



LAO AMERICAN NEW GENERATION INC.

Newsletter – May 2013

Inside This Issue

Cooking Kow Dtom at Wat Lao

Lao Natasinh Performance

Government filing still pending

Special Thanks to Supporters

Student's Corner

COOKING KOW DTOM AT WAT LAO IN SOUTH WINDSOR, CT

On Easter Sunday, March 31, 2013, the parents and their children were at Wat Lao Buddhaham in South Windsor to celebrate Lao New Year. It is customary in Laos that family and friends come together to prepare food and decoration for Lao New Year. This year, lead by Chanthachone Silahak and Nakay Hiranthom, the children rolled up their sleeves and wiped off banana leaves. According to Laotian tradition, banana leaves are used in cooking as a wrapping material. The children were cleaning the leaves to make “Kow Dtom” or boiled rice cake; a rice dessert, which rice is mixed in coconut milk, salt and sugar.

They wrapped the mixed rice in banana leaves and then placed them in a steam pot for cooking. After 30 minutes in the steam pot, the wrapped rice cakes are done and ready to serve. It was a treasure moment to see the children eating their own rice cakes that they prepared.

The children seemed pleased with each and every bite of their rice cakes. That day, they prepared over 60 rice cakes and donated



a portion of the cakes to the monk residing at the temple. The gratification they had from making and eating the rice cakes was priceless.

After a full fun afternoon of making “Kow Dtom,” the children went outside and got on their hands and knees lifting branches and leaves out of their way in hunt of Easter eggs. We saw plenty of baskets and bags full of colorful eggs. The parents however were glad that they finished cooking the rice cakes before they went outside and got their hands and fingers dirty.



Sattah, Sabrina, Lena, Tiffany, Melissa & Leon.

LANG was called upon to serve our Lao Veterans

On March 30, 2013, our students performed at the VFW Post 511 in New Britain for the US Special Forces Guerilla Unit. The students were invited to welcome and display our wonderful culture and dance to the Unit's special guests US. Senator Richard Blumenthal, US Rep. Rob Simmons and New Britain Mayor Tim O'Brien.

Lao Dancing has always been the core of Laotian culture symbolizing gracefulness, history and art for Lao Americans. Historically, the performance of Lao Natasinh was only shown in the royal palace of Lao. Today, it is still an honor and a privilege for Lao-American youth to be performing Lao Natasinh. Currently, we have 16 students* learning Lao Natasinh. The dance students meet twice a month in East Hartford or Windsor.

We are grateful to have Ms. Pricilla Sundara our Program Coordinator and Ms. Lakkitta Phouthakoun as our volunteered teacher. Together, they work with the students to learn the intricate dance and hand movements to orchestrated music.



*I've never seen any country like the US.
This is a great country...Maj.
SarPhouthasack*

In the Eyes of Government

In October 2012, the Lao American New Generation Inc. incorporated the organization with the CT Department of Secretary as a non-profit organization. Subsequently, LANG filed with the US Treasury Department for exemption of a non-profit organization and seeking coverage under Section 501(c)(3) of the US Tax codes. Currently, LANG operates under coverage of the pending application and also, a \$5,000 revenue cap for fiscal year Oct 2012 – Sept 2013. Which means that under these conditions, all collected proceeds are tax deductible in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the US Tax Codes.

Upcoming FUN Summer Activities:

- Hiking up Talcott Mountain
(June 22, 2013)
- Family Soccer in Windsor
(June 28, 2013)
- Lakeside House
(August 18, 2013)

STUDENT'S CORNER

Side Picture:

Derek Chaleun-Aloun, is currently studying Material Engineering at Drexel University. Derek successfully completed last semester of classes and made Dean's list.



Above Picture:

Tyler Sundara, a student member of LANG, is a junior at CT International Baccalaureate Academy in East Hartford. In winter of 2012, Tyler was inducted as member of the National Honor Society.

Bottom Picture:

Sattah Phouthakoun & Meggie Farley, both student members of LANG, are students of the Villari's Karate Studio. Last month, they advanced to green stripe blue belt and in weapons.



Treasurer's Report

For 1st quarter 2013, Lang received monetary and tangible donations totaling a grand value of \$1,920. Lang is very grateful of your contributions and ongoing support:

THANK YOU:

- NaphaTaimany
- Vilath & Priscilla Sundara
- Danny Sphabmixay
- Sommala & Nilamone Khoxayo
- James & Phoukham Chaleun-aloun
- Brian Conner & Honey Senthep
- Somphong Senthep
- Seng & Lakkitta Phouthakoun
- Lyo Soukha & Family
- Bountham Hiranthom
- Travis & Chanthachone Silahak
- The Chittaphong Family
- Union Street Tavern
- King & I Thai Restaurant
- Pho Boston Restaurant

Contact information:

Email langinc1@gmail.com • website www.laoamericanct.org • Telephone (860) 578-4898

• Facebook search for Lao American New Generation Inc