



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

appreciation of our chinese american heritage • a non-profit organization • 1648 redcliff street • los angeles, ca. 90026

April 1983

SPECIAL EVENT COMING!

On Saturday, July 23, CHSSC and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center will co-sponsor a special workshop on FAMILY HISTORY FOR THE CHINESE AMERICAN. This day-long program will be held at UCLA from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. The workshop is designed specifically to help Chinese Americans in the how-to's of compiling a family history or family genealogy. There will be discussions on the drawing up of the family tree, the use of census records and other documents and resources, various Chinese kinship terms, the techniques of oral history, and related problems unique to the Chinese American.

CHSSC members are aware of the fact that the mammoth Oral History Project has been a collaborative undertaking by both the Society and UCLA. Since oral history is an effective means of compiling material for family history, the Society is indeed pleased to have the assistance of Dr. Lucie Cheng and Mr. Tim Dong of UCLA in planning this workshop, which promises to be an unique and exciting program.

There will be a nominal fee charged for attendance. Further details, including the names of various speakers, will be announced in the June issue of News 'n Notes. Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 23, and plan to attend this special event.

FAREWELL TO A FRIEND

The Society extends deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gladys Waddingham, on the sad loss of her husband, Francis, who passed away on April 14 while recuperating from a recent heart attack.

Mr. Waddingham, 81, spent a life of dedication and service to his fellow man. He taught for 30 years in the Los Angeles Unified School District; he served in World War II, attaining the rank of major; he was active in the Centinela Valley Historical Society, and was a devoted member of CHSSC. He received the R. Coke Wood Award, the highest award given by the Conference of California Historical Societies.

The Waddinghams were married for 56 years.

There will be no funeral services. A memorial tribute will be held on Sunday, May 15 at 3 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church in Inglewood. Donations to a Major Waddingham Memorial may be sent to the First Presbyterian Church in Inglewood, the Centinela Valley Historical Society, or to the Shriners' Crippled Children's Hospital.

Rest in peace, Major Waddingham -- and farewell. You will be long remembered by CHSSC as a loyal and devoted friend.

ADDITIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

Rev. Philip Y. Lee, guest speaker at the April meeting, donated to CHSSC three copies of the True Light Presbyterian Church's centennial book. Rev. Lee presented a most interesting history of "A Century of Presbyterian Work Among the Chinese in Los Angeles".

Thank you, Rev. Lee, for your gift to the Society's growing collection.

Stephen Chu, a student at York University in Toronto, Canada, donated a copy of his student paper entitled "An Encounter With An Elderly Person: An Interview With Mr. Yee Chaw-Lai" (who only happens to be the writer's beloved grandfather!). Stephen is a new CHSSC member, and deeply interested in what the Society is trying to accomplish in recording and preserving Chinese American history. He is the son of Mary Chu, who is the sister of the Yee brothers -- John, George, Chuck, Johnson, and Joe -- all dedicated members.

Thank you, Stephen, for your thoughtful donation to the Society's study materials.

WHO'S IN THE NEWS

During the first week in May, Chuck Yee will be speaking to the student body of North Torrance High. His subject will be "Forgotten (Chinese) Pioneers from the West".

Angi Ma Wong, employment counsellor at Evans Community Adult School, was a speaker at the Second Annual Vocational Education Special Needs Conference on April 15-16 at the Sheraton La Reina Plaza Hotel. Her subject was "Problems Faced by New Immigrants in Speaking, Acculturation and Socialization".

On Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1, Angi will be exhibiting at the 27th Semi-annual West Los Angeles Arts and Crafts Show in Westwood. Her specialty will be off-loom, handwoven landscapes and macramé items. Sharing the booth with Angi with a display of stained glass windows will be Bobbi Leung, who just happens to be the daughter of Ye Editor.

Mary Yee pulled off the neatest trick of the year by springing a surprise birthday party on her husband Chuck on Saturday, April 9. In fact, Chuck was so completely surprised that, for once, he was speechless! For a full 30 seconds, that is. The "few people" who showed up at the Yee residence turned out to be "wall-to-wall" friends. The Yees' five children assisted their mother with the planning, preparation -- and clean-up. It was a delightful party, loaded with love and warmth and laughs and friendship.

THE BOOK NOOK

Now available is the "DIRECTORY OF ASIAN AMERICAN COLLECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES", by Wei Chi Poon. This is the first and most comprehensive directory of its kind, including detailed information on Asian American collections in the U.S. housed by academic and public libraries and community organizations. Price per copy: \$6.00 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling. Make checks payable to:

Regents of University of California
ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES LIBRARY
3407 Dwinelle Hall
University of California
Berkeley, Ca. 94720

MISCELLANY

To celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Week, the Society and the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association are co-sponsoring a photo exhibit on Chinese American history. The display can be viewed during the week of May 9-13 in the lobby of City Hall East, located on Main St. between First and Temple Sts.

Chinese American poet and writer Nellie Wong and Japanese poet Mitsuye Yamada will read their works as part of the Ninth Annual Women Writers Series on Saturday, May 21 at 8 P.M. The reading will be held at the Woman's Building, 1727 N. Spring St. in downtown Los Angeles. The event is co-sponsored by the Asian Pacific Women's Network. Admission is \$4.00, and \$3.00 for members of the co-sponsoring groups. For information, call 222-4477

Welcome to the following new members:

Jeanette Young, Eugene Cooper, Barbara Jean Lee, Maye S. Wong, Bob Lee, and Elsie Louis.

AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM COMES TRUE

Twelve years ago, who would have thought that Chinatown would have a library of its own, let alone a spanking new facility? However, a few citizens with far-sighted vision saw the great need for a library to serve the special needs of the community. With initial inquiries and requests made in 1971 for just such an undertaking, the Friends of the Chinatown Library was organized in December 1976, and the push was on to obtain funding for the project. The Chinatown Branch was opened on Feb. 7, 1977, operating from the 2,600-ft auditorium on the Castelar School grounds. With a heavy volume of circulation from the very first day, and severe overcrowding, it was evident that additional floor space was needed. The Friends group then began their fund-raising efforts. With two separate grants from the Housing and Community Development Agency, funds from the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Unified School District, proceeds from three Book Fairs, and generous contributions from the Chinatown community and its friends, a sufficient amount of funds was obtained to proceed with the expansion of the library.

After twelve long years, the dream that began as what seemed at the time an insurmountable obstacle was finally realized on Monday, April 18, when the newly expanded Chinatown Branch Library was dedicated with firecrackers, lion dances, and dignitaries (Mayor Tom Bradley and Councilman Gilbert Lindsay fully promised their continued support). Beulah Quo, CHSSC member, proved once again that she is a mistress of ceremonies par excellence.

This beautiful new library, located at the corner of College and Yale Streets, has 12,000 sq. ft of space, and includes a new mezzanine with skylights. Many CHSSC members have been involved in this worthwhile project -- several are major donors, and a number of members are on the Board of Friends of the Chinatown Library:

Ruby Ling Louie, President; Dolores Wong, Vice-President; and Board Members Grace Chow, William Chun-Hoon (principal of Castelar School), Suellen Kwok, Steven Leong, and Joseph Yee.

Other CHSSC members have contributed various monetary donations, and have volunteered their services from time to time.

Following the dedication ceremonies, a luncheon at the Golden Dragon Restaurant was attended by 320 supporters of the Chinatown Branch Library.

SPECIAL CHINA TOUR FOR STUDENTS

A special tour to mainland China is being offered to students 16-30 years of age (older students subject to qualifying interviews). The objective of this program is to foster greater understanding and appreciation between the New China and students through a combined program of cultural learning and interchange, a visit to an ancestral village, and touring and sightseeing to six of China's most popular cities -- Beijing, Xian, Zhengzhou, Nanjing, Shanghai and Hangzhou. This special 34-day student program includes 4-5 days in Hong Kong, and is sponsored by Pacific International Corporation, Jinan University, and China Travel Service.

This is a non-profit tour.

There are two departure dates -- June 21 and July 15.

Cost: \$2,175.00 - includes round-trip air fare Los Angeles/Hong Kong, visa document, all accommodations, all transportation, all meals, and complete touring program.

Deadline dates: May 2 and May 23.

Contact person: Dr. Charles Wong
c/o University of Southern California
East Asian Languages and Cultures
Taper Hall of Humanities, Rm. 226
3501 University Ave.
Los Angeles, Ca 90089-0357

For further information, or for other trips to mainland China, call Charles at 256-8330 or 256-3452.

BRING A FRIEND TO OUR NEXT MEETING!!!! JOIN NOW!!!!!!

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE MEMBER	\$10
ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBER (SAME ADDRESS)	\$ 5
CONTRIBUTING MEMBER (STUDENT & SENIOR CITIZENS-60 YRS)	\$ 5
INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER	\$25
LIFE MEMBER	\$100

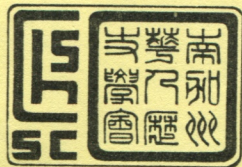
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1648 Redcliff St., Los Angeles, California 90026

Please accept my application for membership as _____ member in the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California.

Enclosed is my remittance in the amount of _____ for annual dues.

Name _____
Firm Affiliation(if applicable) _____
Address(Street) _____
(City) _____ (State) _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone _____ Date _____

The Society is a non-profit organization supported solely by membership dues and contributions.



CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: FIRST WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1983

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: CASTELAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
840 Yale Street, Multipurpose Room
Los Angeles, California 90012

PARKING on the playground (enter on College
Street near Hill Street. Do not
park out on the streets.)

PROGRAM: JULIANA CHENG, SPEAKER

TOPIC: CHINESE AMERICAN COLLECTION IN THE LOS ANGELES
CHINATOWN BRANCH LIBRARY

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* Our program for the evening is to commemorate Asian *
* Pacific American Heritage Week, May 7-14, 1983. *
* Juliana Cheng, Senior Librarian at the Chinatown *
* Branch Library, will take us on a "tour" through the *
* Chinese American collection in the library. Miss *
* Cheng will discuss the different kinds of books avail- *
* able for your reading pleasure, focusing on the books *
* covering the history of the Chinese in various parts *
* of this country. You may want to note some of these *
* books as gifts to family and friends. *

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* PLEASE COME AND JOIN US!!!!!! *

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