



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

CHSSC Office
(213) 621-3171

NOVEMBER 1994

PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 7, 1994 - 6:30 P.M.
Castelar School - Multi-purpose Room
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles Chinatown
(Park on playground. Enter on College Street)

CHRISTMAS POT LUCK

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE - Do your holiday shopping at 411 Bernard Street. Bring your family and friends on Saturday, December 3, 1994 from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. Select from our beautiful and unique gifts, arts and crafts, clothing, multicultural books, plants and much more. **You are invited** to a reception celebrating the publication of *Night of the Red Moon* by CHSSC past president Angi Ma Wong, on Saturday, December 3 from 10 A.M. to 12 noon at the offices of Los Angelitas, 130 Paseo de la Plaza, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Park. The event will feature a book signing by the author, tours conducted by Las Angelitas, and refreshments. Cost of the book to CHSSC members is \$13 per copy, a discount. The event is sponsored by CHSSC, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, Las Angelitas del Pueblo and the Museum of Chinese American History ^{FRIENDS} and Pacific Heritage Books.

Angi Ma Wong was heard on KABC Radio on November 5 and November 19, guest of Mario Machado's "Voices of Multiculturalism".

Franklin Mah has generously donated a Laser printer and a newer and more powerful computer to CHSSC. Thank you, Franklin. Now all we have to do is make good use of them.

Thank you to everyone who brought refreshments for the November meeting. (The list compiled by Lillian Fong was misplaced.)

A belated appreciation to Cy Wong and Eugene Moy for cleaning the CHSSC office. Cy thoroughly mopped the floor until it shone. Eugene cleaned the glass on the front door so the office sign shows up much better now.

Our condolences go to the families of **Dorothy Siu** and **Baldwin Tom**, both were members of CHSSC. **Dorothy Siu** passed away on Thursday, October 27, in her home. She is survived by son Gilbert, sister-in-law Kay, four granddaughters and one grandson. Dorothy became involved with the Society when she was interviewed for the Oral History Project in January, 1979. She was active with the Friends of the Chinatown Library, C.A.C.A., and the Museum of Chinese American History. She taught English to immigrants on Saturdays at the Library, and she baked for our general meetings. Dorothy was an honest, true and giving friend to us all. **Baldwin Tom** passed away November 2. He is survived by his family and wife Doris. After being discharged

from the military in WWII he received his Bachelor and Masters degrees. He began his career in the Department of Water and Power and retired from there. In his spare time, he did volunteer work for the Chinatown Community Police Service Center and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. Baldwin was a member of C.A.C.A. as well as CHSSC. Both Baldwin and Dorothy will be missed by their many friends.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Historical Society of Monterey Park

December 4, 1994 - Monterey Park Historical Museum holiday Open House and Boutique. Garvey Ranch Park, 781 S. Orange Avenue.
1:30 - 4:30 P.M. Free admission.

Sino United Publishing (L.A.) Inc. Bookstore

Book signing party on December 10, 1994, 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. *Prejudice and Hardship* by Philip C. Choy, Lorraine Dong, Marion K. Hom. A book with pictorial depictions of early Chinese immigrants in the United States.

Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society

December 11, 1994 - Christmas Open House 1 -4 P.M., Saugus Station

Loyola Marymount University. Marie Northrop Lecture Series

January 8, 1995 - "Paradise Transformed: The Impact of World War II on Los Angeles" - McIntosh Center, Loyola Marymount University
February 5, 1995 - "Hollywood Goes to War: Images of World War II in American Film" - Louis B. Mayer Theatre, Loyola Marymount University
March 19, 1995 - "Rosie the Riveter in Los Angeles", McIntosh Center, Loyola Marymount. For information (310) 831-1641 or (310) 338-7407

San Marino Historical Society

January 26, 1995 - "Native Americans of the Los Angeles Basin, 7:30 P.M. Southwestern Academy, 2800 Monterey Road, San Marino

Asian Pacific American Friends package deal

WOMAN WARRIOR - Friday, February 10 - 8 P.M., Doolittle Theatre
Includes 6 P.M. supper & meeting the actors
MISS SAIGON - Sunday, March 12 - 7:30 P.M., Ahmanson Theatre
Includes 5:30 P.M. supper and meeting the actors
COST: \$200 per person for the package. No substitute
For reservations, call J. Economou (213) 992 - 7536

Historical Society of Centinela Valley California

February 17 - 19, 1995 - Southern symposium - Santa Clarita. Three days of exciting workshops and tours. Hear about the discovery of gold under The Oak of Golden Dreams, six years before the one in Northern California.

"SERVICE WITH HONOR" and 50 YEARS LATER. "Assemble for Roll Call." With those words, MC Marji Lee started the parade to the podium of over 70-strong World War II Chinese American veterans, men and women, at the Society's recent Fall Banquet and Awards held at The Empress Pavilion Restaurant on Veterans Day Eve, Nov. 10. Led by our "swabbies" (U.S. Navy) Johnny Yee and Al Lew in full uniform with their real campaign medals, the vets provided a stirring update on themselves in announcing their name, rank, branch of service, unit and theater. As Society member Dolores Wong later noted, their appearance provided a wonderful and emotional comparison of now and then, "then" having been recaptured, to the background tunes of Glenn Miller, in the immediately preceding masterful slide show of our special guests in their days of glory, narrated by Ms. Lee and Suellen Cheng. Witnessed by 350, each WW II veteran received a keepsake with the Society's logo and the inscription "Service With Honor," expressing the appreciation of the community, even 50 years later, for their service and sacrifice. Also appearing in uniform (U.S. Army) were Bob Jung and George W. Tom.

Prior to this climatic moment, the Society presented its Pioneer Recognition Award to American Legion American Chinese Post No. 628, a uniquely Chinese American institution with a membership of dedicated veterans which has also provided community service to Los Angeles Chinatown for nearly 50 years. Accepting from Pres. Irvin R. Lai and Awards Chair Munson Kwok was Commander Norman Leong, a veteran of Vietnam. Setting the tone for the evening was high Legion official Bill Anderson of the Dept. of Water and Power post, who reminisced about the contributions of the Chinese in World War II. The evening was further focused by the historical remarks of Dr. James Bok Wong, of the 407th Field Service Squadron of the famed 14th Air Force. Of the 20,000 or so Chinese American veterans of WW II, some 25% saw service in the Army Air Force, and perhaps upwards to 4,000 in the China Burma India theater of the 14th Air Force and other units, many in segregated units. One featurette of the evening was door prizes for the WWII vets alone: a WWII book, a WWII stamp collection, and a money tree, by Margie and Al Lew. This military-styled evening began with the presentation of colors by the all-female Wilson High School R.O.T.C. Color Guard headed by Cadet Capt. Elsa Tinoco.

The spirit of dedication for the evening, "to the fallen and departed," was established in the Invocation by Cy Wong, and further amplified in remarks by Society President Lai. At the conclusion, the now assembled WW II veterans, lead by Judge Delbert Wong and Al Lew, stood at attention and saluted their departed comrades.

Surrounded by red, white, and blue bunting, with American flag decorations everywhere, the gala aspect was started by a wonderful reunion and reception and carried through with a galaxy of door prizes and the Society's first ever Silent Auction, with over 17 gifts to consider. Hottest items to be bid were a one-of-a-kind "Dinner with the Dinner Committee" for 10, with catering to be done by master chefs Irvin Lai (traditional Cantonese), Cy Wong (Louisiana BBQ), and Marji Lee (noveau cuisine) and a host of others of the 1994 Fall Banquet Committee. The next hottest item was CHSSC's premiere tour for 10 with dim sum lunch at the Empress. Some money was certainly raised for the Society's projects and to attempt to balance the yearly budget. For long time members, this event was the largest and most complex dinner in almost a decade. The working crew of nearly 40 can be content that nothing but happy faces could be seen (on video) leaving the Empress at the conclusion of a memorable evening. *(filed by M. Kwok)*

THANKS TO THE 1994 FALL DINNER COMMITTEE. The Society owes its thanks to the "gang of 40 (more or less)," that staged the landmark event honoring our Chinese American veterans of World War II. As listed in the program with additions, they are: (General) Chair Munson Kwok and Co-Chairs Marjorie Lee, Cy Wong, and Jim Fong. Also, in alphabetical order are Randy Bloch, Ken Chan, Suellen Cheng, Susan Dickson, Susan Fong Duran, Tom Eng, Cindy Fong, Lillian Fong, Elmo Gambarana, Sonia Johnson, Mary Yee Kwok, Irvin Lai, Mai Diep Lawrence, Al Lew, Dorothy Lew, Margie Lew, Winifred Lew, Sheldon Low, Ruth Lung, Franklin Mah, Eugene Moy, Ben Nakayama, Doreen Chan Nakayama, Catalina Quan, Ella Quan, Richard Quan, Marilyn Quon, Sylvia Soo-Hoo, J.W. Wong, Pauline Wong, Peggy Wong, Reger Wong, Johnny Yee, Nancy Yee, Sue Yee. The core Dinner Committee is not off the hook because of the Silent Auction prize. Cooking and serving will be Irvin Lai, Cy Wong, Marji Lee, Jim Fong, Sue Yee, Sheldon Low (if he is still around L.A.), Munson Kwok, Suellen Kwok, Ella Quan. Special appreciation must be made to the following sections: **Silent Auction/Door Prizes:** Elmo Gambarana (chair), Susan Fong Duran (auction chair), Kenneth Chan, Sheldon Low, Franklin Mah, Mai Diep, Catalina Quan and Al and Margie Lew; **Decorations:** Cindy Fong, Susan Dickson, and the young people of Castelar School; the unbelievable **Program and Slide Show Team**, which researched, did a PhotoDay, scripted, and photoed in less than a month!!: Marji Lee (chair), Suellen Cheng, Jim Fong, Franklin Mah; **Seating and Registration:** Ella Quan (chair), Doreen Nakayama, Munson Kwok, Margie Lew, Mary Kwok, Sylvia Soo-Hoo, Pauline Wong, Dorothy Lew, Winifred Lew, Sonia Johnson, Ruth Lung; **Photo/video:** Tom Eng, Franklin Mah, Munson Kwok, Ben Nakayama, Richard Quan, J.W. Wong; and the **Computer Crew** (3 MACs, 2 Powerbooks, 1 PC, all across the city) providing flyers, programs, databases, and name tags: Mary Yee Kwok, Munson Kwok, Marji Lee, Doreen Nakayama, Ella Quan, and Franklin Mah. The Society's **Pioneer Recognitions Committee** perennially consists of Munson Kwok (chair) and Mary Yee Kwok with, this year, Sue Yee and Kipham Kan Smith. *(If I have missed a volunteer, it is my fault. Let me know. Thanks to all again. Munson Kwok)*

ANNOUNCEMENT TO MEMBERS. The Society announces to members that:

1. A dues billing will be sent to members this year for their renewals. A number of members had indicated that a direct billing format would help them respond better to the call for annual payments. The billing will be sent to you soon.
2. Effectively in 1995 by action of the Board of Directors, the "Gum Saan Journal" will be offered on a subscription basis at a minimum of two issues for \$5.00 per year (or \$2.50 per issue). Production and mailing costs have soared to the point that the Society can no longer fully subsidize the publication of this valuable serial. We hope all members will continue to support the Society by subscribing to this one-of-a-kind journal on Chinese American history.

We thank you for your continuing participation. Questions and comments to be addressed to Irvin R. Lai, (213)735-1331 or Munson Kwok (310)645-1369.

IT'S HERE!!! Origins and Destinations: 41 Essays on Chinese America is now available for purchase at \$20. This is the Society's **NEWEST** publication just off the press. Come see it at the next Society event. The attractive cover itself is worth viewing and features the late Dorothy Siu's mother. Our kudos to another large committee will be given next month. See our Ordering Information or Ella Quan (213)255-6487.



CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

P.O. BOX 862647 • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90086-2647

*Bring your family and friends to share food, fun,
and fellowship in a relaxed, casual atmosphere.*

Christmas Pot Luck

Wednesday, December 7, 1994 at 6:30 P.M.

Castelar School Auditorium

840 Yale Street (enter on College St.)

*RSVP
by
Dec. 2*



*RSVP
by
Dec. 2*

appetizer . salad . main dish . vegetable . rice . dessert

*Each person is to bring enough food to serve 6 people.
Persons not bringing food will be charged \$5
each at the door.*

Merry Christmas !

*R.S.V.P. Sue Yee 818-799-8396
Ella Quan 213-255-6487*

*Call and let us know how many
people are coming, and,
what you are bringing.*



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 862647; Los Angeles, CA. 90086-2647. Allow 4 weeks for delivery. Thank you for your order.)	\$ _____

NAME _____
 ADDRESS (Street, Apt. No., P.O. Box) _____
 CITY/ZIP/STATE _____

NIGHT *of the* RED MOON



ANGI MA WONG

*The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument
Las Angelitas del Pueblo
The Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History
and
Pacific Heritage Books*

*cordially invite you
to a reception*

celebrating the publication of

NIGHT OF THE RED MOON

by

Award-winning author

Angi Ma Wong

**Saturday, December 3, 1994
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**130 Paseo de la Plaza
(next to Plaza fire station)
Los Angeles, California**

Book signing • Guided tour • Refreshments