



SUMMER 2024

CHSSC PRESENTS

Summer Picnic

SAT **24** AUGUST

12PM - 4PM

Address:

CHSSC Heritage-Visitors Center
411 Bernard Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Information:

Bring \$20 Cash
or
Bring Main dish, Vegetable dish,
or Salad that serves 8-10 people



Nearby parking available at Bamboo Plaza
and Mandarin Plaza
Street parking also available

RSVP EMAIL: info@chssc.org





Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

SUMMER 2024

Recognition and Thanks

As the new program year starts, we need to thank our valued members who are leaving the board. Each exemplifies a lifetime of volunteerism.

Both Franklin Mah and Cindy Fong joined as CHSSC Life Members. Franklin, who is a retired tax auditor for the Federal Government, has served as the treasurer to both the Friends of the Chinatown Library (FOCL) and CHSSC. Franklin returned to the office of CHSSC Treasurer in 2020. In addition to balancing our books, Franklin manages our investments. Cindy, a retired Castelar teacher, also has been involved with FOCL. She is the immediate past president of FOCL, a position that she held for the past seven years. Cindy joined the CHSSC board again in 2019. She is generous with her time and money. Not only is she the voice of reason at all meetings, she works on the NNN mailing committee, and held the job as Secretary. Cindy and Franklin are part of our institutional memory, but they will continue to advise the board.

Although Ricky and Grace Leo only joined the board 3 years ago, they have been an important part of our effort to update procedures, increase our online presence, and plan for the future. Ricky, our outgoing president, is multi-talented retired electrical engineer of the aviation industry. He created our new website and a new look for our News 'N Notes. Ricky created the Story Map exhibit of the CHSSC Yosemite pilgrimage. Ricky's behind the scenes computer skills have helped CHSSC. Grace has planned successful CHSSC events: a board retreat, the 2023 Open House, and getting all of our CHSSC documents in Google Workspace. Grace and Ricky spent many weekends working on the Heritage Houses: repairing the houses and cleaning the houses. Grace, with Ricky at her side, has had a lifetime of volunteerism in Ventura County as a member of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club of Oxnard, and as president of the Ventura County Chinese American Historical Society. Grace and Ricky planned a Congressional Gold Medal event in Simi Valley for C.A.C.A. to give away Gold Medal replicas to WWII Chinese American veterans or their families. We wish Ricky and Grace well in their move to Las Vegas.

We also want to thank Annalisa Harlow, a student working on her Master's Degree at San Francisco State University. Annalise was a summer intern for CHSSC working on the 5 Chinatowns project. Subsequently, she joined the board and became the head of the Social Media Committee.

CHSSC only functions well with hard-working volunteers. We want to recognize and thank them for all of their efforts for our organization.

Susan Dickson
CHSSC Secretary

Board of Directors

Officers

Ricky Leo, President
Gordon Hom, Vice President
Susan Dickson, Secretary
Franklin Mah, Treasurer
Laureen Hom, Membership Secretary

Members at Large

Linda Bentz
Robert Chong
Cindy Fong
Annalise Harlow
Angela Lancaster
Grace Leo
Albert Lowe

Mission Statement

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November 1975. The purposes of the Society are:

1. to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in southern California;
2. to pursue, preserve, and communicate knowledge of this history; and
3. to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multicultural society of the United States.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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China Society and CHSSC Author Talk

China Society of Southern California Special Summer Program

Date and Time: Thursday, August 15, 2024

Checking in 5:30, Dinner and Program 6:00 – 9:00

\$40, pay at the door, cash or check payable to China Society of Southern California

Place: Golden Dragon, 960 N. Broadway, Los Angeles Chinatown.

RSVP to Yvonne Chang: yvonnechang8@gmail.com

Author Katie Gee Salisbury will speak about her book:



Not Your China Doll: The Wild and Shimmering Life of Anna May Wong

by [Katie Gee Salisbury](#) (Author)

4.7 4.7 out of 5 stars_34 ratings

Set against the glittering backdrop of Los Angeles during the gin-soaked Jazz Age and the rise of Hollywood, this debut book celebrates Anna May Wong, the first Asian American movie star, to bring an unsung heroine to light and reclaim her place in cinema history.

Before Constance Wu, Sandra Oh, Awkwafina, or Lucy Liu, there was Anna May Wong. In her time, she was a legendary beauty, witty conversationalist, and fashion icon. Plucked from her family's laundry business in Los Angeles, Anna May Wong rose to stardom in Douglas Fairbanks' blockbuster *The Thief of Bagdad*. Fans and the press clamored to see more of this unlikely actress, but when Hollywood repeatedly cast her in stereotypical roles, she headed abroad in protest.

Unmasking Anna May Wong honors Chinese American actress and legend, Anna May Wong. The exhibition pays tribute to the trailblazer and icon who challenged conventions against all odds and paved the way for greater diversity and representation. Look behind the curtain and explore her life beyond Hollywood. *Unmasking Anna May Wong* will run from **May 24, 2024 – Jan 26, 2025**. At the Chinese American Museum: 425 N. Los Angeles St, Hours: Tue-Sun 10-3 Co-curated by CAM and Not Your China Doll author Katie Gee Salisbury.

Link to CAM Website : <https://camla.org/>



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Utah more than Skiing and Park City: Rural Chinatowns & Hidden Sites Conference, June 18-21, 2024

CHSSC members Eugene Moy, Susan Sing, Isaac Chu, and Marji Lee were treated to an extraordinary opportunity to attend this amazing conference in Salt Lake City. Registration costs were generously subsidized by Rick Eng and the 1882 Foundation. The UCLA Asian American Studies Center supported their ambitious road trip travel from Los Angeles to Utah and back.



Ricky Leo, Susan Sing, Isaac Chu, Marji Lee, Eugene Moy

The conference kicked off the day before with an optional seminar, “Researching Chinese American Genealogy” offered by the LDS Church History Department’s FamilySearch Library. Staff conducted an orientation of the library’s resources and a tour of the facility where the first transcontinental railroad was completed.

The schedule of “Rural Chinatowns & Hidden Sites” was packed with on-site paper sessions, panel discussions, and personal storytelling on Wednesday and Friday. We learned about the origins, histories, and families of American Chinatowns established in remote, rural and nearly hidden places like Greenville, MS; Eureka, CA; John Day Rivera, OR; Silver City, NM; Butte, MT; and Rock Springs, WY. We

also heard about issues, challenges, and pivotal historic moments faced by these early-day rural communities. Discussions about historic preservation, museum, and historic site programs included how to advocate and save such places, origins and destinations of Chinese American families and their heritage.

Thursday was the highlight for all conferees who could participate in one of two tours. Some ventured to the Golden Spike National Historical Park for a first-hand look and historic orientation of the site where the transcontinental railroad was completed. We joined the 2nd tour that was decidedly the rougher journey to Terrace, Utah, a desert ghost town that included the recent discovery of Terrace’s first Chinese community.

The 1882 Foundation and the Utah State Historic Preservation Office were key co-sponsors of this dynamic exploration of rural settlements developed by early Chinese American immigrants throughout the United States. Contributing sponsors included the Bureau of Land Management-Utah, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, and Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation.

Marjorie Lee, 19 July 2024

For more information about Terrace UT and its Chinatown, see this presentation by Christopher Merritt, historical archaeologist and Utah State Historic Preservation Officer:

<https://www.facebook.com/moabmuseum/videos/chinese-railroad-workers-of-utah-with-dr-christopher-merritt/284935260127178/>

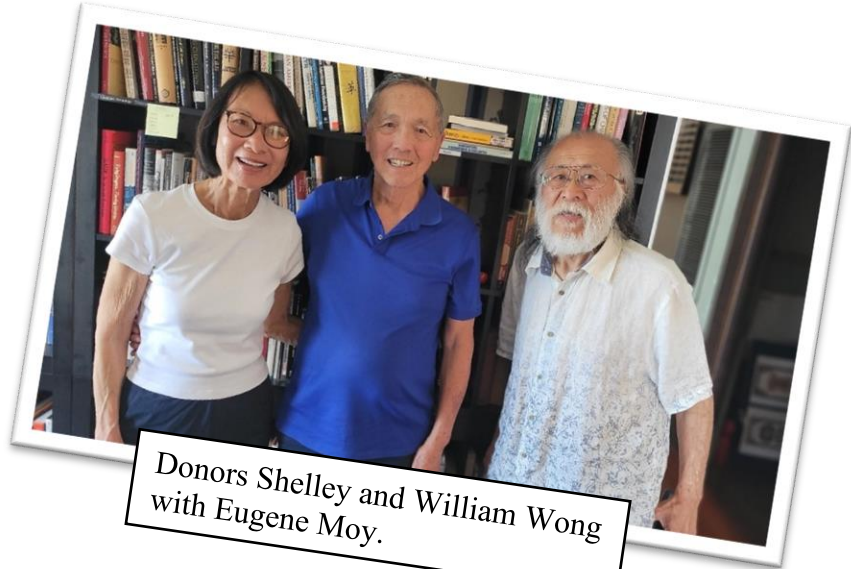


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Walking tour at Union Station with
Crew LA -Women in Real Estate



Donors Shelley and William Wong
with Eugene Moy.



Walking tour at Central Plaza for California
Preservation Foundation Conference



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SUMMER 2024

LAHUNGRYGHOSTFESTIVAL.COM

Hungry Ghost Festival

DRAGON & LION DANCE • PUPPET
SHOWS • MUSIC • CRAFT TABLES •
SCAVENGER HUNT • BOUNCY HOUSE

Sat, August 24
4-7pm

ALPINE RECREATION CENTER

817 Yale St, Los Angeles,
CA 90012

Free
Entry





Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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Attendees at Rural Chinatowns and Hidden Sites Conference, June 18-21, 2024 at Salt Lake City UT



Desert landscape crossed by Chinese RR workers in 1869



Influence of the 1885 Rock Springs Massacre on the Leo Clan



Chinese burial ground in Salt Lake City Cemetery

Donations for July

In Memory of Rose Kan

Cheryl Tina Kum

In Memory of Paul Louie, CHSSC Founder

Emma Louie

In Memory of Howard Foon

Judy Sai

In Memory of Jennie & Bill Wong and Lily & Harry Wong

William & Shelley Wong

Donations

Amelia Lee

Wes Leslie

Eugene Moy

National Park Conservation Association

The Haunt Tours

Earl Ung

Julie Weaver Saper

Lillian Wong

Raymond S. Wong

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California



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Announcements and Upcoming Events

Katie Gee Salisbury's Dinner and Program

The China Society and CHSSC co-sponsor Katie Gee Salisbury, the author of *Not Your China Doll: The Wild and Shimmering Life of Anna May Wong*. Dinner and program will be on August 15, 2014 at the Golden Dragon Restaurant; 960 N. Broadway; LA Chinatown. (5:30 check-in) Cost of \$40 needs to be paid by cash or check at the door. RSVP with Yvonne Chang: yvonnechang@gmail.com

Chinese American Museum presents the 28th Annual Historymakers Award Gala

Thursday, September 19, 2024 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites – 404 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.