

News 'n Notes

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

September 2000

September Meeting:

A Celebration of Film Shorts and Birthday

This month's meeting was a great turnout with enthusiasm from the crowd celebrating Tyrus Wong's 90th birthday. Tyrus shared stories about his working on Walt Disney's Bambi for 3 years and skipping classes as a kid. Now he is a kite maker flying his 150-foot long centipede north of the Santa Monica Pier changing the landscape of Los Angeles.

The audiences were also treated with two documentary film shorts produced by Suellen Cheng, Leslee See Leong, and Beulah Quo. The producers talked about their experiences in working on the project and with a group of talented people in putting it together. The project started four years ago without any funding, but with a lot of dedication and volunteers anything can be done. The first short were interviews with Gilbert Leong and Tyrus Wong telling their stories about Los Angeles, Angel Island, growing up in California and their 50 years long friendship. The second short was about the history of Dragon's Den and how it came about becoming a part of Chinatown's history. It was a wonderful evening with personal stories and memories.



Suellen Cheng, Leslee See Leong, and Beulah Quo.

Moon Festival

Chinatown celebrated the Moon Festival with an all day event Saturday, September 9th. The main staging area in Central Plaza was alive with continuous entertainment including Chinese Opera, Chinese folk dance, and moon viewing. CHSSC had one of the many booths that lined the alleyways.

story continues on page 2

October Program

Wednesday, October 4th, 2000

7:00 PM

Castelar Elementary school

multipurpose room

840 Yale St.

Los Angeles, Chinatown

(Park on playground. Enter on College St.

between Hill and Yale Streets)

MODEL MINORITY OR

MODEL EMBARRASSMENT?

WHY ONE CHINESE AMERICAN GAVE UP

WALL ST. TO WRITE

Lucy Wang is an award-winning writer, born in Taiwan, raised in the United States. She has a BA in Economics and Asian Studies from the University of Texas at Austin, and an MBA from the University of Chicago Business School. A former Wall Street bond trader, Ms. Wang's plays include Junk Bonds, Bird's Nest Soup, Melting, Number One Son, Beshert and Solika. In addition to her plays, Ms. Wang has published short stories, essays and news articles, and she has taught writing at such institutions as the University of Southern California, Ohio State University and the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco.

Ms. Wang will relate her experiences as an immigrant struggling with the Great American Dream - from a successful Wall Street career to her achievement as an award-winning author and playwright.

Lucy Wang comes to us from the Los Angeles Public Library --"L.A. Writes," a series of new authors presenting literary and cultural experiences throughout the Los Angeles metropolitan area. It is supported by a grant from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation.

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Friends of the Chinatown Library are jointly hosting the program.

Contents • September 2000

Special thanks • Projects • Calendar Events • Exhibits • Job Announcement • Silver Anniversary Dinner RSVP



Special Thanks for September refreshments to:

- Aurora Bahou**
- Leslee Leong for birthday cake**
- Ruth Lung**
- Cy Wong**
- Dolores Wong**
- Johnny Yee**
- Noel Toy Young**

The EGS?

What is happening in Chinatown every 3rd Saturday night at the Chinatown Plaza? If you have been there lately -- The Eclectic Groove Shack has come to town with a center stage of talented musicians.

A warm evening filled with live concerts performed by Karin Anna Cheung and her band, and Device, a group of Christian rock band. Their music ranged from mellow tunes to alternative rock of current trends.

Karin Cheung, almost a Lucy Lui look alike, first took the stage with themes of friendship and breakups to free spirits. She performed five songs, four of which she had written herself and one written by her best friend. This was their second performance in association with the EGS and sponsors.

Device gave a jamming of shout fest with audience and their fans going wild. When asked how they came up with their band name Device, one of the group member elaborated that they had a brainstorming session at McDonald's and two of the members had the same name in mind without discussion. And that to them was a message from God as a device for the Lord.

If you have nothing to do the 3rd Saturday of every month head on down and groove with the music. You may even win prizes for audience participation when asked to recite the alphabets backward from Z-A in 30 seconds.

—by Yvonne Chia

Moon Festival continues from page 1

Once again this year, a highlight of the event was the lantern parade lead by a group of lion dancers. When the parade ended at Heritage / Visitors' Center, many of the children participants stayed to do arts and crafts with our volunteers. Kids went from table to table making lanterns, puppets, and fans. They could also do water colors or have their face painted. It was a fun day.

Many thanks to the volunteers who made this day possible by manning the Heritage Center and the booth: Don Loo, Gene Moy, Franklin Mah, Gilbert Hom, Irvin Lai, Cy Wong, and Ella Quan. Thanks also to our loyal arts and crafts volunteers: Mae Hom, Tai Ling Wong, Margie Lew, Linda Wong Smith, Susan Sing, Cindy Fong, Angi Tsiang, and Eunice Wong. Thanks also to Susan Dickson who helped with the planning and coordination of the event.

2000-2001

- President**
Irvin R. Lai
- Vice-President**
Eugene W. Moy
- V.P. Program**
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Henrietta Yuan
- Treasurer**
Ella Y. Quan
- Financial Secretary**
Franklin Mah
- Membership Secretary**
Cy Wong

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- Chairman of the Board**
Susan G. Dickson

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- Munson Kwok**
- Ruth Lung**
- Wing Mar**
- Ben Nakayama**
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Appreciation of our Chinese American Heritage

CHSSC
P.O. Box 862647
Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647

Phone / Fax
(323) 222-0856

www.chssc.org

A non-profit organization



Past Presidents

- Stan Lau**
1975-76
- George Yee**
1976-77
- Gerald Shue**
1978-79
- Chuck Yee**
1980-81
- Eugene Moy**
1982-83
- Munson Kwok**
1984-85
- Ella Yee Quan**
1986
- Angi Ma Wong**
1987-88
- Kipham Kan**
1989-90
- Tom McDannold**
1991
- Sue Yee**
1992-93
- Irvin Lai**
1994-95
- Jeffrey D. Tung**
1996-97
- Susan G. Dickson**
1998-2000

News 'n Notes
layout design by
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Submissions of Calendar
Events and Articles must be
received by the 15th of each
month in order to be
considered in that month's

newsletter
contact

Yvonne Chia
yvonnechia76@aol.com
(310) 393-9185

Projects

Photo Archive Project

Friends of the Chinese American Museum

The Chinese American Museum is working on a project in collecting photographs of Chinese Americans living in Southern California from 1850 to 2000. CAM is interested in photographs taken between 1965-2000. Your photographs may become a part of CAM's archive collection and permanent exhibits. To have your photographs considered for the exhibits please send CAM a black & white photocopy of your photos with your name, address, telephone, and email to:

Attn: Archives, Chinese American Museum,
125 Paseo de la Plaza, Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012
The deadline is October 31st, 2000.

Please contact Estella Chung, Assistant Curator at
estella_camla@hotmail.com or call (213) 628-0605
www.camla.org

Profile Project

of distinguish Chinese American Pioneers in the 20th Century

The Project Committee is looking for a few good volunteers to work on the Profile Project. If you like to help and are good in skills to do oral history, write, and possibly help in fundraising please contact:
Dr. Wing Mar at (310) 783-0032 or e-mail wingjoyce@aol.com.

The Project Committee has already submitted the abstracts of 5 scientists who are currently featured in the Autry Museum's *On Gold Mountain* exhibition. The project is building on that initial work and set strategy on pursuing its mission and goals.

Finding the Origin of Fortune Cookies

I am just fascinated by anything related to fortune cookies from the production of it to the messages inside those hard shells. I walked down on 1st Street (Little Tokyo) one day and came by a little shop with a sign outside the store front saying that fortune cookie originated from there. So if it was a Japanese invention how did it end up in Chinese restaurants in America? So who were the founding father(s) or mother(s) of fortune cookies? If you know the history or anything interesting about the origin or the making of fortune cookies I would like to interview you first hand. Please contact Yvonne Chia by email: yvonnechia76@aol.com or call (310) 308-6452.



October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Heritage and Visitors Center opens to public. Free admission. noon-4 PM
(323) 222-1918

October 1 - Anchee Min, author of *Becoming*

Madame Mao, will discuss her new novel,
Neighborhood Church Chapel, Pasadena,
2 pm
Pacific Asia Museum
(626) 449-2742

October 5-8 - National Association of Asian
American Professionals (NAAAP) conference
with APEX, Universal Hilton

October 6

at the Los Angeles Police Academy
1880 Academy Road, Elysian Park
by reservation only,
call Marc Wanamaker (310-276-9491) or
Danny Munoz (213-250-2214).
Deadline October 3

October 7 - 21st Annual Moon Festival
Sponsored by the Taoist Temple
Preservation Society, China Alley,
Hanford, CA
(559) 582-4508

October 7 - A Magazine's AMMYS 2000
entertainment (movies and television)
awards, Universal City Hilton
(310) 234-8689

October 11-14 - 2nd National Conference on
Quality Health Care for Culturally
Diverse Populations, at the Wilshire Grand
Hotel and Center, it is designed for
beginners and experts audiences
(718) 270-7727

October 14 - Old Pasadena Walking Tour,
Pasadena Heritage, 9 AM
\$5, Reservation Requested
(626) 441-6333

October 19

2nd Annual Symposium: Cancer Prevention

& Control in Asian Populations

8:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Radisson Wilshire Plaza Hotel
sponsored by: UCLA / Jonsson Cancer
Center, Division of Cancer Prevention &
Control Research
AANCART, Los Angeles
Asian Pacific International Health
Assessment Institute
Asian Pacific Health Care Venture

October 21 - Visual Communications' 30th
Anniversary Celebration,
Japan America Theater & JACCC
(213) 680-4462

October 28 - Screening of *We Served With
Pride: The Chinese American Experience
in WWII*,
Orange County Chinese Cultural Club,
5 - 11 PM
Contact: Frank & Pearl Sun
(949) 462-0177

October 28 - Long Beach & Sunnyside
Cemeteries Tour, Historical Society of
Long Beach
(562) 495-1210

October 29 - Miss Asia USA Pageant,
Bonaventure
(323) 669-8255

November 10 - Chinese Historical
Society of Southern California
Banquet,
25th Anniversary,
Empress Pavilion
(more info on page 7)

New York

October 17 - The Chinatown Flies by Amy Chen,
film screening and discussion,
6 - 8 PM
Museum of Chinese in the Americas
(212) 619-4785



October

Heading East

California's Asian Pacific American Experience - traveling photographic exhibit, Torrance Public Library
Contact: (213) 680-4462 ext 33

Thru October 29

Shifting Perceptions : Contemporary LA Visions, art exhibit by 17 contemporary Asian American artists,
Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena
(626) 449-2742

Thru November 5

Transition 2000: LA Moments Between Millenniums
10 photographers' records of New Year's Eve 2000, each with descriptive text, LA Central Library, History Dept

November 8 - December 3

The Theory of Everything by Prince Gomolvilas, Directed by Tim Dang, presented by East West Players
120 Judge John Aiso St.
(213) 625-7000

November 18, 2000

Shangai-Ii Chinese Acrobats
Cal Tech Performing Arts Series
8PM
\$22, 18, 14
(888) 222-5832

Thru 2001

Common Ground: the Heart of Community Japanese American community
Japanese American National Museum
(213) 625-0414

Thru January 2001

On Gold Mountain: A Chinese American Experience
Autry Museum of Western Heritage, Griffith Park, LA
(323) 667-2000 ext 234

Thru February 11, 2001

Allen Say's Journey: The Art and Words of a Children's Book Author
Japanese American National Museum
(213) 625-0414

Thru February 18, 2001

More Than a Game: Sport in the Japanese American Community, story of one immigrant group through the universally popular topic of sport
Japanese American National Museum
(213) 625-0414

San Francisco

October 14 - January 24, 2001

Secret World of the Forbidden City: Splendors from China's Imperial Palace, exhibition of art objects from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911)
Oakland Museum of California
(510) 238-2200

Chang-O
by Li Shang Yin
(812-858 A.D.)

The candle casts deep shadows on the screen,
The Milky Way dims and morning stars fade.
Chang-O must regret stealing the elixir
As she broods in loneliness night after night.

The Chang-O story can be read on this website:
<http://peacock.tnrc.edu.tw/MOON/story.html>



September 2000

Job Announcement

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

position: Administrative Assistant

Immediate Need

Application Deadline: Opened until Filled

Job Description

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC) seeks a motivated individual to provide full time office assistance under the supervision of the president or his designee. Candidate shall support the daily operations of the Society. Duties shall include most aspects of clerical office operations. Candidate may schedule and coordinate walking tours. Candidate may also help in the operation of the Society's Visitor Center including retail sales. Candidate may also assist in fundraising. Work days shall be Monday through Friday.

Qualification

- High school graduate.
- Minimum of a two years' college or the equivalent in one or more of the following subjects:
 - humanities
 - social sciences
 - business administration
 - or related topics
- Good writing and good oral communications skills shall be required, with bilingual language skills (Cantonese and Mandarin) desirable.
- Familiarity with office computer tools, software and other office machines must be demonstrated
- Candidate must show interests compatible with the goals of the Society.
- Good interpersonal and office management skills are a plus.

Employment Conditions

Range of \$10-12 per hour. Plus benefits

Application Process

Applicants can inquire, FAX resume and information to the Society at (323) 222-0856.
Or mail to: CHSSC Personnel Committee, P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647.
Or e-mail to Munson Kwok at <munsonak@aol.com>, entitling your message "CHSSC JOB."
Applicants are expected to submit resume, including school and prior job history,
and references (1- job or school related, 1-character).

Interview of finalists may be conducted by the Personnel Committee.

*The Society is an educational, not-for-profit corporation based in Los Angeles Chinatown,
serving the community for 25 years.*



September 2000

SILVER ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Celebrating 25 years of Achievement

Friday, November 10th, 2000
6:00 PM Registration, No-Host Bar
EMPRESS PAVILION RESTAURANT
Bamboo Plaza, 988 N. Hill Street, 2nd Floor
Los Angeles, Chinatown

• • • • •

HONORING OUR FOUNDERS
Slide Show of Our Past 25 Years
“Gum Saan Journal” Anniversary Packets
Entertainment
Warm Hospitality of The CHSSC
Nine-Course Chinese Banquet

• • • • •

The CHSSC is a Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) Organization
Of every ticket sold, all but \$20 is tax deductible to benefit the CHSSC

For Further Information, Contact:
CHSSC (323) 222-0856 • Ella Quan (323)255-6487 • Susan Dickson (626)792-8454

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT BY NOVEMBER 3rd

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TELEPHONE _____

Please list attendees sitting together
(or on separate paper):

Please Reserve _____ Tables of 10 people for me at the following level:
 Platinum (\$1,500) Gold (\$1,000) Silver (\$750) Bronze (\$500) \$ _____

Please Reserve _____ Seat(s) at the following level:
 \$150 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$ _____

I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____
make checks for the total amount payable to: CHSSC, P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647

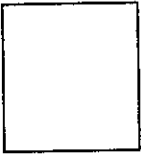


FIRST CLASS

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
P.O. Box 862647
Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647



Make checks payable to: CHSSC
We are a tax-exempt non-profit educational organization
Phone & Fax (323) 222-0856 www.chssc.org



- Programs
- Publications
- Research
- Membership/Publicity
- Fundraising
- Other

I am interested in helping with:

- Please include me on the membership roster that will be available to members only

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

TELEPHONE _____

- Gum Saan Journal (2 Issues Annually) \$5.00
- Active Member, annual \$25.00
- Additional Member, annual \$10.00
- Contributing, annual (spouse, same household) \$10.00
- Institutional, annual (senior citizen over 60 and student) \$50.00
- Life \$300.00
- Corporate, annual \$100.00
- Life Patron \$1,000.00
- Donation: Please accept my tax-deductible donation(s) to the following fund(s)
- General \$ _____ Scholarship \$ _____
- Publications \$ _____ Building Fund \$ _____

