

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

June 26, 2010

NEW YORK

JUNE 26, 2010

Next Year's Role Model



It's been a long road for Ed Wang to become the first Chinese player in the NFL. Now, the Bills new lineman may just give a generation of Asian football players someone to look up to....

It was the day of his first football practice, and [Ed Wang](#) remembers the conversation well. Like any six year old, he was excited to run out onto the field and play organized football for the first time. Naturally, Mrs. Wang had her concerns.

Most football moms are worried that their sons will fracture something or get hurt on the field. That wasn't the concern of Mrs. Wang; rather, she was afraid of a broken spirit and not broken bones. A former track Olympian who represented China as a hurdler, she knew that more than just physical contact was coming her son's way.

You see, Ed Wang was going to be the only Asian player on the field.

"She told me that I was going to go out there on the field, and that I was going to be different than everyone else," Wang recalls. "She was telling me to get ready." And sometime this fall, Wang will step on the field as a member of the [Buffalo Bills](#) and will once again, be different. He is set to become the first ever, pure-blooded Chinese football player in NFL history.

He bristles at the idea of being called the [Yao Ming](#) of his sport – in high school while playing for the basketball team, opponents would often call him "Yao" because he was the first Chinese player they had ever faced on the court. Wang doesn't have dreams of taking over China for football in the same way Yao has for basketball - he says he is merely focused on the task at hand. The NFL on the other hand might be dreaming a bit.

Wang's roots in China are deep. His father, Robert Wang, came to this country in 1984 after a storied

career as an Olympic high jumper. Mother Nancy, also an Olympian, followed shortly thereafter. They instilled in him a work ethic and desire to always improve. He says they pushed him hard to become a better athlete, even if it wasn't always something he wanted to do.

Wang conceded after his second day of mini-camp that there were plenty of areas where he needed to improve. With 26 million potential fans in China and just as many potential "Ed Wang" jerseys ready to be sold in his parents' home land, it would be easy for Wang to get overwhelmed by it all. Not so, says the rookie, who laughs at the idea that he might become the Yao Ming of football in China. And the Bills are hoping that their new left tackle will be a "Great Wall of China" for their offensive line for years to come.

And maybe someday, somewhere, a young Chinese fan will watch Ed Wang and be inspired. "I hope that they will look up to me over there," said Wang. "That I will be their role model.

VIRGINIA

The following link is to the thesis Jessica Chow wrote about her grandfather, Victor Chin, during the World War II days. There are photos included and you may recognize some of the soldiers.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lr-9wGQzIks>

=====

"Sweet and Sour: Life in Chinese Family Restaurants" By John Jung

Sweet and Sour examines the history of Chinese family restaurants in the U. S. and Canada. Why did many Chinese immigrants enter this business around the end of the 19th century? What conditions made it possible for Chinese to open and succeed in operating restaurants after they emigrated to North America? How did Chinese restaurants manage to attract non-Chinese customers, given that they had little or no acquaintance with the Chinese style of food preparation and many had vicious hostility toward Chinese immigrants?

The goal of *Sweet and Sour* is to understand how the small Chinese family restaurants

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

June 26, 2010

functioned. Narratives provided by 10 Chinese who grew up in their family restaurants in all parts of the North America provide valuable insights on the role that this ethnic business had on their lives. Is there any future for this type of immigrant enterprise in the modern world of franchised and corporate owned eateries or will it soon, like the Chinese laundry, be a relic of history?

Check the following website for the bio of author John Jung. <http://www.csulb.edu/~jrjung/>

Praise for Sweet and Sour:
Life in Chinese Family Restaurants

John Jung has taken us down another memory lane and this time we brought along our appetite. Sweet & Sour evoked hundreds of memories of Chinatowns, favorite soul food dishes, haunts of opulent and garish banquet halls and the more frequented and beloved hole-in-the walls. These are the collective memories shared by families and friends. Sweet & Sour is also an anthropological study. Chinese cooks across these United States and Canada created an everlasting love for Chinese food enjoyed by all cultures. Find a "chop suey" house and generations upon generations will cite their favorites, be it chow mein, fried rice, beef brisket stew or even chicken feet. Without a doubt this is by far Jung's best work and with the greatest universal appeal.

Sylvia Sun Minnick, Samfow: The San Joaquin Chinese Legacy

John Jung again demonstrates a marvelous ability to blend archival data with fascinating first-person accounts to bring to life the family-operated Chinese eateries that are quickly disappearing from today's society. Following solid historical groundwork, Jung uses narratives of 10 individuals who grew up in such places to take readers inside old-time chop suey houses. Their stories provide a candid telling of the personal, familial, and cultural significance of these familiar cafes. As with his earlier books on Chinese family-owned laundries and grocery stores, the author sheds a fresh and ample light on a subject even more familiar. And once again he does it so well from the inside out.

Mel Brown, Chinese Heart of Texas: The San Antonio Community 1875-1975.

Sweet And Sour is a powerful historical exploration of an American institution: the family-owned Chinese restaurant. John Jung succeeds in bringing to life the exterior side of such Chinese eateries across the nation--their appearance, their location, and of course, their hybrid, Americanized menu offerings. In addition, by means of a variety of interviews and primary sources, he focuses attention as well on their little-known private side, the daily routines and harsh working conditions that made them run. Jung underlines the contributions of all family members, including children, that were necessary for success.

Greg Robinson, A Tragedy of Democracy: Japanese Confinement in North America

Sweet and Sour: Life in Chinese Family Restaurants tackles the long-neglected topic of Chinese food with a focus on Chinese restaurants. This well-researched, thoughtfully conceptualized monograph brings academic rigor and adds historical depth, as well as the perspectives of an insightful scholar and a second-generation Chinese American, to our understanding of the development of Chinese food in the realm of public consumption in the United States and Canada. It promises to elevate that understanding to a higher level... Through this book, I hope, consumers at the ubiquitous Chinese restaurants can also gain a deeper appreciation of historical forces and human experiences that have shaped the food they now enjoy.

Yong Chen, San Francisco Chinese 1850-1943: A Trans-Pacific Community, Professor of History, University of California, Irvine

WASHINGTON, DC

Maj. Gen. John L. Fugh, 75, dies; served as Army's judge advocate general

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

June 26, 2010



Gen. Fugh, a native of Beijing, was the first Chinese American general officer in the U.S. Army. (U.s. Army)

Wednesday, May 12, 2010; B05

Maj. Gen. John L. Fugh, who served as the Army's top uniformed lawyer in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War and later had a successful career in the private sector as China liaison to major corporations, died May 11 at National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda after a heart attack. He was 75.

Gen. Fugh (pronounced "foo"), the first Chinese American general officer in the U.S. Army, was a Beijing native who left China with his family after the Communist takeover in 1949. He spent his 33-year military career in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, including a tour of duty in Vietnam as a judge advocate at the height of the war. He rose through the JAG Corps hierarchy, serving in the late 1970s in Frankfurt, Germany, as staff judge advocate for the 3rd Armored Division. Afterward, in Washington, he was chief of the JAG Corps' litigation division, handling all non-criminal cases, including lawsuits over promotion, policy and contracts.

In 1984, after being promoted to brigadier general, he was named assistant judge advocate general for civil law. During this period, he helped start the first environmental law practice in the Army. He was judge advocate general of the Army from July 1991 until his retirement in June 1993.

Fred L. Borch III, regimental historian and archivist for the Army JAG Corps, called Gen. Fugh "one of best civil litigators in the Army in pursuing cases of contract and procurement fraud." Borch also described him as a capable supervisor after the Persian Gulf War, when he wrestled with complex legal issues including reconstruction of Kuwait and the repatriation of Iraqi prisoners of war.

After his military retirement, Gen. Fugh worked for the St. Louis-based aerospace manufacturer and defense contractor McDonnell Douglas, overseeing the company's marketing and manufacturing operations in China. He later worked in China for Boeing, after that aerospace company acquired McDonnell Douglas, and then for Enron International.

John Liu Fugh was born Fu Liu-ren on Sept. 12, 1934. His father, Philip, was private secretary to John Leighton Stuart, who led a university in Beijing and was the last U.S. ambassador to China before the Communists seized power.

The Fughs settled in Washington, where John graduated from Western High School in 1953 and from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in 1957. He became a U.S. citizen about that time and joined the Army after receiving a law degree from George Washington University in 1960.

His military decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal and two awards of the Legion of Merit. In 1960, he married June Chung. Besides his wife, of Alexandria, survivors include two children, Justina Fugh of Arlington County and Jarrett Fugh of La Crescenta, Calif.; a sister, Helen Hays of Washington; and four grandchildren.

After his retirement from Enron in 2001, Gen. Fugh deepened his involvement with the Committee of 100, an elite Chinese-American advocacy organization.

While serving as the group's chairman, Gen. Fugh fulfilled a long effort by his family to [bury Stuart's ashes on Chinese soil](#). The educator and diplomat had died in 1962 after living for years in Washington under the care of Gen. Fugh's father.

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

June 26, 2010

The task had been complicated for decades by Mao Zedong's efforts to paint Stuart as a symbol of American imperialism. Neither the Stuart family nor Philip Fugh was able to surmount Chinese opposition to repatriating Stuart, who had been born in China in 1876 to Christian missionaries. Gen. Fugh won an audience with powerful Chinese Politburo members, who granted their approval.

"This is a promise that has been fulfilled after half a century," Gen. Fugh told the New York Times. "Now, Ambassador Stuart and my father can rest in peace."

MICHIGAN

There are 3 lessons to learn through Vincent Chin's Tragedy.

If we don't learn them, we are bound to relive it. **A similar situation may be brewing in IL & OH!** See the last paragraphs.

A Seldom Seen & Frank Summary of Vincent Chin's Case:

In 1982, owing to perceived loss of jobs caused by Japan, "**Japan bashing**" was very popular, especially among auto workers and politicians running for offices.

Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, was in a Detroit bar when 2 auto workers, one unemployed, came in. The two mistook Vincent as a Japanese. One said to Vincent, "It is because of you motherfuckers that we're out of work." A fight ensued & was broken up by the doorman of the bar. The two auto workers found Vincent later that night and bashed him to death with a baseball bat.

In 1983, a **Michigan court** fined the two \$3,700 each and no jail time. The Asian Am. community was outraged. Consequently, in 1984, the **federal government** stepped in & filed civil rights charges against the two. **HOWEVER**, after a trial, an appeal, and a retrial, **both were completely acquitted**, partially owing to witness-tampering by an Asian Am. lawyer working for the prosecution.

In March 1987, a **civil suit** was also filed. Substantial fine was ordered. **HOWEVER**, the settlement was so badly structured that collection of

the fine was far from certain. The one who swung the bat & was ordered to pay 10 times more fine than the other, **stopped payment in 1989**. His whereabouts is currently unknown.

Vincent's mother asked, "If two Chinese killed a white person, will they go to jail?" Disillusioned, she left the US for China.

For verifying the accuracy of the above summary, see <http://us.asians.tripod.com/articles-vincentchin.html> and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vincent_Chin.

3 PAINFUL LESSONS:

1) **Japan bashing leads to taking it out on perceived Japanese.** It is equivalent to taking it out on ALL Asian Ams since most don't know the difference between Japanese, Japanese Americans and other Asian Ams. Vincent Chin, a Chinese American was mistaken as a Japanese!

2) In a democracy, those who don't have the GROUP political clout, get stepped on, **in hard times**. Our entire community was humiliated in the Vincent Chin case, from beginning to end.

3) Protests without the political know-how **lead to NOTHING!** Did we achieve the goal of securing justice for Vincent?

Forwarding ahead **to the present:**

There might have been "CHINA BASHING" in elections in IN, IL, & OH this year. 80-20 is watching.*

Every Asian American needs to watch out, together with 80-20. Please, remember the 3 lessons.

* This TV ad was played in IL for days, in an US senate primary race.

<http://www.fisherfo.rohio.com/multimedia/video?id=0023> 80-20 is watching not only such politicians but also their political consultants who normally write the TV scripts.

HAWAII

The celebration at Hawaii Republican Party headquarters was barely 15 minutes old as Charles

N.Y.C. CHINATOWN REUNION NEWSLETTER

June 26, 2010

Djou, the GOP's newest darling, had already moved past the historic victory and turned his sights toward the general election in November.

He now will head to Washington to take over Office 1502 in the Longworth Building, once occupied by Democrat Neil Abercrombie. The last of Abercrombie's staff packed up last week.

The applause from Djou's victory party could be heard six time zones away in Washington, D.C., where national party leaders trumpeted a victory on President Barack Obama's home turf. Although Djou emerged the victor, he still could be considered the underdog, as Hanabusa and Case combined for 59 percent.

Although recent polls showed Djou comfortably ahead, followed by Case, Hanabusa benefited from strong union support that is likely to show up again this fall.

The DCCC, which spent \$300,000 in attack ads against Djou, but pulled resources out of Hawaii this month because of the local party's failure to rally behind one candidate, tried to downplay Djou's victory.

MISCELLANEOUS

This was written by a Mexican who is now a naturalized US Citizen and I think it's a great analogy of the illegal immigration issue.

Here is the quote:

"If you had tickets to a sporting event, concert, Disneyland, or for an airline flight and when you got to your assigned seat you found someone else was in that seat, what would you do? You would call for a person in charge of ticket checking and have the person in your seat removed. You would properly be asked to show your ticket and you would gladly and proudly do so, for you have bought and paid for that seat. The person in your seat would also be asked for a ticket, which they would not be able to produce. They would be called "gate crashers" and they would properly be removed.

Now in this huge stadium called the USA we have had millions of gate crashers. We have been asking security to check for tickets and remove the gate

crashers. We have been asking security to have better controls in checking at the door. We have asked security to lock the back doors. Security has failed us. They are still looking the other way. They are afraid to ask to see the tickets. Many people say there is unlimited seating and whether there is or not, no one should be allowed in for free while the rest of us pay full price!

In "section AZ", of "Stadium USA", we have had enough of the failures of Security. We have decided to do our own ticket checking, and properly remove those who do not have tickets. Now it seems very strange to me that so many people in the other 49 "sections", and even many in our own "section" do not want tickets checked, or even to be asked to show their ticket! Even the head of Security is chastising us, while not doing his own job, which he has sworn to do.

My own ticket has been bought and paid for, so I am proudly going to show it when asked to do so. I have a right to my seat, and I want the gate crashers to be asked to show their tickets too. The only reason that I can imagine anyone objecting to being asked for their ticket is that they are in favor of gate crashing and all of the illegal activities that go with it, such as drug smuggling, gang wars, murder, human smuggling for profit & terrorism and many more illegal and inhumane acts that we are trying to prevent with our new legislation. Is that what I am hearing from all of the protestors such as Phoenix Mayor Gordon, US Rep. Grijalva and even President Obama? If you are not in favor of showing tickets, (proof of citizenship, passport, green card, or other legal document) when asked, as I would do proudly, then you must be condoning those illegal activities."

Written by a US Citizen, Globe, Arizona.