



Dim Sum

Quarterly Newsletter of the Chinese American Council of Sacramento

華美協進會



Fall/Winter 2004

President's Message



Dr. Douglas Yee

Thank you for making 2004 a great year for CACS. All four of our major events were extremely successful. In May, we took a wonderful bus trip to visit the historic Oroville Chinese Temple and museum. We were very fortunate to have Oroville descendent Dr. Gaing Chan as our guide.

In July, we hosted our annual Author/ Lecture/ Dinner featuring Dr. Judy Yung. We had a great turn out to hear her lecture/slide presentation on her new book, "Unbound Voices".

Over the Labor Day weekend, CACS steps back in time during Gold Rush Days in Old Sacramento. It's one of the most satisfying feelings to share our Chinese history and culture with the 120,000 people who flow through the earth covered streets of Old Sacramento during the four-day event. Our "Gold Mountain Village" is staffed with over forty volunteers. You could be one next year.

Our final event of the year was our new signature event "Gold Mountain Celebration". Over 300 guests packed the Discovery Museum to enjoy great food, wine and history. The highlight of the evening was the introduction of the 2004 Frank Fat Founder's Award honoree, Supervisor Illa Collin. We also unveiled a new "Chinese in the Gold Rush" exhibit at the museum and the CACS Hall of Fame. CACS also monitors projects like the Locke Restoration and the Ping Yuen Apartment project to ensure that their Chinese heritage is respected

The success of this year is due in large part to the dedicated directors and advisors of CACS. Without such a team effort, well organized events like these do not happen. However, the real credit for our success goes to you, the CACS members and supporters. Your attendance and participation at the events is the ultimate measure of our success. Please continue to support the Chinese American Council of Sacramento by renewing your membership. I also encourage you to get involved. Email me with your suggestions as to how we can serve our community better. We need your input. Please title your email "CACCS Input" and sent it to Yee911@aol.com.

CACS plays Santa to the needy

By Brenda Fong

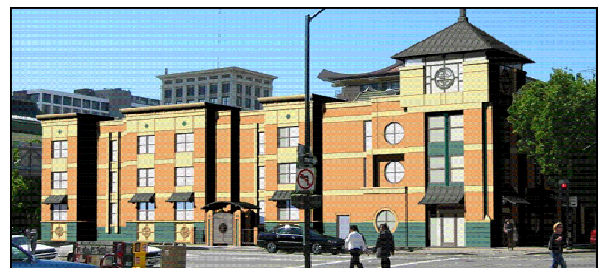
CACS had the privilege of playing Santa Claus for needy families in our community this past holiday season. Jeanie Lee coordinated our new Holiday Project with Henry Kloczkowski, Exec Director of the Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center. CACS adopted 6 families, and from these families, shopped for a total of 21 children ranging from age 4 to 17. With just 1 week-end to shop, Jeanie arranged for each family to receive a complete boxed turkey dinner purchased through Bel Air Markets, while Karun & Doug Yee, Merlayna Yee, and Brenda Fong divided the task of shopping and wrapping gifts for the 21 children.



(T) Doug Yee, Henry Kloczkowski, Merlayna Chan, & Brenda Fong. (F) Jeanie Lee, Karun Yee & Anne Luong

Some of the gifts ranged from remote control cars, basketballs and matchbox cars and gift certificates for the boys to art & crafts sets, cosmetics, watches, hat & glove set, socks, and hair accessories for the girls. On Dec 23rd the team met with Henry and his staff at the Service Center who then distributed the gifts to our 6 families. It was a pleasure for the Council to be able to play Santa Claus for these deserving families. A big thank you goes to Jeanie Lee, Karun and Doug Yee, Merlayna Chan and Brenda Fong, who gave of their personal time and effort to make the Christmas season a happy one for those in our community!"

Renovated Ping Yuen Opens...See Page 2.



CACS Board Members

Officers

Dr. Douglas Yee, President
Joyce Eng, Vice President/Treasurer
Karun Yee, Corresponding Secretary

Committee Chairs

Historical/Cultural, Doug and Karun Yee
Advocacy/Civil Rights, Christina Fa, Derrick Lim,
Special Events, Rick Wong
Newsletter and Publications, Charles R. Moy
Membership, Brenda Fong

Board Members

Geofry Fong
Dara Lee
Jeanie Lee
Penny Redman
Erick Wonzen
Grace Wong

Advisors

Bree Becker
Merlayna Yee-Chin
Derrick Lim
Franc Martinez
Shirley Sekeres

Ping Yuen Housing Home Again in Historic Chinatown

By Derrick E. Lim

A.F. Evans sponsored a grand opening for its 82 units of studio and one bedroom senior housing on November 9, 2004. The project also includes street level retail space and approximately 8,000 square feet for social services.

CACS has been instrumental in advocating for Ping Yuen and its tenants as early as 1996 when the building was falling in disrepair. The building was vacated in 1997 when tenants were relocated to other public housing units.



Renovated Ping Yuen Housing



Addressing the grand opening was Anne Moore, SHRA Executive Director with Mayor Heather Fargo

choice vouchers, advisory committee on design and outreach, tenant workshop and community space planning.

Special thanks to CACS (Christina Fa, Derrick Lim, Cathy Lo, Penny Redman, and Bill Wong), ACC (Norman Fong, Donna Yee), Chinese Benevolent Association (Henry Fong), OCA (Sam Ong), SCCSC (Jeanie Lee), and many others.



Ping Yuen Advisory Committee (L-R) Penny Redman, Norman Fong, Leslie Fritzche, Cathy Lo, Derrick Lim, Donna Yee and Henry Fong

Since that time, CACS's advocacy and leadership has been visibly present in nearly all aspects of the revitalization project such as, options for revitalization, tenant relocation process, bilingual services, testimony at City Council and Redevelopment Commission, request for proposal criteria, developer selection panel, project financing support, housing

Gold Rush Days 2004 return to Old Sacramento

By Karun Yee



CACS is proud to present this multicultural event over Labor Day weekend for the past four years in Old Sacramento on K Street. Gold Rush Days-Chinese Ethnic Village-September 3,4,5, and 6, 2004 was a highly successful event drawing huge crowds and involving over 60 volunteers.

Continued at top of next page...

Gold Rush Days Continued

Our normal herb shop, general store, mining camp and demonstration tent were busy with activity from the Ngai Sing Chinese band to talented brush painters, calligraphers, and palm reading (Master Chan). Demonstrations of mah jong, fan tan playing, fortune telling, abacas and chop stick lessons were also popular attractions. Even though the temperatures soared between 85



Master Martin Chan reading Palms



Lina Fat & Stephen Tse demonstrating calligraphy

and 100 degrees, our volunteers cheerfully worked on. Our Jet Don Lee Lion Dancers and Byron Brown Kung Fu/ Tai Chi groups fascinated the crowds.

It was a labor of love for the volunteers and all of us feel the special bond of friendship and fun. People were curious and

amazed about Sacramento Chinese history. Interaction with visitors was a delightful learning exchange.



Karun Yee & Nancy Yee teaching the use of chopsticks



Pearl Cho reads fortunes

and Jada

An enormous thanks to all the dedicated volunteers; Franc Matinez, Darren and Karun Yee, Rick Wong, Derrick Lim, Merlayna and Frank Chin, Matt Mui, Dexter Lee, Corey Fong, Stephen Lee, Wes and Nancy Yee, Shirley, Zoe and Jada

Serkeres, Jeanie Lee, Joyce Lee, Pauline and Bob Chan, Ruth and Martin Chan, Lena Fat, Charlie Chan, Barbara Lee, Cindy Lau, Jenny and daughter Mah, Judy Murphy, Diana Gin, Hon and Wai Moy, Stephen Tse, Pearl and John Cho, Lillian Seto's Chinese Brush Painting students, Joyce and Alex Eng, Grace Wong, Brenda Fong, Jordan Yee, Dara Lee, The Ngai Sing Chinese Band, Lee Jet Don Lion Dancers, Byron Brown's Kung Fu/Tai Chi group, Wayne Hoang and friends, and finally, Doug and Karun Yee.

Come join the fun! It only gets bigger and better every year!



CACS donates \$1,000. to Tsunami relief fund

The Chinese American Council of Sacramento has donated \$500. to the American Red Cross and \$500. to the Save the Children Fund designated for Tsunami relief.

Gold Mountain Celebration Initiates CACS Hall of Fame and New Exhibit

Another Successful Event put on the Chinese American Council of Sacramento. Over 250 guest attended this event which showcased the permanent Gold Mountain Exhibit at the Discovery Museum honoring County Supervisor Illa Collins as this Year's Frank Founder's Award Recipient.



County Supervisor, Illa Collin receiving the Frank Fat Founder's Award from (R) Alex Eng and Douglas Yee

In addition, the first 3 honorees, Dr. Edna Mae Fong, Dr. Henry Yee and Frank Fat, were inducted to the Chinese American Council of Sacramento's Hall of Fame. CACS plans to honor 2 - 3 recipients each year to give recognition to those individuals who have made significant achievements to the betterment of this community.

The Board of Directors want to thank all the volunteers that were so dedicated and helpful. Special recognition to Karun and Dr Douglas Yee for putting all their time and effort into Obtaining sponsorships and collaborating with the Discovery Museum on the Gold Mountain display. Also to Joyce Eng, Chairperson of this event deserves special recognition for her leadership and organizational skills in making this evening such a huge success.



Dr. Edna Mae Fong receives Honoree Plaque from Joyce Eng and Douglas Yee. Accepting for Dr. Fong is (Son) Dr. Ronald Wong



Chairperson Joyce Eng receives a bouquet of flowers from Karun and Doug Yee



Shirley Sekeres and Dara Lee serve from one of many food stations



(L-R) Wing Fat with Mary and Jimmie Yee join in the festivities



(L-R) Holding the Honoree Plaques are Dr. Ken Fat for Frank Fat and Dr. Franklin Yee for Dr. Henry Yee

"At Long Last...Locke Residents Own Land"

By Christina Fa, M.D.

December 11th, 2004 marked a milestone in Asian Pacific American history. After almost a century, Locke residents could finally -- for the first time EVER -- own their land. The delay was largely due to California's unconscionably racist

Alien Land Law of 1913, which barred those ineligible for citizenship from owning land. It was directed at Asian Pacific Americans, who were threatening White farmers with their success in California's agricultural industry.



Connie King in jubilation after signing papers to own her land. 81-year old King has waited over 50 years for this day.



Photo by Derrick Chung
Chairperson of Locke Community Advisory Committee, Dr. Christina Fa with Mayor, Connie King

December 11th marked a day of justice for Asian Pacific Americans, but it was bittersweet justice. Most of Locke's former residents are long gone. They were denied the American dream of owning their own land in Locke.

Locke symbolizes not only Chinese America, but Asian Pacific America. How many know that they first came to the U.S. in the 1600s (Filipino Americans, in Louisiana)? Even fewer know that Chinese Americans fought in the Civil War. As a National

Historic Landmark, Locke serves as a living reminder of Asian Pacific American's presence throughout American History.

It was the State of California who denied Locke residents their right. On December 11th, it was the government who, at least symbolically, returned that right to Locke residents. Sacramento County Supervisor and CACS Advisor Illa Collin deserves special recognition for keeping Locke on the front burner of the County's agenda since the '70s. On December 11th, Illa Collin

spoke about righting a wrong. Through the help of the County, Locke residents, and advocacy groups such as CACS, Locke residents can finally call Locke their own land. Stay tuned for a Locke Homecoming set for September 2005, and other ways to stay involved with Locke.



President, Dr. Douglas and Karun Yee with CACS Advocacy/Civil Right Committee member, Derrick Lim congratulating Locke Mayor Connie King

City Councilman Jimmie Yee Retires

By Charles Moy

After serving 12 years as Sacramento City Councilman, Jimmie Yee has retired. Besides serving as Councilman, Jimmie Yee was appointed Mayor to serve out the term of then Mayor Joe Serna who died of cancer.

Yee graduated from UC Berkeley as an engineer and was the son of Chinese immigrants. Yee succeeded in business and rose with the respect of the community he served. Yee is well known for his straight forward approach, hard work ethic mixed with a keen sense of humor and dignity.

Jimmie Yee is also recognized for his dedication and service to the Asian community. CACS commends Jimmie for support. No matter how busy his schedule was, he could always be counted on attending CACS activities.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Save May 20th 6:30-9:30 PM
For the Annual Author/Lecture Dinner
At Ming Gardens
Watch for future flyer for details

In appreciation of our Lifetime members, CACS would like to thank you for your continued support

Ellen Blonder
Doreen T. Chan
Jerry and Carole Chong
Dr. Sonney L. Chong
Joyce and Alex Eng
Jerry Fat
Shareen and J.C. Fat
Lina and Dr. Kenneth Fat
Wing Fat

Norman and Stephanie Fong
William Fong
Diana Gin
Dick Hwang
Dean and Cindy Lan
Dolly Louie
Jim Louie
Myra Young & James Ritchie
Mary Janis Mitchell

Sam Ong
Shirley Sekeres
Richard Tsukji
David Volz
Grace Wong
Pearl Wong
Ray Wong
Alan and Helen Yee
Douglas and Karun Yee

Merlayna J. Yee
Wesley and Nancy Yee
William and Judy Yee
Councilman Jimmie Yee
Bernice Yew
C.C. and Regina Yin