

Chang Wing Yong Tong Society 鄭榮陽堂

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Mission: To honor the surname Chang (*Zheng* 鄭), bring together people bearing this surname, assist members in times of need, facilitate fellowship, cooperation and understanding, and undertake charitable activities.

History: Thirteen enthusiastic Changs met on September 9, 1956, with the intention of forming a surname-based organization. Mr. Nee Sun Chang proposed the name Chang Wing Yong Tong because the earliest Changs came to Hawai'i from the Wing Yong (*Rongyang* 榮陽) district in China—thus, “the Society (Tong *tang* 堂) of Changs from Wing Yong.” Later, the Society learned that groups using this name already existed in Vancouver and in Bangkok.

The Society received its charter in 1958, and on July 4 a fireworks display was offered up in Waikiki to commemorate this event.

Early meetings were held at the United Chinese Society Hall. Currently, meetings are scheduled at various locations designated by each president.



Membership: There are between 2–300 members, all of whom either have or are related to people with the last name Chang. Lifetime dues are \$2.

Association presidents

1957-58 Dai Yen Chang*
1959 Nee Sun Chang*
1960 Robert H.K. Chang*
1961 James Ai Chang*
1962-63 Kenneth K.C. Chang
1964 Hing Lin Chang*
1965-66 Herbert A.B. Chang*
1967-68 Frances Ai Chang*
1969 Ernest S. Chang*
1970-71 Elizabeth K.C. Chang*
1972-73 Sing Chang*
1974-75 Walter T.C. Chang
1976 James Ah Sun Chang*
1977-78 Jerry K.L. Chang
1979-80 John G.I. Chang*
1981-82 Vernon K.C. Chang
1983-84 Walter T.C. Chang
1985-86 Margaret K.S. Chang
1987-88 Nelson S.W. Chang
1989-90 John W.K. Chang
1991-92 Gary Chang
1993-94 Halfred M.C. Chang
1995-96 Milton T.Y. Chang
1997-98 Anita C. Wong
1999-00 Gifford K.F. Chang
2001-02 Kelfred Chang
2003-04 Gerald Y.Y. Chang



Activities Membership participation in Society activities is high. The year begins with an election and social meeting. Next, the Spring Banquet attracts both members and guests, and features an award ceremony honoring the “Member of the Year,” who receives a trophy. A perpetual plaque, donated by Robert H.K.Chang, lists the names of all honorees. During the Night in Chinatown celebration for Chinese New Year, members run a food booth to help boost the club’s treasury. In August, a picnic at Sand Island or Ala Moana Park, which is free to members, attracts about 75 people annually.

Sources: UCS publications & correspondence with Walter Chang