

NEWS'N NOTES



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: chssc1975@gmail.com
Website: www.chinesehistoricalsociety.org

JANUARY 2020



January Monthly Meeting Speaker: Lynette Choy Uyeda

This Monthly Meeting will feature Lynette Choy Uyeda speaking about growing up, the LA Chinatown Drum & Bugle Corps, motherhood and marriage, and her career.

Her full name is Lynette Choy Narm Uyeda Gin, and each name represents a different aspect of her identity. She has retired three times, worked in two cities, and multiple fields.

Please join us on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 to see her present and share the stories and lessons she has obtained over the years. Visuals will be provided by her son, Clifford.

CHSSC will be meeting at the CACA Lodge:

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

6:30PM (check-in and refreshments), 7:00PM (program) to 9:00PM

Chinese American Citizens Alliance LA Lodge (behind Phoenix Bakery)

415 Bamboo Lane

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Parking available on the street (meters run until 8:00PM) and at Bamboo Plaza and Mandarin Plaza. For any questions, please contact chssc1975@gmail.com

Lynne's Simple Formula for Living:

- Live beneath your means.
- Return everything you borrow.
- Stop blaming other people.
- Admit it when you make a mistake.
- Give unworn clothes to charity.
- Do something nice and stay anonymous.
- Listen more; talk less
- Everyday take a 30 minute walk.
- Strive for excellence, not perfection,
- Be on time. Don't make excuses.
- Don't argue. Get organized.
- Be kind to unkind people.
- Let someone cut ahead of you in line.
- Take time to be alone.
- Cultivate good manners.
- Be (and stay) humble.
- Realize and accept that life isn't fair.
- Know when to keep your mouth shut.
- Go an entire day without criticizing anyone.
- Learn from the past. Plan for the future.
- Live in the present.
- Don't sweat the small stuff.
- It's all small stuff.

**The 2020 Gum Saan Journal
is here!**

**Copies of this special issue,
containing stories of our
Chinese American veterans,
will be distributed to
members who have paid
their 2020 dues.**



President's Letter

Before looking forward to the new year, I should explain our recent website problems. Years ago CHSSC registered our domain name. This fall our website was frozen. After some frantic research, we realized that the company holding the registration had gone out of business. While we waited the required 40 days, we bought another domain name: chinesehistoricalsociety.org. Our new email address is chssc1975@gmail.com. Although we now have registered our domain with Google, we are still playing a waiting game to get access to our original website. However, in the meantime, we can still be reached at our office at 323-222-0856. You can join or renew your membership at the chinesehistoricalsociety.org website.

We hope you have a Happy New Year!
Susan Dickson
CHSSC President

*Thank you to
our donors!*

SHIRLEY CHU & DEAN NG, TENNYSON KWOK, BETTY NG, AND HELEN & DARRYL QUON,

IN MEMORY OF MILTON QUON: DIANE SOOHOO, LUCY Y. WONG, AND MABEL WONG HOGLE

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM CHUN-HOON: HELEN CHAN, DALE CHUN-HOON, RICHARD CHUN-HOON, MICHAEL HO, MARGARET LEW, SUSIE LING, PEI-LU Y. LIU, DIANNE LADINE MANKE, BEN & DOREEN NAKAYAMA, MEI TUEY ONG, DIANE TAN, SYLVIA SOO HOO, AND ELAINE YEE

AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO GEORGE & EDITH SHEU, AND DR. ANNIE CHIN SIU & THE SIU FAMILY

WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Susan Dickson, President
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Teresa Chung, Treasurer
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Eugene W. Moy, Membership Secretary

MEMBERS AT LARGE

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

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-Americans community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multicultural society of the United States.



JANUARY 2020



Clockwise from left: partygoers enjoy some of the delicious foods brought by CHSSC members; carolers lead the audience in a round of singing (not pictured, the talented Winnie Lew accompanying on piano); great volunteers serve hungry guests; the best way to spread holiday cheer, is singing loud for all to hear! Photos courtesy of O.C. Lee.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! (December Meeting Recap)

A good time was had by all! Despite the drizzle and wet evening, approximately 60 members and friends braved the weather and congregated in a new location, for our Annual Holiday Potluck. Terrific food was carted in by attendees as well as the Society, and the tables groaned with delectable choices. Thanks to Ken Chan and Phoenix Bakery for the sumptuous strawberry/banana whipped cream half-sheet cake, Winnie Lew for providing the venue, drinks, and managing the food set-up, and Susan Sing for bringing her holiday decorations and cheer. After feasting, we proceeded to a boisterous carol sing-along. It was an evening filled with much conviviality. Thank you to all who attended and warmed each other's hearts!





Snapshots from 2019

Clockwise from top: We are lucky to have a dedicated membership who attends CHSSC Monthly Meetings every first Wednesday of the month. We'll see you in 2020! Photo courtesy of O.C. Lee; CHSSC was part of an exhibit at the Museum of Chinese in America in New York—Gathering: Collecting and Documenting Chinese American History. For the project, we contributed items that best represent the Society and our local history; a shot courtesy of Jack Shu from the Sing Peak hike at during the CHSSC Yosemite Pilgrimage; the great team of Yvonne Chang, Shirley Chu, Anna Gee, and Marian Chew organized a garage sale (and later a stall at the Pasadena City College Flea Market) to raise funds for CHSSC; the CHSSC supported the CACA effort to register WWII Chinese-American veterans for the US Congressional Medal of Honor.

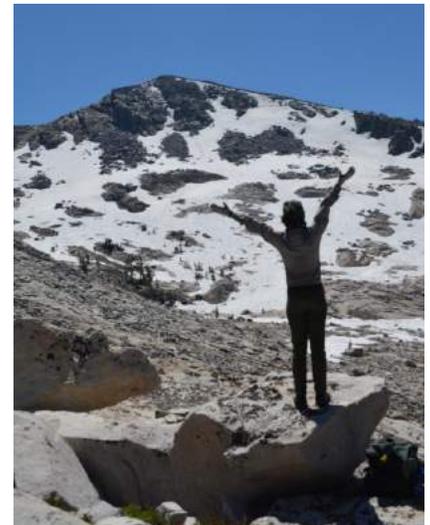


Photo courtesy of O.C. Lee



SUPPORT CHSSC AND RENEW MEMBERSHIP NOW!

2019 has been a busy and eventful year for the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, and 2020 promises to be even busier. We organized all of the activities we have on our annual calendar: 1) monthly program meetings featuring historians, writers, and filmmakers; additional programs and presentations were organized in Cerritos, Arcadia, and Irvine; 2) leading the large marching unit, with support from young Rotarians in the Lunar New Year parade in Chinatown; 3) the annual Golden Spike Awards dinner, at which we recognized journalists and writers; 4) our 8th annual Yosemite-Sing Peak Pilgrimage, attended by over 50 hikers and backpackers; 5) a table at the Archives Bazaar at USC -Doheny Library; and 6) our December holiday potluck event; 6) publishing a monthly newsletter to keep members informed of our activities.

In addition to all the scheduled activities, some of



our other initiatives have kept us busy. Some of us journeyed to Utah in March to represent CHSSC at the 150th anniversary celebration of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, which was made possible with the efforts of tens of thousands of Chinese workers. CHSSC representatives travelled to San Francisco and

New York to network with other Chinese American organizations. We conducted over a dozen walking tours, for school groups, senior groups, and other historical organizations. We collaborated with the Chinese American Museum on programs. We raised funds to meet a challenge grant for capital improvements to our property that will enhance safety and comfort for staff and visitors. We received a grant to organize our collection of reference books and pamphlets. And on top of all that, we have made a big push to scan and digitally organize important collections in our archives, including the Chinese American World War II Veterans Collection, AND to work with a crew of archival interns at CHSSC and at the National Archives branch in Riverside to both digitally archive more research materials and create research aids.

We take great pride in the work that we are doing, all of which promotes access to local and Chinese American history and advances the awareness of the contributions of pioneering Chinese Americans. We do this with just two part time staff and an energetic unpaid board of directors and other volunteers. Our property taxes, insurance, and other operational expenses keep rising, and we depend on membership dues and donations to help us break even. At this time, I am encouraging you, your family, and your friends, to renew your membership, or join our membership if not already a member, and to consider an additional donation to help us through the coming year. We have been preserving and promoting our community's history since 1975. Please help as we enter our 45th year with your renewal and/or donation by using the form in this newsletter or the online form on our website (note our temporary web address: www.chinesehistoricalsociety.org).

I thank you in advance for your support, and look forward to seeing you all in 2020!

Sincerely,

Eugene W. Moy, Membership Chair and member since 1976





**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

南加州華人歷史學會

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Mission Statement

Established in 1975, the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC) unites people with a mutual interest in promoting the rich heritage of Chinese and Chinese American history. Our mission is to pursue, preserve and communicate the history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in Southern California.

What We Do

- ◆ Conduct monthly meetings public presentations on Chinese American History.
- ◆ Sponsor and participate in symposiums, exhibits and conferences.
- ◆ Conduct Chinatown walking tours for students and public.
- ◆ Lead the annual Lunar New Year Golden Dragon Parade.

Research and Publication

- ◆ Publication of multiple books by renown scholars.
- ◆ The *Gum Saan Journal* is the Society's annual publication.
- ◆ A significant research library.
- ◆ Maintain an archive consisting of oral histories, archaeological collections, photographs and family histories.



New Membership

Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership levels:

Silver \$ 57.

100x100 Club \$100.

Diamond \$ 300.

Senior (60+) or student \$ 32.

Donation (tax deductible) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

To join or renew your membership by credit card visit our website at www.chinesehistoricalsociety.org

Please make checks payable to CHSSC.

Check here if you would like the newsletter mailed to your home.

Check here if you would like the newsletter sent via email.

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, tax ID 95-3155357

Cy Wong

Past CHSSC President

December 11, 1937—November 30, 2019



It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the passing of our friend and leader, Cy Wong, on November 30, 2019. Emile “Cy” Wong served as CHSSC president in 2002-2003, and was our very active Member Secretary for many years before that. Cy and Betty retired to their home neighborhood of Natchitoches, Louisiana a decade ago; Betty passed in 2013.

Services were on Saturday, December 14, 2019 in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Due to printing dates, the full article will be included in next month’s newsletter.



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Please help us save paper and postage,
Email us to indicate your preference for an online newsletter at info@chssc.org

Community Calendar

Saturday, January 4, 2020—2:00PM-3:00PM

Chinese New Year Arts & Crafts; Chinese Lanterns for the Chinese New Year!
Chinese New Year is the biggest Chinese traditional holiday, and this year we're celebrating Year of the Rat! Students will gain knowledge of Chinese New Year and the Chinese zodiac through the ancient decorative art of making Chinese paper (materials provided by the instructor)! This program is for children, teens, and their families! Free.

Chinatown Branch Library
639 North Hill St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Saturday, January 18, 2020—10:00AM-12:00PM

Chinese Family History Group of Southern CA meeting: Chinese Genealogy Detectives & Chinese New Year Foods

Have you hit a brick wall in your family history research? Someone using unique methods, lots of determined digging, or just plain serendipity may have solved a similar problem such as yours.

Lunar New Year Refreshments: If you can help with refreshments including traditional Chinese New Year foods or dishes, please email Anna Gee at annagee@att.net.

2020 US Census: Importance to Family Historians, Representation, and Government Funding (Special Session: 12:15PM-12:45PM)

An accurate 2020 U.S. Census count is vitally important for equitable representation in government and government funding for federal, state and local programs. Find out how you can help!

CACA Lodge
415 Bamboo Lane
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Saturday, January 18, 2020—6:00PM-8:30PM

Riverside Save Our Chinatown Committee 12th Annual Chinese New Year Banquet & Fundraiser

Help preserve Riverside's historic Chinatown site. Ten course Chinese banquet, performances, live auction, and more! For more details, see: www.saveourchinatown.org.

Big Skyy Bistro
1575 University Ave.
Riverside, CA 92507

Wednesday, January 22, 2020—7:30PM

The Chinese in the Huntington Archives: Hiding in Plain Sight

The Chinese have been a part of California's history since the time of the gold rush, but they are not always visible in historical records. Mae Ngai, professor of history at Columbia University, explores The Huntington's collections on the history of the American West. How can we best research the social history of the Chinese in these collections?

Rothenberg Hall, The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Rd.
San Marino, CA 91108

Thursday, January 23, 2020—7:30PM-8:30PM

I.M. Pei and Wang Shu: Modern and Post-Modern Transformations of the Chinese Garden

Hui-shu Lee, professor of Chinese art history at UCLA, reflects on two recipients of the Pritzker Architecture Prize—I.M. Pei and Wang Shu—and their instrumental reinterpretations of Chinese garden design for the modern and post-modern worlds. Free.

Rothenberg Hall, The Huntington Library (address listed above)

Sunday, January 26, 2020—12:00PM-3:00PM

East Meets West 2020 Lunar New Year Celebration and Banquet

For information and tickets, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/woeosn5>

Almansor Court
700 South Almansor St.
Alhambra, CA 91801

Saturday, February 1, 2020—1:00PM

Golden Dragon Parade

CHSSC flag unit will lead. Flag carriers needed! Contact Eugene Moy at ewmoy49@gmail.com for details.

In front of the Chinatown Library (address listed previously)

Wednesday, February 5, 2020—8:00PM

Chinese New Year With the Shanghai Orchestra

Join the Philharmonic Society of Orange County for a celebration of the Lunar New Year and experience the beauty of Chinese music being played on traditional instruments. For more information and tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/tkeuw3m>

Renee & Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
600 Town Center Dr.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626