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## Fall Newsletter 2009

### China's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



October 1 marked the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The mood was somewhat like watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in the U.S., with wall to wall TV coverage of the festivities in Beijing. The parade featured President Hu Jintao riding in a Hong Qi (Red Flag) limousine, and included thousands of people, colorful floats, and an impressive show of military might.



It's been said that in the ancient Chinese calendar of "heavenly stems" and "earthly branches", a span of 60 years is known as jiazi. There are 10 heavenly stems and 12 earthly branches, and a count of 60 completes one cycle of both elements, and marks the beginning of a new one.

Coinciding with the 60th anniversary was the release of what is called a 'blockbuster' movie-'The Founding of a Republic'. This movie chronicles the struggles by Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, and other Long March veterans as they fought the Guomindang leading up to the establishment of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949.



During the week of the anniversary, CCTV also aired documentaries on people of great significance in the past 60 years in China, including Yuan Long Ping, recipient of the World Food Prize in Des Moines in 2004.

### Trade News



ConsumerReports.org

Could a tax on tires be a possible cause for a trade war with China? Some say that it just may happen if we're not careful.

Earlier this year, President Barack Obama imposed a 35 percent increase on China made tires. A reason for the tax is protectionism as some accused China of illegally flooding the U.S. market with cheap tires.

President Hu Jintao complained about the tariff when he met with Mr. Obama in New York in September. At

stake are relations between the world's biggest economy and its fastest growing economy. The Chinese now ships more than \$300 billion in goods to the U.S. every year - nearly five times what we export to them. The Chinese are also our biggest foreign lender, holding \$800 billion in U.S. debt. In other words, the Chinese and U.S. economies are crucial to each other.

The U.S. action was widely reported in China and was viewed as provocative. China quickly proposed increased tariffs on U.S. chicken, as well as polyethylene. The U.S. wasn't alone in the squabble. The EU also was imposing its own protectionist measures, causing the Chinese press to focus on the consequences of worldwide protectionism.

As a result, the relationship between the U.S. and China has shifted, and world leaders want to keep that shift from becoming an earthquake that could send shockwaves through the global economy. At any rate, things are going to change and time will only tell what the outcome may be.

### Meet Mr. Wang Xue Gang- 王学刚



Pictured: Wang Sheng Wei, TSI, Wang Xue Gang, Kit Spangler

Mr. Wang and his wife live in Tangshan, a large city in Hebei Province. During the growing season they move to rural Zhangbei, northwest of Beijing and raise 330 acres of carrots. Mr. and Mrs. Wang live in a tent on the side of the field. The tent is complete with a bed, dresser, and television. They were gracious hosts as we sat in the tent, drank tea, and discussed his new Monosem MS vegetable planter. Mr. Wang pays 300 Yuan per mu rent (USD \$268 per acre) including irrigation water. Next year he is considering moving his operation to Shanxi Province and expanding it. He feels the carrot business is profitable, and hopes to increase his exports to Japan.

As a side note, I asked Mr. Wang if he experienced the 1976 earthquake in Tangshan. He was a teenager at the time and was trapped in the rubble for hours. He lost a brother in the quake. Ten Square looks forward to working with Mr. Wang as he grows his business.

### Natural Gas and Wind Power



T. Boone Pickens would like what he sees in Xinjiang China. A significant number of cars are being powered by natural gas. The natural gas is sold by the cubic meter and is filled through an outlet under the hood of the car. Cars are outfitted with a tank in the trunk. Passengers are asked to get out of the car as it enters the filling station, and remain outside of the filling area due to safety concerns. China is also moving rapidly on wind power. One TV report indicated that there were over 70 manufacturers of wind turbines in China, and that consolidation in this industry was necessary, and inevitable.

### Mid Autumn Festival- 中秋节

Every year on the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar, when the moon is at its maximum brightness for the entire year, the Chinese celebrate zhong qiu jie. Chinese people celebrate the Mid-Autumn festival with dances, feasting, and moon gazing. Not to mention moon cakes. While baked goods are common at most Chinese celebrations, moon cakes are notoriously linked with the Moon festival. They are much like Christmas candy here.

#### Chinese Corner:

#### Mid Autumn Festival

中秋节  
Zhongqiujie

#### Moon

月亮  
Yueliang

#### Steamed Dumplings

水饺子  
shui jiao zi



#### Moon cake

月饼  
Yuebing

#### Delicious

好吃  
haochi