



53rd Biennial Convention Edition

Get ready for the Windy City in 2017!

The 54th Biennial Convention will be held in Chicago. Lily Huang made a fantastic and witty presentation for the Chicago Lodge; they are all very proud of her work because it gave them an edge over the Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge's pitch of having the ultimate in mobile conventions on a cruise.

The Unconventional Convention

Seattle hosted the 53rd Biennial Convention which sought innovation with an unconventional convention. Some younger members of the Grand Council in the past noted that they couldn't always attend the entirety of the convention, which traditionally began on Wednesday, and ended on Saturday. So, many of the guidelines for hosting a convention were flipped around in an effort to accommodate a shorter schedule; this convention began on Thursday with the attempt to end it on Saturday. This led to hiccups in the arrangement of events, last minute changes to the schedule, and inherent problems with transportation due to vast, unanticipated construction issues that were not there when Seattle Lodge was chosen at the 52nd Biennial Convention in 2013 in Oakland to host the next convention in 2015. The invaluable lessons learned from this experiment should serve the National Board and Chicago Lodge well in how to better manage the time frame of the next convention by returning to the traditional schedule. (above members at first plenary session hosted at a restaurant)



Musical Chairs for the Local Lodge Reports

At Anthony's Pier 66 Restaurant 2013 Spirit of America Recipient Jerry Lee sponsored a lunch followed by the first plenary session. Harsh lighting problems didn't allow the projector to work, so thinking on his feet, National President Ed Gor flipped the schedule around so that those who had oral reports would proceed instead of the power point presenters.

Boston Lodge President Esther Lee went first with a short report. She was followed by Rusty Chan, National VP of Communications and Albuquerque Lodge President, who briefly described their involvement in the Asian American Legacy Stories oral history project and a \$100,000 monument commemorating the landmark Yee Shun vs Territory of New Mexico Supreme Court Case. Then Mississippi Lodge President Cindy Lofton and their National Representative Shirley Kwan followed with their report, centering on producing a Dragon Boat Festival on the Mississippi. Oakland Lodge President Christina Yu was next, mainly focusing on their plans to renovate their local lodge building. Past National President Nancy Gee reported on Peninsula's Lodge's brief history as well as relaying her process for getting participants from the local school system for their entrants into the National Essay Contest. She also noted that their annual picnic is always really well attended.

Portland Lodge President Gloria Lee shared how they are going to a mobile friendly website. Salinas Lodge President Herb Wong reported their lodge's efforts with a volunteer program with a golf tournament to garner funds for their programs. Ed Gor lauded Salinas Lodge for doing a great job of getting first generation immigrants from Mainland China integrated and assimilated. San Antonio President Judy Wong reported that the National Essay Contest participation was much easier by using computers. This year was the first in allowing participants to use laptops to create their essays. She also noted that Ken Yan Hui represented San Antonio on the DC Legislative Education trip and this was the first time San Antonio participated in that trip.

Seattle Lodge President Ming Ming Tung-Edleman, noted that their focus is to try to get 1882 project into the curriculum of the school system. National VP of Civic and Public Affairs and DC Lodge President Ted Gong reported that with another organization, they sponsored a dinner with all the newly elected Asian American members of congress. Most notably the politicians now recognize the Alliance's presence on the Hill, which is fantastic and proves that the annual DC Legislative Education trips to the Capitol are bearing fruit. The Alliance achieved focus on issues such as the recognition for Asian Civil War Veterans, as well as the Expressions of Regret for Chinese Exclusion. Also it seems that efforts to honor Major Kurt Lee are progressing and hopefully will result in the Medal of Honor for him. Ted also shared how to gather stories and how the outgrowth of their monthly talk story sessions ultimately resulted in producing a documentary. Through Chinatown's Eyes describes the riots in DC in 1968, and lesson plans are being developed to incorporate this into a curriculum. Los Angeles President Eugene Moy noted that those who subscribe to the L.A. Lodge's closed group on Facebook know, advocacy is the number one focus of the LA Lodge. He shared that they have shifted the commemorating repeal of exclusion into a "Memorial for Inclusion", as well as their other efforts with youth development and their lodge's membership acquisition and retention. (Continued)

ALLIANCE CONNECTION

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(Continued from 1) The lodges that were slated to use the projector for their presentations were rescheduled for late Saturday and Sunday. These power point presentations will be made available on the National Website. Also presented at that first session were the memorial plaques, at right Past National President Nancy Gee is presented with her father's plaque by National President Ed Gor.



BOARD OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 2015-2017



Election Day becomes Night

Nominations were opened for the named officer positions at the first session. All were voted in by acclamation except for the contested race for NVP of Communications. Ming-Ming Tung Edelman ran against incumbent Rusty Chan. That race along with the National Executive Elections were held Saturday Night at an extended session after the Chinatown Tour and Pioneer Dinner. Rusty Chan won his contested seat.

Seminar Squeeze

On Friday August 7th, 2015 after a Breakfast at the Hotel of the Convention, the Best Western Executive Inn, the day started with seminars for the delegates ranging from Membership & Recruiting led by Helen Ying, as well as Educational presentations.

National President	Ed Gor	National Compliance Officer	Joanna Tom
National Executive Vice President	Davace Chin	National Marshal	Richard Fong
National Vice President, Civic & Public Affairs	Ted Gong	National Sentinel	Joan Sung
National Vice President Communications	Rusty Chan	<i>National Executives</i>	
National Vice President Membership	Helen Ying	Susan Dickson	Rick Eng
National Vice President Planning	Melanie Chan	Albert G. Fong	Michael Fong
National Secretary	Felicia Yu	Robert Gin	Faye Woo Lee
National Assistant Secretary	Elaine Wong	Warren Seeto	Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman
National Treasurer	Lawrence Gu	Paul Wong	Rudy Yee
National Compliance Officer	William Mei	Past Presidents: Harry Low, Nowland Fong, Nancy Gee, Saykin Foo, Munson Kwok and Carolyn Chan also sit on the board.	

Many and varied, these started with Tom Ikeda of Densho and their efforts with The World War II Japanese American Incarceration. Carolyn and Rusty Chan presented a snippet of their efforts in collaboration with the Asian American Association of New Mexico, garnering interviews of some of the Founders and Prominent Members of the Albuquerque Lodge, which will be deposited in the Center for Southwest Research at the University of New Mexico and the Special Collections of the Albuquerque Library System.

Maria Batayola enlisted help from attendees in presenting how readers theater would enhance "the 1882 Expulsion of Chinese from Seattle." Dr. Margit McGuire explained Storypath with "The Transcontinental Railroad, The Chinese Experience from Gold Mountain to Golden Spike." This incorporated the use of role play and imagination to interest the students. Margaret Fisher presented how Mock Trials engage students also enlisting the attendees in performing a bit of the mock trial based on the movie "the Lion King."

Ted Gong presented the DC Lodge's Talk Story Events with eventual focus on curriculum in the classrooms and the culmination in the 1882 Symposium's Documentary Film, (continued on 3)



Left: Margaret Fisher presenting mock trials using the Lion King as a test case.

(continued from 2) and the process of building heritage tours. Other sessions that day were: Historic Preservation and Cultural Education, presented by Ted Gong, Munson Kwok and Carolyn Chan; Finance 101, presented by Melanie Chan and Lawrence Gu; and a session on Mental Health Issues.

After a brief lunch the Grand Council was treated to a stirring screening of the Felicia Lowe documentary called “Chinese Couplets.” The afternoon plenary session was abbreviated with the passage of some resolutions and reports from Membership, given by Helen Ying, and Civic and Public Affairs given by Ted Gong. Rusty Chan gave the communications report as well.

53rd BIENNIAL CONVENTION 2015 LIST AND ACTIONS OF RESOLUTIONS

No.	Title	Submitted by	Assigned to	Actions
1	Creation of a Chinese American Citizens Alliance PAC	ABQ	Planning	Withdrawn
2	(Asian Lunar New Year) Lunar New Year	GSGV	Planning	Passed
3	Discriminatory Admission Practices of Universities & Colleges	GSGV	CPA1	Failed
4	Holding the National Convention in Even-Numbered Years	GSGV	Planning	None.
5	Increasing Lodge Participation in National Conventions	GSGV	Planning	None
6	Overseas Chinese Birthing Parents	GSGV	CPA1	Failed
7	Support of Law Enforcement Officers	GSGV	CPA2	Passed
8	(Support Executive Action for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) Support for Fair and Human Actions with Regard to Immigration Removals [Note Resolutions 8&9 combined]	LA	CPA2	Passed
9	(Support Executive Action for Differed Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents)	LA	CPA2	[See above]
10	Statement on Education Budget [in support of 2015 Elementary and Secondary Education Act ESEA budget reauthorization	LA	CPA1	Passed
11	Establishment of National Database on Officer-involved Shooting Deaths	LA	CPA2	Passed
12	Expansion of H-1B Visa for Specialty Occupations	LA	CPA2	Passed
13	Maintaining Current Family Based Preference Categories in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and Reducing Visa Queues for Family Based Preference Categories	LA	CPA2	Passed
14	In Memory of Stanley Yep	LA	Finance	Passed
15	Increasing Voter Participation, Specifically Younger Citizens	LA	CPA2	Passed
16	National C.A.C.A. Position of Affirmative Action on Education Policy	LA	CPA1	Passed
17	Opposition to Religious Exemptions from Civil Rights Norms	LA	CPA1	Passed
18	Recognition of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965	LA	Executive	Passed
19	Recovery of Chinese American Citizens Alliance Photographic Archives	LA	Finance	Passed
20	Resolution on Solutions for the Mitigation of Police Related Killings	LA	CPA2	Passed
21	Supporting Rim of the Valley National Recreational Area	LA	CPA1	None.
22	Supporting San Gabriel Mountains National Monument	LA	CPA1	Passed
23	Developing Ex Post Facto Positions on U.S. Supreme Court Cases (2014-2015 Term)	LA	CPA1	Tabled
24	In Support of a Position on Federal and State Minimum Wage	LA	CPA1	Failed
25	Glass Ceiling in the Workplace (Barriers Against Women and Minorities)	LA	CPA2	Passed
26	In Memoriam of Herbert Wong	LA	Finance	Passed
27	In Memoriam of Henry W. Gee	NATL	Finance	Passed
28	In Memoriam of Y. Parker W. Gee	NATL	Executive	Passed
29	Improving the Qualifications for Certain National Vice Presidential Offices	NATL	Executive	Passed
30	In Memoriam of Donnie Chin	NATL	Executive	Passed
31	Thank You's to TECO, OCAC, Community Organizations	NATL	Executive	Passed



At left the fabulous Alliance Singers open the first night's dinner with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem. Above first night's keynote speaker past Spirit Of America recipient Gary Locke awaits introduction by Ed Gor. Also pictured: Seattle President Ming-Ming Tung Edelman, Past National Presidents Carolyn Chan, Nancy Gee and Munson Kwok

Patriotism!

The Chinese American community during World War 2 had the highest number serving in the armed services per capita. During the Veteran's Recognition program at the Convention, Rudy Yee, Veterans Committee Chair, read the names of present veterans who were pinned by Spirit of America Award Recipient Carolyn Chan, Past National President of the Alliance.

At Left from left to right: Carolyn Chan, Tony Chan, Daniel Chow, Jack Joe, Richard Fong, Ed Yu, Melvin Wong, Ted Gong, Rudy Yee and National President Ed Gor.



Pictures from the 1st Night At China Harbor Restaurant. Far left Helen Ying chats with Ira and Connie Katz. Above Presidents Wilson Lee of Boston and Eugene Moy of Los Angeles chat.

Right: National President Ed Gor presents Past National President Nancy Gee with a Nambe Plaque for her years of meritorious for the Alliance. Below the steering committee juggle items to keep the convention compliant with the constitution and by laws.



Above: The Seattle Chinese Community Girls Drill Team performed some of their excellent routines for members of the Grand Council during the last part of the Tour of Chinatown.





The 53rd Biennial Grand Council at the China Harbor Restaurant



Seattle Local Lodge Team

2015 Spirit of America Award Recipients

Above from left to right: Seattle Lodge President Ming-Ming Tung Edeleman, Marge Young accepting on behalf of her brother Wing Luke, Judge Roxanne Song Ong, Past National President Carolyn Chan, Reverend Norman Fong, Shannon Lee accepting on behalf of her father Bruce Lee, and National President Ed Gor. At right during the Spirit of America Award Ceremony, National President Ed Gor gets the recipients laughing.



San Francisco Delegation with Rev. Norman Fong



National President Ed Gor is presented with a Diamond Back polo from the Phoenix Lodge's Elaine Wong, Rudy Yee and John Tang (not pictured).

Below, Friday Night Keynote Speaker previous Spirit of America Recipient Ambassador Gary Locke.



Spirit of America Recipients 2015



Carolyn Chan

A Native of Greenville, Mississippi, Carolyn Hong Chan has called Albuquerque her home for more than 50 years. After her graduation from Mississippi State College for Women with a degree in English and Speech, Carolyn taught elementary school, where she fostered multi-cultural understanding by integrating Chinese American and New Mexican cultures with American society.

Retired from teaching, Carolyn has remained an active supporter of education – she was a member of the Mayor's Commission on Adult Literacy and was appointed by President Reagan to serve on the National Advisory Council on Bilingual Education.

Carolyn, along with her husband Tony, have committed over forty years of volunteer work in the area of optometry and healthcare, including serving as President the Auxiliary of the American Optometric Association, President of the New Mexico Optometric Association Auxiliary and the New Mexico Health Education Coalition, where she ad-

vocated the importance of vision healthcare.

Carolyn is also actively involved with museums and historical preservation organizations and projects, including the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and the Asian Legacy Stories of the Asian American Association of New Mexico. Carolyn acted as spokesperson for "Men Without A Country", a documentary film about Chinese Civil War veterans and headed the Alliance's collection of oral histories of Chinese American veterans for the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project.

Many of Carolyn's significant achievements come from her involvement with the Alliance, both locally and Nationally, including helping to establish the Albuquerque Lodge, and subsequently serving as its President in 1989 and 1990. Nationally, Carolyn served in several capacities including multiple terms as Executive, Marshal, Vice President and President.

During her years on the national board, Carolyn coordinated a national public relations campaign to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Repeal in 1943 of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and campaigned for passage of House Resolution 415, which recognized the service of Chinese and other Asians who served in the American Civil War. Most recently, Carolyn served on the steering committee of the 1882 Project, which successfully achieved unanimous passage of Senate Res. 201 and House Res. 683, Congressional resolutions to apologize for the passage of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act.

Wing Luke

Facing myriad and daunting challenges, Wing Chong Luke (1925-1962) used his intelligence, strategic insight and keen wit to become the first person of Asian ancestry and color to be elected by an overwhelming vote, to public office in the Pacific Northwest. Wing's unique combination of political savvy, compassion, and tireless advocacy for diverse communities made him an influential voice in support of housing rights, urban revival, and historic and cultural preservation.

Beyond his political leadership, Wing was effective in working behind the scenes, particularly in conjunction with local labor unions to help develop the Seattle Center, Pike Place Market, Pioneer Square and the Seattle Waterfront. Wing was a trail blazer in his time, and became an inspiration for minority candidates to seek and serve in public office.

Prior to his public service, Wing served in the Army during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. (continued from 2) After his military service, Wing earned a law degree from the University of Washington and was appointed Assistant Attorney General for the State of Washington, becoming the first Asian and first person of color in the nation to hold that post.

At the age of forty, Wing's promising career was cut short when a small plane in which he was riding crashed in the Cascade Mountains. Despite the brevity of his career, Wing made enduring contributions to the pursuit of social justice, even when there seemed to be few voices supporting him. He chose to use the power of his elective office to make systemic changes that benefited all. Wing's legacy continues today. His reputation and high ethical standards continue to inspire others, and are memorialized in the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, simply known as The Wing. The museum has now operated for over 40 years; exhibits at the Wing reflect his interest in historic and cultural preservation, education and social justice. The Wing was the first Affiliate of the Smithsonian and recently became an Affiliate of the National Parks Service.



Bruce Lee

Although Bruce's father first introduced him to the film industry, where he appeared in several Hong Kong films as a child actor, it wasn't until many years later that Bruce's movie career began to flourish. Bruce portrayed a wide range of characters, including dutiful son, a loving brother and a devoted student who uses only his martial arts expertise to defend his family honor.

The direction and tone of his films soon began to evolve and influenced the perception of martial arts films in the United States, Hong Kong, and the rest of the world. Bruce is often credited with helping to change the way Asians were presented in American Media.

Bruce's films elevated the traditional martial arts film to a new level of popularity and acclaim. Although most of the films were Hong Kong produced, Bruce nonetheless became an iconic figure throughout the world. (continued on 7)

(continued from 6) In early films including *The Big Boss*, *Fist of Fury* and *Way of the Dragon*, Bruce's star began to rise. And with the Hollywood-produced *Enter the Dragon*, (continued) (continued from 3) his fifth and final completed film, he achieved lasting, worldwide fame. Bruce not only starred in the film but also wrote the screenplay and directed its opening fight sequence. It also merits the distinction of being the first Chinese martial arts film to have been produced by a major Hollywood studio. His cinematic achievements led to his posthumous induction into the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1993. Bruce was known for more than just his films - he also serves as a world-wide inspiration through his philosophy of discipline, self-actualization and liberation. His attitude can be illustrated in some of his most famous quotations. "I fear not the man who has practiced 10,000 kicks once, but I fear the man who has practiced one kick, 10,000 times." "If you spend too much time thinking about a thing, you'll never get it done." "Absorb what is useful, discard what is not, add what is uniquely your own."



Roxanne Song Ong

Phoenix native Roxanne Song Ong served as the first Asian-American woman judge in the State of Arizona, and is also the first woman and minority to be named the Chief Judge of the Phoenix Municipal Courts.

A graduate of Arizona State University, Roxanne received her J.D. from the University of Arizona and, as an attorney specialized in the areas of criminal prosecution, defense, and immigration law.

Roxanne's judicial career began with service on the Scottsdale City Court.

In addition to her judgeship, Roxanne's professional activities include many leadership positions on committees constituted by the Arizona Supreme Court, including its Committee on Judicial Education and Training, Commission on Minorities, Commission on Technology, and the Publications Committee. Roxanne is also active in the Arizona Minority Judges' Caucus.

Outside of the courtroom, Roxanne serves as a faculty member for the Arizona Supreme Court's New Judge Orientation Program, the Arizona Judicial College and the State Bar's Leadership Institute.

In 2013, Roxanne was inducted into the Maricopa County Bar Association's Hall of Fame and was named Arizona's Judge of the Year by the state's Supreme Court. Among Roxanne's many professional honors are awards and accolades presented to her by the American Judges Association, the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts Committee on Minorities and Women in the Law, the State Bar of Arizona, Arizona Business Magazine and the YWCA.

Most recently, Roxanne was elected President of the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts, an organization of Chief/presiding judges and court executives in the nation's largest trial courts.

Roxanne counts as among her most memorable experiences, her appearances in more than 200 classrooms, where she has spoken to students and adults alike, promoting judicial and civics education, expanding cultural competency and diversity in the judicial and legal profession, and improving access to justice for all Arizonans.

Reverend Norman Fong

For more than three decades, Reverend Norman Fong has dedicated his life to the pursuit of civil rights and community empowerment in the non-profit arena in San Francisco.

As a neighborhood advocate, Norman has fought for social justice in immigrant communities, advocating for service and affordable housing for low-income families and seniors, as well as for youth leadership development and multicultural understanding across diverse communities.

Norman began his community-based career as director of youth programs and immigrant youth ministries at Donalda Cameron House, a Chinatown-based, multi-service agency serving Asian communities in the San Francisco Bay Area.

In 1990, Norman joined Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC), a non-profit corporation specializing in community planning, organizing, social services, housing development and youth empowerment. He first served as director of programs, and then, beginning in 2007, as deputy director. Currently, Norman serves as CCDC's Executive Director, a position he has held since 2011.

Norman helped to design many innovative programs for young people, including the Adopt-An Alleyway Youth Project, the Chinatown Alleyways Tours Program (a youth-led tour program), summer youth programs for new immigrants and Farm Day in Chinatown. He is a member of several community boards and coalitions and has worked to address many regional and statewide issues of interest to the Asian Pacific American community.

Chinatown Community Development Center will undoubtedly continue to remain at the forefront of community advocacy, planning and affordable housing development in San Francisco, largely thanks to Norman's contributions and leadership.

Norman is an ordained Presbyterian minister who has served as a parish associate for the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown, where he was born and raised. He has also served as General Assembly Commissioner for the Presbyterian Church USA. Norman successfully advocated for a HUD 236 housing development (which the church sponsors manages & will eventually own).

A music enthusiast, Norman co-founded and performs with the Jest Jammin Band which has been playing classic Soul/R&B/Motown music for 45 years.





NATIONAL 美洲同源總會
CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

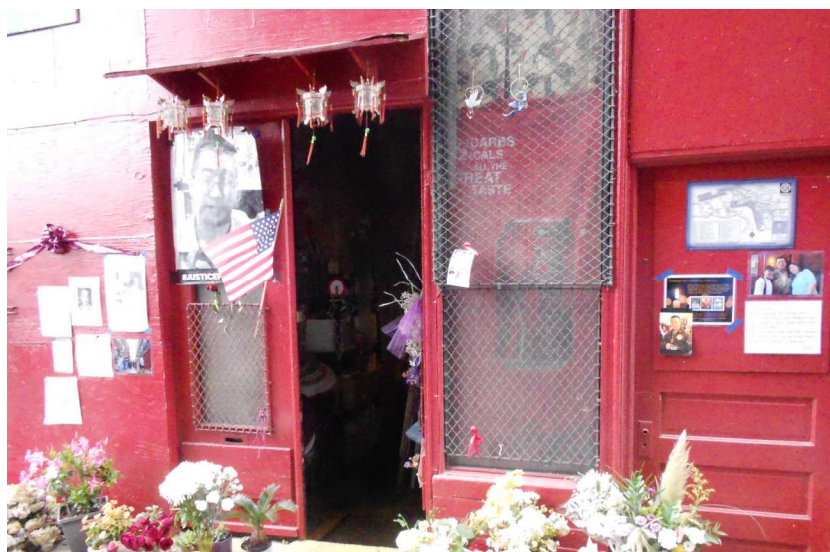
To:

Exec VP Davace
Chin and Joanna Tom
with recipients of the
Harvey Wong Schol-
arship who interned
for the Convention.



Above a replica of a scroll presented from TECO to the Alliance for eventual placement in a Museum.

Below, flowers outside Donnie Chin's Store in memoriam. Tragically Community Leader Chin was killed right before the Convention. .



National Essay Contest Results

In 2014, 102 participants representing 13 chapters participated. They were asked, "In recent decades, the emergence and grown influence of China has continually made headlines in the mainstream American media. All aspects of Chinese society have come under scrutiny, from its political ideology to human rights, from manufacturing and economic growth to the environment, from athletics to education. Do you believe the coverage and depiction of China by the American media is fair and accurate? How do you think these media reports affect the attitudes of Americans toward China and Chinese people? How are your own attitudes toward China similar to or different from those reflected in the American media?" 2014 Results: First Place went to Alex Du (Penninsula). Second Place went to Lawrence Luo (Oakland). Third Place went to Christina Huang (Seattle)

In 2015, 125 participants were asked, "Between 1865 and 1869, more than 15,000 Chinese migrants worked towards the construction of America's First Transcontinental Railroad. The Chinese workers played a central role in building the infrastructure that linked the nation's coasts and ultimately shaped the physical and social landscape of the American West. 2015 commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Chinese Railroad Workers' first arrival in this country. In addition to the construction of the railroad, what do you think are the most significant contributions of the Chinese to American society?" 2015 Results: First Place went to Elia Chen (Peninsula). Second Place went to Kyle Kinnie (Phoenix). Third Place went to Chaney Tse (Los Angeles/GSGV)

The 54th Biennial Convention will be in Chicago.