

# NEWS'N NOTES

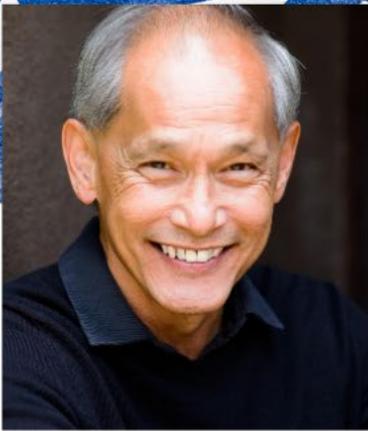


Chinese Historical Society  
of Southern California

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

JANUARY 2023

## RIPPLES IN TIME: HOW THE EARLY CHINESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE SHAPED THE GREATEST GENERATION

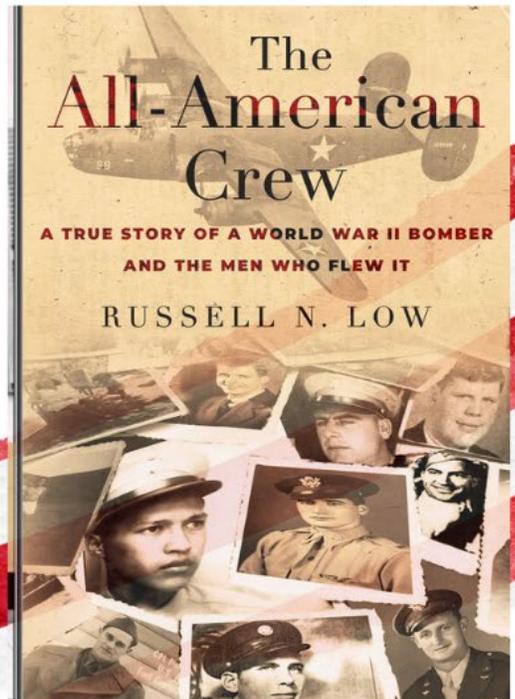
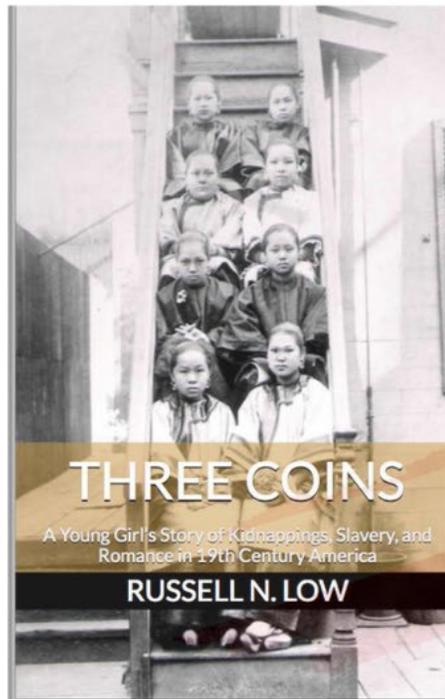


DR. RUSSEL LOW

January 4, 2023 7:00pm

Dr. Russel Low will present a 1-hour  
multimedia presentation celebrating  
Chinese American history, diversity,  
valor, and patriotism.

Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on  
CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>





JANUARY 2023

## RESILIENCE, AND A NEW RESOLVE

As we transition into 2023, it is natural to look back and wonder, how did we make it through? We have had the COVID pandemic with major loss of lives, threats to public safety, significant economic swings, angry political jousting. The reality is that there has been no time in our history that people have not faced challenges, whether at the local or global level.

Yet, our CHSSC, now in its 47th year, forged on, albeit with adjustments. We continued to present monthly speakers, via Zoom, with larger audiences than we could have had if in person; one program had over 190 attendees! With support from generous donors, we have been contracting with archivists and interns to organize our valuable collections, which have been enhanced by major library and archival donations from Dr. Paul Chace from Munson Kwok and Suellen Cheng, and from the family of Dr. John Jung. The ongoing archival work has enabled the posting of a virtual exhibition as well as an online talk on the Grandview Gardens Restaurant.

We continued our outreach and public history efforts by organizing our 10th Yosemite-Sing Peak Pilgrimage, by tabling and networking at the Archives Bazaar at USC and also tabling and networking at the first ever Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Day at the Santa Monica Mountains Visitors Center. We have led 10 Chinatown walking tours for schools, seniors, teachers, and families.

Our newsletter has been produced and distributed monthly, and our website has been completely revamped, all on a volunteer basis. Our architectural plans to renovate our buildings and restrooms for better public accessibility are close to being approved by the City, and we will soon have construction bids. We have been opening our doors on Sunday afternoons for drop-in visitors.

All of this has been accomplished against the backdrop of COVID and increased anti-Asian violence. But our current challenges only inspire us to dedicate ourselves even more, to pursue our educational mission, to promote greater awareness of our shared histories. Let's welcome 2023 with a BANG!

Eugene Moy

**The 2023 *Gum Saan Journal* is ready.**

Renew your CHSSC membership or join CHSSC to receive your copy of our newest issue: *Our Queer Family*.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Eugene Moy, President  
Ricky Leo, Vice President  
Susan Dickson, Vice President,  
Programs  
Laureen Hom, Secretary  
Franklin Mah, Treasurer  
Caitlin Bryant, Membership  
Secretary

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

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:

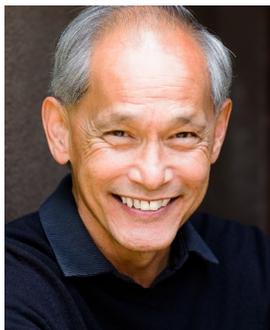
1. to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in southern California;
2. to pursue, preserve, and communicate knowledge of this history; and
3. to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multicultural society of the United States.



JANUARY 2023

## Ripples in Time: How the Early Chinese American Experience Shaped the Greatest Generation

Our January program will feature two-book author Dr. Russell Low, who will explore the early roots of Chinese in America and show how the WWII generation was connected to this past in ways they may not have fully understood. It will be a 1-hour multimedia presentation celebrating Chinese American history, diversity, valor, and patriotism.



Russell Low is a California-born 4th generation Chinese American physician who is a great-grandson of Hung Lai Wah, a Transcontinental Railroad worker, and Tom Ying, a rescued child slave. Russell's passion for research, family history, and storytelling come together in recently published novels entitled "Three Coins" and "The All-American Crew."

In exploring the Ripples of Three Coins, Russell celebrates the heroism of the Chinese Americans in WWII from a very personal perspective. On January 23, 1943, a B-24 Liberator bomber and its crew of ten men disappeared without a trace in New Guinea. Their families never knew what happened to them. Now, 80 years later, their long-forgotten letters and dusty photographs finally tell their story in the new narrative nonfiction work *The All-American Crew: A True Story of a World War II Bomber and the Men Who Flew It*.

## Holiday Get-Together





JANUARY 2023

## Holiday Get-Together





JANUARY 2023

## Five Chinatowns End of Year Updates

By William Gow

During the course of the fall, the CHSSC's Five Chinatown's project has continued its efforts to document the history of Chinese Americans in Los Angeles before 1965. Over this time, we've made substantial progress on our book project. Our editorial team has reviewed submissions from 16 authors whose works we hope to include in our edited volume. Contributions have come from professors, community members, students, and journalists. These authors have written chapters on a range of topics including City Market and the Gom Benn diaspora, the restaurant Paul's Kitchen, CFO Gas Station, Phoenix Bakery, Garnier Building, as well as Anna May Wong and the 1941 Moon Festival. These are in addition to the edited oral histories that we plan to include in the volume.

During this time, our team has continued to both conduct and transcribe oral histories. Yi-Shen Loo continued her support of the project by transcribing six oral histories from the CHSSC Southern California Chinese American Oral History project of the 1970s. We've conducted one interview in Cantonese and are now looking for someone to produce a clean English language translation. We've already scheduled at least two more oral history interviews for the new year. All oral history interviews from the project will become part of the CHSSC archives.

If you have memories, photos, or Cantonese translation skills, you'd like to contribute to our project, please contact our editorial team. We are still actively seeking community members to share their personal and family histories. We are also seeking donations to continue this work of historical documentation. The CHSSC Five Chinatown's project thanks all who contributed their memories, photos, and donations this past year, and we look forward to continuing grow the project in 2023.

Chinese Historical Society  
of Southern California  
南加州華人歷史學會

**FIVE  
CHINATOWNS**

COMMUNITY HISTORY  
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



JANUARY 2023

## Membership is...

Monthly Meetings on Zoom

**The Qingming Festival and Respecting the Ancestors**

From South China to the American West the tradition of respecting the ancestors was carried out during the Qingming (Bright and Clear) Festival during which time the ancestors are remembered, the tomb is swept, and food offerings are made.

Presentation by



Professor Emerita Sue Fawn Chung  
Wednesday, Apr 6, 2022, 7pm

Co-Sponsored by:

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California  
南加州華人歷史學會

THE CHINA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
南加州中國會



Outreach – AANHPI Heritage Day at King Gillette Ranch



Walking Tours – National Humanities Conference



Pilgrimage – Yosemite Sing Peak

Fellowship – Holiday Get-Together

Education – Visiting Scholar Simon Shachter



**NEWS 'N NOTES**

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

**Culture of the Lion Dance in America**

Join the CHSSC November program when David Lei presents lion dancing with a focus on its history, cultural significance, and symbolism

November 2, 2022 7:00pm-8:00pm



David Lei  
Free to attend.  
RSVP via Eventbrite on CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California  
南加州華人歷史學會

Publications – News 'N Notes

Research – New collection donated by Munson Kwok & Suellen Cheng



Group photo in Tuolumne Meadows courtesy of Elizabeth Bassirian



JANUARY 2023

## Donations for November

### *Margie Lew's 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday*

*Margaret Lew*

### *In Memory of Gilbert Hom*

*Phyllis Chiu*

*Anna Gee*

*Eugene Moy and Susan Sing*

*Cindy Yee*

### *In Memory of Richard Lee*

*Arthur & Peggy Young*

### *Donations*

*Kenneth Chan*

*Susan Dickson*

*Derrick Lim*

*Ben & Doreen Nakayama*

*Yvonne Liu*

*Susan Sandberg*

### *Five Chinatowns Project*

*Linda Lum*

*Sylvia Soo Hoo*



New Membership

Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership levels:

Regular \$ 57.

100x100 Club \$100.

Supporting \$ 300.

Senior (60+) or student \$ 32.

Donation (tax deductible) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To join or renew your membership by credit card  
visit our website at [www.chssc.org](http://www.chssc.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.



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### Announcements

**Please renew your membership for 2023. If you are not a member, please join us!**

**SAVE the DATE: CHSSC Golden Spike Awards Dinner: Food Legacies: Serving Communities**  
Sunday, May 7, 2023 @ 5 PM, NBC Seafood Restaurant, 404 S. Atlantic Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754

A StoryMap of our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Yosemite Sing Peak Pilgrimage is now available on our website: <https://chssc.org/>.



## 10th Annual Yosemite Sing Peak Pilgrimage

Documenting our continuing efforts to recognize the Chinese  
contributions to Yosemite National Park