

## Newsletter - Vol 16 - Issue Two – Summer 06

### Welcome New Members

Whether by our booth at the Asian Heritage Festival or referral by friends we added the following new members since May; Alan Hui, Alex Koo, Betty Lin, Charlton Chen, Cicelia Shum, David Louis, Georgina Man, Grace Choi, Hei-ling Chu, Isamu Kato, Jing Kai, Jonggu Moon, Judi Cheng, Julie Chang, Kam Yan, Kevin Tang, Kristal Aliyas, Lori Yola Chan, Margaret Lee, Minh Quoc Vuong, Perry Zhao, Shan Li, Sirima Sathitakom, Stacey Luo and Wei Qiang Ma..

Some of these new members have already started participating in AO events and we invite the rest of you to do the same. We currently schedule about fifty events per year so there's plenty of activities to do.

### Finger Lakes Camping Weekend by Don Chen

Due to the distance of this camping trip to Robert H. Treman State Park, we added an additional day to make the trip from Friday to Monday. The weather forecast for the weekend was no rain - so I did not bring a canopy.

After a 4- 5 hour ride, we had to drive thru a creek to reach the campground. The campground were one of the better campsites AO has organized. One cannot speak enough of the shower facility. It was extremely clean and had places to put our belongings. Saturday after breakfast and making lunch, we drove 45 minutes to Watkins Glen State Park. It was well worth the drive to see so many waterfalls in one place. It was even more impressive for those on their first visit there. We did not mind getting wet as we walked under some waterfalls! People with cameras kept on snapping pictures after pictures of the various waterfalls as we walked thru the gorge created by the water. The trip concluded with a visit to an ice cream parlor.

Our next stop was the Corning Museum of Glass. Corning stopped making the familiar Corning wares, but they are still in the glass making business for televisions. There were many things that can be done with glass including a sound amplifier, building material (we walked on several stretches of glass). After the long day of sightseeing at Watkins Glen and Corning we returned to the campsite for a hearty dinner. By request, we had chicken legs and vegetable for dinner. The day ended with sitting around a fire toasting marshmallow and yams.

Day Two involved trips to a waterfall in camp called Lucifer Fall and a 45-minute drive to Taughannock Falls. Each waterfalls are different with the tallest around 200 feet. There were many small cascading water and the surrounding are very mystic. A group went to College Town (Cornell area) while the others went back to camp to wade in the water.

Like I mentioned, it was not suppose to rain, but on Sunday, it rained and we had hail as well. The wind became very gusty to the point of blowing a screen tent into a van - that interrupted our dinner of fish, steak and vegetable. After an hour later, we resume cooking and eating.

All in all, this was one of the nicest camping outing with good campground and this group of AOs had good chemistry among each other.

### Up and Coming Events

Sat – Aug 26<sup>th</sup> – Tubing @ Delaware River

Fri/Mon – Sept 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> – Cabin Camping Weekend @ Lk Tagahanic

Sat - Sept 9<sup>th</sup> – Lobster Cookout & Beach Party

Fri/Mon – Sept 15<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> – Camping Weekend @ North Lake

Sat – Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> – Biking @ Shelter Island

Sat – Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Staten Island Greenbelt/Chinese Scholar's Garden

Sat – Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – Off-Road Biking @ Minnewaska

Sat – Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – Hike @ Sam Point  
Sat – Oct 21<sup>st</sup> – Hike @ Minnewaska