



CATHAY DISPATCH

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee [January 21, 1926 - March 3, 2014]



The family of Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee, who passed away peacefully at his Washington D.C. home on March 3, will be holding a memorial service on April 4, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. (doors open at 11:00 a.m.) at the Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation, 9040 High Tech Ct, Elk Grove, CA. Burial services at Arlington National Cemetery will be announced at a later date. If you are unable to attend, please set aside a moment to think about and thank Major Kurt Lee for his service.

Photo from USMC Commandant's 235th Birthday Greeting, 2010.

Important Dates:

- Apr. 1— April Fools' Day
 Apr. 4— Major Lee Memorial Service
 Apr. 12—Monthly Meeting
 Apr. 20—Easter Sunday

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How We Learned About Major Kurt Lee By Roger Dong

Very few people had heard of Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee before he was featured in the Smithsonian Documentary "Uncommon Courage: Breakout at Chosin" in May 2010." Chinese American Heroes, a 501(c)(3), whose mission is to document the exceptional contributions of Chinese Americans, discovered Major Lee in a search for Chinese American heroes on the Internet, shortly after the Smithsonian documentary. With the help of Post member Major General Michael Myatt, USMC (Ret.) and one of our newest Post members, Lieutenant Colonel John Stevens, USMC (Ret.), we were able to locate Major Lee in Washington D.C. Lt. Colonel Stevens provided me with Major Lee's phone number, and after sev-

eral long distance calls, he was convinced to visit San Francisco and Cathay Post No. 384.

On his first trip to San Francisco in February 2011, Major Lee was greeted by Chinese American Heroes and Cathay Post members. Third Vice Commander Nelson Lum arranged for a limousine to transport Major Lee from the airport to the Marines' Memorial Hotel. He also arranged for a SFPD motorcycle honor escort.

Chinese American Heroes and Cathay Post worked with Supervisor Eric L. Mar to have San Franciscan Major Lee recognized and honored by the SF Board of Supervisors.

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Kurt Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Major General Michael Myatt held a special luncheon for Major Lee and two other Navy Cross recipients, former Congressman and Colonel Pete McCloskey, USMC (Ret.) and Staff Ser-

geant William “Denny” Weisgerber, USMC (Ret.).

In December 2013, Major General Myatt and Colonel Pete McCloskey suggested that Major Lee be honored in the San Francisco Chinese New

Year parade on February 15, 2014. Despite the bad weather in Washington D.C., Major Lee arrived in San Francisco, served as the Honorary Parade Marshal, and had a fine reunion with Lieutenant Joe Owen and Colonel McCloskey.

Farewell Major Lee

By Nelson Lum

It was almost 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2014, and I was sitting in the traditional military olive drab colored 1943 Jeep. I fired up the engine and lined up behind some beautifully restored classics. We were ready to move from the parking lot at 13th and Mission Streets to the staging area for the 2014 Chinese New Year Parade.

I have been involved with the Chinese New Year Parade for over 25 years. I did the lion dance, carried the Dragon, marched as a member of the Asian Peace Officers Association, and worked the parade as a police officer. Yet for this year’s parade, I was

very anxious. As the motorcade got closer I could feel my anxiety level increasing. Initially, I did not understand why I was possessed by this strange feeling of uneasiness. Then I realized that this was not an ordinary parade assignment I had undertaken. I was going to be the driver for Major Kurt Lee, the Korean War hero who excelled despite the system of open discrimination. What an honor it was for me to drive Major Lee through the parade route, enabling him to receive his overdue accolades from the citizens of San Francisco.

When I saw Major Lee, he was dressed impec-

cably in his Marine Corps blues. He was accompanied by Former Congressman Pete McCloskey. As I walked toward the two gentlemen, Major Lee’s magnanimous aura was unmistakable. He looked like a giant even though he was only 5’ 6” tall with a slim physique. While waiting for the Parade to begin, Major Lee was greeted by dignitaries and on-lookers. He spoke with authority; his confident demeanor never deviated. I asked if he would like to find a seat to rest up before the Parade. He gave me a look. I realized I should have never asked that *Marine* that question.

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COMMANDER DAVID Y. WONG

I want to thank the many members and guests who attended the March general membership meeting. The boardroom was packed. I also want to thank Ms. Janet Wilson, currently Area 2 Vice Commander and a candidate for Commander of the Department of California [2014-2015]. Vice Commander Wilson has been to our Post on a number of occasions. Janet brought forth great enthusiasm. The American Legion is alive and well in California.

Please attend the April meeting which includes the second round of nominations for officers for the upcoming year. Membership in Cathay Post No. 384 continues to grow; our Post currently has approximately 127 members.

Just a few years ago, our Post's membership reached 100. Cathay Post exceeds membership goals set by the Department of California. With so many

Posts to choose from, we want to thank the many veterans for selecting Cathay No. 384. It is also gratifying to see so many young veterans joining our Post. In the future, we are hoping to see the young veterans assuming a larger role on the board of directors. This summer, the Post will be 83 years in San Francisco. With your support, we will continue to preserve the legacy of this great organization for many generations to come.

With this, I want to call your attention to the Post's anniversary dinner on Friday, May 30. Please see our ad on page 8 for program and ticket information. Please sign up and ask your colleagues, neighbors, and friends to attend.

My thanks to Mr. Conor Timmis, who is a filmmaker and a friend of the late Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee. Mr. Timmis sent the Post two complimentary DVDs, which fea-

ture his Korean War documentary "Finnigan's War" which honors Major Lee and other Korean War heroes. (Please go to page 29 to read Major Lee's email to Mr. Timmis on this documentary.) Those of you who would like to borrow the DVD or want information about securing a personal copy, please see me.

On page 7 is the flyer for the Texas Hold 'Em poker fundraiser on Saturday, April 12 at the Post. Come out and support your Post while having an enjoyable evening. Proceeds will help support the many programs that the Post has to offer: Hepatitis B awareness, scholarships, youth and senior programs, along with contributions to various non-profit organizations.

The next general membership meeting will be on April 12 at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will be served following the meeting.



David Y. Wong

dwong900@yahoo.com
415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member
since: 2004

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC 5

"In the future, we are hoping to see the young veterans assuming a larger role on the board of directors."





Jay Pon

jpon@jps.net
415-409-8858

Cathay Post Member
since: 2001

Branch: Navy, Army

Final Rank: Major

“I believe our Post is the most committed Post in San Francisco, and that Post 384 walks the talk.”



1st VICE COMMANDER JAY PON

Thank you for attending our Post meetings and events!

Spring is the time for new life and opportunities. April is the last month to nominate officers for our Post’s election in May. The Post’s officers set the tone for the following year. Will this be a time of growth? Peace? Reorganization? You should nominate the officers who best share your vision of what this Post should be. It is your Post; make the best of it.

Now, let us reflect on how we fit into the structure of the American Legion and San Francisco. Many members are aware that we belong to a 2.4+ million member organization. The American Legion national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana has over 14,000 posts worldwide, including a satellite office in Washington, D.C. advocating on behalf of veterans.

There are 55 Departments reporting to the National Headquarters. One for every state, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines. The three

overseas departments serve active duty military and veterans living abroad.

The Department of California as of March 21, 2014 has 76,598 American Legion members. The Department headquarters is located in San Francisco at 401 Van Ness Avenue [at the War Memorial Veterans Building which is currently undergoing seismic renovations].

The California Department is divided into 33 districts. Each district, which usually encompasses three to five counties, is assigned a number and is referred to as a council. However District 8, our Post’s district has only one county, San Francisco. District 8 has approximately 1,018 members. Our District 8 Headquarters is also located in the War Memorial Veterans Building (WMVB).

Within the Eighth District Council, there are 19 posts. Ten of these posts have 20 or less members. Only six posts have more than 50 members. The four largest posts are Alexander Hamilton #448 with 212 members, San

Francisco Police-Fire #456 with 206 members, Cathay #384 with 124 members, and San Francisco #1 with 120 members.

The Eighth District Council is in a unique position because it is also intertwined within San Francisco’s government. After World War I, a group of private citizens, many of them veterans, raised \$2,000,000 to build three buildings, a building for opera, arts, and veterans, under a Trust Agreement overseen by the Regents of the University of California.

The Trust Agreement listed two Beneficiaries, the San Francisco Posts of the American Legion and the San Francisco Art Association which is now called the Museum of Modern Arts (MOMA). Unfortunately, due to a budget shortfall, only two buildings, the WMVB and the War Memorial Opera Building were built and completed in 1932. The City and County of San Francisco took over the assets and maintenance of these buildings and accepted the Trust Agreement in

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2nd VICE COMMANDER NELSON LUM

Spring is here; April is just around the corner. Kids in college are looking ahead to their Spring Break and we at Cathay Post No. 384 are working feverishly to host our first ever Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament. This will be a fun time for all the participants and it will raise funds sorely needed to support our various scholarship programs.

Just about every table has been sponsored. This is great but we need to concentrate on getting players. Ms. Clara Pon has worked tirelessly to solicit sponsors as well as players. We, the members, must contribute to this effort. There will only be a couple of days left to sell game or dinner-only tickets by the time you read this article. Please pitch in and make this a successful event.

We will be accepting nominations for all the elected positions during our April monthly meeting. Please review the responsibilities of each open position. If you feel you can make a difference,

then you should consider running.

It is very important that everyone understands the election process. At the conclusion of the nomination process, our Adjutant will declare the nomination closed. Ballots will be passed out to each eligible member during the beginning of the May monthly meeting. After the ballots are filled out, they will be collected, and counted. The newly elected officers will be announced and they will be sworn in at our annual ceremonial dinner which will take place on May 30, 2014 (See ad on page 8).

After being sworn in, the new Commander will appoint seven veteran members to the Board of Directors. So, if you did not seek or were not elected to one of the thirteen elected positions, you may still submit your name for consideration as a member of the Board of Directors. We need everyone to contribute their talents to make our Post the best in the nation.

Yes, you read it correctly. The goal for every member should be to make our Post the best in the nation. The only way to achieve that goal is for each of us to put forth our best efforts to support the Pillars of the American Legion.

During the past few months, I have noticed subtle changes within our Post. Our membership has become more diverse which can only mean great things for our Post's future. Chinese American veterans founded Cathay Post No. 384 at a time when they were looked upon as foreigners even though they had served and fought for our country. Even the American Legion was unwelcoming. Thus, the Chinese American veterans who had served our country so honorably had to form a Post of their own.

It is very important that we never forget that our Post was formed during a time of rampant discrimination and racism. It

(Continued on page 11)



Nelson Lum

nelson1431@aol.com
415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member
since: 2005

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC 5

"...I have noticed subtle changes... Our membership has become more diverse which can only mean great things for our Post's future."





Galín Luk

galinluk@hotmail.com
415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member
since: 2009

Branch: Marine
Corps

Final Rank: Captain

“... a leader welcomes suggestions and contributions from others. The incompetent commander is the one who expounds his or her views without opening it up to questions.”



3rd VICE COMMANDER GALIN LUK

Major Kurt Lee had mentioned his own mortality to me on several occasions. During the February 16 luncheon held in his honor, I had asked him very casually about his plans with family in Sacramento for the upcoming week. “I don’t have much time,” he told me matter-of-fact. Thinking of others as he did throughout his Marine Corps career, he confided he wanted to be “the best brother he could be.”

Major Lee’s passing on March 3, 2014 shocked everyone who had seen him in San Francisco just two weeks prior. Still carrying the physique of a Marine with a perfect “300 PFT”, he greeted everyone with a handshake so uncharacteristically

firm that one could begin to appreciate what made Major Lee so special. When he spoke, he was articulate and modest, firm and reassuring. He wasn’t one to waste time talking about his heroics; he preferred to talk about his Marines. His memory was unfailing. He greeted friends he had last seen many years ago, some many decades ago, as if he had just seen each and everyone just the day prior. “John Stevens” he confidently proclaimed as the Marine Lieutenant Colonel [Ret.] walked up to Major Lee during the February 16 luncheon. They had last seen each other many, many years ago. From there, the Marines shared their “war stories” as if they

were at the “O” Club. Everyone who had the honor to meet Major Lee could only believe he would outlive us all.

Then, the man whom former Congressman Pete McCloskey credited with saving the 1st Marine Division during the Korean War passed away. Shortly before his death, Major Lee talked to the American Veterans Center about his thoughts on leadership. He said that “a leader welcomes suggestions and contributions from others. The incompetent commander is the one who expounds his or her views without opening it up to questions.” Major Lee lived what he preached. Each of us would be wise to do the same.

I Like My COLA Too By John Li

When I was on active duty, I remember seeing a small Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) on my paystub. It wasn’t much but it was still something to look forward to on my military paycheck. The U.S. Senate recently passed a bill that will reverse plans to cut annual CO-

LAs of military retirees and current service members. President Obama is expected to sign the bill. This is great news for our troops and retirees. To learn more about the bill, follow this link: www.legion.org/legislative/218516/senate-joins-house-restoring-colas



American Legion,

Cathay Post No. 384

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014

TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER NIGHT

Cathay Post—1524 Powell Street

Dinner starts @ 6pm

Tournament from 7—11pm

Table sponsors available starting at \$275

\$85 Player Buy-In (includes dinner)

Must be 21+ years to participate

\$40 Dinner Only Guests

Cash Bar (Beer/Wine/Soda/Water)

Limited to the first 100 paid registered players only.

Prizes: 1st Place: \$500, 2nd Place: \$250, 3rd Place: \$150

Join us for an evening of great food and fun! Come support your local community. Proceeds help support Hepatitis B awareness, scholarships, American Legion California Boys & Girls State, employment services for veterans, Boy Scouts, and many other youth & senior programs.



Contact any Executive Board member for further details. Call Nelson Lum at 415-205-0120, Clara Pon at 415-669-4192 or send an email to: cathaypost384events@gmail.com to register today.

AMERICAN LEGION



CATHAY POST No. 384

**83rd Anniversary and 11th Annual
Community Hero, Firefighter and Police
Officer Appreciation Banquet**

**\$60/person
or
\$500/table (10)**

**Reserve by Friday,
May 16, 2014**

Honoring our City's Police Officers, Firefighters,
and Community Hero

**Friday, May 30, 2014
6:00 PM**



New Asia Restaurant
772 Pacific Ave, San Francisco

We will also be presenting our annual ROTC and
JROTC Scholarship Awards to 3 local college and high
school students.

For tickets or questions, please contact:

David Wong - d Wong900@yahoo.com or (415) 392-2882

Jay Pon - jpon@jps.net or (415) 409-8858

Nelson Lum - nelson1431@aol.com or (415) 205-0120

Galin Luk - galinluk@hotmail.com or (415) 247-5287

Or email: cathaypost384events@gmail.com

JROTC



ROTC

Cathay Post No. 384, American Legion, is a non-profit tax exempt organization, 501(C)(19)

Farewell Major Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 2)

As we proceeded along Market Street, I noticed Major Lee was just sitting at attention and looked straight ahead. I jokingly told him he needed to smile and wave at the crowd. I was surprised he took my suggestion. He began to smile, he began to wave. At one point, he asked me if the people along the route knew who he was. I told him it really did not matter if the crowd knew who he was, what mattered was the fact that the crowd sensed he was someone very special and he was in the Parade as the Honorary Parade Marshal. I further said to him if anyone wanted to know more about him, they could look it up instantaneously on their smart phone.

As we approached Union Square, I heard the announcer introduce Major Lee and give just a brief description of his accomplishments. I saw the videographer rushing up next to the Jeep to film

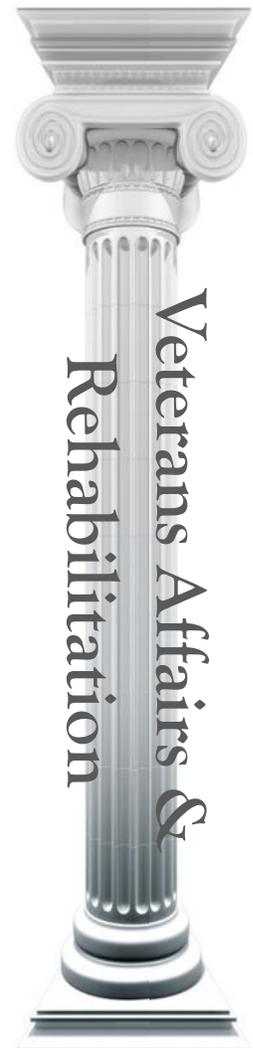
the Major. I thought “He is finally getting some of the recognition that he so well deserves.”

On Kearny Street, we stopped at an intersection for an extended period of time. From the rearview mirror, I saw a San Francisco Police Officer rushing up to the Jeep. I immediately thought he must be one of my friends who wanted to say ‘hi.’ I was wrong. The officer went to the passenger side of the vehicle. He shook the Major’s hand, told the Major he was a Marine too, and he had read about the Major’s heroics. He then took two steps back, stood at attention and rendered a very respectful salute. As the Major returned the salute, I could see how proud he was that another Marine had come to honor him.

We were alongside the Grand Reviewing Stand when Master of Ceremony Reverend Norman Fong told the crowd about Major

Lee’s heroics. Reverend Fong then surprised all of us when he asked the crowd to stand as a gesture of honor for our hero. The crowd stood, and applauded. At that very moment, I was no longer just the driver, I became one of the applauding admirers who was privileged to have had the honor to take part in this long overdue celebration. Major Lee was escorted up to the Reviewing Stand by the plain clothes police officers where he sat with the rest of the dignitaries to review the parade units.

I was all alone as I drove the Jeep back to 13th & Mission Streets. I felt this tremendous sense of pride and warmth knowing that I had been given a very rare opportunity. I drove a hero through the streets of San Francisco and gave our City the opportunity to recognize him for his patriotic service and to just cheer for him. Rest in Peace, Major Kurt Lee.



Jay Pon, Continued

(Continued from page 4)

its entirety. The City appointed Trustees to manage these buildings and the surrounding complex as stipulated under the Trust Agreement. The WMVB later became the birth place of the United Nations when the United Nations Charter was signed by President Truman and 49 other countries in 1945.

Although the MOMA moved out of the WMVB years ago, it has never officially relinquished its rights as a Beneficiary. That leaves the San Francisco Posts of the American Legion which is represented by the American Legion War Memorial Commission (ALWMC), the only beneficiary that continues to occupy the WMVB. Until the most recent seismic retrofit and space renovation, the last significant renovation was undertaken in 1978, under an agreement signed between the Trustees and the ALWMC. The control of the Veterans Auditorium and the Green Room were relinquished by the ALWMC to the Trustees who then solicited financial contribution from organizations to renovate the theatre and the adjacent Green Room. The Herbst Family Foundation donated the necessary funds to refurbish the theatre in exchange for renaming it the Herbst Theatre. All subsequent financial proceeds from the theatre and the Green Room came under the control of the Trustees. The ALWMC receives an annual payment of \$20K to \$25K from the rental of the Herbst Theatre and the Green Room [which is used for events] by the Trustees.

Upon completion of the current seis-

mic retrofit and space modernization of the WMVB, the Trustees have decided to reduce the amount of space allocated to the ALWMC based on their assessment of the lack of usage of space in the past by veterans and what they perceive as the demonstrated needs of the veterans. The Trustees plan to reduce the amount of space available to ALWMC by approximately 30 per cent. The lack of utilization of the space that was allocated is well documented and is not in dispute. However, the ALWMC's position is that the veterans did not use the space more frequently because the space was outdated and not properly maintained, effectively discouraging veterans from using the space. The ALWMC's goal is to use the WMVB as a "One Stop Shop" for veterans to learn about their earned benefits. This will require that additional space be set aside for the veterans.

The Trust Agreement clearly states the San Francisco Posts of the American Legion may from time to time desire to install Patriotic Organizations into the WMVB. The Trustees have refused to approve the inclusion of any veterans service organization based upon an opinion by the City Attorney's Office issued in 2009 which opined that only organizations with predominately veterans membership can be considered a patriotic organization. ALWMC's lawyer vehemently rejected this opinion.

Due to the Trustees' intransigency, the ALWMC may be forced into litigation. The Eighth District Council's bylaws allow the ALWMC to act in-

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Jay Pon, Continued

(Continued from page 10)

dependently on issues dealing with the WMVB. In this particular case, the District is 100% in support and joining the fight on this issue. The dispute between the Trustees and the ALWMC goes beyond just the amount of square footage; it centers on the right of the ALWMC to install patriotic organizations into the WMVB as stated in the Trust Agreement. In order for the American Legion to provide space to those organizations that serve our veterans, we must fight for our right under the

Trust Agreement to do so. If we surrender this very important right granted by the Trust Agreement, the rights of future generations of veterans will be permanently harmed.

What you can do to help?

When the renovations are complete, veterans should utilize the WMVB as much as possible. Occupying the WMVB for only a few hours out of a month, is not helping our cause. Although, Cathay Post has its own building, the WMVB is a key component to our appeal. We have utilized the Herbst Theatre for

our "God Bless America" show and the Green Room for our events. We were assigned Room 206 for our satellite functions and will have an office assigned to the Post after the retrofit. To assist with increase usage, I will be seeking from our membership ideas for utilizing the WMVB under the permissible guidelines established by the Trust Agreement. Cathay Post No. 384 must do its part and then some on behalf of past and future veterans. I believe our Post is the most committed Post in San Francisco, and that Post 384 walks the talk.

Nelson Lum, Continued

(Continued from page 5)

is also very important that our Post's future be one of inclusiveness. Yet, there is a mixed message that we send to our members and guests because the overwhelming collection of photos on the Post's walls relate to China. While there is nothing wrong with being proud of your ethnicity, we are no longer just a Chinese American Post and have not been for quite

some time.

I believe that our Post needs to be even more welcoming to all of our members and visitors. We do this not just with words but with our actions. As members, we need to give serious consideration to how we can better convey to our members that:

1. We are an American Legion Post with a proud history of having stood against dis-

crimination; and,

2. Most importantly, we welcome all veterans, regardless of ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation.

I would suggest that a good start is to change the many photos on our walls with photos that send the message of inclusiveness and diversity.

We are proud that we are diverse. I hope to see you all at our monthly meeting.





Major Kurt Lee and the Medal of Honor By Roger Dong

Major Kurt Lee was the first minority and Chinese American who became a regular commissioned officer in our Marine Corps. Major Lee was also one of the greatest Marine Corps combat officers of all time. Kurt Lee proved to be the ideal role model for anyone who wants to be a military combat leader. His character, values, courage, and intelligence for military strategy was awe inspiring.

Those are not just my opinions. General Ray Davis, former Deputy Commandant of the Marines, called Major Lee "the bravest Marine he ever knew." In 1950, then Lieutenant Colonel Ray Davis was Lee's senior Commander in the Chosin Reservoir campaign. Davis selected the best company commander to lead the December 3, 1950 night march to rescue and replenish Fox Company which was holding on to the critical TokTong Pass. That commander was then First Lieutenant Lee, Company Com-

mander, Bravo Company. Holding TokTong Pass was absolutely essential for the safe withdrawal of the legendary Marine Corps 1st Division which had already lost half of the 16,000 man division to the much larger Chinese and North Korean forces. The reinforcement and control of TokTong Pass saved 8,000 Marines, many of whom faced death or capture as prisoners of war.

The Smithsonian Channel's documentary "Uncommon Courage - Breakout at Chosin," tells a very compelling and accurate narrative of Major Lee's legendary heroics during the Korean War.

Lieutenant Colonel Ray Davis was written up for and received the Medal of Honor. He was credited for personally leading his battalion to reinforce TokTong Pass. As the Battalion Commander, he had overall responsibility for the operation, but he was not the tip of the spear. That was Major Lee.

One wonders what would have happened to Major Lee's military career if he had received the Medal of Honor.

Why didn't then First Lieutenant Lee earn a Medal of Honor for his legendary heroics? His Company Commander was killed and no one else took the charge to write up Lieutenant Lee for the Medal of Honor. Lee himself was evacuated to Japan for his serious wounds. Lieutenant Lee eventually became a passing memory.

Cathay Post and Chinese American Heroes [a non-profit dedicated to telling the stories of Chinese American heroes] tried to convince Major Lee and his surviving Company B Marines to allow us to initiate a Congressional review and recommendation that Major Lee be awarded the Medal of Honor. Major Lee and his Marines, however, wanted only the Marine Corps to upgrade his Silver Star so *that no Marine would*

(Continued on page 15)

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NCUA



KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

*HELP US ENSURE THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS
NEVER FORGET*

“THE FORGOTTEN WAR”

Help us commemorate the sacrifices made by all those who fought in the Korean War. Help us finish our project to build a fitting Memorial here in San Francisco, the embarkation point for so many who went to fight in that far-away war, and the end of the journey for so many who returned, the living and the dead.

The Korean War Memorial will stand on high ground in the Presidio, adjacent to the National Cemetery and facing west across the Pacific toward the now prosperous and democratic Republic of Korea.

We've made significant progress in our fundraising to date, but we still have a way to go, and we need your help to get the job done. Please make a donation today, by mail, by phone, or on our Web site.

GIVE WHAT YOU CAN. . .

*TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO GAVE
EVERYTHING THEY HAD.*

Korean War Memorial Foundation
1806 Belles Street, #6-B The Presidio
San Francisco, CA 94129 USA

Phone: 415 750 3862 Email: info@kwmf.org Web Site: <http://kwmf.org>

Major Lee and Medal of Honor, Continued

(Continued from page 12)

question the upgrade. [An upgrade had been attempted earlier, but there were several senior officers who did not like Major Lee because he had a chip on his shoulder and was critical of superiors who provided incompetent advice. For example, his supervisors recommended using flares to guide his night mission to reinforce TokTong Pass. Lieutenant Lee told them that flares in the dark of night would blind him and his troops during that brutally cold and dark night.]

On his recent visit to San Francisco in February 2014, Major Lee and his second in command Lieutenant Joe Owens, agreed to support our efforts to obtain Congressional support for upgrading Major Lee's Sil-

ver Star to the Medal of Honor and also to honor B Company.

Our Post 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum took the bull by the horns and contacted Congresswoman Jackie Speier who has initiated the review and recommendation for the Medal of Honor. Unfortunately, on March 3, Major Lee passed away in his Washington D.C. home sixteen days after serving as the Honorary Parade Marshal for the San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade.

There will be a memorial service for Major Lee in Sacramento on Friday, April 4, 2014. His burial will be in Arlington Cemetery at a later date to be determined. Many of us will be there to wish Major Kurt Lee a final farewell. We will continue to work towards getting Major Lee the Medal of Honor he deserves.

Welcome New Veteran Members By Clara Pon

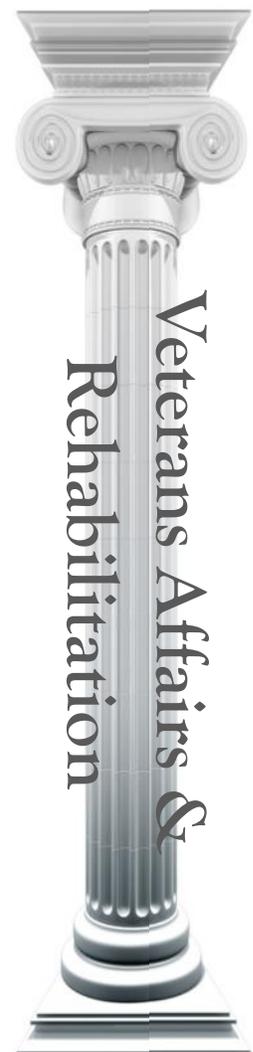
Major Lee's presence and participation in the Chinese New Year parade led to several Marines joining our Post. His friend and fellow Korean War veteran, Lieutenant Colonel USMC (Ret.) John R. Stevens and Captain Gerard "Gerry" Parker USMC (Ret.) joined the Post after the February luncheon honoring Major Lee. Gerry is the Executive Director of the Korean War Memorial Foundation;

John works alongside Gerry. (To learn more about the Foundation's mission, see page 14.)

We are pleased to also have two Paid Up For Life members transfer to our Post. They are Asriah Heard and Victor Lum. We are sure they transferred because they heard about how active Cathay Post is, the support we provide to our youth and seniors, and our participation in various pa-

rades and events that support other veteran organizations.

Of course, our Post can't grow without our next generation of Legionnaires. We welcome Sean Scharf from V.E.T.S.@SFSU. As we continue to recruit young veterans to the Post, we hope to build a productive mentoring relationship between our older and newer veteran members.





Veterans Memorial Monument Groundbreaking by Nelson Lum

The Veterans Memorial Monument that was planned as one of the exhibits on the War Memorial Complex 82 years ago finally broke ground on March 20, 2014 at noon. The event was attended by civic leaders and a large contingent of veterans. It was very heartening to see a mix of veterans from all branches of service and those who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

It was a very simple ceremony that began with the presentation of colors from representatives of all five military services. Remarks by Former Secretary of State George Shultz, Mayor Ed Lee, and former Mayor Willie Brown were followed

by the actual “Ground Breaking” ceremony.

The hope is for the monument to be completed in time to be unveiled during Fleet Week in October. If that happens, this year’s Fleet Week will be very extraordinary. It will include the return of the Blue Angels, the commissioning of the USS America, and the dedication of the Veterans Monument. It will be something that we should all be looking forward to.

You can watch it here: [Ground breaking the first step for Veterans Memorial](#) story by Carolyn Tyler with an interview with Roger Dong USAF (Ret.) from Cathay Post No. 384.



Veterans from many veteran organizations, including Cathay Post No. 384 from San Francisco standing behind the ceremonial shovels at the planned site of the Veterans Memorial Monument.

Photo courtesy of Frank Jang.

Support USS AMERICA’s Commissioning



USS AMERICA (LHA 6) is scheduled to be commissioned in San Francisco in early October 2014 during Fleet Week.

We invite you to be part of something special. The Navy is asking you to sponsor commissioning of this new amphibious assault ship. Visit the website at <http://commissioningamerica.org/>

CYC's 44th Annual Festival of Youth Gala By Galin Luk

San Francisco's Community Youth Center (CYC) held its 44th Annual Gala at the Kearny Street Hilton on March 14, 2014. The Community Youth Center, where the Post's 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum serves on the board, was founded in 1970 to "set the standard for awareness and activism in the Asian community. Originally founded to address the problems of juvenile delinquency and gang violence in Chinatown, CYC has grown to encompass behavioral health, education, intervention, leadership development, street outreach and workforce development in all our programs."

Hosted by Mistress of Ceremony Jan Yanehiro, over 400 supporters including Cathay Post members 3rd Vice Commander Galin

Luk, Roger Dong, Rogelio Manaois, and Clara Pon were treated to some excellent food and the CYC youth singing and dancing. The CYC gave out two "Outstanding CYC Youth" awards to Li Gan and Weiming Wu, the "Most Inspirational CYC Alumnus Youth" award to Zhou Min (Amy) Li and the "Chris Yeo Community Service Award" to Ana Huang-Chi.



CYC Lion Dance group kicking-off the 44th Annual Gala Dinner.

Open Nominations for Elected Officers for 2014 By Clara Pon

Once again, members will be eligible to nominate other members for each of the 13 elected officer's position for the upcoming election in May. All members current on dues and in good standing are eligible to make and accept nominations. A

member may accept a nomination for only one position. You are encouraged to nominate a member who is qualified and can successfully fulfill the duties required of that nominated officer's position. Good luck to all nominated candidates.

The by-laws describe the duties and responsibilities for each of the elected 13 positions.

Commander: The Post Commander shall preside at all meetings of the Post and has general supervision over the business affairs of the Post. Such officer shall be the chief executive officer of the Post and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post.

First Vice-Commander: The First Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence or disability

(Continued on page 18)



Open Nominations, Continued

(Continued from page 17)

of, or when called upon by the Post Commander.

Second Vice-Commander: The Second Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of First Vice-Commander in the absence of or disability of such officer and shall perform such other duties as directed by this Post.

Third Vice-Commander: The Third Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of Second Vice-Commander in the absence of or disability of such officer and shall perform such other duties as directed by this Post.

Secretary: The Secretary shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of all meetings and under the direction of the Commander handle all correspondence of the Post.

Adjutant: The Adjutant shall have charge of (1) membership and (2) supporting/maintaining Post events. Duties include the transportation of colors, equipment (chairs/tables/banners/prizes...), and supplies to and from the Post for external events. The Adjutant is the building/facility manager.

Finance Officer: The Finance Officer shall be charged with the custody of the funds of the Post. He/she shall keep its accounts and report thereon at regular meetings of the Post. He/she shall receive all funds of the Post and pay all bills approved by the Post and Finance Committee. Finance Officer shall be bonded under a blanket bond to be procured from the Department Headquarters and paid for by the Post.

Historian: The Historian shall, be charged with the individual records and incidents of the Post and Post members, and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post or Executive Committee. The Historian is also charged with photographing and documenting Post events.

Sergeant-at-Arms: The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order at all meetings and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned to him by the Post.

Chaplain: The Chaplain shall be charged with the spiritual welfare of the Post comrades and will offer divine but nonsectarian service in the event of dedications, funerals, public functions, and adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department Headquarters from time to time.

(Continued on page 19)



Open Nominations, Continued

(Continued from page 18)

Service Officer: The duties of the Service Officer shall be generally that of prosecuting claims and protecting the rights and privileges of all veterans, their dependents and survivors and to handle such other matters as may properly be considered service work.

Quarter Master: The Quarter Master shall supply and purchase all goods and materials necessary for Post operations.

Judge Advocate: The duties of the Judge Advocate shall be to advise the Post Officers on the construction and interpretation of the Post Constitution and By-Laws; and to perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

Korean War Veteran Awarded Bronze Star with “V” Posthumously

By John Li

Very few Chinese American soldiers served in Korea during the Korean War. Even fewer were recognized for going above and beyond the call of duty during that war. You can read about the story of Corporal Wong Suey Lee of F Company, 7th Calvary Division at the American Legion website. He was a U.S. soldier who fought bravely in Korea. He was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star with a “V” device for valor thanks to his American Legion friends.

Lee was born in Canada in 1926 and immigrated to the U.S. when he turned 18. He



L-R: Wong Suey Lee, Tony Day and Al Fisch

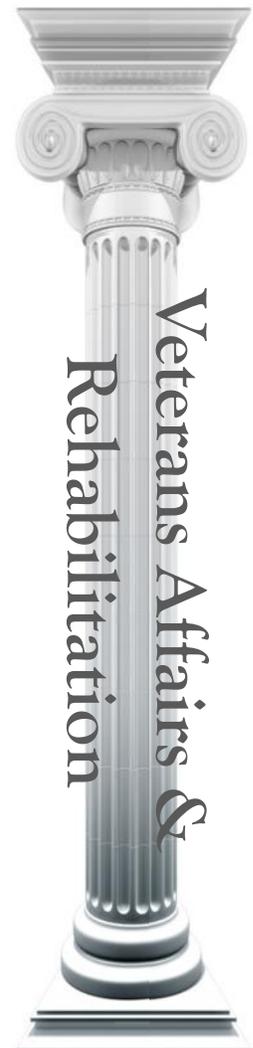
Photo courtesy of Regina Ford, Green Valley News

enlisted in the Army and served in combat in Korea where he fought the Chinese and North Koreans. He also had to fight prejudice from his fellow soldiers. He soon won them over with his bravery.

His commander recommended him for the Silver Star but the paper-

work got lost. More than 60 years later, members from Post 66 in Green Valley, AZ helped Lee obtain a Bronze Star with a “V” device for valor. Unfortunately, Lee passed 2-3 hours before the award notification was announced. It was an award long overdue. Thanks to the efforts of members from Post 66 who took on this endeavor, Lee was finally awarded a medal for his brave actions.

To read more about Corporal Wong Suey Lee, go to <http://www.legion.org/honor/220389/legion-post-helps-korean-war-vet-receive-honor-valor>





Travis continues to believe this salute met minimum Air Force standards, 2004.

Bottom right: Travis, Gabriella, and Michelle 2013.



A Driven Volunteer: Travis Groft By Thanh Huynh

Words we'll never forget yelled by our drill instructors: "Who would like to volunteer?" Each of us had been warned not to. However, there are those brave souls who do. One such brave soul is Cathay Post's own Travis Groft.

Travis, a South San Francisco native, should have known better. His dad told him not to volunteer. His dad should know; the Groft family served our country for generations. His paternal grandfather Kay Groft took part in the Battle of Leyte during World War II as an 18 year old sailor. His maternal grandfather William Moura (Merchant Marine) and William's twin brother John (Army) also served during World War II (John watched the B-29 taking off from Saipan to Japan with the a-bomb). Uncle Paul Groft served in the Air Force during the post-Vietnam era.

Against his father's advice, trainee Groft volunteered to be an element leader during the

United States Air Force (USAF) Basic Military Training (BMT). Although the role was initially daunting, Travis eventually eased into the leadership position and became one of the few in his training class who was not "fired" from the position. This was a significant accomplishment that would mark Travis' transition into manhood. Being an element leader "had a leadership component that extended off of the parade grounds and encompassed all aspects of our training. My small success as an element leader in basic training was actually my first ever accomplishment as my own man. I'll always be proud of that."

More responsibilities would be entrusted to newly minted Airman Groft in the Munitions Systems (2WoX1) career field. Travis was responsible for getting munitions from storage to the flight line safely during war time for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in Diego Garcia

and Bagram AFB, Afghanistan.

Staff Sergeant Groft eventually completed his military career and moved back to the Bay Area where he attends San Francisco State University.

Balancing being a full-time student, part-time personal trainer, and full-time husband to Michelle and full-time father to Gabriella has not slowed Travis down. He still makes time to volunteer as an active member of V.E.T.S.@SFSU, a student veterans' organization at San Francisco State. He joined Cathay Post because he believes in its mission and what its members are trying to achieve.



Travis' goals? Making new friends and helping out the Post in any way he can. When you see Travis, be sure to hit him up for his personal training expertise.

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No. 384

VETS. VETERANS EDUCATION TRANSITION AND SUPPORT
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY



Veterans - *Share your story*



Veterans and family members are invited to participate in a national campaign on behalf of VA to raise awareness and help Veterans deal with issues that affect well-being and their daily lives.

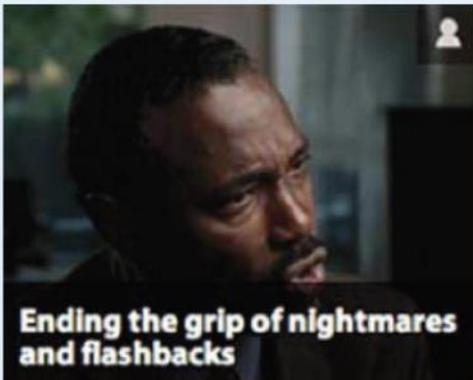
Your participation can help a fellow Veteran.

Every day, Veterans connect with resources and support to find solutions for improving their lives. If this sounds familiar to you, are you willing to share your story?

We will be conducting on-camera, professionally filmed interviews on behalf of VA to talk about your experiences overcoming challenges.



Your shared story could convince an at-risk Veteran to seek the assistance they need.



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**San Francisco, CA
Fri (5/2), Sat (5/3),
Sun (5/4)**

Are you interested in telling your story?

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outreach@maketheconnection.net

or call our team 1-888-863-6276

Veterans who participate will receive a \$100 stipend.



Really Getting To Know Eddie Fung By Roger Dong



Eddie Fung receiving CAH award from Roger Dong.

Former Army Private First Class Eddie Fung spoke at our Post on April 8, 2014 on the 72nd anniversary of the year that he and his entire Army unit and other allied forces (Australians, British, and Dutch) surrendered to the Japanese Imperial Army.

Eddie is the only Chinese American prisoner of war in the Pacific theater. Because Eddie is a very modest man, the stories he told us did not really reveal the hero that he was for his unit.

Eddie spoke to our Post for about 30 minutes. Clearly that wasn't enough time for this modest hero to tell his story. Here's what

he didn't tell the Post on April 8 [and which you can read about in Dr. Judy Yung's "The Adventures of Eddie Fung, Chinatown Kid, Texas Cowboy, Prisoner of War."]

Life for the prisoners of war was extremely difficult - a typical day of labor was dawn to dusk, usually 14 hours. Eddie explained in his book that one of the main reasons he and his fellow prisoners survived was due to military organization and team work. They covered for each other. When one prisoner got sick and couldn't work, others would do his work. Eddie did more than that, and he is recognized by all his fellow prisoners for the significant role he had in the survival of the other 190 members of his unit.

Eddie's unit was lucky, because they had Dutch Doctor Henri Hekking in their group. His medical knowledge saved the lives of many prisoners of war. The Japanese

did not provide any medicine to the prisoners. Without medicine, Doctor Hekking had to perform small miracles and his positive attitude and supportive words were a respite for many sick comrades.

However, Eddie also performed some magic. Eddie "reallocated" food and medicine from the Japanese food and medical stores whenever he had a chance. One time, he reallocated a whole case of quinine. Had he been caught, he would not have been at our Post to talk to us. Eddie, who is only 5' 3" tall stretched on a rack, maintained a low profile. His less threatening physical stature made him less visible and less likely to be searched when he was reallocating Japanese supplies.

Eddie took more chances when his fellow prisoner's needs were urgent. He snuck out after midnight,

(Continued on page 24)



Eddie Fung, Continued

(Continued from page 23)

broke into the locked Japanese store huts, and carefully "borrowed" medicine and food needed by his sick comrades.

Eddie's Chinese background, combined with his cooking skills developed as a cowboy, saved his own life and many of his colleagues. Being Chinese, Eddie learned that nothing should be wasted when it came to cooking food. Thanks to Eddie, many of his

colleagues developed Chinese appetites for tripe, fish heads, gizzards, and other "awfuls." When people are really hungry, it's easy to convince them to eat chicken feet and fish eyes. U-m Good!

His fellow prisoners will never forget all he did for them while in captivity. During their annual reunions in Texas, Eddie is treated with utmost honor and respect. Sadly, the 190 survivors of captivity are now down to less than a dozen.

In our American military, we have an honor code. We provide mutual support; we never leave a warrior behind. This code binds all of us into a Band of Brothers. There is nothing like this honor code in the civilian world. During his 3 1/2 years as a prisoner of war, Eddie was the essence of a true patriot and hero. He served his fellow prisoners in the finest of our military's traditions with honor. We are all very proud of our fellow veteran Eddie Fung.

World War II POW Eddie Fung By Galin Luk

From Chinatown kid, to high school dropout, to Texas cowboy, to Stanford educated metallurgist. Oh, and in between, he joined the Army and became a Japanese prisoner of war during World War II [followed by a brief stint as a butcher].

He may be a San Francisco boy at heart, but there's no denying the "cowboy" in Eddie nor his Stanford pedigree.

Following the March general membership meeting, Cowboy Eddie recalled in sharp, vivid detail, with a very large dose of humor, his time as a cowboy in Texas [shortly after dropping out of high school at 16], then joining the Texas National Guard shortly after World War II broke out. He didn't recall much overt racism in Texas primarily because he was not

seen as a physical threat [he was 5'1" and 105 pounds] and many in Texas had never before seen a Chinese person. He was, on occasion, mistaken for being African American, Native American, and Mexican American. One ticket clerk initially denied Eddie entry into a theater because, as she told him "we can't sell tickets to Indians." When

(Continued on page 25)



World War II POW Eddie Fung, Continued

(Continued from page 24)

Eddie said he wasn't Indian, she told him "we don't serve Mexicans either." After pointing out he was Chinese, the puzzled clerk ran to his manager. He came out, looked at Eddie and asked "What's the problem?" After explaining that Eddie was "Chinese," the manager responded "So? I see that. Sell him the ticket."

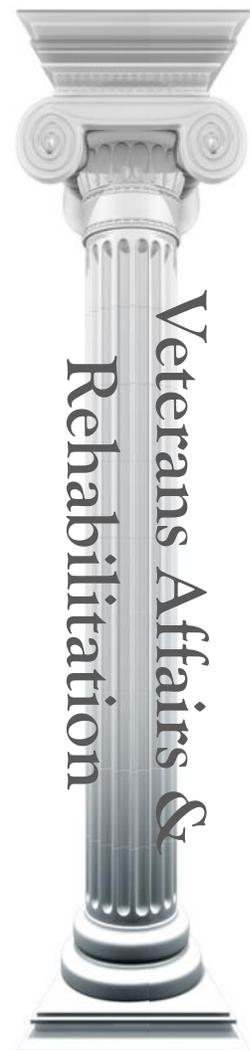
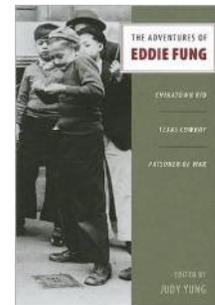
Unfortunately, shortly after joining the service, the Japanese Army captured Eddie's entire unit which was then under Dutch Command [the unit became known as the "Lost Battalion"]. At the time, Eddie was 19 years old. That was 72 years to the day of Cathay Post's March 8 general meeting and Eddie's presentation at the Post. The next 42 months under Japanese capture were unimaginably inhumane. For example, 61,000 prisoners of war built approximately 240 miles of railroad con-

necting Siam to Burma in 15 months under conditions so intense and severe that the locals refused to have any involvement in the construction. Food and water rations were so sparse that by the time Eddie turned 21, his 105 pound body had shriveled to 60 pounds. Food and water were always fairly distributed by the prisoners amongst themselves. "You always tried to help your fellow prisoners, even if they were slackers, because they're one of the guys...we lived for each other."

While the inhumane conditions endured by Eddie made the tough cowboy even tougher, it didn't dampen his sense of compassion or humanity. According to Eddie, the Korean guards [who were under Japanese charge] were so mean that it took him over 40 years to "get over the fact that there were Koreans in the world." Yet, despite this, within a week of being released, Eddie and his unit ran

into those same Korean guards in the streets of Siam. "The [Korean Guards] were helpless" after having just been released by the Japanese. Eddie and his unit told the Korean guards how to get help and how to get out of Siam. Noting with some irony, Eddie said "they would have killed us the week before." "If we treated the Koreans like they treated us, then there's no difference. If you don't learn lessons, you have survived for nothing." Eddie has forgiven those responsible for his 42 months of hell. He hasn't forgotten. "Forgive, don't forget."

Eddie wrote about his adventures in "The Adventures of Eddie Fung, Chinatown Kid, Texas Cowboy, Prisoner of War." To see the entire video recording of Eddie's vivid recounting of his story at the Post, go to Cathay Post's YouTube site: www.youtube.com/channel/UCpKKbjnd97eIot-OKYvZD7w.





History Repeating Itself? By Scott Seligman

[Editor's note: This piece originally appeared in the Seattle Times on February 19, 2014 and is reprinted with Mr. Seligman's permission].

Furtive border crossings. Lives lived in the shadows. Families torn apart. Accusations of job theft. And calls for the expulsion of newer, darker-skinned immigrants.

America in 2014? Yes, and also in 1882.

The current immigration debate has an unsettling precedent in arguments advanced in the 19th century to keep the Chinese out of the U.S., and to keep those already here alien. Chinese were arriving in large numbers. They looked different and didn't speak English. Most lived on the bottom rungs of society's ladder, willing to work for lower wages. Some competed with Americans for jobs.

The result was the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the first law in American history to restrict immigration

by a particular nationality. Aimed at choking off the flow of Chinese laborers, it not only prohibited their entry, it also denied citizenship to more than 100,000 Chinese already here. The handful of Chinese who naturalized before the act passed had no political power to exert on elected representatives.

By contrast, Hispanics today account for 10 percent of the electorate and Asian Americans represent about 3 percent. Anyone who missed the clout these groups wielded in the last presidential election wasn't paying attention.

Was America better off for barring Chinese for the six decades the exclusion act was in effect? Looking back, it's hard to see that the law did much good. It freed up jobs for a handful of Americans, but 19th-century Chinese generally undertook work nobody else wanted.

Nor did the act halt Chinese immigration. It just made it illegal,

and made the lives of people who wanted to stay in America miserable. Some were deported. Others were cut off from families. Many were forced underground, compelled to live in fear of arrest and expulsion.

It created an underclass that lacked a say in the laws that governed them and the ability to get justice from the courts. Chinese had little recourse when the Washington Territorial Legislature barred them from owning property, or when the mayor of Tacoma and a group of vigilantes burned their homes and forcibly expelled them.

The act was destructive for more than its racism. It was also terrible economic policy. Chinese came to America for the same reason others come today: economic opportunity.

Today we understand that immigration is not a zero-sum game. America has always been better off for its

(Continued on page 27)

History Repeating Itself, Continued

(Continued from page 26)

welcome mat. No statistics survive to illustrate the cost of denying entry to Chinese for six decades. But judging from the successes of those who remained and those who entered after the law was repealed, the price was far greater than any accrued benefit.

A recent Pew Research Center study identified Asian Americans, of whom Chinese Americans account for nearly 25 percent, as the highest-income, best-educated group in the country. Those who never came, or who were expelled, were not here to set up businesses, forge new industries, create jobs or pay taxes.

The exclusion act was law until 1943, when Congress repealed it less out of conscience than embarrassment. China was an ally in World War II, yet America continued to discriminate against its citizens. It was only in 2011 that the U.S. Senate passed a resolution expressing regret for the act. The

U.S. House approved a similar bill in 2012.

The Senate went on last June to pass comprehensive immigration reform. Now it is the House's turn. As the history of the Chinese Exclusion Act demonstrates, effective immigration reform should, at minimum, permit newcomers to arrive with visas rather than via smugglers, and, most important, include a path to legality and citizenship for the 11 million aliens already here illegally.

It was an immigrant — George Santayana, a Spanish-born philosopher — who noted famously, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Congress has just apologized for America's reprehensible treatment of Chinese. Can memories be so short that it makes the same mistake all over again?

Scott D. Seligman is a Washington, D.C.,-based writer, historian and author of "The First Chinese American: The Remarkable Life of Wong Chin Foo."

Giants Anyone By David Wong

If you're a baseball fan, here are two non-Cathay Post events you can attend. Raymond Wong, a member of the San Francisco Veterans Commission and also a senior officer with the VFW Post 4618 has a block of tickets for the San Francisco Giant's Chinese Heritage Night on Tuesday, April 29 [7:15 P.M.]. Each ticket is \$25 and includes a Year of the Horse figurine. The group will be seated in sections VR 317 and 318, behind home plate. In addition, Ray also has tickets for the Bruce Lee

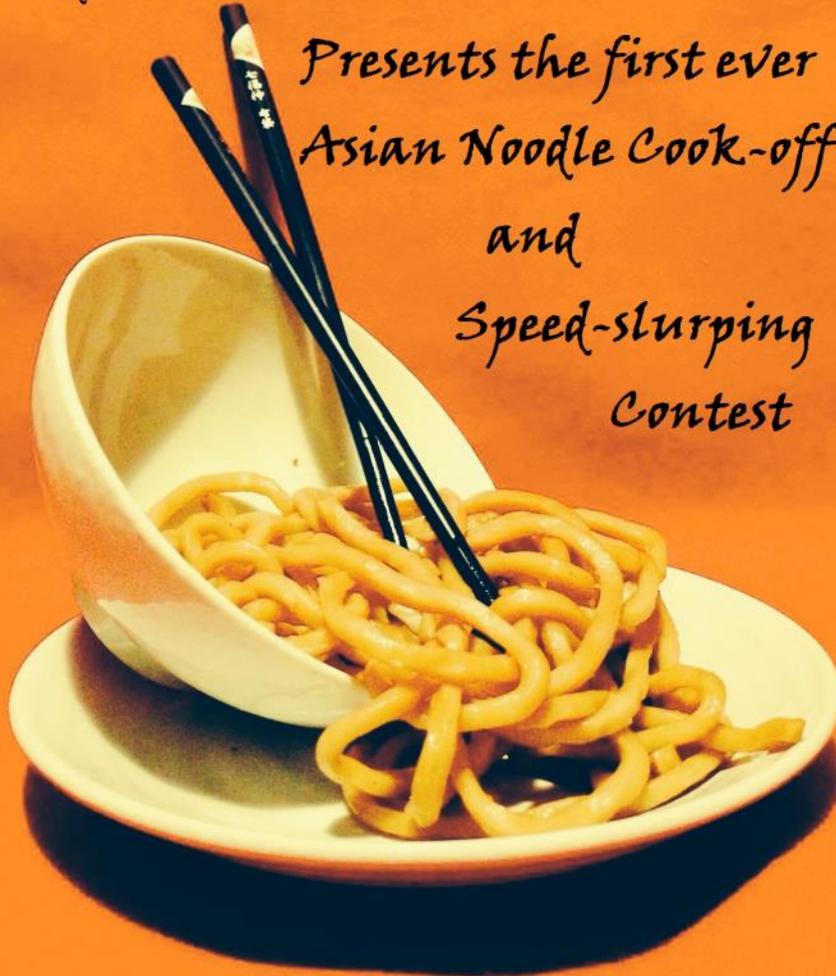
Tribute Night, on Tuesday, August 26 [7:15 P.M.]. Each ticket is \$28 and includes a Bruce Lee promotional item.

If you are interested, please contact Ray directly at wonggrad@att.net.



*Alameda API Cultural Festival
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For more information: raymondwtang@yahoo.com

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PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH
IN ALAMEDA**

**Sunday, May 18, 2014
11am – 5pm
Alameda's South Shore
Shopping Center**



As this festival is held just before Memorial Day, a select number of API veterans who have distinguished themselves through their military service for our country will be honored. Honorees for 2014 will be select men and women from the various branches of our armed forces who have a connection to the Bay Area community.

~ IN MEMORIAM ~



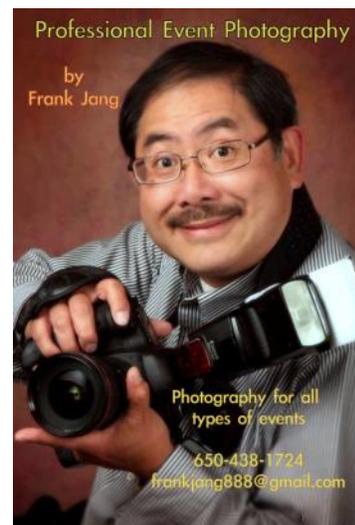
Actor and filmmaker Conor Timmis, director of *Finnigan's War*, a critically acclaimed documentary dedicated to his grandfather and other veterans who fought in the Korean war published Major Kurt Lee's last email to Conor in his blog, <http://finniganswar.blogspot.com/>. The email, which Major Lee sent to Conor after viewing *Finnigan's War* shows Major Lee's fine writing style, his sense of humor, and appreciation and gratitude for Conor's work.

"Greetings, Conor:

First of all, thank you for sending me two copies of your film "Finnigan's War." I think it is a fitting tribute to your late grandfather who certainly did his part in making his war unforgettable. I particularly enjoyed the fine artistic depiction of the actions for which he and others were cited....Surprised to see me so mild and complaisant. Not the "ferocious warrior" who never cracked a smile in uniform, as my men later described me. In fact, I was taken aback by a female cashier at the PX gas station at Camp Lejeune, who had apparently been observing me for awhile, suddenly blurted out one day, "Captain don't you ever smile??" Your film showed how long retirement and age have worn down my jagged edges. I commend you for a job "Well Done!" on your film....

Semper Fi, Kurt Lee"

Photo: Kurt Chew Een Lee on
February 16, 2014



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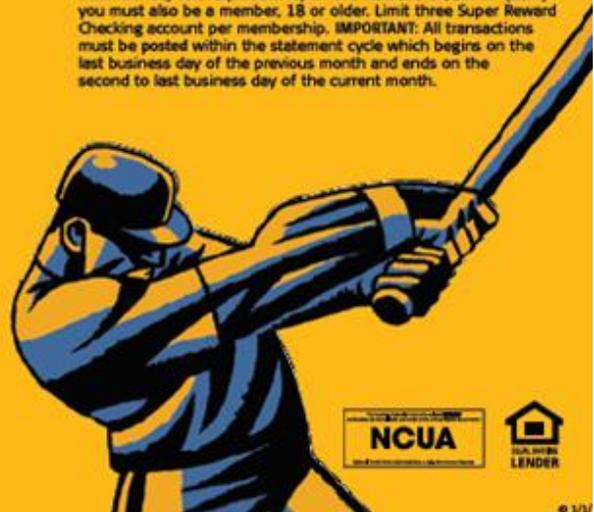
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CATHAY POST NO. 384

1524 Powell Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

Phone: 415.392.2882

Fax: 415.392.2882

E-mail: cathaypost@gmail.com

www.cathaypost384.org



Thanks to our Post Commanders
for contributing to this edition of
the *Cathay Dispatch*.

CATHAY DISPATCH STAFF

Cathay Dispatch is a proud member of the "National American Legion Press Association."

Galin Luk is the Editor-in-Chief.

Clara Pon is the Managing Editor and Creative Director.

Chris Kieliger is the Assistant Editor.

Roger Dong is the Chief Reporter.

Thanh Huynh is the Field Reporter.

John Li is a reporter.

The Editor-in-Chief 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-in-Chief will call to verify authenticity. All submissions should be emailed to the Editor-in-Chief at GalinLuk@hotmail.com by the last Friday of the month preceding the next month's *Cathay Dispatch*.

**Cathay Post No. 384
American Legion
Executive Committee
2013-2014**

Commander: David Y. Wong

1st Vice Commander: Jay Pon

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Our veterans are courageous wartime military men and women who proudly served or are currently serving.



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Gulf War/War On Terrorism

*Desert Shield/Desert Storm/
Operation Enduring Freedom/
Operation Iraqi Freedom*

8/2/1990 to today

Panama

Operation Just Cause
12/20/1989 – 1/31/1990

Lebanon/Grenada

*Lebanon War/
Operation Urgent Fury*
8/24/1982 – 7/31/1984

Vietnam War

2/28/1961 – 5/7/1975

Korean War

6/25/1950 – 1/31/1955

World War II

12/7/1941 – 12/31/1946

World War I

4/6/1917 – 11/11/1918

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