

# E-Newsletter of the Organization of Chinese American Women

April 2017



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*(from Linda Devine, Editor)*

This e-newsletter is a special one. Along with regular news of chapter events and other articles, this issue contains extensive coverage of the OCAW 40th Anniversary National Conference and Reunion, held earlier this month in Washington, D.C. and McLean, Virginia. In reply to my request for members to submit conference-related material to me, I appreciated the great response I received in the form of comments, reflections, and photos. Thus this is our longest issue to date, topping out at 60 pages.

If you have some thoughts, information, and pictures concerning the anniversary celebration but did not have a chance to send these to me for this issue, please feel free to send me your material for the next issue. A heartfelt thank-you to all who participated in this wonderful event; your presence made it the success that it was!

I am very grateful, as always, to those who submitted material for the e-newsletter, and to my husband Ed for his photo preparation work. I also continue to encourage OCAW members to write articles for the publication if there is something you think would be of interest to the membership.

Please feel free to send me any suggestions or recommendations that you might have for any aspects of the e-newsletter. My email address is: [devinefive@comcast.net](mailto:devinefive@comcast.net).

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## **OCAW 40th Anniversary Celebration: Message from the President**

*(from Christina Chang, National President)*

Now our 40th Anniversary Conference is no longer, yet our bond and sisterhood grows even stronger. I was thrilled and humbled to see everyone come from all six chapters. I thank you for joining the conference and dinner celebration and making it the success it was. If I could do it over again, I would have gone to every table to toast each and every one of you. It was you who made our conference and celebration so extraordinarily special.

We had excellent speakers during the conference, especially in the first section which had an introduction by each attendee. I learned so much from so many. I especially appreciated the courage shown by those who spoke for the first time in public. I say, "Thank you."

As the conference progressed, so did the more serious presentations that were no less enjoyable. And best of all, we did not have to go outside of OCAW for our VIPs (Very Inspiring People).

Our own Echo Zhang brought food for thought about long-term care, and her company Morgan Stanley provided food for our tummies. Daphne Kwok with AARP presented the documentary "Caregiving: The Circle of Love," and Veronica Li reminded us with her book Confucius Says to take care of ourselves as well. Jane Pan brought us an important message about Hepatitis B and also gifts for our supportive husbands. Dr. Margaret Lee shared her journey in medicine with us. Dr. Lihua Zhang shared Chinese secrets to keep us healthy. Only Martin Gold came from the "outside" to explain the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, a part of Chinese American history. Then last but not least, co-founder of OCAW, Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, touched our hearts with her presence and inspired us with her words. She came and was with us despite injury and discomfort.

We were fortunate to have U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao be our keynote speaker at the 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner. She shared a little bit about her father's story and his book. She brought a book for each of our chapters.

Pauline Tsui, OCAW's other co-founder, was not able to be with us, but she was certainly not forgotten. She was remembered by many of our presenters. The seeds our co-founders planted 40 years ago have germinated and blossomed. The legacy of OCAW lives on.

Our program book was a work of art and dedication. We appreciate Linda Devine's attention to detail and dedication to making us all look good.

"Thank you" to Donna Byler who accepted and appreciated every thought, idea, and suggestion from our 40th Anniversary committee members and who guided us almost silently to where we wanted to go. Monica Shia arranged the anthuriums from the Kohala Hawaii Chapter, and Julia Chen stopped packing for her European vacation and came to lead us in a little exercise. And special thanks to Cathy Roberts, Maria Yang, Susan Young, and Chi-Hua Yang who were our eyes and hands locally, who saw what needed to be done and did it quietly and efficiently. And I must mention our special friends from Indianapolis and San Francisco who saw with fresh eyes things that added those indescribable touches that helped make the conference run more smoothly, made participants more comfortable, and made the conference and celebration the success that we enjoyed.

Our sister members are already talking about "next time" or just "getting together" in New Orleans,

California, and Hawaii. We have many new members who have joined us at this time. We welcome you and look forward to our next sisterhood reunion.

Christina Chang  
National President

**OCAW 40th Anniversary Celebration:**  
**Message from the Anniversary Committee Chairperson**

*(from Donna Byler, Executive Director and 40th Anniversary Committee Chairperson)*

In a word, two words, three or four, what comes to mind when I think of our 40th Anniversary Conference?

Inspiring  
Thank You  
Because of You  
The Best We Could

One simply had to have been there.

If you're saying, "I should have gone," yes, you absolutely should have come. The positive energy was absolutely contagious.

Sister members came from across the nation and across the Pacific, and each and every one made the difference as we introduced ourselves and truly accepted and appreciated each other. The somebodies, the nobodies, the new, the old, the young, the seasoned, those who came thirsting for knowledge, and our sages who graciously shared what they've done and learned. It altogether contributed to a "Je ne sais quoi" ('I don't know what'), but we all felt it. It was simple, it was fantastic. It left us wanting more and looking forward to joining together again. This is for real... we have tentative dates and places.

It all began with a single focus. Everyone did what they could, from where they were, with what they had. Who knew that Tina Sung and Dr. Margaret Lee would highlight that very concept during their inspiring presentations.

Co-founder Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch asked, "Have we done enough?" and "What do we need to do?" She encouraged us to take a risk.

And as providence would have it, Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao's schedule opened up so she could join us at our celebration to share with us the secret to success. "Be optimistic, work hard, and never give up."

Think positively, work hard, and never give up. Take a risk.... Do what you can, from where you are, with what you have.

And that's exactly what we did. Who knew that it would all come together so perfectly.

Inspired?  
You bet we are.

See you next time!

## **A Report on the OCAW 40th Anniversary Celebration: National Conference and Reunion**

*(from Linda Devine)*

The 40th Anniversary of the Organization of Chinese American Women was celebrated in grand style with a National Conference and Reunion in Washington, D.C., and McLean, Virginia, from Friday, March 31, through Sunday, April 2, 2017. The three days were replete with nonstop activities, and by all accounts, the celebration was a huge success! Members from all six OCAW chapters came to participate, and they enjoyed all of the events as well as meeting one another and getting to know their fellow ‘sisters.’

### **The Idea is Born**

In 2015, when Christina Chang, OCAW National President, was in California, she had the pleasure of meeting and being graciously hosted by members of the Silicon Valley Chapter. At that time, SVC members expressed an interest in seeing the famous cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C., and they asked if it would be possible to have a national OCAW conference there. When we looked at the calendar, we realized that 2017 would mark the 40th anniversary of the organization, and thus was born the idea of holding such a milestone conference.

Donna Byler, OCAW’s Executive Director, had much enthusiasm for this idea, and she bravely stepped up to become the conference committee chairperson. She and Christina formed an anniversary committee consisting of a few members of the national board, along with two representatives from each of the six chapters. Conference calls were regularly scheduled beginning in July of 2016, and plans began to be discussed. Kudos to out-of-town committee members such as Carol Yuan, Sophia Yang, Pat Ellzey, Puanani Woo, and Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, who faithfully called in to our planning meetings along with local committee members. And thank you to each and every committee member who advanced an idea or suggestion for the conference. There was a lot of great input.

But once the basic outline of the three-day event was hashed out, it was up to individuals to transform these ideas into reality. Christina did the lion’s share of the work for the conference, but also Virginia and Maryland Chapter members were the “boots on the ground,” and principally Cathy Roberts, Maria Yang, Susan Young, and Linda Devine worked alongside Christina to hammer out the details. These included comprehensive arrangements involving the conference center, the hotels, all meals, the welcome reception, the venue set-up, the guided tours, the sightseeing tour, the conference program, sponsorships, and publicity and media. In addition, Chi-Hua Yang and Camilla Ng volunteered to take on arrangements for audio-visual coordination and the Mini Bookstore, respectively, and other tasks.

### **The Celebration**

Excitement began to build as the much-anticipated three-day weekend approached. One by one, participants made their way to Washington, D.C. New Orleans Chapter President Patricia Hew Ellzey coordinated and led the 12-person New Orleans delegation, and Silicon Valley Chapter President Carol Yuan organized and headed the 9-person SVC delegation. President Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, Rena Young Ochse, and Dr. Margaret Lee represented the Hawaii Chapter, and Advisor Puanani Woo represented the Kohala Hawaii Chapter. We were thrilled that so many members from out of town were attending the conference, in addition to many Virginia and Maryland Chapter members. Attendees from afar stayed at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, both in Tysons Corner, Virginia, as well as the Chang and Roberts residences and elsewhere.

### **Friday Guided Tours**

Friday morning, March 31, 2017, was rainy, but the intermittent precipitation did not dampen the spirits of the attendees. In the morning, members of the Maryland, Virginia, New Orleans, and Hawaii Chapters congregated in the office of Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-VA) for a tour of the U.S. Capitol, nicely offered by her office.



*(left)* Outside of Congresswoman Barbara Comstock's office, awaiting our tour of the U.S. Capitol

*(below)* In the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center

*(Photos courtesy of Mayling Hew)*

Under staff member Henry Altman's direction, a wonderful tour was led by Johnny Cerisano, ably assisted by Skye Jannery-Barney. Johnny was gracious and informative, regaling our large group with many interesting tidbits of history as we walked through the historic building.



Marymay Wong (NO), Mayling Hew (NO), Pam Wong (MD), Pat Ellzey (NO),  
Rena Young Ochse (HI), Jeanette Hew (NO), and Linda Devine (MD)

BARBARA COMSTOCK  
10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA



COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION &  
INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE &  
TECHNOLOGY  
CHAIRWOMAN, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2017

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to extend my warm greetings to those who are attending the 40th Anniversary National Conference of the Organization of Chinese American Women. I take great pride knowing that Chinese American women from all over the nation and our region will gather for this celebration on April 1, 2017 in Northern Virginia.

For forty years, the OCAW has fostered the participation of Chinese American women and Asian American Pacific Islanders in positions of leadership and civic responsibility across the country.

The United States has a long tradition of immigrants bringing their own cultures with them, and today we are enriched and strengthened by the variety of cultures that comprise our unique national cultural heritage. I value having a close relationship with many Chinese Americans I represent in the Tenth District.

Again, I wish to welcome all those participating in this important 40th Anniversary National Conference and to express hope that your time together will be highly productive and meaningful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Comstock".

Barbara Comstock  
Member of Congress

Concurrent with the U.S. Capitol tour, Silicon Valley members were being treated to a tour of Twin Oaks, the lovely estate of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the U.S. After that, they moved on to The White House, which they were able to tour through the courtesy of Congressman Gerry Connolly's (D-VA) office. They were impressed by the beauty of the famous state rooms.

Meanwhile, at the conclusion of the U.S. Capitol tour, it was then onto the next stop, Twin Oaks. Articulate and lovely Daisy Wang gave us an enlightening tour of the estate, and we marveled at the well-appointed rooms, including the dining room whose hallmark was an original Tiffany chandelier.

After Twin Oaks, stop number 3 for the participants was a tour of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, a large, beautiful building designed by I.M. Pei and completed in 2008. At this point, Silicon Valley members rejoined our main group. The spacious, stately rooms contained impressive art works, paintings, and calligraphy, and these were finely described by Ms. Wycee Liu, who led the English-speaking tour, and by Mr. Yongxin Wu, who led the Chinese-speaking tour. Ms. Yu Hong, Counselor of the PRC, and her staff oversaw our tours, and we are grateful to them for allowing us so much time to enjoy the Embassy's offerings. Also for the whole day, carpool drivers Steve Chang, Glen Schwartz, Norman Way, Donna Byler, and Kitty Dana provided welcome transportation.

### **Welcome Reception**

With a full day of touring accomplished, we headed to McLean, Virginia, and the spectacular, new Tysons Silverline Center, home of our conference, for a Welcome Reception. Attendees from the different chapters happily met and greeted one another. A delicious dinner was provided by Maria Yang and Anthony Chang, as well as Christina Chang and Yu Mei Lee who contributed homemade dishes.

### **The National Conference**

On Saturday, April 1, about 70 conference participants came to the Tysons Silverline Center to convene for the day. While Cathy Roberts was busy overseeing Registration with helpful assistance from Camilla Ng, participants enjoyed a continental breakfast that had been organized and prepared by Cathy. Attendees had been given conference bags beautifully designed by Silicon Valley Chapter member Candice Huang, which contained educational literature and other items from AARP and the Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, D.C. These bags were supplemented later by gifts of beautiful notecards and envelopes courtesy of artist Ming Hui Bon Hua and Muriel Hom, as well as colorfully decorated little bags of dried shrimp, a thoughtful gift from the New Orleans Chapter, whose members wanted to bring a taste of New Orleans to D.C.! While partaking of breakfast, participants could admire the attractively set-up conference rooms, including some new chapter banners designed by Maria Yang, and spectacularly beautiful anthuriums, a lovely gift from the Kohala Hawaii Chapter, and arranged by floral designer Monica Shia. The Silicon Valley Chapter offered an informative display by Sophia Yang as well, and attendees could peruse SVC's program booklet detailing their very successful 30th anniversary celebration held last summer.

With the excitement of attendees enjoying one another's company, it was difficult for Linda Devine, the day's moderator, to break up the happy atmosphere, but onto the conference we had to go, as we had a jam-packed day ahead of us. Linda welcomed the assembled group and introduced Christina Chang and Donna Byler for their welcoming remarks. The next session was the self-introductions of the attendees, in which Linda asked participants, one by one, to stand up and give their name, chapter affiliation, occupation if they had one, and connection to OCAW. But originally intended to be a session not longer than about 40 minutes in length, it mushroomed into a \*much\* longer session, setting the schedule back for the rest of the day. However, by all



Conference Moderator Linda Devine

accounts, this was one of the most important sessions of the day, as attendees felt they got to know each other and learn each other's background and passions, and they were subsequently able to carry on further meaningful dialogue with one another. Participants believed that the personal introductions engendered a true sense of sisterhood among each other, and having to play "catch-up" with the schedule for the rest of the day was very well worth it.

A welcome break ensued, with attendees nibbling at breakfast treats which still remained. During this time, in the main hall, Julia Chen led interested attendees in a short, joyful exercise session set to invigorating music, before we reconvened. Julia provided another welcome exercise session in the afternoon.



Exercise leader Julia Chen

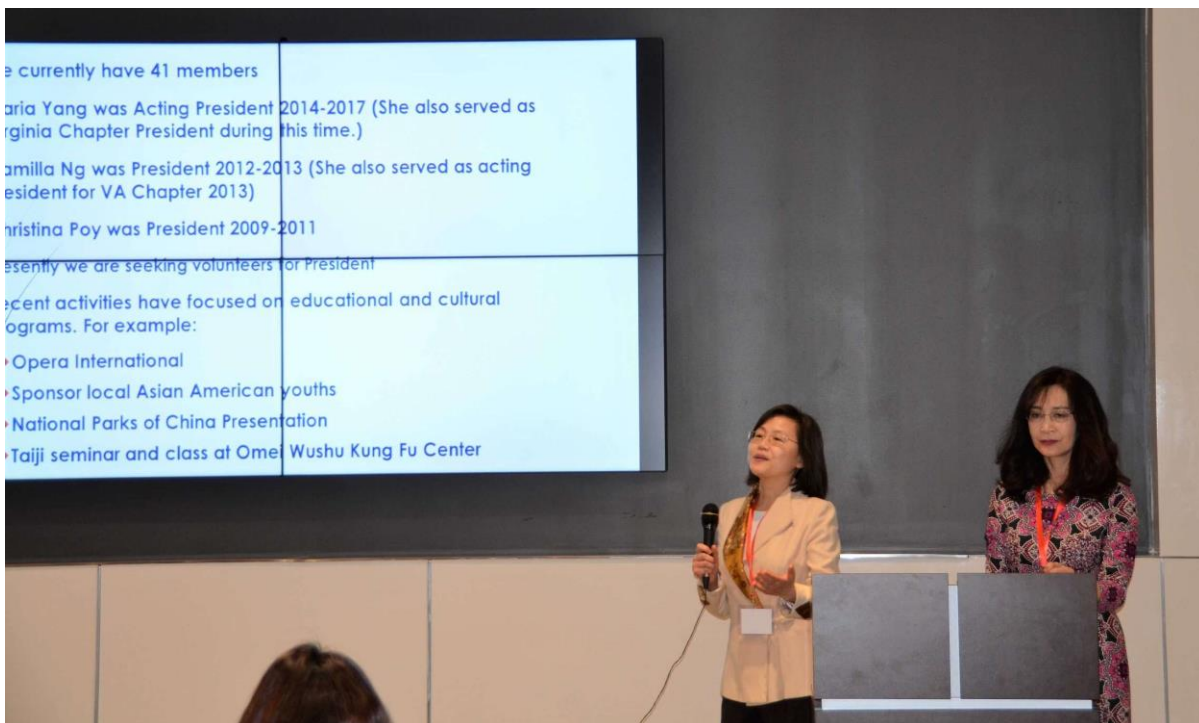
*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*



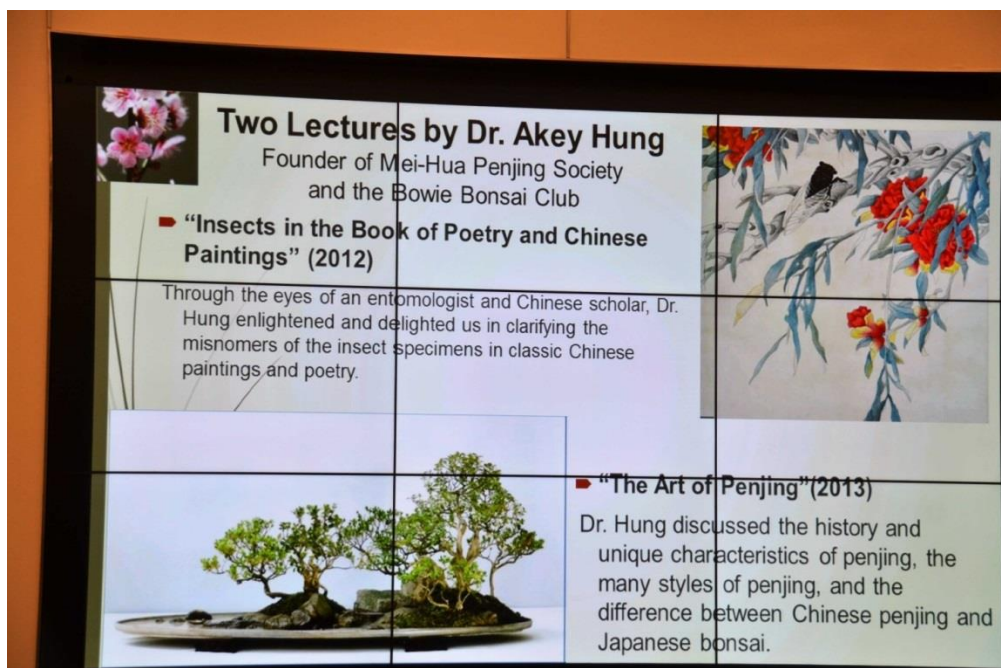
Florence Kwok (VA) gettin' it done!

*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*

During the next session, each chapter made a ten-minute presentation for their chapter to the audience. This was done geographically, from east to west, and Linda called upon the Maryland Chapter to start things off. Susan Young, Secretary, and Camilla Ng, Past President, gave a narrated PowerPoint presentation.



Susan Young, Secretary, and Camilla Ng, Past President, presenting for the Maryland Chapter



(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)

They were followed by Maria Yang, President of the Virginia Chapter, and Pat Ellzey, President of the New Orleans Chapter.



Virginia Chapter President Maria Yang presenting for Virginia



New Orleans Chapter President Pat Ellzey presenting for New Orleans

*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*



Producer Lynn Yang of AACN-TV videoing the conference

*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*

Next, Carol Yuan, President of the Silicon Valley Chapter, and Cynthia Chang, Past President, collaborated on a joint presentation.



Silicon Valley Chapter President Carol Yuan presenting for Silicon Valley

*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*



Silicon Valley Past President Cynthia Chang co-presenting for Silicon Valley

Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, President of the Hawaii Chapter, followed; and Puanani Woo, Advisor of the Kohala Hawaii Chapter, completed the session.

Hawaii Chapter President Chu Lan  
Shubert-Kwock presenting for  
Hawaii

*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*





OCAW attendees from Hawaii: Dr. Margaret Lee, Rena Young Ochse, Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, and Puanani Woo



*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*

Next on the agenda was the first of the featured speakers. Echo Zhang, a Certified Financial Planner and Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, as well as a Virginia Chapter member, collaborated with her colleague, Mark Ravilico, to present “Planning for Long-Term Care.” Interested audience members had several questions which were ably answered and which educated participants further on this important, potentially life-altering subject.

### Lunch

The presentation was followed by a delicious lunch provided by Morgan Stanley, one of our big sponsors for the conference thanks to Echo’s efforts. Attendees helped themselves to a wonderful array of food, and took seats in the reception area as well as in the main hall.

It was a relaxing time, and there were more opportunities for participants to meet one another and become better acquainted.



*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*



*(Photos by Dick Roberts)*

### The Afternoon Session

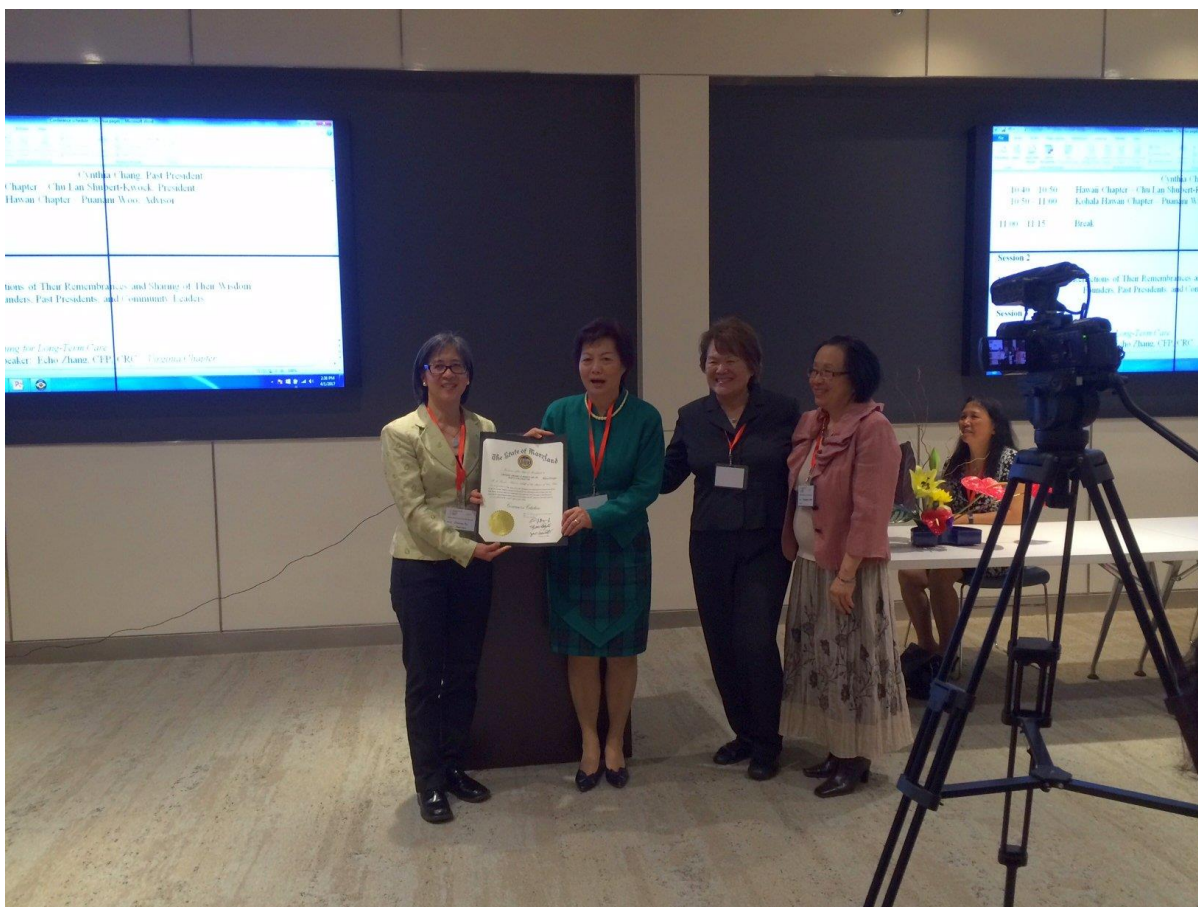
At the conclusion of lunch, Linda reconvened the conference and we began with our session containing presentations by OCAW members who are community leaders. Proceeding in alphabetical order, Muriel (Mimi) Hom spoke first. She is OCAW National Vice President for Programs and a lifetime Maryland Chapter member, but also Founder and Producer-Director of Opera International. Mimi told the audience that years ago, she had noticed that other ethnicities had been showcasing their talented artists to the world, but not the Chinese. Thus she set forth on the mission of bringing Chinese talent to the forefront. The result was the founding of Opera International, which has produced 26 operas and concerts since 1989, actually before the organization's official founding. Opera International has been a hallmark achievement of OCAW. (Mimi also would like to express that she was very touched when, during the morning's self-introductions session, conference attendees sang "Happy Birthday" to her, upon learning that she had turned 90 last month!)



Muriel (Mimi) Hom

*(Photo taken by Lynn Yang, AACN-TV)*

Dorothy Lee, the Founder of the Silicon Valley Chapter 30 years ago, spoke next. She gave us insightful information on the chapter's activities in the early days, taking us up through the years. We enjoyed her interesting historical slides. Dorothy was then followed by Christina Wong Poy, a Maryland Chapter past president and current Treasurer, but presently serving in the Administration of Maryland Governor Larry Hogan as Administrative Director of the Governor's Asian Pacific American and South Asian American Commissions. Christina presented OCAW with a wonderful citation on the Governor's behalf, congratulating OCAW on its 40th anniversary. The citation was signed by Governor Hogan, Lt. Governor Rutherford, and Secretary of State Wobensmith. Christina was joined by Maryland Chapter member Elizabeth Chung, who also serves as a member of the Maryland Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and Elizabeth shared some words with us as well. Our final presenter of the session was Tina Sung, daughter of author and activist Betty Lee Sung. Tina was formerly involved with the American Society for Training and Development, and talked about the need for Asian Americans to become more involved.



Presentation of the Citation by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, congratulating OCAW on its 40th Anniversary. Christina Wong Poy, Christina Chang, Donna Byler, and Elizabeth Chung.

*(Photo taken by Maria Yang)*

Moving onto our formal speakers of the afternoon, we began with our session on “Care.” Daphne Kwok, Vice President of Multicultural Leadership for Asian American and Pacific Islander Audiences at AARP, was our first speaker. Daphne’s presentation was entitled, “Be Bold...Prepare to Care,” and her talk included an AARP film on the subject. We also have Daphne to thank for enlisting AARP as a generous sponsor of our conference. She was followed in this session by Veronica Li, a Virginia Chapter member and past Secretary of the chapter, who is an accomplished author and whose most recent book is Confucius Says. Veronica’s presentation was entitled, “Caregiving Wisdom from an Ancient Sage.”

Our next presenter was Martin Gold, and OCAW was particularly honored to have him on our program. A Partner with Capitol Counsel LLC, Mr. Gold has had extensive experience on the U.S. Senate staff, spanning several decades, and is an authority on matters of congressional rules and parliamentary strategies. Among his many accomplishments, he was instrumental in securing adoption of congressional resolutions expressing regret for the Chinese exclusion laws. OCAW members who had heard him speak before could not have been more complimentary of his knowledgeable, articulate, and moving speaking style, and for our conference he did not disappoint. His superb presentation was entitled, “The Chinese Exclusion Laws: A Legislative History.”

After Mr. Gold's spell-binding talk, a welcome short break ensued, during which time conference attendees clamored to buy Mr. Gold's award-winning book, Forbidden Citizens: Chinese Exclusion and the U.S. Congress: A Legislative History. Participants had the opportunity to talk further with him, and he graciously agreed to autograph his book. Our thanks to Ted Gong for helping to facilitate Mr. Gold's appearance.

Moving onto our next session, titled "Health," Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee was our speaker. A graduate of Harvard Medical School, Dr. Lee was trained as a surgeon and has worked for the past 50 years, is currently a Professor at the University of Hawaii and also in Taiwan, and has participated in medical missions all over the world. She also was the very first president of the OCAW Hawaii Chapter, and served as the President of the OCAW Los Angeles Chapter. The intriguing title of her presentation was "Do What I Can with What I Have, Whenever and Wherever I Am." (*Editor's Note: See Queenie Mow Chee's wonderful article featuring Dr. Lee on page 57.*)

Dr. Lee was followed in this session by Dr. Lihua Zhang, Vice President of the New Orleans Chapter, who has an M.D. degree as well as a Ph.D. in Nutrition. She was a member of the Anesthesiology Department at Tulane University Hospital and is also an expert in Chinese traditional medicine. The title of her talk was "Traditional Chinese Medicine for Daily Life," and Dr. Zhang had the audience's rapt attention as she lectured on all aspects of the subject. Among other detailed information, she gave pointers on simple exercises to do on a regular basis, and conference attendees were eager to note her words so that they could put her advice into practice.

Our next speaker was to have been OCAW co-founder Pauline Tsui, but a recent fall precluded her attendance at the conference. She is currently in rehab, but she sent her best wishes to attendees.

Our final speaker of the afternoon was OCAW co-founder Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch.

Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch



(Photo taken by Maria Yang)

Ambassador Bloch has had many accomplishments in her extensive career in international affairs and government service, including being appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Nepal, where she was the first Asian American to hold such rank in U.S. history. She served at the Agency for International Development, the U.S. Information Agency, and the U.S. Senate, and was a Fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She also served in the corporate sector and moved into philanthropy, before shifting her focus to China.

Ambassador Bloch paid homage to Pauline Tsui, and she acknowledged OCAW's accomplishments. She then asked two questions: (1) Have we done enough?, and (2) What one thing do we need to do? The answer – take a risk.

The conference generated so much interest and enthusiasm that it went until 6 o'clock, an hour past the scheduled ending time, and even then we did not have time for the planned break-out sessions where we had proposed to discuss our mission statement, our purposes, our plans for the next five years, and activities that we would like to provide to our members. Perhaps topics for the next conference!

All in all, participants considered it an extremely productive and enlightening day. Thanks to Chi-Hua Yang for coordinating the audio-visual systems throughout the day.



*(Photo taken by Maria Yang)*



Concluding a productive day

Pat Ellzey (NO), Christina Chang (VA), Pam Wong (MD), Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, Christina Wong Poy (MD); then New Orleans Chapter members Jeanette Hew, Angela Wong, Mayling Hew, Sandy Wong, Yvonne Louie, Jasmine Wang, Wendy Huynh, Marymay Wong, Lihua Zhang, and Mark Sulkes

*(Photo courtesy of Pat Ellzey)*



These beautiful anthuriums, flown in from Hawaii as a thoughtful gift from the Kohala Hawaii Chapter, graced the Tysons Silverline Center during the National Conference, and also the Harvest Moon Restaurant at the Reunion Dinner. Several arrangements were made by floral designer Monica Shia.

*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*

### **Reunion Dinner**

Saturday culminated with a celebratory reunion dinner at the Harvest Moon Restaurant in Falls Church, Virginia. It was a full house with a hundred people in attendance. Lily Tan of the Silicon Valley Chapter adroitly served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening, and Christina Chang gave welcoming remarks. We had learned of a pleasant surprise within the last couple of days, and that was that Ambassador Bloch had invited her friend, The Honorable Elaine Chao, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, to be her guest at our dinner. Secretary Chao was greeted with much enthusiasm.

Awards in the form of handsome plaques were then presented by Christina Chang as National President. The first was given to Ambassador Bloch for co-founding OCAW. Ambassador Bloch thanked the organization

for the honor, but forewent further remarks because she said she felt that she had imparted what she had wanted to say to the conference attendees earlier that afternoon.

Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch and  
Christina Chang

*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*



Pauline Tsui was then announced as an award recipient, also for co-founding OCAW. Puanani Woo accepted the award on Pauline's behalf.



Puanani Woo

*(Photo taken by Maria Yang)*

Linda Devine was the third and final award recipient, and was given the award for her editorship and production of the OCAW e-newsletter, and in so providing this service, brought all the chapters closer together. Linda was extremely touched by the honor and said she was glad that this could be her contribution to OCAW. She thanked her husband Ed for working alongside her to prepare all the photos for every issue for the past 8-plus years. She also reiterated that there would be no e-newsletter without the submissions of OCAW members and their friends, and for this reason, she expressed thanks to each person who had ever sent her an article, piece of information, or photo. Further, she gave special thanks to some OCAW members who had consistently provided material over a period of many years, saying that she was particularly grateful to these special individuals.



Christina Chang and Linda Devine

*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*

Secretary Chao then honored us with her remarks, and she congratulated OCAW on its 40th anniversary. She talked about her father, and about what an inspiration he was to her. She said that she and her sisters had learned from their parents the importance of hard work and the need to set goals. She felt that it was important to help build bridges of understanding among all people.

Then the Secretary proposed a toast to our organization's 40th anniversary, and everyone joined in with a glass of wine. She also generously presented books to OCAW as gifts.



The Honorable Elaine Chao, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, and Christina Chang

*(Photo taken by Maria Yang)*

Throughout the evening, Yu Mei Lee adeptly coordinated the serving of the various dishes constituting the delicious dinner. A friend of Christina Chang, she is the owner of a Japanese restaurant in Indianapolis and came to Washington, D.C. to assist Christina with the conference, for which Christina was most grateful.



Cathy Roberts, Pat Ellzey, Dick Roberts, and Will Ellzey



Three Cornell alums: Anthony Chang; staff member for Elaine Chao; and Baiming Liu

*(Photo courtesy of Baiming Liu)*



Carol Yuan, Pat Ellzey, Secretary Elaine Chao, and Christina Chang

Sprinkled throughout the evening were entertainment acts and the recognition of groups of individuals.

For entertainment, Maryland and Virginia Chapter members Susan Young, Dorothy Hsiao, Camilla Ng, and Henriette Levy performed a Taiji 24 Short Form Demonstration. They are students of Shifu Xiao Lin Lu of the O-mei Wushu Kung Fu Center in Virginia, and Shifu Lu was recognized in the audience.

Maryland Chapter member Camilla Ng then performed “Serenity,” a Chinese Fan Veil Dance, choreographed by her teacher Stella Choi of the Fairfax Chinese Dance Troupe. Ms. Choi was also recognized.

The third act was a fun chorus singing “Beautiful Sunday” by Daniel Boone from 1972. The chorus was composed of Virginia and Maryland Chapter members Christina Chang, Chi-Hua Yang, Camilla Ng, Linda Devine, Carolyn Wong, Mei Yue Cheng, Suzanne Hansen, Monica Shia, Maria Yang, and Dorothy Hsiao. This was followed by the chorus singing a Chinese song whose English translation is “When I Hear Applause.”



Virginia and Maryland Chapter members' Fun Chorus: Mei-Yue Cheng, Chi-Hua Yang, Monica Shia, Maria Yang, Suzanne Hansen, Carolyn Wong, Linda Devine, Christina Chang, Dorothy Hsiao, and Camilla Ng

*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*

Dorothy Lee from the Silicon Valley Chapter sang the beautiful number, "One Day When We Were Young," from the 1938 movie "The Great Waltz."

And the last act of the evening was an energetic line dance, "Gimme 5," performed to the music of Uptown Funk. Dancers were Silicon Valley members Ai-Chu Wang, Cynthia Chang, Chia-Huei Chen, Moli Fries, Sophia Yang, and Carol Yuan, ably led by Ai-Chu Wang. *(Editor's Note: See Silicon Valley Chapter News for photos of Line Dance members.)*

There were recognitions throughout the evening for various groups of individuals, and Christina Chang presented them with small gifts in appreciation of their service. So recognized were current chapter presidents, community leaders and conference speakers, past chapter presidents, significant others, and 40th anniversary committee members. The ladies received beautiful flowered scarves, and the men received ceramic mugs.

The dinner was a wonderful celebration, with people meeting one another for the first time, and old friends reuniting. It capped off an exhilarating day.

### **Sunday Sightseeing Tour of Washington, D.C.**

Sunday morning, April 2, participants rose bright and early once again, and gathered in the lobby of the Courtyard by Marriott in Tysons Corner, Virginia. On the agenda was a whirlwind, all-day sightseeing tour of Washington, D.C. sights, led by Steve Chang and Linda Devine. We were 22 strong, with 10 New Orleans Chapter members, 6 Silicon Valley Chapter members, 2 Hawaii Chapter members, and 2 from the Maryland and Virginia Chapters, in addition to Steve and Linda. Our friendly and helpful bus driver, Maaizou of Uptown Bus, accommodated our ambitious plans to see all that we could see. We were blessed with beautiful, sunny weather – a perfect day to be out and about.

En route to Washington, we drove by hallowed Arlington National Cemetery, and our first stop was the inspiring Iwo Jima Memorial. We then crossed into D.C., and on the way to our first destination, we pointed out the White House (south view), the Washington Monument, the brand new Museum of African American History and Culture (the newest addition to the Smithsonian collection), and the Museum of American History. Linda and Steve provided commentary for the stops throughout the day. After our drive down Constitution Avenue, we toured the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, followed by the National Gallery of Art.



Outside of the National Gallery of Art

Alice Yee (VA), Lily Tan (SV), Ai-Chu Wang (SV), Cynthia Chang (SV), Dr. Margaret Lee (HI),  
Dorothy Lee (SV), Moli Fries (SV), Sophia Yang (SV), and Rena Young Ochse (HI)

Rounding out our museum itinerary was a visit to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. Among other exhibits, we viewed the famous Hope Diamond and saw a brief film on the exotic marine animals at the bottom of the ocean.

We had bag lunches on the bus, so that we could eat when we chose to, although the next stop was theoretically our 'lunch' stop. It was the Jefferson Memorial and the beautiful cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin.



From the Jefferson Memorial, looking out at the Tidal Basin (home to the cherry blossoms) and the Washington Monument

Rena Young Ochse (HI), Dr. Margaret Lee (HI), Angela Wong (NO), Wendy Huynh (NO), Mayling Hew (NO), Jasmine Wang (NO), Sandy Wong (NO), Alice Yee (VA), Marymay Wong (NO), Yvonne Louie (NO), Dianna Gorin (VA and MD), Jeanette Hew (NO), and Linda Devine (MD)

After that, it was onward to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, finishing up with the World War II Memorial.

At the Lincoln Memorial

Mayling Hew, Steve Chang, and Marymay Wong





At the Lincoln Memorial, looking out at the Reflecting Pool and the Washington Monument

(Top row) Wendy Huynh (NO), Sandy Wong (NO), Rena Young Ochse (HI), Dorothy Lee (SV),  
Dr. Margaret Lee (HI), Moli Fries (SV), Will Ellzey (NO), Lily Tan (SV), Alice Yee (VA),  
Pat Ellzey (NO), Mayling Hew (NO), Jeanette Hew (NO), Marymay Wong (NO), Yvonne Louie (NO),  
and Angela Wong (NO)

(Bottom row) Sophia Yang (SV), Cynthia Chang (SV), Ai-Chu Wang (SV),  
Dianna Gorin (VA and MD), Jasmine Wang (NO), and Linda Devine (MD)

(Photo taken by Steve Chang)

*(Editor's Note: A warm thanks to Steve Chang, who consistently reminded participants to take photos, and who provided his services as a photographer at many stops. As a result, our members from out of town will have invaluable memories of their visit to Washington, D.C.'s iconic sights.)*

After our 8-hour outing, we were proud of ourselves for packing in so much and keeping up with all of the walking that we did, although it was nice to finally relax on the bus ride back to Virginia.

Upon our arrival back at the hotel, several of us settled into comfortable chairs in the lobby and then spent a lot of additional time visiting with one another, maybe because we were reluctant to let such a great day end. For Linda, it probably had been the best day of the three, as finally the formality of the conference had been over with, and we could just relax and genuinely enjoy the company of our fellow 'sisters' as we took in the neat sights of our nation's capital. It had been an exquisite three days, with beautiful memories made and warm friendships forged.

### **Additional Acknowledgments**

The conference could not have been the success that it was without the hard work of many. In addition to those already mentioned throughout this article, Baiming Liu and others worked hard during the conference itself. Ed Devine did all of the technical work on the program book. Darrick Lee assisted in producing the beautiful conference flyer. Helpful Silicon Valley husband Li-Yu Chen along with Yu Mei Lee took wonderful care of the reception area both Friday and Saturday, refilling the hot water/tea containers, constantly cleaning up the eating areas, emptying trash receptacles, etc. Lynn Yang and AACN-TV provided excellent media coverage of the conference and the dinner.

Very significantly, we could not have done the conference without the help of our valuable and most appreciated significant others, most notably Steve Chang and Dick Roberts, but also several others, who assisted in numerous ways. Some have already been mentioned, but among many tasks, collectively they assisted with the program book, drove carpools, co-led the sightseeing tour, transported goods wherever needed, kept the conference center running smoothly, made award plaques, took photographs, hosted out-of-town attendees, and probably more.

Thanks to all of our speakers, and to our entertainers from the Maryland, Virginia, and Silicon Valley Chapters. Much appreciation to our supporters who donated items for the conference bags, and to Cardinal Bank who generously supplied multiple cases of bottled water. The Office of Minority Health Resource Center and the American Diabetes Association made health pamphlets in English and Chinese available to participants. Camilla Ng conceived of the idea of a Mini Bookstore and then worked with the Tysons Corner Barnes & Noble to provide Chinese American books for attendees to view and purchase. There was much interest, and she sold out of several children's books and cookbooks.

A truly heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors, without whose financial support the conference could not have happened. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to The Ruth H. Kuo and Rhoda How Memorial Foundation; Washington Real Estate Investment Trust (the conference center was magnificent!); AARP; Morgan Stanley Wealth Management; the OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter; and the Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, D.C.

A very special thanks to all of our out-of-town members and spouses from the New Orleans, Silicon Valley, Hawaii, and Kohala Hawaii Chapters, who spent their financial resources and time to attend the conference, and especially the chapter presidents who coordinated and led their delegations to D.C.

And an enormous thanks to Christina and Steve Chang and Cathy and Dick Roberts, for graciously opening up their homes and hosting several out-of-town participants.

Undoubtedly, with so many people involved, it is probable that we have left out some names. But overall, thank you to every single individual who provided some level of support for the conference. You are MUCH appreciated!

So when is the next conference and celebration? We have already begun to hear some ideas, so the seeds have been planted... :)

## **National Conference Follow-up re Health and Online Meetings**

*(from Baiming Liu, National Vice President for Finance)*

First of all, thanks to Linda Devine for being the MC who chaired the wonderful conference meetings! I also would like to give my heartfelt thanks to our President, Christina Chang, for all her efforts, from very small dinner items to the big picture for the entire conference. My special thanks also to Donna, Cathy, Maria, Susan, Chi-Hua, Camilla, and all others in town as well as all those who came to attend the conference.

After this conference, it made me love more this wonderful organization and all the people who are committed to big goals for all Chinese Americans! This was the best conference I have ever attended in my whole life! I also cherished learning about so many talented sisters in this community.



Secretary Elaine Chao and Baiming Liu

*(Photo courtesy of Baiming Liu)*

### **Health**

It was also my honor to introduce myself to the group during our self-introductions session. So many sisters came up to me about how I helped with so many patients, including those with diabetes, high blood pressure, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and even cancer. I am a passionate, life-minded individual with a mission to improve the health and well-being of all people, especially Chinese people around the world. And to this end, I cannot express enough how lucky we are to have found a great health product to help with these diseases!

I thought I might write something in our e-newsletter, so that many people can obtain the benefits of early prevention of disease. For more information about Protandim Nrf2 Synergizer, one can visit: [abcliveit.com](http://abcliveit.com), where one can find that Protandim is a patented, science-based formula that has been researched, tested, and validated by renowned universities and institutions. It is the only supplement proven in a clinical study to reduce the cellular stress in humans by an average of 40 percent in 30 days and expand one's life span by 7%

(<http://investor.lifevantage.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=982364>).

Protandim is a master regulator for gene expression (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3917919/>) , and can be used to normalize our physiology, according to Dr. Marvin, a physician with 50 years' experience in Geriatric Medicine. I encourage you to go to these websites to learn more.

### **Online Meetings**

I also received a lot of positive feedback on my proposal for online meetings to continue the momentum of the conference. Here is my proposal:

For the online meeting, I would suggest that we have one once a month, on the first day of each month. I would suggest the preliminary topics for the remainder of this year, and I welcome any other suggestions:

May 1: How to raise a bi-cultural young generation  
June 1: How to enhance a couple's relationship  
July 1: How to participate in the mainstream  
August 1: How to stay healthy with Eastern and Western medicine  
September 1: How to motivate young women to join OCAW  
October 1: How to become an effective communicator  
November 1: How to do holiday shopping  
December 1: How to make a plan for next year

This will be open not only to our members, but also to all non-members as well.

For those who are interested, you will need to contribute \$20 to OCAW, and the funds will be used for future activities for the organization.

I welcome any other suggestions to make the above initial thoughts even better.

If everyone agrees to the above ideas, we can come up with more detailed steps, such as how to recommend the speakers and panel discussants.

Suggested Date and Time for the first online meeting:

Monday, May 1, 2017

11 a.m. Pacific time; 12 noon Mountain time; 1 p.m. Central time; and 2 p.m. Eastern time

1. Dial in to the Conference (United States): (515) 604-9300

Access Code: 749425

International Dial-in Numbers:

<https://www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/4746549712#international>

2. Join the Online Meeting:

Online Meeting Link: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/4746549712>

Online Meeting ID: 4746549712

To join the online meeting, click on the meeting link listed above and follow the prompts to join the meeting.

For problems getting onto the meeting, call 24/7 customer service: (844) 844-1322

I will also open the meeting 30 minutes before the official starting time so that people can get on.

For more information about me, please visit my website: [baimingliu.com](http://baimingliu.com)

Thank you,  
Baiming Liu

### **News from the Maryland Chapter**

#### **Kitty Hsu Dana's Reflections on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

*Note from Kitty:* Hi, Linda. Thanks again for a wonderful conference. You were a gracious MC, who set a perfect tone the entire day. I thoroughly enjoyed the program, and especially loved meeting the amazing women from all the chapters, including those I've never met before from right here in the D.C. area!

OCAW's 40th Anniversary Celebration was edifying, thoroughly enjoyable, and especially rewarding in connecting with amazing women from around the country.

As you had requested, here are my **Top 10 Reflections** about OCAW's 40th Anniversary Celebration:

#10 – Amazing women who traveled across the country, and many in the Washington, D.C. region whom I've never met before! They are accomplished, fun, warm, and generous (how about the gorgeous flowers from Hawaii?!! and the dried shrimp the New Orleans Chapter gifted to all of us?!!).

#9 – So many Chinese-American women activists, advocating on policy, to empower our community, to support disadvantaged people, and to better society. Case in point: Silicon Valley members who ran for school boards, local offices, served as mayor!

#8 – Powerful, personal stories, such as that of Margaret Lee, an accomplished surgeon who spoke of the impact of assertiveness training given by the OCAW Los Angeles Chapter decades ago, when she had to address discrimination by the chairman of her department of surgery.

#7 – To hear Cynthia Chang say her 30+ years' involvement with OCAW-Silicon Valley was a key part of how she defines herself. She inspired us to run for public office, and offered to help any of us who wants to do so.

#6 – Several mentions that we should be in the "mainstream" of American society, and to ensure that we're at the table. (This is worth a future conversation, perhaps blog posts(?) as to what "mainstream" and "being at the table" mean to various OCAW sisters.)

#5 – Quote shared by Elizabeth Chung, Maryland Commissioner of Asian American Affairs: "Do the best you can, with what you have, where you are, with the time you have."

#4 – Caregiving Film – and one of the beautiful comments within is Richard Liu's loving observation about his father's changing behaviors with dementia: This disease is a ticket for him to be (what had always been part of) himself.

#3 – Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, whose awesome accomplishments include co-founding OCAW – exhorting us to be willing to take risks to leap to the next level of our influence and potential.

#2 – Dr. Lihua Zhang from New Orleans, an anesthesiologist who shared eastern wisdom: Sun Simiaos 13 Methods of Health Cultivation. Wonderful practices that make us feel better immediately and have long-term health benefits. A couple of them were rather surprising (e.g., contracting your anus often)!

#1 – Did I say the amazing women from chapters across the country??!!! May we continue to connect, share, support, and delight each other!

### **Muriel Hom's Comments on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

I would like to particularly thank all of the people who worked so hard in planning our 40th anniversary conference – Christina Chang, Donna Byler, Cathy Roberts, Maria Yang, Linda Devine, Susan Young, Chi-Hua Yang, Camilla Ng, and others. I was so pleased that it was such a successful event, and I really enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of the participants.

Also, I was pleasantly surprised to find out that Will Ellzey, the husband of New Orleans Chapter President Pat Ellzey, is such an opera buff! We had a great conversation about opera at the Friday night welcome reception.

My compliments to Lynn Yang, Producer at AACN-TV, who I thought did an absolutely excellent job of covering the conference for us.

Congratulations to all of us on our 40th anniversary!

### **News from the Virginia Chapter**

#### **OCAW 40th Anniversary Celebration**

*(from Noreen Hom, Secretary)*

The event was fun-filled for all who attended, especially members from Chapters from around the country and Hawaii.

Words cannot express the appreciation we felt experiencing the hard work and dedication of Christina Chang, Donna Byler, Maria Yang, and others to ensure that the event was educational, fun, and healthy.

Friday was filled with tours which introduced us to Twin Oaks, the estate of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the U.S., where we were given a tour of the first floor which was elegant and housed three treasures – a Tiffany Hanging Chandelier, a famous painting, and a photograph of the original owners. From there we went to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China where we were given a tour of rare paintings, sculptures, and a five-panel woven silk screen that is now a lost art.

Maria made sure that we had a gourmet meal at the Welcome Reception at the Tysons Silverline Conference Center when we returned from the Embassies and D.C. tours. The Conference Center was also the venue where we had a full day on Saturday of presentations that were given by very talented and accomplished members from all the chapters. Our lunch was delicious and even included a fresh coconut drink. Christina

even made sure that we got exercise between lectures and slide shows by having us do stretches and join a class on Line Dancing during our morning and afternoon breaks.

Saturday night's banquet at the Harvest Moon Restaurant was amazing. We were honored by the presence of Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao as our special guest, and during the delicious nine-course meal we were entertained with taiji, dancing by Camilla Ng, and karaoke, among other entertainment acts.

Many thanks to the tireless efforts and sacrifices of the Planning Committee and everyone who made this hugely successful big 40th Anniversary celebration possible for all of us who attended.



U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao with Virginia Chapter members and guests  
at the OCAW 40th Anniversary dinner at the Harvest Moon Restaurant

*(Photo taken by Anthony Chang)*

## News from the New Orleans Chapter

### Asian Pacific American Society's Asian Heritage Festival

*(from Betty Butz, Past President)*

The Asian Pacific American Society's (APAS) annual spring event, the Asian Heritage Festival, was held on Saturday, April 1, 2017, at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans. It was very successful.

The OCAW New Orleans Chapter occupied a tent to share culture and organizational information. Betty Butz decorated the tent and demonstrated the use of foliage in simple arrangements. She also showed visitors how to make tangram puzzles.



Betty Butz, Mangjee Yeh, Sheree Tan, and Nancy Chung

*(Photo taken by Si-Yin Chung)*

*(from Cuilan Lee)*

OCAW New Orleans Chapter member Cuilan Lee performed “Sky Road” on behalf of OCAW at the Asian Heritage Festival.

This is a Tibetan dance. Tibetans live in the highest region on Earth, rising 16,000 feet above sea level. Traffic had always been difficult and challenging until the railroad to Lhasa was completed. The dance celebrates the highest railroad in the world.



Cuilan Lee

### **Mayling Hew's Comments on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

*(Editor's Note: Mayling is a proud new member of the New Orleans Chapter!)*

Thanks to the 40th Anniversary Committee for a job well done. Just a note to thank Linda Devine and Christina and Steve Chang for all the hard work in presenting the National conference.

We thoroughly enjoyed the informative presentations, the tours of the Capitol and the Taiwanese and Chinese Embassies, the dinner meeting with Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, and the bus tour of D.C. museums and monuments.

It was a pleasure to meet all the OCAW sisters from the different chapters. Thanks to all who helped put on a very memorable experience for us.



Jeanette Hew, Yvonne Louie, Mayling Hew, and Marymay Wong amidst the beautiful cherry blossoms

*(Photo courtesy of Mayling Hew)*

### **President Pat Ellzey's Comments and Reflections on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

Y'all did a fantastic job, and getting to know so many 'sisters' was very rewarding.

I was so proud of all the 'sisters' and events because all of my New Orleans members are quite new except Sandy Wong who served as President before, but she, as well as the others, never realized what OCAW really stands for and what it does. Having my Chapter members experience this weekend inspired them and made them proud of being a member. Hopefully it will last and instill in them the enthusiasm to recruit more members and to participate more actively in more productive projects.

Thank you for your organizational skills and planning and personal sacrifices that y'all made to produce a wonderful conference for all of us. Speaking for the others, I want you to know that we are most grateful!

Looking forward to cooperating and developing OCAW to greater heights.

Hope to see you soon.

Patricia Hew Ellzey  
New Orleans Chapter President

## Reflections and Highlights

1. Great conference planning and organization of a very capable and cooperative committee
2. Camaraderie and bonding of OCAW sisters, strengthening OCAW
3. Getting to know each 'sister' during the self-introductions and through personal conversation
4. Variety of interesting conference topics which kept the audience's attention
5. Mutual sharing of our expertise and knowledge demonstrated by everyone
6. Recognizing our mutual and personal goals of our organization
7. Meeting and getting to know great role models in OCAW's leadership which inspired others to get more involved
8. Developing a desire to grow personally and together by continuing to keep in touch with each other in the future
9. Recognition of our mutual strengths as Chinese American women in various successful career paths
10. Meeting and getting to know successful Chinese American women, especially Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao and Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, who gave us inspiration and aspirations for all Chinese American women to have the courage to be successful

Regret: Not being able to discuss the future of OCAW in developing future goals and mission while we were all together as a group, which is easier than by telephone and email



At the OCAW 40th Anniversary Reunion Dinner

*(Photo courtesy of Pat Ellzey)*

## **News from the Silicon Valley Chapter**

### **Premiere for FINDING KUKAN – CAAMFEST 35, San Francisco, CA**

*(from Carol Yuan, President)*

Robin Lung, OCAW Hawaii Chapter member, came to the Bay Area in mid-March for the premiere of her documentary FINDING KUKAN, which is about a pioneering Chinese American female filmmaker named Li Ling-Ai and her “lost” Oscar-winning film KUKAN. SVC members Ai-Chu Wang, Cynthia Chang, Sophia Yang, Alice Chiou, and Carol Yuan, along with Rosetta Lai who is a former OCAW National President and who relocated to the Bay Area last December, went to the premiere of FINDING KUKAN and met Robin on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

“In the late 1930s China is in dire straits. The country will collapse under Japan’s military juggernaut if it doesn’t get outside help. Chinese American firebrand Li Ling-Ai jolts Americans into action with a new medium – a 16mm Kodachrome color film. She hires photojournalist Rey Scott to travel to China and capture a citizen’s perspective of the war-torn country, including the massive bombing of the wartime capital Chungking (now Chongqing). Their landmark film KUKAN screens for President Roosevelt at the White House, is called “awesome” by *The New York Times*, and receives one of the first Academy Awards for a feature documentary in 1942. Why have we never heard of Li Ling-Ai? And why have all copies of KUKAN disappeared? Filmmaker Robin Lung goes on a 7-year quest to find the answers.” – quoted from <http://www.nestedeggproductions.com/>

We were all deeply impressed by Robin’s determination and persistence in finding the answers and overwhelmed by the historical and institutional values of her film. A big salute to Robin!

It was a great occasion to get together with Rosetta who is an OCAW acquaintance of Cynthia and Ai-Chu and a new OCAW sister for Alice, Sophia, and me that afternoon. We are happy that Rosetta will be able to attend our events in the future. Welcome to the Bay Area, Rosetta!



Robin Lung, third from the right, thanking her staff at the end of the premiere



(from left) Ai-Chu Wang, Alice Chiou, Rosetta Lai, Robin Lung, Cynthia Chang, Sophia Yang, and Carol Yuan



After the premiere, stayed in line at a famous bakery in San Francisco. (from left) Carol Yuan, Cynthia Chang, Ai-Chu Wang, Sophia Yang, Rosetta Lai, and Alice Chiou

**OCAW 40th Anniversary Conference and Celebration, Washington, D.C.**

*(from Cynthia Chang, Dorothy Lee, and Carol Yuan)*

Silicon Valley Chapter members (Carol Yuan, Sophia Yang, Ai-Chu Wang, Moli Fries, Lily Tan, Chia-Huei Chen, and Cynthia Chang) along with the founder of our chapter, Dorothy Lee, participated in the OCAW 40th anniversary celebration events in Washington, D.C. from March 31 to April 2. We were so impressed with the well-planned activities of the national conference as well as the tours and sightseeing in the D.C. area. It was wonderful to meet OCAW sisters from across the United States, getting connected with old acquaintances and making new friends.

We truly appreciate the excellent work of the planning committee and the hospitality of the local members. We learned a lot through the presentations and networking with other members. We also had so much fun getting together with our OCAW sisters.

At the conference, Carol Yuan reported on OCAW-SVC's Missions/Goals, Membership, Operations, Income, Activities, and Challenges which are how to recruit younger-generation members to pass on our traditions and to serve more communities. Dorothy Lee and Cynthia Chang shared their wisdom and experiences on the founding of SVC and as elected officials, respectively.

\* \* \* \* \*

Below are **Dorothy Lee's appreciations and thoughts** for the conference.

It certainly was a WONDERFUL and MEMORABLE trip to D.C.! Learned a lot and had a lot of fun!

Special thanks to Christina Chang, her husband, her son, and Linda Devine for all their efforts, time, dedication, and high spirit which made this 40th Anniversary so successful! A million thanks to them and their team!!!

I miss Pauline Tsui very much! What a selfless role model with such vision to inspire Chinese American women!

Listening to our national members' self-introductions, I was deeply touched and very proud of their self-sacrifice and outstanding achievements.

Meeting Elaine Chao again after 20 years was great...saw her advancement and excellent performance...what a joy and honor!

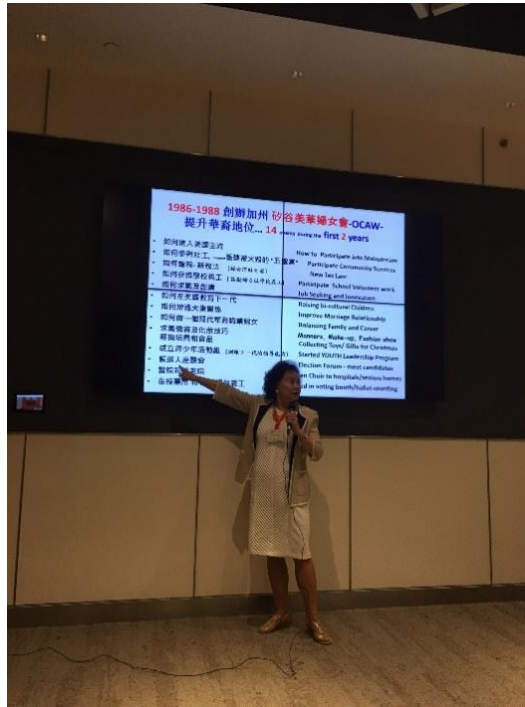
During the Forbidden Citizens presentation, I just realized that one of the two ladies, Judy Biggert (R-IL), was the co-introducer in 2011.

**House Passes Rep. Judy Chu's Resolution of Regret for the Chinese Exclusion Act!**

In 2011, as the president of our church's women's group, I invited Judy Biggert (Illinois Congresswoman, the chair for the national education committee) and several other representatives to meet 300 Chinese in our church to discuss education issues. We got the Chinese language implemented in high school and gained course credits! I supported Judy Biggert in her campaign in Illinois (2010).

How nice to know that she and Judy May Chu worked together in such a meaningful act! See? Only two dedicated women can make history!

My dear friends, keep working for the great vision and goals!



Dorothy Lee presenting

**Cynthia Chang's presentation** at the conference is summarized below.

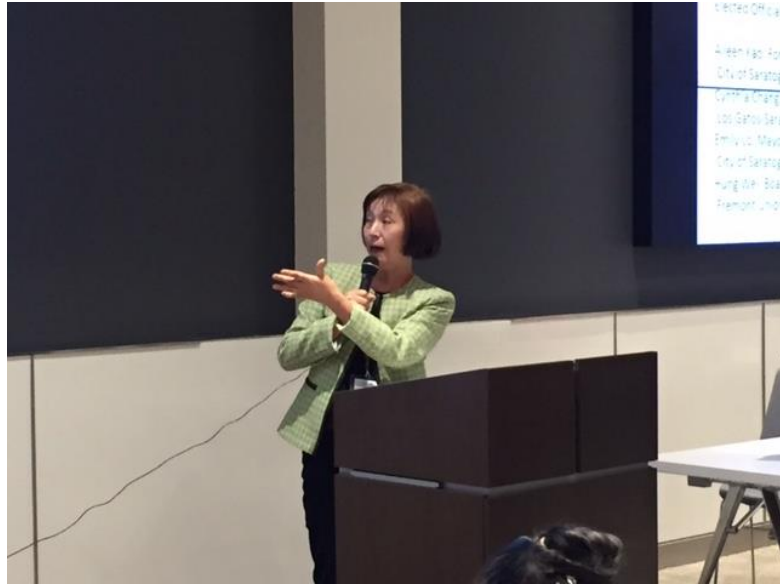
I heard a question the other day: "How do you define yourself?" I would like to say OCAW for sure has its share of defining me for the last 30 years! I joined the organization in 1986 as I really resonated with its goals of integrating Chinese American women into the mainstream of American society as well as helping Asian immigrants to understand and adapt to American society. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of working with a group of talented ladies and together, we are doing great work for our community.

I want to thank Pauline Tsui and Julia Chang Bloch for founding OCAW 40 years ago to get us all connected and provide great services to our local and broader communities.

I am also happy to report that OCAW-SVC has done its share of promoting members' involvement in public office as listed below:

Aileen Kao, Former Mayor, City of Saratoga  
Cynthia Chang, Board Member, Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District  
Emily Lo, Mayor, City of Saratoga  
Hung Wei, Board Member, Fremont Union High School District  
Katherine Tseng, Board Member, Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District

Kristen Lyn, Board Member, Cupertino Union School District  
Lily Mei, Mayor, City of Fremont  
Nai Hsueh, Board Member, Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Samantha Cheng, Former Board Member, Saratoga Union School District



Cynthia Chang presenting



(from left) Martin Gold, conference speaker and noted author, and Carol Yuan, Cynthia Chang, and Moli Fries with Mr. Gold's award-winning book, Forbidden Citizens: Chinese Exclusion and the U.S. Congress: A Legislative History



(from left) Dorothy Lee, Sophia Yang, Lily Tan, Ai-Chu Wang, Moli Fries, Linda Devine, Christina Chang, Julia Chang Bloch, Cynthia Chang, Chia-Huei Chen, Carol Yuan, and Puanani Woo

Silicon Valley Chapter members performed the “Gimme 5” Line Dance to the music of Uptown Funk.

Led by Au-Chu Wang, they were the final entertainment act of the Reunion Dinner held at the Harvest Moon Restaurant.





Chia-Huei Chen, Ai-Chu Wang, Christina Chang, Moli Fries, Carol Yuan, Cynthia Chang, and Sophia Yang



Ai-Chu Wang, Cynthia Chang, Sophia Yang, Lily Tan, Elaine Chao, Chia-Huei Chen, Moli Fries, Dorothy Lee, Carol Yuan, and Sho-Huei Wang



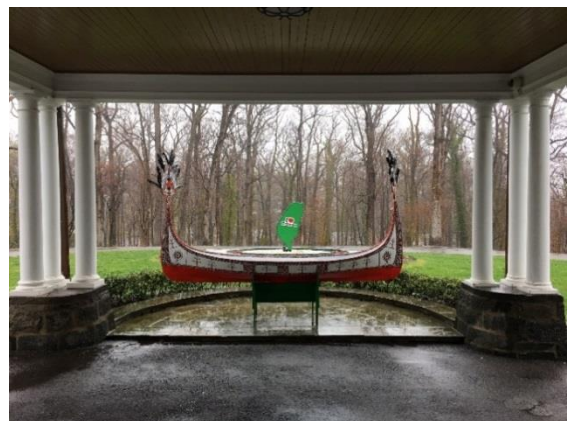
Ed Devine, Linda Devine, Carol Yuan, and Sophia Yang



Carol Yuan, Donna Byler, and Sophia Yang



At Twin Oaks





Inside the White House

Lining up in the rain for the White House tour



At the Embassy of the People's Republic of China



Outside of the National Gallery of Art

Steve Chang, Lily Tan, Ai-Chu Wang, Dorothy Lee, Cynthia Chang, Moli Fries, Sophia Yang, and Linda Devine



At the Lincoln Memorial, looking out at the Reflecting Pool and the Washington Monument

## **News from the Hawaii Chapter**

### **OCAW 40th Anniversary Conference and Celebration**

*(from Rena Young Ochse, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor)*

Congratulations to the National Committee for putting on such a wonderful conference and celebration. Special thanks to Linda Devine, National President Christina Chang, Donna Byler, Cathy Roberts, and everyone who made this possible for the chapters to get together.



Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, President; Christina Chang, National President; Rena Young Ochse, former President and Treasurer; Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, Co-founder of OCAW; Margaret Lee, our 1st President of the OCAW Hawaii Chapter; and Puanani Woo, Kohala Hawaii Chapter Advisor

### **President Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock and Hawaii Chapter members' Reflections on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

With gratitude and much pride that OCAW was able to celebrate its 40th Anniversary with co-founder Julia Chang Bloch and Secretary Elaine Chao. The entire OCAW National Team led by President Christina Chang, executive members, chapters, sponsors, and members are to be applauded for this wonderful coming together of sisterhood.

Our Conference was well planned and cost very, very reasonably. We all benefited from “a lot of meat” in the Conference and networking with each other.

The Introduction is very important to know why we are all here, who we are, and what we are doing and plans for the future. It summarizes the essence of who OCAW people are – high achievers who pursue success through education, hard work, and a passion to help others.

It emphasizes the need for unity and networking with others, to be at the national table for all important issues affecting women.

We had a great history full of capable women and achievements, but we need to carry our banner high and be there as a participant to chart our destiny.

Ambassador Bloch asked an important question about “have we done enough?” We are not quite there yet as there is much we must continue to do as Chinese American women. We must be at the table to be effective – yes, we need to be more visible and more articulate about issues affecting us and others.

We need to nurture our national and regional linkage of commonality to be effective. We hope this Conference has inspired our leadership to pursue this course of action.

The tours were well thought out and organized, and places of interest were great ones. We certainly learned a lot – getting to these places and getting to know each other better. Now we can match the faces with the voices in our conference calls!

The food served during this conference was delicious and plentiful. Thank you to the team in charge of food and beverage.

Our guest speakers were great! Ambassador Bloch, Martin Gold, long-term care, and health and longevity, and wonderful books authored by these speakers!

Secretary Chao’s account of her family’s immigration experience certainly resonated with many of us. She was very pleasant and well-informed.

All in all we had a great conference thanks to the hard work and dedication of people like Linda Devine, Donna Byler, Christina and Steve Chang, Cathy and Dick Roberts, Camilla, Baiming, Maria, and many others whose names I do not have at hand.

We humbly thank you!

With great aloha and mahalo!

Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock  
Rena Ochse  
and Dr. Margaret Lee  
OCAW Hawaii Chapter



Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock holding a book presented as a gift to each chapter from Secretary Elaine Chao

### **Masquerade Party**

*(from Rena Young Ochse)*



OCAW Hawaii Chapter member Marsha Au-Maxwell was the Event Chair for this fabulous party held on Sunday, April 9, 2017, at the Waialae Country Club in Honolulu. There was a dinner and a fashion show, and prizes galore were given at this gala event.

In the photo above, pictured in front are Dr. Lawrence K.W. Tseu who was the honoree with Fashion Designer, Jeanie Chun. Event Chair Marsha Au-Maxwell is standing behind Ms. Chun and to her left (wearing the orchid leis). Marsha is also the Membership Chair for OCAW-Hawaii. Maude Lau was a contributor to this event as well.

### **News from the Kohala Hawaii Chapter**

#### **Puanani Woo's Comments on our 40th Anniversary Celebration**

Dear Linda,

I would like to be sure I add the same praises as did all the other Chapter reps to thank you for being a great mistress of the program for OCAW's 40th Anniversary Celebration. You were kind, thoughtful, clear, respectful, and a great leader. The entire Conference was magical.

For as small a group as we were, Christina Chang, Donna Byler, you, and the rest of the team planning the Conference interested top-notch presenters to speak to all of us. They all had important messages for us.

It was wonderful to meet Chapter members I only read about and now I know them. I was also especially pleased to meet so many of the Chapter members who wrote for or were written about in the OCAW history book, whom I didn't know, and now I know them.

Sincerely,

Puanani Woo

### **From and About Our Members**

#### **About Amy C. Lee, Maryland Chapter member**

*(from Mimi Hom and Linda Devine)*

We are sorry to inform the OCAW membership of the passing of Amy C. Lee, a lifetime Maryland Chapter member, who passed away a short while before Christmas due to complications from a stroke. She was 91 years old.

Amy had earned two master's degrees, one of which was in Library Science, and she spent her career in this field that she loved. She was Head Librarian at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) for a number of years before joining the United States Foreign Service. She worked for the U.S. Information Agency and spent many years overseas, heading up our library facilities at various foreign posts. Probably her favorite post was Vienna, Austria, whose great culture she admired.

Amy will be especially remembered for her very generous donations to Opera International over many, many years. Indeed, she was one of the major contributors who helped the opera company continue to produce high-quality operas at affordable prices. Opera International's Operatic Vocal Gala in 2014 at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. was dedicated to Amy, and she was present to take a much-deserved bow.

She also was there to spur on OCAW members to continue with their specific projects, always recognizing their efforts and consistently giving them words of encouragement. Amy truly will be missed!

### **Her Story: OCAW Hawaii Chapter's First President Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee, M.D.**

**by Queenie Mow Chee**

Completed by Queenie on March 30, 2017 to celebrate the OCAW 40th Anniversary National Conference

*(Editor's Note: Queenie is a past president of the Hawaii Chapter and has been very supportive of OCAW and the OCAW e-newsletter. A couple of months ago, I was absolutely delighted when she asked me about an idea she had had of featuring Dr. Lee in the e-newsletter. Thinking that this was a wonderful suggestion, I asked her if she would be willing to interview Dr. Lee, and she graciously agreed. The result is this article, although Queenie wanted me to inform the readers that the final version below includes additional information supplied by Dr. Lee.*

*As you will see in reading this piece, Dr. Lee is extremely accomplished. With her having been a featured speaker at our anniversary conference, and attendees having had the pleasure of meeting her and talking to her, this article is even more meaningful.)*

OCAW Hawaii Chapter's very first president was a dynamic and gifted surgeon, Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret LEE. She was inspired to join the Organization of Chinese American Women (OCAW) when she lived and worked in Los Angeles, California from 1972 to 1983.

When the L.A. Chapter held a conference, Dr. Lee attended a workshop on "How to Be Assertive." For her, it was a life-changing moment. Since emigrating to the United States in 1955 to study in college and later staying to work, for the first time she had experienced blatant discrimination while employed at a prominent university. The timing was perfect, as OCAW's class gave her what she needed: a better self-image and self-confidence to move away to a better job where she felt equal opportunity was publicized and practiced.

The former Yeu-Tsu NEE (her maiden name) was born in Xian, China, although her ancestral home is in Nanking. During the turbulent Sino-Japanese war years, her father was a law professor at a university established by the Nationalist Party (Kuo Min Tan). His position and connection helped move the family from Nanking to southwest Chungking, the war capital till Japanese surrender in 1945. Later, with the Communist Party winning the civil war in 1947, the family moved to Taiwan in 1949. They were able to board the last boat leaving mainland China.

As an intrepid young lady, Yeu-Tsu came to the United States in 1955 after completing a two-year study of pre-medical basic sciences at National Taiwan University. To her surprise, she discovered that the American system for medical school was different from that of Taiwan. In the U.S., a four-year college degree is

required before going to medical school for four more years. In Taiwan, medical school consisted of only seven years, including two years of the basic sciences. Luckily, the University of South Dakota offered her a tuition scholarship, which she considered a blessing and a wonderful welcome to this new country.

At USD, she also found a kind mentor in her Chairman, Dr. Charles Cox. Since her scholarship did not cover living expenses, it was this professor who gave her paying jobs such as being a lab assistant washing glassware and Petri dishes, and babysitting his children. While pursuing a degree in Microbiology, she applied to several public medical schools but was discouraged when all the application forms asked for “financial support assurance.” She discussed the situation with Dr. Cox who asked, “Why don’t you just go for a Ph.D. and not an M.D.?” Yeu-Tsu replied, “I want to be a doctor to help people and to do research.” Dr. Cox then explained, “There is no medical school teaching research except Harvard.” That was the first time she had heard the name “Harvard.” She was really happy when she communicated with someone from Harvard and was told, “We do not talk about cost; we check first to see if you qualify.”



Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee speaking at the OCAW 40th Anniversary  
National Conference on April 1

*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*

In 1961, Yeu-Tsu Nee received her diploma of “M.D. *cum laude*.” The diploma of the Harvard Medical School was all in Latin then. To start her training to be a general surgeon, she was accepted into the internship and residency program of the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor. She became a Christian and took an English baptismal name of “Margaret” as her middle name and used it more often than her Chinese first name. She married a Ph.D. candidate and got her surname changed to LEE. The marriage lasted 23 years. She kept her name as Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee because all of her professional certificates and licenses bore this name. After five years of training, she passed exams by the American Board of Surgery and became a certified General Surgeon. She obtained a two-year NIH post-residency clinical fellowship to specialize in Surgical Oncology.

Thus, Dr. Lee has practiced as a general and tumor surgeon for nearly 50 years. Her contributions and accomplishments are many. The following is an abbreviated list:

- Academic faculty appointments to four American medical schools over the years in Missouri, California, and Hawaii
- Has taken care of patients, taught medical students, and supervised interns and surgical residents
- Numerous research projects; author of one medical book and has published over two hundred scientific papers in medical journals and reference books
- Chief of Surgical Oncology at the Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI from 1983 to 1999, when she retired from the U.S. Army as a Colonel and a Combat Veteran
- Served as a general surgeon under active duty during Operations Desert Shield (8/2/1990-1/17/1991) and Desert Storm (1/17/1991-2/28/1991)
- Clinical Professor of Surgery at the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (1993-present)
- Visiting Professor of Surgery at the Buddhist Tzu-Chi University Teaching Hospital in Hualien, Taiwan (2000-present) – making short trips 3-4 times a year

Last but not least, let's return to her inspiration to become a member of OCAW. It was when she was a tenured faculty member at the Medical School of the University of Southern California. All was well until the coming of a newly-appointed Chairman of Surgery. Dr. Lee was away on a seminar and upon her return, she found her office and secretary gone. There had been no prior notification. A verbal explanation from the Chairman to her was simply, "We needed space for new appointees." And then her latest research paper, that had been previously accepted, was suddenly declined and rejected. As serendipity would have it, that's just about when the OCAW Los Angeles Chapter appeared on her horizon.

At about the same time, the United States Army was hiring experienced surgeons to train more young surgeons for the six Army teaching hospitals across the nation. Dr. Lee applied and was quickly accepted. It was Hawaii's good fortune that she chose the Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, and thus established her new home in the Islands since 1983.

In 1989, she was among a group of ladies who heeded the call from OCAW founder Pauline Tsui, Ambassador to Nepal Julia Chang Bloch, and Senator Hiram Fong's wife, Ellyn, to form the Hawaii Chapter of OCAW. And so it was that Dr. Yeu-Tsu Margaret Lee became its first president.

Professionally, Dr. Lee has been a member of the American College of Surgeons, American Women Surgeons, and Society of Surgical Oncology. ACS has a national group called 'Operation Giving Back' which volunteers medical treatment to the underserved in the U.S. and abroad. This has taken Dr. Lee to help the indigent in Honduras, Mexico, Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines, and Ghana.

Her clubs and organizations keep her connected with people locally, nationally, and internationally. With all of her accomplishments, Dr. Lee remains modest and humble. Truly her strength of character and depth of soul should be an inspiration to us all.



Dr. Lee outside of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History on April 2,  
during Sunday's Washington, D.C. Sightseeing Tour in connection with the  
OCAW 40th Anniversary Celebration

*(Photo taken by Mayling Hew)*