



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 90086-2647 (213) 621-3171

1994-95 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 1994

President	Irvin Lai
Vice President	Sue Yee
Secretary	Pauline R. Wong
Treasurer	Munson Kwok
Financial Secretary	Franklin Mah
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PROGRAM

Wednesday, October 5, 1994 - 7:30 P.M.

Castelar School - Multi-purpose Room

840 Yale Street, Los Angeles Chinatown

(Park on playground; enter on College Street)

DIRECTORS

Randall Bloch
Kenneth Chan
Eugene Cooper
Susan Dickson
Elmo Gambarana
Eugene Moy
Ella Quan

OF RATS, SPARROWS & FLIES: A LIFETIME IN CHINA

General meetings are held
the first Wednesday of every
month except July and August

Dr. Arthur W. Chung, born and raised in Los Angeles, will speak of his experiences in China---first as a student, then a sympathetic doctor and finally a renowned doctor in the World Health Organization in Geneva until his escape to freedom. Come and meet and speak with Dr. Chung for an evening of fun and education. Dr. Chung will be available to autograph copies of his book.

CHSSC Office
(213) 621-3171

NEWS 'N NOTES - The CHSSC Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Beverly Hom-Tsao for her seven years of dedication to writing and sending out the News 'n Notes. All future articles and contributions are to be sent directly to the CHSSC postoffice box and received no later than the 15th of the month. Due to budget cuts and pending increase in postage, the News 'n Notes will be shorter. Contributions will be included at the discretion of the new News 'n Notes staff.

MOON FESTIVAL - The 1994 Moon Festival festivities were held at the large parking lot on the corner of Broadway and Cesar Chavez. A booth generously sponsored by Bank of America was manned by CHSSC members Suellen Cheng, Jim Fong, Lillian Fong, Elmo Gambarana, Eugene Moy, Ella Quan, and Cy Wong. The booth was shared with the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History. Materials and verbal information were disseminated to many people who stopped by the booth.

HARK THE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE - Do you have an eye for fashion, are good at making beautiful things with your hands, or know how to match the right color combinations? Or do you just admire people who can? At 10 a.m. Saturday morning October 8, drop all your other appointments and come to the first planning meeting at the Society's office above Phoenix Bakery. The boutique is scheduled for Saturday, December 3. We will need not only artistic talents, but also skilled organizers, dreamers and just plain workers to arrange this elegant social event. Please RSVP to Ways & Means Chair Elmo Gambarana (213-733-2927) or Doreen Nakayama (213-726-9064).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 30-October 2 -Fall Symposium of Conference of California Historical Societies will be held in Contra Costa County, Northern California. There are fees. Contact Munson Kwok (310-645-1369).

October 3 - Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) commissioners will hold a public hearing to consider a draft five-year implementation plan for the Chinatown Redevelopment Project at the Cathay Manor, 600 N. Broadway at 6 p.m. CHSSC members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

October 9 - A guided bus tour of Los Angeles' past and contemporary Jewish neighborhoods and institutions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 213-553-7740 for reservation. Fee is \$18 per person or \$15 for 10 or more.

October 11-16 - The Smithsonian Associates along with statewide and local cosponsors will bring a series of educational events to Los Angeles titled "Man Cultures-One Nation". Included is a film program on images of Asian Pacific American women and a multicultural storytelling event including local storyteller Sandra Mizumoto-Posey. For more specifics, leave a message on the CHSSC phone (213-621-3171) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

October 15 - A one day History Fair presented by the Historical Society of Southern California, Heritage Square Museum, Los Angeles County Office of Education, Southwest Museum, and Pasadena Historical Museum will be held for teachers and members of historical societies and museums at Heritage Square from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will celebrate the richness of our local history through exhibits, speakers, demonstrations, children's games and crafts, and live performances. Visitors to the FAIR are invited to bring family artifacts or photocopies of documents to learn how to research family history. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for teens and seniors, and free for children under 12. For more information, call 818-449-0193.

October 21 - Chinese Historical Society of America invites you to "A Celebration of Roots". The dinner and show, a presentation of 19th & 20th century history and dress of the Chinese in America will be held at the Ritz-Carlton in San Francisco at \$125 per person. Send reservations by October 7 to CHS/A, 650 Commercial St., S.F. 94111.

October 23 - Come one, come all. We need Fall Dinner raffle prizes. Help us out with some great prizes and we'll even do a silent auction! Fall Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, at the Empress Pavilion. We need your donations no later than October 23. Contact Elmo Gambarana (213-733-2927), Cy Wong (213- (213-731-1084), or Sue Yee (213-617-0396).

October 26 - Southern California History Fair to be held Sunday, Oct. 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Heritage Square Museum, just off the Pasadena Freeway north of Chinatown. \$7 per person. CHSSC will have a booth. Volunteers, please call Elmo Gambarana.

October 31 or when tickets run out - Asian Pacific American Friends of Center Theatre Group invites you to a "Double Feature" of The Woman Warrior on February 12 and Miss Saigon on March 12. Tickets are limited and are available as a package for both events. The cost is \$200. Contact Dolores Wong (213-662-6081) as soon as possible.

THANKS to the following people who donated refreshments for the September meeting: Lillian Fong, Al and Margie Lew, Ruth Lung, Doreen Nakayama, Ella Quan, Sylvia Soo Hoo, and Cy Wong.

Barbecue/Open House at Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center

CHSSC members and guests were treated to a fine afternoon of food and fellowship at our First event at the site of the planned Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center on Bernard Street. Over 100 persons gathered in the current back patio on Saturday September 10th to sample the delicious potluck offerings cooked up by our members. Chefs Irvin Lai and Cy Wong presided over the hot coals with their savory recipes for chicken and hot links, and DJ Jim Fong provided oldies recordings, to add to the wonderful atmosphere.

In addition, everyone had the opportunity to tour one of the two historic houses on the property. The structure built by Philipp Fritz in 1886 and occupied by the late Louise M. (Fritz) Whiting for 100 years had been diligently prepared by CHSSC work crews over the prior two Saturdays. We saw informational displays including copies of historic documents and photographs, and family portraits provided by Philipp's great grandson Richard Fritz and by other members of the Fritz family. We admired the craftsmanship of the exterior carpentry, the ornamental light fixtures, the detailed door and window hardware. Perhaps more than a few of us squinted our eyes and imagined how the property could look in the future with a completely renovated CHSSC office, with visitors coming to pick up Chinatown historical and community information, to look up their family history, to be inspired by exhibits on our community's multicultural heritage.

We were honored with the presence of several members of the newly formed Advisory Board for the project. Joining in the festivities were Barbara Jean Lee, Lilly V. Lee, Robert Lee, and Kim Tsai. Mr. F. Chow Chan was not able to attend, but was represented by Board member Ken Chan. These community leaders along with other members of the Advisory Board will be assisting us in the planning and fundraising for the Heritage and Visitors Center, and we warmly welcome their interest and participation.

We also had a chance to chat with members of Louise M. Whiting's family: Marie Riley, a first cousin of Louise, and who grew up in the area, attending Macy Steet School; Beverly Vanatta, niece of Marie Riley; and Beverly's husband Phil. These are the family members who have been handling Louise Whiting's estate, and who have generously offered to assist in the project by providing very favorable financing terms in the sale to the CHSSC. The family provided a few stories about Louise, and we hope they may share more in the future.

Such a festive event would not have been possible without a dedicated team of volunteers. Thanks to Ella Quan and Sylvia Soo Hoo for coordinating food and reservations; Ben and Doreen Nakayama, Elmo Gambarana, John Wong and family, and Gene Moy for site setup, Pauline Wong for check-in; Betty Wong for all-around help (she was busier than anyone, including hubby Cy!) and numerous people for cleanup. In addition, in the two weekends prior, a hardy crew prepared the house and landscaping: Ben and Doreen Nakayama, Elmo Gambarana, Suellen Cheng, Cindy Fong, Don Loo, Sue Yee, Cy Wong, John Wong, Susan Sing and her mom Mrs. Sing, and Gene Moy. The junior work crew, Kenny and Kyle Nakayama, and Bernie Moy helped with various jobs as well as creating a few mud sculptures in the back yard. We hope we haven't missed anyone; we thank you all.

Heritage and Visitors Center Planners Needed. A great deal of planning is obviously required to build a home for the Historical Society. In the future we may have paid staff, but for now we are a volunteer organization and our human resources are our most valuable asset. If you would like to help, or know someone who can help, please contact Building Committee Chairman Eugene Moy at 818-289-2067.

ANNUAL FALL BANQUET

"IN HONOR OF OUR CHINESE AMERICAN COMBAT VETERANS"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1994, 6 P.M.

EMPRESS PAVILION

988 NORTH HILL STREET, #201

BAMBOO PLAZA AND GARAGE

LOS ANGELES CHINATOWN

On the eve of the 50th Anniversary of the ending of World War II, the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California pays tribute to our Chinese American men and women who served

in that war and other American conflicts:

World War I, Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW TO JOIN US JUST BEFORE THE

77th ARMISTICE DAY

(Dinner Committee volunteers desperately sought. Call M. Kwok, (310)645-1369)

REPORTING THE 4TH CHINESE AMERICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE. "FROM MEMORIES TO ASPIRATIONS: THE CHINESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE" was held in Honolulu on August 19-20, at the elegant Ala Moana Hotel. Cosponsored by the Hawai'i Chinese History Center, the Organization of Chinese American Women: Honolulu, and Chinese Community Action Coalition of Hawai'i, this national symposium, which followed our meeting of 1992, attracted around 200. Included were CHSSC members Emma and Paul Louie, Winifred and Calvin Lee, Suellen and Munson Kwok, among others. And it was good to greet member Puanani Woo, these days based in Hilo. One of her groups has just completed restoration of an historic Chinese cemetery in Hilo. Those giving papers were Kenneth Klein, coauthoring with Charles C. Wong, and Shirley Tam. Him Mark Lai, better known to be with the Chinese Historical Society of America than as one of our members, and Murray Lee from San Diego also presented works.

Besides the expected panels on history and social sciences, One theme appearing to emerge from this conference was a strong emphasis on family history and genealogy, its methods, and the search for personal roots. Him Mark Lai and Albert Cheng has been invited to speak on the outstanding "In Search of Roots" program, which annually allows a summer's study of family history by college undergrads, climaxed by a trip back to the ancestral village in China. Another was the new research emphasizing the recent immigrant and settler--Chinese America in the last 30 years. Hawai'i's geographical position gave rise to some discussion of Pacific Rim impacts, such as the impending changes in Hong Kong. Prof. Greg. Mark managed to facilitate research participations by undergraduate students, which had not been a feature in previous conferences, but should be installed as a future tradition. Another feature of this event was the continual showing of Chinese American videos from the NAATA collection (except for "Separate Lives, Broken Dreams," the Chinese American Citizens Alliance production inserted into the program by Munson Kwok.) The loosely knit network of historical societies has determined that the next in the series of Chinese American studies conferences will be held in New York City, possibly in 1996 or 1997, with San Diego following.

No event in Hawai'i is ever completed without recognizing the warm and complete hospitality of the hosts, headed by Center President Roger Liu and Prof. Greg Mark with the conference committee, small but mighty. One of the nicest experiences has to be seen Mr. and Mrs. Wally Wong, a couple approaching their 90's, entertaining us at the lu'au with their hulas and ukelele music!!

The Kwoks were able to tour the Waipahu Plantation Village, a reconstruction of plantation structures and life several miles from downtown Honolulu. There, a reproduction of the Chung Shan Association building and temple from historic Kula, Maui, can be seen together with a garden demonstrating a great variety of Chinese vegetables and rices. Kula is near the Sun family ranch where Sun Yatsen stayed for several years.

SALUTE TO GLADYS WADDINGHAM who has just celebrated her 94th birthday!! She and her late husband Francis were among the first in the City's historical establishment to recognize and accept the young Chinese Historical Society almost 20 years ago. She continues to promote and announce our events in the Centinela Valley and the Westside, including our Evergreen Shrine project, our just introduced Chinatown Heritage and Visitors Center, and the Moon Festival. She invited everyone to our Sept. 10 BBQ. Thank you, Gladys, and continued happy returns.

Join Us!!

**Chinatown Heritage and Visitors
Center**

**OPEN HOUSE
POTLUCK BBQ**

*Enjoy food, fun, and camaraderie with fellow
CHSSC members*

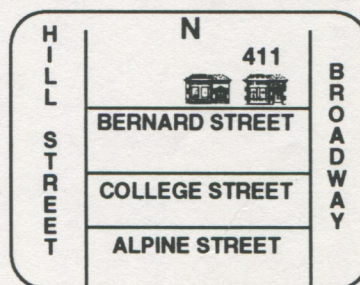
Tour our 108 year "new" home

**Saturday, September 10, 1994
3:00 PM**

411 Bernard Street

(paid parking available in nearby lots)

**Chicken, Links,
Soft Drinks,
and Coffee provided**



**We need Baked Beans,
Cold Vegetables
Dishes,
Nonperishable Salads
and Desserts
(to serve 6 - 8)**

RSVP REQUIRED - Please call by September 2
Sylvia Soo Hoo (213) 221-5573 or Ella Quan (213) 255-6487