

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

JUNE 1985

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1985

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*  
*      LOTUS FESTIVAL      *  
*  
*      July 13-14, 1985, 10AM to Dusk  
*          Echo Park        *  
*Park Avenue and Echo Park Boulevard, off Sunset  
*          Los Angeles     *  
*  
* The Society will run its traditional pineapple  
*& fruits booth, & will give Aikido performances.*  
* Don't miss this unique Asian American Festival.*  
*  
* Help in the booth is needed. Call Cindy Fong  
*      (213)254-7622       *
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1      OLD PHOTOS DAY                                0
1
1      July 27, 1985, 10AM to 3PM                    0
1      Community Room                                0
1      Los Angeles Public Library, Chinatown Branch 0
1      Alpine and College Streets                    0
1
1      Bring your treasured old and historical photos 0
1      Society will select, copy photos on-the-spot 0
1      for upcoming historical exhibits on           0
1      Los Angeles Chinese.                          0
1      You will receive a Certificate of Appreciation 0
1      and you will keep your materials.             0
1      Info: Franklin Mah, (213) 372-9421           0
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1      OLD CHINATOWN      0
1      GARNIER BLDG TOUR  0
1
1      August 24, 1985, 10 AM  0
1      El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park  0
1      START: Firehouse (N. Los Angeles Street)  0
1
1      Preview the El Pueblo Chinese American  0
1      Museum site and potential exhibits  0
1      Search for (famous?) underground passages  0
1      No-host lunch following  0
1
1      Suellen Kwok, (213)828-6911  0
1
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1                                                                    0  
1      CHINESE HISTORICAL FASHION SHOW                               0  
1          !!!WATCH FOR IT!!!                                         0  
1                                                                    0  
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Plans for the Fashion Show are moving right along but we still need clothes. Any assistance in soliciting raffle prizes (*Do you have any connections with large companies, import business...?*) would be appreciated. Please share the flyer with your co-workers and/or any interested parties, let's get the word out so we can have a great turnout! If you have any questions or need more flyers, please call Doreen Chan (213) 726-9064. Thanks for your help.

A VISIT WITH RUTHANNE .....Margie Lew

On a recent trip to San Francisco to visit family members and childhood friends, time passed by so quickly that there were a number of things that I was not able to do -- I did not get a ride on those "little cable cars that go halfway to the stars"; I did not get to Fisherman's Wharf for that wonderful sourdough bread; I did not have a chance to climb my favorite hill for that spectacular view of the San Francisco bay. However, I did accomplish one of my "Things to do in S. F.", and that was a visit with CHSSC member and author Ruthanne Lum McCunn. Ruthanne and her husband Don live in a charming blue-and-yellow Victorian house which has been lovingly and beautifully renovated by Mr. McCunn.

Prior to this visit, Ruthanne and I had communicated only by telephone or U.S. mail, and it was a great delight to finally meet the McCunns. After a delicious luncheon prepared by Ruthanne, we settled down comfortably in her sunny Victorian "parlour" and enjoyed a most pleasant two hours of conversation on various subjects, one of which concerned Ruthanne's books -- THOUSAND PIECES OF GOLD, AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE CHINESE IN AMERICA, and PIE-BITER.

Last fall, as many CHSSC members will remember, Ruthanne made a generous offer of a 50% discount on her books to Society members. Over 120 books were ordered -- autographed by the author, expertly packed by her husband Don, and mailed in sufficient time for Christmas-gifting. Ruthanne now has a fourth book almost ready for the publisher's -- SOLE SURVIVOR, a story about Lim Poon, lone survivor of a British ship that was torpedoed by an enemy submarine off the African coast during World War II.

In September 1978, through arrangements made by John Yee, five CHSSC members interviewed Mr. Poon when his ship docked in Long Beach. An issue of the GUM SAAN JOURNAL (Vol. II, No. 2) was dedicated to this courageous man, who holds the world's record of the longest survival alone on a raft -- 133 days, or almost 4½ months. After reading the story of Lim Poon, Ruthanne decided to write her book, which received excellent notices at the recent Booksellers' Convention in San Francisco, and was selected as an alternate "Book of the Month" by the Dolphin Book Club.

CHSSC hopes to have both Lim Poon and Ruthanne at one of its upcoming meetings, thus giving the Society the opportunity to honor these two outstanding people -- Ruthanne, for her fine books on Chinese American history; and Lim Poon, for his courage and determination to survive his harrowing ordeal. This honor for Mr. Poon is one that is long overdue -- 42 years, to be exact!

PHONE BOOK

At last, the Society phone book has been completed to go with the address list sent out in January. It is hope that this is a handier format. 1984 Members plus new Members through April 1985 are included. Thanks to Kaza Dong, Suellen Cheng, and a computer.

CHAIRS

For the remainder of 1985, Robert Large is appointed Parliamentarian and Ruby Ling Louie will chair the Pioneers Committee. Gerald Shue will head the Elections Committee. Beginning NOW, he will accept suggestions for 1986 officers nominations: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, membership secretary. Call (213)724-9002. Or call M. Kwok, (213)828-6911.



### DONATIONS

Members Howard and Marilyn Quon, and Howard's brothers have donated \$1000 to the Society's El Pueblo Chinese American Museum Fund in honor of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Foon Hep (Poy) Quon. The family was raised in the Garnier Building, site of the coming new museum and Poy Quon was one of the noted community leaders of his time. The 10K Run Committee has given the Society \$300 to help conduct its community projects for this year.

### CHINA SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Over 80 members of the Chinese Historical Society joined China Society members and friends to celebrate this unique Chinatown institution's fiftieth anniversary, on June 9 at Man Jen Low. Participating on a panel discussing the Chinese in America and in Los Angeles Chinatown were members Ruby Ling Louie and Munson Kwok. Member Beulah Quo was MC for the panel. Following the banquet, Dr. Theodore Chen served as keynoter for the occasion. He discussed the future for Chinese Americans and for the China Society. Kwok presented a Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Board Resolution to the China Society of Southern California commemorating the anniversary. These nicely framed documents are beautifully hand made by George Yee and Glenn Yee. Previous organizational recipients include the C.A.C.A. Los Angeles Lodge at 70, Castelar School at 100, and the Mei Wah Club at 50. The China Society president is Robert Lee, one of our constant supporters through the years.

### FIDDLTOWN STORE

As previously announced, the Fiddletown Preservation Society has received \$80,000 on a matching arrangement to save the rammed earth adobe structure and museum, the Chew Kee Store. To get the full amount, community donations of \$8000 must be gathered. So far, \$4500 has been collected.

By now, members should be familiar with the Chew Kee Store, a structure and interior literally frozen in time, the legacy of a Chinese pioneer of the Mother Lode. This effort was one of our Society's earliest battles and projects, and we have made two field trips to the store, once in our first year of operation, and once again on our memorable Mother Lode bus trip last year.

We ask Society members to help out, BUT you must do it quickly before July 15th, the deadline. Please make the deductible checks payable to "Fiddletown Preservation Society", **Matching Grant Fund** and mail to

Marie Scofield  
Fiddletown Preservation Society  
P.O. Box 12  
Fiddletown, CA. 95629

For further information: Johnny Yee, (818) 572-0459.

CONDOLENCE to Bill Jeung and family on the passing of his father at 90.

### JOE NORTHROP

Joe Northrop, retiring president of Conference of California Historical Societies, mentioned the Society twice in the last six months of the California Historian, their journal, most recently in June. Thanks for the support, Joe.



## "THE CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA: A PHOTOGRAPHIC SEARCH"

As a step in building up our historical collection (with an eye towards the El Pueblo Chinese American Museum), we will be holding the first of what we hope will be a regular event. A photo search. We are interested in photographs that you, your family, and friends might have depicting the Chinese in California. With an emphasis on Southern California and especially Los Angeles. The photographs should fall into the time period from about 1850 through the mid-1960's.

Examples of the type of photographs we are looking for include:

1. China City ; Old Chinatown
2. New Chinatown in the early years
3. Chinese at work: on farms, in shops, during WWII, in the Produce Market area, in "nontraditional" jobs
4. Chinese at home: family, living quarters, neighborhoods, schools, upholding traditional values and rituals, recreational activities
5. Organizations: Chinese groups(cultural,professional,community), events held by the groups, parades, awards

If in doubt, bring the photographs anyway. No matter what condition. Black and white photographs; color photographs; wrinkled condition; yellowed and faded photographs; pasted in a photo album; large and small sizes; mounted in frames. Negatives of the photographs, if possible. Slides also.

We will be selecting photographs that are brought in for copying for our collection. However, if anyone is willing to donate their photographs to the Society, that would be very much appreciated. We will also be trying to find out the particulars of the items brought in. Such as who are the people, year the picture was taken, where it was taken, and the occasion or event.

So, look around the house. The pictures on the walls. In family albums. In storage boxes. In drawers. Tell your friends and neighbors. We need to see photos. Bring them to :

Chinatown Library, Community Room  
536 West College Street  
Los Angeles, CA

on : July 27, 1985

between: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

For information call Franklin Mah, (213)372-9421 home; (213)977-6138 work. You may also call to schedule appointment times. Not necessary but appreciated.

## VOLUNTEERS - ENGLISH CONVERSATION CENTER

The Friends of the Chinatown Library is sponsoring a program which will enable library users to practice speaking English through conversation with volunteers. Volunteers need only to be able to speak English. This "English Conversation Center" will be held at the Chinatown Library every Saturday. However, volunteers should be able to come at least once or twice a month. Interested volunteers should contact either of the following for more information on scheduling and times. Franklin Mah (213)372-9421 home, (213)977-6138 work. Chinatown Library (213)620-0925 ask for Juliana.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (RENEWAL): CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SO. CAL.

To: Kaza Dong  
Membership CHSSC  
1522 W. 124th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90047

Please accept my application for membership as a \_\_\_\_\_ Member in the Chinese Historical Society of So. Cal.

ACTIVE, annual \$ 15  
ADDITIONAL(spouse/same h'se) 5  
CONTRIBUTING(senior citizen over 60 yrs; students)ann'l 5  
INSTITUTIONAL, annual  
LIFE 200  
LIFE & SPOUSE 300  
CORPORATE, annual 500  
LIFE PATRON 500

Enclosed is my remittance in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for dues.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

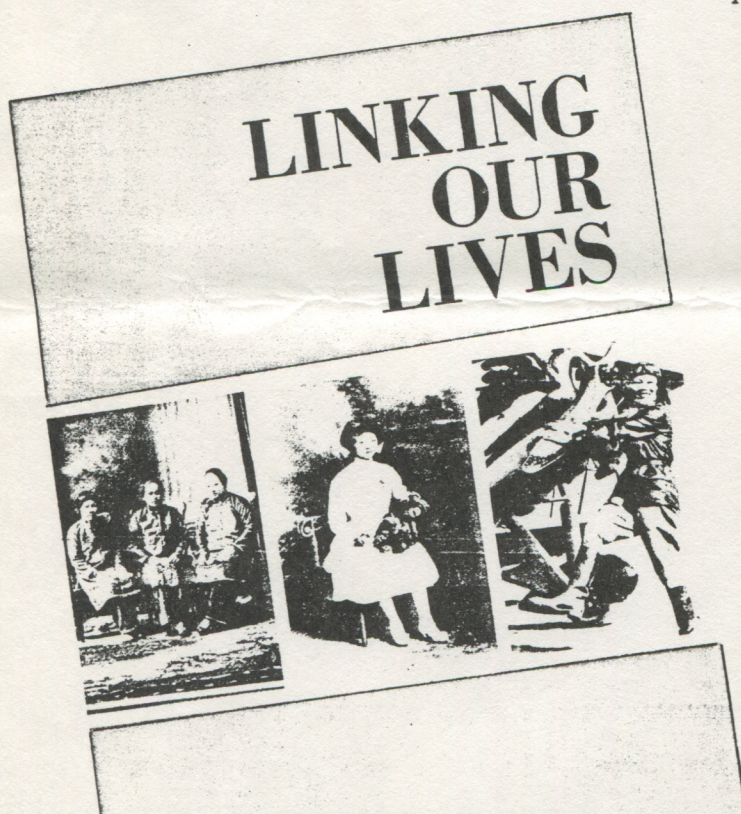
City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Interested in \_\_\_\_\_  
I'll help with \_\_\_\_\_

**LINKING OUR LIVES: Chinese American Women of Los Angeles**

Authors: Lucie Cheng Marjorie Lee  
Suellen Cheng Susie Ling  
Judy Chu Elaine Lou  
Feelie Lee Sucheta Mazumdar



**CONTENTS**

*Part One: History*

Chinese Women of Los Angeles  
A Social Historical Survey

*Part Two: A Tapestry of Oral Histories*

In the Family  
Traditions and Transitions  
At Work  
Building Community

1-5	\$9.95 ea.
6-30	\$8.46 ea.
31-50	\$7.96 ea.
51+	\$6.96 ea.

138 pages, 6" x 9", 26 period photos  
1 map, 1 glossary, paperback, Dec. 1984  
Library of Congress catalog # 84-72431  
ISBN 0-930377-00-1

*A joint project of the Asian American Studies Center University of California, Los Angeles  
and Chinese Historical Society of Southern California*

**LINKING OUR LIVES: Chinese American Women of Los Angeles**

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ COURSE \_\_\_\_\_





# CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Cordially Invites You to a

## CHINESE FASHION SHOW

COMMEMORATING OUR  
10TH ANNIVERSARY

FEATURING

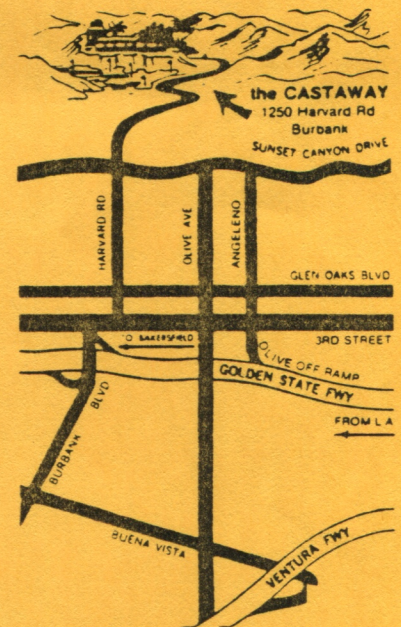
- \* CHINESE FASHIONS FROM THE PAST
- \* CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DISPLAY
- \* Raffle Prizes



Saturday  
September 21, 1985  
12 NOON

The Castaway  
Starlight Ballroom

\$15.00 PER PERSON



-----LIMITED SEATING-----DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 12, 1985-----

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR \_\_\_\_\_ LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS\* @ \$15.00 PER PERSON or \_\_\_\_\_ TABLE(S) @ \$150.00 EACH FOR THE CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FASHION SHOW.

Please make check payable to CHSSC and send to:

CHSSC  
c/o CINDY FONG  
1324 N. Avenue 56  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

\*Please seat with (contact person or organization):

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

(Please list additional names on back of this tear-off, thank you)