



# 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

FEBRUARY 1993

### PROGRAM

#### THE FAMOUS FORMOSA CAFE IN WEST HOLLYWOOD

Wednesday, March 3, 1993 - 7:30 p.m.

Castelar School - Multi-purpose Room

840 Yale Street

Los Angeles Chinatown

This evening's program will consist of a short presentation by Mr. Eddie Martell on the history of the Formosa Cafe. We will then present a video on the Formosa. The last portion of the meeting will be an audience participation question-and-answer session with Mr. Lem Quon, the owner of the Formosa.

Mr. Martell is a journalist and the spokesperson for Friends of the Formosa Cafe in their struggle to preserve the Formosa.

Aside from tonight's program, you may want to mark these additional dates on your calendar as well ... March 1 and March 13

.... continue reading below ....

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**FORMOSA ALERT!** The CHSSC's planning a March luncheon at the historic and world-famous Formosa Cafe in West Hollywood, but that effort may go for nought if the landlord, Warner Brothers, does not grant a reasonable lease renewal. Lease negotiations have apparently been very difficult, and involve the physical relocation of the building to accommodate Warner's expansion of their adjacent studio complex. At issue is the cost of the move to the Formosa. The studio expansion is up for approval by the West Hollywood City Council on Monday, March 1, at 7:00 p.m. Whether or not the lease renewal is settled by that date, CHSSC members are urged to turn out for this Council meeting as a show of support for the Friends of the Formosa Cafe and for Lem Quon, the Formosa's founder and owner since 1942. The City Council will hold its meeting at West Hollywood Park Auditorium at 647 North San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood. Parking is available on the grounds. Please contact Don Loo (310) 208-5382 to indicate your possible attendance.

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#### FORMOSA CAFE LUNCHEON

HONORING MR. LEM QUON AND HIS CAFE

Saturday, March 13, at 12:30 p.m.

First come -- first served! The first 80 people who sign up and pay for the lunch in advance will be guaranteed a reservation. Cost is \$12 per person. Checks are payable to CHSSC. Please send



your remittance to CHSSC, P. O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647. **Deadline for reservations is Saturday, March 6. Remember ... NO CHECK, NO RESERVATION!**

For information, call:

Ella Quan	(213) 621-3171
Edith Jung	(213) 291-5464
Suellen Cheng	(213) 626-5240

## FORMOSA CAFE

7156 Santa Monica Boulevard (corner Formosa Street)  
West Hollywood, CA (213) 850-9050

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**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

**DO YOU PERSONALLY RECALL THE CHINESE EXCLUSION PERIOD?** The Chinese exclusion laws were repealed in 1943. Did those laws affect your family in any way? Did your mother or father say something about the laws that you only understood years later? Did you yourself later discover that a particular family matter was related to the existence of those laws? Did the exclusion laws affect the lives of your uncles, aunts, or family friends? Or do you have a story to tell which relates to this period of time?

IF YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE, please share your story with the readers of Gum Saan Journal. Write it down, straight from your heart -- it need not be more than a single page! -- or have a son, daughter or a grandchild write it for you. And mail or give it to Emma Woo Louie. Or phone her for details beforehand. She is collecting these memories and stories for the December 1993 issue of Gum Saan Journal. The theme of this issue is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the repeal of the Chinese exclusion laws. This is your issue but, as in Dear Abby, pseudonyms will be accepted. (Emma W. Louie, 1648 Redcliff Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026, 213-664-3808)

**"EARLY CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN LOS ANGELES"** -- A photo exhibit depicting the experiences of the early Chinese American was presented from February 6-14 by the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History and the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument. Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored the exhibit in celebrating the Chinese New Year. Many thanks to the Society's volunteers Jim Fong, Elmo Gambarana, Munson Kwok, Robert Large, Ella Quan, Johnny Yee, and Sue Yee who helped to move the exhibit daily to the site at the Bamboo Plaza and answer viewers' questions. The exhibit featured many newly collected photos including the ones from William Chun Hoon, Pamela Tom, Jim Fong, and Jerry Jann. The display is intended to be fully portable, able to be operated by one person. It will be shown at a future Society meeting.



**SOCIETY MEMBERS CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR 1888 CHINESE SHRINE'S PRESERVATION** - We would like to acknowledge the generous contributions of the following society members: Wallace Huey, Winifred and Calvin Lee, Peggy and Reger Wong, Henry Welcome, Angi and Norman Wong, Isobel and Chong Lew, Ann and John Liu, Phyllis and Paul Chace, Beulah Kwoh, Kam L. Wong, Annabella Hwa, Wanda Leong, Emma and Paul Louie, and Sue and Ward Yee. Thank you very much!

**OUTREACH FOR CHSSC** - The following summarizes the activities completed and forthcoming for Angi Ma Wong as she continues her outreach for CHSSC:

January 22 - Swingin' Singles Seniors Bus Trip (Irvine)  
 January 23 - Channel 4 9:00 a.m. "Today in L.A."  
 January 30 - Channel 5 6:00 a.m. Weekend Gallery  
 February 3 - Sierra Canyon School (Simi Valley)  
 February 9 - John Dye School  
 February 12 - Harbor College class - Chinese American List & Culture  
 February 13 - Harbor College Field Trip/Parade  
 February 21 - M.C. Golden Cove Plaza Chinese New Year Celebration  
 March 9 - Feng Shui lecture (Palos Verdes Art Center)  
 April 17 - Chinatown Walking Tour for Chinese Cultural Heritage Festival

Thank you, Angi, for your consistent hard work and hours of dedication in serving the society through your outreach activities. Keep up the good work! We appreciate this and more!

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**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** - Volunteers are urgently needed on the **Ways & Means Committee** (formed for fundraising activities for the CHSSC Society). For further information, contact CHSSC President Sue Yee, (818) 799-8396.

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**A PERMANENT HOME FOR CHSSC?** Property containing two architecturally-significant Victorian era houses at 411-415 Bernard Street is on the market for \$600,000. Several members, including Vice President Don Loo, Munson Kwok, and Gene Moy, recently toured 411 Bernard, which had been occupied for a century by Louise M. Whiting until her passing in 1992 at the age of 100. The CHSSC Board is considering the possibility of acquiring the properties for a permanent office, museum, research facility, etc. Obviously, substantial community support will be necessary, given the land costs. If you would like to participate in the feasibility planning process, please contact Gene Moy (818) 289-2067.

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**LOS ANGELES MARATHON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -- Sunday, March 7, 8:00-11:00 a.m.** -- It's L.A. Marathon time again, and once more this massive city-wide event will run through Chinatown. As in past years, the co-sponsors of Mile 6 will be the Chinese Cultural and Community Center of Greater Los Angeles and Chinatown Teen Post. A number of CHSSC members serve on the Cultural Center Board, and the CHSSC and its members are once again invited to participate with



other Chinatown organizations as volunteer course monitors for Mile 6. Course monitors will assist in securing the race course, protecting spectators and citizens from the mad onrush of over 20,000 runners, wave banners, and enjoy a little community fellowship. When needed, we also jump in to serve water to runners. Let's show the CHSSC spirit! Carry the CHSSC banner!

This year, instead of being provided T-shirts, volunteers will be given a free pass to the L.A. Marathon Quality of Life Expo. At the Expo, held at the L.A. Convention Center on March 4-6 in the three days preceding the run, volunteers may redeem their vouchers for a huge "goodie" bag, which contains merchandise and coupons worth \$150 [volunteerism has its rewards!].

Since we'll all be in Chinatown on a Sunday morning, why not partake in some fresh dim sum and community fellowship, while watching the finish of the Marathon on a big-screen TV? Join us also at the VBC Restaurant, 711 North Broadway, Third Floor, corner of Ord and Broadway. A reduced price dim sum brunch has been arranged. The new Miss Chinatown and her court will be invited to join us, as they have in the past, to add to the festivities.

**Important details:** Please call Gene Moy (818) 289-2067 (evenings) or (213) 563-9531 (Monday-Thursdays) to make your reservations for (1) course monitoring/Expo voucher, and/or (2) dim sum at VBC. Call as early as you can so that he can mail you the volunteer information sheet and the voucher in time for the Expo. Join us on a fun morning!

**CHSSC OFFERS 1993 SCHOLARSHIP** to students pursuing Chinese-American studies. Qualifications for the scholarship include: presently a full time student with Sophomore or Junior standing at an accredited college or university in Southern California, a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0, and taking relevant course work in Chinese-American studies within the humanities or social sciences. Completed applications and supporting documents must be submitted to the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, Scholarship Committee, P. O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647. Applications should be postmarked no later than March 19, 1993. Finalists will be contacted for an interview. For more information, call (213) 621-3171.

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Donations are always welcome to support the Scholarship Fund. Please make checks payable to "CHSSC" -- designated Scholarship Fund -- and send to: Dexter Wong, CHSSC Scholarship Chair, 17647 Mapes Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701.

**WANTED!!! CALL FOR ARTIFACTS AND CLOTHING ...** The Association of Chinese Americans at UCLA, working together with the Asian American Studies Center, will be putting together a Spring play in which undergraduate students are looking for artifacts and clothing (on loan) for the period 1920-1930's. If you have such items or wish more information, please contact Munson Kwok (310) 645-1369.



**REPORT ON THE TWO PARADES CELEBRATING CHINESE NEW YEAR ...**

... San Gabriel/Alhambra parade ... The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California had a good turn out for the Chinese New Year parade on January 30 with American flags. Volunteers from Tri Hi Y Alhambra High School, YMCA and friends participated. The Chamber of Commerce of Alhambra awarded the Society with a special trophy award for participating in this parade.

... The Chinese Chamber of Commerce Golden Dragon Parade took place on Saturday, February 13, with plenty of sunshine, approximately 58 marchers with a mass of American flags. We had special volunteers from Harbor College in San Pedro and Alhambra High School. The parade lasted over 2 1/2 hours. Over 250 segments with 18 floats and scores of bands and autos. This year's Honorary Marshal was none other than Munson and Suellen Cheng Kwok. (We've got celebrities among us!) The year of the rooster was great!

CHSSC Life Member, **MARIKO LANIADO-TSE**, became the Executive Director of the Maple Center in January 1993, a mental health community organization in Beverly Hills. This non-profit organization has been providing services to the employees and residents of Beverly Hills for twenty years. She is delighted to be there, especially since it does such special work with children and adolescents in the schools. [Congratulations, Mariko!]

**THANK YOUS** - to Lillian Fong, Ella Quan, Elsie Wong, Aurora Bahou, Ruth Lung, Lucille Choy, Margie Lew, Johnny Yee, and Dolores Wong for the refreshments at our February 3 general meeting.  
- to David Dement, \$20 donation to the Society.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES** - Dues are \$15 member and \$5 (additional for same household or senior), \$25 institutional member, and \$200 life member. Dues are payable January 1 of each year to CHSSC and should be mailed to Mary Yee, Membership Secretary, 4721 Konya Drive, Torrance, CA 90503. **Note:** If your mailing label still says 1992, don't be alarmed. We are using up our old labels and haven't had a chance to update. Cut off date for renewals will be March 31. If you haven't paid your dues, we will have to drop your name off our membership roster which will be out around the end of April.

**NEW MEMBERS** - Congratulations to our two new life members -- Kam L. Wong and Nadine Soo Hoo Levy. And to our new student members -- Loretta Choi, Judy Liu, and Milly Luong. All three are students of Alhambra High School.

Please add the following new members to your current roster:

Loretta Choi 1228 South 6th Street, Alhambra, CA 91801  
Judy Liu 160 North Marguerita Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801  
Milly Luong 1500 South Curtis Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803

**GET WELL WISHES** ... to Dorothy Siu, we wish you a speedy recovery from your hip fracture surgery. Dorothy is recuperating slowly from her ordeal and welcomes letters and telephone calls at home.



## **BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS - Congratulations to all!**

... to Linda Lum and Bob Wu on the birth of their son, Jonathan Gene-Lin Wu, born December 12, 1992, at 5 lbs. 4 oz., measuring 19 inches. Linda and baby are doing fine.

... to Kent and Jai Wong, parents of Robin Philip Wong, born February 2, 1993 at 9 lbs., 21 1/2 inches. Robin is the proud "third" grandson for Judge Delbert and Dolores Wong.

Society sends its **CONDOLENCES** to the families of CHSSC members -

... Memorial services were held for Alvina Lew on February 6 at the Union Church.

... Memorial services were held for Harry G. Quan on February 9 at the Inglewood Cemetery Mortuary, Manchester Chapel, Inglewood.

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## **PALOS VERDES ART CENTER (PVAC)**

### **CHINESE CULTURAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

**(February 21 - April 24)**

All events are held at PVAC unless otherwise noted. By now, each of you should have received in the mail (early February) the festival calendar of events. If you haven't, feel free to call the number listed below. There are lecture series, film series, culinary classes, field trips, theater performances, children's craft classes, etc.

PVAC is located at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Crestridge Road in Rancho Palos Verdes. For information and registration for all events, call Palos Verdes Art Center (310) 541-2479.

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### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING CHSSC PROGRAMS**

April 7            History of Evergreen Cemetery  
                    Significance of Ching Ming

April 10          Field trip: 1888 Chinese Shrine/Buddhist Temple (?)

May 22            Tentative date for CHSSC Spring Dinner

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The following calendar includes not only the activities of CHSSC but also those of other organizations and groups that may be of interest to our members and the community:

### **CALENDAR**

**February 28      15TH ANNUAL 5K/10K FIRECRACKER RUN - 8:30 a.m.**  
                    Begins on 800 block of North Broadway and College Streets in Chinatown.

**March 1           THE CHINA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA invites you**  
                    **to its general monthly dinner meeting at Golden**  
                    **Dragon Restaurant, 960 North Broadway, Chinatown.**  
                    Social hour 6:15 p.m., dinner 7:00 p.m. Members  
                    \$10, guests \$12. Dinner reservations may be sent



to Ms. Rina Rae Sherman, 319 South Gardner Street, Los Angeles, CA 90036, (213) 936-0327. Evening's program is titled JADE BRACELET RENDEZ-VOUS (CHINESE OPERA) as demonstrated by Wendy Chang and Yang Cheng-Yu in costumes.

- March 7**                    **LOS ANGELES MARATHON** [see pages 3-4]
- March 7**                    If you missed the **LOS ANGELES CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE** on February 13, you have one more chance to capture it on TV -- **channel 18 at 5:15 p.m.** Don't miss it!
- March 13**                  **FORMOSA CAFE LUNCHEON** [see pages 1-2]
- March 14**                  **LOS ANGELES CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY** invites you to the third presentation of the Marie E. Northrop Lecture Series - 1993 - They All Pull Together: Challenges to Community Building in Los Angeles, 1850-1890. McIntosh Center, Loyola-Marymount University (Loyola Boulevard at West 80th Street, Los Angeles). Lecture is 2:00-4:00. Cost: \$5. The speaker is CHSSC member, Rev. Michael Engh, S. J. He is Assistant Professor for the Department of History, Loyola-Marymount University. Refreshments will be served. Free parking on campus. For information, call Pat Bowie, (310) 831-1641 or Irene Tresun (213) 936-2912.
- March 17**                  **CHSSC BOARD MEETING - 6:30-8:30 p.m., CHSSC Office, 969 North Broadway, Los Angeles.** Parking is available at Castelar School or Mandarin and Bamboo Plazas.
- March 25**                  **ASIAN BUSINESS LEAGUE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** holds **First Quarter Business Networking Reception - 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** at the Biltmore Hotel (Emerald Room), downtown L.A. Cost: \$8 members, \$12 non-members. For info, call Jacqueline Quach (818) 405-7802 or Naomi Kuromoto (213) 626-5837.
- March 27**                  L.A. City Historical Society gives **TOUR OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY HALL.** Cost: \$5 donation to the L.A. Conservancy for arranging the tour. For info, call Jene McKnight (213) 292-7833.
- April 3**                    **A STROLL AT GOLD CREEK --** take this opportunity to experience the environment. Event is co-sponsored by the L.A. Geographical Society and L.A. City Historical Society. Cost: \$5 (donation) per adult; full-time students free. The monies will be used for the LAGS scholarship fund. Questions ... call Jene McKnight (213) 292-7833 or Mike O'Connor (213) 664-5449.



**April 24 9TH ANNUAL L.A. CHINESE "HIGH SCHOOL REUNION" --**  
**DINE AND DANCE**, 6 p.m. to midnight -- at Pickwick,  
 Banquet and Entertainment Center, 1001 Riverside  
 Drive, Burbank -- Royal Crest Room. No-host  
 cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. RSVP by  
 April 10. Cost: \$35 per person or \$65 per couple  
 (8 per table). For information, call Jim Fong  
 (213) 295-0616 or Delphine Wong, Reunion Treasurer,  
 (213) 483-3100.

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 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. Items  
 submitted after the due date may not always be included in this  
 issue.

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 Special thanks to contributors in this issue: ~~Ang~~ Ma Wong, Mariko  
 Laniado-Tse, Jim Fong, Johnny Yee, Munson Kwok, Suellen Cheng, Emma  
 Woo Louie, Elmo Gambarana, Asian Business League, China Society,  
 Mary Yee, Gene Moy, Don Loo, Palos Verdes Art Center, L.A. City  
 Historical Society, and Randy Bloch. Last month's mailing  
 volunteers: Yours truly!

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CHSSC  
 P. O. Box 862647  
 Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647



**FIRST CLASS**

LIFE Member: Paid to Dec. 31, 9999  
 Ella Y. Quan  
 Harry Quan  
 4205 S. La Salle Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90062-1722

