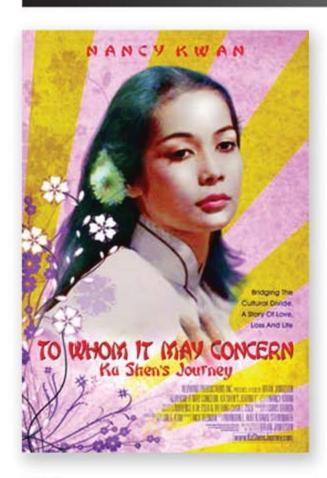


# Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: chssc@hotmail.com Website: www.chssc.org

### **JULY 2011**



# Special Screening of

# To Whom It May Concern

Ka Shen's Journey

Wednesday, July 27, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

### Torrance Public Library

Katy Geissert Civic Center 3301 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA 90503

This event is open and free to the public.

he definitive and true life story of Nancy Kwan, who as a young Eurasian girl from Hong Kong captured the hearts and minds of cinemagoers around the world in her stunning motion picture debut role in *The World of Suzie Wong* (1960), then in her unforgettable follow up role as "Linda Lo" in the all Asian, Rodgers & Hammerstein Hollywood hit musical *Flower Drum Song* (1961). With just two pictures in two years, the Eurasian girl from Hong Kong would become one of the most sought after young stars in Hollywood. But, the motion pictures that would follow would never again mirror, that initial success!

This feature docu-drama explores the real life drama of "what happened" to such a promising career as it takes its audience on a personal journey, a woman's journey, which is as equally compelling, as it is inspiring. Nancy Kwan's story is both fairytale and poignant. It is a story of "Art imitating life and "Life imitating art" as the character she so aptly portrayed in *The World of Suzie Wong*, loses her only child in the story of the film. Sadly, in real life this same tragedy would occur, and her life would be forever changed by this circumstance.

The film features Joan Chen, France Nuyen, Vivian Wu and Sandra Allen together with a host of family and friends of Nancy Kwan. It was extensively shot on various locations including Hong Kong, Cambodia, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Kansas City. Beautiful original watercolor artwork was created for the film by renowned Chinese American Artist Jin G. Kam. The poignant and original music score was composed by Chris Babida, the composer of the stunning Hong Kong Ballet score – Suzie Wong.

### Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Board of Directors 2011-2012

The following were elected at the general meeting of June 1, 2011 which took place at Castelar Elementary School:

#### Officers

President - Eugene Moy Vice President - Gordon Hom VP for Programs - Francine Redada Secretary - Winifred Lew Membership Sec. - Susan Dickson Treasurer - Dennis Lee, C.P.A.

### Members at Large for 2-year Term

John Jung Richard Liu Donald Loo Mei T. Ong William Tong (Open) (Open)

### Members at Large returning for 2nd Year of 2-year Term

(Not for Election)

Albert Chang, MD Pedro Chan Jenny Cho Henry Huang

Board members serve from July 1 to June 30.

The Board of Directors meet on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Board members have opportunities to serve on committees such as the Archive Committee, the Programs Committee, the Nomination Committee, the Outreach Committee, etc. Committees meet at various agreed upon dates and times.

### **Board of Directors**

#### Officers

Eugene W. Moy, President Gordon Hom, Vice President Francine Redada, VP for Programs Winifred Lew, Secretary Susan Dickson, Membership Sec. Dennis Lee, C.P.A., Treasurer

### Members at Large

Pedro Chan
Albert Chang, MD
Jenny Cho
Henry Huang
John Jung
Richard Liu
Donald Loo
Mei T. Ong
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.

# **Annual CHSSC Summer BBQ**



Saturday, July 2, 2011 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Bring your friends, enjoy great food, the company of fellow members and view the new changes to our headquarters including our new library.

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California 411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles Chinatown, CA 90012

## Sweet and Sour - Life in Chinese Family Restaurants

On Wednesday, June 1, 2011 John Jung discussed his book Sweet and Sour - Life in Chinese Family Restaurants. The presentation examined the history of Chinese family restaurants in the United States and Canada in a very captivating and entertaining manner. It answered the questions of; Why did Chinese immigrants enter this business in the late 19th century? What led to their success in attracting non-Chinese patrons, given that Chinese food was unfamiliar to them, many who were hostile to Chinese immigrants as well? CHSSC continues to offer many intriguing events, all are welcome to attend.

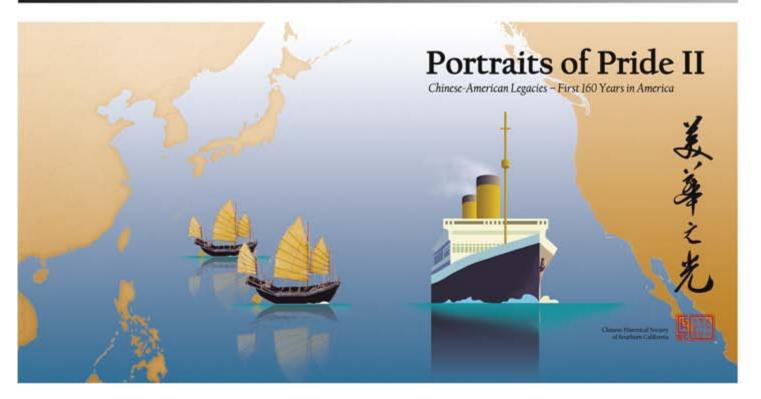


Newly elected CHSSC board member John Jung making his presentation



Some of the 80+ attendees of the CHSSC meeting





## **Comments on Portraits of Pride II**

Chinese-American Legacies—First 160 Years in America

by Daniel C. Palm, Ph.D.,

Professor of Political Science, Azusa Pacific University

Any middle school child can explain that the first Chinese immigrants to the United States arrived in significant numbers alongside the California Gold Rush of 1849. But what have those immigrants, and their descendents, contributed to their new nation? Standard textbooks emphasize Chinese participation in the laying of western rail line and work in local economies, but there is much more worthy of recognition. Portraits of Pride II: Chinese-American Legacies—First 160 Years in America, a recent publication of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, will help correct this situation by offering biographical sketches of over 30 notable Chinese Americans including prominent names like Olympic skater Michelle Kwan, historian Iris Chang, award-winning architect I.M. Pei, artist and designer Maya Ying Lin, and classical cellist virtuoso Yo-Yo Ma. But readers will also learn about important Chinese Americans from years past, such as Oscar-winning cinematographer James Wong Howe, inventor and entrepreneur An Wang, and "the first lady of physics," C.S. Wu.

This volume will be of significant interest to readers focused on the contributions of Chinese-Americans over the past 160 years, but it will also be an important addition to library collections on California history and the history of Asian immigration to the U.S. The book itself is beautifully produced, with top-quality photographs and text offering readers succinct yet powerful accounts of the lives and work of individual Chinese Americans, and additional chapters focusing on Chinese Americans' contributions in five fields of endeavor, namely, transportation, agriculture, fishing, technology, and education. The writing is aimed at adult readers, but its offerings will be completely accessible (and inspiring!) to secondary school-age students as well.

Portraits of Pride II is strongly recommended to public or academic libraries as a means to strengthen their collections and readers' understanding of Chinese Americans' longstanding and ongoing contributions to the American economy, scientific knowledge, law, politics, and culture.



## Dr. Chin-Kuei Cho

1937 - 2011



Dr. Chin-Kuei ("C.K.") Cho, age 73 of Stone Ridge, VA passed away on Monday, May 30, 2011. He was born on November 1, 1937 in Hsinchu, Taiwan, the third son of seven children. Growing up in a small farming village on Japanese-occupied Taiwan, C.K. overcame wartime hardships and poverty through determination, perseverance, hard work, and diligent study. He served in the Taiwanese Army.

He earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at National Cheng Kung University and came to the United States in 1963 after winning a full scholarship to study at the University of Texas (Austin). He earned his MBA and was awarded his Ph.D. in computer science in 1971. During his career, he taught graduate computer science courses at George Washington University and worked as an engineer at Goddard Space Flight Center.

He was an internationally recognized expert in software engineering and quality assurance. He was a Staff Scientist and Chairman of the Singer Artificial Intelligence Committee, Director of Software Technology at International Software Systems, Inc., and a Systems Engineer at the MITRE Corporation. He is the author of two books, An Introduction to Software Quality Control (Business Data Processing) and Quality Programming: Developing and Testing Software with Statistical Quality Control, both published by John Wiley and Sons. Later, he started his own software company, Computa, Inc. He also patented two inventions. In his later years, C.K. loved being a grandfather to his four young grandchildren. He loved to take walks, read books, help with homework, do puzzles, and teach his grandchildren about Chinese culture. He greatly enjoyed ballroom dancing, visiting the beach and mountains, going to the movies, reading Chinese newspapers, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his loving daughters, Mary Cho Ebersole and Jennifer Cho, his former wife, Yushi Hu, older sister Yin Cho, younger brother Chin-Chi Cho, and son-in-law, Dennis Ebersole. He was a proud grandfather of Alexander (age 8), Joshua (age 6), Lizzy (age 4), and Karina Ebersole (22 months). He will be greatly missed by his family.

Chin-Kuei was the father of CHSSC board member and author Jenny Cho.

### 2011 Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Members and Donors (May/June 2011)

Sara Jane Boyers Thomas Kreuzer
Fred & Fay Cassidy Wing & Evelyn Lew
William & Joyce Chinn Winifred L. Lew
Phyllis Chiu William & Katherine Louie

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Cindy Fong Elizabeth Wong
Helen Fong Yep H. Wong
Howard Hew Robert Verre



## Special Acknowledgement to

### Robert Verre

for his generous donation of time and skills

in the restoration of 411 Bernard Street.

COSEO



# 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, July 2, 2011 11:00am - 5:00pm

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#### July 8, 2011-October 23, 2011

40 Years of Building the Pacific Asia Museum Collection In honor of its 40th Anniversary, the Museum will share the breadth and depth of its collection with this exhibition featuring some of its most exquisite objects. The Museum boasts significant holdings in East Asian painting, Chinese ceramics, Himalayan and Buddhist art, Pacific Island objects and textiles from across Asia.

Pacific Asia Museum 46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

### Monday, July 11, 2011 7:00pm -Cantonese Yankee by Louise Su Tang

Louise comes to writing as a family archivist and a political historian. Her family's singular history opens a window on a forgotten moment of diplomacy between the U.S. and China. Louise has written a historical romantic drama which is provocative as well as informative. Book talk and signing afterwards. Vroman's Bookstore, 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA www.cantoneseyankee.com

### Wednesday, July 27, 2011 7:00pm To Whom It May Concern - Ka Shen's Journey

A special screening of the definitive and true life story of Nancy Kwan, who as a young Eurasian girl from Hong Kong captured the hearts and minds of cinemagoers around the world in her stunning motion picture debut role in *The World of Suzie Wong* (1960), then in her unforgettable follow up role as "Linda Lo" in the all Asian, Rodgers & Hammerstein Hollywood hit musical *Flower Drum Song* (1961). With just two pictures in two years, the Eurasian girl from Hong Kong would become one of the most sought after young stars in Hollywood. But, the motion pictures that would follow would never again mirror, that initial success! Torrance Public Library - Katy Geissert Civic Center 3301 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, CA 90503

#### July 29 - 31, 2011

Commemorating Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Visits to Los Angeles WELCOME BANQUET July 29, Friday, 6:30 pm Empress Harbor Restaurant, 111 N Atlantic Blvd, 3/F, Monterey Park, CA 91754 OPENING CEREMONY July 30, 2011, Saturday, 11 am Oneonta Congregational Church, 1515 Garfield Ave, South Pasadena, CA 91030 EXHIBITION TOUR 2011 July 30 – 31 Oneonta Congregational Church, 1515 Garfield Ave, South Pasadena, CA 91030