

## **ACA successfully hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Thanksgiving Luncheon on 11/19/2016**

Though the temperature was dropping dramatically with winter approaching, the thankful hearts were filled with gratitude and warmth. On November 19th, ACA hosted its 2016 Volunteer Appreciation Thanksgiving Luncheon at the Chinese Community Center. More than 200 people attended this event, including several Board directors, staff members and numerous volunteers. The attending Board directors were **Shenlin Chen, Tony Tai, and Jay Zheng**. ACA staff members were ACA Executive Director **Joyce Li, David Liou, Shirley Yee, Kaikai Chen, Eleana Loy, Liqun Yang, Cindy Fabio, Grace Yu, Lei Wang, Min Liu, and Peggy Du**. On behalf of the ACA Board of Directors, Shenlin Chen gave a Thanksgiving speech to express the deep appreciation to all the volunteers.

ACA Director Joyce Li and the staff members in charge of each ACA location gave short speeches showing their appreciation and to recognize the work and support the volunteers provided during the past year. ACA hosts a great number of events and activities at its locations each year. With limited funds and resources, ACA is very fortunate to receive abundant and unselfish support from many volunteers, no matter of their races, their career background, their ages, their education background and their locations. In order to provide some of the on-going services and host some of ACA's regular programs (such as daily lunch program for seniors, cleaning-up service, vegetable gardening, facility maintenance of activity centers, fund raising events, English lessons, computer lessons, Tai Chi lessons, dancing classes and chorus, or seasonal events such as Youth Summer Camp Program, Family Fun Day Program and Year-end Fund Raising Banquet...), more than 100 volunteers have given us their support every year. All of our volunteers donate their own spare time or family time, with no expectation for compensation. Their only wish to contribute their efforts to ACA's events to make sure that ACA functions smoothly to bring more services and assistance to local community is a blessing to all.

On behalf of the volunteers, **Ms. Pei Zhen** presented a short introduction of a project she is working on to rebuild the ACA library in collaboration with 3 other volunteers. Ms. Pei Zhen shared some of her early-stage work dealing with the re-organizing, re-cataloging and re-shelving the books, and the future plan of creating a library managing system and updating the facility. Once again, Ms. Pei Zhen put emphasize on the project motto " We believe the power of a book can change the world" . May our Chinese community library be able to better serve our community and the next generation.

As we approach the end of the year, all of us at ACA would like to show our deep gratitude for all your support and efforts, and we hope that you will continue to give us your support that contributes to the community in the coming year as well. We hope you will inspire more friends to join our family of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact us at 313-831-1790 & 248-585-9343.



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