

**The Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Chicago visited
the Association of the Chinese Americans in Madison Heights, MI on March 1, 2015**

Article by Shung H. (Sue) Sung

Accompanying the Beijing Opera Troupe's performance in Detroit on March 1, 2015 to celebrate the Chinese New Year, the Acting Consul General Mr. Yong Wang, Consul Yongqing Zhang, and Consul Gang Sun, visited the Association of the Chinese Americans (ACA). With Spring Festival couplets, books, calendars, and hanging ornaments, the consular office extended their best wishes of Chinese New year to the Association of Chinese Americans.

This is the first official visit by the Consulate General office to ACA. Thanks to ACA Board director and Secretary Angela Wang Beasinger who arranged the visit. On March 1, 2015, the Consulate General office team arrived at the ACA Chinese Community Center in Madison Heights early in the morning to have a meeting with the Detroit Chinese schools representatives, followed by the ACA Board and representatives. Attending the meeting were ACA President Bernard Wong, Vice President Roland Hwang, Secretary Angela Wang Beasinger, the Board directors Sue Sung, Eric Chau and Jane Zhao. Also attending the meeting were representatives from the newly established ACA Detroit Asian Professional group (DAP): Kaikai Chen (also a Navigator for ACA), Michael Zumberg, and the past Detroit Chinese Business Association (DCBA) president Dr. Mingan Tan and his wife Lisa Wang.

Before the meeting, the consulars toured the center and the facilities, viewing the historical pictures on the walls, and the commemorative displays honoring the Chinese American Veterans who served during WWII and Korean War. The meeting began with opening welcome remarks by ACA President Bernard Wong, followed by the ACA 42nd Anniversary video prepared by the ACA director Shenlin Chen for the 2014 Annual Dinner Celebration. The video effectively highlighted ACA's achievements in social services, education, sports and fitness, arts, charity, community service activities, introduced the board members, staffs and volunteers, and noted the significant parking lot renovation and building maintenance. After viewing the video, the China consular team was well informed about ACA's mission and achievements. Then, through casual dialogs around the table, broad topics were covered on the visa application and service, Chinese language teaching in the US, community economic developments in the Metro Detroit area, and the commercial/trade exchanges between US and China. The discussions were fruitful, casual, and informative for both sides. The visit was ended with a group picture along with best wishes for the Chinese New Year of the Sheep from the Consular office.

(See photos below)

