

NEWSLETTER ... April 2008

Oklahoma City International Visitors Council

Editor – Kay Bickham
Website: www.ivcokc.org



“Life is ten percent what happens to you
and ninety percent how you react to it.”
--- Charles Swindoll

NEXT IVC MEETING THURSDAY April 3, 2008

11:00 – 12:30
Ann Lacy Bldg.
Oklahoma City University
Corner of N.W. 24 & Blackwelder
2501 N. Blackwelder
For information – call 341-3169

Program for April

*Quin Tran -- From the refugee camps in
Guam to a College Professor in Okla-
homa.....*

Quin arrived in Oklahoma City at the age of 4 as a political refugee from Vietnam. She will share the story of her rise in mass communication through writing, editing, video production, broadcasting, and teaching. Quin was one of the first Asian Americans to break into this field. Plan to hear her experiences at the April 3 meeting of IVC

Foreign language press

What an interesting program we had at the March IVC meeting. We learned about the Spanish and Chinese newspapers in Oklahoma City and the peoples that they serve in Central Oklahoma. Interesting that the editors of both Spanish newspapers are from Ecuador.

Our sympathy goes out to Deanna Bradley and the family of Lou Bradley. Louis Carter Bradley, retired city planner and longtime international business specialist for the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, died early Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at his home in Oklahoma City. Death came peacefully after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

ABOUT VOLUNTEER DIPLOMATS....

The government simply can't do what you are doing. We can't render that kind of individual, sensitive, and personalized service such as you can and do render in your own communities. This voluntary spirit is of course a keystone in the understanding which other people may have of us ..."

---former Secretary of State Dean Rusk
COSERV (former name of NCIV) conference in 1965

State Department sends Public Safety group to OKC *Rural Healthcare Delivery System and Public Health Education: April 20 - 23*

Participants will be from China, Hungary, Pakistan, Panama, and Venezuela.

News from around the city

OCU has increased the internationals in the Graduate Program by 30% to 722. The largest groups of students are from Saudi Arabia, China, and Nepal. The College of business has begun a "Great Wall MBA Program" with Vietnam.

****Note:** The IVC hosted a *Project for Vietnam* recently for the Vice President of Vietnam National University and the Senior Legal Expert of the Ministry of Education in Vietnam. Dr. Vince Orza, Dean of the OCU Business School met with the group. He had met one of the visitors while on a trip to Vietnam. This group also met with officials at OU and OSU. Thanks to Ora Hare and Ronald Paddock for serving as drivers and escorts for their visit.

UCO develops a Centre for Global Competency. Kickoff event will be 2:00 p.m., Monday, March 31 In Constitution Hall, Nigh University Center. Info. Dennis Dunham 974-2373.

Lisa Ling will speak about the need for global awareness and Kyle Dillingham, talented violinist, will perform.

For your calendar

April 19 – United Nations Association Annual Meeting --OCU in the Grand Ballroom of the Student Center.

“Re-thinking global governance: beyond the united Nations?” --- Speaker: Eric Heinze, PhD

Dr. Heinze is Asst. Prof. of Political Science and International Studies at OU.

“Since a world government is both infeasible and undesirable, how can existing global frameworks be reformed, improved or supplemented to operate more effectively?”

Register by April 11 – for info, call Ruth Males 478-0358.

May 4 -- 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cinco de Mayo celebration at N.W. 10 and North Penn. (in the old AMC building)

Asian Festival – May 10 at the Oklahoma History Center 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Entertainment and food from nine participating Asian countries – exhibits will be both inside and outside the building. Be sure and see the Chinese in Oklahoma exhibit at the History Center beginning this month.

July 26 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Hispanic Chamber Expo. at the Cox Center

August 6-8 -- 2008 NCIV Southern Regional Meeting IN Atlanta, GA

Hosted by the Georgia Council for International Visitors. These regional meetings are planned so that more people can learn about the NCIV network and the work that we do. If interested, check out information on the NCIV.org website or call Kay Bickham 341-3169.

**NCIV National Meeting (February 12-16)
Handouts and Speeches are Available on
www.nciv.org**

FYI

Please pass this invitation along to whoever might benefit from this training!

Bilingual and Beyond; Helping Agencies and Individuals improve their ability to provide services to 2nd Language, Deaf and Hard of Hearing clients!

Bilingual employees looking to improve their skills, supervisors of bilingual employees or wishing to use, individuals

interested in providing services to Deaf, Hard of Hearing clients, agencies interested in increasing their 2nd language abilities, etc.!!

Date & Time: 8am to 4pm, Friday, March 28, 2008, free lunch included!

Objectives:

- To learn about Federal regulations governing when and how to provide public services in languages other than spoken English!
- To learn about Federal and State laws governing providing services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing clients!
- For Interpreters, Translators, Bilingual employees and volunteers to learn how to develop interpreting skills on your own!

Location:

Herrick Auditorium at **Southern Nazarene University** NW 39th Expressway and N. Ashbury, Bethany (For map and complete directions, go to <http://snu.edu>)

How to Register:

Online registration form at www.policework.com

Or Email your name, contact information and any CEUs desired to: conference@policework.com

Inaugural WOW! Walk for Women a Success Nearly 200 people walked for women on March 8, International Women's Day. The fun, one-mile walk was organized by WOW! @ World Neighbors, with the Community Health Club at University of Central Oklahoma and the magazine Oklahoma Today as co-sponsors.

Why walk on March 8? This day marked the 97th annual celebration of International Women's Day. March 8 is recognized throughout the world as a day to commemorate the great strides that women have made, and reminds us all that we continue together in our efforts to achieve equality, peace and development. Because walking is such a major activity in poor women's lives around the world, it seems fitting to walk together in solidarity. In the areas of the world where W. N. works, it is not uncommon for women to spend hours a day walking to collect a jug of water for their family, or walking to find fuelwood to cook their food or to find fodder for their livestock. Unfortunately, in many parts of the world, women must also walk miles to get to a clinic for basic health care or to deliver a baby.

*Plainview: I From In the Presence of the Sun,
Used by permission of the author.*

By N. Scott Momaday -- Oklahoma Centennial poet

There in the hollow of the hills I see,
Eleven magpies stand away from me.
Low light upon the rim; a wind informs
This distance with a gathering of storms
And drifts in silver crescents on the grass,
Configurations that appear, and pass.
There falls a final shadow on the glare,
A stillness on the dark, erratic air.

I do not hear the longer wind that lows
Among the magpies. Silences disclose,
 Until no rhythms of unrest remain,
 Eleven magpies standing on the plain.
They are illusion—wind and rain revolve—
And they recede in darkness, and dissolve.