



# Tribo ni Bado

*"Be Courageous,  
Reach Out!  
Everyone  
Matters"*

Vol 43 Issue 2 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALPHA PHI OMEGA GREATER LOS ANGELES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION February 2023



APOGLA family at the January General Membership Meeting held at the Rosemead Masonic Lodge in Rosemead, CA

## ***APOGLA - All Aboard for the New Year***

*By: Bro. Dony Rondilla*

Brother President Rene Calvario's metaphorical Flight #2023 took off with a full set of passengers aboard. APOGLA's first general membership meeting for 2023 did not disappoint with 88 attendees, a lucky number in Chinese lore, coinciding with the Chinese New Year.

APOGLA members from all parts of the county came out of their winter hibernation and showed up at the Rosemead Masonic Lodge to once again experience the warmth, fellowship, and camaraderie that APOGLA has to offer.

One by one, each arrival brings their favorite food to the table just like an offering to the gods to bestow upon us a successful year. The abundance of food and drinks is a good start for a lively evening. As usual, brothers gather at their favorite drinking spot just to the right of the entrance, a convenient yet non-obtrusive location.

As customary for the initial meeting, we get to hear the president's plan for the year including his fund raising activities, service projects, and fellowship opportunities. We also get to meet our new members who were in awe with their APOGLA welcome experience. The evening continues with the fellowship honoring the birthday celebrants.

There are some noteworthy items that need to be highlighted:

**1. Bro President Rene's outreach program** – this is a noble undertaking to visit members of APOGLA that we have not seen for a long time.

**2. Bro PP Toti's call for humility** – we view APOGLA as the premier alumni association in North America because of our rich history, tradition, diversity, and presence of good leaders. Others view this pride as a sign of arrogance so we need to remind ourselves to practice humility.

**3. Bro COB Art's call for respect to APOGLA** – we have over 160 paid members last year because APOGLA has a lot to offer. We know that APOGLA is not for everyone but it is amazing that we attract a lot of

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## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Greetings dear brothers, sisters and mga kapamilya! Flight 2023 has successfully taken off! The preparation involved in putting together our first GMM in January was the busiest I have been in a long time. It was pure adrenaline rush! All my cylinders were working non- stop! I sure learned a lot from you and about myself.

Maraming salamat muli for attending and participating at our 1st GMM. Hopefully the energy and enthusiasm that we felt last month would continue on for the rest of the year! We welcome the new faces who were there at last month's meeting. It is worth mentioning their names here— Sis Bebot Mercado (Alpha Xi); Sis Tess Solis (Alpha Xi); Sis Tina Santos (Gamma Rho); Bro Aldren Perez (Alpha Upsilon); Bro Guildy Duldulao (Beta Tau) and Bro Paul Cervania (Eta Kappa). We truly look forward to your active participation.

In these past few weeks, as part of our “Reach Out” program, we had the opportunity to see Bro Tony Amon after being discharged from the hospital. We are happy to report his continued progress and recovery. Hopefully, he will soon be back in full form, making his appearance at our activities. Bro Bobet L, Bro Geoffrey, Bro Christian, Sis Betta, and myself had the pleasure of visiting Bro Espiridion “Boyot” Martinez (Eta). As you may remember, Bro Boyot made valuable contributions to APO-GLA with his artistic talent and expertise. He was very elated and grateful for the visit. Lunch was lovingly prepared by Sis Betta. Siempre, what is a fellowship without a couple of whiskey shots? We certainly felt brotherhood at its core! Bro Geoffrey reminded us to always include him when reaching out to our mga kapatid— he would rather be the one visiting rather than the one being visited. Kaya, Bro Geoffrey, pagaling ka na more! “Ano ka?!”

This month being the month of LOVE, let us treat one another with more attention; more vigor; more TLC. It's the perfect time to show the goodness in our hearts! For his part, Bro Beeboy is hard at work in putting together a special “Ladies’ Night to Remember”, to be held on Feb 25. The more of us there, the more exceptional and fun it would be!

February is also the month we would like to emphasize being heart healthy. One of our projects for the year encourages a healthier lifestyle. We will introduce the “Biggest Loser” challenge at this month's GMM.

Wishing you all a Happy Valentine's Day! Share the love! Stay safe!

In LFS,  
Bro. Rene Calvario  
APOGLA, President 2023



***“Be Courageous, Reach Out!  
Everyone Matters”***

### **Tribo ni Bado Newsletter**

is a monthly publication of the  
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Dony Rondilla • Emma Rubina-Galang





## ***“The Boisterous Bunch”***

By: Bro. Dony Rondilla

*They were the APO-Kids, a “Boisterous Bunch”, who were the sons and daughters of APOGLA members. They grew up together to become an integral part of APOGLA’s landscape. The picture is not complete as there are missing APO-Kids in this picture so you can imagine the chaos they bring in every event. Their familiarity and friendship was borne from the shadows of their APO parents. They are rowdy in their play as their APO parents are rowdy in their drinking. This is where we get our shared experience.*

*For most kids, having your parents drag you to their adult event is not the most entertaining prospect. For APO-Kids however, they have no problem turning a boring evening to a most exciting fun-filled one. APO-Kids were there whenever we meet. You see them running around on every GMM’s while their parents attend the meeting. They get to join and celebrate APOGLA’s social events including birthdays, Easter event, camping, picnic, and Thanksgiving. APOGLA’s leadership went a step further by organizing the Boys Scouts of America, Troop 1925 to enhance their relationship and provide them with positive life-long experience.*

*This group of APO-Kids is all grown-up now but the experience from their years with APOGLA will provide them memories that will last them a lifetime.*

*[Photo courtesy of Bro. Jimmy Magsino]*



## **APOGLA - All Aboard for the New Year** by Bro. Dony Rondilla

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members. We still have members who do not wholeheartedly embrace APOGLA as their alumni association. The message here is to be “Firm in Loyalty”.

**4. BOD’s commitment to address the issue with credentials** – there are APO members who are missing required credentials including APO ID and rituals. APOGLA will try to find ways to accommodate their plight.

As Bro President Rene mentioned in his initial message, we need positive attitude and energy and forego the extra baggage. Let’s all look forward to a good year.





## ***Pictures from January GMM @Rosemead Masonic Lodge***





## ***Support and Service to the Community & Fraternity***

*APOGLA in collaboration with APO Beta Tau AA provided school equipment and school supplies to the children of New Cuyo Elementary School in New Cuyo, Roxas, Palawan.*



## ***Gazebo Project at Nu Xi Chapter***

*APOGLA through one of its members, Bro. Gerald Remorozo is supporting a Gazebo Project of our brethren at Nu Xi Chapter, Central Bicol State University of Agriculture in Calabanga, Camarines Sur.*





## ***Pictures from 2023 Superbowl Party***



### **2023 LA Marathon Volunteer Registration is now open!**

Register at: <https://www.titanvolunteers.com/m/3474>  
 Group Name: APOGLA  
 Group Leader Name: Edgar Ninofranco  
 Volunteer Shifts: J13 Water Station Mile 13  
 5:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Sun Mar 19, 2023  
 Sunset Blvd & Laurel Ave  
 120 Estimated Volunteers







*Pres. Rene reaching out to one of our APOGLA family member Bro. Reggie "Boyet" Martinez, Eta with Brods Bobet Lara, Geoffrey Arroyo, Christian David and Bro. Reggie's full blood sister Sis Betta David.*



**Hotel Reservations for the APO ACNA 16th Biennial Convention is now open. Please make your room reservations at the Double Tree Southcenter, Seattle, WA.**



**APO ACNA 16th Biennial Convention**  
September 1-3, 2023

**IT'S TIME TO BOOK YOUR ROOMS**  
**DOUBLE TREE SOUTHCENTER**  
**USE GROUP CODE: ACN**  
**Copy Link Below**

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?cityhcn=SEASPD&arrivalDate=2023-08-31&departureDate=2023-09-03&groupCode=CDTANC&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink>

**ALPHA PHI OMEGA GREATER LOS ANGELES**

**LADY'S NIGHT**

FEBRUARY 25, 2023

THE NOYPITZ BAR AND GRILL  
333 S Alameda St SUITE 115,  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



**Signup Now!**

**Contact: Bro. Beeboy Mansilla**  
**818.645.8573**



# **FROM MY POINT OF VIEW**

**BY BRO. DAN E. NINO**

## **Child and Dependent Care Credits and Then Some**

Since taxation is part and parcel of our existence, let's continue to dwell on this subject matter. We are in the tax season mode, so we'll provide some insights to navigate this important aspect of our lives whether we like or not.

### **Child and Dependent Care Credit**

I know it because I have a client from Fresno, California who was given a \$2,000 credit and then some. Because the breadwinner of the house, a nurse, received a refund of more than \$10,000. He got excited that at last he can now have some cash to pay for his down payment for his first house.

If you have for more than one qualifying individual child, you will get more tax credits. The percentage of the eligible child care expenses is based on the Taxpayer's Adjusted Gross Income.

If you are the Head of the Household even you are a single taxpayer, you can claim your parents who are out of works but reside in your house or siblings who are below 17 years of age, who live with you and provide their support.

### **Rebates for Middle Class from FTB**

Just in case you received Anti-inflation Rebate for middle class lately from the State Franchise Tax Board, it's a non-taxable. The amount given is \$700 for married filing jointly (MFJ) or \$350 for an individual or married filing separately. The recipients of this manna from the State depends on their income bracket.

We must be lucky or well pampered because some taxpayers had received this cash. Others did not. In other States, taxpayers didn't have this benefits. California must be awash with surplus. That's how generous our State is, although we feel that its taxpayers are overtaxed in property tax, sales tax, income tax and other utility taxes.

In other state like Florida, individual or married tax filers don't file their state income tax return unless you file your business income. They don't receive tax refunds in that state.

### **Itemized vs. Standard deductions**

In my years of experience as a tax preparer, I received several questions whether an itemized deduction is better than standard deductions. My answer is: 'It depends.'

If you have more than enough deductions to offer and exceeds the standard deduction, it is better to go for itemized. Examples of these are: 1. You have high residential property taxes, mortgage interests, church and charitable donations, medical expenses, drug prescriptions, doctor's visits, child care expenses, among others. It also depends on the withholding tax you paid on your W-2s.

But if you don't have enough exemptions or deductibles, the tax software will choose standard deductions chart. For instance, if you are single, the deductions is from \$14,700 to \$16,450 depending on your income.

For Married filing jointly, the deduction is from \$27,300 to \$31,500; for Qualifying surviving spouse, it's from \$27,300 to \$28,700; for Head of household, it's from \$21,150 to \$22,900; for Married filing separately, it's from \$14,350 to \$18,550. The amount of deduction depends on a taxpayer's Adjusted Gross Income.

### **Educators Expense Deduction**

Secondary and elementary educators are allowed an adjustment to income of \$300. Married educators are each eligible for the deduction of \$600.

The Premium Tax Credit will continue to be reported on Form 8962 (Premium Tax Credit) which is filed with Form 1040 when a taxpayer has purchased health coverage through the Federal Marketplace or State Exchanges.

### **Plug-In Electric Vehicles**

If you bought electric vehicles last year including SUVs, you are eligible for tax credits of up to \$7,500 under the new vehicle classification. Through 2022, taxpayers will claim the credit on Form 8936 under the rules in effect before the enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act. There's a provision though. It must meet the requirement that the vehicle was assembled in North America to be eligible for the credit. It will be considered a refundable credit and the advance payment of the credit will be reconciled on the tax return. The Clean Vehicle Credit will expire December 31, 2032. Just give me a call at 562-508-8099 should you have any question. – [denino1951@gmail.com](mailto:denino1951@gmail.com)







## ***GOINGS ON*** by Sis. Fely Logarta-Montecillo

Just to let you know, if you were born between January 20 and February 18, you fall under the Zodiac sign of Aquarius while if you were born between February 19 and March 20, you fall under the sign of Pisces. And if are under any of these two, then, let us greet you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** We're wishing you all a splendid year ahead! Enjoy this special day in celebration of a most wonderful **YOU!**

If you're an Aquarius, you're advanced, self-reliant, clever, exceptional and optimistic. If you're under the sign of Pisces, you're emotionally sensitive, gracious, and emotionally aware. Pisces characters are regarded as among the most sympathetic of the zodiac signs. These characters are creative and imaginative.

\*\*\*\*\*

We so enjoyed our first GMM held in Rosemead which coincided with the Chinese New Year starting January 22 and ending on February 9 next year. This year is the year of the Water Rabbit. The year of the rabbit 2023 is also known as the Year of Hope.

The top luckiest animal signs this year are: the Dragon, Horse, Dog, Goat, Monkey and Pig. Do you fall under any of these? The rabbit sign is expected to usher in a softer period focused on self-reflection. This year, it says, we should be all focusing on rest, and introspection. There is a great possibility for prosperity, flourishing and for peace. The rabbit, according to professionals, is a very strong symbol for peace. It is also a symbol of intellect and cautiousness. It's important to approach everything in a smart deliberate way.

\*\*\*\*\*

February is the most romantic month of the year. Of course, as this is the month, we celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14. This year, we'll have the Ladies' Night to be held at Noypitz Bar and Grill in Downtown LA. There's no doubt it will be a wonderful night to remember. How you celebrate it individually depends on how creative you can be! Anyway, let's have a wonderful time at Noypitz okay?

Have you ever wondered how other people celebrate Valentine's Day? I got curious and wanted to share the following with you. In South Korea, the single ladies give chocolate to men. Instead of returning the favor straight away, Korean men give chocolate on White Day which is much later. That is, on March 14! The Welsh, on the other hand, celebrate on January 25 and they celebrate by giving love spoons. Spoons are by old tradition, carved by men. They present them to the women they're interested in.

The designs they carve are symbolic and often have hidden clues. Guatemalans take to the streets for "El Dia de Carino" or the Day for Affection, for the annual Old Love Parade where senior citizens dress in feathers and masks for the celebration in Guatemala City.

One thing though, we know that **LOVE** makes the world go round. Let us always remember to love one another for isn't it what the Lord commands us to do? **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY** to you **ALL!**



## TREASURER'S REPORT *By Sis. Emma Rubina-Galang*

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Almazan, Alex**       | 41. Mejia, Francis     |
| 2. Almazan, Irma**       | 42. Mendoza, Armand    |
| 3. Alvarado, Larry       | 43. Mercado, Bebot*    |
| 4. Amon, Ophel           | 44. Miranda, Shane     |
| 5. Amon, Tony            | 45. Ninofranco, Edgar  |
| 6. Angeles, Oscar        | 46. Pablo, Joel        |
| 7. Ang-Gayon, Melody     | 47. Paredes, Vic**     |
| 8. Angsula, Bong         | 48. Pastores, Alex     |
| 9. Antonio, Bobby        | 49. Peneza, Bobet      |
| 10. Arroyo, Geoffrey     | 50. Perez, Aldren      |
| 11. Atienza, Oscar       | 51. Posadas, Rey       |
| 12. Ayo, Toti            | 52. Tecson, Ed         |
| 13. Bayani, JR           | 53. Remorozo, Gerald   |
| 14. Bonette, Malene      | 54. Reyes, Roehl       |
| 15. Cajucom, Willy       | 55. Rivera, Art        |
| 16. Calvario, Rene       | 56. Romero, Ed         |
| 17. Carbon, Joel         | 57. Rondilla, Dony     |
| 18. Cervana, Paul (Nary) | 58. Sager, Limuel      |
| 19. Conferido, Ruben     | 59. Salvador, Buddy    |
| 20. Cordova, Jaime       | 60. Serrano Eric**     |
| 21. David, Betta         | 61. Sevilla, Bobby     |
| 22. David, Chris         | 62. Sipin, Perry       |
| 23. Dime, Emmanuel       | 63. Soledad, Apple     |
| 24. Evangelista, Domel   | 64. Solis, Tess*       |
| 25. Evangelista, Jen     | 65. Sugay, Jay         |
| 26. Fajardo, Marilou     | 66. Sy, Sancho         |
| 27. Ferrer, Jojo         | 67. Tarculas, Josie    |
| 28. Flores, Rudy         | 68. Tarculas, Lito     |
| 29. Ford, Biebic         | 69. Tecson, Raul       |
| 30. Galang, Emma         | 70. Umandal, Ruel      |
| 31. Gopez, Bernard       | 71. Valdecantos, Henry |
| 32. Imperial, Gloria     | 72. Valentino, Hero    |
| 33. Jaramilla, Ogie      | 73. Valera, Liza       |
| 34. Junio, Virgil        | 74. Villaver, Eleonor  |
| 35. Lara, Bobet          | 75. Villaver, Melvin   |
| 36. Lautchang, Wilson    | 76. Yambot, Ferdie     |
| 37. Layno, Mary Ann      |                        |
| 38. Magsino, Jimmy       |                        |
| 39. Mansilla, Beeboy     |                        |
| 40. Marte, Rocky         |                        |

*As of February 14, 2023*

\* *New members*

\*\* *Paid extra year/s*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY CELEBRANTS



### MEMBER:

- 02 - Marc Bundalian
- Pam Enguero
- 03 - Armand Mendoza
- Biebic Ford
- 04 - Jennifer Evangelista
- 05 - Ramon Robillos
- 09 - Malou De Leon
- 11 - Alvin Nonato
- 12 - Bonjie Ingco†
- Nestor Jove, Jing Guerrero
- 17 - Petchie Petreaca
- 18 - Caloy Enriquez
- 19 - Conrado Lazo, Danilo Masaya
- 24 - Gerry Arante
- Beatriz Ventura
- 26 - Dom Pascua
- 27 - Alex Exconde†

### SPOUSES:

- 02 - Mercedes Cabral
- 05 - Rollygen Posadas
- 06 - Precy Marte
- 09 - Nida Nonato
- 21 - Roland Gayon, Allyn Pablo
- 24 - Jeanette Clarete
- 26 - Chiqui Ramos

### APO KIDS:

- 01 - Ardina Morillos,
- Rheene Yambot
- 02 - Matthew Madrigal,
- Mae Robles, Merek Bundalian,
- Jazper Chin
- 03 - Janine Tarculas
- 04 - Bed Fisico
- 06 - Megan Ninofranco,
- Jonathan Maddela
- 07 - Jeffrey Gomez, Jamie Bautista
- 08 - Dainty Amon, Justin Pastores
- 09 - Joseph Duldulao, Keith Pascua
- 10 - Ellie Rondilla
- 11 - Josemarie Fajardo
- 12 - Janelle Alejandria
- 13 - Mikael Ang-Gayon, Daryl Amon
- 15 - Aden Fajardo
- 17 - Joe Cobarrubias, Josh Parayno
- 18 - KC Ingco, James Valentino,
- Jay Henry Valentino
- 24 - Lean Noche
- 25 - Howard Paras
- 27 - Kayla Williams, Nicole Ilagan

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**



## **FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Join us on  
5 pm Saturday, February 18, 2023

**Venue:**  
**Bro. Ogie and Weng Jaranilla's Place**  
**14428 Pear Blossom Lane**  
**Moreno Valley, CA 92555**

**For other details contact:**

**Bro. Rene Calvario (323) 828-8862**  
**Sis. Ophel Amon (818) 970-4614**



[www.apogla.org](http://www.apogla.org)

*"Where there is love,  
there is life."*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

*Happy Valentine's Day*  
APOGLA FAMILY

