

NOVEMBER 2016

Dr. Mom Chung of the Fair-Haired Bastards: The Life of a Wartime Celebrity

Presented by Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, Ph.D.

Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

*Castelar Elementary School
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012*

Free parking - enter via College Street
Refreshments will be served.
This event is free and open to the public.



This talk examines the colorful life of Dr. Margaret Jessie Chung (1889-1959), the first American-born Chinese female physician. Born in Santa Barbara and educated at the University of Southern California, Chung eventually established a medical practice in San Francisco Chinatown. During the Sino-Japanese War and World War II,

Chung created an adopted family of over one thousand U.S. military soldiers, entertainers, and politicians as an expression of their mutual political support of the U.S. and China. Prof Wu is the author of a biography of Margaret Chung.

Judy Tzu-Chun Wu is a professor and chair of the Department of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine. She received her Ph.D. in U.S. History from Stanford University in 1998. She is the author of *Dr. Mom Chung of the Fair-Haired Bastards: The Life of a Wartime Celebrity* (University of California Press, 2005) and *Radicals on the Road: Internationalism, Orientalism, and Feminism during the Vietnam War* (Cornell University Press, 2013). She is currently working with Gwendolyn Mink on a political biography of Patsy Takemoto Mink, the first woman of color U.S. Congresswoman and the co-sponsor of Title IX. Prof. Wu co-edits *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies* and a new book series with Brill on "Gendering the Trans-Pacific World: Diaspora, Empire, and Race."





NOVEMBER 2016

Summer Journeys: *Searching for Chinese American Stories*

At our last meeting, we returned to Castelar School and were joined by co-speakers Eugene Moy and Tennyson Kwok, a new member of CHSSC. They both shared their experiences of this year's Sing Peak Pilgrimage. Tennyson, who had heard about our Pilgrimage from a friend, finally had a chance to take the trip this year, during the 100th Anniversary of the national park service. Some of the activities that he participated in included hiking on the mountain trails that the Chinese helped construct, the two informative presentations at Wawona, enjoying fellowship and food at the Saturday potluck, and making the grand journey to the top of Sing Peak.

Following Tennyson's presentation, Eugene Moy, described the road trip that he and his wife Susan, took after the events in Yosemite. Through their photos, we joined them on their journey. Eugene's goal was two-fold: to find documentation on his paternal grandfather, who operated laundries in the towns of Helena and Havre, Montana, and to have a mini-reunion with his maternal Yee relatives in Calgary, Alberta. Along the route, through Nevada and Idaho as well as Montana and Alberta, they found many traces of the early Chinese, who not only labored at mining, railroad, timbering, and agricultural sites, but also established business enterprises, forming Chinatowns in the process.

Thank you to both Tennyson and Eugene, for sharing your experiences, photos, and insight. We hope that our attendees were also inspired to take their own journeys to discover and uncover more pieces of Chinese migration history and to share those discoveries with our members.



Two aunts, an uncle, and several of Eugene's 50 Yee cousins from Calgary AB

Meeting Sponsorship

Thank you to new CHSSC member, Henry Kwong, for sponsoring our October monthly meeting. Your kind donation will allow the CHSSC to continue providing free monthly programs.

Message for future potential sponsors:

The CHSSC has and always will provide free programs to public. Due to LAUSD regulations, the CHSSC will have to incur an additional expense per meeting. To help subsidize these extra expenses, we are now giving our members and their businesses a chance to sponsor a meeting. A donation of \$100 is requested to sponsor a meeting. All donations are tax-deductible, and sponsors will be acknowledged in the following month's newsletter with their name or business logo. We appreciate your understanding and we hope to see everyone at our next meeting.

Board of Directors

Officers

Gordon Hom, President
Linda Bentz, Vice President
Winifred Lew, Secretary
Simon Chhuor, Treasurer
John Chan, VP for Programs
Susan Dickson, Membership Sec.

Members at Large

Teresa Chung
Rick Eng
Kelly Fong
Gilbert Hom
Richard Liu
Donald Loo
Franklin Mah
Eugene W. Moy
Helen Quon
Anthony Tjio

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, multicultural society of the United States.



Notes on Chinese American History

A monthly column about Chinese American History by CHSSC member, William Gow.

This month I continue my series on Chinese American genealogical research by introducing the different types of sources that genealogists can use in their research. Once you have a general sense of Asian American history from reading an introductory text like Ronald Takaki's *Strangers from a Different Shore* or Erika Lee's more recent *The Making of Asian America*, you can turn toward gathering information on your family history. As mentioned in previous columns, your family tree is not the be all and end all of your research. Rather, a basic family tree that includes your relatives' given and married names, along with dates of birth and death, can serve as a structuring device for the rest of your research. To begin, I would suggest making digital copies of all of the family documents, such as photos, that you have pertaining to those relatives on your family tree. I would then follow this with more focused research in public archives and databases on one particular family member or group of family members.

Scanning your family's personal archives is an important step in this type of research. Scanning documents will allow you to share these documents with other relatives who will surely want copies. Scanning will also allow you to make your own digital copies of records other family members possess. Finally digitization will allow you to eventually donate digital copies to an organization such as the CHSSC or the CAMLA should you decide that you want your family history to be preserved and shared with others doing genealogical work or community history. In scanning your family documents make sure to use the highest resolution possible. While it may be tempting to scan at a lower resolution in order to save space on your computer, resist this urge. High quality scans will be invaluable if anything happens to the original photo or document.

Records about your family members will fall into six broad categories: (1) Personal documents such as photos, letters, and diaries. (2) Public federal and local government records such as census records, immigration records in particular Chinese Exclusion Act case files, birth certificates, business licenses, and land deeds (3) public publications such as newspaper articles; (4) institutional records, such as community newsletters and school yearbooks, and finally (5) oral histories and other interviews. Some genealogists will have extensive family records to draw from at the start of the process. For most of us though, we will have to supplement our own collections with visits to university and government archives and research in digital databases. But do not worry, if you have Chinese American relatives who lived in the United States in the period before World War II, there will probably exist records in all five of these categories.

In beginning my Chinese American family history research, I had to decide whether I wanted to research the history of my grandmother and her family who were Chinese in Mendocino or else to research, my grandfather who was born and grew up in Oxnard, California. In part because I was living in Los Angeles when I began my research and most of the my grandfather's siblings and their children all lived in the Los Angeles area, I decided to begin my own family research with my the life of my grandfather in Oxnard's China Alley in the first few decades of the twentieth century. I began by making a family tree with the names of my grandfather and his siblings. While some of the names I knew, I had to ask relatives for the names of others. Once I had a family tree, I then began asking family members if they had photos or other family documents that they would let me scan.

These scanned photos and documents were the first step in a much larger process of putting piecing together the life of my grandfather, his parents, and siblings. In upcoming columns I will discuss some of the difficulties and specifics of locating and utilizing documents in these various categories.

William Gow is currently a doctoral candidate in Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley, where he is writing a history of Los Angeles Chinatown in the 1930s and 1940s. He has been a CHSSC member for more than a decade. He invites feedback, suggestions, or questions about the column and his academic work. William can be reached by email at wgow@outlook.com

New Chinatown, China City, and Hollywood Cinema:

*An Oral History of Los Angeles
in the 1930s and 1940s*

Do you have memories of Los Angeles
Chinatown in the 1930s and 1940s?

Have you heard stories from parents
or relatives from the period?

Would you like to have your oral history archived
at UCLA's Center for Oral History Research?

Graduate student William Gow, working with faculty advisor Professor Shari Huhndorf, is looking for community members to participate in recorded oral histories as part of his dissertation research in the Ethnic Studies Department at UC Berkeley. If you are a US-born adults who has memories about the Chinese American community in Los Angeles in the 1930s and 1940s, or if you are an adult who has heard stories about the Chinese American community directly from those who lived in Los Angeles in these decades, you may qualify to take part in this project.

To find out more information, email William Gow at williamgow@berkeley.edu or call William at 310-795-4730.



家譜 Chinese Family History Group of Southern California

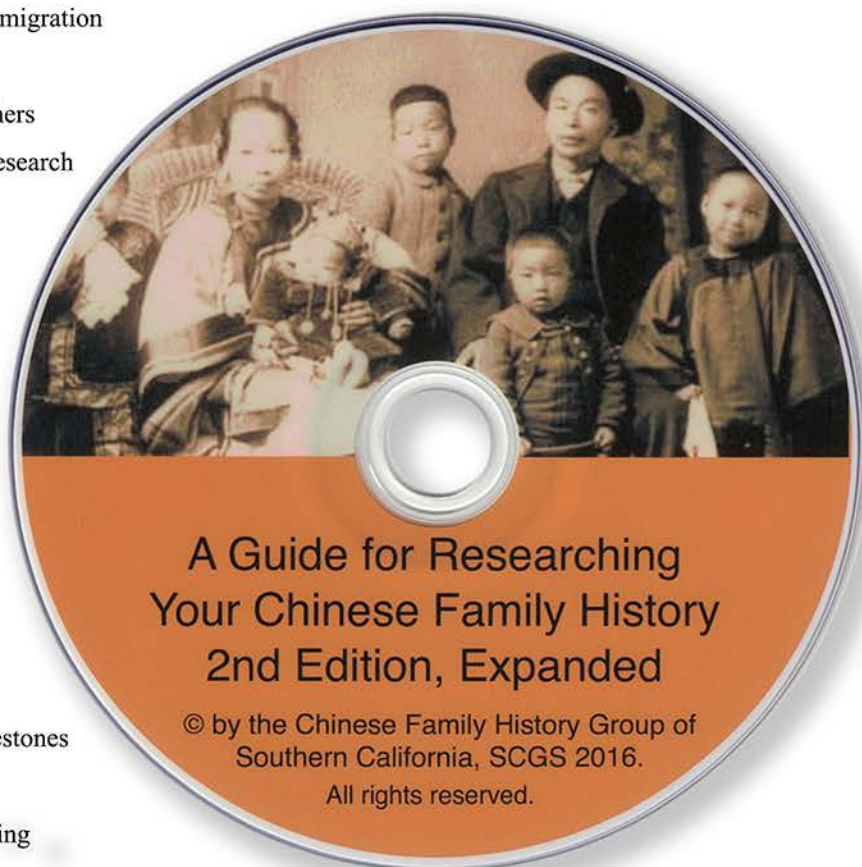
A Guide for Researching Your Chinese Family History

2nd Edition, 2016 © by the Chinese Family History Group of Southern California, 2016. All rights reserved.

REVISED, UPDATED AND EXPANDED to 95 PAGES ON DVD

CONTENTS:

- Timeline of Events Impacting Chinese American Immigration
- Chinese Family History Research Sources
- How to Interview Chinese Family Members and Others
- How to Navigate Around Chinese Names in Your Research
- How to Access Records at NARA
- How to Find Public Documents for a Paper Son or Paper Daughter
- You Chung (Y.C.) Hong Research Materials at the Huntington Library
- Digitizing Chinese Characters
- Chinese Clan/Surname Genealogy Books (Zupu & Jiapu)
- Chinese Cemeteries:
 - How to Visit Chinese Cemeteries in Los Angeles, San Francisco & Honolulu
 - How to Find Chinese History Information on Gravestones
- How to Find and Visit your Ancestral Village
- Tracing Chinese Family History Through DNA Testing
- Organizing and Preserving Family Documents
- Ways to Pass on Family History Information to Future Generations
- Print Resources and Special Collections in the Southern California Region
- Internet Resources for Chinese Family History



Available for \$20 donation at CFHGSC monthly meetings
or by mail order from CHSSC (add \$4 s/h).

For mail order instructions, email cfhgsc@gmail.com



NOVEMBER 2016

In Memoriam

Evelyn Lorie Lew Cucchiarella

June 18, 1943 – October 3, 2016



We regret to share news of Evelyn Lew Cucchiarella's passing. Evelyn was a longtime CHSSC member, friend, and a major donor. The CHSSC extends its sincere condolences to Evelyn's family during this time of mourning. We would like to thank Evelyn for her dedication to the CHSSC and our mission.

Born June 18, 1943 in Monterey, CA, Evelyn was the fifth of six siblings to parents, Ou Ken Dai (Betty) and Kittong (Jimmy) Lew. Grandfather, Koy Kee Lew, and her father emigrated from Guangzhou (formerly, Canton), China on Apr. 8, 1932 aboard the steamship, RMS Makura from Wellington, New Zealand. They settled and opened a gift shop, China Importing Company, selling Chinese goods. On Mar. 11, 1936 her mother arrived to America aboard the steamship, SS President Hoover, from Hong Kong. Shortly thereafter, brother Harry was born, followed by siblings Helen, Marylyn, Henry, then Evelyn and Stanley with whom she shared a close lifelong friendship. In 1948 the family moved to Chinatown Los Angeles where their original house (507 Bernard Street) stood within the current Hill Street off ramp of the Harbor-Pasadena Freeway 110. As customary, everyone worked together in family business -- a gift shop (City of China) in Pasadena offering art work, basket ware, teakwood furnishings imported from Hong Kong. Her father later opened a wholesale business (China Art Goods Co. on 970 Chungking Road, Chinatown) where merchandise was shipped throughout the U.S. Speaking only Cantonese, Evelyn attended Castelar Elementary. Her English became more fluent after the family bought a television set which also piqued her awareness of a world outside Chinatown. She attended Florence Nightingale Middle School where she excelled in writing as a staff journalist and 2nd page

editor for the school's weekly newspaper, *The Lamp*. Evelyn honed her journalism skills at Belmont Senior High School. As Activities Editor, she wrote for *The Belmont Sentinel* and even submitted articles to the *L.A. Herald Examiner*. She was elected Club Commissioner and had a passion for journalism. After graduation Evelyn continued her higher education at LACC earning an associate of arts degree, then onward to at Cal State University Los Angeles earning a B.A. in sociology and M.S. in Education & School Counseling. Evelyn's career path began as an employment counselor at LAUSD and then as a vocational counselor at East Los Angeles Skill Center where she assisted hundreds of students to secure employment in various industries. She solicited area employers and connected them with student interns. The training enabled her to meet a need in the Asian American community. In 1976 she founded a non-profit agency, the Pacific Asia Consortium in Employment ("PACE"), which continues today. As a foreign student counselor at L.A. Valley College, she worked with foreign students to plan their education in respiratory therapy. Evelyn was very involved in the Chinese American community -- serving on the board of the Chinatown Service Center (for seniors), as president of the Asian Pacific Assoc. (which raised and awarded scholarships to students of API descent), as vice-president of the Chinese Historical Society, and as a senator representing Valley College in the L.A. Community College District. Her community service work was recognized at the 41st Gala Fundraiser Chinatown Service Center Award in 2012 alongside contemporaries such as U.S. District Court Judge Ronald S.W. Lew. Looking towards retirement, Evy began a successful second career in real estate investment in single and multi-family residential rentals. When Ed and Evelyn retired to Palm Springs, her activism did not waiver. She and her husband, Ed, were energetic members of the Sons of Italy / Dolly Sinatra Lodge who arranged weekly dinners, coordinated fundraisers and festas which also coincided with marathon bicycle rides. Her dinners attracted many non-members who enjoyed her cooking. It is important to note they were generous philanthropists and responsible for creating a home base for the Lodge. Their legacy to the Palm Springs community continues this day with ongoing renovations and improvements. Evelyn traveled relentlessly on a global scale -- making at least six trips a year. Some of us were fortunate to join her adventures, but there was always a "Where's Waldo?" moment whenever Evy's name came up in conversation. She was also the conduit by which our extended family in Hong Kong, New Zealand, northern and southern California stayed connected. The epitome of an American immigrant experience, Evy bridged the gap between cultures -- Chinese, Italian and American -- with her culinary skills, promoting cultural awareness and sharing those experiences. Always the educator and mentor, her generous legacy remains with those she touched with kindness and compassion.

Biography courtesy of the family of Evelyn Lew Cucchiarella



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: chssc@hotmail.com

Website: www.chssc.org

Help us save paper and postage, email us for your online newsletter at chssc@hotmail.com

Community Calendar

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 6:30 pm

Dr. Mom Chung of the Fair-Haired Bastards: The Life of a Wartime Celebrity

Presented by Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, Ph.D.

This talk examines the colorful life of Dr. Margaret Jessie Chung (1889-1959), the first American-born Chinese female physician.

Born in Santa Barbara and educated at the University of Southern California, Chung eventually established a medical practice in San Francisco Chinatown.

Castelar Elementary School

840 Yale Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Free parking - enter via College Street

Refreshments will be served

This event is free and open to the public

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Nixon in China - Presidential Library Tour

Sponsored by the China Society of Southern California

For more information call (213) 284-4438

October 29, 2016 - June 4, 2017

Chinese Snuff Bottles from Southern California Collectors

Drawn from nine private collections in Southern California, the snuff bottles shown in this exhibition represent an extraordinary variety of materials, from porcelain, glass, and cloisonné to rock crystal, limestone with fossils, and bamboo. These bottles reflect themes from history, mythology, poetry and prose, and religion.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Hammer Building, Level 2

Sunday, November 20, 2016 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Chinese Color Woodblock Printing

Discussion and demonstration of Chinese woodblock printing techniques. Professors David Barker and Wang Chao will show how simple tools and materials can be used to create prints that closely mimic painting.

Free; reservations required. Go to Huntington's online Calendar to register.

Huntington Library Botanical Center

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

(626) 405-2100

Tuesday, November 22, 2016 - 7:30 pm

The Huang Family of Block Cutters: The Thread that Binds Late Ming Pictorial Woodblock Printmaking

Professor David Barker, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou and the Muban Educational Trust, London

Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

(626) 405-2100

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
would like to express its gratitude for the generosity of

George and Edith Sheu

for their recent donation towards our capital needs.