

SAN DIEGO CHINESE SOCIETY & MUSEUM

聖地牙哥中華歷史博物館協會



SD Chinese Mission Building
404 Third Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101
Ph. 619 338 9888 fx. 619 338 9808
www.sdchm.org info@sdchm.org

NEW Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension
328 J Street
San Diego, CA 92101
Ph. 619 595 1506

SUMMER 2005 July through September 2005

The mission of SDCHSM is to collect, preserve and share the Chinese American experience and Chinese history, culture and art to educate the community and its visitors.

JEN

忍 - jen : to endure;
to bear; to repress



Written by

Tang Yin 唐寅
(1470-1523 C.E.)

During the Ming Dynasty
(1368-1644 C.E.)

忍氣吞聲

To restrain one's temper
and say nothing

忍心害理

To harden the heart and do
violence to principles.

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday

10:30am-4:00pm

Sunday 12pm-4pm

Closed Mondays

Admission \$2. Members Free.

Group tours are available upon request. Please share this information with your local school or organization.

TWO TIMES THE TALENT: CHOW CHIAN-CHIU AND CHOW LEUNG-CHEN YING AT THE SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Kara Hwang, Museum Staff

Mr. Chow speaks softly and walks with a cane, but at 94 years old, the fact that he is still out and about and on the go is impressive to say the least. He is perhaps, a testament to art therapy's assertion of the myriad health benefits of art making. This celebrated master and teacher of Chinese brush painting was at the Museum on Saturday May 7, visiting, smiling and mingling with all of the excited guests who had gathered in the extension building to celebrate the opening of his, and his wife's painting exhibition, *A Perfect Match*.



Museum Executive Director Alexander Chuang, and Chinese Historical Society President, Michael Yee present Chow Chian Chiu with an Award of Achievement.

What was unusual and unfortunate about Mr. Chow's recent visit is that unlike every other visit, this time he came alone. For sixty years Chow Chian-Chiu could hardly be seen without his wife and lifelong companion Chow Leung-Chen Ying. Together they traveled, together they taught and together they painted. In light of Mrs. Chow's recent passing, we feel especially honored to house this exhibit as a tribute to their blessed union and wonderful talent.

Though Mrs. Chow has recently passed on and physically Mr. Chow is slowing down, their paintings are fresh, energetic and more alive than ever. Composed with lively gestures and conceived with great passion, the twenty-four paintings in the Museum Extension are a testament to the Chows' lifelong dedication to painting, and lifelong dedication to each other. The paintings record the couple's extensive travels around the globe, bringing each distant place to the immediate present.

At the reception, SDCHM President Michael Yee described his reaction to the work as one of immediacy and excitement; while standing in front of the paintings he could

Continued on page 9

IN THIS ISSUE

San Diego Dragon Boat Races

A Princess Visits the Museum

A History in Photographs

Remembering Dr. Robert Reiss

A Koi Story

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Saturday May 21 was a milestone day that demonstrates the influence of the Chinese Historical Museum. Three events all took place on that splendid day, which appropriately fell in the month of May, Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I'm glad you can read what our excellent authors have to say about each event.

First, we were honored by a visit from the Princess Maha Chkri Sirindhorn from Thailand and her entourage, as invited and hosted by former Chair, Dr. Lilly Cheng. Executive Director Dr. Alex Chuang escorted her through each exhibit, while she asked questions and made numerous comments in her notebook. We were further honored by a visit from Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante. My thanks to Dr. Cheng and Dr. Chuang for a wonderful event and to the many board members and staff who supported her visit.

Second, the 3rd Annual Asian Pacific Islander Forum took place in the Hwei-Chih & Julia Hsiu Lecture Hall at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial Extension, sponsored by the Museum and the Asian Pacific Historic Collaborative. The Forum allowed the varied Asian American communities to work together to keep San Diego's unique Asian American 120+ year-old history alive.

Third, the Asian American Repertory Theatre (AART) had its "Playgroup" readings in the Museum Courtyard. Hosted by the Museum, AART brings theatre arts to the museum by reading cutting-edge and developing scripts. This event brings new young faces to the Museum, while also strengthening the interest in Asian American cultures.

The Museum is more than a center for educating people and preserving Chinese and Chinese-American history and culture. It is a leading Asian community organization that serves the Asian American community and the region at large.

All these events, including the Chow Chian Chiu and Chow Leung Chen-Ying Painting Exhibit and the monthly Asian Pacific Historic District tour, helped us honor Asian Pacific Heritage Month. Of course, we should enjoy the history and culture of China and Chinese America all the time, so I encourage you to come down and visit the museum and bring your friends and family.

Michael Yee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Yee, President
Dr. Karl Lo, Vice President
Marion So, Secretary
Dr. Lilly Cheng
Dr. Kuang Chung Chien
Dr. Alexander Chuang
Dr. Charlotte Hsieh
Sawyer Hsu
Donna Lee
Michael Lee
Dr. Teh-Hsuang (Tom) Lee
Dr. Dale Lieu
Dr. Polly Liew
Lily Lin
Celia Su
Linda Tu
Dr. Sandra Wawrytko
Dolly Woo

HONORARY CIRCLE

Jenny Benson
Eleanor Bregman, Esq.
Dr. Allen Chan
Dr. William & Margaret Chang
Shu-Sing & Yui-May Chang
Diana Chuh
David Du
Gorman & Dolores Fong
Dr. Y.C. & Luna Fung
Jeffrey Hsieh
Drs. J. Jim & Charlotte Hsieh
Theresa Lai
Wen Lee
Betty Ma
Dr. Harry & Constance Mow
Larry & Theresa Song
Drs. Charles & Lily Wang
Edward G. and Ellen G. Wong
Peter and Dr. Catherine Woo
Dr. Savio & Pattie Woo
William and Amy Yuan

MUSEUM STAFF

Executive Director:
Dr. Alexander Chuang
Treasurer:
Dr. Teh-Hsuang (Tom) Lee
Curator of Chinese American History:
Murray Lee
Curator of Chinese Art and History, Emeritus: **Sung Yu**
Museum Operations Coordinator:
Norman Fong
Education: **Kara Hwang, Michelle Lee**
Development: **Virginia Loh**
Graphics/Web: **Isabelle Heyward**
Administrative Assistants/Docents:
Michelle Lee, Rochelle Lozada, Eileen Chiu, Amanda Wilson, Kara Hwang
Administration Consultant:
Tom Hom
Display Consultant: **Daisy Kuan**



CONTENTS

ON COVER:

*Two Times the Talent: The
Chow Chian Chiu & Chow
Leung Chen-Ying Exhibit*

2

President's Message

3

Museum Update

4

A Memorable Day

5

The Power of Jen

6

Finding History in Photographs

7

Historical Photo Gallery

8

Footbinding: A Woman's Way

9

Remembering Dr. Robert Reiss

10

SDCHM Photo Gallery

11

*Behind The Scenes With The
Dragon Boat Team*

12

A Koi Story

13

*Curator's Corner
APH Collaborative*

14

*Shu Chien Receives Honor
API Forum*

15

Community Outreach Report

16

APHAFIC Update

17

Education Update

18

Funding & Donor Support

19

Upcoming Events

MUSEUM UPDATE

MUSEUM UPDATE

Alexander Chuang, Executive Director

Spring has passed and Summer is upon us, the Museum garden is in bloom and thriving. During the past few months, since our last newsletter, we've been very busy planning events and projects as well as continuing with our classroom presentations and Museum tours. We have welcomed many special guests and participated in several events.

On April 23, the Museum sponsored a Dragon Boat in the Dragon Boat Festival, held this year, at Mission Bay. Our boat may not have been first, however our crew put forth a gallant effort. We would like to thank again the generous donors that were able to make this possible. We would also like to thank those courageous participants, rowing for our team.

We had an opening for the Chow Chian Chiu (周千秋) & Chow Leung Chen-Ying (梁紫纓) exhibit on May 7. At this exhibition opening we were happy to host over 100 guests to the exhibit itself as well as our reception following, in the Museum's garden. Another Chinese painting master, Chi Kang was in attendance and posed for many pictures. It was an honor for us to have two such great masters sitting next to each other in our museum! Two of Master Chow's paintings have been sold so far.

The Museum was also proud to be one of the sponsors of the Annual Asian Pacific Forum, as part of Asia Pacific Heritage Month of May. There were speakers from Japan, Philippines and Chinese Americans attending the Forum. This forum discussed and reviewed the history of San Diego's Asian District. On Saturday May 21, we were very honored to host Her Royal Highness Maha Chikri Sirindhorn of Thailand as well as the Princess, Ms. Sirikitiya Jensen. This group



The two Masters, Chow Chian Chiu 周千秋 (right) and Chi Kang 季康 (left), pose for a picture in front of the some of Chow Chian Chiu and Chow Leung Chen-Ying's paintings.



Michael Yee and Alexander Chuang present books, newsletters and information about the Museum to Her Royal Highness (second from right). Also pictured are (third from left) Princess Sirikitiya Jensen (Her Royal Highness's niece), (third from right) California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, and (far right) Dr. Lilly Cheng.

was accompanied by Dr. Lilly Cheng, former President of the Chinese Historical Society and Museum Board, as well as California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante. Alex gave this group a tour of both the Museum Mission side and Extension. Afterwards a reception was given in the Museum's garden. Following the reception, Murray Lee gave the group a tour of the Asia Pacific Historical District.

We are proud to report that our education program is doing very well. In the past two weeks, museum staff, Kara Hwang has given 15 classroom presentations of the Qin Dynasty and *Dragon's Tale*. -AC

A MEMORABLE DAY

Professor Lilly Cheng, *Director of Chinese Study Institute, SDSU*

On the morning of May 21, the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum received a very special guest and her entourage. This special guest was Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chkri Sirindhorn of Thailand. Her entourage included Ms. Sirikitiya Jensen (her niece), Dr. Sumonta Prombon, Chairperson of Science Society of Thailand, Dr. Prapod Assavavilunhakan, Head of Eastern Languages, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Ambassador Kasit Piromya and his wife Chinpano. Other members included Mrs. Valliya Pangsrivongs, Mrs. Pasinee Limatibul and Ms. Rujikorn Saengchntr. Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, Mr. Soopakij Chearavanont and Dr. Sarasin Viraphol from the CP Group also were there to welcome HRH and her entourage. Mr. Soopakij Chearavanont was in San Diego to give a commencement speech at San Diego State University on his father's, Chairman Dhanin Chearavanont of the CP Group, behalf.

Dr. Alexander Chuang, Museum Executive Director, took Her Royal Highness on a personal tour of both sides of the museum (the Mission and Extension). After the tour, a tea reception was held in the museum's garden. Members of the Board of Trustees came to welcome her and had photo opportunities with the Princess. Before she began the tour, Her Royal Highness used a traditional Chinese brush and wrote her name in beautiful calligraphy.

Her Royal Highness had a notebook that she carried to take notes on the exhibits and she asked many questions throughout the tour. She had spent a month in China at Peking University learning Chinese, so she was able to not only communicate in English but also in Mandarin. With her doctoral research in education, she was an eager learner. Throughout the morning, we observed her commitment to education and learning. Indeed, learning is perhaps the most enjoyable thing in life.

After the Museum tour and reception, HRH was guided on a walking tour of the San Diego Asian Pacific Historical District. Murray Lee, curator of Chinese American history at the Museum, provided photographs as they walked on memory lane. Her Royal Highness was very interested in the details of the history of San Diego's Chinatown. Representatives of SDSU, Professor Lilly Cheng, Director of the Chinese Study Institute, and Paul Wong, Dean of Art and Letters, had the opportunity to meet Her Royal Highness. They presented her with books published by the SDSU Press on Poetry, Fiction, Children's books and other subjects.

"The best gift one can give is a good story." Many stories about the Chinese history of San Diego and Chinese American stories were given to the princess. We hope she enjoyed her visit and we were honored to welcome Her Royal Highness and friends to our museum. -LC

(LEFT & RIGHT) Museum Director, Alexander Chuang led Her Royal Highness on a tour of the Museum's Mission side.

(LEFT) Pictured left to right: Sarasin Viraphol, Lt. General Cruz Bustamante, Alexander Chuang, Her Royal Highness. (RIGHT) Pictured left to right: Cruz Bustamante, Dr. Lilly Cheng, Alexander Chuang and Her Royal Highness.



Museum Board members pictured with Her Royal Highness and her entourage among other Museum guests.



Her Royal writing her name in Chinese Calligraphy. Pictured left to right: Dr. Polly Liew, Dr. Lilly Cheng, Lt. Cruz Bustamante, Her Royal Highness and Museum Director Alexander Chuang



THE POWER OF JEN (忍)

Alex Chuang, Executive Director

In Japan and Korea, the single Chinese character *jen*, is used to decorate homes, schools, and other public institutes. Not only is this special character used as art and decoration, it also serves as a spiritual and moral symbol. The following story is one example of the character's far-reaching influence.

In 1928, Manchurian warlord Chang Tso-lin (張作霖) died when his train was bombed near Shen Yang (瀋陽) by agents of the Japanese government. His assassination was part of an ongoing Japanese conspiracy to take over Manchuria by any means possible. Chang Tso-lin's son, Chang Hsueh-liang (張學良) succeeded his father as military governor of Manchuria.

Adding insult to the blatant assassination, the Japanese sent a special envoy to Chang Tso-lin's funeral as a gesture of compassion. Chang Hsueh-liang was outraged by this phony act and was determined to have the envoy arrested and executed. Sensing Hsueh-liang's anger, a good friend, Miss Hwang Hwui (黃蕙) approached him and handed him a folded fan. Hsueh-liang opened the fan to reveal the character *jen*. The character's gentle reminder, to endure and to repress, softened his anger. Hsueh-liang handed the fan to his long time female companion, Miss Chao (趙四小姐), who held on to it for the remainder of the funeral.

Moments later, Hsueh-liang and the Japanese envoy met face to face and conflict appeared inevitable. At the precise moment of their confrontation, Miss Chao opened the fan and began fanning herself. Hsueh-liang caught a glimpse of the fan, and the character *jen*, and once again was able to repress his anger and avoid conflict. Unbeknownst to Hsueh-liang, the Japanese army and air force was prepared outside the funeral, and throughout the city of Shen Yang, ready to attack at the slightest act of vengeance toward their envoy. The powerful message of the character *jen* had not only prevented a personal altercation, it had prevented widespread bloodshed and war. -AC



(RIGHT) Chang Tso-lin, the Manchurian warlord who became the dominant warlord in Northern China in the 1920s.



Chang Hsueh-liang (third from right), the son of Chang Tso-lin, became his father's successor after he was killed. Here he is seen socializing, with his wife (far right) among others. They are in Peking in 1931, while his homeland, Manchuria, was being conquered by the Japanese. (Both Photos from "The Chinese Century: A Photographic History", Endeavour:1996.)

COVER CALLIGRAPHER:

Tang Yin 唐寅(1470-1523)

In the middle of the Ming Dynasty, there arose in Suzhou and Songjiang, a new school represented by Shen Zhou and Wen Zhenming noted as "Wu Men School". Tang Yin was in this school and became one of the four great Ming master painters. He, and other calligraphers of this school, extended a great influence over the painting circles and formed the main trend in mid-Ming Dynasty. Their works embodied poetic conception and literary flavor, the so-called "scholastic type". Generally speaking, they modeled after their ancestors of the Song and Yuan Dynasties with emphasis on feelings and interests.

Tang Yin was a prolific scholar, but died early at the age of 54. Tang led an unconventional life and lived on selling his paintings. He first learned from Zhou Chen and then excelled his teacher in painting by blending the features of former painters. Tang Yin, the most popular among the four great Ming painters, was good at both freehand brushwork and fine-detailed brushwork. His landscape paintings had emotional appeal and charm; his figures, flowers, birds and beauties were meticulously done. He was also a great poet and writer.

FINDING HISTORY IN FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

Amanda Wilson, Museum Staff

I cannot remember a time when I have seen my Great Uncle Bill without a camera. As a young child, there was never any confusing him with my other numerous great uncles at family gatherings like Chinese New Years because he would always have a huge, professional-looking camera around his neck. He also maintained this reputation as a young man in Oakland's Chinatown, as it was well known by all of the "old timers" in the community that Bill Chin always carried a camera with him. One of the more unique occurrences in Chinatown that he was able to capture on film was when President John F. Kennedy and Governor Pat Brown sped past him at a main intersection in Oakland. President Kennedy's visitation to Oakland was unknown to Chinatown's inhabitants and my uncle just happened to be standing on the corner of the intersection when the motorcade flew by.

As impressive as the photograph of President Kennedy is, I find a picture that my Great Uncle Bill took at the age of six and a half even more extraordinary. In the early summer of 1937, my Great Uncle Bill returned to the village of his father and my great grandfather, Chin Pak Yick, while his father was looking for a new wife in neighboring villages. The village, called ChaJew in the Hoy Sahn dialect of Cantonese, is located in the LookToon area in Guangdong, China. According to the ancestral records, our family has lived in the same site since the 12th century. Equipped with his first camera ever, a "brownie" camera, my Great Uncle Bill took shots of the ancestral village. Featured here is a photograph of the honorary marble gate, or pie fong, that once graced the entrance to ChaJew village.



This photograph of an honorary marble gate at the entrance of ChaJew village in Guangdong China, taken in the May 1936. This gate was constructed by order of the Emperor Hong Hai (Kangxi) for a father and son, Chin Ghao Foo and Chin Bawn Kim, who both placed first in the imperial examination. (Copyrighted and printed courtesy of William Chin)



This portrait of the Lee Bo Wen family was taken in 1912 on the celebration of Lee Bo Wen's 70th birthday in Oakland's Chinatown. Lee Bo Wen (third row, fourth from left) was the patriarch of a Chinese American family whose roots in California date back to the 1850s. (Printed courtesy of Diane Chin, great granddaughter of Lee Bo Wen.)

During the Qing dynasty, Emperor Hong Hai (also known as Kangxi) commissioned the construction of this pie fong to commemorate the accomplishments of a father and son who both received first place in the imperial examinations. The father, Chin Ghao Foo, is nine generations removed from myself, or my Great Grandfather to the seventh degree. Because of the unusual occurrence of his son, Chin Bawn Kim, also receiving first place in the imperial examinations, an honor called Guy Ngoon, the Emperor Hong Hai ordered the pie fong to be erected at the entrance to the family village.

Regrettably, the pie fong at ChaJew village was bombed by Japanese airplanes shortly after my Great Uncle Bill took this picture. World War II began in China in the summer of 1937, forcing my great uncle and great grandfather to return to Oakland earlier than anticipated. With them, they brought home my great grandfather's new bride. What remained of the pie fong following the bombings was completely destroyed by the

Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution in the late 1960s. My great uncle's photograph is all that remains of the honorary marble gate. In 1998, my Great Uncle Bill returned to ChaJew village along with two of his brothers and a brother-in-law to present an archival-quality photograph of the pie fong for display in the newly-constructed ancestral hall. The villagers asked that a huge banquet be

Acknowledgements:

This article was written with help of William Chin, who provided the historical background to Cha Jew village and its honorary marble gate. This article also makes reference to the book, "Images of America: Oakland's Chinatown", by William Wong, which is published by Arcadia Publishing and copyrighted in 2004.

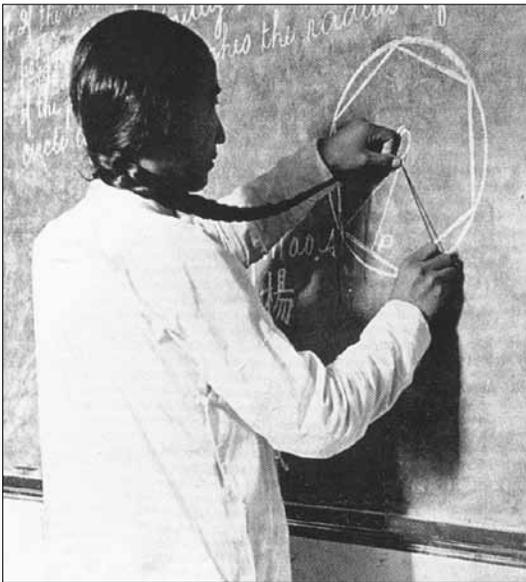
Photos: Personal Collections

Continued of page 18

1920s to 1930s, China



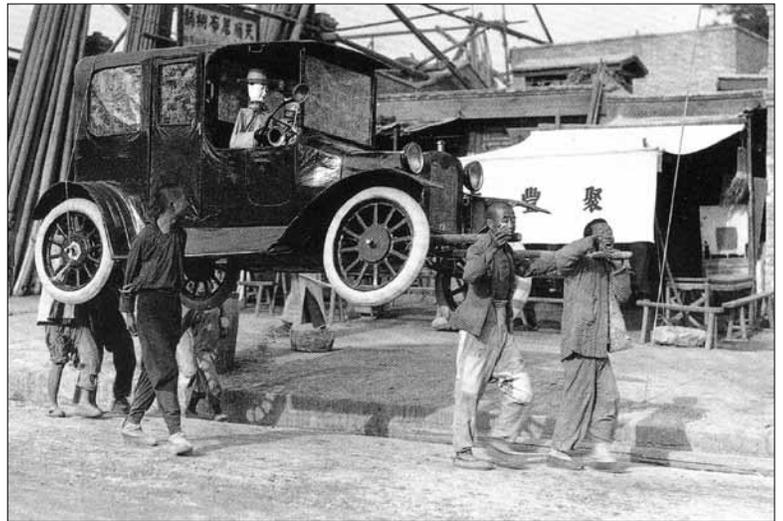
Hu Shi, 胡適, was a leader of the May Fourth Movement and took a pragmatic approach to China's problems. By the 1930s, many of China's intellectuals, such as Hu Shi, had become influenced by western culture; as can be seen here as he poses for a German sculptress.



The queue was a pigtail of plaited hair worn behind a shaven forehead, imposed by the conquering Manchus in the seventeenth century. Here a young man uses his queue to assist in mathematics.



In the 1920s, the Green Gang controlled Shanghai vice. Three powerful racketeers known as the "three lords" ran the distribution of almost all narcotics in the city. The Chinese and foreign police were in their pay. Two leaders were Du Yueheng, 杜月笙 (right), and Zhang Xiaolin, 張嘯林 (center).



Peking, 1924: a paper Model A Ford and chauffeur on their way to be burned at the graveside, so the deceased would have transport to the spirit world.

PHOTOS & TEXT: All pictures and text from *The Chinese Century: A Photographic History*, Endeavour:1996.

FOOTBINDING: A WOMAN'S WAY

Eileen Chiu, Museum Staff

Footbinding and bound feet shoes have been a fascination to many across the world. The tiny shoes just mesmerize some and others are shocked at the cruelty and grossness that these shoes have caused Chinese women's feet for over a thousand years. In the Western world, footbinding and bound feet shoes have always been associated with eroticism and the oppression of Chinese women. However, Dorothy Ko's book explores the environment and entire meaning behind footbinding and bound feet shoes, also known as lotus shoes.

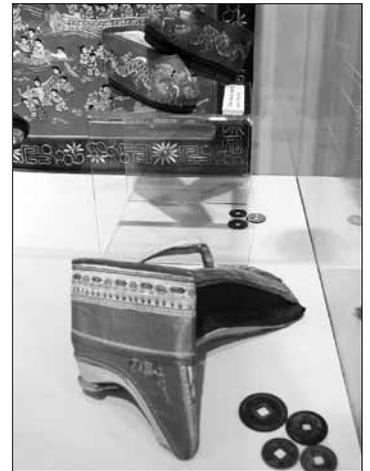
The first evidence of lotus shoes was found in the tomb of Lady Huang from the Song Dynasty. The origins of the shoes are not so easily explained by just the material finding of the shoes; many questions arise from these tiny shoes. In literature, the earliest mention of bound feet comes from a ninth century poem by Han Wo and the famous folktale of Yexian, the Chinese Cinderella. The poem and folktale romanticizes small feet and the desire for small feet and lotus shoes. It is unclear how much of an influence these poems and stories resonated into real social life, but they did have an effect on the lives and roles of women.

It could be said that the lotus shoes were a way for women to identify themselves in a man's world. From the ninth century to early twentieth century, footbinding and lotus shoes have played a major role in women's lives. Though there have been changes in the way women bind feet and the styles of the shoes, they still tell many things about women's lives such as their role in the family and society. For the most part, bound feet were closely associated with upper-class women in a literate family and it was not until the late imperial period where women in rural areas also began binding their feet. It was a way for them to exhibit their status although it was merely a display of their false sense of social status.

Since birth, girls were given preparations for marriage and footbinding was a sign of marriageability, modesty, discipline, and virtue. Footbinding usually began between the ages of five and eight when young girls' bones were still fragile and more easily bendable. When the daughters were at a marriageable age, the mothers taught their daughters to make these lotus shoes. In turn, daughters would teach their own daughters and this tradition of footbinding was passed down from one generation to the next.

Footbinding was a part of women's gender identity as well as their role in the family and society. Women were judged by the shoes that they made, especially young bridal women because this showcased their talent and skills in lotus shoe making. The higher the quality of the shoe, the more desirable she was for marriage. Women and lotus shoe making were synonymous with women and motherhood; it was a part of their lives and roles as women and mothers.

Bound feet shoes and footbinding had religious and cultural meanings as well. Although there were regional differences in which women bound their feet and the shoe styles, all footbinding women wished for small and perfect feet. They prayed to the Tiny-Footed Maiden and to Guanyin, the Goddess of Mercy. Women made votive lotus shoes and provided food as offerings to the deities praying for small and perfect feet. According to Dorothy Ko, one of the main focuses of bound feet shoes and footbinding was the role of women as mothers and daughters from ancient imperial times to the mid-twentieth century. Daughters were taught how to bind their feet and how to make lotus shoes, so they would be able to teach their own daughters. Their role in the family as mothers outweighed any other because women were first seen as child bearers and care takers. Motherhood gave women their identity. Footbinding and bound feet shoes assisted in showing the phases of women from infancy to old age, depicting their different roles throughout their lives. -EC



Two pair of "Lotus Shoes" that are part of the Museum's collection.



Young girls had their feet bound with bandages, folding all the toes except the big one under the sole. (Photo from "The Chinese Century: A Photographic History", Endeavour:1996.)

Sources:

Ko, Dorothy. *Every Step a Lotus: Shoes for Bound Feet*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001.

Wang, Ping. *Aching for Beauty Foot-binding in China*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2000.

REMEMBERING DR. ROBERT REISS: A MAN OF COURAGE AND KNOWLEDGE**January 13, 1939 – April 16, 2005**Alexander Chuang, *Executive Director*

Dr. Robert Reiss pictured with his wife, Claire Reiss.

Agnes and I came to know Claire Reiss in the 1980s at various social and community gatherings. She was always well-mannered, well-dressed and amicable, but she was always alone or with her girlfriends. We often heard about her husband Bob, but we never saw his face. After we had become friends with Claire we asked her, where is Bob? Claire explained that Bob was not fond of social events and gatherings.

I believe it was during the early 1990s that we first met Bob Reiss. When Bob and Claire's two daughters, Natasha and Tanya, graduated from high school Agnes and I were invited to attend their graduation party at their home in La Jolla. It was a beautiful summer day, spent visiting and laughing with good company, and Agnes and I enjoyed it very much. As the celebration began winding down, Claire asked Agnes and I to stay awhile longer to visit, and we happily obliged. Bob then asked me to join him in his study and we spent the rest of the afternoon discussing everything from engineering science to war history. It didn't take me long to recognize that Bob was extremely knowledgeable on many subjects, including engineering, science, history, weaponry, and of course, aviation. Because of my engineering background, my experience in the nuclear and aerospace industry, and my personal interest in ancient war history we got along quite well and passed a great deal of time in engaged in conversation. During our discussion, Bob gave me a calendar that showed a picture of the plane Wild Cat, a plane he had donated to the American Airpower Heritage Museum in Texas. I told him I intended to one day visit the museum and see his plane firsthand. I kept my promise and years later I made the voyage to Midland, Texas to pay a visit to Wild Cat. Unfortunately, Wild Cat was on loan to a different museum, but the trip was still well worth it as I was able to see General Dynamic's F111 at close range, the first war plane with movable swing-wings and a number of World War II vintage airplanes.



The plane, "Wild Cat", which Dr. Reiss donated to the American Airpower Heritage Museum in Texas.

Bob was indeed a man of tremendous insight to the field of aviation, but his knowledge was not simply theoretical. His knowledge was the result of first hand experience and it was complimented by tremendous

Continued on page 15

A PERFECT MATCH Continued from page 1

almost feel the mist lifting off the Huangshan Mountains. From the Antarctic snowscapes to the European mountain scenes, each painting is a souvenir of the Chow's life of adventure and travel together.

A marriage between two artists is certainly not unprecedented. From Robert and Sonia Delaunay to Pablo Picasso and Françoise Gilot, it is only natural that individuals of like talents and like passions would find companionship together. But what is special and unique about the Chows as an artist couple, is that they work together on the very same paintings. Many artist couples each strive to make individual names for themselves, but not the Chows; their art, just like their lives, was truly inseparable.

Peacock Perched on the Magnolia from 1988 demonstrates the perfect balance the Chows achieved in their collaborative paintings. While Mr. Chow painted the dominant peacock in the foreground, and Mrs. Chow worked exclusively on the flowers and calligraphy, their individual contributions combine seamlessly into the finished work. The bold color of the stately peacock stands out against the pale softness of the white flowers and the textured feathers of the bird contrast with the smooth petals of the flowers.

Each element of the Chows' collaborative paintings, masculine and feminine, complements each other perfectly, so well that a stranger would never guess that the hand that painted the flower is not the hand that painted the birds. It is as if after sixty years painting and traveling side by side and hand in hand, their hands became one. Individual talents blend and identities blur, all in the name of art. With Mr. and Mrs. Chow, together is truly better. They are after all, as the title of the exhibition indicates, *A Perfect Match*. -KH

SDCHM PHOTO GALLERY

Dragon Boat Races April 23, 2005



The crew of the Museum sponsored Dragon Boat, before the race.



The Museum sponsored Dragon Boat, before the race.



The crew of the Dragon Boat, which was sponsored by the Chinese Historical Museum, preparing for the race.



In the middle of the race: on the left is the Museum sponsored boat; on the right is some of the competition.



Former Museum staff, Ginger Che, with one of her exhibited paintings at the Dragon Boat Festival site.

A Perfect Match Exhibit May 7, 2005



Alexander Chuang, giving an introduction to Chow Chian Chiu's exhibit as well as to Chinese brush painting.



Chow Chian Chiu seated in front of a portion of his exhibit with his son, Chee W. Chow and daughter-in-law, Grace Chow.



Two masters of Chinese brush painting: Chow Chian Chiu (left) and Chi Kang (right), seated with Chi Kang's wife (front right), board members Marion So, Donna Lee and Chow Chian Chiu's daughter-in-law, Grace Chow.



A portion of Chow Chian Chiu's exhibit at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension.



The painting arrangement of the Chow Chian Chiu exhibit at the museum extension.

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE MUSEUM DRAGON BOAT TEAM

Linda Tu, SDCHM board member and Museum representative to SD Alliance for APIA

The response was immediate. At the March 5, 2005 meeting of the Museum's Board of Directors, I proposed that the Museum sponsor a dragon boat team for the 2005 Dragon Boat Festival. The Festival, co-sponsored by the San Diego Alliance for Asian Pacific Islander Americans and the San Diego Dragon Boat Team, with the participation of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, was to be Alliance's 2005 version of its annual Heritage Festival.

The SD Alliance for APIA was founded in December 2001 to work for the empowerment of all Asian Pacific Islander Americans. As a charter member of the Alliance, the SD Chinese Historical Museum welcomed the chance to work with the greater APIA community, and in 2002, 2003 and 2004, sent teams to staff Museum booths at the Alliance Heritage Festivals held to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

The Museum was very excited about forming a dragon boat team. Dragon boat festivals are rooted in more than 2,000 years of Chinese history and lore, but beyond the Museum's natural interest in this essential facet of Chinese culture, the Museum has long been a champion of San Diego's Dragon Boat Team, at one time known as the San Diego International Dragon Boat Racing Team (SDIDBRT).

Funding for the Museum boat had to be found. The \$500 entry fee would not be taken from the Museum's operating funds, so donors were sought. The very next day, Dr. Chuang pledged to give to the cause, with Kuang Chung Chien, Dale Lieu, Polly Liew, Marion So and Linda Tu quickly following. Kuang Chung, even got fellow artists Lian-Pin Lee and Ning Li to donate to the Museum boat.

Marion So undertook the time-consuming job of recruiting paddlers for the Museum boat. By Festival time, she had 13 paddlers: Helena Chan, Peter Chen, Judith Ecklund, Henry & Susan Huang, Sylvia Lim, Georgina & Lu Sham, Chia-Hui Shih, Fu-Kong Tzung, Li-Ann Wong, board president Michael Yee, and Marion herself. Marion's team included complete novices (no experience was required!), experienced athletes like Marion who has kayaked in New Zealand and rowed in San Francisco Bay, and expert sportsmen like UCSD professor Lu Sham who crewed in Cambridge, England. Through Marion's infectious enthusiasm for the dragon boat festival, all looked forward to their races.

On April 23rd, the 2005 San Diego Dragon Boat Festival was held on Playa Pacifica in Mission Bay Park. On land, the Asian Pacific Heritage Festival featured Cambodian, Thai and Balinese dancers, Filipino star Mario Racadio and Chinese yo-yo master Raymond Hsiao. The Arts Pavilion showed the work of artists Danny Chang, Ginger Che, Takashi Harada, Fujiko Isomura, Cesar Magpuri and Winci Tang. Alliance hosted Legal, Health and Children's Pavilions, while APIA member organizations held information booths.

Festival-goers had a choice of Malaysian, Thai and Chinese food, including the traditional food of dragon boat festivals - zongzi, or glutinous rice with sweet or savory filling, steamed in bamboo leaves.

All eyes, though, were on the dragon boat races. As prelude to the races, the Festival staged the Lucky Lion Dancers, the blessing by the Venerable Dr. Yifa of San Diego's Hsifang Temple, and the dotting-of-the-eye ceremony. Dr. Yifa and Dr. Howard Chen, longtime benefactor of dragon boat racing, dotted the eyes of the dragon boats used in the races.

Fourteen teams signed up to race. Teams included Asian Business Association (ABA), SD Asian Film Festival, SD Chinese Association, SD Taiwanese American Foundation, CCBA, Singma (Singapore/Malaysia) Club, and our own SD Chinese Historical Museum. Qualcomm, SDG&E, dj Ortho, and Scripps Research sent teams, as did Washington Inventory Service, 9 Dragons, and Megan Holmstrom's class from the Diegueno Country School. Led by Pacific Dragon Boat Association president Les Hopper, the SDDBT, along with volunteers from the Orange County Dragon Boat Team, trained all teams.

With high hopes but understaffed boat, the Museum dragon boat team raced twice, then was eliminated. Scripps placed 1st,



The Venerable Dr. Yifa (依法) of San Diego's Hsifang Temple blessed all of the participating Dragon Boats before the beginning of the race.

Continued on page 15

KOI STORY: THE ONGOING BATTLE TO SAVE THE FISH

Kara Hwang, Museum Staff



There is an ongoing crisis at the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, and it has little to do with preserving local history and sharing the Chinese American experience. Notwithstanding, it is a notable story, and one we feel is worthy of our readers' attention, as recently it has been the recipient of a great deal of ours. It is an exciting tale, filled with plotting enemies, calculated homicides and valiant heroism. We call it the Koi Story.

This story takes place behind the mission building in the Museum's quiet garden. Our visitors love the Chinese style garden, and more often than not, the part they love the most is the Koi pond. They love to watch our playful fish dance between lily pads and chase each other around rocks in the little pond beneath the magnolia tree. The scene is happy, serene and peaceful.



The Musuem Koi peacefully swimming in their pond.

But when the visitors are gone, and no one is watching, the peaceful garden turns into a ruthless battlefield and the happy fish turn into petrified prey. For in reality, the fish live in constant fear: fear of the ruthless Blue Heron, who hunts and kidnaps them when they least expect it.

We first discovered the enemy one tragic morning about a year and a half ago, when staff members arrived at the museum and found the pond empty and lifeless, with the mangled corpses of the large fish strewn across the garden. The enemy had attacked. The small fish had proven an easy kill; the birds had simply swallowed them whole. The larger fish presented a different challenge. They were too large to swallow and too heavy to carry, so the birds dragged them out of the pond and dropped them on the ground to devour them as they struggled to their deaths.

That tragic day marked the beginning of an ongoing battle against the Blue Heron and an ongoing effort to protect the newly purchased, not-so-inexpensive replacement Koi fish. Initially, rescue team director Alexander Chuang used the Scarecrow method, and long strips of ribbon affixed to an electric fan with an oscillating head, were placed beside the pond to ward off the persistent enemy. At first the electric fan worked, but within weeks the birds detected the gimmick and were intruding once again. Next, Alex installed a net of invisible fishing line above the pond to intimidate the birds and protect the fish. Lily pads were planted to offer an additional layer of protection and a place for the fish to hide when the enemy attacked. Undaunted, the hungry birds circumvented the fishing line and penetrated the lily pads and innocent fish continued to perish. Despite the museum's most clever solutions and most valiant efforts, the enemy could not be thwarted and the fish continued to die. But, rather than admit defeat, the museum staff united with even stronger resolve. Behind the brilliant masterminding of rescue team director Chuang, and the fearless bravery of rescue team members Michelle Lee, Isabelle Heyward and Kara Hwang, the museum staff set out with the unstoppable mission of saving the fish.

With the birds on the prowl and the lives of the fish on the line, Chuang devised a flawless solution: an underwater flagstone shelter that would allow the fish to hide from the enemy. Chuang employed rescue team member Hwang to brave the deadly waters to install the state-of-the-art defense system. So with Heyward and Lee supervising the endeavor, Hwang, armed with the cumbersome cinderblocks and the flagstone, stepped into the chilly waters. Her fear was great, but her love for the fish was greater. Onlookers exploded with applause as she boldly placed the flagstone atop the cinderblocks, creating immediate refuge for the terrified fish. The battle had been won.

Under the protection of the flagstone shelter the fish regained a love for life. They embraced their new shelter with such enthusiasm that now they rarely emerge from the flagstone's protective shelter to say hello to our anxious visitors. But hidden and happy the fish survive, and as for the Blue Heron, he is still hungry. -KH

For Information about reserving the Museum Garden for events and activities please contact Alexander Chaung at (619) 338-9888.

CURATOR'S CORNER

Murray K. Lee, *Curator of Chinese American History*

In January, I received a letter from Ruby Chew Lew, who said that she wanted to donate some of her father's artifacts to the museum. We settled on a date, and on the first of March she drove down from Laguna Woods with her father's medical books and artifacts from his herb store, which was located in San Diego's early Chinatown. Ruby was one of the early Chinatown residents that we interviewed in May of 2000. Ruby lived at 312 J Street, which was located where the entrance to the Museum's Extension is today. Her father's herb store was there. Later it moved to the next block at 437 J St. (see photo).

The Congress of History held its annual meeting on Friday and Saturday March 4-5 at the San Diego Historical Society. On Saturday morning I presented a paper titled "A Snapshot of the Asian Community in 1930 San Diego." On Sunday I gave a presentation and tour of the Asian District to 57 conference attendees. Dan Haslam of the Gaslamp Historic Foundation gave the Gaslamp portion of the tour. Because of the large group, we had to split the group in half. The Museum's share of the fee amounted to \$112.

There were six people who attended the regular March second-Saturday tour scheduled for 11am. I had to do the presentation twice due to a mix up in times.

On the 26th of March I spent several hours with a history student from UC San Marcos, who is doing research on Chinese immigrants in early San Diego. I helped two students from the University of San Diego, and one from San Diego State on subjects relating to Chinese American history. I also gave a tour of the museum (Apr. 9) and exchanged ideas with Jeannie Woo, who was visiting from Virginia. She is a Chinese American history buff and is working on a biography of her grandfather, who was a Tom (Hom).

On the 12th of April I presented "Grandfather's Bones" to the fourth grade class at Rancho Santa Fe Elementary School. Gladys and I attended the memorial service for Don Estes, a fellow curator, who passed away on Saturday, May 7. He was an educator, historian, and the most knowledgeable person on San Diego's Japanese American history. We collaborated on several projects over the years and I came to respect his knowledge and dedication to local Asian American history. He will be missed, but his legacy will live on.

May, which is Asian Pacific American Heritage month will culminate with the third annual Asian Pacific Islander Forum at the Museum on May 21. I will be presenting the paper that I gave for the Congress of History (mentioned above). The Forum is being co-sponsored by the Chinese Historical Museum and the Asian Pacific Historic Collaborative. -ML

ASIAN PACIFIC HISTORIC COLLABORATIVE:

Michael Yee, *President*

The first three years of the Collaborative have been wonderful to boost the Asian Pacific Historic District, which include old Chinatown, the Japanese community at Fifth and Island, and the old Filipino Quarter. The Collaborative developed the first district brochure in 2002, and recently worked with Centre City Development Corporation for a major 40,000 print run in 2004 (Thank you CCDC!). Arnold Marquez and I, with inspiration from J.R. Chantengco and Christina Roc, started the Farmers Market and World Bazaar, now in it's second year. Murray Lee curated the district photographic exhibit in the Horton Grand Hotel. Ed Peji worked to bring the Asian Pacific Arts Festival, as part of the City Arts festival, to the area. District banners, the first of which highlight the Chinese American community, have been printed and will be installed shortly. Efforts to get street signage for the district is also underway. The Asian business community supported a stronger district presence in the downtown master plan update.

I've stepped down as Chair of the Collaborative, and Arnold Marquez has ably stepped into the role to lead the Collaborative to a next level of success. The success of the district and the museum will go hand-in-hand, and so I look forward to the Collaborative continue to grow and succeed and help the Museum promote the district. -MY



Ruby Chew Lew in front of the building that used to be her father's herbalist store at 437 J Street.

WE HAVE A TRIPLE CROWN WINNER...AGAIN!

Alexander Chuang, *Executive Director*

Bioengineering professor Shu Chien (錢煦) is a former Board President for the Chinese Historical Museum and Society. We are very proud to report that on May 11, 2005 Professor Chien was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). Chien was elected based on his continually inventive and original research and now joins UCSD professor Bert Fung among only eight scientists worldwide to hold memberships in all three U.S. national academies- NAS, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine. Professor Bert Y. C. Fung (馮元禎) is a member of the Museum's Honorary Circle.

Chien is the founding Chair of the UCSD Jacobs School of Engineering's Department of Bioengineering since 1994, and has chaired the department nearly non-stop since. He is widely credited with building the Bioengineering department into a world-class institution. U.S News ranks the department #2 among the nation's graduate bioengineering programs.

Professor Chien is an expert on how blood flow and pressure affect vessels. Because of his research, there has been development in diagnostic testing and treatments for atherosclerosis and other diseases. He is the author of more than 400 peer-reviewed journal articles and the editor of nine books. He is also a member of Taiwan's Academia Sinica.

It is a great honor to have, not only Professor Chien, but also Professor Fung, two of the eight members of all three U.S. national academies worldwide, be associated with our museum. -AC



Marye Anne Fox, UCSD Chancellor, presenting Shu Chien with a Gold Tie from NAS on May 11, at the Y.C. Fung Auditorium at UCSD

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER FORUM

75 YEARS AGO IN THE ASIAN PACIFIC HISTORIC DISTRICT: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

Michael Yee, *President*

The 3rd Annual Asian Pacific Islander Forum once again brought the Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino communities together to recognize their long impact on San Diego: in old Chinatown, the Japanese community at Fifth and Island, and the old Filipino Quarter.

Murray Lee, highlighting his extensive research of the 1930's, presented a detailed block by block description of the old neighborhoods. He told of the more diverse blocks at that time which were comprised of Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Black and Mexican residents. Michio Himaka, President of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego, reminisced about growing up in the neighborhood. His family owned a tofu factory on 5th Avenue, the site to which David Produce moved. In the 1930 census, the Himaka family was noted as "bakers" because "tofu maker" did not fit into any category of profession at that time. He also remembered the passing of Don Estes, who was San Diego's expert on Japanese American history and a key figure in the JAHSSD.

Bennett Peji spoke of his work in developing a master plan for the Filipino Village in National City. The perspective and lessons he learned will give perspective and strengthen the Asian Pacific Historic District as it strives to grow into an an enriching historic district. Arnold Marquez, as the new Chair of the Asian Pacific Historic Collaborative, presented the achievements of the Collaborative and its future plans for the district.

The attendance was light, because of the beautiful weather and scheduling conflicts. We learned that the Forum must take place the first week of May, before the universities go into their end of year events and finals. However, overall, the Forum furthered the important collaborative effort of the many Asian communities in the district and gave a good perspective of the past. -MY



The Asia Pacific Islander Forum was held in the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension of the Museum. Here, some of the attendants gathered before the Forum began.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT APRIL - JUNE 2005

<p>April 1 Special Cultural Event Cultural display for Curie Elementary Docent: Kara Hwang</p> <p>April 7 Classroom Exhibit Presentation <i>Dragon's Tale</i> presented to Diegueno Country School Storyteller: Kara Hwang</p> <p>April 9 Grantmakers of the Arts Special Event/Tour held at the museum for Grantmakers of the Arts Docents: Michelle Lee and Eileen Chiu</p> <p>April 9 APHD Walking Tour Docent: Michael Yee</p> <p>April 14 Classroom Exhibit Presentation <i>Window Flowers: The Art of Chinese Papercutting</i> presented to Diegueno Country School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>May 6 Museum and Garden Tour Memorial Academy School Docents: Michelle Lee and Agnes Chuang</p>	<p>May 7 Exhibit Opening <i>A Perfect Match</i> Featuring the artworks of Chow Chian Chiu and Chow Leung Chen-Ying</p> <p>May 11 Museum and Garden Tour The Grauer School, Docent: Michelle Lee</p> <p>May 17 Classroom Exhibit Presentations (3) <i>The Rise & Fall of the Qin Dynasty</i> presented to Hidden Valley Middle School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>May 19 Classroom Exhibit Presentations (3) <i>The Rise & Fall of the Qin Dynasty</i> presented to Hidden Valley Middle School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>May 21 Special Visit/Museum and Garden Tour Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chkri Sirindhorn from Thailand's special visit to the museum and garden</p> <p>May 21 Asian-Pacific Historic Month Forum "San Diego's Asian District Seventy-Five Years ago, Today, and Tomorrow"</p>	<p>May 24 Classroom Exhibit Presentations (3) <i>The Rise & Fall of the Qin Dynasty</i> presented to Hidden Valley Middle School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>June 2 Classroom Exhibit Presentations (3) <i>The Rise & Fall of the Qin Dynasty</i> presented to Hidden Valley Middle School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>June 3 Classroom Exhibit Presentations (2) <i>The Rise & Fall of the Qin Dynasty</i> presented to Hidden Valley Middle School Lecturer: Kara Hwang</p> <p>June 24 Museum and Garden Tour Zamorano Elementary School</p>
---	---	--

DRAGON BOAT Continued from page 11

Qualcomm came in 2nd, and ABA 3rd.

It was an exhilarating experience. Before the races, Kuang Chung Chien had exclaimed happily, "I don't know who to cheer for: I have friends on every boat!" After the races, it was clear that all teams - and their supporters - were to be cheered for taking part in the return of dragon boat racing to San Diego. Festival coordinator and Alliance board member George Lin envisions the Dragon Boat Festival becoming "a signature event for San Diego," showcasing both the SD Dragon Boat Team and the richly diverse cultures, including dragon boat racing, of San Diego's APIA communities. Marion So will be ready. Her team roster is there, but she still has a few spots to fill. Maybe those seats are waiting for you! -LT

REMEMBERING DR. ROBERT REISS Continued from page 9

personal courage. The courage it requires to fly a single engine plane around the world is unthinkable. Even pilots with the technical expertise to make such a voyage do not, because of the great risk involved. The fact that Bob made this daring voyage not once, but four times speaks to his outstanding personal courage.

Agnes and I attended his funeral service on April 26, joining many others to honor and celebrate his life, his character, and his accomplishments. The service was beautiful, and the church was overflowing with friends and family. It was very evident that Agnes and I are not alone in our respect and admiration for Bob.

We feel very fortunate at the museum to have benefited first hand from Bob's knowledge. In the initial stages of planning for the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, Bob was ever so helpful in sharing with us his experience and wisdom in the field of museums. It is by this immense knowledge, and personal courage that we will remember Dr. Bob Reiss. His good counsel and strong character will not be forgotten. -AC

APHAFIC UPDATE

Nancy Lo, APHAFIC President

The Third Annual Meeting of APHAFIC featured the second WWII Essay Contest of College Students and keynote speaker: Professor Peter Li; www.geocities.com/APHAFIC/.

The Association for Preserving Historical Accuracy of Foreign Invasions in China (APHAFIC; 列強侵華史實維護協會) held its third annual meeting, with the second WWII essay award ceremony on May 7th, at San Diego City Library, Carmel Valley Branch, 3919 Townsgate Dr., San Diego. Professor Peter Li, President of The New Jersey Alliance for Learning and Preserving the History of WWII in Asia, was the keynote speaker. He spoke on the 'Enduring Legacy of Iris Chang'. Dr. Nancy Lo, the President, reported major activities of APHAFIC in the past year:

1) A dinner meeting was held on Dec. 2 in memory of Iris Chang with guest speaker, Daniel Barenblatt, author of *A Plague Upon Humanity*. Iris took her life on Nov. 9th, last year, south of Los Gatos in the Bay area.

2) SB 684: An education bill introduced by the Honorable State Senator Elaine Alquist, D-Santa Clara was passed at the California State Senate Committee on Education on April 12 by a vote of 7 to 0. We wrote a letter to State Senator Alquist in April to support this bill. This bill would require that instruction in social science accurately reflect the role of the Chinese and other affected populations of the continent or subcontinent of Asia in WWII, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. The bill needs to be passed by the full California Senate, the Assembly Committee on Education, the full Assembly, and finally the governor. Please call and write your Senator and Assembly-person; tell them why this legislation is needed.

4) On September 10, APHAFIC is planning a forum to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the ending of WWII, V-J Day, at the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. We would like the participation of San Diego community organizations. In the program, we plan to honor veterans of WWII in Asia, if you know of any veterans, please provide names. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event. For more information, please contact Nancy Lo at NCHLO@SAN.RR.COM.

5) Essay contest: The topic for the college essay contest was World War II in China. The announcement went out in early February. The deadline for submission was the end of March. Essay committee members are Pao Chin Chu,



Front row from left : Jennifer Wright, Nancy Lo
Second row from left; Michael Lee, Errol Smith, Gerardo Rios, Pao-chin Chu, Zhiwei Xiao, and Sung Yi

Sung Yi, Zhiwei Xiao, Michael Lee and Nancy Lo. Nancy Lo presented a cash award and certificate of recognitions to each of the three essay contest winners: The prizes were \$500.00, \$300.00 and \$200.00 respectively.

Essay winners:

1st Place: Gerardo Rios, SDSU. \$500.00 and a certificate of recognition: "China's Century of Modernization".

2nd Place: Errol Smith, USD. \$300.00 and a certificate of recognition : "Nanjing Massacre and the legacy of mistrust and animosity".

3rd Place: Jennifer L. Wright, SDSU. \$200.00 and a certificate of recognition : "The development of New Yangge and its role in China during world war II".

After the essay contest ceremony, Professor Li talked about the legacy of Iris Chang. He spoke of many books on WWII in Asia that came out after *The Rape of Nanking*, which was published by Basic Books in December, 1997 (the 60th anniversary of the massacre). Professor Li told of Iris's personality which reached out to the general public, and her electrifying determination of the pursuit of justice. The speech was followed by a question and answer session. Before and after the meeting, Professor Li autographed the newly published book: '*Japanese War Crimes*', which he edited. The meeting ended a little after 5:00 pm. -NL

The APHAFIC is a non-profit organization based in San Diego and works to preserve the true history of the period of foreign invasions of China from 19th century to the end of World War II.

EDUCATION UPDATE

Kara Hwang, *Museum Staff*

Hello everyone, my name is Miss Kara and today I am here to talk to you about the Education Update! Is everyone excited? Oops, I slipped into teacher mode again. I find myself doing that a lot lately, since most of my work for the museum these days is spent out and about, visiting classrooms and presenting various lessons for our education outreach program. Here are a few highlights from my most recent classroom visits.

At Coronado Middle School the sixth graders had a very clear understanding of ancient forms of Chinese government. During my presentation of *The Rise and Fall of Qin Dynasty*, I asked the students if they had ever heard of legalism. They had. Upon the mere mention of the word, each student immediately became pale, rigid and fearful. Apparently the sixth grade teachers had decided the only way for the students to understand Shi Huangdi's strict form of legalist government was to experience it first hand. So one day, in the middle of their unit on Ancient China, the students arrived to what was normally their social studies class, but overnight had turned into a strict legalist society. The classroom was Ancient China and the teacher was a brutal legalist ruler. Any student who dared so much as make eye contact with the teacher was reprimanded with a loud slap of the ruler to the desk, and those who dared so far as to question the teacher's actions were banished from the classroom. The concepts of harsh punishment and low tolerance took on a whole new and unforgettable meaning.

The exciting part about teaching for the museum is that the same presentations take on new and unpredictable turns in each different classroom. At the end of one session of *The Rise and Fall of Qin Dynasty* at Hidden Valley Middle School in Escondido, I was approached by a student with a shy request for my autograph. I adamantly protested and promised the student that even though I was wearing a fancy Chinese robe and could say "hello" in Chinese, I was by no means famous or even headed in that direction. When the student refused to relent, I reluctantly complied and signed his paper, hoping to end the discussion. Big mistake. I was instantly surrounded by a mob of students all thrusting pieces of paper at me and begging for an autograph, and then for another autograph for a friend, another one for a sister and another one to sell on Ebay. Thoroughly embarrassed, but undeniably flattered I signed paper after paper before limiting my services to one autograph per person and then pushing my way through the throng to make my escape. If you

Summer 2005

CHINESE SPRING CEPS

Presented April - June 2005

DRAGON'S TALE:

Diegueno Country School 21 students

WINDOW FLOWERS:

The Art of Chinese Papercutting
Diegueno Country School 20 students

RISE & FALL OF THE QIN DYNASTY:

Hidden Valley Middle School 448 students

MUSEUM AND GARDEN TOUR

Memorial Academy School 35 students
The Grauer School 8 students
Zamorano Elementary School 40 students

Total: 572 students



Museum Staff, Kara Hwang, had a table set up at the Multicultural Fair at Curie Elementary where she gave Qin Dynasty presentations.

thought the Princess of Thailand was the only celebrity frequenting the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, think again.

With only a few more presentations scheduled before the end of the school year, I look forward to what will happen next. Of course if there are any more requests for autographs, this time there will be a charge, with all proceeds benefiting the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum. -KH

FUNDING & DONOR SUPPORT

MUSEUM DONATIONS

Paochin & Lena Chu	\$200.00
Philip C. & Irene O. Lao	\$1,000.00
Ernest & Helen Leewong by their loving children	\$1,000.00
Haldane and Susan Liew	\$1,000.00
Jack & Wendy Meng	\$100.00
Charles & Linda Tu	\$300.00
Hubert & Beverley Wong for Matthew Wong's Birthday	\$100.00
Pfizer Foundation, Matt Drowns Volunteer Program	\$1,000.00
Sawyer Hsu	\$1,000.00

IN MEMORY OF JOHN SHEN

Lia Yin Shen	
In Memory of John Shen	\$3,017.25
M.C. George & Doreen C. Yang	\$50.00

IN MEMORY OF ANNA HSU

Robert and Alice Chandis	\$100.00
Margarite Tang	\$250.00
Henry Y. Wan, Jr.	\$100.00

FOR THE DRAGON BOAT RACE

Shu & Kuang Chung Chien	\$100.00
Alexander & Agnes Chuang	\$100.00
Jen Shih & Lian Pin Lee	\$100.00
Kung-pu & Ning Li	\$30.00
Fah-Seong & Polly Liew	\$100.00
Kwan L. & Marion So	\$100.00
Charles & Linda Tu	\$100.00

TOTAL	\$8,847.25
--------------	-------------------

ARTIFACTS & BOOKS

Jesse Bing & Ruby Chew Lew

1. 12 Herbal Medicine Books
2. 1 Dictionary
3. 1 Scale
4. 1 Mortar & Pestle

PLANNED GIVING *Michael Yee*

To leave a legacy for yourselves and for your family, please consider adding the Museum to your will or trust. We will give special recognition for donors who make the Museum part of their "family". Please call Alex Chuang or Michael Yee if you are interested, at (619) 338-9888.

HISTORY IN FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS *Continued from page 6*

held in honor of the occasion, during which provincial, district, and village officials were present to officially receive the photograph. Without my great uncle's visual reminder, the scholarly legacy of ChaJew village could have easily been erased from history. My great uncle's photographs serve to connect younger generations of ChaJew village and their extended relatives in my own family with the rich history of dynastic China.

Photographs serve as a testament to the depth of Chinese history here in the United States. Oftentimes, they are the only lasting evidence of the lives of people and places from early Chinese American history, as oral histories can disappear with the fading of memories and the passing of individuals.

Several years ago, my grandmother, Diane Chin, had revealed to me a shoebox of old family photographs from her maternal side of the family. She had inherited many of these photographs from her great uncle and great aunt, who raised her after her mother died when she was only four years old. One photograph in her collection in particular was striking- it was an old fashioned, sepia-toned portrait of a large Chinese family who wore a mix of traditional Chinese and Victorian-style clothing (photo on page 6). My grandmother was unsure of the names and relations of the 33 individuals depicted in this portrait- all she knew was that her own grandmother, great grandmother and great grandfather were included in this group. My grandmother and I handled this portrait very delicately because for all we knew, this was the only surviving copy of this family photo.

Imagine our surprise when we found a copy of the family portrait in a recently published book, *Images of America: Oakland's Chinatown*, by an Oakland's Chinatown native, William Wong. From the caption for this photograph that Wong wrote, my grandmother and I learned that the portrait was taken in 1912, and it was taken on the 70th birthday celebration for Lee Bo Wen, my grandmother's great grandfather. Strikingly, we also learned that our family has roots in California from the 1850s, meaning that our family has been in California for more than six generations. Moreover, to my grandmother's delight, the discovery of this additional copy of our photograph also leads us to extended family that we never before knew existed.

These revelations have helped me realize the value of personal family histories in the context of the wider Chinese and Chinese American histories. Old family photographs and oral histories passed down from one generation to the next help illuminate the details of the past which history books and other primary historical narratives omit. -AW

SAN DIEGO ASIAN FILM FOUNDATION:

6TH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

September 29 - October 6, 2005

Mann Theatres Hazard 7 in Mission Valley

Since 2000, the San Diego Asian Film Festival has gained an international reputation as one of North America's premiere Asian American film festivals for our excellent programs, outreach to the community, and support for independent artists.

For more information visit sdaff.org.

APHAFIC FORUM

V-J 60TH ANNIVERSARY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

On September 10 APHAFIC is planning a forum to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the ending of WWII, V-J Day, at the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park. The APHAFIC will honor veterans of WWII in Asia, if you know of any veterans, please contact APHAFIC and provide names. For more information, please contact Nancy Lo at NCHLO@SAN.RR.COM.

For the entire APHAFIC Update, go to page, for more information visit www.geocities.com/APHAFIC.

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY:

2005 SUMMER POPS BY THE BAY

4th OF JULY CELEBRATION

July 1, 2 & 3

Special Guests La Jolla Symphony Chorus and narrator Kenneth Bell. *Matthew Garbutt, conductor.*

THE THREE BROADWAY DIVAS

July 8 & 9

Three of Broadway's best - Debbie Gravitte, Jodi ("The Little Mermaid") Benson, and Jan Horvath light up the stage with their show-stopping renditions of hits from A Chorus Line, Les Misérables, Evita, Gypsy and more. These divas will dazzle!

PIANO SPECTACULAR

July 15th & 16th

Rachmaninoff's Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and more romantic favorites. Featuring Natasha Paremski, Adam Golka, and Oceanside native Kristina Jacinth. *Matthew Garbutt, conductor.*

All shows start at 7:30 PM and are held at Embarcadero Marina Park South.

For more information and a complete list of the 2005 Summer Pops, visit www.sandiegosymphony.org

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA CONFERENCE

Branching out the Banyan Tree: A Changing Chinese America

2005 Chinese American Studies Conference, presented by Chinese Historical Society of America with Asian American Studies Department at San Francisco State University.

"Branching Out the Banyan Tree: A Changing Chinese America" is a three-day conference that will showcase the history and diversity of Chinese America. The banyan tree is one of nature's most noble and respected creations. For the Chinese, the banyan tree is the core of the village, representing family, home, community, and communication. It is under this banner that we gather for the 2005 Chinese American Studies conference. Within an exciting three-day period, there will be over 50 panels, 9 new book talks, 7 new documentaries or documentaries-in-progress, and other activities.

When:

October 6-9, 2005

Where:

Radisson Miyako Hotel
1625 Post Street
San Francisco, California 94115
www.radisson.com/sanfranciscoca_miyako

Expected Attendance:

400-600

For More Information, go to <http://www.chsa.org/events/conferences.php>, or contact Leonard Shek at 415-391-1188, ext. 107 (conference2005@chsa.org) or Lorraine Dong at 415-338-7590 (ldong@sfu.edu).

ON-GOING EVENTS

FARMERS MARKET AND ASIAN BAZAAR

Gaslamp District, 3rd and J Streets
Every Sunday from 9AM to 12PM
Contact Michael Yee myee@cox.net

APHD WALKING TOUR

San Diego Chinese Historical Museum
Take a walking tour of the Asian Pacific District of downtown; every second Saturday of the month. Please RSVP.
619-338-9888 or www.sdchm.org

PLAYGROUP

San Diego Chinese Historical Museum Garden
Every third Saturday of the month, 1:00PM,
the San Diego Asian American Repertory Theatre
conducts a series of theatrical readings.
www.asianamericanrep.org

SDCHMM Membership 2005

MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL APPLICATION



BECOME A MEMBER

TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please return your membership application with cash or check payable to:
San Diego Chinese Historical Museum
 404 Third Avenue
 San Diego, CA 92101
 info@sdchm.org
 www.sdchm.org
 ph. 619 338 9888
 fx. 619 338 9889

Annual Membership

Active	\$20
Active Couple	\$30
Senior (60+)	\$10
Senior Couple	\$15
Student	\$10

Life Membership

Life	\$200
Life Couple	\$300
Senior Life (60+)	\$150
Senior Life Couple	\$200
Corporate	\$500

*Welcome all of our new and returning members to the San Diego Chinese Historical Society and Museum! We appreciate your support, as well as your prompt renewals of membership. **Members receive quarterly newsletters, invitations and discounted admission to all special events/openings, as well as complimentary general admission to both the SD Chinese Historical Museum and the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Extension.***

Please fill out form completely and check appropriate boxes

- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWAL
- ACTIVE
- SENIOR (60+)
- STUDENT
- ACTIVE COUPLE
- SENIOR COUPLE
- LIFE
- SENIOR LIFE (60+)
- CORPORATE
- LIFE COUPLE
- SENIOR LIFE COUPLE

NAME..... SPOUSE.....

CHINESE NAME..... SPOUSE'S CHINESE NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY..... STATE..... ZIP CODE.....

E-MAIL.....

HOME PHONE..... WORK PHONE.....

OCCUPATION..... COMPANY/SCHOOL.....