



Locke Foundation Newsletter 樂居鎮基金會

Preserving Locke's history and legacy

www.locke-foundation.org

Summer 2016

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Asian Pacific Spring Festival transforms Main Street

Although rain was forecast throughout the Valley, over 400 visitors attended the annual Locke Asian Pacific Street Festival on Saturday, May 21, 2016. Fortunately the rain did not come.

Boy Scouts Troop 6 from Sacramento arrived bright and early to help set up canopies and booths. Four food vendors provided a variety of lunch offerings: Panda Express, Mi Tierra Mexican Food, Mr. Pops Kettle Corn and Frigid Frog.

Jim Chong from Wokstar productions served as emcee. The day's entertainment was kicked off by the rousing drums from Eastern Ways. Entertainment chair Eva Chu choreographed an outstanding line-up of ethnic performances.



Clockwise: Jim Chong with Eastern Ways Sifu Hubbard; Eastern Ways lions; Sinagtala Filipino bamboo pole dancers; Stockton Taiko Dummies; Great Richy juggler; Face painting; James Motlow and Stuart Walthall prep Main Street.

Photos courtesy of Jim Chong, Joe Chan, Jeff Kan Lee and Henry Lim.



More festival photos
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May 2016 Festival photos

Photos courtesy of Jim Chong, Joe Chan, Jeff Kan Lee and Henry Lim



Clockwise: Red Maple Chinese Cultural Connection; Lily Zhu, water sleeve dancer; Mr. Pops booth; and Little Phoenix, Tu-Mien dancers with Eva Chu, festival entertainment chair.



Sponsors

Confucius Institute, UC Davis
Edible Sacramento Magazine
Delta Protection Commission
San Francisco Film Academy
Chinese American Council of Sacramento
Chinese New Year Culture Association
Organization of Chinese Americans-GSA
Chinese Culture Shop
Locke Art Center
Anita Lo
Connie Yee

Locke Foundation Scholarship Winners

On May 21, 2016, the Locke Foundation awarded 3 scholarships of \$500 each to 3 high school seniors from the Delta based on academic achievement and potential.

Two scholarships were funded by Collin and Sue Lai in memory of Collin's mother, Effie Lai, a Locke resident who raised 5 children and became a successful businesswoman.

Irisa Zhang grew up in Locke. She is an honor student at Kennedy High School in Sacramento. She will attend UC Berkeley in the fall.

An honor student at Franklin High School, Stockton, **Leticia Hall** will attend UC Davis majoring in English.

The third scholarship, funded by the Locke Foundation, was awarded to **Gabriela Leon Cerriteno**, a high school senior from Delta High School in Clarksburg.

She will attend University of the Pacific in the fall.



L-R: Irisa Zhang, Stuart Walthall, Eileen Leung, Gabriela Leon Cerriteno and Leticia Hall.

Photo courtesy of Joe Chan.

Who Invented the Fortune Cookie?

By Eileen Leung

We have all received fortune cookies at the end of a meal with our bill at a Chinese restaurant. It's fun to open them and chuckle over the predictions of wealth, success and romance. We might assume they were invented in China. NOT TRUE.



A fortune cookie is a wafer cookie with a piece of paper inside with a "fortune" written on it. Fortune means "a prediction of destiny or fate." These cookies are usually used in Chinese-American restaurants after the meal is completed, and the cookie must be broken open to get the fortune. Fortune cookies, like chop suey, were strictly

made in America.

Fortune cookies became common in Chinese restaurants after World War II. While not traditionally part of Chinese cuisine, American customers expected desserts. So out of necessity the fortune cookies thus offered Americans something familiar with an exotic flair while still being economical for the Chinese vendors.

Fortune cookies were almost exclusively served in Chinese restaurants in California. U.S. soldiers returning from the Pacific war zone first landed in California; they enjoyed the fortune cookies from Chinese restaurants so much that when they went home to their respective states, they requested the same cookies from their local Chinese restaurants; thus the custom spread. Since Chinese restaurants rarely served dessert, the fortune cookie caught on as a cheap dessert.

Legends abound on their origin:

1. Makoto Hagiwara, a landscape architect and caretaker of the Japanese Tea Gardens from the early 1900's until the outbreak of World War II, made fortune cookies in Los Angeles in the early 1900s. Using a Japanese rice cookie, he created folded cookies bearing thank you notes, which helped him in a dispute with the city's mayor. He displayed his creation at the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exhibition held in San Francisco.
2. Cantonese immigrant, David Jung (a Los Angeles baker) began making cookies with thin slips of paper inside sometime around 1920. Jung handed out these cookies, which contained words of encouragement and scripture, to the poor and homeless people on the streets. He later founded the Hong Kong Noodle Company and produced cookies with fortunes inside.
3. In 1960, Edward Louie, owner of the Lotus Fortune Cookie Company in San Francisco, invented a machine that could au-

tomatically fold the cookie

4. In the 1980's, Dr. Yong Sik Lee invented the world's first fully automated fortune cookie machine which pumped the batter into small heated grills. After a few minutes of baking, the message is laid on top of the cookie batter. Clamps then fold the cookies and form the shape. Then the cookies are cooled and packaged.
5. In 1983, a San Francisco mock court, Court of Historical Reviews and Appeals, ruled unanimously that SF was the "fortune cookie capital of the world".

In 1990s a Japanese researcher, Yasuko Nakamachi, discovered a fortune cookie shaped cracker, called Tsujiura Senbei, made in a family bakery near Kyoto, Japan. The cracker also contained a fortune slip (omikuji) and was sold in shrines and temples. She found evidence of equipment used in making fortune cookies in a 1878 etching of a man making them. In her research she also found that Japanese fortune cookies are bigger and browner, as their batter contains sesame and miso rather than butter and vanilla. The slips of paper are not stuff inside, but pinched in the cookie's fold. If fortune cookies were indeed brought to America by Japanese immigrants, how did they end up in Chinese-American restaurants?

There are more than 100 factories in US today that produce the simple wafer made of eggs, flour, sugar and water. Today companies publish bilingual fortunes in English/Spanish and English/Chinese. They even include lucky lottery numbers.

The largest factory is Brooklyn-based Wonton Food Company. They tried to introduce fortune cookies in China in the 1980's, but after 3 years, they gave up, as they simply weren't a popular food item. Wonton produces around 4.5 million fortune cookies per day. Derrick Wong, vice president, said: "The Japanese may have invented the fortune cookie, but the Chinese people really explored the potential of the fortune cookie. It's Chinese-American culture; it only happens here, not in China." Douglas Dawkins, great-great-grandson of Makoto Hagiwara said, "Even if my family had decided to sell fortune cookies, they would never have done it successfully as the Chinese-Americans have."



And that is how the fortune cookie crumbles!

Text of Locke Historical Marker

Locke

The largest, most complete example of a rural agricultural Chinese-American community
in the United States

Prior to 1915 Locke consisted of three buildings and was known as Lockeport.

The name was later shortened to Locke. After a fire in 1915 consumed the Chinatown District of nearby Walnut Grove, the displaced Chinese residents asked the Locke Ranch owners for permission to rebuild their own separate town in Lockeport. Here, on rented land, the Chinese community proceeded to establish a post office, a school, a theater, restaurants, saloons, food markets, dry goods stores, a church, gambling Halls, brothels, and numerous other businesses. Locke flourished and at one time supported a permanent population of 600 residents plus a thousand seasonal laborers.

A thriving Chinese town in its heyday, Locke residents exhibited a resilient spirit to survive. Locke persevered throughout the twentieth century. Together they withstood the constant threat of fire, floods, the pain of poverty, the bitterness of discrimination, the despair of neglect, and the emptiness of social abandonment.

In 1971 Locke was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In 1990, Locke was named a National Historical Landmark. In 2005, the County of Sacramento sub-divided Locke and for the first time each building owner could purchase the land beneath their buildings; a right previously denied The Chinese by the Alien Land Law of 1913.

In 2015 on the 100th anniversary of its founding, Locke stands as a testament to its first residents and continues to embody the extraordinary efforts by generations of Chinese in developing agriculture in California.

Dedicated on April 24, 2016
By the Native Sons of the Golden West
Grand President Dean C. Zellers

Jointly with Elk Grove Parlor #41 Native Sons of the Golden West
And Liberty Parlor #213 Native Daughters of the Golden West.
The base for this plaque was provided by the Locke Foundation Centennial Committee



Locke Historical Marker Installed

On Sunday, April 24, 2016, a crowd of 100 gathered at Locke's Main Street Park to witness a solemn but momentous occasion at the dedication of the Locke Historical Marker. A generous gift from the Native Sons and Native Daughters of the Golden West, this bronze marker acknowledges the contributions of the Chinese residents to the town of Locke. Dignitaries included members of various parlors of the Native Sons and ND, former and current residents of Locke.

The beautiful bronze plaque measures 18" x 24".

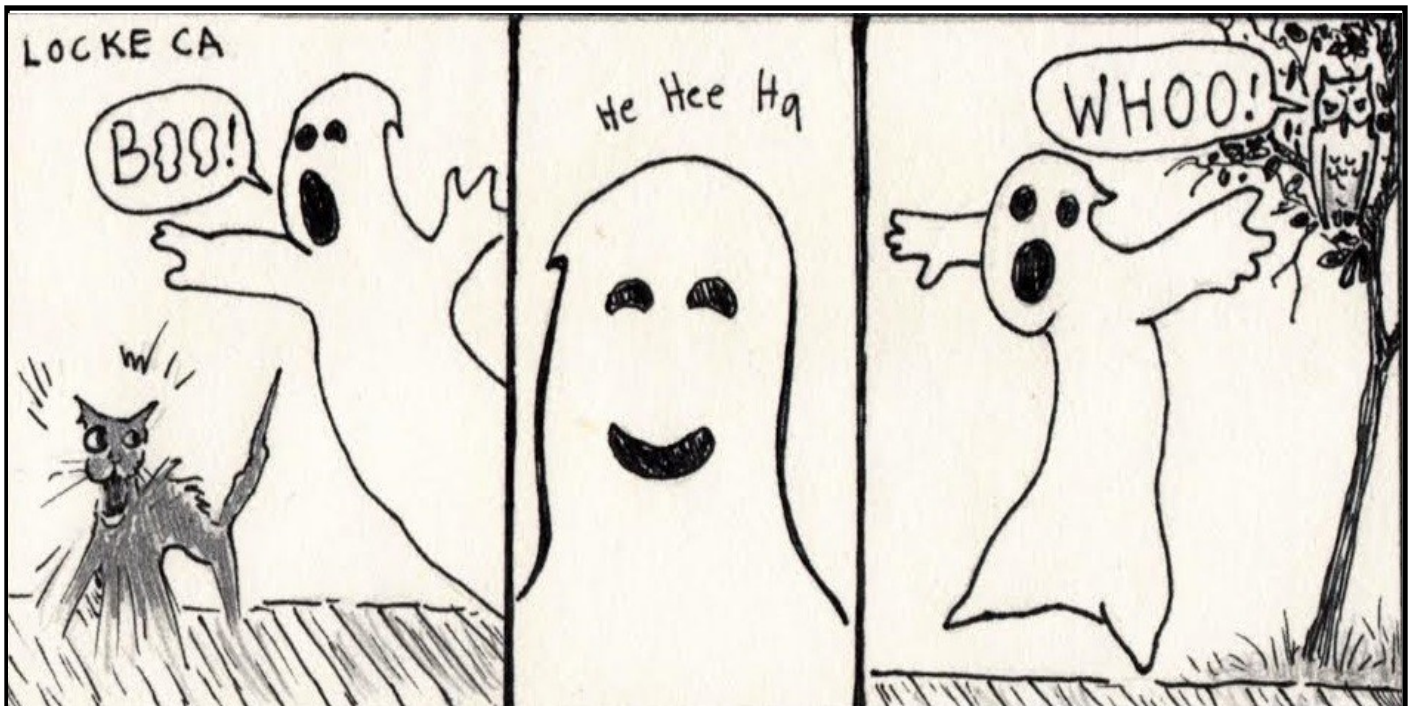
The **Native Sons of the Golden West** is a fraternal service organization founded in 1875, limited to native born Californians and dedicated to historic preservation, documentation of historic structures and places in the state, the placement of historic plaques and other charitable functions within California. In 1890 they placed the first historical marker in the state to honor the discovery of gold which gave rise to the state nickname "Golden State" and "Golden West." Throughout its history, members of the Native Sons have safeguarded many of the landmarks of California's pioneer days, purchasing and rehabilitating them and then donating them to the State or local governments. Chapters of the organization (called "Parlors") place historical markers on buildings and on sites of historical interest. The organization maintains a list of the over 1,200 markers in place.

A sister organization, **Native Daughters of the Golden West** is a non-profit organization for women born in California. The organization focuses on the care and preservation of California history. Its mission focuses on projects that retain and support the heritage of California.



Locke Foundation and Locke Management Assn board

L-R: Brock Alexander, Clarence Chu, Russell Ooms, Eileen Leung, Stuart Walthall, Darrel Woo, Deborah Mendel, Honey Lum and James Motlow. Kneeling is Dean Zellers, Native Sons, and on far right, Bonnie Tabor, Native Daughters. (Photo courtesy of Jeff Kan Lee)



LOCKE FOUNDATION networks with Guotai Educational Group

By Stuart Walthall

The Locke Foundation (LF) continues to raise awareness of Locke's unique historical and cultural heritage by fulfilling its mission goals of outreach and education.

On May 9, 2016, LF Chairman Stuart Walthall, LF Secretary Deborah Mendel, and Locke Boarding House Museum Design Committee member D.R. Wagner, along with Locke artist Ning Hou, were privileged to attend a performance hosted by Guotai Educational Group of China and San Francisco Film Academy. The performance was staged at the Orinda Library Theater.



Guotai Educational Group (GEG) was founded in Hangzhou by Ms. Xiaoying Zhang in 1993. Started as Hangzhou Guotai Private Foreign Language and Art School with just three students, it grew into a large educational group that offers students academic and artistic training from preschool through high school. Located in Hangzhou, China, GEG has now become a full-time educational boarding institution with six campuses, 79 classes, and 3900 students, teachers, and staff.

The San Francisco Film Academy was also founded by Ms. Zhang. Her vision is to use art as a way to promote friendship and cultural exchanges between China and the United States. The SF Film Academy is a lifetime member and financial supporter of the LF.

The afternoon performance, featuring 59 Guotai students and faculty, was a dazzling 22-act show consisting of traditional Chinese dances with performers dressed in authentic period costuming, spoken word vignettes, solo singing, and modern dance ensemble works.



The Guotai spectacle was augmented with Orinda Academy students presenting their own unique brand of dance and musical performances.

LF representatives had ample opportunities to network with the numerous dignitaries, faculty, and administrators in attendance.

The event was followed by a very special dinner at the Hong Kong East Ocean Seafood Restaurant in Emeryville, CA, where LF representatives were honored guests.



Walthall, Mendel, and Wagner took advantage of the elegant dinner to spread the word regarding the Locke Foundation and to inform guests of the uniqueness and importance of the town of Locke: *the largest and most complete example of a rural agricultural Chinese American community in the United States.*



Photos by D.R. Wagner



L-R:
Ning Hou, D.R. Wagner, Deborah Mendel, Stuart Walthall, Ron Graydon (Principal, Orinda Academy), Ms. Xiaoying Zhang (SF Film Academy Founder), Li Qiao, Zhang Yang (Education Consul, People's Republic of China), Jun Ma, Anthony Wang (Guotai Faculty), Hong Chen (President, International Educational Partnership, Shanghai, China)

Living in Locke, California

Poem by D.R. Wagner

It's the edge of the night
On the edge of the town.
Even the moon's out of sight.
There ain't no one around.

And that night reaches up
And it curls round our soul
And from far 'cross the slough
Comes a dark, dark as coal.

And it swirls through the air
And it curls around Locke.
And it holds on to the night
Like the hands do a clock.

And it won't let us go.
And it opens the door.
And the dreams come to power,
And they pour 'cross the floor.

There is magic around us.
It can call us by name.
And we answer from dreaming
With voices like rain.

Keep your hands on the rudder
And your eye on the road.
Keep your heart in the moonlight
As it flies cross your soul.

And it won't let you go.
It will remember your lives.
It will open your dreams
With a cloud made of knives.

So we spill cross the delta.
So we toss in our sleep.
So we wake in some morning.
All we've sown we will reap.

We will reap all the quiet.
We will reap all the lore.
We let history own us.
This place is our core.

Locke's Renaissance Man:

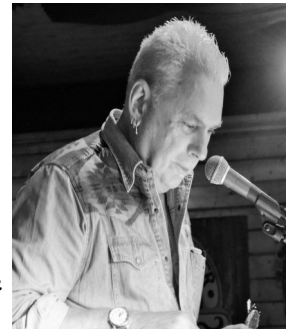
Artist, Poet, Musician Teacher



Locke is proud to showcase its own Renaissance Man. D.R. Wagner, affectionately known as "DR", was born in Niagara Falls, New York. A visual artist, he produces miniature needle-made tapestries that have been exhibited internationally and are included in numerous publications and museum collections.

He is also a professional musician, working as a singer-songwriter and playing guitar and keyboards.

D.R. is the author of over 30 books and chapbooks of poetry and letters. He founded press : today : niagara in Niagara Falls, New York, in 1965 and later Runcible Spoon (press) in the late 1960's and produced over fifty magazines and chapbooks. He co-wrote The Egyptian Stroboscope with d.a. levy in the late 1960's. He read with Jim Morrison of the Doors in a legendary reading with Morrison and Michael McClure. and has read with Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Al Winans, Viola Weinberg, d.a. levy, E.R. Baxter III, Ed Sanders, Anne Waldman and many, many other poets over the past 40 years.



His work is much published and has appeared in numerous translations. He has exhibited visual poetry with the likes of William Burroughs, Byron Gysin, Ian Hamilton Finlay,

bpNichol, bill bissett, J.F. Bory and John Furnival in venues ranging from The Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, at the Louvre to the Smithsonian in Washington, DC.

He taught Design and Poetry by Design at the University of California, Davis He continues to design interior carpeting and tapestry as well as write, perform and publish poetry regularly. He currently lives in Locke, California, and serves on the Locke Boarding House

Locke Foundation Membership Application/Renewal

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Mailing address _____

Email address _____ Tel () _____ Fax () _____

I would like to volunteer for the following activities:

Volunteer docent _____ Donor _____ Visitor Center Volunteer _____

Contributor to newsletter _____ Media contacts _____ Landscape maintenance _____

Membership Dues: circle one

_____ \$25 Individual Annual/\$200 Lifetime _____ \$50 Family or Non-Profit Organization Annual/\$300 Lifetime

_____ \$100 Business Annual/\$500 Lifetime

Make check payable to Locke Foundation. Please return this form with check to Locke Foundation, P. O. Box 1085, Walnut Grove, CA 95690. Contributions are tax deductible to extent allowed by law. Tax ID: 20-0364281.

Office use only:

Date application received _____ Membership Year _____ Renewal _____

Locke Foundation
P. O. Box 1085
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

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