



# News 'n Notes

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

www.chssc.org ♦ (323) 222-0856

APRIL 2002

## ***Happy Asian Pacific American Heritage Month!***

We are about to enter May, the month that celebrates us—the Asian Pacific Americans. Events throughout the month include public television specials, film festivals and cultural performances. (More information about specific activities can be found listed in our events calendar.)

The CHSSC has been working for months on its campaign to appropriately observe this special month. Under the direction of board member Dr. Wing Mar, the work is virtually complete at the time of this writing, and it will *certainly* be ready in time for our May 17th banquet.

All this “buzz” surrounds the latest phase of our “Chinese American Portraits of Pride” project, which was made possible through a generous grant from accountant and philanthropist L.P. Leung. To be used as an educational tool in public schools, the interactive exhibit is intended to raise awareness of the achievements of a select group of Chinese Americans despite setbacks the group as a whole may have encountered over the years.

A cohort of 10 men, including two who are receiving post-humous honors, are being recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in the fields of engineering, medicine and technology, as well as their efforts to improve their respective communities. The group of honorees includes four residents of Southern California.

Dr. Mar has made arrangements to have the exhibit shown at Torrance public schools in May, but he is hoping to add to the list of venues. Contact him if you know of any people who might be able to offer assistance with this. If you can spare a few moments and volunteer some time, either with publicizing the project or speaking to schools and libraries about your life as a Chinese American, Dr. Mar would welcome your assistance as well.

The “Portraits of Pride” exhibit will be under the spotlight at our own big event in May—our spring dinner at the Empress Pavilion! With the **May 10th deadline** for

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## **MAY PROGRAM**

CHSSC

### **Meredith Lee, UCLA student, last year's CHSSC scholarship winner & soon-to-be author**

Let's give a warm welcome back to Meredith, a Northern California native, who, with the financial support of the CHSSC last year, was able to conduct the research that has led to an upcoming book, *First Heroes: A 5-Generation Quest*. Using a slide presentation, Meredith will give us an advanced glimpse of the pages of her book, due for publication this summer.

Meredith's work was based on research originally performed at the National Archives in San Bruno, the repository for thousands of files related to Asian emigrants who entered the United States via Angel Island. Her book attempts to fill the gap of a relative dearth of knowledge and public recognition of Chinese Americans and their vital contributions to this country.



Meredith Lee receiving her check at last May's CHSSC meeting, flanked by her dad, Ron, and Scholarship Chairperson Winifred Lew.

Wednesday, May 1, 2002  
Multipurpose Room  
Castelar Elementary School, 840 Yale St.  
Chinatown Los Angeles  
7:00 pm  
Enter lot from College St.  
Please don't park past the yellow line.

## —————CONTENTS—————

- More on Upcoming Hanford Trip • Nominations for CHSSC officers •
- Dr. Betty Gaw is back—with tips for allergy season • HVC Report •





# Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

APRIL 2002

## Milestones

\* Congratulations to CHSSC member Suellen Cheng and her staff at the **Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles** for all their hard work, which has resulted in the much-anticipated ground-breaking of the facility. A gala ceremony was held the afternoon of April 19th on the grounds of the historic El Pueblo de Los Angeles. Board members of both the CHSSC and CAM were in attendance, as well as community leaders and others who have lent their support for this worthy project. Look for further details about the exact opening date of the museum, which has close ties to the CHSSC.

\* The CHSSC website appears to be getting an increasing number of "hits" these days! As reported in last month's *News 'n Notes*, this very publication is now available in e-mail format to members who request it. Former President **Tom McDannold** is also working in concert with webmaster **Jeff Yip** to spruce up our website and create new and better links, including one to the electronic *News 'n Notes*. Just a few days ago, an article from our website about the Chinese zodiac was used in a diversity training manual put together by a financial services company based in San Antonio, Texas. The company provides banking, insurance, investment services for the U.S. military community, and the publication was put together in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. If you haven't done so yet, click on our website at [www.chssc.org](http://www.chssc.org).

*No risk of hanging "chads" here ....*

## Nominations for Officers To Be Accepted

Treasurer Ella Quan has announced that the race is *on* for the next round of officers elected to serve the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California! The "fiscal year," or term, for officers to lead the organization, runs from July 1st of the year of installation until June 30th of the following year.

Nominations will be taken at our May 1st general membership meeting, during which time nominations will be taken from the floor. However, the nominee must officially be approved before the name goes forward to a vote.

A list of the offices that will become available in the immediate future will be made available at the general membership meeting.

Please consider serving the CHSSC in the upcoming year, either as an officer or as a board member (there are still some openings in this capacity). Your duties would include attendance at monthly board meetings, in addition to meetings called by any committees to which you choose to belong. As you will see from reading Gene Moy's article on the Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center on page 5, our organization could really use a hand in planning programs and carrying out research, archival and outreach work.

\*\*\*\*\*

Ever wonder how **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** got started? Much like Black History and Women's History celebrations, APA Heritage Month originated in a congressional bill introduced by legislators. In June 1977, Representatives Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House resolution calling upon the president to proclaim the first 10 days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week. The following month, Senators Daniel Inouye and Sparky Matsunaga of Hawaii introduced a

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## 2001-2002 CHSSC Officers

Irvin Lai, President  
Eugene Moy, Vice President  
Linda Wong Smith, V.P. Programs  
Henrietta Yuan, Secretary  
Cy Wong, Membership Secretary  
Ella Quan, Treasurer  
Franklin Mah, Financial Secretary

## Board Members

Susan Dickson, Chairperson  
Pete Chinn Winifred Lew  
Gilbert Hom Dr. Wing Mar  
Ann Lau Stanley Mu  
Ben Nakayama



'Thank You' for  
April 3rd contributions  
of coffee & refreshments:

Joyce Leong, Dorothy Louie Lew, Ruth Lung,  
Julie Raskoff, Tim & Annie Siu, Johnny Yee,  
Henrietta Yuan & Helen Wan

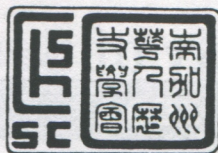
## In Memory of Johnson Yee...

The family of Johnson Yee, an active member of the society who died of lung cancer in February, wishes to thank the following individuals for their expressions of regret over his passing. Per the request of his daughters, monetary donations were made to the CHSSC in his memory:

Winifred Lew  
Al and Margie Lew  
Eugene W. Moy  
So. Bay Presbyterian Church Deacons  
Bill & Marjorie Yee  
Stanton & Sylvia Mu  
Sam & Alice Joe  
Ella Y. Quan  
Roy & Daisy Chan  
Janette L. Chun  
Bill & Marjorie Chun-Hoon  
Susan Dickson  
Suellen & Munson Kwok  
Douglas & Karen Lam  
Mary Yee Kwok  
Paul & Tammy Le  
Wilfred Lee  
George & Nancy Lee  
John & Jennie Lue  
Norman & Karen Mah  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael S. Smith  
George & Edith Sheu  
Arthur Jan, Jr., & Bess K. Jeong  
Edward & Dora Wong  
Heeman & Clara Wong  
Debra Yee  
Elsie Yee

**Welcome to our newest member, Laura Behary!**  
**Thanks, too, to those of you who have renewed!**





***Spring is here! In anticipation of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May, make plans now for the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California's***

## 2002 ANNUAL SPRING DINNER

### "Bridging the Communities"

Keynote speaker  
**Charles Woo**  
Business & Community Leader

Mr. Woo, a native of Hong Kong, is the co-owner and chief executive officer of Megatoys, a toy manufacturing, import/export, wholesale, and retail company in downtown Los Angeles. He was the first Asian American chair in the 114-year history of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and he is currently the chair of Chinese Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE), an organization which focuses on voter education and leadership development for the Chinese and Asian American community.

Friday, May 17, 2002  
Empress Pavilion  
988 N. Hill St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles Chinatown  
Social Hour: 6 p.m. (registration & no-host bar)  
Traditional Chinese Banquet: 7 p.m.

Proceeds from this banquet will go toward the CHSSC Operating Fund

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tables of 10 people for me at the following level:

☐ Gold (\$1,000)      ☐ Silver (\$750)      ☐ Bronze (\$500)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats for me at the following level:

☐ \$100      ☐ \$75      ☐ \$50      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am unable to attend but would like to make a donation.      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to CHSSC, P.O. Box 862647, Los Angeles, CA 90086-2647. For information, please call the CHSSC office @ (323) 222-0856.

RSVP DEADLINE: May 10, 2002





(Continued from page 2) **ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE** similar bill in the Senate. Both were passed. However, the proclamation of Asian-Pacific Week had to be brought forward each year because a Joint Resolution did not contain an annual designation. On Oct. 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed the Joint Resolution for a week-long event.

It took more than a decade to become a month-long celebration. In May 1990, President George H.W. Bush, father of the current president, George W. Bush, designated May to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. As a former ambassador to China and former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the senior Bush was not oblivious to the strategic, economic, and social importance of Asia to the United States. He chose that particular month of May for the nationwide celebration of Asia to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States in that same month in 1843.

Since its beginnings 25 years ago, the recognition of Asian Pacifics in America has expanded to include community festivals, government gatherings, and educational activities for students. In Los Angeles, this includes a week-long annual film festival sponsored by Visual Communications, which this year will be held May 16-23 in various venues throughout the greater L.A. area.

(Continued from page 1) **CAPP PROJECT TO DEBUT**

reservation and payment fast approaching, we hope you plan to join us for an evening of lively entertainment, scrumptious Cantonese cuisine, and the chance to converse with several of our oral history project subjects!

The first phase of our project began in 2000, with the introduction of seven profile subjects. That collection stemmed from a desire to counter negative publicity surrounding Chinese Americans due to news coverage of the Wen Ho Lee "spying case" and the campaign finance scandals of 1996. The CHSSC exhibit was written and edited by Dr. Mar with help from Vice President Eugene Moy (and designed by volunteer Yvonne Chia), and it was shown in conjunction with the six-month-long "On Gold Mountain" exhibit at the Autry Museum. It then went to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

This time, the "Profiles of Pride" will focus on the accomplishments of several people who are close to the CHSSC, or have supported it through the years. Among the L.A. "locals" featured are retired economist and author James Bok Wong, who spoke to our membership at its April 3rd meeting. Others include Stanford Mu, younger brother of CHSSC members Stanley and Stanton Mu, and Steven Leong, husband of member Ella Leong.

## I Sneeze, You Sneeze, We All Sneeze from Allergies

By CHSSC Member Betty Gaw, M.D.

'Tis the season for the sneezes, as spring and its beautiful blooms loaded with fine pollens are blown by the wind or gentle breezes, creating a mix of dust and allergenic pollens which assault our nostrils. They are called allergens because they stimulate our immune systems to react, as though we have been invaded by foreign invaders, prompting our defense systems, the white blood cells, to counter attack. The resulting chemical warfare liberates a host of chemicals, one of which is histamine, the culprit for causing the misery of unstoppable, clear, mucousy, runny nose which interferes with breathing, aeration and sleep, nasal congestion, heavy headedness, fatigue, itching-sore throat, nose and eyes, which collectively is called the "allergic syndrome."

The capacity to react to allergens is inherited, so blame your parents, grandparents, and forefathers/mothers for this genetic gift. Doctors can verify allergy by doing blood tests which show elevated eosinophils, immunoglobulin-E, leukotrienes, prostaglandins, etc., and skin tests to specific antigens to elicit local skin inflammation, e.g., using solutions made of cat fur, dog dander, dust mites, grass or weed pollens, etc.

Under the microscope, the pollen looks like a spiked sphere which easily irritates the delicate mucous membranes of the nose, throat and eyes. But it is the chemical cascade of events which cause the terrific inflammation and misery of the

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### PASSAGES

*Please join us in sending our heart-felt condolences to Member Beverly Hom Tsao, whose father, Winston Tom, recently passed away. Likewise, our thoughts are with former president and current Chairwoman of the Board Susan Dickson, as she recently lost her father who had been living in Tennessee.*

### JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Move fast if you're keen on this one: Chinese American Museum is seeking two undergraduates for a *Multi-cultural Summer Internship* funded by the Getty Grant Program. The deadline for the 10-week apprenticeship is April 26! Contact Assistant Curator Sonia Mak for more info at 213-626-5240 or fax her at 213-485-8238. Or visit [www.camla.org](http://www.camla.org). *Electronic submissions will not be accepted.*
- Keiro Senior HealthCare is looking to hire two full-time development assistants who would help with fundraising and communications for the non-profit organization, based out of its Boyle Heights office. For more information, please contact Edna Karinski by calling (323) 980-7512 or e-mailing [ekarinski@keiro.org](mailto:ekarinski@keiro.org). Ask about the deadlines for the positions, as the dates may vary from job opening to job opening.

(continued from p. 3) **I SNEEZE, WE ALL SNEEZE...**

allergic syndrome. Antihistamines have been developed to block this cascade, and are very effective.

Since a viral cold mimics allergic rhinitis and is difficult to differentiate one from the other, taking a non-sedating antihistamine would stop the runny nose but would not affect a cold. A viral infection is due to an infectious agent, whereas allergy is due to stimulation of the immune system to react-by molds, foods, drugs, animals, or environmental substances.

Allergy has protean manifestations and is almost ubiquitous. Since it is a life-long inherited genetic endowment, the allergic person must learn to take care of this potential for reacting to many allergens, by being an astute detective in identifying the inciting allergens.

The Asian genetic makeup is endowed with a high percentage of allergenicity, about 35% or more may exhibit it at different times of their life spans. The dose, the duration of exposure, and the multiplicity of different allergens or their cumulative load contribute to the manifestation of the symptoms. After the detection of your own "poisons," the next step is to avoid them, or to minimize the pollution of your body.

**Next month: Dr. Gaw offers tips for snooping out the allergens at home and at work.**

### CURRENT & UPCOMING EXHIBITS & EVENTS

#### Monday, April 22

- ⇒ East-West Players' 36th Anniversary Visionary Awards dinner and silent auction, 7 p.m. @ Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 213-625-7000
- ⇒ Los Angeles Mayor James K. Hahn's office kicks off Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival

#### Friday, April 26

- ⇒ Cathay Bank Golf Tournament @ California Country Club, 1509 Workman Mill Road in Whittier

#### Saturday, April 27

- ⇒ Lily Cai Dance Company performs "Dance Calligraphy" @ Caltech's Beckman Auditorium, 8 p.m., 888-222-5822 for details.
- ⇒ Los Angeles Times Festival of Books @ UCLA; call 1-800-

LATIMES, ext. BOOK for info.  
(Runs through Sunday the 28th)

#### Sunday, April 28

- ⇒ Asia America Youth Honor Orchestra performance @ Norris Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates; 2:30 p.m.; call 310-37-8977 for details.
- ⇒ "Discovering Your Family Tree" workshop @ Japanese American National Museum; 2-4 p.m., 369 1st St.; 213-625-0414 for details. (213) 626-5240 for information

#### Friday, May 10

- ⇒ Chinatown Public Safety Association 20th anniversary banquet @ Empress Pavilion in Chinatown; 5:30 p.m. refreshments, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Details: 213-

621-3043, or e-mail:  
[cpsa90012@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsa90012@yahoo.com)

#### Thursday, May 16

- ⇒ WRAP (Western Region Asian Pacific Agency) Family Services presents "A Night at the Skirball with (writer & humorist) Sandra Tsing Loh," 6-9:30 p.m., 310-376-2236.
- ⇒ Visual Communications Annual Film Festival pertaining to Asian and Asian American issues. Call 213-680-4462 for screening info. (Movies will be shown in various venues throughout the greater Los Angeles area. Week-long event runs through Thursday, April 23rd.)

#### Friday, May 17

- ⇒ CHSSC Spring Dinner featuring

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### Happenings of the Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center

Editor's Note: If you haven't stopped by the Bernard Street property in a while, this is the type of fun and excitement you might be missing. In hopes of keeping you better informed about what goes on at the "Heritage House" that we purchased several years ago, we've asked Vice President and HVC Committee Chair Eugene Moy to write a regular report. He and a small band of dedicated, regular volunteers perform chores around the property and, in between, meet all manner of visitors. Consider this a "captain's log" of sorts. Enjoy! And please visit & help out!

By Eugene Moy

Today (March 13th, Easter Sunday), we had a very busy day, with slightly older students Eddie Chen and Dong Qian (from Pasadena City College and East Los Angeles College) helping with some improvements. They made two trips to Home Depot, first buying paint and painting the front porch at 415 Bernard, with supervision by (Membership Chair) Cy Wong. The crew then tackled stabilizing the front porch rail at 411, running again to Home Depot for concrete anchors and steel braces. Using Gene's and Cy's tools, and a little muscle, we finished the job. Eddie, as he usually does, helped close the Heritage Center at 6:00 PM (even though we officially are open 12-4, we usually keep the door open until much later, because we frequently have visitors walk in) by emptying trash, washing coffee pots, closing windows and doors, taking down banners and the flag, etc.

In between, there were other activities and visitors. Member Clarissa Dong brought over her friends Denise Ma and Dr. Hengchun Ye, who is an Associate Professor of Climatology in the Geography Department at Cal State L.A., where Clarissa's husband has been teaching for almost 40 years. Clarissa brought Dr. Ye because she wanted her to demonstrate that, besides being an academic, she is also a talented erhu (like a Chinese violin) player who might provide a future back yard program for us. So we were treated to little "audition"/"sound check" session. We all agreed that the indoor acoustics were good for the erhu, but also that, in our outdoor setting, hardly any amplification would be needed. I had an opportunity to chat with Dr. Ye about her background. She started at age 6, was performing with orchestras and soloing by age 12. After arriving in the States to attend school, and also raising a family, she said she hasn't had much time to practice or perform, but one couldn't tell from the fluid bowing and perfect tone. She received her Ph.D from the U. of Delaware, taught 3 years at the U. of Idaho, and, since September, has been at CSULA. (Member) Howard Hew, who caught part of the "performance," suggested a little educational presentation on the art and craft of the instrument would be worthwhile, and Dr. Ye seemed to be very amenable to that.

In the meantime, Ernest Li, a student from Occidental College, had arrived, and networked a little bit with Eddie and Qian, before I had time to assist him with his project. Ernest is one of three students from Prof. Jan Lin's History of Los Angeles class at Oxy--I gave our slide presentation to the class in February--who will be utilizing our resources. He left with a lot of confidence as well as an armload of books loaned from our library. I or Linda Chong will hear from the other two students later this week or by the next weekend. Before Ernest, we had visits from Yvonne Chia, who has been working with Wing Mar on the CAPP project, and came to drop off photos; and from Jim Fong, who brought in a newspaper article that mentioned a Chinese American WWII veteran. After brief discussions, I left both items on Linda's desk for her to deal with. Other visitors came, but fortunately for us, no one required a lot of. At other times, we might end up spending an hour or two with an individual or family.

As you can see, our Sundays are full & we look forward to more volunteers or suggestions for volunteers. It's very rewarding time spent but once in awhile, Cy & I will need to take breaks. Let me know if any of you would like to take on a day & we'll show you how.

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### MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

keynote speaker Charlie Woo, Megatoys CEO and community leader.

- ⇒ Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Community Networking Dinner--also @ Empress Pavilion. Participating organizations include: Asian Business Association, C.A.C.A., Chinatown Service Center, and the OCA. Features dim sum buffet and cash bar; \$12 @ door; RSVPS required.

#### Saturday, May 18

- ⇒ Chinese American author Terrence Cheng will read and sign his new book, *Sons of Heaven*. The novel is based on a character from the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy movement in Beijing. Free @ Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena. 626-449-2742, ext. 20. RSVPS "strongly suggested." Part of the "Authors on Asia" series.

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The National Asian American Telecommunications Association has announced that 10 specials on Asian affairs will be broadcast on public television in May. Check your local listings for specific times and stations, or log onto website: [www.naatanet.org/heritagemonth/](http://www.naatanet.org/heritagemonth/). (Thanks, Ella Quan, for this tip!)

### "HAWFORD SOUND, I WISH I WAS ...."

Is this the tune you are singing? Don't let the opportunity pass you by; RSVP ASAP for our upcoming trip. We have tried to reach everyone who signed their names on a list of those intending to go, but we haven't heard from everyone yet. Please check your e-mail or call the office if you need the latest update or if you need to respond!

The gist of it is this: If you intend to go for the gourmet dining option, we need a check for \$93 for each meal (\$75 base price plus tax and tip). Please send payment to CHSSC's P.O. box, or you may pay us in person at the May 1 meeting.

The deadline for payment is also May 1st, and there will be absolutely no refunds after May 17. Please mention, either in a note with your check, or via e-mail or a phone call, whether you wish to have wine with your meal so that we can try to seat the spirits & bubbly drinkers together.

Also, please let us know if you'll be joining us Sunday morning for the tour of Allensworth.





### CHSSC Projects Update

The Archive Project, a plan to convert the garage into a climate-controlled, high standard archive storage and processing facility to centralize and document our collections, has been initiated with Gilbert Hom installing shelving in our storage room in 415 Bernard St. We will soon be soliciting volunteers to assist with this exciting, multi-phase project.

CHSSC will soon be publishing the 25th Anniversary book and we are currently seeking photos to augment the articles. If you have pictures we could use, please contact Kelli (323) 222-0856 or send them to the office.

### EVENTS (CONT'D)

**Oct. 1 LA County Fair @  
the Fairplex in Pomona  
(909) 623-3111**

**Oct. 25-27 CCPH Conference 2001  
(562) 435-3511**

**Oct. 26 - Jan. 21  
"Rags-To-Riches" Exhibit @  
Gene Autry Museum  
(323) 667-2000, ext. 329**

**December 9  
Save the Date! CAM 5th Annual  
Historymakers Awards Banquet**

**In New York,  
October 4 (MCA)  
Harvest Moon Celebration  
(212) 619-4785**

中秋佳節

LA Chinatown  
Moon Festival 2001

September 29-30

Mark your calendar for this  
event full of entertainment,  
mooncakes, and  
other activities!

*Mogao continued from front page*

statues and 45,000 square meters of murals depicting other-worldly beings and sacred rituals awaken the spirit and create a heavenly atmosphere in the middle of a desolate land of seemingly endless sand dunes.

One of the most valuable of the nearly 500 caves is Cave 17. Just at the turn of the century, Taoist Abbot Wang Yuan uncovered this particular cave which contained over 60,000 scrolls and documents, including the first known printed book, a Buddhist sutra from 868 AD. In 1907, Sir Aurel Stein traveled to Dunhuang to study the findings of the cave and, in fact, convinced the monk that he was on a mission to retrieve the Buddhist scriptures Xuan Zhuang had brought to China from India so many centuries before.

Dr. Agnew showed slides of specialists documenting and studying the murals on the cave walls and emphasized the challenge and importance of preserving the grottoes. Efforts have been made to control the wind-swept sand dunes from overtaking the caves. Besides obvious environmental issues outside the caves, conservationists also have to address the microenvironment of the paintings. The hair-thin layer of paint on the caves is both exposed to the air and subject to internal temperature changes in the rock and clay. Photographing, drawing, documenting and annotating continues to reveal the significance of the figures depicted, which discovery more than validates the tremendous international effort to preserve the sacred cultural heritage contained within the caves.

Why is it so important for us Americans on the other side of the planet to understand and appreciate the efforts made by Dr. Agnew and his associates? It all comes down to the question my aerospace engineer father and countless other fathers, I'm sure, have wondered for years: why the humanities? At my graduation ceremony in April, the speaker suggested that the greatest gift one can offer to another community or people is a sense that one knows, understands, and respects that group's contributions and culture. The Mogao Cave preservation project is an expression of the basic human desire for mutual understanding and acceptance. Such efforts in the humanities play significant roles in international relations and cross-cultural communication. Thank you, Dr. Agnew, for your lecture and your work.

### Thanks, Yvonne!

Since the beginning of last year, Yvonne Chia has designed and edited *News 'n Notes*, as well as assisted with other programs and projects like the CAPP project. We appreciate her time and talents and wish her success in the future.

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dragon boat races, another event of the 2-day festival.

The difficulty of finding a parking spot and, later, the crowds of people of every ethnicity swarming the festival grounds made me realize just how popular this multi-cultural, multi-faceted event really is. Local Asian American organizations distributed information, food booths with everything from phad thai to roasted corn fed the masses, and several carnival rides provided excitement for kids. At the center of the festivities was a large stage on which a multitude of cultural dances and demonstrations were performed, from Samoan singing with ukulele accompaniment to the lion

dance and taikwondo.

Along with many others, I found myself drawn to the handcraft booths and especially interested in any examples of Chinese folk art. A traditional paper cutter enthusiastically demonstrated his meticulous art to onlookers. Most enthralling was a woman from mainland China who sat weaving leaves into amazingly intricate animal figurines.

A few hours later, we left the park a bit more cultured and happy than when we arrived. At dusk, the view of Downtown across the lake is rather nice, even for a nature buff, and I recall being pleased with the balance that such a large hustle and bustle city has found in embracing cultural differences and communicating the vitality of diversity. Although I'm definitely not qualified to analyze the 'fengshui' of the city of Los Angeles, as a local, I sense that efforts to understand each others' traditions and communities has brought us closer to balance. If you didn't get to the Lotus Festival, be sure to mark it on the calendar for next summer.





# CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please include me on the membership roster that will be available to members only

I am interested in helping with:

- ☐ Programs  
☐ Publications  
☐ Research  
☐ Membership/Publicity  
☐ Fundraising  
☐ Volunteering  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:

- ☐ New  
☐ Renewal

*Make checks payable to: CHSSC  
We are a tax-exempt non-profit educational organization*

- ☐ Gum Saan Journal (2 Issues Annually) \$5.00  
☐ Active Member, annual \$25.00  
☐ Additional Member, annual \$10.00  
(spouse, same household)  
☐ Contributing, annual \$10.00  
(senior citizen over 60 and student)  
☐ Institutional, annual \$50.00  
☐ Life \$300.00  
☐ Corporate, annual \$100.00  
☐ Life Patron \$1,000.00

- ☐ Donation: Please accept my tax-deductible donation(s) to the following fund(s)

General \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Publications \$ \_\_\_\_\_

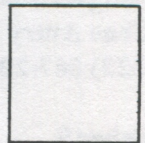
- ☐ 25th Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 for one \_\_\_\_\_ \$18 for two or more

sizes ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large



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



**FIRST CLASS**