

ASIAN HORIZON

VOLUME 5 NO. 2

ASIAN HORIZON

Rm. 411 Student Center 1976/Jan-Feb



Year of the Dragon

At the beginning of spring semester, Laney College Asian Student Union (ASU), will celebrate the Asian Lunar New Year. What is Asian Lunar New Year? Prior to the westernization in Asia, the new year is celebrated according to a lunar calendar. The lunar calendar is based on the cycles of the moon rather than the cycles of the sun which western calendars are based on. The Asian Lunar New Year is still a strong tradition in Asia and it will never dissipate. It is still celebrated as a tradition by

many Asians in Asia as well in the U.S. There are twelve different lunar animals and each animal is celebrated every twelve years. This year will be "4674" "Year of the Dragon".

In 1973, the ASU and Chinese Student Association (CSA) put on the "Asian Horizon" festival. In this festival we wanted to put forth a program which we felt represented the culture of Asians in America. We have met national oppression and racism in this country. Exclusion Acts, concentration

(cont. from pg. 1)

camps, and discrimination had burdened our ancestors in the past. Even today we are still faced with racism. In our education, we, as well as all Third World people were never taught about our cultures, our history, and our contributions Asians have made in the U. S. Such contributions included: the Japanese-Americans army units in World War II, the transferring of desolated and swampy lands into rich agricultural land, and the building of the railroads.

In the following years, we have raised political consciousness among students by exposing the racist nature of the Vietnam War and colonization in the Philippines as well as education about struggles of Asian people in our committees and our own campus. Last year we tried to obtain a bilingual counselor for many of the Asian biling

ual speaking students, but to lack of funds, and current cutback of classes, one was not available.

Also exposing ourselves to our own rich culture and heritage, we can integrate the two to help develop the Asian-American culture. Also by expressing our culture and heritage, the American people can get a greater understanding of Asian-Americans.

Laney ASU will be celebrating its fourth Asian Lunar New Year. Past celebrations have been very successful. Taiko drums, martial arts, and dancing have been highlights of past celebrations. This year events will include speeches by the ASU and CSA, taiko drums, martial arts, singing and dancing, four minute exercises, and a skit to be perform by the ASU. I hope you could come celebrate with us. HAPPY ASIAN LUNAR NEW YEAR: "4674" YEAR OF THE DRAGON!!!!

The Asian Horizon is the newsletter of the Asian Student Union at Laney College. The articles and content of the newsletter reflect the politics and perspectives of the ASU, guided by our principles of unity:

- 1) To build unity among Asian students.
- 2) To raise consciousness among students, in particular exposing the racism Asians and other Third World people face.
- 3) To work for progressive change:
 - a) To meet the needs of Asian students on campus
 - b) To struggle against racism and inequality

The Asian Horizon welcomes comments and criticisms in the spirit of building greater unity among students. Any written articles or letters can be brought up to the ASU office, 411 Student Center.





CPA Celebrates

On Friday, December 26, the Chinese Progressive Association of San Francisco Chinatown celebrated its 3rd anniversary and the 82nd birthday of Chairman Mao Tsetung. Laney ASU and many other progressive Asian organization and individuals joined in the festivities and heartily extended congratulations and support to CPA as it entered its 4th year.

CPA was established as a Chinese organization to confront and combat national oppression as it is particularly manifested in the Chinatown community. Another aim of CPA is to expose and fight the reactionary and oppressive nature of the Kuomintang (KMT). Its by-laws state that its objective is to "unite with the vast majority of progressive Chinese, in particular workers, students and compatriots, to work for betterment of the Chinese community." Recognizing that the majority of TW and oppressed people in this country are affected by national oppression, CPA has pledged to support the American national minority peo

ple and all progressive people of the world in their struggles to make fundamental social change.

During the anniversary program CPA demonstrated how it puts its principles into practice. Expressing unity with the PRC, the CPA singing group performed a popular song of the People's Liberation Army and a song of support for the people of Taiwan in their fight against the oppression by the KMT. In their continuing efforts to expose all forms of national oppression rooted in the system of imperialism, members of CPA put on a skit centering around the question of language in CPA and the community in general. The educational system harasses and shames Chinese youth into not speaking their own language. Consequently, they are often not bilingual and a gap is created between them and the Chinese speaking members. Realizing that the language barrier is a result of national oppression, young and older members work hard to mutually overcome the barrier and in the process increase the political unity within CPA.

Highlights of CPA's 1975 activities were presented in a slide show; they clearly reflected CPA's contributions to the Asian and progressive movement. CPA strives to meet the needs of the Chinese community, for example in their support for the Chinese Hospital and International Hotel struggles. CPA has given critical support to all segments of the progressive movement. Recognizing the importance of supporting workers' struggles especially Chinese workers' struggles, the organization most recently backed the Mandarin and Jung Sai workers' strikes. CPA has also cosponsored the May 1st International Worker's Day celebration.

CPA recognized the significance of the Asian student movement as an integral part of the overall Asian movement. Realizing the today's student struggles have roots in the 1919 May 4th Movement, CPA has staunchly supported Asian student organizations and has assisted in the Tule Lake Pilgrimage

Interview with New Asian Studies Coordinator ~ Gordon Chang

The following is an Asian Horizon interview with Gordon Chang, the new Asian Studies coordinator.

Q- What direction do you see Asian Studies taking? Will there be any changes?

A- Right now Asian Studies is in an unsettled situation since we are in the process of trying to get a contract position. I hope to see that Asian Studies will be stabilized, with more consistent curriculum and faculty. In addition, I hope there will be more regular Asian Studies meetings which will include faculty and students. These meetings will be important in establishing the future direction for Asian Studies.

There are many improvements that can be made in Asian Studies that I hope will materialize in the future - such things as the materials on Asian Studies in the library need to be developed; as well as improved and more courses in Asian Studies. But right now, we're just in the process of trying to pull Asian Studies together

Q- Are there any problems at Laney

A- I think this is a pretty obvious question. Anyone connected with Laney can see there are huge problems at the school. I think that of all the problems that exist in the school, the problems of developing really truthful and decent education and getting the students and faculty to be able to really determine the direction for the school are the most important issues.

Q- What about working with the ASU

A- I think it is very important that Asian Studies work closely with the ASU and other student organizations including the CSA. Ethnic Studies arose out of student struggles and therefore should continue to be closely related to the students.

Q- How do you feel about the Divisional Structure?

A- The divisional structure is a bureaucratic anchor that will seriously damage education at Laney. It will make the school even less responsive to the needs of the students. More money and time will be spent on bureaucracy rather than on education. In particular, with regards to Ethnic Studies, the divisional idea will be one more step in weakening Ethnic Studies. The divisional idea is the administration's plan of asserting more arbitrary authority over the school.

Q- How do you see your role of coordinator of Asian Studies?

A- Like I said above, right now I see my main work as trying to pull Asian Studies together. There is much potential in Asian Studies which has not been realized and it is the responsibility of the coordinator to take on a leading role in developing Asian Studies. Asian Studies must become more relevant to the social and political needs of the community.

(cont. from pg.3)

Committee.

As one of its most valuable contributions to the Asian movement CPA has provided the Chinese community with accurate accounts of Socialist China, countering the distortions spread by the KMT and American media. It has also been a firm supporter of the normalization of relations between the U.S. and China. This pro-China work has culminated in CPA's cosponsoring of the celebration of October 1st, China's founding day.

CPA is distinct in that its membership is not limited to a certain age or occupational group. Young, middle aged and elderly workers and students participate in CPA. They are united around the political principles of unity and conduct their work and study from that basis. This was apparent at the anniversary celebration and is apparent whenever anyone visits their storefront.

Laney ASU joins the support of CPA's efforts to advance the Asian and progressive movement.

The Wok Spot

asian Jumble



BEEF STEW (Thit Bō Kho)

Serves four

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. stewing beef
- 2 fresh citronella roots
- 2 shallots (or white part of green onions)
- Heavy pot with cover
- 1 T. salt
- 1 T. cooking oil
- 3 pinches of black pepper
- 2 quarts water
- 1 T. fish sauce
- 1 4 inch stick of cinnamon
- 1 1/2 T. tomato paste (spanish style)

Cut the stewing beef into 2-inch cubes. Crush the citronella roots. If citronella is unavailable, substitute 3 knobs of fresh or reconstituted dried ginger root sliced thin. Crush the shallots.

Heat the oil in the heavy pot and put in the beef, crushed citronella, and crushed shallots. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Saute over high heat about 2 minutes, stirring constantly.

Break up the cinnamon and add with water and fish sauce to the beef in the pot. Bring to a boil over high heat. Lower the heat to simmer, cover and cook on low heat until beef is tender (about 2 or 3 hours.)

About ten minutes before serving add tomato paste and stir well.

Serve hot, with rice, spaghetti, or noodles. This is also good reheated. If there is any left over, it can also be frozen.

C I E N T H
O

T I N E A D
O

G R O N A D
O

T R A U C U L L
O O



NEW YEAR

Commemoration to Comrade Chou En-Lai

Chou En-Lai, a great leader of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people, died on January 8, 1976. His death aroused deep grief in the hearts and minds of the progressive and revolutionary peoples throughout the world. The Asian Student Union shares this international sentiment.

Our greatest respect for Chou En-Lai can be expressed by transforming our grief into continued and heightened strength and determination. It should be expressed by learning from the many contributions and lessons of Chou's revolutionary experiences as a dedicated Marxist-Leninist who selflessly fought for the Chinese revolution and oppressed peoples of all countries. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Mao Tsetung, we in ASU can in particular, learn from Chou's role in building the unity of the different nationalities and the working class, in building a new



1898 - 1976

socialist society in the People's Republic and in strengthening the unity between the Chinese and American peoples.

The Asian Student Union joins with friends in commemoration of the death of Chou En-Lai:

-Eternal glory to comrade Chou En-Lai, leader of the Chinese Communist Party and Chinese people.

-Nothing is hard in this world if you dare to scale the heights.

HÂN HOAN CHÀO MỪNG

NGÀY THÀNH LẬP HỘI VIỆT-KIỀU YÊU NƯỚC TẠI MỸ

chương trình văn nghệ ...

VÀO LÚC

18 giờ 30 chiều

THỨ BẢY, NGÀY 31 THÁNG 01 NĂM 1976

TẠI

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

2320 đường DANA

(góc đường Bancroft & Dana

cạnh đại học U.C. BERKELEY)

Asian Studies

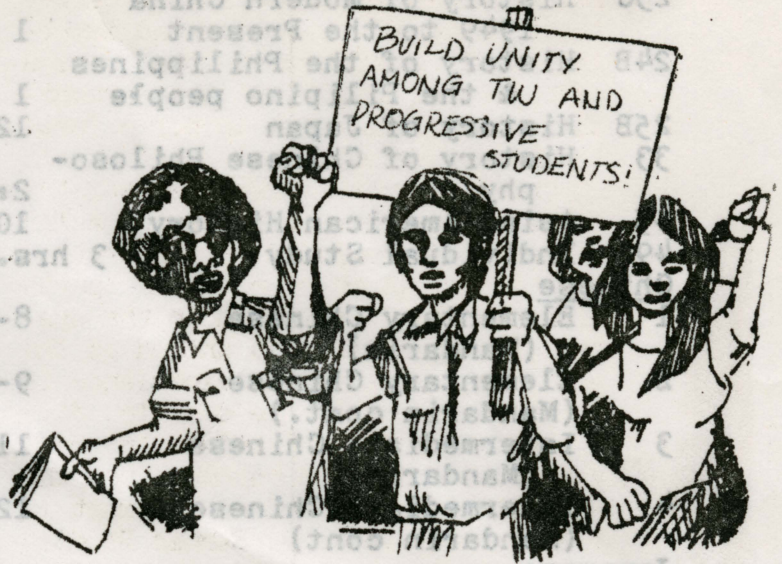
23C	History of Modern China 1949 to the Present	1 - 2:30	TTh	3	G. Chang	Forum
24B	History of the Philippines & the Pilipino people	1 - 2:30	TTh	3	T. Ordon	E201B
25B	History of Japan	12 - 1	MWF	3	R. Fan	F202
33	History of Chinese Philoso- phy	2:30-4	TTh	3	Dr. Feng	F255
45	Asian-American History	10-11	MWF	3	G. Chang	G211
49	Individual Study	3 hrs. to be arranged			F. Nivolo	T602
<u>Chinese</u>						
1	Elementary Chinese (Mandarin)	8-9	Daily	4	F. Nivolo	E202B
2	Elementary Chinese (Mandarin cont.)	9-10	Daily	4	F. Nivolo	E202A
3	Intermediate Chinese (Mandarin)	11-12	Daily	4	F. Nivolo	E202A
4	Intermediate Chinese (Mandarin cont)	12-1	Daily	4	F. Nivolo	E202A
<u>Japanese</u>						
1	Elementary Japanese	1-3:30	TTh	4	F. Norcia	A140
<u>Evening</u>						
23B	History of China	7-10 pm	T	3	C. Tong	E202B
24A	History of the Philippines & the Pilipino people	7-10 pm	Th	3	T. Ordon	E257
32	Asian-American Psychology	7-10 pm	M	3	M. Shimabuku	E209
40A	Chinese Calligraphy	7-10 pm	M	3	Dr. Feng	A203
43B	Chinese Painting & Art History	6:30-9:30	TTh	3	L. Chang	A203
<u>Chinese</u>						
1	Elementary Chinese (Mandarin)	6:30-9:30	TTh	4	N. Cho	E202A
<u>Tagalog</u>						
1	Elementary Tagalog	6:30-9:30	MW	4	Bugay	E203
2	Elementary Tagalog (cont)	6:30-9:30	TTh	4	Casteneda	E203
<u>Japanese</u>						
50A	Conversational Japanese & Culture	7-10 pm	W	2	Staff	E201B



Come to the
ASU General Mtg.
Feb. 10 12 noon
ASU office 411 Student Ctr

PSA Retreat

Laney ASU recently participated in the People's Student Association's retreat. The PSA is an anti imperialist organization working on Merritt, Alameda and Laney campuses. Our participation in the retreat is seen as a positive step in building unity among TW and progressive students. The following is the speech that we presented on the retreat



On behalf of the ASU of Laney College, we would like to thank the PSA for inviting us to participate in this retreat. We see it as a positive step in building unity and communications between our two organizations, and between active student organizers in the Peralta District.

The history of the Asian Student Movement (ASM) has been one of consistently developing our political consciousness, leadership, and understanding of society, and its direct relationship to the general progressive and revolutionary movements waging throughout the U.S. We trace its roots back to the Black Liberation Movement (BLM) during the 1960's, the Civil Rights movement, the formation of the Black Panther Party and numerous Black Student Unions, and the overall revolutionary struggles of Black people in the country has tremendous influence on the development of the Asian Student Movement, and on society as a whole. Specifically, the BLM shattered the myths of assimilation, integration, democracy and equality for Third World people in capitalist society, and exposed the deep-rooted racism and national oppression, called out for revolutionary change as the solution and thus played an exemplary and leading role in the struggles of all TW and oppressed peoples. For Asian students, we recognized that, we too were an oppressed national minority;

we began to identify with the struggles of Black people, and saw that we too, must join and unite with Black people in the struggles against our common enemies—both national oppression and imperialism. The BLM showed us that reforms and integration in capitalism were not the answers, that they only served as covers and band-aids and that a change was necessary to fully emancipate Asian, Black and other oppressed peoples.

With this developing political understanding and consciousness of the contradictions in society, we looked to our direct experiences on the campuses, and how we could bring about changes. We found that national and class oppression rooted in imperialism also existed in blatant form in the educational system. This was shown in the complete absence of any Ethnic Studies courses - no Black or Asian-American history, the tracking system, the corporate ties to the educational institutions - schools investing in racist South Africa, or conducting war research for use in the Vietnam War, and many other aspects of the campus situation. But just as in society as a whole, struggle was being waged on the campuses. Self-determination became a mass demand, the driving force behind the TW Strikes at SFS, UCB, and other campuses throughout the country. Here, too, Black and Asian students struggled side by side along with

other TW and Progressive students. Education should not serve to perpetuate national oppression and imperialism; it should serve the masses of oppressed people- in the communities and workplaces, in our efforts to change society.

The TW Strikes represented the deep unity between Black and Asian students; it deepened our understanding of the nature of national oppression and how it's rooted in the system of imperialism. It showed us the need for, and gave us experience in providing conscious leadership, direction, and organization in mass struggles; and it showed us the strength of the student movement in transforming society. Ethnic Studies although itself a reform, significantly advanced our long range struggle, and was a high point in the Asian and overall student movement.

Along side of the Black Liberation Movement, and the TW strikes, the anti-war movement, too had a powerful impact on the Asian movement. Summarizing and learning from our experiences, deepening our political understanding of society, we were able to relate the war in Vietnam concretely to the struggles of Asians in America. Like the African liberation support committees, a Bay Area Asian Coalition Against the War formed which consciously brought out the racist and genocidal character of the war, built internationalist solidarity for the national liberation struggles in Vietnam, Indochina and drew parallel examples between the Vietnamese fight for liberation here in the heart of imperialism. We raised the slogan, "ONE STRUGGLE MANY FRONTS" and "DARE TO STRUGGLE, DARE TO WIN" to reflect and propagandize these political themes to the American movement and peoples.

With the signing of the Peace Agreement in early 1973, BAACAW dissolved with the conscious understanding of continuing to struggle against imperialism, specifically as it manifested itself in our communities, campuses and workplaces in the U.S. This called for the need to do consistent, ongoing, long-range organizing among all sectors of the

movement; to apply our understanding of national oppression and imperialism to the conditions in the U.S. With this background, many activists from the Anti-war movement united with other progressive forces to consciously lead and organize, and consolidate the political direction of the overall Asian movement, and Asian Student movement in particular. For ourselves, we took up the task of forming and building Asian Student Unions, and linking this work up to the overall progressive and revolutionary movement.

In doing so, we wanted to break from the crisis oriented and inconsistent nature of the past, to break from reliance on purely spontaneous struggles. We wanted to integrate consciousness, leadership, and long range direction and organization to the movement. Key to this was establishing clear political principles of unity.

Our principles of unity speak to the organizational perspective of the ASU. In sum, our organization is united around the need to struggle against national oppression rooted in the system of imperialism, other forms of oppression and exploitation in society, and for basic fundamental social changes. Guided by this outlook, we also see the importance of uniting with other Asian student organizations with the goal of advancing the entire ASM, and with all other progressive organizations, such as the PSA, based on political principles and unity. In this way, as an Asian organization, we contribute to building multinational unity within the progressive and revolutionary movement.

Our principles of unity reflect our political perspective which develops not only out of practice, but also out of a strong understanding of the conditions on our campuses and in society in general. More concretely we have developed principles of unity to guide our mass work and to help implement our long range goals. Through our practice, we sharpen and clarify the definition of these political principles, for without practical application, these

principles are meaningless. Theory, political principles, must be used to guide our practice.

The ability to utilize this scientific method also guides our work. Study, through analysis of our work and then engaging in more practice gives us firmer political clarity. We've conducted study of the historical experiences of Asian-Americans, specific issues and topics for example, the role of Asian students in the progressive and revolutionary movement, and the revolutionary theories of Marx, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Tsetung. Our attitude towards this study is one of "study theory for the purpose of applying it", that is to use the study of theory to give clarity, guidance, and direction to our concrete political practice.

Through this section we hope you now have a basic understanding on the political perspectives of the ASU and the development as a political organization that is integrally a part of the Asian movement and overall progressive movements within the U.S. for social change.

We would now like to share concretely how the ASU puts forth our views and political principles of unity in practice. To clearly see how these are implemented we will be using a visual aid in this section of our presentation which will consist of slides of the past activities the ASU has initiated and participated in.

First of all, we'd like to talk about some of our experiences and lessons gained through our organizing work at Laney and generally with in the ASM. Laney is primarily a TW and working class campus, and due to this composition, the denial of democratic rights and national oppression is very blatant. It is a reflection of the conditions that TW people face under capitalism. Over the last few years, Asian students and the ASU have played a leading role in different mass struggles that have developed on campus. During the Spring of 1974, we helped to organize the TW Caucus which related to issues such as Ethnic Studies, Child Care, Financial Aid, and other

needs of Laney students. Last year the Laney Administration employed its tactic of cutbacks of many teachers and classes; in response the Students Against Cutbacks Committee formed and waged a partially successful struggle to retain the courses and teachers. While the cuts were general in nature, ASU struggled to put forth a national perspective that any cuts in classes and services at Laney drastically affected the TW population, the majority of students from these mass struggles? One thing is that it represents the disorder and upheaval, the intensification of political assault on the rights of TW people. Many of the programs that were won through the militant struggles of the 1960's; Ethnic Studies, financial aids, are now being threatened with cooptation or complete elimination.

On the other hand, it shows that "wherever there is oppression, there is resistance" -- we recognized that winning back courses, or obtaining more slots for child care are mere reforms that do not fundamentally alter the oppression and exploitation inherent in imperialism. But through providing conscious leadership and organization to these spontaneous issues, through raising people's political understanding and consciousness during the course of struggle---integrating theory and practice - many gains and successes were achieved. The formation of the TWC and SAC also were very concrete expressions of the process of building TW and multinational unity, based on firm political principles, among Laney students.



But ongoing, long range consistent organizing work, the development and expansion of ASU's as mass organizations is the main aspect of our campus work. How do we organize unite and involve the broad masses of students in the struggle against national oppression, imperialism and for fundamental, basic changes in American society. This is the task set out for our Newsletter, Activities, and Women's Caucus, the standing programs of the Laney ASU. Over the past three years, the ASU has vigilantly waged the struggle against the administration to defend the rights of Asian students to accurate and relevant education. We work to maintain & expand our Asian Studies programs against the cut-backs from the administration. But because of the inherent limitations of the Asian Studies program, we've organized special activities to bring more education of our history and culture to Asian Students. This semester we went on a field trip to Angel Island, a place where Asian immigrants were detained and imprisoned.

Another aspect of education, ASU feels is important is the cultural sphere. Each year, guided by our principles of unity, we celebrate Asian Lunar New Year, with a program of traditional arts, lion dance, gung fu, taiko drumming, and presentation of more contemporary culture of Asian Americans. We have had skits and songs that reflect the struggles and aspirations of Asians, specifically Asian Students on campus.

At the same time, we are involved in building unity between Laney ASU and ASU's on other campuses. Last year, nine campuses participated in organizing a pilgrimage to Tule Lake one of the concentration camps that the Japanese Americans were placed in during WWII. Guided by four principles of unity, we presented a true account of the concentration camps and their relation between this experience and the national oppression which affects all TW people. We also worked to concretely build the ASM as part of the overall Asian and pro



gressive movements. This summer we organized a retreat to sum up the experiences and political direction of the ASM. Five Bay Area campuses participated. Our goals are to build and consolidate our mass base and organizations on each of the campuses, struggling to unify around political principles, and direction, and also to build mutual support and liaison between campuses through joint work. This is the process that would qualitatively raise the level of development and organization of the ASM to a new stage.

Part of our political education and practice in the ASUs consists of responding to all forms of oppression that exist in society, broadening students political perspective around contradictions and struggles in the communities, workplaces, or in the international situation today. Early in struggle, we began to analyze the housing and health care or recreational facilities in Chinatown or Japantown, we see little difference between Asian communities and the Black ghettos. We see the same superexploitation of Chinese garment or restaurant workers as exists for Black workers in the auto industry of other factories. So getting involved with the communities and work places, have been important aspects of the theoretical and political development of the ASU's. Black people in the U.S. have organized massive celebrations and events in support of the African liberation movements and have linked these struggles to those of Black people within the U.S. opposing imperialism, racism, and national oppression. Similarly, the

Interested in seeing an Asian Lunar New Year celebration this spring? Or how about participating in an ASU snow trip retreat?

ASU has a number of activities in mind for the spring semester and we need your help to carry them out.

Right now, our most immediate task is to organize this spring's Asian Lunar New Year celebration. Previous years' observances have included programs demonstrating our proud heritage of traditional Asian culture coupled with our equally significant Asian American culture. ASU is definitely interested in continuing the spirit and quality of the last celebrations. Come and contribute your singing, martial arts, dancing, artistic skills and talents, as well as, your ideas and suggestions to help bring an honest representation of our culture to Laney campus.

As another of our activities, ASU wants to go on a weekend snow trip retreat to relax and share good times. During the weekend, we'd also like to strengthen the unity within ASU and deepen our political consciousness. If you're interested in good times and meaningful, constructive discussion, help us get this retreat together.

Another way to develop our consciousness is through study groups. ASU recognizes that it is not enough to just engage in practice, planning and implementing activities and programs. We have to understand why we engage in practice and how our work is tied to the larger Asian student and overall Asian and progressive movements. ASU considers study as essential and very beneficial aspect of our work. We encourage all of you who are interested to join us.

ASU realizes the language difficulties facing both Asian American and foreign born students, as well as, the more general difficulties

we experience in science and technical classes. In order to mutually benefit each other, ASU would like to participate in joint tutoring. If you are experiencing problems or if you can be a tutor, please come and help us out.

On a lighter, vein, ASU wants to again set up joint singing and guitar playing sessions. Past sessions have produced exuberant singers and musicians and have fostered close friendships and unity.

As you can see, ASU has a lot of ideas in store, but we need your help and contributions. Drop by and help us out....We'd really appreciate it!!!!



ASU has participated consistently in celebrations and events commemorating October 1st, the founding of the socialist People's Republic of China; and we too, have tried to apply the lessons and experiences of the Chinese, in building socialism and combatting all forms of imperialism and exploitation in the U.S.

Through our presentation, we hope we gave you a brief overview of the lessons and experiences of ASU's and the ASM. We hope that the presentation will contribute to building unity and support for each other's organizations against national oppression and imperialism. We encourage comments and criticisms about our presentation and further struggle to advance our work in the student movement.