



# CATHAY DISPATCH

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

## “MORALE CONFERENCE” OF MARCH 15-17, 1919 BECOMES THE AMERICAN LEGION

By Clara Pon

Comrades of the Great War • Veterans of the Great War • Liberty League  
Army of the Great War • Legion of the Great War • Great War Legion  
the Legion • the American Legion • American Comrades of the Great War  
Society of the Great War • the Great Legion • American Comrades

### Important Dates:

- Mar 8-10— DEC meeting at Post 56
- Mar 10—Daylight Saving time begins
- Mar 15-17—American Legion birthday
- Mar 16—11 a.m. Monthly meeting
- Mar 17 —St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20—Legion Legislative Day at State Capitol in Sac.
- Apr 13—11 a.m. Monthly meeting

### “Am inviting enlisted men.”

Lt. Col. Eric Fisher Wood, in a March cable to Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., from Paris to New York, to report that that the Paris Caucus “morale conference” would be bigger than the 300 attendees originally expected

### MARCH 15-17, 1919

The American Legion is formed in Paris. More than 1,000 are believed to have attended some portion of the Paris Caucus, although only 463 officially register. A preliminary constitutional preamble is drafted and the first executive committee, chaired by founder Milton J. Foreman, begins organizational work.

As you might imagine, these 12 names were the suggested names recommended by a committee of soldiers from the American Expeditionary Forces (A.E.F.) during a ‘morale conference’ held in Paris on March 15-17, 1919. Flyers and verbal invitations were passed out encouraging all A.E.F. soldiers to attend this meeting if they were able. Under the pretense of a ‘morale conference,’ four members of the A.E.F., Theodore Roosevelt,

Jr., Lt. Col. George S. White, Maj. Eric Fisher Wood, and Lt. Col. William J. Donovan planned to use that conference to present their concept of a veterans’ organization. Expecting only a couple of hundred to come, they soon found themselves scrambling to find a location to accommodate upwards of four to five times that many.

On the first day of the conference, American Legion was chosen as the temporary name for their veterans’ organization. Along with their new name came their first draft of the preamble. “We, the members of the Military and Naval Services of the United States of American in the Great War, desiring to perpetuate the principles of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy for which we have fought to inculcate the duty and obligation of the citizen of the State; to preserve the history and incidents of our participation in the war; and to cement the ties of comradeship formed in service, to propose to found and establish and Association for the furtherance of the foregoing purposes.”



Two months later in St. Louis, the stateside caucus was held on May 8-10, 1919 to continue and further those actions that began in Paris. An Advanced Committee, an executive committee along with several other committees

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## 100 Years of American Legion Volunteerism—Altruism or Egoism? Are you a servant leader? By Clara Pon

Every Legionnaire at some point is asked, “Why did you join The American Legion?” It could have been at a membership roundtable discussing ways on how to recruit new members or it could have been during a leadership training session. It doesn’t really matter the where or the when, but the answer to the question that is most important.

Why did you join The American Legion, a veteran membership driven volunteer organization lead by volunteer leaders? Was it the opportunity to help support your veteran and their families in your communities? Was it the prospect of helping out high school students in activities that would develop discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership, or communication skills? Maybe you joined the Legion to educate others why voting matters, or how to fly and fold the flag correctly, or to smartly march in parades to demonstrate your patriotism. Perhaps The American Legion presented an avenue you needed to continue to serve your fellow veterans by relentlessly pursuing legislation to ensure your comrades are afforded the rights

and benefits they deserve. For whatever reasons you joined The American Legion, it may not be why you are still a member today.

If you’ve been an active member, then you may have noticed and encountered in your experience at any of the hierarchal levels of this organization different types of volunteer Legionnaires. They are members wearing blue caps all the way up to the red national officer Legion cap. You’ve probably seen those that are go-getters, many that feel entitled, some don’t know what they’re supposed to do and accept the position regardless, more that fill a role intentionally don’t do anything, and several that didn’t want the role and got it anyway.

Furthermore, there are those that are outspoken, passionate visionaries who boasts about having solutions to everything, but yet solve nothing. Then there are those less boisterous members that are always relied upon who are diligently getting the work done. We also understand these members give varying levels of participation due to many reasons such as personal and family obligations, work,

health, transportation, and or amount of time they choose to dedicate. Regardless of the amount of time one is able to dedicate to the Legion for the benefit of others, those should be appreciated, applauded, and respected.

What is volunteering? Volunteering is generally considered an altruistic activity where an individual or group provides services for no financial or social gain "to benefit another person, group or organization." (Wikipedia)

As a volunteer, are you volunteering for altruistic, ‘the belief in or practice of disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others;’ or egoistic, ‘the practice of talking and thinking about oneself excessively because of an undue sense of self-importance’ reasons?

And what do you mean by being a servant leader? “A servant-leader focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of people and the communities to which they belong. While traditional leadership generally involves the accumulation and exercise of power by one at the “top of the pyramid,” servant leadership is different.

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# THE AMERICAN LEGION *Centennial celebration*

(Continued from page 1)

were created with elected chairs and representatives equally represented. The St. Louis caucus progressed the organization even further with approved resolutions, more committees, a permanent organization name, newly elected officers, and more in preparations for the first national convention in Minneapolis, Minn. to be held on November 10-12, 1919.



### NOV. 10-12, 1919

Cold temperatures and snow put a chill over the 1st American Legion National Convention in Minneapolis. Thousands still line the streets for the first national convention parade, led by Kansas native and Medal of Honor recipient George Mallon. Boy Scouts of America is the first youth program to receive support from The American Legion, by resolution. Virginia Whitmore of San Francisco, one of 140 female delegates to the convention, calls on The American Legion to fight for vocational training for disabled veterans. She, herself, is a disabled veteran. Indianapolis is chosen as the permanent home of The American Legion National Headquarters, authorization is given for the formation of a women's auxiliary, and Franklin D'Olier is elected first national commander.

March 15-17, 2019 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of The American Legion. What is your post doing to commemorate this momentous occasion? This should be one event that gets logged in the history books for your post. Here is a look at some worthy accomplishments of the strides and accomplishments The American Legion has done in the past 100 years. These snippets were taken from the Legion's timeline exhibit.

### JAN. 7, 1927

Originally sponsored by George L. Giles American Legion Post 87 in Chicago and known as the South Side Giles Team, the basketball stars who would later become known as the Harlem Globetrotters make their debut at Hinckley, Ill.



Later sponsored by the Savoy Ballroom and known briefly as the "Savoy Big Five," the Harlem Globetrotters would go on to entertain more than 144 million fans in 122 countries worldwide.



### SEPT. 27, 1920

The poppy is named the official flower of The American Legion during the second national convention in Cleveland.



### JULY 21, 1930

The Veterans Administration is established after persistent pressure from The American Legion.

### JAN. 21, 1935

American Legion Legislative Committee Vice Chairman John Thomas Taylor appears on the cover of TIME Magazine. Taylor is credited with working to pass more than 600 bills to benefit veterans.

### JUNE 23, 1935

Legionnaires Harold Card and Hayes Kennedy organize the first American Legion Boys State at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield. Meant to counter the Soviet Union's communist Young Pioneer camps, Boys State quickly catches on as a program to teach young Americans their rights, privileges and responsibilities as franchised citizens.

### OCT. 20, 1922

A resolution to study the feasibility of building a national home for orphaned or destitute children of American Legion members is passed at the 4th National Convention in New Orleans, planting the seed for what becomes the Legion's Child Welfare Committee.



### MAY 6, 1937

The National Executive Committee approves a resolution specifying that uniform caps be worn by officers on all levels, and the blue cap with gold lettering is the standard to be worn by regular members.



(Continued on page 4)

# THE AMERICAN LEGION'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Continued from page 3)

## JULY 2, 1937

The American Legion fights for, and gets, approval for 24-hour guarding of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. The "sentinels" of the tomb are members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as "The Old Guard," which originated in the Revolutionary War. From midnight July 2, 1937, through today, the tomb is continuously guarded, regardless of conditions.



## JUNE 1, 1938

The first American Legion National Oratorical Contest is won by John Janson of Arizona in Norman, Okla.



*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America...*

## JUNE 22, 1942

Congress passes Public Law 77-623, Chapter 435 – U.S. Flag Code – adopting rules established in The American Legion conferences of 1923 and 1924.

## OCT. 29, 1942

Congress approves a change in The American Legion's federal charter to make eligible for membership World War II personnel and honorably discharged veterans who served beginning Dec. 7, 1941.



## AUG. 9, 1946

The American Legion's Boys Forum of National Government, a federal version of the successful Boys State programs, completes its first session at American University in Washington, D.C. Three years later, it is renamed American Legion Boys Nation.



## JUNE 22, 1944

Eight months of persistence and legislative influence leads to signing of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the GI Bill. National Commander Warren Atherton of California had made assistance for medically discharged GIs his No. 1 priority and assembled a blue-ribbon committee to convert more than 600 languishing bills into a 10-plank omnibus measure that would ultimately change the world. The American Legion, with promotional support from Hearst newspapers, fought off criticisms from military branches, lawmakers who disagreed with equal benefits for black veterans and even other veterans service organizations to get the bill passed in Congress. A dramatic late-night operation in Georgia brought the swing vote to Washington to break a tie that would have let the measure die in committee. The GI Bill would go on to return \$7 for every \$1 in federal investment. It would democratize home ownership and higher education, driving a half-century of U.S. economic prosperity.

## OCT. 12, 1950

Erle Cocke, Jr., 29, of Dawson, Ga., a World War II German prisoner who had been wounded three times and left for dead, becomes the youngest-ever American Legion national commander.



## JULY 9, 1954

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc., is established to benefit young people who face physical, mental or environmental challenges. The foundation applies principles of longtime American Legion Child Welfare Division Director Emma Puschner, who by the time she retired in 1950 was credited for generating \$73 million overall to help children and assisting more than 7 million young people facing difficulties beyond their control. When The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was born, the new non-profit chose to make funds available to other organizations that were experts in specific areas. In 1955, the first three recipients of CWF grants were: The Delinquency Control Institute, The National Association for Retarded Children and The National Association for the Prevention of Blindness.



## JULY 25, 1967

Alan Keyes of San Antonio, Texas, son of a Vietnam War veteran, follows his April 1967 American Legion National Oratorical Contest championship with election as president of American Legion Boys Nation three months later. At 16, he is the youngest national oratorical champion to date, and is the first youth to claim top honors in both Americanism programs. He later becomes a U.S. ambassador and runs for President of the United States three times.



## MARCH 15, 1969

The U.S. Postal Service issues a 6-cent commemorative stamp to honor The American Legion's 50th anniversary.

*"I may have been the first Legion Baseball graduate in the Hall of Fame, but I won't be the last."*

Professional baseball star Bob Feller, 1963



## JULY 23, 1962

Pitching phenomenon Bob Feller of Iowa – known as the "heater from Van Meter" – is the first alumnus of American Legion Baseball inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown.

## MAY 28, 1984

Legionnaire and U.S. President Ronald Reagan acts as next of kin and accepts the internment flag for a then-unknown soldier of the Vietnam War, whose remains are added to the crypt at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

(Continued on page 5)

## THE AMERICAN LEGION'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Continued from page 4)



**OCT. 11, 1990**

The American Legion Family Support Network is formed to provide volunteer help for families of military personnel deployed to Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.



**JUNE 15, 1991**

Richard Wilson of Arizona and Everett Miskelly of Mississippi take home the titles from the first American Legion Junior Shooting Sports national championships.



**APRIL 18, 1999**

Kevin Sladek of San Marco, Texas, wins The American Legion National Oratorical Contest less than a year after his election as president of Boys Nation, only the second young man to have reached the top in both programs. Alan Keyes, also of Texas, did it in 1967.



**AUG. 4, 2012**

Former American Legion Junior Shooting Sports national champion Jamie Lynn Beyerle (Corkish) sets Olympic records in the women's 50-meter rifle event to take a gold medal at the 2012 Games in London.

**AUG. 16, 2017**

The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 – also known as the “Forever GI Bill” – is signed into law. The legislation is named for The American Legion past national commander who in 1943 drafted the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act in a room at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C.



**AUG. 23, 2017**

Donald Trump becomes the first U.S. president to use the stage of an American Legion national convention to sign a bill into law when he approves the Veterans Appeals and Modernization Act of 2017 onstage in Reno, Nev. The measure offers three courses of action to reduce the number of pending VA appeals – more than 470,000 at the time – and speed up the process.



**AUG. 24, 2017**

Army veteran Denise Rohan of Wisconsin is elected national commander of The American Legion, the first woman to hold the highest office in the nation's largest organization of wartime veterans.

Mar. 13, 2019—U.S. Minted American Legion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative coins.



See more information on the coins on page 10 and 11.



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
*Centennial celebration*

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## COMMANDER NELSON LUM

It seems like it was only yesterday that we ushered in 2019, but the calendar says we are in March already. It is time to start thinking about our nomination and election of post officers which will take place in the month of May. The newly elected officers will take over their responsibilities beginning in the month of June. A list of the officer positions and their respective responsibilities is included in this edition of our newsletter on pages 15-17. Please look carefully into the responsibilities of the various officer positions. Every elected position is open for nomination with some of the positions require prior service as an officer of the post. I urge all of you to give this matter your utmost consideration and thoughtfulness since our post's future depends on those chosen individuals to set the sails and to steer our post in the right course. In addition to the post officer positions, there will be two vacancies open for the Chinese American War Veterans Association (CAWVA) board of directors.

Once again, I don't have any good news to report on the leasing of our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. We did however, retain the services of our current realtor agent. While we have not been

successful in locating a tenant for the space yet, nevertheless, the hard work of our current agent is notable and hence, the decision to retain his service. The terms of the lease and the prior agreed upon commission rates have not been changed.

The recent rain caused some of the old wooden planks of the back stairs to crumble. Contractors have inspected the damages and quotes have been obtained. We hope to have the stairs repaired within the next couple of weeks. We are at the mercy of Mother Nature since the repair work cannot be done without the cooperation of the weather. For the time being, please do not use the back stairs unless you absolutely must and with great caution.

At our last month's membership meeting, we met the winner of the District 8 oratorical contest, Mr. Johnny O'Meara. We also witnessed his fabulous oratory skills. I am happy to report that he has since won the Area 2 contest and will enter the state contest on March 3, 2019 at Clovis, CA. The winner of that contest will go on to the national contest as the representative from California. Johnny, you have our best wishes.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to all our members for your unwavering support of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp (JROTC) here in San Francisco. Upon learning of the financial crisis that could have killed the programs in both Galileo and Mission high schools, you, our members, stepped up big and approved the motion for our post to be the guarantor of funds in the amount of \$25,000 to help with facilitating the hiring of new instructors which is a must in order to keep the viability of the programs. I am very proud of being able to say that this commitment is a continuation of our ongoing efforts to promote this most successful educational program for our youths in the school system. We were there as one of the main components that saved the program when ill-advised school board members attempted to abolish it for ideological and political reasons back in 2005.

We endured the struggle over the succeeding years as additional attempts were made to underfund and or disband the program even though the citizenry of San Francisco voted to retain the program in the school

*(Continued on page 11)*



Nelson Lum

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Cathay Post Member  
since: 2005

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC

*"I still do not understand why any school board member would want to abolish a program that results in 99%+ graduation rate along with 97% went on to higher education. There is no other program that can boast such success in the San Francisco Unified School District."*



Helen Wong

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Cathay Post Member since: 1990

Branch: Army

Final Rank: Lt. Col.

*“Led by former south Vietnamese Army officer Cang Dong Kim who was sent to a north Vietnamese “re-education” camp for over five years, the group is eternally grateful for the Americans who served in their country and battled alongside them.”*

## 1<sup>st</sup> VICE COMMANDER HELEN WONG

Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 Matters! Two years ago on March 28, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed S.305 into law designating March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day which encourages the display of the U.S. flag on that day. Vietnam Veterans Day commemorates the sacrifices of Vietnam Veterans and recognizes the men and women who did not receive a welcome home when returning back over 40 years ago. As a reminder, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed declaring the release of all American prisoners of war from North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from South Vietnam. On March 29, 1973 the last U.S. troops left Vietnam.

Going back further in time than 2017, a southern Californian Vietnam Veteran by the name of Jose Guadalupe Ramos started in 2002 working tirelessly campaigning to get recognition for those who were not appreciated for their service, courage and loyalty during their time in uniform from the period about 1959 to 1975. Due to his efforts, in 2004, California adopted Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) No. 171 and recognized March 8, 2005 as a day to honor Vietnam

War Veterans and proclaimed that the state flies its flags at half-mast.

In 2009, California Senate Resolution (SR) 18 was adopted recognizing March 30, 2009 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day and is generally celebrated on that day in California versus the more accepted date of March 29 when the last combat troops left Vietnam and the last POWs held in North Vietnam arrived on American soil. Forty six states and Puerto Rico recognize Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans on either March 29 or March 30 with legislation and resolutions either annually or for a specific year. So, for those who have not heard the words, let me say them again: Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans! (Our Cathay Post membership comprises the majority of Vietnam era veterans.)

In the Bay Area, the Steve Warren Memorial Chapter 464 of the Vietnam Veterans of America will hold the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Classic Car show and program on March 30, 2019 at the Redwood City Veterans Memorial Building parking lot. The car show starts at 10 a.m., the program starts

at 11 a.m. with a few speeches, Veteran of the Year and Community Patriot of the Year awards, handing out Vietnam Veteran lapel pins, followed by a barbecue lunch at noon, and Best of Show car awards by 2 p.m. See flyer on page 24.

For the past four years, the color guard has been the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 201 from San Jose. What is unusual about this group is that it is comprised of former South Vietnamese military men and women who served during the Vietnam War in their country. Led by former south Vietnamese Army officer Cang Dong Kim who was sent to a north Vietnamese “re-education” camp for over five years, the group is eternally grateful for the Americans who served in their country and battled alongside them. These members are the most patriotic group and can be found marching in the San Jose Veterans Day parade or providing color guard duties at various locations throughout the Bay Area.

We salute their dedication and willingness to give back to their adopted country!

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



Johnny O'Meara (L) District 8 oratorical contest winner and Commander Nelson Lum (R) at Cathay Post 384 meeting.

At our February 09, 2019 meeting, we were pleased to have the winner of our 8<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical contest, Johnny O'Meara along with his father, Mr. Robert O'Meara visit our post. Johnny gave a moving and well-presented oration of the US Constitution. He demonstrated to our members why he is the winner with his

poise and demeanor. He will enter the department's Area 2 competition and if selected as the winner, will then go on to the state competition held at Clovis Veterans Memorial District on March 3, 2019. Could we be looking at the next national champion?

At that same meeting, two important awards were given to two very hard-working members, Finance Officer George Tsang and Board of Director Randy Toy. George was instrumental in the planning, prepping, and cooking for the special fundraising Super Bowl party at the post. He set up a great party with prime rib, chicken wings, Jai (Chinese vegetarian dish), and all the trimmings for a \$20 per person donation. Where else can you get all you can eat prime rib and fantastic camaraderie than at a Cathay Post party?



Board member Randy Toy went above and beyond. He purchased and donated a 75" television to support the Super Bowl fundraising party and was installed just in time. Additionally, he organized a successful drawing to help with the festivities and fun. There were about 120 people there in attendance and the event raised over \$1,300 through efforts of these two great comrades. Bravo!



Middle: Commander Lum presenting Finance Officer George Tsang with an appreciation certificate.  
Left: Commander Lum presenting Randy Toy with an appreciation certificate at Cathay Post 384's February meeting.



Charles Paskerian

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Cathay Post member since: 2011

Branch: USAF

Final Rank: Major

## Volunteerism, Continued

*(Continued from page 2)*

The servant-leader shares power, puts the needs of others first and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible.” ([www.Greenleaf.org](http://www.Greenleaf.org))

So, whatever type of volunteer listed here that may apply to you, what type of volunteer are you really? What is your motivation to be a volunteer member of The American Legion? Moreover, if you were asked or chosen to take on a leadership role, what were your reason(s) for taking it and why? Were they altruistic or egoistic reasons?

So, you're likely asking yourself, "What does any of this have to do with being a member of The American Legion?" The answer to that solely depends on your own knowledge, beliefs, and perceptions of what being a volunteer member of the largest volunteer led war time veterans organization means to you. Your organization is led by volunteers, not paid employees, Legionnaire or not. Your elected volunteer leaders are tasked with making intelligent, strategic, and educated legally binding decisions based on verifiable facts and supporting documentation on your behalf for the successful operation of this non-profit corporation. You, as a member have a voice and a vote. What you do or do not do in an elected or appointed position affects the future of this organization. Collectively, all your voices and votes determine the direction the organization heads.

Here is an excerpt from the 'Mission' page on the Legion's website that addresses what The American Legion is. "The American Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization with great political influence perpetuated by its grass-roots involvement in the legislation process from local districts

to Capitol Hill. Legionnaires' sense of obligation to community, state and nation drives an honest advocacy for veterans in Washington. The Legion stands behind the issues most important to the nation's veterans community, backed by resolutions passed by volunteer leadership.

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives."

Now that you are reminded on what it is, let us remember why veterans started and joined The American Legion 100 years ago.

For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
- To maintain law and order;
- To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
- To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;
- To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
- To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
- To make right the master of might;
- To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
- To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
- To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

*(Continued on page 12)*



## American Legion Commemorative Coins By Nelson Lum



To all you coin collectors or those of you who have never collected any coins. This is something that only comes around once in a life time unless you live pass the age of 100. The long-awaited minting of The American Legion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative coins has begun and will be available for purchase on March 14, 2019. For the coin collectors, you already know this is an opportunity to invest. For the non-collectors, it is an opportunity to purchase memorabilia that can be passed on from generation to generation.

There are two and only two commemorative coins authorized by Congress to be minted each year. The competition for such authorization is fierce among various lobbying groups. For the year of 2019, the two coins authorized by Congress were, the launching of the Apollo Space Program and The American Legion's centennial. The American Legion was successful in its lobbying efforts and is honored by this commemoration.

There are three coins in each set, a \$5 gold coin, a \$1 silver coin, and a half dollar clad coin. The exact price for each set has not been announced yet, but it will definitely be well worth the price. There is very little doubt that the value of these coins will increase with time. So, shake and empty that piggy bank of yours and buy some commemorative coins. Various programs of The American Legion will

benefit from the sale of these coins and hopefully, we should not have to worry about the increase of dues any-time soon.

Surcharges totaling \$35 for each \$5 gold coin sold, \$10 for each silver dollar sold, and \$5 for each half dollar sold are authorized to be paid to The American Legion. These proceeds from the coin sales will help fund American Legion programs that support veterans, servicemembers, their families and in their local communities. You may go to [www.catalog.usmint.gov](http://www.catalog.usmint.gov) to obtain further information or to make your purchase beginning at noon EST on March 14, 2019. You can also call (800) USA-MINT (800-872-6468) to order by phone.

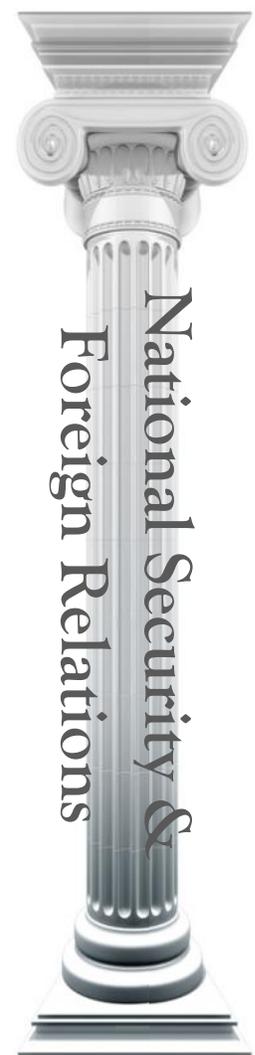
Here is more information on the different finishes of coins available defined by the US Mint.

**Proof coins:** Are the finest quality of coin produced by the United States Mint. The term "proof" refers to the coin's finish. Proof blanks are specially

*(Continued on page 11)*



Photo by Lucas Carter.



### 100<sup>th</sup> Commemorative coins, continued

*(Continued from page 10)*

treated, hand-polished, and cleaned to ensure high-quality strikes. The blanks are then fed into presses fitted with specially polished dies and struck at least twice. The coins are then carefully packaged to showcase and preserve their exceptional finish. These coins:

- Are struck at least twice, which gives the coin a frosted, sculpted foreground for a glamorous shine; defined, intricate design; and mirror-like background.

- Come with an official Certificate of Authenticity.

Are encased in a protective capsule.

**Uncirculated coins:** Are hand-loaded into the coining press and struck on specially burnished blanks, yet have a soft, matte-like finish appearance. These coins:

- Are made like circulating coins (which are used every day as money), but with a special process that produces a brilliant finish.

- Comes with an official Certificate of Authenticity.



\$5 Gold



\$1 Silver



\$.50 Clad

### COMMANDER LUM, CONTINUED

*(Continued from page 6)*

system. I still do not understand why any school board member would want to abolish a program that results in 99%+ graduation rate along with 97% went on to higher education. There is no other program that can boast such success in the San Francisco Unified School District. I applaud all of you for your support of our youths.

This will mark the second year that we have decided not to participate in the Lunar New Year parade which was scheduled on February 23, 2019. Our reason for not wanting to participate is due to the unreasonable fee of \$300 that the organization of the parade charges. While this is one of the biggest parades in our city, the organizers receive funding from the city along with many sponsors. I am not alone in not agreeing with this excessive charge being levied upon all the units especially units that represent the commu-

nity. Many community groups are alarmed by the sudden decision (from 2018) to charge fees in order to be a part of the parade. A meeting will soon be held by members of various community groups along with elected officials to discuss this situation. I will keep you posted on any new development.

Our next membership monthly meeting will be moved to the following Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. instead of the usual second Saturday of each month. The board of directors meeting will also be moved and held on the same date at 9:30 a.m. Both meetings will be held at our post headquarters located at 1524 Powell Street.

As usual, lunch will be served following the membership meeting with the help of our friends and support members. Don't forget to thank them for their constant support and help. Hope to see all of you there.



## Vice Commander Wong, Continued

(Continued from page 7)

To continue recollecting on some of Cathay Post history's, here is a clip from Cathay Chronicle's 1955 edition announcing a nationwide Child Welfare fund drive in conjunction with the Legion's 36<sup>th</sup> birthday, Cathay Post will be hosting a dance party.

### THE ADJUTANT'S CORNER

THE AMERICAN LEGION, 36th Birthday  
(1919—March 15 to 17—1955)

Cathay Post is planning a gay celebration of the 36th Anniversary of the birth of The American Legion.

A dance has been scheduled for the night of March 19, 1955, Saturday from 10:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. at the Post Auditorium.

The American Legion was founded at a caucus of delegates from the 1st AEF in Paris, France, March 15 to 17, 1919. It's the only American Veterans' Organization founded overseas by fighting men and women. It includes today eligible veterans of World War I, World War II and of the Korean Conflict.

As part of a nation-wide birthday program, Cathay Post is holding a Child Welfare Fund Drive in conjunction with an American Legion 36th Birthday Dance.

Of the many programs of The American Legion, one of the most outstanding is Child Welfare. During 1954, The American Legion and its affiliated groups—The American Legion Auxiliary, The Forty and Eight and The Eight and Forty—expended over \$6,500,000 in financial aid to needy children, bringing to more than \$117,750,000 the amount spent since 1925 for food, clothing, and medical treatment for children.

### A DAY IN MEXICO ON JUNE 26

Make plans now to attend the State Convention at San Diego, June 25-29. Let us have your names if you plan to attend.

### SEND US YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES, PLEASE

#### Have You Paid Your 1955 Dues?

Dear Comrades:

Your membership in the Post is a vote of confidence that your Officers are doing a good job. As of February 10, 1955, at 7th District Meeting, Cathay Post Membership was 695, which is 106.92% of our quota. The best way to let America know that you are Loyal Americans, Anti-Communists, ready, willing and able to do your duty for God and Country, is by sending in your 1955 dues if you have not done so. You have only 3 more months to go.

If you want to continue getting the Cathay Chronicle, American Legion magazine and California Legionnaire, please send in your dues pronto. THANK YOU.

### CALENDAR

VOL. 2 (1955) NO. 7

March 1—Regular Business Meeting of Cathay Post No. 384 at Post Headquarters on Tuesday evening at 8:30 P.M. Refreshments and Games afterwards.

March 10—Seventh District Meeting in Room 223, Veterans Building, Thursday evening, 8:30 P.M. All delegates requested to attend.

March 19—The American Legion, 36th Birthday Dance in Post Auditorium from 10:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M., Saturday, for members and their friends.

blood now? I, myself, am new, and with us bunch of young bloods, I'm sure we can show up good. Be sure to attend the coming Post Meeting and I will give you more information, as I sure have some dandy ideas in this crazy head of mine.

Thank you, Fellow Comrades,

ROY H. YIM,  
*Child Welfare Chairman*

### LEGION SPONSORS ABMAC

At a dinner in prelude to a meeting of American Bureau for Medical Aid to (Free) China, Lewis K. Gough, past National Commander of the American Legion announced that the American Legion has officially sponsored ABMAC at the Legion's National Convention in Washington, D.C., last September, and at the California Department Convention in San Francisco last summer, and urged that every Californian "get on the bandwagon, and contribute to ABMAC."

"A contribution to ABMAC," he said, "is a help in winning the Cold War, and maybe the Hot War, too, should we come to that unfortunate condition."

Contributions should be made payable to ABMAC, J. F. Holland, Treasurer, and mailed to ABMAC, at the Chancellor Hotel, Los Angeles.

One of the purposes of the ABMAC meeting was to launch the 1954-55 Fund Campaign with its Million-dollar goal, of which \$250,000 is urgently needed at once. This money, spent in the United States, is used to bring Chinese doctors and nurses to the United States for training, after which they return to Formosa to practice and train others and for the purpose



## Volunteerism, Continued

(Continued from page 9)

Since these questions are being posed, will The American Legion be around for another 100 years with your type and level of involvement? Are you or do you subscribe to the traits of a servant leader looking to further the causes and missions of The American

Legion that were founded 100 years ago; or are you one of those other types of Legionnaires that just want the titles and the recognition that goes along with those titles without really doing or understanding the purpose of the job? What kind of volunteer member do you want to be recognized and known as being?

As Legionnaires, our most sacred responsibility is to look out for each other and our fellow veterans. National Commander Brett Reistad has called for a Buddy Check during our National Week of Calling around the Legion's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday as a way to reach out to members and former members who may need help. Perhaps they have been waiting for a personal call or visit to renew or rejoin. No matter their situations, we can do as our founders did by making personal contact with veterans in our communities.

### How do I organize a Buddy Check?

1. **Gather up a team** if possible to call or personally visit members and former members of The American Legion. If each member in a team of 10 calls just 10 Legionnaires or former Legionnaires, 100 veterans can be reached in one sitting.

2. If you don't have a list of members and former members at your fingertips, **visit [myLegion.org](http://myLegion.org) and download the names of current members and those who have let their memberships expire.**

3. Save the file of members and those whose memberships have expired onto a spreadsheet or copy and paste into a Word file to distribute among your team members. **Print several copies of the lists.**

4. **Divide up the call list among your team members.** Some may have personal connections with the member or the former member and should make that particular buddy check.

5. **Start calling** – either from a quiet place inside the post or from your home to see how the members and former members are doing, ask if they need anything and invite them to any event or activity planned to help celebrate the Legion's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

6. **Use the spreadsheet to record your calls** and identify those who haven't been members since 2014, 2015 or 2016. For each former member who rejoins from those years, your post may receive a \$5 reward.

7. If you are making it a group effort, where many members of your team are calling on a particular night or time, **invite the local media** to show The American Legion celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday the personal way: by checking in on their buddies in the community.

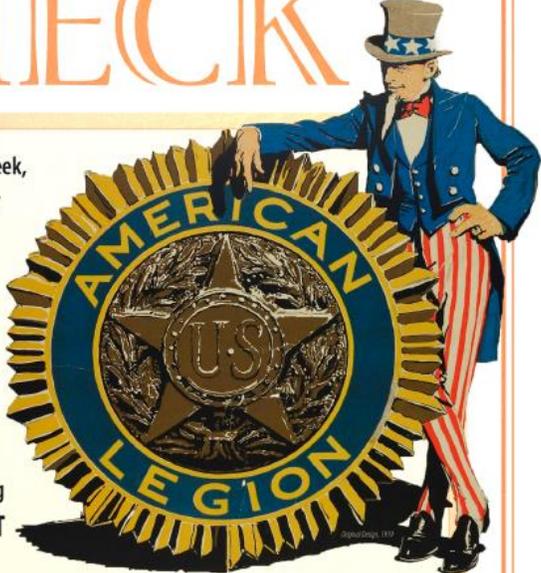
8. Make sure you **thank the member or former member** in the beginning and at the end of your call.

9. If the member or former member wishes to renew, be sure to **have your post's payment procedure at your fingertips**, the address to send a check or offer to stop by in person to pick it up (another opportunity to connect).

10. **Leave contact information** in case the member or former member can't take the call or needs anything in the future.

**MARCH 11-18, 2019**

# BUDDY CHECK



During Buddy Check week, take time to call on any member or former member who may have lost touch with the post. We need them, and they may need us.

Honor the vision of our founders by making **PERSONAL CONTACT** with fellow veterans.

**#TEAM 100**  
[WWW.LEGION.ORG/MEMBERSHIP](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/MEMBERSHIP)

## 2018-19 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATES

### 2018-2019 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

<del>EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF</del>	<del>SEPTEMBER 12, 2018</del>	<del>50%</del>
<del>FALL MEETINGS</del>	<del>OCTOBER 11, 2018</del>	<del>55%</del>
<del>VETERANS DAY</del>	<del>NOVEMBER 15, 2018</del>	<del>65%</del>
<del>PEARL HARBOR DAY</del>	<del>DECEMBER 12, 2018</del>	<del>75%</del>
<del>MID-WINTER</del>	<del>JANUARY 17, 2019</del>	<del>80%</del>
<del>PRESIDENTS DAY</del>	<del>FEBRUARY 13, 2019</del>	<del>85%</del>
LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 13, 2019	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 10, 2019	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 8, 2019	100%
DELEGATE STRENGTH	30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION	

Target dates are the second Wednesday of the month unless a holiday falls on that day or at the beginning of that week.

The November target date will be on the third Thursday due to Veterans Day falling on the previous Sunday.

To maximize the December renewal notice, the January target date will be the third Thursday of the month.

### 2018-2019 NATIONAL RENEWAL SCHEDULE

<u>DEPT. CUTOFF DATE</u>	<u>CUTOFF DATE</u>	<u>RENEWAL MAIL DATE</u>
<del>MAY 7, 2018</del>	<del>MAY 9, 2018</del>	<del>JULY 2, 2018</del>
<del>SEPTEMBER 10, 2018</del>	<del>SEPTEMBER 12, 2018</del>	<del>OCTOBER 8, 2018</del>
<del>OCTOBER 9, 2018</del>	<del>OCTOBER 11, 2018</del>	<del>NOVEMBER 16, 2018</del>
<del>DECEMBER 10, 2018</del>	<del>DECEMBER 12, 2018</del>	<del>JANUARY 4, 2019</del>
<del>FEBRUARY 11, 2019</del>	<del>FEBRUARY 13, 2019</del>	<del>FEBRUARY 27, 2019</del>
APRIL 8, 2019	APRIL 10, 2019	APRIL 26, 2019

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.

## Nominations for 2019-2020 Cathay Post officers

It's that time of year again. There are 13 positions that are available for candidate nominations. All members current on 2019 dues are eligible for making nominations as well as accepting a nomination based on the following criteria as outlined in the current Cathay Post bylaws.

The following officer positions must be a member of Cathay Post 384 for at least nine (9) months prior to installation: Sergeant-at-Arms, Quartermaster, and Judge Advocate.

The following officer positions must be a member of Cathay Post 384 for at least 21 (twenty-one) consecutive months and have held an officer's position for at least 12 (twelve) months prior to installation: First Vice Commander and Second Vice Commander.

The Commander must be a member of Cathay Post 384 for at least 33 (thirty-three) consecutive months and have held an officer's position for at least 12 (twelve) months prior to installation.

Post bylaws describes the duties and responsibilities for each of the elected positions as follows:

**Post 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. The Commander shall approve all orders directing the disbursement of funds and shall make an annual report covering the business of the Post for the year and make recommendations for the ensuing year.

**First Vice Commander:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence or disability of, or when called upon by the Post Commander.

**Second Vice Commander:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander in the absence or disability of such officer and shall perform such other duties as directed by this Post.

**Adjutant:** The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and corrected record of all records as the department and national organizations may require, render reports on membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, and under direction of the commander, handle all correspondence received by the department or national organization. He/She shall also supervise the annual nomination and election process.

**Finance Officer:** The Finance Officer of the Post shall have charge of all finances and see that they are safely deposited in a local bank or banks and shall report once a month to the Executive Committee the condition of the finances of the Post, with such recommendations as may deem expedient or necessary for raising funds with which to carry on the activities of the Post. He/She or two (2)

*(Continued on page 16)*



## Officer responsibilities, Continued

(Continued from page 15)

members of the Executive Board shall sign all checks disbursing the monies of the Post. The Finance Officer shall be bonded under a blanket bond procured from the department headquarters and paid for by the Post at cost.

**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.

**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 Board. The Post 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/her by the Commander or Executive Board.

**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.

**Service Officer:** 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.

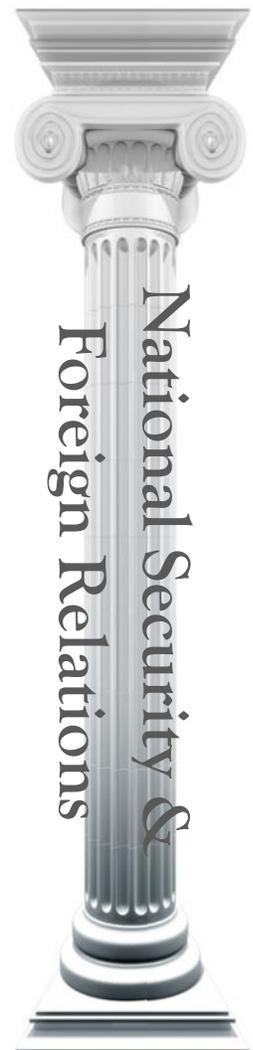
**Judge Advocate:** The duties of the Judge Advocate shall be to advise the Post Officers on the construction and interpretation of the Post Constitution and bylaws; and to perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

**Quartermaster:** The Quartermaster shall supply and purchase all goods and materials necessary for Post operations.

**ALWMC Delegate:** Duties of the Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the American Legion War Memorial Commission (ALWMC). The delegate, and the alternate delegate if delegate is unavailable, shall attend the monthly ALWMC meeting and represent the best interests of Cathay Post No. 384 in its dealings with the War Memorial Veterans Building. He/She will also be responsible for providing timely updates to Cathay Post members at the general monthly meetings or through written correspondence.

If you are a recent member or new to the post and would like to become a more active member, contact the commander or one of the vice commanders to see how and where you can get more involved. Your support is always needed and appreciated to make your post the best it can be.

It is also important to mention that leadership positions such as *commander*,  
(Continued on page 17)



## Officer responsibilities, Continued

(Continued from page 16)

*vice commanders*, and *adjutant* are your posts' chief communicators. The post commander keeps all the members informed about what is going on at the various levels of the Legion: district, area, department, and national. The post vice commanders convey to members what is going on at the post in regards to membership, fundraisers, events, and other programs that fall under the Legions' four pillars of service.

The post adjutant is everyone's go-to person. He/she interacts with all the post officers, new and interested veterans who may wish to join, as well as the posts' own members. The adjutant also receives information from the department on all the administrative dealings that are required for every post in The American Legion. The commander, vice commanders, and adjutant are big influencers in the success of any post.

## 2019-20 CAWVA officer nominations

There are two (2) positions available on the CAWVA board with the fifth member automatically being the post commander that is elected. Your current CAWVA officers are: Helen Wong, Ernie Station, Roger Dong, David Wong, and Nelson Lum. There will be a final round of open nominations at the April meeting. The election will be by written ballot held at the next general meeting on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Please be sure to bring your 2019 Legion membership card to vote.

## Filed your 2018 tax returns yet? By Roger Dong

Here a summary of the major changes to help you get started soon. April 15 is only weeks from now.

One of the first issues you need to know that may save you a lot of work and perhaps help avoid the cost of an accountant. The standard deduction has doubled, and thus, many people will be able to do their tax return without a tax accountant. Most people will not need to item deductions, unless you have donated a lot of money. Taking the larger standard deductions simplifies the 2018 tax return. Here are details:

**Deductions**—If you are married and filing jointly, the standard deduction is now doubled to \$24,000, up from the \$13,000 it was in your 2017 tax return.

For the single taxpayer, and those who

are married and filing separately, the 2018 standard deduction is \$12,000, up from the 2017 of \$6,500. For heads of households, the deduction is now \$18,000, up from \$9,550.

**Top income tax rate**—The new 37 percent top rate will affect individuals with incomes of \$500,000 and higher. The top rate kicks in for married taxpayers who file jointly at \$600,000 and up. The new tax law also includes changes to other tax brackets.

**Personal exemption**—The personal exemption is eliminated.

**Mortgage interest change**—The deduction for interest tops off at \$750,000 for mortgage loan balances taken out after Dec. 15, 2017. The limit is still \$1 million for mortgages that were established before Dec. 15, 2017.

(Continued on page 18)



## Tax return, continued

(Continued from page 17)

**State and local taxes**—This category of itemized deduction is limited to \$10,000 for both income and property taxes paid during the year.

**Child tax credit**—The child tax credit has increased to \$2,000 per qualifying child for those who are under 17, up from \$1,000. A \$500 credit is now available for dependents who do not get the \$2,000 credit.

**Contribution limits for retirement savings**—Employees who participate in certain retirement plans: 401(k), 403(b) and most 457 plans, and the Thrift Savings Plan – can now contribute as much as \$18,500 this year, a \$500 increase from the \$18,000 limit for 2017.

**Estate tax**—For anyone leaving a valuable estate, the tax exemption doubles to \$11.2 million per individual and \$22.4 million per couple in 2018.

Source: <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/02/16/10-tax-changes-you-need-to-know-for-2018.html>

## Is a single payer for medical healthcare system possible?

By Roger Dong

The loud cry for "MEDICARE FOR ALL."

Medicare for all (M4All) was a major battle cry for the Blue Party which for a long time was a proposal of just the Blues. Not so anymore, today it is reported that 70% of our population wants M4All. There are few national issues that are supported by 70% of the population, so logically, one could assume that this amount of support would be slam dunk to become legislation. The major drawback is that the support for M4All loses some steam when it is learned that taxes will need to be increased to fund such an ambitious endeavor.

Everyone would like a government program to cover their healthcare costs, but many do not want to pay for it. That position is wishful wishing as the cost of healthcare is such an expensive issue. The funds for M4All must be gathered from realistic sources.

Opponents of M4All believe that providing healthcare for all will cost more money than there is the bank.

One source forecasts that the total bill for the first 10 years will be \$32 trillion dollars. It defies math that \$32 trillion dollars could be accumulated just from taxes. Other sources to fund M4All are needed. The money now paid for private insurances sources redirected for M4All premiums is a logical partial solution. Another possible source would be the savings from discounted drug prices. National raffles could be another source of potential funds.

The other opponents to M4All are the private insurance companies (many would go out of business) and drug companies that would suffer major profit losses. Medical billing companies will also be threatened with a single payer system like M4All.

It is hard to predict whether the citizens who want M4All will be able to win this crux battle where we can predict that health insurance companies will join with drug companies and spend billions to protect their businesses and profits.

In fact, if M4All is seriously discussed,

*Continued on page 19)*



## Medicare for all, Continued

*(Continued from page 18)*

someone, or some group, will have to design/propose a feasible plan to pay for this very expensive project. It will cost trillion\$ to pay for the healthcare services for over 280,000,000 citizens under 65. Our current population is 330,000,000. Fifty million are over 65 years old.

Of course, the reality is whatever amount of healthcare is needed for our entire population, the cost to care for the masses will be real and the bills will need to be paid by somebody or some healthcare system. People will need healthcare and need to pay for that healthcare, M4All or not. Today, Medicare covers everyone who has paid into the system that is over 65 years old. For everyone under 65, if you have health insurance, someone pays for it, either the company or the organization you work for, or you will need to buy health insurance unless you are very wealthy and can self insure. There are very, very few people who self insure. If there is M4All, even the wealthy will want it. No one wants to pay a lot of money for healthcare.

The serious resistance to M4All is the private insurance industry which will shrink and many companies will vanish due to reduction of policy owners and the drug industry. M4All should negotiate discounts and that will reduce the profit for the drug industry. The Veterans Administration negotiated a 40% discount with the drug industry and saves millions with its drug program for our veterans. The M4All project will save billion\$ for prescriptions when it concludes a similar agreement. Because special interests have bought Congressional support, Medicare is prohibited by Congress from negotiating for discounts.

Therefore this monumental program M4All will be threatened by heavy lobbying funded by health insurance companies and drug manufacturers.

The bottom line is this, most Americans need the protection of M4All as anyone who is not a multi-millionaire, who has a major injury or serious disease requiring three or more months extended medical care and hospitalization, will accrue medical fees. Three months of hospital care can cost a million dollars or more. There are very few people who are not multi-millionaires or billionaires who can pay for serious healthcare treatment. Unfortunately, medical services/equipment in America is very expensive.

Today, America also has a population plagued with obesity. Fast foods and insufficient exercise are the main reasons for our obese nation. The forecast is that this generation will be vulnerable to cardiovascular problems before they are eligible for Medicare. Without Medicare to provide insurance protection, thousands/millions of our citizens will go bankrupt if they have a bad accident, heart attack, stroke, or cancer. This means that M4All is needed by many of our citizens. The opposition of health insurance companies and drug companies will likely stop M4All and that could be a calamity for our citizens and our country.

We must figure out how to pay for it. Citizens will need to be educated on the benefits to them. Between now and the 2020 Presidential election, this will be a battle royale. Designing a realistic M4All national project is extremely complicated. We will need the best minds available to put together a feasible program.



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## The American Legion's top 12 legislative priorities for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress

**Wartime veteran.** The American Legion passed Resolution 1 at its Fall 2018 National Executive Committee meeting calling on Congress to direct VA to expand the definition of "wartime veteran" to include all military personnel who served honorably under Title 10 orders for at least one day during this continuous period of armed conflict.

**Agent Orange.** The American Legion remains firm in its position that all veterans exposed to Agent Orange – on land, sea or air – deserve service-connected disability benefits for adverse health conditions presumed to be linked to such exposure.

**American flag.** The American Legion will continue to fight for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that prohibits the physical desecration of the American flag. As a physical representation of the ideals that America stands for, protecting the sanctity of our nation's flag has always been a priority for The American Legion.

**Women veterans.** Women veterans are the fastest growing demographic to serve in the military and to enroll in the VA health care system. Since 2000, the number of women veterans receiving VA health care has more than doubled and that number is expected to increase as more women veterans become eligible to receive care through VA. The American Legion believes that it is vital for VA to develop a comprehensive health care program in order to address health care needs specific to women who have served in the armed forces, and the Legion will continue to advocate for legislation that addresses these shortcomings.

**Suicide prevention.** An estimated 20 veterans die by suicide every day and many are not receiving care or support through the VA that may have saved them. The American Legion urges Congress to provide VA the necessary funds to hire mental health care professionals and proper staffing for its Integrative Health and Wellness Program. Getting veterans enrolled in these services is a priority of The American Legion.

**Citizenship.** Immigrants to the United States often join the military as a path to obtain citizenship. However, veterans have reported being deported after failing to obtain U.S. citizenship while in service. The American Legion supports measures to ensure the process of naturalization through honorable military service is completed prior to discharge.

**Veteran homelessness.** VA pledged to eradicate veteran homelessness and The American Legion supports the continued funding of programs to address this serious issue. Congress must continue making investments in affordable housing and programs that help get veterans and their families off the streets and into stable housing with supportive services.

**VA benefits.** Many military retirees are forced to forfeit a portion of their pension in order to receive VA service-connected disability pay. VA survivor benefits are also offset from military Survivor Benefit Plan annuities. The American Legion supports legislation to repeal both of these unjust offsets.

**GI Bill.** Expanding GI Bill benefits to include access to capital for entrepreneurial veterans enables them to overcome a major obstacle in building a small business. The American Legion supports legislation that would expand GI Bill benefits to assist veterans in obtaining access to small business capital.

**Veteran employment rights.** The American Legion will continue to urge Congress to prohibit employers from pressuring servicemembers into waiving their employment rights and protections through arbitration agreements.

**National security.** The American Legion supports a defense budget that reverses sequestration and its effects, rebuilds U.S. military end strength and weaponry and fairly compensates military personnel, especially in an ongoing time of global warfare.

**Implement, oversee new laws.** The 115<sup>th</sup> Congress was filled with significant wins for America's veterans. Now, these wins must be implemented. The American Legion will continue to support the oversight over the implementation of critical legislation passed during the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, securing that these laws are enacted correctly and in the best interests of America's veterans.

## US Navy's latest stealthy DD-21 Zumwalt Destroyers

By Roger Dong



The DDG- 1000 USS Zumwalt (Wikipedia)

The Zumwalt-class destroyer is the latest class of United States Navy guided missile destroyers designed as a stealthy, multi-mission stealth ships with a focus on land attack (supporting our U.S. Marines conducting amphibious missions). In January 2019, the Navy commissioned its second hi-tech Zumwalt-class stealth destroyer, the USS Michael Monsoor. The third and last, USS Lyndon B. Johnson was launched last year in December 2018 and will be commissioned in 2022.

Development began after 9/11 and the first destroyer (USS Zumwalt) was commissioned in 2016. Military systems that take a long time to develop will need to deal with rising costs. Materials, labor, etc. all increase over time. The longer the time, the greater the financial increase. When the cost of each ship quadrupled, the original plan to build 32 stealthy destroyers was reduced to just three (3) ships. The latest cost for each of the three DDG-21s is about \$8 billion dollars, about the same cost as our latest aircraft carriers.

The ship's induction motors generated a 58 megawatts of electricity while cruising, enough to power the entire 17,630-ton ship thanks to an Integrated Power System. The electrically-driven motors and chilled exhaust also

reduce the destroyer's infrared and acoustic signature.

One of the most painful issues was the cost of ammunition for the 155 millimeter Long Range Land Attack Projectiles. The cost of this special munitions telescoped from \$50,000 a round to \$800,000 a round. This escalation was the direct result of reducing the fleet of 32 destroyers to 3 destroyers. Ironically, the cost of this single round of munition sunk our destroyer. During testing, the range of the tested munition was also short of what was expected.

Building the most advanced weapons system incorporating multiple systems is very risky, and the extended time needed to develop these systems and subsystems brings even greater risk in this type of weapons development.

In the information videos that describe the need to develop the stealthy and powerful DD-21 Zumwalts, responding to China's growing Navy was implied as a reason for this systems development. I am puzzled why an amphibious warship is necessary in a potential conflict with China. China, like the United States are both almost four million square miles. No military, or even a combination of the strongest militaries in the world today are large enough, or strong enough to seriously consider launching an amphibious landing to conquer and occupy either us or the Chinese.

Thus, there are people who are now asking, "What is the mission of the DD -21?"

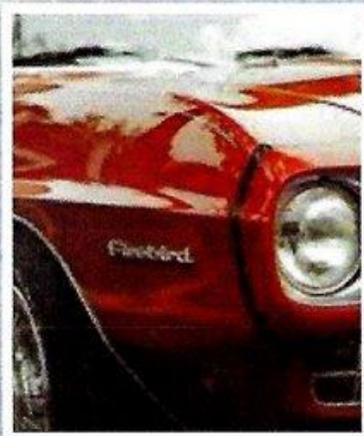
Sources: The U. S. Navy's Stealth Destroyers: A Technical Marvel (But What Are They For?) David Axe, *The National Interest*, February 22, 2019



# 6th ANNUAL "WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY" CLASSIC CAR SHOW

SATURDAY March 30,  
2019 10AM-3PM  
VETERANS MEMORIAL  
SENIOR CENTER  
1455 Madison Ave.  
Redwood City, CA

SPONSORED BY THE  
STEVE WARREN  
MEMORIAL CHAPTER 464  
of the VIETNAM  
VETERANS OF AMERICA



- Pre-registration Fee \$20 per vehicle
- No Vehicle Pre-Registration after March 23, 2019
- \$25 day of show
- 1 BBQ Lunch will be provided per vehicle; additional person will be \$8
- For Additional information contact: President Gary Higgins 650-368-6713 or email je.higgins07@comcast.net

Make checks payable to:  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 464

Mail to: VVA 464  
c/o 11 Camerino Ct.  
American Canyon, CA  
94503

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ +

Auto \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Body Type/Model \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## LIABILITY RELEASE

The undersigned hereby releases the WHVVD, VVA 464, and the Veterans Memorial Center from any and all liability arising out of the "WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY" CLASSIC CAR SHOW.

OWNER or EXHIBITOR \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# SF POLICE CREDIT UNION

Providing financial solutions to take care of our own

When you join SFPCU, you'll receive **\$25** for your opening deposit, plus enter to win a **\$500** Amazon eGift Card at [www.sfpcu.org/giveaway](http://www.sfpcu.org/giveaway).\*

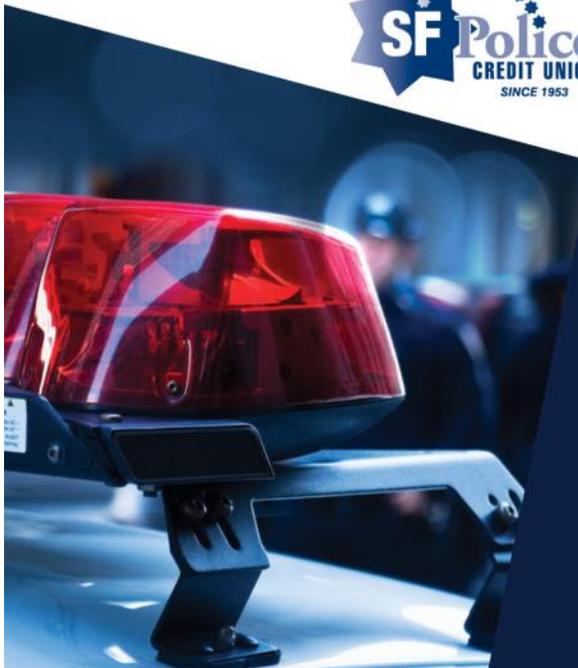
- ★ Below-market mortgage rates and low fees
- ★ Low Auto Loan Rates with 90 days NO PAYMENTS, a 1% rate discount with Enterprise Car Sales\*\*
- ★ Checking with no monthly fees and up to 10 ATM fees rebated per month<sup>+</sup>
- ★ Platinum Visa with no annual or balance transfer fees

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## Resource guide for American Legion digital media

### Websites

The primary American Legion website can be found at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). From there, visitors can learn more about the organization, its programs, become a member and visit our online store. Here are some other notable links:

**MEMBERSHIP:** Information for members, prospective members and recruiters. [www.legion.org/membership](http://www.legion.org/membership)

**NALPA:** The National American Legion Press Association is a group of communicators at the post level. Resources and other information, [www.legion.org/nalpa](http://www.legion.org/nalpa)

**GET PUBLISHED!** Share military stories, post histories and more, [www.legiontown.org](http://www.legiontown.org)

**CENTENNIAL:** Get updated on our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, [centennial.legion.org](http://centennial.legion.org)

**MEMORIALS:** We are building a digital archive of war memorials. Visit or add to the database here, [www.legion.org/memorials](http://www.legion.org/memorials)

### E-newsletters

The American Legion produces and distributes a dozen free e-newsletters with news and information for veterans, servicemembers and others. Sign up for which ones you would like to receive, [www.legion.org/newsletters](http://www.legion.org/newsletters)

### Social media

The American Legion is active on the primary social media platforms, including:

**FACEBOOK:** The Legion's main Facebook page has an active news feed and can be found here, [www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq](http://www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq). Other sanctioned Facebook pages can be found here, [www.legion.org/socialmedia](http://www.legion.org/socialmedia).

**TWITTER:** Timely news updates from the Legion and other sources for military and veterans news. [twitter.com/AmericanLegion](http://twitter.com/AmericanLegion)

**LINKEDIN:** Resource information, career advice and tips, and links to job fairs for veterans. [www.linkedin.com/company/the-american-legion/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-american-legion/)

**INSTAGRAM:** Photos from American Legion staffers. [www.instagram.com/theamericanlegion/](http://www.instagram.com/theamericanlegion/)

### Publications

Download and print American Legion brochures. [www.legion.org/publications](http://www.legion.org/publications)

### Apps

Download American Legion apps on your mobile devices, [www.legion.org/mobileapps](http://www.legion.org/mobileapps)

### Videos

Our videos are published on the Legion website and YouTube (search for AmericanLegionHQ to subscribe). Additionally, downloadable videos and PSAs are available on our Vimeo channel, [vimeo.com/americanlegion](http://vimeo.com/americanlegion)

### Text alerts

To receive a text alert when the president orders flags to be lowered, text the word 'flag' to 35893.

# March 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time	11	12	13	14 Dist. 8 Meeting 6 pm	15	16 Post Meeting 11 am
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

# April 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 April Fools' Day	2 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Dist. 8 Meeting 6 pm	12	13 Post Meeting 11 am
14	15 Income Tax	16	17	18	19 Good Friday	20
21 Easter Sunday	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**CATHAY POST 384**



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We welcome article or letter submissions but reserve the right to publish, republish or not publish any submission and to edit articles or letters as appropriate. Submissions must include your name and an email address or phone number. All submissions should be emailed to [cathaypost384events@gmail.com](mailto:cathaypost384events@gmail.com).

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2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018



2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018



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

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*Desert Shield/Desert Storm/OEF/OIF*  
8/2/1990 to present

**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

**CATHAY POST 384  
American Legion**

**2018-2019 Officers**

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**1st Vice Commander:** Helen Wong

**2nd Vice Commander:**  
Charles Paskerian

**Adjutant:** Ernie Stanton

**Finance Officer:** George Tsang

**Historian:** Roger Dong

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