



Message from the President

As I enter my second year as President of Chinese American Citizens Alliance, I realize that our mission and message has never been more important and relevant across the nation. This past year held many challenges for all of us. We experienced the tragedies and hardships related to the COVID-19 pandemic and many of us lost dear family members and friends or suffered financial hardships from the loss of business or employment. We were all saddened and greatly disturbed by the racially motivated violence but were heartened to see the progress that moved towards justice, healing and the movement against racially motivated violence. Our cities and towns experienced protests and extreme climactic events such as horrific fires and hurricanes which devastated communities and more recently, a rise in Anti-Asian violence. Yet through the year and all of the challenges of the past year, what was particularly promising and optimistic was how the Chinese American community came together to support each other and those in need.



I'm so proud of both the National and the Local Lodges successes during the past challenging year. We pulled together to speak out against injustice and inequities and to support the Chinese American community and the community in general. Many of you developed networks to keep in touch with the elderly during the pandemic to make sure that they were not wanting or to help ease the isolation during shelter in place and many of you collaborated with other community leaders to stop anti-Asian American and xenophobic harassment. We continued to honor our living veterans of WWII with the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony from Congress in December and we continued the recognition with the presentation of the medal to the living veterans of WWII. We look forward to the regional ceremonies, hopefully to take place this year where we will present the Congressional Gold Medal replicas to registered veterans or their next of kin and we that it will be a wonderful and unique experience that the families of the veterans will have the opportunity to learn about how their family member service our country during WWII.

I look back at my message from 2019, so much has happened but my core goals and vision for the organization remain the same. Although progress may have been delayed due to the events of 2020, I feel confident that we will persevere and succeed. One of the goals I wrote

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about was “A Call to Action”, to continue to advocate on such issues such as racial bias and profiling of both foreign-born Chinese and Chinese Americans and supporting initiatives that promote the fair treatment and eliminate discrimination. We must continue to affirm our commitment against Anti-Asian violence and hate crimes, to raise the awareness of hate crimes in our communities, support legislation against hate crimes and to support those who have been affected by the violence.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation and thank each and everyone of you for your commitment, support and dedication to continuing the mission of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance. It is your enthusiasm and leadership that makes a difference in our community.

Respectfully,

Melanie Chan

C.A.C.A. National President ■

Missions and Recent Activities from the National Education Committee

Charles Mau, National Vice President of Education



Broadly speaking, one of the missions of C.A.C.A. is to foster and promote the educational and intellectual accomplishments of Chinese American youth, as a way to recruit members and incubate future leaders. The Education Committee was created to coordinate the related activities and planning for the future. The present membership consists of Charles Mau (Chair, GSGV), Wai Wah Chin (GNY), Susan Dickson (LA), Bettie Luke (Seattle), Elaine Wong (Phoenix), and Christina Yu (Oakland).

Two basic tasks of C.A.C.A. Education are the administration of the annual Essay Contest and the biennial Art Competition, the latter a joint program with The Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles (CAMLA). With respect to the Essay Contest, open to high school students, the Committee members are tasked with suggesting and voting on the essay topic and prompt with specific relevance to the Chinese American communities, giving advice to policies, and nominating and appointing judges. The Chair also serves as a coordinator working with participating lodges that administer the contests locally, compiling the essay scores and reporting the results to C.A.C.A. National and local lodges. Working with CAMLA, the Committee members participate in similar tasks for the Art Competition that is open to K-12 students, and provide advice needed for the smooth conduct of the contest. On March 6, the 2021 Essay Contest was successfully conducted on a virtual platform, with 12 participating lodges and 104 essay entries. The qualified essays have been submitted to five judges for reading, and results will be announced in mid-May. Presently, the 2021 Art Competition is receiving artwork entries with a deadline on April 31.

A third task of the Committee is to leverage the C.A.C.A. resources in education and history to contribute to the creation of K-12 curriculum in ethnic studies, focusing on Chinese and Asian Americans. Charles Mau has been actively engaged in a program run by OCA with the aim of providing relevant input and contributing to lesson plans. Recently, he mailed suggestions from a C.A.C.A. perspective to the review of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum proposed for the California Department of Education to adopt. ■

Stand Up, Stand Out, Stand Proud! 56th Biennial National Convention August 7 - 14, 2021

Davace Chin, National Convention Chair

The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed the way in which we live our lives, and how we conduct Alliance activities in our local chapters and communities. As expected, 2021 brings forward the uncertainties of 2020 regarding the development of COVID-19, the evolution of its variants, the accessibility of vaccines, the different vaccine administration timelines and government regulations.

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Mindful of our responsibility to our members, family, friends, communities and supporters, we have taken the decision to change the in-person national convention, previously slated to take place in Portland, Oregon, to a wholly online and digital-based convention using Zoom Video Conferencing.

We have not made this decision lightly and we thank the Portland Lodge organizers and membership for their interest and enthusiasm in hosting the convention. Although the look and feel of the convention will be vastly different, we are optimistic about the possibilities offered by an online format, including the prospect of reaching an even larger audience.

The convention will span a period of one week, with the opening plenary/business session scheduled for

August 7 and the closing plenary/business session scheduled for August 14, 2021. Throughout the week, the national convention team will organize and offer a diverse collection of online programs, educational sessions and guest speakers. Highlights of the convention will include celebrating Portland Lodge's Centennial Anniversary and the observance of the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the national headquarters building.

The program and schedule will be released in early July. In the meantime, get registered today as free online registration is now open. To register, visit our national website at www.cacanational.org. Delegates are encouraged to register by June 30, 2021.

Stay tuned for more exciting details in the coming months! ■

BOSTON

C.A.C.A. Boston's 2020 activities revolved around the uncertainty over the scheduling of the Speaker of the House Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) Ceremony for Chinese American World War II Veterans. When the initial planned date of April 2020 was cancelled due to the pandemic, we realized that we needed to do something to recognize and honor our living World War II veterans.

On September 6, 2020, we held an outdoor pandemic-compliant ceremony to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War II, at which time we also unveiled our C.A.C.A. Boston remembrance book – *Unsung Heroes* and presented complimentary copies of the book to our living veteran Seaman 1st Class Tony Moy of Wakefield, Massachusetts and to the next-of-kin of deceased veterans.



Retired Major General William Chen and Dan Luke
Unveiling "Unsung Heroes"



WWII Veteran Seaman 1st Class Tony Moy

When the Speaker of the House CGM Award Ceremony was held on December 9, 2020, we were proud to see retired Maj. Gen. Bill Chen present the CGM to Seaman 1st Class Tony Moy in the nation-wide ceremonies that were part of the December 9 official program.

Given the high number of New England World War II veterans who passed away this past year, we wanted to give high priority to the timely award of the CGM to our living veterans, particularly to those in senior facilities. Accordingly, on December 10, 2020, we held a special Zoom CGM Award Ceremony for Connecticut Army veteran Private 1st Class Chuck Eng, at his senior facility, where even his family could not visit him at the facility. Chuck Eng served in the cavalry, so he proudly told us of his riding horses in the Army. His family was appreciative that he was able to receive his award, but we sadly received word that he passed away just two weeks after our award presentation.



WWII Army Veteran Private 1st Class
Chuck Eng

On December 13 2020, we held a special virtual CGM Award Ceremony to honor our Massachusetts living veterans and next of kin. The program featured retired Maj. Gen. Bill Chen's keynote Veterans Day's address to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Army veterans Edward Gee and George Moy (Tony Moy's brother),

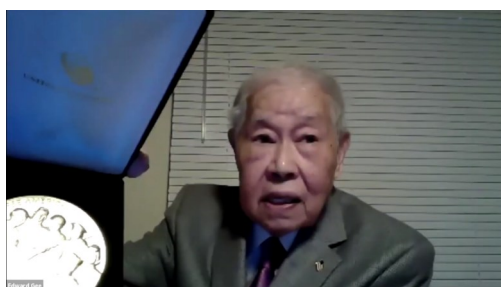
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both in senior facilities, received their CGM replicas.

Edward Gee was a high-speed radio operator in the Pacific Theater. Army veteran George Moy was in the Army Security Agency in the American Theater. The program also featured an Honor Roll of registered Massachusetts veterans.

C.A.C.A. Boston looks forward to hosting the New England Regional Award Ceremony sometime in 2021 as soon as large group gatherings are allowed. ■



WWII Army Veteran Edward Gee



WWII Army Veteran George Moy

HOUSTON

There was an unfortunate vicious rumor in January 2020 that an employee at a Chinese supermarket in Chinatown returned from China with the novel coronavirus. That rumor was never substantiated but it immediately affected the businesses in Chinatown. It happened right before the Chinese Community Center held its annual Lunar New Year Festival. Because WeChat had already been sharing news about the virus, the Chinese-American community was one of the first to shun the Chinatown businesses.

Elected officials including Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and State Representative Gene Wu began hosting town hall meetings in Chinatown restaurants with public health officials, trying to tamp down the rumor as well as inform the public that there were no recorded cases of the novel coronavirus in Houston. Businesses were already losing 50 percent of revenues and travel agencies were losing almost all their reservations. On March 11, Harris County, which includes the City of Houston, issued its Stay Home Work Safe order to begin on March 24, but businesses in Chinatown had already suffered for two months.

Although Houston Lodge did manage to hold a karaoke installation lunch in January, members did not want to risk in-person meetings. We eventually had to postpone the Miss Chinatown Houston Scholarship Pageant. Even the Youth Club members could not be convinced to take on a project to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the ending of WWII.

With the help of Dorothy and Daniel Chow, Susan Denise Gee, and Alice Lee, Houston Lodge held a successful car parade to honor six living Chinese-American WWII veterans, many of whom were C.A.C.A. members. Even if there were only the three vehicles, we were determined to make contactless visits to check on our veterans, who have already been in isolation for several

months. Special yard signs and decorations were delivered to each veteran, care packages including U.S. flags were put together, and, a detailed parade route was shared with interested family members and friends. The September 5th car parade garnered coverage in the Houston Chronicle and Fox 26 news.

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People gather around Tom Ng and Alice Lee during Houston parade honoring WWII Chinese American



Officer B. Tien salutes during the parade



Four Chinese American WWII Veterans recognized at the "Salute to Service" Houston Texans home game

Former C.A.C.A. President Harry Gee, Jr., invited four of the six veterans to be recognized during the "Salute to Service" Houston Texans home game in November. Segments were pre-recorded with Harry joining the veterans on the field where they each received a game ball with their names engraved.

Members have supported donations of masks, food, as well as participated in Census outreach during the year. Without a business Zoom account, it has been challenging to schedule monthly virtual meetings. However, Houston Lodge is eager to install the 2021 board and get back to work.

With the help of Kin Hui, former San Antonio Lodge President, Jim Chow, Susan Denise Gee, Dorothy Chow, and Alice Lee, the Southern Region was able to complete the Congressional Gold Medal virtual presentation to seven living WWII veterans from five states on January 24, 2021.

We send blessings to everyone!■

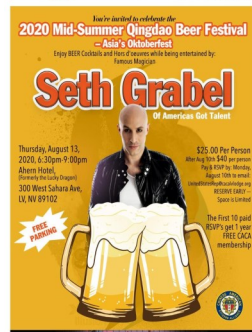
LAS VEGAS : NEVER GIVE UP!

6847 and 2020, two numbers that are especially important to the history of Las Vegas lodge. The first is exactly how many days Las Vegas lodge has been in existence as of this writing. The second, a year that will go down in history as one that wreaked havoc on the Nation and an entire demographic. As we storm into what will be our 19th year as a chartered lodge this July, we look back on our accomplishments. While many organizations' events were canceled or indefinitely postponed causing organizations to close their doors and businesses to shutter, Las Vegas lodge battened down the hatches and completed multiple events including a successful membership drive.

Las Vegas Lodge hosted its annual "Lunar New Year & Pay-It-Forward" awards gala which as usual enlightened its members, guests, and community leaders to the significance of traditional Chinese cuisine as well as recognized community activists, leaders, and volunteers such as Pawtastic Friends, Mr. Duncan Lee, Tina Nguyen & Patrick Gilmartin of Because of the Heart for their dedication and service to the Las Vegas community.

During the eye of the storm of 2020, Las Vegas Lodge did not give up but moved forward in its effort to keep spirits high and increase membership by successfully hosting our inaugural Mid-Summer Qingdao Beer Festival at one of the only venues open to public. Our members and guests were able to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and be entertained by the famous magician Seth Grabel, winner of America's Got Talent.

On October 24, Las Vegas lodge partnered with Troops With Paws to host the "It's a PAW-TY" Dog Costume contest in an effort to show opposition to the Yulin Dog Meat Festival. Troops With Paws works with local elementary schools to send tokens of appreciation to military and local police K-9 units. The kids write and send holiday cards, thanking them for what they do, along with dog toys or other gifts.



TOP PHOTO: L-R: member, Rudy Clai, Lodge President M. (Mack) Joseph Miller II., Patti Reuther, Mary Ruettiger

BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO: Magician Seth Grabel

BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO: L-R: Robert Nakamura, member Jamie Takahashi

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TOP PHOTO: L-R: prize winner dog dressed as a Lion, Lodge Secretary Patrick Sekino

BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO: L-R: dog contestant dressed as a Golden Knight, Tony Mastrostefano with his dog dressed as a pumpkin, Lodge President M. (Mack) Joseph Miller II, with his daughter.

BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO: Prize winner dog dressed as Vice President Mike Pence with a fly on his suit.

Finally, Las Vegas Lodge held its Executive Board elections and welcomes its new Executive Board, President M. (Mack) Joseph Miller II, Vice President Robert Chin, Treasurer Tom Shu, Secretary Patrick Sekino, Assistant Secretary Jahzel Cruz, Collector Christina Evans, Compliance Officer I Lawrence Balanovsky, Esq., Compliance Officer II Timothy Treffinger, Esq., Marshal Calvin To, Sentinel Billy Olds, Committee Chairs for Heritage Grace Tam, Congressional Gold Medal Coordinator Dan Wong, Membership & Business Mixers Ambassador Sou Thammavongsa, and Advisor & Past President Hui-Lim Ang. ■

LOS ANGELES

Greetings Alliance Sisters and Brothers,

It all began on January 11, 2020, a pleasant Saturday afternoon in Los Angeles; outgoing president, Bro. Rick Eng, handed over the meeting to me after my swear-



ing in as president of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Los Angeles for 2020 by past national president, Bro. Nowland Hong. Everyone sensed that 2020 was going to be a busy and challenging year. The meeting attitude was positive focusing discussions on the Chinese American World War II Congressional Gold Medal and related regional ceremonies, Rick Quan's Y.C. Hong documentary and premiere screening, the 2020 Census, the presidential-year elections cycle, 2020 educational and fundraising programs, and the Chinese New Year.

Although rumblings of COVID-19 seemed so far away in China, the future pandemic's influence could be felt. As a result, Chinese New Year events started getting canceled, as were annual Spring Banquets, one by one, until none remained. The growing pandemic and continuous stream of political rhetoric drove business away from Chinese American restaurants causing many to close, well before all other restaurants were forced to close. The increasing rise of anti-Chinese/Asian hate incidents/crimes was felt.

Our last in-person membership meeting was on March 7, 2020 and our post-meeting dinner was held at the lodge where corned beef, cabbage, and Chinese food were served in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Unbeknownst to those present, this would be our last post-meeting meal together, as soon after, California went into lockdown and no one could be certain what would happen in 2020.

April 4, 2020 began a new era, as it was our first teleconference member meeting, conducted from the lodge using our Polycom system and with less than a handful of mask-wearing (though sometimes sans), socially distanced members present who were too restless to stay at home. This would continue for another month until our meeting on June 6, 2020 ushered in the Zoom era for our lodge. We have proudly held Zoom membership meetings every month since with the same handful of disobedient lodge members. One positive to online meetings is that we have seen an increase in regular member attendance numbering 30 to 40 including newer members, as well as the return of long-time members like Bros. Nowland Hong and Albert Lum.



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ation for the upcoming virtual national biennial convention and youth conference. Until we can meet in person again, stay healthy, safe, and active.

*In solidarity,
Wayne C. Ng*

President, C.A.C.A. Los Angeles (2020-2021) ■

NEW YORK

Greater New York continues, despite COVID-19 and rising crime, to fight against the blatant anti-Asian racism of discriminatory education policies that penalize Asians for being Asians. We remain in our lawsuit against the City and Department of Education for discriminatory admissions changes to the top public high schools in the city. (See *Dream Factories*, a short documentary relating to that fight: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVdQtLASnQs>). Asians, including our members and officers, were selectively physically manhandled, searched, and blocked from a public town hall meeting with the Education Chancellor, while members of other races were waved through. In response, we joined a lawsuit against the Department of Education for the violation of our rights under the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments. Even while schools were closed, we rallied. At a rally inside the City Hall Park, BLM supporters crashed our rally of public school parents, physically charging in and threatening the parents. Our parents stayed, some politicians ran.



We are supporting fights against racism in other states, such as supporting the campaign to defeat, by a huge margin as it resulted, Prop-16 in California. Prop-16 would have brought racial preferences in government contracting, hiring, and education. Once informed of the legislation that was sneaked in during the lock-

down, Californians wanted to remain united, not be divided by race. Chinese Americans were key to this effort, including brothers and



sisters in CA -- THANK YOU! We likewise are helping parents in other states including VA, NJ, MA, whose top schools are also facing changes discriminating against Asians. We joined amicus briefs against Harvard's discrimination suit against Asians.

We are supporting our community suffering waves of economic losses, from closures as well as from looting, and now suffering from the rising violent crime. We distributed PPE, joined marches with Black ministers to fight crime and support police, participated in multiple rallies against the rising crime, particularly those affecting Asians. In two days, when the thug who attacked a 65-year old Asian woman in midtown Manhattan, in broad daylight, will have his court hearing, we will rally in front of the Court to STOP CRIME AGAINST ASIANS and STOP CRIME AGAINST ALL – in our outrage against the crime against Asians, we stand in solidarity with all Americans of all races.

We have taken a stand against the toxic political ideology Critical Race Theory (CRT) in its many benign-sounding guises. CRT demands that all people be judged, rewarded or punished by their race, from

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childhood in schools, to adulthood in workplaces. It breeds anti-Asian racism. It normalizes and spreads racial discrimination, which leads both to the animus of racial scapegoating, whether in school admissions or in the current rising attacks with racist components, and to the lunatic “reforms” in policing, the Courts and vagrancy policies that exploded overt lawlessness and criminality in the streets. CRT’s unending racist struggle divides, scapegoats and attacks. We stand against that. We stand with unity and harmony, our fraternity as members of the human race. ■



OAKLAND

2020 was certainly a challenging year for Oakland Lodge. Luckily, our members are internet savvy and in April we started with monthly Zoom meetings. As our income diminished due to the closing of businesses in our building, we applied for grants for nonprofits. Unfortunately, the various systems crashed and we were unable to secure government funding. However, our members were able to secure some funding from their business partners and other institutions. These funds enabled us to work with other nonprofits to register voters, inform voters about the amendments and new laws in the city, county and state propositions, and the cause and effects. We also worked with the Chinatown Coalition and organizations within Chinatown, to provide meals to the unemployed restaurant workers, service workers and others who had lost their jobs.



CGM presentation honoring Chinese American WWII Veteran Luther Lee Jr.

Our members also assisted with the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine. Another project is the Oakland A's baseball team move to the Jack London Square waterfront, Traffic problems seem to be a big issue as many fans will use the streets to get to the stadium.

As everyone knows, our current issue is the

assault on our elderly Asian Americans. Working with our City Councilmember, Oakland Police, and the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce plus other organizations, we are supporting citizen patrols and private security company to protect the community and its citizens.



CGM presentation honoring Chinese American WWII Veteran Bing N. Yee

Our current project is awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to surviving veterans of WWII. Working with the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), we are notifying members who are in the East Bay. We have awarded several as of this writing.

Oakland Lodge is currently working with the Chinatown Chamber to form a Chinatown Business District. This will allow sidewalk cleaning, area improvement and a roving security patrol.

As 2021 continues, we hope to start having meetings at the lodge.

Respectfully Submitted

Douglas Wong ■

PORTLAND CELEBRATES 100!

On February 28th, 2021, Portland Lodge kicked off its 100th anniversary celebration with a virtual party.



Portland Lodge Charter Officers 1921

The Early Years

During the era of 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, a group of Chinese Americans founded the Portland Lodge on February 24, 1921. Lee Hing was charter president and Chuck Wing Moy was charter vice president. Grand President Leong Kow from San Francisco later chartered the lodge and installed its officers.

We immersed ourselves in the local community under the national mission of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance and teamed up with community groups for China relief.

We fought on the national stage in a campaign to obtain family reunification of wives in China with their native-born husbands. The Immigration Act of 1924 virtually shut down hopes of immigration for non-citizen women. The United States federal law prevented immigration from Asia.



Chinese American Citizens Alliance
Biennial Convention 1933

In 1933, we hosted a national convention for the first time, the 14th Biennial National Con-

vention, during the term where Walter U. Lum was Grand President. The foremost issue was immigration rights and family reunification, namely bringing Chinese wives to America.

Membership dwindled for our lodge in the time of the Depression and World War II.

Some Highlights

During the second half century, thrived with our Basketball program and other marked accomplishments.

The teams competed in the City of Portland's Parks and Recreation program for seasons over several decades. There were many teams that served boys and girls, 5th Grade to 12th Grade boys, and middle school as well as high school girls. A highlight of the season was the annual Portland Jamboree Tournament and road trips to Seattle for the Al Mar Invitational Tournament.

Recent Advocacy Efforts

Since 2012, the Portland Lodge has strove to transform a barren gravel space of old graves to the Cultural Heritage Garden at Lone Fir Cemetery. As a memorial, it will honor the Chinese sojourners in Block 14 to right the historic wrongs and actions.

In 2017, Commissioner Dan Saltzman and Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat, dedicated a bronze plaque in the heart of the city's original Chinatown. We donated the plaque to commemorate the contributions of Portland's early Chinese settlers.



Portland Bronze Plaque commemorating
early settlers 2017

We also met with lawmakers to ensure that Oregon students learn about the history and incredible contributions of Chinese Americans and communities of color whose stories seldom make it to the history books.

In 2019, we championed for Mayor Wheeler to issue a Proclamation on the 150th Anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. This recognized

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the sacrifice and contribution of the Chinese railroad workers.

In 2021, we joined other chapters to honor Chinese American WWII Veterans by presenting individual Congressional Gold Medal replicas to living veterans and next of kin of the deceased veterans. The Oregon Regional CGM Presentation Ceremony will be held on November 14th.



Fred Cheong Lee received his CGM virtually on January 8th

In December, 2020 we mourned the loss of Janet Rae Locke, who passed away at the age of 85. Janet was a beloved member of the Chinese community. She was a founding member and contributor to the Portland Chinatown History Foundation, Lan Su Chinese Garden, and the Garden of Surging Waves in Astoria, Oregon.



Janet Rae Locke

Current Programs

We sponsors an array of annual programs for the Chinese American community.

- Asian American Youth Leadership Conference - helping Asian American youth rise above the obstacles before them to achieve their potential by promoting education, instilling self-confidence, and developing leadership skills.
- Fred G. Lee & David Lee Quan Memorial Scholarships - open to qualified students of all ethnicities in Oregon



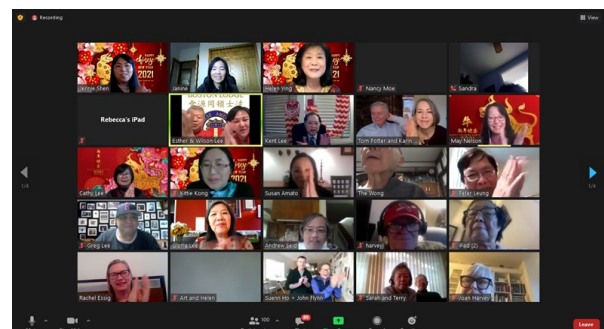
Asian American Youth Leadership Conference 2019

and Clark County, (State of Washington) high schools.

- Awards & Recognition Dinner - showcases the activities of the lodge, recognizes the many volunteers, and presents awards to the local winners of the C.A.C.A. National Essay Contest and Scholarships.
- Toy & Food Drive – with the Asian Health & Services Center, we purchase gift cards and share them as gifts for needy Asian families during the holiday season.
- 1882 Project Celebration – in 2011, the House and Senate passed resolutions expressing the regret of the Congress for the passage of discriminatory laws against the Chinese in America, including the Chinese Exclusion Act. The 1882 Project Celebration educates people about the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and its history.
- Social activities such as the Spring Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, and Holiday Party.
- Voter's Engagement - we strive to increase voter registration, voter participation, and sustained community involvement for the Asian American community.
- Annual Chinese New Year and Anniversary Celebration. This annual event brings together members, friends, and elected officials to celebrate Chinese New Year and Portland Lodge's anniversary where we showcase their accomplishments and garner support to help fund the youth and civic education programs.

Celebration

On Sunday, February 28th, Portland Lodge invited the public to kick off a yearlong celebration of its 100th Anniversary. We were joined by over 100 friends, family, and community members. Together, we traveled down memory lane to 1921 and embarked on a journey that unfolded incredible highlights, benchmarks, and milestones. We look forward to more events and celebrations in the latter half of 2021! ■



Happy 100 years with friends and family

SAN ANTONIO

2020 was an extraordinary year for San Antonio Lodge and our lodge members dutifully stepped up to meet the challenges.

The SATX Lodge began 2020 with a heavy heart as we mourned the passing of Lodge Sisters Camille Gong (Dec 25, 2019), and Kim Ng (Jan 1, 2020). Sister Rosalind Lee passed away in April 2020.

While still mourning our losses, SATX Lodge continued to prepare for the Asian Festival that was held at the Institute of Texan Cultures to coincide with the Lunar New Year. Besides being the only fundraiser for the lodge, the Asian Festival was an opportunity for our lodge to socialize with each other and to interact with other ethnic organizations.



Sister Camille Gong



Sister Kim Ng



Sister Rosalind Lee



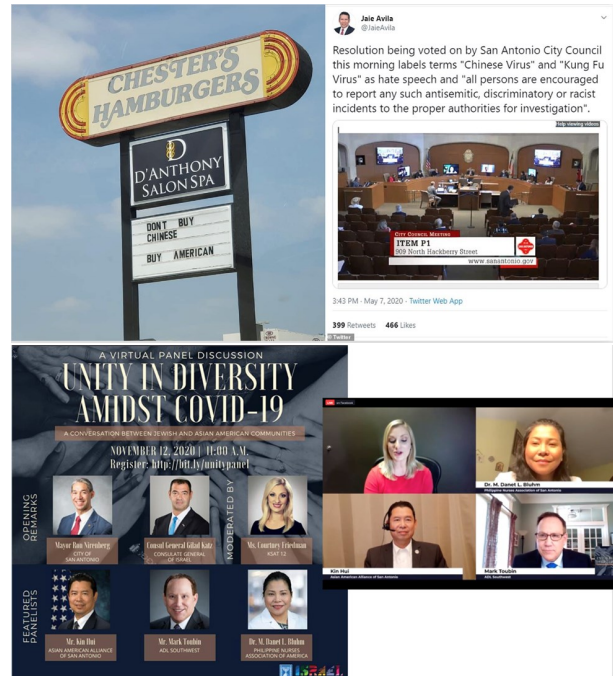
March 2020, as we began to realize the impact of COVID-19 and that sanitation supplies were not readily available; we began to assemble and distribute sanitation kits and masks for our lodge members and members of the community. We made the transition to holding our meetings via Zoom, which went fairly smoothly.

While we continued to serve our community, we also fought racism and hate. The Lodge launched a campaign against a local business to demand they remove their hateful message from their marquee. The lodge

also worked with the San Antonio City Council to pass the Anti-hate and bigotry ordinance.



Joining the Jewish community in our fight against hate and racism, the lodge participated in a panel with the Consulate General of Israel.



Continuing our tradition of honoring our veterans, the lodge placed flags at the graves of Chinese American veterans on Veterans Day.

Upon being notified in late Nov 2020 that our only WWII living veteran had Stage 4 prostate cancer, the lodge mobilized to recognize his service even prior to the CGM being officially available for presentation.

SATX Lodge finished 2020 with our 65th Annual Lodge Meeting.

While in previous years, our annual meeting would coincide with our Annual Banquet, COVID-19 forced us to hold our meeting via Zoom.



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The members of SATX Lodge thank our Sisters and Brothers from across the country for their well wishes and Lai Si.

SATX Lodge entered 2021 with Sister Christina Lew as our Lodge President. ■

SEATTLE

C.A.C.A. Seattle celebrated our 10th anniversary over Zoom, reminiscing about past events and gatherings. Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman founded the Seattle Lodge on March 26, 2011 with a small group of dedicated charter members. Over the years, we have grown in numbers and impact with our advocacy and service.

2020 was a crazy year and we pivoted to meet the challenges. It's hard to remember, but we had a few in-person gatherings before the pandemic shut-down, including holding our board retreat and attending the OCA-Seattle banquet and the Lions Club Pan-



cake Breakfast. In February, we mourned the loss of charter member Maxine Loo, only two months after her best friend of 67 years, member Marge Young, passed away.



L-R: Maxine Loo and Marge Young



By March, we were canceling and postponing events, and switched to Zoom meetings. We were all safe in our homes as we watched Anti-Asian incidents rise. Then in May, a Chinese American Seattle public school teacher was harassed at a Home Depot. The store manager did nothing. The police were called and did nothing. We wanted to hold a virtual press conference to denounce anti-Asian attacks. Then George Floyd was killed, and the subsequent protests made us rethink what we really need to do. So instead, we worked to build a coalition of social justice organizations and communities of color to unite against racism, Seattle Unite www.seattleunite.org. Over that weekend, 13 organizations signed on to our effort (now over 20). Under the leadership of Emmy award-winning journalist, member Mimi Gan, Seattle Unite developed messaging for the Census and Get Out the Vote. We recently held a speaker event "The Truth about Hate Groups and Hate Crimes" with author Lonnie Lusardo. We encourage coalition organizations to hold and share advocacy events.

C.A.C.A. Seattle signed on as a plaintiff for the Washington State Attorney General's lawsuit against the federal government for illegally proceeding to sell the National Archives building in Seattle. The National Archives building in Seattle hosts exclusive and undigitized tribal and treaty records, as well as Chinese Exclusion Act case files and records regarding the

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internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Our lodge submitted statements from two of our members, one an Archives volunteer, about the importance of locally available Chinese Exclusion files for our family histories and heritage. A federal judge blocked the sale.

Last fall, we collaborated with the Wing Luke Museum and the Northwest African American Museum to co-host a virtual screening of “Finding Samuel Lowe”, followed by a discussion with Paula Madison. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the time with Paula! In October, even though we could not hold our Annual Rice Drive in person as in the past, we raised \$2000 to sponsor one grocery delivery to low-income seniors organized by the Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority.

We watched and celebrated when the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony with Nancy Pelosi was streamed on December 9, 2020. Our regional CGM committee immediately went into high gear to develop a program to present replica medals to our five local living WWII veterans, ages 93 to 103. We proudly released the video ceremony on March 13, 2021 (check out the Chinese American Citizens Alliance YouTube channel).

Pending opening of venues to gatherings, we look forward to celebrating our 10th birthday with a gala banquet and holding a CGM event for the families of WWII veterans this fall. ■

WASHINGTON D.C.

This year has certainly been a transition year in our programming and leadership. Yilin Zhang is the new President of the DC lodge. She will be adding her character and energy to the lodge going forward. In the meantime, we have: 1) Established a collaborative with OCA to study and propose strategies to promote Asian American Studies in K-12 grades throughout the U.S. This collaborative has met monthly since March and has visibly grown in number of partners, substance of discussions, and development of teaching concepts and material. There will be a public briefing of the Collaborative’s work at the 1882 Symposium scheduled for May 17-19. 2) Coronavirus concerns prevented partnering with US Forest Service for a third heritage tour to the Summit Tunnel, but we have continued discussions on establishing an Interpretive Program on site and we supported Department of Interior funding for an archeological survey of China Camp in preparation for its nomination as a National Landmark. The final push to complete this nomination will probably rely on a return to the shoe-leather advocacy in Congress that National once did annually. 3) Screened “Legacy” and organized public educational panels three times since December 2019. We are now exploring with the Bureau of Land Management the production of a second film but focused on laborers and their daily lives working on the railroad and other industries –lumber, agriculture, mining, and so on. 4) Coordinated with AARP and Hep B Initiative a delivery of fruit baskets, PPE, and anti-bacterial lotions to a senior home in Chinatown. Donated to Church fund to provide small amounts of cash for out-of-work Chinatown restaurant workers. Contributed to OCAW effort to provide box lunches to hospitals in Fairfax



Delivering fruit baskets and PPE to Wah Luck House (During pandemic, seniors were told to stay in apartments. Staff distributed baskets to their rooms)

County. We are working with OCA/Dc and Knorr Corporation to purchase box lunches from financially stressed Chinatown restaurants. 5) Hosted a virtual presentation with Moy Family Association to present WWII Gold Medals to living veterans in DC area. We are planning for a hybrid in-person/virtual reception and oral history workshop with the Library of Congress. We want to coordinate dates with C.A.C.A. National Conference in August. 6) Initiated and organized with DC Public Library and CCBA a virtual Chinatown New Year Parade and related activities.



Recording oral histories in the office

(continued on page 14)



Recording oral stories on Street Corner



DCPL working with us on Street fair and at Talk Stories



Mass demonstrations on BLM Movement in DC



Attending rally on anti-Asian American violence after Atlanta killings

7) Joined rallies related to BLM movement and rising Anti-Asian violence. 8) We are supporting research for the DC Historical Society and 1882 Foundation on an Asian American Context Study for DC. I have guided the project team toward documenting Harrison Lee's and other C.A.C.A. leaders' (Toon and Linda Lee) contributions to shaping Chinatown. 9) Began discussions on organizing the annual mid-Autumn Moon Festival and movie-in-the-park night; and, for the first time, we are promoting an August Double Seven street festival to celebrate the end (hopefully) of COVID restrictions and to promote re-opening of Chinatown with chalk art on the street in front of the Chinatown Park and our office. ■

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!

This year, C.A.C.A. celebrates the 100th anniversary of its national headquarters! This building was the center of everyday life for members. It has a large safe, teller cages, commercial kitchen, large auditorium, and meeting rooms. The building continues to host the San Francisco lodge events and National Board meetings. A documentary has been commissioned to capture and share its history and to commemorate this milestone. Be sure to visit when you are in San Francisco!



Eddie Chin (SF Lodge) welcomes visitors to National Headquarters



1044 Stockton St. San Francisco, CA



Auditorium



Meeting room



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**NEWSLETTER OF
CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE**

National Communications Team:
Meng Ansley, Rusty Chan, Ken Eng,
Rick Eng, Cathy Lee, Jennie Shen,
Paul Wong
1044 Stockton Street
San Francisco, CA. 94108

Phone: 415-628-8015
Fax: 415-628-8015
E-mail: info@C.A.C.A.national.org
BEST viewed in full color on website

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CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE

56TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 7-14, 2021

Conducted via Zoom Video Conferencing

Registration:
http://cacanational.org/htmlPages/56th_National_Convention.html