

WHAT IS CUSA?

by: Tom Stockton

On a typical Wednesday at 5pm I tell my friends I got to head up to my CUSA meeting. They then will curiously ask me, "What's CUSA?" I'll then say, "It's the Chinese Undergraduate Student Association." Then after that I usually get a strange look. That's because I'm not Chinese but a Caucasian, I then have to go explain to my pals what CUSA really is.

Although CUSA stands for the Chinese Undergraduate Student Association, it is open to anyone with an interest in China. CUSA's goal is to promote awareness on China and its fascinating culture. CUSA members came from many different racial and ethnic backgrounds. They are all very accepting and appreciative people expressing curiosity and concern for issues relating to China.

CUSA has a variety of University activities in which it invites the general student body to

attend in order to spread Chinese Awareness. These activities include the celebrations of Chinese holidays, for example, Chinese Moon Fest or Lantern Fest, traditional Chinese days, and Chinese movie nights.

Moon Fest is one of China's many important holidays that CUSA celebrates. People who attend CUSA's Moon Fest Celebration can expect to be thoroughly entertained. Like most Chinese holidays the club celebrates it starts with a brief explanation of how the holiday came about. The spunky CUSA staff usually has a creative away of explaining the holiday's origins. In the past they've done it thorough skits, or puppet shows. This year they had the audience get involved by splitting them up into groups and giving them the basic plot of a differ-

ent Moon Fest legend. They were then given a random prop like a banana or a shoe and had to use that prop to act out the story. What's more the group that put on the best performance won a special Chinese prize! The plays were judged on how humorous they were and how

CUSA means rocking it down to Chinatown!

well they used their random prop. In addition to learning the holiday's origin there is usually some Chinese traditional holiday food, like at the Moon Fest the CUSA staff members treated their guests to homemade Chinese moon Cake.

Holidays are usually spe-