



Important Dates:

- Feb. 8—Monthly Meeting, CNY Lunch
 Feb. 15—SF Lunar New Year Parade
 Feb. 16—Major Lee Lunch
 Feb. 17—President's Day Observed

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CATHAY DISPATCH

FORMERLY...

CATHAY CHRONICLE

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

Major Kurt Lee to serve as Honorary Marshal

By Galin Luk

San Francisco native, Korean War hero and the first Chinese American commissioned as a regular officer in the United States Marine Corps will be serving as Honorary Marshal for San Francisco's Lunar New Year Parade. According to the event's website, over 100 units will be participating in the parade that has been an annual San Francisco tradition since the 1860s. The parade is scheduled to start at 5:20 pm and begins at Second and Market Street. The route will take participants south on Market, before it turns on Geary, Powell and Post Street, and makes a final turn heading north on Kearny Street. Rain or shine, tens of thousands will be crowding the parade route. Cathay Post's 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum will be driving the Honorary Marshal's vehicle, with Major Lee, Former Congressman and Marine Pete McCloskey, and the 1st Vice Commander as passengers. Post members W.T. Jeanpierre and Laura Renner will be serving as Color Guards accompanying the Honorary Marshal's vehicle. For more details about the parade visit: www.chinesenewyearparade.com. For more information about Major Lee's heroics read the Chinese American Hero of the Month section on page 21.



Major Lee at New Asia Restaurant, SF 2011.

Major Kurt Lee Special Luncheon By Nelson Lum

Marine Corps General Ray Davis described Major Kurt Lee as the "bravest Marine he ever knew." His heroics during the Korean War have only been recently recognized, including in the Smithsonian documentary "Uncommon Valor: Breakout at Chosin." Cathay Post No. 384 will be hosting a lunch to honor Honorary Member Major Kurt Lee, a San Francisco native and Korean War hero on Sunday, February 16, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. at the Hong Kong Flower Lounge Restaurant 51 Millbrae Ave., Millbrae (2 blocks west of Millbrae BART Station).

(Continued on page 3)

Cathay Post Needs Your Donations By David Wong

Where does your \$40 annual membership fee go? You may be surprised to know that our Post only gets \$15.50 of every veteran's membership fees. It is not difficult to figure out that the Post's operating expenses far exceed its share of membership fees. How does the all-volunteer Post, with no government funding, cover the shortfall? Donations certainly help. Chinese

New Year 2014, the Year of the Horse, will be on Friday, January 31. Continuing with Cathay Post's long standing tradition, the Post will be accepting Spring Festival donations (commonly referred to in Cantonese as "Heurng Yau" 香油 'incense oil') that will support our many worthwhile programs that aid our veterans and our community. Because the Post is a

501(c)(19) tax exempt veterans organization; your donation is 100% tax deductible. Please bring your checkbook to the February 8 meeting [the Post will be serving a special Lunar New Year's lunch following the general meeting]. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can mail your donation to Cathay Post No. 384, 1524 Powell St., S.F., CA 94133.



A Special Lunar New Year Lunch By Galin Luk

Remember the Post's Thanksgiving and Christmas lunch? Well, Cathay Post is at it again. Bring your heavy appetite to Cathay Post's Lunar New Year lunch. The Post will be hosting quite the spread following the February 8 general membership meeting. Treasurer Ed Wong,

who was responsible for selecting the menu, promised the following: one whole roast pig; barbecue pork chow mein; fried chicken drumettes; steamed shrimp dumplings—ha gow; pork dumplings—siu mai; and Chiu Chow fun guo (peanuts, chives, pork, and

shitake mushrooms). Unfortunately, fans of the sticky rice will have to bring their own stash. According to Ed, "too much sweet starch" is not good for your health. We will also have either a green salad or fresh sweet sliced oranges to complete this special Lunar New Year lunch.



COMMANDER DAVID Y. WONG

Unfortunately, the San Francisco 49ers will not be going to the 2014 Super Bowl. Prior to the NFC Championship game, Commander Terry Nicholas of Cathay Post 186 in Seattle made a friendly wager with our Post. Since we lost, we will be flying the Seahawk's flag (to be provided by Commander Nicholas) for a one week period and we will post a 30 second video of the flag ceremony on YouTube. The exact location of where the winning flag will be flown will be decided by the executive board. Oh well, we can still root for the Golden State Warriors and the San Francisco Giants. Go Niners, Warriors, and Giants!

During a recent executive board meeting to discuss the Post's by-

Laws, a decision was made to propose amending Article 5, Section 3, to change the term for officers from two years to one year retroactive from the 2013 election year. The majority of the American Legion posts have one year terms for elected officers. A motion was read to the membership during the January 2014 meeting. The changes will be put up for a vote during the February 8 general membership meeting. If the amendment is passed by a two third's majority of the membership present during the February meeting, an election will take place shortly after. Nominations for new officers to serve on the board of directors will begin at the March meeting. The process will take

two meeting before the official balloting is mailed out to all veteran members in good standing. The tabulation of the results will occur during the monthly May meeting.

I am in favor of the amendment. This proposed amendment will open up more opportunities for veterans to serve on the board. It will also lighten my workload. While it is an honor to serve as your commander, we should always be planning for the long term growth of this Post.

I hope to see all of you during the next membership meeting on February 8. We will have a special Lunar New Year lunch following the meeting. Thank you for your continued support of our Post.



David Y. Wong

dwong900@yahoo.com
415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member
since: 2004

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC 5

"This proposed amendment will open up more opportunities for veterans to serve on the board."

Major Lee Lunch, Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Due to a very busy schedule, the luncheon will be the only occasion reserved mainly for members and friends of Cathay Post No. 384 to

host Major Lee. Seating is limited. Please fill out and submit the reservation form in this month's Dispatch [including the number of guests] on page 7 ASAP.





Jay Pon

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415409-8858

Cathay Post Member
since: 2001

Branch: Navy, Army

Final Rank: Major

“Change is inevitable; we don’t want to be just a Chinatown Post. I know Chinatown is our Post’s origin.”



1st VICE COMMANDER JAY PON

Change is in the air. Attendance at our monthly meetings are growing! Different faces, old and new, rotate through each month. With all that is going on in life, I want to thank you for attending any monthly meeting you can. We don't expect you to attend every meeting, but we do expect you to make a positive difference in our community.

Long time member Hanley Chan dropped by at the January meeting to say goodbye. He will be moving to Palmdale, California to start a new chapter in his life. Best wishes to you and your family. Stay in touch, visit when you can, keep reading the Cathay Dispatch, and know that Cathay Post is still your home away from home.

The Post is also in the process of changing its by-laws. The executive board is proposing a two step process. The first step involves modifying the length of officer term from two years to one. This will allow members more opportunity to experience what it is like to be an officer of the

Post. The second step involves a complete rewrite of the by-laws to reflect our current status and future direction. Thank you to member Evered Cohen for his comments on the by-laws. He’s got our back!!!

Our membership continues to change as our 3rd Vice Commander continues his quest for new members from different areas of the city. Many members have come up to me and have mentioned positive and negative feelings about the Post's evolution. Change is inevitable; we don't want to be just a Chinatown Post. I know Chinatown is our Post's origin. Chinatown was and is home for many of our members. Many of our members went to school here and grew up together. But even Chinatown has changed. Fewer people are speaking “my Chinese.” That foreign language they call Mandarin keeps spreading and no one calls me “ah doy” anymore. What I can say is all these young faces will be just like you... just give them 20 or 30 years.

There is one thing I would like to change, unless the older veterans don't want it. It is damn cold in the building! How cold? I don't even need to refrigerate my beer. It is so cold I might consider switching to tea. I now see why we go through so much hot tea. Let the board know at its next meeting if the building needs GAS heating. It’s going cost a few bucks, but I think you're worth it.

For the last several months, I have been writing about the U.S. Constitution and Amendments. I personally did not know all the amendments until I wrote about them. This month, let's look back to 1931 when the Star Spangled Banner was adopted as our national anthem. 1931? I thought the Star Spangled Banner was our only national anthem? It is. The Star Spangled Banner was a poem titled “Defence of Fort M’Henry” written in 1814 by Frances Scott Key during the War of 1812 after witnessing the bombardment of

(Continued on page 9)

2nd VICE COMMANDER NELSON LUM

February is here already! I want to wish everyone a healthy and prosperous Chinese New Year; Gung Hay Fat Choy. According to the Chinese Zodiac, those who were born in the Year of the Horse are likely to make good money, work hard and have good social status. But, they have a hard time controlling their emotions and they may also try to make easy money.

As most of you are aware, on February 13, 2014, one of Cathay Post No. 384's most distinguished Honorary members, Major Kurt Lee, will be visiting San Francisco. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce, through the Chinese New Year Parade Committee, invited Major Lee to be the Honorary Marshal of the 2014 Lunar New Year Parade. To my knowledge, this is the very first time the Parade Committee has chosen to honor a military hero. As veterans, we should all be very proud of Major Lee.

For the first time that I can remember, Cathay

Post will be participating in the Lunar New Year Parade. I will be driving Major Lee through the parade route. We will be joined by former Congressman Pete McCloskey (one of the Marines who was saved by the heroics of Major Lee in the Chosin Reservoir) and 1st Vice Commander Jay Pon. Comrades Laura Renner and W. T. Jeanpierre will be flag bearers marching in front of Major Lee's vehicle. 3rd Vice Commander Galin Luk will be the photographer along the route.

Cathay Post supports many community projects in and around Chinatown. It is only appropriate that the Post take part in the biggest Chinatown event of the year. I hope this will be the beginning of our Post's annual participation.

We are in the midst of planning a fun and profitable fundraiser. As most of you are aware, funding is hard to come by, especially in this economy. Regardless of the economy, the Post will still

need funding to continue its support of its many community projects. The Post will be hosting a "Texas Hold'em" poker tournament on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. In addition to your personal participation, we need you to actively solicit players and sponsors. We will need all of you to make this a successful event. Our support member, Clara Pon, has devoted many hours to help put this tournament together. When you see her, please convey your sincere appreciation for all the work that she has done for our Post.

During the Post's January general meeting, members learned that the Post proposed that the by-laws be changed so that elected positions would be shortened from a 2 year term to a 1 year term. These changes will be read again at our next meeting and a vote will be taken. If 2/3 of the attending members approve the changes, the changes will be adopted. Copies of the changes will

(Continued on page 10)



Nelson Lum

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415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member since: 2005

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC 5

"To my knowledge, this is the very first time the Parade Committee has chosen to honor a military hero."





Galín Luk

galinluk@hotmail.com
415-392-2882

Cathay Post Member
since: 2009

Branch: Marine
Corps

Final Rank: Captain

*“Without your
volunteerism, the
Post wouldn’t be
able to support so
many worthy
events and
causes.”*



3rd Vice Commander Galin Luk

Volunteerism. Every Cathay Post No. 384 member knows the meaning of the word. Each of us, after all, **volunteered** to join this all **volunteer** charitable force so that we could continue to **volunteer** our services to the community.

There are, of course many tangible benefits to volunteering. Without your volunteerism, the Post wouldn’t be able to support so many worthy events and causes. More importantly, those who truly are in need, would not receive the benefit of your time, effort and generosity.

You also benefit immensely from volunteering. That’s because volunteering puts you in the heart of the action; you spend time with veteran and support members who share common interests and goals. It is in these situations where you really develop stronger relationships with your friends. It’s when you volunteer that you get the opportunity to talk to your friends, learn about

them and share the camaraderie of working towards another successful Post event. When we get to know our fellow members, when these relationships develop and strengthen, the Post becomes stronger.

Now, you can be a part of something very special from the ground floor. You can develop those relationships, help the Post grow and raise funds for the Post’s many charitable endeavors. One of our newest support members, Clara Pon, volunteered to help organize a “Texas Hold’em Poker Tournament.” This tournament is guaranteed to be a success not only because it will raise money for our Post but more importantly, through your volunteer efforts, it will strengthen your relationships with your friends and in turn make our Post stronger. This tournament will succeed because we will all pitch in, in whatever way we can, to make it succeed.

What can you do to ensure this tourna-

ment’s success? Anything, and everything. But, here’s one: get one friend, or two, or three, to sign up for the poker tournament. Here’s another: you need to sign up. This is a “no lose” proposition. For the price of a small fee, you secure the chance of winning a nice cash haul. Here’s the beauty of this tournament; you don’t need to know the first thing about poker. The professional dealers are there to walk you through the basics. Even if you don’t win, your small fee gets you a dinner and, I guarantee you this, a great time.

How else can you help? The Post will need volunteers to publicize the event, to recruit more volunteers, to help with logistics [before, during and after the tournament], set-up, clean-up, get sponsors, and well, honestly, the list goes on. This is a big event. In order for it to succeed, you will need to help.

This tournament isn’t just about raising

(Continued on page 10)



AMERICAN LEGION, CATHAY POST NO. 384

Come join us for a special lunch with Major Kurt Lee, United States Marine Corps (Retired), Honorary Marshal of the 2014 San Francisco Chinese New Year Parade.



Where: Hong Kong Flower Lounge Restaurant
51 Millbrae Ave, Millbrae, CA | (650) 692-6666
(2 blocks west of Millbrae BART Station)
When: Sunday, February 16, 2014
Time: 1:30 pm
Cost: \$25/person or \$250/per table of 10

Registration and pre-payment required. There are a limited number of seats available. Reserve your seat today. Please call Nelson Lum at 415-205-0120, Clara Pon at 415-669-4192 or send an email to: cathaypost384events@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Please cut along the line and return with your information and payment.

Registration Form

I would like to attend the special lunch with Major Kurt Lee (USMC Retired) at Hong Kong Flower Lounge on Sunday, February 16, 2014 at 1:30 pm. I have provided my contact information and payment (\$25/person) to reserve my seat(s) or \$250 to reserve a table for 10.

Registration form & payment can be dropped off (no later than Saturday, February 8, 2014) or Mailed (postmarked no later than Wednesday, February 5, 2014) to:

Cathay Post, 1524 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA 94133
Attention: Major Lee Lunch

Name _____

Email address _____

Telephone _____

* If possible, when registering more than 1, please list the first & last name of each person below.

If you mail in your payment and registration form, we will contact you by telephone or email to confirm receipt of your reservation. Thank you.

* No. Attending—\$25/person

No. of Table(s) - \$250/table
(10 people/table)

Method of Payment

Cash

Check:

Please make check payable to:
Cathay Post 384



American Legion,

Cathay Post No. 384

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014

TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER NIGHT

Cathay Post—1524 Powell Street

Dinner starts @ 6pm

Tournament from 7—11pm

Table sponsors available starting at \$275

\$85 Player Buy-In (includes dinner)

Must be 21+ years to participate

\$40 Dinner Only Guests

Cash Bar (Beer/Wine/Soda/Water)

Limited to the first 100 paid registered players only.

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

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



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

Jay Pon, Continued

(Continued from page 4)

Fort McHenry by the British Royal Navy. See amhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner.com. Frances Scott Key downloaded a British song popular in the US: "The Anacreontic Song" and overlaid his own poem violating many past, present and future copyright laws! A 1953 USMC instrumental version (because Marines can't sing) is available ([click here](#)). Adopted by Congress and signed into law by President Herbert Hoover (March 3rd, 1931).

Almost all Americans sing only the first stanza and ignore the second, third, and fourth stanzas. Here's the song in its entirety:

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
 O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
 Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
 What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
 As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
 Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
 In full glory reflected now shines in the

stream:

'Tis the star-spangled banner, O! long may it wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
 That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
 A home and a country, should leave us no more?

Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
 No refuge could save the hireling and slave
 From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
 Between their loved home and the war's desolation.
 Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
 Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
 Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
 And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

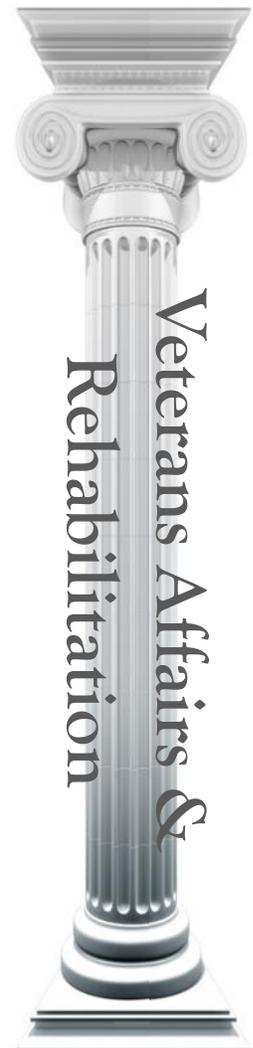
In 1861, the poet professor, Oliver Wendell Homes Sr. added a fifth stanza to the song, which Congress ignored, failed to copy, or both.

When our land is illumined with liberty's smile,
 If a foe from within strikes a blow at her glory,

(Continued on page 10)



Cover of sheet music for "The Star-Spangled Banner", transcribed for piano by Ch. Voss, Philadelphia: G. Andre & Co., 1862



Jay Pon, Continued

(Continued from page 9)

Down, down with the traitor that tries to
 defile
 The flag of the stars, and the page of
 her story!
 By the millions unchained,
 Who their birthright have gained
 We will keep her bright blazon forever
 unstained;
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph
 shall wave,
 While the land of the free is the home of
 the brave.

Our building is open for community events. Please let us know of any community groups that could use our building for events. We want our building to be full of life! Join the Karaoke group Thursday night to violate US law and sing only the 1st Stanza of the Star Spangled Banner!

All the best from the Pon Family and may God Bless America.

Nelson Lum, Continued

(Continued from page 5)

be forwarded to the American Legion, Department of California for approval. The proposed changes, if approved, will authorize a new round of election of officers for the

Post this year. Every position is open to member in good standing who wishes to take on the responsibility of serving our Post.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next monthly meeting.

Galin Luk, Continued

(Continued from page 6)

money for the Post. It's about developing friendships, forged through your volunteer efforts at making this tournament a success. It's about making this Post stronger. This tournament isn't a one shot deal. This tournament **will be** a Post tradition. Much like our Thanksgiving lunch, **and** our Christmas lunch, **and** our Lunar New Year's lunch, **and** the awarding of the JROTC and

ROTC scholarships, **and** sponsorship of the Hepatitis B programs, **and** the Post's annual dinner Gala honoring local hero firefighters and police officers, **and** the Boy's State Program. This tournament will be much like the new traditions we've established in just the past year: including the increased participation of the Post's Color Guard in the Italian Heritage Parade, the Post's Color Guard's participation in the

Veterans Day Parade, the Post's first participation in the Lunar New Year Parade, as well as the Post's participation in the San Francisco Firefighter's Christmas Toy Program.

As members, you can be part of something great, and wonderful, from the ground up. Talk to Clara, or any of the vice-commanders and tell them how you can help. This tournament will succeed because we are Post 384.



Cathay Post Welcomes Its Newest Members By Galin Luk

Cathay Post No. 384 is now 118 veteran members strong. Cathay Post No. 384 welcomes its newest members who joined during the last quarter of 2013.

Four of the members are affiliated with the VETS@SFSU student organization at San Francisco State University: Rogelio Mannaos is the Veterans Service Coordinator at San Francisco State University; student Ben Yang is President of VETS@SFSU; student Kadie Williams is

Vice-President of VETS@SFSU; student Travis Groft is Director of External Affairs of VETS@SFSU.

Laura Renner is an Air Force veteran and Air Force Academy grad. Another new member, attorney Dustin Hamilton, who is featured in this month's "Member Focus," lives in Seattle and unfortunately is a Seahawks fan. Member Helen Wong, who is also featured in this month's "Member Focus," was

recently selected as the "Outstanding Volunteer" at the CAL-VET Women's Conference. She recently transferred her membership to Cathay Post No. 384. Finally, our newest member is San Francisco native and Army veteran, William "Will" Woo, who was introduced to our Post by life member Wilbur Woo [no relation]. Cathay Post welcomes its newest members and is looking forward to a very productive relationship.

W.T. Jeanpierre Recognized For Volunteerism By Galin Luk

The American Legion 8th District Council, Veteran's Success Center and Cathay Post No. 384 recognized one of the Post's newest members, Air Force Veteran W.T. Jeanpierre for his outstanding contributions and volunteer efforts to the Veterans Success Center. After learning that the Veterans Success Center was struggling financially, W.T. Jeanpierre put together a fashion show at the U.S. Bank in the Financial District in October that raised thousands of dollars, helping to ease the center's financial strain. The Veterans Success Center is a non-profit co-founded by Post 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum and Board member Roger

Dong to provide job training, resources, and job placement services to veterans. Roger told W.T. Jeanpierre that "this award isn't just handed out; you have to earn it and you truly did. If only I had more W.T. Jeanpierres, I would be able to retire." W.T. Jeanpierre was very grateful for the award. He said he put together the fashion show "to help raise money for the Veteran's Success Center to help get jobs for our veterans and to keep Cathay Post's name strong because we do so much for the community, veterans, schools and kids." To learn more about the Veterans Success Center, or to donate, visit: www.sf-vsc.org.



Annual Trip to Ft. Miley By Galin Luk



L-R, Back: Travis Groft, Galin Luk, Nelson Lum, Roger Dong, Aundray Rogers (Post 333), Nestor Tom, Ralph Wong. Front: Michelle & Gabrielle Groft, and Mackenzie Luk.

Post member Roger Dong has called the trip to Ft. Miley “one of the best that any Post member can make.” Cathay Post members have been visiting Ft. Miley veterans at the senior residence home for years. Located on Point Lobos in the outer Richmond District in San Francisco, Ft. Miley also includes a medical center. Post members and their family got an early start to their Saturday morning on January 25, 2014. 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum, 3rd Vice Commander Galin Luk and his seven year old daughter Mackenzie, along with members Roger Dong, Nestor Tom, Travis Groft and his wife Michelle and their six year old daughter Gabriella, met at 1st Vice Commander Jay Pon’s home to assemble gift packs for the Ft. Miley veterans they would be visiting later that morning [unfortunately, Ft. Miley imposed restrictions on the number of visitors this year]. After completing that assignment, they met with Post member Ralph Wong and Post 333 Commander

Aundray Rogers at Ft. Miley. Following a quick briefing by Deputy Director of Volunteer Services, Jim McDermott, the members and the young girls entered the home, to spend quality time with and hand out gift packs to the veterans.

Members Nestor Tom and Ralph Wong made personal visits to the residents in their room, while Roger, Nelson, Galin, Travis, Michelle, and Aundray met the residents in the dining hall. Gabriella and Mackenzie quickly found their favorite, Susan, an Air Force veteran who regaled the girls with stories about her time in service, and her worldwide travels. Susan appeared equally impressed with the girls’ skills in making loom bracelets using pencils and Tootsie Roll lollipop sticks. During the visit, a wife of one of the residents walked up to Roger and Nelson, and expressed her gratitude for the Post’s visit. Indeed, several other residents and friends expressed the same thought to the group. After leaving Ft. Miley, the members returned to 1st Vice Commander Jay Pon’s home for a barbeque lunch.



Gabrielle Groft and Mackenzie Luk.



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Offer valid February 3 – April 30, 2014 on New, Used, and Early Model Automobiles and New and Used Motorcycles. Application and funding must occur during the promotional period and loan must be \$15,000 or higher to qualify. Example rate of 1.99% APR with 60 monthly payments = \$17.52 per \$1,000 borrowed, assumes .25% discount for enrollment in automatic payments (fully indexed rate of 3.24%). Rates quoted assume excellent borrower history and actual APR may be higher than the lowest rate available. Internal refinances are not eligible. Out-of-state vehicles are acceptable on dealer transactions only. \$100 gas card will be mailed to member within 90 days of funding loan. Rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice.

Promo Code: VH0214

NCUA

VETS@SFSU Events—February 2014



4th Annual Welcome Back BBQ—February, 1, 2014

[VETS@SFSU](#), a student veterans organization at San Francisco State University, has extended an invitation to Cathay Post No. 384 to attend their 4th Annual Welcome Back BBQ on Saturday, February, 1 from 1100 to 1400 at Orange Memorial Park [781 Tennis Drive, South San Francisco]. Check them out on Facebook by typing 'VETS@SFSU' for more information. We look forward to seeing you there and for you to meet and support our Post members [some of whom are VETS@SFSU members] and veteran students and alumni.

Free Mini Documentary Screening—February 11, 2014

San Francisco State University Professor and Navy Lieutenant Commander Daniel Bernardi is inviting Cathay Post members to attend a special free screening of mini-documentaries created by the University's Veteran Documentary Corps. In attendance will be President Leslie Wong and many veterans, including San Francisco State veterans. The screening will be held at The Castro Theater (429 Castro Street) on February 11, 2014 at 1900, with a reception to follow. Please email cathaypost@gmail.com by February 3, 2013 to confirm your attendance. Please join our Post and support our veterans at San Francisco State University.

POW Eddie Fung To Visit Our Post in March By Roger Dong



Eddie Fung at Camp Bowie, TX holding a Browning Automatic Rifle, 1940. Photo courtesy of Eddie Fung.

Exactly seventy two years to the day after he became a prisoner of war, World War II Army veteran Eddie Fung will be visiting our Post on March 8. Eddie is the only Chinese American veteran who survived capture by the Imperial Japanese Army. He endured 42 months of slave labor and minimal rations.

Eddie's story is told by his wife, Dr. Judy Young, in "The Adventures of Eddie Fung Chinatown Kid, Texas Cowboy, Prisoner of War." Eddie is a San Francisco native. He wanted to be a cowboy, so he dropped out of high school, and left for Dodge City, actually Midland, Texas. He became a cowboy, but

then World War II broke out. So he and his patriotic cowhands naturally joined the Texas National Guard.

Unfortunately, the Japanese Army captured Eddie's entire unit (which became known as the "Lost Battalion") shortly after it shipped out to Southeast Asia. After the capture, the Japanese subjected the unit to hard labor with minimal rations in oppressive jungle conditions. As prisoners of war, the unit built the 262 mile long Burma-Sian railroad through dense tropical jungle terrain. Along the way, they built the Bridge over the River Kwai in 14 months. Many thousands of prisoners of war died under Japanese capture.

Eddie Fung's toughness and resourcefulness helped many of his fellow prisoners survive 3 1/2 years of imprisonment. Eddie did some of the cooking, which was initially met with skepticism from his fellow prisoners. But, when there is nothing else to eat, sweet and sour frog

and/or rodent intestines, is a welcome delicacy. When needed by wounded or sick colleagues, Eddie stealthily snuck out in the dark of night to "borrow" medical supplies and medicine from the Japanese Army. For many years after the War, the Lost Battalion met annually in Texas where Eddie Fung was treated as a "hero."

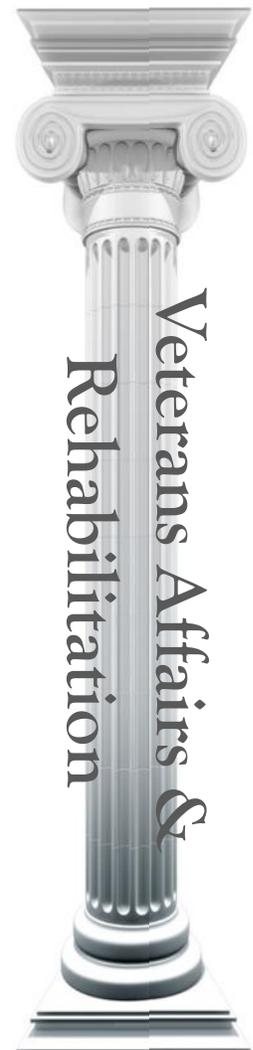
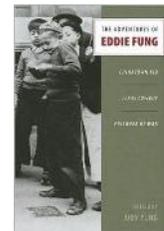
Eddie Fung will be accompanied by his wife Dr. Judy Yung. She is a very well-known Chinese American historian who has written scholarly journals and books on the history of Chinese Americans, including the famous Angel Island Immigration Station, and the many courageous Chinese American women who served our country during World War II.

Eddie will bring his great sense of humor [noted by several reviewers of his book] and a few copies of his story, "The Adventures of Eddie Fung" to the Post's monthly meeting in March.



Eddie Fung, 90
WWII POW.

Photo By Dan Coyro



Cathay Post Color Guard Places 3rd in Veterans Day Parade

By Galin Luk



Remember the November 2013 headlines proclaiming “Cathay Post’s Color Guard: Part 2; Better Than Ever?” Turns out we were on to something. The San Francisco Mayor’s Veterans Day Parade Committee recently awarded Cathay Post’s Color Guard “third place” in the 2013 Veterans Day Parade.

The Post’s Color Guard had quite an active 2013. It participated in the 145th Annual Italian Heritage Parade in October under warm and balmy conditions. In November, the Color Guard gained some additional members and, along with a couple of cute grandkids, marched in the Veterans Day Parade down Market Street in fairly challenging

road conditions, including the rail tracks, and cold weather. The Post’s Color Guard detail included 2nd Vice Commander Nelson Lum, 3rd Vice Commander Galin Luk, Post Secretary John Li, Post Chaplain Richard Ow, Sergeant at Arms and Quartermaster Gary Chew, and members David Adams, W.T. Jeanpierre, Morris Ng, Jake Goetzow, Thanh Huynh, Mario Gomez and Ralph Wong. The Post’s Banner Team was led by Support Member Daniel Soo Hoo, Mario’s wife, Roberta and their daughter Brittany, and Support Members Linda Peng and Shelley Lee. W.T. Jeanpierre’s friend Josefina Cervantes and his grandchildren Tameyah, 13, and 8 year old twins Jaydah and Jazmyne, also marched the parade route, no doubt adding some much needed “cuteness” to the Post’s salty veterans. Congratulations to Cathay Post’s award winning Color Guard!

Veterans’ Memorial Museum in New Mexico By John Li

If you ever find yourself in Albuquerque, New Mexico, you should drop by the Veterans’ Memorial Museum. The museum pays tribute to the state’s military history and veterans on a 25-acre complex at the base of the Sandia Mountain. New Mexi-

co is the first state to honor all of its Vietnam War combat deaths by displaying a photograph of service members killed in Vietnam. New Mexico, which has a long history of honoring its service members, has the most Medal of Honor recipients per capita of any

state. The museum also featured several military historical memorabilia.

To read more about this museum, follow [this link . www.legion.org/honor/218234/new-mexico-museum-traces-military-history](http://thislink.www.legion.org/honor/218234/new-mexico-museum-traces-military-history)



Helen Wong, Outstanding Volunteer By Thanh Huynh

Helen Wong is a second generation Army veteran. She is the daughter of a veteran of the renowned 101st Airborne "Screaming Eagles" that served in the European theater during World War II.

Like her dad, Helen is also a top performer. After graduating from San Jose State University, she was directly commissioned as one of only five Army Medical Specialist Occupational Therapy (O.T.) [MOS 65A] interns out of more than 200 applicants nationwide.

After completing Officers Basic Leadership Course (OBLC) at Ft. Sam Houston, TX, Helen began her career at Ft. Lewis, Washington. She served on active duty during the Vietnam War and after the war transitioned to the Army Reserves in the Army Medical Department (AMEDD).

However, Helen's expertise and leadership would be needed again on active duty. While serving in the 347th General Reserve Hospital based in Sunnyvale,

and working at the Palo Alto V.A. Hospital, Menlo Park Division's P.T.S.D. (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) Program, she was called up for Desert Storm support and returned to her first duty station--Ft. Lewis.

Lieutenant Colonel Wong retired from the Army Reserve after 22 years of active & reserve duty in 1995. Helen of course, has only gone into overdrive following "retirement." She continued serving our community through her involvement with many local and national veterans groups.

She has served or is serving as: Secretary/Treasurer of the Steve Warren Memorial Chapter 464 of Vietnam Veterans of America; Treasurer for the San Mateo County Veterans Employment Committee (V.E.C.S.M.); Post Commander of American Veterans (AMVETS) Golden Gate Post 34; District 4 Commander [1998-2000, 2002-2008] and Northern Area Commander [2000]; Secretary of the AMVETS Dept. of CA Service

Foundation [2008 to present]; Treasurer for D.A.V. Chapter 16; and as Board Member of Nor CAL Honor Flight. She is also a member of Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S., Reserve Officers of America. As if that wasn't enough, she has over 3,000 volunteer hours with the V.A. Hospitals in Palo Alto and San Francisco, and continues to visit the National Center for P.T.S.D. Program and Women's Trauma Program at the Menlo Park Division VA.

For the last two years, Helen has worked with AMVETS Post 34's "AMVETS For VETS" lunch program on Sundays where homeless and transitional veterans receive a nutritious meal and learn about topics ranging from veterans benefits and resources to new leisure activities.

Helen currently is the volunteer Team Leader at the San Francisco AMVETS Career Center at the Veterans Success Center, a mutually beneficial collaboration with American Legion

(Continued on page 19)





Dustin Hamilton in front of one of the many bikes he claims to have ridden.



Dustin Hamilton By Galin Luk

I'll start off by telling you what's wrong with Dustin Hamilton, one of our Post's newest member. He's a Seahawks fan. Three years ago, he sent me a Seahawks air freshener. I still have it hanging in my office. It smelled awful when I first received it. It smells even worse today.

Recently, he and another friend sent me shortbread cookies in the shape of the Seahawks helmet. Yes, I ate those cookies [and they knew I would] but it sure would have been nice if they sent Niners cookies instead.

What else is wrong with Dusty? He's a very good golfer. That's actually not a bad thing, except that he'll remind you how good he is on the golf course. [Actually, he's pretty modest about his skills.] What irks me about Dusty is when he waxes poetic about "how little" he paid to golf at the Presidio when he was a junior enlisted in the Navy [and the Presidio was still an Army base].

With all of that said,

why did I ask Dusty to join our American Legion Post? Well, for one, he had forty bucks burning a hole in his pocket [actually, when I asked him for the membership fee he asked me to spot him, because he told me "I'm good for it"]. Then, there's the fact that he lives in Seattle. This means he won't be bothering us with his incessant nonsense about the Seahawks during the monthly meetings. But really, I asked him to join because he really is a great man with a kind heart.

Dusty was born in Seattle. He's a squid whose family has a history of military service. His grandfather fought in World War II; his father retired from the Army. His brother is currently serving in the Air Force.



Dustin with his special glasses celebrating Scout's 5th birthday.

Dusty joined the Navy after high school and discharged at the rank of E-4. He served as a 5343, a diver and sonar tech. He dove in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Panama Canal. After leaving the service, he worked as a deckhand on fish boats. Realizing that his best sea leg days were behind him, Dusty decided to return to school. He is a graduate of the University of Washington and earned his law degree from Seattle University School of Law.

His past life as a diver and fish boat deckhand served as a nice apprenticeship for his current profession as a civil litigator, specializing in maritime law. I've heard a lot of great things about Dusty's skills as a litigator. Total pro, as great as our 49ers. Enough said. I have heard, however, that he may be bit difficult to deal with during depositions. Particularly if you're the client! Seems Dusty may have learned some unconventional litigation techniques in law school. In an effort to

(Continued on page 19)

Helen Wong, Continued

(Continued from page 17)

District 8 dedicated to helping veterans find jobs. In recognition of her tireless effort and dedication, Helen earned the Outstanding Volunteer award at the CAL-VET Women's Conference in October 2012.

Lieutenant Colonel Wong transferred her membership to Cathay Post 384 for the opportunity to continue her service with fellow Chinese American veterans. Helen intends to use her experience to be a resource for all veterans on V.A. benefits, job searches or anything else

Helen Wong at Camp Parks [Alameda County] setting up mobile hospital for DEPMEDS (Deployable Medical Systems) Annual Training 1989.



Dustin Hamilton, Continued

(Continued from page 18)

control the over talkative witness, Dusty once employed the “foot stomping” technique. From what I understand, this involved a shoeless Dusty gently “tapping” on his client’s foot to remind the client to

“minimize the talking.” Dusty reportedly returned to work limping; confirming the “foot stomping” technique is generally not a well-accepted litigation practice.

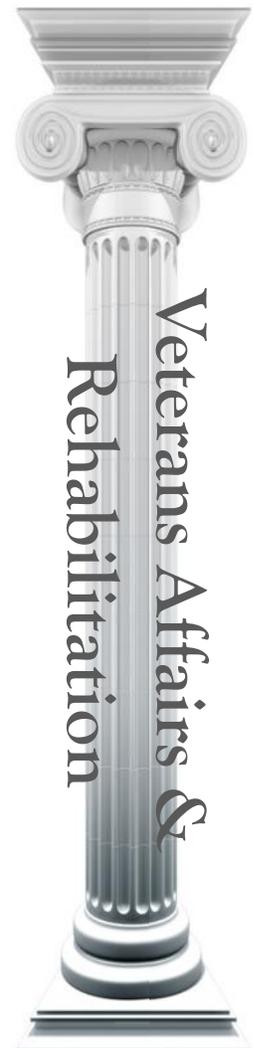
Conventional or not, we look forward to Dusty getting more involved with our Post.

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USS AMERICA (LHA 6) is scheduled to be commissioned in San Francisco in early September 2014.

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



Post Member Joins Rotary Club of Taiwan By Roger Dong

For years Post Member Henry Cheng was threatening to leave the Bay Area to spend quality time in Taiwan with his son. Well, Henry finally made good on his threat.

Shortly after arriving in Taipei, Taiwan, he was inducted into the Rotary Club of Taipei (RCT), a group that I introduced Henry to. I was a member of the RCT from 1995 to 2004, and its president from 2002 to 2003.

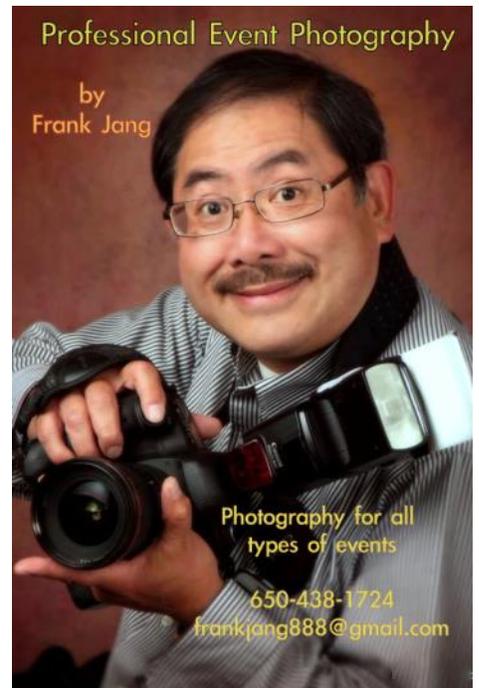
Like our Cathay Post, the RCT's mission is to provide community service locally and

abroad. RCT regularly fund raises to support their many charitable goals. The RCT's membership includes expatriates and many of the managers of the multi-national corporations which have offices in Taiwan. The

RCT counts as one of its members the President of Taiwan, Ma Ying-Jeou. Henry promised he will return to the United States and continue his membership with the Post.



Far right: Past RCT President Dale Holmgren, a USAF veteran, who served in Taiwan in 1958 during a tense time when China regularly bombarded the island of Quemoy. Dale recruited the President of Taiwan, Ma Ying-Jeou. Fourth from right is Post member Henry Cheng.



Chinese American Hero of the Month

KURT CHEW-EEN LEE

Name in English: Kurt Chew-Een Lee	Birth Year: 1926
Name in Chinese: 吕超然 [吕超然]	Birth Place: San Francisco, CA
Name in Pinyin: Lǚ Chāorán	Current location: Washington D.C.

Korean War Hero

Profession (s): United States Marine Corps Officer.

Education: Graduate of Marine Corps and Navy schools to qualify as: Infantry Officer; Special Weapons Employment (nuclear) Officer; Amphibious Reconnaissance Officer; Intelligence Officer, Operations & Training Officer; and Fiscal and Supply Officer. Attended Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and William & Mary College in Norfolk, Virginia.

Awards: 1950, Navy Cross; 1950, Silver Star Medal, United States Government; 1950, Purple Heart (twice awarded); Navy Commendation Medal w/Combat V; 1965, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", United States Government; Presidential Unit Citations: (Korea - 4; Vietnam-2); Navy Unit Citation: (Vietnam-1).

Contribution(s): Kurt Chew-Een Lee holds the distinction of being the first regular Marine Corps officer of Asian descent. Major Lee undertook a self-imposed mission to openly demolish the fallacious thinking spread by Hollywood movies that the Chinese, as a race, are too meek, obsequious and subservient to make good soldiers. He opened the Marine Corps to accepting more racial minorities into its officer ranks.

He was born in San Francisco, California but grew up in Sacramento. His father, M. Young Lee, was an American citizen born in Hawaii who later moved to California to take up farming and political activity with the Chinese 中山 who settled in the Sacramento delta region. During the Great Depression, he moved his family into Sacramento to establish a business to provide bulk farm produce to urban restaurants and hotels. To preserve their cultural heritage, he insisted that his children attend private Chinese school as well as regular public schools until junior high school. Kurt was in high school serving with the Junior ROTC as America fought World War II.

He was inducted into the Marine Corps in 1944 at age 18 while he was studying mine engineering. Following boot camp in San Diego, he was appalled to find that he was assigned to learn Japanese instead of being assigned to a combat unit. Private Lee was again disappointed when he was retained as an instructor at the Marine Corps Japanese Language School following his graduation. However, it was sweetened somewhat by his accelerated promotion to sergeant, the rank he held when World War II ended in August 1945. By then he

(Continued on page 22)



Major Lee in San Francisco 2011.



Major Kurt Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 21)

had been accepted for officer training by meeting all requirements, including passing the four-year college equivalency examination. When he graduated in April 1946, he made history by being the first non-white and Asian American to be commissioned as an unrestricted regular officer in the Marine Corps. [Prior to Major Lee's commission, other minority officers were commissioned in the Marine Corps as reserve officers].

With the outbreak of the Korean War, then Lieutenant Lee encountered some initial friction with some new recruits in the rifle company to which he was assigned. Many Marines had never seen or spoken to a Chinese person and some viewed all Asians as the enemy. Some also chafed under Lieutenant Lee's strict adherence to iron discipline and an intense training regimen. However, once his machine gun platoon came under enemy fire, the Marines recognized that their very survival and battle effectiveness depended on his aggressive leadership and bravery in battle. "Certainly, I was never afraid," he said matter of factly. "Perhaps we Chinese are all fatalists. I never expected to survive when I entered service at 18. Hence, I was adamant that my death be honorable, be of some consequence to my race."

After only two weeks of unit activation and training at Camp Pendleton California, then Lieutenant Lee and his Marines embarked aboard ships for war. He, and most of his men, engaged in combat for the first time after landing at Inchon, South Korea, on 20 September to participate in the battle for Seoul.

Following Seoul's recapture from the North Koreans, the 1st Marine Division (Reinforced) was sent on an end-run up the eastern seacoast of North Korea to land on October 26, 1950 at Wonsan. The Marines learned from an advanced South Korean army unit that it had already encountered "many, many" Chinese troops that it feared. The Chinese apparently first came into the country in the latter part of October. At midnight of that very day, the Chinese Communist Force (CCF) 124th Infantry Division launched a ferocious attack against the vaunted 1st Marine Division's forward positions. It was this night battle on November 2 that, according to the Smithsonian Institution in its Chosin documentary, transformed Lieutenant Lee "from hero to legend."

The ridiculous notion that any Marine would harbor any doubts about loyalty of a Marine officer was long put to rest in the earlier Inchon-Seoul Campaign. In a pause between attacks, the men were unable to see where the enemy forces were positioned. Lieutenant Lee directed them to watch for and shoot at the flashes made by Chinese weapons and then made a one-man raid on the Chinese positions, repeatedly advancing from one spot to another while feigning a much bigger American force. He made it up to the Chinese position by identifying himself as Chinese in Mandarin then attacking, thus forcing the enemy into full, confused retreat. The Chinese left several dead behind and Lieutenant Lee was able to save his men. It was for this action that he was awarded the Navy Cross,

(Continued on page 23)



Major Kurt Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 22)

the highest combat decoration awarded under the Department of Navy to Marines. Later that morning, after his nighttime heroics, he was shot by a sniper and sent to an Army field hospital at Hamhung near the seacoast. To avoid being air evacuated to a hospital in Japan to recuperate, he "liberated" a jeep with his arm in a sling to escape back to his company.

Upon his return to his company, Lieutenant Lee was given command of the 2nd Rifle Platoon since all his machine guns were attached out to the rifle platoons. Disregarding grumblings, he imposed an immediate retraining program in lulls between combat patrols because he deemed his new platoon to be deficient in fire discipline and combat performance. He was satisfied only by Thanksgiving Day and the next day, with his platoon at the point, headed his battalion north to Yudam-ni, the northernmost point of advance at the Chosin Reservoir. By then the CCF had clandestinely moved forces en masse into North Korea to blunt the continuing United Nations advance to China's border. On the Eastern front, General Sung was charged with the mission to destroy the notorious 1st Marine Division --- "to kill them as you kill snakes in your home." The fateful meeting between General Sung's Army Corps and 16,000 Marines (and a couple of Army units) took place between November 27, 1950 and December 11, 1950 at the Chosin Reservoir and became the iconic battle of the Korean War."

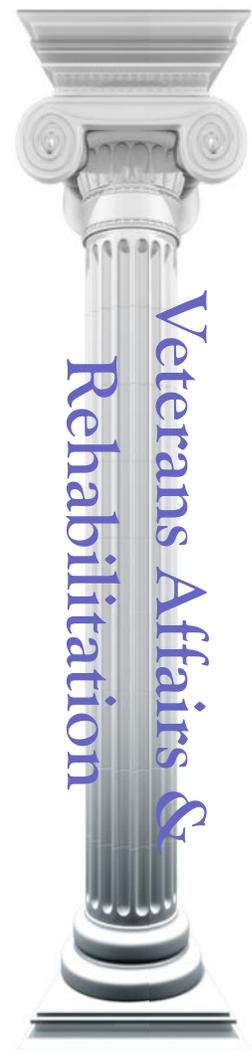
The Marines at Yudam-ni were primarily the 7th and 5th Marine Regiments with artillery support. Fox Company of the 7th Marines was holding the vital Toktong Pass about halfway between Yudam-ni and Hagaru, about 14 miles apart. In three days of relentless attacks despite horrific casualties inflicted on the Chinese troops, the Marines were unsuccessful in three attempts to break out of encirclement by road because of roadblocks and heavy enemy fire. A matter of urgency entered the picture by 1 December because Fox Company, under heavy attacks by two CCF regiments for four days and nights was in danger of being overwhelmed and losing the pass critical to the breakout of 8,000 Marines at Yudam-ni. Lieutenant Lee's battalion was given the mission to relieve Fox Company at Fox Hill and to secure the Toktong Pass.

After 10 hours of exhaustive fighting under heavy packs just to secure the hill, strongly defended by deeply entrenched enemy troops, Lieutenant Lee learned that the battalion would continue the attack at night because of the urgency of the situation at Fox Hill and that the battalion commander specified that Lieutenant Lee would lead the battalion column at the point. Perhaps no mission in Marine Corps history was so fraught with high risk for failure because of the confluence of adverse conditions and yet so urgent for success because it affected the survival of 8,000 Marines. It was a recognition of the respect that Lieutenant Lee had earned as a professional Marine officer that his battalion commander selected him to execute the mission. The battalion was stripped down to 500 battle exhausted men with the wounded and vehicles left behind to rejoin the unit at Hagaru upon clearance of the road. To most men in the battalion,

(Continued on page 24)



Major Lee at New Asia Restaurant, SF 2011.



Major Kurt Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 23)

the mission will be remembered as a nightmarish march under heavy loads that taxed their human endurance beyond physical exhaustion. To Lieutenant Lee and his platoon and Baker Company at the head of the long column, the mission was an extended night attack mode from the point of departure to the physical relief of Fox Company. It involved overcoming conflicting instruction at the outset, the physical condition of troops, sub-zero temperature that reached minus 60 degrees by whipping Siberian winds, blindness to terrain features obscured by darkness or swirling snow blizzards, breaking trail in thigh deep snow for 8-9 tortuous miles over treacherous, difficult mountainous terrain, and unknown enemy disposition of major units. Encountering loudly talking and aggressive enemy combat patrols (and avoiding them) was indicative of nearby large parent units. Lieutenant Lee himself was still fighting injured with his right arm in a sling. The only device he had to extricate his battalion from their perilous mission was a simple lensatic compass. And adrenalin to fuel his mental process.

Thanks to the discipline he instilled through added training, his platoon performed superbly throughout the night ordeal. This was reflected in the zeal they exhibited in attacking and routing what appeared to be the last concentration of the large enemy force that besieged Fox Company. Lieutenant Lee noted the transformation of his troops, some pudgy looking Reservists when they first embarked for war at San Diego, but now all lean and mean professionals exulting in their victory on that rocky hilltop. A final ridge known as Rocky Ridge about 300 yards beyond blocked the view of Fox Hill. It was unoccupied but a precautionary prep fire was called on it. By 1100 Baker Company was on Fox Hill celebrating the success of "Mission Impossible" with the grateful survivors of Fox Company. Their first words in greeting their battle-weary rescuers? "You guys look like shit ...!!"

After leading his platoon in continuing attacks to clear high ground from the Toktong Pass to Hagaru and then another 14 miles to Koto-ri, Lieutenant Lee's luck finally ran out. On 8 December in his company's last firefight in North Korea, he was shot in the face by a machine gun bullet ricochet while another bullet shattered his right arm to render it useless. A corporal [Gerald Hogan] who pulled his wounded leader to cover to dress his wounds later said, "Sometimes Mr. Lee's leadership scared me shitless, but I was never more scared in my life than when I saw him go down ... and never would be with us again."

The fighting was so intense and weather so severe that in 14 days of battle, the Marines lost about 50% of their fighting force with 8,000 killed, wounded or disabled. The hard-pressed frontline rifle companies incurred casualty rates as high as 90%. Baker Company landed at full strength at Wonsan with 125 officers and men. After their final firefight at Chosin, only 27 men could be mustered to march aboard ship on December 10 for evacuation from Hungnam. General Sung lost an estimated 38,000 soldiers killed, with several of his

(Continued on page 25)



Major Kurt Lee, Continued

(Continued from page 24)

divisions so crippled that they could never recover for the remainder of the war. [Note: Two of General Sung's divisions were never accounted for; but there was evidence that there were enemy units of unknown strength and disposition in the darkness that could have disrupted the night mission to Fox Hill.]

Although a lost battle, the example set by the Marines and by Lieutenant Kurt Chew-Een Lee at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir is still seen as epitomizing the highest ideals of bravery and dedication to duty in the long history of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Major Kurt Lee would go on in his 25-year Marine career to serve primarily in combat and combat support units as commanding officer or senior staff officer (S-3 position) in the Fleet Marine Forces. He stated that his most challenging and meaningful assignment was as Chief Instructor of Phase 2 Training (platoon tactics) of all new lieutenants and warrant officers who entered service from 1963-65. It was ironic to him that an exotic man once questioned for his loyalty by some now had the key responsibility for qualifying young Americans as loyal Marine Corps officers. When he served in Vietnam as the Combat Intelligence Officer for the 3rd Marine Division, Major Lee found all of his tactics graduates performed up to standards in-country.

After leaving the Marines, Major Lee worked for New York Life and then for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Major Lee's legendary bravery was recounted in the Smithsonian Channel documentary special "Uncommon Courage: Breakout at Chosin" aired on Memorial Day, 2010.

In his 22 years of commissioned service, Major Lee was fully conscious of his unique position in the bastion of America's pure warrior caste. Racism, he feels, is inherent in the nation's historical makeup, but it is his nature to meet all challenges, including racial incidents, head on without equivocation. Some may charge that he operates with a big chip on his shoulder, but he says that this is fine as long as people know that the chip is "my teaching tool to dispel ignorance."

External Links:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/05/27/AR2010052706101.html?hpid=artslot>

<http://militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=5719>

<http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/site/sn/show.do?show=136060>

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

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

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Clara Pon is the Managing Editor and Creative Director.

Chris Kieliger is the Assistant Editor.

Roger Dong is the Chief Reporter.

Thanh Huynh is the Field Reporter.

John Li is a technical layout editor.

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Come join Cathay Post No. 384 in San Francisco, one of the oldest and most active posts in California. We welcome all qualified retired, active, and non-military men and women.

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



www.legion.org

Gulf War/War On Terrorism

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

8/2/1990 to today

Panama

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

Lebanon/Grenada

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

Vietnam War

2/28/1961 – 5/7/1975

Korean War

6/25/1950 – 1/31/1955

World War II

12/7/1941 – 12/31/1946

World War I

4/6/1917 – 11/11/1918

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