



THE CHARLIE CHAN FAMILY HOME

2023 NEWSLETTER

20+ YEARS

ISSUE No. 6

2001-2023

www.charliechan.org



2023 THE YEAR IN SUMMARY

By Lou Armagno

Aloha "Charlie Chan fans," and welcome to our **6th Annual Newsletter**. With it we highlight significant events and happenings throughout the past year, then include other items of interest surrounding one of America's first and most unique detectives: Charlie

Chan of the Honolulu Police.

Sprechen Sie

Deutsch? (Do you speak German?)

Then visit this site by Michael Lothar

Höfler, [Charlie](#)

[Chan in Germany](#)

[\(and Elsewhere.\)](#)

How wonderful to

find Michael keeping our

detective alive and well

across the Atlantic. He's also

author of [Charlie Chan - Eine](#)

[schwarz / weiße Ära](#) (Oct

2017.) Check out his "what's

new" page. See the Italian

language covers from his site

(next page.) **January 1, 2023,**

The Charlie Chan Family Home Website address changed to a .ORG domain (vs .INFO.) So, if You happen

to visit some of our past newsletters and get "*OOPs!* *Page not found!*" when you

click on a link, don't be

surprised. As with any

migration, past hyperlinks in

"Lately, these 'Charlie Chan' books have been sprouting like mushrooms in a damp cavern!"

- Rush Glick
June 28, 2023

[\(see pg 10, Message Board\)](#)

articles and blogs are affected. So over the next month (and into next year, I'm sure) I will be updating links as well as my monthly blog at: The

Postman On Holiday. The

basic site address for Rush's Family Home address is now:

www.charliechan.org. It took

Rush around one year to manually transfer over 1000

pages, but he got 'er done!

Much thanks goes to Chan

Family member Louise

Krasniewicz, who provided

much direction. The site went

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(Webmaster Rush Glick)

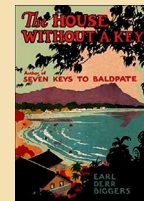
Page 6: The Postman On Holiday blog reaches the

5-year benchmark.

(Lou Armagno)

Page 8: 2023 A New Year and Beyond.

(Lou Armagno)



KEEPER OF THE

KEYS (recurring items)

Page 11. Message Board Highlights from 2023!

Page 13. The Charlie Chan DVD "Featurettes"

active January 1st, 2023!

Speaking of Louise, could a pop-up Charlie Chan book be a possibility in the future?

While only a rumour, Charlie Chan family member Dr. Krasniewicz is taking art classes on this unique art form (pop-up books.) And being the dedicated Chan fan and artist (see her award winning miniature diorama [in the 2021 Newsletter](#).) who knows what the future will bring! And, on another note, after procrastinating as long a humanly possible, I have finally published my book, ***The Wisdom Within Earl Derr Biggers' Charlie Chan: The Original Aphorisms Inside The Charlie Chan Canon.***

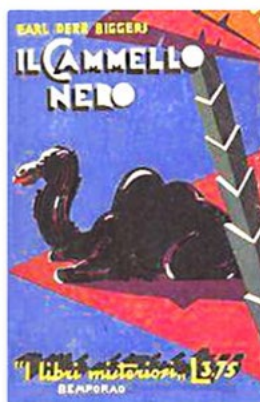
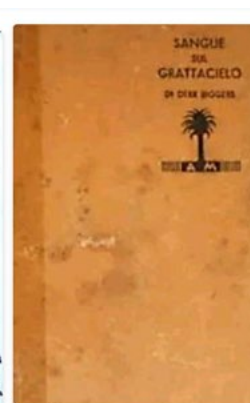
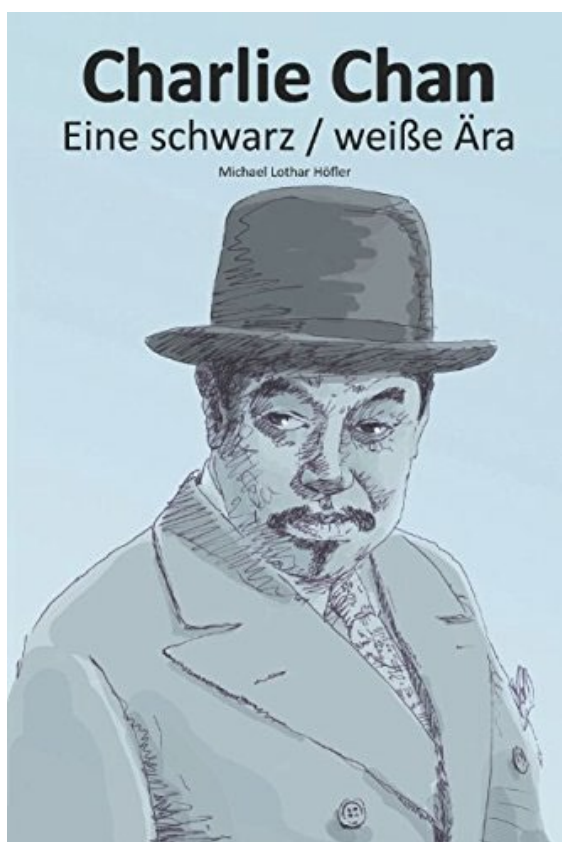
(September 2023.) The book features the 175 aphorisms

inside the six Chan novels in contrast to those within the movies. You can find it pretty much anyplace you purchase books or at Bookbaby [Here](#). As the insert on the first page suggests **“Lately, these ‘Charlie Chan’ books have been sprouting like mushrooms in a dark cavern,”** this is a two-sided sword! You’ll find more in-depth discussion in the June 28th message board topic.

Find this year’s “Message Board Highlights” on page 10.

And did you know the [Message Board](#) topics reach all the way back to [April 2004](#)? And for those who may have participated in online weekly movie Chats, [Chat Room](#), [archive](#) reach back to [2010](#). Finally, during 2023

Chan “regulars” gathered each Monday evening to view **Charlie Chan movies in the “Chat room”** starting January 2nd, 2023 with *Behind That Curtain* (1929) starring E. L. Park in a brief appearance as Charlie Chan. And ended the yearly films-journey through December 26th, with *The Return of Charlie Chan* (1971), starring Ross Martin. We hope you enjoy our collection of happenings for 2023, and the various articles below. If we’ve missed something please accept our most humble apologies. And, if you have or know of any events or happenings for 2024, please send it to: charliechanfamily@yahoo.com.



IS CHARLIE CHAN A RACIST STEREOTYPE?

By Webmaster Rush Glick

Merriam-Webster: racist (noun) a person who is racist: someone who holds the belief that race is a fundamental determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race.

Cambridge Dictionary: racist (noun) someone who believes that their race makes them better, more intelligent, more moral, etc. than people of other races and who does or says unfair or harmful things as a result.

Oxford Learners Dictionary: racist (adjective) having the belief that some races of people are better than others or having general beliefs about other people based only on their race; showing this through violent or unfair treatment of people of other races.

With the exception of instances of the growing self-delusive plague of modern-day newspeak, the traditional definitions of "racism" seen above point to anything but the intent of the Charlie Chan film series. Any honest, unbiased appraisal of the movies in that series, which ran from 1931 to 1949, will see immediately that the term "racist" does not apply. Again, outside of mob-induced disdain, if not outright hatred, of the type brewed within the intellectual safety of a college film history class where a fair viewing of a Charlie Chan movie would be a virtual impossibility, a fair appraisal of any of the Charlie Chan films will prove to any free-thinking individual that the intended portrayal of Chinese detective Charlie Chan was, in no way "racist."

The more Charlie Chan movies that one views, the more one can readily see how deftly Chan handles those who seek to belittle him or his abilities as a detective. Whether it's the ignorance of a gruff cop or a negative comment by a dubious individual, Charlie Chan is shown to be above such things, always prevailing in the end, and usually winning over the person or person in the end. And, isn't that the best way to fight actual racism and ignorance? Charlie Chan teaches us how.

By the early 1980s, the criticism of Charlie Chan grew due to the fact that the Chinese detective was, with the exception of the few earliest on-screen portrayals of the character in silent movies and one early talkie in which Chan had limited dialogue and but a few minutes of screen time, portrayed by actors of European heritage. However, there was no thought as to which actor of Chinese or other Asian lineage during the era of the 1930s or '40s could successfully bring Charlie Chan to life on the big screen.

But, let's allow Keye Luke, who played Charlie Chan's Number One Son alongside Warner Oland's Charlie Chan, to share his opinion on this subject, as he stated during an interview given to Canadian television (TV Ontario) around the year 1985:

INTERVIEWER: "How did you feel – Some people get worried today about the fact that a Swede played an Oriental, or a Hungarian – Peter Lorre – played Mr. Moto; they call this racism."

KEYE LUKE: "Aw!"

INTERVIEWER: "But, where does Keye Luke stand on that?"

KEYE LUKE: "Well, I call it artistry. I think that regardless of race, color, background, so on – if a man can create a character which you can believe, he is an artist and is entitled to the distinction of artistry,

and I don't think race has a thing to do about it. Furthermore, at that time there were no Orientals around that could have possibly played that part, for one thing. They might have some today, but I don't know of any – that is, those that fit the Chan image – you know, that portly, genial sort of character.”

INTERVIEWER: “Yes, because he did – he was more than just the detective. He was the whole presence, wasn't he? He required a persona.”

KEYE LUKE: “He was the type of actor who could obliterate his own personality and create a believable character right before your eyes. Of course, I had the great good fortune to work with him, and I observed how he worked. He was so thorough. If you watch him, he's as smooth as skating on ice. Never a break in there – one thing flowed into another. The words matched the looks, the looks matched the words, and the actions matched everything. He was amazing.” **(Ft note 1)**

Today, of course, this would not be a problem, except for the sad reality that so much politically correct hatred with the resulting “bad press” that has been projected onto the character so that this would be a tough undertaking at best.

Merriam-Webster: stereotype (noun) something conforming to a fixed or general pattern. especially: a standardized mental picture that is held in common by members of a group and that represents an oversimplified opinion, prejudiced attitude, or uncritical judgment.

Cambridge Dictionary: stereotype (noun) a set idea that people have about what someone or something is like, especially an idea that is wrong.

Oxford Learners Dictionary: stereotype (noun) a fixed idea or image that many people have of a particular type of person or thing, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offence.

So, is Charlie Chan a stereotype? Again, we must look back into history and examine what the predominant culture was like in America during the 1930s and '40s when Charlie Chan was dominant among “B” movie detectives. When we look through the window of the popular media of the day, we can see that Charlie Chan did not fit the contemporary preconceptions regarding Chinese. In fact, we can again point to how Chan was able to overcome any preconceptions or prejudices that he encountered. And were these prejudices portrayed in a good light? Of course not. As stated above, Charlie Chan quickly and effectively overcame any such negativity.

We see in a number of instances how Charlie Chan's offspring are thoroughly Americanized, and while their famous father still holds to many of the ways of the culture of his birth, in that, is he any different from all of the other ethnic groups who immigrated to the United States? This is a part of the American experience.

In reality, Charlie Chan was an anti-stereotype. He served to overcome many preconceptions that were present during the earlier decades of the 20th Century. Is it not ironic how some critics of Charlie Chan are upset by his acting too “white” or “subservient”? Do these critics not reveal that they themselves hold their own stereotypical views in how a Chinese man should act? It is a mistake to take humility for subservience or weakness. It takes great inner strength to radiate humility, especially during times of trial.

Two Chan "sons" put things into perspective during a 1977 interview:

BENSON FONG: "I really felt fortunate that during those years we enjoyed parts where we could speak English and not make with the accents. It was more fun to be able to speak your own language in films, and I think the Chan pictures were the only films where we were able to play ourselves."

KEYE LUKE: "I felt the Chan pictures were a credit to the Chinese people. Before this only menacing pictures of Chinatown were shown – opium dens, slave girls, hatchet men, climaxed by the arch-villain Fu Manchu. Charlie Chan came along and erased that image and spread throughout the world a much better picture of the Chinese. Granted it was entertainment, but the public takes the screen portrayal as the real thing, especially when it was done as convincingly as Warner Oland did it. I think that he created a better image for the Orientals, and that his "sons" helped him in that way. You can see that Charlie Chan was wise, sensitive, cautious, honest, gracious, courteous and compassionate. No one ever out-foxed him. He triumphed over everybody and everything. He was the number one man from beginning to end, and I think that did a great deal to erase the image of Fu Manchu." **(ft note 2)**

Charlie Chan was portrayed on the radio, and later, television, by various actors in ways very similar to his film portrayals. These forms of media were another way that the public was able to enjoy the detective's adventures. Chan also appeared in visual print media including newspaper comics and comic books. There were even Charlie Chan board and card games that were produced in the 1930s. These additional popular manifestations of "Chanmania" would not have arisen if Charlie Chan had been a racially demeaning character or a mere stereotype.

Individuals or groups seeking to cast aspersions on what was innocently produced in the past as non-demeaning, and, in fact, a positive promotion of a positive Chinese character, indeed a hero, during an era where that was a breakthrough. These individuals or groups should, perhaps, take note of history's ultimate disdain for the forces who have sought to remove through force that which they disagreed or found objectionable due to their histophobia. We witnessed this vividly in 2003 when Fox Movie Channel bowed to organized pressure groups, pulling the plug on a proposed Charlie Chan movie marathon.

Audiences back in the day did not pay their hard-earned money to see a "racist" negative "stereotype" appear on screen. Movie-goers wanted to be entertained, and that's just what they got through the exploits of Charlie Chan, who, as a result, became a worldwide personality with his movies thrilling and enchanting audiences in numerous countries, including China, for many years. It is humbly suggested that, before picking up any stones, that one please carefully delve into the actual facts before casting same.

1 An interview conducted for Canadian television (TV Ontario) in Hollywood, California, c. 1985 (Available at: <https://charliechan.org/study-keye-luke-kl009/>)

2 "SOCIETY HONORS PIONEER CHINESE AMERICAN ACTORS," By Mary and Chuck Yee; Gum Saan Journal (Chinese Historical Society of Southern California), December 1977 (Available at: <https://charliechan.org/study-keye-luke-kl008/>)

"Critics are sheep--they never lead." (*Keeper of The Keys*)

THE POSTMAN ON HOLIDAY BLOG CELEBRATES 5 YEARS!

LOU ARMAGNO

I never thought I would carry an audience this long through my "rants & raves" about Detective Charlie Chan, Hawaii and Ohio (with some postal stuff thrown in,) but it's true! I started January 1, 2019, blogging once each month, on the first day of the month. So, January 1, 2024, marks the completion of five years and start of the sixth year of the blog at <https://thepostmanonholiday.com/>!

I have many people to thank for this tenure. First and foremost are those who signed up to "follow me," many of whom have been with me the whole 5 years! Also, of significant influence have been the following people who promoted my ramblings on their own websites, newsletters or blogs, and to which I'm extremely thankful:

Barbara Gregorich: <https://barbaragregorich.wordpress.com/>

Rush Glick: <https://charliechan.org/>

J. Kingston Pierce: <https://therapsheet.blogspot.com/>

Otto Penzler: <https://www.mysteriousbookshop.com/>

Janet A. Rudolph: <https://mysteryreadersinc.blogspot.com/>

The first year, 2019, we topped out at around 1,800 visitors for the year. That has slowly increased to 3,800 last year. Now, with an average of over 300 monthly visitors, we are seeing 4,000-plus visitors per years and climbing! (below stats as of December 3rd.)













To everyone I humbly say, "Thank you so much."

An interesting statistic I found through my Wordpress site is which of my posts got the most visits over those five years. Of course, the older a post is the more chances of visits. So, the figures are a bit skewed in that respect. However, for whatever it's worth, **the top three are actually FOOD POSTS (I guess everyone likes Chinese food!). Here they are if you care to visit:**

- [Those Charlie Chan Eateries!](#) (November 2019) - 827 visits.
- [Yellow Cab's Charlie Chan Pasta](#) - "Masarap!" (May 2021) - 782 visits
- [The Return of Charlie Chan. Huh? The restaurant that is in Cambridge, United Kingdom.](#) (January 2022) - 576 visits

(Continued on next page)

Visitors far and wide: Of the 87 countries/locations where visitors hail from, here are the top 10 locations in which they reside:

Countries	Views
 United States	13,457
 United Kingdom	777
 Philippines	583
 Canada	421
 China	272
 Germany	228
 Australia	148
 France	103
 Belgium	86
 Ireland	61

Did you know you can download *The Charlie Chan Family Home Newsletter*? I didn't originally, but when I found out I thought it wonderful that so many folks were that interested. I'm not sure if it's the supplemental list of 30 DVD featurettes and where to find them—not to be found anywhere else—or something else? However, it's a flattering tribute to Rush Glick and his 20-year old site in any respect! Here's the stats on the 300 downloads of the newsletter over these past 5 years:

File downloads	Downloads
2022-newsletter-final-dec-22.pdf	98
2021-newsletter-lou-final-1.pdf	68
2018-newsletter-master.1.pdf	53
2020-newsletter-final-1.pdf	42
2019-newsletter-master1-dec-28.pdf	39



2024 a New Year...and beyond.

By Lou Armagno

HALFWAY THERE--ANOTHER CHAN NOVEL ENTERS THE PUBLIC DOMAIN: BEHIND THAT CURTAIN (1928!) In Charlie's own words "slowly we proceed, we advance." After 96 years the third Charlie Chan novel, **Behind That Curtain** (1928), enters the public domain on January 1, 2024. Now anyone willing (and able) can legitimately pen a Charlie Chan mystery to include characters and items from those first three novels; Three down—three to go! You'll find that announcement, and other items entering the public domain in 2024), sometime the end of December at: <https://web.law.duke.edu/cspd/> (click on the public domain day link in the left sidebar.)



HOPING FOR AN ENCORE (APRIL 2024) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: CHARLIE CHAN AND

FRIENDS. Fingers & toes are crossed for a return of this class which focuses on the 1930s–1950s "oriental" detective films of Charlie Chan, Mr. Moto, and other "friends of the East"; some of the most successful film series of their period. The Chan series ran for over twenty years against a background of American fascination, cultural appropriation, mixed feelings and changing values with regard to the "inscrutable Orient." The class will explore how popular media reflect the cultural constructs and tensions of their times through the lens of Charlie and his onscreen compatriots. Film clips and discussion. The 6-week course seats 50 eager sleuths. INSTRUCTOR: Len Freeman, longtime film critic, poet, and cowboy B movies/serials buff.

HAPPY NEW YEAR DRAGONS! While our Roman calendar New Year's began on January 1st, not so with the Lunar New Year and Chinese zodiac! Year 2024 ushers in **THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON**, which begins **February 10, 2024** and runs through **January 28, 2025**. **Past DRAGON Years are:** 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, and 2012. If you were born in one of those years, your Chinese zodiac chances are you are probably a DRAGON. **Other DRAGONS include:** Joan of Arc, Boris Johnson, Julius Caesar, Adele, Bruce Lee, Liam Neeson, Jack Dorsey, Ringo Star and...Lou Armagno.

The DRAGON happens to be the “fifth” of twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac. According to myth, the Jade Emperor called all animals of the universe together for a race. He decreed the first 12 animals to finish would be rewarded with a year dedicated in their honor, and according to the order in which they arrived. The sly Rat was the first to arrive. He rode upon the back of the water buffalo (OX), and when they got to their destination, rat jumped off to finish first! Then, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig arrived in that order. The calendar repeats every 12 years. This cute video easily explains the tale, and reveals, **why cat and rat are forever enemies!**:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iw0adpGLldk>.

DRAGON. The Dragon symbolizes power, nobleness, honor, luck, and success in traditional Chinese culture. The Dragon is a supernatural being with no parallel for talent and excellence. Among the Chinese zodiac animals, the dragon is the sole imaginary animal. The Chinese dragon is the most vital and powerful beast in the Chinese zodiac, although Dragons have an infamous reputation for being a hothead and possessing a sharp tongue. Gifted with innate courage, tenacity, and intelligence, Dragons are enthusiastic and confident. They are not afraid of challenges, and are willing to take risks.

Lucky Things for the Dragons

... 1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012, 2024 ...

Lucky numbers
1 6 7
and numbers containing them (like 16 and 76)

Lucky colors
gold
silver
grayish white

Lucky flowers
bleeding-heart
glory bower,
dragon flowers

The infographic includes a red dragon illustration in the top right corner.

Things that Dragons should avoid:

- **Unlucky colors:** blue, green
- **Unlucky numbers:** 3 and 8
- **Unlucky direction:** northwest
- **Unlucky months:** the 5th and 6th Chinese lunar months

Which Type of 'Dragon' Are You? In Chinese element theory, each zodiac sign is associated with one of five elements: Gold (Metal), Wood, Water, Fire, or Earth, which means that a Wood Dragon, for example, comes once in a 60-year cycle.

Type of Dragon	Characteristics
Wood Dragon (1964, 2024)	Introverted, less enthusiastic, and lacking in good relationships
Fire Dragon (1916, 1976)	Smart and easygoing, agile and flexible
Earth Dragon (1928, 1988)	Smart, ambitious, and hardworking
Gold Dragon (1940, 2000)	Natural and straightforward, talent and desire to be seen
Water Dragon (1952, 2012)	Persevering, farsighted, and vigorous



“HAU’OLI MAKAHIKI HOU!” (Happy New Year 2024)

2023 MESSAGE BOARD (HIGHLIGHTS).

By Visitors Worldwide

Welcome to our **highlights from the Charlie Chan Message Board in 2023**. The Charlie Chan [Message Board](#) is a place to pose questions, discuss movies, books or events, as well as sound off on any and all things Charlie Chan. Indeed, it is quite the collection of philosophical thoughts and ideas about, not just Charlie Chan, but the film industry, mysteries in general, and other unusual topics that spring to mind. Comments and discussion may be simple "Happy Birthday Earl Derr Biggers," others go much deeper "The Lost Charlie Chan Films," and yet others seek advice "Where can I find Charlie Chan films on Laser Disk?" In attempt to capture the year, here are a few notable 2023 message board topics that generated discussion (**click on each title to read**.) And should nothing here interest you, there are another 34 pages of Message Board Topics dating back to May 20th, 2004:

[Wo Fat Bldg in Chinatown, Honolulu, Hawaii.](#) (Sep 17): Apparently, after being vacant for years, it is finally being opened up this year as a restaurant and boutique hotel with 23 rooms starting around \$300. Hopefully, this will begin a revitalization of Chinatown, Hawaii.

[Museum.](#) (Aug 31): Is there a museum oh Charlie Chan that we can visit in Honolulu? Thank you for yr time.

[Warner Oland Book](#) (Aug 7): My name is Geno Cuddy, I am writing as I am currently working on a book dedicated to the life and career of Warner Oland and I am looking for assistance. I would like to locate and speak with family members, especially Paul S. Oland whom participated in the "Charlie Chan is Missing" documentary on Oland for the 20th Century-Fox set of DVDs released during the latter half of the 2000s.

["The Wisdom Within Earl Derr Biggers' Charlie Chan"](#) (Jul 22): Our own "HonoluLou," Lou Armagno, has just published a fantastic new book focusing on the aphorisms of Charlie Chan as found in the original Chan stories by Earl Derr Biggers!

[Charlie Chan: Dark Alibi has been "riffed" on RiffTrax](#) (Jul 9): I came across this website, RiffTrax.com, and they are "riffing" the Charlie Chan movie Dark Alibi. <https://www.rifftrax.com/charlie-chan-dark-alibi>. For those not familiar with "RiffTrax", this is a company that "produces scripted humorous commentary tracks which are synced to feature films, education shorts (mostly public domain), and television episodes".

[Another book advertised on Amazon](#) (Jun 28): Has anyone had the opportunity to check out "The Amelia Earhart Mystery: Charlie Chan in the Pacific" by Adrian Vogler? I was wondering if it was worth purchasing.

[Another new Charlie Chan novel: "The Jade Dragon's Curse"](#) (Jun 16): I have been alerted to another new Charlie Chan adventure that is available on Amazon: "The Jade Dragon's Curse," by Antonios Valamontes. I have ordered a copy and will read it when it arrives. The following is the summary from Amazon: "'The Jade Dragon's Curse' is a captivating mystery novel that delves into the dark secrets surrounding a cursed artifact and the sinister forces that seek to control it. Set in the vibrant streets of San Francisco's Chinatown, the story follows Detective Charlie Chan as he unravels a web of deception, murder, and ancient curses..."

["Charlie Chan's Luxury Cruise" \(It's a YES!\)](#) (Jun 9): ...In the end, I do recommend that fans of Charlie Chan will order a copy of "Charlie Chan's Luxury Cruise" from Amazon, which, as I noted above, is also the book's publisher, producing the copies on demand. In my opinion, this book represents the best attempt at a post-Biggers Charlie Chan story perhaps ever, and I think it is very much worth the read, and it offers a good mystery to boot!

[Should our monthly polls continue?](#)(Jun 2): Greetings! I never thought that I would be asking this question, but after the mere handful of responses to our May Poll (which could be counted on the pitching hand of Mordecai Brown), I ask: "Should we continue with our monthly polls?"

[Looking for the Asian Versions of Charlie Chan Films.](#) (May 22): A friend and I were once upon a time station in Taipei, Taiwan ('74-'76, and being his wife is Taiwanese they recently took a trip back to the island. I asked him if he'd try to see if there could possibly be any copies of the Chinese version of Charlie Chan still around (a long shot, but what are old friends for!) Here are the film titles from Rush's site, my friend was armed with...

[Charlie Chan Daily Comics](#) (May 13): Greetings. It will be a lengthy and painstaking process, but I have begun the task of presenting a collection of Charlie Chan Daily Comics. The link can be found at our "Comics" section at this site. As the original, vintage examples of the comic strips are scanned individually and placed on view, the dailies will become more and more complete.

[More Amazon novels](#) (May 7): I browsed Amazon. There are some books with Charlie Chan in the title. Don't know how good or bad these books are. Has anyone read any of this?

[Charlie Chan Cha](#) (Apr 28): So, the "Chan Renaissance" continues with a tea ("cha" in Chinese) that has been named after none other than...Charlie Chan! Perhaps they were seeking alliteration? Here is the Internet address: <https://www.serendipitea.com/product/CharlieChan.html>. Being a tea drinker, I will probably give it a try!

[I received the Charlie Chan book today](#) (Mar 27): Greetings! I was happy to find my copy of "Charlie Chan: Cheeseburgers, Root Beer Floats and Murder" in the mail less than an hour ago. I eagerly began reading and have a few quick thoughts after reading the first chapter.

[Charlie Chan at the Olympics](#) (Mar 26): I see you are watching Olympics in Monday's chat room. Some might be interested to read this: <http://charliechan.mhoefler.de/charlie-chan-at-the-olympics-1937/>.

[Saving our Chat texts WITH images!](#) (Feb 7): By accidental good fortune, I found a way to save the texts of our Weekly Chats complete with any posted images! This alone makes our new Chat Room worth it! This is the first time that this has been possible.

[CharlieChan.org is now complete!](#) (Jan 25): It took months, but we have finally completed the packing and the unpacking, and the BIG MOVE is done. The transition over from our old site is now finished. Our new address, charliechan.org, officially opened at midnight, EST, January 1.

THE CHARLIE CHAN DVD "FEATURETTES" & WHERE TO FIND THEM

By Steve Fredrick and Lou Armagno (2018)

One aspect of the Charlie Chan DVDs often overlooked, are the mini "featurettes" one finds at the main menu; usually, listed as "Other Features," "Special Features," or something similar. These small snippets are extremely entertaining tidbits of education and take us behind the scenes of these prospective film productions.

Listed below, please find our index of some thirty extremely entertaining and enlightening shorts and the DVDs where you'll find them. We've omitted any "Theatrical Trailers" or "Still Galleries." Happy Hunting!

(**Note:** Our illustrious Charlie Chan Family Home webmaster appears in no less than five!)



[\(20th Century Fox\) Charlie Chan, Volume 1 \(20 Jun 2006\)](#)

1. Featurette - Eran Trece (full Spanish-Language Version of the lost film, *Charlie Chan Carries On*) (1931)

CAST (Main): Manuel Arbo (Charlie Chan), Rafael Calvo (Inspector Duff), Juan Corena (Dick Kennaway), Ana Maria Custodio (Elen Potter).

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Shanghai*.

2. Featurette - The Legacy of Charlie Chan (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Jon L. Breen, DeSoto Brown, Janice Clapoff, Rush Glick, Barbara Gregorich, Ken Hanke, James G. Y. Ho, Sheri Kagimoto, Kanoelehua Miller, Judy Narita, Layne Tom Jr., Valerie Yaros.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in London*.

3. Featurette - In Search of Charlie Chan (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Howard Berlin, Jon L. Breen, Rusty Cundieff, Rush Glick, Barbara Gregorich, Ken Hanke, Carla Winter, Paul Wurtzel, Valerie Yaros.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Paris*.

4. Featurette - The Real Charlie Chan (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: DeSoto Brown, Janice Clapoff, Eddie Croom, Barbara Gregorich, Ken Hanke, James G. Y. Ho, Karl Kagimoto, Sheri Kagimoto, Nannette Napoleon, Bob Krauss.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Egypt*.

[\(20th Century Fox\) Charlie Chan, Volume 2 \(5 Dec 2006\)](#)

5. Featurette - Charlie Chan's Lucky Director: H. Bruce Humberstone (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Bruce Scivally.

CAST: Eve Brent, Jordana Gainsworth, Rush Glick, Ken Hanke, Scott Mclsaac, Johnny Scheffield.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at the Opera*.

6. Featurette - Layne Tom, Jr.: The Adventures of Charlie Chan, Jr. (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Bruce Scivally.

CAST: Tom Layne Jr.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at the Olympics*.

7. Featurette - Number One Son: The Life of Keye Luke (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Bruce Scivally.

CAST: Rush Glick, Ken Hanke, Vikki Luke, Scott Mclsaac.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at the Race Track*.

8. Featurette - Charlie Chan at the Movies (2006)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Bruce Scivally.

CAST: Jordana Gainsworth, Rush Glick, C. Courtney Joyner, Sara Karloff, Scott Mclsaac.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at the Circus*.

[\(20th Century Fox\) Charlie Chan, Volume 3 \(14 Aug 2007\)](#)

9. Featurette - Commentary by Film Critic Ken Hanke and Film Historian John Cork (2007)

(Commentary that can be played in synch with the movie).

DVD: *Charlie Chan's Secret*.

10. Featurette - Charlie Chan and the Rise of the Modern Detective (2007)

Director/Writer: (D) John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen / (W) John Cork.

CAST: Ronald Thomas, Matthew Pearl, Dr. Henry C. Lee.

DVD: *Charlie Chan's Secret*.

11. Featurette - Dr. Henry Lee: The Modern Day Charlie Chan (2007)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Dr. Henry Lee

DVD: *Charlie Chan's Secret*.

12. Featurette - Commentary by Film Critic Ken Hanke and Film Historian John Cork (2007)

(Commentary that can be played in synch with the movie).

DVD: *Charlie Chan in The Black Camel*.

13. Featurette - Charlie Chan's Chance: A Re-creation of a Lost Chan Film (2007)

Director/Writer: (D) John Cork / (W) John Cork, Bruce Scivally, Lisa Van Eyssen.

Screenplay and Dialog: Philip Kleine and Barry Connere.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in The Black Camel*.

14. Featurette (Side 1) - Charlie Chan is Missing: The Last Days of Warner Oland (2007)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Paul S. Oland, David Lewis, Ken Hanke, Valerie Yaros, Rush Glick, Kay Linaker.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Monte Carlo*.

15. Featurette (Side 1) - Warner Oland is Charlie Chan (2007)

(Screen shots of lobby cards, posters, and advertisements featuring Oland as Chan).

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Monte Carlo*.

16. Featurette (Side 2) - Behind That Curtain -- The 1929 Film Featuring the First Appearance of the Charlie Chan Character at FOX (2007)

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Monte Carlo*.

17. Featurette - The World of Charlie Chan (2007)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Ken Hanke, Scott McIsaac, Rush Glick, Michael Shermer, Khaled Azzam, Gerry Scott, Suzanne Wilson Barnett, Nancy Bistow, Robert Sabia, Jon White, Miles Kreuger, David Wallechinsky.

DVD: *Charlie Chan on Broadway*.

18. Featurette - Chanograms: The Aphorisms of Charlie Chan (2007)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Ken Hanke, Rush Glick, Suzanne Wilson Barnett.

DVD: *Charlie Chan on Broadway*.

[\(20th Century Fox\) Charlie Chan, Volume 4 \(12 Feb 2008\)](#)

19. Featurette - Reinventing Chan (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Scott McIsaac, Ken Hanke.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Honolulu*.

20. Featurette - Sidney Toler: The Man Who Became Chan (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Miles Krueger, David Lewis.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Honolulu*.

21. Featurette - Charlie Chan's Courage: A Re-creation of a Lost Chan Film (2007)

(Based on The Chinese Parrot)

Director/Writer: John Cork/Bruce Scivally and Lisa Van Eyssen.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Honolulu*.

22. Featurette - Welcome to Reno: America's Divorce Resort (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork and Lisa Van Eyssen.

CAST: Mella Harmon, William L. McGee, Pat Ferraro Klos, Judge Peter I. Breen,

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Reno*.

23. Featurette - Reno Memories (2008)

Director/Writer: Lisa Van Eyssen, John Cork.

CAST: William L. McGee.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Reno*.

24. Featurette - Chan's Killer Actress: Kay Linaker (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork.

CAST: Kay Linaker.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in Reno*.

25. Featurette - The Making of Charlie Chan in City in Darkness (2008)

Director/Writer: (D) John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen, (W) John Cork.

CAST: Rick Jewell, Scott Mclsaac, John Cork, Marje Schuetze-Coburn, Cornelius Schnauber.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in the City in Darkness*.

26. Featurette - Writing Charlie Chan: Robert Ellis and Helen Logan (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen.

CAST: John Cork, Scott Mclsaac.

DVD: *Charlie Chan in the City in Darkness*.

27. Featurette - Commentary by Film Critic Ken Hanke and Film Historian John Cork (2008)

(Commentary that can be played in synch with the movie).

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Treasure Island*.

28. Featurette - The Real Treasure Island (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen.

CAST: Richard Reinhardt, Claire Isaacs Wahrhaftig, Gladys Hansen.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Treasure Island*.

29. Featurette - Charlie Chan and the Zodiac (2008)

Director/Writer: John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen.

CAST: Michael Kelleher, Ed Neil, Howard Davis.

DVD: *Charlie Chan at Treasure Island*.

[\(20th Century Fox\) Charlie Chan, Volume 5 \(16 Sep 2008\)](#)

30. Featurette - The Era of Chan (2008)

Director/Writer: (D) John Cork & Lisa Van Eyssen, (W) John Cork.

CAST: John Cork, Scott Mclsaac, Sharon Rosen Leib, Paul Wurtzel, David Wurtzel, Miles Kreuger, Ken Hanke, Jim Doherty, Didi Hunter, Lorenzo Semple, Jr.

DVD: *Castle in the Desert*.