



CATHAY DISPATCH

Veterans - Sounding Off Since 1931

California Brings Home Media Awards Again!

By Clara Pon

Important Dates:

Aug 26 to Sept 1—98th Annual National Convention in Cincinnati, OH

Sept 5—Labor Day

Sept 6—ALWMC Meeting @ 6 p.m., WMVB

Sept 8—Eighth District Council Meeting @ 6 p.m., WMVB

Sept 10—Post Monthly Meeting @ 11 a.m. Post headquarters

Oct 3 -10— Fleet Week

Oct 8—Post Monthly Meeting @ 11 a.m. Post headquarters



L-R: John "Durk" Durkin Post 291, Scott Wagenseller Post 283, Clara Pon, Ken George Post 291, and Nelson Lum Post 384. Photo courtesy of Ken George, District 29 Commander.

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The annual National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) meeting was productive thanks to the dedicated efforts of President Priscilla R. Imburgia (NY) and Executive Director Patrick R. Rourk (NY). Discussions on cleaning up some of the language and amending parts of the Constitution and By-Laws for the upcoming year are well underway and will be handled by new NALPA President, David Wallace (VA). We look forward to him continuing the momentum of moving the organization into the rapidly changing world of media with the help of the national Media and Communications division.

The following afternoon among the over 90 NAPLA members in attendance, California Legionnaires once again came back with several plaques from attending the annual National American Legion Press Association awards luncheon that was held at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati on Monday, August 29, 2016. The

competition consisted of five major categories with six sub levels and several sub-categories. There were over 75 entries and only 43 awards presented out of 48 possible winners.

Our winners from California, who actually took the most awards of any department, which was eight (8) aren't all new to the competition save one. A majority of those that participated in the annual competition have in fact won the past few years either in their respective categories or in a new category. Cathay Post won two of the eight awards presented. You can check out the winners on the department's Facebook page.

Congratulations to:

Sue Pascoe, Pacific Palisades Post 283
Al Weinburg Publication Award, Category 3-B
Posts 250-750 members
1st place, Post 283 Newsletter

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California Brings Home Media Awards Again!

(Continued from page 1)

Clara Pon, Cathay Post 384
Jack R.C. Cann Award, Category 4 - All posts under 250 members
2nd place, Cathay Dispatch

John "Durk" Durkin, Newport Harbor Post 291
Websites, Mary B. Howard Award
2nd place, Newport Harbor SAL Squadron 291,
www.sal291.org

Nelson Lum, Cathay Post 384
Editorial, William E. Rominger Awards,
Category 6-B, Guest Editorial
3rd place, "When those that defend our freedom are attacked." August 2015

John "Durk" Durkin, Newport Harbor Post 291
Social Media, Robert Morrill Award,
Category 7-A (Department Level Sites)
2nd place, California American Legion Press Association, Facebook - Calpaonline

John "Durk" Durkin, Newport Harbor Post 291
Social Media, Robert Morrill Award,
Category 7-B (All other level sites)
2nd place, Detachment of CA SAL,
Facebook - saldetachmentca

Kenneth George, Newport Harbor Post 291
Visual Media Awards, Category 8B: Videos/Movies
2nd place, Historical video of 85 years of Cathay Post 384

Sue Pascoe, Pacific Palisades Post 283
Category 8C: Graphic Design, 2nd place

Congratulations to Departments of Minnesota and Colorado who won five awards each. To Mark Sutton, Department of Michigan, we will be looking to compete in your category next year! Congrats on your win again and see you at next year's convention in Reno.

We have 11 months to snap those perfect picture moments, create amazing graphic designs, composing thought provoking and interesting articles, manage an active Facebook page, develop and maintain an up-to-date website, and put together a must read newsletter for next year's competition. Next year's national convention will be close to home in Reno. Knowing how many skilled Legionnaires we have, we can double our entries and try again to win more awards than any other department at next year's competition. Let's show the rest of the Legion how talented California Legionnaires are.

Fleet Week Coming to SF October 3 -10, 2016



USS Carl Vinson prepares to go under the Golden Gate Bridge in 1995 (source: USN)

Cathay Post 384 will again host an annual fleet week lunch for approximately 200 sailors and Marines on either Saturday, October 8 or Sunday, October 9 at the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building. The exact date and time is still being worked out. We'll keep you updated.



COMMANDER NELSON LUM

As we headed into September, suddenly, the realization that 2/3 of 2016 has already passed. The kids are getting ready to or are already backed in school, and the busy holiday season is just around the corner. Cathay Post 384 is also embarking upon a very pivotal time as we begin the renovation and upgrade of the first floor of our headquarters building in anticipation of our move to the first floor. This will be the most important project of our post since our forefathers purchased the building back in 1948. With the support and approval of our members, we have committed a major financial expenditure to fund the planned improvement. This project, when completed, will be the signature of our legacy for the next 50 plus years. I must once again ask for your patience and tolerance as we navigate the various obstacles that are inherent in projects of such magnitude.

August was a very busy month. In addition to the dedication of the Korean War Memorial Monument which I have covered in our last month's newsletter, I have attended the Department Executive Committee's (DEC) meeting on August 12, 13, and 14 in Jackson, CA. Amador Post 108 was the host of the meetings and provided unmatched hospitalities to the attendees. The post is the provider of first responders for all medical emergency calls in El Dorado County.

The California American Legion Press Association which many of our post members are members of, held a special meeting at the end of the DEC for the purpose of finding ways to improve its capability to assist post activities throughout California. On August 20, 2016, I represented our post at the Miss Asian Global and Miss Asian America Pageant where a beau-

tiful plague was presented to our post. I should mention that Cathay Post 384 has been a major sponsor and provided logistical support for the pageant groups for many years. On August 23, 2016, I was at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Colma where I assisted with the presentation of an honor certificate to Cypress Lawn for its assistance with the flag retirement ceremony. An agreement was reached where Cypress Lawn will continue to provide its sponsorship annually for the flag retirement ceremony.

On August 26 through August 31, 2016, I traveled to Cincinnati, OH as our post and district delegate at the 98th American Legion National Convention. During the convention, I met the national commander candidate for 2016-2017 Charles Schmidt from Oregon. An enlisted airman who later became a graduate of the Air Force Officer Training School, he later retired after 28 years at the rank of Major. He will be the first national commander elected from the Department of Oregon. I also met the national commander candidate for 2017-2018 Denise Rohan from the Department of Wisconsin who will be the very first female national commander during the 99th year of the American Legion. She served in the Army during the Vietnam War era and later obtained her graduate degree from the University of Wisconsin. The future of the Legion is in good hands and I look forward to their excellent leadership.

I attended the annual meeting of the National American Legion Press Association where it was announced our post newsletter received the 2nd place award as the best publication for posts with membership of 250 or less. Ms. Clara Pon, our former Editor in Chief was pre-

(Continued on page 10)



Nelson Lum

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Cathay Post Member
since: 2005

Branch: Army

Final Rank: SPC

*“...we have
committed a
major financial
expenditure...
our legacy for the
next 50 plus
years.”*



AMERICAN LEGION CATHAY POST NO. 384,
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
1524 POWELL STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133
(415) 797-7384

September 02, 2016

Mr. Jed York
President/CEO
San Francisco 49ers
4900 Marie P. DeBartolo Way
Santa Clara, CA 95054-1100

Mr. Roger Goodell
Commissioner
National Football League
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. York and Mr. Goodell:

By the time you receive this letter, which there will likely be hundreds more, regarding the blatant ignorance of defiance demonstrated by Mr. Colin Kaepernick, an employee of the 49ers organization, has galvanized the patriotic fervor of our country. During the 98th American Legion National Convention from August 26 to September 1, 2016 in Cincinnati, OH, National Commander Dale Barnett declared how the 3 million members of the Legion family, along with most of the 21 million veterans of our country are appalled by the display of utter disrespect by Mr. Kaepernick during the playing of the National Anthem. Like most Americans, we veterans understand Mr. Kaepernick acted within the parameters of his 1st Amendment right, freedom of expression, which is guaranteed by our Constitution when he chose to sit during the playing of the anthem. The veterans of this country fought and sacrificed and veterans to this day continue to fight and sacrifice to enable Mr. Kaepernick the right to exercise that 1st Amendment.

This letter is written not to condemn Mr. Kaepernick's disrespectfulfulness of not standing up during the anthem. This letter is written to condemn the statements Mr. Kaepernick made during the subsequent interviews with the media. Mr. Kaepernick cited "murders" of African Americans by the police as his reasons for his protest. He further stated that he was upset when officers involved in these shootings got placed on paid leave during the investigation. What part of due process does Mr. Kaepernick not understand? Should an officer who is involved in a

shooting incident be punished without being given due process? As President/CEO, Commissioner, you fully understand the importance and fairness of due process that must be accorded to your employees. Mr. Tom Brady continued to receive his pay until his due process was adjudicated in the court of law. Has Mr. Kaepernick voiced his objection to players who continued to receive their pay while their case was under investigation?

The American Legion exists under the banner of its four pillars. One of those pillars is national defense and the first responders are the first line of defense in every community. We understand the importance of supporting our first responders and we feel the 49ers and the NFL must speak up in support of the first responders that have enabled games to take place and provided safety to all the fans and players at the stadiums all across our great country.

American Legion Cathay Post 384 is one of the posts located in San Francisco and has been in existence for over 85 years. We decry the lack of support for our first responders from the 49ers' and NFL's management. While we can overlook the disrespectfulness by Mr. Kaepernick during the anthem, we expect you to correct his harmful rhetoric and hateful statements toward those who risk their lives daily to safe guard not only at your games, but also the fans', the players' and their families' in the community in which they live in. These harmful statements and gestures were made by Mr. Kaepernick while representing the 49ers and the NFL, thus, the 49ers and the NFL are within their scope of authority to regulate his behavior and expression. Obviously, Mr. Kaepernick is free to act and express his opinions outside of his employment. Furthermore, it is strongly encouraged and highly recommended that a public apology be issued by Mr. Kaepernick to the men and women of the law enforcement community across this nation for his ill-informed statements. Having witnessed the intransigence of Mr. Kaepernick's behavior when confronted by the media, it is highly doubtful that he will do what he righteously should. Therefore, an apology to the men and women of the law enforcement community issued by you for the harm that Mr. Kaepernick has caused would be the proper gesture towards minimizing the damage.

Cordially,



Nelson C Lum
Commander

CC: Gary Leach, Commander, American Legion Department of CA
Marty Halloran, President, SFPOA



Helen Wong

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(415) 797-7384

Cathay Post Member since: 1990

Branch: Army

Final Rank: Lt. Col.

“we did what was asked, again something Veterans and Olympians have in common.”

1st VICE COMMANDER HELEN WONG

TEAM USA! TEAM Legion 384! Having the 2016 Summer Olympics just finish the past month was wonderful seeing the team spirit, the comradery, the sense of working together. Through the 16 days of events, most spectators cheered for the country that they identified most with even if they lived currently elsewhere. The mostly young athletes were full of enthusiasm, hopes, and dreams of bringing home the gold medal after watching their favorite athletes from past Olympics. For the first time there were athletes from Kosovo, South Sudan, and then the Refugee Olympic Team comprised of 10 independent participants. All were wonderful representatives of their respective nations and the cooperation was great to see. It was refreshing to see the effort to “show solidarity with the world’s refugees” by selecting and including athletes from countries that they had left.

What do Veterans and Olympians have in common? We have a lot, if we go back to when we were on active duty or reserve or National Guard duty. The sense of we were in it together: working for a common goal, working to get the job done, working to help each other learn or train or make sense of what was being asked

by our superiors (or coaches), these are all part of being a team. Whether on a battlefield or worksite or training site, the sense of cooperation was always the dominant force. We did tasks for the good of all, and even though it meant sleepless nights or physically grueling days, or being deployed away from family or friends, we did what was asked, again something Veterans and Olympians have in common.

Now we as Veterans are asked to continue on to do more for our fellow service members. Most of us are in a place where we can volunteer a few hours to help someone that needs help, whether it is to call an elderly member to find out how he or she is doing, or whether they need a ride to the doctor’s or to the meeting, or to help refer someone for a job, or to welcome new members to the Post, or collect hygiene supplies for needy Veterans, we all can do something. Stepping up to be an officer in the Post is another way you can help. After all, members come & go and there still a need for leaders to continue on with the established tasks to make the Post run. Go Team Legion 384! We need everyone to help out and represent our Post, and have fun doing it!

2016 Cathay Dispatch Ad Rates

The annual advertisement rates are for 12 monthly issues.

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Full page (B&W/Color) - \$200

Contact the Cathay Post commander or Cathay Dispatch staff member to place your ad in the award winning *Cathay Dispatch*.

MESSAGE TO COLIN KAEPERNICK



Photo: Chris Carlson / Associated Press

By LTCOL Allen West US Army Ret. August 28, 2016 Blog [<http://www.allenbwest.com/allen/message-non-oppressed-black-man-colin-kaepernick>]

If there's one thing I live for, it's football season, especially college. Saturday night I was enjoying a fantastic game between Charleston Southern University and North Dakota State University. The game went into overtime and ended with the Bison of NDSU winning 24-17. However, as I watched this thrilling game, it was an item on the ESPN news ticker that disturbed me — to which I see a need to respond to this “teachable moment.”

As reported yesterday, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick refused to stand for the National Anthem in Friday's pre-season game against Green Bay because he was protesting “black oppression” in the United States. The Niners went on to lose.

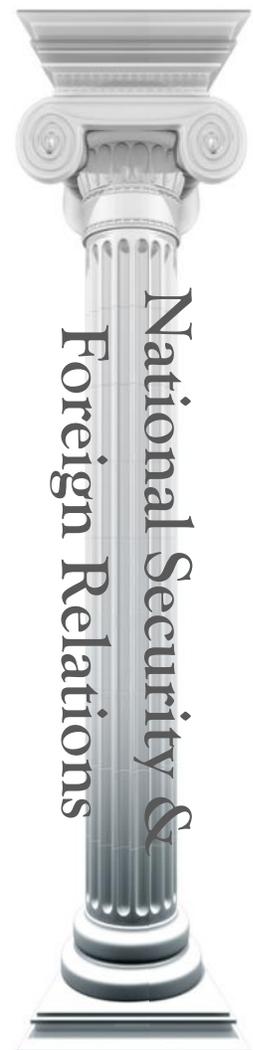
The NFL issued a statement that said players

are encouraged but not required to stand for the national anthem. Hmm, this is the same NFL that refused to allow the Dallas Cowboys to wear a helmet decal in honor of the fallen Dallas Police officers gunned down on Thursday July 7th.

This is the same NFL that said nothing when players from the St. Louis Cardinals displayed the false narrative symbol of “hands up, don't shoot” — which we know didn't happen. I find it rather interesting that the NFL has no issue disrespecting law enforcement officers but only “encourages” players to respect the symbol of our nation, the American flag, and our anthem, the Star Spangled Banner.

However, I would recommend a simple scripture from the wise King Solomon for Mr. Kaepernick, Proverbs 17:28 (NIV): “Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent, and discerning if they hold their tongues.”

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MESSAGE TO COLIN KAEPERNICK, CONTINUED

By: LTCOL Allen West US Army Ret.

(Continued from page 7)

Or, as the old folks down South would say, “best for a stupid person to keep their mouth shut and not open it and let everyone know they are.”

Mr. Kaepernick, a bi-racial young man adopted and raised by white parents, claims America is oppressing blacks at a time when we have a black, bi racial president who was twice elected. We’ve had two black attorneys general and currently have a black secretary of homeland security, along with a black national security advisor. Here in Dallas our police chief, whom I know, is an outstanding black leader. The officer in Milwaukee who shot the armed assailant after issuing an order to drop his weapon was black. Is Mr. Kaepernick following suit and cherry-picking what he terms “oppression?” First of all, let me clarify to you sir, you are a multi-millionaire “one-percenter” just because you can throw a ball and kiss your biceps. Men like Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Hank Aaron, Oscar Robertson, Ernie Davis, and Bernard King and Condredge Halloway of my alma mater were athletes who knew of oppression. You sir may certainly have the right to sit upon your “fourth point of contact” when the National Anthem is played but never forget, you live in a nation that has provided you the privilege to have that right.

My story is one I wish to share. My dad was a corporal in the U.S. Army and served during World War II. He was born in 1920 and knew oppression. Yet, when he sat me down on the steps of our home, 651 Kennesaw Ave NE in Atlanta, he shared with me that there was no greater honor or privilege, than to wear the uniform of these United States. Perhaps that’s why his first and middle sons, along with his grandson, are all U.S. combat veterans, just like Dad. Herman West Sr. was not a victim, and he raised men who would never allow anyone to suppress or oppress them. Perhaps you should stop trying to make victims and admonish people, black people, to be victors — try it, and you may find that more satisfying than your insidious action and word vomiting.

If you want to know about oppression of blacks in America, past and present, how about you ask

Rep. Nancy Pelosi of the San Fran Bay Area about the policies that decimated the black family? Maybe you can cross the Bay over to Oakland and ask Rep. Barbara Lee about the 13 to 15 million black babies killed since 1973, and ask her who is Margaret Sanger?

Or perhaps you can ask the two California senators, Boxer and Feinstein, about who doesn’t support better education opportunities for black children in the inner cities — school choice, vouchers, charter schools, home schooling.

Perhaps you didn’t know Barack Obama was the one who cancelled the DC school voucher program for deserving young black children — talk about oppression. Is that something you’re willing to do, or is it just too difficult?

You should look at who’s been controlling the communities and cities where blacks live. This isn’t not about what America has done; it’s about what a certain group, a political party has done. And your somewhat backhanded comment towards our law enforcement officers — well, wonder how many times San Francisco PD has protected you?

Here is the deal young man. My recommendation is that you apologize. Be a stand up fella and admit you made a very stupid comment. Humbly state that you do realize how very special this country is and the opportunities it has afforded you — and many others. You should take that stand and apologize to all of those who are currently serving in our Armed Forces and those veterans who’ve been willing to make that last full measure of devotion. You see, when the National Anthem is played, it has a very special meaning to us — maybe you should take a hiatus and go over to Helmand Province in Afghanistan and spend a week and understand why. Go over and throw a football with the men and women who enable you to earn those millions of dollars.

The American flag has a very touching meaning for those of us for whom it will drape our coffin — as it was for my Dad...and it will be

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COMMANDER LUM, Continued

(Continued from page 3)

sent to receive the high honor. A guest editorial article written by me titled "When Those Who Defend Our Freedom Are Attacked" took third place for the William Rominger Editorial award. A video documentary of 85 years of Cathay Post 384 that was submitted by Ken George, Commander of District 29, took 2nd place in the video media category. Cathay Post is the only post that has won awards in three categories nationally, an achievement that members of Cathay Post 384 can be proud of and look upon with pride.

I also sat and listened to the reading of 300 plus resolutions inside the convention center, witnessed thunder and lightening up close, and endured the humid weather of Cincinnati. All in all, it was an enjoyable experience and I look forward to attending the next convention which will be held in Reno, NV in the third week of August.

Looking ahead, the Italian Heritage Day Parade and Fleet Week celebration will take place during the second week of October. As has been done during these past years, Cathay Post 384 will participate in the parade and host a luncheon for our sailors and Marines. The details of the parade and luncheon are still being worked on. One thing is abundantly clear; we will need the assistance of our members in order to make these events successful. I have already received tentative commitment from some of our department officers and along with members of our neighboring districts to help. Please keep in mind these are events sponsored by our post and as members of our post, your commitment and assistance is vital to its success.

Your opinion and comments are very important to us. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions. Our next monthly meeting will be held on September 10, 2016 at 11 AM at our post headquarters building located at 1524 Powell Street. I look forward to seeing all of you.

MESSAGE TO COLIN KAEPERNICK, CONTINUED

By: LTCOL Allen West US Army Ret.

(Continued from page 9)

for me. That song defines who we are as a proud and exceptional people. This is a land where so many dream of coming to and earning the title of American. Your actions were shameful, disgusting, despicable and disrespectful.

You do have a right and a freedom of expression. But know, there are consequences to your ignorant action, which is what it was.

When the National Anthem is played, I salute because I am a black man born and raised in the inner city afforded the opportunity for greatness in my own right. May you seek God's forgiveness and find humility, because we, the people are not going to forget what you did and said.

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*First Asian
American elected
to the U.S.
Senate.*



SENATOR HIRAM FONG IN MEMORIAM, Part Two



Even though he never left Honolulu during the war, Fong was told from Washington that as a serving military officer he wouldn't be allowed to run for reelection in 1943. He was forced to bow out of the race. That his military duties likely wouldn't have been seriously affected by a political reelection campaign was evidenced by the fact that Fong, with the permission of his superiors, was still active in his private legal practice on the weekends, and had also invested in and was a part-owner of a successful nightclub and restaurant that his brother ran as manager. That business closed as soon as the war ended.

In 1944, the military decided that Major Hiram Fong should be allowed to run for election after all, but he wasn't allowed to actively campaign. Stepping up to the plate, his wife, Ellyn Fong, made the rounds on his behalf at campaign events and rallies. Hiram Fong handily won the primary with the highest number of votes out of all the Republicans that year. He even received the endorse-

ment of a coalition of labor union organizations, including one of the most militantly left-wing ones, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU). He was the only Republican to receive such labor endorsements.

In 1945, Hiram Fong was discharged from active service just before the start of the legislative session. He'd later retire as a Colonel from the United States Air Force Reserves with over twenty years of service. In a surprise result, his coalition of Republicans and Democrats won majority control of the Territorial House by one vote. Fong was rewarded by becoming Vice-Speaker. The political situation was changing rapidly as the number of Democrats increased in Hawaii. Many millions of servicemen had passed through Hawaii on their way to battles in the Pacific and liked what they'd seen. Enough New Deal Democrats decided to settle in Hawaii after the war to begin to alter the political balance. Also returning were the Japanese American veterans of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team. They'd fought all over Europe and become the most decorated military unit for their size in the history of the United States Army. These guys were tough and they weren't afraid to get into physical confrontations to defend their rights. The war had also opened their eyes to the leadership opportunities available to them. The GI Bill also gave them the means to afford a college

education. Leaders such as Spark Matsunaga and Daniel Inouye, came from this veteran group, and would later become United States Senators for the Democrats.

Hiram Fong and his allies successfully fought to pass what became known as the "Little Wagner Bill." The federal Wagner Bill of 1935 had been a central law of the New Deal, making it easier for workers to organize unions and outlawing some of the gross abuses of employers that had prevented union organizing. Hawaii, under the conservative Republicans, had successfully ignored federal law for a decade. To get the bill through the still ultra-conservative Territorial Senate, the final bill had to include two compromises. Workers could individually vote not to join a union (leaving individuals open to company pressure). The government labor relations board created to protect the workers would also have three members instead of one. This dilution of authority meant individual board member could be more easily pressured by the companies. The bill was a major step forward in Hawaii, allowing mainly agricultural workers to organize into unions, but it also showed that there were limits still.

The election of 1946 brought many more Democrats to power and the House soon deadlocked when one Republican unexpectedly died, leaving an even number of representa-

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SENATOR HIRAM FONG, Part Two Continued

(Continued from page 11)

tives from each party. The inexperienced Democrats bickered with each other and with the Republicans as they tried to wrest control of the chamber. Fong nearly got into a fistfight after Charlie Kauhune, his opposite number as leader of the Democrats, punched Fong in the jaw after one stormy legislative session, only stopped when horrified legislators dragged the two men apart. It was a measure of the warm feelings that Fong generated that years later, Kauhune would invite Fong to deliver the funeral eulogy for his wife.

The deadlock was only resolved when both Kauhune and Fong were sent, along with other firebrands from each side, to represent Hawaii in front of the United States Congress to make the case for Hawaiian statehood that they all agreed upon. In their absence one of the Democrats switched sides. Fong and Kauhune were made floor leaders while the Republican speaker from the last session presided. Not much was accomplished in that session because of constant political fights.

The 1948 election brought deadlock among the Republicans even though they won a majority over the Democrats. Fong had eleven representatives supporting him and the conservative faction had nine. The only way the conservatives could win was in coalition with the Democrats to stab

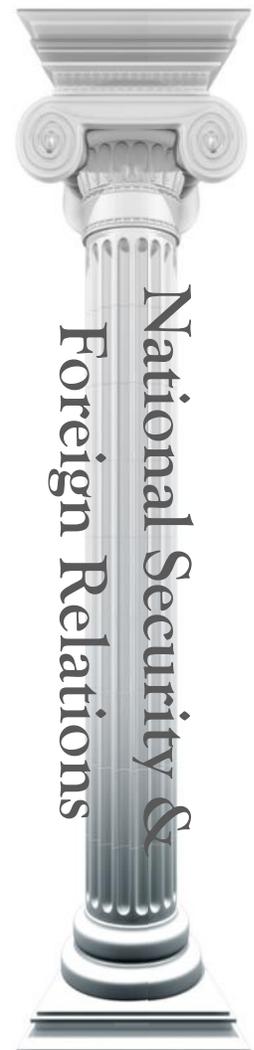
their fellow Republicans in the back. Rather than face that distasteful prospect they supported Hiram Fong as Speaker of the Territorial House of Representatives, the second Asian to hold the position (a Chinese Hawaiian had briefly held the position in 1933 then lost his seat in 1936). Fong continued to fight for the right of Hawaii to become a state, during his tenure. He also continued to fight on behalf of workers against the conservative Republicans.

He only managed to hold onto the position of Speaker after the 1952 election by forming a coalition with the Democrats against a majority of dissidents against his leadership from within the Republican old guard. All eleven Democrats said that they would back whoever became Speaker without naming Fong. This included Charles Kahune, who'd punched Fong in the jaw in 1946. Many conservative Republicans accused Fong of betrayal for working with the Democrats, after Fong's Republican allies used parliamentary procedures to freeze out the dissenters and were seconded by the Democrats. Fong was the first in a long line of Hawaiian leaders that governed in coalition with the minority party. The committee assignments Fong handed out showed his mastery of diplomacy. The Democrats became more powerful than they had ever been by holding committee chairmanships and assignments, even though they were outnumbered six to one in all

the committee votes. Only one of the Republican dissenters failed to be appointed to a committee chairmanship.

By that time, the Chinese American population Hawaii only constituted 6% of the total population, showcasing the broad support that spanned many different ethnic groups that Fong had to remain a politician and the Speaker. His election victory also highlighted his personal success in holding a Republican seat in Kalihi, in what was now an overwhelmingly Democratic district. To enforce party discipline, and against the opposition of Fong and his followers, the Republicans instituted closed primaries. Only registered Republicans, many of whom were conservatives, would be allowed to vote in the next primary election. This eliminated several Republican moderates and liberals from contention. In the Democratic landslide of 1954, the Republicans in the Territorial House and Senate, were nearly wiped out. Fong lost his seat by just 31 votes. The strong labor union movement in Hawaii, the Japanese American veterans, past Republican abuses, and their isolation by creating a closed primary, meant that the era of Republican dominance was over in Hawaii. The dominance of the Democrats had now begun. Charles Kahune ended up becoming Speaker, and then found out precisely how thankless and difficult

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SENATOR HIRAM FONG, Part Two Continued

(Continued from page 12)

the job was. As Fong observed, "It's not easy to be speaker. You've got 29 prima donnas who feel they have all the solutions to all the problems. To get them together or to get together a sufficient majority is about the hardest task there is."

Hiram Fong turned his full-time attention to business. He'd already joined with two other families to invest in and create the first family-owned shopping center to open in Hawaii, the Market City Shopping Center, in Honolulu in 1946. He'd also invested in pieces of real estate including a farm and prime ocean front land. In 1952, he'd joined with other investors to put together Finance Factors, an industrial and consumer loan operation backed by Bank of America in San Francisco, that helped break the control four Hawaiian-based banks had over the territory through their loan policies. Finance Factor was among the the first to make loans to non-white businesses and individuals, a huge and untapped market that the white-owned banks in Hawaii had ignored.

Finance Factors soon became a million dollar company and the biggest industrial loan company in Hawaii. By the end of their foundation year they were a two million dollar company. By 1954, the company was worth nearly four million. Each full investor had only put in \$25,000 each, showing just how much business

was being missed by the restrictive racial policies of the old banks. This rapid success led to the foundation of a burgeoning number of companies in related fields that acted in cooperation with each other. In 1953, Finance Realty was formed. Finance Home Builders, Ltd. was formed in 1957. Finance Investment was formed in 1958. Finance Securities was formed in 1962. None of the partners took profits, they simply ploughed the money into expanding their business interests. Hiram Fong was the public and trusted face of the organization who attracted, investors, professionals, and idea people. His law firm provided legal services. Day to day management was left up to professionals under the guidance of the board of directors that included Fong.

By 1959, when Hawaii became the 50th State of the United States, it was already solidly Democrat. Hiram Fong was ready to reenter politics by running for United States Senator. By that time the people had generally forgiven any mistakes he might had made in politics. He won handily and entered the Senate alongside the popular Democratic territorial governor, Oren E. Long. He became the first Asian American United States Senator, a fact that he was acutely aware of, "Being the first Asian there in the Senate, I was very, very careful. I knew that if I did anything that was in the line of dere-

liction of duty, why it would shame me or shame my family. It would shame those of my ethnic background and it would shame my people of Hawai'i."

In 1964, he became the first Asian American to receive votes for the nomination for President of the United States at the Republican National Convention in San Francisco. The Hawaii and Alaska delegations picked him as a "favorite son" candidate over the eventual candidate, Barry Goldwater, who lost overwhelmingly to Democratic candidate, President Lyndon Johnson.

It was under President Johnson that Hiram Fong made his mark on national politics and history. As a liberal Republican, he worked alongside the liberal Republicans from the East Coast led by Senator Nelson Rockefeller of New York and a coalition of moderate Republicans and Democrats to overwhelmingly pass the "Civil Rights Act of 1964." The act outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. It ended unequal application of voter registration requirements and racial segregation in schools, in the workplace and in facilities that served the general public such as restaurants, hotels, and public transportation among others. This was the most far-reaching piece of civil rights legislation since the Civil War.

(Continued on page 14)



SENATOR HIRAM FONG, Part Two Continued

(Continued from page 13)

In 1965, Hiram Fong also strongly supported the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, which finally ended racial restrictions on immigration and naturalization that had existed in one form or another since the foundation of the United States. The act also ended the strict national quota system that had kept out all but Northwestern European immigrants by preference since the 1920s. Although a quota remained, exceptions were carved out to take into demand the skills and education of the immigrant. Family reunifications were also allowed as exceptions. For the first time, Asian and other non-white immigrants to America could finally bring their families to the United States. The long-term implications of these changes are still playing out in the United States, which is now far less white and much more multicultural. Hiram Fong retired from the Senate in 1977, just as the time for liberal Republicans was starting to pass into history.

In 1988, he and his wife opened Senator Fong's Plantation and Gardens in Kahaluu, on land he'd acquired in 1950. The 700-acre preserved Hawaiian tropical landscape and became a popular wedding and photo venue. In 2003, the site was foreclosed on for over \$700,000 in debts but three of Fong's four children and eight grandchildren made a successful bid to keep it within the

family. It still exists today, but can only be toured reservation only now. It was symbolic of the financial and personal difficulties Hiram Fong struggled with. Because of his devotion to family he'd backed his eldest son in several failed business ventures and then fought his youngest son through the courts after that son challenged these business decisions. In the twilight of his life he was forced to declare personal bankruptcy in 2003 with at least \$937,000 in debt.

United States Senator Daniel Akaka of Hawaii summed up Hiram Fong's Senate career of accomplishments after his death at the age of 97 in 2004 by saying, "Senator Fong ... personified the spirit of bipartisan cooperation as he worked with Republican and Democratic colleagues and administrations to enact landmark civil rights legislation in the 1960s, reform U.S. immigration laws to end discrimination against Asian immigrants, improve job-training programs for workers, and fight for equal pay for women. A self-made man who worked his way through elementary school, McKinley High, the University of Hawaii, and Harvard Law School, he fought for the rights of workers to organize in the 1940s, and supported worker rights over three decades of public service."

In 2005, Honolulu Magazine recognized Senator Hiram L. Fong as one of

Honolulu's 100 most influential citizens of the past century. In 2006, the U.S. Postal Service dedicated the Kapalama Station as the Hiram L. Fong Post Office Building. In the same year, his alma mater, McKinley High School, dedicated their business building in his memory.

Philanthropy: In 1997, the Hiram L. Fong Endowment for the Arts and Science at the University of Hawaii was established to strengthen the Colleges of Arts and Sciences in all its endeavors and to provide students with an excellent education.

External Links:

http://www.senatorfong.com/bio_sketch.html

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2004/Aug/18/br/bro3p.html>

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2004/Aug/19/ln/ln07a.html>

http://www.senatorfong.com/UH_endowment.html

http://www.senatorfong.com/memorial_akaka.html

The Education of a Senator : Hiram L. Fong, from 1906 to 1954, Michaelyn P. Chou, University Microfilms International, 1980
<http://scholar.space.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/9307>



San Francisco VA 69th Annual Volunteer Recognition and Award Ceremony by Helen Wong

On August 26, 2016 several members of our Post 384 attended the Annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony held at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Nestor Tom had volunteered over 500 hours at Ft. Miley VA as a wheelchair escort and was recognized with a certificate by Owetdia Dupree, Chief of Voluntary Services. Acting Cathay Dispatch Editor Ivan Seredni recently started volunteering at the CLC Program leading card games there. Comrade Vincent Yu and I attended as guests.

Providing the music was a group comprised of VA employees: K.W.C. Complex. Everyone agreed that the music was excellent.



Cathay Post member Nestor Tom.



Date and Time
Thursday, October 6, 2016
8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location:
Camp Parks – Bldg 677
Camp Parks Blvd
Dublin, CA 94568

Join local and national employers on October 6th for a hiring fair for veterans, military service members, Guard, Reserve, and military spouses. Jobs will be available for all ranks and levels of experience.

At 8:30 a.m., a free employment workshop for job seekers will feature resume building, networking, and interview tips.

This event is presented in partnership with the Camp Parks Army Community Services and our other local partners.

Questions? Contact jrussell@uschamber.com.

Employers and Military Job Seekers register at HiringOurHeroes.org



Our Partners



Article courtesy from our friend & partner:

CHINESE AMERICAN HEROES

chineseamericanheroes.org

by Michael Kwan, San Francisco

It's been 15 years since September 11, 2001, when more than 3,000 innocent civilians perished. Despite the risk, some Americans chose to rush to danger, in order to save others.

We would like to acknowledge the hundreds of brave men and women, police, firefighters, emergency workers, and individuals of many backgrounds and ethnicities who risked and sadly lost their lives among thousands of others on September 11, 2001 so that others might live. Among those brave people were four Chinese Americans heroes whose stories are rarely heard in the media, two of whom perished and two of whom survived that day.



Mrs. Betty Ong : Flight Attendant on American Airlines Flight 11, Age 45
www.bettyong.org/

Ms. Betty Ong, of Oakland, California lost her life on the first of four aircraft which were hijacked on the morning of 9/11. Despite terrifying circumstances, Ong's calm and collected reporting provided crucial information that gave

the first clues to the identification of the hijackers. She hid and locked herself in a toilet stall after the hijacking, called air traffic controllers, and with the help of fellow flight attendants described in detail, everything occurring on American Airlines Flight 11 in its last 23 minutes in the air. Her phone call led the FAA to shutdown federal airspace for the first time in US history.

8:19 AM: Ong reported, "The cockpit is not answering, somebody's stabbed in business class-- and I think there's mace-- that we can't breathe--I don't know, I think we're being hijacked."

Her continued conversation included details of the vacated seat locations of the four hijackers, which established a correlation between the hijackers of the other aircraft. 911 Commission Chairman Thomas Kean declared that "Betty Ong was a true American hero."

Flight 11 crash into the World Trade Center North Tower on 8:46 AM. Betty Wong grew up in San Francisco's Chinatown neighborhood, graduating from George Washington High School in 1974.

Mr. Zhe "Zack" Zeng : Emergency Medical Technician, Age 29

Zhe "Zack" Zeng's final moments were caught by a Fox TV camera, revealing his last heroic and selfless acts. While many in the streets had fled from the stricken buildings,

Zack, who had recently completed his Emergency Medical Training, had put himself in harm's way to help victims, and became one himself.

The Fox TV camera caught Zack rendering aid to an injured woman on a stretcher before the South Tower collapsed.

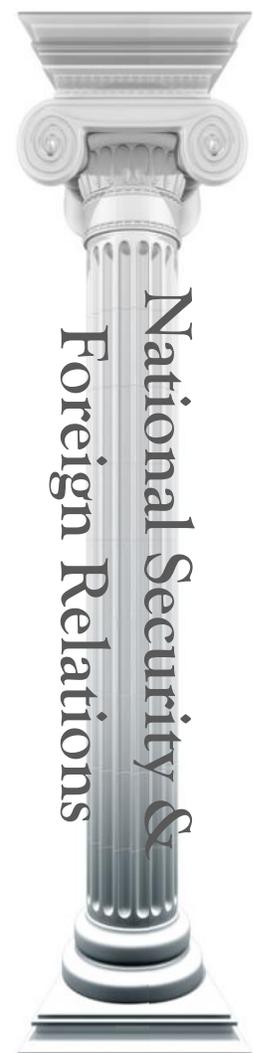


It was the last image of Zack alive. Weeks later, Zack's stunned Mom noticed Zack on TV and identified her son to the media. Seeing her son on TV was the first confirmation to her that he was dead. Days later, Zack's DNA was recovered and identified giving absolute confirmation of his death in the World Trade Center.

In recognition of his voluntary heroism a special day was selected to honor Zack. On that day the Governor of New York, the Mayor of New York City, and thousands of New York citizens honored young Zack Zeng with a memorial service and by changing one block of Bayard Street in downtown Manhattan to *Zack Zeng Way*.

"It didn't surprise anybody who knew him," said Peggy Farrell, Zhe's supervisor. "He was a completely selfless per-

(Continued on page 17)



Remembering the Chinese American Heroes of 9/11

(Continued from page 16)

son - he was just someone who would automatically volunteer his assistance. To me, it was a truly heroic display. Running towards the smoke and ash, he knew there were many that needed his skills."

Zhe "Zack" Zheng emigrated to the US with his parents in the late 1980s from Guangzhou, China. He was a member of the Brighton Volunteer Ambulance and a project manager at the Bank of New York.

Mr. Isaac Ho'ipi'i: Pentagon Police officer (survivor)

Mr. Isaac Ho'ipi'i put his own life at risk to save 15 others on 9/11. As one of the first responders to the burning Pentagon building, Isaac plunged into the toxic inferno and led or carried out more than 15 injured people to safety (12 survived). He returned repeatedly until it was too dangerous to re-enter. To this day, Isaac wishes he had re-entered to save more lives, and says he isn't a hero.

Isaac Ho'ipi'i is from Hawaii and is of mixed blood, with Native Hawaiian, Chinese, and Portuguese ancestry. He was last reported with lung problems attributed to his 15 rescue missions in the fiery and smoking hole in the Pentagon. Mr. Ho'ipi'i was honored by the Pentagon and White House.

David Lim, New York /New Jersey Port Authority Police Officer (survivor)

Mr. David Lim was a member of the K-9 team working with a



trained explosives sniffer canine. Officer Lim was in the basement of World Trade Center North Tower when it was struck by American Airlines flight 11, the hijacked plane that carried Betty Ong.

Leaving his canine in his basement kennel, Mr. Lim had climbed up 44 flights of stairs to evacuate survivors, and was working his way downwards when WTC South Tower was hit, shattering all the windows and injuring those around him. Using his structural firefighting and elevator evacuation training, he and a dozen firefighters guided hundreds of victims down and out of the building to safety.

Before he could complete his own escape while escorting an elderly and handicapped woman with several firefighters, the North Tower collapsed. Miraculously, they all survived the collapse, and five hours later, managed to find their way out of the ruins of the World Trade Center.

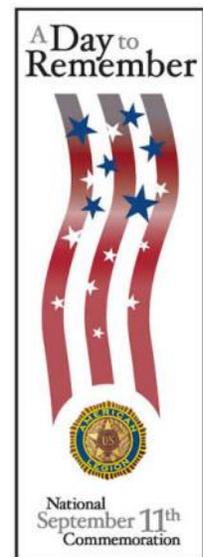
"The reason we took this job is because people needed our help," he said. "I did my job well that day, but I don't know if I'm a hero. I think the people who died that day were heroes," explained Mr. Lim.

Mr. Lim was honored at a

special ceremony in New York City. Since 9/11, Lim has become a spokesperson for Port Authority police and role model for Asian Americans interested in law enforcement. At Camp Saejong in northern New Jersey, a program for young Korean-Americans, camp co-director Lindy Galver said the campers connected to Lim on the fact that he was "an average man who rose to an extraordinary challenge."

We can see from these four stories that when there is real crisis, there are many bystanders and then there are heroes. On this ten year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, let's recognize that there are heroes among ordinary Americans of all backgrounds, Chinese Americans among them.

For additional information about Chinese American heroes, please visit the **Chinese American Heroes** website at www.chineseamericanheroes.org.





Our 11th District US Coast Guard



LATEST NEWS : Change of Command at Alameda Coast Guard Station



(photo RS Dong)

The Change of Command Vice Adm F. M. Midgette, Adm P. Zukunft and Vice Adm C.W. Ray

On August 15, 2016 a Change of Command for our U. S. Coast Guard's Pacific Area/ Coast Guard Defense Force West was held at Coast Guard Island, Alameda, California. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft presided over the ceremony as incoming Pacific Commander Vice Admiral Fred M. Midgette assumed Command and Vice Admiral Charles W. Ray completed his two year command tour . For his extraordinary two years of leadership as Commander, Pacific Command, Admiral Ray received the CG Distinguished Service Award.

During the Change of Command Ceremony, CG Commandant Admiral Paul Zukunft presented Vice Admiral Charles W. Ray with the highest Coast Guard



award, the CG Distinguished Service Award.

(Photo: USCG)

Vice Admiral Ray is on the way to CG, Headquarters in Washington DC, where he will become the Coast Guard's Vice Commandant (a three star billet).

The Pacific Area Command will be expanding and gaining its fourth National Security Cutter, the CGC Munro, joining the other three NSCs, the CGC Berthoff, the CGC Waeshe, and the CGC Stratton. Today, there are only a total of six (6) new NSCs serving in Alameda and Charlotte, North Carolina. Our CG in Hawaii is waiting for its first NSC.

This Command working jointly with our Navy seized 160 tons (not pounds) of cocaine and captured 170 smugglers in 2015. The street value of these seizures is in billions of dollars.

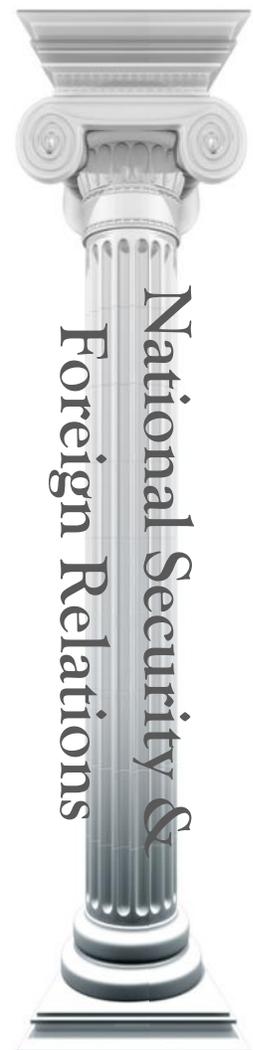
More Coast Guard News...

In 2016, the CG's Pacific Command has an extended huge area of responsibility covering from Montana to Madagascar, or roughly 50% of our planet.

Even more challenging is the coverage now needed for the Arctic Circle. The Coast Guard knows that there is global warming as transports can now use the Northwest Passage to ship goods, saving 30% from the cost of using the Panama Canal. In the past permafrost prevented ships from using this route. While their mission and responsible territory has increased, there is no commensurate increase in Coast Guard funding. Our CG now only has one heavy duty icebreaker, the Healy, and one other icebreaker, the Polar Star, while the Russians have 41 ice breakers.

Funding is an important issue for our Coast Guard to be "Always Ready" which is their motto: Semper Paratus). Among the CG Fleet of 90 ships, except for the recent NSCs, the remainder of our CG fleet ranges from 30-50 years old. Congress will need to allocate funds to systematically replace our aging fleet.

With the growing power and military in Asia, our Coast Guard serves a vital role as our CG vessels are deployed globally to defuse tight situations around the world. Today, Coast Guards are used to accompany our Navy in dangerous areas. Pacific Command ships are sailing with our US Navy ships in foreign waters, including the East China Sea, and the South China Sea (SCS). China uses its Coast Guard and "fishing boats" to claim features in the SCS.



September 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 98 th Annual Nat'l Conv.	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6 ALWMC meet- ing at 6 PM at WMVB	7	8 Trustees meeting at 2 PM at Opera Bldg 4 Eighth Dist. Council mtg. at 6 PM WMVB	9	10 Post Meeting 11 AM
11 Patriot Day	12	13	14	15	16 POW/MIA Recognition Day	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	29	29	30	

October 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Fleet Week	4 ALWMC meeting at 6 PM at WMVB Fleet Week	5 Fleet Week	6 Fleet Week	7 Fleet Week	8 Post Meet- ing 11 AM Fleet Week
9 Fleet Week	10 Columbus Day Fleet Week	11	12	13 Trustees meet- ing at 2 PM at Opera Bldg 4 Eighth Dist. Council mtg. at 6 PM WMVB	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31 Halloween	25	26	27	28	29

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Cathay Dispatch is a proud member of the National American Legion Press Association (NALPA) & California American Legion Press Association (CALPA).



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2014, 2015, 2016



www.legion.org

Join Cathay Post No. 384 in San Francisco, one of the oldest and most active posts in San Francisco. We welcome all qualified retired or active men and women.

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

Gulf War/War On Terrorism

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

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

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

Vietnam War
2/28/1961 – 5/7/1975

Korean War
6/25/1950 – 1/31/1955

World War II
12/7/1941 – 12/31/1946

World War I
4/6/1917 – 11/11/1918

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American Legion
Executive Committee
2016-2017**

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