



### Important Dates:

July 4—Independence Day

July 13—11 a.m. Post monthly meeting

Jul 26-28, Yountville Days

Aug 10—11 a.m. Post monthly meeting

Aug 17-18—DEC meeting, Bakersfield

### Inside this issue:

Installation Gala	2
Commander Helen Wong	3
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander George Tsang	4
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Charles Paskerian	5
Well Wishes	6
M Sgt. Hunt, Veteran of the Year	9
101 <sup>st</sup> Dept. of CA Convention	10, 11
NSA Counters Cyber Threat	11
Anatomy of Planning a Banquet	13-15
Hypersonic Weapons	15
Calendar	17

# CATHAY DISPATCH

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

## CATHAY POST'S 88TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION GALA

By Clara Pon & Helen Wong



L-R: After capping by Post 1 Commander Henry Rose, Jr., Cathay Post Commander Helen Wong, and Jr. Past Commander Nelson Lum.

Cathay Post 384 was chartered 88 years ago as an exclusive all Chinese American post in California, and most likely the oldest still active in the country today. The post, of course has since opened up membership to all ethnicities and races. This diversity and keeping with certain traditions has kept Cathay Post thriving.

This year at its 88th anniversary gala, Cathay Post swears in its first female post commander, Helen Wong in true Cathay Post style. It was a semi-formal event with over 400 guests including the SF Mayor London Breed, Representative Malia Cohen from the California State Board of Equalization, 2019 pageant winners from the Miss Asian Global & Miss Asian America Pageant, several post commanders from District 8, Department of California Judge Advocate Autrey James, and several VIPs from other veteran service organizations that support The American Legion. The pageant winners certainly helped boost the sales of 50/50 raffle tickets!

The annual gala also included a change of commander ceremony, award presentations to JROTC scholarship winners, police and firefighter first responders awards, and local community hero recognition award.

*(Continued on page 2)*



L: National Anthem sung by Post 333 Commander C. Ellington & Post 448 Commander J. McCaffrey.  
R: Cathay Post 384 officers sworn in by Department Judge Advocate Autrey James.







## Installation Gala, Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Here are additional photos of the award presentations.



L-R, T-B: Presentation of Jr. Past Commander Nelson Lum, Dept. of CA JA Autrey James, and new Cathay Post Commander Helen Wong.

Mayor London Breed being escorted by Sgt.-at-Arms CJ Reeves.

JROTC Cadet Annie Yan for Athletic Achievement presented by Chuck Paskerian, 2<sup>nd</sup> VC.

First responder awardee Police Officer Marisa Chung.

First responder awardee Firefighter Bryan Lee.

Fleet Week plaque given to Cathay Post by VFW Chaplain Bob Buchar from Fleet Week Committee.

50/50 winner Sgt. Scott Hom surrounded by Miss Asian Global pageant ladies.

## COMMANDER HELEN WONG

**FREEDOM** Matters! Welcome to the July edition of our newsletter and my first as your elected commander. By now, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July has passed, but we can still celebrate.

Thank you to the members who had confidence that I can lead this post forward carrying out the principles set forth in the 100+ year old American Legion. We are fortunate that we have earned the freedom to make decisions on behalf of those who cannot, who will not, or who may not know what is best for them. We have the freedom to disagree with those decisions and voice it.

While the post has so much history governing and guiding it to where it is today, I have to thank the previous commanders for paving the way, for having the insight, for projecting into the future what needs to be done to ensure success for all. I especially want to thank Junior Past Commander Nelson Lum for his foresight and clear decision making in the four years he has led the post, enduring remodeling the first floor with push bars, fire doors, stairwell, water on the roof, leaky skylights,

etc. so that when he turned command over to me, all the major problems had been addressed. He has assured me he will be around for consultation so I will not have to tear my hair out wondering what to do next!

**TRADITION** Matters! Having just returned from the Department of California American Legion department convention, and attending the different committee and commission meetings and trainings, it is comforting to know, fellow veterans still care about each other. The tradition of having an annual department convention with the business of announcing the winners of Veteran of the Year, Oratorical winner, Department Eagle Scout of the Year, Membership Awards goes on as before, along with commission reports, resolutions and bylaw changes, and finally elections.

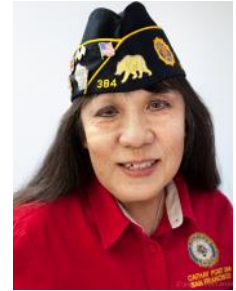
With that said, something new was added: training classes between business sessions. So the training I attended included Veterans Housing, World Class Post, Post Commander, Veteran Employment & Education, and Alternative Treatment for PTS/TBI.

Commander Lum attended Internal Affairs, Oratoricals, Law & Order, Member Retention, & myLegion.org training.

Board Director Raymond Wong attended Legislative, Service Officer Training, National Legislative Council, and Member Engagement.

The feedback was positive as we felt we learned something even though we might have heard the topic before. For the new topics, it was quite informative and well received. We all attended the regular business sessions and were on hand to cast the ballots for the election of the new Department Commander Ed Grimsley, Sergeant-at-Arms JR Duarte, and Area 2 Vice Commander Dave Jackson, with other districts casting their votes for their respective area commanders.

Congratulations to all! We witnessed the swearing in of the new officers and for our District 8, the swearing in and capping of Nelson Lum who was elected back to the office of District 8 Commander. It was a very positive and productive convention.



**Helen Wong**

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(415) 797-7384

Cathay Post Member  
since: 1990

Branch: Army

Final Rank: Lt. Col.

*“We are fortunate that we have earned the freedom to make decisions on behalf of those who cannot, who will not, or who may not know what is best for them.”*



**George Tsang**

gtsang1130@gmail.com

(415) 797-7384

Cathay Post Member  
since: 2014

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SFC

*"I will do my  
best to serve the  
members of  
Cathay Post with  
timely and  
relevant  
membership  
information and  
welcome all new  
members to our  
post with a  
friendly smile."*

## 1<sup>st</sup> VICE COMMANDER GEORGE TSANG

As your new 1st vice commander, I want to thank you for your support and faith in electing me to this important and critical position. I will do my best to serve the members of Cathay Post with timely and relevant membership information and welcome all new members to our post with a friendly smile. Renew your membership now. Listed below are the new membership dates and deadlines.

### 2019-2020 NATIONAL RENEWAL SCHEDULE

<u>Cutoff Date</u>	<u>Renewal Mail Date</u>
MAY 8, 2019	JUL 1, 2019
SEP 11, 2019	OCT 7, 2019
OCT 9, 2019	NOV 15, 2019
DEC 11, 2019	JAN 3, 2020
FEB 12, 2020	FEB 26, 2020
APR 8, 2019	APR 24, 2020

Transmittals not received by the cutoff date may not prevent a subsequent renewal notice from being delivered at or around the renewal date.

Please note that renewals transmitted and received by the cutoff (which is also a national target date) will be updated prior to printing renewal notices, assuming they can be successfully scanned. Membership that must be hand-keyed (new members and renewals that can't be scanned) will take longer to process. Please transmit as early and as often as possible in advance of the target dates to help avoid delays in processing.

### 2019-2020 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF	SEPTEMBER 11, 2019	50%
FALL MEETINGS	OCTOBER 9, 2019	55%
VETERANS DAY	NOVEMBER 14, 2019	65%
PEARL HARBOR DAY	DECEMBER 11, 2019	75%
MID-WINTER	JANUARY 15, 2020	80%
PRESIDENTS DAY	FEBRUARY 12, 2020	85%
LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 11, 2020	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 8, 2020	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 13, 2020	100%
DELEGATE STRENGTH	30 days prior to national convention	

Target dates fall on the second Wednesday of the month unless there is a holiday on that day or at the beginning of that week. Since Veterans' Day falls on a Monday, the November target date will be on a Thursday. To maximize the December renewal notice, the January target date will be on the third Wednesday of the month.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE COMMANDER Charles Paskerian

At our 88<sup>th</sup> Cathay Post 384 installation and awards dinner, we awarded our two annual \$1,000 JROTC Scholarships to Cadet Anna Yan and Cadet Jan Troung. Commander Helen Wong, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Chuck Paskerian, and Past Commander Nelson Lum were on hand to present the following awards:

The Cathay Post JROTC \$1000 Athletic Scholarship award was presented to Cadet Anna Yan.

The Cathay Post JROTC \$1000 Academic Schol-

arship award was presented to Cadet Jan Truong.

Col. Ishikata U.S. Army, retired and Lt. Col. Doug Bullard U.S. Army, retired who are in charge of the SF JROTC program both attended our Cathay Post's 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner.

Both cadets were very honored to receive this scholarship from our post.

In addition, at the JROTC annual spring competition and award ceremony, our post has again presented 14 med-

als to deserving cadets. At this competition and ceremony, there were over 350 parents and family members and JROTC staff that appreciate our post's continued support of the SF JROTC program.

Our monthly Post 384 membership 50/50 raffle for attending members now contain \$134 to be raffled at our next meeting. Remember you must be present to win! Thus far, we've had two winners of over \$200 each. The winners were Richard Ow and CJ Reeves! Come to the meeting, learn, and win!



Charles Paskerian

[chuck@paskerian.com](mailto:chuck@paskerian.com)

(415) 749-1750

Cathay Post member since: 2011

Branch: USAF

Final Rank: Major

## 101<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION—INDIANAPOLIS, IN AUGUST 23-29, 2019



National convention attendees: Delegates and alternate delegates should have received your convention packets that contain information on convention dates, room reservation form, and other pertinent information. Form and payment are due: August 2. To get the most up-to-date convention information, go to: [www.legion.org/convention](http://www.legion.org/convention) for a list of events, activities, and information as they become available. The 2019 convention mobile app has not yet been released.



## Thank You & Best Wishes By Nelson Lum

My fellow comrades at Cathay Post 384, Legionnaires near and far, and those of you who have been readers of our Cathay Dispatch:

On Saturday, June 15, 2019, our post celebrated its 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary and installed the newly elected and appointed officers at New Asia Restaurant. It was without a doubt, one of the best events hosted by our post. It also was the culmination of my four years as the commander of this great post. I like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes for a successful term to the new officers. May you find your new responsibilities fulfilling, gratifying, and rewarding. While our post is currently cruising along in calm and smooth seas, I would like to remind all of you that there are times when you will be called upon to work hard and long hours to overcome those sudden and unexpected waves.

When I took over as commander of our post, I, like most of my predecessors, had goals to exceed the paradigm set by the previous commander. I wanted to reorganize our corporate structure, update our bylaws, increase recruitment of members with special emphasis on

younger members, and to renovate our headquarters building with the aim of moving our post operation to the first floor. It has taken four years for these goals to be completed, and it is my sincere hope that my successor, the first female commander of our post in its 88<sup>th</sup> year history, will shatter whatever paradigm that I was able to establish.

As I look back at the past four years, I realized I was blessed with the support that you have given me. When changes were necessary, having an organization occupied by members and officers who are dedicated and loyal made it much less challenging for changes to take shape. I am most proud of the renovation project that transformed our post headquarters building and made our facility a place for our members to be proud of.

There were other very important changes during that period of time. We restructured and added a new entity to our organizational composition. We established a 501(c)3 foundation to increase our acceptability as a non-profit charitable entity. The two original entities have now been realigned to conform to the legal framework of the tax

code. Our bylaws have been updated and our membership has been increasing yearly. Seventeen new members were sworn in during this past year and they are getting somewhat younger.

Externally, we assisted with petitioning our national organization, The American Legion to support the advocacy for the award of the Chinese-American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act to those Chinese American WWII Veterans. We then lobbied congressional representatives to vote for the passage of the award. We are currently partnering with organizations such as Chinese American Citizens Alliance to locate and assist those Chinese Americans who served in WWII or their next of kin to apply for their just award.

Now that the torch has been passed to our new commander along with the new group of officers, I implicitly trust that our post will be in good hands. Just like all organizations, there will always be more things that need attending to, but I know emphatically that these new officers will be more than up to the challenge.

*(Continued on page 9)*



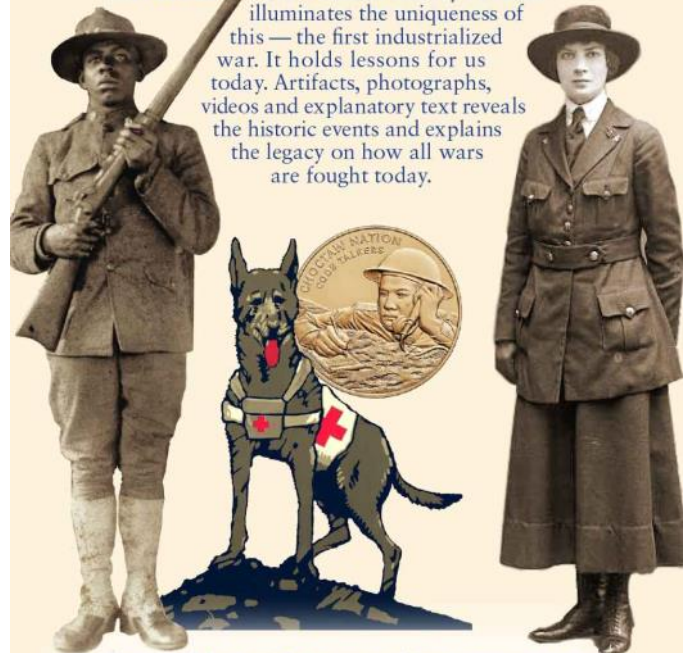
## THE GREAT WAR | WORLD WAR I The American Experience



Veterans Gallery, Free adm.  
Mon-Fri, 1-6pm  
Through-December 26  
& visit 1914-1918 WWI History, 2nd Floor  
Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

## THE GREAT WAR | WORLD WAR I The American Experience

Americans in *The War To End All Wars*  
World War One shapes our lives even 100 years after its end. The Veterans Gallery's exhibit illuminates the uniqueness of this — the first industrialized war. It holds lessons for us today. Artifacts, photographs, videos and explanatory text reveals the historic events and explains the legacy on how all wars are fought today.



Presented by Eighth District of the American Legion  
and the Veterans Commemoration Committee



On sale NOW at [www.legion.org/coin](http://www.legion.org/coin)

Don't forget to buy your American Legion US Minted coins. They won't last long. The sale of these coins will help fund American Legion programs that support servicemembers, their families, and their communities.



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
*Centennial celebration*



THE AMERICAN LEGION OF THE BAY AREA  
TOGETHER WITH CUB SCOUT PACK 347 AND  
CYPRESS LAWN



*Proudly presents Their Fourth Annual*



## FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY

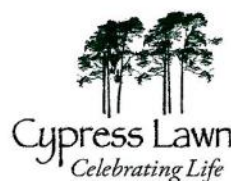
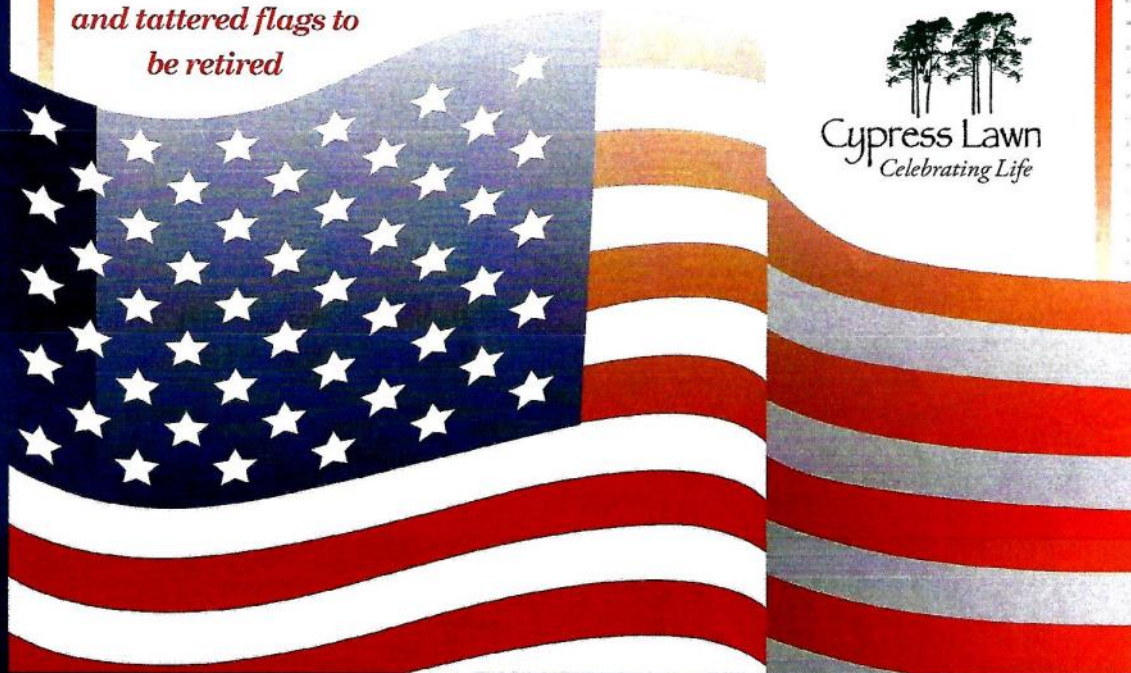
*Saturday, July 20, 2019 at 11 AM*

CYPRESS LAWN MEMORIAL PARK

*in the Beautiful and Historic Noble Chapel  
1362 El Camino Real, Colma, California*

BRIEF CEREMONY ★ CREMATION OF FLAGS ★ REFRESHMENTS

*Bring your own worn  
and tattered flags to  
be retired*





## Honoring Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt, Veteran of the Year

By W.T. Jeanpierre



On Thursday, June 20, 2019, I attended a special ceremony as a Cathay Post representative at the 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Veteran of the Year event hosted by VFW in Esparto located in Yolo County. I had

time to chat with Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt and she is one heck of a young lady from Yolo County and brilliant.

U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt, 60<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron Sgt. Paul P. Ramoneda Airman Leadership School commandant was named the 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Veteran of the Year. As the school's commandant, Hunt is responsible for the ALS curriculum, which prepares senior airmen to serve as first-line supervisors. She was selected by Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

Master Sgt. Brianna is a proven leader, bravely serving our country and her community everyday. Hunt, who is still an active-duty member of the U.S. Air Force received the veteran distinction because she had been deployed in

combat zones as part of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

Hunt entered the Air Force in August 2000. She served as Operating Room flight chief, base honor guard superintendent, surgical technician, instructor supervisor, and interrogator.

She was also recognized for her work in the community, which includes being a supporter of the North Bay Stand Down in Dixon, CA, as well as caring for two home bound seniors while stationed at Fort Sam Houston.

Other community contributions include supporting the local food banks and animal shelters. She has fostered 26 dogs and cats.



Master Sgt. Brianna Hunt (center) with Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (2<sup>nd</sup> to the right), and W.T. Jeanpierre (far right).

## THANK YOU, CONTINUED

*(Continued from page 6)*

As for me, I will be again taking over the position of District 8 commander and will be its representative to attend to issues that affect the Legion at the state level. Commander Helen Wong

has appointed me as the Special Assistant to the Commander and a member of the board of directors, so I am still involved at the post as its junior past post commander. I will do my best to support and provide guidance when she needs it.

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## 101<sup>st</sup> Department of CA Convention By Nelson Lum

The 101<sup>st</sup> American Legion Department of California convention was held on June 26 to 30, 2019 in Ontario, CA. Approximately 550 Legionnaires attended, and many issues of importance were dealt with along with some house keeping matters that required some needed adjustments. All in all, the convention accomplished its main objectives and we all left with the knowledge of what must be done in the year ahead.

One of the noticeable changes in this year's convention is the multiple training sessions available to the attendees. The attendees may choose from a variety of topics being offered daily. Aside from being able to learn more about the functions of the Legion, these training sessions broke up the monotony of having to sit in the convention center for hours as had been done at past conventions.

American Legion Cathay Post 384 was represented by our Commander Helen Wong, Director at Large Raymond Wong, and me, junior past post commander. We joined our District Commander Eduardo Ramirez and Post 448 Commander Mario Benfield as representatives of District 8.

One of the issues that brought forth many opposing opinions was the proposed revision of the Department bylaws to delete the requirement of the \$10 bond that is currently mandatory from all posts to pay for the Directors and Officers liability insurance. The Department's position is that it can no longer find an insurance company to underwrite such a policy and thus, it should be left to each post to purchase such insurance on their own if desired.

It was disclosed that the Department has been holding these collections to create a self-insured account for the posts and feels it may be too risky to continue to do so. After much debate over the pros and cons of this matter, it was decided by a majority vote to strike the proposed deletion from the current bylaws and to revisit this matter at the next DEC when more information will be available.

The Department has contracted with the City of Visalia as the site to host our next three department conventions. Contracting for three consecutive years allows the department to negotiate better deals.

Also during convention among the many resolutions presented, there

was a resolution to support James T. Higuera as a candidate to the position of national vice commander for the western region.

Congratulations are in order to Cathay Post 384, District 8, and the Department for having exceeded 100% in our membership quota. Now that we are beginning our 2020 membership drive, let's repeat our efforts. Recruit, recruit, and recruit more.

As has been with every convention, the election of officers for the following year was held. Comrade Edward Grimsley and J.R. Duarte were elected as department commander and sergeant-at-arms, respectively. Other notable changes were former department Parliamentarian Eddie Fletcher being appointed as the new judge advocate to replace Autrey James. All the elected and appointed officers were sworn in and I officially took over as the commander of the Eighth District.

For the national convention that will take place in the latter part of August in Indianapolis, I will be the delegate representing District 8, Helen Wong, Mario Benfield, and Eduardo

*(Continued on page 11)*



## NSA Counters Russian Cyber Attacks to our Nation

By Roger Dong

Last month, two articles were published in our Cathay Bulletin which described the extreme threat cyber warfare has rendered at a national level (Russian cyber warriors digital attack on Ukraine) and at state and city levels by cyber criminals from Russia other countries. We noted that the damage and harm to large computer systems and networks everywhere can be described as a digital nuclear attack. If a nation's power grid, financial institutions and other essential digital infrastructure can be crippled, lives are at risk.

We suggested that the only real defense was to develop powerful counter digital weapons of our own. That is the necessary deterrent force to protect America at all levels. Our financial institutions, utilities, medical facilities, financial systems and transportation systems must be protected from cyber attacks. If an entity want-

ed to create real chaos and also threaten the lives of many citizens, all they would need to do is successfully attack our power grids. Everything we do to live and survive depends on constant availability of electricity. Electric pumps deliver water to our homes. Without water, human beings would survive a few days once the bottled water supply is exhausted.

Our articles also noted that at least half dozen American cities have been attacked by cyber criminals (who may also be linked to government agencies), and huge ransoms were demanded and paid by both private companies and governments. Computer systems that managed critical life protection and life savings systems cannot risk a lot of down time.

Banks cannot have their networks frozen and the public denied access to their funds, or risk hav-

ing a bank run. Airports and seaports cannot function when their operations are paralyzed by captured computer control systems.

Since our alarming reports, our own cyber warriors have taken action to deter future attacks by some of our adversaries. We have inserted digital weapons into the computer networks of some of our potential enemies and warned them that an attack on our critical computer systems will result in an immediate and powerful counter cyber attack that will cripple all their vital computer networks.

For all the details, readers are invited to the following source report.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/15/us/politics/trump-cyber-russia-grid.amp.html>

'U.S. Escalates Online Attacks on Russia's Power Grid,' David E. Sanger and Nicole Perlroth, NYT, June 15, 2019

## Department Convention, Continued

(Continued from page 10)

Ramirez will all be delegates-at-large. The Department of California has been allocated about 950 delegates for the convention.

Commander Wong and I were contacted by our National Executive Commit-

teeman Larry Van Kuran regarding the visit of the incoming national commander to San Francisco. The tentative time frame seems to be either mid-December or early January for his arrival to California. We will keep you informed as soon as we hear of anything further.





## 1ST ANNUAL KOREAN CHUSEOK FESTIVAL

**Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019 | 11AM - 5PM**

**THE PRESIDIO Civil War Parade Ground, San Francisco**

*To celebrate, showcase and promote Korean Chuseok (Harvest/Thanksgiving) culture, arts & cuisine, and the Bay Area's Korean American community*

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \*5-6,000 expected from around the Bay Area
- \*Korean singers & dancers (traditional & pop)
  - \*Martial arts demonstrations
  - \*K-pop dance lessons
- \*Family-friendly games & activities
- \*Food trucks & booths offering traditional & fusion Korean cuisine
- \*Ranger-led tours of Korean War Memorial
- \*Nonprofits showcasing community services
- \*Booths highlighting local businesses
- \*Exciting raffle prizes

### JOIN US!

Ways to support & get involved:

#### \*Individual Donations

\$1,000 (*Benefactor*)

\$500 (*Patron*)

\$250 (*Supporter*)

\$100 (*Friend*)

#### \*Sponsorships

#### \*In-Kind Donations

(including raffle prizes)

#### \*Volunteer



KOREAN  
CENTER, INC.

All proceeds from the festival will go toward supporting the work of non-profit community-based organizations serving the area's Korean American population.

For donations or more info: [koreancentersf.org/chuseok2019](http://koreancentersf.org/chuseok2019) or 415-441-1881





## Anatomy of Planning a Banquet By Nelson Lum

As usual, someone from the board of directors of our post is responsible to write a brief report on the annual banquet. The report generally describes the event that took place, any unusual incidents or special circumstances, and ends the report by writing it was great and everybody had a good time.

For this article, I've decided to do something different. Instead of writing a brief report about the banquet, I am going to cover what must be done in order to host a banquet. I know some of you think it is simply contacting the restaurant, send out invitations, sell some tables, and have a great time. The facts are, it takes a tremendous amount of work in order to host a successful banquet. It is truly a production. I think it would be important for most of you to know how to go about planning, managing, and implementing the various components of a banquet if you are assigned to assist with planning such event in the future.

At the beginning of each new term, after the newly elected officers have been sworn in, the members of the executive board should start looking and selecting some dates for the next

anniversary celebration. This should be decided upon within two to three weeks of the new term.

The selection of the location (hall/restaurant) should be done at the same time as the selection of the dates. Inquiry should be made to the halls or restaurants as soon as possible for their availability on those selected dates. Upon completion of these tasks, a final decision needs to be made as to the exact date and to reserve the hall or restaurant.

About four months prior to the date selected, an anniversary banquet committee should be formed. Assign tasks to members of the committee with a set date for them to report back on their progress.

Some of the tasks that are mandatory are as followed:

1. Designing and composing a banquet flyer. I usually went to my trusted newsletter editor for that!
2. Selection of a Master/Mistress of Ceremony and to check on his/her availability.
3. Selection of singer(s) for the National Anthem.
4. Form a sub-

committee to oversee selection of awardees. (Within 30 days of being formed, the committee is responsible for notifying the various entities the selection criteria for the awardees.)

About three months prior to the banquet date, the banquet committee should do the following:

1. Finalize banquet flyer and publish it in the monthly newsletter at least two (2) months in advance of the date.
2. Selection of additional singer or entertainer if the committee desires to have such entertainment.
3. Contact brother and sister organizations to solicit their support.
4. Contact all entities regarding the progress of awardees selection. Notify them of the need to receive a brief bio and picture of each awardee. Set a date for that to be done.

About two months prior to the banquet date, the banquet committee should do the following:

1. Make sure the flyer is published in our newsletter continually. Post the flyer on our and our district's Facebook page

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Planning a Banquet, Continued

(Continued from page 13)

and websites.

2. Committee members must begin to make personal contacts with friends and associates to sell tables and seats.

3. At the regular monthly meeting, all members are asked to help with selling tables and seats. Remind all members we need them to make personal contacts with their friends and associates in order to sell.

4. Contact and confirm a color detail.

5. Decision must be made on whether to hold a 50/50 raffle or an auction at the banquet. (Assign enough members to handle this task.)

6. Contact all entities regarding the progress of awardee selections. If the awardees' bio and picture have not been received, every effort must be made to confirm when that will be done.

About a month prior to the banquet date, the banquet committee should do the following:

1. Encourage all committee members along with all members and support members to sell table and seats. They must be reminded that the only effective way to

sell is for them to make personal contact with the potential guests. Inform all members of the dress code for the event.

2. Form a sub-committee to design a program and have it printed nicely. When the sub-committee didn't work, I again went to my reliable newsletter editor. (Need one copy per each banquet attendee.)

3. Assign a person or few people to draft the script for the event. (The script must contain all elements of the program including the verbiage used by all parties.)

4. Locate or hire bartenders to set up and tend bar if allowed to do so by the restaurant. Set up a date and time to purchase all necessary liquors, mixes, cups, straws, and cocktail napkins.

About 10 days prior to the banquet date, the banquet committee must do the following:

1. Finalize the number of attendees and notify the hall or restaurant.

2. Provide the M/C with the dress code, program, and the script. Ask if changes need to be made.

3. Confirm with all the singers/entertainers and remind them of the dress code.

4. Confirm with the color detail and coordinate the time of arrival for them.

5. The Sergeant-at-Arms is assigned the task of bringing all the necessary flags, stands, POW/MIA observance setting, and banners to the hall/restaurant and return them to the post after the event.

6. A prewritten invocation is provided to the chaplain.

7. Confirm with the raffle group to be sure they have raffle tickets and adequate small bills for change.

8. Assign someone to purchase flowers on the date of the banquet if flowers are desired.

9. Coordinate with the hall/restaurant to set up a time (usually a day before the event) to drop off the items for the bar.

10. Locate volunteers (2 to 3) to work at the registration desk on the date of the banquet.

11. Locate volunteers to be at the hall/restaurant about two hours before

(Continued on page 15)







## Planning a Banquet, Continued

(Continued from page 14)

the start of the program to help with table setting.

12. Confirm with all presenters for the event to make sure they all know what to say and do.

13. Assign someone to spot VIPs as they arrive and write their names down so they can be recognized or introduced.

14. If high ranking officials are scheduled to speak, must be prepared

to make allowances in the program to accommodate changes.

15. Prepare scholarship and award certificates and write out their checks before the event.

16. When you think you have it all covered, go back and do a double check.

I know many of the above tasks seem redundant, but they are necessary and will determine the success or failure of

your event. The step by step approach is by no means set in stone, but rather for the purpose of giving some guidelines to follow if you have not planned such an event before. The more effort you put into the planning stage, the more likely your event will be successful. When you receive the accolades and felt the satisfaction of your attendees, you will be gratified knowing you've accomplished your mission.

## Hypersonic Weapons Development By Roger Dong

Several months ago, I wrote an article discussing the ambitious programs the Russians and Chinese have been developing about hypersonic aircraft and missiles. We barely mentioned that perhaps, we Americans might also be working on hypersonic systems. Since that initial prognosis, the media has reported that at least two of our own defense contractors have ensured that we are not left out of this hypersonic madness.

*Defense News* and the *New York Times* reported early in June that we are right in the middle of testing a maneuverable missile capable of striking any target moving at up to 15 times the speed of sound, and arriving at any location within minutes. There is no real defense against a weapon traveling at hypersonic speeds. At blinding speeds up to 15 Mach, by the time special radar detects the approaching hyper-system, the war head will have already reached its designated target.

Aircraft/missiles moving at 10+ Mach

(the speed of sound) cannot be detected with current radar capabilities. Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon are all working on different parts of our hyper programs.

Lockheed Martin has accepted the mission to design hypersonic missiles for launching from jet fighters and/or our jet bombers.

Strategic planners are worried that these new hypersonic weapons will upend norms of deterrence and exacerbate Cold War tensions.

This development warrants serious planning and brain storming. If this report intrigues you, the following two sources are a good starting point to get your juices flowing.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/19/magazine/hypersonic-missiles.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share>

<https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2019/06/18/Raytheon-Northrop-Grumman-partner-on-hypersonic-missile-system/9531560863841/>

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# July 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm	3	4 <b>Independence Day</b>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Dist. 8 Meeting 6 pm	12	13 <b>Post Meeting 11 am</b>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Flag retirement service
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 CA Legion Yountville Days
28 CA Legion Yountville Days	29	30	31			

# August 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm	7	8 Dist. 8 Meeting 6 pm	9	10 <b>Post Meeting 11 am</b>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 DEC in Bakersfield
18 DEC in Bakersfield	19	20	21	22	23 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	24 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention
25 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	26 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	27 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	28 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	29 101 <sup>st</sup> Nat'l convention	30	31

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2014  
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2019



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**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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