duann and SACA Secretary Ming He proudly represented our Chinese-American business community at a special ceremony where the City officially proclaimed May as Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month in the U.S.

The proclamation-signed by Council Chairman Ken Hogan and six other council members-was a heartfelt recognition of the incredible impact the AAPI community continues to make across the country, and especially right here in Tampa Bay.

### **Kirk Ke Wang Lights Up Dunedin City Hall**

On June 4, 2025, Florida-based artist Kirk Ke Wang captivated a full audience at Dunedin City Hall during a "Meet the Artist" event. He shared his artistic journey and discussed

*Summer at the South Tower*, a vibrant abstract painting created by transforming everyday photos into layered, emotional works. Originally from Shanghai, Wang has been a Tampa Bay arts leader for nearly 40 years. His work has been featured in top regional venues, including the Ringling and Sarasota museums. Attendees left inspired by his energy, insight, and the powerful presence of his dynamic art.

## Business Member News

**Become a business member of CCTB, promote and grow your business or organization with us**

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