



CHINA POST # 1

February 2007 • Year of the Pig

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WOY WHAT A YEAR AND MY APPOLOGY FOR THE LATE PROCESS

National did a good thing by putting the "Please Pay by July 24" note on the dues notices.

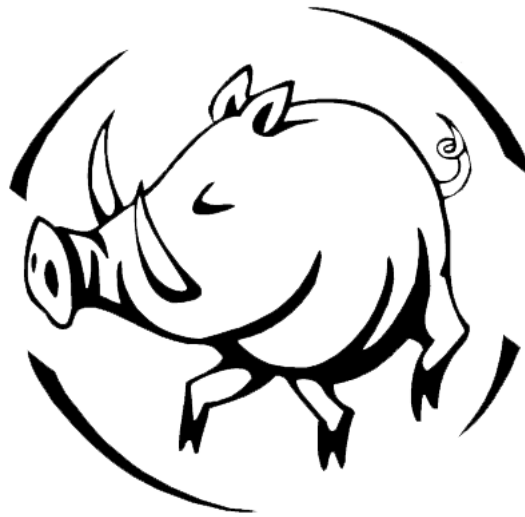
About 800 members responded and we had the greatest influx of dues at one time in over 10 years. Not normally a problem since we can process about 100 per week "but" in June while waiting for the cards to be delivered from National, I went over to Slidell to visit **Janet Bond** and pick up the emblem sales items that we still had in inventory. I FEDEX'd them back to Houston and on the way to the airport disaster struck in the form of a broken right wrist. I was in a cast for over two months until late Aug and couldn't type or use the computer with more than one finger speed, which meant about 10 per week maximum. Then the planned trips to our various Memorial Divisions with about another month to get out of the soft cast left a tremendous backlog. **The Good News-** We are back up to full speed, **Tim Brown** retired and is working in the office. We are getting out about 150 per week so unless you sent in your dues within a couple of weeks of receiving this Poop Sheet, you should have your 2007 card.

SAL MEMBERS

Since Tim returned, one of his first tasks was to

take over as the SAL Coordinator. The change over from NY left us in limbo for 2006 but we did get the SAL members who had paid for 2005 updated for 2006 at National and the SAL members who are still on the rolls received their 2007 packets and cards. Our SAL Squadron of China Post has 53 members as of this date for '07

**GUNG HAY FAT CHOY AND CUNG
CHUC TAN XUAN**



HOW TO READ YOUR ADDRESS LABEL

If your label does not say 2007 or some letters with an "L" after your name we have not received your dues for 2007. If it says 2005 or 2006 you 'might' get another dues notice from National. If you have an earlier date, National has dropped you from the rolls and will not send you

further notices. Please do not ask us to send you a bill. Send your current dues which are now \$40 beginning in the second half of Legion year 2007 which starts 1 January 2007. Legion year 2008 begins 1 July 2007. With Tim in the office and no physical injuries we should get the 2008 renewals out at a rapid pace.

MUSEUM FUND DONORS

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Abe Goldfarb / Fred A Gowan / D Craig Jarrell

/ Colin L Kelley / Walt Landi / Thomas Liles / Jim Lint / James Luke / Branton F Martin / John Maynard / James L Maupin / R Bob Pierce / Richard Pillsbury / James M Powers / Brian H Ramsey / Capt James L Roberts / Roger Urbaniak / Terry Wall / James Wengenroth / Jerry Williams / Glenn Woods / Ron Zais

DRAGON FUND DONORS

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M McFadden / Edward McGuire / Travis Mills / James F Minor / Robert Mitchell / John Moffitt / Charles D Morlan / Robert W Morrison / Hugh Murray / William E Murray / Gilbert Mustian / Lt Tyler K Norton / Kenneth O'Connell / Capt W E O'Connor / Peter Olinger / David R Patterson / John A Pearsall / Roy A Petersen / Michael G Pierce / Warren Pope / Frank L Powell / Ian 'Rick' Powers / Richard E Prince / Eugene Prino / Alfred Puppo / Alan F Radcliffe / Joseph W Reese / James E Roper / David Ross / Mark Ruwe / Rudy Salazar / Ray Sandlin / Robert M Schroder / Thomas M Schroeder / Bryan Scofield / Eugene J Shabinaw / James D Sheldon / Paul Shepanek / James Shive / Jerry A Simmons / Max Sittler / James P Smalley / Edward Smoot / Albert Sonntag / Chris C Spidle / Russell G Stephenson / Marion Stokes / Charles Stonecipher / Ed Subowsty / Van W Svensson / Chad Swedberg / William U Thatcher / Mac Alan Thompson / Harvey L Tipton / W J Unger / Roger Vogeler / Capt Joseph Weiss / Paul W Welker / Ronald B Welsh / James H West / L George Wheeler / John F Whiteside / Arthur T Williams / Robert Wnukowski / Thomas D Wood

PEOPLE AND THINGS

Although he is stationed in Singapore, you can probably find **Richard Ries** flying around Thailand in a Wilga PZL-104. Now go to your aircraft dictionary and try to find a picture of that.

Just received word that **Joe Posato** will be deploying in March. Joe, get on the list server to keep up with the other CP members while you are in country.

Dennis Wright should be in the 'Stan' as this comes out. I know that he is already on the list server.

In his first book of the Presidential Agent series The Hostage our Posts #1 New York Times-

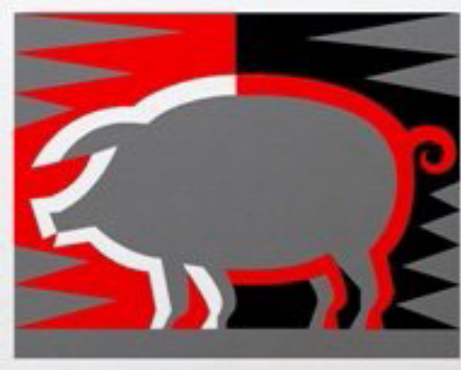
bestselling author, **W.E.B. GRIFFIN** has a description of China Post. His new book, now out **THE HUNTERS** is the continuation of this series. I will read it when I get a round tuit.

THE FIRST MEDAL GOES TO A CHINA POST MEMBER

According to the article in the Saturday Oct 28 edition of the Kennebec Journal, Maine's oldest newspaper, Post member **Alan Johnston** was the first civilian employee issued the **Department of Defense, Defense of Freedom Medal**. His actions on 7 Aug 2004, in the City of Al Kasik, Iraq when, despite his own wounds, he provided aid to soldiers wounded in the same attack that resulted in several of them putting in the paperwork to make him the first civilian to receive this honor. Alan started as a security contractor in Iraq before moving on as a construction manager and is a trained medic. Congratulations from the Post, we are proud of your actions.

THE "ROUND TUIT"

Using the rule of '78 or some such financial principle, if one person asks there are a multiple number who had the question in mind but didn't ask. A few members asked "what is this 'tuit' thing?" Well it's round, it says 'tuit' so it must be "a round tuit". For those who tend to procrastinate like myself who often says I'll get that done when I get 'around to it', there are no further excuses since I have one in my pocket at all times. Thanks to **Mac Thompson**, who usually helps out with these things, the Wikipedia free online encyclopedia at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuits> has the history and definitions. Several members are reportedly carrying them around as a poor man's challenge coin while others have used them to say that further excuses and delays are unacceptable. 'Bout time I got one myself'. The Post's slogan on the reverse is a reminder thanks to **Dick Schubnell** who found it on a bumper sticker while stuck in traffic.



BJ

Sergeant **James Robertson**, a Post Bull Shipper will retire from Active Duty at Ft Benning, on 16 Jan 07. Known to most Post members as "BJ" he is looking forward to the next career steps.

THE FLAG

Tom Liles had a certified flag flown at the Camp Cedar Fire Department at AN Nasiriyah on Sept 11th for 9 Minutes and 11 Seconds in honor of China Post as well as all of the men, women and children who have given their lives in the fight against terrorism. It will be proudly exhibited in the Post office.

YFY

For the 2007 membership year, 3 Persian Gulf War Vets have been elected to Command their Departments. Our own CP 1s **John Neilson** has been elected as the Department of Europe's new Commander. May success follow your term in office. As an add on, 'Ole' **Olson** is getting involved in setting up a new VFW Post in Chaing Mai Thailand where he has set up his house as a mini CP Watering Hole.

YFY, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN POST 605

After the passing of Mel Rosen who established a VFW Post inside China Post, we merged that Post with 605 Paris, Commanded by **John R Davis**. John is a China Post member as are a majority of the Post officers. We usually have a VFW meeting when we are in France for the VE-Day ceremonies in Menton. They have moved their monthly meeting dates in Paris to the second Saturday of most months. This brings us to the second Saturday in May, the 12th so that following the VE ceremonies in the South of France we are tentatively planning to go up to Paris for a trip to Normandy and can attend the VFW meet there in Paris.

"EARTHQUAKE MCGOON"

The remains of one of our Post legendary figures, Capt James B McGovern Jr. were positively ID'ed in September '06 and were flown home for a military funeral in New Jersey in October. Those really old members recall tales of his exploits in the old Post home in Shanghai and us 'younger old guys' had the good fortune to hear them first hand from 'them that were there'. He and Wallace Buford were the first two Americans to die in combat in Vietnam.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

In addition to his activities with the Special Forces and the Ranger Associations, **Sr VC Bill Anton** is the Nevada DAV Department Adjutant.

RETURN TO THAILAND 2006

Approximately 141 registered individuals along with their families, children and guests attended the Bangkok meeting officially sponsored by the Assembly of Expatriates-South East Asia with the advice and help of **Mac Thompson** and **Les Strouse**. 25% of those there were China Post members including a few who had not been active since the mid to late 1990's. **BG 'Heinie' Aderholt** made the trip and it was a great pleasure to take he and Ann to dinner. Of course on the way back to my hotel where the meetings were being held, my taxi had to stop several times for tanks and APC's to pass. No we did not have anything to do with the coupe-de-etat but you would not have believed that if you heard the rumors and accusations that floated around the ACA reunion the following week. Air America Veterans composed a large portion of the group of CP / AAM members such as **Greg Burch, Ronald Allendorfer and VC Marius Burke. Arden Davis, Izzy Freedman, Dan Gamelin, Keith Dennis and Dick Kaleta** also joined in the festivities. Jim Eckes, who reinstated before the meeting so his 2007 packet could be hand delivered, represented CASI and **Dave Kouba** was also part of the CASI group. **L 'Mike' Kandt** who is the Air America Corp. Secretary and active in our Las Vegas Division made an after meeting tour

up to Laos to revisit old spots. **Ted Lamb** and **John Wiren**, (we will have to add John to our authors list) were also part of the AAM group. Representing the TLC Brotherhood was **John Sweet** and **Richard Ries** represented the FAA. US Army Vets **Len Nicholls**, who now lives in Bangkok and photographer **Al Rockoff** joined USAF Vet **Bangkok Bob Vaughn** and State Dept's **Lionel Rosenblatt. MG Larry Taylor**, who also flew for AAM, led an excursion into Laos that wrapped up with a trip to the BKK meeting. **Wes** and **Sandra Tribble**, USAID / RO, who has attended the National Convention and marched in the rain to carry the banner also made the trip.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Salt Lake convention saw us with a larger group in attendance than the rest of the Department. Led in the parade by our **Dick Schubnell** we had to loan the Dept some people to get enough to carry their banners. We had a convertible to drive thanks to Dick getting a last minute pass for us. **Roger Gowen** came up and our SLC resident **Tom Mathes** as well as past member **Mike Davidson**, from Park City re-upped and filled out the delegation. 'H' provided legal advice to the Dept and was principal in obtaining the 'extra' tote bags that we passed out at the Post Convention along with lots of the goodies in them. **The most important thing that happened was the dues increase of almost \$ 5.00 that was effective on 1 January 2007. This forced us to also raise our dues for the balance of 2007 and for 2008.** This was the first increase in 15 years. The price of postage alone would justify the increase but factor in utilities, phones, etc. it passed almost without opposition.

DUES INCREASE

Although we will have to send the increased per capita in to National effective in January, members who send in dues at the old \$35 rate will be processed at that rate for the balance of the 2007 dues year and Dragon Funds will make up the difference.

MOVING AGAIN

This one won't be as difficult and as a matter of fact will probably locate many of the items that got lost in the jumble of the last move. With Tim in the office there was not enough room for two people to work effectively. We are only moving 20 feet down the hall so there should not be any major disruptions.

CHINA POST REUNION 2006

The reunion committee had to put up with some unusual obstacles when the hotel we had made our arrangements with, shut down 100 days from the start of our reunion meeting. **Jim Luke, Jerry Williams** and **Abe Goldfarb** scrambled to find us an alternative and we ended up at a Best Western. The hospitality room was outstanding and the out-side events with transportation were equal to the task. I do have to say that the Saturday night banquet food, mostly the prime rib, was not up to our 'gourmet' standards but, we came for the party not the food and made it into a good time.

Most of the Post's past bull shippers, including two of our hosts, **BJ, 'H', Dick, Hans, Emmet** and **Bill Anton** made it in this year so that despite having to pull him from his sick bed where he was suffering from Iraqi crud, '**Doc**' **James Wengenroth** got to enjoy that rare pleasure of flying home and going through security in the 'fool's cap'. A number of members made their first convention / reunion including **Harvey Tipton, Arvel Jackson, Paul Kulazov**, and Special Ops Division's **Larry Little** and **Terry Swafford**. Thanks to Abe, we had buses that took all of us to "Billy Bob's" Texas Honky Tonk for a Thursday night of '2-steppin' which fortunately did not produce any lasting injuries. On Wednesday we had met in the hotel bar to gather the early arrivals for an early start but to mostly get labor to move the setup crew into the hospitality room. One of our 'old time' members **Bob Truby**, couldn't

make the banquet but it was good to see him after a number of years. We had a two-story suite with plenty of room except behind the bar which often ended up in a small traffic jam with all of the willing hands but I suppose it is much better to have too much help than not enough. **Ron Zais, Wes Tribble** and **Jim Maupin** are always willing hands at the reunions and the Post is grateful for their help. **Dave Bluth** was an unexpected attendee and **Howard** and **Teresa Berg** came in from their ranch to taste test the beef (it didn't pass). **Kenneth L Cook** and **Anita** came down from IL but the long distance winner was probably **Leigh Robertson** in from Kuwait. **Tom Will** was there for the No. VA Division and **Nancy Shaw** joined us to help **Jenny Williams** keep up the Aux participation. **Lew Hatch** with **Kathy** joined **John Davidson** and **H** in the Raven contingent and our ex-Saudi three amigos, **Rudy Salazar, Ray Maez** and **Al DeJesus** joined the many present aramcons at the hospitality suite. **John Joyce** gave the banquet toast to the flag joined by the other Sojourners. After dinner we were given a

presentation and film on the new F-22 fighter and everyone received a F-22 lapel pin. We also got to meet and hear from a WW II Merchant Mariner who told us of his experiences during that period. **Mike Kandt**, the new Board Secretary for Air America and one of our Sr VC's brought us up to date on their activities before going to Thailand for the meeting there. On Friday morning buses took some of the members shopping while the rest took a tour of aviation

facilities in the DFW area. In the afternoon, **Tom Stockmal**, Chef de Chemin de Fer of the 40 & 8 (National Commander) **H, Dick, Jim Luke** and **Roger Gowen** took a collection of quilts, throws and lap blankets and distributed them to the disabled troops recuperating in the DFW area re-hab facilities. The Post business meeting was held on Saturday morning. The main item of business was our approval of the National dues increase that will force our own



\$5 increase effective with new members in calendar 2007 and the 2008 dues year. **Effective with the 2008 dues year, Post dues will be \$ 40 to cover the increase by National.**

40 & 8

Following the Post meeting we convened the 40 & 8 Grand meeting that we recessed in France in May in order to hold the Grand and Voiture elections. With the National Chef in attendance **Jim Luke** went over the financials as he had done for the Post meeting and **Roger Gowen** set the agenda. **Paul Kulazov** presided as the Grand Chef de Train and we held elections for the Grand. **Tim Brown** is our new Grand Chef and **Frank Corrigan** is the "Grand Chef Emeritus" who will continue to represent us in Europe along with Paul who remains as the Grand Chef de Train. **Cory Francis** is the Grand Aumonier and Dick remains as the Guard de la Porte and Sergeant at Arms at all levels. **Hans Stockenberger** Chef de Gare for the Voiture and **Joe Hoofnagle** is the Chef de Train.

40 & 8 NATIONAL

For some reason the meeting was held in Traverse City, MI which is a nice summer resort but in late Oct it is a cold wet place to be. None the less, we found the underground tunnel system that connected the buildings and eventually made it through the sessions with no frostbite. **Dick Schubnell** finished his tour as the "Guard de la Porte National" and received an appointment as a National Aide de Camp for the new Chef. **Jim Luke** and **Roger Gowen** ran our delegation with H providing legal advice for all levels and putting together a wine and cheese and deli party to follow the National banquet. **Tom Tinnish** who helped found our Post's Europe Memorial Division also attended and brought along a new member for the Post. **Cory Francis** also extended his leave from the Mid East to make the sessions. Next year they are supposed to move into their normal mid Sept time slot in a place that can be reached without two stops and a connection via small turbo prop. We will pass that information in the June Poop Sheet.

ACA

This years meeting did not have the 'sell out' banquet attendance of past years due to a scheduling conflict with the FAC Association arranging the dedication of the FAC Memorial outside the Air Force Museum in Dayton. None the less those who chose the ACA included a number of Post members who were not FACs and the long serving officers pulled off another flawless meeting. **Dick Geron** continues for another term as the Vice President and continues to run the hospitality room with 'panache'. **Heinie** had returned for the ACA and with **Banzai, Jerry Rhein** and getting a chance to get together with old Lao hand and VC **Clyde Morehouse** a good time was had by all and the Sunday auction that followed the Bar-B-Que raised money for the ACA scholarship fund.

AUXILIARY

In addition to the work done at the annual meeting, **Jenny Williams** continues to run our Auxiliary as an 'unpaid' volunteer and has kept us at and over 100% since taking over the job. **Volunteer** is an operative word and Jenny has a real job that she does. She does the processing between business trips and I do not have enough words to thank her for the hours and effort she puts in. So I would just like to say **Thank You !** for all that you do for the Post.

RAYENS

The Ravens had their annual meeting at Randolph AFB and there were no police calls or unusual incidents. Just the gathering of a unique combat group that convinced **Ed Gunter** to remain as their President with able help on the Executive Committee from **Lew Hatch, Al Galante** and '**Growth**' **Wilson**. They have provided leadership for a number of years and seem able to handle the problems that come up between reunions with "diplomacy". The scholarship fund for Hmong combatant descendants will be entering its second round of funding these offspring of our SEA allies. It still is amazing to see people who had a culture several hundred years in the past develop into

Masters and Doctoral scholars. **Chad Swedberg** pushed for and chaired the original committee to set up this program and in its second year of operation has pushed another CP Raven, **Briggs Diuguid** into chairing this effort.

IRAQ / AFGHANASTAN / ETC.

The Post has a number of members who are active duty military in harms way in the continuing conflict in SW Asia. More importantly we have several hundred Post personnel who are involved at various times in shifting locations as "civilian contractor combatants" and in support contracts that put them in harms way. From the shooters to the security specialists, from the armed convoy escorts to the planners and firemen and the administrators, who are exposed along with our members who are active military-God Speed and do request anything of the Post. If we can't provide it immediately we will be looking for sources. Remember, the Post belongs to you. There are a couple of "Safe Houses" with banners in the 'Zone' so if you see a banner up anywhere or a combat vehicle with a CP decal say howdy to a fellow Post member.

Charley Jones held his last Air Commando Memorial Service at the Hurlburt Field AirPark this year. He had fought a battle with cancer and was strong enough to do this years service but succumbed over Thanksgiving. Charley was a mainstay in both the Combat Controller and FAC communities, having served as a "Butterfly FAC" in Laos and in an unusual move transferring from the USAF to US Army SF as a Warrant Officer with Green Beret.

Another name familiar to the Air America crews of SEA and to those who worked with him over many years, **John P Conley** who had moved to Australia and ran Australian Aircraft Services passed this year. John was a Corporate Officer of Air America and the Pacific Corporation, A CP VC and active in sending aircraft throughout the world in his last career. For a number of years he sent a stack of company calendars to the Post that we offered to mail upon request with the caveat that since they were printed in

Australia they had to be hung upside down in order to work in the Northern Hemisphere. He and Charley are two members who made special contributions and will be missed.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS (ALR)

CP has our own ALR chapter thanks to chapter president and founder **Ron Burkett**. Several of our 'qualified' new members have transferred or entered through Ron and our ALR group and some are members of the **Patriot Guards** who provide guards as outriders and buffers at military funerals that a fringe group from Kansas tries to protest. At the AL National Convention the ALR is now the van of the parade. Post members who are interested and who ride can find a link on the Post web site.

WWW.CHINAPOST1.ORG

In case you forgot the site address, thanks to **Jim Lint** we have BLOGS, LIST SERVERS and other computer stuff that we novices cannot fully use but that link Post members together. When you apply to one of the services it usually sends a message to Post HQ to check if you are a current member and not a hacker. Approval is usually quick and once you are "IN" you will get Poop Sheets and other notifications as well as job and event information before the snail mail could reach you.

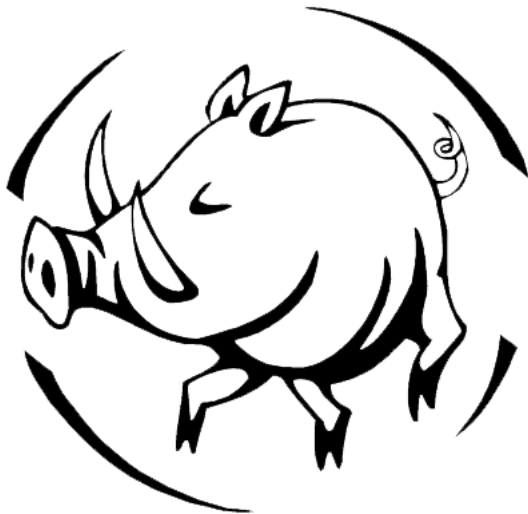
UPCOMING EVENTS / THE 2007 CONVENTION AND OTHER STUFF

The American Legion National Convention operative dates will be in Reno Nevada from Aug 24 thru Thursday the 30th. **China Post will start 'officially' on August 30 and run thru Sept 2 in Reno for our meeting / convention.** We are working on hotel arrangements and events that will be in a registration package in the June Poop Sheet. The Legion has already made special travel discount arrangements with Northwest, American and United Airlines for the period of Aug 19 until September 2, 2007. If members want to attend National, the FODPAL meeting and breakfast will be on Monday 27 Aug. If you can make only a part, then plan to come to the end and China Post

meeting rather than come to the National and have to leave before we are in town. Either way, any of our members who can make it are welcome. I understand that **Walt Landi** will be at National and will stay over with us along with some of the others we have worked with in Europe.

YE-DAY IN EUROPE

The 8th of May is the operative day to lay wreaths and participate in the ceremonies that honor those Post members and other Americans who gave their lives in WW II. We will have Post meetings in Menton in the South of France and we usually have members from Saudi Arabia, CONUS and other members stationed in Europe who attend. If you are interested in joining the Post for these meetings, send an e-mail.



ATTRIBUTES PIG/BOAR

The Pig type is usually an honest, straightforward and patient person. He/she is a modest, shy character who prefers to work quietly behind the scenes. When others despair, he/she is often there to offer support. This type of person is reserved with those they do not know too well, but as time passes and they gain confidence, those around them may discover a lively and warm-hearted person behind that mask of aloofness. Despite those born in the year of pig having a wide circle of friends and

acquaintances, they have few close friends who understand them and share their inner thoughts and feelings. It is easy to put trust in pig type; he/she won't let you down and will never even attempt to do so. Such people simply want to do everything right according to social norms.

It is important to remember that these people are not vengeful creatures. If someone tries to take advantage of him/her, the pig type tend to withdraw to reflect on the problem and protect themselves. All they need in such situations is a little time to find a constructive way to respond. The people of the pig type are conservative creatures of habit. They dislike being made to travel too far from familiar surroundings, unless it is a trip to the countryside. They love nature and are never happier than when they are out somewhere, far from the city.

There is a tolerant and peaceful side to their character. Such people are never afraid to allow others their freedom of expression; they do not want to cause arguments and if there is any way to avoid arguing, they will probably take this option. They are not weak, however, and if the situation forces them to fight these people will rise to the occasion, whether it is to defend themselves or those close to them. People of the Pig type are the most admired by others.