

MARCH 2013

Family Writer's Workshop

Presented by Judy Soo Hoo

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 - 6:30 p.m.

Castelar Elementary School
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Free parking - enter via College Street

Refreshments will be served

This event is free and open to the public

The Chinese Interest Group of the Southern California Genealogical Society invites you to a presentation of community, family and personal memories and narratives collected in a writing workshop conducted by Judy Soo Hoo. Featuring members from the workshop: Linda Chong, Bill Chun-Hoon, Beverly Woo Shue, Bo-Gay Tong Salvador, Ron Wong and other guests.

Stories about Chinese American family life and community were written during an eight-session writing workshop in 2012. Members were given suggestions, tools and exercises to guide their words to the page.

The workshop was generously supported by the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California Bob and May Wong Fund and the Friends of the Chinatown Library.



Ron Wong and his family



MARCH 2013



114th Golden Dragon Parade



On Saturday, February 16th, the Chinese Historical Society ushered in the Chinese New Year 4711 (year of the snake) in the usual position of leading the Annual Golden Dragon Parade. Once again we had a 300-plus contingent of flag bearers. With the assistance of over 250 Rotarians, consisting of high school Interact clubs, and college and young adult Rotaract clubs, along with families and friends, all sponsored by Rotary International District 5280. Organized by Angi Ma Wong, Past Senior Assistant Governor and Past President of Palos Verdes Sunset Rotary Club, and directed by Dr. Joel Tepper, advisor from Bell High School. We were also joined by the students, teachers and parents of the Mandarin-English Dual Language Program at City Terrace School in East L.A.

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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, multicultural society of the United States.



Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會

Annual Golden Spike Awards Dinner
Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of New Chinatown

Saturday, May 18, 2013 – 6:00 pm
Empress Pavilion Restaurant
988 North Hill Street #201
Los Angeles Chinatown, CA 90012

Recognizing:

Grand Star Jazz Club
Phoenix Bakery
Jack Ong

Jin Hing & Co.
Phoenix Imports
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Please reserve ____ tickets @ \$100 per person (members), ____ tickets @ \$135 per person (non-members), OR

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☐ I/we will not be able to attend, but please accept my donation in the amount of \$ _____

Name _____ Title _____

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RSVP by April 30th, 2013 Remit form and submit payment to: CHSSC 411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Credit Card payment can be phoned in to 323-222-0856 or mailed to above address.
The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax I.D. # 95-3155357



Thank You to Our 2013 Donors and Members (as of 2/15/13)

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Elaine Mae Woo
Tom & Judy Woo
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Bradley Yeung
Cynthia & Gary Young
Donna Young
Ruth Seid Yue

IN MEMORIAM

Mae Hom

Mae Hom came from Hong Kong when she was 12 years old. From her earliest years she was active in the First Baptist Church in Chinatown. She was a committed Christian all of her life. Mae not only was an organist for the church, she taught Sunday school. She and her husband, Jensen Hom, were commissioned by FCBC to help start a new church development in Walnut Grove.

Mae taught at several schools in Los Angeles Unified, including over 20 years at Castelar Elementary. Once her three children were grown, Mae began travelling to China regularly. Mae brought her love of China and its culture to her classroom.

Mae, a long-time supporter of CHSSC, will be missed by all whose lives she touched.

Katherine Louie

Katherine Chin Louie of Los Angeles, California, born February 9, 1937 passed away on December 31, 2012 of cancer. Kathy graduated from Manual Arts High School and continued her education at UC Berkeley, LACC & CSULA where she also received her Master's Degree.



She returned to the Los Angeles Unified School District as a business teacher, counselor, administrator and assistant in the district offices. She retired in 1997 but continued to work part-time for the district offices. Surviving relatives include: her husband, William "Bill" of 49 years; sisters, Marylyn Fong, Lily Wong, Rose (Bill) Eng, Audrey (Bill) Yee and Florence (Lem) Wong. She was preceded in death by her brother, Lee (Ma Keun) Chin. Also surviving are many nephews, nieces and their children.

Kathy was an avid traveler. Her most recent travels took her to Belgium, Holland, Alaska, Turkey and Japan. She reached her final travel destination - Heaven! Thanks be to God!

Ruth Lung

Born and raised in Auburn, CA in 1918. Her career included acting in a number of parts and as an extra in movies. She was a long time member of San Gabriel Presbyterian Church. Ruth was a Life member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and served many years on its board of directors. Her infectious smile will be missed by the many who loved her.



MARCH 2013

Pilgrimage to Wawona and Sing Peak

*Sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California (CHSSC)*

**Commemorating the contributions of early Chinese in
Yosemite National Park – road builders, famous cooks,
service workers and more.**

Yosemite National Park is a jewel in America's National Park Service System. In 2014, Yosemite National Park will celebrate its 150th year since it was set aside as protected parkland. Famous people like John Muir and Ansel Adams are often associated with Yosemite. What is not often mentioned are the contributions of Chinese Americans who played a role in the park's history. A short video produced by Yosemite National Park and the Yosemite Conservancy featuring Ranger Yenyen Chan has brought the incredible work of these Chinese Americans to light along with the story of Ty Sing, a cook who now has a mountain peak named after him, Sing Peak. The link to this video is: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4kdyrfXGz90&feature=uploademail>

The contributions of these Chinese Americans should become a more prominent part of Yosemite's history. We hope to promote events and activities that tell the stories of these and other Chinese Americans as part of Yosemite's celebration in 2014 and beyond. Beginning in August 2013, a pilgrimage to Wawona -- in the southern part of Yosemite, will take place.



The following events have been scheduled:

- Saturday August 3rd, The Sing Project Dinner:
A celebratory dinner event in historic Wawona will be held to "kick off" this project.
- Sunday, August 4th, Morning Planning Meeting:
A gathering in Wawona to discuss plans for events in 2014 and help promote Chinese history in the Sierras.
- August 5th – 7th Pilgrimage to Sing Peak:
For experienced backpackers, a small group will ascent Sing Peak (10,552'), on the southeastern border of Yosemite National Park, reaching the summit on or about Aug. 6th.

We encourage other historical societies, civic groups and the business community to join in this pilgrimage project by becoming a partner. Individuals and organization are also encouraged to make contributions to the Sing Peak Project Fund, a special account within CHSSC which will be used to promote this project and develop educational materials.

Contact CHSSC at chssc@hotmail.com or call 323.222.0856 if you are interested in this project or want to participate in any of the events this August. Yosemite is very popular in the summer so if you are planning to spend a night in the area, you will need to make arrangements for accommodations early.



Portraits of Pride Team's Tribute to Maggie Gee

by Marian Chew

Margaret "Maggie" Gee, one of two Chinese American female pilots during World War II, passed away February 1, 2013 at the age of 89 in her birthplace of Berkeley. Her biography, "Bomber Pilot and Atom Smasher," featured in pages 89-93 of Portraits of Pride I book, is in over 7,000 libraries nationwide. She will always be remembered as one of the WWII generation superstars.

Maggie grew up idolizing aviators such as Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh during the generation that was fascinated by airplanes. Imagining herself being the pilot, she often spent hours gazing at the airplanes that flew out of the Oakland airport.

Although Maggie was not successful in her attempt to join the Women's Army Corps (WAC) at the start of World War II because she was too young, she continued to pursue her dream of becoming a pilot by taking on a drafting job at the Mare Island naval repair facility, and later joining the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) organization.

After the war, Maggie worked at the University of California's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) to develop safe, secure and reliable use of nuclear energy.

Besides aviation and physics, Maggie also had great interest in politics and social issues. She attended the Democratic National Convention during John F. Kennedy's presidential nomination, and was a delegate at Democratic conventions during the nominations of Michael Dukakis in 1988, and Bill Clinton in 1992.

During Maggie's retirement, much of her time was spent supporting her favorite causes, which included conserving resources; protecting the environment; securing stronger voting rights for minorities; and creating new opportunities for citizens to serve one another and their society. She also spent numerous hours doing volunteer work for community and non profit organizations.

Noteworthy awards:

In 2003, honoring the Centennial of Flight, Women in Aviation International (WAI) paid tribute to "100 Women Who made a Difference." Maggie was one of two Chinese American pilots who served in WWII.

In 1993, the WAI inducted the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) group into its Pioneer Hall of Fame—Maggie was a WASP member.

In 2009, Maggie received the Congressional Gold Medal as a member of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots, or WASPs, who served in World War II.



After earning her wings, Maggie co-piloted the B-17 "Flying Fortress".



MARCH 2013

Chinese in Hollywood

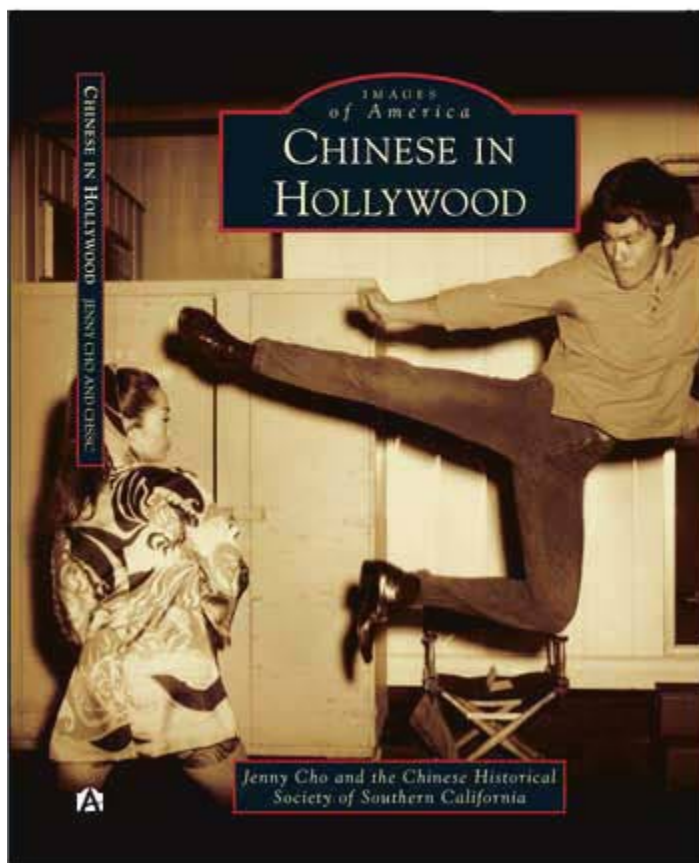
by Jenny Cho and
the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

Hollywood has long exerted an international influence on the global imagination. In the first half of the 20th century, Chinese actors who aspired to a career in Hollywood found their opportunities limited to roles that propagated asian stereotypes. Meanwhile, many Chinese roles were given to non-Asian actors playing yellowface. It has been a long, hard road for Chinese in Hollywood who have striven to build meaningful careers behind and in front of the camera. This book focuses on the contributions of Chinese to the film and television industries as well as those who lived and worked in the Hollywood area.

Please support *Chinese in Hollywood*
by sending your donations to the
Chinese Historical Society of Southern California.

Please visit Indiegogo.com and search *Chinese in Hollywood*
or go to <http://igg.me/at/chineseinhollywood/x/1354989>.

1. \$5 - thank you contribution
2. \$30 - Signed book and 2 postcards (including postage and tax)
3. \$45 - Signed book and CHSSC mug (including postage and tax)
4. \$50 - Signed book and T-shirt (including postage and tax)
5. \$60 - Signed book, T-shirt & CHSSC mug (including postage and tax)
6. \$150 - Signed book, walking tour of Chinatown
and boba in Chinatown with Jenny Cho
7. \$200 - Signed book, T-shirt, CHSSC mug
and lunch at Master Chef in Chinatown with Jenny Cho



Book cover featuring a rare photo of Bruce Lee



Jack Ong, Pat Lee, Beulah Quo and James Hong



James Wong Howe and
Dong Kingman in 1953



Anna May Wong - *The Toll of the Sea*



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

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Community Calendar

Saturday, March 2, 2013 Noon to 7:00 pm

12th Annual Lantern Festival

Bigger and better than ever, the family friendly Lantern Festival returns to Downtown Los Angeles featuring L.A.'s largest array of interactive arts, crafts, entertainment and educational activities all presented free of charge.

Chinese American Museum 425 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

www.camla.org

Wednesday, March 6, 2013 6:30 pm

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Castelar Elementary School 840 Yale St. L.A., CA 90012

Free Parking – enter via College Street

www.chssc.org www.facebook.com/groups/chssc

chsscorg.blogspot.com/

Saturday & Sunday, March 16 & 17, 2013 Free

Bok Kai Festival, Marysville, California

The 133rd Bok Kai Festival, celebrating the Year of the Snake, The Bok Kai Parade committee will host the parade on Saturday and the Sahn Fow Chinese Community hosts and sponsors Bomb Day on Sunday.

www.bokkaiparade.com

Friday, March 22, 2013 - Free Fourth Friday

Admission to Pacific Asia Museum is free to all visitors on the fourth Friday of each month

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91101 (626) 449-2742

pacificasiamuseum.org

Saturday, April 6, 2013 - Free

Ch'ing Ming Festival 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CHSSC will host Ch'ing Ming (Chinese Memorial Day) The Chinese Memorial Shrine stands at the center of what was once a 19th century Chinese cemetery. Built in 1888, the Shrine is considered the earliest extant Chinese structure in Los Angeles. The site is culturally and historically significant and has been designated Los Angeles Historic/Cultural Monument No. 486. It is owned and maintained by CHSSC. Join us for this culturally rich event.

Evergreen Cemetery, 204 N. Evergreen Ave., Los Angeles, CA

Save The Date

Saturday, May 18, 2013

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

2013 Golden Spike Awards

Empress Pavillion Restaurant

988 N Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012