

Fall 2014

CHCP PROGRESS

*Educating, Preserving, and Promoting
Chinese & Chinese American History and
Culture in the Santa Clara Valley*

*Chinese American Historical Museum • 635 Phelan Avenue (Senter Road) • San Jose, CA 95112
P.O. Box 5366 • San Jose, CA 95150-5366 • <http://www.chcp.org> • Email: chcp.info@gmail.com*

We will always remember, honor and love you Lillian!

Lillian Gong-Guy, 78, passed away on September 10, 2014. Born in China, the daughter of a Wharton-educated economist, Lillian came to the U.S. in 1949. She graduated from Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, where she met the love of her life, the late Dr. Ernest Gong-Guy. A San Jose resident for more than fifty years, Lillian has been a caring, compassionate, long time volunteer, civic leader and philanthropist. She lived life with an overflowing abundance of passion and energy. Perhaps her greatest passion was to share her Chinese heritage. She co-founded the Chinese Historical and Cultural Project (CHCP) to establish the Chinese American Historical Museum in San Jose's History Park. From mental health to the arts, and various Chinese American organizations, Lillian impacted the community by her work and leadership in dozens of non-profit organizations.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially her five grandchildren, Michelle Chan, Mark, Kathryn, John and Stephen Gong-Guy. Lillian was predeceased by her husband, Ernest, and her parents, Norman and Mary Lou. She is survived by her two



Lillian Gong-Guy

December 28, 1935 – September 10, 2014
Resident of San Jose

children, Debbie and Robert (Susanne), and her grandchildren. She has five sisters, Kathy (Gary) Yuen, Barbara (Dan) Lee, Diane (Walter) Wong, Mary Jane Fung, and Sandra Lou. The loss is also felt by her sister-in-law Nellie Lum and numerous nieces and nephews.

Donations in her name may be made to CHCP – Lillian Gong-Guy Memorial Scholarship, c/o CHCP, PO Box 5366, San Jose, CA 95150. A private family service has been held. A celebration of Lillian's life will be held at a later date.

REFLECTIONS

...a charming and gracious people person who knew how to be organized, keep track of details and be so responsible and reliable for projects they agreed to do...forever young, beautiful and classy.

B.W.

...Lillian was an amazing spirit and such a gracious and thoughtful friend.

L.L.

...We were fortunate to know Lillian and have the opportunity to collaborate with her on several of her creative projects.

R. & L.L.

...We all have truly been loved, cared for, motivated and inspired by Lillian. She was blessed with so many gifts from God and she so lovingly appreciated these gifts and shared them so generously and humbly. I know she will always be with us as we gather at events, meetings, and work on projects. Her lessons and modeling of how to experience life are priceless.

B.W.

...great mentor and friend.

A.K.

...Lillian's presence and her contributions to our lives, beyond CHCP & AACI, etc. will not be forgotten and also never replaced.

R., C. & L.L.

...What a lady and a wonderful leader!! We will definitely miss her presence in all the organizations she belong.

Z.S.

...She was the godmother and historian of CHCP. She was my mentor on trustee duties. We go to her for advice. She was a gracious volunteer and generous with her time and energy. We will miss her dearly.

C.F.

...Lillian was so well known and well liked... Despite her age, I thought of Lillian as young and energetic. I guess I thought she was immortal, and in some ways she will be. It's hard to imagine being at CHCP events and meetings without her, not to mention all the meetings and events she went to on behalf of CHCP...What a presence.

C.J.

...In the short time that I've known her, I learned that she dedicated much of her time to CHCP and am sure that CHCP will sorely miss her.

E.W.

...She was our mentor, beloved friend who always stays in our heart.

A.W.

...I am honored to have known Lillian and shared some lovely conversations with her about CHCP's early days, as well as her brilliant work as a connector of peoples and events.

R.Y.

REFLECTIONS

...dear mentor of CHCP.

C.

...knew Lillian for many years and had the pleasure of working on several of her creative projects...Lillian will be greatly missed by everyone.

L.L.

....she is an inspiration!

C.C.

...Lillian was a visionary community leader, friend, and staunch APALI supporter.

M.C.

...From the beginning, Lillian has been a core leader of the Market Street Chinatown Archaeology Project. Her wisdom and mentorship have been a guiding light for the project. She shared of herself so generously, and became part of the archaeological community.

B.V.

...Her leadership and guidance will be greatly missed.

A.T. & R.C.

...Her boundless energy and dedication to CHCP and the many other organizations she volunteered with is legendary.

A.L.

Lillian was in a class all her own. Her impact was far-reaching, and she remains one of the most gifted, dedicated, and knowledgeable women I have ever had the privilege to know. She was mentor and friend, and she will be sorely missed.

T.S.

...She was truly a lady for all seasons who cared so much, did so much, and supported so much and so many. Her guiding hand will be sorely missed in all of our lives.

W. & S.C.

...Lillian's leadership and commitment to the community is well-known and will be sorely missed.

E.Y.

It was a great pleasure working...under her leadership as the co-chair of CHCP: raised fund, designed and constructed the museum to preserve an important history of Chinese Americans in Santa Clara County...Lillian had always come and represented CHCP well...She was a great leader leaving a legacy behind and a dear friend to many of us.

C.C.

...She will be greatly missed by her friends at CHCP, Chi Am Circle, AACI, Jr. League of Santa Clara and her dear family. I will always remember Lillian as a "fashionable, intelligent, and giving person." I thoroughly enjoyed working with her on many of the Chi Am Circle fundraising projects. I also enjoyed working with Lillian on the CHCP Board Of Directors. She truly was a leader. We will always remember Lillian as she is unforgettable.

P.L.

...Lillian's impact on our lives and community are deeply felt and will be remembered always.

C.Y.

Lillian was one of a kind...She leaves a legacy of too many accomplishments to list. She was a wonderful friend...Thank you, Lillian for all that you did...

A.L.

Heritage Education Link Program (HELP) – 2014

By Al Low

CHCP's outreach program entitled Heritage Education Link Program (HELP) is currently co-chaired by Wes Chan and Al Low. These HELP grants are awarded throughout the year and restricted to non-profit organizations in Santa Clara County who wish to enrich their communities by providing Asian or Asian American cultural and/or historical experiences. Applications must be submitted for consideration at least 60 days prior to the event.

Chinese Performing Artists of America

The first award we granted this year was to the Chinese Performing Arts of America (CPAA). CPAA is located in San Jose and was founded in 1991 with the mission to promote Chinese culture and cross-culture in American society. CPAA's performers are highly trained professional performing artists from China. CHCP and CPAA have enjoyed a strong relationship over the past several years supporting each other's events. Ann Woo is the Executive Director of CPAA.

CPAA held a series of events from Jan. 24th to Feb. 23rd as part of their 6th Spring Festival Silicon Valley (SFSV). An extensive program featuring fun-filled and exciting events in collaboration with many community groups was held. This year's CPAA/SFSV was targeted to be and succeeded as the largest Chinese cultural event held in Silicon Valley to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. Among the many attendees were several CHCP Directors and their families.



Two of Teddy Sue's granddaughters (Emma & Beatrice) with CPAA performer



Directors Brenda Wong, Ann Wong, and Lillian Gong-Guy flanked on the side by daughters of Teddy Sue on the left and daughter of Ann on the right.

HELP – 2014 (con't)

Rancho Milpitas

Our second award went to the Rancho Milpitas Middle School (Rancho Milpitas) located in Milpitas. The faculty of Rancho Milpitas works with the student body to put together an annual Asian American Heritage Night to celebrate the rich diverse Asian cultures reflected in the community. Among the cultures that were celebrated that evening were Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, and Indian.

The program included dances, songs, and multi-media presentations involving both group and individual performers or presenters. Delicious food reflective of the diverse cultures of the Rancho Milpitas student body was also available.

Representing CHCP at the event were Brenda Hee Wong, Ginger Lai, and Al Low.



Yen Mai (teacher), Brenda Hee Wong, and Al Low



Group photos of participants



"Bollywood" dance troupe

Community Outreach

CHCP Makes New Friends!

By Brenda Hee Wong

Members of CHCP have been out and about in San Jose carrying out the CHCP mission of promoting and educating the community about Chinese history and culture and CHCP's Chinese American Historical Museum (CAHM).

In February and June, CHCP Directors Brenda Hee Wong, Celine Chan and Tiffany Marinko and member Vivian Marinko interacted with Chinese families at the Association of Northern California Chinese Schools Academic Competition and at the Chinese American Abacus Association Awards Ceremony. CHCP and Brenda were introduced and assisted with the awards presentations. Brenda, Vivian, Tiffany and Celine hosted an informational table to introduce CHCP, its goals, programs and of course the awesome Chinese American Historical Museum.

Also in June, Directors Al Low and Brenda Hee Wong and Trustee Lillian Gong-Guy made new friends with guests attending the performance "Dancing Feet," as performed by dancers representing the Dancing Sun Foundation, in the Plaza area of History Park. The final two dances were beautifully performed in front of the CAHM. After the final bows, the CAHM welcomed visitors.



CHCP member Vivian Marinko



Dancing Sun Dance Company



Bih-Tau Sung

CHCP Traveling Exhibit at the Saratoga Historical Museum

“Pioneering the Valley: The Chinese American Legacy in Santa Clara Valley”

By Peter Young

CHCP’s traveling exhibit had its Saratoga Historical Museum opening on a sunny July 13th Sunday afternoon at 20450 Saratoga Los Gatos Rd. The traveling exhibit “Pioneering the Valley: The Chinese American Legacy in Santa Clara Valley” consists of 14 colorful panels containing historical and current information on immigration trends, the five San Jose Chinatowns, and new pioneers in politics, sports, the arts, business, and more.

The event emcee was Los Gatos Saratoga High School District Board Member Cynthia Chang. Saratoga Mayor Emily Lo was present to welcome the numerous attendees with opening remarks. Local Chinese historian Connie Young-Yu gave a talk on the Chinese contributions in the South Bay. Many local government and community leaders were present as well including CHCP co-founders Gerrye Wong and Lillian Gong-Guy. Many CHCP board members were also in attendance wearing Chinese attire.

The large crowd of about 100 was treated to festivities that included Chinese calligrapher Zhongyang Lu writing Chinese names in Chinese calligraphy for attendees young and old, Chinese ladies' drum team Tam Kang performing several dance and drum tunes, and Chinese musician Hong Tai performing several beautiful Chinese tunes on the gu zheng/zither, an 18 or 21 stringed musical instrument that resembles the Japanese koto, a musical instrument that followers of the Asian American jazz group Hiroshima are familiar with.



Thank you Annette and SHM staff!



Saratoga Mayor Emily Lo and Los Gatos Saratoga High School District Board Member Cynthia Chang



Chinese historian Connie Young-Yu

CHCP Traveling Exhibit (con't)

Based on the faces of the attendees, everyone had a good time. Some came as far away as San Francisco to learn about the history of the five San Jose Chinatowns and about the Chinese and Chinese American contributions to the Santa Clara Valley from 1850 to 2011.

The CHCP traveling exhibit will be on display at the Saratoga Historical Park and Museum through October 26th. School field trips to see the traveling exhibit can be arranged for Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1-4 pm. The Saratoga Historical Museum website lists general visiting hours as Friday through Sunday, 1-4 pm or by appointment.



Directors Brenda Hee Wong and Lillian Gong-Guy with Advisory members Cynthia Chang and Emily Yue enjoying the day with other visitors



Brenda Hee Wong and Lee Liu Chin enjoy school house with Saratoga Councilmember Chuck Page



Chinese ladies' drum team Tam'Kang



Exhibit visitors



Hong Tai plays the gu zheng.

Speaker Series Report



Dr. Barbara Voss

By Celine Chan

August 3, 2014

Dr. Barbara Voss from Stanford University delivered a very touching lecture on "Burn Layer: The Archaeology of Anti-Immigrant Violence." It was well attended by over 50 people. Most of the audience were amazed of the history of five Chinatowns in San Jose. Along with the Archaeology Day digging project with the public, it was surely worthwhile to see the linkages. Many thanks to all the assistance of the organizations.

Upcoming Lecture for Speaker Series

By Celine Chan

Have you ever wondered why and what to do with the few coins your ancestors gave you from China? Time to learn their history and values in the next event. Join us or donate your coins to CHCP!

Topic: "The Whole/Hole story and history of Chinese Coins"

Speaker: Mr. Ken

Date: Nov. 16, 2014 (Sunday)

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Place: Firehouse lecture room
History San Jose Park
1650 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112



Appreciation Tea

By Sylvia Eng

An Appreciation Tea to honor everyone who had spent his or her time in volunteering and supporting CHCP was held on August 3, 2014, in the Renzel Room of the Pacific Hotel at San Jose History Park. President Brenda Hee Wong, Trustee Lillian Gong-Guy, and Barbara and Bert Why from the advisory group were instrumental in the planning. Volunteers who played a part in the success of this event were Carolyn Jow, Lillian Gong-Guy, Willy Wong, Yvonne and Curtis Ching, Jean Tseng, Sylvia and Roger Eng, Josephine Zimmerman, Gerrye Wong, Peter Young, Lee Liu Chin, Carol Fong, Wanda Ching and Wesley Chan. Some of the teens helping were Tyler Sullivan and Kelly and Katherine Kwong.

CHCP was so fortunate to have some talented young entertainers to perform during the tea. Shirley Zhang of Milpitas High recited an original poem "Heritage" and Sabina Law of Kennedy Middle School in Cupertino performed songs on the pipa, a Chinese lute.

It was such a great turn out with over 70 guests in attendance. CHCP could not ask for a better day to have an event, as the weather was perfect. The table set up was very inviting and welcoming. The tables were beautifully decorated with fresh flowers and cute origami animals created by Isabelle Lai. There was more than enough food for all that attended. On the buffet table were two different types of spring rolls, vegetarian egg rolls, turkey and cheese roller pinwheels, mixed fruit, pineapple and taro cakes, and hot and ice tea.

Assemblyman Paul Fong on behalf of the State of California presented a certificate to CHCP for its years of community service. Also honored especially was Mrs. Hong Chin for her twenty-three years of dedication to CHCP as a docent at the Chinese American Historical Museum (CAHM)/ Ng Shing Gung Building.



Appreciation Tea (con't)

CAHM Chair Anita Kwock presented Hong with a Certificate of Appreciation. Congratulations to Mrs. Hong Chin!

Anita also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Barbara "T" Johnston, Director of Education, History San Jose, for her many years of support and assistance to CHCP's projects and programs.

CHCP Board of Directors thanked all who came with hand painted bookmarks. For those who did not come, they missed out on a very well coordinated event with much fun and fellowship.



2014 Mid-Autumn Moon Festival at History San Jose

By Liz Chew

A huge crowd of over 10,000 guests descended upon History San Jose Park on Sunday, September 7th to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. This holiday is a time to reflect upon the bounty of the summer harvest, the fullness of the moon, and the myth of the immortal moon Goddess, Chang O, who lives in the moon. The Moon Festival is often compared to a “Chinese Thanksgiving” because of its spirit of gratitude and its inclusion of abundant food including the popular moon cakes.

CHCP, the Honorable Vice-Mayor Madison Nguyen, the City of San Jose, and Miss Vietnam of Northern California partnered with local businesses and organizations to sponsor this cultural event for the South Bay Area. Many local dignitaries, politicians, and donors were recognized by Madison Nguyen. A record 2000 + guests visited the Chinese American History Museum during the festival!

At the Children’s Activity Area happy, smiling children were busy making lanterns and lion masks, learning Chinese brush painting and calligraphy from Teresa Yeung and Melvin Wong, getting their faces painted and adorned with a variety of rub-on tattoos depicting nature, and coloring various cultural pictures depicting the Moon Festival. Every child received a colorful animal lantern.

A diverse slate of entertainment and performances delighted the audiences throughout the festival. The Orchard School Lion Dancers greeted the excited guests as they entered the festival.



Outstanding Orchard School Asian Cultural Lion Dancers Greeting the Guests



Busy and Engaging Children’s Activity Area

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival (con't)

Sponsored by CHCP, the marvelous MSA Yo-Yos led by Brandon Do, the charismatic Cadence Musicians, and the outstanding Orchard School Lion and Fan Dance Teams all wowed the enthusiastic audiences. Festive food trucks lined the streets of the park to offer international culinary delights for the hungry crowds.

As the bright moon ascended the night sky, traditional lion dancers led the huge crowd holding colorful animal lanterns paraded through the streets of the History Park. The moon smiled upon the History Park as the celebration of the Moon Festival ended with the last guests departing the park.



Orchard School Lion Dancers



Orchard School Lion Dancers



MSA Yo-Yo Performers



MSA Yo-Yo Performers



The Marvelous MSA Yo-Yo Performers

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival (con't)



The Graceful Orchard School Asian Cultural Dance Troupe Fan Dance Team



Orchard School Asian Cultural Dance Troupe Fan Dance Team



The Charismatic Cadence Musicians



Cadence Musicians - Ethan in the center



Cadence Musicians - Sabina



Cadence Musicians - Elin



Cadence Musicians - Sirina

Chinese American Historical Museum Tours & Docents

By Anita Wong Kwock

During 2014, CHCP welcomed several groups to the Museum, conducting private tours small and large.

- Asians Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) –149 Seniors
- Stanford University Public Archaeology Classes – 25 students
- Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI) – 155 Students & Staff

If you know organizations or school groups interested in coming to see the CAHM during the year, contact Anita Wong Kwock, CHCP Director and Liaison to HSJ-CAHM Docents, using chcp.info@gmail.com.

After 23 years of service to CAHM, Docent Hong Chin retired. She monthly worked at the museum, opening the doors to share the rich information about the Chinese in Santa Clara County to our visitors. We truly thank her for her dedication and wish her well in her other endeavors. Hong was recognized at the Appreciation Tea at History San Jose on August 3, 2014.

Would you be interested to help out on the first or third Sunday of each month or a few months? Want to try it out sometime soon? We have a training program and manual to assist you with all the historical information. You will be working with other experienced docents. If interested, please contact Anita Wong Kwock, chcp.info@gmail.com.



Annual CHCP Membership Dinner

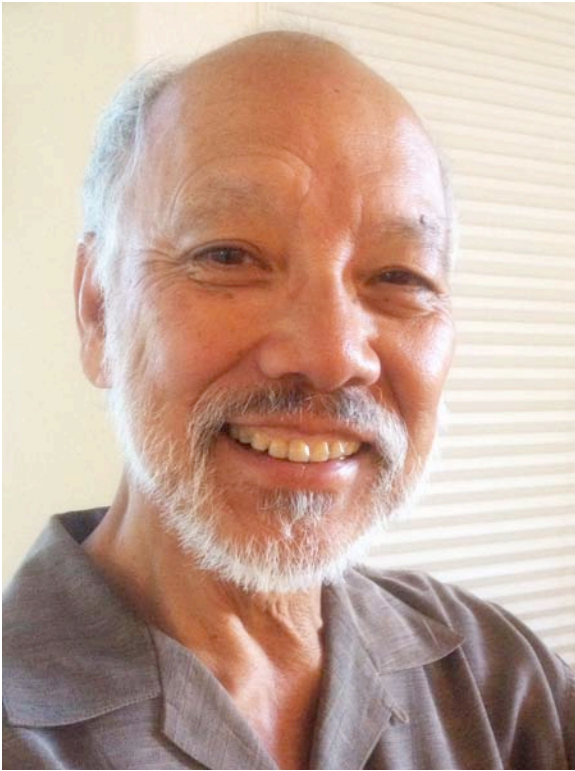
**Monday, January 26, 2015
6:30 PM**

Looking forward to the year 2015, our members will want to save this date for our annual membership dinner at China Stix. Not to be missed is the speaker of the evening, Ruthanne Lum McCunn (San Francisco) who published "Chinese Yankee." She will discuss the life of Ah Yee Way, a Hong Kong-born Civil War veteran and the Chinese Yankee. Come revisit the contributions that our ancestors made even as far back as the Civil War.

Also not to be missed is renewing the friendships that have been forged with other members of CHCP, learning about the upcoming activities that CHCP will provide to the community and renewing your support to CHCP as a worthy organization.

**China Stix Restaurant
2110 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95050**

Director Profile – Allan (Al) Low



Al has been a member of CHCP for over 7 years and a member of the Board of Directors for 6 years. He has been actively involved in various committees and shared responsibilities. For the past 4 years, Al has been the Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee.

Al is a native Californian and was born and raised and educated in San Francisco. Except for a 4-year period in Southern California, Al has lived in the SF Bay Area. The past 27 years he has lived in Saratoga. Al is the proud father of 3 sons and 3 grandchildren. His oldest grandchild started her college career in Washington D.C. this past August where she enrolled at American University to study government and law.

Al retired from high tech/Silicon Valley in 2012 after spending over 40 years with the federal government and private industry in various management positions in international trade compliance, facilitation, and logistics. Al traveled globally extensively during his career – including many visits throughout Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

Al has been a life-long 49er fan and avid big game fisherman to fill out his leisure time. Many pictures and stories of the “one that got away” abound; don’t be afraid to ask him to share. Over the past 5 years Al has become an amateur genealogist tracing his roots as well as helping family and friends to trace their roots back to China or other points of origin.

CHCP PROGRESS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2014

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Elyse Wong

Membership Application

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Mobile Phone _____
E-mail Address _____

Membership Level

- Individual Membership - \$40
 Family Membership (2) - \$70
 Donation in Memory/Honor of

Mail Form & Check Payable to

CHCP - Membership
P.O. Box 5366
San Jose, CA 95150-5366

CHCP is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization
Fed. Tax ID # 77-0156509

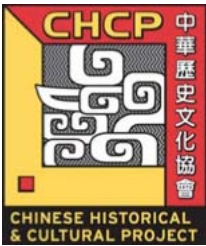
Membership Includes

- Complimentary Ticket(s) to the Annual Meeting
- Invitation to Speaker Series
- Invitation to Social Events
- Discounted Tickets to Cultural Events
- CHCP Progress Newsletter
- Email announcements of Chinese cultural and historical events

Join CHCP & Volunteer to Help

- › ___ Program Development
- › ___ Program Coordinator
- › ___ Docent for Museum
- › ___ Grant Writing
- › ___ Education Program
- › ___ Community Outreach
- › ___ Exhibit Enhancement
- › ___ Website
- › ___ Social Media
- › ___ Other

Monthly Board of Directors' meetings are open to CHCP members to attend. For the date, time and location, please refer to the calendar on the CHCP website.



P.O. BOX 5366
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CHCP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1987