



# 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

MARCH, 1995

President	Irvin Lai
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## PROGRAM

### THE HISTORY OF CHINESE AMERICAN LABOR

a lecture presentation by

**Kent Wong**

## DIRECTORS

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

**Wednesday, April 5, 1995 @ 7:30 P.M.**

Castelar School Multipurpose Room  
(free parking on playground)  
840 Yale Street, L.A. Chinatown

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

There was more to American life than railroads for early Chinese workers. Hear about this fascinating history and the parallels to today, from our speaker Kent Wong. Mr. Wong is the Director of UCLA's Labor Center and also President of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance.

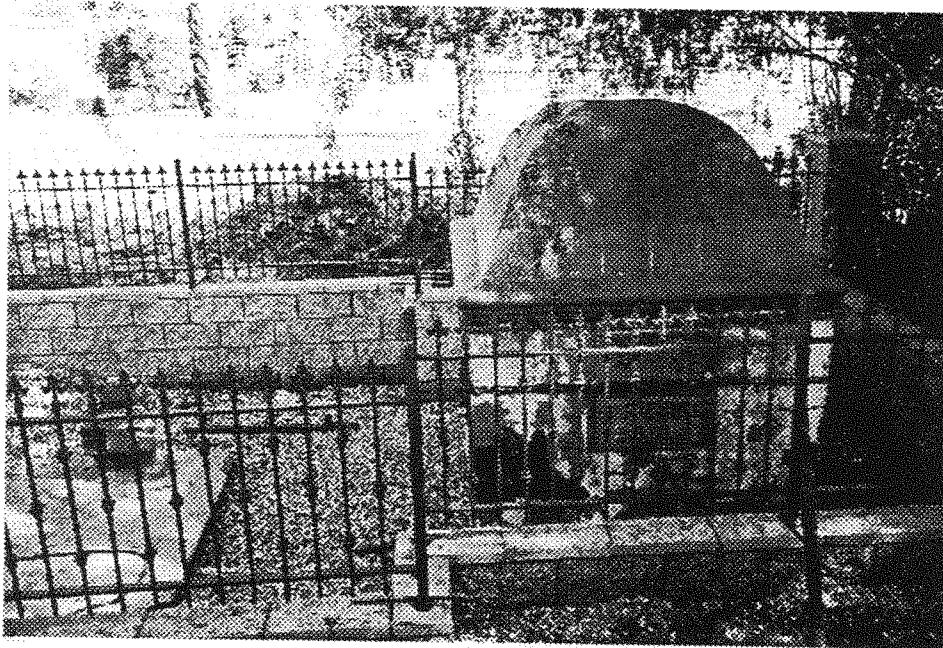
CHSSC Office  
(213) 621-3171

**SPRING DINNER and DANCE** has been scheduled for Friday, May 26, 6:00 P.M. at the Empress Pavilion Restaurant. Please keep the date open. CHSSC will be reuniting USC graduates for this event. Co-chair and committee members are needed. May 26 is coming up soon and planning meetings will be scheduled. Chairperson Sue Yee needs all the help she can get. Please call Sue during the day at (213) 617-0396 as soon as possible.

**'95 - 96 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** It is that time of the year again. The Nominating Committee will be calling for your support and time to keep CHSSC a viable and progressive Society. Vacancies on the Board of Directors and in the positions of Officers will be open. Please offer your services to help continue to make CHSSC a number one Society. The Society is only as good as members make it. If you have not been too active, come in and join us now. Try it. You'll like it.

**SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRPERSON** Winifred Lew was introduced at the March meeting to the membership and friends. Thank you, Winifred, for volunteering.

**CHINATOWN HISTORY MUSEUM** in New York is seeking a new executive director. Fay Chew Matsuda will be completing her tenure as executive director this year. She will continue working for the Museum as a member of its Board of Trustees. Anyone interested in the position may write to Fay Matsuda c/o 70 Mulberry Street, New York, NY 10013. Telephone number is (212) 619-4785.



**SHRINE UPDATE** - Since the groundbreaking ceremony in January the 19th century shrine is on its way to restoration. Pictured above is the newly erected wrought iron fence and wall around one of the furnaces (r.) and the altar (l.). The Shrine Preservation Committee is investigating the availability of more grants to help preserve and maintain this historic site.

**CONDOLENCES** to former CHSSC member Ron Jung in the loss of his mother, Florence H. Jung who passed away Saturday, February 25, at her daughter's home. Florence was one of the pioneers interviewed for the Southern California Chinese American Oral History Project, a joint project of the Society and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. In lieu of flowers, the family has named the following organizations as recipients of any donations:

Chinese Presbyterian Church of Orange County	or	The Hospice Foundation
Building Fund		1343 Valencia Drive, Suite H
c/o Waylan Wong		Fullerton, CA 92633
8831 Lawrence Avenue		
Westminster, CA 92683		

**"THEY SERVED WITH HONOR: LOS ANGELES CHINESE AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II"**, a historical photo exhibit, returns to Chinatown, April 1 - April 15, at the United Pacific Bank, 910 North Hill Street. It next goes to the famous San Gabriel Square, Del Mar and Valley Blvds., in Standard Savings Bank, 140 West Valley Blvd., #101, San Gabriel (April 17 - April 29), thence into the Monterey Park City Hall. The exhibit is a presentation of the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History, co-sponsored by El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument and our Society..

**WW II RAFFLE TOUR & LUNCHEON WINNER** Kathy Norwood came with her friends and relatives for a special tour of Chinatown by Munson Kwok on February 25th. Kathy is the

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daughter of members John and Lola Ng of Riverside. After the tour, they enjoyed a deem sum luncheon at the Empress Pavilion.

**THANKS** to that persistent crew that help put out our newest publication: "*Origins and Destinations: 41 Essays on Chinese America*," recently copublished with the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. The book's editorial committee included Suellen Cheng, Margaret (Margie) Lew, Susie Ling, Don Loo, Franklin Mah, and Pauline R. Wong. Coeditors were Ella Quan and Munson Kwok.

**MORE THANKS** to the following members who brought refreshments for the March 1st general meeting: Lupe & Frank Chee who brought a variety of Chinese pastries in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of WW II, Suellen Cheng, Lillian Fong, and Ruth Lung.

**VOLUNTEER HELP** is needed:

- To set up chairs, etc. before the general meetings at Castelar. Anyone who can be at the school between 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. to help will be appreciated.
- To send out thank you notes to donors.
- To meet as a group one Saturday and clip out significant articles from the stacks of newspapers that have been collected.

Please leave a message at the office (213) 621-3171 or with Ella Quan (213) 255-6487 if you can help.

**MEMBERS ONLY** - Only those members who have renewed or who have joined this year will be receiving the *News 'n Notes* starting with this issue. Our December '94 *Gum Saan Journal* has been delayed. All current members will receive the Dec. '94 journal. Beginning with the June '95 issue, only those who subscribed by paying the extra \$5.00 will receive the June '95 issue. If you did not subscribe and want to continue receiving the Journal, send in your \$5.00 now.

**L.A. CHINATOWN GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE** on February 18 will go down in CHSSC history. We were there as always with our banner and our flags. This time we were also there with our WW II vets. Representing the vets and marching in uniform were Arthur Chan, Al Der, James Gee, Robert Jung, Irvin Lai, Al Lew, James Bak Wong and Johnny Yee. Riding in two convertibles donated for the parade by Bob Wondries in Alhambra were Alan Yee and Kim Suhr (nurse) in one car and Fred Gong with Frank Chee in the other car. CHSSC was quite an impressive group and were applauded by the thousands of spectators lining the streets.

**CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BUILDING FUND: CHINATOWN HERITAGE & VISITORS CENTER** - This month we wish to recognize those first contributors that started The Fund, from July 16 to December 3, 1994.

Eugene Moy family, \$5,000	Franklin Mah, \$1,000	Jeannette Young, \$100
Mary Moy, \$2,000	Munson & Suellen Kwok, \$500	Larry Odonon, \$45
Nadine & Israel Levy, \$1,000	Elmo Gambarana, \$200	Yumi Oshima, \$20
Ben & Doreen Nakayama, \$1,000	Sue & Ward Yee, \$100	

### **Building Committee Report: CHINATOWN HERITAGE & VISITORS CENTER -**

**ESCROW CLOSED!!** Mark this historic date on your calendar: **January 31, 1995.** That's the date that escrow closed and we acquired our new home at historic 411-415 Bernard Street. The CHSSC has been providing educational programs for the community for nearly twenty years, and we are serving notice that we intend to continue our work for many more years!

**Thanks.** The escrow closing would not have been possible without the valuable contributions of time and money from many. Elsewhere in this and past newsletters we have tried to list all of the donors, and we will continue to do so. If we miss a name, please let us know. **Every donation** has been a valuable boost to help us achieve our escrow closing. The Building Committee gratefully acknowledges the generous support of these donors.

**Fundraising/involvement.** The property, containing 10,000 square feet of commercially-zoned land including two historic homes, was purchased for \$375,000 with 5% down and a five year note from the seller, with interest-only, quarterly payments in the first year. There is a modest surplus from initial donations for initial payments. Fundraising efforts are continuing with assistance from the fundraising co-chairs, Ken Chan and Nadine Levy, and from our Advisory Board. Grant applications are being prepared with the assistance of Lynn Kronzek, Susie Ling, and other Building Committee members. The Building Committee is also continuing discussions with government officials toward long term financing.

However, the success of our effort depends greatly on the involvement of many more individuals who believe in the project. If you share in our vision of a community heritage center, and would like to help the Building Committee in one of the many exciting facets of developing the center, please join us at the **next Building Committee meeting: Saturday April 8 at 10:00 AM**, at the CHSSC office at 969 N. Broadway, upstairs above the Phoenix Bakery. Some special skills we are looking for include word processing/desktop publishing, exhibit design, still/video photography, property maintenance (electrical, plumbing, landscape), and budget management. Please call Building Committee chairman, Gene Moy, at (818) 289-2067 for more information on these opportunities.

**Fund management.** A number of inquiries have been made as to the legal ownership of the property and the management of funds for the project, and we would like to clarify the status for the benefit of members and donors. The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC), a California non-profit corporation, is the owner on record of 411-415 Bernard Street. The CHSSC Treasurer established a new account, the CHSSC Building Fund, specifically for the Los Angeles Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center project.

All donations to the CHSSC Building Fund are tax deductible because the CHSSC is a tax-exempt organization under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Building Fund will not be co-mingled with the CHSSC's other accounts under Board adopted policy. The Building Fund is administered by the Building Committee under a budget approved by the CHSSC Board of Directors. Most members of the Building Committee and Board of Directors have been long term, dues-paying, and actively participating members of the CHSSC, some since its founding in 1975-1976. We anticipate a dedicated effort by these, and hopefully many more, committed CHSSC members, in the years ahead to achieve the educational goals of the CHSSC and the Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center.

**Feb. 18 Open House/Boutique.** On the day of the Golden Dragon parade in L.A. Chinatown, Building Committee members held an Open House/Boutique to raise funds and generate public awareness of our project. Space and time limitations preclude a full report at this time, but **special thanks are due to Doreen and Ben Nakayama** for organizing and managing this effort.

## ***NEWS 'n NOTES***

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**ANGI RECEIVED AWARD FROM NAWBO** - The Los Angeles chapter of the national Organization of Chinese American Women (OCAW) nominated Angi Ma Wong as one to be honored by the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) in March. Wong, the award-winning author of *TARGET: The U.S. Asian Market, A Practical Guide to Business*, and more recently, *Night of the Red Moon*, was recognized as one of thirty "Outstanding Los Angeles Businesswomen" at a luncheon at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles on March 17. We're proud of you, Angi.. Congratulations!! Keep up the good work.

**OUTREACH DONATION** - Through the generous donation of time and energy from Angi Ma Wong, the John Thomas Dye School has again donated \$125.00 to our Society. Angi gives presentations on Chinese American history and culture and has traveled up and down the California coast making presentations in her spare time. Thanks to Angi for always keeping CHSSC in mind.

**MARYSVILLE - BOK KAI FESTIVAL PARADE** - CHSSC was represented at the annual Bok Kai Festival Parade in Marysville on March 4th. While Los Angeles was experiencing some rain showers, the CHSSC participants were enjoying "just right" sunny weather in Marysville. A continued round of applause was given the group as they marched down the streets. The group included Paul Chace heading the parade with the large flag. Mary Mu and Phyllis Chace carried our traditional hand-sewn banner. Marching in uniform were Bob Jung, Al Lew and Johnny Yee. Others who marched in the unit representing CHSSC were members and friends and relatives of members: Margie Lew, Mary Mu, her sister Annie Hue, Stanley Mu, Emma Louie (Paul Louie was on the side taking pictures), Ella Quan, her brother Joe Yee, wife Jane Yee, and friend Joan Tam, Edith Jung, her son Clifford, Al Lum and Elmo Gambarana. Bill Kasten, an assistant Scoutmaster whom Johnny befriended and recruited to carry the names of the WW II vets, marched with us and then returned to march with his scout group. Those who stayed in Marysville that evening, joined by Bill Kasten and his wife Kathleen, enjoyed a delicious Chinese banquet dinner coordinated by Paul Chace. Some members of the group returned Sunday to buy and shoot off some bombs. On part of Sunday and all of Monday, Johnny Yee led a group to tour the Mother Lode Gold via Route, Hwy. 49 (South). Included on their tour was Auburn, Coloma, Plymouth, Fiddletown, Butte City, Columbia, Chinese Camp, Locke and the tour was topped off at "Al the Wop" with a juicy steak dinner - best steaks west of the Rockies. Rain was experienced during the evening hours only on that memorable weekend. The days were blessed with beautiful weather for the parade, the shooting off of the bombs, and the tours. All in all, an ideal weekend for touring.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Super Performance Art by Brenda Wong Aoki:** "The Queen's Garden", Saturday, April 1, 1995, 8 P.M., Japan America Theater in Little Tokyo (244 S. San Pedro St.). Orchestra \$16, Balcony \$14, seniors/students. A somewhat autobiographical, urban story. A first love among L.A.'s urban tribe. Features live original Jazz. (213)680-3700.

**The UCLA Asian American Studies Center 25th Anniversary** - "Something Strong Within: Home Movies from America's Concentration Camps", Professor Bob Nakamura, April 15, 4-6 P.M., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First Street; "Gender Politics; Asian Pacific American Women and Men," panel, April 20, 5-7 P.M., 3230 Campbell Hall UCLA,

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(310)206-9638; "APAs ON THE FAULTLINE: Researching the Impact of a Changing Economy", roundtable, April 21, 8:30 A.M. to 4 P.M., USC, Davidson Center, parking \$6, (213)740-4999.

**Historical Society of the Centinela Valley** - The annual barbecue will be June 11 at the Adobe, 7632 Midfield, Westchester. Our thanks to this very active Society, HSCV, which has given a boost to our Society every month for several months in their newsletter, touting our programs, the new Center, and our exhibits. Of course, our special thanks to the Editor and our member, nonagenarian Gladys Waddingham.

**Museum of San Diego History**- Casa de Balboa, Balboa Park will feature a jointly-sponsored program of the San Diego Historical Society and Chinese Historical Society from February 11 to April 30. Featured will be the CHS exhibit *In Search of Gold Mountain, A Photographic History of the Chinese in San Diego*, and a multi-media exhibit *Eden in the Desert: San Diego's Quest for Water*, which will run through 1996. A recently produced videotape *The New Americans: Chinese Roots* will be shown in the theater. This videotape was based on a Chinese American Youth Program "In Search of Roots" co-sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of America and the Chinese Culture Foundation.

**The 1995 Joint Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and LCSC International Exchange Conference** is scheduled for Sept. 27-30, 1995. Send proposals and inquiries to Marilyn Levine, Program Chair, WCAAS '95, Lewis-Clark State College, 500 Eighth Ave. Lewiston, Idaho 83501. (208)799-2270.

**Chinese Pioneers in the Northwest** - 1995 WCAAS/IEC field Trip and Tour, October 1-3. This two day, one night adventure into northeastern Oregon will feature a visit to the world-renowned Kam Wah Chung and Company Museum in John Day. Its isolated location has helped preserve this fully-furnished Chinese store, herbal medicine shop, and living quarters dating to the late 19th and 20th centuries. The tour will also stop at a Chinese cemetery and explore two unique archaeological sites created by mid-to late 19th century Chinese placer miners. One, called the "Chinese Walls," comprises some 60 acres of hand-stacked, wall-like, rock tailings. The other, at Union Creek, has an impressive three-tiered, rock-walled, water delivery channel, originally fed by two earthen dams.

The trip fee is \$139.00 based on double-occupancy motel rooms. The tour agent will try to match singles with roommates unless they prefer to pay an additional \$20.00 for single accommodations. Included: services of experienced and knowledgeable tour leader and assistant; transportation by luxury tour bus (toilet, VCR) between Lewiston, Idaho and John Day, Oregon and return; one night's lodging; and admission to the Kam Wah Chung and Company Museum. Not included: meals, gratuity to bus driver (optional).

Tour leader will be Dr. Priscilla Wegars, editor of *Hidden Heritage: Historical Archaeology of the Overseas Chinese*, and founder of the Asian American Comparative collection in the Alfred W. Bowers Laboratory of Anthropology at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. Dr. Wegars has conducted extensive research into the history of the Chinese in the Northwest and has directed several archaeological survey and excavation projects of Chinese sites in Oregon and Idaho. This course may be offered for 1 unit of credit through Lewis-Clark State College at an additional fee. To receive a registration packet, write ArchaeoTours, 735 East Sixth Street, Moscow, Idaho, 83843. (208)882-7905. DEADLINE JUNE 1, 1995.



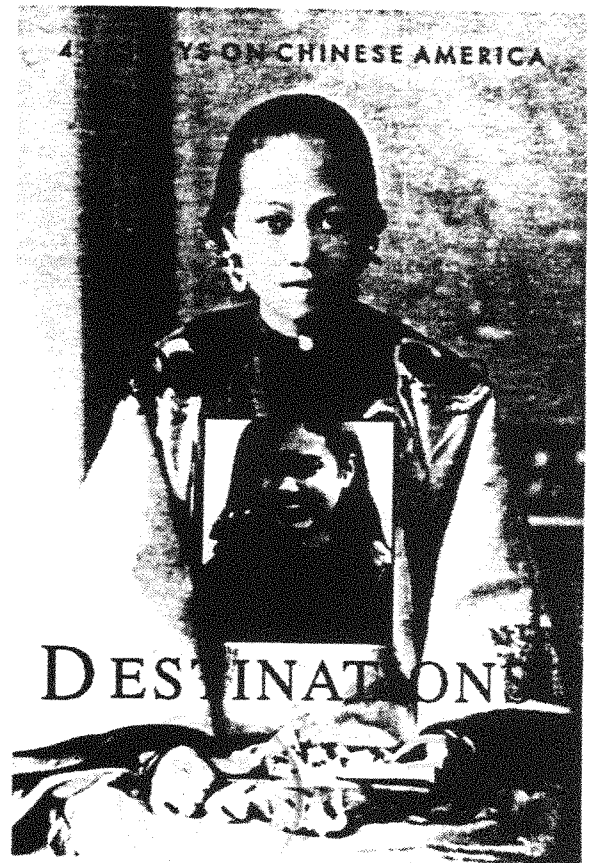
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## ORIGINS and DESTINATIONS: 41 Essays on Chinese America

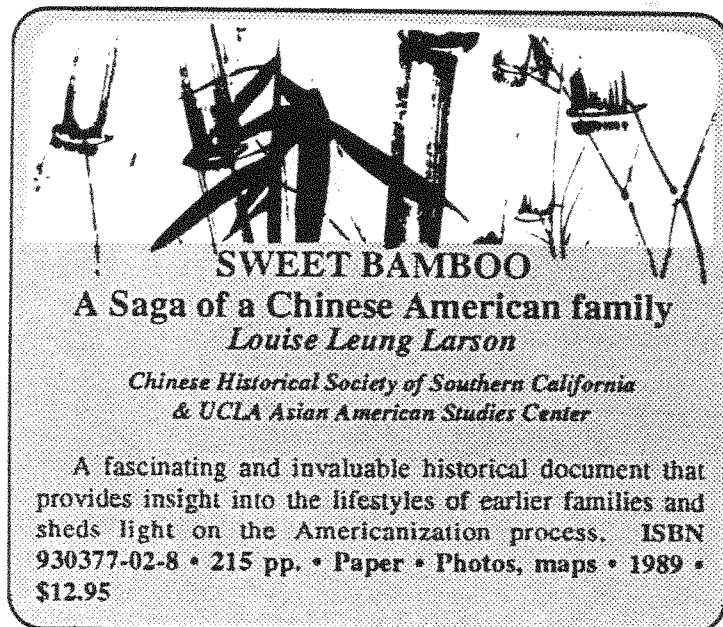
*Edited by Munson A. Kwok  
& Ella Y. Quan*

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California  
& UCLA Asian American Studies Center



This eagerly anticipated collection of essays from the first conference on Chinese Americans in twelve years is a valuable resource for scholar and layperson alike, especially recommended for educators.

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## LINKING OUR LIVES: Chinese American Women of Los Angeles

*Chinese Historical Society of Southern California  
& UCLA Asian American Studies Center*

Gleaned from oral histories spanning 1890-1950 and surveys the over 130 years of Chinese American experience in Southern California, it presents the increasingly important role of women who were pioneers in developing identity and community, creating a strong social fabric, and providing continuity to Los Angeles Chinatown.

ISBN-0-930377-00-1 • 138 pp. • Paper • 26 photos, map, glossary • 2nd. printing 1993 • \$10.95

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