




DECEMBER 2011



Annual Christmas Potluck

Wednesday, December 7, 2011 - 6:30 p.m.

Castelar Elementary School
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Free parking - enter via College Street

Bring your favorite dish to share, sing Christmas carols and take in a magic show. Catch up with fellow members and friends. Don't forget to purchase Christmas gifts from our selection of fine publications and of course renew your 2012 CHSSC membership.



DECEMBER 2011

Portraits of Pride II Fundraising Banquet 支持 美華之光 募款加油 晚宴

Monday, December 5th, 2011

日期: 12/5/2011 星期一

6:30 PM Social Hour

7:30 PM Dinner & Program

Golden Dragon Restaurant 金龍酒家
960 North Broadway
Los Angeles Chinatown 90012

Organizations and Sponsors: \$400 for a table of 10 persons

Please make checks payable to
CCBA (Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association)

Silent Auction will be held. Donations are welcome.

R.S.V.P. CCBA: chominjohn@gmail.com or Fax: 213-626-2938
CHSSC: chssc@hotmail.com or Phone: 323-222-1918

Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
中華會館主辦

In Coordination with Greater L.A. Community Organizations
全僑各界協辦

Board of Directors

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William Tong

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, multicultural society of the United States.





DECEMBER 2011

Dr. William Shaw

by Douglas Chin

It was 1979 and as a high school senior riding the subway to and from school in New York City, it was with fear and horror that I learned of another student who was pushed off of a subway platform into an oncoming train. Quickly rolling left and lying between the rails as the train rolled over her, she was able to escape death but her right hand was severed just above the wrist. Subway motorman Justo Barreiro comforted the stricken student until paramedics arrived. I remember hearing that police were able to put the hand in a bag with ice from a nearby bar and both she and her hand were transported to a hospital in New York. After 16 hours of microsurgery, all news stations in New York were happy to report the hand was reattached. The name of the high school student was Renee Katz, a 17 year old senior who would start college in the fall at the New England Conservatory of Music. What we did not hear of that day was who the surgeon was that performed the miraculous operation.

The surgeon who would later be honored by Walter Cronkite, the NYC Fire and Police departments, as well as numerous medical organizations and universities is the subject of a section in the book, *Portraits of Pride II, Chinese-American Legacies - First 160 Years in America*. Dr. William Shaw started from humble beginnings, working part time during high school bagging groceries and stocking shelves at his uncle's store and successfully selling real estate during the summers. He excelled in the sciences. His perseverance through academic challenges and obsession with medicine enabled him to earn his M.D. His service to America as chief of orthopedics at an Army



base in Bangkok, Thailand helped many stricken soldiers. At NYU-Bellevue Hospital, studying ways to replant severed limbs using microsurgery, he believed that if the right tools were available, he could not only save the lives of patients with crushed or severed limbs but also have them regain a higher degree of functionality. Read about how Dr. Shaw was supported by a visionary director of surgery, allowing him the freedom to study, learn, train, and eventually master the techniques needed. A state of the art microscope, a matching set of miniature surgical tools, and again, hard work and perseverance were what Dr. Shaw used to gain expertise at sewing very thin blood vessels. Intricate and detailed work requiring much stamina, Dr. Shaw and Dr. Daniel Baker were the only plastic surgery residents to devote time to learning the new techniques and coming to the rescue of New Yorkers involved in limb severing or crushing accidents such that experienced by Renee Katz.

Dr. Shaw eventually returned to Los Angeles to head the surgical department at his alma mater UCLA whose ranking rose during his tenure. He was very compassionate and related to people well, just as he did when he was selling real estate. He sought the same personal quality of compassion when interviewing prospective medical students. He has helped numerous people with his talent, ability, innovative thinking, and work ethic. His story is an inspiration to all of us and his success a source of pride.

“MY FAVORITE PORTRAITS OF PRIDE II PROFILE”

We are asking readers of *Portraits of Pride II: Chinese American Legacies—First 160 Years in America* (PoP II) to share a profile from the new book that was especially meaningful to them.

Please write your thoughts and send them to the CHSSC Portraits of Pride office,

415 Bernard St., Los Angeles, CA 90012;

email: popchssc@yahoo.com



To Whom It May Concern

Ka Shen's Journey

A biography of Nancy Kwan's life. DVD featuring interviews with France Nuyen, Vivian Wu, Nancy Kwan, and more.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Visa/MC # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to CHSSC

\$ 20.00 To Whom It May Concern

\$ 1.85 CA Sales Tax

\$ 3.50 Shipping

\$ 25.35 Subtotal

X Quantity

_____ **Total**



Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會

415 Bernard Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 323-222-0856
Email: chssc@hotmail.com
Website: www.chssc.org

Make checks payable to CHSSC

_____ copies of Portraits of Pride II

x \$ 40.00 Per Copy

\$ _____ Total

Portraits of Pride II

Chinese American Legacies - First 160 Years in America

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Visa/MC # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____



Sincere Condolences to the
Family of Peter Soo Hoo Jr.



Peter Soo Hoo Jr.

June 17, 1926 - November 9, 2011

Passed away peacefully at home surrounded by the love of his family. Survived by his wife Lucy, 4 children, 7 grandchildren, and sister Pat Lem. Born & raised in Los Angeles. Graduated from Poly High School, and after serving in World War II, he earned a B.S. degree in Marketing from USC. Employed as a market analyst for the Department Water & Power and worked many years for L.A. Headquarters Assoc. A celebration of his life will be held Sunday, December 4th at 11:00am. For more info: Karen at (626)441-4367 or petersoohoojrmemorial.blogspot.com

Peter Soo Hoo Jr. remembered by Wiliam Gow

I first met Peter SooHoo about four years ago when I was conducting interviews for the Chinatown Remembered Project. Despite being more than forty years my senior, Peter immediately struck me as someone who was young at heart. Friendly and outgoing, he was always upbeat and full of energy. From the beginning, Peter was open and willing to help out our project in anyway that he could. He and his wife invited me into his home as if we had been longtime friends. Eventually after he agreed to be part of the project, he showed the same openness to our student interns that he had shown to me.

Peter had a great respect for his father and agreed to be part of our oral history project because he felt that it was important that the world had a fuller picture of his dad. Once he joined the project, he shared with us many of his family photos and agreed to sit for interview after interview; never tiring, even when we asked him to repeat or elaborate on stories that he had already told us. I feel honored to have gotten a chance to know him, and I will personally always be grateful for the support that he lent to our project. The Chinatown Remembered Project would never have been successful without his support.

To read Peter Soo Hoo Jr.'s wartime memories visit:
http://chinatownremembered.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=62&Itemid=96

**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California
Members and Donors (November 2011)**

Eileen Leung

Mary Mu

Chuck & Pat Quon

Marilynn Quon



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: chssc@hotmail.com

Website: www.chssc.org

Help us save paper and postage, email us for your online newsletter at chssc@hotmail.com

Community Calendar

Saturday, December 3rd 2:00pm

Chinese Chamber of Commerce

Little King and Queen Contest (Ages 5-6)

Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association,
925 N. Broadway, \$25/contestant, free for audience,
213-617-0396

Wednesday, December 7th, 6:30pm

Annual CHSSC Christmas Potluck

Opportunity to catch up with fellow members and friends.
Purchase Christmas gifts from our selection of fine publications.
Renew your CHSSC membership, enjoy great food, sing
Christmas carols and enjoy the magic show.
Castelar School 840 Yale St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
Free parking – enter via College St.

Saturday, December 10th

Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Fashion Show

Exchange LA, 618 S. Spring Street, Reception 12:30-1:30pm,
Fashion Show 2-3:30pm \$20./member \$25./non-member
213-617-0396, misslachinatown.com

Saturday, December 10th - 7:30pm

Cold Tofu Comedy Improv Show

Maryknoll JCC, 222 S. Hewitt Street, Little Tokyo, \$5.
213-739-4142

Now – December 18th

Remembering Angel Island exhibition commemorates the 100th
year anniversary of the opening of Angel Island Immigration
Station through its history, legacy, and unforgettable stories. Con-
structed in 1910 in the heart of San Francisco Bay, Angel Island
Immigration Station processed more than one million immigrants
from over 80 countries - including 175,000 Chinese.

Chinese American Museum

425 N. Los Angeles St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

213-485-8567

www.camla.org

Special Exhibition Tour

Commemorating Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Visits to Los Angeles

Nov 30-Dec.8 Asian Pacific Resource Center, Rosemead Library

December 9th UCLA

December 26th Closing Banquet 6:30pm

Golden Dragon Restaurant

960 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90012

\$30. per person

For more information contact Pedro Chan at 323-721-0774
or pedrochan@aol.com