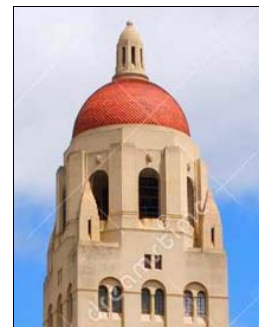




## The Year-End Issue

### Fall National Board Meeting at Stanford University

In a welcome break from meeting at our historical National Headquarters on Stockton Street, the Fall National Board convened at the Green Library on the beautiful campus of Stanford University on Saturday, September 17. Hosted by the Stanford University Libraries, our event was coordinated by Benjamin Stone, curator of American and British history, and liaison with the Alliance for the archiving project of our 100+ years of history.



Picture: Pictured (l-r): Munson A. Kwok, Suellen Cheng, Benjamin Stone, Ed Gor

Ben introduced Alliance board members to the process of receiving, capturing and archiving the thousands of documents and photographs that have been accumulated and catalogued by our Archive Committee led by National Historian Suellen Cheng. National President Ed Gor and National Historian Suellen Cheng provided members with an update on the status of remaining work and additional local lodge archives pending to be added.

A brief tour of the expanded and remodeled library was given by Ben including areas where Past National Presidents spend many a fortnight in the stacks. Among those attending included Past National Presidents Nancy Gee, Carolyn Chan and Munson Kwok, Ed Gor, Davace Chin, Helen Ying, Rusty Chan, Felicia Yu, Christina Yu, Elaine Wong, Virginia Gee, Paul Wong, Warren Seeto, Siu Wong, Fay Yao, Esther Lee, Wilson Lee and Carl Chan.

Following the meeting, National Board members visited and had dinner in nearby Mountain View with leaders of Peninsula Lodge, including Nancy Gee, Peninsula Lodge President and Mrs. Robert Chang and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wong. ■



## C.A.C.A. Member Q&A: Paul Chang

Born in Beijing, Paul immigrated to the United States when he was 5 years old and settled with his grandmother in Monterey Park, California. He became a U.S. citizen under the Immigration Reform and Control Act, and joined the U.S. Department of Labor. He was the first Chinese-American Assistant Director in the agency. Later, Paul transferred to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI). As a regional advisor at the WHIAAPI, Paul has become a leading figure in promoting AAPI representation. This Q&A with Paul was facilitated by the 2016 C.A.C.A. Summer Associates of Los Angeles Lodge.



**Q: What do advocacy groups like C.A.C.A. offer to help WHIAAPI fulfill its mission and accomplish its goals?**

A: Well the whole reason WHIAAPI is here in the first place was because there are advocacy groups that bring awareness on a broad range of issues facing the community. It can be race relations, civil rights, worker's rights, access to government, and many other things. C.A.C.A. has members all over the country and many members have extensive experiences and are leaders in their field. This makes C.A.C.A.'s opinions and advocacy so valuable. Also C.A.C.A. is intimately connected to the Chinese community as a whole and works with all generations and values the ideas of all its members.

There are very different views between members, but this diversity gives C.A.C.A. its strength to fully explore tough issues. Now WHIAAPI needs C.A.C.A. to be the eyes and ears for the community. For example when you hear that there are housing shortages in Los Angeles for low-income seniors, this is where we can find ways to solve this issue together. We can hold regular meetings with federal, state, and local agencies to address the issues.

**Q: What are major achievements during your tenure with WHIAAPI?**

A: One of my proudest works include helping AAPI business get government contracts. This also helps AAPI workers earn prevailing wage.

**Q: What do you see as major challenges for the AAPI community for the next President, whoever it may be?**

A: I think there are plenty of issues the community faces. That is why I think reauthorizing WHIAAPI as soon as possible will be great. ■

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## Mississippi: Recognition of Winners



Members of the Mississippi Lodge are a strong presence as they join forces with the MS Delta Chinese Heritage Museum at Delta State University and support projects such as the documentary, *My Life in China*; the Delta Dragon Boat Festival, and an exciting museum work day.

Pictured right, proud congratulations to Elaine Chow, (Mrs. Hong Chow) from Indianola for recently obtaining her American Citizenship! Pictured left, the Lodge also recognized Miss Walnesha Dillard, local winner of the essay contest and the scholarship provided by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kwan, in memory of Dr. Mikela D. Kwan.



Looking forward, Mr. Winston Ho from New Orleans is greatly interested in doing research on the Chinese in the Mississippi area and was a guest speaker at the October 22 meeting. These are exciting times for the Mississippi Delta Chinese, as we join hands and hearts to honor those before us and to welcome visitors from all over the world, as they come to learn about our unique heritage. ■



## Oakland: Chinese Settlement Town Visit/Voter Registration Drive

The Oakland Lodge's building is still under construction and is expected to be finished by the end of the year. In September, some lodge members organized a trip to Columbia Historic State Park in California to visit the area where the Chinese settled during the Gold Rush era and where there is now a preserved town. This trip was a bonding and educational experience. In the spirit of the election year, Oakland Lodge members continue to work closely with the Asian Voters Advisory Committee and recently held a voter registration drive on October 8 at the Annual Health and Safety Awareness Fair, an event sponsored by local organizations invested in educating and providing resources to the community in Chinatown. At the event, Oakland Lodge was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Lieutenant Alan Yu of the Oakland Police Department. ■



Members of Oakland Lodge engaged the Chinatown community at the Annual Health and Safety Awareness Fair, October 8.

## San Antonio: Voter Registration and Community Service

San Antonio Lodge completed its first ever Voter Registration Drive on October 16, 2016, and it was a great success with 81 people contacted. Of the 81, five people registered on-site and 10 others requested mail-in registrations. The event was held outside Lodge members Tim and Cathy Lim's store. Ten members volunteered and came out to make this a successful event. Two Lodge members, Kin Yan Hui and Camille Gong completed their voter registration training and are certified to register voters.

On October 2 and 9, 2016, San Antonio Lodge members volunteered to help clean up the Chinese School and Community

Center building's kitchen, open areas, and the grounds.

To honor and remember former San Antonio Lodge members who served in the military, San Antonio Lodge purchased U.S. flags to place at the headstones of our former veteran members. These flags were placed at the various cemeteries during the week of Veterans Day in November and will become an annual Lodge event. ■



Voter Registration Drive, left to right: Members Kin Yan Hui, Rachel Hui, Stella Rhodes, Camille Gong, Margaret Lew and Melvin Wong.

## Board of National Officers 2015-2017

*National President:*  
Edmond J. Gor (Houston)

*National Executive VP*  
Davace Chin (San Francisco)

*National VP-Planning*  
Melanie Chan (San Francisco)

*National VP-Membership*  
Helen Ying (Portland)

*National VP-Public & Civic Affairs*  
Ted Gong (Washington, D.C.)

*National VP-Education*  
Bob Gin (Greater San Gabriel Valley)

*National Treasurer*  
Lawrence Gu (San Francisco)

*National Secretary*  
Felicia Yu (Oakland)

*National Assistant Secretary*  
Elaine Wong (Phoenix)

*National Marshal*  
Richard Fong (Oakland)

*National Sentinel*  
Joan Sung (San Francisco)

*National Compliance Officers*  
Joanna Tom (San Francisco) William Mei (Houston)

*National Executives*  
Susan Dickson (Los Angeles) Paul Wong (Greater San Gabriel Valley)  
Albert Fong (Salinas) Faye Woo Lee (San Francisco)  
Michael Fong (Los Angeles) Rudy Yee (Phoenix)  
Warren Seeto (San Francisco) Rick Eng (Los Angeles)  
Ming Ming Tung Edelman (Seattle)

## Las Vegas: Fall Featured Moon Festival and Candidates Forum

The Las Vegas Lodge has been very active over the last few months. In September, lodge members attended the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The September 28 forum was very informative and C.A.C.A representatives had the opportunity to meet with speakers from several Government agencies.

Las Vegas Lodge celebrated the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival with the Second Moon Festival Art Contest, banquet and performances. The purpose of the art contest is to share and educate mainstream America about the second most celebrated Chinese festival. This year's theme was "The Jade Rabbit," one of the four stories related to the festival. Middle and high school students submitted about 200 art entries. The Judging Banquet was held on September 18 and attended by more than 100 guests, including school district officials, commissioners, and art judges. The Moon Festival event was held the following week where the art winners were announced and awarded cash prizes. Traditional Chinese and other Asian cultural performances were enjoyed by all.



Las Vegas – Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. Featured are M. Joseph Miller II (LV Lodge, Compliance officer), Jim Kei, (LV Lodge, Treasurer ) and Jie -Bu ( Moderator and Past President of the Las Vegas Chinese Association)

On October 14, the Las Vegas Lodge collaborated with the South Asian Political Network Alliance, South Asian Chamber of Commerce and South Asian Bar Association to host an event, "Make Your Votes Matter – Know Your Candidates." It was well attended with approximately 200 guests and attending candidates had the opportunity to meet the potential voters.

Members of the Executive Board of the Las Vegas Lodge including President Hui-Lim Ang, Compliance Officer M Joseph Miller II, Treasurer and Secretary Jim Kei and Jeanne Kei had the pleasure to meet and discuss issues with several candidates

such as Danny Tarkanian for Congress, Harmony Letizia for Justice Court Dept 3, Mary Perry for Congress, Christine DeCorte for Assembly District 18, Norm Ross for Assembly District 8, Judge Joe Hardy and Judge Eric Johnson, who are both running for re-election.

On October 16, 2016, a Presidential Election Information Sharing workshop hosted by Wechat Vegas Group, featured local Lodge Executive Board Treasurer, Mr. Jim Kei, and Charles Chang. Accompanying guests included local lodge Compliance Officer, M Joseph Miller II and member Esther Ross. ■

## Phoenix: Voter Registration and Early Ballot Drive

When Phoenix Lodge set up a table at a local Chinese restaurant in March this year selling raffle tickets to raise funds for their Scholarship Awards, it made sense to initiate a voter registration and early ballot drive at the same time. Phoenix Lodge members provided education, language assistance, and voter registration information to eligible voters, particularly the new voters. Volunteers held six voter registration drives at Lee Lee Supermarket, Great Wall Restaurant, and the Chinese Senior Center. "Many first generation immigrants encounter language and cultural barriers and do not understand the voting process," said Eva Li, Phoenix Lodge President. "We help explain the process and encourage them to sign up for early ballot so they don't have to take time off work or wait in line on election day to vote."

In November, Phoenix Lodge hosted a screening of the film, *Honor & Duty: The Mississippi Delta Chinese*. Phoenix Lodge hosted two screenings of this three-part documentary series on November 4 and 5, 2016, at two separate locations. Q&A sessions with the producers followed the screenings. ■



Roland Lau (left), Eva Li (center) with Chinese Senior Center members.



## Los Angeles: Lodge Remembers Nancy Yee



Nancy (left) and Annie together at one of the many C.A.C.A. dinners following assembly of the C.A.C.A. *Times of Southern California*.

Los Angeles Lodge announced the passing of Sis. Nancy Yee, on September 24. The deepest sympathy of the Lodge, its members and friends was extended to daughter Annie, president of the Lodge, and the Yee family. The remarkable dimensions of Nancy's life were only revealed at the Celebration of Life held October 8. The details have been well published in media. Suffice it to say that

Nancy was one of those rare people that defined the unique character of Los Angeles Chinatown for a half century. The quotes reflected the impact of her life:

*Rep. Judy Chu: "an extraordinary person"*

*Trustee Mike Eng: "thanks for great service to Monterey Park...During the English-only controversy, it was her big smile that made everyone welcome and want to come together...introduced us to rich diversity...as Commissioner Yee of Arts. She was Monterey Park's greatest ambassador."*

*Suellen Cheng (for L.A. Lodge): "we are all fans of yours!"*

*Edmond Gor (National President): "My funny, funny friend. My California Mom. We had fun; she had a great sense of hu-*

*mor. Her California story is about the Coming to America. She has my respect for dreaming big dreams, seeing and reaching them!"*

*French Stewart (star of Third Rock from the Sun): "My best girlfriend! (Nancy's role Mrs. D)...the laughter you create, that is God's purpose for you..."*

There followed clips of the "best of Nancy Yee" in advertising, TV, and cinema, displaying the brilliant deadpan comedienne she had become, fulfilling the promise of her Hong Kong theatrical training. Finally, the best thoughts:

*Annie: My Mother Nancy Yee is my hero. She was kind, smart, talented and beautiful. She introduced me to the Chinese American Citizens Alliance. She said the members are so nice once you become friends you are friends for life. She was right because many of you have become family to me. She joined C.A.C.A. which she was very dedicated to. She served on the board for many years, a BID representative and was on many committees (Assistant Secretary, Auditor, Financial Secretary, and others). She also served as a Delegate to the National convention three times. Just three months ago on our family trip up north she made it a point to visit the C.A.C.A. Headquarters in San Francisco. In the weeks before her passing we went to the Lodge monthly meeting, attended the C.A.C.A. table for the CAM fundraiser dinner, and just three days before she participated in bulletin night. She taught me how to live life, to be kind to all and try my best. I love you Mom. Thank you. ■*



## Seattle: Strong Voice in the Community



Seattle Lodge members stayed busy during the lazy days of summer. In June, Lodge Compliance Officer Julie Sun was invited to participate in a Bias and Sensitivity review of Washington State K-12 financial education standards. 2015 legislation required the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to adopt financial education standards. Julie, CPA and financial advisor, joined a committee of expert reviewers to consider the needs of all students in the state through an equity lens.

The Seattle Lodge co-sponsored a Mahjong night at the Kin-On Health Care Center mid-July. Lodge Secretary Fred Yee, Lodge National Representative Phyllis Lee, and member Greg Lee (pictured left) filled mahjong tables and played rousing games of mahjong with Kin-On senior citizens. C.A.C.A. Seattle donated funds for treats and small prizes.

In August, the *International Examiner* interviewed Lodge President Ming-Ming Tung Edelman for the C.A.C.A. response to the Ride the Duck use of Washington State's 1917 law that bars wrongful death lawsuits by non-residents. The Seattle Lodge is taking the lead on organizing against the Ride the Ducks of Seattle to repeal the statute and is collaborating with other local groups. "In the API community, this was affecting us more than 100 years ago and it's affecting us now. We need to gather the voices in our community as a strong one voice to say, this is wrong and we need to repeal this," Ming-Ming said.

Ming-Ming was a workshop presenter during the Asian Senior Concerns Foundation Annual Celebration in September which included four health related workshops, collaboration of three other community organizations that have a focus on serving Seattle-King County's Chinese community. Ming-Ming's presentation was titled "Basic Health Care and Medical Management." Over 250 individuals attended the event along with exhibits from six community organizations. C.A.C.A. Seattle also donated \$500 towards facility rental fees for the event. ■

## Washington, D.C.: Movie Night and Mid-Autumn Festival

Under a full moon and soft breezes, over 300 people laid out picnic blankets and lawn chairs in the D.C. Chinatown Park. Sounds of distant sirens and car traffic confirmed the downtown setting but it was mostly a perfect evening in the park with family picnics and a Chinese twist. People had come to enjoy the last of the city's summer movie nights. Working with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and the Chinese Community Church, D.C. Lodge promoted the event as a Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.

Lodge President Ted Gong and the Mayor's APIA Office Director David Do welcomed families and friends. They were treated with free popcorn, Asian snacks, and drinks as well as 200 moon cakes provided by the CCBA. The Alliance provided the movie—a Jackie Chan animation about the Monkey King. It also organized a crafts table to distribute paper lanterns of monkeys and horses donated by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Relations Office. Lighted bracelets and balloons were passed out to children of all ages. The balloon lady made balloon sculptures. Organizers of the D.C. Chinese Film Festival had a chance to promote their program. All in all, the event was understated joy. It reinforced the "Moon Festival: A Time for Reunion" theme and provided an opportunity for cultural exchange. D.C. Lodge printed and distributed brochures introducing the Chinese moon festival, its customs and legends.

The city's Summer Movie Night program has the objective of "taking back the parks" from homeless vagrants. In this particular park, located directly across the street from the newly planned C.A.C.A. office, these traditional activities bring neighborhood Chinese organizations together and contribute to revitalizing D.C.'s Chinatown. The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival in the park is expected to become an annual event. ■



Shirley and Mohkeed pass out lanterns and brochures on Chinese traditions, information about voter registration and C.A.C.A. at DC Mid-Autumn Moon Festival.

## Albuquerque: Dedication to Chinese Pioneers and Chinese American Film Festival



Albuquerque Lodge members led by Lodge President Siu Wong (center in red) at the dedication ceremony for the grand opening of the Imperial Building.

The plaque to the Albuquerque Chinese American pioneers was dedicated on August 29, 2016. The dedication ceremony was part of the grand opening of the Imperial Building, a \$18-million multipurpose building located on the same city block where a number of Chinese American businesses and residences in the late 1800's to early 1900's reside. Albuquerque Lodge President, Siu Wong, shared the following remarks at this ceremony:

*"On behalf of the Albuquerque Chinese American Community and the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, congratulations to David Silverman, Mayor Berry and the City Council on this beautiful Imperial Building. Not only are we celebrating this building but we are also celebrating the dedication of the plaque to the Chinese American pioneers who contributed to the founding of this great city. With some historic liberty, the Imperial Building is located on the same city block as the historic Albuquerque Chinatown in the late 1800's. This city block had a number of small businesses owned by Chinese Americans who like many other immigrants, came to US, traveled to Albuquerque, and contributed to the economic vitality of this frontier town. Albuquerque is a testament to the true diversity of people who have shaped this city. In fact, there is documentation that Chinese came to New Mexico as early as 1750, worked in all areas from agriculture, mining, railroads, and were small business owners with laundries, restaurants and stores. The 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were uneasy and volatile times for people of color including the Chinese. These Chinese American pioneers overcame social, legal and political injustices; persevered and began to live the American Dream with their children and grandchildren.*

*Lastly, I would like to thank City Council member Isaac*

*Continued on page 7*



## Albuquerque (continued from page 6)

*Benton, Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins, and David Silverman for their generous funding of this plaque which commemorates the courageous Chinese Americans who helped build and shaped Albuquerque. They are part of our great Albuquerque and American history which should not and will not be forgotten."*

The screening of *Duty and Honor: Mississippi Chinese Delta Chinese* on October 29, 2016, launched the latest project of Albuquerque Lodge: Chinese American Film Festival. Chair Paul Jew states, "The Chinese American Film Festival plans to showcase a different film every three months. The Ric Burns and Li-Shin Yu Documentary about the Chinese Exclusion Act will be among one of the films featured in the future as well as some films produced by upcoming Chinese and Chinese American filmmakers such as Ang Lee, James Feng, Tze Chun, Steven Kung, and Raymond Chu. These films are gradually changing some of the negative stereotypes about Chinese and Chinese Americans." ■

## Portland: APANO Partnership

C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge became one of five VOTE partners with the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) for a two-year civic engagement program to deliver voter organizing, training and empowerment. The first year funding for \$20,000 enabled Portland Lodge to hire Randy Choy, a former C.A.C.A. board member to be project manager for the first phase which ends December 2016.



Gloria Lee, who volunteered her time, and Randy have organized and attended over 50 events since July to promote civic participation and engagement. To date, they have registered 227 new voters at tabling events (pictured). Organizers experienced the impact of the Chinese Exclusion Act as registering voters requires a relationship of trust and extensive education. Portland Lodge signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the Japanese American Citizens League Portland, the Lee Family Association, and the Portland Arts and Culture Center to help implement this work. The first ballot and candidate discussion was held on October 23 and on November 6, Portland Lodge hosted a buffet dinner for citizens who wish to learn how to fill out their ballots. Translators were on-site and a non-partisan voter's ballot supplement is being translated into traditional Chinese to assist those citizens whose preferred written language is Chinese.

*Continued on page 8*

## Greater San Gabriel Valley: Past President Paul Wong Shares Asian Adventures

Brother Paul Wong, now a National Executive, is an avid hiker, camper, and adventurer to "almost" every corner of the world. Since his retirement last year from a County Executive post, he has done a lot of travels, oftentimes by himself. Not very long ago, Paul came back from his "tours of duty" in Asia, and shared his adventures in a photo PowerPoint presentation, titled "From West-Tibet Himalayas Base Camp to East of China" in Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library, July 17. On that day, more than 60 people showed up, including many brothers and sisters from the GSGV and Los Angeles Lodges.

This gave tremendous exposure to the general public about the sponsorship roles played by the C.A.C.A. Brother Paul gave a detailed account of the processes he had to go through to get permission to enter Tibet, which is useful information for U.S. citizens visiting that area. He took beautiful pictures of people, animals, cities and countryside along his route through Tibet that finally ends at the Himalayas base-camp. Afterwards, he went east and stopped at a rural town in the southern part of China to find his family roots.

By coincidence and by memory, after a little searching, he ran into distant relatives there who were so elated to see him. Needless to say, he had a most delightful family reunion there. The response from the audience was extremely positive and very enthusiastic judging by the number of questions, as Paul has so many useful tips to give out. Brother Paul, many thanks for this interesting and educational presentation, and we simply can't wait for your next adventure! ■



Members of Greater San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles lodges join to hear former GSGV Lodge President Paul Wong (back row, second from right) speak about his recent travel adventures in Asia.

## Houston: Miss Chinatown Houston Scholarship Pageant

Since 1971, C.A.C.A. Houston Lodge takes pride in hosting the Miss Chinatown Houston Scholarship Pageant. The strategy is to encourage young, strong, and intelligent Chinese-American women to develop their interpersonal skills, enhance their talents, and achieve their goals through higher education and community involvement. Beauty and brains reign at Miss Chinatown Houston Pageant. To this day, this pageant continues to be one of the major Gala events in the Houston community.

On July 4, 2016, Miss Chinatown Houston candidates participated in the Chinese American Relief Effort (C.A.R.E.) event. All proceeds will be used to purchase a year of school supplies for all students enrolled in Park Place Elementary School.

At the 62nd Annual Celebration Dinner of the Houston Lodge, President Shelley Ding thanked key members of the community for their continued support:

*"During the past 62 years, Houston lodge has had so much giving to the Community and this country. We share the beauty of our culture, the pride of our people, the richness of our traditions, and most importantly, the opportunities to achieve our dreams. Tonight, C.A.C.A. is so fortunate to have your continued support! We have a very special keynote speaker: Commissioner Sidney Miller and his wife Debra. Mr. Miller has many successful stories as farmer, rancher, educator, and Commissioner. C.A.C.A. is honoring Director General Louis Huang and other Directors of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Houston. We really appreciate their remarkable contribution to the Community."* ■



The 2016 Miss Chinatown Houston Scholarship Pageant held July 4, 2016.

## Portland (continued from page 7)

### Chinese American History and Contribution in Oregon Curriculum

Portland Lodge embarked on the journey to include the Chinese American history and contribution in the social sciences curriculum in 2013 at a meeting with State Senator Mark Hass. That meeting led to a presentation to the



Meeting with Dr. Salam Noor and team in June 2016

Oregon Senate Committee on Education & Workforce Development on January 16, 2014. The Lodge also met with State Senator Arnie Roblan on couple of occasions. Momentum on this work continued with a brief meeting last December with the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) Deputy Superintendent Salam Noor that resulted in a productive meeting in June with Dr. Noor and his team. At that meeting, Dr. Noor invited Portland Lodge to participate in a Social Sciences Summit hosted by the ODE in July 2016. Portland Lodge team members were able to speak up about Chinese American history and contribution in the Oregon Social Sciences curriculum and more specifically the U.S. history curriculum. Moving forward, Helen Ying met with Dr. Noor and State Senator Jackie Winters on September 6 regarding a legislative concept for funding dedicated toward: 1) Curriculum development - a curriculum that accurately and comprehensively tell the history and contribution of all Oregonians including all communities and 2) In-service training and professional development for teachers and pre-service for teacher. The Legislative Concept has been submitted through Senator Arnie Roblan's office and Senator Mark Hass has agreed to be a champion. ■



Below left: At the 62nd Annual Celebration Dinner for Houston Lodge, C.A.C.A. National President Ed Gor (front left) joins Scholarship Pageant recipients, sponsors and VIPs.



## Boston: This is 2016

Edwin M. Lee is the Mayor of San Francisco; Michelle Wu is the President of the Boston City Council; C.A.C.A. Boston Lodge Charter Vice President Nina Liang is the new Quincy City Councilor At Large; Susan Lee is the Maryland State Senator; Theresa Mah is the newly elected Illinois State Representative; Allan Fung is the three term Mayor of Cranston, Rhode Island, William Tong is the five term Connecticut State Representative, Tony Hwang is the Connecticut State Senator, Fung, Tong and Hwang have a very small Asian American population in their city and districts; John Chiang is the California State Treasurer, Betty Yee is the California State Controller, Ed Chau, David Chau, Kansen Chu, Evan Low and Philip Y. Ting are all members of the California State Assembly; Judy Chu, Ted Lieu and Grace Meng navigate the halls of Congress to serve their constituents. From sea to shinning sea, Chinese Americans are increasing becoming more and more politically astute and empowered.

We are not just changing the political landscape and shaping the policies at City Halls, State Houses and Capital Hill, we are the architects, builders and developers changing and shaping the American skylines. We are not just students at Ivy League and top tier colleges and universities; we are the professors and administrators at these institutions. We are the engineers and executives of fortune 500 companies; we are the Board Chairs, the CEOs, COOs, CFOs, CTOs and investment bankers behind the fastest growing companies and high tech start-ups.

There is no question we have achieved much success in the past 165 years, but those accomplishments are limited to specific sectors like education, hospitality, medical, scientific research and technology. Even in those industry where there is a strong Chinese American presence, there still exists a bamboo ceiling keeping us down. For every inspiring Chinese American success story there are hundreds that contradicted the myth of the model minority. Chinese and Asian Americans are often the butt of jokes, racial slurs, and negative stereotypes. We are often perceived as weak, silent and easy targets for robberies, burglaries, assaults and batteries.

All of us were shocked by Chris Rock using three young Asian children wearing tuxes and bow ties carrying tiny briefcases as prop for his appalling joke during the 2016 Oscar Award in February. On October 3, 2016, the *O'Reilly Factor* aired a segment of Jesse Watters perpetuating 19<sup>th</sup> Century negative stereotypes on Chinatown residents and visitors in New York City. On October 9, 2016, a well dressed woman on the Upper East Side yelled at the Luo family "Go back to China...go back to your f\_\_\_ing country." Michael Luo is Harvard University educated New York Times editor, born and raised in the U.S.

Two years ago, Keenon Daequan Ray Jackson, aka rapper YG, produced the music video "Meet The Flockers". The first two lines of the lyrics encourage the home invasions of Chinese Americans. "First, you find a house and scope it out, Find a Chinese neighborhood, cause they don't believe in bank accounts". This extremely racist video incites and perpetuates racial stereotypes, horrendous violence and despicable crime against Chinese Americans. Even though we cannot directly attribute the rise in robberies and burglaries to YG's song, we have witnessed a noticeable increase in crimes against Chinese Americans families and business especially in Philadelphia, New York City and Sacramento.



It is against this backdrop of perpetual discrimination, racial stereotypes, hate crimes, injustices and inequality, that C.A.C.A. Boston Lodge organized the protest demonstration against YG when we learned that he was performing in Boston on October 19, 2016. C.A.C.A. Boston Lodge condemns the cultural form of violence represented by the music video "Meet the Flockers." The lyrics and video blatantly glorifies home invasions on American families.

Over 100 Chinese Americans, business owners and community leaders gathered across the street from the House of Blues before YG's concert to send a clear, strong and united message that his song "Meet The Flockers" promotes racism, violent, crime and has no place in society. Our protest was co-sponsored by the newly charter Chinese American Citizen Rights Alliance of Quincy. Leaders from the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA-NE), the Chinatown Lions Club, Goon, Lee, Leung, Moy, Ng, Wong, Yee Family Associations also joined in denouncing YG. We demanded an apology, cease and desist performing the song and video.

Following the success of our YG protest, C.A.C.A. Boston will commence "Operation Fox Hunt" to protest the *O'Reilly Factor* and Jesse Watters' racial stereotypes of Chinese Americans at the Boston area Fox TV Station in November. ■

## President's Message: And What A Wild Election It Was

The Election of 2016 generated determined passion, endless suspense and monumental surprise. To make an assessment of the results of our National and local elections on November 8<sup>th</sup> would be presuming too much of what I think I know, but rather just allow the results to speak for themselves because enough of our fellow Americans have spoken through the Constitutional right to vote. It means we congratulate those who win and pat those on the back who didn't succeed for running their race. That's how a civil democratic society is supposed to acknowledge and accept the will of all the people who voiced their vote.

I sought some guidance from our Nation's first President, George Washington, who penned 110 "Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior" that he learned as a teen. A friend gave me a copy, probably thinking I needed it and he was right! It may not be the norm today to be civil and respectful especially where on social media you can say, depict and infer almost anything you want with no accountability. And as I've had the privilege of leading this 121-year-old organization for 3+ years now, I decided our fundamental approach for interactions as Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) would also reflect that same civility and respect for others, especially those we don't agree with.

In the spirit of hope and cooperation, we, as Chinese American Citizens Alliance, congratulate President-Elect Donald J. Trump and wish him and Vice-President-Elect Mike Pence much success in continuing our nation's place as the greatest country on earth. As with every new administration at every level of government, C.A.C.A. must not only find areas of common ground consistent with our principles and objectives, but also challenge any proposals that would set back our hard fought gains in civil rights and equal opportunities for our communities.

The new Cabinet and administration will also include two Asian-American women, Secretary of Transportation Nominee Elaine Chao and United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley. As this is certainly a move to be highly applauded with anticipation for similar nominations, the Alliance has advocated for the nomination of an Asian American jurist to the nation's highest Court if not to fill the vacancy created by the passing of U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonin Scalia, but to fill possible upcoming retirements.

As each election cycle approaches and passes, the Alliance is greatly heartened and enthused by the number of qualified Asian Americans who have entered the political arena at all levels and achieved success in their races. Not only are Asian Americans the fastest growing ethnic group, but they are also rising quickly in political and civic engagement. Among those who are C.A.C.A. members or friends to be congratulated for their reelection to the U.S. House of Representatives were Judy Chu and Ted Lieu of California and Grace Meng of New York, while the Senate will welcome newly elected Kamala Harris from California and Tammy Duckworth from Illinois.

Another Los Angeles Lodge member successfully won his seat in the California State Assembly was Ed Chau, the ardent sponsor of the bill passed to educate K-12 in California about the Transcontinental Railroad workers and the Chinese Exclusion Act. Chicago Lodge was counted on to help Theresa Mah become the first Chinese American elected to the Illinois State Legislature. The Alliance congratulates each for their victory!

On a somber note, long-time friend, supporter and advocate for all APIA communities, Congressman Mike Honda was not able to overcome the significant lead of his opponent. Mike was surely a loyal friend of C.A.C.A. over the years and guided several of our efforts on the Hill. His experience and wisdom will be missed. ■



C.A.C.A. National President Ed Gor



## Special Report National: Photo Collection Project



In 2015 The National Board began actively searching for an institution that would preserve and house the artifacts from the National Lodge in San Francisco. This effort, spear-headed by National Historian Suellen Cheng, resulted in an agreement with Stanford University. Some of the artifacts to be transferred are photos. Photos within the collection in San Francisco are either of members on their membership applications or of official events, especially conventions.

To expand the efforts to save C.A.C.A. history, the National Board plans to begin a nationwide photo collection project in an effort to increase the understanding of our collective history. Lodge members throughout the United States will be encouraged to search through their own photos of local lodge events and activities. Throughout the years different lodges have worked within their communities on a wide variety of activities: celebrations, participation in local politics, activities for youth, community involvement, and preservation efforts. Since photos contain the story of our organization, they are an important resource.

To prepare for a nationwide launch of the C.A.C.A. Photo Collection Project, the Los Angeles Lodge held a “Photo Day” this past August to refine the acquisition and digitations procedures. The first step was requesting photos in the local newsletter and recruiting volunteers. On “Photo Day” at L.A. Lodge, participants



Photographic treasures: examples of two valued photos “uncovered” during Scanning Day at Los Angeles Lodge. At top is the 1927 National Convention in Boston. Bottom: the 8th National Convention in San Diego in 1918.

completed identifying information about each historic photo before they were scanned. Afterwards the photos were returned to participants.

The nationwide launch in 2017 will begin with the oldest lodges: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, and Portland. Members will be encouraged to search through their own photos to share. The photo collection process is labor-intensive, but essential to preserving images for future generations. Remember, some local events have been memorialized by only one person, so the outreach to the membership should be extensive. Suellen Cheng and National Executive Susan Dickson will advise lodges on setting up their own “Scanning Day” and provide useful tips on collection and scanning procedures.

Historic photos from initial collection efforts will be showcased at the National Convention In Chicago in 2017. Some will be shown on the national website. However, ultimately the digitized images will be deposited with the C.A.C.A. archival collection at Stanford University where they will be available for research purposes. ■



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**NEWSLETTER OF CHINESE  
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## CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE 54<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

**AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2017**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

### Registration Information

Registration begins January 1, 2017  
\$400 – Early Bird Registration (January 1 - March 31)  
\$450 – Regular Registration (April 1 - June 30)  
\$500 – Late Registration (after June 30)  
Additional information and registration: [www.cacanational.org](http://www.cacanational.org)

### Accommodation and Conference Information

Chicago South Loop Hotel  
11 W. 26th Street, Chicago, Illinois  
Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel  
Telephone: (312) 225-7000  
Ask for the "C.A.C.A. 2017" rate (\$113 per night, plus taxes and fees)  
Rate valid August 29 – September 4, 2017

