



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 90086-2647 (213) 621-3171

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DECEMBER, 1994

PROGRAM

REINTERPRETING THE VICTORIAN HOUSE

a lecture and slide presentation by

Merry Ovnick, Ph.D.

Professor of Cultural History,

California State University - Northridge

(book signing party follows program)

DIRECTORS

Randall Bloch
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Eugene Moy
Ella Quan

Wednesday January 4, 1995 @ 7:30 PM

Castelar School Multipurpose Room

(free parking on playground)

840 Yale Street, L.A. Chinatown

General meetings are held
the first Wednesday of every
month except July and August

CHSSC Office
(213) 621-3171

Our first program for the new year will be presented by Professor Merry Ovnick of Cal State Northridge. She will provide some fresh perspectives on Victorian style homes, which dotted the Los Angeles landscape in the

growth period prior to the turn of the century, and on the varied peoples who built and occupied them. This topic will be of relevance to our Historical Society, which will soon close escrow on a property with two Victorian homes.

In addition to the program, Dr. Ovnick will briefly discuss her newly published book, Los Angeles: The End of the Rainbow (Balcony Press, November 1994, 180 illus.). The book can be purchased at the meeting, and Professor Ovnick will be available to sign copies.

This evening's program will be co-sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH). Richard Rowe, who is editor of the information-packed SAH Newsletter and Calendar, assisted with arrangements for this program.

"WOMAN WARRIOR" AND "TO LIVE" - Hold off going to a movie or play these days until you check with Elmo Gambrana, Ways and Means Chairperson, who has gotten special group rates for two attractions the next two months.

A Chinese film just opened. "To Live" is a story of three generations of a family in China from the 1940's to the 1960's, directed by Zhang Yi Mu ("Red Sorghum" and "Raise the Red Lantern") and starring Gong Li (Farewell My Concubine). Our tickets to the Laemmle Sunset 5 Movie Theater in West Hollywood will cost \$8.00. We plan to go on Saturday, January 21, 1995, 4 P.M. showing.

Very soon you will be seeing advertisements for an Los Angeles premier of a new play at the Ahmanson/Doolittle Theater on Vine Street in Hollywood. Adapted from Maxine Hong Kingston's book "The Woman Warrior", the play of the same name tells about a young woman surrounded by her family, cultural myths and personal realities in upper California. The full-

scale production with original music played by a mixed ensemble will cost \$28 per person. The date planned is Friday evening, February 10, 1995. Any showing at a later date will cost \$40 for a lodge-balcony seat. The play opens to the public on February 16, 1995. Elmo needs to hear from you regarding this new exciting entertainment--the film, play or both as soon as possible. Call him or Ella Quan **NOW**: Elmo Gambrana(213) 733-2927 or Ella Quan (213) 255-6487. They need to know which show you want, how many tickets, and if you would like to join them for dinner after the shows. Dinner locations to be announced. Help the society, and add to your New Year's enjoyment!!

CHSSC'S FIRST HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE was a huge success. Wizard organizer Doreen Nakayama, CHSSC volunteers, outside vendors and many friends were on hand at 7 a.m. to help set up for the 9-3 sales. Thanks and appreciation go to the committee and many volunteers such as Elsie Chan, Suellen Cheng, Lucille Choy, Marianna Cushnie, Susan Dickson, Susan Fong, Fred Duran, Jim Fong, Cindy Fong, Elmo Gambarana, Elsie Inase, Munson Kwok, Al and Margie Lew, Winifred Lew, Don Loo, Ruth Lung, Franklin Mah, Eugene and Susan S. Moy, Ben Nakayama, Ella Quan, Luci Suehiro, Cy Wong, Johnny Yee, Sue Yee, Henrietta and William Yuan.

The organization of Chinese Women Juniors also provided a lot of help as well as manning their own table. They include President Chris Chen, Nancy Choy, Marita Louie, Connie and Jean Ng, Joyce Quon, Doreen Sam, Lily Tom, Carmen Wong, Pauline Sam Wong. Sylvia Soo Hoo was in charge of the whole Bake Sales-Food effort and applauds the cooperation and hard work of her crew: Lucille Choy, Marjorie Chun-Hoon, Marianna and Martha(mother) Cushnie, Cindy Fong, Sue C. Hoy, Irene Jong, Mary Yee Kwok, Al and Margie Lew, Winifred Lew, Ruth Lung, Cy Wong, Sue Yee and Henrietta and William Yuan.

Generous donors of items for the boutique included Lucille Choy, Marianna Cushnie, Gim Fong, Lillian Fong, Wanda Fong, Sue C. Hoy, Marji Lee, Winifred Lew, Pauline Lum, Ruth Lung, Jeff Nakasone, Ben and Doreen Nakayama, Phoenix Bakery, Angi Ma Wong, Frank Yee and Nancy Yee. Our thanks must also go to the commercial vendors who took the chance of participating in our first boutique effort. Come to the January meeting to hear the outcome of this one day first effort.

REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER was generously donated by Mai Diep to CHSSC. It is now in our Bernard Street garage and came in very handy during the Boutique. Thanks to the "muscle" crew of Albert Lew and his truck, Cy Wong, and Eugene Moy who brought it from Mai Diep's house to Bernard Street.

CONDOLENCES TO

-the family of **DONALD CHANG**. Many of his friends and relatives have donated to our Chinese Historical in his memory.

-Jeanette Young on the death of her brother, **BUD**, on December 9 following internal surgery. We last saw them at our November Fall Dinner.

-the family of **KUI YI ZHENG**, a faithful member who came often to our monthly meetings by himself from El Monte. He will be missed

"THE COMING MAN" - The "Coming Man" has arrived. Philip Choy's collection of 19th Century cartoons and lithography (many are in color) are on display at the new SUP Bookstore, 111 N. Atlantic Blvd., Suite 228 opposite the "Harbor Village Restaurant." Choy's collection has been over 30 years in the making. The exhibition runs until the end of the month, December

31, at a new Asian American bookstore which is a wonder in itself, the emerging equal of the renowned Eastwind bookstore in San Francisco.

The cartoons, which depict the so-called "ugly Chinese" during an era of rampant anti-Chinese sentiments, show the political and social attitudes of the time, mostly against but sometimes surprisingly for these new immigrants of a century or more ago. A very high quality book in full color entitled "The Coming Man" shows and interprets these lithographs. The volume is on sale at SUP. Many of the materials were first previewed as part of the Exclusion Conference held November 1993 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Acts. The authors, Philip Choy, Lorraine Dong, and Marlon Hom, are our good friends and members of the Chinese Historical Society of America (S.F.) Why is it called "The Coming Man"? That is the somewhat obscure title of a cartoon series running sporadically for a decade in one of the noted illustrated magazines of that period.

"ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS..." - The Society's own most recent book, unveiled in November, has also arrived cloaked in its colorful designer cover. This book promises to be an "hot" seller for those serious or just curious about Chinese America. Available now in L.A. only through the Society (i.e. Ella Quan) at \$20.00 plus \$3.00 mailing (it's heavy at 507 pages) plus CA. tax of \$1.65. Proceeds benefit the joint 10 year old CHSSC/UCLA Asian American Studies Center Project Fund. Order for Chinese New Year from Ella (213) 255-6487 or mail your request to CHSSC: Book Dept., P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA., 90086-2647. Allow 4 weeks. *By the way, all conferees of the 1992 Conference who pre-ordered the book at \$15 should have received their order directly from the printer by now. If not, get in touch with Ella or Munson ASAP (310) 645-1369.*

"SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY" AT THE GENE AUTRY MUSEUM - The big excitement at the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum right now is "Crafting Devotions", which has to be seen because it is hard to describe in a brief manner. Those (like Elmo G., Munson K., or Suellen C.) who liked wandering at opening receptions (after seeing the great Mr. Autry himself) discovered "Spirit of Community", including an attractive, well-crafted exhibit on the Chinese who built the West. More than the railroad builders are portrayed here. Contributors to artifacts on display include Gilbert Leong, Munson Kwok, Dorothy Siu, and George Chin of the CFO family. The image of Dorothy's mother is swiftly becoming a Southern California regional icon, as she appears "life size" at the Autry and also graces the cover of "Origins and Destinations". A technical advisor for the Chinese exhibit is Suellen Cheng. Seven other communities are highlighted in this relatively new exhibition. In its increasing sensitivity, the Western Heritage Museum has even redone their Pioneers' Mural in the reception hall. The Chinese man now looks more optimistic and visionary. Los Angeles Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance had protested the previously downcast demeanor. Perhaps VP and Program Chair Sue Yee will organize a field trip if enough members ask.

PARADES - Johnny Yee is assembling marchers NOW for at least three parades for the Chinese New Year: Valley Blvd., Chinatown, and Marysville. Call him to sign up: (818) 572-0459.

MARYSVILLE, ANYONE? - We are going to the Bok Kai Festival for the second consecutive year, in early March 1995. We will be led by our World War II veterans in the parade. For the intrepid explorer, Johnny will take you into the Mother Lode or even to Weaverville to learn what the Chinese did in those places. (818) 572-0469.

PLEASE PAY YOUR 1995 DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS - Your greeting card from CHSSC this year has been the dues bill format and letter. We hope you have had no trouble

All hands
Feb 18
6:00p

LA
Feb 18
2:00p

Many
Mar 4

using this new administrative format and we do encourage everyone to renew and bring in a friend. There are exciting activities and programs ahead in this, the 20th year of the Society. ***Remember, everyone must subscribe to the "Gum Saan Journal" to receive it in 1995. This includes Life Members!! Two major issues at least are being planned by Editor Emma W. Louie.***

IN SEARCH OF ROOTS - If you are a Chinese American aged 16 to 25, whose ancestors came to the United States from Guangdong Province's Pearl River Delta area, this program can help you research your family history and genealogy both here and in China. For applications, due back on January 15, 1995, contact Vivian Chiang, Chinese Culture Center, 750 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94108, (415) 986-1822

HIRE A UCLA STUDENT - UCLA Federal Work-Study Community Service Program which promotes the part-time employment of students is offering applications to public and non-profit organizations. Deadline for hiring is January 16, 1995. Call (310) 206-0446.

NEW YEAR'S EVE MURDER MYSTERY - CHSSC members and owners of The Winnedumah Hotel, a Bed & Breakfast Inn in Independence, CA invites you to welcome the new Year playing sleuth in their outrageous Murder Mystery Evening. \$75 per person includes dinner, all of the above and Saturday night lodging, and breakfast. Dec. 31-Jan. 1. Call (619) 878-2040 for more information.

CHINESE NEW YEAR of the BOAR 4693

January 28, 29	Flower Market
January 29	Fashion Show
January 31	Chinese New Year Day
February 4	Miss L.A. Chinatown Pageant
February 11	Little King and Queen Contest
February 18	Golden Dragon Parade
February 25	Chinese New Year Banquet
February 26	Firecracker 5K/10K Run
March 30	Golf Tournament
September	Moon Festival

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CENTINELA VALLEY CALIFORNIA is having Holidays Open House on Sunday, January 8, 1995 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Centinela Adobe Complex. Music will be provided by New Sounds of Hawthorne. Refreshments will be served.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTEREY PARK is celebrating its 25th anniversary in the City Hall lobby with refreshments and music on January 9, 1995, 6:00 p.m. All Historical Society members and friends are invited. RSVP by January 4th to Pauline Lemire (818) 281-6514 or Louise Davis (818) 281-1920.

ASSOCIATED HISTORICAL SOCIETIES OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY (AHSAC) will be holding a mini-conference at the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum, 1539 Euclid Street, Santa Monica (between Broadway and Colorado) on January 28, 9a.m. - 1p.m. For additional information, call (818) 792-1048.

1995 SOUTHERN SYMPOSIUM OF CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES (CCHS) to be held February 17 - 19, 1995 at Heritage Junction Park, Newhall. Full two days of workshops and tours emphasizing the unique history of the Santa Clarita Valley. Call SCVHS at (805) 255-7962 to be placed on the invitation mailing list.

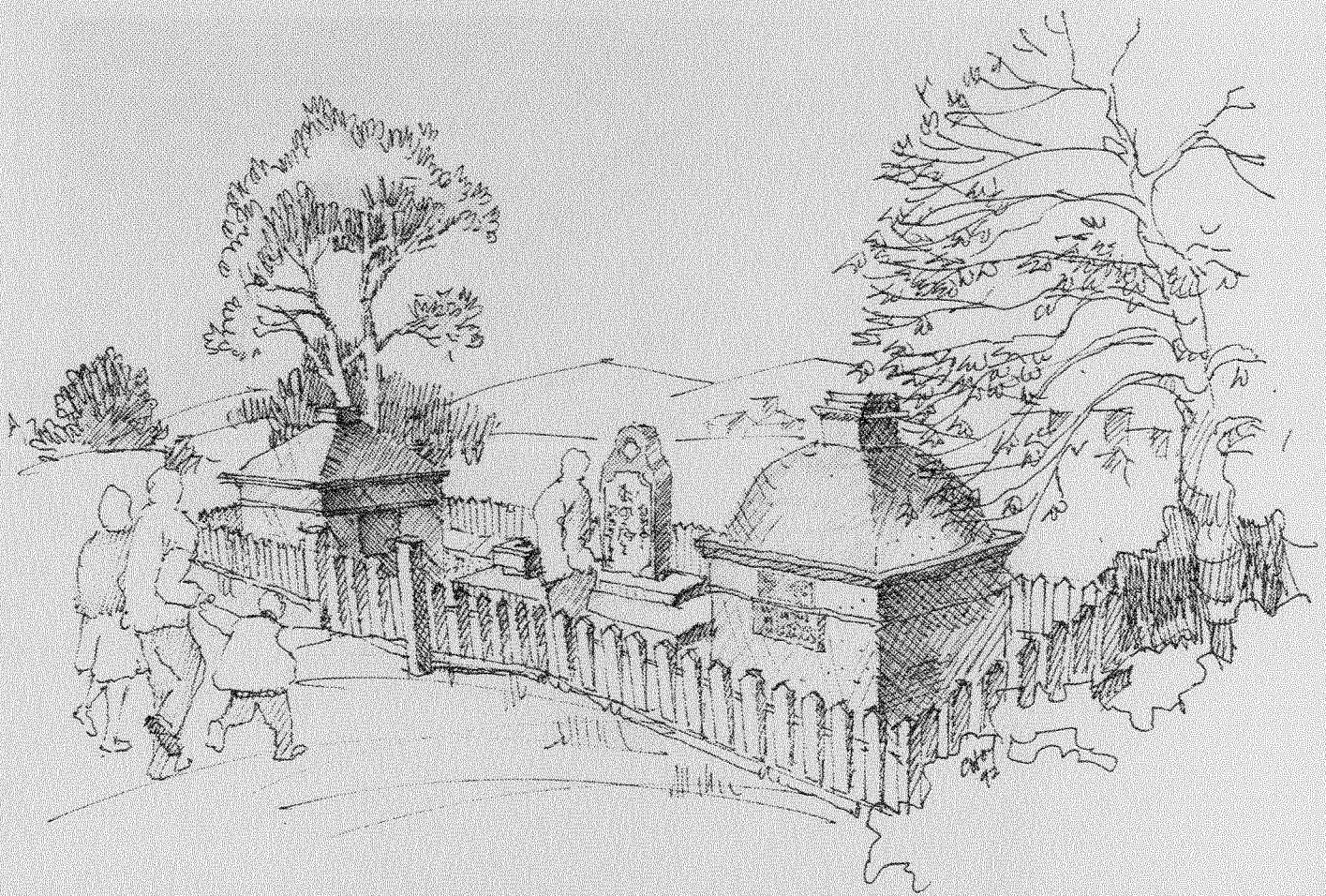
The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

Cordially Invites You to Attend a

Restoration Groundbreaking Ceremony

19th Century Chinese Memorial Shrine

Evergreen Cemetery, Los Angeles



10:00 o'clock in the morning

Thursday, January 12, 1995

Evergreen Cemetery, 204 N. Evergreen Avenue, Los Angeles

Directions to Evergreen Cemetery from First Street and Broadway in Downtown Los Angeles: Drive east on First Street through Little Tokyo and over the First Street Bridge into Boyle Heights. Proceed approximately 1 1/2 mile further to the corner of First Street and Evergreen Avenue. Turn left on Evergreen, go 1/2 block, and make an immediate right turn into Evergreen Cemetery. Once inside, proceed along the road that runs on the right perimeter of the cemetery. Make no turns. Once the road starts to curve to the left (north) you have reached the monument site and may park along the road.

HOLIDAY GIFTS

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Shopping Guide



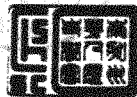
ORIGINS AND DESTINATIONS: 41 ESSAYS ON CHINESE AMERICA

NEW!!!

The Society's newest book presents an engaging, and oftentimes moving, expression of the Chinese American experience. This collection of essays will be a valuable resource for scholar and layperson alike. 507 pp., 6"x 9", softbound. Coeditors: Munson A. Kwok & Ella Y. Quan, November 1994, Lib. of Congress Cat. 94-067955. ISBN 0-930377-03-6 ea. \$20.00



Linking Our Lives presents a rich aspect of the fascinating community of Los Angeles' Chinese Americans. Women, few in the beginning, played an increasingly major role in creating a well-rounded community, setting identity, and providing continuity for L. A. Chinatown. 138 pp., 6" x 9", 26 photos, softbound, Dec. 1984, reprint Dec. 1993, Lib. of Cong. 84-72431, ISBN 0-930377-00-1. ea. \$10.95



SWEET BAMBOO is a Saga of a Chinese American family. A fascinating and invaluable historical document that provides insight into the lifestyles of earlier families and sheds light on the Americanization process. 215 pp., 6" x 9", softbound, photos, Nov. 1989. Lib. of Cong. Cat. 89-062055, ISBN 930377-02-8 ea. \$12.95

- ☐ Gum Saan Journal back copies @ \$2.00 ☐ CHSSC mug (cup with famous logo) @ \$4.00 ☐
☐ Regular Membership Pin (cloisonne version of famous logo in red and gold) @ \$3.00 ☐

ORDER BLANK for Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Products

Origins and Destinations: 41 Essays on Chinese America @ \$20.00 each	\$ _____
Linking Our Lives @ \$10.95 each	\$ _____
Sweet Bamboo @ \$12.95 each	\$ _____
Gum Saan Journal @ \$2.00 each; volume _____ no. _____ month _____ year _____	\$ _____
CHSSC Mug @ \$4.00 each	\$ _____
Regular Membership Pin @ \$3.00 each	\$ _____
SUBTOTAL	\$ _____
Tax (CA @ 8.25% means O&D \$1.65; SB \$1.07; mugs \$0.37; LOL \$0.90; GSJ \$0.17; pins \$0.25)	\$ _____
Shipping (\$3.00 for Origins&Destinations or Sweet Bamboo; \$2.00 for mugs or Linking Our Lives; \$0.75 GSJ, pins)	\$ _____
TOTAL (checks payable to "CHSSC" and mail with Order Blank to: CHSSC-Book Dept; P.O. Box 862847; Los Angeles, CA. 90086-2847. Allow 4 weeks for delivery. Thank you for your order.)	\$ _____

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