



# NEWS 'n NOTES

## CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

appreciation of our chinese american heritage • a non-profit organization • p. o. box 862647, los angeles, ca

JANUARY 1993

GUNG HAY FAT CHOY! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 3, 1993 - 7:30 p.m.  
Castelar School - Multi-purpose Room  
840 Yale Street  
Los Angeles Chinatown

### THE BECOMING OF OLD CHINATOWN

Los Angeles' earliest Chinese enclave was located at the Plaza. Within a few years, the land directly to the east of Alameda grew from a largely undeveloped area to what would become known as Apablaza Street. Our guest speaker, Lynn Kronzek, will explore the reasons for this cross-boulevard migration and discuss how the former agricultural tract blossomed (or "Appleblossomed") into Chinatown. Slides will portray the evolution- and ultimate demise- of Apablaza Street. Ms. Kronzek's presentation is derived from a forthcoming Environment Impact Report to Metro Rail.

Lynn Kronzek is a member of our society and principal of Lynn C. Kronzek & Associates, a firm which focuses on both public history and management consultation for non-profit and government agencies. She and her husband/colleague, Richard Flom, recently were engaged by the Angeles National Forest, U.S. Forest Service, to develop interpretive history themes. Ms. Kronzek also is author of Fairfax: A home, A Community, A Way of Life, a book about the growth of Los Angeles' Fairfax district.

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Mark your calendars -- COME MARCH 13 -- LUNCH AND PROGRAM AT  
THE FAMOUS FORMOSA CAFE IN WEST HOLLYWOOD

**REALITY MEETS FANTASY: TOURING FORMOSA.** Imagine Clark Gable or Ava Gardner. Imagine Elvis. And hundreds of others. Noel Toy. Up to Jay Thomas, giving an interview to USA Magazine in that place. Now recall the defunct glory of the Brown Derby, the Ambassador Hotel. The faded Chasen's, the diminished Roosevelt Hotel, and now the Polo Lounge. Unbelievably what's left of this magical Los Angeles of the movies, an authentic piece of living Hollywoodiana, is owned and operated by Lem Quon, himself a member of that increasingly legendary restaurant family. Lem, a true

cousin to Chinatown's Mama Quon of Grand Star. Lem, who learned the business at the famed Tuey Far Low of Old Chinatown, acclaimed the oldest establishment then. Mr. Lem Quon is owner of the Formosa Cafe in West Hollywood. Some fortunate members of CHSSC saw all this and more. The CHSSC committee, consisting of Edith and Bob Jung, Sue Yee, Don Loo, Eugene Moy and family, and Munson Kwok met to plan a pioneer presentation to Mr. Quon and his noted place. There is more. The scores of star photos, the interior of a real Red Car, written up by David Cameron. Situated on the Warner Communications lot right by CBS, the Formosa remains a gathering place for stars and the near-great and near-famous. Some of you members will be able to join the celebration event honoring Mr. Quon and his remarkable place. Watch your News 'n Notes for February.

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#### **CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFERS 1993 SCHOLARSHIP**

to students pursuing Chinese-American studies. Qualifications for the scholarship include: presently a full time student with Sophomore or Junior standing at an accredited college or university in Southern California, a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0, and taking relevant course work in Chinese-American studies within the humanities or social sciences. Completed applications and supporting documents must be submitted to the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, Scholarship Committee, P. O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647. Applications should be postmarked no later than March 19, 1993. Finalists will be contacted for an interview. For more information, call (213) 621-3171.

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Donations are always welcome to support the Scholarship Fund. Please make checks payable to "CHSSC" -- designated Scholarship Fund -- and send to: Dexter Wong, CHSSC Scholarship Chair, 17647 Mapes Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701.

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#### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** - Volunteers are urgently needed on the Ways & Means Committee (formed for fundraising activities for the CHSSC Society). For further information, contact CHSSC President Sue Yee at (818) 799-8396.

**HELP WANTED** - Do you know of any photographs of pregnant women made in your generation or your parents' generation? We are seeking family photographs of pregnant women for a scholarly book, a history of how images of pregnancy have changed over time and how they have been used in different cultural communities within the U.S. If you can send photos (originals or copies) to Carol Nye, P.O. Box 2467, Fallbrook, CA 92088 by March 15, we will make slides of them for our archive and return them to you. A small honorarium will be paid if they are used in the book (with your permission). The book is co-authored by Sandra Matthews, Professor of Photography at Hampshire College, and Laura Wexler, Professor of Womens' Studies at Yale University. For more information, please call Sandra Matthews (413) 549-4600, ext. 575 or Carol Nye

(818) 999-0372 or (619) 723-3388. We hope to hear from you!.

**FANTASY MEETS REALITY: CHINATOWN SQUAD** - Picture the "mysterious" Old Chinatown of the 1910's and 1920's. Floating through the community, somehow, is the LAPD of that era, the Chinatown Squad headed by Lt. Willard Smith. Lt. Smith was apparently the "Sgt. Manion" of Los Angeles Chinatown. (Manion was the legendary lawman of San Francisco Chinatown for many years.) Who remembers Smith and the Chinatown Squad? His grandson, Jack F. Smith (no, NOT the columnist) would like to know how to fill out his family history, which he says begins in California in 1812. Lt. Smith was born 1869 and died 1945. He became a deputy sheriff in Temecula in 1885 and joined LAPD in 1900, serving until 1924. Undoubtedly, this history of a piece of Chinatown will be colorful, and any information would help Mr. Smith. Contact Ella Quan (213) 621-3171 or Munson Kwok (310) 645-1369.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. PAUL G. CHACE** - You'll have to talk to loyal member Paul Chace differently now. Last month he was honored with a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Riverside. His subject-dissertation was on the Marysville, California Bok Kai Festival. Paul has participated in many of the Society's visits to historical sites and excavations. The "learned doctor" now plans to find suitable position at some learned college or university. Calling all colleges!

**THANK YOU** - to Mrs. Janet David of P. Q. Canada for \$15 donation to the CHSSC Scholarship Fund via our members Steven and Ella Leong.  
- to Aurora Bahou, Ella Quan, Sylvia Soo Hoo, and Ruth Lung for the refreshments at our January general meeting.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES** - Don't miss out on a membership to CHSSC! Dues are \$15 member and \$5 (additional for same household or senior), \$25 institutional member, and \$200 life member. Dues are payable January 1 of each year to CHSSC and should be mailed to Mary Yee, Membership Secretary, 4721 Konya Drive, Torrance, CA 90503.

**NEW LIFE MEMBERS** - Congratulations to our latest life members, Marianna Cushnie and Raymond Peter!

**WORLD TRAVELLERS AMONG US** - A few of our Society members are starting the New Year very nicely -- they're busy travelling abroad. Munson and Suellen Cheng Kwok are spending a few weeks visiting and celebrating the Chinese New Year in Taiwan. As for Dexter and Winnie Wong, they've returned from their three week Christmas/New Year's trip to Taiwan. And our Financial Secretary, Franklin Mah, is busy relaxing, enjoying, and photographing his way around the Antarctica. (Way to go, Franklin! Stay warm with the thermals!)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Dorothy Siu (85th) and Elsie Wong (80th).

**1992 FOCAL AWARD** - Lawrence Yep is the recipient of the 1992 Friends of Children and Literature Award for his book, Child of the Owl. The FOCAL Award is given to an author for a creative work

which enriches a child's appreciation for and knowledge of California. FOCAL is the Friends group supporting the Children's Literature Department of the LAPL Central Library. The award will be presented at a noon banquet on February 27 at the Ocean Seafood Restaurant, 747 North Broadway, LA Chinatown. Tickets are \$15 for FOCAL members, \$18 for non-members. Please contact Renny Day at Central Library.

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**PALOS VERDES ART CENTER (PVAC)  
CHINESE CULTURAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL  
(February 21 - April 24)**

All events are held at PVAC unless otherwise noted. Each of you will be receiving in a separate mailing the festival calendar of events. Here's a sample of what's to come ...

February 2 - Class (1:30-2:30) Contemporary Chinese Painting - Diana Wong. Ms. Wong, founder/director of the Merging One Gallery of Contemporary Art in Santa Monica. As an artist, her award-winning works have been exhibited throughout the Southeast Asia, Europe and North America. She will share her perspective of contemporary directions in Chinese art.

February 21 - Chinese New Year Celebration - Golden Cove Plaza 12:00-4:00 - Music, martial arts and performances, tantalizing foods, exhibits and demonstrations of a wide variety of folk arts.

Lecture series - ten lectures on varied subjects of traditional Chinese culture by outstanding speakers. Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 beginning January 19. \$60 for series, \$7 for individual lecture. Schedule available.

PVAC is located at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Crestridge Road in Rancho Palos Verdes. For information and registration for all events, call Palos Verdes Art Center (310) 541-2479.

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## CALENDAR

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| January 23  | GUNG HAY FAT CHOY! . . . Happy Chinese New Year!<br>----- "Year of the Rooster (4691)" -----  |
| January 24* | FASHION SHOW LUNCHEON   |
| January 30  | WORLD WELCOMES THE CHINESE NEW YEAR -- Parade<br>10:00 a.m. in the Alhambra/San Gabriel area.<br>For more info, call Johnny Yee (818) 572-0459.   |
| February 1  | THE CHINA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA invites you<br>to its general monthly dinner meeting at Golden<br>Dragon Restaurant, 960 North Broadway, Chinatown.<br>Social hour 6:15 p.m., dinner 7:00 p.m. Members<br>\$10, guests \$12. Dinner reservations may be sent<br>to Ms. Rina Rae Sherman, 319 South Gardner Street, |

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Los Angeles, CA 90036, (213) 936-0327. Evening's program is titled LOS ANGELES CHINESE FOLK DANCERS by Olivia Liou and Group.

February 6

MISS L.A. CHINATOWN BEAUTY PAGEANT to be held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, 9876 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills.

February  
12-14\*

COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

February 13

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE 2:00 p.m., Los Angeles Chinatown. Meet 1:00 p.m. on New High Street between Alpine and College Streets in Chinatown. Attire is red tops, black slacks, black shoes. We'll be marching with our many U.S. flags -- red, white, and blue. For info, contact Johnny Yee (818) 572-0459.

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Sign-up sheets for parade will be available (once again) at the February general meeting.  
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February 17

CHSSC BOARD MEETING - 6:30-8:30 p.m., CHSSC Office, 969 North Broadway, Los Angeles. Parking is available at Castelar School or Mandarin and Bamboo Plazas.

February 19\*

CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET

February  
27-28

MARYSVILLE, CALIFORNIA CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR  
For details, contact Paul Chace (619) 743-8609.

February 28\*

15TH ANNUAL 5K/10K FIRECRACKER RUN

Note: For further information on star (\*) items, contact the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (213) 617-0396.

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Items for News 'n Notes are always welcome! Please submit in writing no later than the 15th of each month to: Bev Hom Tsao, 15744-25 Tetley Street, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745. Items submitted after the due date may not always be included in this issue.

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Special thanks to contributors in this issue: Elmo Gambarana, Dexter Wong, Don Loo, Munson Kwok, Carol Nye, China Society, Lara Clardy (FOCAL), Angi Ma Wong, and Palos Verdes Art Center. Last month's mailing volunteers: Yours truly!  
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