



## Commander's Desk



American Legion National Commander Fang A. Wong takes the Oath.

Dear members and friends,

I wish you all a very happy holiday. I want to thank you for another great year at Cathay Post. We still have seats for Commander Fang A Wong's dinner. Please call to reserve your

seats. This is a great opportunity to show support for the first Chinese American National Commander of the American Legion. Cathay Post members can purchase discounted tickets for \$17.50 each, while tick-

ets for nonmembers are \$35.00 each. I'll see you at the December 10th Monthly meeting with our special holiday luncheon to follow.

**Ron Lee  
Commander**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 @ 1100. All Cathay Post members and supporting friends are welcome. Lunch will be served immediately after the Board meeting.

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**Cathay Post. No. 384**  
American Legion

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[www.chineseamericanveterans.org](http://www.chineseamericanveterans.org)

## From the 1st Vice Commander

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous holiday season and the very best for a new year filled with happiness and good health.

Recently I was attending a function and saw someone who looked familiar. He told me he was a member of the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.)

He went on to say that he was a former member of Cathay Post. I didn't ask why he left the Post but after a few minutes of discussions, I offered to join VFW if he joined Cathay Post # 384. It was an offer he couldn't reject. Welcome back, Comrade Nestor Tom.

By the time you read this article, Cathay Post will have, for the third consecutive year, attained [and indeed exceeded] the membership goals set by the Department of California, American Legion. I believe our Post is first among the 16 Posts in San Francisco to have achieved this goal.

There are still some members who have not renewed their 2012 membership. This may be due to our member's confusion as to when renewal occurs. The American Legion Department of California operates on a fiscal year, from July 1<sup>st</sup> thru June 30<sup>th</sup>. For members, this means, your membership year begins July 1. If you have not done so, please remit your payment as soon as possible.

Congratulations to Ed Wong, the Post's Treasurer and a member of



the Executive Board, on his reelection as President of the Golden Gate Park Senior Center. This organization has over 1,100 plus members with many who are also members of this Post's Support Group. Speaking of Ed Wong, he was able to convince a long time Post member and his friend who were so impressed with the Post's programs, that they donated \$4,000 to Post, earmarked to the Post's scholarship funds.

Li Huang, a member of our Post and a full time employee at the San Francisco's VA Vet Center as an Outreach Coordinator, will be deploying to Afghanistan fairly soon. Please join me in wishing Li a safe journey and a safe return from his reservist assignment. Li has helped a number of Cathay Post members obtain VA benefits and assistance. We are proud of Li as a Post member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the editors of Cathay Chronicle for putting out a first class newsletter. Galin Luk, editor and Mike Louie, assistant

editor both have done an outstanding job in producing the newsletter in a timely manner.

Additionally, the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Yearbook edition was finally ordered a few days ago. The long delay was due to unforeseen production and editing issues. We expect the books arrive by our December meeting. If you're not

in attendance, the Commander's Office will contact the purchasers to discuss the pickup of the books.

With the growth of the Post, additional space is needed. Support member Daniel Soo Hoo will soon be installing some additional shelving in the kitchen and also in the Commander's Office. Thank you Daniel, for donating your time and labor to this project.

Cathay Post will be hosting a banquet style dinner on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in honor of Fang A. Wong, National Commander of the American Legion.

He is the first Asian American in American Legion history to hold this position, the highest position in the American Legion. Commander Wong is from the Lt. B. R. Kimlau Chinese Memorial Post 1291, New York City, New York. He was elected on August 2011 during the 93rd National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Again, Happy Holidays to All.

**David Y. Wong**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

## From the 2nd Vice Commander

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Whew, it's finally December. It's time for family and friends to share each other's good company; it's a time of peace and forgiveness; it's a time of reflection. 2011 has been a tremendous year for Cathay Post. We are bigger, stronger, and more diverse.

It was awesome and humbling to celebrate our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and continue our mission of helping our community. Our greatest challenge will be to keep the momentum going. We will not be able to use Room 206, Herbst Theatre, and the Green Room in the War Memorial Building during seismic renovations and remodeling scheduled for mid/late 2012. Hopefully, after the renovations, Cathay Post will be able to re-occupy the War Memorial Building and take our organization to the next level.

This month we reflect on the history of Liberty Bell, housed in Philadelphia, PA (reference [www.ushistory.org/libertybell](http://www.ushistory.org/libertybell)).

On November 1, 1751, a letter was sent to purchase a bell for the State House (now Independence Hall) steeple. The bell was ordered from Whitechapel Foundry, with instructions to inscribe on it the passage from Leviticus.

The bell arrived in Philadelphia on September 1, 1752, but was not hung until March 10, 1753, on which day Isaac Norris, speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly wrote, "I had the mortification to hear that it was cracked by a stroke of the clapper without any other violence as it was hung up to try the

sound."

The cause of the break is thought to have been attributable either to flaws in its casting or, as they thought at the time, to its being too brittle.

Two Philadelphia foundry workers named John Pass and John Stow were given the cracked bell to be melted down and recast. They added an ounce and a half of copper to a pound of the old bell in an attempt to make the new bell less brittle.

The new bell was raised in the belfry on March 29, 1753. "Upon trial, it seems that they have added too much copper. They were so teased with the witticisms of the town that they will very soon make a second essay," wrote Isaac Norris. Apparently nobody was now pleased with the tone of the bell.

Pass and Stow indeed tried again. They broke up the bell and recast it. On June 11, 1753, the New York Mercury reported, "Last Week was raised and fix'd in the Statehouse Steeple, the new great Bell, cast here by Pass and Stow, weighing 2080 lbs."

In November, Norris wrote that he was still displeased with the bell and requested that Whitechapel cast a new one.

Upon the arrival of the new bell from England, it was agreed that it sounded no better than the Pass and Stow bell. So the "Liberty Bell" remained where it was in the steeple, and the new Whitechapel bell was placed in the cupola on the State House roof and attached to the clock to sound the hours.

The Liberty Bell was rung to call

the Assembly together and to summon people together for special announcements and events. The Liberty Bell tolled frequently. Among the more historically important occasions, it tolled when Benjamin Franklin was sent to England to address Colonial grievances, it tolled when King George III ascended to the throne in 1761, and it tolled to call together the people of Philadelphia to discuss the Sugar Act in 1764 and the Stamp Act in 1765.

In 1772 a petition was sent to the Assembly stating that the people in the vicinity of the State House were "incommoded and distressed" by the constant "ringing of the great Bell in the steeple."

But, tradition holds, it continued tolling for the First Continental Congress in 1774, the Battle of Lexington and Concord in 1775 and its most resonant tolling was on July 8, 1776, when it summoned the citizenry for the reading of the Declaration of Independence produced by the Second Continental Congress. However, the steeple was in bad condition and historians today doubt the likelihood of the story.

In October 1777, the British occupied Philadelphia. Weeks earlier all bells, including the Liberty Bell, were removed from the city. It was well understood that, if left, they would likely be melted down and used for cannon. The Liberty Bell was removed from the city and hidden in the floorboards of the Zion Reformed Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Throughout the period from

*(Continued on page 4)*

# From the 3rd Vice Commander

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As 2011 comes to an end, we can all celebrate and be thankful for the joys and blessings we have received throughout the year. I am still full from having stuffed myself with turkey this Thanksgiving, so I will keep my comments short.

As most of you know, I took a two week vacation to China and Hong Kong. I had a great time and was most amused when while walking down Nathan Street, a major boulevard in Hong Kong, I bumped into our post member Comrade Steven Lee. What a small world!

Alas, I returned to the city and the many tasks that need to be tended to. The Commission must start drawing up plans for the move out that will take place when the retrofit begins. While it is about 14 months away, we all know how time flies and the huge task of moving will be here before long. I will set up a committee to deal with all the issues associated with the move. Volunteers are needed to assist with the committee. Please con-

tact me or Space Allocation Chair Roger Dong if you would like to help.

Through the Veterans Resource Center, many prospective job seekers have found a place that is providing them with real job services. Employers are learning they can recruit highly qualified employees through our VRC. To keep you, our members, aware of VRC developments, I will make sure that all VRC activities are posted in the Cathay Post newsletter.. By the way, we now have a part time position open. If you are interested, please contact Comrade Roger Dong for a job description and necessary qualifications.

It is not a secret that our Post is undergoing some very difficult times. I can only assure you that the members of the Executive Board will do whatever is needed to make things right. We will do our best to investigate all allegations and make our findings public.

On December 12, 2011, the National Commander of the American Legion, Commander Fang A. Wong, will be visiting San Francisco. He is the first Asian/Chinese American to serve this very prestigious leadership position. A leader of an organization with over 2.5 million members, Commander Wong's achievement has made Asian Americans proud. Cathay Post #384 will host a dinner in his honor on December 12, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the New Asia Restaurant located at 772 Pacific Avenue. The cost of the dinner is \$35 per person or \$350 per table of 10. Please join us as we welcome our National Commander. You can contact 1st Vice Commander David Wong or any of the Executive Board members to reserve your seat.

Looking forward to seeing you at our monthly meeting on December 10, 2011.

**Nelson Lum**  
**3rd Vice Commander**

## 2nd Vice Commander

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1790 to 1800, when Philadelphia was the nation's capital, use of the Bell included calling the state legislature into session, summoning voters to hand in their ballots at the State House window, and tolling to commemorate Washington's Birthday and celebrate the Fourth of July.

As we look forward to the New Year, Cathay Post is again co-sponsoring the "GOD BLESS THE USA" variety show at Herbst Theatre. Last year the place was jammed packed. Don't wait and buy your tickets now.

In January Cathay Post will be supporting the Joy Luck Tree (UCSF) program, this program

provides free medical screening for the public against Hepatitis B. Please come out and support us.

May Joy and Happiness follow all of you from the Pon Family.

**Jay Pon**  
**2nd Vice Commander**

# JROTC Annual Fall Competition

It's a Saturday morning at Balboa High School and the sun is barely peeking through the cloudy sky. On this morning, a group of young men and women crawled out of their bed and sacrificed some sleep. They are dedicated and above all determined.

Their focus is different from your average youth's. These youth have gathered from every corner of our great city. Some might view their gathering as simply a band rehearsal. But for those who came to compete, it signifies a culmination of hard work and personal bests. San Francisco Unified School District Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corp. (SFUSD JROTC) Annual Fall Competition means long hours of practice, sacrifice, and discipline. Like any great victory,

nothing ever comes easy because if things were easy it would not mean as much. Our sons and daughters are out to prove something- the task of winning trophies and individual bragging

rights for their High School JROTC programs. Among the competitors were the Guidon Bearers, the Squad Drill preci-

for this friendly but determined group of competitors. Standing on the yard are an assortment of bright, sharply pressed uniforms

including both regular military worn by Army military instructors and cadets' uniform. Their dress is varied, but one thing is certain; they are all sharply dressed and proudly postured. The care and attention to detail is evident in the sharp creases of each of their uniforms. You can feel the charged atmosphere which resembles a triumphant martial parade; a parade of a Roman general returning from the Northern Frontier in victory. In this annual fall competition, even the spectators and especially the parents were full of anticipation and expectation. Don't let this competitiveness fool anyone who knows the camaraderie and friendship among JROTC cadets from various schools. Young men and women who one day will be leaders in their field of endeavors were waving and greeting each other.

San Francisco Unified School District JROTC Director of Army Instruction (DAI), Major Gerry Paratore, U.S. Army (Ret.), and the Battalion Senior Army Instructors believe their most important contributions to their cadet's education is instilling in them the JROTC Cadet Creed:

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I am an Army JROTC cadet.  
I will always conduct myself to bring credit to my family,  
Country, school, and the corps of cadets.  
I am the future of the United States of America.  
I do not lie, cheat, or steal and will always  
Be accountable for my actions and deeds.  
I will always practice good citizenship and patriotism.  
I will work hard to improve my mind and strengthen my body.  
I will seek the mantle of leadership and stand prepared to uphold  
The Constitution and the American way of life.  
May god grant me the strength to always live by this creed.

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sion teams, vibrant Color Guard, and the thunderous martial Drum Corps.

The competition this year was held in the court yard of Balboa High School. It was a fine choice

raderie and friendship among JROTC cadets from various schools. Young men and women who one day will be leaders in their field of endeavors were waving and greeting each other.

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## A Short History about Chinese American Military Veterans

# CHINESE AMERICAN HEROES

[chineseamericanheroes.org](http://chineseamericanheroes.org)

The stories of the many Chinese American veterans who have served in the American military from the Civil War until the present have been completely forgotten or ignored. This is even more deplorable because the stories serve to counter the accusations and negative stereotypes about the loyalty and courage of Chinese Americans whom we have regularly been treated to in the popular media over the past decades.

Chinese Americans, including 1<sup>st</sup> generation Chinese Americans, have served in the American military since the Civil War (1861-1865). Most surprisingly, they fought on both sides of the Civil War. Some of the Chinese were given Christian names making it difficult for historians to discover them. Joseph Pierce from Canton, China was one such soldier. He fought for the North with the 14th Connecticut Infantry which played a major role in repulsing Pickett's Charge at the Battle of Gettysburg. Corporal John Tommy was another Union soldier. He made the news in both the North and South when he was captured early in the war by Confederate troops and was asked by a general if he would join their forces. He told them only if they made him a brigadier general. He was sent to the notoriously harsh Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. After his release he fought again for the Union and died

from wounds he suffered in Gettysburg.

Among the roughly 200 Chinese Americans who lived on the East Coast, 58 Chinese Americans fought in the Civil War. Most served in the U.S. Navy.

In the Mexican Expedition of 1916-1917 against Pancho Villa, Chinese Mexicans supported the U.S. Army, providing invaluable logistics support for the Americans. Fearing retaliation against them after the U.S. withdrawal, General John "Black Jack" Pershing, brought over 500 Chinese back to the United States, with most of them settling in San Antonio, Texas. Despite the existence of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and other official forms of discrimination, General Pershing successfully fought for and gained residency rights for these refugees.

Many Chinese Americans served in our military during World War I, but those stories are the hardest to document as these military veterans have all passed into history and their stories were either never told or documented. The Chinese were mostly used in logistics, moving the tons of supplies needed for the war, or performing duties such as cooks, and were not in direct combat against German military forces. Hundreds of Chinese Americans are believed to have served in the American Armed Forces during this war. One unnamed Chinese man was

known to have fought with the "Lost Battalion" in October 1918 when several American units were surrounded by the Germans and successfully held on until they were relieved.

World War II brought big changes - even though the participation of Chinese Americans was initially not welcome. In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor when millions of Americans volunteered for military service, many Chinese American volunteers were initially turned away. General "Hap" Arnold declared that there would be no bigotry in his Army and opened up the Army to Chinese Americans. It's estimated that 20,000 Chinese Americans served during WW II. Heroic Army Captain Francis B. Wai repeatedly ran into the open, exposing enemy position after position when they shot at him, on the landing beaches of Leyte in the Philippines. He was finally killed leading an assault on the last Japanese pillbox in the area. For his heroic actions, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross which was upgraded to the Medal of Honor in 2000 after a Department of Defense study concluded that he and other minority soldiers had their awards unfairly downgraded during the war.

The U.S. Navy had the courageous Rear Admiral Gordon Pai-ea Chung-Hoon who was the

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# A Short History about Chinese American Military Veterans

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recipient of the Navy Cross, the second highest Navy award for combat valor, and the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism as Commanding Officer of USS Sigsbee (DD 502) from May 1944 to October 1945. After his ship was struck by a kamikaze causing massive fires and damage to the ships engines and steering, Commander Chung-Hoon successfully directed his men to put out the fires while continuing to fight more kamikaze planes. In his honor, the powerful U.S. Navy DDG 93 guided missile destroyer was named after him, the only U.S. Navy ship ever named after a Chinese American.

Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Fong served in the Army Air Corps in WW II and shot down two German Air Force fighters before suffering wounds that ended his combat career. As the Commander of the 5th European Air Rescue Squadron, Colonel Fong's unit rescued over 1,000 Allied and American aircrew by the end of WW II. Lt. Col. Fong served in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Moon Chin, who never served a day in the military, is a pilot whose contributions and heroism nevertheless led the U.S. Air Force to credit him with military service during WW II. His heroic exploits included rescuing Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle in 1942 from China after Doolittle's raid on Tokyo. Chin also flew primitive aircrafts across the notoriously dangerous Himalayas,

from 1937 to 1945, providing critical military supplies for the Flying Tigers and the Nationalist Chinese forces that helped keep China in the war against Japan. More than 2,000 air crews perished during that period of time because of the extreme mountain weather and challenging flying conditions. Moon Chin was the only pilot to have survived flying the entire route from 1941 to 1945, a testament to his extraordinary flying skills and luck. In 1952, after 6 crewmen of a U.S. Air Force C-119 had bailed out of their mechanically stricken plane, Chin undertook a daring float plane rescue in the Taiwan Straits during a storm. As helpless pilots from the U.S. Air Force and Republic of China Air Force circled futilely overhead, too afraid to land in the rough seas, Chin successfully completed the mission in his own civilian float plane even though by that time he was the president of his own airline. In 1995 the U.S. Air Force awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal, and also gave him military service credit for his World War II service.

Colonel Richard F. Hum, U.S. Air Force, was the recipient of five Legion of Merit awards for his very significant contributions to his country. Most notably, he briefed President John F. Kennedy during the Cuban Missile crisis of 1962. Colonel Hum also served in WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Asian American women (Japanese, Chinese and Filipino) also participated and played im-

portant roles during World War II. They were part of the Woman's Army Corps (WAC). Japanese and Chinese American women were recruited and sent to language schools to learn primarily Japanese, but also Chinese. They were needed to collect information from captured Japanese documents that resulted in valuable intelligence insights critical to America's war efforts.

In 1943 the WAC recruited a unit of Chinese-American women to serve with the Army Air Forces as "Air WACs." The women of this particular unit were known as the Madame Chiang Kai-Shek Air WAC unit after the wife of the leader of China. The first two women to enlist in the unit were Hazel (Toy) Nakashima and Jit Wong, both of California. Air WACs served in a variety of jobs, including aerial photo interpretation, air traffic control, and weather forecasting.

Women also had an important role as pilots in the Women Airforce Service Pilots (W.A.S.P) in flying critical logistics missions. Maggie Gee and Hazel Ying Lee both flew logistics missions, and Gee even trained male pilots for combat missions, including B-17 bombers. Lee ferried combat aircraft from factory to airfields and shipping points across the United States.

In 2010, the surviving women of the W.A.S.P., including Maggie Gee, were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian medal awarded by Congress. Unfortunately, Hazel

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# A Short History about Chinese American Military Veterans

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Ying Lee had been killed in a landing collision in heavy fog in 1944, the last of the W.A.S.P. to die in World War II.

A few Asian-American women entered the Army Nurse Corps during World War II. Army nurse Helen (Pon) Onyett risked her life tending wounded soldiers from the landing craft that came ashore in North Africa. Her hospital ship remained in constant danger from German and Italian air bombardment during the beach landings. Not knowing how to swim, Helen wore a life jacket at all times, even in her sleep. She admitted, "It was scary, especially when some of the ships you were traveling with would be sunk right under your nose. All I could think was, 'If you gotta go, you gotta go.'" She was awarded the Legion of Merit, the highest non-combat military award given, for her actions during the war and continued serving until her retirement from the Corps after 35 years of military service as a full colonel.

Marietta (Chong) Eng enlisted in the WAVES because her brother was in the Navy. Her recruiter was initially uncertain about Eng's eligibility for recruitment since she was Chinese and had to check the rule book. Eng was trained by the U.S. Navy as an occupational therapist and assigned to the U.S. Naval Hospital on Mare Island, California, and later to the Naval Hospital in Corona, California. Ensign Eng provided rehabilitative services to sailors and officers who

had lost arms and legs in the war, teaching them to accomplish the many tasks of normal daily life.

The participation of 20,000 Chinese Americans during WW II and the U.S. alliance with China resulted in the repeal of the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act in 1943 and opened the doors to very limited changes in Chinese immigration which restricted Chinese immigrants to just 105 people each year.

During the Korean War, several colonels, of Chinese descent served in the Army. The Marines commissioned their first Chinese American as a regular officer in 1947. He is retired Major Kurt Lee, the winner of a Navy Cross (the highest medal that the U.S. Navy can award, and the second highest medal below the Medal of Honor), a Silver Star and two Purple Hearts. Then 1st Lieutenant Lee helped save the lives of 8,000 fellow Marines with a forced company march through unmapped mountains at night through a blizzard to relieve a decimated company holding a crucial pass through which the Marines had to retreat at the famous Battle of Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. Lt. General Ray Davis, former Deputy Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, called Major Lee the bravest Marine he had ever known. Now 85 years young, retired Major Lee is teaching military tactics and strategy to Marine officers in Quantico, VA. Major Lee was also a veteran of WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

In that same war, Army Colonel

(then 1st Lieutenant) Chew Mon Lee, the brother of Major Kurt Lee, also received the Distinguished Service Cross (the highest medal the U.S. Army can award, and second highest medal below the Medal of Honor) and two Purple Hearts. Colonel Lee died in the line of duty. The Lee brothers were the only Chinese American brothers honored with these distinguished awards.

In more recent times, an immigrant from Xian, China, Yeu-Tsu "Margaret" Lee, was commissioned in the U.S. Army and joined the Army Medical Corps. She was one of four active duty surgeons assigned to the 13th Evacuation Hospital, a National Guard unit from Wisconsin, during Operation Desert Storm in 1990-1991. The unit set up a 400-bed hospital in northern Saudi Arabia and performed 125 operations. Lee retired as a full Army colonel.

In the past two decades, there have been at least 3 one star generals/admirals and 2 two star generals of Chinese American descent in our military serving the United States loyally and effectively.

This year former Army Warrant Officer and Vietnam veteran Mr. Fang A. Wong was elected the first Asian/Chinese American National Commander of the American Legion. Wang now leads 2.4 million veterans in the largest military veterans organization in America.

Fang A. Wong was the Adjutant and long time member of the American Legion Lt B. R. Kim-

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# A Short History about Chinese American Military Veterans

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lau #1291 post in New York City chartered in 1945. This post was named after World War II Army Air Corps Chinese American bomber pilot Lt B. R. Kimlau who died in the line of duty in the Pacific theater. The Kimlau post is a very distinguished American Legion post that has provided extraordinary service to our Country at their New York City location. Members from their Post have had leadership positions at all levels of American Legion hierarchy including Area, District and State level command.

In San Francisco, American Legion Cathay Post #384, which was chartered in 1931, is one of the most active veterans organizations in the Bay Area. Led by the late dynamic Bok Pon, who

served in the famous 82nd Airborne unit of the U.S. Army, the Post was revived at the end of the 20th Century. Today, the Post is led by Commander Ron Lee and several very dedicated and capable Vice Commanders. For the past decade, Cathay Post #384 has served as a model Post. This past year the Post conducted 60 major activities including the hosting of two U.S. Navy warships, supporting Hepatitis B awareness programs year round, awarded scholarships to JROTC and ROTC cadets, honored local firefighters and police officers, supported three local high school Boys State delegates, visited Ft. Miley Veterans Hospital, and hosted activities and events that served the San Francisco community.

In this short history of the contributions of Chinese American

military veterans we have highlighted a select number of stories of our loyal and brave American citizens of Chinese heritage. Their bravery and dedication to our Country and the mortal sacrifice many of them made for America is not well known but should serve to counter the negative stereotypes that are still heard today against Chinese Americans.

For more information about Chinese American heroes, please visit the Chinese American Heroes website at [www.chineseamericanheroes.org](http://www.chineseamericanheroes.org).

**Philip Chin**  
**Managing Editor**  
**Chinese American Heroes**

## JROTC Annual Fall Competition

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*(Continued from page 5)*

For those of you who are not familiar with the Junior ROTC, let's start at the very beginning. The JROTC was established in 1916 with the passage of the National Defense Act. The Vitalization Act of 1964 replaced active duty ROTC instructors with military retirees working for the school directly. Over the years, JROTC programs have changed from its original core curriculum. Many of the "military subjects" were replaced with programs that instill and prepare

high school students for leadership roles as civic minded American citizens. Initially the JROTC cadets were a source of enlisted recruits and officer candidate. But over the years, the JROTC program focused on developing good citizens .

The program retained its military structure to reinforce student cadets with a sense of discipline and accomplishment. Core courses are spread throughout four Leadership Education and Training (LET) semesters. These LET (I-IV) semesters range from the study of ethics,

citizenship, leadership, communication, character building, and of course marching, Guidon Bearer, Squad Drill Teams, Color Guard, and Drum Corps. Each course is designed to help the young men and women take their place in society.

**Henry Cheng**

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Cathay Post Invites you to Meet

American Legion  
**National Commander**  
**Fang Wong**

for

Dinner on Monday 6 PM,  
December 12, 2011



New Asia Restaurant  
772 Pacific Ave  
San Francisco, CA 94108

Chinese Banquet Style Dinner: \$35 per person or \$350 for a table of 10 guests. Please send your payment to: Cathay Post #384, 1524 Powell St, San Francisco, CA 94133. Your reservation will be confirmed upon receipt of your check.

RSVP: Ron Lee 415-756-1898 by December 5, 2011

# JROTC Annual Fall Competition



Annual Fall Trophies (L to R), Drum Corps., Drill, Overall Results, & Color Guard



Guidon Bearers



Balboa HS Drum Corps



MGS D. Johnson (left in BDU) grading Squad Drill Competition



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## Chronicle Staff

**Adjutant Tony Zhang** is responsible for the publication of the Cathay Post Chronicle.

**Post Volunteer Roger Dong** is our chief reporter.

**Editor Galin Luk** is a San Francisco civil trial attorney and Marine Corps veteran.

**Assistant Editor Jinny Kim** is a San Francisco non-profit civil attorney.

**Assistant Editor and Chief Technical and Design Editor Michael "Young" Louie** is an IT professional based in San Francisco.

The Editor welcomes article or letter submissions but reserves the right to publish, republish or not publish any submission and to edit articles or letters as appropriate. Submissions must include your name, address, and phone number. The Editor will call to verify authenticity. All submissions should be emailed to the Editor at [galinluk@hotmail.com](mailto:galinluk@hotmail.com) by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the next month's Newsletter.

Thanks to all our Post Commanders for contributing to this edition of our Cathay Chronicle.



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