OSU Chinese club welcomes spirited Year of the Horse

By Whay Kwon Teo
Lantern staff writer

The OSU Alumni Association Chinese Culture Club will celebrate the new lunar year on Saturday, Feb 3, at the Antrim Park Lodge.

Fred Wu, founder of the nine-year-old club and a retired OSU professor, said the Chinese New Year celebration is one of the many events the club organizes.

Among the evening’s events, Wu will use Chinese I Ching astrology to forecast 1990, the Year of the Horse. Wu has spent 15 years mastering the Chinese I Ching and said in a Chinese lunar calendar, 12 years make a cycle and each year is represented by an animal.

The Year of the Snake, 1989, will bid farewell to many of the world’s events and herald the arrival of the Year of the Horse.

Wu said there are five different types of horses within the Year of the Horse: Fire, Water, Wood, Earth and Metal. 1990 will be the Year of the Metal Horse.

According to a Chinese proverb, it is a blessing for someone to have the spirit of both the dragon and the horse. Because legend says the Chinese people are descendants of the dragon, Chinese people across the globe welcome the arrival of this spirited horse.

The evening will include a Chinese Kung Fu demonstration, sword and fan dance by Wu’s Kung Fu Institute, the OSU Chinese Kung Fu and T’ai Chi Club, and the University of Dayton Kung Fu Club.

The evening will also feature a discussion by Wu on his impressions and experiences from his recent trip to China last September.

The Antrim Park Lodge is located at 5800 Olentangy River Road. The celebration is from 5.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and the cost is $10 for members of the Chinese Culture Club and $12 for non-members. Interested individuals may make reservations on or before Wednesday, Jan. 31.
Festival promotes culture

Fortunes were told, plates of vegetable fried rice and pot stickers were dished up, while groups of people poured over books about martial arts, Chinese astrology, and herbal medicine Saturday at the Twelfth Annual Chinese Folk Festival at the Third Avenue Community Church.

There were many activities to choose from including Thai dancers, martial arts demonstrations, and information booths, which focused on a variety of subjects ranging from acupuncture to meditation.

A spectator excitedly awaited the Chinese cooking demonstration by Master Chef Sifu Tsu Hok-Ming of the Fortune restaurant.

Shelley Townsend, a student at Columbus State said, "I hope he makes Peking duck, which is my favorite dish. I get it every time I go to Fortune."

The event, sponsored by the OSU Alumni Association and the Chinese Culture Club, focused primarily on expanding the groups’ knowledge of Chinese culture said Stephen Mendelson, the club president.

The Chinese Culture Club meets at various restaurants in Columbus where lectures are given on topics ranging from philosophy to brush painting. The majority of the 200-member club is non-Chinese people who want to learn about Chinese culture and other Asian cultures, Mendelson said.

—Erika Crawley and Sharon Caldwell