



From Your National Officers

January 31, 2017

To our NAPA family:

On the occasion of the Spring Festival/Tết/Lunar New Year, your NAPA elected team wants to convey **best wishes to our members** who celebrate this second New Year.

Welcoming the Lunar New Year

Whether it is participating in a community celebration, marking the multi-day period with family and friends, or experiencing a familiar culture away from home, we hope everything is going smoothly. **May this coming year offer you and your family lots of happiness and prosperity, and may you find all your wishes fulfilled!**

For our Washington, D.C.-based members (and field employees who will be in D.C.), we want to invite you to a couple of opportunities we've planned out in February to network:

Thursday, Feb. 2 (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.)

Interagency Lunar New Year Happy Hour (a dozen agency affinity groups represented -- NAPA co-sponsoring)

Light appetizers will be provided

To RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/interagency-lunar-new-year-happy-hour-tickets-31233462126>

Thursday, Feb. 16 (noon to 1 p.m.)

NAPA Lunar New Year Luncheon

2017 members free / non-members \$20

To RSVP: See separate invite or contact Secretary Kelley Wong (Kelley.Wong@faa.gov)

To our members who work outside of D.C., **we would love to see some photos and hear about how you are marking the holiday period**, individually or with each other.

NAPA News

This is also a long-overdue time to send a general update to our members.

We spent our first quarter as the NAPA leadership team getting organized. We received a good handoff from last term's officers – thanks, [Annabelle Flores](#) and [Thong Vu](#) – and with [Kelley Wong](#) (as secretary) and [Kevin Le](#) (as immediate past president) on board, we were able to meet our commitments to NAPA and to our partners in the FAA without interruption. We successfully organized a Headquarters meet-and-greet in December, which also served as our official “inauguration” – that's right, **all four of us (as well as Kevin) promised in front of witnesses to cast aside personal ambitions and desires and administer the duties of our NAPA positions in accordance with our bylaws.** We also organized a half-dozen team meetings to plan our strategy for the term. Beginning next

quarter, we will hold regular general membership meetings (a call-in will always be possible) in addition to our board meetings to increase information exchange within the NAPA network and to share in our successes. We also began a scrub of some business practices so we can manage the organization more effectively.

As we head into our second quarter serving your organization, we will debut use of our external organizational mailbox so we can lead the organization more cohesively. The one.faa.napa@gmail.com will allow us to send meeting invitations, association announcements, call for information, and other communications from one address, using pre-approved and updated distribution lists. **This way, you can clearly identify information coming from our association and can prioritize appropriately for when you have time to review.** This single e-mail address will also be a way for you to contact NAPA without having to remember specific names – send us the input and we'll make sure it gets to the right person.

Remembering Fred Korematsu

Finally, **January 30 is Fred Korematsu Day** (in California, Hawaii, Virginia and Florida, this is an official annual recognition on Korematsu's birthday). Korematsu, a U.S. citizen who became a civil rights activist, was arrested for refusing to be relocated to an internment camp during World War II. **The legal challenge went all the way to the Supreme Court, where he lost.** After the war, he married his wife in Detroit because mixed-race marriage was illegal in California. Forty years later, justice was served when a federal court overturned Korematsu's conviction. In 1998, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. The case – and the man – is part of the Asian American/Pacific Islander heritage; **Korematsu has the distinction of being the first Asian American to have a day named after him.** Let's use this recent milestone – he would have been 98 years old this year – to [learn more about his legacy](#).

Happy Lunar New Year!

新年快樂 | Chúc Mừng Năm Mới | 새해 복 많이 받으세요

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