



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

415 Bernard St., Los Angeles, CA 90012; Voice: 323-222-0856;

Fax: 323-221-4162; Email: chssc@earthlink.net; Web: www.chssc.org;

December 2009

December Program

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.

Castelar Elementary School

All Purpose Room

Enter on College Avenue
between Hill and Yale Streets

The public is invited
(Free parking)



There will not be a speaker program in December. There will be a potluck dinner with a white elephant sale and caroling.

The Society will provide hot beverages and a few dishes but we look forward to the dishes that you all will bring! As a matter of organization, we have designated specific groups of people to bring certain items. If your last name begins with the letters below, you bring the corresponding dish. Please do not bring Tyson chicken or other pre-cooked processed food, we want to sample your cooking. If cooking is not your forte, bring a donation of at least \$5.00 per person:

A-F: Entrees

G-M: Side Dishes

N-T: Desserts

U-Z: Cold beverages .

Around CHSSC

Gum Saan Journal 2009 Special Edition

Gum Saan Journal (GSJ) 2009 Special Edition will be available for mailing to CHSSC members by the end of the year. Alternately, you may pick up your copies at CHSSC at 415 Bernard Street, Los Angeles Chinatown. Our office hours are from Monday to Friday, 10: a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

GSJ is included in membership except those who opted out. It is a semi-academic, annual publication of the Society. We welcome manuscripts that explore the historical, cultural, and humanistic aspects of Chinese American experiences, particularly relating to Southern California. We also solicit articles exploring contemporary issues relevant to the Chinese American community. Manuscripts should be approximately 3000 words in length.

The 2009 Special Edition of GSJ is the culmination of an oral history project on Los Angeles Chinatown in the 1930s and 1940s, led by Will Gow. There is an exhibition at the CHSSC Heritage Center and a website devoted to the project, www.chinatownremembered.com.

This project is made possible in part by a grant from the California Council for the Humanities as part of the Council's statewide California Stories Initiative. The Council is an independent non-profit organization

and a state affiliate of the National Endowment for Humanities. For more on the Council and the California Stories Initiative, visit www.californiastories.org



CALIFORNIA
STORIES

The California Council for the Humanities



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

December 2009

Additions to CHSSC Library

Recognizing the importance of knowing about the other ethnic communities in Los Angeles, we have ordered three more books:

- Los Angeles's Historic Filipinotown by Carina Monica Montoya with a foreword by Eric Garcetti
- Filipinos in Hollywood, by Carina Monica Montoya
- Filipinos in Carson and the South Bay by Florante Peter Ibanez and Roselyn Estepa Ibanez

Books and articles in the CHSSC library can be checked out. You can stop by our office Monday to Friday, 11:00 to 3:00 or Sunday, 12:30 to 4:00. No appointment required. We have a specialized collection of books and articles on Chinese American experiences, specially in Southern California. Many students and writers have used our library for their research.

Angi Ma Wong, CHSSC President 1987-88 Honored

Angi Ma Wong, CHSSC President from 1987 to 1988, was a recipient of the Heritage Award at the Eighth Annual Aquarium of the Pacific Autumn Festival in Long Beach, California. This award acknowledges an individual or group that serves the Asian communities or promote its cultures to the community in general. The award was held November 8, 2009 and presented by Assembly Member Ted Lieu, 53rd District and Dr. James Wood, Director of Education, Aquarium of the Pacific.

Angi founded her intercultural and feng shui consulting and corporate training services in 1989 and Pacific Heritage Books in 1992. She has won an award that honors people in business. She is also a best-selling author of 29 titles. Her historical fiction *Night of the Red Moon* was nominated for the John and Patricia Beatty Award for children's literature by the California Readers. She is one of very few Asian American women on the international speaking circuit and is a popular speaker at conferences and seminars. Angi has received many awards for her volunteerism and entrepreneurship.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November, 1975. The purposes of the Society are: 1) to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in Southern California; 2) to pursue, preserve and communicate knowledge of this history; and; 3) to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multi-cultural society of the United States.

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

December 2009



THE STATE OF CHINESE AMERICA: A COMMUNITY FORUM

December 12, 2009, Saturday 12:00-3:30PM

Monterey Park City Hall Council Chambers

320 West Newmark Avenue

Monterey Park, CA 91754



L to R: Stewart Kwoh, J.D., Ling-Chi Lee, Ph.D.,

UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the Chinese American Studies Endowment believe it's important for Chinese Americans to participate fully in American society.

- Welcome to Our Community Roundtable!
- How can Chinese Americans fully participate – politically and socially— in today's society?
- Can Chinese Americans make a difference in future U.S.-China relations?
- What social, cultural, and political resources do we have to create a better American society for all?

UCLA Asian American Studies Center, together with the Chinese American Studies Endowment, bring you this program which brings together individuals in politics, education, and the law to discuss how we, as Asian Americans, participate in a global society. Our speakers will help to address the "issues of the day" including civil rights and the law, Chinese American political organizing and participation, and the future role of Chinese Americans and U.S.-China relations.

For the past 40 years, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center has served the nation through its research, teaching, and the training of community leaders.

Co-Sponsors:

- Chinese Historical Society of Southern California;
- CAUSE-Center for Asian Americans United for Empowerment;
- Chinese American Museum;
- Chinese American Citizen's Alliance

Untold Civil Rights Stories

Untold Civil Rights Stories: Asian American Speak Out for Justice, edited by Stewart Kwoh, Asian Pacific American Legal Center and Russell C. Leong, UCLA Asian American Studies Center. There is a 20% discount for bulk purchase of 20 copies or more. Regular price is \$20, discounted price is \$16.

Untold Civil Rights Stories is a collaborative publication of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. The stories shed light on the role of Asian Americans in today's civil rights and social justice struggles, before and after 9/11. Profiled in the book are Philip Vera Cruz, Lily Chin, the Ito family, Beulah Kwoh, K.W. Lee, Fred Korematsu, Faustino Baclig, Amric Singh Rathour, and many others

There are 176 pages of photographs, charts, and timeline. The book can be purchased online at www.aasc.ucla.edu/archives/untoldcivilrights.asp

For more information please contact:

Ming Tu
Business Manager
310-825-2968
310-206-9844 (fax)
E-mail: aascpress@aasc.ucla.edu
www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc



Eugene Obregon Memorial Site and

Preservation of Culture Rich Historic Sites

The President of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC) has sent a letter to the mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa, expressing its concern at the construction of the Eugene Obregon Memorial at a site that is culturally rich in Los Angeles history.

The monument is to honor the 40 Latino veterans who received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest honor Congress can bestow on an individual for military service.

The said memorial site located in Father Serra Park at the corner of Los Angeles and Alameda streets is part of the oldest settlement in Los Angeles, the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic District. There is evidence that part of the Lugo House was once located at the proposed site. Construction began on October 27, 2009 without the required final approval. The project was approved in concept only. The organizers bypassed the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs and the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Commissions, and went straight to the Public Works Department. This is highly irregular. The construction was halted after local communities expressed their concerns. Work on the monument stopped briefly and restarted without regard to established procedures.

At this point, the CHSSC's president Gordon Hom wrote a letter to Mayor Villaraigosa to ask whether the proposed project has been given final approval and if so, has an environmental impact review been completed. To this day, we have not heard from the Mayor's office.

The Lugo House was built in 1854 and was considered the finest building in Southern California. The Lugo family was one of the first settlers in Los Angeles. In 1865 Vicente Lugo donated the building to the Catholic Church. It became the location for St. Vincent's College, Los Angeles' pioneer Catholic college and first institution of higher learning in

Southern California.¹ Within a few years the flourishing school outgrew the building and relocated to a bigger venue that is now the Pershing Square. In 1911, St. Vincent College became Loyola University.

After the college moved out, the Lugo House became part of Los Angeles' original Chinatown. It housed curio stores, grocery stores, the Hop Sing Tong house and a temple.



*The Lugo House in the 1930s when it housed the Canton Bazaar and the Hop Sing Tong Society.
(Los Angeles Public Library: Security Pacific Collection).*

Plans for a railroad station, the Union Station was underway throughout the 1920s and 1930s. Chinese homes and businesses were condemned and demolished and Chinatown community was displaced. The Lugo House was saved temporarily by concerned citizens including Christine Sterling. Eventually Mrs. Sterling lost interest in saving the Lugo House, probably out of the realization that she was unable to save it. The Lugo House was demolished in 1971.

¹ The Lugo House, by Glenna Dunning, "Los Angeles City Historical Society Newsletter, Vol. XI, Issue 2, May 2009, pp 4-6.



Dan Louie, Jr., 1930—2009

Dan Louie, Jr. was one of the Chinese American pioneering bankers honored by CHSSC at its 2007 spring dinner in Los Angeles. In 1979, Dan joined John M. Lee and Jack L. Jue in applying for a savings and loan bank charter which was approved in 1981. Standard Savings opened on February 1982 and was the sole surviving Chinese American savings and loan in California until it merged with East West Bank in March 2006.

Below is an email CHSSC received from Esther Louie on her husband Dan Louie, Jr.

"Dan Share Louie, Jr., Ph.D. passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and friends, on November 7, 2009, in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was born on May 26, 1930, in Los Angeles, to Dan and Virginia. He earned a B.S. in Plant Science from UC Davis and a Ph.D in Plant Physiology from UCLA. These degrees prepared him to serve as vice president and chairman of the board of the family business, the Louie Produce Co., for over 30 years. He was a fourth-generation farmer and grew over 30 kinds of Asian vegetables in California and Mexico."

"Dan was also involved in a number of other businesses. Most notably, he was founder, COB, and director of Standard Bank in L.A.'s Chinatown; a partner in Arizona Produce; and the publisher of Jade Magazine, a lifestyle magazine for Asian Americans."

"Dan served the community as a scoutmaster and district explorer chairman for the Boy Scouts of America; president of the Los Angeles Convention Center; president of the Los Angeles City Council Committee for the Handicapped; president of the Coachella Valley Farm Bureau; and founding president of the Chinese American Museum in El Pueblo, Los Angeles."

"He served in the Los Angeles International Lions Club for over 30 years and acted as District Governor from 1981-1982. When he moved to Las Vegas in 1996, he and his wife, Esther, became charter members of the Summerlin Lions Club. As a Lion, he received numerous awards, such as the International Presidential Medal for exemplary service, the highest honor Lions International Assoc. can bestow on a member."

"Dan was preceded in death by his sister, Betty, and is survived by his loving wife, Esther; children, Linda, Jeffrey (Corry), Joanne (Peter), and Robert; 5 siblings; 7 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandsons. His family has immense respect, love, and admiration for him and will miss him greatly."

"A Las Vegas memorial service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009, at 4:00 p.m., at the Blind Center of Southern Nevada, 1001 No. Bruce St., Las Vegas, NV 89101."

"The funeral, memorial, and burial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2009, at Forest Lawn – Hollywood Hills, 6300 Forest Lawn Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90068. Funeral and memorial services to be held in the Hall of Liberty."

"In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The Salvation Army, Boy Scouts of America, Chinese American Museum (El Pueblo), Los Angeles Int'l Lions Club, or Summerlin Lions Club in Dan's name."

Meet Author John Jung
Cerritos Library
Skyline Room, 7:00 p.m.
18025 Bloomfield Ave
Cerritos, CA 90703-8578

John Jung, a retired professor from California State University, Long Beach, will talk about Chinese life in the American South before the civil rights movement. Jung will discuss his book, "Chopsticks in the Land of Cotton," about the lives of Chinese grocers in the Mississippi River Delta. He will also talk about "Southern Fried Rice," a book he wrote on experiences growing up in his parents' laundromat in Macon, Georgia, where they were the only Chinese people in town. Very few in number and caught between the racial conflicts, Chinese in the deep south held fast to their cultural values to not only endure but overcome racial barriers.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

December 2009

UCLA Doctoral Fellowships in Archival Studies 2010

Doctoral Fellowships are currently available through a new eight-campus initiative for individuals who are interested in pursuing careers as educators and scholars in the field of Archival Studies and who would be entering a doctoral program in Fall 2010. The Archival Education and Research Fellowships are aimed at strengthening doctoral-level education in Archival Studies, building the cohort of archival educators and increasing its diversity, and promoting a broad base of rigorous archival scholarship.

The Doctoral Fellowships are open to all citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who exhibit interest in the field of Archival Studies. Applications are particularly encouraged from individuals who are of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander heritage. For more info, please visit <http://aeri.gseis.ucla.edu>.

Untold Civil Rights Stories

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For more information please contact:

Ming Tu, Business Manager
310-825-2968

E-mail: aascpress@aasc.ucla.edu

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Boy Scouts Came to CHSSC

By Diane Poon



Gordon Hom (far right), President of CHSSC, Ben Fong, volunteer and the boy scouts of Monterey Park Trp #329.

On one Sunday morning in late October four boy scouts from the Monterey Park Troop #329 armed with sun screen, gloves and enthusiasm arrived at the Heritage House. They were here to do some gardening chores including tree trimming, branch cutting, weeding and cutting back the overgrown brushes and ground cover that have been neglected for sometime. The Boy Scout's assistance certainly was a welcoming surprise. After 12 full bags of debris later they put back the glorious front and back yards that were carefully planted by numerous volunteers in the past. The boys also received a dose of Chinese American History by our fearless leader Gordon Hom and Ben Fong, a volunteer. Our big thank you to Marcus Wong (the patrol leader), Alex Wong, William Ng and Andrew Ma. We hope to see them again....

Acknowledgements

- CHSSC member Mariko Kahn gave a donation in memory of Paul Louie.
- Emma Louie gave a generous donation in memory of her husband Paul.
- Winnie Lew, Sylvia and Jim Soo Hoo donated snacks for the November 4th program meeting.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

May 2009

Community Calendar

Continuing

August 16 — 29, 2009

Steeped in History: The Art of Tea

Fowler Museum at UCLA

Explore the cultural and historical significance of tea, the world's second most consumed beverage after water, through a wide-ranging visual art. Chinese paintings; Japanese screens, ceramics, and prints; rare English and Colonial American paintings; photographs and historical documents; tea-serving paraphernalia from around the globe; and much more, all tell the fascinating history of tea drinking. The subjects of the exhibition range from tea's mythic origins in the hills of South China through its enormous significance in Japan, its introduction in Europe by Dutch traders around 1610, its role in colonial American life beyond the clichés of the Boston Tea Party, and finally to its expanding importance as a global commodity at the height of the British Empire.

Free admission

Parking \$3 first hour, \$6 two hours, \$10 for 3 or more hours.

Enter UCLA from Sunset Blvd. at Westwood. Drive to the Parking Information Booth in Lot 4. Automated pay stations accept \$1 and \$5 bills and credit cards.

Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Thursday until 8 p.m.

Closed Monday, Tuesday and major holidays.

Group tour available weekdays only, 310-206-5663.

September 17, 2009 — January 17, 2010

Exhibition

Calligraffiti: Writing in Contemporary Chinese and Latino Art

The exhibition addresses issues of power, culture, and universality.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91101

Admission: \$9 general, \$5 seniors/students

Complimentary parking available

October 14, 2009 – February 8, 2010

Fashioning Domesticity, Weaving Desire: Visions of the Filipina

this exhibition addresses two key performative issues: the fashioning of domesticity and the weaving of desire. It will problematize the body as a (dis)embodied landscape activated by the braided contexts of colonialism and democracy.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA

November 7—December 13, 2009

Inspiration from the Past

Ming and Qing Landscape Studies

Exhibition of painting by students of the Saturday painting class at the Pacific Asia Museum.

46 N. Los Robles Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91101

Wednesday to Sunday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Meet Author John Jung

Cerritos Library

Skyline Room, 7:00 p.m.

18025 Bloomfield Ave

Cerritos, CA 90703-8578

See page 5 for more details

Saturday, December 5, 2009 @ 11:00 a.m.

Chinese Floral Arrangement Presentation

Santa Monica Library (Montana Branch)

1704 Montana Avenue at 17th Street

Santa Monica, CA

Free admission

The library is in a residential area with unlimited street parking and meter parking.

There will be displays of Rosa's arrangements as well as a slide presentation. Rosa Zee is a certified teacher of Chinese Floral Arrangement. She is also a volunteer at the Huntington's Chinese Garden and a docent at the Pacific Asia Museum.

Community Calendar

(Continued from page 7)

Monday, December 7, 2009

China Society of Southern California

Golden Dragon Restaurant

960 N. Broadway, Los Angeles Chinatown

Pedro Chan will talk about the planned Flying Tiger Museum in China. Pedro has pledged to donate his collection of approximately 1,000 pieces of Flying Tigers memorabilia.

6:30 p.m.—Check-in and social

7:00 p.m.—Dinner, \$17 including tax and tip

8:00 p.m.—presentation, free

To RSVP, call Yvonne Chang, 310-454-3621 or email yvonnechang@charter.net by December 4.

Saturday, December 12, 2009

Art Night in Chinatown

Various locations throughout Chinatown

Free admission, 6pm - 9pm

Enjoy an evening of art viewing as you stroll the alleyways and courtyards of Los Angeles Chinatown, home to 32 cutting edge art galleries and some of the most talked-about exhibitions in the country.

Have a Happy

Holiday Season

And

A Prosperous New Year

From

CHSSC Board and Staff



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

415 Bernard St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012-1703