

JANUARY 2015

A Chinese American Odyssey

Book presentation by author John Jung



Wednesday, January 14, 2015 - 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

A CHINESE AMERICAN ODYSSEY



How a Retired Psychologist
Makes a Hit as a Historian

"When you drink water, remember the source"
CHINESE PROVERB

John Jung



John Jung is a phenomenon: a career academic turned "outsider" scholar, he has managed to reshape our understanding of the Chinese American experience by his novel historical studies, and through his published works about Chinese immigrants in North America. *A Chinese American Odyssey* provides readers yet another work to savor.

A fascinating book about a journey that started with the author's memoir about growing up in a laundry in Macon, Georgia, where his family were the only Chinese. *A Chinese American Odyssey* is an account of a vital retirement, of people he met along the way, history of Chinese in North America, the ins and outs of self-publishing, the book talk circuit, and much more. Part memoir, part how-to book, it provides a detailed and engaging study of author Jung's transformation from a psychologist into a historian, as well as lessons for independent researchers.

John Jung will be commenting on his incredible, and unexpected journey, in researching, writing and speaking about his four books on Chinese American history after retiring from a 40 year career as a professor of psychology in 2007.



JANUARY 2015

2014 Christmas Potluck

On the cold, rainy night of December 3, 2014, Castelar Elementary was the center of warmth and festivities as members and friends gathered to catch up on the year, and unwind for the holiday season. Thanks to the generosity of our members, many delicious entrees and snacks were served throughout the night. With filled stomachs, members joined in singing Christmas Carols, accompanied by the CHSSC's very own Winifred Lew. Thank you all for coming and the CHSSC wishes everybody a happy holiday season!



-Photos by O.C. Lee

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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

January 2015

Dear friends of CHSSC,

As 2014 comes to a close and we prepare for another extraordinary year of CHSSC events, I invite you to renew your CHSSC membership and continue supporting us through our 40th anniversary year in 2015. We greatly appreciate your membership this past year and we hope that you will renew your membership. As in past years, CHSSC has four different membership levels: Student/Senior (\$32/year); Silver (\$57/year); 100 x 100 Club (\$100/year); and Diamond (\$300/year). New for our 40th anniversary year is the ability to join CHSSC directly from our website! Instead of sending a check in the mail, you can renew your membership directly through our website via PayPal. Visit <http://chssc.org/Join/Membership> to renew today.


With a 2015 membership renewal, you will receive our monthly newsletter *News 'N Notes* as well as our yearly *Gum Saan Journal*. The 2015 issue of *Gum Saan Journal* explores the San Gabriel Valley Chinese American community. This is definitely an issue you do not want to miss! Please note that lifetime CHSSC members and members who would like an additional copy of *Gum Saan Journal* can purchase the 2015 edition for \$12. Copies of *Gum Saan Journal* will be available beginning at our December meeting and potluck.

Your membership also entitles you to a discount on books and goods at our store. Your membership discount would be a perfect opportunity to purchase our new and upcoming publications including Victoria Moy's new book on Chinese American veterans, *Fighting for the Dream*, or Dr. Annie Siu's upcoming autobiography, *Roads Into and Out of Chinatown*.

Your support this past year has allowed CHSSC to host our monthly meetings with speakers from across the United States as well as countless public programs at local libraries, community centers, and museums throughout Southern California. These events are organized by CHSSC volunteers and are free to the public. CHSSC staff and volunteers also have continued giving walking tours and collecting oral histories to continue to educate and preserve Chinese American history. With your support, we have made CHSSC one of the most active Chinese American historical societies in the United States.

We plan to continue organizing exciting events in 2015, but we cannot do this your continued support. Please help us make our 40th anniversary year a memorable one! Your membership fees and donations are essential to keeping our programs and events running, our publications printed and mailed, our facilities maintained, and our offices staffed. We also have ongoing projects in our archives, including digitizing and organizing our archives, and working with independent authors to publish their research on Chinese American communities. With your support, we will be able to continue projects and preserve and promote Chinese American history. Therefore, as we reach the last days of 2014, I encourage you to renew your membership and invite you to consider making a year-end donation to support CHSSC.

Sincerely,


Kelly Fong, Ph.D.
Membership Secretary

**Please Renew
Your Membership Now!**

Renew online! www.chssc.org/join/membership.aspx



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

南加州華人歷史學會

Membership

Silver

Monthly newsletter.
Free Gum Saan Journal.
Discount on field trips to historical sites.
Discount on publications and products.
Admission to Heritage Center during
non-public hours (call in advance)

100 x 100 Club

All benefits of Silver membership.
Invitation for 2 to special events.

Diamond

All benefits of 100 x 100 Club membership.
2 complimentary tickets to Annual Gala Dinner.

Student/Senior (60+)

All benefits of Silver membership.

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society of the United States.**

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Visa/MC # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

☐ Silver \$ 57.

☐ 100 x 100 Club \$ 100.

☐ Diamond \$ 300.

☐ Student or Senior (60+) \$ 32.

Donation (tax deductible) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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

Make checks payable to CHSSC

We are a 501(c)3
non-profit organization,
tax ID: 95-3155357

I am interested in helping with:

- ☐ Programs
☐ Publications
☐ Research
☐ Publicity
☐ Fundraising
☐ Other _____



JANUARY 2015

Fighting for the Dream

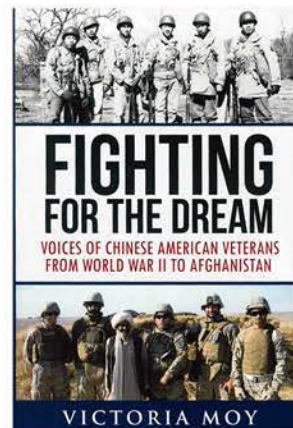
Voices of Chinese American Veterans from World War II to Afghanistan

Author Victoria Moy brings together a collection of oral histories from 40 Chinese American men and women—ages 24 to 94—who served in wars from World War II to conflicts in Afghanistan. These individuals defied boundaries, went against their cultural grain, and changed history. Through their personal stories, we see a greater tapestry that is the story of America in the last hundred years, from the lens of Chinese Americans who served. We see also how different wars affected the Chinese American community.

This collection includes interviews with the first Asian American general (John Fugh), the first Asian American Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy (Frederick Pang), the first Asian American full unrestricted Marine (Kurt Lee), the first Asian American National Commander of the American Legion (Fang Wong), the first Asian American judge in New York State (Randall Eng), as well as some of the 20,000 Chinese Americans—a quarter of the Chinese American population at the time—who served during World War II.

Fighting for the Dream is now available on Amazon for \$21.14.

For additional information on the book and future events please visit fightingforthedream.com or facebook.com/fightingforthedream.



In Memoriam



Dolores Wong 1921-2014

Dolores Wong, lifetime member of the CHSSC and longtime Chinese American Citizens Alliance member, will certainly be missed. Her achievements as a community activist have left a lasting impression on the Chinese American community. Dolores Wong is a fourth generation Chinese American, who grew up in Vallejo, a small town outside of San Francisco. She became the first person in her family to attend college, receiving a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1942 and a master's in social work from Smith College in 1946. Following graduate school, she worked as a psychiatric social worker in New Orleans, and later at the Sacramento Mental Hygiene Clinic in Sacramento.

She and her husband, the late Judge Delbert Wong, moved to Los Angeles in 1950. In addition to raising four children, her 50 years-plus of volunteer work included her church, PTA, Cub Scouts, the Griffith Park Coordinating Council, Resthaven Hospital, and Asian Americans for Peace. She organized the first Chinatown Democratic Club in her home, and also helped charter the Chinatown Teen Post. She served as a mentor for many years to the staff who were part of the Post.

One of her most significant contributions was helping establish and fundraise for the Friends of the Chinatown Library. Even though many people doubted that the Friends could even raise the initial \$75,000, through Mrs. Wong's efforts, she helped raise well over \$1 million in her over 30-year involvement with the Chinatown Library.

She is survived by sons Kent, Duane and Marshall and daughter Shelley, and several grandchildren. We are grateful for the Wong family, who continue to contribute to and support the CHSSC today.

Robert C. Verre 1945-2014

We would like take this chance to remember and honor Robert Verre, lifetime member and CHSSC regular, who passed away in September. Over the years, Robert has become a familiar face at CHSSC and volunteered much of his time here trying to improve the facilities. His unique knowledge of history and expert craftsmanship played a large role in the restoration of the old Victorian houses that serve as the CHSSC main headquarters. Many of the staff members and volunteers have fond memories working side by side with Robert on the houses. Through his handiwork, Robert has left a lasting imprint on the CHSSC and we are reminded every day. We are grateful for everything Robert has done and we will miss his company.





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

January 3 or 7, 2015 - 11:00 am

China Society's January program

Docent guided tour of China's Lost Civilization.

Bowers Museum, 2202 N. Main St., Santa Ana, CA

Please call Yvonne 310-454-3621 or email

rsvp@chinasocietyofsocal.org. www.bowers.org.

This archeological site is said to be the 9th wonder of the world.

Wednesday, January 14, 2015 - 6:30pm

A Chinese American Odyssey - book presentation by John Jung
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Saturday, January 24, 2015 - 10am to 12 noon

**Researching Your Family & the Writing Process
with Author Lisa See**

Alhambra Civic Center Library 101 S. First Street
Alhambra, CA 91801 (626) 570-5008

Saturday, January 31, 2015

Lunar New Year Festival at USC Pacific Asia Museum

46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA

Free admission - 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Visiting artists from Guangdong Province will perform and demonstrate a wide variety of programs and folk arts.

Save the Date - October 17, 2015

The 40th Anniversary Banquet



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

1975-2015