

Lost Names (aka) & Expressions--Our Fabulous 50's & 60's

Do you remember their real names in Chinatown? *Blackjack, Kid Colt, Froggie, Jock, Cheesy, Bandit, Skinny Danny, Loungie, Zoots, Jigolow, Fireball, Dap, Pigs, HG, Sinbad, Skaggs, Leftie, Little Caesar, Baby Huie, as the 1st set of nicknames or aka's from the historic scrolls...by Joe Wong, Ted Ho, and me over time...*

I remembered some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the rapid march of technology. These phrases included: *Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, Gee whiz, you sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.*

Back in the olden days we had a lot of *Moxie...* life used to be *swell* but *swell has gone the way of: beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes, and pedal pushers...short shorts? Holy Moley!* The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a *Jalopy*; and he looked at her quizzically and said, "*What the heck is a Jalopy?*" He had never heard of the word *Jalopy*! She knew she was old ... But not that old. *Pipe dreams come from opium dens...*

The old Drive in Movies aka the Passion Pit—Back seat, amorous activities, making out, bingo anyone? ... Check out the midnight submarine races at the boat basin under the moonlight? Penny for your thoughts! Heavens to Betsy!

We were *in like Flynn* and *Living the life of Riley* and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a *knucklehead, a Nincompoop, or a Pill. Not for all the tea in China...* We'd put on *our best bib and tucker* to *straighten up and fly right.* We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap and before we can say "*Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!*" Or, "*This is a fine kettle of fish!*" We find that the words we grew up with; the words that seemed omnipresent; as *oxygen*; have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues & our pens & our keyboards.

Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth, Jumping Jehoshaphat! Long gone: Pshaw, Milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Pedal to the metal...Burn Rubber... Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. I hope you are Hunky Dory. Wake up and smell the roses.

See ya later, Alligator! Okidoki. Monkey Business, Square vs. Cool...man.. She is hot & radioactive with a classy chassis...

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Do you remember their real names of the girls in Chinatown? Honey, Peanut, Fish Bone, Angel, Sweet Pea, Morngie, Pearl, Princess, Tammy...Rocky?

Do you remember their real names in Chinatown? A 2nd set of nick names or aka's from the historic scrolls: Sambo, Shadow, Jumbo, Flattop, The Hip, Hun, Sleepy George, Harry-Delaware, Fongie, Poygie, Joe Waters, Lumps, Crazy Ray, Chockie, Egore, Black Pete, White Pete, Fink, Yingie, Frisco Willie, Little Willie, Big Sonny, Sonny, Little Sonny, Mr. Proper, Fook, Bingo, Willie Bo. Mongol.

Daddy-O...Got some Bread...Lets split this scene and hit my pad for some far-out action, Care to watch the foxy ladies in Fat City? That Cat is really bad & hip... Baby, you are the grinchiest! Let's go cruising at the Car Hop & check out the scene for some chicks... We got it made in the shade.... Righto...No sweat...

What about the Brooklyn Girls of the 50's...Helen Chin...Betty Ng...Blanche Chew...& Nancy Chin (the outlier from Queens) at Lonnie's Coffee Shop

Basketball with the "Daughters of China" (DOC's) at True Light Church gym against other Lutheran Church girls basketball teams...followed by a dance....

The 60's Brooklyn/Bronx Girls...Bklyn-Francis Ng, Ella May, Loretta Leong... Bx-Peggy Sue, Sandy Lai, Terry Lee. Joanie Lee...Jeani Lee, Lily Ko (the outliers & hostess from Manhattan) Gift Shop next to Pool Room & Lonnie's Coffee Shop

Now for the ultimate "put down expression" at the Post House in Southampton LI. which is a very popular hot spot for guys & gals to meet & dance and socialize. A young lady named Gail who I met on the deck between dances, or as she would like to say she met me while I was night dreaming at the beautiful star lit night sky. We were engaged in conversation about astronomy when I offered to buy her a drink. While walking back from the bar, I noticed a guy walking away from her with a stunned facial expression. Gail smiled and said the guy was trying to make a hit & impression on her by offering to take her for a ride in his new Cadillac. She calmly responded with a comment: "Please fire your script writer like Bob Hope does when the crowd is not responding". Gail, by profession is a Biophysicist. And she just radiates a manner of self-confidence and charm to match her female attributes & beauty which attracts guys to try & make a hit on her...Nice try Guys!

We were part of the fabulous 50's & 60's. No one will ever have that opportunity again. We were given a gift by living in relatively comfortable times created for us by the "Greatest Generation" after World War II. While there were challenges and racial bias against Chinese Americans, we managed to succeed with a good education, hard work, and business financial sense to enter the professional, vocational, and business fields of this great country of opportunity—The USA!

Do enjoy the 2020 Chinatown Reunion among friends old & new and swing into action & play like we did in the 50's, 60's & beyond. They were memorable years!

All the Best...Stay Sharp. Keep the Memory Cells Humming & Be in Good Health Daniel (Danny) Lee, 01/25/2020...Happy Chinese New Year of the Mouse 4718

