



Newsletter

VOLUME 34 | ISSUE 2

FALL 2021



Hope all is well as we enter the homestretch of 2021.

See Dai Doo Society with its diligent Board of Trustees, Executive Board, Chairpersons, and Directors, have been able to accomplish or are in the process of accomplishing the goals that were set at the beginning of the year.

Currently the Board of Trustee is continuing to work on the Building's Repair and Maintenance projects reflected on the established written list of priority projects. As mentioned before this list will provide the Society guidance to obtain/maintain the utmost building value.

The By Laws committee completed a review of the By Laws. The proposed amendments were presented to Directors for review and approval. The approved By Laws were presented to the General Membership for approval. The amendments to the by-laws were to address any deficiencies of the current standards and practice.

See Dai Doo Society Congressional Gold Medal awardees will be honored and presented the medal in a virtual ceremony on Saturday, November 6, 2021. Please contact the Veteran Committee or See Dai Doo Society for more information.

Due to the limitations on social gatherings, many of SDDS normal events have been postponed, however the SDDS Mid-Autumn banquet was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at the Jade Dynasty Restaurant. Thank You for both the industrious committee and attendees. Due to the pandemic guideline, attendees had to provide either proof of being vaccinated or a negative Covid test within a certain period of time of the event date.

See Dai Doo Society will be celebrating Christmas with a Drive Thru meal pick up to be held on Sunday, December 5, 2021. Please see article and flyer included in this newsletter for cost, menu, and order form.

General Elections for the 2022 Executive Board and Trustees will be on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at See Dai Doo Society. Voting will by drive thru to adhere to the restrictions on social gatherings due to the pandemic.

The above events and projects could not have been possible without the dedicated work of the chairpersons and committee members. Thank you all for your time and efforts, without you the events would not be possible.

In closing, please continue being safe by wearing a mask, keeping social distancing, and washing your hands. Also, if you want to get vaccinated and it is determined that it is safe for you, please do so. We all must do our part to stop the spread of the Covid virus for society over all to return to some normalcy.

Kevin Chun, SDDS President

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Wendy M.N. Mow
Lori S.C. Kam
Cynthia M.L. Ching
Anne L.Y. Yim

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Vice President
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Asst. Treasurer
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Asst. Chinese Secretary
English Secretary
Asst. English Secretary
Auditor
Asst. Auditor

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Clifton Y.K. Yim, Vice-Chair
John A. Yim

Wilfred K.M. Hee
Kin Ming Ching
Carol K.S. Lau

Leonard J.K.H. Kam
Tina Au
Patrick A. Calizar

Website: www.seedaidoosociety.org

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Tel: (808) 533-4756

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SDDS 2021 Autumn Banquet

BY: Leonard Kam



With the prevalence of COVID cases and continued limitations on gatherings, the See Dai Doo Society moved its annual Spring banquet to Autumn. This would coincide with the Mid-Autumn Festival or the Moon Festival. Being one of the more important festivals for Chinese families to celebrate, it was only fitting that we hold our annual banquet at this time.

The excitement that we might all be able to gather for our annual banquet was growing. As the date drew closer the delta variant found a way to squash our plans. Many members were disappointed that they had to decline attending the banquet due to safety concerns.

In the end, 7 brave members gathered other members and/or friends together to have their own mini gatherings of 10 or less. A delicious 8 course meal was served as each table host found their own way to celebrate. Favors and moon cakes were distributed to each host to disseminate amongst their own table. The seniors and the lone super senior received their own special presentation from President Kevin Chun.

President Chun and Vice-President Mow also hosted a VIP table for Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu Director General Michael Tseng, Chinese Chamber of Commerce President Russell Lau and Immediate Past President Elvira Lo, and United Chinese Society President Leonard Kam and his wife Lori.

Although the turnout was not up to the usual SDDS large banquet standards, all who attended had an enjoyable evening to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. We look forward to having a large celebration next year.

Photos are courtesy of Sharlene Chun, who was so excited that she forgot to get a picture of her own table.

SDDS WW II Congressional Gold Medal Presentation

The SDDS Veterans Appreciation Committee will honor our **32 SDDS Congressional Gold Medal registered WWII Veterans** by presenting them or their family representative their Congressional Gold Medal at the SDDS Building's Great Hall on **November 6, 2021 @ 10 a.m.**

The presentations ceremonies will be broadcasted "live" via Zoom. Please contact SDDS at (808) 533-4756 or seedaidsociety@gmail.com by October 29, 2021 and provide your email address. You will be emailed the Zoom link to view the webcast. Feel free to share the Zoom link with family and friends. Thank you for joining us as we pay tribute to our SDDS WWII heroes.

WELFARE

BY: Marsha Au-Maxwell, Chair

SDDS was saddened to hear that Trustee, John Anthony Yim, 62 yrs old, passed away on July 31, 2021. He was a teacher at Castle High School and an active SDDS member involved with numerous events including chairing our Ching Ming and assisting with our audio & microphone systems in the Great Hall.

SDDS was also disheartened to hear that Director, Rena Young Ochse, 83 yrs old, passed away on August 2nd. She was the newsletter editor from 2011 to 2014, chaired bingo for several years, and in 2012, she did our Souvenir Program Booklet when we celebrated the 50th anniversary of our building.

SDDS appreciated all their time, knowledge, and help, and we offer their families our deepest condolences and we thank them for sharing these family members with us.

SDDS 2021 Scholarship Awards

BY: Juanita Liu, Ph.D.

The scholarship recipients for 2021-22 were introduced at the August 4, 2021 SDDS Board of Directors meeting held on Zoom.

These competitive awards of \$1,500 each were granted to 12 out of 13 applicants. The criteria include GPA, essays, resume, community service, and a professional recommendation. The 12 awardees represent 8 ancestral villages from the See and Dai Districts in Zhongshan, Guangdong, China. Among the awardees, 2 are from Hawaii public high schools and 9 are from private high schools, 3 are attending University of Hawaii and 9 are attending mainland colleges.

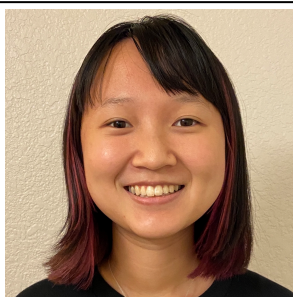
We hope that you will enjoy these excerpts from their essays that the SDDS Education Committee found very inspiring.

Congratulations to the awardees, their parents, and grandparents.

The Education Committee members are Anna Tam Chung, Wendy Mow, Stephen Tom and myself as chair. The SDDS scholarship endowment was established with the foresight of President Betty Leong 20 years ago and has since benefited hundreds of students.



Breena Choy - My grandma still makes strong efforts to emphasize the importance of things like bai-san or learning about the stories of her ancestors, and because of this I've realized the importance of gaining knowledge about our ancestors. Learning about the hardships our ancestors from See Dai Doo went through would allow for all the descendants of See Dai Doo to appreciate the opportunities that we are able to receive now, due to the hard work and perseverance of our ancestors.



Caitlyn Kadooka - After researching the area, I have learned that Zhongshan is currently one of the most densely populated areas in China, and because it was one of the first areas to come into contact with Westerners, it subsequently became a prominent distribution point for manufactured goods as well as overseas trade. According to my grandmother, Nam Long was one of the more heavily populated areas and it was close to a large marketplace. Because of Zhongshan and Nam Long's involvement with overseas trading and connections to the Western world, I would assume that this is likely the reason why my grandparents ended up moving to Hawai'i.



Cody Ching - Instead of linking my cultural heritage to just my ethnicity, I want to explain how identity can be expressed through behavior. The See Dai Doo Society was established on May 10, 1905, and has sought to support immigrants throughout their entire existence. Even in 2021, the See Dai Doo Society is supporting Chinese students from the area like myself. My grandfather is a member of the See Dai Doo Society and I have felt his limitless love and support for me throughout my life. He taught me honesty and taught my father that hard work is always rewarded, which can be shown through my life today. When there have been situations where I have felt like giving up, I remembered the advice from my grandfather and parents and continued to work hard towards my dream. My identity can be expressed through the sacrifices that my parents have made for me to receive an exceptional academic education and the values instilled through the actions of my grandfather and parents. The See Dai Doo Society will make my cultural heritage and traditions more relevant to me and my family in Hawaii because of the importance of passing these ideas on.



Bryson Choy - In addition to learning about (my ancestral dialect of) Teochew, I found out that Zhongshan County is home to the revered leader Sun Yat-sen, who was educated at my high school alma mater, Iolani, before his well-known political career. The strong connection between Hawaii and the Zhongshan region emphasizes the fact that culture can be preserved thousands of miles away from its cultural origins, as Sun Yat-sen is a powerful symbol of Chinese history, even in the United States. Much of the family history I learned about my relatives came from my grandparents, who shared stories about their parents and grandparents journeying from Guangdong, starting a new life in the United States, and assimilating into American society.



Caleb Wataoka - Through social and cultural events and through opportunities such as this scholarship, See Dai Doo continues to reinforce the value of my heritage and identity. For example, if I had not written this essay, I would not have discovered that Tai Tai was born in Choy Hang, the same village as Sun Yat-sen. Just the fact that my ancestors likely spoke to Sun Yat-sen or even knew him personally makes me proud of my family and heritage. This pride of my cultural identity goes beyond simply affecting me. Having told my family of what I learned, it is apparent that they too feel a fellowship and connection to our ancestral heritage.



Carter Kurashima - From my experience and past participation in the See Dai Doo Society, I feel like they helped me give a glimpse of what our ancestors' traditions are like. One thing I have recently learned from my ancestral district is Qingming which is also known as the Tomb Sweeping Festival. It is a holiday that takes place around April where families would reunite with their ancestors, clean their gravesites, and pay their respects by giving them specific types of food or burning fireworks. After learning about Qingming from my relatives, I feel like I have been missing out on a lot of things that our culture has in store.

SDDS 2021 Scholarship Awards



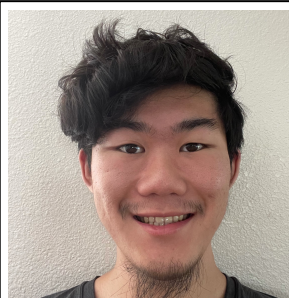
Connor Lau - The village my maternal grandparents originated from is the Sai Gong Li village in Zhongshan County. Due to the nearby waterways of Zhongshan, the county was known as a marketing and commercial epicenter, making it the main distribution point for manufactured goods and agricultural produce. This network of waterways acted as an express highway, connecting northern and southern China. With these waterways having an endogenous effect on what my ancestors in Zhongshan would become, the bodies of water near my home have also influenced who I am today. Living in the Maunaloa region, the 6.5 square mile bay that the water from my home flows into has undoubtedly shaped who I am today. As a Community Hukilua Leader at the non-profit 'Malama Maunaloa', I've spent countless hours volunteering in the waters of Maunaloa bay, which I'd ascribe where my passion for environmental conservation stems from. Without the waterways of Zhongshan, my ancestors wouldn't have been the prodigious distributors of goods that they were and without Maunaloa bay, I wouldn't be the environmentalist I am today.



Jaclyn Wataoka - Zhongshan County was originally founded as a market town in the 11th century specializing in sugar, plants manufacturing machinery, and electrical appliances. It was an important trading center as many waterways branched across the delta through the area. This rich trading area resulted in not only trade overseas, but the rich exchange of ideas. I was amazed that Zhongshan County was the birthplace of Sun Yat-sen. Specifically, he was born in Choy Hang Village, which is also the ancestral village of my Taipo, Mildred Chun! As an 'Iolani graduate, we learn about how Sun Yat-sen attended our school and graduated in 1882. Known as the father of modern China, Sun Yat-sen would later become a huge influence in Chinese history. Knowing this, I can clearly see the birthplace of the roots of my Chinese culture and traditions with the knowledge of who I am, what I identify with, and my motivation of being part of the next generation to care for those who came before and will come after.



Matthew Flores - Ever since I started volunteering at See Dai Doo events a couple of years ago, I think I've learned a lot about not only Chinese culture, but my personal culture as a whole. In that sense, I think that See Dai Doo already does a lot to make Chinese heritage and tradition relevant to those of us who grew up in Hawaii, and can only learn these sorts of things through those who are able to pass them down. Whether it be large scale events such as the banquets or dragon boat racing, or even something as simple as the Tai Chi class my mom attended that was held by See Dai Doo, there are already a lot of good things that they are doing, and I think should continue to be done. I can personally say that See Dai Doo was the main way that I learned about Chinese culture and heritage.



Ethan Abe - I am thankful to my family for helping me learn about and practice so many Chinese traditions. I love celebrating all of the Chinese traditions with my family, but when I was younger, I blindly followed what my parents told me to do. However, I now understand the importance of respect, discipline, and tradition and I can understand the background of the traditions so much better now. I believe that the

See Dai Doo Society teaches these traits and helps people realize how important it is to preserve them in American society.



Lilianne Au - From a young age, my father has emphasized the importance of working hard, and always explained how my ancestors worked to provide the best for their children. After learning that my ancestors from the Dadu district of Zhongshan County capitalized on the resources in the Pearl River Delta to provide for their own, I felt that the industrious, loyal, and hardworking spirit they possessed had been passed down to my father and siblings. When I reflect on my ancestry, I am extremely thankful to my ancestors for allowing me to be in the position I am now. Through the hard work and ingenuity of my ancestors, I am able to exist during this time, receive an education, and provide for my family in the future. While I know I will work hard to provide for my family, I think that it is becoming increasingly important to also reflect on our lineage and recognize the work our ancestors have put in to allow us to exist. Knowing what my ancestors have accomplished in the past fills me with a sense of duty, motivation, and power to provide for my own family in the same way.



Tianna Au - Through my research, I learned that Zhongshan County's primary industries include agriculture, such as rice, lychee, banana, and sugar cane. Previously, I had known that my ancestors worked on the sugar plantations in Hawaii. Many Chinese immigrants came to Hawaii under a contract, and when that contract expired, they then set up businesses in Hawaii. The See Dai Doo Society was founded by immigrants who were able to make the most out of the opportunities given to them to reach success. I feel like many lessons can be made from this, including perseverance, hard work, and resilience. There is no doubt that making this move from China to Hawaii and working on the plantations was incredibly difficult, and yet my ancestors did exactly that and were able to reach success and happiness. My ancestry is the reason why I am able to be here today attending college, and therefore I think it is important that I too work hard and persevere through any difficulty that I will face in the future.

See Dai Doo Society

“Drive Thru” 2022 General Election Notice and Instructions

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 @ 7–9 PM,
See Dai Doo Society Parking Lot

Please bring the following items with you:

- (1) SDDS Membership Card and Photo ID,
- (2) Writing instrument to mark your ballot,
- (3) Flashlight should you need additional lighting

Our goal is to have you remain in your car to vote.
Further instructions will be provided upon arrival.



Due to the pandemic, this year's See Dai Doo Christmas Dinner will once again be a Drive-thru event.



SEE DAI DOO SOCIETY DRIVE-THRU CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 5, 2021, Sunday

Legend Seafood Restaurant - Chinese Cultural Plaza

Enter Pickup Area from Beretania St. - see map below

Please form pickup line around Maunakea Street turning right on Beretania Street

Drive thru dinner pick up time **4:00 to 6:00 pm.**

***Limit to first 300 orders**

**Cost: \$ 9.00 per member
\$ 13.00 per non-member**

**Chinese Dinner Plate
from Legend Seafood Restaurant:**

**Honey Walnut Shrimp
Kau Yuk with Taro
Beef with Gai Lan (Chinese Broccoli)
Crispy Gau Gee and Rice**

**Kris Kringle's Special Surprise Dessert
And Goodie Bag**



Reservation deadline: Wednesday, November 20, 2021



SEE DAI DOO SOCIETY

四大都會館季刊

1300 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2206



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Several upcoming and ALL ongoing events have been **CANCELED** due to the constantly evolving situation surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, please check the website for updates <https://www.seedaidoosociety.org>

Saturday November 6, 2021
@ 10 AM, SDDS Great Hall &
Zoom "live" Broadcast

**WWII Congressional
Gold Medal Presentation**

国会金牌颁奖
典礼

RSVP at (808) 533-4756 or
seedaidoosociety@gmail.com
by **October 29, 2021**.

Wednesday November 10, 2021
@ 7 – 9 PM, SDDS Parking Lot

**Drive-Thru 2022 General
Election**

高級職員及受
託理事選舉

Bring SDDS Membership
Card, Photo ID, and writing
instrument

Sunday December 5, 2021
@ 4 – 6 PM, Legend Seafood
Restaurant – Chinatown Cultural
Plaza

**Drive-Thru Christmas
Dinner**

聖誕聚會

RSVP by attached flyer by
November 20, 2021.

Ongoing Events

Bingo

美式賓果

CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Mandarin Class

國語班

CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Tai Chi

太極班

CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

SEE DAI DOO SOCIETY DRIVE-THRU CHRISTMAS DINNER

Mail in this form with your payment.

NOTE: Fill out one form for each pickup.

To make reservations,
complete this form
and mail with a check payable to:
"See Dai Doo Society"

Mail to: **SEE DAI DOO SOCIETY**
Christmas Party Committee
1300 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

Reservation for: _____ Cell/Home Phone _____

Name of person picking up dinner, if different from reservation name: _____

Email address for confirmation of payment received _____

Contact SDDS @ (808) 533-4756, if you do not receive confirmation of payment by Nov. 26.

	SDDS member #	Cost
Member(s) Name: Print legibly		
1		\$
2		\$
3		\$
4		\$
5		\$
6		\$
7		\$
8		\$
9		\$
10		\$
Total # of Member(s) dinners	_____ x\$9.00 =	\$
Total # of Non-Member(s)	_____ x\$13.00 =	\$
Grand Total:		\$

Committee to fill out:	
Payment Amount	\$
Bank	
Check number	