



# 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

## 1995-96 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Irvin Lai
Vice President	Sue Yee
Secretary	Henrietta Yuan
Treasurer	Munson Kwok
Financial Secretary	Franklin Mah
Membership Secretary	Cy Wong

AUGUST 1995

## PROGRAM

Wednesday, September 6, 1995 - 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  
Susan Dickson  
Elmo Gambarana  
Winifred Lew  
Ruth Lung  
Eugene Moy  
Stan Mu  
Jeffrey Tung

Meet Lisa See, the author of the hot new book, On Gold Mountain The One-Hundred Year Odyssey of a Chinese American Family.

Hear about her great-grandfather, Fong See of the F. Suie One Company, his wives, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. You probably know some of them.

Amy Tan, author of The Joy Luck Club and The Kitchen God's Wife says, "On Gold Mountain weaves together fascinating family anecdotes, imaginative storytelling, and the historical details of immigrant life over the last one hundred years. Lisa See looks at what's in her bones and recreates an enviably entertaining family history."

On Gold Mountain will be on sale at the meeting. Buy your copies at the meeting, and the Society will benefit. We're looking forward to seeing a big crowd at this first meeting with the new Board and Officers.

\*\*\*\*\*

WELCOME BACK! The 1995-96 Officers and members of the Board of Directors welcome everyone back and hope to see all of you at our first regular meeting on September 6. The Board met in July and August and will be seeking your help for the many projects that are ahead of us.

CHSSC CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY with a fundraising dinner on Friday, November 17, at the Empress Pavilion. Come and support your Society at another fun-filled dinner dance. Mark your calendars now. We will be asking for photos, stories, etc. of past events of the Society for a book of memories to be published for the 25th celebration. Unfortunately we do not have time to do that project for this year's celebration. Anyone who can contribute some time to this effort may contact Ella Quan (213-255-6487)

OPEN HOUSE AT 411 BERNARD STREET Sunday, August 27, and every 4th Sunday thereafter will be Open House at 411. Come see our displays. Volunteer to upkeep the place, be a docent or?



**L.A. 214th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** is scheduled for September 3 and 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each day at the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, home of the world-famous Olvera Street. The Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History will be operating an information booth and a food booth to give visibility that the Chinese were one of the ethnic groups in the El Pueblo area. Please come and join in the festivities as a volunteer in the booths or as a spectator. Hope to see you there.

**TRAIL OF LOS POBLADORES-SAN GABRIEL TO LOS ANGELES** - Monday, Sept. 4 beginning at 6:00 a.m. The walk is a reenactment of the 1781 trek of the original settlers of Los Angeles, known as Los Pobladores.

**SIXTH ANNUAL CHINESE MOON FESTIVAL** scheduled for September 9 and 10 will be held in Los Angeles Chinatown each day from noon to 9:00 P.M. Traditionally, the Moon Festival marked the end of the summer harvest and is a family holiday. Los Angeles' Moon Festival is a multicultural event. Festival-goers shop at vendor booths, enjoy ethnic dances, music, Chinese opera, martial arts performances on an outdoor stage. Storytellers, poets, and arts and crafts demonstrations and workshops will also be part of the activities. The highlight is a free Moon Viewing Party, held both nights under the moon and stars. The Moon Festival ritual is performed, followed by Chinese stories, poetry, dance and music, climaxing with a treat of mooncake and tea.

**5th ANNUAL HSSC (HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA) BOOK, ART & PHOTO AUCTION** held Sunday, Sept. 10 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the -Charles F. Lummis Home "El Alisal", 200 East Ave. 43, Los Angeles 90031 (213-222-0546).

**JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY** announces a guided bus tour of Los Angeles past and contemporary Jewish neighborhoods and institutions on Sunday, Sept. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The fee is \$25. Call 213-653-7740 for reservations.

**25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AWARDS BANQUET** of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Thursday, September 14, 7:00 p.m. at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. California Ballrooms. Contact Ron Wong (818 -279-2518) or Meg Thornton (310-825-1006). Gov. Benjamin Cayetano, Hawaii, UCLA Alumnus 1968 will be the keynote speaker and Public Service Honoree.

**ANNUAL FIESTA - HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CENTINELA VALLEY CALIFORNIA** - will be held Sunday, Sept. 27 from 1 - 4 p.m.

**60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE CHINA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** will feature Honorable Ronald A. W. Lew, U.S. District Court Judge, Monday, October 2, 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Dragon, 960 N. Broadway, Chinatown, \$12.00 per person. RSVP by Sept. 27 to Rina Rae Sherman, 319 S. Gardner St. L.A. 90036 (213-936-0327).

**ASIAN YOUTH CENTER** will be holding their fifth annual dinner and silent auction on Friday, October 6, at the Quiet Cannon Restaurant, 901 N. Via San Clement, Montebello. For more info. call 818-309-0622.



**ASIAN YOUTH CENTER** will be holding their fifth annual dinner and silent auction on Friday, October 6, at the Quiet Cannon Restaurant, 901 N. Via San Clement, Montebello. For more info. call 818-309-0622.

**CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES** is scheduled for October 6 and 7 at the Holiday Inn in Auburn. For more info. call Barbara Van Riper at 916-885-2074.

**CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA** will be having a benefit dinner dance Friday, November 10, at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco. This event is a fundraising campaign to build a **National Chinese American Museum and Learning Center**. Entitled "A Celebration of Roots", the occasion will be to honor Chinese American Veterans of the Armed Forces. Tickets are \$100 per person. For info. call Bea Wong (415-391-1188).

**CAL STATE L.A. ALUMNI NETWORKING BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENT.** On September 27, the Cal State L.A. Alumni Association will offer CSLA alumni who work in downtown L.A. the opportunity to network with fellow graduates, renew ties with the University, and to meet Dr. Rosser and Mr. McKernan, a CSLA alum. The breakfast will be held from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. at the Auto Club of Southern California located at 2501 S. Figueroa St. This is a free event. RSVP by Sept. 20. For info. call CSLA Alumni Relations Office at 213- 343- 4980.

**CONDOLENCES** to Life member Jean Bruce Poole in the sudden loss of her husband. He supported CHSSC and attended many of our functions with his wife.

**CONDOLENCES** to the family of George W. Tom. George was one of the first Asian American hired by the Department of Water and Power where he was a proficient engineer for 45 plus years. During World War II, he served in the China-Burma-India Theater in the 14th Air Force under Gen. Claire Chennault, 14th Air Service Group, 555th Air Service Squadron. The most important part of his community life was the Los Angeles Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance. He was elected President of the L.A. lodge in 1967 and 1968. His other community involvements included being Fire Marshal for Chinatown. He was a charter member and Life member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California. He was very much for education, especially of the youth, realizing that much of that opportunity was deprived him in his earlier day. His sharp memory combined with an honest interpretive view of things made him invaluable. And he was willing to share his knowledge with many students and scholars, patiently giving many interviews and discussions over the years. Not more than three months ago, George and wife Clara donated \$500 to support the C.A.C.A.'s National Centennial Youth Art Competition and Commemorative Calendar, in a fundraising effort by L.A. Lodge. George will be missed.



☐☐ Gum Saan Journal back copies @ \$2.00 ☐☐ CHSSC mug (cup with famous logo) @ \$4.00 ☐☐  
☐☐☐ Regular Membership Pin (cloisonne version of famous logo in red and gold) @ \$3.00 ☐☐☐

**ORDER BLANK for Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Products**

Origins and Destinations: 41 Essays on Chinese America @ \$20.00 each	\$ _____
Linking Our Lives @ \$10.95 each	\$ _____
Sweet Bamboo @ \$12.95 each	\$ _____
Gum Saan Journal @ \$2.00 each; volume _____ no. _____ month _____ year _____	\$ _____
CHSSC Mug @ \$4.00 each	\$ _____
Regular Membership Pin @ \$3.00 each	\$ _____
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ _____
Tax (CA @ 8.25% means O&D \$1.65, SB \$1.07, mugs \$0.37, LOL \$0.90, GSJ \$0.17; pins \$0.25)	\$ _____
Shipping (\$3.00 for Origins&Destinations or Sweet Bamboo; \$2.00 for mugs or Linking Our Lives; \$0.75 GSJ, pins)	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b> (checks payable to "CHSSC" and mail with Order Blank to: CHSSC-Book Dept; P.O. Box 862647; Los Angeles, CA. 90086-2647. Allow 4 weeks for delivery. Thank you for your order.)	\$ _____

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (Street, Apt. No., P.O. Box) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ZIP/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Chinese Historical Society of  
 Southern California  
 P.O. Box 862647  
 Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647

**FIRST CLASS**



## BUILDING COMMITTEE -- L.A. CHINATOWN HERITAGE & VISITORS CENTER

The CHSSC has successfully completed the first phase of the project. Phase 1 included raising funds for the down payment on the property for the Center, cleanup of the property which included new paint and landscaping, and holding monthly open houses with interim exhibits since June. We have held a number of special events at the property, such as two BBQ's, a holiday gift boutique, and a reception for the transfer of the Old Chinatown archeological collection.

The CHSSC Building Committee is now gearing up for the next, and very critical, phase of development. Phase 2 involves:

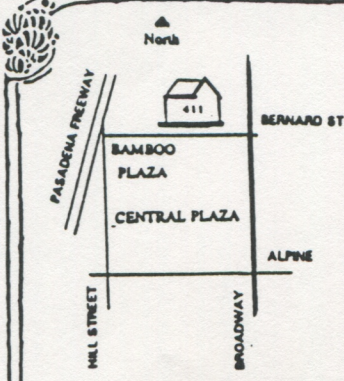
- reducing the seller-financed note on the property
- preparing detailed architectural and engineering plans
- building up a construction fund
- increasing our public relations effort

The public relations effort involves increasing the scope of activities on the site, such as new exhibits, more open house hours, docent training, and publication of a newsletter.

Volunteers are needed and welcomed! There are interesting challenges, the projects are rewarding, and you meet a lot of new people. Please call Eugene Moy, Building Committee chair, at 818-289-2067 if you think you would like to be involved.

The Phase 2 effort obviously involves raising significant funds. Look for our new fundraising appeal in the mail, but CHSSC members are also invited to participate in the process. If you have some contacts, or can facilitate meetings with potential donors, let us know. Contact Nadine Soo Hoo Levy at 818-792-6092 with your ideas.

In the meantime, please come out to our open houses, held on the 4th Sunday of each month from Noon to 4:00 PM. Mark these dates on your calendars now: **October 22nd, November 26th, and December 24th.** We have archeological treasures on display, an exhibit on loan from the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History, videos and slides, and resource books. Bring yourselves and your friends to see **our historic home!**



**VISIT**  
the LOS ANGELES  
CHINATOWN HERITAGE  
AND VISITORS CENTER  
411 Bernard Street, L.A. Chinatown  
Information: (213) 621-3171

**OPEN 4TH SUNDAY EVERY MONTH**  
**Noon - 4:00 PM**  
***Free Admission***

Architectural landmark    Archeological treasures  
Asian American history videos    Chinatown history slides  
Resource books    Friendly docents    Local history exhibit