



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center: 323-222-0856

November 2009

November Programs

Wednesday, November 4, 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 admission and parking)

Asian Pacific Islanders Preserve America Neighborhoods Project

By
Sharon Lowe, Esq.

There are five Asian Pacific Islander (API) neighborhoods in Los Angeles: Chinatown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, Thai Town and Filipinotown. As of July 2009, all except Filipinotown have received White House designations as Preserve America Neighborhoods (PAN). Sharon Lowe led the efforts in applying for the designations.

Please join us in hearing Ms. Lowe talk about the strategic plans and proposed work programs that will strengthen the image and the economy of the City of Angels through its five culturally rich Asian Pacific Islanders neighborhoods. API PAN is a Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles partnership project.

Around CHSSC

Chinese Memorial Shrine Fence Repainted

The fence around the Chinese memorial shrine at Evergreen Cemetery in Los Angeles received a new coat of paint in its original color, safety red. The labor is donated by Ernesto Con, a painting contractor and a

Former CHSSC board member who also painted the two CHSSC buildings a few years ago. After receiving words of thanks from CHSSC board, he replied:

“Actually, I would like to thank all of you for giving me the honor and the opportunity to put my brush at the service of a good cause. While I was there, I was overcome with a mixture of sadness and happiness. I felt sadness for the miserable lives they led while on this earth, their shattered dreams and hopes. I also felt a certain happiness because this relocation next to the shrine, and the monument which is a testimony to their sacrifice, is to some degree a redemption of their lives. For this, I would like to thank all of you. The monument looks great, but the color that you selected for the fence is even greater.

Sincerely, Ernesto Con”

New additions to CHSSC Library

Because of the popularity of *Chinatown in Los Angeles*, we have ordered other Arcadia Publishing books on Chinatowns and other locations. They are:

- Chinese in Mendocino County
- Chinese in Boston, 1870-1965
- Chinese in Milwaukee

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Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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Save Our Chinatown Committee Hails Court Victory

Judge Sharon Waters of Riverside, California, issued her decision on the Save Our Chinatown Committee's (SOCC) suit to stop the destruction of the old Riverside Chinatown archaeological site on August 31, 2009. "Our initial reaction is one of relief, but we realize that there is still work to be done before we can guarantee permanent protection of this extremely important archaeological site," said SOCC spokesperson Margie Akin. The judge found that the sale of the land was improperly handled and invalidated the sale. Ownership of the said land is reverted back to the Riverside County Office of Education. They have indicated their desire to sell the said land for revenue. See March 2009 issue of this newsletter for the unauthorized destruction of the Riverside Chinatown archaeological site by real estate developer Doug Jacobs. It was dubbed the "Valentine Day Massacre" because the destruction occurred during the long Valentine Day/Presidents' Day weekend.

There is much work to be done to permanently save the site. CHSSC has been involved in the effort to save the Riverside Chinatown from the very beginning. For further information please contact Margie Akin (951) 787-0318, margieakin@hotmail.com

Case Files of Chinese Immigrants, 1900-1923

The first 21 reels of the microfilm of the Case Files of Chinese Immigrants, 1900-1923, from District No. 4 (Philadelphia) of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (M1144) have been converted to digital (DVD) format. They are available for checkout at the Montebello Regional Library, 1550 W. Beverly Blvd, Montebello, CA 90640. For further information, call Linda Fernandez, (323) 722-6551 or email aprc@library.lacounty.gov. Their website is www.colapublib.org

New Additions to CHSSC Library

(continued from page 1)

- Marysville Chinatown
- San Francisco's Chinatown
- Chinatowns of New York City
- Chinese in St. Louis, 1857-2007
- Chinese in Chicago, 1870-1945
- Manhattan's Chinatown
- Chinese in San Jose and Santa Clara Valley
- Angel Island
- New York City's Chinese Community
- Monterey's Waterfront
- Monterey County North Coast and Coastal Valleys
- Santa Monica's Postcards
- Washington, D.C.'s Mayflower Hotel

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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

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***** *Save the Date* *****

The First-Ever

National API Historic Preservation Forum

*“Defining Preservation for America’s Diverse Communities:
Empowering API Cultural Heritage for the 21st Century”*

A gathering of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders concerned about preserving
their historical community resources.

Date: June 24 – 26, 2010

Location: Hotel Kabuki of Japantown, San Francisco

Thursday Night: Opening Reception

Friday: Workshops & Key Note Speakers

Saturday: Optional tour of local historical sights



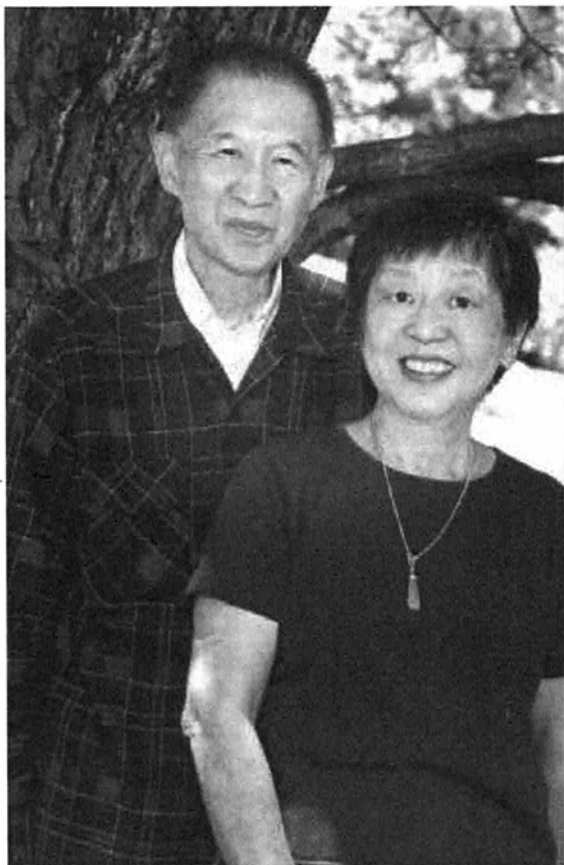
*For more information, please contact
Bill Watanabe at bw@ltsc.org or
Christine Tzeng at ctzeng@ltsc.org



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

November 2009

Remembering Paul Louie (1918-2009)



Paul and Emma Louie
Photo courtesy of the Portraits of Pride Project

Paul Louie was born in Seattle, one of 11 children of a pioneering Chinese American family. After high school, he received a scholarship to attend Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon. He also received a scholarship from Harvard University's Divinity School where he obtained a Science of Theology Master's degree in 1945.

Paul co-founded the Chinese Christian Youth Conference which met for the first time in 1943, and continued to meet many times until the 1960s when it disbanded. In 1947 he moved to San Francisco where he worked at the Chinese YMCA as program director. He served as a pastor of the Chinese Presbyterian Church in Oakland as well as in other mainstream Presbyterian churches.

Paul Louie is one of the three visionaries who founded the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California (CHSSC) in 1975. During Paul's tenure with the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission he met Bill Mason and Paul deFalla. The three of them established an organization with the purpose of disseminating information about Chinese American history, specifically in Southern California. This organization later became known as the CHSSC. In the early days, Paul's living room served as the Board room and his basement, the archive.

The three men invited Philip Choy and Him Mark Lai of San Francisco's Chinese Historical Society of America to speak to a group of Chinese Americans in Los Angeles. The event resulted in many in the audience becoming charter members of the CHSSC.

Before retiring to Palo Alto, California. In the late 1980s, Paul documented the development of Los Angeles' China City and New Chinatown. Two months ago Paul donated all the slides, paperwork, and CDs on this project to CHSSC.

Reverend Louie is survived by his wife of 61 years, Emma, four children and eight grandchildren.

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A Tribute To Minister Paul Louie (1918-2009)

Paul, you have borne your burden in the heat of the day, now you have put your sword away. We all loved you, but God loved you best, when he waved his right hand, you had passed his test. You left your ideas and philosophies here on earth, with hopes that someone you've talked with, to them would give birth. Some young, and some old, not understanding at the time, but God knows what you said, they kept in mind.

I recall mentioning to Paul some years back, that I was going to research my Chinese roots to Louisiana and write a book, he didn't hesitate to say to me that I should seek a three thousand dollar grant from the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California to commence my research in Louisiana. There was a great feeling I received from his idea. Knowing that he as an elder, expressed a positive opinion toward my proposal. Although, I didn't ask for the grant. I appreciated the gesture.

He was one of the three founding fathers of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, along with Bill Mason and Paul DeFalla. Now Paul, the time has come to be recognized, there will be some with tears in their eyes. This wasn't meant to be, ever since your birth. Sometimes it happens, after you leave this earth. You and your lovely wife Emma, stayed together through thick and thin. God saw that you were tired, and opened the door for you to come in.

The Champ Joe Louis once said, "You can run, but you can't hide". Paul, I know you're up there, serving as a cosmic ancestral guide.

——Cy Wong
Past President of the CHSSC (2002-2003)

Dear family and friends:

It is with great sadness to announce that a Memorial Service will be held in celebration of the life of Paul Louie, a loving husband, a wonderful father and grandfather, a caring uncle, and a faithful friend, who died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, October 18th.

Visitation hours will take place this **Saturday, October 24th, from 5 to 8 p.m.** in the Tiffany Chapel at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Colma. Colma is south of San Francisco; the Chapel address is 1370 El Camino Real, Colma, CA 94014. A map is attached.

A Memorial Service will take place this **Sunday, October 25th, at 11 a.m.**, also in the Tiffany Chapel at Cypress Lawn, followed by luncheon in the reception room. If you would like to tell the family how you remember Paul or how he touched your life, our family would love to hear about it—through a note from you or by email to emwlouie@gmail.com.

Paul has requested no flowers, please. If desired, **in lieu of flowers** a donation to any charity of your choice would be welcome. Charities Paul has supported are the Louie Loy and Leong Shee Memorial Scholarship at San Francisco State University, the Chinese Historical Society of America, the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Wing Luke Asian Museum.

Love, Emma

In Memoriam - Paul Louie: Founder & Friend

A memorial service was held in celebration of the life of Paul Louie who died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, October 18th, in his Bay Area home.

I met Paul in 1971 when he was a staff member of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission. He would engage me in dealing with any discriminatory mal-treatment of Chinese Americans in our South Bay area by any health provider or facility.

With his sense of community and history, he co-founded the CHSSC with Bill Mason and Paul deFalla in 1975. From observing and supporting him in those activities I was privileged to co-author a Portraits of Pride chapter entitled "Something About Our Lives" that include Emma - his wife of 61 years.

We shall miss his kindred spirit.

——Wing Mar, M.D.
Former CHSSC Board Member
Principal Founder of Portraits of Pride Project
Retired Family Physician



Chinese Historical Society of Southern

Portraits of Pride Book 2 Update

PoP production team members Randy Bloch, Marian Chew and Jason Jem are busily working to complete PoP 2. In September, Jason, book one's graphic designer, asked Marian to assist with the book layout. Meanwhile, Randy is obtaining the remaining photos for the profilees and group manuscripts. In addition to researching archival photo websites, he has solicited several universities for their help with securing the images.

The upcoming book is titled *Portraits of Pride—Book 2, Chinese-American Legacies—First 160 years in America* and is divided into three sections: *Unsung Heroes* and *Superstars* includes luminaries such as figure skating champion Michelle Kwan, architects I.M. Pei and Maya Lin, cinematographer James Wong Howe, watercolorist Dong Kingman, author Iris Chang and many others. The *Group Portraits* section consists of monographs on Chinese Americans in academia, transportation, the fishing industry, engineering and science, and agriculture. In addition, a decision was made to include recent Nobel Prize winner, Charles K. Kao, regarded as the Father of Fiber Optic Communications, to the list of Nobel Prize Laureates profiled in the *Superstars* section of the book. Dr. Kao, a citizen of the USA and UK, was awarded half of the prize along with Dr. Willard S. Boyle and Dr. George E. Smith, both of the USA.

We hope you share PoP team members' excitement as PoP 2 approaches completion in early 2010! Please stay tuned for more updates.

—Marian Chew and Randall Bloch
CHSSC Staff

Quote from AsiaWeek.com

"If you suffer from information overload and are looking for someone to blame, Charles K. Kao is the man. Trace back the development timelines for the Internet, modern telecommunications, video conferencing, electronic commerce, even faxes. All intersect at a laboratory in London where in 1963,

a 30-year-old Kao began experiments that culminated in the proof of a visionary concept - that strands of glass fibers thinner than human hair and cheaper to produce than fishing line can transmit near-limitless amounts of digitized data on pulses of laser light."

"The computer normally gets the credit as the chief enabler of the information age. But without fiber-optic communications networks, we'd be sharing data by mailing floppy disks to each other, not clicking on the Send icon."

Condolences

- CHSSC board members and staff send their condolences to Margaret Wong Gorrie and her family for the passing of her father, a World War II veteran, Hong Yew Wong. Mr. Wong was a Private 1st Class mortar gunner in the 33rd Infantry Division of the 123rd Infantry Regiment. He served from October 1942 to November 1945 in New Guinea, and Luzon, Philippines. Mr. Wong received a Bronze Star, a Combat Infantry Badge and Division Service Commendation.

Acknowledgements

- Dolores Wong, a long time supporter of CHSSC gave a donation in memory of Paul Louie, one of the three founders of CHSSC. Thank you.
- We are grateful for a generous donation from Diana and Jack Seto to CHSSC.
- Angi Ma Wong gave a donation in honor of Dolores Wong's birthday.
- The following provided snacks at CHSSC's October 7th program meeting:
 - Friends of the Chinatown Library donated 2 sheets of cake.
 - Frieda and Allan Wong, Annie and Tim Siu, Winifred Lew and Dolores Wong provided various snacks.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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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 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

Saturday, October 31, 2009

12:30pm - 4:00pm

CSU Northridge, Northridge, CA

FANHS 101:

Instilling the Richness, Value and Legacy of Filipino American History and Culture

Celebrate the close of Filipino American History Month with the FANHS LA Chapter! Details to be announced later, but expect to learn about Fil-Am History 101, how to conduct oral histories, planning a research paper/panel for our upcoming Seattle conference in 2010 and much more!

For more information, please email

lafanhs@fanhs-la.org

Saturday, November 7, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m.

Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA)

Los Angeles Lodge's 97th Anniversary Celebration

Empress Pavilion Restaurant

Bamboo Plaza, Los Angeles Chinatown

Community Achievement Awards Recipients.

Hon. Judy Chu, First Chinese American

Congresswoman

Munson Kwok, Immediate Past Grand President of CACA

Suellen Cheng, Museum Director for the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument

Individual seat, \$75 and \$100

Individual table, \$750 and \$1,000

For more information contact:

Will Tham (213) 628-8015

info@cacala.org

Community Calendar

(continued from page 7)

Saturday, November 7, 2009



Los Angeles Chinese Orchestra Concert

7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m., Concert

8:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m. Tea reception
with the musicians

Award winning musicians Zhimin Han, Piuyuen Lui, Jiebing Chen, Cynthia Hsiang and Constance Deeter will perform Chinese classics and favorites, on Chinese butterfly harp, pipa, erhu, zither and flute.

A meet the musicians tea reception will immediately follow the concert.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Complimentary parking

\$25 for museum members, seniors and students

\$35 for non-members

RSVP, 626-449-2742 ext 31

www.pacificasiamuseum.org

lachineseorchestra.net

Saturday, November 14, 2009

1:30 pm—desserts

2:00 pm—lecture

Pfau Library of Cal State University. at San Bernardino

“Railto citrus...from the label to the Grove”

By Richard McGinnis

This lecture will provide an insight into the citrus industry that created the labels as well as a look at the unique nature of the labels themselves as collectable art objects and historical documents.

RSVP by November 10, 909-537-3447

For direction, go to www.lib.csusb.edu/about/hours.cfm

Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving

From CHSSC Board and Staff



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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