

DECEMBER 2022

HOLIDAY GET-TOGETHER

Date

Wednesday, Dec 7, 2022

Time

6:00 PM

Place

Golden Dragon Restaurant
960 N. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Cost

\$30 / person



Menu



Winter melon soup
Honey walnut shrimp
Crispy whole chicken
Sautéed string beans
Spicy eggplant
Fish with vegetables
Honey garlic pork
Steamed rice
Fortune cookies
Dessert: Cake provided by
Phoenix Bakery

Displays:

Historic bulletins
- China Society
Historic Chinatown
photos - CHSSC

Christmas
Caroling

RSVP by 12/2/22
email: info@chssc.org
phone msg: 323-222-0856



Co-Sponsored by CHSSC & China Society



Giving Thanks

As we enter the holiday season, we make plans to gather with family and friends. We gather to celebrate life, health, the planet, the human mind. In this newsletter, you'll see an announcement of our holiday dinner gathering in Chinatown at the Golden Dragon Restaurant. It's an opportunity to see each other in person, not on a screen, to see, hear, and feel the warmth within our fellow members and friends, accompanied by a festive, freshly cooked, hot banquet meal selected by our dinner team headed by Bob Lee. We'll have a microphone for us to share some of our stories of the past year, and show many photos from our activities.

But before we start December, I want to provide a quick recap of our recent activities. We had program meetings over Zoom on October 5 (Sophia Wong and Calvin Wong on Grandview Gardens Restaurant) and November 2 (David Lei on lion dance traditions), with a combined audience of over 250! In the six weeks prior to this writing, we shared our Chinatown's history and culture through four walking tours, for 28 senior citizens from Ventura, 16 students from Occidental College, 19 8th graders from Desert Christian School in Lancaster, and 40 humanities administrators from across the country. The last tour was accomplished with volunteer help from docents Tim Lee, Pauletta Pierce, Grace Leo, Ricky Leo, Cindy Fong and myself, augmented with commentary by USC professor William Deverell and Chinese American Museum leadership Gay Yuen and Michael Truong. We held our yard sale fundraiser--hearty thanks! to Anna Gee and her crew. Linda Bentz organized the set up for a well-visited table at the Archives Bazaar at USC, assisted by many hands. We've had meetings with the Huntington-USC ICW team and Metro to plan for an exhibition on Old Chinatown at Union Station. Our archival team, Linda and interns, are at CHSSC several times a week, organizing our library and archives. And I, myself, have some outreach presentations in the coming days. But in between all this, we said farewell to friend, colleague, family member, community historian, and past board member Gilbert Hom on October 18th. I, and many others, will miss Gilbert.

So this holiday season, we will remember our successes, and our families and friends, and give thanks.

Eugene Moy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Linda Bentz
Cindy Fong
Gordon Hom
Bak Jong
Angela Lancaster
Grace Leo
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.



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A Personal Note from Your *Gum Saan Journal* Editor

By Susie Ling

We've all known marginalization. We've dealt with discrimination at work, in mainstream culture, in our neighborhoods, and even a pinch from our friends. But being a heterosexual and cisgender woman of color means that I've never hidden my identity. And I have never had to hide my identity from my family. Yet, that's the level of marginalization that LGBT know intimately.

After working on the 2022 GSJ issue on contemporary anti-Asian sentiments, I was angry. I don't like being forced to be reactive. This topic of GSJ 2023, *Our Queer Family*, had been on the back of my mind for too long. It was time to put away my discomfort and be proactive.

When I did the 2020 WW2 issue, it was hard because I don't know the military experience and jargon. This issue was even more of a challenge. First, can I find queer people who were willing to share their honest stories? Secondly, would I be able to fairly transcribe their experiences into words? Thank goodness for allies. Guest editor and author, Eric Wat, so generously held my hand through my months of learning, worrying, and self-doubt. Now as I read the final copy, I can be relieved. In fact, may I boast that this issue is truly one of my most prideful accomplishments?

CHSSC has been my home team since *Linking Our Lives* (the topic of GSJ 2024). Your friendship, your dollars, and your sincerity make CHSSC's mission come to life. I'm very hopeful that you will read the stories in this GSJ issue – and that you will pass it on (gumsaanjournal.org).

My Experiences with the Five Chinatowns Project

By Vi Truong, *CHSSC Five Chinatowns Summer intern in 2022*



The 2022 CHSSC summer internship was one of the most memorable and eye-opening experiences I've ever had. I hope that when others are able to read our Five Chinatowns book, they share my appreciation of oral history to connect the anecdotes of our past with the present and preserve it as our shared history.

The opportunity to meet and work with such admirable and inspiring narrators during my rounds of interviews gave me insight into Asian American history in a way that my classes couldn't convey. The internship went beyond what school texts could express. Hearing the lived experiences and funny memories face-to-face with my narrators made everything that I had learned in Asian American Studies prior to this summer come to life. I was able to connect the dots and draw the connections to events that I read about in class and see how real people and families were affected by them.

Besides the extensive training on how to conduct an oral history and clear transcripts, I am so grateful to have been part of a welcoming and supportive network. My intern cohort and the project directors were just as passionate about Ethnic Studies and Asian American stories as I was. These ten weeks have cemented my goals

(continued on Page 4)



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(Vi Truong continued)

to work with history and minority communities, and I am moving forward even more confident of my skills in oral history.

I am able to carry with me the words of wisdom my narrators imparted to me, to apply the advice to my life and career, and to develop a deeper appreciation for historians and archivists working in Ethnic Studies to ensure representation and recognition where it's rightfully due.

Consider sharing your stories, or donating to the CHSSC to support this project. If you would like to donate, please identify your donation as going toward the Five Chinatowns project.



The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC) has mounted a new documentation project about the five Chinatowns in Los Angeles before 1965. We are creating a rich archive of oral histories and family photos at the CHSSC, which we will share online and in a new book. The project includes a youth internship component to train the next generation of scholars of Chinese American history.

We hope we can count on you to help us fund, collect, and document these stories! Contribute to the project today. If you'd like to support, please identify your donation as going toward the Five Chinatowns project when donating to the CHSSC.

For more information
contact:

Dr. Kelly Fong
kelfong@ucla.edu

Gene Moy
info@chssc.org



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CHSSC Yard Sale - A Huge Success!

By Anna Gee and Shirley Chu Ng

On Saturday, November 5, with the help of a great group of CHSSC volunteers organized by Anna Gee & Shirley Chu Ng, a Yard Sale was held at Anna Gee's driveway. A wide variety of donations from CHSSC friends were sold to interested buyers totaling in excess of \$1,800.00!

And, they had fun doing it! The volunteers expressed the friendliness and comradery felt when they zoomed and emailed while planning the event. The week before the event, volunteers came to sort, price and tag items as even more donations rolled in. On the day of the sale, a special shout out to Ben Nakayama, Dean & Shirley Ng, and Anna who stayed from setting up at (7am) through the clean-up (4pm). Sales were brisk but the team of rotating volunteers worked seamlessly selling and packing up items.

Morning and lunch refreshments for volunteers and CHSSC friends were provided by Anna. Shirley made a large pot of delicious jook. Additional goodies included a home-made almond torte from Doreen Nakayama and donuts from Nancy Hara.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped put it together. Thanks to all the donors for the many new, used and unique items. Thanks to Anna for taking care of and storing the donated treasures. Thanks to the Board members for their help. It was wonderful to see old and new friends who showed up in support of CHSSC. This event was one for the books!



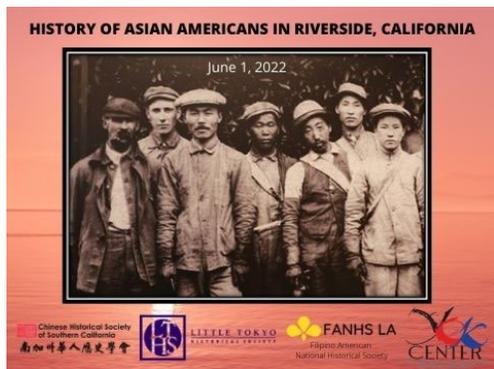
Front Row: Mei Ong, Sylvia Soo Hoo, Helen Quon, Lenora Hall, Shirley Chu Ng, Anna Gee, Grace Leo
Back row: Susan Dickson, Donna Young, Richard Liu, Jeanie Liu, Dean Ng, Ben Nakayama, Ricky Leo



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

DECEMBER 2022

Monthly Meetings on Zoom



Membership is...



Outreach – Archives Bazaar at USC



Education – Devin Fitzgerald’s Grad Students



Community Resource – ICW Group



Research – Interns and archivists at work



Publications – 2022 Gum Saan Journal

Pilgrimage – Yosemite Sing Peak



Amanda Galvez,
Coryn Hardison,
Anne Olivares

Group photo at May Lake



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Donations for November

In Memory of Gilbert Hom

*Linda Bentz
Helen Chen
Elizabeth Chikuami
Liana and James Hachiya
Jody Hummer
Carol Ng
Chong Lew
Sylvia Sun Minnick
Jane Larson
Winifred Lew
Susie Ling
Eugene Moy
G.H. and J.G. Ogura
Lila Quan
Marvid and Eileen Quon
George and Edith Sheu*

In Memory of Gilbert Hom

*Icy Smith
Chek and Madeline Tham
Melinda Tong
Francis Wong
Marshall Wong, Shelley Wong, Kent Wong
Chuck M Woo
Cynthia Yee*

In Memory of Rose Hom

Susan Toy Stern

Donations

*Margaret Lew
Derrick Lim
Sylvia Soo Hoo*



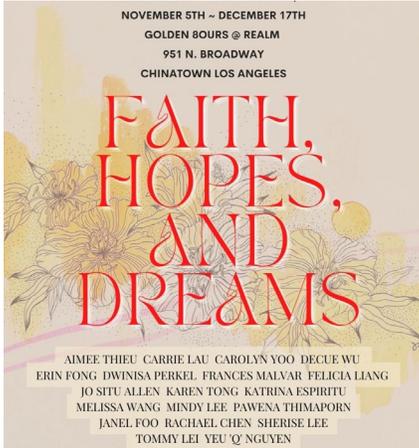
Gilbert Hom and the CHSSC Players at Heritage Square Christmas, circa. 2001



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: info@chssc.org
Website: www.chssc.org

Upcoming Events



Faith, Hopes, and Dreams, curated by Jo Situ Allen & Tommy Lei, *A Celebration of Immigrant Dreams*, is an AAPI artist group show,

951 N. Broadway, Chinatown, Los Angeles.

Visit our website for additional information:

<https://chssc.org/event/faith-hopes-and-dreams/>



The State of Chinese Americans Survey: Columbia University and Committee of 100 are conducting a survey of people of Chinese descent living in the United States to learn about their experiences and needs. This information will help improve or create helpful policies and programs. Your participation is completely voluntary and you can refuse to answer any questions. Your responses will be reported anonymously. The survey takes 10 to 20 minutes to complete. Scan the QR code or click on this link: bit.ly/3X5JVur.

If you prefer to respond in Chinese, then use these links:

Simplified Chinese: https://bit.ly/SOCA_DL1_ZHS ; Traditional Chinese: https://bit.ly/SOCA_DL1_ZHT



New Membership

Renewal

Membership levels:

Name _____

Regular \$ 57.

Address _____

100x100 Club \$100.

City _____

Supporting \$ 300.

State _____ Zip _____

Senior (60+) or student \$ 32.

Phone _____

Donation (tax deductible) \$ _____

Email _____

TOTAL \$ _____

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

Please make checks payable to CHSSC.

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

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