



Tribo ni Bado

Vol 42 Issue 12 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALPHA PHI OMEGA GREATER LOS ANGELES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION December 2022



Bro. Toti Ayo inducting the incoming 2023 Executive Officers and Board of Directors of APO Greater Los Angeles Alumni Association

December Affair 2022 Is Second to None

By Brother Dan Nino

Anaheim, Calif. — Yes, Virginia, you heard it. APOGLA's December Affair on December 17 at the plush Sheraton Resort Hotel near Disneyland as in other December events and Induction Balls is: second-to-none and nonpareil.

The execution was efficient, flawless and on-time on a program that usually lasts more than two hours. This time, it was accomplished in 1 ½ hour or before 8:30 pm. This means, there were lots of time dancing and fellowship on the floor up to midnight.

As previously touted, DJ John Robinson was topnotch as he manipulated the turntable with dexterity segueing from one danceable music to another. The food was tasty, free wine was flowing, speeches were brief and on point, awarding was swift and joyous, transfer of gavel was awe-inspiring, etc. Oh, what a memorable night!

Although a couple of party goers arrived at 7 p.m., attendees began trickling in at 4:30 pm.

Past President Bro. Art Rivera as program director, gently set the tone for the evening to get the audience' undivided attention and for them to settle down.

The program started with the invocation of Bro. Lito Tarculas. He instructed this author to instruct the food servers not to serve food nor drinks so as to achieve solemnity to the prayer — without the clanking of the plates and glasses. It was followed to the letter.

Immediately, APOGLA's Vice President, Bro. Roland Paras who also has the portfolio of VP Membership and December Affair overall chair, told the audience, "Tonight, we will also bask in the glory of the fruits and accomplishments of Team 2022 led by President Roehl. We welcome Team 2023 led by incoming President Rene Calvario as he brings APOGLA to another level. I am grateful, honored and privileged to have served as your vice president. I will continue to be part of the legacy of our beloved APOGLA."

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings APOGLA!

This is my last message to you as your President. It has been indeed an exciting year for me, our officers, and our members.

The different situations we were in, the problems that had to be solved, and the challenges that faced us, truly developed us into better individuals and if you permit, I could say into well-rounded leaders.

Allow me to thank all the officers for performing their tasks way beyond what was expected of them.

Thank you very much for your support physically and financially. Together we have made our organization and our community better.

Let me commend Brother VP Roland Paras and the December Affair Committee for a job well done.

Congratulations to the newly inducted officers for 2023! More power to you.

And to the members, let's give all the support they need.

As I was writing this message, I recalled what the poet Robert Frost once said: "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on." Yes, life goes on. APOGLA goes on! We will keep on passing the torch and it goes on!

Always Stay Safe and Healthy!

Mabuhay ang APOGLA!
BRO. ROEHL REYES
APOGLA President 2022



***"Progress was Restored
 By your Renewed Commitment"***

Tribo ni Bado Newsletter

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Editor in Chief

Fely Montecillo

Publisher

Sancho Sy

Photos/Graphics by

Photos from FB/Viber pages • Bernard Gopez

Contributors

Fely Montecillo • Roehl Reyes • Dan Nino
 Toti Ayo • Dony Rondilla • Tony Gomez
 Emma Rubina-Galang

Brother Toti shares a timely article . . .

"Life is a precious gift, but we realize this only when we give it to others."
- Pope Francis



Following is an article I came across some over twenty years ago. Written by Nancy Taylor Robson, it captured my attention then, and it's just as relevant today. A sentiment I share, hardly expressed. Allow me to share this with you all:

It took me a long time to understand the difference between a present and a gift. For years, I thought of the two as the same thing.

I grew up in a household where presents marked special occasions. There was always a beribboned box for each of us under the tree at Christmas or at our place at the table on our birthdays.

Additionally, Dad always gave Mom something each Valentine's day and Anniversary - cards, a box of chocolates, some token, eagerly offered. He loved to shop and would carefully plan his excursions to find just the right thing - a sweater in 'her color', a velvet skirt for Christmas, some flattering expansion of her wardrobe.

I often accompanied him on these shopping expeditions. His joy in the hunt was infectious, proof of his pleasure of giving and of his love for her. I came to see these presents as the desirable norm, the tangible expression of a husband's devotion, their absence a visible lack.

So when I married a man who did not give presents on a regular basis, it was an adjustment. I wrestled with my ingrained expectations. Gary did not wholly eschew gift-giving. Sometimes he would return from sea armed with a brown paper bag inside of which was something he had found that reminded him of me - a meat cleaver on our first Christmas, a paring knife on our fifth.

Once, in acknowledgment of how many hours I spend on the telephone - for both work and pleasure - he brought home a shoulder pad for the telephone receiver. But mostly, he ignored holidays, refusing to shop for a thing to present to me as a sign of his affection.

I could not reconcile this present-less marriage with the one I had grown up observing. I tried to change him by example. I knitted him sweaters, socks, hats and gloves for Christmas; made him shirts; and bought books for his birthdays. He appreciated these caring gifts represented, but refused to reciprocate in kind.

I dropped hints, they fell on deaf ears. I pouted, complained, explained and ranted. Nothing changed.

I began to tell him what I wanted, giving specific instructions. When Gary left for the local auction one Saturday (my birthday, as it happened), I asked him to find me a piece of jewelry, a bracelet or diamond earrings, as a birthday gift. He came home with a road scraper. I was stunned that he had missed the mark by so much. He attached the rusted blade to the back of the ancient tractor, then enthusiastically showed me how to use it, oblivious to the fact that I was not grateful.

But when the blizzard hit later that year and he was at sea, I used the road scraper to plow out both our driveway and our neighbor's, thinking as I rumbled along, how useless earrings would have been. Gary had wisely chosen not the thing that I wanted, but the thing that he knew I would need.

It was then that I finally realized that he had been giving me gifts all along. He would not be cajoled or coerced into handing over a scheduled token, an arbitrary tax on his affections. But the gestures, large and small, born of his caring and concern for me, for our children and for our lives together were the gifts that he gave daily.

His teaching me to manage my own earnings was a means of ensuring my capability and independence, a gift that bore other fruit when I used it to help my father sort out his tangled affairs.

Gary encourages my work, makes obvious his pleasure in our time together, willingly cooks, runs errands, does laundry, vacuums and chauffeurs the children - gifts to the whole family and an expression of our partnership.

The day before he leaves for sea, he stacks a month's worth of firewood against the chimney outside my office, and a week's worth inside, a labor of time and effort that frees me of a disliked, time-consuming, but absolutely necessary chore.

We struggle to teach others how to love us. In that struggle, we often forget how to appreciate the love they already give us as only they can give it. There are two parts to a gift - the giving and the accepting. Neither can be dictated.

I finally began to understand the difference between a present and a gift. A present is a thing. But a gift is broader and often intangible. It is a small act of kindness, the willingness to bend to another's needs, the sacrifice of time and effort. Love is a gift. Any expression of it, freely given, is an offering from the heart that is immeasurably better than a present.

My insistence on presents must have seemed to Gary a lack of appreciation for the gifts he had been giving all along, but he never stopped giving them.

Gary will be home this Christmas, but I don't expect a present. I already have the greatest gift. *Shared by TA 12/09/2022*

Thanksgiving Trilogy

By Bro. Dony Rondilla



APOGLA brothers, sisters and their spouses in the Grease/50's themed Thanksgiving Day celebration hosted by the APO Family of Santa Clarita Valley at the River Village Clubhouse. The venue was made possible, courtesy of Tommy and Vaianne (Ingco) Blanchard.

Thanksgiving...the word itself evokes a deep sense of gratitude for all the blessings bestowed upon us. For the past few years, APOGLA's leadership has chosen Thanksgiving as the opportune time to express appreciation to its membership for their hard work, generosity, and volunteerism. APOGLA has sponsored the Thanksgiving event as a way of giving back to its members.

APOGLA's Thanksgiving celebration is not only a time for giving thanks but is also a time to capture memories. A better way to capture memories is to add a splash of color to our events. The APO family of Santa Clarita chose to host themed events that add a dash of fun, frivolity, and excitement. Our trilogy of Thanksgiving celebrations - the "Western/Cowboy", "The Roaring 20's", and lastly the "Grease/50's" generates buzz and anticipation as demonstrated by the number of pictures posted to social media.

APOGLA's Thanksgiving celebration this year starts with a catered meal of Tri-tip, Garlic chicken, Pesto pasta and Caesar salad. An event this big gets even bigger with a donation of lechon from Brod Beeboy Mansilla and a hearty serving of Lomi prepared by Brod Prez Roehl, and variety of desserts from members. It was amazing to see a never-ending supply of Scotch and Cognac, the preferred drinks of the night.

An important part of the evening is the "Awards Night", where Brod Prez Roehl recognized the contribution of members who stepped forward to help his administration. The highlight is an early Christmas Giveaway from Brod VP Roland Paras, who handed out jackets, vest, and other gift items to active members who fulfilled requirements that he laid out for the year.

APOGLA's Sorority sisters captured the spirit of the night with their upbeat performance of "Grease", the musical. The cast, headed by Sis Irma Almazan, who also doubled as the emcee for the evening, brings us back to the fictitious Rydell High where we get to sway to the music of the 50's courtesy of Brod DJ Chosy.

There were so many members who helped out in every possible way beginning with Brod Jun and Choy Linsangan who chaired the event. The spotlight should also focus on the prime mover of this event, Brod Art Rivera who worked hard behind the scene to make sure that this event is successful. We also have to acknowledge Valerie and Tommy Blanchard, a long-time resident of this gated community who reserved the clubhouse for our use. Valerie is the daughter of our beloved Brod Bonjie Ingco. He may not be here with us anymore but his spirit and his legacy lives on.

We have a lot to be thankful for especially with us surviving the challenges of the past few years. The APO families of Santa Clarita has reaffirmed its commitment to APOGLA by hosting the Thanksgiving events for the last three years but it is time to pass the hosting baton to a new team that will continue this Thanksgiving tradition.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Pictures from Thanksgiving Day Celebration



December Affair 2022 . . .

Continued from page 1

He continued: “Lest I forget, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my better-half Gigi, for all her invaluable support, unending love and the glorious foods she had shared during our term. So let there be laughter, fun, love, kindness and understanding — all through the nights and the days ahead.”

Bro. Joel Carbon and her wife Lou were the emcees and did a superb job – with assistance from this writer who was the floor director — to keep the program flowing smoothly.

PP Bro. Toti Ayo delivered the keynote speech for the evening as well as the inducting officer. His delivery was brief and straightforward. He said, “Consistent with an organization’s success are the basic principles of honesty, truthfulness and trustworthiness. These should always be the bedrock of our organization or any organization for that matter.”

He added, “Be transparent, be accountable for your actions. Accountability breeds quality and empowerment. Be passionate. Be committed to the task and be committed to one another and to your leadership team — for ensuring success.”

“As leaders, it is your task to make every member feel and believe that every effort and commitment they provide to the Association is valuable. It is a powerful incentive for cooperation. May you consistently provide APOGLA with the inspiration and the visionary zeal to be ever more. He added, “Character will show in your words and in your actions. Make it your most important asset. Your ethics shall be without question if you are to earn and keep the respect of our members.”

On the other hand, outgoing President Bro. Roehjl Reyes in his valedictory speech joked, “Do you know what I will miss the most? When people call me Brother President, I’m so honored to be called the president of APOGLA. Yes, I’m the leader of one of the best if not the best alumni associations of Alpha Phi Omega. APOGLA’s president’s role is not that glamorous. I have to come in early in all the events to set up then clean up our mess, after everyone leaves.”

The President narrated his accomplishments under the theme: **“Restoring Progress by Renewed Commitment.”** He cited 11 general membership meetings, three leadership events, seven friendship activities, seven local community services, four Philippine-based services and two fund-raisings. He also enumerated numerous executive and board meetings for a total of 58 events within 52 weeks in the year. As an IT guy himself, he upgraded APOGLA’s website for both the public internet and internal intranet and created the organization’s mobile apps.

According to him, he has a record of 166 paid members. He commended his vice president and steadfast partner. He said, “Brother Roland was so eager to motivate the members and was so generous to reward them with shirts and jackets for all outstanding active members digging his own pocket.”

“I’m so humbled that you believed in me and supported my vision. It has been a privilege to serve you as your leader for a year. I learned a lot this year. It’s a learning experience that I’m adding this to my leadership skills which I can surely apply to what lies ahead.”

As outgoing APOGLA President, Bro. Roehl Reyes. presented the gavel of leadership on the left shoulder of incoming President Bro. Rene Diaz Calvario.



December Affair 2022 . . .



In his inaugural address, Bro. Rene said, "I would like to recognize the hard work that our outgoing leadership team had accomplished this year. Congratulations for a job well done. I am very excited and privileged to take my turn as your incoming president — to serve our prestigious organization. As you know, I have waited this long to serve you so, I promise to make it worth your while."

"I look forward to the partnership within our executive team and in collaboration with the Board of Directors. I am confident that having a well-seasoned, experienced and dedicated set of officers, will provide a continued success toward a strong and viable fraternal organization."

He continued, "I know that I have a lot to learn, but I also have a lot to share. Being a part of APOGLA family since 1984, it has given me such a wealth of experience, wisdom and courage. This courage will propel me along the way as we tackle the various projects and activities in 2023. I encourage everyone around us, to be courageous, to be seen, to be counted, and to be heard."

"Let us reach out to someone, to keep in touch, to make a difference in someone's lives, particularly our very own brothers and sisters, and familial members. It is in diversity that make this organization unique and special. We always need to believe in one another's talents, because everyone matters. I really need your support and participation. *Tulong-tulong tayo.*"

One of the highlights of this annual gala night is the presentation of the Dr. Librado I Ureta award. The awardee is like the "Who's Who" for 2022 who has served consistently through the years in various capacities. Immediate Past LIU awardee and this year's chair, Sis Melody Ang-Gayon narrated, *"On Friendship", our awardee is a friend to everyone, has a ready smile and is the go-to person in welcoming guests from other Alumni Associations, guests from other states, and even those from out of the country; in other words, very open-hearted in treating visitors and local brothers and sisters as well. This individual has a pleasing personality, which is endearing to an overwhelming number of members and spouses alike.*

Past LIU recipients chose PP Bro. Casey "Beeboy" Mansilla as the 2022 LIU awardee. His fellow Sigma brods and sisses joined him after receiving his plaque, followed by past LIU awardees

Another feature of the evening is the swarding of the APO Kids Scholarship recipient. Co-chairs Bro. Tony Amon and this author presented the scholarship grant of \$1,000 to Darrel Dre Yazon, son of Sis Daema Mendez. The 18-year-old Darrel is enrolled at Cypress and hopes to pursue Nursing someday.

This 47TH APOGLA Anniversary Foundation was full of surprises. All past presidents were given a bright yellow baseball caps with APO seal emblazoned on the right side of the hat and the numerical number in front to reveal the year he or she became president.

Special awards under the 2022 Administration of Bro. Roehl also received the Most Valuable Players (MVPs): Sis Emma Galang, Sis Jen Evangelista and Gigi Paras, spouse of VP, Bro. Roland.

The program was capped by the dance performance to the tune of "Dancing Queen" from the film, Mama Mia by three sisses: Sis Daemma Mendez, Sis Melody Ang-Gayon and Sis Rubilyn Fernando. Need I say more? — denino1951@gmail.com

Pictures from December Affair 2022 . . .



Pictures from December Affair 2022 . . .



Gift Giving Project in San Pablo City, Laguna

In coordination with APO Alpha Sigma Alumni Association and Brod Bernard Gopez's hardwork soliciting donation from brethren, APOGLA was able to donate \$1000 to support in the Gift Giving Project to the community during the APO's 97th Founding Anniversary.



OBITUARY



*Our condolences, our thoughts and our prayers to Bro. Vic Paredes and family for the passing of our dear **Christa Paredes**. May she rest in eternal peace with our Creator.*

We would also like to extend our condolences to the following families:

- Sis. Betta, Bro. Christian and the whole Martinez family for the passing of **Bro. Ed Martinez, Sigma** in Alberta, Canada. Bro. Ed used to be a member of APOGLA and played basketball during our North-South Sportsfest in the early 90s.*



Christa Paredes

- Bro. Jun Linsangan for the passing of his oldest brother **Felix "Boy" Linsangan** in Michigan. May he rest in peace.*

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Let there be light . . .

By Bro. Dony Rondilla

Delta Overseas Alumni Association recently completed the installation of a Solar Power System and donation of 10 computers in Maguisguis Elementary/High School in the municipality of Botolan in Zambales. The Solar Power System, complete with battery storage, will provide AC power to the 10 computers and to the school lighting and ventilation.



Long-time APOGLA members, Brods Bong Hernandez and Wilson Lauchang, worked closely with Delta Overseas AA President, Brod Rollie Hernandez and CFO, Sis Lori Esber, with the planning, design, fund raising, and coordination with the Delta Alumni Association in the Philippines.

The project started with a modest proposal by Brod Wilson Lauchang to donate 10 computers to this remote school. Since there is no power source in the school, Brod Bong Hernandez, owner of a solar company, expanded the project to install a solar power system.

Delta alumni from the USA, Philippines, together with their spouses and Delta residents provided the manpower in the installation of the solar system. They travelled for almost a day on a 4X4 truck under an extreme road condition, along the rivers and rocky roads to transport the solar panels and equipment to the remote site. Local townspeople showed their gratitude by serving the Delta crew with meals of boiled vegetables and bananas for their hard work.

After almost a year since the project inception, the ribbon cutting and turnover ceremony finally happened last December 6, 2022 as an early Christmas gift to the town of Maguisguis. It fulfills the vision of Delta's leadership to bring high-end technology to an underserved locality. Christmas is not complete without gifts to children. It was an opportune time for the donation of pre-loved clothes and toys from our grand daughter Ellie to arrive in time bring lots of joy to the children of this community.





“B.S. in ALPHA PHI OMEGA”

by Bro. TONY GOMEZ, Theta 77A (APOCalypse)

B.S. APO or Bachelor of Science in Alpha Phi Omega is a joke that I hear and goes around in our circles. It just means to say - APO is me, it is us in our brotherhood.

In my 46 years of being an APO, I can't help but notice that it has become inherent and spontaneous among us members to be one. Having embraced APO, its tenets and its guiding principles of being a leader, a friend, and of service, has transformed us into one.

Back in my college days in the 70s, when my older UP scholarly-type sibling found out that I joined a fraternity, he told me that it will be a distraction in my studies and a bad decision in my life, especially when he learned that it was APO - notorious for frat wars at the time.

Fast-forward to present time, while I may not be as successful as he is being a president of a prestigious pharma company in the Philippines, I am proud to become an APO, a feat and an accomplishment in itself....to live a full life of service to others. An outsider may never understand us, being an APO...what we all had to go through.

BEING an APO is a continuous life-learning process. You learn to adjust to people and situations, given the status of every brethren that you interact with on a daily basis. You learn to be appreciative and humble, generous, cheerful, loving, and caring to others. More importantly, since we exist to be of service, we develop the virtues of being helpful and trustworthy. In this competitive world, we choose to be courteous and kind...because this after all, is who we are in our big APO family.

I have met a lot of people over the course of years who after knowing and witnessing who and what we are, have been asking how to join our fraternity. They're already impressed seeing a bit of us as outsiders looking in and I tell myself "You got to look from the inside to really value and appreciate what APO is all about".

APO WORLDWIDE. In my trips to many countries with my wife Ella, as I met many APO members all over the globe, I saw the value and worth of being an APO. Most of the brothers and sisters who welcomed and entertained us warmly are not even from Theta. On my noted trips: we were hosted by 2 Alumni Associations in Dubai on separate occasions; by Sis Dra. Virgie and hubby Mon Tamayo, and other Thetans in Australia; by Bro Bobby Bolanos, Brian and Adona Reodique in Christchurch, Bro Ding Capunitan and many Thetans in Auckland, New Zealand. In Paris, we had Theta

Sis Angie Olegario and APO alumni in Paris; Bro Rolly Vergano and APOs in Rome; Bro Efren Sta Maria and APOs in Vienna Austria; Sis Dolly Kitz in Frankfurt, Germany; Bro Albert Punzalan, Sis Mercia, and APO in London, England; Sis Susan Laset de Ono in Japan; Sis Armin de Vera and APO in Singapore, brethren in Korea, and so on.

BROTHERS are ALWAYS READY to HELP FELLOW BRETHREN. I met a brother who came to the US through an agency, to work as a physical therapist (PT). When he landed in the USA, he found out that his agency was a scam, and he had no job waiting for him. He was starting to feel depressed and desperate that he might have to go back home empty-handed. One day, while in a Filipino store, he read in a Pinoy newspaper about an upcoming APO meeting. Before flying back to the Philippines, he decided to attend that meeting and...Voila! The Houston brethren upon hearing his sad plight decided to assist him. Turning things around for him, he eventually ended up with a work visa and was able to bring his family over. That brother now lives and practices PT in Tennessee. He also helps new victims of these unscrupulous agencies.

There is also an APO father and his daughter whom I met in San Francisco. They no longer have the legal papers to stay in the US at the time. They were caught by the INS and were about to be deported. The brethren there stepped in and raised about \$30k for a lawyer to bail them out and facilitate legitimacy of their permanent US residency.

Playing golf with an Eta Bro. Jojie Segovia, now a retired general, he told me a story that there was a top-ranked NPA who was caught by a different army unit who was about to be transferred to an army facility. By chance, he interviewed the detainee and upon learning that he was an APO, from Theta, he left his unit and accompanied the brother. He personally endorsed him to the officer-in-charge and introduced the brother as his APO brethren to guarantee his safety. I heard of encounters between the Philippine military vs NPA or MNLF or MILF wherein captured brethren are spared and released to safety once identified as an APO.

GRATEFUL to be an APO. I could write a short novel of many more interesting APO stories I encountered. But in one of my recent conversations in APO-Greater Los Angeles (GLA) with a non-APO Dr. Joey Fajardo (husband to Dr. Malou Fajardo of Epsilon), as I was sharing the APO experience and adventure, he asked me if I was grateful to the Lord that I became an APO because he aspired to be one. My answer was a no-brainer. Of course! I am more than grateful...the experience has enriched my life in so many ways and beyond words. I wish the younger generation could experience it as well and realize the difference.

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW

BY BRO. DAN E. NINO

The Endearing Qualities Los Angeles Consuls General



In my 41 years as a resident of Los Angeles County, I have known and interacted with every consul general from the time of the late Ambassador Armando C. Fernandez to the current Edgar B. Badajos.

They have varying traits, idiosyncrasies, style, and demeanor. They have common traits though: they are congenial, amiable but passionate about their consular jobs.

And in my humble opinion, my top three diplomats who have been assigned to Los Angeles with jurisdictions in adjoining states are: Armando C. Fernandez, Adelio Angelito Soriano Cruz and Edgar B. Badajos in that order — with consuls general Hellen M. Barber-dela Vega, Marciano A. Paynor, Jr. and Emmanuel C. Fernandez, our fraternity bro and my Quezon City neighbor, as honorable mentions.

Why do I say this? From my keen observation and close-range interactions with them, they have earned the affections of their constituents or general public that they serve.

Although Ambassador Fernandez who has been the longest-serving consul general in L.A. (July 1977-May 1985), his diplomatic rank is that of an ambassador. The second longest-serving consul general was Pedro G. Ramirez (1954-1962), the father of my fellow community leader and good friend Peter Ramirez. It was in October 1955 during the tenure of Con-Gen Ramirez when the L.A. post was elevated to Consulate General by then President Ramon Magsaysay. It used to be an extension of the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco.

I chose Ambassador Fernandez not only because he is my cum-provinciano, my wedding godfather and family friend way back but his closeness and deep affection to the Filipino community. My father, lawyer Bonifacio D. Nino was a political ally and campaign manager of his late father, 2nd District Pangasinan Congressman Angel Fernandez of our town Mangatarem. The prominent Fernandez clan hail from Dagupan City.

The late Ambassador Fernandez organized the Pangasinan Brotherhood-USA in 1978 as well as the Confederation of Pilipino Organizations also known as CONPOSO. He was an inveterate organizer. We used to meet many times at his ambassador's mansion in a glitzy village on Wilshire Blvd. near the consulate office — with my fellow Pangasinan town and city association council presidents.

One time, he called and caught me off guard while I was lullabying my one and only son Denver who was crying loud at that time while I was speaking to him. Because of his encouragement, I organized our Association of Mangatarem Overseas Residents (AMOR) of Southern California. His purpose of calling was to remind me that he'll send a case of San Miguel beer to our first organizational meeting. This was unprecedented. Even with his exalted position, Con-Gen Fernandez was humble, down-to-earth, proactive and generous with his time. He is a people-oriented diplomat. He and his lovely wife are so hospitable.

As a tribute to Ambassador Fernandez' glorious stint as consul general in Los Angeles, the Pangasinan Brotherhood-USA had organized a send-off gala night for him.

Next in my list is Con-Gen Adelio Soriano Cruz. I had a closer inter-personal interaction with Con-Gen Adelio Cruz because he is also a cum-provinciano from Pangasinan. His beloved mother is from Dagupan City although he didn't grow up there and could not speak our Pangasinense dialect but her mom is very fluent with the right twang. During his first year of tenure, Con-Gen Cruz attended our Christmas Party at the world renowned, cavernous, and gleaming City of Cerritos Performing Arts Hall. He was well-received by our fellow Pangasinenses. He connected well with his grassroots constituents like me. Then met him again during the Induction and Coronation of my client, Filipino-American Tarlac Association whom I had the pleasure to introduce him at Marriot Baldwin Park.

As a fellow Pangasinense, we invited him to grace our special treat for him at Marriott Long for an intimate private dinner cum karaoke and disco party with his mom — courtesy of PP Eddie C. Ferrer. With a baritone voice, Con-Gen Cruz sang some OPMs. He was also down-to-earth and shed off his "high and the mighty diplomatic position." His wife Cathy danced with us with the late Miss Mutya ng Pilipinas Rosemarie de Vera, another Pangasinense. This was followed again by a fund-raiser at Marriott Long Beach with PB-USA.

I was impressed when he helped somebody from Fresno, California who asked me to connect to him for help due to emergency to travel to the Philippines — for a dying relative. Without any kinks and impediments, she was able to travel to the Motherland. This nurse from Fresno was so profuse in his praise for Con-Gen Cruz and his staff — for mitigating her journey.

The third-ranked in my list is Con-Gen Edgardo B. Badajos. He made indelible imprint with his social action advocacy and grassroots outreach when he partnered with the Filipino American Community of Los Angeles (FACLA) under Trini Foliente in organizing the Con-Gen's Cup. The proceeds of this golf tournament has funded the Livelihood Program of APO Global Foundation's Egg Laying Chickens also known as "Manok Ni Juan" in the foothills of Mt. Sierra Madre, Nueva Ecija — benefiting three marginalized indigenous families of Dumagat and Igorot early this year.

Not only his grassroots reach but Con-Gen Badajos also earned his legions of fans with his gift in public speaking and extemporaneous, inspiring speeches and his talent in singing. This was recently manifested during the Kalayaan Inc.'s Induction on December 11 at Hyatt Hotel near Disneyland. He jested, "Do you want me to speak first or sing first?" — to the uproar of the crowd. He crooned two love songs, "One in a Million You" recorded by Larry Graham Jr. and "Ikaw" popularized by Philippine recording artists, Sharon Cuneta, Ariel Rivera, Martin Nievera and Regine Velasquez. His fans gamely swarmed over him, wiping his forehead and hugging him and posing for pictorial. Con-Gen Badajos became a celebrity in his own right. Co-emcee, Bro. Noel Omega commented, "Con-Gen Badajos can be a politician someday in his native Abra."

Lydia Solis, one of the emcees, joked "Is there an additional compensation for a consul general singing in front of his constituents?" — denino1951@gmail.com



GOINGS ON by Sis. Fely Montecillo

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to all BRODS and SISTERS! May the blessings of Christmas be upon you and your families and friends! Another year has passed, and we thank the Lord for it, and we welcome the new one full of faith and hope that it be a much better one.

December, of course, is known for the merriest of all seasons. It is the celebration of the birth of Christ, our Savior.

We also wish all those born during the month of December a heartfelt Happy Birthday!

Those born between November 22 to December 21 are under the Zodiac sign of Sagittarius while those born from December 22 to fall under the Zodiac sign of Capricorn.

The Sagittarian or the archer of the Zodiac, is optimistic, lover of freedom, hilarious, fair-minded, honest, and intellectual. They are known for their spontaneity and fun and are good conversationalists.

The Capricorns are known for their resilience, their persistence, and their mischievous nature. As they age, they become youthful and playful. There are so many things a Capricorn wants to achieve that he never slows down. That's why Capricorns are known to be leaders, visionaries, and trailblazers.

So there . . . Happy Birthday again to you Sagittarians and Capricorns!

We are all ecstatic to welcome to our fold Brod Joel Carbon and wifey Lou! They have been away from us for so many years all of us felt their absence and missed them Oh! So much! But now they're back with us!

It was in 2012 when Brod Joel was assigned to what was called a permanent change of station to Washington, D.C. His family, of course, followed him there.

After his stint there, the thought of settling in D.C. crossed their minds; however, son Paulo was nominated to West Point and was accepted at USC. So, they came to LA at first just to support their son. This was in October this year. The good thing is, Brod Joel has been accepted to a Federal position as Occupational Therapy Supervisor in the Veterans Administration Hospital in West LA.

We congratulate you Brod, on the happy turn of events and wishing you MORE POWER!

Brod/Pres. Roehl Reyes and VP Roland Paras are beaming with joy nowadays for their tenure is almost over and they know they're leaving with a Big Bang! Well, it's no mystery that they're leaving the association better off than at the time they came in.

I will leave Brod Roehl to enumerate what they all are. I'll just mention some of them. I was curious how many tee shirts and jackets they have distributed this year. Brod VP Roland was emphatic: 150 t-shirts and 150 jackets which they donated not coming from our coffers mind you. Correct me if I'm wrong but I think he's the only one among VPs who did this. We should also thank Gi Paras for we always saw her helping her hubby and geez thanks for her patience with all of us! Brod VP Roland also mentioned that Sis Liza Valera contributed to those tee shirts. And Oh Yes! This year, we have additional eleven new members "discovered" by the VP and of course, welcomed to our fold! Thank you, Brod/Pres. Roehl Reyes, Brod VP Roland Paras and all the 2022 officers!

May your tribe increase! You are, indeed, a hard act to follow!

TREASURER'S REPORT By Sis. Emma Rubina-Galang

1. Adriano, Mel	58. Fisico, Teddy	115. Paredes, Vic *
2. Agagon, Troy	59. Flores, Rudy	116. Pascua, Dom
3. Alfaro, Eunice **	60. Ford, Bicbic	117. Pascual, Winston
4. Almazan, Alex	61. Franco, Rolly	118. Pastores, Alex
5. Almazan, Irma	62. Ganzon, Eleasar	119. Peneza, Jo
6. Alvarado, Larry	63. Gapido, Bodgie	120. Perez, Aldren**
7. Ambrosio, Ronald	64. Garchitorena, Mar	121. Petrasanta, Rene
8. Amon, Ofel	65. Gomez, Tony	122. Petreace, Petchie
9. Amon, Tony	66. Gopez, Bernard	123. Picazo, Bobitte
10. Ang-Gayon, Melody	67. Gucilar, Elma	124. Posadas, Rey
11. Ansula, Bong	68. Gucilar, Mervyn	125. Querubin, Ruben
12. Aquino, Tagumpay	69. Guerrero, Jing	126. Ramos, Ver
13. Arabit, Jeffrey	70. Ilagan, Manny	127. Rayala, Joar
14. Aralar, Eric	71. Imperial, Gloria	128. Remorozo, Gerald
15. Araneta, Carlo	72. Jamero, Lenette	129. Reyes, Roehl
16. Arevalo, Lester	73. Jamero, Jam	130. Rivera, Art
17. Argonza, Vinz	74. Jaranilla, Ogie	131. Rivera, Larry
18. Arnaldo, Manuel	75. Javierto, Mandy	132. Romero, Ed
19. Arroyo, Geoffrey	76. Jove, Nestor	133. Rondilla, Dony
20. Asuncion, Ann	77. Jove, Shirley	134. Rosal, Jet
21. Atienza, Oscar	78. Jovellanos, Jobee	135. Rubina-Galang, Emma
22. Atienza, Rennel **	79. Junio, Virgil *	136. Sager, Limuel
23. Ayo, Toti	80. Jusay, Nelson	137. Salas, Hazel
24. Bautista, Jimmy	81. Lainez, Au	138. Salinas, Jun
25. Bayani, JR	82. Languisan, Paul	139. Salvador, Buddy
26. Bonete, Malene	83. Lara, Bobet	140. Santos, Martina **
27. Bragado, Sam**	84. Lautchang, Wilson	141. Schuller, Sharon **
28. Brillo, Oscar	85. Layno, Maryann	142. Serrano, Eric
29. Bundalian, Kusay	86. Linsangan, Jun	143. Sevilla, Bobby
30. Cajucom, Willy	87. Lumague, Francisco **	144. Sipin, Perry
31. Calvario, Rene	88. Lumague, Ginalyn **	145. Soledad, Apple
32. Carbon, Joel	89. Madrigal, Jun	146. Somera, Herman
33. Carrasco, Danny	90. Madrigal, Tess	147. Sy, Chowee**
34. Casaje, Dennis	91. Magsino, Jimmy	148. Sy, Sancho
35. Castillo, Nards	92. Maidin, Yusup	149. Tarculas, Josie
36. Chin, Jhun	93. Mamaril, Ferdie	150. Tarculas, Lito
37. Chua, Michael	94. Manalastas, Ruth	151. Tecson, Ed
38. Clarete, Sam	95. Mansilla, Beeboy	152. Tecson, Raul
39. Clavecilla, Nan	96. Marte, Rocky	153. Toderera, Jay R **
40. Cobarrubias, Bob	97. Martinez, Amy	154. Umandal, Ruel**
41. Conferido, Reuben	98. Martinez, Jesse	155. Urea, Connie **
42. Cordova, Jamie ** (*)	99. Mateo, Howard	156. Valdecantos, Henry
43. Cristobal, Lope	100. Medina, Mishael	157. Valentino, Hero *
44. David, Betta	101. Medina, Raul	158. Valera, Liza
45. David, Christian	102. Mendez, Daemma	159. Ventura, Beatriz
46. De Guzman, Nato	103. Mendoza, Armand	160. Venturina, Jimmy
47. De Leon, Malou	104. Miranda, Shane	161. Villaver, Eleonor
48. Delmolin, Froilan	105. Miranda, Arnel **	162. Villaver, Melvin
49. Dime, Emmanuel	106. Montecillo, Fely	163. Vinluan, Jehiel
50. Duldulao, Gieldy	107. Nino, Dan	164. Yambot, Ferdie
51. Emperado, Rudy	108. Ninofranco, Edgar	165. Yenke, Rene
52. Enguero, Pam	109. Noche, Caesar	166. Zamora, Sammy
53. Evangelista, Domel *	110. Pablo, Joel	
54. Evangelista, Jen *	111. Pagdanganan, Liz	
55. Fajardo, Marilou	112. Paggao, Jerome	
56. Fernando, Rubilyn	113. Pangilinan, Angel	
57. Ferrer, Jojo**	114. Paras, Roland	

* - paid until 2023

** - new members

As of 11-19-2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER CELEBRANTS



MEMBERS:

Gucilar, Elma	4
Villaver, Eleonor	6
Dulay, Alex	8
Ganzon, Ely	8
Clavecila, Nan	11
Hernandez, Bong	19
Salas, Hazel	19
Aquino, Fidel+	22
Ilagan, Manny	24
Martinez, Jesse	25
Medina, Boy	25
Gapido, Bodgie	27
Amon, Tony	28
Likwong, Yoyo	28
Manaig, Art+	30
Franco, Dr. Rolly	31

SPOUSES:

Ayo, Racquel	4
Cajucom, Fe	7
Oliver, Chin Chin	10
Valdecantos, Cecille	14
Agagon, Caroline	15
Rondilla, Elsa	16
Pablo, Marilyn	21
Linsangan, Choy	23
Yengko, Connie	23
Carrasco, Norma	25

KIDS:

Lu, Chris	3
Williams, Micah	4
Advincula, Aura	5
Arevalo, Christopher	6
Ludovico, Jaomi	10
Sy, Kristin Mae	12
Languisan, Kristine	13
Posadas, Riley	13
Rivera, Arque	14
Carbon, Therese	19
Fajota, Timothy	19
Linsangan, Pete Anthony	19
Paredes, Gerald	19
Montecillo, Jason	21
Montecillo, Jerome	22
Nino, Denver	24
Advincula, Robert	26
Aquino, Leeroy	27
Mejia, Leroi	31

**Please send your
\$50.00 Annual Membership Dues to:
SIS. EMMA RUBINA-GALANG
15844 Londelius St., North Hills, CA 91405**

**Please make check payable to: APOGLA
OR Zelle to: apogla.info@gmail.com
Zelle account under: APOGLA AA**

NEW YEAR BASH!

Join us to welcome the New Year 2023!
New Year's Eve
Saturday, December 31, 2022

Venue:
Sis. Emma Rubina-Galang's Place
15844 Londelius St.
North Hills, CA 91405

For other details contact:

Bro. Roehl Reyes (818) 359-2261
Bro. Roland Paras (562) 895-9529



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