



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

415 Bernard St., Los Angeles, CA 90012; Voice: 323-222-0856;

Fax: 323-221-4162; Email: chssc@earthlink.net; Web: www.chssc.org;

Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center: 323-222-0856

DECEMBER 2006 - JANUARY 2007

JANUARY PROGRAM

January program will be held on the second Wednesday of the month because Castelar Elementary School will be closed the first week.

The tentative speaker, Peggy Beedle of Applied EarthWorks will discuss the disposition of Chinese burial markers that were found as a result of excavation for the East Side Gold Line extension.

There will also be presentations by the Society's Committee Chairs. CHSSC members will have an opportunity to provide input into the Society's 2007 work plan and budget.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2007, 7:00 P.M.

CASTELAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Multipurpose Room

840 Yale Street
Los Angeles Chinatown

Park in playground

Enter on College between Yale and Hill Streets

AROUND CHSSC

CHSSC Scholarships

In 2007, there will be two \$1000 scholarship awards, one for undergraduate students and one for graduate students.

CRITERIA:

Presently an enrolled undergraduate or graduate student in an accredited university in Southern California. Preference is given to those who will continue their education through 2007-2008. Minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0. Academic emphasis related to Chinese American studies in the humanities or social sciences.

Complete application packet to include 4 copies of all the following:

- 2007 Scholarship Application Form;
- Research paper approximately 1000-3000 word;
- Personal essay approximately 300-500 word;
- Copy of transcripts since high school; and
- Letters of recommendation. (optional)

DEADLINE:

March 23, 2007, Friday, 1:00 pm at 411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Finalists to be available for interview on April 14, 2007, Saturday, in Los Angeles' Chinatown (travel expenses to be paid by applicants).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Research Paper. This 1000 to 3000-word paper may be original or have been previously submitted for a class. Please do not include instructor's comments. It may be beneficial to explain the parameters of the class assignment. CHSSC prefers papers related to Chinese American themes.
2. This paper will not be the only factor in evaluating the Scholarship application. CHSSC would like permission from the Scholarship winner to publish the article in the Gum Saan Journal.
3. Personal Essay. Three- to five-hundred word biographical essay discussing the importance of Chinese American studies to you. Please include information about financial need, family circumstance, employment history, and campus/community activities that will help us to decide in your favor. Discuss your future plans and ambitions.
4. Transcripts. Please include all post-high school transcripts. Photocopies are acceptable.

For a copy of application form please go to www.chssc.org. For more information, email Scholarship Chair, shling@pasadena.edu.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

DECEMBER 2006 - JANUARY 2007

100 x 100 CLUB YEAR-END CAMPAIGN

The Society has set a target of 100 people joining the 100 x 100 Club by year's end. The good news is we are well over halfway there! 100 x 100 Club members lend an extra hand to our important activities and programs—many free to the public—through a special \$100 annual contribution. Some Club members are already CHSSC members or Life Members but one need not belong to CHSSC to join the 100 x 100 Club. Please remember CHSSC's good works in your holiday gift-giving by joining the 100 x 100 Club today. **Checks may be mailed to CHSSC at 415 Bernard St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 or payment by credit card can be accepted by faxing account information to 323-221-4162.**

We thank the following Club members and, most particularly, the committed CHSSC members and Life Members who have gone an extra mile by joining the 100 x 100 Club:

Randy Bloch
Dr. Gaing Chan
Howard W. Chan
Kenneth L. Chan,
Dr. Tai S. Chang,
Ken S. Chen,
Timothy Chew
Lois Chi
Pete Chinn
Vernon Chong
Philip P. Choy
Col. Hayward Fong
Ralph Fong
Dr. Betty Gaw
Maggie Gee
Mary W. Gee
Sherri Gust
Galen Ho'o
David Hsu
Laraine Huey
Anne Jue
Edwin S. Kwoh
Ann Lau
Calvin D. Lee
Luther Lee
Rose Marie Lee
Dorothy Louie Lew
Winifred Lew

Jeannie Chow Liu
Richard Liu
Benjamin Louie
Dorothy Louie
Howard Louis
Dr. Wing Mar
Paul McCabe
Christine Mei
Minderhout Insurance
Benjamin Nakayama
Jack Ong
Jeffrey Quon
Julie Raskoff
Dr. Annie Chin Siu
Nadine Soo Hoo
The Studio for
Southern California
History
Angela Ma Wong
Dolores Wong
Edgar Wong
John W. Wong
Yep Wong
Kyra Woo
Tom Woo
Wendel Wye
Betty K.C. Yeow
Ruth Seid Yue.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. Munson Kwok
Irvin Lai
Jeannie Liu
Dr. Donald Loo
George Yin

News 'n Notes Editor, Yvonne Chang

MISSION STATEMENT

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November, 1975. The purposes of the Society are: 1) to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in Southern California; 2) to pursue, preserve and communicate knowledge of this history; and; 3) to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multi-cultural society of the United States.



2007 Edition of Gum Saan Journal

By Susie Ling

The Society has launched the 2007 edition of its scholarly Gum Saan Journal! This special edition of Gum Saan Journal has plenty of karma; it was definitely meant to be. It all began when member Dolores Wong asked if we might be interested in a speech that Richard Wing, famous restaurateur, had sent to her. She got a copy because of the connection that Judge Wong was born in Hanford. The speech was accompanied by some special historical photos of Wing and General George Marshall during World War II.

Then things began to snowball. At about the same time, the news came that the Wing family restaurant, Imperial Dynasty, was going to close. National Public Radio even did a very nice segment on this piece of Americana. So I thought I had to call and ask to interview Richard Wing; he most graciously agreed!

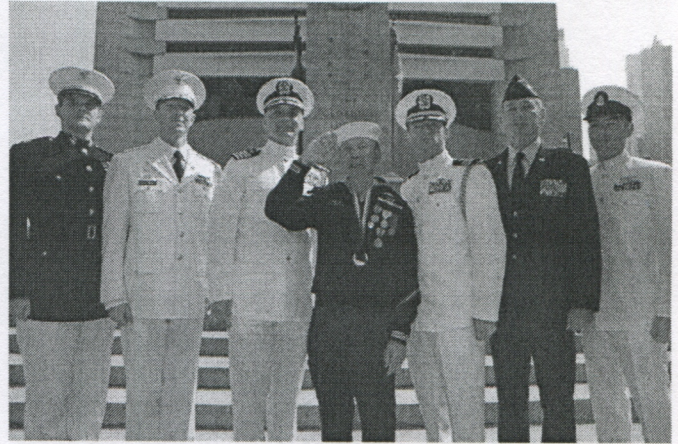
Camille Wing is one of those special people; she gave us a tour of Hanford's Taoist Temple and Confucian School and helped us extensively with this issue. The Wings showed me a March 1983 issue of the local paper that had intensely researched the history of Chinese Americans in Kings County. Hanford Sentinel didn't hesitate to allow us to excerpt much of Karen Clark's work.

The last piece came in to complete the puzzle: Hollywood agent Bessie Loo was also born in Hanford and our own Jack Ong had interviewed Bessie some time ago. He was most happy to now write a piece on his mentor.

I've never seen an issue come in so logically, so smoothly, and so fast. Our Board's enthusiastic support was heard loud and clear. Would you believe the current mayor of Hanford, Dan Chin, even helped us out?

As usual, our professional editor, Icy Smith, puts the finishing touches on the Journal that makes us all proud. You really have to appreciate her attention to detail coupled with great artistry.

Copies of Gum Saan Journal 2007 Edition can be ordered by cash, check or credit card. Please send cash or check to CHSSC, 415 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Credit Card information (Visa and MC only) can be faxed to 323-221-4162. The cost is \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling.



Johnny Yee (Center) was escorted by an honour guard of six senior officers from the American Navy, Air force, Marines, and Army.

CHSSC Lifetime Member, Mr. Johnny Yee was recently in Hong Kong for the 61st Anniversary of VJ Day and to lay a wreath and to hoist an American flag during the Hong Kong Veteran's Day ceremony. A WWII Navy Veteran, Yee saw front line action in the Pacific theatre as a Gunner's Mate First Class. During WWII, Yee's elder brother Swan was also posted in the Pacific. Yee's younger brothers, Joe, Johnson, and Chuck (founding CHSSC member and past President) had also been in the service post WWII. After WWII, Yee joined the Merchant Marines and served during the Korean War and Vietnam Wars. During the 90-minute solemn ceremony, Yee, sitting in the front row of the VIP section facing the war memorial, was greeted by scores of dignitaries and fellow veterans. Though the Hong Kong Police Band was playing music most of the time, Yee was overheard humming "God Bless America" with a sly grin on his face.

—Stephen Chu



Dr. Wing Mar (Left) presenting to CHSSC President John W. Wong, a check from Mr. Henry Sakaida. It is a generous donation to the Portraits of Pride II project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be an **open house for college and university students** on Saturday, January 27, 2007 starting at noon. Please come and see our exhibitions on Chinese Americans in the Los Angeles area. We have a library of books dealing with the history of the Chinese in America as well as a book store. The open house will include a barbeque at the CHSSC's Heritage and Visitors Center at 411 Bernard Street in Los Angeles Chinatown, rain or shine. Come and network with students from the Los Angeles area colleges and universities. Parking is available across the street from the Center. Please RSVP by calling 323-222-0856 or email chssc@earthlink.net.

Condolences

The late Ed Jue, a long time supporter of CHSSC passed away peacefully in his home in Glendale, California, November 26, 2006.

He was a beloved husband of 40 years to Bea Jue, a Charter Member of CHSSC. He was also a loved father of six and an adored grandfather of 12. Mr. Jue was born on April 12, 1923 in Bakersfield, California and graduated from Bakersfield High School. He then joined

the United States Navy and proudly served in World War II. After an honorable discharge in 1946 he went on to graduate from the University of Southern California.

Mr. Jue was with the Los Angeles Road Department for 28 years where he designed roads, high ways, bridges and overpasses. Some of his most important road designs are McBean Parkway in Valencia, Beverly Boulevard in Los Angeles, and other projects in Marina Del Rey.

Mr. Jue will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Chinese American Citizens Alliance National Art Competition In Partnership with the Chinese American Museum

This is a juried nationwide Art Competition for students from grade 1 to grade 12 during the 2006-2007 school year. The purpose of this Art Competition is to educate students on the cultural heritage and the contributions of Chinese Americans, and to promote better understanding of cultural diversity and improve racial harmony among the many diverse groups in this country.

The theme of the Art Competition is "Growing Up Chinese American." Student of all backgrounds are encouraged to enter. Acceptable artwork should depict any of the following:

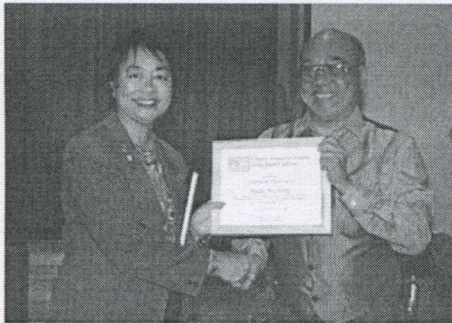
- Festivals and Celebrations
- Family Vacations
- Rituals such as funerals and ancestral worship
- School experiences (Chinese, American, art, friendships)
- Family Vacations
- Religious experiences such as visiting temple, going to church, etc.

The scholarship awards range from \$100 to \$500. For further information please contact Jane Cheung, Museum Educator, Chinese American Museum, 425 North Los Angeles Street Los Angeles, CA 90012. Direct Tel: 213 473-5306



REVIEW OF DECEMBER PROGRAM

Bitter Roots



Angi Ma Wong gave a reading of *Bitter Roots: a Gum Saan Odyssey* written by her mother-in-law's brother, the late Arthur W. Chung, M.D.

He wrote about his family, about aspects of immigrant life not often known, about how the opportunity and money for the passage to California were obtained, and other rich details.

Bitter Roots refers to the experiences of the author's grandfather Yee Hay and his wife Chan See, the hostility, heartbreak, disappointment and discrimination. Yee Hay worked in laundries and chop suey joints in San Francisco, and in the brutal heat of the Mojave desert dynamiting mountains for borax wagons and railroads.

In January of 2005, excavation for the MTA Gold Line encountered human remains in the Chinese section of Los Angeles County potter's field. Yee Hay's descendants believe that his remain is among those uncovered and they are determined to find his grave.

Arthur Chung traveled to China to pursue his medical studies, returning to the U. S. to continue at Harvard Medical School, New York's Bellevue Hospital and later became the Assistant Director of the World Health Organization in Geneva. Dr. Chung wrote his first book at age 82 after he retired.

The publisher of *Bitter Roots* is Pacific Heritage Books.

December Holiday Potluck

The December Holiday Potluck dinner was attended by some 80 members. CHSSC provided a few main dishes and everyone else either brought food or made a

donation. Gilbert Hom volunteered to pick up the food CHSSC purchased. Cy Wong read in the last News 'n Notes that since his last name begins with 'W' he was to bring dessert. He ordered 6 cans of buttered cookies from his home in Louisiana and had them delivered to the potluck dinner. Winnie Lew and Ruth Lung made sure all dishes were laid out nicely on the table and that there were enough serving utensils, forks, knives, chopsticks, tea and coffee. After the sumptuous dinner Angi Ma Wong gave a presentation on *Bitter Roots: A Gum Saan Odyssey*. Later members began a sing along with Winnie Lew at the piano.



L to R, Winnie Lew, Nety Con (winner of CHSSC raffle) and other guests at the potluck. (Photo by Tom Eng)



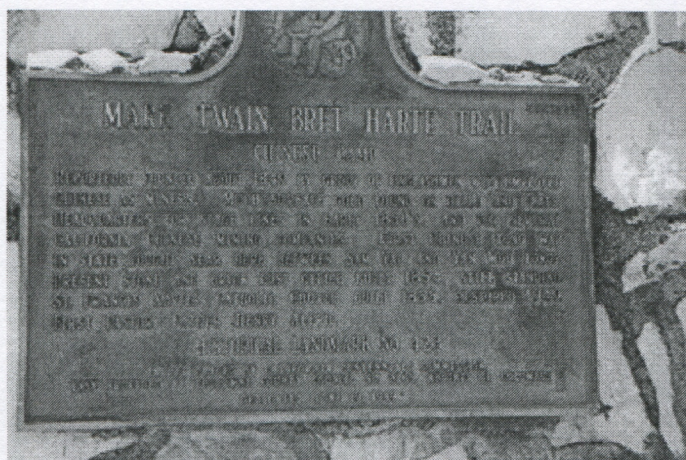
Winnie Lew at the piano. L to R, Linda Wong Smith, former CHSSC President, Jack Ong, former Board member, unidentified woman with child, Linda Chong, former CHSSC staff with son Theo.



HISTORICAL CHINATOWNS

Chinese Camp—Tuolumne County, California *By Yvonne Chang*

The Chinese Camp in Tuolumne County of California is not to be confused with China Camp State Park in Marin County, California. The Chinese Camp is located on Highway 49.



Chinese Camp Monument
(Courtesy Peggy B. and George Perazzo)

The text on the tablet reads:

"Reportedly founded about 1849 by group of Englishmen who employed Chinese as miners. Much surface gold found on hills and flats. Headquarters for stage lines in early 1850's, and for several California Chinese mining companies. First Chinese Tong War in State fought near here between Sam Yap and Yan Woo Tongs. Present stone and brick post office build 1854, still standing. St. Francis Xavier Catholic church built 1855, restored 1949. First Pastor, father Henry Aleric
Historical Landmark No. 423

Tablet placed by California Centennials
Commission

Base provided by Tuolumne County Council No. 2165,
Knights of Columbus

Dedicated June 19, 1949"

Chinese Camp was first known as "Camp

Washington" or "Washingtonville." The very first Chinese laborers arrived in 1849 and the area started to become known as "Chinee" or "Chinese Camp" or "Chinese Diggings." At one point the town had an estimated 5,000 Chinese residents.

In 1849 some thirty-five Chinese miners from Canton arrived at Camp Salvado, the first mining camp in this area. It was named for Salvadorians working the placers. The Chinese workers began prospecting successfully. How these workers arrived is still a mystery. Eventually they were pushed out by white miners. The Chinese miners were willing to work harder and for less return than the white miners. Their patience and industriousness paid off in good wages on claims abandoned by other miners.

The current Chinese Camp School is very distinctive, designed by Dolores Nicolini in the style of a Chinese pagoda. This school has been in operation since 1970. This building was lost in a fire on May 4, 2006. The fire was caused by carelessness on the part of several local people.



Chinese Camp School
Courtesy Dolores Steele

Despite its name, Chinese Camp was equally well populated by whites at its heyday in the 1850s. The placer mines of this area are credited with producing \$2.5 million in gold.

References:

Wikipedia

<http://malakoff.com/goldcountry/chineseec.htm>

http://www.cagenweb.com/quarries/articles_and_book_s/gold_country/chinese_camp.html



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Ongoing

BONE MARROW DRIVES by ASIANS FOR MIRACLE MARROW MATCHES

Various locations throughout L.A. area

Information: (888) 236-4673; www.asianmarrow.org

Thursdays, 3:00-7:00 p.m.

CHINATOWN FARMERS MARKET

727 N. Hill St., L.A. Chinatown

Information: (213) 680-0243; www.chinatownla.com

First Saturday of Every Month, 10:30 a.m.

"UNDISCOVERED CHINATOWN" TOURS

L.A. Chinatown

Information: (213) 680-0243; www.chinatownla.com

Wednesday, January 10, 7:00 p.m.

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Castelar School

Information: (323) 222-0856

Through January 7, 2007

Chrysanthemums on the Eastern Hedge: Gardens and Plants in Chinese Art

Lotus, orchid, plum, bamboo, pine, and chrysanthemum: these plants of Chinese art and poetry, rich in symbolism and tradition, will be the focus of this exhibition at The Huntington featuring painted scrolls, textiles, rare books, and ceramics.

Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

(626) 405-2100

Through February 4, 2007

Banquet — A Feast for the Senses Exhibition

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Las Robles Ave., Pasadena

\$7 for non-members, free for members

Parking on premise and paid parking at Westin Hotel

(626) 449-2742, ext. 12

Saturday, January 20, 2007, 1:00—4:00

Pan Asian Food Festival

Cooking demonstration, food sampling and entertainment

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Las Robles Ave., Pasadena

Free

Parking on premise and paid parking at Westin Hotel
(626) 449-2742, ext. 12

February 18 through August 2007

Treasures from Shanghai: 5000 of Art and Culture Bowers Museum

2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Tuesday - Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

(714) 567-3600

www.bowers.org

Saturday, January 13, 2007

Miss L.A. Chinatown Benefit Fashion Show

Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles

506 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles Chinatown

11:00am Reception; 12:00pm Lunch

Saturday, January 27, 2007

Little King & Queen Contest

Castellar Elementary School

840 Yale Street

Los Angeles Chinatown

3:00pm - 5:00pm

Saturday, February 3, 2007

2007 Annual Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Pageant

Westin Bonaventure Hotel

Los Angeles Downtown

6:00pm Social Hour; 7:00pm Dinner;

8:00pm Pageant

(cont'd on page 8)

(*"Calendar" from page 7*)

Feb. 20, 2007, Tues., 7:30 p.m.

Chinese Garden Plants and Their Symbolism

Terese Bartholomew of the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, will discuss the traditional significance of many plants and flowers in Chinese culture.

Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

(626) 405-2100

Saturday, February 24, 2007

Chinese New Year Festival

108th Annual Golden Dragon Parade

Los Angeles Chinatown

10:00am - 8:00pm Festival; 2:00pm - 5:00pm Parade

Saturday, February 24, 2007

Chinese New Year Festival

Entertainment, arts and crafts.

Last chance to see the Chinese Garden.

Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

Cost: \$15; Tel: (626) 405-2100

Sunday, February 25, 2007

Car Show

Los Angeles Chinatown

10:00am - 8:00pm Festival; 11:00am - 6:00pm Car Show

Sunday, February 25, 2007, 2:00—5:00

Friends of the Chinatown Library

30th Anniversary Celebration

Chinatown Library

639 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Words of Wisdom

By Cy Wong, former CHSSC President

Hard work spotlights the character of people; some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their nose, and some don't turn up at all.

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential. These are keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

415 Bernard St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012-1703

