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# Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

**National Lodge**  
ESTABLISHED 1895

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: March 15, 2018**

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## **Commemorating Chicago Lodge's 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and a Century of Legacy**

San Francisco, March 15, 2018 — Eight years ago, Past National President Carolyn Chan officiated Chicago Lodge's installation of 51 new members and three associate members, and the swearing in of President Herman Wong, Vice-President Ivy Lam and Chicago's Charter Board of Officers on March 14, 2010. The standing room only ceremony was well attended by more than 300 C.A.C.A. officials and local dignitaries representing every major Chinese community and family associations in the Chicago area. This was a momentous event as C.A.C.A. Chicago Lodge was originally chartered in 1917. At that time, it was only the third C.A.C.A. local lodge to be chartered after San Francisco and Los Angeles. Unfortunately, over time, Chicago Lodge lost its charter due to a lack of leadership. In March 2010, with the encouragement of C.A.C.A. National and the Chicago Chinese community leaders, Chicago Lodge was rechartered. In 2016, thanks to the generosity of past Chicago Lodge presidents Herman and Betty Wong, Chicago Lodge was able to move to a brand new permanent location to host its meetings and events.

Last year, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original charter of Chicago Lodge, current President Ivy Lam and her host committee welcomed C.A.C.A. delegates to the 54<sup>th</sup> C.A.C.A. Biennial National Convention held in Chicago with its vibrant historic Chinatown. "When the first organization that would become C.A.C.A. began in 1895, the goal was to secure the rights of Chinese Americans and fight for our civil rights...together, with our collective strength and drive towards progress... we will continue the legacy set forth by our founders," stated President Ivy Lam. It was more than 90 years when C.A.C.A. last held its national convention in Chicago in 1925 and Chicago Lodge stepped up to the challenge in hosting a highly memorable and successful convention. It showcased the boundless energy and tireless spirit of President Ivy Lam and all her dedicated team.

The impact of Chicago Lodge's community service is noted in the numerous accolades and awards it received for contributions to the local Chinese community and the greater Chicago area. In 2013, Chicago Lodge received the Organization of the Year Award for advocacy, awareness, and educational contributions. Past Presidents Herman and Betty Wong were honored by Congressman Danny Davis (IL-7<sup>th</sup> District) for their dedication to Chicago Lodge and tireless community service. Mr. Wong also received the Lifetime Achievement Award at C.A.C.A.'s 54<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in 2017. As Past National President Ed Gor noted, "Herman's relationships inside his community and those he developed in the mainstream have led to the rapid development and improvements in today's Chinatown."

"We congratulate Chicago Lodge for continuing the great mission of C.A.C.A." stated Davace Chin, National C.A.C.A. President. "Thank you for your warm hospitality, leadership and community service to improve the lives of the Chinese community in Chicago and to develop the next generation of leaders."



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Web: [www.CACAnational.org](http://www.CACAnational.org)  
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.