



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

appreciation of our chinese american heritage • a non-profit organization • p. o. box 862647, los angeles, ca

猴

January 1992

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
GUNG HAY FAT CHOY!!

4690 -- THE "YEAR OF THE MONKEY!"

PLEASE NOTE: NO GENERAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1992.
Instead . . .

. . . Come join us as we celebrate "the Year of the Monkey"

WHAT: 1992 Chinese New Year Banquet

WHEN: Sunday, February 2, 1992
5:00 p.m. - Social
6:00 p.m. - Dinner

WHERE: Dragon Inn Seafood Restaurant
700 North Spring Street
Los Angeles Chinatown

and enjoy our dinner program featuring Dr. Stanford M. Lyman who will talk to us about "The Quest for Equality and Liberty: Chinese Before the U. S. Supreme Court."

The cost is \$18 per person; check payable to CHSSC. If you haven't made your reservation and would like to celebrate the new year with us, please contact Julie Lee (310) 475-4959 immediately!

WE WILL RESUME OUR NORMAL WEDNESDAY GENERAL MEETING ON MARCH 4.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- MUSEUM FRIENDS TO SHOW JAMES WONG HOWE EXHIBIT -- The Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History in Los Angeles are proud to present "Painting with Light: Life Achievements of James Wong Howe", a free historical photographic and filmic exhibit, open to the public, to be held at:

Bamboo Plaza
988 North Hill Street, Ground Floor
Los Angeles Chinatown

from February 15 to March 1, 1992. Monday to Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The exhibit is part of the festivities of Los Angeles Chinatown

exhibit is part of the festivities of Los Angeles Chinatown celebrating the Chinese New Year and bringing in the Year of the Monkey. Exhibit co-sponsors are El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, and Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

James Wong Howe was the renowned Chinese American cinematographer. His pioneering innovations in camera techniques greatly influenced the worldwide film industry in his day for over sixty years. He was 11 times an Academy Award nominee and a two time Oscar winner. His notable films include "Rose Tattoo", "Hud", and "Funny Lady".

The exhibit is based on a presentation originally created by Beulah Quo with Terence Tam Soon and Marjie Chan. These materials are now part of El Pueblo's collections.

CHSSC volunteers are sought to serve as exhibit docents during the two week period. Please contact Munson Kwok, (310) 645-1369.

REFLECTIONS ON OUR FIRST PROGRAM OF THE YEAR - January 8 - "An Evening with Tyrus Wong" will long be remembered as one of our best programs ever. We had a successful crowd of 170. The dialog between Tyrus and his old friend, Gilbert Leong, was entertaining and enlightening. Gilbert's questions established the basic facts of Tyrus' life, and Tyrus' responses revealed his personality and values.

Our meeting room was transformed into a gallery. Fantastic kites hung from the ceiling. Although many of us felt as though we already knew Tyrus, our eyes were opened wider after seeing the variety of art works on display: paintings in different media and styles, movie backgrounds, fabric paintings, ceramics, million dollar Christmas cards, magazine covers, even fish-lures! Just a small sampling of the wide-ranging work Tyrus has done during his long career and retirement.

One of the most charming parts of the exhibit was Gilbert's collection of handmade cards Tyrus had sent to him over the years. Tyrus was surprised during the question and answer period. Mr. Lun Chan of Phoenix Bakery reminded everyone of Tyrus' creation of the little boy they used on their sign and packaging. Mr. Chan then presented Tyrus with a watch with that picture on its face.

A great thank you to Tyrus and Gilbert. And to Bob Large, who helped them mount the show. And to the many others, thank you for helping take down the special exhibit at the conclusion of our evening. Also to Ruth Lung, Lillian Fong, Ella Quan, Mary Mu, Dorothy Siu, Kipham Kan, Sylvia Soo Hoo, Betty Lee, Helen Wan, Winifred Lee, Christine Yee Hollis, Wanda Leong, and Frieda Wong for the bountiful and delicious refreshments.

CHSSC TRANSFERS PROJECT (by Munson Kwok) - In a wonderfully memorable mid-afternoon reception, January 11, at Castelar School,

the Chinese Historical Society completed the Southern California Chinese American Oral History Project after 13 years in being.

This project was a joint venture of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the Society. Focusing on Los Angeles, the project collected oral histories from 165 Chinese, who discussed their lives in Los Angeles prior to 1945. Twenty-three interviews were conducted in Chinese. More than 1,700 pages of summaries and indices in 8 volumes were transferred to UCLA's prestigious University Research Library Special Collections together with the original audio tapes and other primary materials.

Receiving these materials were David Zeiberg, Head of Special Collections, Anne Caiger, and Karin Wittenborg. In a smoothly conducted program conducted by MC Margie Lee, remarks were made by Prof. Don Nakanishi, current head of the Asian American Studies Center and our own Prof. Tom McDannold. Particularly incisive were the comments of Prof. Lucie Cheng and Paul Louie on the beginnings and operations of the project. Dr. Eugene Cooper forecasted future CHSSC oral history projects focusing on the 1930's.

Perhaps the most exciting moments occur when interviewees themselves or their families had an opportunity to study the materials and photos, the fruits of their contributions to posterity. Among the interviewees present were Dorothy Siu, Lillian Fong, Marge Ong, Kwong Lee, George W. Tom, Milton Quon, Elsie Wong, Mrs. Fred Quon, Jennie Lee, Lily Lum Chan, May Jung Lum, and the grand old lady of Los Angeles Chinatown, "Mama" Quon, 95 years young. These old folks got their pictures into Chinese Daily News, International Daily News, New Kwong Tai Press and Alvina Lew's newswire. Asian Week had published a pre-story before the event.

Thanks go to Margie Lee, event chair, Suellen Cheng, and members Bob Large (with his PA system), Elmo Gambarana, Ella Quan, Kipham Kan, Richard Smith, Eugene Moy, many others, and video guys, Munson Kwok and Stanley Mu. The beautiful catered spread was by Mary Don with "D" (i.e., Doreen Chan Nakayama).

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION is seeking willing volunteers to create a program and a Chinatown Branch to help battle cardio-vascular disease by implementing or developing (bilingual) educational and community programs. Members to join the inaugural Board for the Chinatown Branch are being sought. If you have an interest, please contact Munson Kwok (310) 645-1369 or Nominations Chair Christina Kan, Pacific Alliance Medical Center (213) 683-9309.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS - It's time again to renew your membership to CHSSC. Dues are \$15 member; \$5 additional/same household, senior; \$25 institutional member, and \$200 life member. In this month's newsletter, your mailing label will identify your membership status. If you have not renewed, we would appreciate your dues be sent to: Mary Yee, Membership Secretary, 4721 Konya Drive, Torrance, CA 90503.

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Al, Marvey, Ace, and Annie -- How's everyone doing in their new lifestyle -- the "country" atmosphere? Hope all is well, that things are moving smoothly for each of you, and you have your "dream place" in order. We'll have to stop by when we've had enough of the big city! Take care and Happy New Year!!

THANK YOU LETTERS - 12/19/91 to CHSSC President Tom McDannold - I would like to thank the Historical Society for the Pioneer Award presented to me at your 1991 Fall Banquet. I feel honored to be one of the recipients. Thank you again. Special thanks to the committee for their time and effort for a memorable evening. I am enclosing a check for \$100 to further the work of the Historical Society. It's a small token of my appreciation for the award. Very sincerely yours, George W. Tom
 P. S. Happy Holidays!

... On behalf of the CHSSC, thank you very much for your special donation to help further our work!

8/6/91 to past President Kipham Kan - This is a belated thank you and an expression of appreciation to the Chinese Historical Society for honoring me as the retired pastor of the Chinese United Methodist Church at your New Year Banquet Meeting on February 2, 1991 at the Shangri-La Restaurant. Due to illness, Mrs. Wong and I were not able to attend. Rev. Leo L. Hsu brought me the beautiful placque and told us about the wonderful program.

I want to thank you and the Society for this high honor. As for my 50 more years of service with the Methodist Church, I was doing the Lord's work and he has blessed me and my family in many ways. I wish to congratulate the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California for its distinguished service to the Chinese community and continued success in this all important work. Again, thank you and the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California. Sincerely yours, Rev. Wun Bow Wong

 On December 17, 1991 the appointment of **Mariko Laniado-Tse** was approved by the Board of Social Services Commissioners. A resident of West Los Angeles, Laniado-Tse fills a vacancy on the five-member board. She is currently the Executive Director of The Wellness Community-Westside, an organization that provides free psychological and emotional support to cancer patients and family members. In addition, she has served on the board of the Association of Asian Pacific American Artists (AAPAA) and is a lifetime member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC).

Congratulations, Mariko, on your latest success!

Mrs. Lena M. Fung celebrated her 85th birthday on December 14, 1991 at the Empress Pavilion Restaurant with her family and friends. **Happy Birthday, Mrs. Fung!**

 When the CHSSC and the Chinese Historical Society of Greater San Diego and Baja California, Inc. visited Mexicali, Mexico in May,

1991, there was a tour guide "Monica" who accompanied the group while in Mexicali. If anyone wants to send her picture(s), the address is: Lic Monica Garibay

Blvd Lopez Mateos Y Camelias S/N
Comite de Turismo Y Convenciones
Mexicali, B. C. MEXICO

CONDOLENCES - Florence Chung How Loo Lum passed away from pancreatic cancer on December 26, 1991 in Long Beach. Wife of Albert Lum; mother of Albert and Colleen, Mark and Cyndy, Janice and Jon, Arthur and Yukling, Nancy and James, and John; grandmother of Jaron, Clifton, Christina, Kathleen, and Colleen; sister of Lawrence, Herbert and Margaret, Warren and Bernadette; and numerous nephews and nieces. Her family remembers her main interest outside of her association with the Cross Roads United Church of Christ and the American Red Cross was CHSSC. If you'll recall, Al and Florence escorted the CHSSC tour to Hawaii a few years ago.

Life member, **Alfred Lem Lee**, passed away January 6, 1992 in Los Angeles from a respiratory problem. Husband of Ida Fong Lee, father of Jo Ann, Sherwood, and Ronald; grandfather of Brian, Jaime, Stephanie, and Christopher; brother of Ellen Louie, Howard Lee, Alice Wong, Henry Lee, and Beatrice Fong. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chinatown Branch, Los Angeles Library or the American Lung Association.

Both were raised in Hawaii and are long-time members of the Society. Warmest sympathy is extended to these families.

CALENDAR

February

- 2 **1992 CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET** (see first page)
- 4 **GUNG HAY FAT CHOY!**
- 15 **THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHINESE NEW YEAR GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE** will take place in Chinatown on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. sharp! Those interested in helping CHSSC celebrate by marching in the parade with U.S. flags should contact Johnny Yee (818) 572-0459 or Bev Hom Tsao (818) 336-7900 -- 6:00-8:30 p.m. weeknights. The dress for the parade is that everyone wear red top or jacket, black or dark trousers, and black comfortable shoes for marching, and a big smile on one's face. Rain or shine, we march! Sign-up sheets will be available at our February 2 dinner.
- 19 **CHSSC BOARD MEETING** - 7:00 p.m. at Castelar School.
- 23 **14TH ANNUAL FIRECRACKER 5/10K RUN** - The L.A. Chinatown 10K Race Committee, Inc. organizes and conducts a quality race for runners. The race takes you to a scenic and challenging loop course from the middle of Chinatown on North Broadway near College Street to a



run through tree-lined Elysian Park past the Police Academy, Dodger Stadium, and Cathedral High School. Awards are presented the day of the race. The Awards Ceremony will include KCBS-TV personalities and will also feature the newly crowned Miss L.A. Chinatown and her court. For additional information, call (213) 351-1533.

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CHSSC CO-SPONSORSHIP WITH THE MONTEREY PARK HISTORICAL HERITAGE COMMISSION on one-day series of workshops on oral history, stressing methodological tools. Primary focus will be on the art of interviewing and getting quality sound recordings on audio tape. Practice interviewing sessions will be held, and critiques and suggested techniques provided for practical evaluation. Deadline to register is 1/31/92. For more information, contact Dr. Russ Paine (818) 281-9994. (see flyer attached)

March

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THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES MARATHON - volunteers are needed to help cheer the runners on. For information or application, contact Gene Moy (818) 289-2067.

OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

Wednesday, January 15 thru Sunday, February 23 - East West Players presents Uncle Tadao (by R. A. Shiomi, directed by Philip Kan Gotanda). From the author of Yellow Fever, Uncle Tadao explores the explosive conflicts within a Japanese Canadian family torn apart by their feelings about the Redress Campaign of the 1980's. For tickets (213) 660-8587; information 660-0366.

Monday, February 3 - The China Society of Southern California invites you and your friends to its dinner program at the Golden Dragon Restaurant, 960 North Broadway, Los Angeles. Social hour 6:15, dinner 7:00; cost is \$10 members, \$12 guests. Program speaker is Robert M. Lee, past President of the China Society and whose family founded and operates Jin-Hing and Company, the oldest Chinese jewelry store in Southern California. His topic is Chinese Jewelry -- an illustrated lecture in slide presentation of typical jewelry found in Chinese jewelry store.

Friday, February 7 - A special lunar New Year banquet has been arranged for the Alhambra community. No host cocktail, dinner, entertainment, and dancing at the Pacific Seafood Restaurant, 2223 West Commonwealth Avenue, Alhambra, (818) 284-8882. Cocktails at 5:30; dinner at 6:30. Cost is \$25 per person (tax and tip included). Event is sponsored by the Asian American Association of Alhambra School District, c/o Bilingual Office. For information, call the Bilingual Office (818) 308-2495.

Albinger Archaeological Museum (113 East Main Street, Ventura, 805-

648-5823) - Chinatown exhibits and Chumash Indian artifacts. Tuesday thru Sunday, 10:00 - 4:00.

FIVE SAGES - Ng Shing Gung, or the Temple of the Five Sages, an 1888 Chinese temple razed by the city of San Jose in 1949, has been replicated on the grounds of the San Jose Historical Museum to serve as a center for exhibits about the history of the Chinese in the Santa Clara Valley.

In the 1850's thousands of Chinese from the famine-and-war stricken Kwangtung Province found work in California agriculture, mining, and construction. They prospered until an economic depression in the 1870's touched off a wave of anti-Chinese legislation that included restrictions on immigration and property ownership. After San Jose's Chinatown burned, it was rebuilt on land leased from sympathetic developer John Heinlen. The culture remained alive at such sites as Ng Shing Gung, where the first floor was used as a classroom for calligraphy and the classics as well as a community meeting place, while the second floor housed the temple.

The two-story brick replica--recreated from photographs and including original decorative elements--contains the original interiors of the Temple of the Five Sages, which the city had salvaged and stored. The elaborately carved and gilded altars were made in Canton.

The Chinese Historical and Cultural Project, under the leadership of Lillian Gong-Guy and Gerrye Wong, raised funds for the replica from such diverse sources as San Jose's sister city of Tainan of China, Lockheed Corporation, and more than 50 other San Jose businesses and city agencies.

For more information, call (408) 287-2290.
(Publication of NTHP, January/February 1992)

Items for News 'n Notes are always welcome! Please submit in writing no later than the 15th of each month to: Bev Hom Tsao, 15744-25 Tetley Street, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745.

Special thanks to contributors in this issue: Lupe Chee, Munson Kwok, Suellen Cheng, Sue Yee, Tom Eng, Franklin Mah, Dexter Wong, Al and Marvey Bergman, Lillian Fong, and Christie Bourdet. Last month's mailing volunteers: Hong Cao, Kui Cao, and Ying Xiang Cao. Thank you for all your help!

ORAL HISTORY

AN INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

By Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA)

Sponsored by
Monterey Park Historical Heritage Commission
and
Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

Would you like to learn how to conduct Oral History interviews

To add to your city's recorded history? To record your family's history?

An all-day Oral History training workshop will be open to the public—

*Location: Monterey Park City Hall Council Chambers
320 W. Newmark, Monterey Park*

Date: Saturday, February 29 — 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Cost: \$30 which includes lunch, refreshments during registration and
program breaks, plus instructional packets.*

Instruction director: Professor Art Hansen, Calif. State Univ., Fullerton
Assisted by Tim Fong, doctoral candidate, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley

Oral history taped interviews serve to preserve knowledge of the past for present and future generations. Local historical societies, museums, libraries, schools, universities, families, and individuals all recognize oral history as a valuable research tool and a unique resource.

The primary focus of this introductory oral history workshop will be the art of interviewing and will emphasize the professional techniques for getting quality sound recordings on audio tape.

This workshop is for those who want practical experience in interviewing and tape recording. Participants are encouraged to bring a tape recorder, external microphone, and a tape to use in practice sessions. (These are not required, however)

For more information phone Dr. Russ Paine (818) 281-9994.

Make checks payable to SOHA and mail to:
Monterey Park Historical Society
P.O. Box 272
Monterey Park, CA 91754

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION is January 31, 1992. Register early as space is limited.