



NEWS 'n' NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

appreciation of our chinese american heritage • a non-profit organization • 1648 redcliff street • los angeles, ca. 90026

November 1987

DECEMBER MEETING / ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Come one, come all! Our **CHRISTMAS PARTY** is just around the corner. We will have a brief meeting (including election of our 1988 officers) and then our potluck Christmas party which is always a huge success with scrumptious food galore!

DATE: Wednesday, December 2, 1987

TIME: 6:30 p.m. sharp!

PLACE: Castelar School, 840 Yale Street, Los Angeles Chinatown (park on school grounds — enter on College Street between Hill and Yale Streets). Meeting is in the multi-purpose room.

We have paper goods, but still need salads, desserts and especially main dishes (serving for 10). Please call and let us know what you can bring: Mary Yee (213) 542-2409, Helen Morrison (213) 389-1533 or Beverly Hom (818) 336-7900. Admission is one potluck dish (admits two). If you can't bring a dish, adults \$5 and children (under 10) \$3. If you are a new member or have never attended, please come. All year long, we work and strive to reach our many goals, but our Christmas party is a time of fun, food, fellowship and Christmas caroling. (See attached flyer and the "Want Ads"!)

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE !!!

IN THE NEWS

ELECTION - SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR CHSSC 1988

President	-	Angi Ma Wong
Vice President	-	Kipham Kan
Secretary	-	Franklin Mah
Membership Secretary	-	Suellen Cheng
Treasurer	-	Beverly Picazo

Board Members	-	Lillian Fong	Paul Louie
		Beverly Hom	Al Soo Hoo
		Bob Large	



EL PUEBLO HISTORIC MONUMENT ??? The people of California have quietly lost one of their most important properties: "There is hereby transferred to the City of Los Angeles all the right, title, and interest of the state in that property known as El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park . . . (it) shall hereafter be known as El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument." Senate Bill 53 passed September 11th without questions or public hearings, became law on the 29th, and, "Not later than January 1, 1989, the Director of General Services shall take all steps necessary to reflect the transfer . . ."

What will happen to El Pueblo, the most historic section of Los Angeles and a state historic park since 1953? This area reflects more than two hundred years of history of many different ethnic groups and has buildings of the most varied architectural styles in the city.

No one knows which City department will be selected to run El Pueblo. It could stay within the Department of Recreation and Parks which has administered it for better or worse since 1974, or it could come under the jurisdiction of the Cultural Affairs Department.

True, the tri-partite agreement by which El Pueblo has been governed since 1953 is an unworkable method of administration. None of the three agencies, State, County or City would, or perhaps could, assume the major responsibility for the development of the Park. For more than thirty years it has dragged on, never having adequate capital with which to restore the buildings and never being able to charge adequate rents to cover the necessary capital improvements. Having the ownership and administration of the park vested in one agency is definitely a good idea; choosing the City rather than the State is not.

Senate Bill 53 says that the park shall be governed according to the General Plan prepared in 1980, "except that the plan may be amended by the City of Los Angeles . . ." And further: "The City of Los Angeles shall operate, improve, maintain, construct, remodel . . . either directly or through independent contractors . . ." Who will watch over the three different sets of developers (Old LA Company, for the Pico-Garnier Block south of the Plaza; El Pueblo International for the County; and an as yet unknown developer for the Olvera, Main, Macy and Alameda Street blocks) so that what is left is one single, cohesive park, rather than three separate commercial areas? It would be tragic for El Pueblo to become one vast commercial tourist trap.

Another area of concern is shared by many of the different ethnic groups who have contributed so much to the history of the City: whether the interests of one ethnic group will supercede those of the rest of the population. The Plaza was the heart of the original Chinatown in Los Angeles. At one time Chinese people lived and worked on three sides of the Plaza; they occupied the old Lugo House from the late 1880s until its destruction in 1951. The Italians were very much involved, especially in Olvera Street. The French built the Garnier Building and several others in the area; the French Hospital nearby recently celebrated its 125th year. El Pueblo must be available to everyone. The history of all these people must be remembered and interpreted correctly.

A single strong management with power and enough prestige to act decisively is urgently needed. Perhaps the best way for the Park to be restored and developed with integrity and quality is for it to be run by an independent group, such as the Music Center Operating Company. That board is drawn from the highest level of respected leadership — professional, business and cultural — and the staff is knowledgeable and effective.

(Excerpts from the Associated Historical Societies of Los Angeles County, September, 1987 — Christie Bourdet, a life member of CHSSC and past President of LACHS.)

RECOGNITION FOR VOLUNTEER WORK. On November 6, 1987, three CHSSC members (also members of the Friends of the Chinatown Library) were honored at the Eagle Rock Branch Library for their volunteer work. They received certificates and flowers: Franklin Mah for his photography classes and English Conversation Center work, Ruby Ling Louie - President of the Friends of the Chinatown Library and Dolores Wong - fundraiser for the expansion of the Chinatown Library. Juliana Cheng, Senior Librarian of the Chinatown Branch Library, was also honored. Witnesses to the presentation were Howard Hew and Lillian Fong.

INVITATION FROM LACHS TO CHSSC. You are cordially invited: The Los Angeles City Historical Society will host a "Hollywood Holiday" dinner party on Tuesday, December 8, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

There will be favors and table prizes in a festive atmosphere. Speaker for the evening will be Marian Gibbons of Hollywood Heritage. There will be an opportunity to visit the Hollywood history exhibit, and to view some of the public rooms in this beautifully restored historic hotel.

Cost of the dinner is \$22.50 per person. Checks should be made out to Los Angeles City Historical Society and mailed to P. O. Box 41046, Los Angeles, CA 90041. Early reservations are recommended. For further information, call Christie Miles Bourdet (818) 792-1048.

MUSEUM NEWS. The following donations were made to the Chinese American Museum Fund: Grace Chow - \$100, Vera Barnes Cornell - \$25, Gilbert Leong - \$13.50, and Dr. Ray Lou - \$300. Many thanks to these supporters. Donations continue to be match \$1 for \$1.

more . . . CHSSC FALL DINNER - Sunday, October 18, 1987

Here's a full report from Mary Yee -- Since our last News 'n Notes was already on the press, I didn't get a chance to report on the Fall Dinner. I'm happy to say that it was a huge success. We made \$2,338.04 which included a \$25 donation from Chong Hing Goldsmith Corporation.

For those of you who did not attend, you missed one of the best! Our speaker was our very own Paul Chace of Chace Associates, Archaeologist and Anthropologist, University of California, Riverside. Paul gave an outstanding talk, "With Pulpit & Pen, The Early Life of Ng Poon Chew". Ng was a historical Chinese-American figure, Minister of Chinese Presbyterian Church and publisher of the first Chinese newspaper in Los Angeles, The Wah Mi Sam Po. Paul had excellent slides on the family and the church.

Also on the program, the Society honored two pioneers, Mr. Fung Chow Chan and Mr. Lun Chan. Dolores Wong gave a delightful presentation and slide show on their ventures into the Phoenix Bakery and East-West Federal Savings & Loan which now has 11 branches and other enterprises. We had a 10' x 14' screen (thanks to Franklin Mah) so everyone could see. Our MC was Al Soo-Hoo who did an outstanding job.

Our raffle, chaired by Sylvia and Jim Soo Hoo and Edith and Bob Jung, was the best!! We made \$599. We had about 50 prizes, and Sylvia got "The Country's Best Yogurt Company" to donate yogurt for dessert to everyone.

The Chans were very appreciative of the award and gave a touching thank you. (Scroll composed by Kipham's dad and calligraphy by Mr. Yen.) It was a nice climax to a beautiful evening which flowed from one event to another. We received many comments on how much everyone enjoyed the evening and I want to thank my committee who helped to make it such a success. They worked hard and it showed!! Thanks to Kipham Kan, Al Soo-Hoo, Suellen Cheng, Beverly Hom, Dolores Wong, Franklin Mah, Munson Kwok, Howard and Cathy Chan, Lillian Fong, Howard Hew, Ron Jung, Margie Lew, Richard Smith, Angi Ma Wong, Sylvia and Jim Soo Hoo, Edith and Bob Jung, Beverly and Carlos Picazo, Allen Dong, T. T. Kan, Sylvia and Stan Mu, Marie Wong, Dorothy Siu, Barkley Lee, and Elmo Gambarana.

And here's two interesting winners from our raffle. Dorothy Siu was the lucky one who won the \$25 gift certificate from May Company which was donated by Norman and Angi Ma Wong at the Fall Dinner. Dorothy also won a hand crocheted lap robe donated by Dolores and Delbert Wong. It's a coincidence that Dolores Wong was the winner of a pearl bracelet contributed by Dorothy Siu.

CONGRATULATIONS

Tracey Lee, daughter of CHSSC members Robert and Barbara Jean Lee, was married on November 14, 1987 to Keith Price. The wedding was at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles with Rev. Philip Lee officiating. The banquet was held at the Los Angeles Sheraton Grande Hotel. Congratulations, Tracey and Keith!

GET WELL WISHES

Robert (Bob) Large, Board Member, had a triple bypass on Tuesday, November 10. As of November 17, Bob is out of Intensive Care. He will be moving to Huntington Memorial for a few days and from there to a convalescent hospital for six weeks of rest and recuperation. Bob . . . Everyone wishes you well and a most speedy recovery.

Dorothy Siu was hospitalized for a few days. She's home now and doing fine. Take it easy, Dorothy! We're always thinking about you!

SYMPATHY

Member Lupe Chee's mother, Mrs. Lai Fong Lee, passed away on October 18 after a lengthy illness. CHSSC sends its condolences to Lupe, Frank and family.

INTEREST ITEM - ASIAN UNDERSTANDING. Radio station KPCC FM 89 (Pasadena City College) - November 30 - 8:00 p.m. — Panel on the Status of Asian American Women — Judy Chu, coordinator of Asian American Women's Studies at UCLA; Helen Lee, current President of the Asian Pacific Women's Network; and Yoon He Kim, a member of the APWN join John for this informative discussion of the political and socio-economic progress of Asian American women. For further information, contact Pasadena Area Community College District at (818) 578-7231.

THANK YOUS

Refreshments for the November general meeting were provided by Jim and Sylvia Soo Hoo, Suellen Cheng, Winifred Lee and Lillian Fong. Thank you for all the delicious goodies! And Jim and Sylvia, thanks for bringing such lovely

plumeria blossoms and purple chrysanthemums from your yard to decorate the table so nicely.

LETTERS /CARDS TO THE SOCIETY

Letter from Johnny Yee. He writes from Hong Kong on the American President Line's President Washington, "Hope to see you all at the Christmas Party"

Excerpts of Letter (10/28/87) from Board Member Marji Lee. Marji sends her greetings from Zhongshan University, Guangzhou, PROC. The weather has been damp, cold, and light rain. Here, the mosquitos never take a rest! The university is quite beautiful but she has been too busy to explore even their library! It has not been easy for her to get accustomed to life in China. It's not the food, but rather 'culture' shock of being Chinese — looking Chinese, yet not being able to speak any dialect. She has found the people in China to be very aggressive and quite rude — no social grace and customer service. There is no "dorm" food provided. One can either buy convenient one tickets for lunch and dinner at the local canteen, eat at the local restaurant, or cook for yourself. Guess what Marji does? #405 Canteen ring a bell? Shop for food everyday —sometimes two times a day. Intriguing to see fish, meats, turtles, snakes, snails, pheasants/fowl (tied to the mainframe of a bike), lots of fruits/vegetables at the street markets. Food is better than some provinces! She's allotted a certain amount for food/necessary incidentals each month. She misses the convenience and familiarity of her old schedule. Classes are quite demanding — having to learn Mandarin and Cantonese simultaneously. Classes are 14 hours a week; meet with tutors 7-10 hours a week; study 6-8 hours a night. On weekends, she tries getting out and away from the dorm. She's also been studying lots on Saturdays. Spent some time in Hong Kong visiting family and friends. Semester ends December 25 and her Program has organized a tour for December 28 - January 15. In her Cantonese class, she's the only girl — and the only Chinese! Mail takes approximately 13 days to arrive.

CALENDAR

Note: Paul Chace will be giving his speech and slide presentation entitled, "With Pulpit & Pen, The Early Life of Ng Poon Chew" at True Light Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles. If you are interested, please contact Mary Yee (213) 542-2409.

Saturday, November 7 thru Sunday, December 27 - Keisho Okayama/Richard Yokomi: Contemporary Art on display at the Doizaki Gallery at JACCC (Japanese American Cultural and Community Center) 244 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles (213) 628-2725. Gallery hours: 12:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily; closed Mondays. Admission is free.

Wednesday, December 2 - CHSSC's Christmas Party - 6:30 p.m. sharp! (see attached flyer).

Tuesday, December 8 - Friends of the Chinatown Library General Meeting - 5:30 p.m. optional dinner at Full House, 7:00 p.m. meeting at the Community Room. For further information, contact Ruby Ling Louie (213) 628-2496.

CALENDAR (con't)

Wednesday, December 9 - CHSSC Board Meeting -- 7:30 p.m. -- where? Please confirm meeting place with Angi Ma Wong (213) 541-1809 or Kipham Kan (213) 839-9233.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS - LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles:

Docent tours (1 hour) - tours are offered every Thursday and Friday at 1:00 p.m. and every Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in the Ahmanson Building.

The Quest for Eternity: Chinese Ceramic Sculptures from the People's Republic of China - Lectures and films will be presented in November in conjunction with this special exhibition, on view through 1/3/88, of 160 striking examples of Chinese funerary sculpture from the Neolithic period to the Ming Dynasty.

Sunday, November 22 - 3:30 p.m. - Lecture - "The Evolution and Iconography of the Tomb Guardian Figures" will be explored by Mary H. Fong, Associate Professor of Arts History, UC Davis.

Films - These films highlighting Chinese history and culture will be presented in November on Saturday afternoons. These films are part of a series of 13 color films, produced by Wango Weng in 1977, that will be presented during the course of the exhibition.

November 21 - 2:00 p.m.

China: The Heavenly Khan	(22 min.)
China: The Age of Maturity	(23 min.)
China: Under the Mongols	(18 min.)

November 28 - 2:00 p.m.

China: The Restoration	(22 min.)
China: The Manchu Rule	(19 min.)

Symposium - Distinguished scholars of Chinese culture will participate in a symposium addressing Chinese perceptions of the afterworld and the role of ceramic funerary sculpture as a mirror of Chinese civilization.

Saturday, December 5 - 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

First Session: Chinese Perceptions of the Afterlife

Sunday, December 6 - 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Second Session: Chinese Tomb Sculpture: A Mirror of Chinese Civilization

WANT ADS

Need VOLUNTEER PIANO PLAYER (or any other musician) for our December 2 Christmas Party Sing-Along. Must bring own instrument. Any interest, please contact Angi Ma Wong (213) 541-1809 or Mary Yee (213) 542-2409.

WANT ADS (con't)

All **BILLS "outstanding"** should be submitted before year end to Treasurer, Kipham Kan. Any questions, please call (213) 839-9233.

There is still room to **sign up for refreshments** through June, 1988. Please call Sylvia Soo Hoo, Refreshment Chair, (213) 221-5573 for information and schedule.

RECIPES. A call for recipes! Wendy Eads is compiling a cookbook, Riverside Chinatown Centennial Cookbook. It will contain historical antedotes and human interest stories. She is open to any contributions you have to offer to the book. Looking for simple and easy-to-prepare foods for festive occasions. You will be recognized for your recipes -- sorry, no honorariums! If you hit on restaurants, a plug will be made for the restaurant(s). Deadline for recipes is November 30, 1987. Any questions, please direct them to Wendy Eads at (714) 683-4418.

The Los Angeles Chinese Women's Club Juniors will have its **SWAP MEET** at PCC (Pasadena City College) on Sunday, January 10, 1988. If you have things you would like to **DONATE TO THE LACWCJ'S SWAP MEET**, please bring them to CHSSC's January 6, 1988 general meeting. If you have questions or want further information, please contact Doreen Chan (213) 726-9064 or Beverly Hom (818) 336-7900.

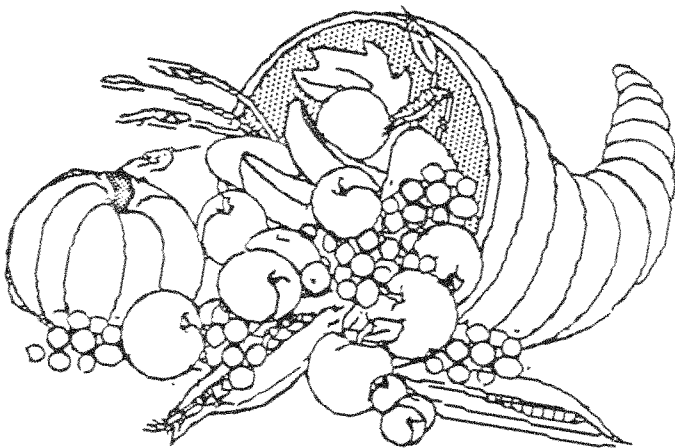
EDITOR'S NOTE - Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Staff contributors to N'nN: Christie Bourdet, Margie Lew, Ella Quan, Lillian Fong, Munson Kwok, Suellen Cheng, Angi Ma Wong, Mary Yee, Kipham Kan.

October 22 Mailing Session Supporters: Kipham Kan, Dorothy Siu, Franklin Mah, Al Soo-Hoo, and Lillian Fong.

"Bits of news" for News 'n Notes are always welcome! Please submit in writing or by phone to Bev Hom (818) 336-7900 no later than the 15th of the month. Because of space limitations and/or news items received after the 15th, your item may not appear in this issue of N'nN. Also, news items submitted are printed at the discretion of the editor.

Have yourselves a very blessed and fruitful "Happy Thanksgiving!" See you all for **PARTY TIME** on December 2!



Beverly M. Hom
News 'n Notes Editor

first class

PAUL CHACE
1823 KENORA DRIVE
ESCONDIDO, CA 92027

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
1646 REDCLIFF STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90028

PRIORITY
FIRST CLASS



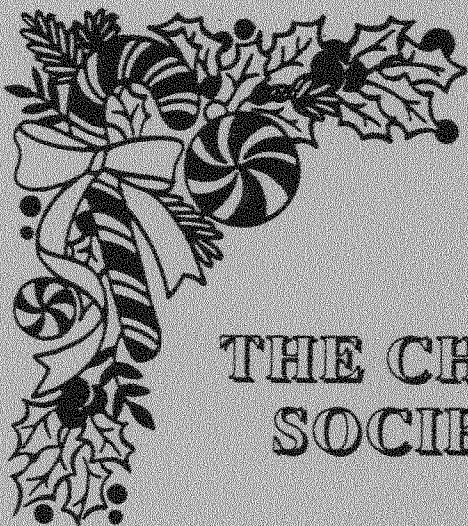
2710056

NOV 23 1987

U.S. POSTAGE

1.8





**THE CHINESE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA**

**invites you to its Annual
Christmas Potluck**

Wednesday, December 2, 1987

6:30 p.m.

Castelar School

840 Yale Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

See you all there for fun and fellowship!

**\$5 for adults \$3 children under 10 or a potluck dish will
admit two persons (bring one of the following: cooked
vegetable, salad, drinks, dessert)**



**FREE PARKING available on school grounds
(enter on College Street)**

