

# 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

May 1985

### PRESIDENT'S NOTE

On behalf of the Emergency Coalition Committee for the Chinese Cultural Center, I wish to thank everyone participating in response to our plea last month for expressions of support to the Los Angeles County Supervisors. Many letters were written by you, and nearly 600 signatures were gathered in a short time. Unique in the Society's expressions has been the diversity of the signers, representing interests and cultures from throughout the entire county. Among them have been leaders of cultural and historical life in Los Angeles. We add a broad base to the many signatures which have been gathered in Chinatown. I believe the Supervisors have sensed this outpouring, but we will not be certain of the outcome until the end of May.

Munson Kwok

### A "THANK YOU" FROM "THE LADY"

CHSSC wishes to thank the following members and friends for their generous donations to the funds earmarked for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. To date, the total amount of \$80.00, sent in the Society's name, was from Richard Shive, Anna Lowery, Lisbeth and George Morris, Lillian Fong, Ed and Laura Zane (from Hawaii), Mrs. Hoffman, and M. Lew.

Keep Lady Liberty's torch burning bright by sending your donations to Margie Lew, 2346 N. Indiana Ave., CA 90032. Make your tax-deductible checks payable to :

THE LADY, or to the STATUE OF LIBERTY

### "SPRING DINNER" WITH THE CHINA SOCIETY

In lieu of our own Spring Dinner, CHSSC has joined with the China Society to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The event will occur on Sunday, June 9, 4:30 P.M. at General Lee's Man Jen Low Restaurant in Los Angeles Chinatown. Prior to the banquet, a symposium will be held on the "Chinese in the United States," a look at their historical, evolving social and political position with emphasis on southern California. SEE FLYER. Information: Margie (213) 222-4375; Helen (213) 389-1533; Suellen (213) 825-7626 or (213) 828-6911 (nights). \$12.50 per person. Reservations by June 1. PLEASE USE ONLY THE TEAR-OFF FORM BELOW.

### "SPRING DINNER" 50 YEARS OF THE CHINA SOCIETY

Mail to: Munson Kwok -CHSSC  
1514 Princeton St.  
Santa Monica, CA 90404

\* Make checks payable to CHSSC

\* Name \_\_\_\_\_

\* Address \_\_\_\_\_

\* City/zip \_\_\_\_\_

\* Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_ x \$12.50= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be in by June 1



## REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, June 5, 1985

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Castelar School, Multipurpose Room  
840 Yale Street  
Los Angeles Chinatown  
Park on school grounds. Enter from College between Hill & Yale.

AGENDA: Officers' reports                      El Pueblo Chinese American Museum  
         10K Run report                        BIG 10 Event: Walking tour  
         Lotus Festival                       Chinatown Culture Center  
         BIG 10                                Chew Kee Store:Fiddletown  
         Riverside Chinatown

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### CHINESE MUSIC IN AMERICA

Professor Ronald Riddle  
Department of Music  
University of California, Los Angeles

Exhibit of Antique Instruments  
Courtesy of Gilbert and Florence Leong

Professor Riddle will present a discussion on the music that Chinese in America enjoyed, ranging from the Cantonese opera, to festival and ritualistic music, to bands and modern tastes. Historical and social aspects will be emphasized. On leave from the U. of So. Florida, Prof. Riddle is the author of "Flying Dragons, Flowing Streams," a popular and definitive book on the Chinese music. DON'T MISS THIS UNIQUE EXPLORATION OF A FAVORITE TOPIC

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### SPECIAL NOTE: BIG 10--PACIFIC ASIA MUSEUM TOUR - JUNE 1,1985

Society member Gilbert Leong will serve as guide to the museum and gardens, which he designed. Meet at Zen's (Colorado Blvd and Los Robles, Pasadena) at noon for the no-host buffet (\$3.95). Tour begins at 1:30 PM at 46 N. Los Robles. Call Gilbert or Evy. (See Calendar)

**LATE FLASH:** History Prof. Elliot Barton needs to meet any Chinese who used San Pedro as a port-of-entry (1922-1946), ASAP. He is pushing deadline for Balch Mus. exhibit (Philadelphia) honoring Statue of Liberty. Call Munson, (213) 828-6911.



AUTHOR!! AUTHOR!!

The Society's May 1 meeting -- what an exciting event! Following a brief business meeting, an excellent slide show was presented by Judy Chu, with photos from the Southern California Chinese American Oral History Project. Then came the grand presentation of the Society's first published book, "Linking Our Lives", lovingly dedicated to Helen Young, a founding member of CHSSC, a dedicated and selfless community volunteer whose inspiration and devotion touched countless lives in and out of the Chinatown area.

"Linking Our Lives" is a fascinating history of Chinese American women in Los Angeles, with much of its material gleaned from oral interviews with those women who played very vital roles in raising their families, in preserving the traditions of the mother country, and in building the community. The book was co-authored by eight young women of today: Lucie Cheng, Suellen Cheng, Judy Chu, Feelie Lee, Marjorie Lee, Susie Ling, Elaine Lou and Sucheta Mazumdar. Six of the authors were present at the meeting, and very graciously autographed copies of the book. A number of the interviewees were surprised, but delighted, to be asked for their autographs, also. Persons who appeared in some of the photographs happily signed their names. Even those whose names appeared somewhere in the book were requested to sign their "John Henry's"! It was such fun to watch everyone scurrying around, with pen in hand, looking for prospective autographs! What made the event most significant, of course, was the fact that "Linking Our Lives" is the Society's first published venture, a book that has received many favorable comments, and deservedly so.

The evening was successful not only culturally, but also gastronomically. The "frosting on the cake", both literally and figuratively, were the delicious home-baked cakes, cookies and vast array of "goodies" on hand, a definite challenge to those on well-intentioned diets!

NOTE: To date, almost 550 books have been sold.

T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!!

Thanks to the T-shirt committee's driving forces -- Jerry Shue, Dawes Lee, Susan Sing, Eugene Moy, Bob Large -- the Society's T-shirts are now ready. Available in small, medium, large, and extra-large sizes, the shirts are a beautiful shade of gold with red and black logos. Price is \$8.00 each, and may be purchased at the June meeting, or ordered by mail by sending payment of \$9.50 (includes \$1.50 postage) to:

CHSSC, 1648 Redcliff St., Los Angeles, Ca 90026.

CALENDAR

May 18, Saturday - BIG 10 #1 Riverside Field Trip.

May 18, Saturday - AHSLAC meeting

June 6, Thursday - (date subject to change) CHSSC Fall Dinner Committee meeting at Castelar School, 7 P.M. Volunteers needed!

May 28, Tuesday - CHSSC Fashion Show Committee meeting, Castelar, 7 P.M. Clothes!

May 30, Thursday - BIG 10 #4 Hawaii Trippers meeting

June 1, Saturday - BIG #2 Japanese lunch and Pacific Asia Museum tour. Gilbert Leong (213)681-8056; Evelyn (213)726-1035.

June 5, Wednesday - CHSSC regular meeting, Castelar. Prof. Ron Riddle: "History of Chinese American Music".

June 9, Sunday - Spring Dinner, General Lee's Restaurant, 4:30 P.M.

June 20, Thursday - CHSSC Board Meeting (date subject to change).

June 20-23 - Conf. Cal. Hist. Soc. 31st Annual Meeting, Long Beach.

July 13-14, Sat., Sun. - 10th Lotus Festival. Volunteers needed! Contact Cindy Fong (213)254-7622; Mary Yee (213)542-2409.

WELCOME

To Katherine Cheung, our newest Life member, #56, you will remember she is the first Chinese American woman Aviatrice and she was honored at our '84 Fall dinner. Also a welcome to new members, Barkley Lee, Judy Chu, Kenneth and Diana Klein and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McDannold.



#### FOR YOUR DATEBOOK

June 17, Monday - "Paper Angels", a play written by Genny Lim of San Francisco, will be televised on KCET's Channel 28 at 9 P.M. The play has been produced in theatres in San Francisco, Seattle and New York. Ms. Lim wrote the script for the television adaptation. During the early years of this century, as a result of the Chinese Exclusion Acts, immigrants from China were detained near San Francisco at Angel Island, the West Coast equivalent of Ellis Island. "Paper Angels" tells the story of the experiences of a group of Chinese immigrants to America. The author is the offspring of two generations of Angel Island immigrants. Cast members include such notable actors as Rosalind Chao, James Hong, and the Society's own Beulah Quo.

June 20-23, Thursday through Sunday - The Conference of California Historical Societies (of which CHSSC is a member) will hold its 31st Annual Meeting in Long Beach at the Breaker's Hotel, 210 E. Ocean Blvd. 90802. Hosted by the Long Beach Historical Society, (213)435-7511, with the theme, "Long Beach: From Ranchos to Redevelopment". Featured is CHSSC member Anna Marie Hager as the opening night dinner speaker. Subject: "Terminal Island". Activities will include a tour of Douglas Aircraft, tours to Rancho Los Alamitos, Rancho Los Cerritos, Congregational Church, Cal State Long Beach, Firefighters' museum, Willmore House Tour and Garden Party, and Friday and Saturday night banquets highlighting the '20's and '30's respectively.

#### MISCELLANY

Steve La Pointe is researching the Chinatown of Redlands. He is looking for any kind of information. Please write to Mr. LaPointe at 528 Roosevelt Road, Redlands, Ca 92374.

WALTER U. LUM PLACE will become a reality in San Francisco after months of active discussion. A measure has passed the Board of Supervisors and is due to be signed by Mayor Diane Feinstein. The street is located on the west side of Portsmouth Square, between Clay and Washington Streets. This will mark the first honor of this type for a Chinese American pioneer in a major city. Daughter Mabel Lum Lew and granddaughter Jocelyn Lew-Figueroa are Society members. Another member, Howard Quon, president of Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Los Angeles Lodge, worked very hard to get this measure passed.

The Great Basin Foundation in Riverside still needs volunteer "diggers" to help with the excavation project. Last weekend is May 25-27. Call Clark Brott, (619)224-8340. Opening on May 19 at the Riverside Municipal Museum is an exciting exhibit on Chinese heritage in southern California: "From China to California - Riverside's Chinese Heritage, 1885-1985". The exhibit will run through January 1986, and will include dioramas of citrus activities, reconstruction of Chinatown, a shop, period clothing, and artifacts from the Chinatown Dig. Location: 3720 Orange Street, Tues.-Fri., 9-5, Sat.-Sun., 1-5.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK

The Society participated in the second Annual Arts and Crafts Faire at the JACCC Plaza, Little Tokyo, on May 5. Featured was the book, "Linking Our Lives", with author Suellen Cheng present to give autographs and to create Chinese names in brush calligraphy. Also on display were the Society's Walking Tour brochure and the brand new 10th anniversary T-shirt. A very popular attraction was Master George Yee and his technique of Kagitsu finger massage. Also helping out in various capacities were Eugene Moy, Susan Sing, Cindy Fong, Don Loo, Ella Quan, Munson Kwok, Elmo Gambarana, Elsie Wong, Anna Lowery, and Doreen Chan.

#### IN SYMPATHY

The Society sends its deepest sympathy to past vice-president Dr. Charles Choy Wong, for the loss of his father, Gun Chown Wong, who died on April 27 at age 77. The Society's Rev. Paul Louie officiated at the services in Rose Hills, Whittier.



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

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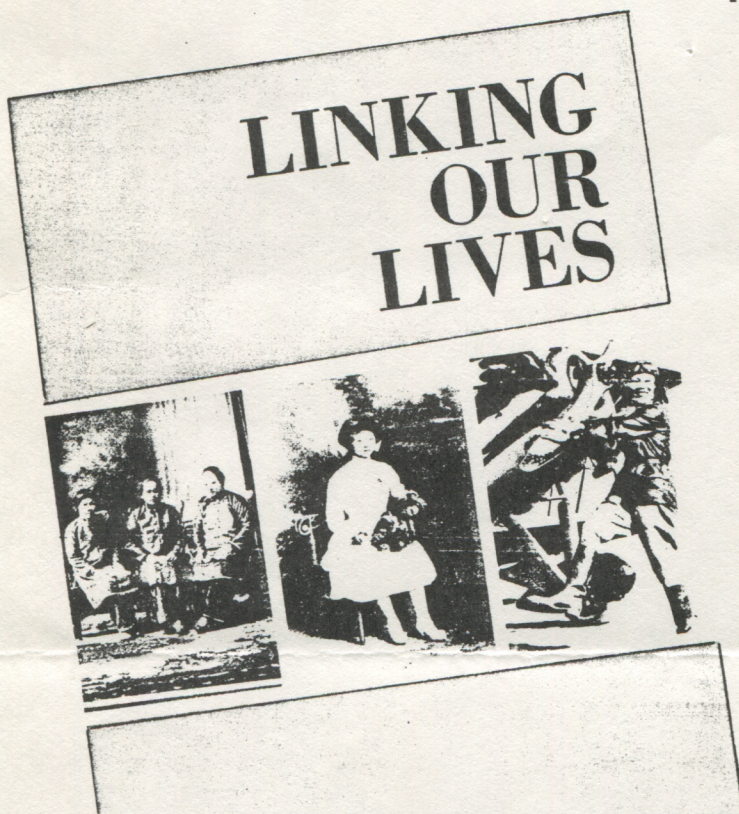
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ISBN 0-930377-00-1

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

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