

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

-----  
*The following is an article that Hugh Lee compiled together with help from other club members for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OCGC in 1998. The article gives a sense of the fun times and the great memories in the club back then even if you weren't in the club from the start. Enjoy a bit of OCGC's history!*

### **“OCGC REFLECTIONS”**

By Hugh Lee (Reprinted from the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of the Grassroots, December 27, 1998)

On April 10, 2008 the Oakland Chinese Golf Club started our 51th year. At the time of the charter date, the members responsible for our Constitution and By-Laws were Henrye Bowen, Daniel Chan, Franklin Chew, Lewis Chin, Joshua Fong, Edward Hing, Clinton Lee, Raymond Louie, Howard Quan, Clayton Soohoo, and Edwin Yee. The charter membership deadline was set at about July 31, 1958. By then the club had taken off and included about 60 members. Over the past 50 years, the club has grown to a record high of 185 members and dropped to as low as 47 members since the original years. The current membership is 144 members.

In the first year it was usual to find the whole field crowded around the first tee at the tournaments to see everyone tee off. Members would wonder if the person on the tee was as nervous as he or she. The winner of the first tournament was Ed Hing who walked off with an incredible two-inch high trophy. This was when tournaments were like car rallies with Ray Chan driving up in an MGA, Larry Louie with a TR-3, Walt Ng in a sleek Austin Healy, and John "Lantern" Jang in a powerful, red Lancia!

The "Dawn Patrol" of Josh Fong, John Yee, Joe Lee, Ralph Fung, Charlie Ng, Henry Bowen, Dave Quan and Myron Marr teed off Tuesdays and Thursdays at Alameda. This was when our first social at the Claremont Hotel cost \$3.75 for a buffet dinner-dance. The first emblem was designed by Ed "Smokey" Chan. Howard Quan started the first club bulletin and dubbed it "The Grass Roots." By the end of 1958, the club had 79 members and a great start for OCGC.

Over the next four years, the club became affiliated with Pasatiempo and a member of the NCGA. The Wednesday Group was formed with two to three foursomes playing various courses in the area. One of our first tournament sponsors was Fran "Leslie's Men's Shop" Tom. Richard Lee appeared with the first of his many, rakish hats. Al Shak won the first Club Championship that was played over four courses, Riverside, Hayward, Almaden and Alameda with rounds of 80, 76, 77 and 75, while Henrietta (Quan) Woon won the ladies championship. Our first Director's Cup was won by Ron Fong.

In 1960, the OCGC clubhouse came into being when Art Wong, Jr. generously "gave" his property to the club at the corner of 8th and Webster. This basement location was the center of many memorable OCGC events. Clifton Yip had the most fun of all during the many painting parties when he had more black paint on him than the ceiling. Yes, that's David Yip's dad. The first tournament hole-in-one was bagged by Henrye Bowen at Pasatiempo's 15th hole during Milton Shoong's National Dollar Store Invitational. There were many tournaments sponsored by members who came forward to help create interest in the early years. These included Lewis Chin, Dave Quan Frank Chew, and Walter Ng. Josh Fong chaired the first of many successful biennials.

Henry "pennies from heaven" Lum's ladder competition started in 1961 with a frenzy of golf balls being exchanged. Montclair Golf Club replaced Airway Fairways as the place to practice when Chuck "muscles" Chin became the "resident pro there. Charlie Ng's Adean Construction Co. and New China Cafe were sponsors of the Paso tourney. The first of several joint tournaments with the lake Chabot Men's Club was

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

played at you guessed it - Lake Chabot - where the event became known as the Jim Sagar Memorial. The second joint event was played in snow and the only tournament where you could create your own putting line. The joint event later gained some following with the Mayor's Trophy as the top prize with Mayor John Houlihan joining in. The club got a piece of Oscar's when Tony and Mack Sousa joined the club. Francis Tom successfully chaired the 2nd Biennial.

In 1963, Jim Dong designed the club medallion that has adorned our trophies, stationery, money clips, tie clips, key chains, charm bracelets and would you believe navels? At one of the great clubhouse costume parties, one of the wives was purported to have displayed it...and with pride, too. The first club championship Calcutta was started by Lewis Chin. He was the auctioneer, selling every horse in the field, and also was the club champ. Marc Rice, Sr. sponsored his first tournament. Bill Chan, in 1964, started the rogue's gallery in the clubhouse and instigated the first Reno Fun Trip for \$22.00. Stalwart Wil Lai was carrying a 30 handicap when he got his hole-in-one at Haggin Oaks. Clayton Soohoo won low Net at the Club Championship. In the early years, there was a low Net Champion as well as a low Gross Champion. We were saddened with the loss of a very dear friend, Marc Rice, Sr. Clinton Lee chaired the Third Biennial as President Wally Wong went out in style by winning the Director's Cup.

Due to the efforts of perennial youngster President Bill Chan, in 1965, the membership hit 157 and by our tenth year in 1968, there were 181 members including 18 ladies, 11 associates and four honorary members. The largest-ever field of 104 players at the Club Championship went two rounds at Pasatiempo. The Club Champ party was at Oak Knoll Hospital's Officer's Club and was attended by 260 people. This year's Reno Fun Trip attracted 101 golfers with 210 members and guests. The year of 1966 began on a sad note when we lost our beloved Alice Chan our "Sportswoman of 1960." Franklin Chew chaired another successful biennial. Gaynor Chinn won the first of many Field low Gross honors at Sacramento in a sudden death playoff on the 22nd hole.

The club's second hole-in-one ushered in 1967 as Richard On aced the 6" at Lew Galbraith in the Lake Chabot Joint Tournament. Mack Souza's Mini-Skirt party was a maximum smash and talked about for many months. President Ed Hing led a group to Honolulu and Maui with their own pro John Blazquez. Marc "hula king" Rice was the youngest person to be honored as Scottish Rite's Knight Commander of the Court of Honor. Dick "Tosh & Dick" Young hosted his own invitational and gave out nice furniture for prizes... with free delivery, too!

The second ten years got a jump-start when the clubhouse became a lively place with 175 partygoers attending the Polynesian Night party in 1968. Bess Soohoo won best-dressed Wahine and Kiyomi Fujiwara won best dressed Kane. What a way to start Bill Chan's invitational year that introduced the Federation concept. Many Federation members still have the medallions donated by Marc Rice that were awarded to the club presidents attending the Officer Matches held at Round Hill CC. At the luncheon following the Officer Matches, President Hugh Lee presented the proposal, which was very well received. Chuck Chin holed out the 3" hole at Tilden at the Marc Rice Memorial. Sometime later, the course closed the short hole because players took so long trying to duplicate the feat. John Owyang, Terry's uncle, gave our clubhouse a face-lift.

Keeping up the momentum, Jack Tong turned the clubhouse into an "opium den" at the Mini Cheong Sam party to kick off 1969. It could just as well been called the "legs galore" party as Betty Tong was awesome in her mini "cheong sam" and won the ladies competition along with Ken Leong's bed sheet "cheong sam" (nice legs!). The first junior tourney was played during the Marc Rice event at Tilden with over 100 golfers. Our clubhouse got a rest as members got a taste of their choice at the general meeting held at

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

Lucky Lager Brewing in San Francisco. President Elwood Tom, Candy's father, arranged for golf movies of our own members playing at Tilden. Joe and Amy Jang were our Grass Roots editors, with five issues. Some were eight pages long!

In 1970, the club decided to withdraw from the NCGA. The Oakland club took the lead as Josh Fong and Hugh Lee became the Federation President and Secretary-Treasurer respectively. Our membership remained steady at 179, with one of our largest turnouts of 101 at Kennedy. Roy Wong's "Party Gras" costume bash at the clubhouse was so good that to this day, no one knows the names of Snoopy, Charlie Brown and the Clown? The SOS party at the clubhouse was a real washout as Clubhouse Manager Benson Hall called out the troops to cleanup after the flood. Ed Hing led us to another successful biennial and was the last year that we had our Ladies Luncheon Fashion Show on the program that was co-chaired by Mary Tinloy and Shirley Louis.

The most improved golfers in 1971 were Bill Chinn, Eric Tom, Marc Rice and Jane Cheung who was a three-time Lew Galbraith's Women's Club Champ. President Joe Jang's Board continued the string of clubhouse parties with Pat Rice staging the "Costume Capers" New Year's party where one member showed up in drag. Mal Dong won the Best Sportsman's Award. We were saddened by the loss of 1962 President Lincoln Johe. We had our first Duck Shoot. The Dick Young family walked off as big winners Keith and Doug winning the Club Championship and Director's Cup respectively.

We lost our clubhouse in 1972 and an opportunity as well, when the comer building was up for sale. Our club could have been laughing all the way to the bank, but it was not to be. President Jack Tong got Wally Wong to chair our Seventh Biennial Invitational that was played at Franklin Canyon, Lew Galbraith, and Hayward Golf Courses. Over 350 picnickers attended the Marc Rice event in Sonoma chaired by James K. Lee and Chet Lum. The travel bug hits the club as the Ken Leongs bump into the Roger Wongs on the Isle of Crete. Harding Leong was the first to repeat as Director's Cup Champ. David Yip was good then, too. Or maybe better, as he won three successive tournaments. Keith Young won Field Low Gross (FLG) in Los Angeles.

The gas shortage year in 1973 didn't matter much as it was the first of several Federation sponsored Hong Kong trips which were editorialized by Don Lim whose Julie gave the Grass Roots a welcomed face lift. Traveling in HK were Don Lim, Ken Leong, Frank Louie, Jack Tong, John Blasquez, Ray Kan, Gene Louis, Jack Quan, Hugh Lee, Herb Tom and Josh Fong with spouses, of course. One of the notable quotes came from Lena Fong as she exited from a hotel and asked which way was Chinatown? President Larry Lew was at the helm.

Joe Jang chaired 1974's Invitational, which was climaxed by the awards dinner dance held at the spectacular Paramount Theater. It was an incredible sit-down dinner in the foyer and the awards and dancing were held on the stage. Bill Tom aced a 7 iron on the 11th at Richmond, which is only 186 yards short! At the Amana Pro-Am, second place was won by Keith Young paired with pro Dale Douglas. Keith also won FLG in Sacramento. Ken and Josh enjoyed HK so much, they returned with John On, Dave Quan, Jack Goon, Clinton Lee, Milt Shoong, Clay Soohoo, George Louie, Bill Tom, AI Wong, Wally Wong, Harold Chew and Theron Huie. Gaynor Chinn won FLG in Oakland.

The year began (ended) at the New Year's Eve party at the Bench & Bar. As his business ventures beckoned, 1975 President Paul Ong bowed out before the end of his term and gave an early start to VP Bill Tom. Satellite tournaments were introduced by TC Skip Jue. Dick & Tina Payne gave a new look to our mailing system with their addressing machines. We won the Federation Team Matches at the Memorial Day and Labor Day events. Oakland had won the last three Federation Team Matches.

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

In 1976, President Bill Tom pulled off another great year, which was highlighted with our Ninth Biennial. General Chairman Jim Young persuaded his big sis Gennie Ong to have Andy Russell entertain at the Hilton. Ken Leong chaired the "Hawaii Caravan" taking his group island hopping. The price of the Hong Kong trips, that started at \$499.00 inflated up to \$699.00, but it was still a great package including air, land and meals. The Federation recognized Gaynor Chinn as he won in all four invitationals winning Field Low Gross in three events and Low Gross in one event. Gaynor shot 74, 73, 72 and 74, and he was the Federation's first "Chinese Grand Slam" winner.

President Skip Jue was at the helm completing OCGC's 20th year. John Chong and Ed Hing were winners in the first Senior's Event in 1977. It was John's year as he also won the Director's Cup. Gaynor completed the grand slam for the second year in a row with scores of 74, 73, 71 and 71. TC Wes Tom completed the match play event with Jock Lee defeating Bob V. Lee in the final. The 36-hole Federation Team Match in Los Angeles saw Oakland's ladies placing in the winner's circle. Bill Low scored a hole-in-one at the Sonoma tournament. The first Federation Invitational was chaired by Ed Hing and played at Lakeridge. Oakland winners were Hugh Lee winning Field Low Net and Ed Hing winning his flight Low Net.

Skip Jue continued his club service kicking off the year as Invitational Chairman for our Tenth Biennial with Andy Russell singing and still without Della. Will Kehrer's retired now and plays four times a week. Same old story, Gaynor did it 3 years in a row with Field Low Gross each time. Seemed like half the membership ran into each other in Hawaii. President Mal Dong welcomed several old members at the Anniversary party at Spengers after the Marc Rice Memorial. A joint tournament with Salinas and Santa Clara clubs was held at Ridgemark GCC.

.Following the 1979 New Year's Eve party, President Frank Tinloy christened Mal's Den as the new hangout for club meetings. T/C Gary Lee introduced the Lo Ball Classic, and S/C Joe Burch had our first Italian "siu yeh" cuisine for the meetings. This was the year for sandbaggers as Mal Dong, Skip Jue, Frank Tinloy and Larry Lowe won with a minus 23! New comer Derrick Wong walked away with the Director's Cup. The membership was 96.

In 1980, President Gene Louis with Larry Lew and Mal Dong Co-chairing the invitational saw OCGC become the first club to have a 36-hole event. New member Gene Frazier's printing and envelope contributions were well received This year, Wes Tom and Bob Lee attended the Tucson Golf Clinic, and Gaynor was still wondering about his 3-under 69 at Hayward and losing FLN to up and coming Derrick Wong! It was 15 years later, but Jack Tong won the Director's Cup for the second time. President Jeff Yee started 1981, the Year of the Rooster, with 74 members. TIC Joe Burch started his skin's games and fantastic prizes. The Federation's Mexican Open, in Guadalajara was chaired by Ed Hing. OCGC was the club to beat at the Federation Team Matches with Keith Young, Eric Tom, Wes Tom, Larry Hom, Skip Jue, Joe Burch, Gaynor Chinn, and Herb Tom who have been our stalwarts. Dark horse Wally Takiguchi walked off with the Director's Cup prize.

The first Old Timer's Tournament in 1982 at Skywest was like a mini invitational with players returning to enjoy renewing old acquaintances at Spengers. Paul Wong showed up in his old Navy uniform and it still fit! Larry Lew and Mal Dong partnered-up again as co-chairmen for the biennial, which was climaxed with fireworks from H's Lordships overlooking the bay. Keith Young won FLG in Oakland. Clay Soohoo brought back the Calcutta and it was like old times! President Wes Tom and Bob Lee's clinic paid off in winning dollars from their horses. Ed Hing chaired the Hawaii Invitational. Amy Jang wins FLG in Los Angeles. Eric Tom wins FLG in Stockton and Betty Boland did likewise.

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

The 25th Anniversary year saw President Jim Young provide the 75 members with varied activities including the first BBQ general meeting in Concord. The dues remained at \$29.00 per year, 36 old timers joined in renewing old acquaintances. Dick Young's Reno trip was a smashing success. One of our younger members, Gary Ong, fought his way to become the Director's Cup Champ and started an incredible winning streak.

President Joe Burch and General Chairman Skip Jue successfully pulled off our 13th Biennial with both rounds and the awards dinner at Boundary Oaks. The sudden loss of Past President Ed Hing in 1984 was a setback to the club and Federation. Ed had been our Reno Fun Trip chairman for several years and took the Federation on several outings. This was the last Director's Cup event at the Hayward GC. Locals hoped for big profits from redevelopment which was a big fiasco resulting in a 14 year delay as plans are now in place to start a nine hole course at the same site (which is now the Mission Hills Course). Winning the Director's Cup for the second time was Hugh Lee shooting a 74-15-59. Gaynor Chinn wins FLG in Salinas.

One of the few times the VP ascension to president didn't occur saw President Gene Frazier step in to re-direct the club of 55 members. In 1985, we resurrected the junior tournament. Our dues were still at \$29.00. Gary Ong started his string of Club Champ wins. The prepaid prize fund was still a bargain as the club started earnestly looking for new blood. We were saddened when past TIC Sid Fong lost his fight with cancer. Switching the Director's Cup to Skywest didn't bother last year's winner to become the first repeat winner and the first three-timer! Gaynor wins FLG in Stockton.

President Hugh Lee became the first repeat president in 1986. The junior program continued in 1986 as the club started to get new blood to up the count from 47 members. With fewer members, duties for secretary and treasurer and tournament chairman and handicap chairman were combined. Our 1984 Co-Chairmen, Larry Lew and Mal Dong teamed up again and got over 220 golfers at the biennial. Gene Frazier introduced the first OCGC golf shirt. Gene continued to provide the club with pre-printed envelopes. NCGA was approved for 1987. We added 10 new members and Gary won the Club Championship again and was also, another two-time Director's Cup winner.

In 1987, the club hit 96 and was continuing to grow. President Will Kehrer continued OCGC's goal setup from last year's Board to push for new blood. The year started fast for Clay Soohoo who eagled the 3rd at Lew Galbraith (which was renovated and re-opened as the Metropolitan golf course). "Skins" by Skins Chairman Terry Owyang were the continued rage as everyone hoped to get lucky! Scramble and team formats saw team putt-offs for ties with the pressure of galleries! Sam Wong improved his handicap from a 24 to 15 and won the delayed Director's Cup (March 1988) by winning in a 6-hole playoff. Gary was club champ again. New member Chuck Chinn gets an ace! The team points system was started and a pari-mutuel event had big winners. Gaynor wins FLG in Monterey.

President Herb Lee took over to start off 1988, our third decade. The club grew to 113. Past President Wally Wong rejoined our club and was immediately drafted as biennial chairman. Joyce Shao won FLN in Oakland. First year member Shirley Lee wins Club Champ, LA and Stockton. Ten OCGC members got "hot" at the Los Angeles Labor Day event when the mercury hit 117+. Terry "auctioneer" Owyang provided accurate insider information on the Calcutta favorites with appropriate "nicknames." New member Velvet Chang, then Hee, was asked how she liked the greens at Wildcreek in Reno? "Don't know, I haven't puttied, yet!" (Triples were the max per hole!). Gary wins the fourth in a row. Sam Wong wins at Stockton with an eagle for a 77! Bill Terminello wins Top Gun going away.

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

There was another boost in the 1989 membership as we hit 140. Interest was so high that we got renewals from previous members, Betty Boland, the Fujiwaras, Gary Lee and Glenn Lee. The two-tournament eligibility rule for trophy prizes was adopted. Steve Chong labeled Hugh "Mr. 19" Lee for his exceptional play with seven water balls on the 11th at Palo Alto. President James Wong continued the goal for membership growth. Annual Dues were 534.00. With 23 lady members, a Ladies Club was in the planning stages. James Young wins the Director's Cup and Gary Ong is Club Champ for a record five years running. The combined offices of Secretary-Treasurer were split-up.

After years in being on the receiving end, retired senior member John Chong wanted to repay the club and stepped forward in 1990 to run OCGC. He immediately drafted Chairman Bill Terminello for our 16th Biennial. Andy Tse and Barbara Lym took FLG in Oakland. A 150 member limit was set, due to difficulty in getting starting times. This was the year you could buy "mulligans" and the \$2 hole-in-one assessment was born. Not too soon, as Willie Tong aced a hole at the Tucson Invitational. The first Ladies Event chaired by Dottie Fujiwara had 16 mixed teams play with Judy Lim and Willie Tong winning the inaugural event. Rumor has it that the ladies held-up the team as the pressure was too much for the guys! The return to Pasatiempo was a true test of golf, but enjoyed by the field. Who enjoys losing balls? Alex Fong was the new Club Champ and Ron Young our Director's Cup Champ. Judy Lim won FLG in Sacramento.

With the continued change in the make-up of the club, due to member turnover, 1991 President Al Lim's objective was to make member's tournament tough via his monthly "Pres. Sez." letters. OCGC was now at 160! This year we welcomed back Mal Dong, our Reno Fun Trip Chairman. Terry Owyang started the Match Play competition with Hugh Lee donating the silver trophy. The winner of our first Match Play Competition was James Soohoo who also won the Top Gun Award. Alan Sue won the Club Champ, and winning the Director's Cup in a three-way tie was Mike Lee. The year ended on a sad note as we lost a dear member Benson Hall who died of cancer. Oakland placed two teams in the Federation Team Matches. Members were Sam Wong, Joe Young, Mike Chee and Terry Owyang winning 2nd place while Al Lim, Warren Tom, Larry Hee and Nick Chin came in 4th place.

In 1992, President Joe Young set the stage for the 35th Anniversary Old Timers Tournament. Old timers will be invited back every five years. This was the first year of the GHIN and other firsts for David Yip, Clem Leung, and Hugh Lee who recorded aces. This was the year that T/C Andy Tse started the "volunteer" brigade to spread out the work and also started the Tournament of Champions event. Biennial Chairman Al "retired" Lim brought us the first 36-hole double shotgun. Speaking of firsts, it took 34 years, but Director's Champ Clay Soohoo finally got his name on the cup. Meanwhile, Alan Sue successfully defended his Club Champ title. The club continues to grow with 22 new members Top Gun went to Alex Fong. Barbara Lym won FLG at Tucson and Judy Lim won FLG in Sacramento.

Our 35th Anniversary celebration in 1993 included a salute to our past presidents with engraved personalized key rings donated by Marc Rice. Our first dis-staff member, President Velvet Chang, completed another successful (9 month) year. Our new fiscal year ends September 30. This was the second "volunteer" year for T/C Mike Chee who had our 2nd "Tournament of Champions" event where tournament winners compete for the "Top Gun" Award. And who else but Mike won it! The top winners for Club Champ and Director's Cup were Alex Fong and Steve Shum respectively! Steve even hosted the awards dinner afterwards! Ray Jeung and Larry Lew found the range with aces this year! Wings "Mr.20" Hom at the San Francisco Invitational and Toy San "Ms.21" Tom at Napa Muni are the "new" men and women's single hole record holders. Barbara Lym won FLG in Sacramento, Momi Chinn took FLG in Salinas, and Mike Lee won FLN in Stockton.

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

In 1994, the membership jumped up to 170 as we accepted 17 new members. President Jack Leong and Board continued with the many traditions of the club. With the proliferation of new software, Terry Owyang brought a new look to the Grass Roots and also did an excellent job on the invitational posting sheets. General Chairman Hugh Lee had 188 golfers and the biennial was a deal at \$99.00. David Yip edged out Alex Fong as club champion, but Alex had his share, winning the biennial Field Low Gross and edging out Steve Yoshimura in the Match Play Championship. Barbara Lym won FLG at the biennial while Darien Lum won FLN. During the year, we were saddened with the loss of members Willard Kehrer and Bud Lavin. Oakland sent two teams to the Federation Team Matches in Sacramento and both teams placed with team one, Alex Fong, Rudy Cristobal, Dean Fukushima and Sam Wong edging out team two, David Yip, Jack Leong, Joe Young, and Robert Kalaluhi by one stroke. David Yip won Field Low Gross in San Diego.

President Terry Owyang welcomed 26 new members as the club grew to 185 members in 1995, He also put together the OCGC Handbook that details officers' duties and historical sections for past winners of our major events, etc. This was the year that new and old faces won the majors. Chris Lang beat out all challengers for the Club Championship, and John Chong, who 18 years ago won the Director's Cup repeated again. Tournament Chairperson Bonnie Lowe put together procedures for the respective monthly tournament chairpersons and scheduled some interesting formats at a couple of new courses. This was the year that Candy Tom took Field Low Gross honors at Tucson and at San Francisco, while David Yip won the San Francisco County Low Amateur, Sam Wong took Low Gross at Stockton and Don Lee will remember his hole-in-one at Alameda North, There was no match play champion, Wes Chong won Field Low Gross in Salinas and in Tucson. Members were shocked with the passing of Hon Chew who was a charter member and past president.

In 1996, the Year of the Rat saw President Andy Tse appoint Shirley Lee as our first Historian, Our membership stayed at 185 with ten new members. The number of senior members rose to 16 with the addition of Dr, Wally Wong and Dr. Franklin Louie. General Chairman Joe Young and committee successfully staged our 19th Biennial with 208 golfers. Members still wear the beautiful teal colored golf shirts selected by Velvet Chang. Mari Kobara won the Field Low Gross honors. David Yip successfully defended his Field Low Gross title at San Diego and it was all Oakland as Candy Tom won the title in the Ladies Flight. The club champs were Wes Chong and Barbara Lym. Warren Dang won the Match Play competition with come from behind wins in several of his six matches. Dr. Roger Wong got his first ace at Castlewood, and Al "chipman" Lee was Director's Cup Champ. Congratulations to Chuck Chinn, Alan Lee, Perry Lee and Terry Owyang who qualified for the NCGC Associate Club Championship. Doug Low won FLN in Stockton and Mari Kobara won FLG.

The year started out with a couple of rainouts as 1997 President Rudy Cristobal welcomed 14 new members bringing our count to 177. The Point System was brought back to encourage participation and to acknowledge the true "competitors." The winner was Wings Hom who edged out Terry Owyang on the final 1997 round. Wes Chong repeated as the club champ and Mari Kobara was the champ in the Ladies Flight. The Director's Cup honors went to George Kong. Grass Roots editor Hugh Lee mentioned all 177 members in his January 1997 issue of the Grass roots. Honors go to Gordon Lee and Al Lim who made hole-in-ones. Al Moy was the best as he won the Match Play Championship. The Inaugural Memorial Day event in Los Angeles was bad news for the OCGC. It was another first as there were no Oakland winners as all contenders faltered.

Joining the ranks of Senior Member status were Wil Lai, Gordon Lee, James Wong and Roger Wong bringing our senior member count to 20. Wes "Good Guy" Chong took Field Low Gross at the Labor Day

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

event in Carmel and at the Stockton Columbus Day event. The two teams of Rudy Cristobal, David Yip, Joe Young and Jack Leong and Mike Chee, Terry Owyang, Chuck Chinn and Ray Jeung placed second and third at the Team Match Event.

Our 40th year was full of plenty of golf, which included over 25 events including invitational events. Jack Leong serving his second term as president watched the year's events progress with another successful biennial. Congratulations to Velvet Chang, Warren Dang and Jack Leong for their hard work as Co-Chairpersons. History was made, another first, when we saw Candy Tom became the first lady to win the Director's Cup. New blood was evident, as Jeff Leong and Mari Kobara were our club champions. Speaking of new blood, the new members who joined that year numbered 23 with the club maximum still at 185. The club approved a minimum one round per year playing requirement. David Yip won the Match Play Championship. We saw a hole-in-one by Herb Lee. Eugene Louis joined the ranks of senior member and with wife Shirley retiring (?), returned to Oakland. Top Gun was again, won by Wings Hom. Wes Chong successfully defended his title winning Field Low Gross in Stockton.

As we have looked back over the past 50 years, OCGC members, old and new have provided us with memorable happenings. A legacy of traditions that have been maintained over the years has helped the club keep focused on the objectives of the club. Looking forward to bigger and better things will depend on the membership and their participation in all activities of the club. Let's keep up the excellent reputation that the OCGC has established during the first 50 years!!!

### OCGC PRESIDENTIAL GALLERY

				
1958 Clay SooHoo	1959 Frank Chew	1960 Clinton Lee.	1961 Ray Chan	1962 Lincoln Johe
				
1963 Josh Fong	1964 Wally Wong	1965 Bill Chan	1966 Hon Chew	1967 Ed Hing

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

				
1968 Hugh Lee	1969 Elwood Tom	1970 Ken Leong	1971 Joe Jang	1972 Jack Tong
				
1973 Larry Lew	1974 Harding Leong	1975 Paul Ong	1976 Bill Tom	1977 Skip Jue
				
1978 Mal Dong	1979 Frank Tinloy	1980 Gene Louis	1981 Jeff Yee	1982 Wes Tom
				
1983 James Young.	1984 Joe Burch	1985 Gene Frazier	1986 Hugh Lee	1987 Wil Kehrer

# OAKLAND CHINESE GOLF CLUB

## THE GRASS ROOTS

				
1988 Herb Lee.	1989 James Wong	1990 John Chong	1991 Al Lim	1992 Joe Young
				
1993 Velvet Chan	1994 Jack Leong	1995 Terry Owyang	1996 Andy Tse	1997 Rudy Cristobal
				
1998,99 Jack Leong	2000 Dennis Lowe	2001 David Yip	2002-3 Warren Dang	2004-05 Jack Schram
				
2006-07 Chuck Chinn	2008-09 David Yip			