



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center: 323-222-0856

September 2007

September Program

Wednesday, September 5, 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

Speaker for the September program has not been confirmed. Please visit the Society's website, www.chssc.org or call 323-222-0856 for further information.

The following are the tentative plans for upcoming programs:

October 3rd—Story of Johnny Yee and His family. Several member of the Yee family are charter members of the Society.

November 7th—Laurena Tong will talk about her father who was a diplomat and a baseball player.

December 5th—Pot luck dinner, caroling, white elephant sale, fun, and catch up with friends.

Around CHSSC

The David and Pearl Louie Family Foundation / CHSSC Scholarship Winners

Three volunteer judges took much of their personal time to read The David and Pearl Louie Foundation/CHSSC scholarship applications and interviewed six candidates. The judges are Dr. Edward Park of Loyola Marymount University, Dr. Xiao-huang Yin of Occidental College and Professor John Delloro of the Los Angeles Community College District.

The undergraduate student winner is Lisa Ho, a senior at the California State University at Fullerton (CSUF). She is majoring in Asian American Studies and women's Studies. She is on the prize-winning CSUF Debate Team and volunteers as an academic mentor with the Orange County Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance. Lisa intends to pursue graduate work in Asian American studies.

The graduate student winner is Kelly Fong of University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). Kelly has a B.A. in anthropology from University of California at Berkeley, and is pursuing an Asian American Studies-Archaeology degree at UCLA.

Inside this issue:

Planned Exhibition on Chinese Contribution to the San Fernando Valley Tunnel

CHSSC Book Store

Stockton Chinese Cemetery Restoration



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

September 2007

Proposed exhibition on Chinese contribution to the San Fernando Valley Tunnel at Newhall Pass

The very first Martial Art Museum in the United States opened in Santa Clarita. Its founder and President is Michael Matsuda. He has asked CHSSC to collaborate with him on an exhibition on Chinese contribution to the construction of San Fernando Tunnel. This was a very difficult and dangerous project of the Central Pacific Railroad. The Martial Art Museum is a cultural and community center, with exhibitions on Asian art, history, and culture. Their website is www.mamuseum.com.

CHSSC has participated in the Centennial and Quasiquicentennial (125th) celebration of the Golden Spike that united the line from San Francisco to Los Angeles. Long time CHSSC member Emma Louie wrote *The Golden Spike: The Chinese Contribution* in the Centennial Souvenir Program, September 5, 1976. Former California Secretary of State March Fong Eu participated in both celebrations.



Members of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California gather on the historic rails in front of Lang Station, September 5, 2001. Left to Right: Eugene Moy, Gilbert Hom, Suellen Cheng, Johnson Yee, Margie Yee, CHSSC friend, March Fong Eu, Bill Chew, Johnny Yee, Natalina Chew, Irvin Lai, and Bill Yee.

Photo by Leon Worden.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.



CHSSC Book Store

Book Title	Author	List Price	Member Price
Bitter Roots: A Gum Saan Odyssey	Arthur W. Chung, M.D.	\$18	\$18
The Breath of a Wok	Grace Young	\$35	\$35
Bridging the Centuries	Susie Ling, Editor	\$25	\$20
California's Chinese Heritage* (Temporarily out of stock)	Thomas A. McDannold	\$28	\$28
The Chicken Coop and The Year of the Dragon*	Frank Chin	\$10	\$10
Chinese American Names	Emma Woo Louie	\$32	\$32
The Chinese in America*	Susie Lan Cassel, Editor	\$15	\$15
Down by the Station: Los Angeles Chinatown 1880-1933	Roberta S. Greenwood	\$40	\$40
The Dragon Legacy	Scott C.S. Stone	\$20	\$20
Driven Out: The Forgotten War Against Chinese Americans	Jean Pfaelzer	\$25	\$20
Duty and Honor	Marjorie Lee, Editor	\$36	\$32
Eternal River*	Carolyn Wing Greenlee	\$15	\$15
Feng Shui: Dos and Taboos*	Angi Ma Wong	\$15	\$15
Feng Shui: Room-by-Room Home Design Kit*	Angi Ma Wong	\$10	\$10
Feng Shui: Desk for Success Kit*	Angi Ma Wong	\$10	\$10
Fish Head Soup and Other Plays*	Philip Kan Gotanda	\$20	\$20
From One Root Many Flowers	Virginia C. Li	\$27	\$27
Gum Saan Journal, 2007 Edition*	Ling and Smith, Editors	\$10	\$10
Gum Saan Journal, 2004-2006 Editions*	Ling and Smith, Editors	\$8	\$8
Gum Saan Journal, 1977-2002 Editions*	Ling and Smith, Editors	\$5	\$5
Hearts of Sorrow*	James M. Freeman	\$15	\$15
Linking Our Lives*	CHSSC	\$12	\$10
The Lonely Queue	Icy Smith	\$40	\$32
Margins and Mainstreams*	Gary Y. Okihiro	\$15	\$15
Orgins and Destinations*	CHSSC	\$25	\$20
Phoenix Eyes*	Russell Charles Leong	\$20	\$20
Portraits of Pride	CHSSC	\$35	\$30
Revisiting East Adams (DVD/VHS)*	Jenny Cho and Will Gow	\$14/\$12	\$12/\$10
Son of South Mountain & Dust (Hardcover/Paperback)*	Wing and Greenlee	\$20/\$15	\$20/\$15
Survival in the Killing Fields*	Haing Ngor	\$14	\$14
Sweet Bamboo: A Saga of a Chinese American Family*	Louise Leong Larson	\$13	\$10
Thousand Pieces of Gold*	Ruthanne Lum McCunn	\$20	\$20
Wong Ho Leun: An American Chinatown, Vol. 1	The Great Basin Foundation	\$72	\$50
Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White	Frank H. Wu	\$26	\$26

Add \$3 for shipping and handling for those marked with *. All others, add \$5 for Shipping and handling. To order please make check payable to CHSSC and mail to 415 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Visa and MC accepted by telephone, 323-222-0856, or fax 323-221-4162. All books can be purchased at the CHSSC office. For descriptions of the books visit www.chssc.org.



CHSSC Open House Picnic

Approximately 70 people came to the Society's open house picnic. They came August 26, 4:00 p.m. and lingered well after dark. There was a wide range of ages, both members and non-members. The weather was comfortable, the crowd was happy. Guests walked through the Society's galleries, library and mingled among themselves.

One of the highlights was the preview of an exhibition on Monroe Leung's cartoons. Monroe is a member of a pioneering Chinese American family. Their story is told in *Sweet Bamboo* by Louise Leung Larson. Monroe's daughter Linda Kam is cooperating with CHSSC in the installation of this exhibit. The exhibition is curated by Albert Chang and designed by Jeffrey Chang.

C.Y. Lee, ninety something years old, author of *Flower Drum Song* was a special guest. He was interviewed by Marjorie Lee, Librarian of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. Marjorie spent 30 hours in research in preparation of her interview. Will Gow and a CHSSC friend taped the interview, to be included in the Society's oral history collection.

There was another guest, a twenty something years old businessman, Jay Chen, who is running for a seat on the Governing Board of Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (HLPUSD). The CHSSC is a non-profit organization and does not endorse political candidates. But we welcome them to the Society's events to speak. The other candidates for the HLPUSD are Norman Hsu, Jeannie Garcia, Erica Holloway, John Eckman and Barbara Moore. The election will be held November 6, 2007.

CHSSC Board members Gilbert Hom, Gene Moy, Albert Chang, Will Gow, Irvin Lai, Donald Loo, Ken Chan, Ernesto Con and Jeannie Liu made the picnic a blast. Gilbert and Gene spent many hours after work to spruce up the facility and make sure everything was in working order. Albert and Will are the Picnic Committee. They purchased all the supplies and delivered them. Irvin was the BBQ chef.

Many guests helped with setting up, serving

the food and even cleaning up. Phoenix Bakery, Lupe Chee, and, Ernesto and Nety Con donated cakes to help celebrate C.Y. Lee's recent birthday. As usual, Gilbert, Don, Gene and his wife Susan Sing can be counted on to pick up the last pieces of garbage and turned the lights off.

Condolences

CHSSC Life Member, Elsie Lee Wong, also known as Lee Song Oy, passed away on August 8, 2007 in Los Angeles, California at age 94. Elsie is mother of Vincent "Vic" Ten and aunt of CHSSC Vice President Gilbert Hom. Elsie will be remembered for her many passions, including her many photos taken during her travels, her hospitality, her involvement with the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, and membership in the Mei Wah Club. Her family, relatives and friends will greatly miss her. A service was held at Forest Lawn Memorial Park August 18th 2007.

Words of Wisdom

Peace is not the absence of conflict,
but the presence of love.

Being happy doesn't mean that everything is
perfect.

It means that you have decided to see beyond the
imperfections.

Remember: You can only stumble if you
are moving.

—Cy Wong
Past t CHSSC President



Acknowledgements

- Ben Fong, a long time CHSSC supporter donated florescent light bulbs and pens.
- Robert and Dorothy Schoon, and Lupe Chee made donations to CHSSC and Portraits of Pride Project (PoP) respectively, in memory of David Chung, a Chinese American WWII Veteran.
- Lupe Chee gave another donation toward the PoP Project in memory of Jessie Tin, sister of Ella Quan who is a CHSSC charter member and active supporter until her retirement.
- Rotary International District 5280 donated \$2,000 for a permanent sign in front of CHSSC Heritage Center. Its Vice Governor, Angi Ma Wong is a CHSSC Charter Member and a past President.
- Vincent Hing made a donation to CHSSC in honor of Irvin Lai's 80th birthday. Irvin is a past president of CHSSC.
- Mae and Frank Suto made a donation to CHSSC.
- Dr. Annie Chin Siu, a long time supporter of CHSSC has given another generous donation to the Society's Portraits of Pride Project.
- See "Open House" on page 4 for acknowledgements of those who helped making the open house picnic a blast.

Chinese American Contribution

- Chinese made up 90% of the labor force in vineyard and winery in California in the 19th century. See article *Wine Makers of the Past* in Gum Saan Journal's inaugural edition, August 1977, by Margie Lew. Copy available for \$5.00 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling.

Announcements

The following is an announcement by Dr. Don T. Nakanishi, Director and Professor, UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

"The UCLA Asian American Studies Center is very pleased to announce that **Gilbert Hom** of Alhambra, California, has generously provided a major lead gift to the Center to establish the **Chinese American Studies Endowment Fund**."

"The endowment will support research and other activities by UCLA faculty, staff, and students that will serve to benefit and advance Chinese American Studies and the Chinese American community. This goal will be pursued through active collaboration between the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California; two groups which have worked together on many community-based research, publications, and archival projects for over thirty years. Hom is currently the Vice President of the historical society."

"Mr. Hom's gift serves as a significant building block for the Chinese American Studies Initiative (CASI) of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, which was launched by the Center's faculty, staff, alumni, and friends to establish scholarships, fellowships, research funds, publications, support for special collections and library materials, student-community internships, endowed academic chairs, and community partnerships in support of Chinese American Studies. Hom has been a very dedicated founding leader of the CASI. The Center is extremely grateful for his commitment, generosity, and vision."

(continued on page 6)



(“Announcements”, from page 5)

Archives Féver: The Second-Annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar

Students, teachers, amateur and professional historians—and the just plain curious—will find a treasure trove of local history at the Second-Annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar. Presented by the USC-Libraries-based L.A. as Subject, the bazaar will feature exhibits and educational programming by 40 local historical collections and archives—ranging from universities and public libraries to community-based organizations. Admission is free, and no registration is required. www.usc.edu/lasubject. CHSSC will have a booth at the Bazaar.

Location: Huntington Library, San Marino, California

Date: Saturday, September 29, 2007

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

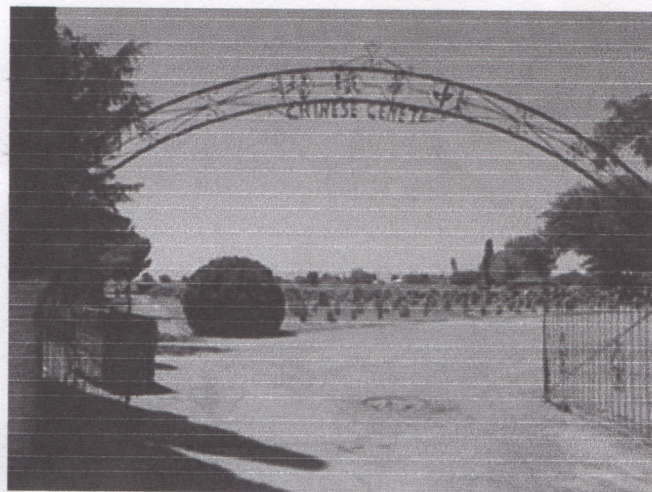
Historical Chinatowns

Dedication Ceremony for Stockton Chinese Cemetery Restoration

By Randall Bloch

A beautiful new entrance gate, designed by architect Clifford Jew, now welcomes visitors to Stockton's historic Chinese cemetery. A ceremony to dedicate the gate and many other recent improvements will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 11:30 in the morning. The dedication will culminate years of fundraising activity and largely volunteer efforts to beautify the cemetery. Members of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors and the Stockton City Council are expected to be present.

In addition to the gateway, the cemetery's roadways have been widened, a new sprinkler system installed, and other landscaping improvements carried out. Flowering cherry trees and Italian cypresses now line its borders.



*(Chinese Cemetery, West Mathews Road,
French Camp in Stockton, California -
Photo by Slo-Boat)*

Established in 1925, Stockton's Chinese cemetery is one of the few exclusively Chinese cemeteries still operating in the western United States. It was once the only place where Stockton's Chinese families could bury their deceased. It is the resting place of many generations of Stockton's oldest Chinese families. Some Chinese pioneers once relegated to a segregated section of the first city cemetery were re-interred in the Chinese cemetery in the 1930s.

The Chinese Cemetery is located at the intersection of Interstate 5 and Mathews Road in the community of French Camp, immediately south of Stockton's city limits. For information on the cemetery or the dedication, please contact Conrad Mar at 209-466-2428.

Correction

In the July 2007 issue, in the article on a book by Jean Pfaelzer, *Driven Out: The Forgotten War on Chinese Americans*, Holmboldt State University in Oregon is incorrectly stated. The Holmboldt State University is in California.



Community Calendar

Bone Marrow Drives

Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches
Various locations throughout Los Angeles area
Information: (888) 236-4673
www.asianmarrow.org

Thursdays, 3:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Chinatown Farmers Market

727 N. Hills Street, Los Angeles Chinatown

Through November 2007

Exhibition: Daily Rituals: Himalayan Art in Practice

Pacific Asia Museum
46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA
\$7 general admission, \$5 seniors and students
(626) 449-2742

Saturday, September 8, 2:00 p.m.



Dance: "Body Prayers: Turning & Sufi Ritual"

Internationally acclaimed dancer, choreographer and pioneer in contemporary mystical Persian dance, Banafsheh Sayyad will perform, then present a guided session in Sufi turning. The performance serves as a gateway to the ancient tradition of

turning, and Sayyad's teaching techniques allow people of all experience levels to turn for a sustained period with ease.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA
\$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Includes museum admission.
To register, call (626) 449-2742, ext. 31. Space is limited.

September 23, 2007, 2:00 p.m.



Film and discussion: Belle Yang and Always Come Home to Me

Acclaimed artist and author Belle Yang is the subject of a new PBS documentary about the immigrant

experience. Her presentation at the museum will include a showing of the short film, a discussion about her life as an artist and writer and a reading from her new book for children, *Always Come Home to Me*, set in rural China.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101
\$15 for members, \$20 for non-members.
Reservation: 626.449.2742 x 31

Saturday, November 3, 12:00 noon — 3:45 p.m.

Chinese Family Festival

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101

Lion dance, double fan dance.

Arts and crafts for children and the young at heart.
Chinese calligraphy demonstration and talk on etymology of Chinese characters, by a professor of Chinese languages of UCLA.

Feng Shui lecture by Angi Ma Wong.

Performance by Cold Tofu

This festival is made possible in part by a grant from the City of Pasadena.

Admission: Free



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

**415 Bernard St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012-1703**

