

MAY 2022

May Monthly Meeting

Anti-Asian Violence and America-China Relations.

Guest speaker Professor Gordon H. Chang



Anti-Asian violence, today and in the past, is closely associated with international conditions.

This talk will offer historical perspectives on anti-Asian violence in America and their connections to events far from the formal borders of the country.

Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 7pm

Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on the CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>



Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會



THE CHINA SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



南加州中國會



MAY 2022

President's Letter

To pursue Chinese American history, CHSSC works with family archivists, community historians, and educational organizations.

In April we have been working with the Norman Wong and Doc Wong families to discover not only the history of Grandview Gardens Restaurant in New Chinatown and Old Chinatown, but also their family history. Our journey to document this history has been made easier due to the family's interest in their past. First, they shared what they had learned about their family on Ancestry.com. The cousins, Carol Wong Sutherland and Calvin Wong (Doc's children), and Sophia Wong (Norman's daughter) came for a group interview to discuss their memories of the restaurant as they viewed old photos, menus, memorabilia, and advertisements. Calvin shared a family 8mm video of the exterior of Grandview Gardens taken in the 40s. Sophia Wong returned last week to share more family mementoes and photos as well as artifacts that had been purchased online. Sophia brought the family treasure, her father Norman's diary. Our interns photographed or scanned everything. Carol and Calvin will be interviewed later this month. CHSSC is going full steam ahead because the target date for completion of our online exhibit about Grandview Gardens is June 2022.

CHSSC has been a resource for the Institute of California and the West (ICW) for several years. CHSSC members have been helping them with their project about Old Chinatown. This month ICW's research staff came to CHSSC's Heritage Center for a joint work session with a couple of our community historians and several of our interns to further develop our collaborative project, a virtual tour of Old Chinatown. Former CHSSC board member Gilbert Hom provided substantive insight into many families, businesses, and institutions of Old and New Chinatown. Gilbert's research on herbalists in Old Chinatown and beyond has been a resource for academic work by others over the years. He also shared newspaper articles, census reports, and advertisements to provide a more complete idea of Old Chinatown. Eugene Moy provided insight on the many family associations and institutions that gave structure to the community. Our collections manager and interns assisted with some of the documentation that they have been scanning and cataloging. Through our networking and archives management efforts, CHSSC is contributing to a rich new level of historical research and interpretation.

Through our networking efforts, CHSSC is documenting the past with the aid of previously unknown resources.

Susan Dickson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Susan Dickson, President
Ricky Leo, Vice President
Gordon Hom, Vice President,
Programs
Cindy Fong, Secretary
Franklin Mah, Treasurer
Angela Lancaster, Membership
Secretary

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Linda Bentz
Caitlin Bryant
Laureen Hom
Bak Jong
Grace Leo
Eugene Moy
Felicia Tabing
Howard Wang

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.



Our May Program Guest Speaker



Gordon H. Chang is a professor of History at Stanford University and the Olive H. Palmer Professor of Humanities. He is currently serving the University as the Senior Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and is the Stanford Alumni Association Fellow in Undergraduate Education. He is the former director of the Center for East Asian Studies and of the Asian American Studies Program. He has been on the Stanford faculty since 1991.

In 2019, he published *Ghosts of Gold Mountain: The Epic History of the Chinese Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad* and, as co-editor, *The Chinese and the Iron Road: Building the Transcontinental*. These books draw from more than seven years of work conducted by the Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project at Stanford, which he has co-directed. His other books include *Friends and Enemies: The United States, China, and the Soviet Union, 1948-1972*; *Morning Glory, Evening Shadow: Yamato Ichihashi and His Internment Writings, 1942-1945*; and *Fateful Ties: A History of America's Preoccupation with China*. He teaches courses in American history, trans-Pacific history, U.S-China relations, and Asian American history.

Election Procedure

According to the CHSSC Bylaws, the slate of officers proposed by the current board is published in the May newsletter. At the May meeting, the members have a chance to nominate people for positions as an officer or as a Member at Large of the board. Since we currently are having online monthly meetings, you can nominate yourself or someone else by email at info@chssc.org. If no nominations are received, the slate will be approved unanimously. The new board will be seated July 1, 2022.

2022-2023 Slate

Officers:

President: Eugene Moy
Vice President: Ricky Leo
Vice President. Programs: Susan Dickson
Secretary: Howard Wang
Treasurer: Franklin Mah
Membership Secretary: Caitlin Bryant

Members at Large:

Linda Bentz
Cindy Fong
Gordon Hom
Laureen Hom
Bak Jong
Angela Lancaster
Grace Leo
Felicia Tabing



MAY 2022

Wong Family Interview



Sophia Wong, Carol Wong Sutherland and Calvin Wong



Archivists Amanda Galvez, David Castro and
Anne Olivares



Sophia Wong and board member Grace Leo



Eugene Moy examining a photo

ICW Meeting at CHSSC



The ICW and CHSSC project teams share research data.



MAY 2022

A Fond Farewell

By Coryn Hardison

This April is my last month at CHSSC, and it is a bittersweet goodbye to a place where I have truly enjoyed my time and work.

After a year and a half at this wonderful site, I am grateful for the time that I have spent here as both an intern and as Collections Manager. Through CHSSC, I have had the opportunity to process collections, train and supervise a phenomenal group of interns and volunteers, interact with a wide variety of patrons (from National Geographic photographers to Girl Scouts), and help make our rich library and archives more accessible to a global audience.

I am especially grateful and excited about the projects that I have undertaken throughout my time here. It was extraordinary to take part in the launch of our digital archive, and I was glad to have presented this initiative to our board, our members, and our donors. It has also been an honor to serve as manager for our ongoing project documenting the history and legacy of the iconic Grandview Gardens restaurant. Another aspect of my position that I have found rewarding is the collaboration with other institutions, including Institute on California and the West and the Los Angeles County Arboretum, who we have worked with to collectively increase awareness of the records and stories we hold.

By far, however, the best part about working at CHSSC has been the chance to be part of such a vibrant, dynamic environment, cultivated by the people who bring this society to life through their energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to the Chinese American histories we aim to explore and make known.

A special thank-you to Linda, Gene, and Susan who have guided me and taught me so much about community, history, and culture. Thank you for fostering my love of community archiving. Your passion shines in all that you do, and you are an inspiration to me.

I would also like to thank the hard-working interns and volunteers who have worked with me throughout my time at CHSSC. To say you have been an amazing help to our work is a vast understatement, and I look forward to seeing you all succeed in your future endeavors.

Lastly, thank you to all the members of CHSSC who keep the Society alive and ensure that the fascinating histories of Chinese Americans are preserved and shared to the world.

Though this will be my last month as Collections Manager, I would still love to stay involved with CHSSC in any capacity in the future, and I am excited to see what we will achieve next.

Thank you so much for everything!



MAY 2022

Congressional Gold Medal Event

On Saturday, April 16, 2022, CHSSC co-sponsored a Chinese Americans Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) event that was held on the USS Iowa in San Pedro. Family members of Chinese American WWII veterans, who had signed up on a national registry, were presented a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal by a team of retired Chinese American flag officers. These replicas, which were donated by C.A.C.A, were prized by all who attended.



CHSSC family: (L-R) Kevin Hom, Gordon Hom, Anita Lee, Gilbert Hom, Linda Chong, Theo Hom, Donna Lee, Margie Yee, Bill Yee



Judge Dolly Gee



Susie Ling and Roy Nakano



L-R: Captain Kelly Chan, Maj. Gen. Ted Wong, Eugene Moy, Rear Admiral Jonathan Yuen, Maj. Gen. Robert Lee



MAY 2022

In Memory of Richard Quan

August 31, 1946 – March 19, 2022



Richard Quan, son of Charter CHSSC member Ella Quan and Harry Quan, loved music. Richard was very active in the Los Angeles Chinese Drum and Bugle Corps, a youth organization of primarily Asians from the Greater Los Angeles area. Richard was the first Chinese American music teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. For 30 years Richard marched annually as one of the Percussion Directors with the LAUSD All City Honor Marching Band in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. Richard was also a valued, long time volunteer at the San Gabriel Presbyterian Church.

Richard, who was an active CHSSC member, is survived by his wife, Virginia, and his six children.

April Donations

In Memory of Richard Quan, member of the Drum and Bugle Corp

*Sharon A. Bergh
Ronald R. Chan
Sharon Chase
Carlos Conejo
Judy Eng
Robert and Kristy Lee
Susan Lock
Kevin Loo
Rose B Low
Neil and Evelyn Moy
Marlep M. Nakata
Robert and Gail Nishinaka
Timothy and Terri Wong
Raymond and Terri Woo*

In Memory of Eugene Choy

Dorothy Schoon

Donors

*May Chin
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Brian Gee
Gordon Hom
Judy Lee
Shirley Chu Ng and Dean Ng
John Perez
Clifford M. Tom
Yep H Wong*



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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

*Please help us save paper and postage,
email us to indicate your preference for an online newsletter at info@chssc.org.*

Upcoming Events

Celebrate **Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Day** with us! See dance performances, hear Taiko drums, listen to live musical performances, learn traditional folk dance moves, make a take-home feather lei, dance a hula, and more! Event and parking is free! CHSSC will have an information table; more volunteers welcome – just show up!

Saturday May 21st, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Visitor Center
King Gillette Ranch, 26876 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas, CA 91302
Questions? Call us at 805-370-2301 or email samo_interpretation@nps.gov

June Monthly Program: History of Asian Americans in Riverside, California, June 1, 2022 at 7-8:30pm.
Presentations by: M. Rosalind Sagara, Judy Lee, Dr. Kristin Hayashi, Emilio J. Virata, Jr, Dr. Edward Chang

King of the Yees, a play written by Lauren Yee, focuses on San Francisco during their disappearing past. Tim Dang, Artistic Director Emeritus of East-West Players returns to Sierra Madre Playhouse to direct King of the Yees.

CHSSC members are gathering to watch the Sunday, June 5th performance at 2:30. To join us, buy your tickets at their website: <https://sierramadrepalyhouse.org/>