



美洲同源總會

Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge
ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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C.A.C.A. Phoenix Lodge Marks Its 44th Anniversary

San Francisco, June 5, 2018 — Anniversaries are often a time to reflect on the past, so it is fitting that Phoenix Lodge remembers the legacies of past presidents and the early years. Wing F. Ong, a well-known immigration lawyer and the first Chinese-American to be elected to a state office in the U.S. (in 1946) chartered Phoenix Lodge on June 5, 1974. As a young man, Wing F. Ong was a prominent grocer who helped formed the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to protect and promote their businesses in an era where Chinese businesses faced persistent discrimination. He was also influential in promoting community activism and helping Chinese Americans assimilate in America. As the first president of Phoenix Lodge, Wing F. Ong represented Phoenix Lodge at the 1977 C.A.C.A. National Convention in Portland where he introduced a resolution to allow women to join the organization.

“Phoenix Lodge is proud to have strong community leaders who were dedicated to the goals of C.A.C.A. as a civil rights and community service organization,” said current president Eva Li. Following Wing F. Ong, other past presidents were Crane Teng, Harry Ong, Rudy Yee, Edward Yue, Madeline Ong-Sakata (daughter of Wing F. Ong and first female Phoenix Lodge president), Leung Eng, John Tang, and Elaine Wong.

Charter member Benny Yee recalled the community connections made in the early years: “I was most proud of my time serving as recording secretary when Harry Ong was president of Phoenix Lodge. Harry Ong was a well-known and respected county recorder at that time; he had intimate knowledge of all Chinese businesses and helped build great connections in the community.” Rudy Yee, also a charter member and current C.A.C.A. National Executive added, “We decided to forge strong partnerships with five organizations in order to be effective in serving our community i.e. The American Legion Thomas Tang Post 50, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Asian Pacific Community in Action (APCA), Phoenix Chinese Week, and the Chinese Senior Citizens Association.” Over the years, Phoenix Lodge is proud to be associated with many notable projects including several civil right cases, Phoenix Chinese Week, Hong Lok Senior Housing, AZ Veterans History Project, Resolution of regret for the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, and support for the Alliance’s Congressional Gold Medal for Chinese American Veterans of World War II recognition efforts.

Phoenix Lodge saw an increase in women membership when Elaine Wong was elected president in 2012. She was recently honored for her community service at the 2018 International Women of Distinction Award in Phoenix. “I am proud to have prominent women leaders as role models in our community such as Dr. Pearl Tang and Judge Roxanne Song-Ong who both received the C.A.C.A. Spirit of America Award,” said Elaine Wong.



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One of the most memorable events for Phoenix Lodge was hosting the 1997 C.A.C.A. Biennial National Convention in Phoenix. The event introduced convention attendees to a vibrant Phoenix Chinese community. Long time member and past president John Tang recalled his role as tour guide leading a group of non-delegates to Sedona. “Being a teacher then, it was like a school field trip where I gave a brief history of the tourist sites. In spite of the 110 degrees Arizona heat, everyone at the convention had fun and enjoyed learning line dancing.”

“Congratulations to C.A.C.A. Phoenix for 44 years of service. Thank you for your commitment to serve the community and continue to build legacies,” stated C.A.C.A. National President Davace Chin.

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1044 Stockton St.
San Francisco, CA.

Web: www.CACAnational.org
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.