

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

*P.O. Box 62264, Honolulu, HI 96839; telephone: (808) 735-8906  
or contact: Andee Lo (ACUW historian), telephone: (808) 258-8882*

**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*

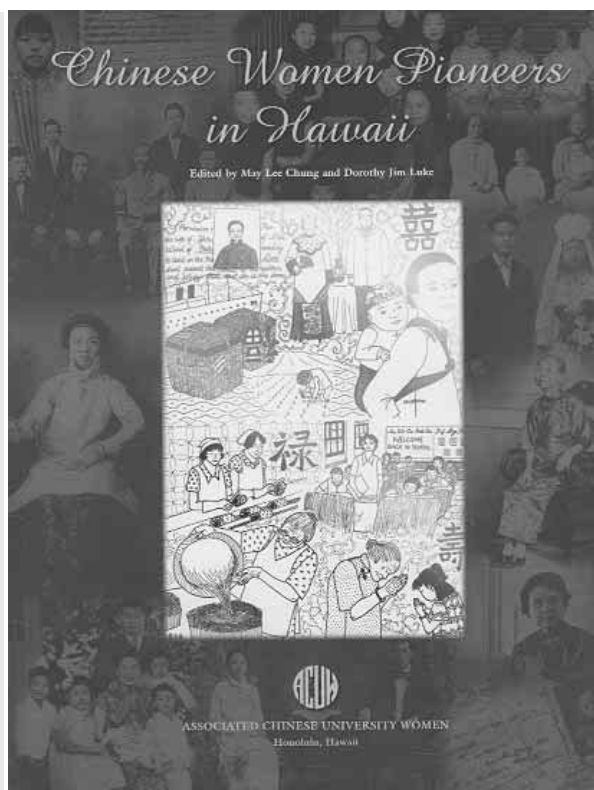
In the early years, activities included raising monies for the China Relief Fund, purchasing dentures and glasses for patients at the Palama Clinic, tutoring sick children, and giving a scholarship to a university student. Members also relaxed by playing *majiang* and bridge. Recently, the annual ACUW 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.*