

NEWS'N NOTES



**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

FEBRUARY 2023

新年快樂



Secrets to Longevity

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 7pm

In 2005 National Geographic released their findings of a search for the longest lived and healthiest people in the world who lived in what were later known as Blue Zones.



Dr. David Lowe

What can we learn from these Blue Zones to help us live longer and healthier lives, to not only add years to our life but add life to our years?

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



The China Society of
Southern California

Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California
南加州華人歷史學會

FROM CHINA TO CHINATOWN: MY PO PO'S PERSPECTIVE

Featuring Helena Shum and Chui King Joe

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 7pm



Hailey Soh

Hailey's documentary follows her grandma (Po Po), Koon Tai Lee Kung, along her journey from Guangzhou, China to Chinatown, Los Angeles. It also includes interviews from her grandmother's daughter Helena and neighbor Chui King Joe which tell of the community that Chinatown provided for Chinese Immigrants.

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



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Southern California



FEBRUARY 2023

LOOKING BACK

Progress is making Chinese American history available on our website using Story Maps.

- Grandview Gardens exhibit
- Architectural walking tour of New Chinatown
- 2022 Yosemite pilgrimage

Progress is having 4 young scholars who process and organize archival materials, put all our library books on LiBib, and create exhibits.

Progress is receiving two grants: Cathay Bank Foundation grant, Louie Family Foundation grant

Progress is having an Andrew Mellon Foundation intern for a year.

Progress is having our first in-person gathering: August picnic at CHSSC.

Progress is making an exhibit that organizes the photos, interviews, and metadata of the Southern California Oral History Project.

Progress is participating in the Archives Bazaar at USC.

Progress is having 9 monthly Zoom meetings that are accessible on our website.

Progress is having a well-received summer intern program with 9 interns from throughout the U.S. Program conducted by Dr. Will Gow, Dr. Kelly Fong, and Dr. Isa Quintana.

Progress is hiring an IT specialist to ensure our digital assets are secure.

MOVING FORWARD

Goals for 2023:

- Begin Stage 2 of the building campaign and start renovation of Bernard St. buildings
- 2023 *Gum Saan Journal*
- Finish processing our Paul Chace collection
- Catalogue our entire archival collection
- Complete the entire Duty and Honor exhibit
- 2023 Yosemite pilgrimage

How can you help? Board members have been donating their time, but 2 generous donations have been the foundation of the funding for our archivists and interns: \$30,000 for personnel and \$10,000 for the Five Chinatowns project. Projects, goals, and dreams must be put on hold without your financial support. Please help us out.

Susan Dickson, CHSSC Vice President, Programs

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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.



FEBRUARY 2023

Secrets to Longevity

In 2005 National Geographic released their findings of a search for the longest lived and healthiest people in the world. They came up with 3 areas where longevity and health could be well documented. They were called Blue Zones. Later 2 more areas were added to this list. Is there something in common with all of these areas? What can we learn from these Blue Zones to help us live longer and healthier lives, to not only add years to our life but add life to our years?



David Lowe, M.D. was born in Walla Walla, Washington and grew up in Southern California. He graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1971 as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha national honor medical society. His internship was at the Harbor-UCLA Hospital in Torrance, California, and he completed his pediatrics residency at Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles. He served 2 years in the United States Air Force as a pediatrician stationed at the Moody AFB in Valdosta, Georgia. Upon his return to Southern California, he co-founded the Pleasant Valley Pediatric Medical Group in Camarillo, CA. He was soon involved in planning and directing community health programs through his church, the Camarillo Seventh-day Adventist Church. He and his wife Flo have led out in the Heartbeat program that identifies coronary artery disease risk factors, health fairs, the Full Plate Living weight loss program, the Complete Health Improvement Program, the Longevity Lifestyle Matters program and the Diabetes Undone program. They also co-produce the annual WHOLE Conference sponsored by the Camarillo SDA Church.

From China to Chinatown: My Po Po's Journey

From China to Chinatown: My Po Po's Journey is a documentary by Hailey Soh that tells the stories of people who immigrated to Los Angeles Chinatown. Hailey created this documentary in the hopes that a public audience might learn more about the history of Los Angeles Chinatown. As the immigrant population in Chinatown grows older, she wanted to help preserve the histories of those who helped build Los Angeles into the city it is today. She realizes that there are many untold immigrant stories and her documentary is only a snippet of the bigger picture.

Hailey's documentary follows her grandma, her Po Po, Koon Tai Lee Kung, along her journey from Guangzhou, China to Chinatown, Los Angeles. It also includes interviews from her grandmother's daughter Helena and neighbor Chui King Joe which tell of the community that Chinatown provided for Chinese Immigrants.



Born and raised in Pasadena, California, **Hailey Soh** is a junior attending Blair High School and lives with her parents and younger sister. Hailey is active member of the student body and is involved in various clubs such as serving on the Associated Student Body as Junior Treasurer, National Honors Society, Girls' Tennis Team, and she even started her own club – The Broadcasting Club which creates weekly videos to inform students about school-related events and activities. In her free time, Hailey likes to listen to music and play instruments such as the piano and the guitar, and she also enjoys watching her favorite K-dramas on Netflix. She wants to pursue a future where she can continuously learn new things and encounter new experiences.



JANUARY 2023

U.S. Naval War College Walking Tour

By Eugene Moy

On Wednesday, January 11, Capt. Michael Quan (he is related to our L.A. Chinatown Quon family), the Director of the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island, brought a contingent of 48 students attending the college to experience communities across the country and get a better understanding of American life. The "students" are actually senior naval officers from 48 nations who may be potential candidates for even higher leadership in their countries.

Their tour of L.A. Chinatown consisted of a tour of the Chinese American Museum, a walk from El Pueblo through Olvera St, an observation of a ceremony at Cathay Manor by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) and TECO (Taipei Economic and Cultural Office) who will be offering goody bags to the seniors, and a discussion at the CCBA about the perceptions of Chinese Americans, or Chinese, by the international community, including a discussion of Chinatown community history and structure lead by our friend Al Soo-Hoo and our board member Lauren Hom. A dinner reception at the Golden Dragon concluded the walking tour.



Group photo in front of the Chinese American Museum



Group photo in front of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association



JANUARY 2023

Scanning of Our Sam Chang Collection by PasNOW

By Linda Bentz

A team of scholars and professionals came to CHSSC to scan the letters in our Sam Chang Collection from January 12-15. We are grateful for this effort, as by scanning these documents it preserves the letters, allows us to share them with others, and limits the handling of these precious assets. According to the PasNOW leaders, they have found very few letters among the participating organizations, and they were very excited to see our collection.





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of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會

2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

YOUR 2022 MEMBERSHIP HAS SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Launch of our digital library and redesigned website

Content for our digital archives, including digitized interviews from the Southern California Chinese American Oral History Project (1978-1982)

Finding aids for our archives on the Online Archive of California

On-line exhibits of Grandview Gardens Restaurant & Yosemite Pilgrimage

Grants from Cathay Bank & Louie Family Foundation

Andrew Mellon UCLA Intern

Summer intern research on "The Five Chinatowns" for our book with project partner UCLA

Use of our Chinese language archives as a field school by three professors and their graduate students

YOUR 2023 MEMBERSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Virtual walking tour of Chinatown

Begin renovation of our Chinatown Heritage Center

Continue processing the Paul Chace library donated in November 2021. Our physical library has grown by 20%!

Three archivists working on our physical and digital archives and our library

Continuing partnership with Institute of California and the West

Organize and launch the Southern California Oral History project



☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

Name _____

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Mail to: Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard St

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Membership Levels

☐ Regular 57

☐ 100x100 Club 100

☐ Supporter 300

☐ Senior (60+) or student 32

Donation (tax deductible) _____
TOTAL _____

Please make checks payable to CHSSC

☐ Check here if you would like our newsletter mailed to your home.

☐ Check here if you would like our newsletter sent via email.

To Join or renew your membership by debit card, credit card, or by using your PayPal account, visit your website chssc.org.

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax ID 953155357



Donations for January/December

In Memory of Dorothy Ligh Chang

Marjorie Lee

In Memory of Len Wing Ligh

Marjorie Lee

In Memory of Gilbert Hom

Helen K. Chan

Sojin Kim

Shirley Chu & Dean Ng

Susan Dickson

Robert & Diane Gin

Suellen Cheng Kwok & Munson Kwok

Robert Lee

Wallace & Virginia Loo

Ben & Doreen Nakayama

Edmund & Susan SooHoo

Kailim Toy

In Memory of Mark & Laura Lai

Bruce Chin

In Memory of Voy & Fay Wong

Janlee Wong

\$5000 Grant

Louie Family Foundation

Donations

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Dennis Jeng

Osceola Refetoff

Judy Sai

Sylvia SooHoo

Earl Ung

Winston & Joanne Young

Ruth Yue

Chuck Woo



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Announcements

Please renew your membership for 2023. If you are not a member, please join us!

Check out our latest online exhibit at <https://chssc.org/>

Los Angeles Chinatown Walking Tour

A tour through the buildings and
architecture of LA Chinatown

Created by: Riona Tsai
January 10, 2023

