



# 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*

**AUGUST 1998**

1998-1999

**PRESIDENT**

*Susan G. Dickson*

**V. P. PROGRAMS**

*Winifred Lew*

**SECRETARY**

*Henrietta Yuan*

**TREASURER**

*Ella Y. Quan*

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

*Franklin Mah*

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

*Cy Wong*

### WELCOME BACK!!!

### PROGRAM

**Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998**

**7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

**JEFFREY D. TUNG**

*Randall Bloch*

*Eugene Cooper*

*Elmo Gambarana*

*Gilbert Hom*

*Munson Kwok*

*Irvin R. Lai*

*Ruth Lung*

*Eugene Moy*

*Ben Nakayama*

**CASTELAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Multi-purpose Room**

**840 Yale Street**

**(Park on playground. Enter on College Street)  
between Hill and Yale Streets**

### GOLDEN SPIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

**Presented by**

**Bill Chew, Margie Lew, Gene Moy, and many others**

This past Spring, a spirited group of 22 members of the CHSSC braved cold wind, thunderstorms, and hail to participate in the 129th Anniversary of the Golden Spike Ceremony at Promontory Summit, Utah, and had a memorable time.

Come join us as we share, with video, photos, and personal accounts, what we saw and learned about the role of Chinese in the construction of the first transcontinental railroad in the U.S., which culminated in the original Golden Spike ceremony in 1869.

*Margie's Book:*



**MAY 10, 1998 FIELD TRIP:** We forgot two very important CHSSC volunteers who helped with the celebration in Utah at the Golden Spike Ceremony. They were **Kyle Nakayama** who lit the firecrackers announcing the Lion Dance and **Kenny Nakayama** who played the cymbals while the Lion performed. Thank you, boys. You did a great job!!

**PLAQUE AWARDED:** John Yee and Bill Chew, both representing CHSSC, presented the plaque to the staff of the Golden Spike National Historic Site with the following inscription: **"In appreciation to the staff of the Golden Spike National Historic Site for recognizing the contributions made by Chinese railroad workers."**

**COME AND MEET YOUR CHSSC 1998-99 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>PRESIDENT-----</b>	<b>SUSAN G. DICKSON</b>
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT-----</b>	<b>WINIFRED L. LEW</b>
<b>SECRETARY-----</b>	<b>HENRIETTA YUAN</b>
<b>TREASURER-----</b>	<b>ELLA Y. QUAN</b>
<b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY-----</b>	<b>FRANKLIN MAH</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-----</b>	<b>CY WONG</b>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

**JEFFREY D. TUNG, CHAIRMAN**  
**RANDALL BLOCH**  
**EUGENE COOPER**  
**ELMO GAMBARANA**  
**GILBERT HOM**  
**MUNSON A. KWOK**  
**IRVIN R. LAI**  
**RUTH LUNG**  
**EUGENE W. MOY**  
**BEN NAKAYAMA**

**WELCOME. ELLEN WU** - Ellen, a recent UCLA graduate with a Masters Degree in Asian American Studies, has been hired by CHSSC as a consultant to help develop some of our programs and to help with the general operations of the Society. Her first and foremost task is to update the Tour Guide Manual. Ellen originally came to California from Indianapolis, Indiana. In the Fall, she will be teaching an Asian American Studies class at the University of Irvine.

**DOCENT TRAINING:** Training for new and current docents are tentatively scheduled before 1998 ends. Please submit your name to Ella Quan (323-255-6487), Sue Yee (626-799-8396), or leave your name and phone number at the office (323-222-0856) if you're interested.

**BUSY SUMMER** - The officers and members of the Board of Directors have continued to meet during the months of July and August to plan for the new year. We all hope you had an enjoyable summer and are ready for the activities scheduled for the 1998-1999 CHSSC year.

**OFFICE MOVED** - The CHSSC office has completed its move out of the Phoenix Bakery building. We owe much appreciation to the Chan family for allowing us the use of their premises for these many years. Phoenix Bakery will begin its remodeling soon. The **CHSSC office** is now located at **415 Bernard Street**, west of the Heritage & Visitors Center at 411 Bernard Street. If you plan to visit, please call ahead of time to be sure someone will be there. The mailing address remains the same: **P.O. BOX 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647.** Along with the change of address, we also had to change our telephone and FAX numbers. It is now **323-222-0856.**



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am excited, but daunted, at becoming President of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC). It will be very challenging to continue and expand the many projects of the Society. A collective effort of our membership will be required to accomplish our goals.

I want to introduce myself to those who do not know me. I attended the University of Tennessee in my hometown, Knoxville. After graduation, I taught 2<sup>nd</sup> grade for three years in a rural Tennessee town. When I first came to Los Angeles 22 years ago, I did office work for several different companies. In January 1981, I began teaching at Castelar Elementary School. I have no children of my own, but I have had the privilege of being able to know and teach so many wonderful children. Currently, I am a board member and past President of the Friends of the Chinatown Library. Since coming to Los Angeles, I have learned a lot about the Chinese culture and the history of the Chinese in America—enough to know that there is much more to learn.

As part of my new responsibilities as President of the CHSSC, I am committed to furthering the Society's goals of promoting awareness and understanding of the Chinese American heritage and documenting the history of the early Chinese pioneers. My vision for the future begins with making the Bernard Street houses our "home" and paying for them. We need to develop programs for the Heritage and Visitors Center and have it remain open more often. Now that our office is at 415 Bernard Street, we need to make the building more suitable for our needs. For one thing, in order to house the entire archival collection at the office, we need air conditioning to maintain a more uniform temperature.

My vision for CHSSC also includes the completion of two of our current projects before the end of the year. The WWII book is ready to be sent to the printer. Franklin Mah and his team of volunteers are working every Saturday at 411 Bernard Street to digitalize the archival materials. As we have over 2,000 items in our archives, the grant from the Haynes Foundation is only a beginning step.

CHSSC has always conducted tours of Chinatown, but we need more docents. Ellen Wu has been hired to prepare an updated manual for docents. A last goal I have is to increase membership. Therefore, this Fall we will be initiating a membership drive for 1999 with prizes as incentives.

I am an educator and have no experience in fund-raising. However, funds are needed for us just to maintain the projects we have now. Our first fund-raising event is our October 2<sup>nd</sup> dinner at the Empress Pavilion. Since Chinatown will not be having an official Moon Festival celebration this year, CHSSC will celebrate the Moon Festival with Chinese music, moon-viewing and mooncakes. Please show your support for the Society by attending our Fall Dinner. I hope to see you there.

Susan G. Dickson



**A big THANK YOU to all the movers who helped during this hot, hot weather** (each time we scheduled a move, we thought the weather would be cooler.) The movers were:

<b>ELMO GAMBARANA</b>	<b>GILBERT HOM</b>	<b>SOJIN KIM</b>
<b>SUELLEN CHENG KWOK</b>	<b>DON LOO</b>	<b>EUGENE MOY</b>
<b>BEN NAKAYAMA</b>	<b>RICHARD L. QUAN</b>	<b>CY WONG</b>
<b>JIMMY WONG</b>	<b>CHIA YANG*</b>	<b>CHING YANG*</b>

**and anyone else I may have inadvertently missed.**

\* Suellen's nieces visiting from Taiwan.

**SOCIETY GREETES THE LOTUS FESTIVAL** by Elmo Gambarana

It was one of those hot July weekend mornings as a trio of CHSSC board members hurriedly assembled a colorful booth at the Lotus Festival in Echo Lake Park. Facing the exotic lotus flowers, newly bloomed in the lake, on July 11 & 12, several dedicated board members greeted curious passerbys with information on the many varied programs and past record of our decades-old Society. Several old friends also stopped by to joyfully exchange personal and society news. Then, as the sun slowly began sinking in the West, the sweaty-but-happy volunteers closed down the society's bastion each evening, especially on Sunday, armed with the names of an armful of prospective members and a wider group of citizens now aware of the CHSSC and its accomplishments.

**MULAN' TO THE RESCUE** by Elmo Gambarana

A patient group of CHSSC members, their young children, and friends, waited patiently in line outside the Alex Theatre in Glendale, Sunday afternoon, June 5, waiting to be released to go see the new Disney film "Mulan" at 5 p.m. Led by Ways & Means Chair and board member Elmo who was bravely holding a tall new banner, the almost 30 persons were rewarded with an opening stage show followed by the animated film dramatizing the legendary heroic Chinese heroine, Mulan, vanquishing Tarter invaders. As a society fundraiser, the Society gained a few hundred dollars, and the attendees enjoyed a great show.

**BARTON CHOY TO DESIGN MCAH** - On May 4, 1998, the Friends of the Museum of Chinese American History (MCAH) signed a contract with architect Barton Choy of Choy Associates. The Museum will be located in the north bay of the Garnier Building, at the corner of Los Angeles Street and Arcadia Avenue, in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. MCAH President Ronald Lew is hopeful that it will be completed in the year 2000.

**UNION STATION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN THE FALL** Travelers Aid will be starting a volunteer progra at Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles, in September of 1998. Although it is designed to be a Pilot Program, we feel confident that this endeavor will prove to be worthwhile. Orientation for volunteers will be held at the Union Station office of Catellus Development (located on the north side of the station at 800 North Alameda Street, Suite 100), at 6:00 p.m. on September 16, 1998. All current TASLA volunteers are welcome to interview to become volunteers. If you would like to assist with the project in some other way (i.e. researching Downtown resources), please call the office. Training classes will be held Downtown during the month of October on Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. scheduled by shifts. Please call the office for further questions at 310-646-2270 or Jim Fong at 213-295-0616.

**GETTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF ART AND THE HUMANITES** invites everyone to become Stack Readers in the Research Library during the hours that the Library is open. Extended hours of access are also available on an as-needed basis. For appointments and parking reservations, please call the Reference Desk at 310-440-7390, and select option 1.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

July 21 - Oct. 18  
Tues.-Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Adults \$10, Srs.\$8

**Santa Barbara Museum of Art**  
1230 State Street, Santa Barbara  
*Eternal China* splendors from the First Dynasties  
Life-size terra-cotta figures from the tomb of the First Emperor of China  
For info, call 805-963-4364, ext. 700

**Wednesday, Sept. 2**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Free admission**

**CHSSC MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Castelar Elementary School**  
**See announcement**





# Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

Invites you to celebrate...

## 中秋節慶會 1998 Mid-Autumn Moon Festival Banquet

Friday, October 2, 6:00 p.m.  
Empress Pavilion Restaurant  
Bamboo Plaza, 988 N. Hill Street, 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles Chinatown

Festivities will include:

- delicious ten-course gourmet Chinese banquet
- 1998 Miss Chinatown and Court
- entertainment and traditional Chinese instrumental music
- readings from "Moon Festival Poetry Contest" winners
- moon viewing with moon cakes and tea
- drawings and door prizes
- the warm hospitality of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California!

For further information, please call:

CHSSC Office (new number):	323-222-0856
Susan Dickson	626-792-8454
Jeffrey Tung	310-360-8989

Printing of flyers donated by Jeffrey D. Tung and Woodsbridge Real Estate Management.

Please make your reservations and payment by: **September 25, 1998**

*Of every \$40.00 ticket \$20.00 is tax-deductible to benefit our archives projects and the many fine educational programs of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California.*





Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seat(s) at \$40.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ table(s) for ten people at \$400.00 per table \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please list attendees sitting together on the back of this form.

Make checks for total amount payable to:

CHSSC, P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647



of Southern California  
Chinese Historical Society



Sundays: Sept. 6,13,20,27  
12 noon - 4:00 p.m.  
Free Admission

**Wednesday, Sept. 16**  
6:30 p.m.

Sept. 16 - Oct. 4  
\$22-\$27

Friday, Sept. 18  
6:30 p.m.  
\$100 and up

Saturday, Sept. 19

Sept. 19 - Oct. 11  
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Free admission

Friday, October 2  
6:00 p.m.  
\$40 per person

Saturday, October 3  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Free Admission

Sunday, October 4  
2:00 p.m.  
\$12 per person

Oct. 9 - Oct. 11

**Heritage and Visitors Center Open**  
411 Bernard Street  
Los Angeles Chinatown

**CHSSC BOARD MEETING**  
415 Bernard Street

**World Premiere of LAVA**  
David Henry Hwang Theater  
Union Center for the Arts, Little Tokyo  
120 N. Judge John Aiso St. (formerly San Pedro St.)  
Sr., student, group rates - call 213-625-7000 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**Chinatown Service Center**  
27th Annual Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction  
Empress Pavilion Restaurant  
988 North Hill Street, L. A. Chinatown  
RSVP by Sept. 8 - 213-253-0880, ext. 251

**Pacific Asia Museum**  
21st Anniversary Festival of the Autumn Moon  
Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel  
Gala, black tie dinner-dance  
For more info, call Dolores Kroop 626-296-0629

**L. A. FREEWAVES**  
"The Double Weeping Cherry"  
CHSSC Heritage & Visitors Center  
411 Bernard Street  
For more info, call 323-222-1918

**CHSSC MID-AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL FALL DINNER**  
Empress Pavilion Restaurant  
988 North Hill Street, L. A. Chinatown  
Chinese entertainment, 10 course meal, moon cakes, moon viewing, prize drawing.

**CHSSC MID-AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL**  
411-415 Bernard Street  
Arts & Crafts, Exhibits, Demonstrations  
For more info, call 323-222-0856

**L. A. FREEWAVES**  
Bus Tour 5 to Chinatown: Sites & Rewrites  
RSVP required. Call 213-617-3950 week before tour date.

**CHINESE AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE**  
Harvard-Radcliffe - Chinese Students Association  
For more info: E-mail: [hrcsa@hcs.harvard.edu](mailto:hrcsa@hcs.harvard.edu)  
Web Site: <http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~hrcsa/caic.htm>

**NEWS 'n NOTES DEADLINE : All articles must be in to the P.O. Box by the 15th of the month to be considered in that month's News 'n Notes.**