

Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge

The Piazza - September - October, 2019

http://www.cacagreatersangabrielvalley.org

Vol. 1, Issue 5

GSGV Lodge Elects its 2020 Board of Officers and Associates

On the November 4 Lodge meeting, after previous deliberations of the Election Committee led by Brother John Wong, the Board of Officers and Associates were voted in by members present. Except for the presideent and vice-president, several changes were made to accommodate evolving availability to serve and to promote able members who had been waiting in the wings. The list of 2020 Board Officers are as follows:

President: Sharon M. Wong Sam W. Gee Vice President: Secretary: Dean Ng Assistant Secretary: Alice Mah Treasurer: Jason Dhing Hollie Luong Financial Secretary: Compliance Officer **Shirley Hwong Compliance Officer** Mary Wong Marshall: Margaret Leung Scott Kwong Sentinel: Collector: Valerie Lee National Representative: John Y. Wong

The slate of elected 2020 Board Associates are: Alex Ly, Jessica Hong Mei, Angela Lai, Craig Miller, David Lau, Pek Chan, Peter Yao, Nancy Quon, Hungzhe Zhao, and Qiang Bjornbak.

These officers and associates will assume their duties in the January 13 Lodge meeting, after being sworn in.

Dr. Russell Low Tells a Remarkable Story of Great Grandmother Ah Ying in the Book "Three Coins"

The Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge along with the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library hosted a presentation featuring Dr. Russell N. Low and his book, entitled "Three Coins". The event was held on November 3, 2019. Reference Senior Librarian Deborah Niblick opened the program by introducing Sister Sharon Wong as the President of C.A.C.A. GSGV Lodge.

Sister Sharon had the pleasure to introduce the speaker, Dr. Russell N. Low. Dr. Low is a radiologist practicing



From Left: John Wong, Margaret Leung, Sam Gee, Speaker Dr. Russell Low, President Sharon Wong, and Shirley Hwong.

in San Diego. He did his undergraduate degree at UCSB, his D.D.S. at UCLA, M.D. at UCSD and his Fellowship in Radiology at UCSF Medical School Dr. Low is a great grandson of a Transcontinental Railroad worker and a child slave Ah Ying. He shared with us the history of his family, his great grandparents showing toughness, determination, bravery and tenacity to overcome enormous challenges to eventually raise a successful family in a once alien land. Dr. Low brought us through his storyline on how he began to compile the family history to write his book, entitled "Three Coins", in which the story is told through the experience of his Great Grandmother, Ah Ying.

The presentation was well attended by our Lodge members and the public. The refreshments were arranged by Sister Shirley Hwong. Many thanks to Sister Shirley, and Brothers Sam Gee and John Wong who helped set up the refreshments. [by Sharon Wong]

GSGVL Members Attended LA Lodge's 107th Anniversary Dinner and Fundraiser

Led by President Sharon Wong, GSGV Lodge had a table at Los Angeles Lodge's 107th Anniversary Dinner and Fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 1 at Ocean Seafood Restaurant in LA Chinatown. The main theme of this event, with C.A.C.A. Los Angeles Community Action being a joint host, is honoring Chinese American Veterans of World War II who have been C.A.C.A. members and have called Southern California their home. In addition, the event saluted the men and women who currently serve in our Nation's Armed Forces. Congresswoman Judy Chu was the guest of honor who

presented Certificates of Appreciation to these veterans being honored and to their offspring.



Seated from left: Winston Wu (LA), John and Sharon Wong, Judi Wong, Shirley Ng; Standing from left: Pedro Chan (LA), Jessica Mei, Pek Chan, Bob and Diane Gin, and Dean Ng.



Diane Gin and Gary Lok receiving Certificate from Judy Chu for Leung Certificate from Judy Chu for K. Lok's service.



Judi Wong receiving Fook D. Tuey's service.

City of Arcadia Recognizes John Wong's Effort in **Helping Pass the CAWWIIVCGM Act**

Earlier this year, on July 16, 2019, the City Council of Arcadia passed, approved and adopted Resolution #7270, commemorating Senate Bill S.1050, the Chinese-American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act, which was signed into law on Dec. 20, 2018 by the President. During the Council meeting on Nov. 5, Brother John Y. Wong appeared in front of the Council and was presented with the Mayor's Certificate of Recognition "In appreciation of your efforts in helping to pass the Chinese-American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act." Kudos to John for his major contribution in the passing of the Act!

GSGV Lodge Welcomes Two New Members!

On the Nov. 4 Lodge meeting, two new members were inducted into the Lodge. Yvonne Yiu is a resident of Monterey Park, and is a highly accomplished business woman in the investment brokerage field, and also a community activist serving on the Monterey Park



General Plan Advisory Committee, Board of Directors of Greater MP Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Directors of Boys and Girls Club of West San Gabriel Valley. Her husband, Dr. Albert Young, went to the same high school in Hong Kong as Bro. Charles Mau.

Judi Wong is a retired business woman in the fashion industry. Her clothing line was Only Made in America. Judi and Bro. John Wong went to the same high school.



From left: Lodge Secretary Margaret Leung, Judi Wong, Yvonne Yiu and President Sharon Wong.

Our new member Yvonne Yiu is a candidate running for Councilmember in Monterey Park District 2. On the same evening, Past President Bob Gin disclosed his candidacy for MP Councilmember in the same district.

Lodge members also voted to donate \$500 to the "American Heroes" Rose Parade Float, organized by Chinese American Heritage Foundation. Private donations from members are encouraged: visit https://www.paypal.me/CAHF. For volunteering, please visit: https://bit.ly/2P6U3mb.

Our annual Holidays dinner/party will be on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, at La Vie French Restaurant, Rosemead, CA. See flyer for details.

Editor's Note: The present issue of the Piazza is late due to the Editor being overseas for three weeks from October 22 to November 12. The next issue will be ontime. Happy Thanksgiving and Holidays!!



Invitation to C.A.C.A. –Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge 2019 Holidays Dinner Party

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2019 6:30 PM sharp

Place: La Vie French Restaurant

2547 San Gabriel Blvd., Rosemead, CA

Cost: \$65.00 per person

Dinner Menu: Prime Rib **Desert Choice:**

Rack of Lamb

Chilean Sea Bass

Duck a la Orange Desert off the Menu

½ order of Souffle

Gift exchange (\$20.00—optional)

Feel free to bring your vintage collection of wine/champagne to the Gala.

Members of all C.A.C.A. lodges: Invite your Loved Ones, relatives and friends to come spend a fun-filled evening with us, with good food/wine and friendship.

Reserve your seats ASAP, as we are sold out every year.

To reserve your seats, please contact (before Nov. 30):

Sharon Wong, smonicaw12@gmail.com 323 719-3287