



CATHAY DISPATCH

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

JUNE 2022

VOL 13 - 06

JUNE IS FOR OBSERVING FLAG DAY, THE ARMY'S BIRTHDAY & FATHER'S DAY!

By Commander Helen Wong



It seems like just yesterday that District 8 composed mainly of Cathay Post members was at Cypress Lawn with members from District 26 observing the annual Flag Retirement in November which normally happens near June 14th. This year it is back on June 12th at 11AM and everyone is invited to participate. See flyer.

The Army's 247th birthday is also on June 14th when it was originally formed to fight the Revolutionary War and had roots to the Continental Army. It is the largest branch of the military and certainly our veterans groups have more Army veterans than other branches. Army veterans in our Post include: David Adams, Angelo Artificio, Richard Bates, John Baumhackl (our photographer), Jere-



CATHAY POST 384 AMERICAN LEGION 2021-2022 POST OFFICERS

- Commander: Helen Wong
- 1st Vice CMDR: George Tsang
- 2nd Vice CMDR: Charles Paskerian
- Adjutant: Miguel Ortiz
- Finance Officer: Anthony Lyau
- Secretary: Vacant
(Aaron Low to cover)
- Sgt-At-Arms: CJ Reeves
- Service Officer: David Wong
- Judge Advocate: Raymond Wong
- Jr. Past CMDR: Nelson Lum
- Quartermaster: Philip Leung
- Chaplain: Richard Ow
- Historian: Roger Dong
- ALWMC Delegate: Chuck Paskerian

CATHAY DISPATCH STAFF

- Roger Dong, Publisher
- Kokoe Estrada Dusina, Editor-in-Chief

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**91st Anniversary
Installation & Awards
Banquet**

Saturday, July 16, 2022
 Cocktails – 5:30 p.m.
 Dinner – 6:30 p.m.

Far East Café
 631 Grant Avenue
 San Francisco, CA 94108

**\$70 per person
 \$650 per table**

RSVP by July 1, 2022

George Tsang (415) 608-6312
 Nelson Lum (415) 205-0120
 Helen Wong (650) 576-7875

**AMERICAN LEGION
CATHAY POST 384**

[HTTPS://WWW.SFCATHAYPOST384.ORG/](https://www.sfcatthaypost384.org/)

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miah Boehner, Dr. James Bond, Vivian Bonner Cairo, John Borchner, Ray Bowers, Johnnie Bright, Joseph Britton, James Budke, MD, Richard Charney, Gary Chew, Melvin Chong, Raymond Choy, Vivian Cochran, Samuel Eddy, Collyn Fong, William Fong, Stephen Fonsworth, Don Gorwky, James Hong, Matthew Hutchinson, Herman Jeong, Ed Keile, Edward Lee, Pak Lee, Steve Lee, Philip Leung, Raymond Lew, Bobby Long, Nelson Lum, Terrance Mancilla, Donald McCoy, Jose Montalvo, Richard Navarro, Vince Neeson, Richard Ow, Boris Petrocelli, Jay Pon, CJ Reeves, Robert Smith, Jordan Sun, James Toland, Nestor Tom, Randolph Toy, George Tsang, Ronald Tuason, Tom Vacar, Frank Villani, Thomas Vinson, Jonathan West, David Wong, Douglas Wong, Helen Wong, Weyman Wong, Bing Yee, Chee Yee, Harry Yee, and Jianming Zou.

There may be other members but the branch of service is missing.

At the end of May, the 16th Sergeant Major of the Army, Michael Grinston came to San Francisco for a visit for the first time in anyone's memory. Besides visiting the Golden Gate Bridge, a Meet and Greet at the Marines Memorial Club & Hotel where each group was given 2 minutes to present their organization, he was a key note speaker at the San Francisco National Cemetery for Memorial Day. Sgt-At-Arms CJ Reeves was present at all three of the events while some of the members attended one of the other events. What an honor to have him visit and for us to welcome him! (Photos by John Baumhackl, Cmdr Wong, David Wong)



Above: Sgt-At-Arms CJ Reeves at table, P 599 Prince Jordan with N-Power's Col. Chris Starling, Cmdr Wong & Sgt-At-Arms Reeves presenting the American Legion, SMA Michael Grinston



Father's Day is on Sunday, June 19th. Who knew that the man who inspired a daughter to make Father's Day a National Holiday was a single dad and a Civil War Veteran? In fact, William Jackson Smart's daughter was inspired by attending a Mother's Day service in 1909 when she thought about honoring her father, a twice married and twice widowed father of 14. So, the first Father's Day started in Spokane, Washington in 1910 after his daughter Sonora brought the petition to the Spokane Ministerial Alliance. It wasn't until 1972 that President Richard Nixon signed a Congressional resolution declaring the third Sunday in June to be



Father's Day. This was six years before Sonora's death at the age of 96. Her goal was finally accomplished. We salute all fathers on this day!





2022-2023 CATHAY OFFICERS

I want to thank all members who attended our May meeting and voted for the officers. While most are returning into the same offices, we do have one new officer, our new secretary Ron Ritter who has been unofficially helping out for many months. Congratulations to all and may we have a fortuitous year! Not pictured are Quartermaster Philip Leung and Board of Director Aaron Low.
Photos by John Baumhackl & Frank Jang



Commander Helen Wong



1st Vice George Tsang



2nd Vice
Chuck Paskerian



Adjutant Miguel Ortiz



Finance Officer Tony Lyau



Judge Advocate Ray Wong



Historian Roger Dong



Sgt-At-Arms CJ Reeves



Chaplain Richard Ow



Service Officer David Wong



Jr. Past CMDR Nelson Lum
(& Board of Director)



Board of Director W.T. Jeanpierre



Board of Director Ed Wong



Secretary Ron Ritter



CHINATOWN TO BATTLEGROUND MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

In what I consider the most important project in 2022 for Cathay Post 384, the Chinatown to Battleground Exhibit from May 4-June 12 at the War Memorial Veterans Building was a total success. The founders of the Chinese American G.I. Project which put the exhibit together, Montgomery Hom and Ron Chan, certainly went above the call of duty in curating the uniforms, equipment, banners, personal items from the veterans. Janice Tong, the granddaughter of WWI veteran Frank Tong a charter member of Cathay Post, really put in many hours finalizing text captions and putting the finishing touches on the display cases. Opening day coincided with the APA Awards Evening in the Herbst Theater and who should come into the Gallery but Martin Yan who was in the building to receive an award! Martin had high praise for the Chinese Americans who served. Joyce Chan from CACA San Francisco Lodge was in attendance along with members of Cathay Post: Nelson Lum,

Roger Dong, CJ Reeves, Ray & Dara Wong, and Helen Wong for the photo op. Ron Chan and his wife were also there that night. Many thanks to our support members and veteran members who volunteered to be Gallery Docent Volunteers: Chuck Paskerian, Don Gorwky, CJ Reeves, Ed Baumgarten, Roger Dong, Richard Ow, support member Sherman King, and our newest member Ron Tuson. Also volunteering were Red Cross gals Ada Low and Denise So, and tango instructor Ivan Shvarts. Some of the highlights of being at the Gallery for me were meeting Korean War Cpl Calvin Wong and his wife Gerrye from the Chinese Historical Cultural Program and their family; Michael Tse, the nephew of WWII Veteran Eddie Fung, the only Chinese American POW; Al Young, the son of past Cathay Post Commander John C Young; Laura Kee granddaughter of WWI Veteran Lau Sing Kee; the Southern CA couple Grace & Rickey Leo, Brenda Hee Wong & Willy Wong from CHCP,

and others who took time to visit. Member Willie Lou brought his daughters to see the exhibit and they wrote & drew something in the journal that was so special. See if you can find their drawings! Altogether, there are at least 10 past & present members of Cathay Post represented on the banners among the other veterans from across the country. If anyone could name at least 6, he/she would get an extra fortune cookie from the Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Company! With the mention about the Exhibit from SF Chronicle writer Carl Nolte, the visitors came to see for themselves. All in all, Mission was Accomplished! (Photos from Dara Wong, Joyce Chan, Helen Wong, Rickey Leo, Denise So)

Thank you for coming in!

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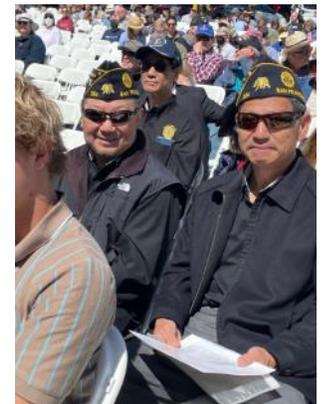
MEMORIAL DAY 2022

Memorial Day is a time of remembrance for everyone who served and died during all wars. On Sunday we attended a joint ceremony with the VFW at St Mary's Square where a memorial plaque, listing some of the veterans who gave their ultimate sacrifice were honored and remembered. In attendance were members of the VFW Post 4618 and Cathay Post 384 where brief ceremony was held and the names of our fallen comrades were read aloud by members of both posts.

On Memorial Day, members of Cathay Post as well as the VFW were in attendance at the Presidio National Cemetery to honor and pay tribute to our veterans. The event lasted about an hour with several guest speakers to include the Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston, Senator Alex Padilla and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. There was a flyover by a US Coast Guard helicopter, a brass band and vocalist singing all the patriotic songs. A Gold Star family was honored and presented with a wreath for the son that died in Iraq. The JROTC color guard did the presentation of the American and California flags and the rifle Honor Guard rendered a gun salute.

Our 91st Anniversary Installation and Awards Banquet is coming up on Saturday, July 16th. The dinner will be held again at Far East Café in Chinatown. Look for the flier in your email in the upcoming weeks. The cost will be \$70 per seat and \$650 per table of ten. There will be a subsidy for active members and support members. Please start spreading the word about our event and start selling seats and tables as we have about a month before we need to confirm the headcount with the restaurant.

See you all at the next meeting!





Six Annual



The American Legion
of the Bay Area Hosted by Cypress Lawn



Proudly Presents a



F L A G R E T I R E M E N T C E R E M O N Y

Brief Ceremony

• Cremation of Flags

• Refreshments

CYPRESS LAWN MEMORIAL PARK
In the beautiful and historic
NOBLE CHAPEL
1362 El Camino Real
SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2022 AT 11:30

Bring your own
Worn and tattered flags
To be retired







KNOW THE SIGNS OF A CRISIS: Recognizing red flags and knowing when to get help can make a difference in a veteran's life. Read more at:

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/education/signs-of-crisis>

If you feel you are in a crisis, whether or not you are thinking about killing yourself, please call. The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. People have called for help with substance abuse, economic worries, relationship and family problems, sexual orientation, illness, getting over abuse, depression, mental and physical illness, and even loneliness.

CALL: Veterans and their loved ones can call (800) 273-8255 and Press 1 to speak with a caring and qualified responder.

TEXT: Veterans and loved ones can also send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, or call your local 24-hour mental health crisis line.

Veteran Combat Call Center - Combat vets and families can call any time 24/7/365: 1 (800) 927-8387 to speak with other combat vets and families about any issues from military experience to readjusting to civilian life.

CHAT ONLINE: Veterans Chat 24/7/365 Confidential Support is just a Click Away. If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, responders at the Veterans Crisis Line online chat offer help that can make a difference. Caring, qualified VA professionals are standing by to provide free and confidential support:
<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat>

UPDATE: Veterans may now call 988 and press 1 to speak to a caring and qualified responder.



ST. MARYS ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday, May 29, 2022 the San Francisco Chinatown VFW Post 4618, and the San Francisco American Legion Cathay Post 384, who jointly raised the funds for a Memorial Plaque to Chinese Veterans who gave their all in WWI and WWII for our country, honored their memories at San Francisco's St Mary's Park with an annual Memorial Service held since 1951. After the singing of the National Anthem by Cathay Support member Wilma Pang, innovation from VFW Chaplain Bob Burchart, VFW Post Commander Raymond Wong led the service with opening re-

marks, followed the reading of names from members of both Posts. Cathay Post Sgt-At-Arms CJ Reeves played taps at the end.

It was a moving ceremony, all the names of the deceased were read, and a short service was held in their Honor.

IT is hoped that we can have a larger participation of the Chinese community at this important event in future years. Maybe more publicity. IT is something all Chinese can be proud of.



SEAMAN'S MEMORIAL CRUISE MAY 21, 2022

On this day, the Jeremiah O'Brien, a US destroyer class vessel, took us back to the days of World War II, and the times of Rosie the Riveter, ration stamps, Car Gas Ration Stickers, red meat ration stickers, and bell bottomed trousers.

The ship is a living symbol of that era and is maintained by volunteers to keep in running smoothly.

I sailed that day with my wife, Diane, a Legion Auxiliary Member, on this memorable cruise four-hour cruise, which took us out to sea and under two bridges, the Golden Gate and the Bay Bridge. The weather was great, but windy and cold. I have included some pictures of the sailing which was fun.

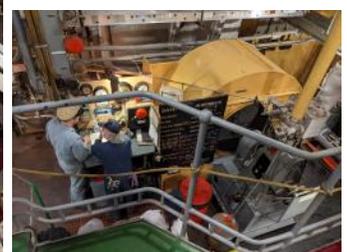
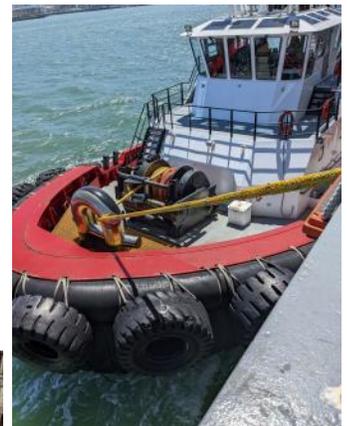
The brand new Tug which assisted us in leaving and returning to the dock, was remarkable in its automated method to get the lines to

and from the dock,... and then for the crew, (see pictures), to tie or release us from the dock, and or the Tug...

There are also some engine room pictures attached. This engine, the one that took the ship to Normandy at 60th anniversary of the Normandy invasion, in which this ship participated, ran as smooth as a new engine, due to the care of the volunteer engineers on board.

This was the first year, since the pandemic, that the Obrien sailed on this Memorial trip, and there were several burials at sea on this voyage.

A somber day, but enjoyable. I hope you will consider going on this cruise next year, food and beer are free, for veterans of most wars. No civil War Patriots were, and only one or two WWII, and Korean Vets were on Board.





A MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DENIS MCDONOUGH



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Memorial Day

Colleagues,

On Monday, the Nation will come together to honor the fallen heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. From the American Revolution to today, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters have given what President Lincoln called the “last full measure of devotion” for us. Memorial Day is their day.

I will be visiting the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery on Memorial Day, and I will be talking about one of those fallen heroes: Corporal Michael Ouellette. Mike—as his family calls him—was a Marine who deployed to Afghanistan as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom. In 2009, Mike was leading his Marines on a foot patrol when an Improvised Explosive Device detonated underneath him, badly severing his left leg and sending shrapnel through his body.

Then, somehow, the situation got even worse: the enemy moved in, launching a brutal attack on Mike and his squad. But instead of doing what most anyone would do in that situation—getting out of there and getting medical assistance as soon as possible—Mike stayed put. He directed his Marines. And he refused to be removed from the battlefield until his men were safe.

After an intense fight, Mike’s squad finally thwarted the enemy attack and began to move out. Only then did Mike allow himself to be loaded into a medical evacuation chopper. And not too much later—having saved the lives of all of his men but one—Mike died of his wounds. His last words as the chopper took him away were, “I’m proud of my Marines.” Mike was just 28 years old, and he rests in the hallowed ground of the Veterans cemetery that I am visiting on Monday.

I will be telling Mike’s story on Memorial Day for many reasons. I will tell it because it begins to capture the immense cost of war, and the incredible courage of those who have died for us. I will tell it because it is emblematic of the stories of so many other brave Service members and Veterans, many of whom are buried in our national cemeteries. And, perhaps most of all, I will tell it because I know that sharing the stories of those we have lost keeps them with us, long after they are gone.

There is nothing we can do to bring back the Nation’s deceased Veterans, or to ease the pain we feel in their absence. All we can do is carry on their legacies. At the Department of Veterans Affairs, we do that by serving Veterans, family members, caregivers and survivors as well as they have served us. We do that by providing a dignified resting place that is a lasting tribute to their service. And we do that by remembering, honoring and sharing the stories of our fallen heroes on Memorial Day, and every day.

So, whether you decide to observe Memorial Day at home, or by posting a tribute on the Veterans Legacy Memorial, or by visiting one of our beautiful national cemeteries, I hope that you will join me in reflecting on stories of Veterans and Service members like Mike. Because that is how we will keep heroes like them with us, in our hearts and our minds, always.

Thank you for all you do to serve Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors. And thank you for serving our fallen heroes in death, just like they served us in life.

May God bless you, and may God rest all those we have lost.

Denis McDonough



CONGRATS TO ALL GRADUATES! SGT@ARMS CJ GOES TO COLLEGE!

June means graduation. That means we congratulate all graduates across all levels of education. When we think of graduation, we usually make the leap to High Schools or Universities. In addition to institutions of higher learning, The American Legion (TAL) recently had a graduation of its own. It's called Legion College and most Departments have them. Once you completed the online TAL Basic Training course, all members of TAL family are eligible for TAL Department College. Remember, TAL family consists of the Legion, Auxiliary, Riders and Sons. On Mother's Day at the Clovis Military District at approximately 1400 hours, CA Department Commander AJ presented me with a college certificate. What a college marathon it was. There was about five (5) days of material compressed into three (3) days from

Friday to Sunday, plus the meet and greet to turn in our completed Homework assignment before classes began – namely, write a Resolution. My Resolution, with feedback and editing by Jr. Past Commander Lum, was to appoint a Post Poet Laureate – more on this in the coming months. It was an academic success for me with a gold star. There was no Magna Cum Laude or Dean's List, just old-fashioned Reading, Writing and homework. Besides Resolutions, courses included Officers Guide, Parliamentary, Agendas, How to run a Meeting and Team building. I will bring the course binder to the Post for future reference in case someone's interested in applying. As you look at the photo, I'm the one in the back on the right side standing should-to-shoulder with Department Commander AJ.



MY THREE DAY ODYSSEY WITH THE SMA SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE ARMY IN SF!

The top enlisted officer of the top army of the world recently visited San Francisco. As the key-note speaker for the Memorial Day Ceremony, SMA Grinston addressed a large crowd on Monday, May 30, 2022. The Ceremony was held at the city's beloved San Francisco National Cemetery at the world's most beautiful and oldest former Army Post at the Presidio. Post 384 members in attendance were Jr. Past Commander Nelson, First Vice Tsang, SGT@ARMS CJ and Photographer Baumhackl. SMA Grinston was flanked by some equally important heavy hitters. Speaker of the House Pelosi spoke, although she wasn't slated to do so according to the program. US Senator Padilla said a few words as well. This Ceremony marked the end of Memorial Day events around the city. What was on the schedule for the start of the holiday weekend? Saturday took us to the Golden Gate Bridge. We all gathered with the SMA to walk the bridge. On my arrival, I was greeted by SFPD SGT Padmore with his ALERT Team manning a table. Jenny, with the Veterans Commission, was handing out "Walk the Bridge" T-shirts, provided by Npower. Heart-shaped paper cutouts and nameplates were available for special messages or jotting down a name of a lost loved one. It was an unusually nice day at the bridge, making it a great opportunity to walk. The crowd was somewhat sparse, mainly comprised of LTC Bullard with his JROTC Cadets.

Nonetheless, a good time was had by all. I'm sure the SMA was AWE struck by the stunning vistas. We are so lucky to live here. It's a real treat for me as well, as I only seem to visit the bridge when out-of-town guests come to take the same bridge photo again and again. Sunday kept us rather busy in its own right. Commander Wong and I manned both the American Legion and AMVETS tables at the Marines' Memorial most of the day. Helen and I got the displays set up and we visited often from folks far and wide. There was some interest in our post by a Veteran from Boston now living here. The PGA Golf Rep also mentioned coming to our post to give the PGA spiel to our members. I gave out Post applications to the two Reps for the California National Guard. They spoke very highly of what the Legion has done for them. We handed out our noted newsletter and flyers about the current exhibit, "Chinatown to Battleground". A scrumptious spread was provided. All participants, around eighteen (18) organizations, gave a two-minute spiel on what we do and what we are about.

A vast amount of information was exchanged during this four-hour event. CDR Wong and I had to tiptoe quietly, to ensure our arrival at St. Mary's Square on time at 3pm. We were honored and humbled to host our SMA in our great city.





WELCOME WWII SEABEE ALFRED CHAN – OUR NEWEST, OLDEST MEMBER

By Ron Chan



“I am thankful to Commander Helen Wong and American Legion Cathay Post 384 for hosting my WWII Chinese American Congressional Gold Medal presentation. You serve the veteran community well, so I wanted to be part of this Post.”

Alfred Chan (98). USN Seabee Carpenters Mate 3/c. Midway Island 1944.

Alfred’s induction as a Cathay Post Member was held at the American Legion sponsored “Chinatown to Battleground” exhibition at the War Memorial Veterans Building in San Francisco on June 8, 2022. Al was also presented a Presidential Letter of Commendation for his service to this country, in its greatest time of need.

Nelson Lum, Past Post Commander, presided over this ceremony to welcome our newest and oldest WWII Chinese American veteran – Alfred Chan (98). Present at this celebration of service was Alfred’s family, May, wife of 72 years, daughter Melanie, son Ron, and wife Luci. Witnessing this presentation were post members Roger Dong and Nestor Tom. Thank you, Nestor, for the wonderful ceremony photographs.



Top Row: Seabee Alfred Chan, 1944; Alfred on the WWII Sea Services banner - Chinatown to Battleground Exhibit; Membership Induction; **Bottom Row:** Presentation of the Presidential Letter of Commendation; Membership presentation by Nelson Lum with Alfred & May Chan, and Post Historian Roger Dong; Alfred Chan’s Family



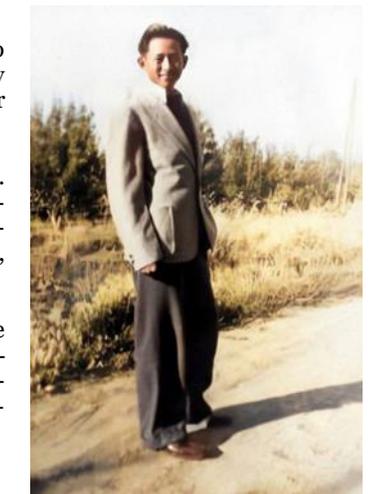
Alfred is now a dual member of both the American Legion, and VFW. In the VFW East Bay Chinatown Post 3956 in Oakland, CA, Al served as a Past Post Commander, charter (founding) member, Master of Ceremonies at anniversary celebrations, and is a VFW Life Member. Oakland Post 3956 is now merged with VFW 91st Div/Chinatown Post 4618 in San Francisco. Al is pictured holding this WWII Chinese American Congressional Gold Medal that was presented at the American Legion Cathay Post 384 in San Francisco.

Alfred grew up in the sleepy agricultural Sacramento Delta town of Courtland, CA in 1924. He is the eldest son of an immigrant sharecropper working in the pear orchards, tomatoes and asparagus fields as a boy doing a man's work. Al said, "It was a hard life, working from sun up, to sundown. But if you don't work, you don't eat." At the ranch he could fix and use farm implements, plow the fields on a tractor, and drove trucks at a young age to help his father on the ranch. Al learned how to drive a tractor before he was able to drive a car.

Growing up in the Depression he had to fix and build everything himself. There was no money to spend for repair services. But these skills honed from desperation served him well in military service. It was a natural fit that Al became a Seabee, the Navy's Construction Battalions, as their motto is, "We Build. We Fight. Can Do!"

After taking Navy basic training in 1944, Al was deployed on the USS Hancock aircraft carrier. There were thousands of men crowded onboard. It was so packed, that Al had to sleep underneath a fighter wing on the deck. The USS Hancock zig zagged across the Pacific, to avoid Japanese submarines, and to not to telegraph their destination of Pearl Harbor. From Pearl Harbor, Alfred went by Landing Ship Tank (LST) to his final port of destination.

At age 20, Alfred had never been more than 80 miles from his Sacramento Delta home. In the Navy, he found himself stationed 3200 miles from home in the middle of the Pacific Ocean - Midway Island. So named, because it was the half way point between the US west coast, and Japan. As such, Midway Island was strategic to serve as an American forces jump point for the invasion of Japan.



As a Seabee, Al helped fortify Midway Island. Seabee's built air fields, Quonset huts for housing of men and munitions, submarine tenders, ship berths and other war infrastructures.

Alfred was the only Chinese American on Midway Island. With the perimeter guarded by Marines, he was told never to come within 50 yards so he would not be mistaken for Japanese. But even within the perim-

eter, it was dangerous being Chinese. He was confronted by an angry Marine, who said, "I'm gonna kill me a Jap." But another Marine stepped between and said, "His name is Chan. He is Chinese American"... thus defusing a situation that could have ended badly.

On VJ Day (Victory over Japan) Alfred celebrated on Midway Island. He did not remember much, "as the beer flowed freely".

Alfred was interviewed on the 75th Anniversary of the end of WWII. In reflecting his service, his final thoughts were for future generations, "Always be prepared and ready to fight for our freedom and liberty."

Alfred Chan, congratulations and welcome to the American Legion Cathay Post 384 San Francisco Post.

Comrade Alfred Chan, our newest, oldest Chinese American WWII veteran, and fellow Comrade Nelson Lum





CATHAY POST TAKES GREAT PRIDE IN WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Our warmest welcome to Ron Ritter, James Ensign, Terrance Mancilla, and Jonathan West. Thank you for your military service and thanking you in advance for any service you can offer and provide to our Cathay Post.



DID YOU SEE RUSSIAN TANKS BEING DESTROYED BY DRONES IN UKRAINE?

Those were American made "Switchblade" drones, and operated by a trained Ukrainian drone operator, has destroyed the mightiest Russian armored vehicles, including a tank.

Ukrainian drone operators are being trained at great speed as this modern drone has two versions, a less lethal version called for striking at personnel, and a more powerful version armed with a more powerful warhead to strike hard targets, including armored vehicles and even tanks. A few Russian generals may have been victims to the Switchblades, but they can be replaced from Moscow.

While this very capable weapon is a very great aid for the Ukrainians to slow down the Russian military invasion, it is not powerful enough to defeat the huge Russian machine.

As long as Vladimir Putin is kicking, the attack on Ukraine will continue, even the cost to the Russians, is much greater than Putin had expected.

Another serious side effect of this tragedy is that we are sending a significant amount of military hardware to aid the Ukrainians, and if we get into a major conflict (like with China over Taiwan), we may not have sufficient weapons, including Switchblades to supply Taiwan's military, or our own troops if get directly involved, in an extended conflict.

There is likely a limited amount of minerals/



materials, needed to ramp up weapons production here at home. A country dealing with baby food shortage, may have other shortages, that will prevent us from gearing up for a big conflict.

Sources: See **DRONES** at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CHINA, TAIWAN AND THE UNITED STATES

Americans are drenched with information on China and Taiwan that is inaccurate, misleading, or simply wrong. Is this by design?

Most Americans still think of China as a Communist country, and if you think that, you must realize that today, there are very few, if any, Communists in China. 99% of Communist Chinese died with Mao ZeDong in 1976. Today there are more than 650 billionaires, and thousands of millionaires in China. That doesn't sound like a Marxist nation, does it? After Mao, Deng Xiao-ping and the following four Presidents of China have promoted their country with capitalism and a one party system. This is correctly described as a Capitalist Autocracy.

The nation is entirely managed by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), who are all the people involved with politics from the village level to national level. It is a misnomer, as no one claims to be Communist anymore in China. The unique feature of modern China is even though it is a dictatorship, it is managed by a group, not a singular person who is the national leader. What should we know about the CCP?

In China no one can be in politics unless they are a member of the CCP. Every member of the CCP has a file the Organization Department, that maintains files and tracks for a lifetime, all the political activities and the performance of all Party members.

Few people know that at ground floor (the village level) all local leaders are democratically elected. Once elected they become a member of the CCP and it is a long term membership, unless the individual leaves politics.

The Organization Department conducts polls confirm or deny the data filed on each Party member. By the time a politician rises to national level, before digital files, a national leader could have a 4 drawer file cabinet of their performance in political leadership. The files are now digitized and stored in computers.

Here is the factual story of the CCP. The CCP has around 90 million members and is subordinate to the Central Committee which has only 200 members. This Committee has 97 members and 203 alternate members. Who are the leaders of the Central Committee?

The senior leaders of the Central Committee are in their Politburo. BUT, these senior lead-

ers are not the ultimate decision makers in China.

The ultimate leaders of China are seven (7) members of the Standing Committee of the Politburo (SCP) who make the major decisions. President Xi Jin-ping is the leader and one of the seven members of the SCP. Note that all 7 members of this top echelon in China are all engineers or scientists.

Their decisions, whether it involves their economy, or technology, or their military, are driven largely by logic and pragmatism. Sometimes they make bad decisions, and when they have erred, they have quickly taken appropriate action.

For nearly 4 decades these top leaders have made all the final decisions that has resulted in China elevated to a world economic leader including becoming the top manufacturer in the world. As a result of economic success they have made strategic plans and funded critical technologies including semiconductors, AI, space technology, advanced avionics and quantum computing. Several years ago, it was announced by President Xi that \$1.4 trillion was allocated for advanced sciences. How that big pot is divided is of great interest to everyone. A major portion will be dedicated to developing state of the art semiconductors, and plants to make advanced chips. Significant portions of their funding is directed at other important scientific disciplines including artificial intelligence, quantum computing, 5G communications, and space technologies, especially cyber technologies that are critical in wartime.

The major reason to doubt that China will militarily invade Taiwan and fight with the U.S. is that the number 1 priority for the Chinese leaders is to fulfill the China Dream, and the key component of the China Dream is for China to become the world's most powerful economy in 2049. A war with America, win, or lose, will destroy the China Dream and thus IMO China will do much to avoid a war with America.

The author of this article is Roger S. Dong, Lt Col, USAF, retired who has been a China specialist for the Air Force and Dept of Defense from 1967-1999. He is one of the most highly decorated intelligence officers in our nation. In retirement he continues to study and report on

modern China and publishes many articles for newsletters in the American Legion and also the Association of Former Intelligence Officers. He also lectures on China in public venues.

MEET THIS CHINESE AMERICAN HERO



Who is Cody Thao? A year ago, he was a tractor supply store worker and decided to join the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. As a NC State trooper, was recently called to deal with a vehicle on a state highway driving the wrong way and creating havoc.

Arriving at the scene Patrolman Thao quickly inserted his vehicle in the path of the on-coming suspect knowing that he would take a hit and risk possible injury and his life. The move also protected proximity innocent vehicles.

Luck was on this State Trooper's side and he escaped without injury.

Our Highest Congratulations to State Trooper Cody Thao for his great courage and judgment.

Sources: See **HERO** at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



"The United States, Taiwan and China,"

by Lt Colonel Roger S. Dong, USAF, retired



Recently our President has pledged to defend Taiwan if China takes military action against Taiwan. Many media sources have predicted that a war is imminent as China flies jet fighters over the Taiwan Strait. Many sources have compared the Russian invasion of Ukraine as the prelude or template for China to attack Taiwan.

China has her own objectives, and her approach to Taiwan might be very different than Russian military aggression.

Our speaker who has been a China specialist for over 50 years has a different story to share with his audience. There is a lot of factual information that has not been presented to the American public, and some very significant and relevant facts about China's long term goals and the views of many people of Taiwan have not been published or presented to the American public that our speaker will disclose to you if you at this presentation. Don't miss this to understand the dynamics behind this entanglement of the United States, Taiwan and China.

This is one lecture in the Veterans' Lecture Series supported by the American Legion District 8 of California.

All proceeds from the ticket sales will be received by the Veterans Success Center (VSC), a project of the American Legion District 8. The VSC is a program to assist veterans who are transitioning from the military, or the seeking employment.

Tickets (\$25.00) can be purchased via Event Brite, or in person on 14 or 15 July at 2:30 pm) in room 210, the Veterans War Memorial Building.



SOLUTIONS TO MAY'S PUZZLES

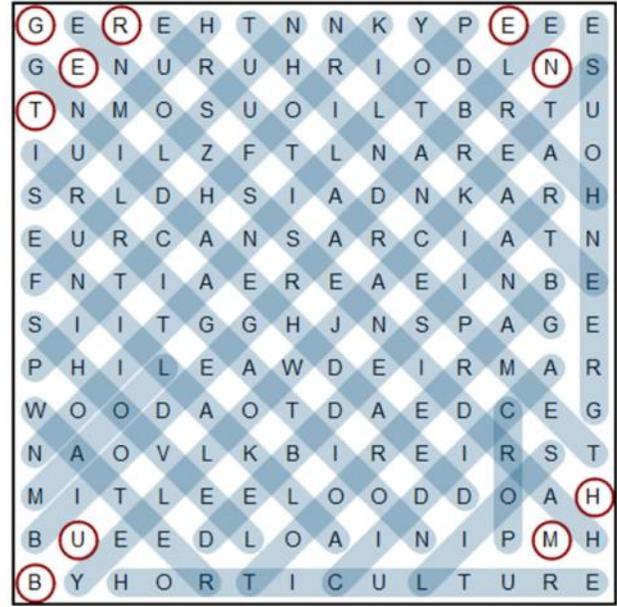
Did you solve everything?

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

Were you able to find all the words?

Hidden word: GREEN THUMB

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| ACIDIC | LOAM |
| ALKALINE | NITRATE |
| BAREROOT | PITCH FORK |
| BIODEGRADABLE | POLLINATION |
| CROP | RAISED BED |
| DEAD HEADING | SHOVEL |
| FULL SUN | SOIL |
| GREENHOUSE | TEMPERATURE |
| HARDINESS ZONE | THINNING |
| HARDY | WATER |
| HORTICULTURE | YELLOW JACKETS |
| HUMUS | |
| IRRIGATION | |



SUDOKU SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| 7 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 |
| 5 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 3 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| 1 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 4 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| 5 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| 9 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 5 |
| 8 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| 2 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 8 |



WORD SEARCH

Great hobbies keep the mind active. The hobbies listed below are fun, easy to learn, and can be adapted to suit most lifestyles. Find all the words to reveal an 11 word therapeutic hobby.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | C | R | O | C | H | E | T | W | E | A | V | E | R |
| R | N | S | L | A | I | R | E | T | A | M | A | T | I |
| T | E | E | F | A | S | H | I | O | N | K | R | C | M |
| S | T | E | C | H | N | I | Q | U | E | N | I | E | A |
| E | G | N | I | D | I | A | R | B | D | I | E | L | G |
| P | K | O | O | B | P | A | R | C | S | T | T | L | I |
| A | B | W | O | O | D | W | O | R | K | T | Y | O | R |
| T | A | C | E | R | A | M | I | C | S | I | G | C | O |
| U | S | W | D | E | F | T | H | L | E | N | N | T | S |
| O | K | E | C | R | A | F | T | C | K | G | I | A | E |
| T | E | S | F | A | B | R | I | C | T | C | D | L | R |
| U | T | P | O | M | A | C | R | A | M | E | A | E | A |
| C | R | A | S | S | E | M | B | L | E | I | E | N | W |
| N | Y | N | R | A | Y | S | E | L | L | T | B | T | K |

ASSEMBLE
BASKETRY
BEADING
BRAIDING
CERAMICS
COLLECT
CRAFT
CROCHET
CUTOUT
DEFT
ETCH
FABRIC
FASHION
KNACK
KNITTING
MACRAME

MATERIALS
ORIGAMI
SCRAPBOOK
SELL
SEW
TALENT
TAPESTRY
TECHNIQUE
VARIETY
WARES
WEAVER
WOOD WORK
YARN

CAN YOU SUDOKU?

SURE YOU CAN! How do I play Sudoku?

Sudoku is a logic game so you just need to use your brain to play it! The goal is to fill the grid, so that each row, each column and each region of 3x3 boxes contains all the numbers from 1 to 9. Good Luck!

WORK SPACE

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | | | 7 | | 9 | | 4 |
| 3 | | 4 | 9 | 5 | 2 | | | |
| | | | 1 | | | | | 5 |
| 2 | | 7 | 8 | 6 | | 3 | | |
| 8 | | 5 | | | | 4 | | 2 |
| | | 9 | | 4 | 5 | 8 | | 6 |
| 4 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| | | | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | | 8 |
| 6 | | 2 | | 3 | | | 4 | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 5 | | | | 1 | 4 | | |
| | | | 3 | | 4 | 1 | 5 | |
| 8 | | | 5 | | 6 | | | 2 |
| 6 | | | | | 3 | | 9 | |
| 3 | 1 | | | | | | 8 | 5 |
| | 8 | | 2 | | | | | 3 |
| 1 | | | 6 | | 2 | | | 9 |
| | 9 | 6 | 4 | | 7 | | | |
| | | 2 | 9 | | | | 6 | 7 |



JUNE 2022

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|----------------------------------|--|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| CA LEGION CONVENTION: 6/24-6/26 IN VISALIA, CA | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | D DAY | 7 ALWMC MEETING 4:00 PM DIST 8 MEETING 5:00 PM | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 ARMY BIRTHDAY FLAG DAY | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 POST MEETING 11:00 AM |
| 19 FATHER'S DAY JUNE TEENTH | 20 FED HOLIDAY SFVA CLOSED | 21 | 22 | 23 COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 PTSD AWARENESS DAY | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

JULY 2022

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 ALWMC MEETING 4:00 PM DIST 8 MEETING 5:00 PM | 6 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM | 7 | 8 | 9 POST MEETING 11:00 AM |
| 10 INDEPENDENCE DAY Flag Raising at CCBA HQ (C-6) at 843 Stockton Street | | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 91ST ANNIVERSARY INSTALLATION & AWARDS BANQUET |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 NATIONAL HIRE A VETERAN DAY | 26 | 27 NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY | 28 NATIONAL BUFFALO SOLDIERS DAY | 29 ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS ANNIVERSARY | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |