



NEWS & NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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

March 1984

FIELD TRIP - VENTURING INTO VENTURA - Saturday, March 24th

There are still a number of vacancies on the bus, according to Evelyn Cucchiarella. Parking is provided in the Castelar School underground garage. The bus will be parked at the entrance to the garage on Hill St.

Please be prompt - 8:30 A.M.

For further information, call Evelyn at 726-1035

Deadline for reservations: Wednesday, March 21

SPRING DINNER - SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1984

The following information is not included in the attached flyer:

Address: Hong Kong Low, 425 Gin Ling Way, Los Angeles

For reservations, call: Helen Morrison 389-1533

Sue Yee 799-8396

Mary Yee 542-2409

Parking: Castelar School underground garage (must be there before 6:30 that evening)

No refunds after April 7.

Guest speaker: Dr. Sucheng Chan, Professor in Political Science at U.C. Berkeley, has been affiliated with the Asian American Studies Center there and also at UCLA. Her subject, "Chinese in California Agriculture" will include an interesting slide show. Dr. Chan's presentation is the culmination of many years of meticulous research in the dusty government archives of various levels in California. She has literally rediscovered a lost generation of original Chinese Americans - those pioneers from 1850-1870 whom many thought would remain unknown forever. She has found them by searching for legal and property transactions in the old records. Since many of these early pioneers remained single, Dr. Chan has been excited to find, on occasion, descendants of these original men. Thus, her studies have been a monument to patience and fine detective work.

This is an event not to be missed. Dr. Chan is known to be an engaging speaker, and her subject matter is certainly of great significance to all members and friends of CHSSC.

CHINESE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

For the past 97 years, the Chinese Congregational Church has played a significant role in the Chinese community in Los Angeles. At the March 7 meeting, a 3-member panel, with Rodney Chow as moderator, presented a most interesting history of the church. The three panelists -- Mr. Emmett Hayes, Dr. Tin Y. Kwong, and Mr. Milton Quon -- were each quite personally involved in different ways. Mr. Hayes recently completed a study of the church's history, and therefore was able to present many interesting and authentic facts to the audience; Dr. Kwong has been very active with the church, and was able to discuss its major developments through the years. (his grandfather was one of the early pastors); Mr. Quon grew up with the

church, and shared many of his fond memories with CHSSC members. The program was coordinated by the three guest speakers, and judging by the many extremely favorable comments following the presentation, the evening was an enjoyable one. To Dr. Kwong, Mr. Hayes and Mr. Quon -- a warm "thank you" from the Society.

Editor's note: Our thanks to Rodney Chow for the above information.

WHO'S IN THE NEWS

.... CHSSC member Miriam Matthews was recently honored by Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins (California) in the U.S. House of Representatives for her significant contributions to the research of black history in America. Miriam is California's first black librarian with professional training, holding degrees from U.C. Berkeley and University of Chicago. Her career as librarian with the Los Angeles Public Library from 1927 to 1960 included four posts as branch librarian and one as regional librarian, supervising twelve branch libraries. In 1929, Miriam was the first person to stimulate an interest in the celebration of Negro History Week. Since the early forties, she has been researching the history of blacks in California, and building a personal collection of photographs, books, documents and art on the subject. In her long and distinguished career, Miriam has also been active in community affairs, serving on committees and boards of more than 50 organizations concerned with libraries, archives, education, civil rights, youth problems, health, history and art. To quote Congressman Hawkins, "Miriam Matthews has contributed tirelessly to her profession, to her community and the State. Her special talents have greatly enhanced the interpretation of the role of Afro-Americans in our collective past".

Congratulations to you, Miriam, for receiving this highly deserved tribute, which was entered into the Congressional Record on Monday, January 23, 1984.

(NOTE: Several months ago, Miriam made a significant contribution to CHSSC's collection of historical materials with her donation of 14 books on early and modern Chinese religion and philosophy. A few of the books are editions dating back to the early 1900's. Again, our thanks to Miriam).

....Members Anna Marie and Everett Hager have written an interesting article entitled "San Pedro - a Short History of a Fascinating Community", featured in the Jan. 1984 edition of NETWORK, the official publication of the L.A. Network for Education in Local and California History. A copy may be obtained by writing to Margie Lew, 2346 No. Indiana Ave. Los Angeles 90032, or by calling 222-4375.

....Beulah Quo was honored at a reception by the Hawaii Chinese History Center in December, when the film documentary "James Wong Howe - A Man and His Movies" (produced by Beulah) was shown. An added honor was her photo on the front page of the Center's Jan. 1984 newsletter.

....On Feb. 25, Joycelynne Lew was Mistress of Ceremonies at the installation dinner of new officers for the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association. Guest speaker and installation official was Monty Manibog, Monterey Park councilman and past Olympic Medal winner. Entertainment was provided by the talented husband/wife team, Saachiko and Dom Magwili, who presented "On the Orient Express -- a Concert on Asian Pacific Americana", a beautiful presentation, both touching and amusing. CHSSC members Eugene Moy, Susan Sing, Suellen and Munson Kwok, Marie Wong, Albert and Margie Lew attended the function. Member Stan Lau was president of LACEAAA in 1974-75, and a member of the City's Affirmative Action board for a number of years.

....A "thank you" to Marie Wong, who donated an aerial map of downtown Los Angeles and the Chinatown area, printed by the Chinatown Redevelopment Agency in 1980.

....The Hawaii Chinese History Center has introduced a new book, "Chinese Historic Sites and Pioneer Families of the Island of Hawaii", edited by Tin-Yuke and Wai Jane Char.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 24, Saturday - Field trip to Ventura
- April 12-June 12 "Chinese Women in America - 1848-1982".
Photo exhibit at Cal State Los Angeles,
co-sponsored by CHSSC.
- April 14, Saturday - Spring Dinner (see flyer)
- April 18, Wednesday - Board meeting
- April 29, Sunday - 9th Preservation Conference, Sacramento
- May 2, Wednesday - Regular meeting - Francis Hong of Wing On Tong,
"Herbs, Their Traditions and Uses".
Second Map Introduction
- May 7-11 - Asian Pacific American Heritage Week
- May 16, Wednesday - Board meeting
- May 19, Saturday - Associated Historical Societies of Los Angeles
County annual meeting, San Gabriel
- June 6, Wednesday - Judge Delbert Wong - interview

For information, contact Munson Kwok, (213) 828-6911.

IN SYMPATHY

CHSSC notes, with regret, the recent passing of Charles Leong, a prominent reporter and respected community leader in San Francisco for many years. From the 1930's on, Mr. Leong was a champion in the field of Chinese American history -- in his writings, his research, and above all, in making known the achievements of Chinese Americans to all Americans. Son Russell is editor of the UCLA Amerasia Journal.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!!

The Society's newest Life Member is Dr. Robert L. Schuyler, Associate Curator in Charge, American Historical Archaeology Section, University of Pennsylvania.

Other new members are Saykin Foo, Kathleen King, Holly Pierce, and Dr. Lynne Emery from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

UCLA Community Cultural Reachout for April:

Lar Lubovitch Dance Co., Tokyo String Quartet, Collard and Beroff, duo piano. \$1.00 per ticket. Contact Don Loo, 208-5382.



CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SPRING DINNER
Saturday, April 14, 1984
6:30 P.M.
HONG KONG LOW RESTAURANT

Dr. Sucheng Chan, U.C. Berkeley
"Chinese in California Agriculture"

In addition, preview the Self-Guided Walking Tour Map:
"CHINATOWN, YESTERDAY AND TODAY"
Hot off the press!

Bring a friend *Join us for this special and historical moment.* *Support the Chinese Historical Society* *Raffle*

Send your check before April 7th
\$15 per person

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
c/o Sue Yee, Dinner Chairman
1648 Redcliff St.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

I will attend the Spring Dinner, on April 14th at 6:30 P.M. at the Hong Kong Low Restaurant. Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ reservations.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____