

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

appreciation of our chinese american heritage • a non-profit organization • 978 n. broadway, #206 • los angeles • ca 90012

March 1991

APRIL PROGRAM

Wednesday, April 3, 1991 7:30 p.m. Castelar School 850 Yale Street Los Angeles Chinatown "19th Century Los Angeles Chinese Burial Shrine"

The 19th Century Los Angeles Chinese Burial Shrine and the efforts to preserve it will be the object of our April meeting. As you were informed a few months ago, the burial shrine erected in 1888 in what is now Evergreen cemetery, has been granted the status of cultural monument. This status, however, is only valid for one year and during this year, efforts must be made to ensure its further preservation. The Society has formed a committee to examine the various preservation possibilities.

At this meeting, the committee will present historical and contextual information on the burial shrine and the process through which it became a cultural monument. A slide show will accompany this presentation. The general membership will also be consulted on the best alternative for the preservation of this memorial to early Chinese immigrants.

Come and find out more about this landmark and voice your opinion on how it should be preserved!

Nominations

The Nominations Committee is proposing the following slate for the 1991-92 Officers and Board of Directors:

President

Tom McDannold

Vice President

Suellen Cheng

Secretary

Susan Woo

Treasurer Financial Secretary Franklin Mah

Tom Eng

Membership Secretary

Mary Yee

Board of Directors Eugene Cooper Stanley Mu Cy Wong Sue Yee Dexter Wong

Remain on the Board (due to staggered terms) Ronald Fung **Beverly Hom** Robert Large

Nominations will be solicited from the floor at the April 3rd meeting. All those nominated must have been previously asked and consented to run.

CALENDAR

April 1, 1991. China Society of Southern California. Dinner meeting, at the Golden Dragon Restaurant. Eric Y. Tsai will give presentation on Chinese porcelain. For reservations, call Ms. Rina Rae Sherman at (213) 936-0327.

April 13-14, 1991. Language Rights 1991, a conference sponsored by the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California. Holiday Inn / Convention Center, Los Angeles. \$20 in advance, \$25 on site, \$10 students. (213) 748-2022.

April 18-21, 1991. Gold Rush conference. 44th Annual California Institute. Followed by a field trip into the Mother Lode: a narrated tour conducted by a team of specialists in geology, histography and geography with special site tours conducted by local experts. If interested, call Kipham at (213) 215-3703 for flyer and form.

April 27, 1991. East West Players Benefit: Dinner Show and Dance. Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles. (818) 280-9385.

April 27, 1991. Old Towne Days: a major annual fundraiser of the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society. (805) 254-1275.

April 28th, 1991. Spring Festival Benefit at Pacific Asia Museum. Event features art, antiques and collectibles from the countries of the Pacific Rim. Also food, wine and music. (818) 449-2742.

Los Angeles Conservancy
April 7, 1991. Historic tour of San Marino
Beginning June 5, 1991: "The Last Remaining
Seats V": 270 years of theater on Broadway.
Hollywood's Golden years on Los Angeles'
Greatest Silver screens.

• 3 workshops offered by the preservation network program

4/6: What preservationists need to know about real estate development

4/27 & 5/4: Researching and designating cultural resources in your community (213) 623-2489.

On May 11, 1991, the Volunteers of America will present the 1991 "Marco Polo" Award to renowned celebrity couple, Steve Allen and Jayne Meadows for their contribution in creating bridges of understanding between the American and Chinese peoples. Mr. Allen and Ms. Meadows will, in turn, present the Volunteers' Asian American Community Service award to Ms. Deborah Ching, Executive Director of the Chinatown Service Cemter; Mr. Irvin Lai, Past Grand President of the Chinese American Citizen's Alliance, and member of CHSSC and Dr. Munson Kwok, a volunteer to countless Asian American organizations, including our own Society of which he was President. The presentations will take place at a gala dinner to be held at the Shangri-La restaurant in Los Angeles. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Volunteers of America's China Project, sending people-to-people humanitarian aid to China. Tickets to the event are available to the members of CHSSC at a special price of \$75 (regular price is \$100). For information or reservations, please call Kipham Kan at (213) 215-3703.

Board Motions

At its January meeting, the Board of Directors passed the following motions:

- to reaffirm that the [burial shrine] project is worthwhile pursuing, to look at the cost of restoration alternatives and to take the Board's decision to the general membership.
- that the Archives committee should officially meet with R. Greewood and Metro Rail to discuss the possibility of obtaining the Chinatown dig collection.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 17, 1991, 7:00 p.m., Castelar School.

L.A. Digs...

Excerpt from Only in L.A. by Steve Harvey, Metro Section of the *Los Angeles Times*, March 16, 1991...

(after discussing used toilets in Santa Monica)

Actually, L.A. is focusing attention on two buried toilets. Archeologists at a Metro Rail site near Union Station found a couple of 6-foot-deep redwood-lined privies that date back about 110 years to the area's original Chinatown.

"They contain old ceramic jugs, bottles, and food containers," said spokesman Robert Tinajero.

"When they [the privies] wore out, the Chinese would use them as trash containers."

The recovered items, offering insights into the daily life of Chinatown, will be displayed at Metro Rail sites. Hard to imagine L.A.'s more recently buried toilets will ever be of such interest to archeologists...

Speaking of artifacts..., hundreds of small Chinese artifacts found last year during excavation for the Metro Rail project are on display at three sites Downtown.

Display cases are at Union Station, in the window of the Metro field office at 713 W. 7th St. and in the Fine Arts Builing lobby at 811 W. 7th St. Pieces include hand-painted porcelain dishes, cooking tools, jewelry, shoes, toys and figurines, and medicine bottles. They represent objects used by early residents of the first Chinatown in Los Angeles.

ARTS Inc. is offering its 2nd annual Multicultural Arts Management Internship Program to take place this summer. They are looking for Asian American and other minorities students. These students will work in a L.A.-based arts organization to experience what it is like to be an arts manager and participate in workshops and seminars. Each student will receive a \$3,000 fellowship. Deadline is April 15, 1991. (213) 627-9276.

Membership News

The Museum of Chinese American History extends sincere thanks to Nana Cooper, Beatrice Craspar, Robert Large, Calvin Lee, Winnifred Lee, Margie Lew, Herbert Tom, Tom McDannold, Peggy Wong and Reger Wong for their special volunteer assistance in moving and cataloging artifacts recently acquired for the Museum. Thanks a million!

Anyone interested in a personally conducted tour of Japan with Charles Wong, former Board Member of the CHSSC? Please call Dolores Wong at (213) 662-6081.

Bill and Marjorie Chun Hoon have a new granddaughter, Sarah, and Irving Lai is the grandfather of recently arrived Marissa Renee. Congratulations to the proud grandparents!

Juliana Cheng who is the former Branch Librarian of the Chinatown Library is being promoted to the position of Manager of the North East Region of the Los Angeles Public Library. She will be supervising eleven branch libraries. Congratulations, Juliana!

We have to thank Sylvia Soo Hoo and her volunteers for the delicious refreshments provided at our monthly meetings.

Items for News 'n Notes are always welcome! Please submit in writing no later than the 15th of each month to: Bev Hom

15744-25 Tetley Street Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Contributors in this issue: Randy Bloch, Ella Quan, Beulah Quo, Dolores Wong, Munson Kwok, Suellen Cheng, Susan Woo

Last month's mailing: Dorothy Siu, Franklin Mah, Suellen Cheng, Munson Kwok, Richard Smith, Kipham Kan.

THANK YOU!

Back up editor Kipham Kan is sitting in at the terminal and assuming all responsibility for this issue.

Publications Price List

Linking Our Lives: Chinese American Women of Los Angeles	No. pages	Cost	CA Tax	<u>P/H</u>
	138	9.95	6.5%	1.50
Sweet Bamboo: A Saga of a Chinese American Family	227	12.95	6.5%	1.50
The Golden Years 1938-1988: Chinatown Los Angeles 50th Year	70	3.00	6.5%	1.50
1990 Chinese Moon Festival, Los Angeles Chinatown	48	2.00	6.5%	1.50
Walking Tour Map, Revised	•	1.50	incl.	incl.
Gum Saan Journal (June and December issues free with membership). Otherwise, per issue		2.00	6.5%	0.50

Mail Orders to:

Ella Y. Quan

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