



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

Phone/Fax: (323) 222-0856 ~ web site: www.chssc.org

OCTOBER 1999

1999 - 2000

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PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

7:00 P.M.

CASTELAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Multi-purpose Room

840 Yale Street

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

"That's MY grandfather in that book!"

by

Winifred Lew

Come and hear Winnie Lew, our V.P. of Programs, share her story of how the Autry Museum of Western Heritage became the catalyst in her discovering her "roots". She will be sharing family photos gathered from relatives and other sources during her search. Emily Wolfson, Outreach Coordinator of the Autry Museum of Western Heritage, will join her and will share with us the traveling hands-on teaching unit, which is based on Winnie's maternal grandfather, Tom Shee Bin, an herbalist at the turn of the century. You'll also hear how the Outreach program of the Autry Museum encourages schoolchildren to explore their *own* family histories.

ADDITIONAL DONORS TO BUILDING FUND

Anonymous	\$10,000	Doreen Sam	\$ 100	Yuek Lee Moy	\$1,000
Anonymous	\$ 5,000	Angi Ma Wong	\$ 2,500	Wendel B. Wye	\$1,000
Jean/Bill Jong	\$ 60	Eugene W. Moy	\$ 500	Choy G. Wy	\$ 500

In Loving Memory of Sue Yee

Sue Yee passed away October 15, 1999 of cancer.

Sue was President of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California in 1992 and 1993. She was the 45th Charter Member of the CHSSC, held offices as Secretary and Vice-President as well as serving on many committees such as our annual dinner committees, Lotus Festival, and Moon Festival events.

Sue was born in Stewartsville, Ohio in 1935, and spent her childhood in Neffs, Ohio, moving to Carlsbad, New Mexico while in High School. She met Ward Yee while a student at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. They had a wonderful marriage living in Pasadena.

Paul Louie remembered that Sue was a great activist in the Los Angeles Chinatown community. During the early 1970s, she was a member of the board of the Chinese United Methodist Church which established the Chinatown Service Center. She was also a member of the Chinatown Service Center board. Sue was on the board of COO (Council of Oriental Organizations) which included members of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean communities. At the same time she was also active with CHSSC.

Sue was an active member of the United Methodist Church, working for the District Office and serving on many committees, but her great joy was serving God as a Lay Speaker and choir member, most recently at the Wilshire United Methodist Church.

Sue is survived by her husband Ward, daughter Fay, sons Jim and Ray; mother, Cleo Ricer; brother Dean Ricer and four grandchildren.

Sue will be missed by many. Our condolences to Ward and his family.

Eulogy to Shew San Leong by Henry Leong

"Eat Sweet, Sour, Bitter, and Hot" are words of wisdom that Pop laid on me as a little kid who was picky about food. Pop ate anything; especially anything that could help him to live life to its fullest. He would eat those nasty tasting and smelly herbs that he sold, any assortment of animals or animal parts such as turtles or even black chicken, along with all kinds of healthy foods. That's why he was able to live a long 95 years.

Sweet, Sour, Bitter and Hot is what he ate, as well as the way he lived. He was not afraid to take chances, try out different professions, going to different foreign places and making the hard decisions. He was not afraid to start a new life by coming to San Francisco in the United States of the Gold Mountain as a 24 year old man in 1928. Here, he worked in my adopted Grandfather Chuck Keen Leong's herb store, while trying different professions such as a hosiery business, working at the famous Fong Fong Bakery, the inventor of the Ginger Ice Cream, while dabbling with art and painting.

In 1940 he re-invented himself and came to Los Angeles to establish his own herb shop. Even then, he sought out new directions while trying his hand at glass carving and photography. In 1943, Pop changed courses again and joined the Army Air Forces, became a Naturalized U.S. citizen, until he was honorably discharged with an assortment of decorations in 1945. Once again, at 44 years of age, re-inventing himself, being a U.S. Citizen, a military veteran with foreign service, enabled him to go back to China in 1948, and made the best decision ever, to marry Kwon Ying and bring her back to the states.

With his new bride, he resumed his herb shop business for two years while dabbling with soap business until due to heavy government regulation, he was not able to import the herbs he needed to make effective potent medicine. He changed careers again to become a chef at the Far East Café.

In 1956, at age 52, he changed courses in life again to start the Quon Yick Noodle Co. He named the business Quon Yick, which means "for mutual benefit". In Pop's case, he now is the proud father of 3 children in need of benefits. Pop was always a people person; he thrived in a work that requires interacting with people. Pop did it all, sales, manufacturing, bookkeeping, research and development,

delivery; yes, he did it all with limited English language skills and no prior experience in making noodles or food manufacturing. In spite of that, Pop often said, "the best thing to do is business", it is alive like a living thing. Business is just like a plant, it grows and if it stops growing or producing, then it is dying. Pop always tried to improve the business, tried new methods, new machines, making new products but always trying to give the customer what they need. Often times, customer service meant giving rides to people, or taking the time to chat with customers or to find out their noodle needs.

Quon Yick, as a business to "benefit all" also meant improving the lives of family members, and friends by helping them to immigrate to the U.S. then often lending them money or giving them jobs. Quon Yick was the vehicle to sponsor quite a few families and individuals. For Pop, Quon Yick enabled him to support his brother and other family members that are still in China or donate to construct a school in China.

Pop worked hard and with long hours, making noodles and delivering the noodles by day and very often delivering into late hours of the night. Then once again, his life takes on a slightly different course in 1967. At 62 years of age, he becomes a father again to Lotus. When others are thinking of retirement, Pop was making a new start. During this period of time, the best thing is that he did not punish me for getting traffic tickets or getting into traffic accidents. I learned a lot from that. For this, Daniel should be grateful.

In 1976, at age 72, Pop finally retires.

In 1981, Pop is reborn again as a Christian. He was excited about his faith, read the Bible and memorized scripture, regularly and willingly testified in church with childlike enthusiasm. As a person who spent a good part of his life in a business that Quon Yick, or "benefited all", he wanted to share his faith with other loved ones still in Hong Kong. Whenever he went to Hong Kong, he tried to get friends and relatives to attend church with him. He was reborn, spiritually, emotionally and by miracle, physically.

Pop had a good long life because he made some great decisions. Such as, to come to the U.S. to work hard and seek out opportunities, join the military, become a U.S. Citizen, marry Kwon Ying (Mom), have great kids like me, started Quon Yick Noodles and gave his heart to the Lord. Pop truly lived his life as he wanted, "Sweet, Sour, Bitter, Hot".

(Our condolences to the Leong family. We will all miss Mr. Leong. He has been a very generous supporter and a great community leader.)

In Memory of Jack Carraher

Jack Carraher only recently joined CHSSC through his contacts with LIFE member John Yee. Most of us had not met Mr. Carraher. He learned about our book, Duty and Honor, and felt that the Monterey Park Library should have a copy in their collection. Through John Yee, he purchased a copy and donated it to the Library. It is not known if he knew the results of that gesture. At least one resident saw the book, checked it out, and read it from cover to cover. She is now ordering a book for her own collection. She has since loan the book to a friend to read. Thank you, Mr. Carraher. We're sorry we didn't get to know you better. Your community spirit will be missed.

THANK YOU FOR THE SEPT. REFRESHMENTS to Ruth Lung, Nancy Yee, Donna Young and Noel Toy Young for the delicious treats at our September meeting.

CHSSC's FALL DINNER

We hope to see everyone of you at the Fall Dinner. If the date, October 29th slipped your mind and you still want to join us for the dinner, please call Ella Quan (323) 255-6487 to see if there's still room.

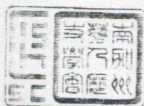
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wednesday, Nov. 3 CHSSC Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m. Castelar Elementary School
Free Admission
- Friday, Nov. 5 UCLA Asian American Studies Center
\$100 & up 30th Anniversary Banquet, MC Tritia Toyota
Hotel Intercontinental
For info: 310-825-1006
- Friday, Nov. 5 Greater LA Chapter Annual Image Awards
\$45 per person Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA)
LA Times Mirror Bldg.
For info: call 213-892-6688 or Joseph Hong 213-746-2210
- Friday, Nov. 5 Asian Business League (ABL) Annual Awards Banquet
\$85 non-members Casino night to follow banquet
Regal Biltmore Hotel
For info: 213-624-9975
- Saturday, Nov. 6 "One Night Only", musical classics from the 40's
8:00 p.m. 120 Judge John Aiso St., Little Tokyo
\$0 and up For info: 213-625-7000
- Sunday, Nov. 7 1999 Annual Banquet
6:00 p.m. San Diego Chinese Historical Society of
\$25 person Greater San Diego and Baja California
Emerald Seafood Restaurant
For info: 858-565-6888
- Sun., Nov. 7,14,21 Heritage & Visitors Center Open
Noon - 4:00 p.m. 411 Bernard Street, LA Chinatown
- Friday, Nov. 12 CAUSE Casino Night
Almansor Court, Alhambra
For info: 626-308-3882
- Fri., Sat., Sun. China Expo
Nov. 26 - 28 LA Convention Center
1201 S. Figueroa St
For info: 626-582-1008

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.

FIRST CLASS

Chinese Historical Society
Of Southern California
P. O. Box 862647
Los Angeles CA 90086-2647



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(Rev. July 1998)