

SEPTEMBER 2018

## *Chinese Couplets*, Presented by Felicia Lowe

For our September meeting, we will be joined by filmmaker and Golden Spike Awards Honoree **Felicia Lowe**. Felicia will be screening *Chinese Couplets*, which uncovers the secret history of her mother's immigration to the United States.

Felicia Lowe's career, which spans over 30 years, has captured the story of the Chinese American experience through her focus on her family's immigration.

Felicia began as a news writer at KNBC in Los Angeles before moving to San Francisco where she became the first female Asian reporter at KGP-TV. Her early career also included hosting a PBS magazine and doing freelance producing.

Her first film, *China, Land of My Father*, was inspired by her first trip to China where she met her maternal grandparents. After reading a 1979 on the history of Angel Island, Felicia told that part of her family history in her film, *Carved in Silence*.



Join us to hear Felicia Lowe's personal journey that she has revealed through her films. Felicia will elaborate on her thoughts on her family's history as part of the continuing immigration story in the United States.

September 5 at 7:00 PM  
Castelar Elementary School  
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Free parking - enter via College Street.

This event is open to the public.





JULY 2018

## YOSEMITE PILGRIMAGE CANCELLED, BUT BACKPACKERS HONOR TIE SING



Our annual Yosemite Pilgrimage was scheduled to start on July 27, but we had to cancel because the smoke from the Ferguson fire, outside of Yosemite's west boundary, was creating unhealthful air quality at our base camp in the Wawona area. Our campground and cabin reservations were cancelled, and the next day, the National Park Service announced that Yosemite Park facilities had to be closed. Nevertheless, Jack Shu, our intrepid organizer, kept his eye on conditions at Sing Peak, at the southern edge of the park, and led a small group of determined backpackers to one of the trailheads on Monday July 30. There, they found that conditions were good enough to enable pressing on to base camp, and the next morning, successfully reached Sing Peak, elevation 10,552' above sea level. The hardy hikers included: Jack Shu, Kyle Nakayama, Greg Kimura, Tennyson Kwok, Calvin Wong, Dennis Arguelles, and Paul Lee. As space permits in this and upcoming newsletters, we'll print personal reports and photos. In the meantime, Yosemite 2019!

*"Thank you for leading such a memorable trip. It was a privilege to hike with you and such a great group of intrepid folks. I look forward to joining future pilgrimages and Sing peak hikes."*

-Dennis Arguelles

*"As we commemorate Tie Sing and the contributions of all the Chinese Americans as well as other lesser known people who made Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada what it is today, it seemed like someone was watching over us. While smoke and heat closed facilities and hindered any activity throughout the region, we were blessed with an envelope of cooler fresh air and clear sky above. Thanks, Chef Sing."*

- Jack Shu

## Board of Directors

### Officers

Susan Dickson, President  
Donald Loo, Vice President  
Linda Bentz, Secretary  
Teresa Chung, Treasurer  
Gordon Hom, VP for Programs  
Eugene W. Moy, Membership Sec.

### Members at Large

John Chan  
Wendy Chung  
Cindy Fong  
Laureen Hom  
Winifred Lew  
Franklin Mah  
Felicia Tabing

## 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.





SEPTEMBER 2018

## CHSSC Co-Sponsors New Book Program

John Jung

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and Little Tokyo Historical Society co-sponsored a book launch party for *Chop Suey and Sushi from Sea to Shining Sea: Chinese and Japanese Restaurants in the United States*, edited by Bruce Makoto Arnold, Tanfer Emin Tunç, and Raymond Douglas Chong. The essays show how Chinese and Japanese dishes evolved over generations to become popular aspects of American cuisine. Several contributors read excerpts from the book to the more than 40 “foodies” at the July 21 event at the Far Bar in Little Tokyo of Los Angeles on the site of the historic Far East Cafe.



## Jogging Down Memory Lane

Margie Lew

On a scale of 1 to 10 how good is your photo memory? Good? Fair? Excellent? The Society can use your help. Here’s how and why --- From the beginning of the Society’s existence--way back in 1975 – there have been many field trips and local events: journeys through Gold Country, to Mexicali, Mexico, to Promontory, Utah, and to Yosemite for the Sing Peak Pilgrimages. Many photos were taken and donated to the Society’s archives. The people and places need to be identified. Giving names to these faces is part of recording our own history. On June 28, CHSSC held a “Photo ID Day” at Atherton Baptist Home’s Community Room in Alhambra. Linda Bentz brought CHSSC photo albums for some dedicated members to identify the people and places. Gene Moy provided lunch. Members enjoyed fun, food, friendship AND a jog down “photo memory lane.”

Join us for the next “Photo ID Day”!

## Meet Ting!



Yingting Xu is a rising senior at UCLA majoring in History with a Minor in Spanish. She was born and raised in Shanghai and came to America with her family to pursue a better education. Ting was inspired to learn history when during a political science class, the professor showed a picture of the Tiananmen Square protests from 1989. The image depicted unarmed civilians and students who fought for liberty with a hunger strike and parade. The parade ended up with two thousand bodies laid in the square. This new information created deep thought as she learned about her own country’s history in an American class. Not even a single word about Tiananmen Square was mentioned in any Chinese textbook. This information made her realize that there was a lot about Chinese history and culture that had been hidden from her. This realization sparked her interest in studying history to learn more about the world.

As a native Chinese citizen, she is very familiar with traditional and modern Chinese culture, as well as speaking fluent Mandarin. During her summer internship at CHSSC, Ting is using her language skills and history education to promote Chinese and Chinese-American Heritage in California.





SEPTEMBER 2018

## In Memoriam: Roberta Greenwood



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Roberta Greenwood. Bobby, as friends and colleagues knew her, was an award winning and nationally recognized archaeologist who worked on both prehistoric and historical archaeological sites and architectural history. She was the president of Greenwood and Associates, a cultural resource management firm based in Pacific Palisades. In the 1980s Bobby was among the first archaeologists to examine a nineteenth century Chinese community. During the course of the project, she recognized that artifacts excavated from Ventura's Chinese community represented a unified set of material culture. Her study was the first to present a contextual view of Chinese goods.

Barb Voss, a historical archaeologist at Stanford, described Bobby's contribution to archaeology, "It is hard to think of an aspect of historical archaeology in California that Bobby Greenwood didn't influence. Her meticulous research and high quality publications elevated the field. Some became "instant classics"; - *Down by the Station* continues to be one of the foundational texts for Chinese diaspora archaeology, and is the English-language book most often requested by colleagues (historians and archaeologists) in China." Greenwood and Associates excavated the old Los Angeles Chinatown, the current site of Union Station. This work was presented in the award winning *Down by the Station: Los Angeles Chinatown 1880-1933*.

In the 1990s, Bobby was instrumental in helping the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California acquire the artifacts from the Old Los Angeles Chinatown excavation. Archaeologists, historians, scholars and museums continue to study this collection today. Bobby Greenwood was a great friend to the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California. She was a member of the Society and she frequently provided us with current information about Overseas Chinese Archaeology, and publications about Chinatowns throughout the West. We will miss Bobby's groundbreaking research and her dedication to our Society.

## CHSSC Visits San Diego

Cindy Fong

Saturday, July 28, saw a group representing CHSSC journeying to San Diego. The San Diego Chinese American Museum was our destination. Jeffrey Lehmann was the guest speaker, presenting the first of his series on the "*Maritime Silk Road: Birth of the Global Economy*". Given access to historical sites by Chinese officials, Mr. Lehmann was able to research historical sites and records. He expounded on the importance of oceanic routes that developed throughout much of the known world and their influence upon the growth of world trade. His series delineates the growth and importance of cross-cultural interchange. Look for the inclusion of a password in a future News'n'Notes issue. It will allow access to free viewing of his entire series online. Members of the Board of Directors of the museum graciously led us on a tour of their three buildings in the heart of historic San Diego Chinatown. It was a great opportunity to introduce the CHSSC to a sister organization.

Susan Dickson, Eugene Moy, Susan Sing and myself made up the group of adventurers. It was a great excursion.



Eugene Moy, Susan Dickson, Cindy Fong, and Susan Sing  
with members of the Board of Directors





SEPTEMBER 2018

## Shanghai in Chinatown



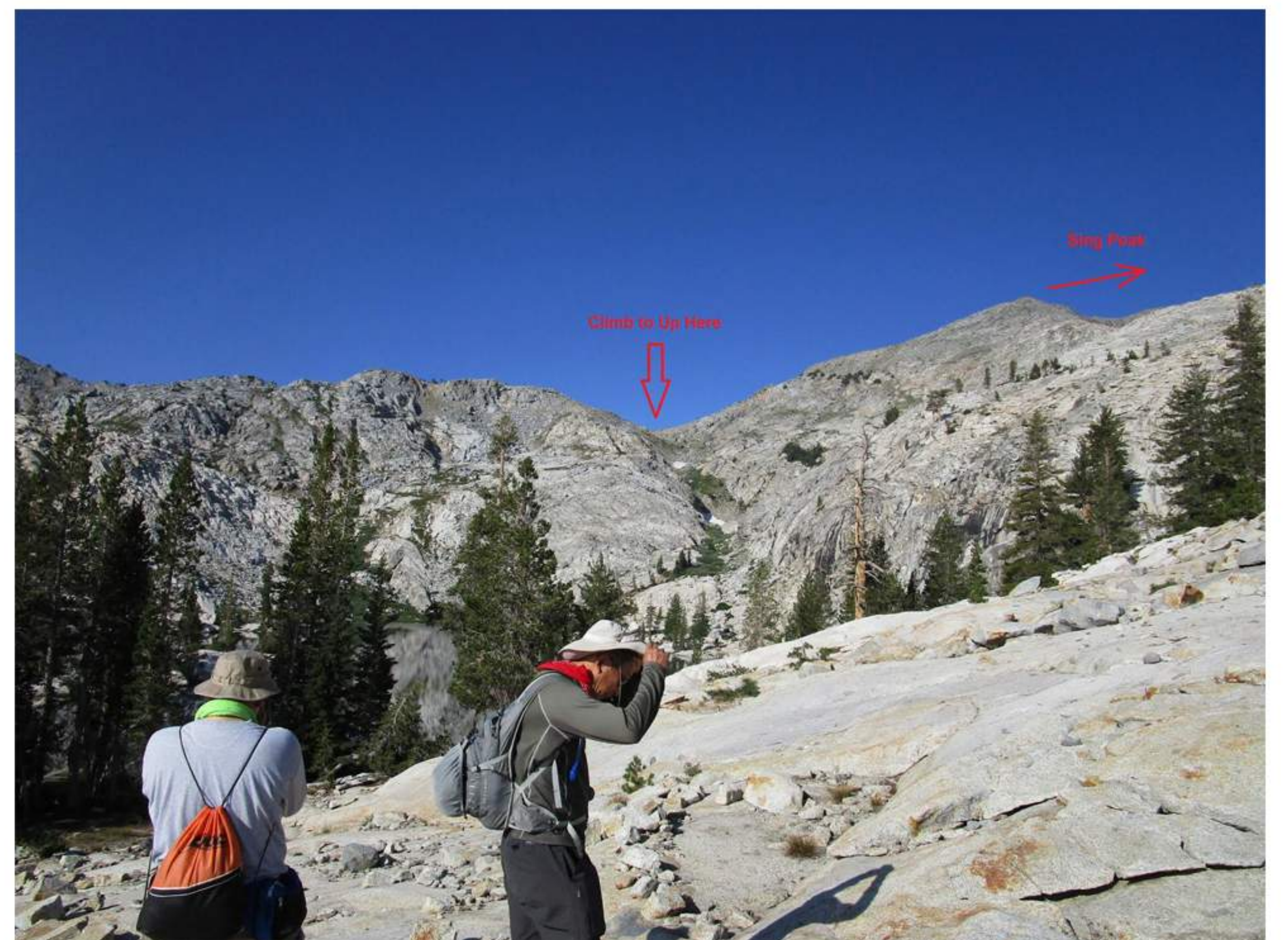
On Saturday August 4, a group of 17 eleventh graders and their teachers from Shanghai New Epoch Bilingual School visited Chinatown as a side trip from a three week stay at UCLA to learn some American history and culture. CHSSC member Eugene Moy took them on a tour of the Chinese American Museum (they liked the Hip Hop show!) and then into Chinatown on a hot afternoon. While they mostly listened under sweltering conditions, the high-light was ending up in an air-conditioned boba tea shop.



The student group on a walking tour



Grace, Ricky, and Jennifer Leo of the Ventura County Chinese American Historical Society visiting CHSSC



The route to Sing Peak



Kyle Nakayama's Sing Peak initiation





# Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: [chssc@hotmail.com](mailto:chssc@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.chssc.org](http://www.chssc.org)

*Please help us save paper and postage,  
email us to indicate your preference for an online newsletter at [chssc@hotmail.com](mailto:chssc@hotmail.com)*

## Community Calendar

### **Chinatown Summer Nights- Saturday, August 25, 2018, 5:00 PM**

[http://chinatownla.com/wp1/event/chinatown-summer-nights-825/?instance\\_id=372](http://chinatownla.com/wp1/event/chinatown-summer-nights-825/?instance_id=372)

### **Harvest Moon Festival & Third Thursday in the Playhouse District Thursday, September 20, 2018, 6:00 PM**

Join us for the last Third Thursday of the summer! Enjoy visual art with live mural painting, arts & crafts, performance art with live music, giant games, interactive experiences, and food & drink specials throughout the Pasadena Playhouse District! USC Pacific Asia Museum welcomes visitors for a lively evening of celebrating art and culture with free admission. Along with Third Thursday, USC PAM invites you to join us for the Harvest Moon Festival! Enjoy a Chinese cultural dance and musical performance, demonstration of Hanfu, traditional Chinese attire, and tea tasting, along with various art-making activities!

USC Pacific Asia Museum  
46 N. Los Robles Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626-449-2742

### **The Los Angeles Chinese Drum & Bugle Corps Exhibit & Dim Sum Potluck Saturday, September 29, 2018, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

Come share a plate of your favorite dim sum while viewing the Drum and Bugle Corps' exhibit at the CHSSC 415 house. The Los Angeles Chinese Drum and Bugle Corps was a youth group formed by and for the citizens of the Chinese-American community in Los Angeles. They enjoyed a thirty year history, proudly representing their community in parades, concerts, and in competition.

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC)  
415 Bernard St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
323-222-0856

### **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival- Saturday, September 29, 2018, 5:00PM**

[http://chinatownla.com/wp1/event/80th-annual-mid-autumn-moon-festival/?instance\\_id=374](http://chinatownla.com/wp1/event/80th-annual-mid-autumn-moon-festival/?instance_id=374)

### **Conversation@PAM: Foods of the Silk Road Thursday, October 4, 2018, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

Everyone knows the story of how the silk trade developed between Asia and Europe, but what about the culinary trade? Join experts Feride Buyuran (AZ Cookbook) and Ker Zhu (Mason's Dumplings) to learn and taste from different cultures along the Silk Road.

Cost: \$15  
USC Pacific Asia Museum  
46 N. Los Robles Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626-449-2742  
For tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/conversation-pam-foods-of-the-silk-road-tickets-48135219738>

### **Conversation@PAM: Cultural Appreciation or Appropriation? Thursday, November 1, 2018, 7:00 PM**

All art including fashion has a long history of acquiring influences from various cultures, but where is the line between cultural appreciation and cultural misappropriation? Join us for an engaging dialogue where panelists Viet Than Nguyen, Josh Kun, Melissa Chan, and Aditi Mayer add their perspectives to this historical yet timely conversation.

Cost: Free  
USC Pacific Asia Museum  
46 N. Los Robles Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
626-449-2742