

## Associated Chinese University Women 大學華人婦女會

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**Mission:** The ACUW seeks to further the cultural, social, and intellectual welfare of its members and the community, and to promote and participate in worthwhile community projects which are non-profit and non-commercial.

**History:** The ACUW was founded in February, 1931, when Elsie Ting Ching and Elizabeth Lam Leong organized a reunion with ten other college classmates. They agreed to meet once a month thereafter, as the “Chinese University Women’s Club,” not only to socialize but to do community service. By the end of the year, membership had grown to 43. In October, 1936, the club changed to its present name, and in July, 1983, it incorporated as a non-profit organization. The constitution of 1931 has since been amended many times, but the original purpose of the club has not changed.



*Booksigning by contributors for ACUW publication of Chinese Women Pioneers in Hawaii (2003), on January 19, 2003, at a community church. Photo by Julie Lau.*

## *Activities*

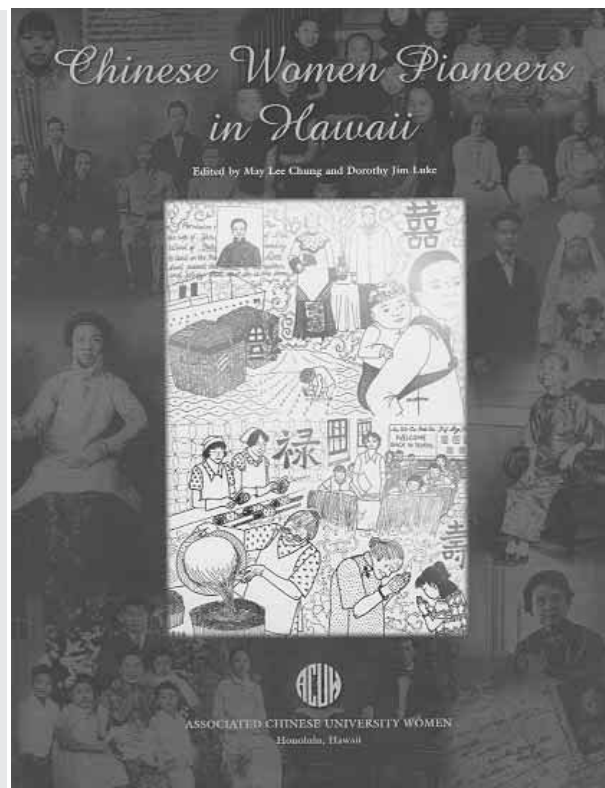
In the early years, activities included raising monies for the China Relief Fund, purchasing dentures and glasses for patients at the Palama Clinic, tutoring sick children, and giving a scholarship to a university student. Members also relaxed by playing *majiang* and bridge. Recently, the annual ACUW Fashion Show has become a major project. It is a fundraiser for scholarships and community service, including building a room for the Palolo Chinese Home. Members visit the Palolo Chinese Home every year, taking along gifts such as homemade quilts, and providing entertainment, refreshments, and lots of good cheer. The ACUW sponsors events such as the “Chinese Cultural Day” at the Honolulu Academy of Arts, and a number of picnics, luaus, teas, youth activities, lectures, etc.

In 1979, the ACUW published a softbound volume called *Traditions for Living*, written by members and their families, which focuses on Chinese customs and folk practices. A second volume, *Traditions for Living II*, appeared in time for the Bicentennial of Chinese Immigration to Hawai‘i (1989). A number of cookbooks have been produced as well, including a collection called *Golden Favorites* printed in 1981, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the ACUW. *Chinese Women Pioneers in Hawaii*, a collection of stories written by ACUW members, relatives and friends and edited by May Lee Chung and Dorothy Jim Luke, appeared in 2003. Copies may be purchased for \$20 from Roanne Matsuura at (808) 596-2668, 1221 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 326.

### *Membership*

Membership in the ACUW is currently over 400, including diverse professionals such as teachers, doctors, engineers, lawyers, bankers, business people, interior decorators, computer specialists, occupational therapists, scientists, accountants, brokers, sales and travel agents, and others. Many members are retired, and volunteer their time, talent, and expertise for community service. There are more than thirty mother-daughter and even a few grandmother-granddaughter pairings within the association.

All members are female, of Chinese ancestry (or with demonstrated interest in promoting Chinese culture), and a graduate of an accredited US or international college or university.



*Cover of Chinese Women Pioneers in Hawaii (2003)*

### *Association presidents*

1931 Elizabeth Lam Leong	1956 Annie May Lee Chun	1981 Blossom Au Wong
1932 Elsie Ting Ching	1957 Violet Fong Pang	1982 Patricia Hiu Ho
1933 Ruth Ho	1958 Violet Leong Yee	1983 Flora Auyong Siu
1934 Beatrice Chong Chang	1959 Margaret Ho Lau	1984 Sandra Young
1935 Eva Young Chun	1960 Annabelle Ching Fong	1985 Sylvia Young Young
1936 Bertha Chong Ebert	1961 Mary Lam Yap	1986 Abbie Kong Chang
1937 Berthie Louis	1962 Gertrude Pak-Chong	1987 Peggy Loo Ching
1938 Ah Chin Loo Lam	1963 Pearl Young Ching	1988 Jane Kam Pang
1939 Edith Ling Louis	1964 Florence Young Doo	1989 Anita Chang Wong
1940 Beatrice Loui	1965 Grace Richardson Wong	1990 Mildred Fong Wong
1941 Doris Loo Yee	1966 Christine Ling	1991 Lorinda Wong Lau
1942 Kwai Ngan Luke Tom	1967 Yun Soong Chock Jim	1992 Clara Yuen Ching
1943 Mary Apo Chung	1968 Bernice Ching Loo	1993 Marjorie Chun Lau
1944 Marjorie Wong Hee	1969 Anita Lee Ho	1994 Thelma Chock Nip
1945 May Day Lo Walden	1970 Daisy Pang Dung	1995 Lori Ching Kam
1946 Ardith Chock Lam	1971 Bernadine Tom Yim	1996 Frances Hau Goo
1947 Ruth Chinn Chun	1972 Sybil Wong Kyi	1997 Lois Thom Mui
1948 Theodora C.S. Leong	1973 Audrey Ching Won	1998 Edith Lee Loh
1949 Beatrice Lum Luke	1974 Stella Lau In	1999 Eleanore Chong
1950 Ella Lo Lam	1975 Jennie Yuen Tyau	2000 Patricia Wong Lau
1951 Helen Leong Lam	1976 Patricia Ann Chun Leong	2001 ?????
1952 Sadie Li Goo	1977 Carol Lee Fong	2002 ?????
1953 Sui Ping Chun Carus	1978 Nancy Wong Yee	2003 Betty Jong
1954 Toy Len Lee Chang	1979 Lucille Lee Wong	2004 Nora Chong Wong
1955 Lurena Yee Lee	1980 Lillian Ching Chinn	2005 Elvira Lo



*A Chinese cultural event focusing on “Family Life and Folk Arts” held October 12, 2003, at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. Pictured are president Betty Jong (far left) and treasurer Lois Mui (far right) standing in front of the “Longevity” display. Photo by Julie Lau.*