



Newsletter

August 1, 2023

Balboa Park's 32 Unique International Cottages Tell the Story of Many Cultures

By Jack Shi, HOC King

Nestled in one corner of Balboa Park, a group of 32 beautiful, single-story houses, known as the [House of Pacific Relations International Cottages](#), is one of the most unique attractions of San Diego.

Each house exhibits the culture of a country that has contributed to the history of the city, and together they form a landmark that fits in less than two acres of land. As a volunteer at the House of Pacific Relations, I believe it is a must-see for all, tourists and locals alike. Here's why.

The word "Pacific" has multiple meanings, but in The House of Pacific Relations, it means "peaceful." The name was chosen in 1935 by its founder, Frank Drugan, during a period of mounting global tensions and economic crisis. After moving to San Diego in 1933 and being enamored with the geography and history of San Diego, he aimed to connect its citizens so they could appreciate the diverse cultures of the city.

To this end, each of the 32 houses has always invited local artists and performers to create an atmosphere of relaxation and exploration. In a walk around the cottages, visitors can experience attractions from many cultures such as taking photos with handmade Irish quilts, listening to live jazz piano, and tasting traditional Turkish baklava. The performance area is in the middle of all the houses, and because it is small, the shows are closer to the viewers, and the audience cheers louder, contributing to a feeling of community.

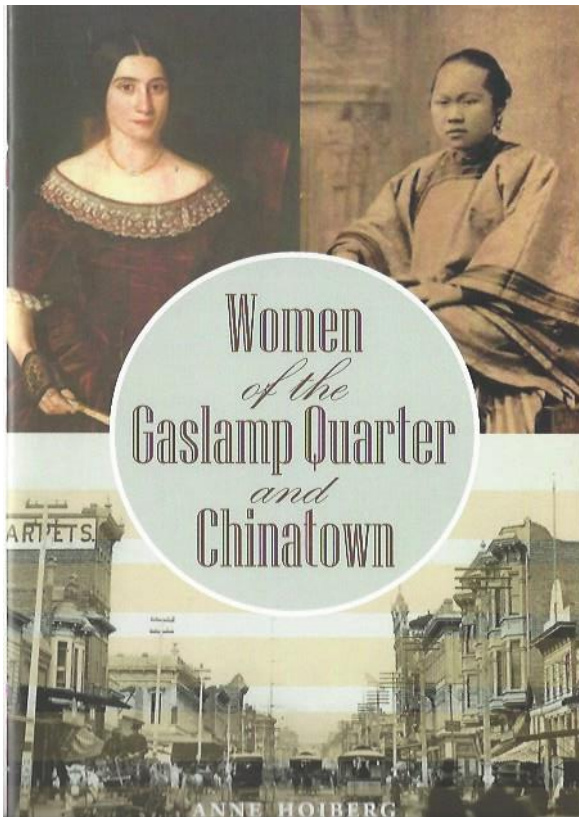
In March, during the annual African American Heritage Celebration, I was a volunteer at The House of China, selling dumplings to the students, families, and tourists attending the event. During the day, a special guest arrived — the winner of the [Miss San Diego County](#) pageant, Love Bradley.

Bradley told us she was one-eighth Chinese and often visited the House of China to learn about her Chinese ancestry. She showed us an old photo of her great-grandmother, a Chinese immigrant who arrived in America nearly a century ago.

Just before entering our house, Bradley had given a speech on African American history to the visitors of the houses. In the audience, I saw the bright faces of San Diego youth, dancing and singing, proudly expressing their culture. I also saw visitors from around the world, dressed in traditional clothes and talking in their native languages. And, of course, there were people from San Diego, just passing by to enjoy the festivities.

Bradley represents the true meaning of the House of Pacific Relations: offering not only one's own story but an opportunity to listen to different ones.

The poet Margaret Atwood once said, "In the end, we'll all become stories." San Diego's story is that of millions of people who sought peace, freedom, and a place to call home.



Women of the Gaslamp Quarter and Chinatown

by Jacinta Wong, Exec. Dir. SD Chinese Historical Museum

In early 2023, the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum produced the "Women of the Gaslamp Quarter and Chinatown" booklet as a collaboration with the SDSU Chinese Cultural Center and Project Director Anne Hoiberg for a project funded by California Humanities. The booklet provides details of many of the historic buildings that still exist in the area and profiles 18 different women who played important roles in shaping vital aspects of the development and preservation of the neighborhood currently known as the San Diego Asian Pacific Thematic District, from the mid-19th century to current.

San Diego Chinese Historical Museum Executive Director Jacinta Wong is a recent transplant to San Diego. She holds over 25 years of management experience working in the nonprofit and government sectors in the City of Chicago. Wong was integral in creating programs in multiple City Departments including the Board of Ethics and Department of Buildings. Most recently, Wong served as the Deputy Director for the City of Chicago City Clerk's City Key Program, helping to establish and implement the City's municipal identification program. She was born and raised on the Southside of Chicago and spent much of her life actively involved with the Chinese community there.

Recent HOC Events



*May 6 Asian Pacific American Coalition presents
HOC Outstanding Organization Award.
Eva Mather, HOC Queen Ruby Gao, David Seid,
Natasha Wong.*



*May 7 Ethnic Food Fair at Balboa Park.
Southern Sea Dragon Banner*



*May 7 Ethnic Food Fair at Balboa Park.
House of Bao team for food sales.*



*May 20 Asian Pacific Heritage Day Balboa Park
with Tiger Bos*



*June 3 Dingeman Elementary School World Fair.
Showing child how to use ink brush.*



*June 20 Lily Zhou and Jack Shi welcome
Germany's Lacrosse players*



June 10 Essay Award Ceremony

HOUSE OF CHINA
中國館
PRESENTS

中秋佳節

MOON FESTIVAL

SEPT. 9, 2023

6:00PM - 8:30 PM

BBQ Meal

Games | High Pole Lion Dance
Moon Cakes | Raffle



Ticket Prices by	8/31	9/1
Members / Volunteers	\$20	\$25
Non Members	\$25	\$30

CHINESE COMMUNITY CHURCH
4998 Via Valarta
San Diego, CA 92124

Payment Methods
Cash - Check- Online

RSVP: Call/Text: (858) 699-1900 | www.HouseOfChinaSD.com

HOUSE OF CHINA MEMBERSHIP FORM

The House of China (HOC) was organized in 1935. The mission is to present, promote, and preserve Chinese culture; strive for cross-culture friendship and understanding. HOC provides civic functions through cultural open houses, sponsorships, school presentations, and cooperation with Chinese American community and guests.

HOC is open every Saturday and Sunday afternoon in Balboa Park. Seasonal programs and events are held at Chinese New Year, Moon Festival, Annual Essay Contest and other occasions.

Please join hundreds of other dedicated friends like you to become a member of HOC.

中國館會員申請表

中國館于一九三五年設立至今，宗旨在促進和保存中國文化，及支援友誼，促進文化交流了解，一同和平相處，中國館是一個不謀利的 501(c)(3) 公民機構。中國館既無政府基金支持也沒任何捐款。

中國館位於聖地牙哥的 Balboa 公園太平洋聯合會的國際村。本館提供各種中華文化節目活動，包括參與市中心的節目，學校運動，還有和華人社區各會合作，招待外地來的貴賓。

中國館及國際村于每週星期六和日下午都開放參觀，中國館的陳設和節目包括：中國文化，新年，端午，中秋節等。其它特別節日時本館也有活動，請注意我館定期寄出的訊息查看有關華人社區的活動節目表。歡迎大家成為中國館會員。請到關注我館網頁 www.HouseofChinaSD.com，電話 (858) 699 - 1900。

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DONATIONS

To join the House of China, please complete the form below and provide payment payable to HOC. Please send your application and payments/donations to: David Seid, 12002 Rue Des Amis, San Diego, CA 92131.

We currently accept the following payment methods: Check, Credit Card @ www.houseofchinasd.com

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|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular Member | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Membership | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friend of HOC | \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Supporter of HOC | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Patron of the HOC | \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lifetime Member | \$1000 |

English Name _____ Chinese Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Office Use Date _____ Check No. _____

請寄到：薛顯榮 David Seid, 12002 Rue Des Amis, San Diego, CA 92131.

HouseofChinaSD.com | Email contact@houseofchinasd.com | Phone (858) 699-1900.