

## Author Biography

**Murray K. Lee** is currently the Curator of Chinese American History at the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Chinese Historical Society and the former Museum Board of Trustees. He is the former editor of the Society's newsletter and has done extensive research and writing. He was responsible for starting and maintaining a Chinese American Veteran's Registry. He has presented papers at national conferences, local schools, colleges, and organizations. He conducts tours of historic Chinatown and has given presentations to over 200 schools and organizations in the area. In 1999 he chaired the program committee for the Chinese American conference in San Diego. He is the coordinator of the San Diego Chinese American Oral History Project and a member of the Asian Pacific Historic Collaborative, for which he created a photographic exhibit of the Asian District at the Horton Grand Hotel. For five years he wrote a monthly column on history for the *Asian Reader* newspaper.

Murray was born in Michigan and in the 1930s relocated with his family to Washington, D.C. and then to Northern Virginia. After graduating from high school he entered the U.S. Merchant Marine where he spent two years serving as a seaman in the Atlantic. He didn't receive World War II veteran's status until after Congress rectified this oversight and gave the Merchant Marine equal status to other servicemen who served. He did his undergraduate and graduate work in Geography at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He has extensive professional experience in the supervision of cartographers, geographers, and graphics designers in the production of maps, atlases, publications, visual presentation, and exhibits.

Murray has lived in San Diego with his wife, Gladys, for twenty-seven years. They have two sons and two granddaughters.