

# E-Newsletter of the Organization of Chinese American Women

November 2022



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*(from Linda Devine, Editor)*

We wrap up 2022 with our longest e-newsletter to date, at 99 pages. Not only did I receive excellent articles about chapter events that took place recently, but during this time period, OCAW celebrated its 45th anniversary, and a large portion of this issue is devoted to news of the celebration. Pertaining to the latter, I received about 300 photos from numerous contributors. These had to be reviewed, and duplicates sorted out. I also received many photos of the other events. I wish that I could have printed more of these wonderful pictures, but I was not able to do so because of space limitations.

I would like to give extra thanks to my husband Ed, who spent multiple hours with me, working with all of these photos, making adjustments and enhancements where appropriate. And of course, as always, thank you very much to those who submitted material for this issue – both writers and photographers.

I continue to encourage OCAW members to write articles or submit information for the e-newsletter if there is something you think would be of interest to the membership. Also please feel free to send me any suggestions that you might have for the e-newsletter at: [devinefive@comcast.net](mailto:devinefive@comcast.net)

In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving, happy winter holidays, Happy New Year, and see you in 2023!

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## **Report on the OCAW 45th Anniversary Celebration**

*(from Linda Devine)*

OCAW marked its 45th anniversary this year in style, with a wonderful five-day celebration in Washington, D.C. and Virginia from Friday, October 21 through Tuesday, October 25, 2022. Thank you to National Executive Director Donna Byler, for proposing that we have a celebration, and for encouraging us to become

involved with planning and coordination. Thank you also to Sharon Chun and the Hawaii Chapter for hosting Zoom planning meetings, and to the national officers and chapter presidents and members who took the time to participate in these meetings and offer their ideas and input.

### **Friday, October 21**

#### **Sightseeing in downtown Washington, D.C.**

Friday began bright and early with sightseeing in downtown DC. Participating were Christina Chang (National President), Edwina Lee (HI Chapter President), Sharon Chun (National Webmaster and former HI Chapter President), Sandy Young (former HI Chapter President), Wendie Liu (HI Chapter member), Tina Au (former HI Chapter President), Anne Hu (Silicon Valley Chapter Immediate Past President), Lily Tan (former Silicon Valley Chapter President), Yuling Khorsandi (New Orleans Chapter Vice President), and Linda Devine (National VP for Communications and Public Relations).

We hopped on board the Bus Big Tours' Hop-on, Hop-off bus, and took most of its 90-minute tour around downtown DC. On the route we could see the Jefferson Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington Monument, and so on. The bus provided interesting and informative commentary through earphones on the numerous sights that we passed, and it was given in the language of one's choice – in our case, Chinese and English. It was a beautiful day, sunny and crisp, and a perfect day for riding around.

Nearing the end of the bus's loop, we got off at the U.S. Capitol stop, for our tour of the Capitol.



Pictured are Yuling Khorsandi, Linda Devine, Sharon Chun, Edwina Lee, Lily Tan, Sandy Young, Christina Chang, Tina Au, Anne Hu, and Wendie Liu.

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*



The Hawaii delegation proudly posing with the impressive statue of King Kamehameha I in the Capitol Visitor Center. The statue was a contribution from the State of Hawaii to the Capitol's National Statuary Hall Collection.

*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*

Our visit began with a short background film, and then a guided tour with our knowledgeable and exuberant guide, Chris. Afterward, Sandy took the initiative to inquire about seeing the Senate Chamber, which usually



requires extra arrangements, and we were able to go inside it, sit in the gallery at our leisure, and ask questions of the staff member on duty. In answer to a question, he told us what it was like during the January 6th insurrection, and it was interesting to hear his perspective.



Hungry, as it was late in the afternoon, we enjoyed an informal but welcome lunch in a Capitol cafeteria.

*(Photos courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*







*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*

Once finished with the Capitol, we got back on board our Hop-on, Hop-off bus and completed the remaining portion of the tour loop.

Then we started the loop once again, attempting to take in more details of the many sights.

We then proceeded to the stop for the Lincoln Memorial, and spent time seeing the famous landmark.



The Lincoln Memorial

*(Photo courtesy of Lily Tan)*



In front of the Reflecting Pool, across from the Lincoln Memorial

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*



Once done with the Memorial, it was back on board the bus to the stop for the White House, and we spent a few minutes looking at the White House's North Façade.



Wendie Liu, Edwina Lee, Tina Au, Yuling Khorsandi, Christina Chang, Lily Tan,  
Linda Devine, and Sharon Chun

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*

A full day of sightseeing completed, we rode the metro back to Virginia where we appreciated Steve Chang and Francis Pan who nicely gave us rides to Cathy and Dick Roberts' home in Oakton, VA, for the Friday night meet-and-greet reception.

**A huge thank-you to Anne Hu**, who worked diligently with the assistant of her California Congresswoman, Anna Eshoo to make successful arrangements for our wonderful tour of the Capitol. In addition, Anne took the initiative to arrange Hop-on, Hop-off bus tickets for all of our group.

Anne was also able to arrange a second U.S. Capitol tour for that afternoon for another OCAW group, headed by Susan Young, former MD Chapter Secretary. Susan and her guests were also very grateful to Anne!



Chuck Huang, Susan Young, Mindy Ai, Wendy Richard, and Jenkin Richard

*(Photo courtesy of Susan Young)*

### **Meet-and-Greet Reception at the home of Cathy and Dick Roberts**

The reception was already in progress when we arrived from downtown DC, and we were happy to join the other attendees for a nice buffet dinner. Cathy had planned a wonderful array of foods, including croissants filled with her yummy shrimp salad. We were appreciative that the Hawaii Chapter delegation, led by President Edwina Lee, had brought with them some Kalua pig to share. Cabbage was recommended to accompany the pig, and Cathy prepared a large dish of it.

New Orleans Chapter President Pat Ellzey brought some wonderful Pralines to share, as a gift from the chapter, so that we would have a special 'taste of New Orleans' at the reception. Silicon Valley Chapter Immediate Past President Anne Hu flew in numerous bottles of California wines for guests, and Maryland Chapter President Karina Hou also contributed wine, along with Francis Pan, Glen Schwartz, and Jean Lorentzen. Barbara York, Jane Pan, and Pu-Chin Waide brought delicious dishes to share, and Noreen Hom and Mimi Hom also contributed items. There was certainly no shortage of food or drink! ☺





*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*



*(Photo taken by Noreen Hom)*



*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*



Conversation was lively as attendees reunited with old friends, and had the pleasure of meeting new ones.



*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*



*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*

After dinner was completed, Cathy presented a special 45th anniversary cake for dessert. Chapter members and their spouses took turns posing with the cake. ☺



*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*





From the Hawaii Chapter: Sharon Chun, Sandy Young, Tina Au, Edwina Lee, and Wendie Liu

*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*



From the Silicon Valley Chapter: Anne Hu and Lily Tan

*(Photo courtesy of Lily Tan)*



From the New Orleans  
Chapter: Yuling Khorsandi,  
Pat Ellzey, and Will Ellzey

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling  
Khorsandi)*



From the Maryland Chapter: Karina Hou, Mimi Hom, Linda Devine, and Ed Devine

*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*





From the Virginia Chapter: Cathy Roberts, Barbara York, Jane Pan, Maria Yang, Noreen Hom, Alice Way, Christina Chang, Steve Chang, and ChiHua Yang

*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*



Some members of the OCAW National Board: Karina Hou (MD Chapter President), Cathy Roberts (VP for Membership), Christina Chang (President), Edwina Lee (HI Chapter President), Pat Ellzey (New Orleans Chapter President), Linda Devine (VP for Communications and Public Relations), and Anne Hu (Silicon Valley Chapter Immediate Past President) *(seated)* Sharon Chun (Webmaster) and Mimi Hom (VP for Programs)

*(Photo taken by Sandy Young)*

About 40 people partook of the celebration, and visiting continued until late, as everyone was having an enjoyable time.

Thank you to Virginia Chapter members Jean Lorentzen, Barbara and Dick York, and Jane and Francis Pan who arrived early, and along with Dick Roberts gave considerable assistance to Cathy to prepare the food for the event. Thanks also to those who contributed food and drink.

And of course, **an enormous thank-you to Cathy and Dick for hosting the reception in their lovely home!**

### **Saturday, October 22**

#### **Tour of the Chinese American Museum DC**

From the very beginning of the planning for our celebration, the Chinese American Museum DC (CAMDC) had been a priority sight for OCAW members intending to come to Washington. Early Saturday morning, amidst more beautiful, sunny weather, participants converged on the museum in downtown DC.



*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*

Maryland Chapter President Karina Hou, an Advisor to the museum, introduced CAMDC Vice President Jenny Liu and Senior Advisor David Yao to the group, and on behalf of OCAW thanked them for offering a special guided tour for us.



David then proceeded to inform the audience of the detailed history of the museum and how it came into being only a few years ago. He described numerous exhibitions and programs that the museum had planned and hosted, and also their ideas for future exhibits and events. Christina Poy, OCAW Maryland Past President, added comments about her personal involvement with the museum from early on, and through this history indicated OCAW's ties to the museum from the beginning.



CAMDC Senior Advisor  
David Yao

*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*

David then suggested that we start with the fourth floor and work our way down. He gave really interesting, detailed commentary about many of the objects on display, describing their background and significance, and their place in Chinese history. We truly appreciated the two-hour visit.



*(Photo taken by Linda Devine)*



*(Photo courtesy of Maria Yang)*

Karina Hou, Christina Poy, CAMDC  
Vice President Jenny Liu, and  
Christina Chang



*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*





(standing) David Yao, Karina Hou, Wendie Liu, Sandy Young, Anne Hu, Christina Poy, Jenny Liu, Linda Devine, Christina Chang, Mindy Ai, Chuck Huang, Yuling Khorsandi, and Susan Young  
(kneeling) Edwina Lee, Tina Au, Lily Tan, Sharon Chun, and Maria Yang

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*

### Visits to Smithsonian Museums

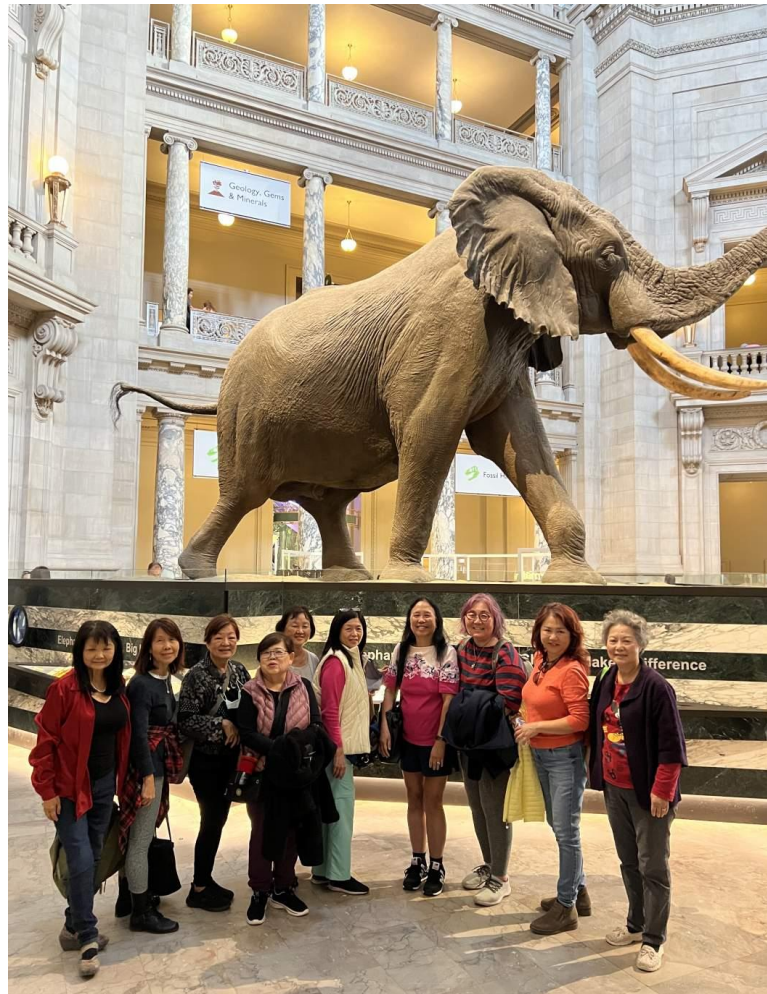
After our CAMDC visit, some of us headed to the Smithsonian museums on the National Mall. There are so many museums under the umbrella of the Smithsonian Institution that it would take weeks to visit them and give them the respect that they deserve. However, we had only one day!

The consensus was first to visit the **National Museum of Natural History**. Those who went were the Hawaii delegation (Edwina, Sharon, Sandy, Wendie, and Tina), the Silicon Valley twosome (Anne and Lily), Yuling from the New Orleans Chapter, Christina from the Virginia Chapter, and Linda and Christina Poy from the Maryland Chapter. Since there were so many exhibits to see, we went either as individuals or in small groups to our particular areas of interest.

All, though, wanted to see the famous Hope Diamond first. After that, we scattered to other parts of the huge building. Areas visited included the always popular Gems and Minerals Collection, the relatively new Ocean Hall, and the most recently renovated Deep Time Hall, formerly the popular Dinosaur Hall. The newest

techniques in museum curating (including interactive exhibits) are on full display in the fabulous, new Deep Time Hall, which makes it one of the most well-visited attractions on the National Mall.

In between our touring of this museum, we took a break for a late lunch in one of the museum's cafes. There were numerous entrees and other foods offered, and everyone found something to their liking.



In front of the Natural History Museum's well-known, iconic elephant

*(Photo courtesy of Yuling Khorsandi)*

Once done with Natural History, we enjoyed the nice weather and took a brief tour of the nearby **National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden**. On the way to Natural History, the outdoor exhibit had attracted the attention of some of our group, and they wanted to explore it further.

Among the various modern art sculptures, we laughed and had a big debate about one piece in particular: Roy Lichtenstein's "House 1." A couple members of our group absolutely *\*insisted\** that depending upon where you viewed this 'house,' IT MOVED! The rest of us tried for the life of us to see this movement, but no go!





Does the house move, or not?

*(Photo taken by Linda Devine)*

After exiting the sculpture garden, we walked over to the other side of the Mall and made our way to the **National Museum of Asian Art**. This is the name for the two connected galleries that constitute it: the Freer Gallery of Art, and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery. Again, we toured the exhibits either individually or in small groups, to cover as much ground as possible.

With this museum, we were nearing the end of the afternoon, so we walked to the metro station for our trip back to Virginia. It had been an educational and informative day, as well as a lot of fun!

### **Saturday night dinner**

Museum-goers were joined by other chapter members for dinner at the Lotus Garden restaurant in Vienna, VA. Two tables of attendees enjoyed a nice meal and conversation.

*(Editor's Note: During the COVID pandemic, Veronica Li, former Virginia Chapter Secretary and subsequent Acting President, spearheaded the Virginia Chapter's COVID relief project of providing free meals to healthcare workers at several different Northern Virginia hospitals, as a thank-you for their tireless work during this stressful time. With chapter members' donations, the chapter bought the food from Lotus Garden, and the restaurant generously supplemented the meals with free egg rolls.)*



(clockwise) Edwina Lee, Dianna Gorin, Will Ellzey, Pat Ellzey, Noreen Hom, Sharon Chun, and Anne Hu



(clockwise) Sandy Young, Tina Au, Norman Way, Alice Way, Alice Lin, Wendie Liu, Lily Tan, Christina Chang, and Steve Chang (Yuling Khorsandi not pictured)

(Photos taken by Yuling Khorsandi)



## **Sunday, October 23**

### **OCAW Conference**

Attendees began to gather early Sunday morning at the Alexandria House in Alexandria, VA for the all-day occasion. The building is the residence of Virginia Chapter member Amy Lee. She graciously hosted us for the day in the penthouse on the 23rd floor.



The view of Washington, D.C. from the penthouse

*(Photo taken by Noreen Hom)*

Thank you to Alice Way (VA Chapter Vice President) and Norman Way for handling registration duties.

Twenty-page handouts on the history of OCAW, printed from the OCAW history book, were available for participants to take. Thank you to Puanani Woo, former Hawaii Chapter President and Kohala Hawaii Chapter Advisor, who donated the money for the printing, and to Christina and Steve Chang who had the handouts printed and assembled.

## **OCAW National Board Meeting**

Board members congregated for the 4th quarterly board meeting of 2022. It was chaired by Anne Hu. Among reports and other business, **very detailed chapter reports were given** by Hawaii President Edwina Lee, Silicon Valley Immediate Past President Anne Hu, New Orleans President Pat Ellzey, Virginia President Maria Yang, and Linda Devine who was acting for Maryland President Karina Hou.

Edwina Lee announced that **the Hawaii Chapter would be making a donation to the New Orleans Chapter, to be used for repairs to the Chinese Presbyterian Church which was severely damaged in 2021 by hurricanes.** The church has been the venue for Chapter meetings and events for many years, and funds are still needed for renovation work. Pat, as New Orleans President, expressed gratitude for Hawaii's generosity.

Linda Devine, as National Communications VP, publicly **commended Sharon Chun, National Webmaster, for the invaluable work she has done to bring the OCAW website up to date and also transform it into an excellent site.** The website had not been up to standards for a long time, and efforts by volunteers such as Cathy Roberts and others had been stymied by technical issues. Sharon, though, was able to learn about website development. Updated articles and new segments that Linda wrote for the site were quickly inputted by Sharon, as well as her own writings. The resulting product is now something to be very proud of.

As hard-working President Christina Chang is retiring after many years of service to OCAW, **elections were planned for a new President.** Cathy Roberts, in charge of nominations, reported that there were two candidates proposed – Linda Devine and Maria Yang. Linda was very touched and honored by the nomination. However, she felt that she could best serve OCAW by continuing as VP for Communications and Editor of the E-Newsletter, so she declined. Maria informed the board that with her demanding teaching schedule, she would be unable to serve as President as conscientiously as she would want to.

Thus, as of this writing, the position is currently open, and efforts will be made to find other candidates to fill it. It was stressed that the next President does not have to reside in the DC area, as has been the case in the past. With internet and other modern communications easily available, the next President can live anywhere. If you feel that there is an OCAW member who would make a good President, please convey your thoughts to the national board.

**Upon the occasion of Christina Chang's retirement, Linda Devine, on behalf of the entire OCAW membership, presented an appreciation plaque to Christina, noting her 12 long years of invaluable service as National President.**

Christina and Linda are pictured below.





*(Photo taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*



*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*

Virginia Chapter President Maria Yang also then presented a gift from the Virginia Chapter to Christina. The entire membership is extremely grateful to her for her dedication and perseverance!



Maria Yang and Christina Chang

Since presentations were being made at this time, Edwina Lee presented Hawaii's donation check to Pat Ellzey.



Pat Ellzey and Edwina Lee

*(Photos taken by Yuling Khorsandi)*



At the conclusion of the meeting, board members and other attendees partook of delicious food, snacks, and drinks that had been laid out. They used the break to visit with one another as they awaited the start of the afternoon events.

### Conference Speakers Session

Organizer and moderator Linda Devine began the speakers session promptly at 2 p.m. Some individuals who were not able to attend the conference in person had been very interested in listening to the talks, and Maria Yang had arranged for the session to be broadcast via Zoom to accommodate them. Thus Linda wanted to remain on schedule as much as possible so that those people participating remotely would be able to tune in at the right time for the talk of their choice.

Presentations were given in strict 30-minute blocks, with an introduction, a talk for about 20 minutes, and then time afterward for Q&A.



Introducing the speakers via Zoom and laptop, so that interested individuals all across the country could participate on their various devices

*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*

**Our first presentation was entitled, *Nutrition Facts and Remarks*, and was given via Zoom from New York by Dr. Lihua Zhang, a former President of the OCAW New Orleans Chapter.** Lihua graduated from Nanjing Medical University with an M.D. degree, and from the Naval Medical University in Shanghai with a Ph.D. in nutrition in critical care. She practices in hospitals as an anesthesiologist, and in clinics treating patients with holistic medicine. She is also a licensed acupuncturist.

As the title of the presentation suggested, Lihua offered several tips on how to maintain good health. She discussed various foods that she felt were especially helpful to consume, but also expressed caution about other foods. She explained various diets (Adkins, etc., and currently Keto) that have been advertised and promoted over the years. However, rather than follow any one such diet, she believed that it was most

important to simply follow a diet of moderation. She advised everyone to 'listen to their body,' as it was the best guide to their own personal health. If one experienced problems, she recommended that they consult their doctor.



### Take Home Messages

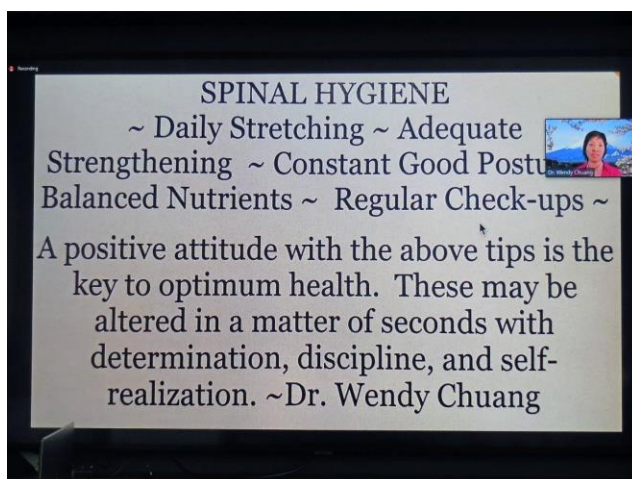
- Healthy gastro-intestinal system is very important
  - We need to pamper our GI systems
- Nutrition is important and...
  - Cooking temperature important
  - Consumption temperature important
- Portion control leads to health living and longevity
- Educate our patients and friends, one at a time

*(Photos courtesy of Lihua Zhang)*

**Our second presentation was entitled, *How to Slow Down Joint Degeneration*, and it was given via Zoom from California by Dr. Wendy Chuang. She is a lifetime member of the OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter.** Wendy received her B.S. in Neuroscience and Physiology from the University of California, San Diego and then her Doctor of Chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic West, where she also was a faculty member for many years. She was the founder of Natural Health Pros in Sunnyvale, CA. Wendy has volunteered both locally and abroad with many organizations such as the American Cancer Society, Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care, and several others, and has given numerous health talks to companies, Asian community associations, etc. In her past 22 years of experience, she has addressed the concerns of Asian patients and worked with their needs.

Wendy informed us that as one aged, there was a natural deterioration of the spine and other body parts. She advocated maintaining erect posture, which keeps a straighter body alignment. The goal is to strengthen one's core to help prevent deterioration. Wendy demonstrated deep breathing techniques which were beneficial. She also discussed the value of stretching exercises, and emphasized how important they were.





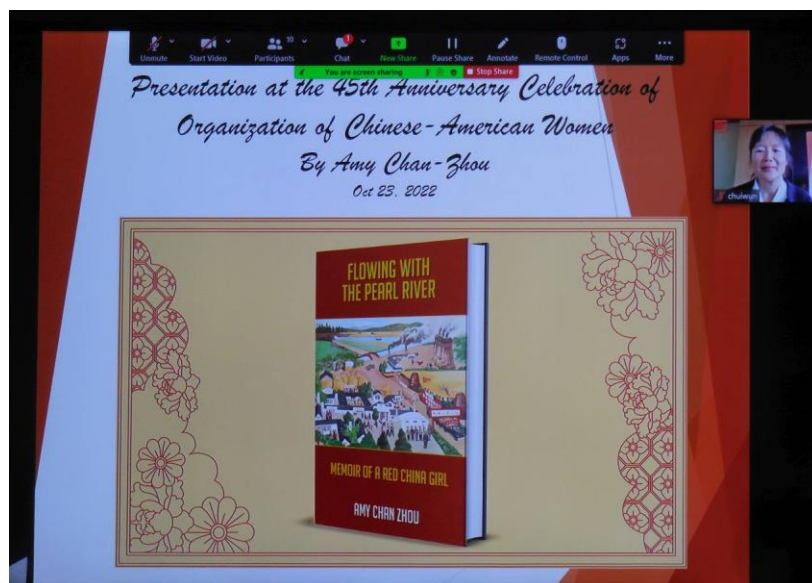
Wendy then had audience members stand up and perform a couple of breathing and stretching exercises, and we followed her lead.



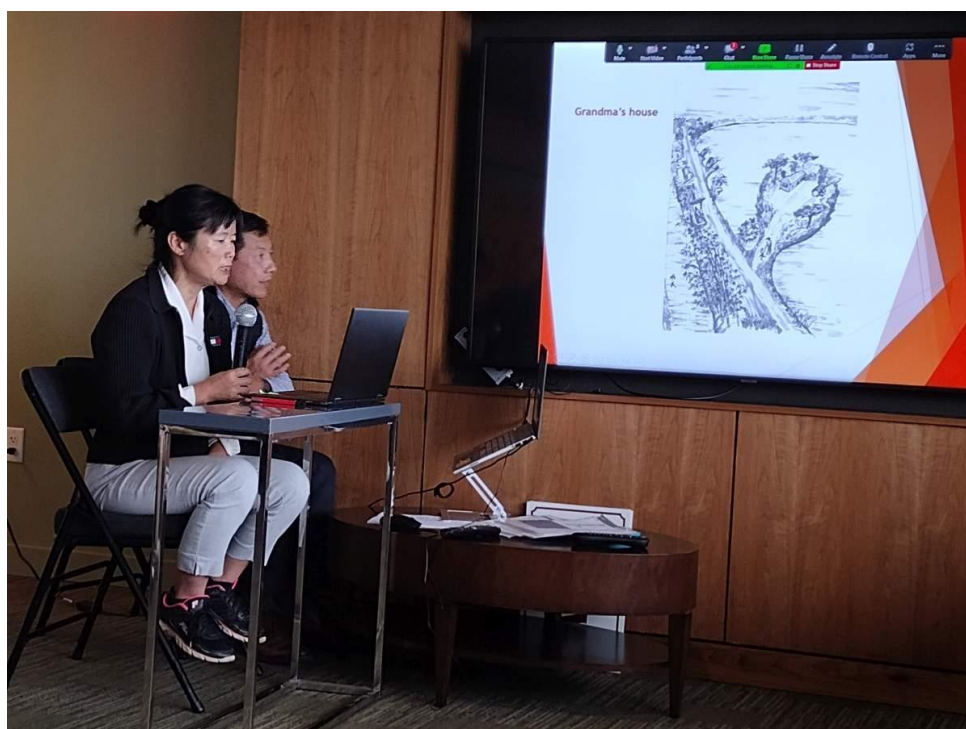
*(Photos taken by Ed Devine)*

**Our third presentation was entitled, “Flowing with the Pearl River,” and was given by Amy Chan Zhou.** Amy graduated from the State University of New York with a B.S. degree in accounting, and she is currently working for Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland.

Amy is the author of the book, *Flowing with the Pearl River: Memoir of a Red China Girl*. Talking about the contents of her book, Amy discussed the difficult times she experienced growing up during China’s Cultural Revolution. She related incidents involving her family members, describing what they went through and what they had to overcome. Her husband Weimin Zhou assisted her in her presentation.



(Photo taken by Ed Devine)

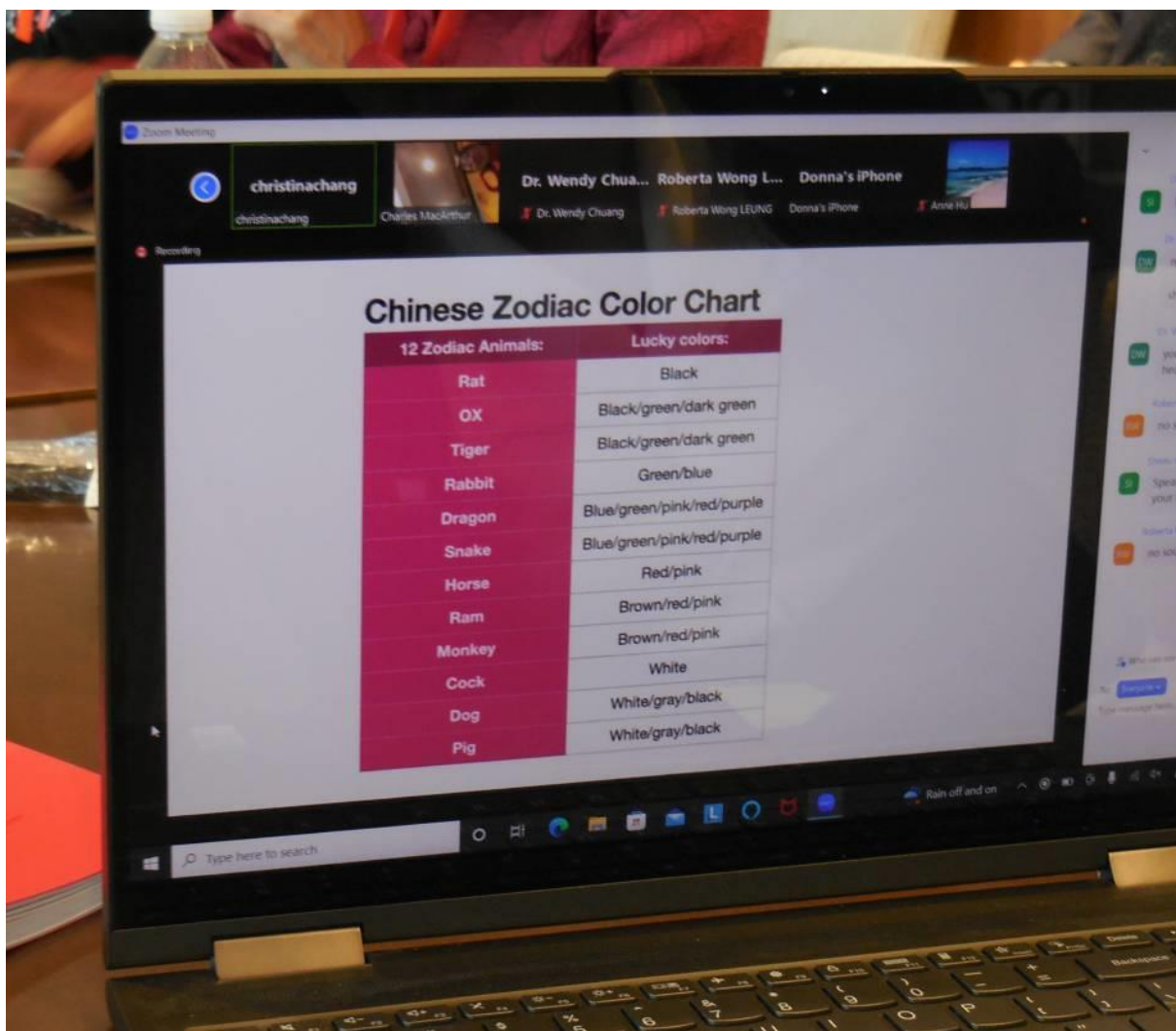


(Photo taken by Susan Young)



**Our fourth presentation was entitled, *Colors in Chinese Traditional Court Clothing*, and it was given by Maria Yang. Maria is the current President of the OCAW Virginia Chapter.** She received her B.A. in English Language and Literature and her Masters in Chinese Language and Literature and completed coursework in a Ph.D. Program in Applied Linguistics. This education prepared her to be a qualified Language and Culture Instructor, and since 2010, she has been teaching “Taiwanese Literature” in the Modern and Classical Languages Department at George Mason University in Virginia. In addition, Maria has about 30 years of experience teaching Chinese language in both college and office settings, and she is also currently teaching Mandarin Chinese language at the Arlington Community Learning Program.

Maria discussed the importance and meaning of colors in Chinese clothing historically. Colors were segregated by class, with some colors reserved for the upper class (like yellow for the Emperor), and other colors for average citizens. She also informed us that there were certain colors associated with each period of the Chinese Zodiac, and she cited which specific colors went with each of the twelve signs.



(Photo taken by Ed Devine)



*(Photos taken by Ed Devine)*

Maria concluded her presentation by generously handing out gift sweaters of different colors to some of the out-of-town attendees whose Zodiac sign matched the appropriate color. These presents were a nice surprise and much appreciated by their recipients.



Before our final formal presentation, we interjected a **brief, light talk by Lily Tan, a former President of the Silicon Valley Chapter.** She had all of us laughing, as she demonstrated her innovative hair-curling technique. It involved rolling up strands of her hair and placing them inside a child's socks!



*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*



Lily demonstrating her hair-styling secret

*(Photo taken by Amy Lee)*

While she was waiting for her hair to ‘set,’ she seriously discussed a book she had written entitled, ***Fire Scar: The Untold Story of the 1887 Burning of San Jose’s Chinatown.*** Written under the name of Lily K. Lee, it is a work of fiction but was based on a true account of the shameful burning. After her brief book description, she removed the socks to reveal her new curls!

**Our final presentation was entitled, “The Chinese in Hawaii,” and it was given by Dr. Sandy Young, along with Edwina Lee, Sharon Chun, Wendie Liu, and Tina Au, all members of the OCAW Hawaii Chapter. (Edwina is the current President of the Chapter, and Sandy, Sharon, and Tina are all past presidents.)** Economist, school principal, and educational consultant are careers that have nourished Sandy’s love of international travel. A three-time Fulbright Scholar and a Rotary International Exchange Scholar to Beijing, she has been able to gain a global perspective of life and learning. As a world traveler, she has shared her international educational perspectives wherever she has ventured.

Sandy regaled the audience with a highly interesting set of various facts that pertained to their island state of Hawaii. For example, it is the most diverse state in the U.S., both geographically and culturally. It is the only state that is a Majority Minority state, and no one ethnicity rules over the others.



*(Photo taken by Ed Devine)*

After her presentation of numerous facts, she and the other members of the Hawaii delegation performed a wonderful hula dance for us, to the well-known and beloved “The Hukilau Song.” Sandy asked us to pay strict attention to the dancers’ hand and foot movements, as we were going to be asked to join them subsequently. After their dance, we audience members got up and followed their lead – or tried to! – and had immense fun! 😊





*(Photo taken by Noreen Hom)*

*(Editor's Note: Anne Hu was able to capture the dance on video. Here is the YouTube link:*

<https://youtu.be/GUQ1c9xgeEY>

*Thanks to Anne!)*

**Thank you very much** to all of our speakers for their wonderful presentations. We learned a lot from them. Thanks also to Maria Yang for co-chairing the session with her tech expertise, and to Weimin Zhou, for also lending his technical knowledge to make the session better. And thank you to Pat Ellzey, Anne Hu, and Susan Young for their efforts in selecting and inviting speakers.

## **Presentations**

At the conclusion of the speakers session, Hawaii President Edwina Lee, on behalf of the chapter, kindly presented gifts of leis, Hawaii calendars, and bags of Hawaii's famous toffee-coated chocolate-covered macadamia nuts to the national officers and chapter presidents who constitute the national board. The leis were handmade by the late Rena Young Ochse, former Hawaii Chapter President. These gifts were thoughtful and much appreciated!

Then, in view of all of the conference attendees, Linda Devine re-presented the President's appreciation plaque to Christina Chang, to much-deserved applause.



*(Photo taken by Lily Tan)*

Edwina Lee then made the formal presentation of the Hawaii Chapter's donation check to New Orleans President Pat Ellzey, announcing to the audience that the funds would go toward the repairs of their church and meeting place, severely damaged by the 2021 hurricanes.





*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*

## **Dinner**

The catered dinner from nearby Pork Barrel BBQ arrived shortly thereafter. Large trays of sliced brisket, pulled pork, cucumber salad, cole slaw, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, and cornbread were set out for the hungry crowd. From all accounts, attendees found the food to be delicious and plentiful, and it appeared that most people went back for seconds!

Wine that had been provided by Anne Hu and others for the Friday night meet-and-greet reception that had not been consumed that night, had been brought to the Sunday night dinner, so attendees were able to enjoy more fine wine with their meals.



The Pork Barrel BBQ spread

*(Photo taken by Amy Lee)*

Christina Chang introduced Lynnette Lee who was invited as a special guest. Lynnette is the daughter of the late Pauline Tsui, OCAW Founder. Lynnette thanked OCAW for the invitation to attend, and said that her mother would be so proud of the organization today. It was gratifying that OCAW members had the opportunity to meet Lynnette or reunite with her.

While guests continued to enjoy their meal, they pulled out the raffle tickets they had been given upon registration earlier and waited to see if they had won one of the many door prizes offered. Lucky winners received a pretty scarf or a Chinese cookbook. Former Silicon Valley President Lily Tan conducted the raffle.

### **Musical entertainment**

After most of the attendees had finished their dinner, Linda Devine took the floor and explained to participants that she had thought that it might be pleasurable if, at some point during our celebration, we could have a bit of music. She had broached the idea to her mom, Mimi Hom, who has been OCAW's Vice President for Programs for over 30 years and is the Founder and Director of the highly successful Opera International. Mimi liked the idea and offered to have Opera International sponsor some entertainment.





*(Video clip created by Ed Devine)*

Steve Hom, guitarist, is Mimi's son and Linda's brother. An attorney, his career in the Federal government spanned over 30 years, where he held top-level positions at the Federal Trade Commission, Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and Nuclear Regulatory Commission. However, since his retirement, he has been able to devote more time to his passion of music. He taught himself to play the guitar beginning at age 12, developed a wonderful proficiency, creates his own arrangements, and teamed up with some of the best singers in the area. With his singers, he performed for Martin O'Malley, former Governor of Maryland; Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett; Maryland's current Senator, Chris Van Hollen; and several of the African Ambassadors to the United States.

Karla Chisholm has been a vocalist for a couple of the top wedding bands in the region. They have been flown to venues in the United States as well as Europe. Among her credits, she performed for Michael Jordan's wedding in Florida, and at President Obama's official Inaugural Ball. Karla's schedule is always booked up, so Linda and Mimi were delighted that she was available to perform for OCAW Sunday night.

Karla and Steve performed several songs from the Great American Songbook and Broadway, and also a few Latin standards. The numbers were from the 1930s to the 1960s, with the exception of “The Water is Wide,” a classic from the 1600s. Almost all of the songs were very well-known and popular, and the audience enjoyed hearing many of their favorites, such as “Pennies from Heaven,” “Summertime,” “What a Wonderful World,” and “End of the World.” However, the few lesser-known numbers were well-received also, such as the humorous “Peel Me a Grape.”



Karla Chisholm and Steve Hom

*(Video clip created by Ed Devine)*

When Steve introduced the song “Sway,” he invited the audience to “sway” with the music, and indeed, several OCAW members took him up on his offer! Former Virginia Chapter President ChiHua Yang immediately moved to the back of the room, grabbed Cathy Roberts, and began dancing. Camilla Ng, Pat Ellzey, and others showed off their “moves” as well.





Yuling Khorsandi (*below*) also danced her way to the group in the back, and then truly enjoyed “swaying” to the music.



(Photos taken by Noreen Hom)

The audience laughed along and snapped pictures, and thoroughly enjoyed the moment. ☺



Friday meet-and-greet reception co-host Dick Roberts finally getting a chance to relax after doing his part for the celebration, and enjoying many of the songs that he knew so well

*(Photo taken by Noreen Hom)*

The many compliments that the musicians received afterward were a testament to the success of their performance, and praise expressed in emails continued through the following week. The music added a special touch to the celebration and was a nice way to cap off the all-day Sunday conference.

After the performance, a special anniversary cake was brought out. Lynnette Lee did the “honors” by cutting the cake.





*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*



All enjoyed the special dessert before saying their goodbyes to one another. This concluded the official portion of the anniversary celebration.

**An enormous thank-you to Amy Lee, for hosting us in her building, making arrangements for a delicious dinner, and handling details to ensure that everything went well for the entire day.**

### **Monday, October 24**

#### **Virginia countryside sightseeing**

In addition to the famous sights of Washington, D.C., Christina Chang liked the idea of showing our out-of-town visitors some of the lovely sights and scenery outside of the city. A day trip was planned for Monday, which would take our visitors to the Virginia countryside. The planned destinations were Skyline Drive and Luray Caverns.

Skyline Drive is the scenic road atop the northern part of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Shenandoah National Park. It is located about 75 miles from Washington, D.C. Drivers Christina Chang and Maria Yang drove two cars containing the five Hawaii members and the two Silicon Valley members.

Hawaii, being of tropical climate, does not experience the “fall colors.” It was hoped that the Hawaii delegation especially would be able to enjoy these beautiful fall colors with the leaves turning their reds, yellows, and oranges.



Maria Yang, Lily Tan, Sharon Chun, and Tina Au at a Skyline Drive overlook

*(Photo courtesy of Lily Tan)*





Luray Caverns is one of the most well-known and popular caverns in the Eastern United States. It is admired for its beautiful cave formations.



*(Photos courtesy of Lily Tan)*





Beautiful cave formations called “draperies” in Luray Caverns

Christina Chang, Maria Yang, Lily Tan, Tina Au, Sandy Young, Sharon Chun, Wendie Liu,  
Edwina Lee, and Anne Hu

*(Photo courtesy of Lily Tan)*

Thanks go to Christina and Maria for driving the long distances.

### **Tuesday, October 25**

**More Virginia sightseeing** was planned for Tuesday, although to sites closer to home.

This time, drivers Steve Chang and ChiHua Yang drove our visitors to Great Falls Park (a National Park Service site), where they enjoyed the waterfalls of the Potomac River. These falls can be spectacular during flood times. Cathy and Dick Roberts joined them for the morning.





*(Photo taken by Edwina Lee)*



*(Photo taken by Steve Chang)*





*(Photos taken by Dick Roberts)*





*(Photo taken by Steve Chang)*



Anne Hu, Lily Tan, Sharon Chun, Edwina Lee, Sandy Young, Tina Au, Cathy Roberts,  
Wendie Liu, and ChiHua Yang

*(Photo taken by Dick Roberts)*



After a return home for lunch, the group headed out once more, this time driven by ChiHua Yang and Christina Chang. Their destination was Manassas National Battlefield Park, the site of the first major battle of the Civil War. Today's drivers were much appreciated.



Sharon Chun, Tina Au, Christina Chang, ChiHua Yang, and Lily Tan

*(Photo courtesy of Lily Tan)*

That evening, Christina prepared a fabulous dinner for our visitors, the final one of their trip. They practiced Lily's hair-curling technique, and had much fun singing karaoke! It was a wonderful way to end their visit, before their flights back home the following day.

All in all, OCAW's 45th anniversary celebration was a big success. All of the planned events went off well, everyone had a great time, friends happily reunited with one another, and many new friendships were made.

### **A few key acknowledgments**

It is virtually impossible to thank everyone by name for all they did to make this celebration the great success that it was. Dozens of people pitched in, and helped in various ways, large and small. I have tried to cite some names throughout this article, where appropriate. But for those of you who were not specifically mentioned (because I was unaware of your contributions), my apologies for the omission, and thank you for all you did.

I would, though, like to single out a few people who, without their efforts, this celebration would not have happened.



First and foremost, **Christina Chang** and **Cathy Roberts**. Christina spent countless hours working on comprehensive arrangements for the celebration. She proposed the initial schedule of events for the five-day event, and then worked hard on many of the details to make sure that everything went smoothly. After a full day of sightseeing on Saturday, she even stayed up until 3 a.m. Sunday morning to bake yummy zucchini bread for the conference the next day! Furthermore, and even more incredibly, she and hard-working **husband Steve** hosted \*seven\* visitors in their home for an entire week: the entire Hawaii Chapter delegation (five members) plus the two members from the Silicon Valley Chapter. Christina and Steve took care of all of their guests' needs, including preparing meals, providing transportation, etc., and I heard from all of their guests how very accommodating they were.

Cathy was outstanding as well. In the very beginning, she compiled a comprehensive list of Washington, D.C. tourist sites with full descriptions, so that visitors could research what they might want to see while here, and she provided metro maps and other information to help them. She was the point of contact for all of the RSVPs. She and conscientious **husband Dick** worked hard to arrange and host the large Friday night meet-and-greet reception at their lovely home. Cathy also made the arrangements for the Saturday night dinner. In addition, she and Dick graciously opened up their home and hosted the three attendees from the New Orleans Chapter.

**Maria Yang** assisted with planning from the very beginning, and was everywhere throughout the weekend. She kindly offered her home to any out-of-town guests who might need a place to stay; provided driving wherever and whenever it was needed, including the long drive to the Virginia countryside on Monday; assisted at the Friday night reception; and was at the conference venue bright and early Sunday morning to set up the room, and where she stayed to help the entire day, through to the clean-up time at the end. She also co-chaired the afternoon speakers session with her tech work, and provided an interesting program herself.

**Amy Lee** was our host for the all-day Sunday conference. From the beginning, she worked on all of the details connected with our use of the building, including the planning and execution of the Sunday night dinner. Amy also compiled detailed information on nearby restaurants and tourist sites that was made available to conference participants.

**Linda Devine** was pleased to be able to contribute by writing and distributing all of the 45th anniversary communications and updates to the OCAW membership; helping to coordinate and assisting with the two-day DC sightseeing excursions; organizing and moderating the conference speakers session; and arranging and coordinating the Sunday evening entertainment.

And finally, thank you to all of our out-of-town members who flew in from various parts of the country and ensured that all five OCAW Chapters were represented at our milestone event. It was so nice to meet you and get to know you! ☺

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

*(Maria Yang, President)*

#### **Yo-Yo Ma Concert**

*(Editor's Note: We are treated to two articles with different perspectives on the same event.)*

*(from Maria Yang)*

Members of the Virginia Chapter of OCAW celebrated Chinese Mid-Autumn Day on Thursday, September 8,

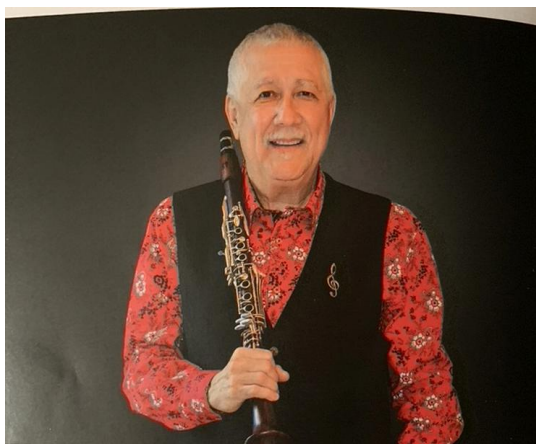
2022, at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, VA with a concert featuring the famed Yo-Yo Ma, Paquito D'Rivera, and additional artists with the National Symphony Orchestra. It was a beautiful, moon-lit, late summer evening, with clear skies, mild temperatures, and low humidity.



Yo-Yo Ma







Paquito D'Rivera



Conductor Jose Luis Gomez



The highlight of the concert was a triple concerto for cello, clarinet, and erhu composed by D’Rivera entitled *The Journey*. Yo-Yo Ma performed on the cello and D’Rivera performed on the clarinet, joined by Cathy Yang on the erhu (an ancient two-stringed Chinese instrument played with a bow) and members of the National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jose Luis Gomez. The composition fuses together varied styles and cultural references that evoke memories from D’Rivera’s Cuban childhood, including visits to a restaurant in Havana’s Chinatown. Following the first movement, the erhu made its first appearance in the slower second movement, introducing a dreamy melody that was soon taken up by the cello and clarinet. The third movement was conceived by D’Rivera as a “soulful tribute” to the Chinese people who came to America “in such precarious conditions” and “hugely contributed to the arts and culture of the New World.”

After the intermission, the National Symphony Orchestra performed Latin American-inspired compositions by George Gershwin (*Cuban Overture*) and Arturo Marquez (*Danzon No. 2*), followed by Symphonic Dances from Leonard Bernstein’s *West Side Story*.

*(Editor’s Note: Erhu musician Cathy Yang was also one of the featured musicians at the November 12, 2017 Opera International Concert organized by Mimi Hom to benefit Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief efforts in the wake of widespread devastation and destruction caused by Hurricane Maria. Cathy and the two other members of 6-Wire Ensemble were met with huge enthusiasm and applause by the appreciative audience. See the November 2017 OCAW E-Newsletter.)*

*(Photos taken by Maria Yang)*

### **An Unusual Trio**

*(from Pu-Chin Waide, lifetime member)*

*(Editor’s Note: Pu-Chin is also a published author. She was invited by the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna, VA, to speak about her short stories on May 7, 2022. See the June OCAW E-Newsletter.)*

We Virginians were always envious of the Marylanders of their Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, MD. But in 1972 things changed, as we got our very own outdoor theatre in Vienna, VA. In those early days of our youth, we did not mind traipsing from the far end of the parking lot, carrying coolers, blankets, and, of course, the ubiquitous bottles of wine and beer to our own \$15 per person piece of grassy slope on the top and back of the stage. We spread out our blankets and took possession of our temporary piece of property. Almost at once our children demanded their picnic. That was what it was all about – munch while listening to the wonderful music emanating from the stage. We loved that and were indifferent to the long trek back to our respective cars at the other end of the parking lot.

As the years rolled by, and our bodies aged and slowed down, our trips to that wonderful musical place also diminished. The trek from the parking lot to the grassy space seemed daunting, but we forgot that relative affluence often accompanied old age, and we could afford to sit in the beautiful, modern, open-sided hall itself. We would not have to lower ourselves gingerly onto the grass, from which it would have been almost impossible to rise. Furthermore, we did not have to lug our coolers full of goodies; we could now buy our dinners and fancy snacks from several five-star eateries. Our cumbersome aging bodies were happy and relieved.

Maria Yang’s mass email to the OCAW Virginia members telling us about Yo-Yo Ma’s upcoming concert, was thrilling. Ma’s cello playing is divine, and although I have many of his CDs, I have never seen him on stage. This was a concert I could not miss.





*(Photo taken by Maria Yang)*

Maria had warned us about getting the tickets online. The price might be double that of the box office. I tried anyway, and discovered that the lawn spaces were \$72 each, and the seats themselves were \$125-\$150 each. I was shocked. What was happening; Wolf Trap's pricing was deliberately set up so that it would be within reach of everyone. It did not seem right. So I took myself to the box office. Indeed, the lawn was \$35 per ticket and the inside seats started at \$72. I told the lady of my experience online, and she said that some people bought up blocks of tickets and then resold them at the inflated prices. There was nothing they could do about it. This was free enterprise. I purchased my two handicapped tickets for myself and my friend, and three for our helpers. I joked with my family, "if it hadn't been for my handicapped friend and me," they would not have been able to come, as the concert was sold out of regular seats.

Maria had also said that we might meet during the intermission, and she would hand out mooncakes and toast to the Mid-Autumn Festival. Being in a wheelchair, I did not expect to be able to meet up with my OCAW sisters. Looking around, it was indeed full. In a glance, I might have seen a scattering of empty seats. I felt sorry for those who had had to pay the gouged prices. I remembered our childhood teasing – "Too bad, so sad, I'm glad!"

When we had settled into our seats, I studied the program and was surprised and rather disappointed that the main feature was not Yo-Yo Ma, but rather a series of pieces of Latin music of Mexico, Cuba, and Venezuela. There was only one piece of music to be played by Ma on his cello, Paquito D'Rivera on his magical clarinet,

and Cathy Yang on her erhu, an ancient Chinese two-stringed instrument. As we waited, the huge disc of brilliant silver, Autumn moon could be seen peeping from behind the tall trees, also waiting patiently for the music to start.

I gingerly stood up from my wheelchair and looked around. The myriad of different facial features, shades of skin, hair color, and costumes overwhelmed me. We were indeed testimony to Maestro Yo-Yo Ma's belief that, to quote the Program Notes of the Concert, "Culture could generate trust and understanding that will stimulate the imagination and reinforce our humanity" in the human race.

When the first piece began, I must admit that I was not sure of what I was hearing; it all seemed dissonant and off-beat, and my having been brought up in the Western European musical tradition, I was bewildered. However, I kept my ears opened and my mind open, and gradually I began to adjust to the strange harmony and syncopated beats and began to see in my mind's eye the lumbering of the Elephant and the prancing of the Clown. By the end of the piece, I was enchanted.

Of course, the next piece was the piece de resistance of the evening. This is what many of us came for. Binoculars were passed back and forth, zooming first on Maestro Ma, then D'Rivera then the erhu, which many had never seen before, and finally we settled down, closed our eyes, and listened. Celestial, wonderful, moving – how can one describe such sublime sounds. What amazed me was that the erhu could produce a voluminous and deep sound from such a small sound box. I was sure it would be dominated by Ma's cello.

During the intermission, somehow Maria found me, and came to give me a box of mooncakes, to share with my daughter-in-law and granddaughter and friends. It was a wonderful surprise. Of course, we had to open the box and have some of the cakes. Later an official of the venue came and smilingly told us that we were not supposed to eat anything in the pavilion, but she added, "I did not see what you have done" and walked away. We were gently chastised and made to feel a bit guilty. We will remember this always.

The rest of the evening was history. The audience was totally seduced by the musicians and craved for more, especially after such a finale as Leonard Bernstein's familiar *West Side Story* in concert form. Alas, it was late and many of us had "miles to go before I sleep."

Maria,

I am sure OCAW will join me in thanking you very much for a great evening. Those mooncakes were the icing on the cake. Did you also arrange for the FULL MOON?





Pu-Chin Waide with mooncakes, Maria Yang, Pu-Chin's daughter-in-law, and  
Pu-Chin's granddaughter

*(Photo courtesy of Maria Yang)*

### **OCAW 45th Anniversary Celebration – Thank you!**

*(from Maria Yang)*

On behalf of the Virginia Chapter of OCAW, I want to express my gratitude to the nine representatives from the distant chapters who traveled to attend the OCAW 45th Anniversary celebration and conference in the Washington, DC area. We had 19 people from the Virginia Chapter who participated in the Meet-and-Greet reception on Friday, October 21, and 17 chapter members who joined in the Anniversary Conference on Sunday, October 23. I also would like to thank the OCAW National Board for arranging this successful and memorable celebration.

There's a Chinese saying, "If it's our karma, even if we are separated by thousands of miles, we still come together." This reflects the spirit of the nine representatives from California, Hawaii, and Louisiana who carried bags and bags of goodies and interesting programs to meet together and celebrate the OCAW 45th Anniversary. Thank you, all!





(Photos courtesy of Maria Yang)



### **News from the New Orleans Chapter**

*(from Pat Ellzey, President)*

#### **Recent events**

The New Orleans Chapter had been affected by the onset of COVID, and had not been able to meet during the pandemic, especially as some members live far away.

However, with the virus abating, the chapter was finally able to meet upon two occasions recently. The more recent gathering featured Dr. Lihua Zhang, former chapter president, giving a talk and demonstration on stretching and health.

More information on these events will be provided in the next OCAW e-newsletter.

#### **OCAW 45th Anniversary Celebration – Thank you!**

I know I speak for all of us out-of-towners when I say, “We appreciate all the work y’all did to make our gathering such a success!”

Thank you to Christina Chang and all the committee very much for such a fun time at the celebration. Getting to meet and know our “sisters” and having such a good time together was a very happy and successful event.

We will have many good memories about our time together.

It was great for Steve Hom to share his talents. He and Karla surely filled our gathering with such wonderful music and entertainment. They were the “icing on the cake!”

Also, if ever anyone visits New Orleans, please let me know so I can take you sightseeing and we can renew our “sisterhood relationship” and continue to have good times again.

Much aloha!

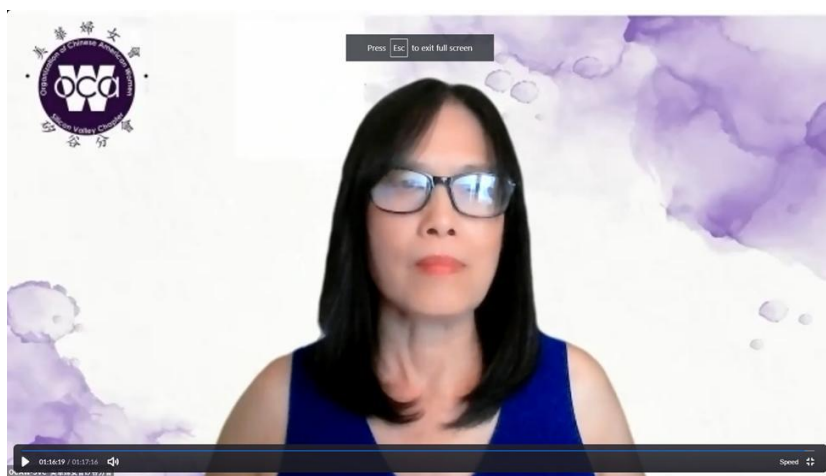
### **News from the Silicon Valley Chapter**

*(Jen Tsao, President)*

#### **Webinar: A forgotten history of Chinese Americans working in the U.S. Salmon Canning Industry**

*(from Jen Tsao)*

On Sunday, August 28, 2022, a webinar regarding the work of Chinese Americans in the U.S. salmon canning industry was presented by Jim and Philip Chiao. The webinar was given in Mandarin, and there were up to 39 participants on Zoom.



Jen Tsao



Jim and Philip Chiao



From the late 1800s to the early 1900s, thousands of Chinese laborers sailed from San Francisco, Seattle, and Portland to Alaska in barques every year to work in the salmon canning factories. Canned salmon was one of the most important products in the American Northwest and Alaska from the late 19th century until before World War II. The salmon canning industry is also one of the few West Coast industries in which the early Chinese played a key role over the years.

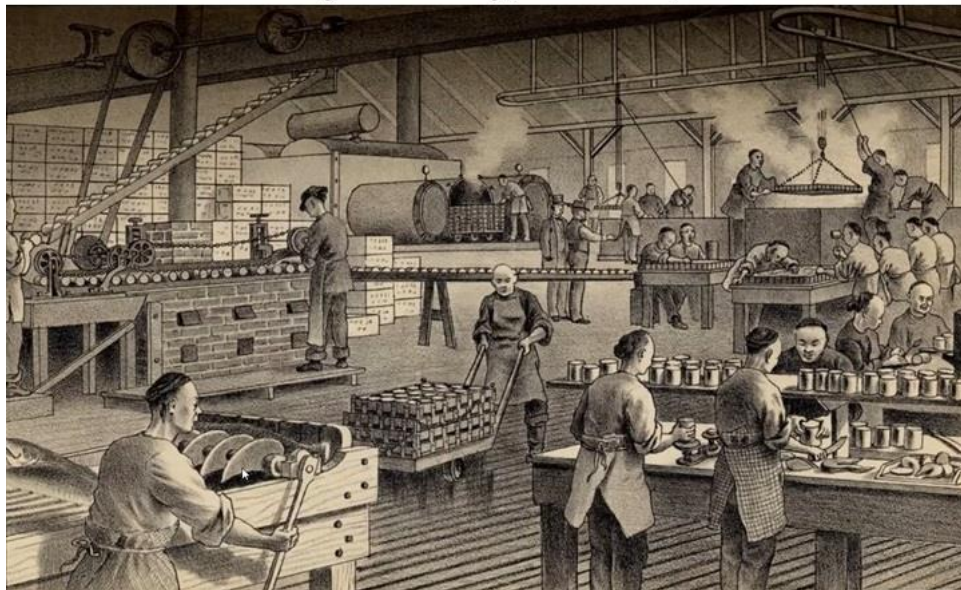
In the early 1970s, twin brothers Jim and Philip Chiao spent a few summers at a cannery in Alaska during college. Now, Jim is a retired engineer and Philip is a retired architect. Jim and Philip have spent time studying the history of Chinese and Chinese Americans in this industry since their retirements.

In this informative webinar, Jim and Philip shared their personal experiences while doing their summer jobs in Alaska, and they talked about the birth of the salmon canning industry, the life of canning factories, and the rise and disappearance of Chinese workers.





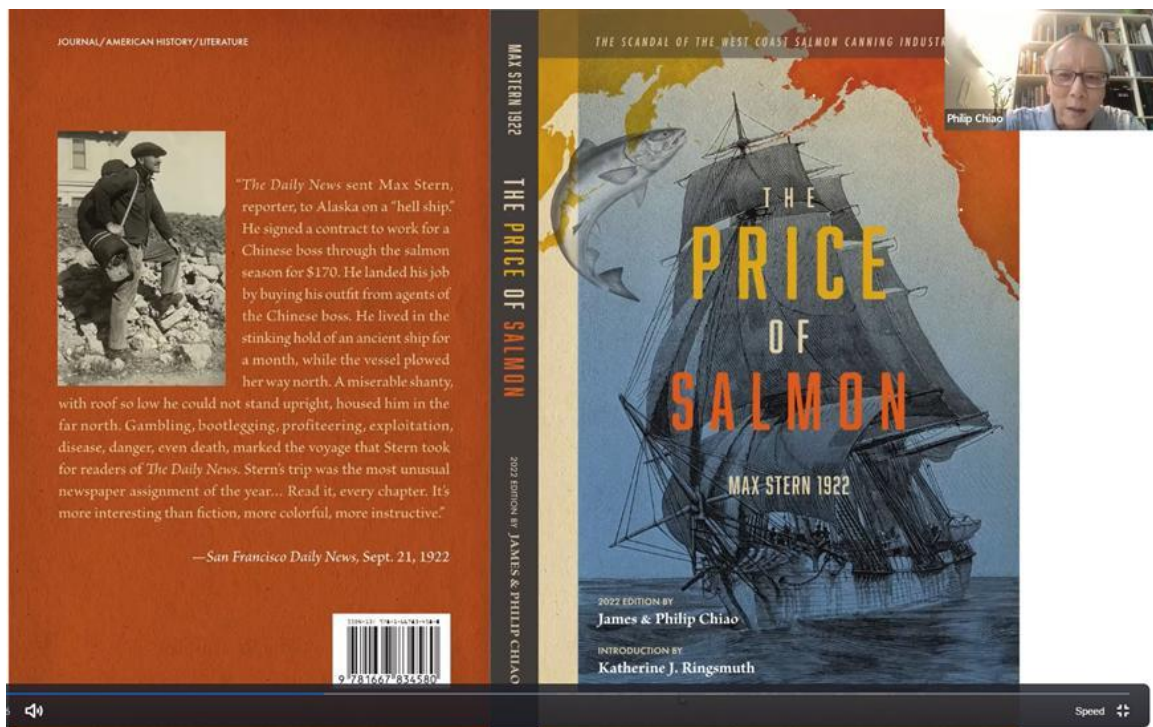
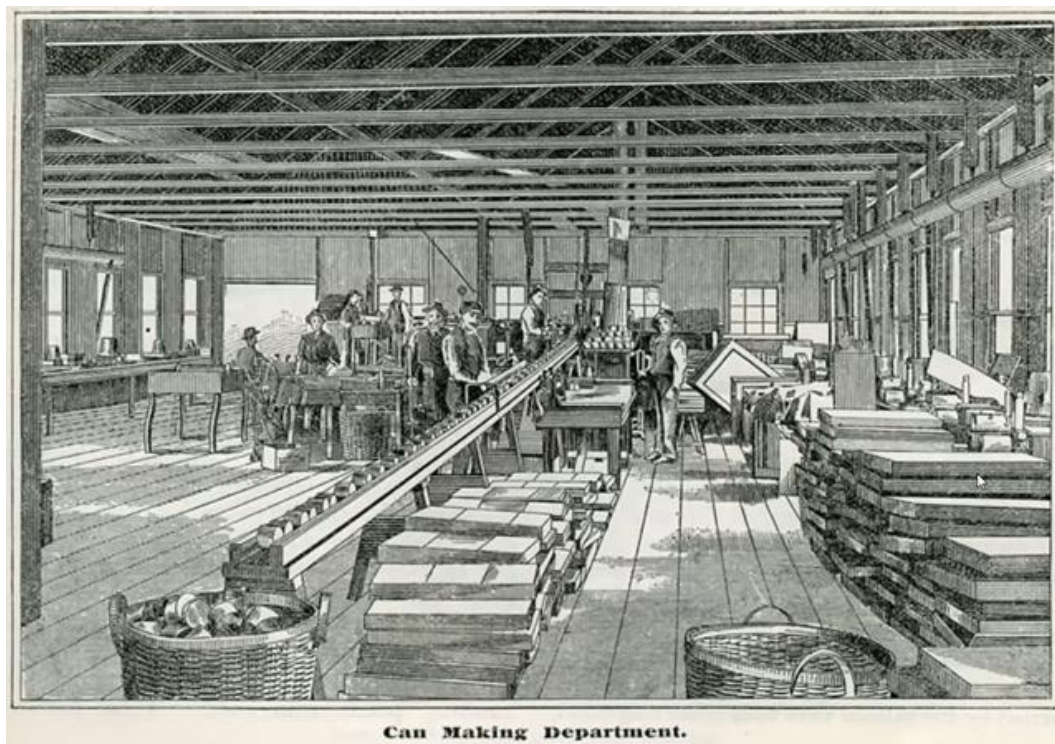
Kinney cannery, Astoria, OR



Chinese Butchers







(Photos courtesy of Jen Tsao and Jim and Philip Chiao)

The following is the YouTube link for the webinar:  
<https://youtu.be/0Jp8lr43t7g>

## **Officers' Retreat**

*(from Jen Tsao)*

The OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter held an officers' retreat in the afternoon of Sunday, October 2, 2022. We gathered in the backyard of former President Carol Yuan.

Besides sharing OCAW-SVC's status and discussing future plans, we enjoyed colorful nail polish, a garden tour from our host, a variety of snacks and drinks, and the most important of all, friendship.



Wen-Mei Tai and Anne Hu





Host Carol Yuan showing her garden to attendees







Cynthia Chang, Sophia Yang, and Yufan Lu embarking on nail beauty





Monica Hsiao and Cynthia Chang, displaying their nail polish handiwork



Jen Tsao, Ai-chu Wang, Wen-Mei Tai, Cynthia Ho, Phyllis Tung, Monica Hsiao, Sophia Yang, Candice Huang, Carol Yuan, Michelle Huang, and Anne Hu

*(Photos taken by Sunny Chou, Michelle Huang, and Jen Tsao)*



## Walk to End Alzheimer's

*(from Carol Yuan, former President)*

This was the 8th year that the OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter participated in the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's fundraiser. The event was organized by the Alzheimer's Association and took place on Saturday, October 15, 2022.

I have been very happy to be the team captain. Our team's name is "OCAW-SVC Friends and Families." We have eight registered team members and over a dozen donors this year. As a team, we've raised \$1,950 so far. Fundraising is continuing until the end of the year. We welcome any donations to support the fight to end this disease. Our team link is: <http://act.alz.org/goto/ocawsvcfriendsandfamilies>

This year's walk started at Excite Ballpark in San Jose, then walked across the street to History Park and the Japanese Friendship Garden. Among the eight members and friends who walked this year, six joined the walk for the first time. Everyone was impressed by the energy and positive vibe from all of the volunteers and the thousands of participants.



Silicon Valley Chapter Team members and Stand By You Team members before the Walk. The Stand By You Team is captained by Peining Chang, holding its team sign. She is the Community Outreach Manager of the Alzheimer's Association's Northern California and Northern Nevada Chapter.



Our President Jen Tsao and her husband Alex Tsao made a beautiful OCAW team sign for us this year. Both Jen and Alex are longtime Alzheimer's Association contributors. Alex currently serves on the National Board of Directors. Jen introduced me to the Alzheimer's Association, and I went to its annual Chinese Forum for the first time nine years ago. After grasping an initial understanding of this disease, and its impact and costs to our community, I started to volunteer and formed a team to Walk to End Alzheimer's eight years ago. I do not have a personal connection to this disease but hope to help raise awareness about it in our community.

There were volunteers, groups, and individuals performing along the walk route to cheer walkers. Our President Jen Tsao and member Lisa Tsai and their Choral Cosmo were out there cheering for everyone, too.



Phyllis Tung, Carol Yuan,  
Jen Tsao, Sophia Yang,  
and Lisa Tsai







In front of Ng Shing Gung

Phyllis Tung, Jung-Fei Lin, Alice Chiou, Sophia Yang, Carol Yuan, Shina Lin,  
and Rachel Huang





Participants inside Excite Ballpark







At the finish line





Sunny Chou (Sophia Yang's sister), Rachel Huang, Shina Lin, Carol Yuan, Sophia Yang, Alice Chiou, Phyllis Tung, and Jung-Fen Lin

*(Photos taken by Jen Tsao, Sunny Chou, and Peining Chang and her team)*

*(Editor's Note: Kudos to the Silicon Valley Chapter for their many dedicated years of working to fight this disease.)*

### **OCAW 45h Anniversary Celebration – Thank you!**

**Immediate Past President Anne Hu** flew to Washington, D.C. to attend the celebration.

The following is a link to over 50 photos that Anne took or collected.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZSJtu3sqNUQv4xxd7>

The Hawaii Chapter delegation performed a wonderful hula, danced to the famous and beloved "The Hukilau Song." Fortunately for all of us, Anne was able to capture it on video. Here is the YouTube link to the dance:

<https://youtu.be/GUQ1c9xgeEY>

From Anne: “Thank you to the sisters in the Maryland and Virginia Chapters who offered to host parties and provide lodging and transportation. We all had a great time, and I am most grateful! Please let me know if you will visit Silicon Valley in the future.”

**Former President Lily Tan** also came to DC. In addition to the nice thank-yous she provided, she added these comments:

“Christina cooked three meals a day. Steve drove us everywhere. Hawaii doesn’t have Trader Joe’s, so the Hawaii members went there twice to purchase goodies. Their luggage came to Washington with macadamia nut gifts and afterward it was full again with Virginia souvenirs.

On the last night, they were all practicing the socks hairdo and karaoke. We sang until midnight until we all lost our voices. So much laughter all night long after a wonderful dinner.

Thank you for all the wonderful work...Especially I enjoyed Steve and Karla’s music performance.”

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

*(Edwina Lee, President)*

#### **Third General Membership Meeting**

*(from Queenie Mow Chee, Secretary)*

The OCAW Hawaii Chapter held its third General Membership Meeting on Sunday, August 21, 2022. Our featured speakers were the Principal and President of Mun Lun School, the oldest and largest Chinese language school in America.

The Principal is a first-generation Chinese American lady, while the President is the first female in the history of the school to hold this position.

### **Why the Hawaii Chapter Donated Support to Mun Lun School Again**

Two years ago, OCAW’s April 2020 national e-newsletter included an article on the “Shining Stars of Mun Lun School.” It featured a few outstanding Chinese American women who graduated from this Chinese language school, located in Hawaii and founded in 1911. This school continues on today, even after the challenges of the COVID pandemic, and so it holds onto the bragging right of being the oldest existing Chinese language school in the United States. Enrollment is steadily returning and expanding. An Instagram account and a new website for the school now help to promote Mun Lun School programs to the public on social media.

With adversity comes opportunity, especially when there is an energetic and creative principal (a Chinese American woman) at the helm. Through the wonders of the Internet, new doors are open to welcome students and teachers from not just on Oahu, but the various neighbor islands, the mainland U.S., and even internationally. There is even one teacher who teaches online from Europe!

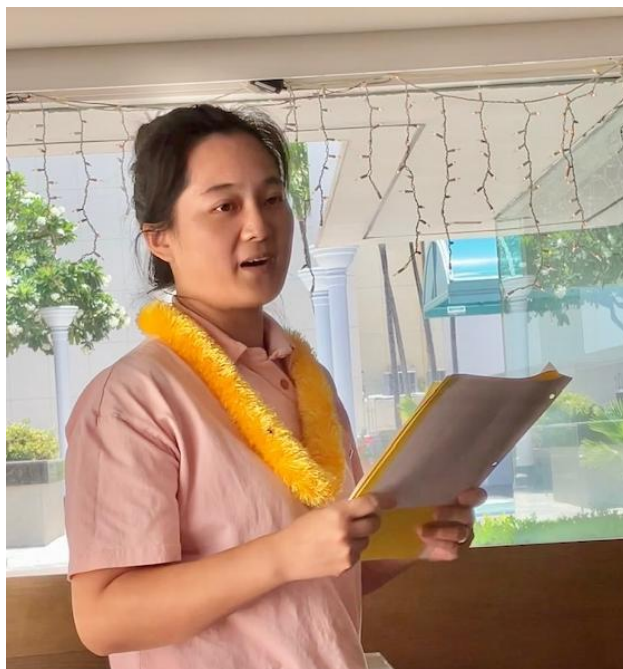
During the pandemic period, the Mun Lun students not only participated in national and overseas competitions, but also won online vocabulary contests and multiple composition competitions.



At our last general membership meeting, the Principal of Mun Lun School, Mrs. Lily Shan, and the school's Board President, Mrs. Maylani Chang, shared an update and the latest developments. Mrs. Chang summarized the history of the background of the school, starting with its formation officially in 1911. The principal shared with us the new programs and directions that have come about within the last year.



Maylani Chang, President of Mo Hock Ke Lock Bo,  
Mun Lun School Board



Lily Shan, Mun Lun School Principal

The school's curriculum has been expanded beyond just reading, writing, and speaking Mandarin and some Cantonese. There are more cultural activities such as lessons in music (piano) and art (brush painting) as well as coding (AI coding classes in Chinese). The teachers, who are now all accredited and qualified educators, are encouraged to use entertainment-education theory to teach. With the added dimension of utilizing online classes (interactive, no less), so much more excitement and outreach is now possible.

Free enrichment programs have been added such as kung fu, WeiQi (popularly known as the board game of Go), paper cutting, calligraphy, and ink wash painting. More hands-on activities for school open houses include shadow play, digital art, clay animation, and 3D printing pen. For the day students, there is even a ping pong table that can be used during their recess.

A recent example of the creativity of a Chinese education in a fun way:

In celebration of the Mid-Autumn, festivities with the students who attended school in Chinatown enjoyed listening to the legend of the Festival while nibbling on mooncakes, and made different kinds of lanterns and paper bunnies.

From Principal Shan's report:

"The upper graders had a great experience making snow-skin mooncakes with red bean paste. It was the first

time for most of the students to make mooncakes; some of them saved them for their parents. Online students who signed up could pick up mooncakes and celebrate with the online teachers.”



Susan Chong Wong, OCAW National Secretary  
and Hawaii Chapter Vice President

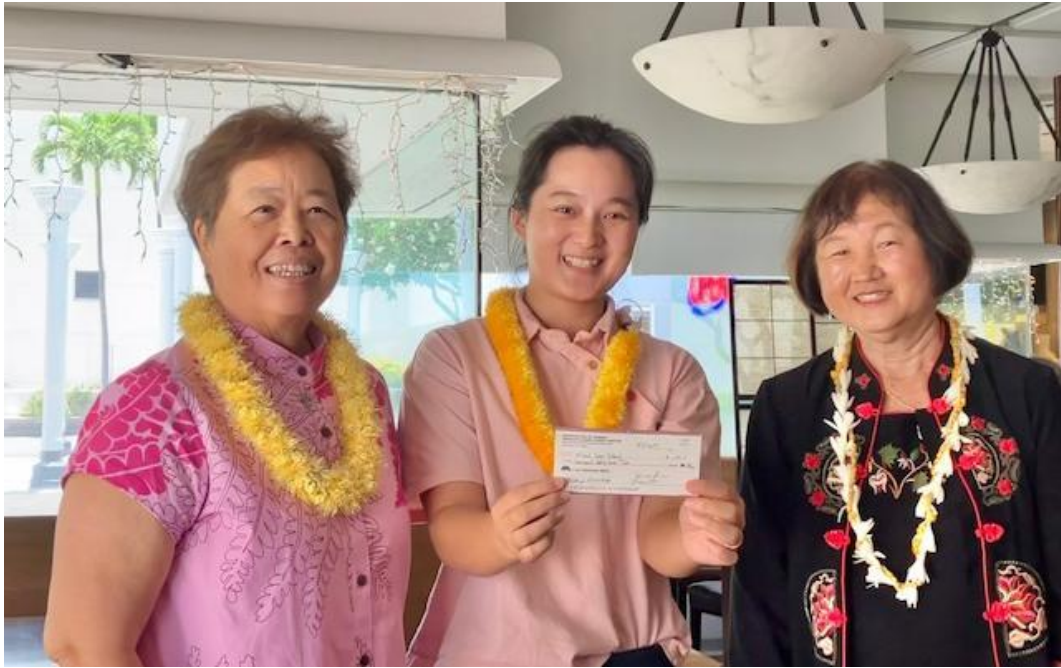
The concept of being a productive, contributing citizen and a valued American of Chinese ancestry is promoted through the Five Confucian Virtues which are the hallmarks of Mun Lun: Filial Piety, Diligence, Honesty, Patriotism, and Fellowship.

Mun Lun School looks at the student as a whole person, and seeks to develop awareness of self and depth of character, enriched by a knowledge of heritage and traditions. This builds self-confidence. Learn to speak proper English, but don't forget the Chinese! Many of the students are first- or second-generation immigrants from China, and from families who are adjusting to the American way of life. Often they have parents who work extra hard to provide a better life for their families in this new country. And simultaneously do not want their children to forget their first heritage. Recognize that many of these activities come with a cost, and it is through generous donations from sponsors that these ideas may come to reality.



Maylani presents a Commemorative Anniversary Book to Hawaii Chapter President Edwina Lee.





Maylani, Lily, and Edwina with the Hawaii Chapter Donation check

America is rich with many traditions that can be shared and enjoyed by all. May the learning of the various heritages of our ancestors help to broaden our understanding of the world community.

OCAW Hawaii is happy to recognize the work in the well-rounded education efforts by Mun Lun School. We respect and acknowledge the savvy and dynamic efforts of its Chinese American female leaders.



Members Victoria Ho (Membership Chair), Gretchen Jong (Nominations Chair), and Sharon Chun (Communications and Webmaster)



Newest member Sharlene Chun with member Wendie Liu (2023 President for the Associated Chinese University Women)



After the Guest Speakers, lunch time!

*(Photos taken by Queenie Chee)*



## **Recap of the 45th Anniversary of OCAW National Event**

by Edwina Lee

Five members of the Hawaii Chapter of OCAW went to the 45th anniversary celebration of OCAW National. They were Tina Au, past President; Sharon Chun, past President; Edwina Lee, current President; Wendie Liu; and Sandy Young, past President.



Honolulu International Airport

*(Photo taken by Wayson Lee)*

(Note: Wendie Liu is not pictured as she found her own way to the airport.)

They boarded their United Airlines Flight at 12:50 p.m. on Wednesday, October 19 in Honolulu and arrived in Washington, DC – Dulles International Airport around 7:15 a.m. the following day. They were all picked up by their gracious hosts, Christina Chang, current OCAW National President, and her husband Steve Chang in two separate cars.

That morning Christina prepared breakfast and lunch for us at her home, and later in the afternoon we were joined by two other members from the Silicon Valley Chapter, Anne Hu, immediate past President, and Lily Lee Tan, past President. All seven of us stayed at Steve and Christina's lovely home during the entire trip.

That evening we were hosted by Edwina's cousins, Joanne and Vincent Young, who live in Vienna, Virginia, at a hot pot dinner, but Christina and Steve paid for the bill before I could.

The next day, Friday, we went sightseeing (Christina, Anne, Lily, Edwina, Sandy, Wendie, Sharon, and Tina) by catching the metro to Washington, DC. Thanks to Cathy Roberts who met us at the Vienna/Fairfax metro station and helped us get our tickets. Yuling Khorsandi, New Orleans Chapter Vice President, joined us at the metro station. When we got to Washington, DC, it took us a while to find where to catch the Hop-on, Hop-off bus, and thanks to Anne Hu who bought our tickets ahead of time online. Linda Devine met and joined us for the sightseeing tour on the Hop-on, Hop-off bus in Washington, DC. Cathy did not join us on the sightseeing tour, but she needed to come to drop off Yuling at the Vienna/Fairfax metro station.

We saw the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the White House, etc. from the bus, and we got off at the Capitol as we had a reservation there, thanks to Anne.



*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*





*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*

We got there early for our reservation so they took us in early. We had a nice tour of the Capitol, and Sandy Young asked to see the Senate Chamber so we got a pass and went into the Chamber. The highlight was that the guide talked about the January 6, 2021 incident at the Capitol. We ate lunch in the Capitol's cafeteria.

After our Capitol visit, we hopped on again on the Hop-on, Hop-off bus to continue our sightseeing of the other sights and got off at the Lincoln Memorial and Korean War Memorial and walked to the White House. Some of us, Anne Hu and Sandy Young, did not make it to the White House and caught an Uber car to meet us at the Farragut West metro station to go back to the Vienna/Fairfax metro station. Unfortunately, we did not meet up with them as the Uber dropped them off at a different entrance from where we were all waiting, and they boarded the metro and went ahead. However, we did meet up again when we got out of the Vienna/Fairfax station.

That evening we were hosted for dinner at Cathy and Dick Roberts' residence in Oakton, Virginia. There were about 40 people present including spouses and relatives. We had kalua pig prepared by Cathy which was brought by the Hawaii Chapter, and Cathy and other Virginia Chapter members prepared other dishes such as a fruit salad, vegetable salad, and some sandwiches. Anne Hu had wine shipped from California, Pat Ellzey brought pralines from New Orleans, Karina Hou (Maryland Chapter) brought Virginia wine, and the Virginia Chapter brought peanuts and wine from Virginia. We also had a special chocolate sheet cake celebrating our 45th anniversary of OCAW National.

On Saturday, we started bright and early, and some of us got dropped off at the Vienna/Fairfax metro station by Steve and Christina Chang, and Steve, being a most helpful and kind and considerate husband, parked Christina's car in the garage so we could make our appointment at the Chinese American Museum DC in Washington, DC, and then whoever was in Steve's car (Anne, Wendie, Sandy, and I) got to ride to Washington, DC and got dropped off by Steve right in front of CAMDC.

We were greeted by David Yao, Christina Poy, Anny Lai, and Karina Hou when we got there. David, CAMDC Senior Advisor, was a very good speaker, and he knew a lot about the artifacts that were in the museum. We spent two hours looking at all the artifacts in that museum and listening to David speak on each one of them.



*(Photo taken by Anne Hu)*

After the tour of the museum, we were all dropped off by Steve Chang and Maria Yang at the Smithsonian museums. We visited the Museum of Natural History, the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden, and the National Museum of Asian Art (Freer and Sackler Galleries). We broke up into smaller groups and set a time when to meet back at each museum.



That evening, we had dinner at Lotus Garden in Vienna, Virginia, and even tasted a dish that had knife-cut noodles. We took up two tables, and Pat Ellzey and her husband William joined us along with Dianna Gorin from North Carolina and some other members from the Virginia Chapter whom I did not get to meet that night as they were at the other table.

The next day, Sunday, was rainy and was the official National Board meeting and conference with workshops by Zoom and also in-person workshops in Alexandria, Virginia. It was held in the penthouse of Amy Lee's condominium who hosted us. Each chapter was represented and did a presentation.

The Hawaii Chapter spokesperson was Dr. Sandy Young who did some research on the Chinese in Hawaii. After that the members of the Hawaii Chapter did a Hukilau dance, and after that we asked for audience participation which was well received.

During Hawaii's presentation, Edwina and the Hawaii Chapter members presented ribbon and silk leis made by Rena Ochse, a past member and relative of Dr. Sandy Young, to the OCAW National Board and all of the chapter Presidents, and gave them gifts of Hawaiian calendars and toffee-covered chocolate macadamia nuts.



*(Photo taken by Wendie Liu)*

A special presentation of a \$300 check was presented to Pat Ellzey to her New Orleans Chapter from Edwina of the Hawaii Chapter to help them with renovating their church where they meet for their meetings as it was damaged by recent hurricanes.

*(Photo taken by Wendie Liu)*



There was also a special presentation of a plaque to Christina Chang, our National President who will be retiring from being our National President after serving for 12 years.

*(Photo taken by Edwina Lee)*



That evening, we had a barbeque southern style catered dinner with their version of pulled pork, brisket, cole slaw, baked beans, etc. It was delicious and different.

We also served a huge sheet cake commemorating this 45th anniversary. We had a special guest, Lynnette Lee, daughter of Pauline Tsui, who attended the dinner, and we had her do the first cut of the special 45th anniversary cake.



*(Photo taken by Edwina Lee)*



*(Photo courtesy of Edwina Lee)*

For entertainment that evening, Linda Devine had hired her brother Steve Hom and his gorgeous singer, Karla Chisholm, to perform some jazz songs from the past. They were a terrific duo. The entertainment was sponsored by Mimi Hom and Opera International.



Karla Chisholm and Steve Hom

*(Video clip taken by Ed Devine)*

We all had fun that evening and got to meet more members of our sister chapters, and everyone would love to come to Hawaii for our 50th anniversary.

The next day, Monday, was a sunny day in Virginia, and we got up early to go sightseeing along Skyline Drive in Shenandoah National Park. We saw beautiful trees where the leaves were in their autumn colors. Our drivers were Christina Chang, our host and National President, and Maria Yang, President of the Virginia Chapter. There were 9 of us altogether (Anne, Lily, Tina, Sharon, Wendie, Sandy, and I) who went.

In our car, we stopped off at a roadside produce stand to buy some apple products, and we saw multitudes of pumpkins in all sizes and shapes and various gourds too, right in the driveway.





*(Photo taken by Christina Chang)*



Edwina, Christina, Wendie, and Anne

*(Photo taken by Sandy Young)*



I bought apple butter and red apple dressing to bring home. Anne Hu was very nice and treated all of us (Christina, Sandy, Wendie, and me) to hot apple cider which was very soothing to drink and sweet, and it definitely warmed us up.

We stopped at several lookouts along the way on Skyline Drive and took several pictures of the scenery.



*(Photo taken by Christina Chang)*

Christina got a call while we were on Skyline Drive as the other car took a detour, and eventually they arrived at our meeting place which was a small shopping complex outside of Luray Caverns. There we ate our delicious sandwiches which Christina had made the night before.

After lunch we went to see Luray Caverns.





*(Photo taken by Edwina Lee)*

It was a beautiful cavern with many colors. I thought because we were in a cavern that it would be cold, but it was not as cold as I had thought it would be, and I was fine with just a long-sleeve blouse and a sweater. I had brought an extra jacket in my bag, just in case it was very cold in the cavern.

After the sightseeing in the cavern, we broke off into smaller groups and went to see other museums such as the one with all the old vintage cars, and across the street was another museum showing the mining industry. We could even try our hand at mining too for \$1.00.

That evening, we had dinner at Christina's home and met her beautiful grandchildren, Rose and Leo. We had fun talking to them as they ate dinner with us. After dinner, some of us went to Trader Joe's to buy last-minute items to take home for our friends and relatives. Those of us who stayed back started to pack.

The next day, Tuesday, was a cloudy day, but it did not hamper us from going to see Great Falls Park. ChiHua Yang arrived at the house around 10 a.m. and we started out. Steve Chang offered to be the second driver so Christina could stay home and make lunch and dinner for us that day, as we were planning to go to Great Falls first, then come home for lunch and then head to Manassas Battlefield Park.

The drive to Great Falls was beautiful as we saw more trees with autumn-colored leaves. When we got to Great Falls, the visitor center was closed so we headed for the falls. We took a group picture of all of us at one of the lookouts.



*(Photo taken by Steve Chang)*

Some places were challenging as we had to climb over rocks, so some of us did not attempt it. Cathy Roberts and her husband Dick joined us at Great Falls, and we had a grand time getting to know Cathy and Dick. She gave each of us another bag of Virginia peanuts to eat on the plane.



Some of us were more acrobatic and agile as Tina Au tried out her mountain climbing skills.



*(Photo taken by Edwina Lee)*

While some of us could not climb, we could jump as shown by this picture.





*(Photo taken by Steve Chang)*

After Great Falls, we said our goodbyes to Cathy and Dick as we were all leaving tomorrow to go home. Steve and ChiHua took us all back home to Steve and Christina's house where we ate a quick lunch for about an hour. This time, Steve switched with Christina and had Christina drive as Steve had to pick up their grandchildren in the late afternoon.

We headed out for Manassas National Battlefield Park. We were greeted by a park ranger, and he gave us a map of the place. Here is a picture of me in front of the cannons on the battlefield.



*(Photo taken by Sandy Young)*



After the group visited the battlefield, we saw the battle which was portrayed on a relief map with colored lights. The lights showed the two different sides of the war, the Confederates and the Yankees.

Some of us who wanted to do more walking went to look at the house on the battlefield, while we went to take a picture of the Stonewall Jackson statue.

Lastly, the park ranger told us to watch a video of the battle which was about 40 minutes long. The video was very interesting. We felt sorry for the poor old lady who did not want to move from her house and thus was killed in the crossfire of the war. Also, we noted that a lot of the soldiers were still very young to fight for their state. That was pretty sad. I thought the families having a picnic while watching a war was pretty unreal.

On the way back home, some of the members wanted to go to Trader Joe's again, especially the ones who did not go the first time, so we went there again and bought some stuff to help the Virginia economy. Luckily I had my cooler from transporting the kalua pig so I could bring some stuff back.

That evening, we had a nine-course dinner at Steve and Christina's house. There was so much food that we could not eat it all, and it was all so very delicious. After dinner, we had a session by Lily showing us how to curl our hair using the baby socks. Rose, Steve and Christina's granddaughter, was our model, and she had all her hair curled up in baby socks. She looked beautiful.

After dinner, we sang English and Chinese karaoke and went to bed late that night as we also needed to pack the stuff we bought from Trader Joe's.

On behalf of the Hawaii Chapter, we would like to thank our gracious hosts, Steve and Christina Chang, for housing us, feeding us, taking care of our needs, driving us, etc., just as if they were our parents. We could not have asked for more kind, considerate, and generous hosts.

We really enjoyed the 45th OCAW National anniversary event and all the sisters that we met in Virginia, Maryland, New Orleans, and Silicon Valley. We hope we can do this in another five years and have a reunion of all the chapters again.

\* \* \* \* \*

**From member Wendie Liu:** "I really do appreciate the warm hospitality of our host sisters on the east coast, so far from Hawaii. Mahalo."

**From former President Sandy Young:** "Aloha. I completely concur with Wendie's expressions of gratitude, first, to have been invited to this awesome event, and secondly, to have met such amazing Sisters at this 45th anniversary celebration of OCAW. Thanks to the Board of the OCAW Hawaii Chapter for its tremendous support, and to the National OCAW Board for the outstanding hospitality showered on all of us delegates. It was a real delight to meet all of the OCAW National leaders in person after meeting only virtually before.

This event was democratically planned, precisely implemented, and thoroughly and successfully accomplished. Kudos to all who participated, and Super Kudos to the many leaders for carrying out such a splendid event.

***Xie xie nimen.*** My appreciation to all for making it possible for me to join this fantastic and special celebration.”

**From former President Tina Au:** “Aloha to you all: Thank you very much for the warm hospitality and great friendships. I welcome you all to Hawaii, and look forward to seeing you in the near future.”

**Former President and National Webmaster Sharon Chun** designed her own thank-you cards and sent them to appreciative recipients.

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

#### **Alzheimer’s Study**

*(from Faith Breen, former National President)*

Faith said that she received a letter from CVS to participate in a study about Alzheimer’s disease. It is sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company. She signed up for this study because an old mentor of hers, the most brilliant woman she had ever met, passed away two years ago from Alzheimer’s. Faith recalls that researchers needed more Asian women to participate, so her mother signed up for medical studies a few years ago. Faith is now answering the call.

She thought that this might be of interest to OCAW members, so she has provided a link:  
[tb3study.com](https://tb3study.com)

#### **Taiwan Expo USA**

*(from Maria Yang, Virginia Chapter President)*

Taiwan Expo USA was held October 12-14, 2022 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. This was the first expo to be held in North America showcasing the best of Taiwan’s industries and culture.

I was invited to attend the Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, October 12, in the Atrium of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.







*(Photos taken by Maria Yang)*



### **Dr. Henry Lee**

*(from Karina Hou, Maryland Chapter President)*

Dr. Henry Lee is one of the world's foremost forensic scientists. Karina is an Advisor to the Chinese American Museum DC, and she shared with us that CAMDC is working on a future exhibition featuring Dr. Lee and his work.

OCAW members were excited to learn of these plans. As more information develops, we will inform the membership.



### **Chrysanthemum Show**

*(from Linda Devine)*

Camilla Ng, former Maryland Chapter President, recently organized and coordinated a wonderful chrysanthemum show. She is the President of the Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society, and the event was held on Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30, 2022, at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church, Virginia.

Mums are one of Camilla's main interests, and her beautiful mums photos have appeared previously in OCAW e-newsletters. In fact, because of her intense work with these flowers, she was able to attend only the Sunday night dinner and entertainment of the OCAW 45th Anniversary Celebration, as she was returning to Washington from Long Island, New York after participating and judging in a mums show over that weekend.

OCAW National VP for Membership Cathy Roberts kindly volunteered to help Camilla with the show, and Camilla put Cathy to work in assisting with the tabulation of judging results, taking advantage of Cathy's professional accounting expertise. Camilla was grateful to Cathy for her efforts.

Virginia Chapter member Amy Lee and her friend Philomena Loh, and Maryland Chapter members Linda Devine and Janet Biermann attended the show on Sunday, October 30, and enjoyed the blooms and Ikebana art on display.



*(Photos taken by Janet Biermann)*





*(Photo taken by Linda Devine)*



Camilla Ng, Janet Biermann, Linda Devine, and Amy Lee

*(Photo taken by Philomena Loh)*