



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

September, 1981

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back from Vacation! The Society has been busy during the summer months and I want to thank those who have worked so hard on the various projects starting with the Lotus Festival, the Opening Day Ceremony of the Walking Tour and the Walking Tour itself; and especially to the Docents who have given the tours each weekend despite the heat. The Walking Tour has been very successful, running at full capacity and has turned out to be the greatest contribution our Society has yet given to the community! It has been overwhelming to receive comments and letters from people who have taken the tour commending us on its success. Our thanks to Charles Wong the director, and especially to Jerry Shue who without a doubt has done a terrific job that cannot be surpassed in coordinating a Walking Tour Program. A summary report will be forthcoming in the next issue from Charles Wong.

Admire all this, the Oral History Project, the Riverside Chinatown Committee, the Grant Committee and the Chinatown Los Angeles: Yesterday & Today Booklet Committee has been running at full steam. I'd like to thank again those who have contributed their valuable time towards these accomplishments, many above and beyond the call of duty.

We wish to notify you at this time that we did not succeed in obtaining matching funds from the California Council of Humanities, and also the grant we had hoped to receive from CBS home office in New York. However, it was through HELEN YOUNG's influence that the local CBS here in Los Angeles donated \$1,000 in support of the walking tour. We all owe the members of the Grant Committee much thanks for the lengthy time and tedious work in typing and retyping the proposals and the many meetings and coordination that goes along in preparation of these grant proposals - Helen Young, Paul Louie, Charles Wong, Munson Kwok and Eugene Moy. We thank you!!!

CHUCK YEE, President

JULY 18, 1981 OPENING DAY CEREMONY of Chinatown Los Angeles; Yesterday & Today was the biggest project our Society has ever undertaken. It began with a Lion Dance by Jeff Chan's group. Our MC - Pat Li did a terrific job! President Chuck Yee gave an opening speech and received proclamations from Mayor Bradley, The State Assembly and the City Council. A photo exhibit coordinated by Munson Kwok provided historical background for the Walking Tour. After John Yee set off a 12 foot long string of firecrackers, mini-tours were given by docents Emma Louie, Eugene Moy, Robert Quan, Margie Ong, Edith Jung and Kaza Dong. A special luncheon followed after the ceremony and tours. Chairpersons Helen Young and Munson Kwok did a superb job in setting up the program. Those that missed this big event indeed missed one of the finest ceremonies ever!!!

LOTUS FESTIVAL - Our annual day of the Lotus Festival Fund Raiser held at Echo Park on July 11th and 12th turned out to be the best ever!! The two days event netted our CHSSC \$1,352.30 after all expenses were deducted. This exceeded all our prior sales records. To all those hearty souls who braved the warm weather helping us cut and sell the pineapples, we offer our appreciation as well as congratulations for contributing their fine efforts toward a job well done!!

The funds generated will be earmarked for our Walking Tour goals. To add frosting to our achievements, our booth was awarded 1st Prize in the Booth Decorating Contest. This now assures us the right of our pick of a sales item for the next festival, as well as the choice of location. Acknowledgements goes to Helen Young for her artistic talents in creating our award winning booth and donating the materials and to George & Elsie Yee and Chuck & Mary Yee who assisted. Helen designed an authentic Chinese temple. Many thanks Helen for a super idea!

Society members sharing in the workload in various capacities were: Helen & Dawes Lee & Sandra, Milton Lefton, Sue Ellen & Munson Kwok, Pearl & Loy Kwok, Jim Cummings, Anna Quan Lauren, Betty Tong, Elsie Yee, Bernice San, Kaza Dong, George & Elsie Yee, Debbie and Allen Yee, Elsie Wong, Lillian Fong, Margie & Al Lew, John Yee, Carol Yee, Al & Flo Lum, Jerry Shue, Gene Moy, Chuck & Mary Yee, Kathy, Lydia, Mimi, Glenn & Mark Yee, Janette & Richard Chun, Barbara & John Ching, Emma & Paul Louie, Howard & Marilyn Quon, Bob Lee, Billy Yee, Rodney & Joy Chow and Ron & Wesley Yee. Our thanks to Barbara Ching, Alice Wain, Ken Dong George Yee and other members of the Aikido Club for providing entertainment in the program accrediting our Society. (This enables us to get a choice in booth location.) And of course, the Chuck Yee children, who always pitches in and whom also stated, "they had a marvelous time" while serving a worthwhile goal. Thanks again to all those members who came out in support as this was indeed a mighty team effort with victorious results in sales and decorations.

HOWARD QUON, Chairman

(Thanks Howard for a great job in coordinating and making this year a record-breaking fund raiser and for giving the Panda Bear pins to the workers. Thanks to Pearl & Loy Kwok (parents of Munson Kwok) who came down from San Francisco to help us for the second year working both days!! Last of all least many thanks to the members for the kindred spirit which existed during the Lotus Festival making it a pleasure to be part of the Society. Names are from Sign-In List, if you forgot, we're sorry)

FALL DINNER - SAVE NOVEMBER 21, SATURDAY, on your Calender!!! That's the date for the Society's annual fall dinner. This year's program will center on the Mei Wah Club. This all women's service club is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. The dinner will be held at the Tai Hong Restaurant. More information to follow in the next issue.

ARCHEOLOGY - At our last meeting Paul Chace, our noted archeologist, presented the Society with valuable copies of, "A Cultural Resources Assessment of the Plaza El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historical Park" and "Two Archeological Projects: An Archeological Monitoring Program of W-20 and W-4 Shop Site Renovation, Olvera St. El Pueblo, de Los Angeles State Nation Park." These books were written by him and are important additions to our historical archives collection. Thank you also for the donation to the Chinatown Los Angeles: Yesterday & Today booklet.

TV & RADIO COVERAGE The Society and the Chinatown Los Angeles Walking Tour has received much publicity during the summer. Charles Wong has appeared on the Day Break Program KABC, Ch. 7 and on Radio KMAX.

Munson Kwok and Charles Wong were on the Gallery Program, KTLA, CH. 5, followed by two other appearances by Munson on Ch. 11 and Ch. 13.

Chuck Yee gave a lecture to the Geography Social Studies Class at Cal State University of Los Angeles on the role the Chinese played in the early development of Los Angeles.

Our appreciation to these three for their contributions to the community in promoting our Society.

DONATION: The Society received a monetary donation from Mr. & Mrs. Yee Chaw Lai on the occasion of their 70th Wedding Anniversary and 89th Birthdays. The Yees are parents of Society members John, George, Joe, Johnson and Chuck.

MEMBERSHIP Membership Chairperson Alice Wain has reported that the Society membership is nearing the 200 mark! This has been the important hurdle the Society has been trying to reach for the past few years. It's always been very close before. Alice reported an upsurge in paid dues since her personal letter to all delinquent members. Let's all pitch in and help the Society grow, Bring a friend!! Be a part of the Society in the making of history.

PAINTING - The Society has received a painting of Fong See, (father of Florence Leong) one of the early Los Angeles Pioneers who died in 1957. The artist was Lillian R. Deane. This portrait was presented to the Society by Gladys & Alfred Vaughan of Yucaipa, California, who celebrated their 60th Anniversary.

CONDOLENCE Our sincere condolence to Society members Edith and Robert Jung on the loss of their son Brian.

ELECTION TIME Keep in mind elections are around the corner. Committee members are Kaza Dong, Chairperson 754-9728, Howard Quon, 393-7339 and Betty Tong 293-7851. If you have any recommendations or those officers who want to serve another term, please give them a call.

CONGRATULATIONS to Judy Tachibana for her fine article on Japanese American Relocation which appeared in the Herald Examiner in August.

CHAIRPERSONS - ATTENTION - Our president Chuck requests all chairpersons of the various projects and subcommittees to submit a summary of their projects by November, 1981 in order that it may be recorded in the master file of our historical society.

NEWS n' NOTES will be published each month, containing details of coming events, community affairs, and news items pertaining to Society members. Please send all information to Mary Yee, 4721 Konya Drive Torrance, Ca. 90503 - Or call 542-2409.



CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: First Wednesday, October 7, 1981

TIME: 7:30pm, sharp

PLACE: Castelar Elementary School, Multipurpose Room
850 Yale Street
Los Angeles, Ca.
Parking under School playground, (entrance on
Hill Street, next to Methodist Church.)

AGENDA: Business Meeting

Program

THE LOUIE PRODUCE COMPANY AND THE CITY MARKET

MR. DAN LOUIE, JR.

Chinese helped to start the City Market in 1909 and have been a continuous influence ever since. Mr. Dan Louie, Jr., born and raised in the City Market's Chinese Community, has worked in the family firm since the late 1940's and is a fourth generation California farmer.

Currently, he is President of the Southern California Chinese Produce Association. Mr. Louie will share with us his first-hand knowledge of the Chinese community surrounding City Market; and the historic and contemporary role of the Chinese in the local produce industry.

This should be a very interesting evening.