



# 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

MAY 1998

1997-1998

## PROGRAM

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Jeffrey Tung

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Ruth Lung

Eugene Moy

Stanley Mu

Ben Nakayama

Wednesday, JUNE 3, 1998

7:00 P.M.

L. A. Public Library - Chinatown Branch  
Community Room

535 W. College Street - corner of Yale & College Streets  
(Park on playground. Enter on College Street)  
between Hill and Yale Streets

(This is the last meeting for 1997-1998. Meetings will resume on  
September 2, 1998. Watch for the August News 'n Notes.)

## Speaker:

## PROFESSOR MIN ZHOU

Min Zhou, Ph. D., is Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian American Studies at UCLA. Her main areas of research are immigration, immigration adaptation, ethnic economics and race ethnicity. Her talk will focus on her study of New York Chinatown and its implication on the working class. She will explain how immigrant women shoulder double responsibilities of work and home and how it affects their perception of self and family.

Professor Zhou is author of Chinatown: The Socio-economic Potential of an Urban Enclave and co-author of Growing Up American: The Adaptation of Vietnamese Children to American Society.

**THANK YOU** , Susan Dickson, Ruth Lung, Noel Toy Young and CHSSC members and friends, for all the delicious refreshments at the April meeting.

**EAST MEETS WEST**  
**(on a railroad track)**  
**by Margie Lew**

On May 10, 1869, an historic event of great significance occurred -- the completion of this country's first transcontinental railroad, thereby paving the way for a westward expansion of vast proportions. On this day 129 years ago at Promontory Summit, Utah, the Central Pacific's locomotive *JUPITER* and the Union Pacific's 119 were joined together with a Golden Spike being driven in place.

On May 10 each year for the past 46 years, the Golden Spike National Historic Site and the Golden Spike Association from Brigham City have presented the annual Golden Spike Ceremony. This year's program included a number of dignitaries -- U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch, U.S. Congressman James V. Hansen, Mr. Jyh-Yuan Lo and Mr. Hubert Chang from the Republic of China, each of whom addressed the audience. The Golden Spike Association then presented a re-enactment of the events of May 10, 1869, with local citizens dressed in costumes of that period playing the roles of the various participants in that historic event. The two locomotives *JUPITER* and 119 were joined together. As the Golden Spike was driven in place, the telegrapher sent the message "D-O-N-E", just as it happened 129 years ago.

However, one thing was not the same as it was then -- the WEATHER! On May 10, 129 years ago, it was a typically warm Spring day. There were blue skies with hardly a cloud. But on this May 10, Mother Nature showed her temperamental side -- there was rain, wind, thunder, lightning, and hailstones the size of marbles. Consequently, the program was delayed, and the Golden Spike was driven in about 45 minutes later than the exact historic moment of 12:47 p.m. The forecast of bad weather most certainly was the reason for the small number of attendees. Normally, for this special event, there are 5,000 - 7,000 people, according to the Park Rangers. Despite the rain, the crowd was enthusiastic, and most stayed to the end of the program.

NOW comes the best part -----

To help celebrate this memorable day, 22 CHSSC members travelled to Promontory Summit to participate in the festivities, and to honor the thousands of Chinese laborers who helped to build this railroad. John Yee and Bill Chew were the coordinators of the trip, and spent many hours taking care of details large and small. Bill did an extensive research to try to locate descendants of the Chinese workers. He found several people, who were unable to attend. But as luck would have it, the Society has its own descendants -- the Yee brothers, John, Johnson, and Bill, whose great-grandfather worked on the transcontinental.

As representatives of CHSSC, Bill Chew and John Yee were part of the program. Bill spoke of his visit to the Golden Spike National Historic Site last year, his efforts in locating descendants of railroad workers, and his great desire to have a group of Chinese be a part of the ceremonies. As John was about to address the audience, the rain came -- BIG TIME! The program was delayed, but resumed 45 minutes later as John stated that the Society felt quite honored to participate in this celebrated event. He also noted that this was a complete turn-around from May 10, 1869 when the contributions of thousands of Chinese laborers were ignored and unrecognized at that time and for many years after. John then presented to Superintendent Bruce Powell a booklet to be included in the Golden Spike archives. The booklet will include, among other information, the names and photos of the railroad workers and their descendants. CHSSC also presented a plaque inscribed with the following words:

***"In appreciation to the staff of the Golden Spike National Historic Site  
 for recognizing the contributions made by Chinese railroad workers."***

Next followed the re-enactment of the two locomotives coming together. When the "last spike" was hammered in, the Society's special "surprise" was shown -- a traditional Lion Dance, complete with cymbals and gongs, was presented by Jeff Chan and his assistants, Kingman and Gilbert Hom. A long string of firecrackers was lit, adding a festive touch to the grand finale and great enjoyment for the spectators.

The Society extends special thanks to:

- .....John Yee, for his usual great gift of coordination for any Society project, and this one was very close to his heart.
- .....Bill and Natalina Chew, for their enthusiasm in giving this trip the "push" it needed to get it off the ground.
- .....Jeff Chan and his assistants, for their presentation of the Lion Dance, a colorful highlight of the program.
- .....Eugene Moy, for transporting the "lion" and other materials from Los Angeles to Promontory Summit and back.
- .....Bruce Powell, Supt., Golden Spike National Historic Site and the Park Rangers, for their great assistance in the Society's participation, and also for the very warm welcome extended to John, Bill, and the CHSSC contingent.
- .....Kerry Brinkerhoff and Robert Chugg, Park Rangers, for their avid interest in the Chinese participation on the railroad, for their support and encouragement in Bill Chew's research for descendants, and for their special cooperation in all aspects of the event.

Unanimously, Society members expressed their pleasure and enjoyment of this trip to Promontory Summit. It gave them a sense of history, and helped them to more fully appreciate the perseverance and endurance of the Chinese railroad workers who, by their years of diligent labor, unwittingly became a significant chapter in the history of America.

#### **CHSSC 1998-99 NOMINATION SLATE:**

**PRESIDENT..... SUSAN G. DICKSON**

**VICE- PRESIDENT..... WINIFRED L. LEW**

**SECRETARY..... HENRIETTA YUAN**

**TREASURER..... ELLA Y. QUAN**

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY..... FRANKLIN MAH**

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY..... CY WONG**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS: RANDALL BLOCH**

**EUGENE COOPER**

**ELMO GAMBARANA**

**GILBERT HOM**

**MUNSON KWOK**

**RUTH LUNG**

**EUGENE W. MOY**

**BEN NAKAYAMA**

**SPRING DINNER - A SUCCESS.** Our recent Spring Dinner, under the capable leadership of Susan Dickson netted over \$2,000.00 towards hiring our Program / Volunteer Coordinator. Thanks to the many members, friends and relatives who supported the event.

**VOLUNTEER MOVERS NEEDED**

After many years of occupying the upstairs of Phoenix Bakery practically rent-free, the Society now needs to find another place for an office. Phoenix Bakery is remodelling its facilities and will be using all of its own space. The final moving date has not been set, but we are considering several options. In the meantime, we need to package what we want saved and discard things we do not need. We need help on Sunday afternoon, June 7th and June 14th. If you can help on either or both of these dates, please call and leave your name and phone number at the CHSSC office and we will get back to you. This is another way to become active and to show your support. The office number is 213-621-3171.

**DOCENT TRAINEES NEEDED**

Have you always wanted to be a tour guide but was afraid to try it? Now is your chance. We will train you to take groups around Chinatown. You will find the visitors, young and old, very receptive and nice. It will only take a couple of hours of your time. Try it. You'll like it. We need to train some more docents as soon as possible before the rush season is upon us. Please call the CHSSC office and leave your name and number or for more information. The office number is 213-621-3171.

**LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES !**

(Elmo Gambarana, Ways & Means Chair)

Looking for a special movie to bring your children and or grandchildren to, one with no horror monsters or bloody fights? Or as a grown-up, do you like to see a wholesome story where the hero or heroine fights for good and win at the end?

The Society has arranged to see a special Disney animated film on Sunday, July 5 at 5:00 p.m. It is the famous story of a young maiden in ancient China called **MULAN** who has to take over command of the defending army when her General father became ill.

The two-hour show also includes a live stage show by Disney characters.

DATE:	Sunday, July 5
PLACE:	Alex Theatre 216 North Brand Blvd. Glendale
COST:	\$15 per adult \$ 8 per child ages 3-10

Reservation deadline is 5:00 p.m., Thursday, June 18. Disney gives no refunds.

The next few days will lead to the deadline time when we have to send in our check for the tickets.

Please make your check payable to CHSSC and mail to P.O.Box 862647, L.A., CA 90086-2647.

This is a limited engagement showing. For info, call

CHSSC answering machine - 213-621-3171  
 Jeff Tung-----310-360-8989  
 Margie Lew-----626-284-6348

**Chinese Historical Society of Southern California**  
**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Program/Volunteer Coordinator**

**Immediate Need**

**Application deadline:** opened until filled

**Job Description.**

Candidate shall support the day-to-day operations of the projects and programs of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California under the supervision of the president or his/her designee. Candidate shall coordinate and conduct walking tours, and will assist in their development and marketing. The candidate may also give support to the preparation and marketing of the Society's publication and other Chinese American educational tools and materials. The candidate may also give support to maintenance and development of the Society's Archives. Duties may include some aspects of office operations and management, including the supervision of interns. Coordinating volunteers will be an important, frequent task. The work week will be Tuesday through Saturday, for a total of 20-24 hours per week.

**Qualifications.**

Minimum of a bachelor's degree in one or more of the following disciplines required: humanities, social sciences, business administration, marketing, public relations, or related subject. Demonstrated knowledge of Asian American studies or history also highly preferred. Good writing and very strong oral communications skills shall be required of the successful candidate. Very good interpersonal, team building, and organizing skills will be essential. Bilingual abilities involving Chinese language are desirable. Experience with computers and software for business and office applications is expected.

**Employment Conditions:** Range of \$10-15 per hour. No benefits except 3 paid national holidays. Parking expenses paid. Job could grow to long-term, full time.

**Application Process**

Applicants can FAX resume and information to the Society at (213) 621-3171. Or mail to: CHSSC Personnel Committee, P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA. 90086-2647. Or e-mail to Munson Kwok at <munsonak@aol.com>, entitling your message "CHSSC job".

Applicants are expected to submit resume, including academic background with GPA and prior employment experience, references (1-job or school related, 1-character), evidence of availability, and a 300 word or shorter statement on long term career goals. Interview of finalists shall be conducted by the Personnel Committee. Further information may be obtained from Munson Kwok, (310) 336-5441 or by e-mail (preferred). *The Society is a educational, not-for-profit corporation based in Los Angeles Chinatown, serving the community for 23 years.* ###3/98

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

May 29-June 7

Fri. - Sunday

\$20, \$25

**HEADING EAST the musical**

East West Players

David Henry Hwang Theatre

Union Center for the Arts

120 N. Judge John Aiso Street

For info, call 213-625-7000

Saturday

May 30

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**"TURNING DREAMS TO REALITY"**

4th Annual LAPD Asian Pacific Islander

Community Cultural and Career Expo

L.A. Police Academy

1880 N. Academy Drive, Elysian Park

For info: 213-847-LAPD, or 800-421-9555

**WEDNESDAY**

June 3

7:00 p.m.

**CHSSC MONTHLY MEETING**

Chinatown Branch of L.A. Public Library

corner of College and Yale Streets

LAST MEETING OF 1997-1998 ; MEETINGS WILL

RESUME SEPTEMBER 2, 1998 for 1998-1999 YEAR.

Sundays

June 7, 14, 21, 28

Free Admission

Noon - 4 p.m.

**Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center**

411 Bernard Street (near corner of North Broadway &amp; Bernard)

Los Angeles Chinatown

Sunday

June 7

Noon - 3 p.m.

\$7.00

**22ND ANNUAL BARBECUE**

Historical Society of Centinela Valley California

Centinela Adobe Complex

7634 Midfield, Westchester

For more info, call Pres. Utter 310-676-4363

Wednesday

June 17

6:30 p.m.

**CHSSC BOARD MEETING**

CHSSC office

Thurs.-Sun.

June 18-21

**CONFERENCE OF CALIF. HISTORICAL SOCIETIES****ANNUAL MEETING** hosted by Torrance Historical Society

For info, call THS Museum - 310-328-5392

Janet Payne - 310-328-7549

Tony Kriss - 310-323-7959

Monday

June 22

7:15 p.m.

\$100-\$500

**32nd ANNIVERSARY AWARDS DINNER**

by East West Players

Westin Bonaventure Hotel

404 S. Figueroa Street, L. A.

For info, 213-625-7000

Fri - Sun.

July 31-Aug.2

\$75

**SIXTH ANNUAL ASIA CONFERENCE**

Presented by Chinese American Citizens Alliance

USC Taper Hall Auditorium, Room 101

For info, call James Lau 310-412-0393 or

Munson Kwok 310-336-5441

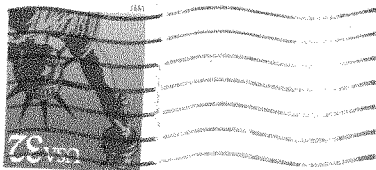
Due date: July 6, 1998

**NEWS 'n NOTES DEADLINE : All articles must be in to the P.O. Box by the 15th of the month to be considered in that month's News 'n Notes.**

*July 11-12 Lubus Festival*

ACTIVE: Paid to Dec. 31, 1998  
Paul G. Chace  
1823 Kenora Drive  
Escondido, CA 92027

FIRST CLASS



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



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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please include me on the membership roster that will be available to members only.

I am interested in helping with:

- ☐ Programs ☐ Publications ☐ Research  
☐ Membership/Publicity ☐ Fundraising  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ GUM SAAN JOURNAL (2 issues annually).....\$5.00  
☐ ACTIVE, annual..... \$ 25.00  
☐ ADDITIONAL, annual..... 10.00  
(spouse, same household)  
☐ CONTRIBUTING, annual..... 10.00  
(senior citizen over 60 years, student)  
☐ INSTITUTIONAL, annual..... 50.00  
☐ LIFE..... 300.00  
☐ CORPORATE, annual..... 100.00  
☐ LIFE PATRON.....1,000.00  
☐ DONATION: Please accept my tax-deductible donation(s) to the following fund(s)  
General \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Publications \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shrine \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Heritage Center Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CHSSC  
WE ARE A TAX-EXEMPT NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION

(Rev Nov 199