



BALITAAN

March 2001

A Publication of the Pilipino-American Association of Delaware

I started right off to miss Bessie Schiroky when I realized that it is time to start thinking of my first issue of Balitaan as editor. As you all know, Bessie has been the editor for many years and I guess it is very easy for one to just expect that another issue of Balitaan will arrive in the mail soon. I would like to use this first issue for the year to thank her for all the work she has done for the newsletter and for always being around to help with all the other activities. I am sure many of us, if not all, feel the same way.

Congratulations to all the new officers. We should all thank them for agreeing to serve for the next 2 years. Patty, having been an active member for many years, is aware that a lot of work is entailed to be president of PAAD.

While many may consider that PAAD is more of a social organization than anything else, PAAD has taken on other goals as well since several years ago. I am going to try to write in the newsletter more about these goals and accomplishments as they happen so that you all will be informed. Maybe, this will arouse interest among those who have quietly stayed away from the association to become active members once again or become active for the first time.

All of you who know me personally would know that I have been around since almost the inception of the association. At that time, almost all families in our then small group were like mine. We were all young married couples who just started a family or about to start one. As years passed, the membership grew. After many years of not being actively involved, I rejoined the association only to find out that most of the people putting time and effort into the association belong to a rather limited group. This group, with the exception of a few, is mostly 'old timers', like me!

While we are happy to do what we do, it is high time that some of the younger members start getting actively involved with the association's activities. I hope that doing so will enable new members to take charge of the association in the future. I am calling upon older members whose grown-up children live in the area to encourage them to take part. I have had occasions to meet for the first time Filipinos who have moved to the area in recent years. Almost all of them would tell me that they know about PAAD. However, many of them would say that they do not feel that they belong. I

can not blame them, however, for the simple reason that they have not had a chance to meet many of us. We all should try our best to make newcomers to Delaware feel welcome. It could just be a hello and a brief chat but from my experience that makes a world of difference.

You will find in this issue the list of officers with their home phone numbers. Please do not hesitate to call anyone in the list for concerns or suggestions. The schedule of social activities is also given so please mark down these dates on your calendar now. If you can not attend the spring dinner dance, we hope to see you all in the picnic. The picnic is the best opportunity to meet newcomers and if you know of someone new, please personally encourage them to attend.

I would also want to encourage everyone to submit articles for publication in the newsletter. Any good ideas for topics are also welcome. You may send me a note and an electronic copy of your article to PAAD00@hotmail.com or lindagra@udel.edu

Thanks to Jane Aniceto, Patty Delos Santos and Ruben Rubio for contributing articles to this issue.

Linda Graham, Editor

Important reminder: Please mail in your membership fee if you have not done so. A form was mailed to you in early February. PAAD needs funding for administrative activities such as this newsletter for example. A tear-off short form is in last page of this issue.

New Faces: (Jonas is the current Membership and Merle is the current Recording Secretaries)

Jonas and Ethelyn Rodulfa - Jonas and Ethelyn moved to Delaware from Dobbs, Ferry, NJ in 1997. Jonas, an avid runner, is a pharmaceutical sales representative for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals. Ethelyn is a medical technologist at Christiana Hospital. They have a daughter, Jasna Marie, age 11, an 'A' student at Holy Angels and a 14 year-old son, Jason. Jason, a student at Holy Angels has recently been inducted to the National Junior Honor Society. He will be going to Salesianum next fall. Jonas and the family live in Newark.

Merle and Karl Smith - Merle's roots trace back to Lubao and Macabebe, Pampanga from the Serrano and Bustos families. She left the Philippines in 1965 after studying Chemistry at the College of the Holy Spirit (by Malacanang) and then attended the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC. In Charleston, Merle married Karl and went through an exciting military life for 20 years. Karl retired as a Chief Warrant Officer from the U.S. Navy in 1980. Both Merle and Karl are alumni of Florida International University in Miami where Merle also completed her Masters in Clinical Chemistry. In 1997, Merle completed her MBA from University of Miami. Merle and Karl lived in Miami and Pembroke Pines, Florida for 20 years.

Merle's company acquired the Dupont Clinical Diagnostics division, now Dade Behring in Glasgow and was relocated in Delaware in 1998. She is a clinical scientist at the Marketing and Technical Support department and has been with the company for 20 years.

Karl is still retired (CEO of Merle's household as he claims). Merle and Karl have two daughters: Marcia (28 years old), Princeton 95 graduate, a sportswriter from the Philadelphia Inquirer and now at the Orange County Register in Los Angeles; Monica (25 years old), a junior at Duke Medical School. Merle and Karl live at the Estates of Corner Ketch in Newark.

CHRISTMAS DINNER-DANCE 2000

by Ruben P. Rubio

December 8, 2000 was a night for us all to look back, to appreciate each memory PAAD has helped create, to give our gestures that represent our unending gratitude that our friends have graciously stepped into our lives and we took one night out to thank each other for helping shape our unselfish support to our organization. It was a celebration for all of us, for every single one of us were all celebrants, rejoicing together in the company of people who meant so much to our lives. This was what our annual PAAD Christmas Dinner-Dance meant to all of us. The affair started promptly at



7:30 PM with our Friends of Mine Band who with their unstoppable energies provided our live entertainment. For the well-dressed crowd, a never-ending dancing on the dance floor and with the widespread interest in group- the response has been favorable as anticipated. I hoped therefore, that, in the spirit of perpetuating this popular time-slot in our party, it gave so much satisfaction to guests who came unescorted and for those who can enjoy line-dancing at its fullest. Two special numbers were presented with gusto; first of which was the Waltz Dance performed by our outgoing and incoming Presidents, Marita and Patty with their corresponding partners, myself and Mike Labrague swayed their way to the dance floor with other participants, Danny

and Malou Singson, Manny and Marilyn Ting and Manny and Babes Devotta. It was truly a sight to behold and we thank them for having volunteered and taking time out from their hectic skeds with only two practices to shape up our acts. The "Mambo No. 12" (Salsa line-dance) performed by Cynthia Betia, Stella Trader and myself drew dancing by the ever indefatigable line-dancer myself, thunderous applause that gave us constant reminders that we were performing for the benefit of our PAAD. Hail PAAD!

The induction of the 2001-2002 officers was timely done with the help of Susan Ament and headed by the new President . Thereafter, our Chorale group rendered a few Christmas carols to the delight of the guests under the tutelage of the King sisters, Lourdes and Alice. (Will we survive without the devotion of the King sisters?). Jane Aniceto graciously rendered an impromptu song number that brought the house down and gave all of us Filipinos a sense of pride.

We convey our heartfelt appreciation to our donors and sponsors notably, Dynamic Physical Therapy, Abbott Pharmaceuticals for the DVD equipment as grand prize, Medeva Pharmaceuticals, Jansen Pharmaceuticals as well as the \$200 cash prize donated by Drs. James and Nieva Salva. We also thank the random faces of Jay Medenilla, Jeff Myers and Marie Chona Kulikowski who emceed the show for their smiles and giving us company for the night. Who could ever forget the perennial winners in our PAAD raffles, Drs. Felix and Virgie Vergara, a terrific duo who contributed so much life lessons during their terms as Presidents of PAAD. Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks to the ingenuous floral masterpieces of Linda Graham, Malou Singson, Babes Devotta and Tess Valencia under the watchful eye supervisions of Marita and Patty without which our centerpieces would not have been made possible.

As a whole, our unforgettable night ended at 12:00 midnight with the crowd still dancing merrily till we all dropped to death. It was indeed a night to cherish and reminisce for all of us. I was privileged to be recognized by the new President for my efforts but such recognition is

not mine alone to share. I need to congratulate my wife who has encouraged me a lot in all my endeavors and believes in my capacity as an achiever without which my ideas would not have been made possible during her tenure.

Christmas Caroling Scene 2000

by Patty Delos Santos

The choir was proud to present their Christmas Repertoire 2000, with new arrangements of carols and old traditional favorites, under the direction of Lourdes King, the choir director. The carols will make you want to hum along! The group was stunningly garbed with a new look. The women wore an emerald green, sequined kimonos with long black skirts, while the men wore their Barong Tagalog, with varied embroidery designs made from the finest jusi, piña, or piña-jusi blend. Or very own baritone member, Floro Resurreccion, showcased his collection of modern Barong Tagalog during the three weekend performances.

The group welcomed newcomers Gilbert Galla, Manny & Nilda Romero, Ike & Remy Umali, Gali & Lita Inguito, and a come back for Pruding Abad. A choir regular, Ching Dayrit was missed this year, due to a severe case of laryngitis.



Caroling practice started early in October. A big thanks to

Marita Fallorina and Patty Delos Santos for hosting the practices at their homes. Rumor says its one-hour of practice and 3 hours of eating and partying! Not so, says Lourdes King!

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following generous donors and hosts for inviting the choir to sing at their homes for their families and friends: Dr. & Mrs. Nestor Ang, Dr. & Mrs. Alex

Balan, Dr. & Mrs. Manny DeVotta, Dr. & Mrs. Max Icasiano, Dr. Fovad and Bohair Michael, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Nicolas, Mr. & Mrs. Napoleon Salameda, Dr. & Mrs. Danny Singson, Mr. & Mrs. Flor Soberano, and Dr. & Mrs. Ernest Troisi. The choir also caroled the residents of the **Little Sisters of the Poor**, which brought joy, happiness and the Christmas spirit into their hearts and nostalgia to the 7 senior Filipino residents.

Congratulations to the choir for a job well done! Patty Delos Santos, Marita Fallorina, Rose Finney, Olive Flitcraft, Lita Inguito, Lori Kendle, Alice King, Lourdes King, Grace Manalo, Nilda Resurreccion, Nilda Romero, Marilyn Ting, Remy Umali, Tess Valencia, Pruding Abad, Gilbert Galla, Galicano Inguito, Mike Labrague, Tom Kendle, Floro Resurreccion, Manny Romero, Manny Ting and Ike (aka Papa) Umali.

Silayan Update

By Jane Aniceto

(Silayan is a musical group that is comprised of PAAD members and friends.)

As the end of year 2000 began, our musical group Silayan, got busy for our annual community service event – a project that our spouses and we have had a strong passion for the last 3 years. Silayan went Christmas caroling to raise funds for this event. The beneficiary of the fund raising project was the Mary Mother of Hope House II in Wilmington, a temporary haven for single, homeless or battered women and their children. There were a total of 9 women and 24 children.

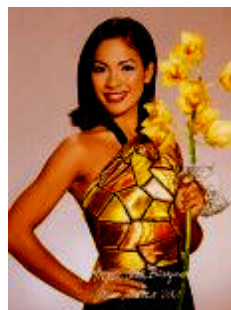
On December 23, 2000, Silayan brought a sumptuous holiday dinner for the Hope House residents. After dinner, we sang several Christmas carols, with the home residents more often than not joining in the singing. Gift bags were then distributed, consisting of winter clothing, basic daily household toiletries and 2 toys for each kid. For a lot of the residents, it was their first “real Christmas” in quite a few years, according to the Hope House Director, Ms. Emma Terrell. The happiness and joy written on the resident’s faces, particularly the children, made this effort thoroughly enjoyable and so rewarding for all of us.

Silayan acknowledges the gracious generosity of their donors. These donors sponsored and invited friends to a social gathering they organized in their homes and at their office parties for an hour of Silayan’s music, a variety of songs, including Christmas carols. The donors were Dr. Jeff Meyers, Van & Ginny Villaruz and friends, Ms. Beverly Johnson and friends, The Hercules Research Center Women’s Club (c/o PAAD President, Patty Delos Santos) and the Family Ear, Nose & Throat Physicians, P.A. (c/o Dr. Tim Gabriel). Silayan thanks them for making the project a great success.

2001 begins another year of new projects for Silayan. We are preparing to complete our first CD for public distribution very soon. A few more public appearances are planned during the year. Silayan is available for any occasion needing music entertainment. Please contact Yli Vallejo (302-737-5233) or Jane Aniceto (302-286-6357) to book your event in advance.

Miss America 2001 Visits Wilmington

Miss America 2001, Angela Perez Baraquio, came to Delaware on February 13. Angela is a native of Hawaii and is one of 10 children of both Filipino parents. While in Wilmington, she visited area catholic schools such as Saint Mary Magdelene, Saint Marks, and Ursuline Academy through an invitation by the Catholic



Youth Ministry.

A reception was held in her honor in the evening at the Ursuline Academy where she spoke of "Teaching Values, Valuing Teachers", her platform as Miss America. Angela, being an elementary school teacher is aware of the increasingly lack of character among our youth. In her beautiful and personal speech, she is pushing for a nationwide integration of a character development program in the schools' culture and curriculum. Being a very devout Catholic herself, she believes that family, faith, and education are the foundation of a person's character. She feels that educators play a significant role in developing values and ethics of our youth and should, therefore, get the recognition they deserve in terms of better compensation.

Angela is also encouraging everyone to act as role models to our youth. She believes that everyone, in his/her unique way has the capacity to change the world for the better. Bishop Saltarelli, delighted with what Miss America is advocating, said that she is the perfect role model for our young.

There were a number of PAAD members and some representatives of FHAM in the audience. Thanks to Grace Manalo for bringing the event to our attention. At the conclusion of the dinner, we had a brief moment to spend time with Miss America even just for picture taking. While I did not get the opportunity to talk to her since she cannot grant interviews, one can tell from listening to her speak that she comes from a very typical close knit Filipino family who has held on to the values that Filipinos proudly cherish. She certainly represents the best of what a Filipino-American young woman can be.

Come and bring your children to the event. The day events will include a silent auction in the morning, celebration of Mother's day, honoring Filipino-American veterans of war, a play presentation: 'Philippines, Then and Now'. Keynote speaker is Senator Anthony Delucca, 11th district. Bring a dish for a pot luck lunch.

Silayan sings at Borders - Silayan will give a live performance at Borders in Newark on May 12, 2001, 8-10 PM. Bring your family and friends to this full 2-hour musical event of Silayan's eclectic repertoire of 60's, 70's rock and folk hits, old standards, show tunes, and international songs. It's a COME AT NO CHARGE show, except of course for a cup or two of your favorite coffee.

Erik Ringöen joins Wilmington firm - Erik, currently residing in Philadelphia has become a partner in DSS & Associates of Wilmington. If you are in need of any business services, you might want to contact Erik. DSS & Associates provide comprehensive business services for the growing small company. Services include full range of accounting, bookkeeping, and tax planning services for small businesses as well as for individuals. Their client base includes legal firms, physician groups, retail stores, restaurants, and manufacturing companies. You may contact the firm locally at:

Suite 560 People's Plaza #203

Newark DE 19702

Phone: (302) 836-0270

Email: dss221@cs.com

Contact: L.Erik Ringöen/Patricia Dowd

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Filipino Heritage and Arts Museum (FHAM) presents:

Annual History Day 2001

May 12, 2001, 9:00 am - 4:00 PM

Delaware Technical Community College

Stanton Campus

The Delaware Academy of Family Physicians elected Danny Singson as president for 2001. Danny was PAAD president in 1997-98. The association is holding its annual dinner-dance on May 5 at the Dupont Country Club.

Bautista releases first album- As a young man growing

up in the Philippines, Basilio Bautista dreamed of being a composer. Being a plastic surgeon practicing in Dover, Delaware did not stop him, however, to make that dream come true. His first CD, "All My Love" was released late last year. The album is composed of 11 love songs that were performed by Sally Harmon, an internationally acclaimed recording artist and pianist. To buy the CD, you may write to BNB Productions, Ltd, 7 Wigeon Place, Wyoming, DE 19934 at \$15 each plus \$2.95 shipping. Proceeds will go to charities.

Social ballroom dancing - Dance lessons for beginners are currently being held every Sunday from 1:30-3:30p.m. under the direction of Josie Magalong,. Lessons are held at the prez' home, who was gracious enough to offer her basement (kiddingly dubbed as the PAAD Dance Studio).

No prerequisites required. No partner, no problem! All you need is a good pair of dancing shoes! For more info, contact Patty at paad00@hotmail.com



PAAD helps kidney transplant patient - A donation of \$100 was sent to Ligaya Pineda Fund, c/o Dr. Camilo Gopez. The recipient, from the Philippines, is in need of a kidney transplant. A kidney donor has been found but the Pineda family can not afford to pay for operation and hospitalization expenses

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keep in touch. Tell us what is going on with you and your family. Send me your own personal announcements for the next issue of Balitaan.



Sixty something! Congratulations to Joe Gueco who recently celebrated his 65th birthday on Feb. 21. A surprise birthday party was given in his honor on March 3 at Mendenhall Inn.

Retirement!

Happy retirement to **Floro and Nilda Resurreccion**. Floro and Nilda are leaving at the end of March for a 4-month stay in the Philippines. Friends are hoping that there will be a retirement celebration upon their return to Delaware!



Vilma Velasco is joining her husband Pablo in his retirement starting the end of March. Vilma is leaving her medical practice in Elkton, Maryland.

Engagements!



Carlos Casas, the son of Patty Delos Santos is engaged to Amy Phillips of Newark. Carlos is currently working at IFM-Efactor in West Chester and Amy is with Family and Workplace Connection in Wilmington. The wedding will

be on August 4 in Wilmington.



Sigmund Ringöen, son of Esther Ringöen-Kelly is engaged to France Gagne from Montreal Canada. Sigmund has a chiropractic practice in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The wedding will be in September in Mont Tremblant, Montreal, Canada.



David Resurreccion, son of Floro and Nilda Resurreccion is engaged to Lynn Williams of Wilmington. Both David and Lynn work at MBNA. The wedding will be this coming Thanksgiving weekend.

New Arrivals!

❖ Jacob, born to Jocelyn and Edgar Balan. Edgar is the son of Alex and Joan Balan.



❖ Nadia Dorian, born to Marie Chona and Robert Kulikowski on Sept 9, 2000. Marie Chona is the daughter of Marita Fallorina.

For address and phone changes, email to
paad00@hotmail.com

Scheduled Social Activities for 2001:

- Fun and Social Night: April 21, 2001 starts at 1:00 PM at Felix and Virgie Vergara's home at:
704 Burnley Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803.

(This is a fundraising event as well. Cost is \$10 per person for dinner.)

Please contact Grace Manalo for event information and dinner reservations at (302) 239-7597 after 6 PM if you are attending.

- Spring Dinner Dance: May 18, 2001 at Christiana Hilton in Newark
(Invitations will be mailed.)
- Picnic: June 10, 2001, 11 AM- 5:00 PM, at Carey Pavilion in Banning Park
(Bring a dish to share. Lechon and drinks are on the house.)
For info, contact: Aida Nye (302) 235-2783
- Christmas Dinner Dance: Dec. 14, 2001 at the Wilmington Country Club
(Invitations will be mailed.)
- Bingo/ Bowling League/ Poker/Chess are to be announced in the next issue.

**Officers for the 2001-2002 Calendar Years:
(Please post on your bulletin board at home.)**

President	Patty Delos Santos	(302) 292-2486
Vice president		
- Social	Aida Nye	(302) 235-2783
- Cultural	Alice King	(302) 239-7819
- Humanitarian	Marylene Permut	(302) 994-4989
Secretary		
- Correspondence	Zeny Quiroz	(302) 234-0469
- Recording	Merle Smith	(302) 239-2222
- Membership	Jonas Rodulfa	(302) 453-1603
Treasurer	Nilda Resurreccion	(302) 453-8202
- Assistant Treasurer	Letty Oneal	(302) 832-9144
Public Relations Officer	Eva Godsell	(302) 738-5887
Internal Auditor	Robert Kelly	(302) 266-0927
Newsletter Editor	Linda Graham	(302) 368-1513
Executive Officer	Marita Fallorina	(302) 234-3074

Committee Chairs:

Sunshine Committee	Marylene Permut	(302) 994-4989
Fundraising Committee	Patty Delos Santos	(302) 292-2486
Sports Activities	Grace Manalo	(302) 239-7597
Welcome Committee	Eva Godsell	(302) 738-5887
Choir	Lourdes King & Mike Labrague	(302) 239-7819 (302) 478-7360

BUSINESS UPDATE

Membership Drive - Please mail in your membership information sheet with you dues. We need to update our telephone directory. Copies of the new directory will be mailed early in April to all paid members. Copies will be on hand for members sending late dues. As of early March, 52 families and 14 individuals have paid their dues.

Consider being a life time member. There are currently 18 life-time members. Cost is \$150 for family and \$100 for individual. We need these dues for operating expenses as well as for planned humanitarian activities.

If you have not yet paid and would like to send in your dues, please tear off the bottom portion of this page for your address and telephone number and send it in with your check. Note that Nilda Resurreccion will be away, therefore, the return address is to Patty Delos Santos.

Humanitarian Activities - While the details of this year's humanitarian activities of PAAD have not yet been finalized, the following are the planned activities:

- College scholarships for Filipino students
- Meals on wheels
- Volunteer service in hospitals, retirement homes
- 'Adopt a family' for Christmas
- Thanksgiving baskets for the needy

The details of these activities will be published as each is decided on. As you can see, we'll need volunteers and contributions so expect a call from any officer in the future. If you have any other suggestions as to other humanitarian activities that you feel PAAD should get involve in please inform us at the PAAD e-mail address.

New and Returning Members - Welcome to the following members of PAAD!

Jacinto Casio
Bernard Cosalan
Ireneo & Clavel Decano
Alili Fetizanan
Willie and Marie Fontano
Catalina Gabriel
Gilbert Galla
Howard & Linda Hawkins
Robert & Nena Kisco

Rich & Lynn Mayes
Sean & Noreen McElroy
Eduardo, Lolita & Rachelle Ortega
Rosie Palines
Jonas & Ethelyn Rodulfa
Manny and Nilda Romero
Karl & Merle Smith
Steve Waidley

Treasurer's report - The books are currently being audited. The complete report will be published in the next issue of Balitaan.