



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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

April, 1986

M A Y M E E T I N G =====

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1986
TIME: 7:30 P.M.
PLACE: Castelar School
 840 Yale Street
 Los Angeles Chinatown
PARKING: School grounds -- enter on College Street
 between Hill Street and Yale Street
AGENDA: Officers' reports, Committee reports, Announcements
PROGRAM:

* A historical background and an interesting *
* update of the accomplishments and achieve- *
* ments of the Chinese American Citizens *
* Alliance (C.A.C.A.) since 1895 by Mr. Irvin *
* R. Lai. Mr. Lai is a successful Los Angeles *
* businessman, former President of the Los *
* Angeles Chinese Chamber of Commerce, former *
* President of C.A.C.A. Los Angeles Lodge, and *
* now National Grand President of C.A.C.A. *
* *

NAAPAE CONFERENCE - Thursday, April 24th

Representing CHSSC at the 8th Annual National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education Conference were Suellen Cheng Kwok, Munson Kwok, Stan Lau, Eugene Moy and Ella Quan. Stan gave his usual informative talk on the history of Los Angeles Chinatown. Suellen met the group for the El Pueblo tour. Then on to newer Chinatown. Some tourists dropped off and were escorted by Munson to the Muni bus to return to New Otani Hotel. At the end of the almost 2 mile tour, two tourists did survive and enjoyed a delicious dinner with the guides at Grandview Gardens.

SPRING IS HERE!!

And with it comes thoughts of flowers in bloom, birds in song, -- and CHSSC's semi-annual Spring Dinner.

Saturday, April 19, was a lovely Spring day -- warm and sunny -- and as the day turned to dusk, preparations for the evening's dinner reached a fever pitch as committee chairpersons and their assistants "put it all together." And what a wonderful, wonderful evening it turned out to be. As usual, of course.

"Captain Chuck" Yee was the program's master of ceremonies, keeping everyone happy with his wit and talent (zoom! zoom!!, brrrrrrumph!!, whooooosh!!, etc., etc.). President Ella Quan introduced the special guests, many of whom came from long distances.

Dinner was then served. This was the first time the Society held an event at the Casa de Oriente Restaurant, 2000 W. Main Street, Alhambra, and it turned out to be a good choice -- excellent food, good service, and the parking facilities were excellent.

Special awards were presented:

....to the French Hospital, in commemoration of their 125th anniversary as the oldest medical facility in Los Angeles (the hospital is located in the heart of Chinatown across from Castelar School). Vice-president Angi Wong introduced Deborah Dyer, who represented the hospital, and President Ella Quan presented the commendation.

....to Jean Bruce Poole, who received the well-deserved Americanism medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution for her dedicated community service, working on numerous committees and advisory boards throughout the city, county, and state. Jean is a devoted CHSSC member, and a staunch supporter of the Society's efforts to establish a permanent museum, which was an "impossible dream" a few years ago, but is now becoming a reality, thanks in large part to Jean's expertise and tireless efforts in that venture. Jean's charming and witty acceptance speech was quite characteristic of this lovely lady and dedicated member.

The highlight of the evening was Professor Sandy Lydon, whose reputation as a dynamic and gifted speaker is well-known. Prof. Lydon is a native Californian, and teaches history at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California. He has written numerous articles on Chinese American history, and is the authority on the history of the Chinese in the Monterey Bay area, doing 15 years of exhaustive research on the subject for his recently published book, "CHINESE GOLD: THE CHINESE IN THE MONTEREY BAY REGION." Prof. Lydon's presentation was informative, thought-

provoking, amusing -- he presented the early Chinese immigrants as honest-to-life people. He depicted their struggle to make America their home despite immigration restrictions and other formidable legal barriers. He emphasized their significant role in the economic development of the region's fishing, agriculture, railroad and merchandising industries. An excellent slide presentation included many photos -- some rare, others historic, but all very interesting. Prof. Lydon's unique talents were well-evident -- he had an excellent balance of serious incidents and amusing anecdotes. The audience was spellbound, to put it mildly, -- and he could have had everyone rolling in the aisles with laughter every 10 seconds, if there had been room to do so (which there wasn't)!!

At the end of the evening, the professor very graciously autographed his book for the many eager attendees. The book is well-illustrated, and should be a welcome and important addition to anyone's library.

The Society extends appreciation and a warm "thank you" to Prof. Lydon for his part in making this event one of the most memorable occasions for CHSSC.

The final event of the evening was a raffle drawing, with prizes including complimentary dinners from four Chinese restaurants, baked "goodies", potted plants, merchandise from several gift shops, a personal home computer, and a "money tree".

A perfect evening to end a perfect Spring day, and once again, the Society extends its deep thanks to each of the committee chairpersons and their assistants for their tireless efforts, their dedication, and their wonderful cooperation in helping the Society fulfill another achievement.

CHUCK YEE.....Dinner Committee Chairman
MARY YEE.....Reservation/Hostesses Chairperson
EDITH JUNG.....Raffle Committee Chairperson
ALL COMMITTEE HELPERS AND DONORS.....Thank You!!!!

ANGEL ISLAND

In the year 1980, an attractive book "ISLAND - POETRY AND HISTORY OF CHINESE IMMIGRANTS ON ANGEL ISLAND - 1910 to 1940", written by Him Mark Lai, Genny Lim and Judy Yung, was published. The book, in both hard-bound and paperback, is a history of Angel Island when it was used as the point of entry for over 175,000 Chinese immigrants coming to America. This beautifully-written book includes a short history of the island, with photographs, oral histories from a number of immigrants, and many poems (with translations) which were found carved on the walls of the detention barracks.

"ISLAND" is a book to be treasured. Ruby Louie has several copies which will be available at the May meeting. For members going on the field trip to San Francisco in May, this book will have a special meaning. Anyone interested may call Ruby, 213-628-2496.

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD TRIP

Memo from Evelyn Cucchiarella, chairperson for the field trip:
An additional \$30.00 will need to be collected at the May meeting from all participants:

Dinner in San Francisco.....\$15 - \$18
Cable car ride(round trip).....\$ 2.00
Boat ride to Angel Island(round trip)...\$12.20

Please check with Evy to make sure that your name is on her list.

CHSSC OUTREACH

Sunday, April 20th....The Pepperdine University's Family Festival CHSSC booth was well represented by Elmo Gambarana, Suellen & Munson Kwok, Ella Quan & Angi Wong. A slide show and enlargements of Linking Our Lives photos filled the booth. Highlight of the day was when Pat Boone posed with the group. Howard Quon missed Pat by minutes but did stay to help us load the cars.

Saturday, May 3rd.....Board Member Marjorie Lee will be on a panel discussion on California Women's History at the University of California Irvine.

Monday, May 5th.....Suellen Cheng Kwok and Marjorie Lee are scheduled to make a presentation to the China Society of Southern California.

TOPIC: Linking Our Lives
PLACE: Golden Dragon Restaurant

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To: Mary Yee
Membership CHSSC
4721 Konya Drive
Torrance, CA 90503

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SO.CAL.

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 25
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 _____.

ONE DAY, ONE DOLLAR
THE CALIFORNIA LEGACY
OF
THE CHINESE AGRICULTURAL PIONEERS
A
DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

Two Southern California Showings

May 6-16, 1986, Lobby, Level A, Department of Water & Power
111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles
9 AM - 5PM, Mon. - Fri.

May 19-24, 1986, Chinatown Branch Library
536 West College Street, Los Angeles
12-5 PM, daily

Funding for the Southern California Showing of this Exhibit
was provided by
The California Council for the Humanities

SPONSORS

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
The Chinese American Council of the Orange County Historical
and Cultural Foundation
Asian American Studies, California State University, Long Beach
Asian American Studies, University of California, Davis

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Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association
Friends of Chinatown Library

樂居埠與中國園
正在沙加
緬度河流域的
生涯事蹟