

Winter 2015 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

Chinese Historical & Cultural Project Annual Membership Dinner

By Yvonne Ching, VP CHCP

The mood was festive, the fare was sumptuous, the ambience was light and festive. That was the setting for the Annual CHCP Membership Dinner held on January 26, 2015 at China Stix. We boasted almost 90 guests who enjoyed a feast fit for an emperor.

Ruthanne Lum McCunn, an author of Chinese-Scottish ancestry whose books have been translated into eleven languages and novels adapted for stage and film, was our guest speaker. She captivated us with her newest novel "Chinese Yankee," a true story of Thomas Sylvanus, born Ah Yee Way. She came with an array of books that she has penned, including her first novel, "Thousand Pieces of Gold." She was very well received.

Debbie Gong-Guy generously donated an exquisite cloisonné vase and beautiful jade tree from her late mother Lillian's estate for our raffle.



Emily Yue, Lee Liu Chin, Ruthanne Lum McCunn, Anling Wu



Al Chin, Cynthia Chang, Peter Young, Jeff Lee

Annual Membership Dinner (con't)

We welcomed Helina Chin, Debbie Gong-Guy, and Teresa Lau as new additions to our team of directors. And we thanked the last year's team for reenlisting for another term of hard work.

We would like to boast of an increase of at least 14 new members largely due to the efforts to our president Brenda Wong, who is out there promoting CHCP.

We thank all of you who attended the Annual Membership Dinner and those who renewed their memberships. It is through our collective efforts that we are able to promote and sustain those values that we wish to preserve. We cannot do it without you.



2015 Board of Directors and Trustees

Community Outreach

CAAMFest San Jose

By Peter Young

On Saturday, September 6 at 6pm at Camera 3 in downtown San Jose, CHCP celebrated Center for Asian American Media's (CAAM) 12th year in San Jose at CAAMFest San Jose, a 4-day film festival in San Jose from September 4-7th. CAAMFest San Jose presented films and events reflecting the impact and influence of Asian Americans in Silicon Valley and their continuous innovation in technology, arts and culture, media, and the community. A group of about fifteen CHCP board members and their friends attended the event. Additional friends and supporters of CHCP and CAAM were treated to AMERICAN DREAMS IN CHINA, one of China's most successful box office hits of 2013.

CHCP was a Community Sponsor of CAAMFest San Jose's centerpiece attraction, AMERICAN DREAMS IN CHINA. San Jose Arts Commissioner Ron Muriera introduced CHCP President Brenda Hee Wong who made introductory remarks about CHCP and encouraged members of the audience to visit, learn about the museum, and support CHCP.

AMERICAN DREAMS IN CHINA is a story about three underachieving college students who happen to meet, begin a tutoring business, expand their tutoring venture and become successful businessmen. Along the way, the three partners in the tutoring company face copyright infringement lawsuits with an American company and must negotiate with the attorneys of the overconfident large American company. The end result is that the three Chinese partners are able to outmaneuver the American corporate attorneys and negotiate a settlement favorable to the Chinese company. A modern version of David versus Goliath, AMERICAN DREAMS IN CHINA is directed by Peter Chan and is an aspirational and riveting story of the underdog's victory over a powerhouse organization.

CAAMFest 2015 begins an 11-day run showcasing Asian and Asian American film, music, food and digital media from March 12 through March 22. Screenings and events take place in San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley. Please check caamedia.org for more information.



Brenda Hee Wong, Nathan Louie, and Josephine Zimmerman



Brenda Hee Wong



Annual Halloween Haunt 2014

Ghosts, Goblins, Superheroes, Olaf, and Other Creatures Visit History San Jose

By Liz Chew

It was a perfect day for the many young costumed guests on Saturday, October 26, 2014 at the Annual Halloween Haunt, History San Jose. This was a fabulous family event for all ages who participated in a variety of Halloween arts/crafts activities offered at the affiliates' building throughout the park. The young guests made bat bracelets, picked out Halloween stickers and bat rings, and learned about the significance of the bat in Chinese culture at the Chinese American History Museum.

Although the museum was not open, over 80 ghosts, goblins, superheroes, Olaf, and many other creatures visited the CHCP station. Kudos to our CHCP student volunteers, Katherine and Kelly Kwong, for helping out the young guests.



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 was on display at the Saratoga Historical Museum in a mixer event on September 26 that the museum jointly sponsored with the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce and the Saratoga Rotary. It was held at the museum site at 20450 Saratoga Los Gatos Road. 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 large crowd of approximately 100 people from the three sponsoring organizations came by to network and support the after work event and to visit the CHCP traveling exhibit. The event emcee was Los Gatos Saratoga High School District Board Member Cynthia Chang. Many local government and community leaders were present including Saratoga City Mayor Emily Lo and Saratoga City Council candidate Yan Zhao.

Many CHCP board members were present to share information on CHCP and the exhibit including Board member Peter Young, as well as past CHCP President and now CHCP Trustee Anita Kwok and CHCP Treasurer Al Low who were in Chinese attire. Our Lady of Fatima Villa senior care community located next door catered the event and attendees were treated to a delightful assortment of delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts prepared by OLFV’s chef and tended by OLFV staff.



The traveling exhibit will be displayed at the following locations. For more information and details, please visit the CHCP website at chcp.org.

Cupertino Historical Society and Museum
January 16 – April 10
Quinlan Community Center
10185 N. Stelling Road
Cupertino, CA 95014

Stanford Archaeology Center
April 20 – June 21, 2015
Building 500, 488 Escondido Mall
MC 2170 Stanford University
Stanford CA 94305-2145

Speaker Series Report

By Celine Chan

The Whole/Hole Story & History of Chinese Coins

On November 16, a cool crisp Sunday, six contestants were involved in a game show and awarded with cash and ribbons at History Park. The speaker, Mr. Ken, was a knowledgeable coin collector for over 60 years and showed his precious Chinese coin collection. He discussed the history and values of different coins and the audience brought coins to ask questions.

Any thoughts about donating some extra coins to our CHCP museum display? Contact Brenda Hee Wong.



Education

CHCP Welcomes the Chinese Winter Solstice Festival at History San Jose

By Liz Chew

Many smiling and eager children descended upon History San Jose on a bright, clear day to get into the holiday spirit at the annual Children's Holiday Festival on Saturday, December 13th, 2014. Santa was on hand for photo opportunities. Children rode the trolley, operated the hand car, and participated in culturally diverse crafts celebrating the winter holiday season. Even the Oscar Meyer Weiner truck was there to help bring in the holiday spirit.

CHCP opened the Chinese American History Museum to welcome over 100 visitors. Families enjoyed making fan ornaments and learning about the Chinese Winter Solstice Festival with "tong yuen," a traditional rice ball soup served at family gatherings.

Our high school student volunteers Kelly, Katherine, and Eric helped the young children with making their fans. The children had fun making the fan ornament to hang on their tree at home. It was a great day to get into the holiday spirit!



High school volunteers Katherine, Kelly, and Eric prepare for the children.



Teddy Sue takes a pose while on a short break from CAHM at the Children's Holiday Festival.



Liz and the Oscar Meyer Weiner Truck before guests arrived.

Children's Holiday Festival (con't)



4713, Year of the Ram

By Wesley Chan

On February 19, 2015, the Asian community will celebrate the Lunar New Year (4713 on Chinese calendars) – the Year of the Ram, also called Goat or Sheep. Those born in the following years are under the sign of the Ram: 1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015, and 2027.

The Ram is the eighth animal of the Chinese Zodiac. Those born in the Year of the Ram are considered to be calm, gentle, creative, thoughtful, persevering, honest, and deeply religious. On the other hand, Rams tend to be overly sensitive, shy, moody at times, and need to feel loved and protected. Those born under the Ram sign enjoy taking care of other people and will do better than they realize, partly because they are so good at keeping the peace, and partly because they are good at accomplishing the tasks at hand.

The best jobs or careers for Ram people include pediatrician, actor, daycare teacher, interior designer, florist, musician, editor, illustrator, dancer, and landscape architect.

In affairs of the heart, Ram people are most compatible with those born under the signs of the Rabbit, Boar, and Horse. Ram people are least compatible with those from the Ox, Rooster, and Dog years.

For Ram people, your lucky colors are green, red, and purple. Your lucky numbers are 3, 9, and 4. And your lucky flowers are carnations, primrose, and the alicia flower.

Famous people born under the year of the Ram include Michelangelo, Mark Twain, Jane Austen, George Burns, Robert DeNiro, John Denver, Thomas Edison, Mel Gibson, George Harrison, Kate Hudson, Mick Jagger, Nicole Kidman, Sir Laurence Olivier, Julia Roberts, Pierre Trudeau, John Wayne, Bruce Willis, Barbara Walters, and Orville Wright.

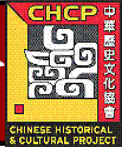
GUNG HAY FAT CHOY, SUN NEEN FAI
LOK !!!!!



Upcoming Event

Chinese
Historical
and
Cultural
Project

中華歷史文物協會



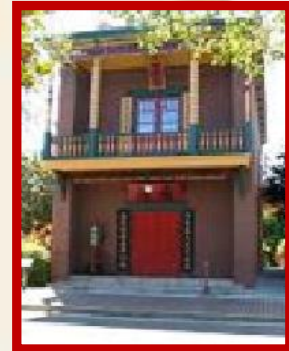
celebrates



Chinese Lunar New Year of the Ram 2015

*Sunday, March 15, 2015
12:30 – 3:30 PM*

*History San José
635 Phelan Avenue
San Jose, CA 95112
Chinese American Historical Museum
Replica 1888 Ng Shing Gung Temple*



Performances:

- 🕒 12:30 pm *Lion Dance*
- 🕒 1:00 pm *Cultural Dances*
- 🕒 1:30 pm *Cadence Chinese Instrumental Musicians*
- 🕒 2:00 pm *Chinese Abacus Demonstration*
- 🕒 3:00 pm *Magic Show*

Children's Activities (on-going):

- 🕒 *Lucky Red Envelopes (Licee)*
- 🕒 *Lion Mask Making*
- 🕒 *Chinese Games and Puzzles*

*Open to the Public
Free Admission
chcp.info@gmail.com*

A Wonderful Family Event!

Upcoming Speaker Series Event

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
150 E San Fernando St., San Jose 95112

Hidden History: Asians and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. Civil War

An Illustrated Talk by
Ruthanne Lum McCunn

April 28, 2015

Tuesday 6:30 pm

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
Room 225, 2nd Floor

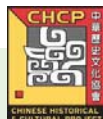


Ruthanne Lum McCunn will share many amazing stories of service of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the Confederate and Union Navies and Armies, including that of Sylvanus Thomas (Ah Yee Way), the veteran whose life she reclaimed in *CHINESE YANKEE*. The legacy of API service and the subsequent battle of Chinese veterans for citizenship is an important and virtually unknown chapter in America's struggle towards a more perfect Union. McCunn's award-winning work has been translated into eleven languages, published in twenty-two countries, and adapted for the stage and film. Her books include the bestselling *THOUSAND PIECES OF GOLD* and, most recently, *CHINESE YANKEE*.

Cosponsored by: Chinese Historical and Cultural Project, and SJSU Cultural Heritage Center.

To arrange for an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (408) 808-2397 or (408) 808-2083 TTY at least 48 hours prior to the event.

www.sjpl.org



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San José Public Library

SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Upcoming Event



Please Save the Date for our Spring Event!

CHCP requests your participation on May 17th at History San Jose for the following activities:

- Award Presentation to Lillian Gong-Guy Memorial Scholarship Recipients
- Recognition of Student Docent Volunteers
- Dedication of benches in honor and remembrance of Co-Founder Lillian Gong-Guy

Specific times and location to come soon!

CHCP PROGRESS NEWSLETTER

Winter 2015

Board Facilitators:
Brenda Hee Wong
Yvonne Ching

Editor:
Rae Chang

Coordinator:
Elyse Wong

Contributors:
Celine Chan
Wesley Chan
Liz Fong Chew
Helina Chin
Yvonne Ching
Yucaipa Kwock
Al Low
Brenda Hee Wong

Elyse Wong
Peter Young

Profile – Celine Chan



Celine is always busy organizing events or traveling somewhere on vacation. Friends still remember her as a leader in Student Council from high school in Hong Kong and Hawaii Nutrition Council. One of her mottos is “Work Hard & Play Harder!”

She graduated from University of Hawaii with an MPH in Public Health Nutrition and BS in Dietetics/Food Service Administration. She did her internship in various hospitals in Alameda County. She retired in 2013 after 36 years in the profession as a Registered Dietitian.

She began as the first Public Health Nutritionist in Southern Oregon and started many programs and did consultation to health professionals. As the Nutrition Services Manager in Santa Clara County for almost 30 years, she was in charge of serving over 4000 nutritious meals daily to seniors at 39 locations/sites and Meals on Wheels. She

established nutrition policies and gave nutrition lectures and in-service trainings. Budgeting, public relations and serving multi-ethnic menus were her specialties.

From 1983 to 2006, she initially volunteered as a Liaison and HR Dean for Berryessa Chinese School. Later, she taught Cantonese language for 14 years on Saturdays; children also took art classes and different levels of Chinese culture for high school credits.

Celine loves to volunteer and multi-task. In the last few years, she helps as greeter/usher at Cinequest, short film fest, San Jose Jazz Fest, Beer Fests, Campbell Heritage Theatre, music events and Fabric recycling.

She is married and has one married daughter and the whole family is active in volunteerism. Her hobbies include ballroom dancing, travelling, tennis, painting, sewing, knitting, reading and different arts and crafts. Relaxations include watching DVDs and talking/networking on the phone. She is restudying acupuncture on her own.

She joined CHCP as a Director at Large and has revived the Speakers Series in 2014. She will continue as an Advisory Board Member and likes to continue empowering other Asians to volunteer in the community and at CHCP.

She would like CHCP to continue promoting Chinese culture for the community and honor the legacy of the hardworking Chinese who made history in the Bay Area.

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

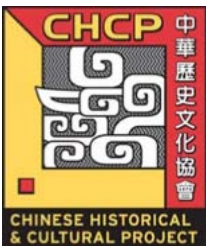
Membership Includes

- 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
SAN JOSE, CA
95150-5366

www.chcp.org • chcp.info@gmail.com

CHCP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1987