Oct. 17th, 2000

Agenda

I. Minute Correction
II. Weekend Events
III. Guessing Game
IV. Time of meeting
V. Shadow Day and December Conference
VI. Forum: Cultural Conflicts with American Values
VII. Mien Presentation
VIII. Potluck Oct. 28th
IX. Stadium Clean-Up: Sign-Up sheet
X. Collect membership dues

Begins: 5:38

Minute Correction: Oct. 3rd, 2000
Scholarship recipient: Pao Sio not Kao Sio. (sorry)

Last Friday the 13th, some of us went to watch "Lost Souls" and some went to eat afterward. The general opinion of the movie was that it "sucks"
Vivian: shared with us her experience of the Hmong New Year that she attended in which she had to wear traditional Hmong clothing "ALL DAY" and "Toss Balls"

Roger, Sandy: HOPE Conference was very successful in term of attendance(800+). The workshops addressed many important issues such as:
- Ways to open up communication between the different generations
- Parent/Teacher relation
- Rights
- Student and Higher Education

Time and Day of the meeting was voted on:
The majority of the people "Don't mind" keeping the regular time which is every Tuesday @ 5:30pm, among other reasons, it is now getting darker earlier.

REACH: Shadow day-Chanthip
On Friday the 20th, REACH is sponsoring Shadow Day as part of their recruitment and retention program in which volunteers allow a high school student shadow him/her for the day. The program will also have workshops, campus tour, and lunch will be provided. They need a lot of help and there are many ways in which one can help. Training session will be Wednesday(Tomorrow) @ 7:30pm

There will also be a meeting for the December conference tomorrow at 7:30 554 Barrows Hall. We are trying to create a larger Organization for Southeast Asians students and professionals to network. Come and support and give suggestions. Free snacks!

Forum:

Many have expressed that they families own chickens and some have been cited by authority.
Roger: asked "what is the difference between someone owning 20 cats running around in the city and someone who own a chicken?"
People have pigs as pet.
Response: Those who do own pigs or other farm animals as "pet" they have to obtain a license.
Pa: Shared a story about someone who was cited for doing animal sacrifice ritual for his illing wife in Fresno/Merced
Peng: Her grandparents have license to practice animal sacrifice rituals/ceremonies
Chanthip: Many parents are frustrated because they are not allowed to discipline their children physically and they blame the law for the way their children turned out to be.
Samantha: Grandfather use "cupping" as alternative medicine.
Lo: Some elder still grow opium in their backyard to use for medicinal purposes.

Solutions&Suggestions
Viengkham: We need to raise awareness because there are not many published sources or materials about our culture.
Sandy: We need more "first hand" writers because most of the published sources and materials are obtained through translation or interpretation of what's been said and a lot can be lost in the process.
Pa: We need to raise awareness on both sides. We need to know the "American" way of life and their rules and regulations, and we need to make them aware of our culture and traditions.

Sandy: We need to educate the community as well as ourselves.

Presentation: LO
Lo told 2 folklore stories of the Origin of the Mien people. One as the Mien have told it and the other with Chinese influence.
The Mien Version:
A brother and a sister were forced to repopulate the earth. So the sister gave birth to a gord, and she told her brother to cut up the gord, and scatter the meat in the low land and the seeds in the high land but he forgot and did the exact opposite. The Mien people(fewer) are the meat, and the seeds are everyone else which explains why the Mien people live in the highland and why there are so few of them in comparison to everyone else who were the seeds in the Lowland.

The Chinese Version:
There once was a king with a beautiful daughter. But the king was really afraid and unhappy because he have received news that the Chinese Emperor was coming to take over his kingdom. The king then offer a reward--half of his kingdom and his daughter as a bride for whoever that could bring him the head of the Chinese emperor. A magical dog volunteered and brought
back the Chinese Emperor's head, but the
king didn't
want his daughter to marry a dog, but the
princess
insisted that her father keep his word.
Neither the
king nor the princess knew that the magical
dog turns
into a handsome prince at night. So the dog
and the
princess went off to live in their half of the
kingdom
and they produced 6 sons and 6 daughters
who paired
off and married to produce the 12 clans of
Mien
people.
(For a more complete story please contact
Lo.)

Ends: 6:55PM