

ACA Participates in Madison Heights 2015 Memorial Day Parade

On the beautiful sunny morning of May 23, 2015, the Association of Chinese Americans (ACA) was invited to participate in the procession of the annual Memorial Day Parade to commemorate the brave sacrifices of United States soldiers for democracy and freedom of the country. This year is the 70th anniversary of WWII victory that impacted the world greatly to bring peace and justice. There were a total of 16 parade participants: ACA members and volunteers Ben-Zen Jing, Cindy Mohl, Choi Yuen Hom, Chue Hom, Shirley Hui, Joseph Hui, Wei Mei, Heguan Yang, Ginger Ruan, Leonard Przekaza, Austin Shao, ACA Citizenship class students Rose Kuo and Zhuo Huai Zhang, ACA President Bernard Wong, ACA Board member Sue Sung, and ACA Staff member Sophia Sun.

A few senior participants also recalled what they had gone through in the war in China during Japanese invasions and attacks. Mr. Jing brought a huge America flag to the parade and with Mr. Zhang, they led ACA's parade team with the ACA banner held by Mr. Mei, Mr. Hom, Mr. Hui and Mr. Przekaza. It is noted that Mr. Jing's daughter served in the U.S. ROTC, and Mr. Zhang's son is currently enrolled in ROTC at high school. In his 80's, Mr. Mei also led the parade team to yell ACA in both English and Chinese to let people recognize us. The ACA group comprised of new Americans born in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the United States joined dozens of other civic groups in the parade procession to honor the ultimate sacrifice soldiers made on the battlefield. People lined up along the sidewalk clapped hands and waved to the team. After a mile journey, the parade ended at the square plaza in front of the Madison Heights City Hall. The memorial service began with Mayor Swanson's short speech to honor those soldiers who had fought for freedom with their life. The memorial service ended with the laying of wreaths and flowers in memory of two Madison Height soldiers who recently died in battle. "Without their sacrifices, we would not have what we have today." This statement is also in line with what has been said: "For the soldiers, the most terrible thing is not to die for your country, but to be forgotten."

美華協會參與麥迪森城市二零一五年美国阵亡将士纪念日遊行

在五月二十三日，風和日麗的早上，美華協會應麥迪森城市委員會的邀請，參與美国阵亡将士纪念日遊行以紀念為民主自由犧牲於戰場的美国英勇將士。今年正逢二次大戰勝利七十週年紀念意義深遠 這次有十六位遊行美華協會隊員或義工：金本錚，姜迎憲，譚柱，張彩瑤，許有光，歐殿如，楊鶴群，阮金好，梅偉泉，Leonard；美華協會公民班的郭寶琴，張燦環；美華協會會長黃斌；美華協會理事宋尚行；美華協會職員孫杰華，邵劍光。這次成員有老當益壯的八十多歲高齡長者，曾經歷日本侵華的身處之境，時隔七十多年，他們那時年幼還記憶飛機轟炸被母親抱在懷中，或如何逃避日軍侵襲他們的村莊。金本錚雖生於戰後，但生於南京的他深感先人的犧牲凌辱，特別帶了一面大形美國國旗由他與公民班的張燦環掌旗領隊。值得一題的金本錚的女兒曾自願參與美國預備軍而張燦環的兒子現正參與美國預備軍。梅偉泉已過八十雖行動不便，但全程與譚柱，許有光，Leonard 掌舵美華會旗，還帶領喊口號，連後面的小孩足球隊，也跟進喊口號，好不熱鬧。這是一個令人眼目一新的華裔美國人團隊，包括來自中國，台灣，香港的美國移民，與土生土長的美國人，並與其他數十民間團體加入遊行行列，以表對陣亡將士的尊榮。行中沿路民眾，鼓掌揮手助陣。行完一英哩的旅程，隊伍集中於麥迪森城市市議會前廣場，參加莊重陣亡將士紀念日儀式。麥迪森市長Swanson 先生 給予簡易緬懷短講。會議中，特別紀念今年新增兩位陣亡戰士。所有參與者把一束鮮花安放置兩位陣亡戰士的紀念花圈，並表達對家屬的安慰，完成了二零一五年美国阵亡将士纪念日遊行。遊行隊員們，隨即享受遊行委員會準備的巧克力，並在優雅的紀念碑公園廣場休息，閱覽於各戰場犧牲的麥迪森城市英勇將士紀念碑。沒有他們的犧牲，就沒有我們的這一天。所云“對军人来说，最可怕的事情，不是为国捐躯，而是被人遗忘。”美華協會理事再次感謝參與麥迪森城市美国阵亡将士纪念日遊行的隊員們。特別對遠住安那堡的一些長者由於缺乏交通工具無法參與特致謝意。