



CATHAY DISPATCH

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

FEBRUARY—AMERICANISM MONTH

By Clara Pon

February is a great month not because we celebrate our first and 16th presidents and get a free play day from work. It definitely isn't because of the popular sweetheart's day where many spend tons of money on inflated restaurant meals, flowers, and candy just to tell the love of your life that you can't live without him or her on that one day in February. I've been pampered and showered many times over the years with such things, but it's highly over rated. We love and adore each other everyday, not just on one specific day in February.

February is a great month because it is Americanism month for The American Legion (Res. #163, 1960). We focus on patriotic events such as flag education, planning for school awards, getting out the vote, hold an oratorical contest—'a constitutional speech contest,' register for 2020 Legion baseball season, reach out to high school juniors letting them know that Boys/Girls State registration is open, check on your Scout troops, and maybe look into starting junior shooting sports in your post or district.

Oratorical Contest

Hopefully many posts will have already held their annual Oratorical contest and had a winner proceed to the next level of competition at the district level. Those districts that already held their competition are likely on schedule to advance their district winner to, yet another level of competition, to the

area contest. There are only a few weeks left to hold your district or area contests before the final deciding department competition that will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Norton AFB Museum in San Bernardino County, CA beginning at 1 p.m.

The finalist from there will go on to compete at the 83rd annual High School Oratorical contest in Indianapolis, Indiana beginning Friday, April 17, quarter and semifinals on April 18. The top three finalists will be decided on Sunday, April 19, 2020 along with \$20,000, \$17,000 and \$15,000 scholarship, respectively to be used at any college or university in the US.

This year's assigned topics are:

- **Amendment XII** – Electoral College
- **Amendment XXIV** – Citizens right to vote shall not be denied by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.
- **Amendment XXVII** – No law, varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.
- **Amendment XX** – terms of President and Vice President. When Congress shall assemble. Articles of Presidential succession.

Good luck to all contestants!

Important Dates:

Feb 2—Four Chaplains
Sunday

Feb 8—11 a.m. Post
monthly meeting

Feb 14—Valentine's Day

Feb 17—President's Day

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Washington D.C. Conference, Are you ready? By Clara Pon

The American Legion's Washington D.C. Conference on March 8-11, 2020 at our nation's capital gives our organization's leadership and representatives from each department a chance to meet with elected officials to discuss legislative initiatives and priorities that are important to Legionnaires and their families. Legion family members get an opportunity to hear from senators, representatives, and officials from the White House and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as they address our members at the conference. Some of you probably already received your call-in letter to attend with instructions to reach out to your congressional district representative to schedule an appointment.

Over the past few years, several bills have passed into law due in part to the efforts at the annual conference. The most recent law that was enacted is the LEGION Act. Other laws include The American Legion minted coins and the Forever GI Bill. During this annual conference, the national commander testifies before Congress on those issues important to Legion members and their families. In addition, Legion fami-

ly members also provide support by 'storming the Hill,' to seek out their respective representatives to lobby for their support on various proposed legislation one-on-one.

With the constant help and support from the Legislative Division located in D.C., they serve departments and posts of The American Legion across the country in order to provide guidance and expertise on strategic lobbying and engagement efforts.

A few of the different national division members such as Chanin Nuntavong and Melissa Bryant, and their respective national commission chair persons such as Ralph Bozella have testified before Congress in the past months battling on-going issues relating to veteran health and mental wellness benefits, suicide awareness & prevention, education & employment, as well as the operational side of getting these benefits processed, administered, and rectified in a timely fashion. Many of these issues will certainly be part of this upcoming Legislative agenda next month.

If you are attending the D.C. conference, be sure to read up on the most

recent Legislative testimonies and last year's Legislative agenda to acquaint yourself with some of the legislation that many will be storming the Hill to champion.

The schedule of events with location and times is now available. In short, Monday, March 9 are committee & commission meetings in the morning with the afternoon for the customary "Know before you go" meeting.

Tuesday, March 10 is the Commander's Call before Legion family members storm the Hill to seek out their representatives during their pre-scheduled appointments.

Wednesday, March 11 is the Commander's testimony before Congress. Don't forget your ticket! There will likely be an over flow room at the Senate Building and certainly at the Hilton hotel. The testimony will be streamed live.

For more information on the Washington D.C. conference, go to:

www.legion.org/washingtonconference

www.legion.org/legislative

www.legion.org/washingtonconference/schedule

COMMANDER HELEN WONG

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR OF THE RAT! For those of us who made resolutions for the regular January 1 new year, and did not keep them or could not make it past the first week, here is another chance at redemption! For those of us who celebrate the Lunar New Year or Chinese New Year which was on January 25, not only do we get a second chance but for children, they get lucky money in red envelopes to buy sweets as is traditional.

And speaking of traditions, what do you celebrate that is something you look forward to on a regular or annual basis? How does this affect you as a veteran or as a support member at Cathay Post? Does it mean your family goes on an annual cruise or a monthly or quarterly trip together? Does it mean you visit your parents or in-laws monthly or every weekend for dinner? If it is something you do as a family or with friends, how does it impact you as a member? Do you have to choose between going to a post monthly meeting or to a special event?

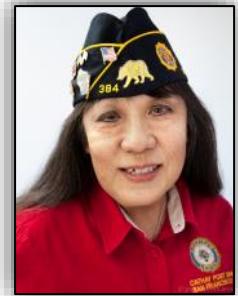
Where is the balance between doing too much with doing not enough? That is a decision you have to weigh when presented with options. If

you are in a leadership position, do you have the luxury of doing less for your fellow veterans while doing more with family or friends? And is this a habitual happening where you get pulled in the middle? My rule of thumb is -- ask what would cause you less stress when trying to make a decision. My answer is -- it is all about a balance of work and play, a principle that I used to go by when I worked as an occupational therapist. An O.T. helps people with seeing that all work and no play "makes Jack a dull boy," a saying from a long time ago! Getting someone to function, physically or mentally, as normal as possible was the premise of rehabilitation. Now, how will you balance your work and play in this new year?

Volunteering in the War Memorial Veterans Building on Van Ness is one way I balance my work and play which I have been doing for seven (7) years this February. I have been fortunate to see some great exhibits in the Veterans Gallery; last year was on World War I, then changed to World War II, and the current exhibit is on "Violins of Hope: A Journey of Heroism, Healing, and Humanity" which runs until March 13, 2020.

It is a powerful exhibit of "a priceless collection of 50 string instruments once played by Jewish prisoner-musicians from the camps and ghettos of the Holocaust." There are exhibitions, concerts, films, public forums, special civic events, etc.

(Continued on page 8)



Helen Wong

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Cathay Post Member
since: 1990

Branch: Army

Final Rank: Lt. Col.

"It is a powerful exhibit of a priceless collection of 50 string instruments once played by Jewish prisoner-musicians from the camps and ghettos of the Holocaust."

VIOLINS of HOPE
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

A project of
music at kohl
mansion

Exhibition: Violins of Hope, A Journey of Heroism, Healing, and Humanity



George Tsang

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(415) 797-7384

Cathay Post Member
since: 2014

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SFC

*“...the
fundraiser was
a success and a
good way to
get friends
together for
another fun
Super Bowl
party!”*

1st VICE COMMANDER GEORGE TSANG

Cathay Post 384 hosted its 2nd Super Bowl party last Sunday. Helping me with the event was Past Commander Nelson Lum, Sgt-at-Arms CJ Reeves and 10 volunteers and support members. Our IT Director Miguel Ortiz did a tremendous job with the Super Bowl football pool. All 100 squares were sold, 97 filled by members and friends and 3 by Cathay Post which happened to be a stroke of luck as the post won two (2) of the four (4) quarters!!

We had a ton of appetizers when the game started while the main course, roasted tri-tip was served during half-time. Liquor and beer were flowing at the bar, tended by two professional bartenders who graciously volunteered their time for this exciting sporting event. The kitchen help and servers were the same support members that prepare and serve the lunches during our monthly meetings. We thank them for all their help and support in making the party a success. We could not do it without them. Thank you!

The game was shown on three (3) large screens and our newly acquired sound system. The anticipation and excitement of the Super Bowl was evident by all in attendance.

As for the game itself, the 49ers lost a heartbreaker Sunday to the Kansas City Chiefs. The momentum was going our way until midway through the final quarter where we had a 10-point lead. After that, it was all downhill for the 49ers as our offense could not score and our defense was not able to stop the Chiefs' during the 4th quarter.

It would have been great if the 49ers were winners, but all in all, the fundraiser was a success and a good way to get friends together for another fun Super Bowl party!



Super Bowl party goers standing up to get ready for the singing of the National Anthem by singer Demi Lovato.



Top—Nelson Lum, Rose Chung,
George Tsang
Bottom—Party goers.



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2nd VICE COMMANDER Charles Paskerian

A great meeting was held on January 11, 2020 with a January birthday celebration for Past Commander Nelson Lum and Board of Director W.T. Jeanpierre.



L-R: WT Jeanpierre and Nelson Lum in front of their birthday cake.

A pleasant event during the meeting was the presentation to Cathay Dispatch Editor Clara Pon for her continued diligent work on our behalf developing and improving our monthly "Cathay Dispatch" over these many years, while continuing this work even after leaving California, moving with her husband Ken George where he works at national American Legion headquarters in Indianapolis.

Past Commander Lum prepared a beautiful plaque for her and she was requested to call in during our meeting for a telephone presentation on a different matter and

was surprised with an appreciation plaque presentation instead. Commander Wong read the plaque to the comrades at the meeting, as she relayed the information to Clara over the telephone. We are so proud of her accomplishments for Cathay Post and honored by her continued service.



L-R: FO George Tsang and Commander Helen Wong reading the appreciation plaque.

Our member pot is now over \$350. Comrade Dea's name was called, but since he was not present, the pot continues to the next meeting.



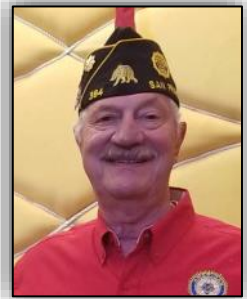
So hope you can make an effort to come this Saturday, February 8 beginning at 11 a.m. to see if you can WIN! The drawing will be held after the meeting and prior to our great lunch! You must be at the meeting to win!

The funds have been deposited for our new ceremonial bugle and we voted to require a \$100 deposit for any veterans group or Cathay Post member that wishes to borrow it for a military funeral. It plays *Taps* electronically. CJ Reeves, our Sgt-at-Arms will be in charge of the bugle.

District Eight oratorical contest was held January 25 at the Veterans Building and though only two (2) student participants ended up as contestants, our post was represented by Past Commander Lum, Sgt-at-Arms CJ Reeves, and member John Nyquist and his wife Karen.



L-R: Commander Helen Wong holding up the appreciation plaque for membership to see.
All photos in this article by Chuck Paskerian.



Charles Paskerian

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Cathay Post member since: 2011

Branch: USAF

Final Rank: Major

"We are so proud of her accomplishments for Cathay Post and honored by her continued service."



THE AMERICAN LEGION GET OUT THE VOTE

A Message from the National Americanism Commission Chairman

Fellow Legionnaires:

Elections are important to our republic and each year local, state and national elections dot the landscape. As Americans, it is our duty and responsibility to exercise this right by casting our ballots and encouraging others to do so as well. It was on this premise that The American Legion's "Get Out the Vote" program was initiated shortly after the organization's inception. It remains just as important today as in elections past.

The National Americanism Commission encourages American Legion posts and their members to become involved in their local and state elections as well as the midterm elections. Post involvement may come in the form of voter registration drives, sponsorship of town hall meetings and forums, promoting voter participation and other "Get Out The Vote" activities. Legionnaires may contribute to the electoral process by serving as poll volunteers, poll workers, and by getting potential voters registered and out to the polls to vote.

All Legionnaires should demonstrate commitment for continued service to this country by being politically active as individuals, and most importantly, exercising their own right to vote in all local, state and federal elections.

By working together as an organization we can make a difference by promoting an informed populace, participation in our government and involvement in its electoral process. We cannot forget that our government is "of the people, by the people and for the people" and our democratic republic can only function when we the people participate. With your help, The American Legion will once again clearly cast its vote for democracy.

- Chairman, National Americanism Commission

Richard W. Anderson
Richard W. Anderson



The American Legion recommends that all voting-age Americans to engage in politics and the election process to create an informed citizenry and ensure a strong republic.

Posts are encouraged to sponsor activities to help voters be informed and involved each political season. This stems from the Preamble to the Legion's Constitution, which says, in part, that we exist "... to perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism ... and to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation ..."

A strong, knowledgeable and enthusiastic person must be appointed to coordinate the activity to ensure a successful campaign. This individual should be able to lead a team, motivate others, provide understanding and encourage participation.

There are four key elements necessary to successfully engage the community. The citizens must:

- 1) Understand that what they do will benefit them.
- 2) Know what is expected or required of them.
- 3) Be instructed on how to accomplish the goals.
- 4) Set an example for America's youth.

Where to begin

The first step in organizing a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) program is to get a commitment from post officers. The next step is to organize within the post by forming a committee of interested Legion Family members and then assigning duties and responsibilities. Here are some ideas for running an effective GOTV program:

Preserving Elegance Part 4



Presented by
American Legion Cathay Post 384,
Department of California

Saluting National Women's Month

Fashion by N. California Designers
(Fashions may be purchased that day).

March 21, 2020
5 p.m.

War Memorial Veterans Building

401 Van Ness Avenue
Second Floor, Room 210
San Francisco, CA 94102
(across from San Francisco City Hall)

Tickets:

\$30 in advance

\$40 at the door

Tickets can be purchased on Eventbrite through March 19.

For more information contact:

Pierre 415.678.8808

CJ 415.902.8725

Helen 650.576.7875

Sponsors are Welcome!

Platinum (\$1000)

Gold (\$750)

Silver (\$500)





COMMANDER WONG, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 3)

commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

In a discussion with others, my generation knows about the Holocaust because most of our parents either served in the military during World War II or because we had relatives who lived through that time period or were immigrants from Europe. However, the younger generation will not know what took place as there is very little in the school history books. It is up to us to keep those memories alive and one way is to see the exhibit and learn the horrific history of genocide that happened to the Jewish people.

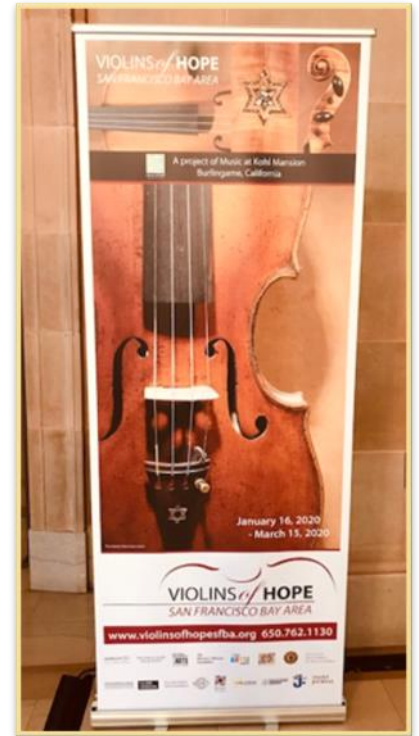
Violins of Hope has put together a wonderful event that has included 20 school programs, 8th Annual JFCS Holocaust Center Day of Learning, a Holocaust Remembrance Day concert that what was held on January 27, 2020, more scheduled music concerts, forums, discussions, and lectures among 9 film screenings.

You can go to www.violinsofhopessfba.org to get information and tickets. It is well worth the time.

“As the *Violins of Hope* travel from Berlin, Paris, Istanbul and London to Charlotte, Cleveland, Phoenix and now the San Francisco Bay Area, this priceless collection of Holocaust-era strings has become an elixir of tolerance, healing, and forgiveness.”

-Avshalom Weinstein, luthier and co-founder of *Violins of Hope*

Photos in this article by Helen Wong.



Watch NBC Bay Area video on the new exhibit at the Veterans Gallery in the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building located at 401 Van Ness Ave, main floor, now until March 13, 2020. Free.

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/stories-by-joe-rosato-jr/violin-exhibit-carries-stories-and-lessons-of-the-holocaust/2219554/>

District 8 Oratorical Winner By Nelson Lum, District Commander

On Saturday, January 25, 2020 at approximately 10:00 a.m., a large group of members from American Legion Eighth District Council gathered at the historic SF War Memorial Veterans Building. They were in Room 202 which is enshrined with decor from the era of the 1920's when this building was built. The purpose of their attendance was to facilitate the annual oratorical contest, a program that enhances one of the four pillars of The American Legion, Americanism. Chair Denny Riley, Eighth District Oratorical Chair put forth a tremendous amount of time and effort to organize this event and deserves our gratitude and appreciation. Another honorable mention must go to Commander Benfield of Post 448 who labored for hours in the kitchen to prepare refreshments for the attendees. Appreciation must be accorded to Cathay Post 384 for its generous donation to fund this event.

It should be noted that the contestants are youngsters who are currently enrolled in high school. Their willingness to participate in this difficult contest speaks volumes for these youths.

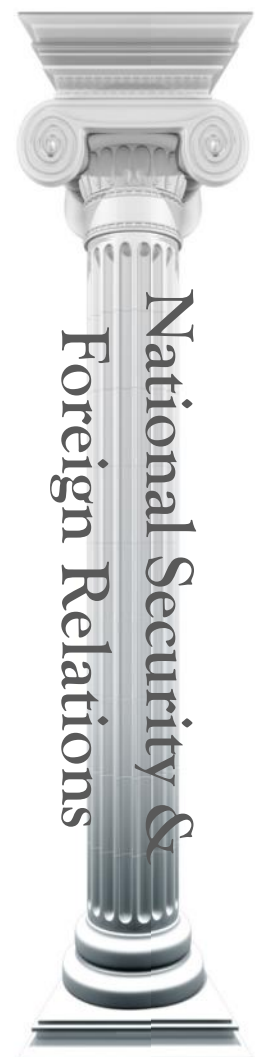
On the scheduled time of 11:00 a.m., the judges, timekeeper, escort, and contestants along with their family members and supporters were all situated and the contest began. The first phase of the contest consisted of an 8 to 10 minute prepared speech covering a set of pre-determined Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. Both of the contestants did a good job in their oration of the topic. At the conclusion of this phase, each contestant was given a topic preselected by the organizers and he/she was given five (5) minutes to prepare a 3 to 5 minute speech. That is not an easy task to do without a podium, a microphone, or notes to read from. These youngsters deserve our respect for their efforts.

At the conclusion of the contest, the judges tallied the scores, and a winner was declared. The winner will represent the Eighth District at the Area 2 contest which will be held in the next couple of weeks. The winner of that contest will move onto the Department of California contest at the end of this month down in San Bernardino. I would like to remind all of you that our winner from last year went onto the Department of California contest where he took 3rd place.

Congratulations to the winners of this contest, Mr. Denton Aingworth and Ms. Anisha Hira, both from Lowell High School. We look forward to Denton representing us at the area level. We also look forward to having Anisha come back next year to compete again. Good luck Denton at the area competition.



L-R: District 8 Oratorical Chair Denny Riley, Lowell High School students, Denton Aingworth and Anisha Hira, and District 8 Commander Nelson Lum.





2020



California American Legion College March 27-29, 2020

Open to all members of The American Legion Family:
Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary.

Application

<https://calegioncollege.org/calc-online-registration/>

Deadline: Friday, February 28 Limited to 30 students.

Prerequisite:

- To attend the course an essay must be submitted, the essay details are in the course application.
- Those attending the California American Legion College must also complete Basic Training

Location: Fairfield, CA

Students will have their hotel room paid for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights plus receive mileage from their home of record by the Department of California.

Questions? Contact calc@calegion.org

TRAINING—ALEI

Before you fill out your application for CALC, make sure you take online Basic Training first. Your certificate of completion is **required** as is your **essay** written by your hand and in your own words.

Click the link to take it now. <https://www.legion.org/alei>



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

- **Meeting**

Veterans Association of North County
1617 Mission Ave., San Diego, CA 92058

- **Hotel**

Courtyard by Marriott
3501 Seagate Way
Oceanside, CA 92056

Reservation:
(760) 966-1000

Additional Information on:
www.calegion.org

Department Executive Committee
March 14-15, 2020

Legionnaires,
The spring D.E.C. will take place in Oceanside, CA. Preferred Housing will be staying at Courtyard by Marriott room rate of

Standard King	\$129 +tax
Double Queen	\$129 + tax
Suite	\$169 + tax

MAKE YOUR RESEVATIONS

Mention: American Legion Dept of California

Friday March 13, 2020
Current Commission Meeting

- 9:00 a.m. Ways & Means Commission
- 1:00 p.m. Finance Commission

Contact:
Veronica Quintanilla
Conventions / Meetings Coordinator

Veronica@Calegion.org
(559) 875-8387

March 14-15, Spring Department Executive Committee (DEC)

North Oceanside Post 760
V.A.N.C.

1617 Mission Ave.
Oceanside, Ca 92058

HOTEL: Courtyard by Marriott
3501 Seagate Way, Oceanside, CA 92056

Reservation: (760) 966-1000
Mention: American Legion Dept of California

Room rates:
Standard King \$129 +tax
Double Queen \$129 + tax
Suite \$169 + tax

Additional inquiries may be directed to:
Veronica Quintanilla – Conventions/Meetings
Coordinator: 559-875-8387
veronica@calegion.org

SACRAMENTO—AMERICAN LEGION DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Sign up at: calegion.org



American Legion-Department of California
ANNUAL DAY AT THE CAPITOL
SIGN UP FORM

WHEN: March 24, 2020, Tuesday
TIME: 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
WHERE: Eureka Room, Basement, State Capitol



Artists of the Holocaust By Nelson Lum

A very special event, the display of *Violins of Hope* is currently taking place at the Veteran's Gallery in the lobby of the San Francisco War Memorial Veteran's Building. This exhibit follows the successful displays of WWI artifacts and The American Legion historical panels which were viewed by thousands of visitors during the year of 2019, the centennial commemoration of WWI. The *Violins of Hope*, along with several displays that follow, will transition the theme of displays that feature the history of WWI to the history of WWII. This limited engagement of *Violins of Hope* will be on display now until March 15, 2020. Admission to the gallery is free and all of you are encouraged to come see these unique instruments.

The *Violins of Hope* displays string instruments once played by Jewish prisoner-musicians from the camps and ghettos of the Holocaust. The Nazis realized music was a calming influence for the population of the camp, and in some cases, allowed the musicians to be kept alive longer than the rest of the prisoners. The musicians were often called upon to entertain the Nazis, too. These musical instru-

ments have been refurbished and/or in some cases, completely rebuilt. Each of these violins have a story that transcends time, and if you read the full story of these violins, your eyes will mostly likely be teary as you comprehend the magnitude of what had taken place.

We, The American Legion Eighth District Council and the War Memorial Commission were contacted by representatives of the *Violins of Hope* in the early part of 2019 about the possibility of hosting this display. We were impressed by the enthusiasm and professionalism of this group headed by Ms. Lisa Coscino. Subsequent meetings were held where we discussed the various logistics and finalized all the details. Legionnaires of the Eighth District Council were responsible for clearing out the gallery, and with the assistance of our members, the tasks were accomplished just in time for the arrival of the exhibit. While we were very capable of moving objects from one side to another, we learned immediately that, at the direction of Ms. Coscino, that there is an artistic science involved in how to effectively create an emotional and welcom-

ing exhibit. The special visual effect of endless railroad tracks was setup in the center of the gallery that enhanced the entire atmosphere. The 50 string instruments were meticulously arranged along with special backdrops that showcased and highlighted each of its stories. As I went from display case to display case, I read the microcosm stories of what took place during the darkness and inhumanity of the Holocaust, and how these violins provided the glimmer of hope to those who suffered the unimaginable horrors.

In addition to the displays at the Veteran's Gallery, there will be musical concerts throughout the Bay Area to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. Please take advantage of this opportunity to view this extraordinary display. The display will be open to the public on weekdays from 1 to 5 PM. If you have a large group that would like to attend, we will try our best to facilitate your group by special arrangement.

For event information, go to: <https://violinsofhopesfba.org/events/>



LEGION FAMILY NEWS



Developing ALA Leaders *at All Levels*

Under a new academy training program, the American Legion Auxiliary is providing all members with the tools they need to help grow the organization as a team.



ALA Academy

Under a new academy training program, the American Legion Auxiliary is providing all members with the tools they need to help grow the organization as a team. The training is designed to help members learn as part of a process that includes learning the information, sharing it with others, practicing their new skills, and, eventually, making those new skills a habit.

Auxiliary members, click on the link to see what it is all about.

<https://www.alaforveterans.org/ala-academy/>

Sons of The American Legion—Membership processing made easier...

For the past several months, squadrons and detachments everywhere have been able to submit membership transmittals online via mysal.org. This recent roll out of new software capabilities has enabled adjutants everywhere to spend less time processing memberships and getting fees transmitted to national headquarters quickly. It streamlines the process and reduces the time that a member receives his new membership card. No more filling out the three part membership cards and paper transmittals that get sent to detachment and then onto national. A four-week processing time that now only takes no more than seven days. It also reduces or eliminates postage. All this can now be done quickly and efficiently on your computer or tablet wherever you may be.

Legion Riders—Suicide Awareness Runs

American Legion Riders Department of California has designated Saturday, February 22, 2020 as Veteran Suicide Awareness Day. Areas 2, 5, and 6 will be holding runs/events on 2/22/2020. Go to: www.alrdoc.org for event list for details and contact information. Ride safe.





Technology Warfare—China vs US By Roger Dong

For several years, our national leaders, military and civilian have been warning about the Chinese telecommunications firm, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. Huawei is a multinational technology company that provides telecommunications equipment and sells consumer electronics, smartphones, and is headquartered in Shenzhen in Guangdong province in China. Her advanced 5G communications and networking technologies are being promoted globally and it has 5G equipment installed in countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and in the Western hemisphere. At a minimum, her business success is a threat to our American telecommunications firms which are just starting to implement our 5G skills.

Huawei has been accused of close relations with the Chinese government, even though, 99% of her stocks are employee owned. It is feared that an autocratic and aggressive China will attempt to use Huawei telecommunications equipment to infiltrate and gain control of communications in countries that install Huawei 5G equipment. If true, using Huawei equipment may give Chinese intelligence access to any loca-

tion or country Huawei has installed 5G equipment. It is not known whether anyone is able to prevent this type of subversive activity, although the Brits think they have things under control.

Why then did our Department of Defense and our Department of Treasury object to the White House's efforts to decouple our relationship with Huawei, the Chinese 5G firm? Intelligence and security experts have warned of the national security issues when any nation buys and installs Huawei 5G equipment.

Most people are not aware that our two countries are economically interdependent and suggestions to "decouple" from each other will economically harm both countries. No one is certain how much harm, but one of our American firms, Micron Technology reports that Huawei is responsible for 12% of its revenue, and loss of the revenue will inhibit its R&D efforts. Not reported, but it is likely that other American semiconductor manufacturers including Intel, AMD, and Texas Instruments may also be negatively affected, unless they do not sell any of their electronic components to

China. While not reported, it is very likely that most, if not all, these semiconductor firms do sell, (and buy) from China. We should note that almost everything Apple sells, is assembled in China with parts made from many parts of the world, including America, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and Germany. Welcome to a globalized world.

In December 2020, the Semiconductor Industry Association, representing virtually all semiconductor companies globally, contacted our Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and asked that the industry be allowed to provide information on the harmful impact to the profits of our semiconductor manufacturers and the funding of their semi-conductor R&D.

Our competition with China, many of the most advanced science and engineering fields, is very intense with a lot of scientific developments not known to the public. Little wonder that our civilian and military leaders in Washington seem to be scrambling to slow down China. To be competitive, America must finance and focus on science related to the

(Continued on page 15)

Technology Warfare, continued

(Continued from page 14)

most advanced technologies including Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Computing, and robotics if we want to keep our country strong.

Some people have predicted that if China succeeds in developing the next generation of semi-conductors, it will no longer need to buy our chips. Our semi-conductor firms that sell to China would be less profitable and reduce their investments to develop new chips. We must continue to produce the best chips in the world, not only for business reasons, but our national security may depend on having the best chips for our military systems that depend on state of the art semi-conductors.

In reality, Huawei already has access to great semi-conductor technology from Britain's notable chip design firm, ARM, owned by Japan's Soft-Bank company. These are both world class semi-conductor companies.

Today, Huawei owns 40% of the patents issued for 5th generation broadband. She is believed to have spent twice as much in research as her largest Western rivals, Ericsson and Nokia. Chinese innovation and technical developments are backed by much more state financing than anywhere else in the world. It is vital that our financing of science and research be increase significantly if we are to effectively compete against an aggressive and competent competitor.

China is also focused on enhancing human talent and skills. Globally, in the high tech world, there is a huge amount of talent poaching. With millions, maybe even billions to spend, reportedly hundreds of very capable Taiwanese software engineers have been paid handsomely, and are work-

ing in China. We can assume that some South Korean and Japanese senior software engineers are now employed for China. We should also assume that some of our own senior software engineers are now working for, or in China.

Huawei has been the target of American hostility for several years and we have attempted to block Huawei's growing foot print in the 5G realm. However, China has already installed their initial 5G systems in several European countries, Mexico, Brazil, Africa, and other Latin American countries.

On 28 January 2020 Britain, defying our warnings and concerns, reportedly has agreements with Huawei, but has negotiated the right to inspect her software to detect spyware. Will that be sufficient to protect our major ally?

China, emphasizing and funding science and math is a very formidable competitor. We in the United States must recognize this new game and we must play to win. The modernization of our education system and supporting and prioritizing math and science are a must. We have been the innovators of the past century and can continue to be innovative, but our nation must focus, finance, and reward our younger generation to study and be motivated to innovate.

Sources:

"Pentagon Blocks Clampdown on Huawei Sales," Bob Davis, WSJ, 24-25 January 2020, A1, A7

"Did US just concede defeat in China tech war?" David Goldman, Asia Times, January 26, 2020

"We need our mojo back vis-à-vis China," David Goldman, September 12, 2019

"U.K. Backs Huawei, A Setback for U.S." Max Colchester, WSJ, 29 Jan 2020, A1, A2



JANUARY 2020 IMPACT REPORT


3,977

Number of veterans, troops and spouses who received employment assistance through American Legion-conducted or supported job fairs in January, including Andrews Air Force Base and Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland; Naval Base Dahlgren in Virginia; and Fort Hood, Texas.


\$40,000

Amount in American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors-purchased comfort items distributed in January alone, to six different recipients that provide care to military personnel and veterans.


25

Number of minor children who were helped through American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants in January. The \$15,501 in emergency funding helped families of military personnel and veterans pay for shelter, utilities, food and clothing.


7,100

Minimum number of athletes, coaches and industry leaders who joined American Legion Baseball Committee members to learn from each other at the 76th Annual American Baseball Coaches Association Convention in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 2-5.


10

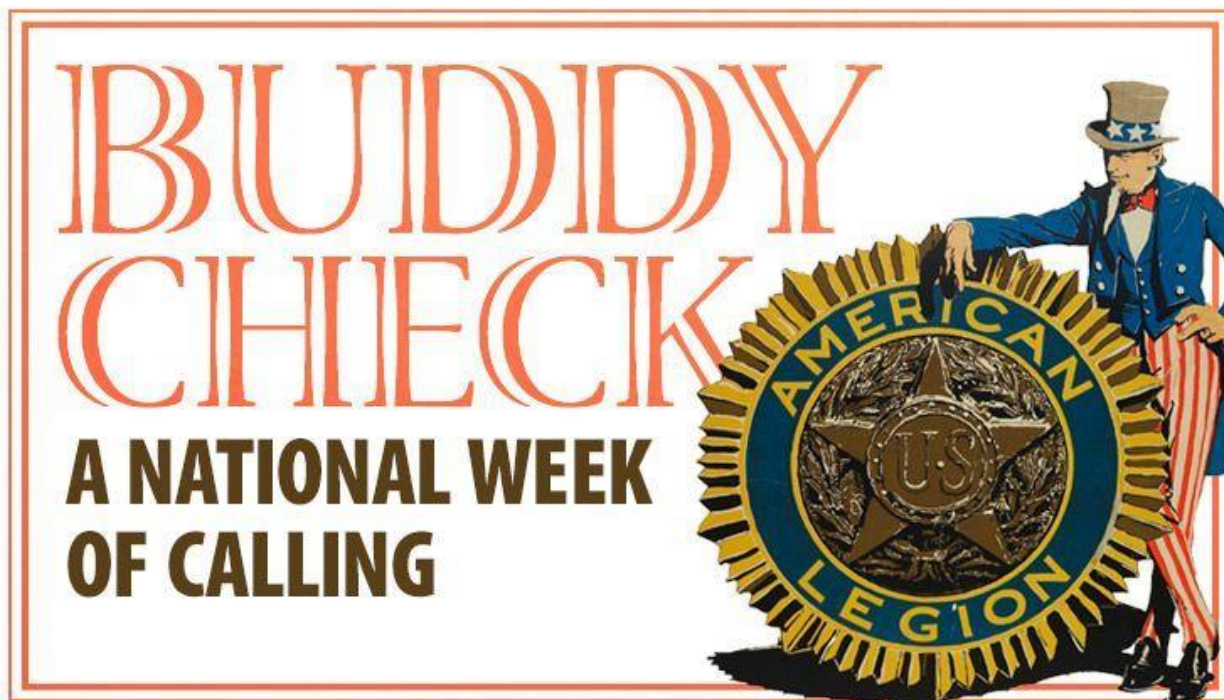
Number of American Legion district revitalization campaigns conducted in January by national membership teams working in six departments: Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, New Mexico, New Jersey and Vermont.


1,257

Number of Board of Veterans Appeals dispositions achieved by American Legion national representatives in January, 78 percent of which were either ruled in favor of the veteran or remanded for further documentation.

Children & Youth

This is only one page of the full impact report for January 2020. This is a snap shot of all the things Legionnaires, VSOs, donations, volunteers, and family members have done to help in their community, veterans, children, and those in need of a helping hand. Keep up the good work. For more reports, go to: www.legion.org/membership/impact



Don't forget to put on your calendar for March to conduct Buddy Checks during Legion birthday week.

2019-2020 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

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.

2019-2020 NATIONAL RENEWAL SCHEDULE

<u>Cutoff Date</u>	<u>Renewal Mail Date</u>
FEB 12, 2020	FEB 26, 2020
APR 8, 2019	APR 24, 2020

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. Please transmit as early and as often as possible in advance of the target dates to help avoid delays in processing.

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12/19

February 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Four Chaplain's Sunday	3	4 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm, Dist. 8 @ 7 pm	5	6	7	8 Post Meeting 11 am
9	10	11	12 Lincoln's b-day 85% mbrsp	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 President's Day observed	18	19	20	21	22 Washington's b-day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 DoC Oratorical contest

March 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 ALWMC Meeting, 6 pm, Dist. 8 @ 7 pm	4	5	6	7
8 DC Conf. Daylight Saving	9 D.C. Conf.	10 D.C. Conf.	11 90% mbrsp D.C. Conf.	12	13	14 DEC Post Meeting 11 am
15 DEC American Legion b-day	16 American Legion b-day	17 TAL bday 	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 DoC Legion Day @ the Capitol	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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We welcome article or letter submissions and 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 telephone number. All submissions should be emailed to cathaypost384events@gmail.com.

Cathay Dispatch writers were former members of the National American Legion Media Association (NALMA, 501(c)3), National American Legion Press Association, and California Legion Press Association (CALPA, 501(c)3). The award plaques received from those national and department level entities since 2014 will forever be displayed on the walls throughout the post as part of its distinguished history.



www.legion.org

Come join American Legion Cathay Post 384 in San Francisco, one of the oldest and most active posts in San Francisco. We welcome all qualified retired or active military personnel.

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

NEW— July 30, 2019 LEGION Act, Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service expands eligibility to those who served honorably from December 7, 1941 to now.

World War I

4/6/1917 – 11/11/1918

Beginning of World War II

12/7/1941 – to future date



CATHAY POST 384 American Legion

2019-2020 Post Officers

Commander: Helen Wong

1st Vice Commander: George Tsang

2nd Vice Commander:
Charles Paskerian

Adjutant: Ernie Stanton

Finance Officer: Randy Toy

Historian: Roger Dong

Jr. Past Commander: Nelson Lum

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