



BALITAAN

A publication of the Filipino-American Association of Delaware

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Editor's note

Thanks to Jun Rana for agreeing to take the leadership role of PAAD. It is wonderful that one of the younger and newer members of PAAD will take on the presidency starting next year. Old-timers to

PAAD like me saw the evolution of PAAD from when George Sayo took on the presidency to the present. In 1970 we were a small group of friends who bonded together- much like a family. For me it was very comforting that even though I was far away from home I did not have to get completely lost in a new culture. At the time, most of us were rather new in the area and we had each other to rely on to keep the Filipino spirit in us alive while we settled into a new way of life. PAAD was able to provide each one of us what we needed at the time. There were not so many Filipinos in Delaware at the time so we remained cohesive. After all these years many of us had ceased to play active leadership roles in the association but almost all have retained their affinity to PAAD.

I recently read an article about a study on how easily immigrants to the US assimilate into the American society. According to this article, Filipinos are second only to Canadians in being able to integrate with ease into the American way of life. I wasn't surprised by the findings and it is something that we all can be proud of. We speak the language well and we are educated and trained allowing us to blend very easily into the community and the workforce. We don't even need to have our own place of worship. But while we are living the American life and enjoying its benefits I know that each one of us feels that it is as important to retain our Filipino heritage. And in our own way we all do that. My two daughters grew up listening to my stories about me (of course) growing up in the Philippines and stories about my family and life back home. All of us go home to visit. Some of us subscribe to Filipino TV channels since they are readily available these days. We also belong to organizations for Filipinos such as PAAD or a

church-related group. Since PAAD is the oldest Filipino association in the state, its leaders over the years felt the importance of unifying the Filipino-Americans in the state or at least in New Castle County and had tried to do so, including the present set of officers. We thought that it is to the advantage of everyone to have a big and cohesive group whose collective efforts will lead to a more effective way of promoting the Filipino heritage. As you will read in the inside articles on PAARALAN, PAYAD, and PALARO, the youth activities and teaching our culture are still the important goals of PAAD. We will continue to work with all our "kababayans" who believe in what we are here for. So, we welcome those who chose to become part of PAAD and we look forward to others joining PAAD in the future.

We are having our traditional Christmas party on December 10 at Cavalier Country Club. For questions, call Eva Godsell at (302) 376-8252. Do join us for an evening of fun. The incoming set of officers will be inducted at the party. There will also be a silent auction that evening to raise funds for our humanitarian activities.

Making an updated address/telephone directory continues to be a challenge. With the advent of cell phones, many of you have ceased to retain landlines. If you want to share your cell phone numbers with the group or have changed phone numbers recently, email me at lindagra@udel.edu or call me at (302) 368-1513 with the new number. I'll pass this on to the new officers.

Although I will no longer be an "official" officer under Jun Rana's tenure, I will continue to help when needed. I am hoping that some of you will do the same for the good of our organization.

Merry Christmas to all and may the new year bring you good health and happiness.

Linda Graham



Saying Goodbye

The farewell speech, the final wave, the ceremonial goodbye. An institution indestructible and unavoidable from Caesar's farewell to the 10th Legion in 45 BC to Napoleon's valedictory to the Old Guard at Fontainebleau in

1814 prior to his exile in Elba, to a beauty queen's final tearful waving runway walk after a year of pretty reign. So here I am, nowhere close to a Caesar, far short of Napoleon, and definitely way too old to be pretty.

When I decided to take on PAAD's presidency 2 years ago, it was after a long year's search for a successor to Ruben Rubio. Many capable Filipinos (and non-Filipinos) had been approached to succeed Ruben and all stepped back, including myself. After prayerful reflection, I decided to take on the task.

I accepted the presidency with no agenda for self-proclamation and promotion, gain or glory. I just wanted the association to continue its existence. With no leader, the organization would definitely cease to exist as any group founded on volunteers' ability and willingness to donate time and money would decay.

I had visions of transforming it to more than it has been, to become a strong magnet for local Filipinos, a protective umbrella for our countrymen. However, our younger Filipino-Americans appear to have done well setting up their own organizations that indeed give them a sense of community and a safety net of mutual help. In my interactions and talks with such groups as Couples for Christ, Pastor Jesse Arce's Healing Water congregation, Filipiniana and the University of Delaware Filipino Student Association, I was left with the impression that PAAD had become irrelevant. Many individuals had a very vague familiarity with PAAD and labored under the impression, for better or for worse, that PAAD was an association only for rich Filipino doctors. These groups have nevertheless participated in PAAD activities these past 2 years, and for this I am grateful. However, their own group's activities naturally take precedence.

In this era of economic hardship, time and money were rare commodities to ask of anyone. Those of us who have jobs are willing to work the extra hours to keep our salaries. It becomes more than a minor hardship to devote what little time and energy are left for PAAD projects. Let's not even discuss money. This is why I am very thankful to each and everyone who has helped PAAD these past 2 years, especially my board of officers. In spite of all these challenges, PAAD has been able to hold 2 wonderful summer Palaro tournaments (my thanks to Mel Madarang and Jun Rana and their

committees). After 2 years' recess, we held 2 straight summers of well-attended Paaralan school sessions, which we revived with a very capable faculty under Millette Angeles's leadership. French and Irish youngsters joined Filipino youth in learning our culture, history, and food. Of course, we pushed through with our traditional social events spearheaded by Eva Godsell, Linda Graham, and Rosie Elazegui. We successfully raised more than \$3000 for the Typhoon Ondoy Relief Fund and blessed several needy families with happy Christmases through our participation in the "Adopt a Family" program, both coordinated by Linda Graham and Marilyn Vallejo.

I treasure the counsel, participation and contributions of our treasurer, Lito de Tagle, our dependable recording secretary, Clavel Gempesaw, our team of IT specialists, Jomar Ugarte and Om Ongtawco, who set up and maintained a new website, PAADKO.com, our token young person and PRO, Nikki Bernardo, and Cesar Aniceto, a past president with great insight and advice. I also thank Jun and Perla Tabangin who joined us much later in my administration. I will miss our lively meetings

There are so many more that have helped us. There are so many non-officers to thank. There is no ungratefulness or insult intended if I neglect to mention your names.

Most officers took on more tasks than required of their official title and I need to salute two people especially. Linda Graham, our Balitaan editor, was the indefatigable spirit of PAAD who took on so many tasks that sustained and promoted our cause these past 2 years, publishing our newsletter, maintaining and correcting membership lists, keeping the older members in the loop, raising funds with the silent auctions and her cooking. The other person is Jun Rana, our auditor, who, in addition to preparing our tax returns, also organized and ran this year's Palaro. And now, he has taken on the presidency of PAAD for the next two years.

The challenges that await him are simple in their stating, but difficult nevertheless:

1. Find a way to make PAAD relevant to the entire Fil-Am community.
2. Break the perceived divide between doctors and non-doctors within the association.
3. Bring in the young people.

In convincing him to lead us, I have gone a long way in meeting the third challenge.

Ave atque vale!

Yli Vallejo

PAAD's previous presidents and what they are doing now

I thought I would present all previous PAAD presidents, now that we are having a new one. If you are relatively young or newer to Delaware, chances are you may not even know some of them. Here is a run down of PAAD presidents since its inception in 1969. Needless to say many are now retired and except for two, these folks are still in the area and are active members of PAAD.

George Sayo, 1969-70. George retired in the early 1950s after working for many years in Philadelphia Navy Shipyard. George is currently living in Wilmington with his son and his family after he lost his beloved wife, Peggy, about 2 years ago.

Ellis Kendle, 1971. Ellis is a retired physician for the US Military Services and the Delaware State Hospital. He and Ann feel lucky to live close to all but one of their children. This way they can see grandchildren any time.

Angel Santa Maria, 1972. Angel worked for a gas refinery in Delaware as an engineer. He and his wife, Stella, with their 2 children moved back to the Philippines in the late 1970s only to return to California after a few years.

Alex Balan, 1973. Alex is a retired surgeon who now lives with his wife, Joan, in Pennsylvania. Alex and Joan spend most of their time traveling here and abroad. He continues to do medical mission in his hometown of Iligan. Their grandchildren also keep Alex busy.

Joe Gueco, 1974. Joe and Ely moved to the Philippines in June 2008 after he closed his private medical practice. Ely can now enjoy the benefit of having an in-house health care provider. They come back to Delaware once in a while to visit their children and friends.

Camilo Gopez, 1975-76. Milo closed his private neurological practice in the 2002. He and Marisol have been enjoying the leisurely life style in the Philippines during their yearly visits. Milo, has for many years, done medical missions in his hometown in Pampanga.

Eva Godsell, 1977-78. Eva has served PAAD in many capacities, in addition to the presidency. She and Ted remain the foremost resource people for PAAD when something has to be done. We cannot thank them enough for what they have done all these years.

Joe Manalo, 1979-80. After leaving his private medical practice, Joe is now able to enjoy playing a lot more golf, here in the US and in the Philippines. Grace sometimes joins him in his trips home.

Felix Vergara, 1981-84. Felix retired in 2004. He was a psychiatrist for the Delaware State Hospital. Virgie, who is also a past president, retired from the medical profession in 2006 to keep Felix company. Both of them are enjoying their simple leisurely everyday home life of reading and watching TV and movies.

Tom Kendle, 1985-86. Tom works in Wilmington Hospital as supervisor for the patient escort services. He and Lori remain very active members of PAAD. They always make time to help in all PAAD activities.

Remegio Tabangin, Jr., 1987-88. Jun is into his second career working for the US bankruptcy Court in Wilmington. He was instrumental in obtaining the federal tax-exempt status of PAAD in 2004. He has found his newest passion in photography. He and Perla have been enjoying their long-awaited grandson.

Tim Gabriel, 1989-90. Tim has a private ENT practice in Wilmington. He and Telly are very much involved with Gawad Kalinga. After building Barrio Paraiso, a village of 32 homes in Bulacan, they continue to raise funds for the organization.

Virgie Vergara, 1991-94. Virgie, an emergency room doctor for Christiana Care Hospital, retired in 2006. She now has more time to do grand parenting and has taken up new roles around the house like cooking. At times she gets to be Mrs. Fix-it.

Ed Nicolas, 1995-96. Ed was a biochemist in charge of research for a French pharmaceutical company. He is now busy designing a new word game called WOMU. (Watch for these games in stores in the near future.) Even though he and Marilyn moved to Exton, PA many years ago, they remain active in PAAD.

Domingo Singson, 1997-98. Danny once told me that the secret to his success, both professionally and personally, is his wife, Malou. Danny has a private medical family practice in Wilmington. (Malou has a home health care practice to compliment Danny's practice.). They do medical missions in the Philippines every couple of years in addition to their yearly local community service.

Marita Fallorina-Rubio, 1999-2000. Aside from running her private medical family practice, Marita, together with Ruben Rubio own a Philippine Bread House franchise. The Bread House also offers typical and great Filipino breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Patty delos Santos, 2001-2002. Patty works as a planning analyst for Ashland, a chemical company (formerly Hercules Chemical) with offices in

Wilmington. In spite of her busy schedule she finds time to spend with her grandchildren and of course she also makes time for Dave Kachmar, aka "Dave delos Santos" (This is what he calls himself some times.)

Cesar Aniceto, 2003-2004. Cesar works for Bank of America in its Ecommerce Technology department. During his tenure, PAAD was granted the Federal Tax Exempt Status by the IRS. He continues to have leadership roles in PAAD and together with Jane, they find time to do their "Apostolic" duties.

Ruben Rubio, 2005-2008. Ruben retired from his post in the travel department of the United Nations in NYC in 2001. He is currently running the family business (Philippine Bread House franchise). During his tenure, PAAD Palaro came into being.

Yli Vallejo, 2009-2010. Yli, a research chemist, works for a biomedical company in Newark. He is a musician and a history buff, among other things. In spite of his successful career and many interests, I think he considers his best accomplishment to be that of becoming a Lolo. I am sure Marilyn agrees with the latter.

Lifetime PAAD Members

The following is the most up-to-date list of lifetime members. This list includes lifetime members before 2009 which was handed down to the present set of officers and new lifetime members since then. If you paid a lifetime membership fee (\$150 for family, \$100 for individual) and your name is not on this list, please contact Linda Graham at lindagra@udel.edu so the records can be corrected.

Ablao, Florante & Cora
Ament, Al & Susan
Ang, Minda
Arellano, Lamberto & Lizbeth
Bernardo, Ed & Wilma
Betia, Reuben & Cynthia
Buligon, Armando & Esther
Diaz, Roberto & Angie
Domingo, Ronaldo & Beth
Duque, Nieva
Fagel, Valentin & Lyne
Fetizanan, Alili
Finney, Rose
Hidalgo, Redemptor & Nini
Goyena-Uy, Yolanda

Kelly, Robert & Esther
Marquez, Abel & Vicky
Myers, Jeffrey & Leslie
Myers, Michael & Beverly
Najera, Rolando & Margaret
Ocampo, Dennis & Lori
Palalay, Salvador & Gloria
Quizon, Raul & Julie
Rana, Emilio, Jr. (Jun) & Linda
Ressurrecion, Floro & Nilda
Salva, Jimmy
Singson, Danny & Malou
Strickler, Charles & Mie Mie
Szeto, Peter & Irene
Valdes, Emilio & Wendy
Vergara, Felix & Virgie

The number of those who pays the annual membership fee has been dwindling over the years. Please pay your dues since PAAD depends on these fees to pay for its traditional activities and costs of correspondence.

Silent Auction to Fund PAAD's 2010 Humanitarian Initiatives

PAAD will once again participate in the state's Adopt-a-family program for the holidays. The silent auction during the Christmas party last year allowed us to adopt 5 families. Secondly, if you would recall, we published in the Spring 2010 issue of Balitaan a very important project, Water for Life Project that Sal Palalay, a PAAD member, and his colleagues in Engineers Without Borders are working on in a small town in La Union. PAAD is hoping to be able to support his group's effort in the form of financial assistance.

We are, therefore, getting ready to offer another silent auction during our December 10 Christmas dinner-dance. Preparation for the auction has started with many more members helping this year. We are soliciting goods and services. If you have something to offer that can be auctioned off, please contact me (Linda at 302 368-1513). We are also accepting cash donations that can be used to procure goods that can be packaged into auction items.

We hope to see you at the Christmas party and please don't forget to bring your checkbook. If you were to bid on any item, please remember that it is a fund raising and we hope that you will bid high.



Bobby Gempesaw to become Provost at Miami University in Ohio

As some of you already know, PAAD will soon be losing a couple of members. Bobby and Clavel Gempesaw are moving to Oxford, Ohio where Bobby has

accepted the position of Provost at Miami University effective May of next year.

I met Clavel the day she came to the University of Delaware to attend graduate school. That was 1980. Bobby followed her the following year and so that he can stay in the country to be close to Clavel, Bobby got himself into graduate school as well. They both went home to Davao shortly after that to get married and both continued their studies at their respective schools. After Bobby obtained his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Pennsylvania State University, he accepted a faculty position at UD and they have lived in Newark since. Bobby quickly went through the ranks at UD ending up as a department chair, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Science and finally Dean of the Business School. Those familiar with the academic setting should know that his accomplishments are indeed out of the ordinary, accomplished only by those with exceptional academic credentials and leadership skills.

Along the way, they reared 2 boys, Danny and David, both of whom are exceptional students and musicians. During their UD college years, the boys formed a band together with several Filipino UD students. Clavel eventually joined the Silayan Singers as their keyboard player. Bobby got more involved with PAAD when he joined the group that initially planned and ran PAAD Palaro.

For those not in the know, the position of provost is second only to that of the president of a university. Surely for Bobby there is no other way to go other than the presidency someday.

So let us all wish Bobby and Clavel good luck and hopefully they will enjoy their new home and new friends in Ohio.



PAAD Hosts a Very Successful Palaro 2010 by Jun Rana

Amidst the friendship, sportsmanship, delight, cheers and jubilations of the players, managers, coaches, kibitzers, the fans and the crowd, PAAD hosted

the very successful 2010 Palaro Sports Event. The tournament, held at PAL Center in Hockessin, started on June 12 (Philippine independence day) and ended on August 14.

Teams players were from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia. Seven teams competed in the Open Basketball Division, three teams in the 35 Years Old and Over Division, three teams in the Mixed Volleyball Tournament, and four teams in the Youth Basketball Championship.

The two teams of the GK Warriors emerged as champions in both the Open Basketball Division and the 35 Years Old and Over Basketball Division. The Elkton Elitz captured the Mixed Volleyball Championship and the White Team won the Youth Basketball Championship. For highlights and pictures of the 2010 Palaro, please visit the website www.paadonline.org. The PAAD officers led by PAAD's president, Yli Vallejo, once again threw its full support to the Palaro Sports Committee (PSC) chaired by me. The other members, volunteers and consultants of the PSC are June Andres, Marcos Medroso, Herbert Monsalud, Sonny De La Torre, Nestor San Diego, Eddie Saw, Buttons Sison, Willie Fontano, Mel Madarang, Dodjie Allarey, Dennis Tapel, Jomar Ugarte, Mike Brillante, Ashley Sanchez, Linda Rana, Duffy Mendoza, Luiz Alvarez, Vic Ocampo, J. Garcia and Arnel Lalicon.

Yli, along with the generous donors, Dr. Joseph Capuli of the Health Care for Children, LLC and former PAAD president Ruben Rubio of the Philippine Bread House presented the trophies, medals and plaques to the following winners:

Open Basketball Division

Champion: GK Warriors

Runner-up: Baltimore Dragons

Regular Season MVP: Paul Nicdao, Wala Sa Ayos (WSA)

Championship Game MVP: Mario Lancioni, GK Warriors
Best Coach: Paul Micarsos, Noway Team

35 and Over Years Old Division

Champion: GK Warriors
Runner-up: Delaware Titans
Regular Season MVP: Jim Reynolds, GK Warriors
Best Coach: Dennis Tapel, Delaware Titans

Mixed Volleyball

Champion: Elkton Elitz
Runner-up: Delaware Dabarkads

Youth Basketball

Champion: White Team
Runner-up: Black Team

Special Awards

Three Point Shooting Champion: Jake Cortez, Red Bull
Best Uniform: Dynamic Physical Therapy

The PAAD officers express their deepest gratitude to all those who volunteered their services and those who sold food to raise money and to the following generous donors whose help led to the big success of the 2010 PAAD Palaro.

Health Care for Children, LLC

Philippine Bread House

Dr. James Salva

Dr. & Mrs. Tim Gabriel

Drs. Felix and Virginia Vergara

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Graham

Mr. & Mrs. Raul Quizon

Mr. & Mrs. Al Ament

Dr. & Mrs. Manuel Abello

Mr. Willie Fontano



History Lessons Through Paaralan

by Marilyn Vallejo

One of the best gifts of PAAD to the Filipino-American children (and adults) is PAARALAN. When my children were in elementary school, the Filipino community in Delaware was not as large as it is today. Although we knew of PAAD before our son was born, we did not participate until 10 years later. My children's eyes were opened to their heritage,

learning Philippine history from Lety Tibayan and Inday Lombardi. I believe their newfound joy stemmed not only from learning their heritage but with being with other Filipino children as well. Their pride in being Filipinos started then.

The great impact of PAARALAN on my children was the impetus that eventually led me to volunteer to teach Philippine history during the 2-year term of Danny Singson. 1998 was the centennial of Philippine Independence. That year, I shared our history with all the students at St. Ann's, where I was teaching 5th graders. To do that, I made appropriate lesson plans geared to grades 1 through 8. For the culmination of these studies, each of the classes decorated our Social Hall with displays of what they studied. Danny came to the school in the afternoon with some PAAD children who entertained the audience with several folk dances. That evening, the festivities continued with a program prepared by the St. Ann students. It included a drama presentation of *Alamats* and the landing of the Spanish in the Philippines. Silayan serenaded the audience with folk songs. Filipino food prepared by the parents of the children was served following the program.

During Cesar Aniceto's presidency, many more members got involved with PAARALAN. Coralyn de Tagle and I organized the summer classes during those 2 summers. We continued classes on Philippine history and geography, Tagalog, art, music, dance, and even Filipino games. Of course the parents of the students provided Filipino merienda for the children and the staff. PAAD sponsored a field trip to Philadelphia to tour the USS Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship, which defeated the Spanish ships in Manila Bay leading to the US colonization of the Philippines. This trip allowed the children to go back in time and to experience history first hand.

During the presidency of Ruben Rubio I came across an amazing book on Philippine Art that I found in the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. when we went there for a field trip. **Philippine History through Art** became the focus of the history classes in the following two years. During the first year the lessons included the history of art from the early settlers, the early government of the Barangays to the Spanish rule. We devoted the second year to the American rule, the Commonwealth and finally the Republic. This was my favorite focus. It was a learning time for me as well.

The book talked about wood sculpture which was centered in Paete, Laguna. I found out that "Paete" came from the word for "awl", the tool that carvers

use. Three years ago, when I went home to the Philippines, I visited Paete and feasted my eyes on the beautiful wood carvings. Traveling through the years, we learned how the Spanish and our Catholic faith had a great influence on our art. Despite the inequities of educational system during the Spanish era, our great Filipino artists won medals in international competitions. We also learned that art reflects the history of the times.

The field trip that the whole class took to the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. was the first for almost all of us. We met the then Ambassador Gaa and his wife after which we ended up at the Smithsonian Institute and saw the special exhibit on the 100 years of Filipino migration after the US colonization.

These past two years, under Yli Vallejo's presidency and under Millette Angeles's leadership we focused on the **Philippine History through Cuisine**. We taught history on how the Philippine geography, the colonial rule and how the trade with neighboring South East Asian countries influenced our cuisine from the prehistoric times to the present. We talked about sinigang, bagoong to fruit salad, rellenito to spaghetti to name a few. We even had short and simple cooking classes, which the students enjoyed.

Each summer session ended with a wonderful sharing of children's talent: a display of art work, a presentation of skits (in Pilipino) and dance. In 2009 we were joined by two French boys (guests of Ed & Marilyn Nicolas) and this year, Ellis and Ann Kendle's grandchildren from Ireland joined the classes. They said that Paaralan was the best part of their American vacation.

I am grateful to PAAD, Danny, Cesar, Ruben and Yli for the support and encouragement they have given PAARALAN. It allowed us, the volunteer teachers, to use our individual talents to share with the next Filipino-American generation. Moreover, it brought families together in friendship, building a sense of community and instilling in our children the pride of their Filipino heritage. Great talent flows through our blood. We have much to share with the Delaware community, our country, the USA.

Having been involved with PAARALAN has given me much joy, has blessed me with new friends, enriched me by watching the children learn and take pride in their heritage. May PAARALAN continue in the years to come.



PAARALAN 2010

by **Rory Kendle**

This is my first time going to PAARALAN. I went with my cousins, including my cousins who were visiting from Ireland, as well as my sister. It was held in Holy Family Religious Education Center for 3 Saturday mornings.

Mrs. Vallejo taught Philippine history and how Filipino cuisine changed through the years. I learned that Filipino cooking was influenced by the Spanish, Americans and surrounding countries in Asia. We were shown different ingredients and we got to try different foods in class and during snacks, which I really enjoyed. One of the foods we tried was called ensaimada. Aunt Lori and Uncle Tom brought the ensaimada. It was delicious.

I learned how to speak Tagalog from Dr. Ed Nicolas and my sister learned Pilipino from Mr. Howard and Mrs. Theodelisa Schmidt. Mrs. Florence Bowen taught us art. We also were taught Filipino dances including Tinikling taught by Michelle and Helen Rana. During our practices, I made new friends.

We had an evening program at the close of PAARALAN for our parents, relatives and friends. Our artwork decorated Holy Family's Hall. We started the evening with dinner showcasing the cuisine we learned about in class. After dinner, Mrs. Millette Angeles who was in charge of PAARALAN gave each one of us, students, diplomas. Our program included plays using the Filipino words we learned. For our dance presentations we dressed in clothes that would have been worn in the Philippines.

My sister, cousins and I thoroughly enjoyed attending PAARALAN. It was really fun and interesting to learn Filipino language, dances, and history especially since my grandfather is from the Philippines.

(Rory Kendle is a 5th grader at St. Ann's and is a grand daughter of Ellis & Ann Kendle.)

Our 20 Something Members

In this issue, we are once again featuring some of our younger members. There are a few more of them out there that I was not able to talk to.

Chris Nicolas (22) is oldest son of Ed and Marilyn Nicolas. Chris graduated in 2008 from Loyola College in Maryland with a double major in Psychology and Physics. In response to my comment on what I consider an odd combination of fields, he said that while Physics teaches analytical and critical thinking, Psychology teaches people skills. And together, these fields teach how to relate to other people. In 2010 Chris finished his masters degree in Student affairs from Colorado State University. He is currently deciding if he will join Americorps or the Peace Corps or other non-profit organization as part of the community service that he wants to do. His long-term goal, however, is to work in the Student Affairs area in higher education and to continue to get his Ph.D. in Positive Psychology, a very special field of study of happiness and life fulfillment. Maybe someday Chris can give us lectures on happiness.

Michelle Rana (22), older daughter of Jun and Linda Rana studied International Relations at the University of Delaware. She graduated in 2009 and she plans to continue graduate studies in the same field at Widener University. She would love to stay in the field and work either in Washington D.C. or abroad. For the meantime, however, she works part time in a doctor's office or helps with PAAD activities. Michelle and her younger sister Helen (18) taught folk dances to the children enrolled in the 2010 Paaralan.

Michelle Balan, daughter of Edgar and Jocelyn Balan graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Special Education. She is now teaching in the Apopquinimink School district.

Update on **Michael Balan** (23), son of Oscar and Remy Balan: Michael has recently enrolled in a private pilot school as a prerequisite to a career with the Air Force. Michael, an avid runner, has been running marathons like that of the Marine Corps in DC and plans to do the Boston Marathon in the near future.

Jed Devotta (28), son of Manny and Babes Devotta graduated from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2010. He is currently applying to a residency program on emergency room medicine. After finishing years of clinical rotation, Jed plans to take some time off to visit the Philippines with his parents in January.

Arturo and Zeny Quiroz have been graced with 3 boys, all now in their 20s. The oldest, **Kristofer** (27) works for the IT department of the consulting firm, Accenture. Kris' job usually takes him away from home half of the time. Last year he did consulting assignments in India and Germany for several months, which, especially for a young man, makes his job most interesting. Kris' other passion, in addition to computing, is gourmet cooking. Zeny is more than happy to have Kris cook all the holiday meals.

Ian (25), the happy-go-lucky one among the three is a part time student at UD majoring in Communications. (He is hoping to graduate soon.) He has a full time job, however, with City Group. He is assigned to a group that deals with sensitive, government-related jobs that he cannot speak about. In October, he and Art were lucky recipients of an all-inclusive trip to Texas for games 3 and 4 of the World Series after Ian became one of the 10 winners of State Farm "Go To" Bat program. Ian donated his winnings to the Red Cross. Check out the video of the occasion in youtube at his address: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k03hb5vrWCA>

The youngest, **Kelvin** (21), like his oldest brother Kris, is a Computer Science major. He is graduating from UD in May and plans to go to graduate school. For fun he loves to watch Anime cartoons which is a form of story telling using Japanese animation techniques. Kelvin is learning to speak Japanese to fully enjoy Anime. Zeny and Art have welcomed having the three live with them. This way they are able to keep a watchful eye on them.



PAYAD is Back by **Nikki Bernardo**

I was sitting in a small classroom with other 7 and 8 years old Filipino kids, my cousin sitting on one side and my friend, Crystal, on the other. In front of the class was a lady teaching us Tagalog and the history of the Philippines. Having migrated from the Philippines only a few years before, I was being taught what I had already known. But I enjoyed the classes anyhow and the company of the other Filipino kids around me. Twenty years later, I'm teaching the same things to Filipino children.

One thing remains...the honor and pride from where I came from. Being involved in PAAD for over 13 years was a constant reminder of who I am and where my roots stemmed from. I believe that the movement to

revive the youth participation (known as Pilipino-American Youth Association of Delaware, PAYAD) will help instill the Filipino values and culture to our existing young members. My close friend, Crystal Aniceto, has a 3-year old son to whom she wants to pass on the same values that we had while growing up.

The intention among the youth is to get more involved with PAAD activities. And we are starting this during the Christmas dinner-dance on December 10. A few young members, some of whom I've watched grow from little children to young collegiates, are performing a dance number together with experienced dancers from Philadelphia and some "seasoned" members of PAAD like Ted and Eva Godsell, Cesar and Jane Aniceto, and Teng and Wilma Espiritu. We know that this will bring some excitement among the young and old alike.

I hope that this will be a new beginning for the growing PAAD participation among the youth. By early next year, we intend to formalize the PAYAD leadership and to plan activities that parallel the mission of PAAD.

Announcements

Congratulations to Chris and Tien Balan on their May 15 wedding. Chris is the son of Oscar and Remy Balan. The newly weds now reside in Bear, DE. Tien is now the proud owner of Zazen Nail spa in downtown West Chester, PA.

Congratulations to Melissa Ferre and Carlo Blanco Limgenco on their August 21st wedding in Wilmington. Mel is Julie and Raul Quizon's daughter.

It was an October destination wedding in Mexico for Terrence Gabriel and his bride Jan Roque. Terrence is the oldest son of Tim and Telly Gabriel. The newly weds reside in Vienna, VA.

Irene Permut, the younger daughter of Steve and Marylene Permut wed Alex Swift on Sept. 11 in Cape May. Irene is finishing her last year of fellowship at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. Alex is a physician in the same hospital. Congratulations to the newly weds.

Congratulations to Alexander (Sasha) Vallejo on graduating with honors (Magna Cum Laude) from American University in Washington, D.C. Sasha, an English major, is currently working in Georgetown University. His long-term goal, however, is to get his writings published.

Babes Devotta's mother, Mary Malilay, celebrated her 90th birthday in September. Babes threw a party in Santo Tomas to celebrate the occasion.

Esther Ringeon-Kelly's mother, Angela Ibarra, celebrated her 112th birthday in October. Esther joined the family in San Juan, Rizal to celebrate the very special occasion. She is the oldest person in the Philippines

Cathy Gabriel, Tim Gabriel's mother celebrated her 90th birthday with a party at Jeanne Jugan's Residence given by Tim and Telly. Mrs. Gabriel, as always, is in good health and looks great too.

Many folks here in Delaware celebrated with Bessie and Gerhard Schiroky their 30th wedding anniversary in Ohio in September. Bessie and Gerhard were active members of PAAD for many years until they moved to Ohio in 2000.

Condolence to Manny and Babes Devotta on the death of Manny's 84-year old father in August. Manny was visiting his family in India when his father passed away.

Condolence to Dana and Yoko Lewis on the death of Dana's father, Kenneth Lewis, age 88 in August 16. Mr. Lewis was from Watsontown, PA where he was known as "Mr. Baseball", having been a professional ball player in his younger years and youth baseball coach for 70 years. He was also a scout for the Philadelphia Phillies. Yoko, a native of Japan, also lost her father, Yoshimi Koshio, on Nov.6. He was 88 years old.

Lito Baal's father, Gerardo Alino Baal, 88, passed away Sept 7 in Albay, Philippines. Condolence to Lito and Arlene Baal and to Lito's family back home.

This year has been a sad year for the Tibayan family. The 3 daughters lost their mother, Lety, in January and their father, Manny, in September. Both Lety and Manny had been active members of PAAD and FHAM for many years. They will be missed.

An after-school enrichment program

Here is something that you might want to know if you are a parent or a grand parent. A good friend and neighbor of mine just recently opened an after-school enrichment program, Kumon Wilmington-Limestone. The franchise has started to come to our area recently so the name might sound familiar.

Kumon has been a very widely used after-school math and reading enrichment program in the US. The program is designed based on the belief of Kumon's founder, Toru Kumon, that every child has the potential

to learn far beyond what is expected of him or her by parents and by the most selective schools. Children who learn through the Kumon method not only acquire more knowledge of the subject matter but also gain the ability to learn on their own. The program provides the children with the fundamental building blocks for math and reading and at the same time teach them to become confident learners, self-reliant, motivated and focused.

The program is designed for students of all ages and abilities. The math program spans from counting to calculus; the reading program from phonics to critical thinking. Each level of the program introduces a new concept, which is built on the previous one. Proficiency at each level is required in order to progress to the higher levels. Students learn at their own pace.

Unlike other tutoring methods, parents are expected to play an integral part in the learning process, which is another reason why Kumon is considered to be a very effective learning tool.

For more information, I refer you to www.Kumon.com or call the Wilmington-Limestone Center at (302) 607-8120 for a free placement test. The center is located in the 127 Kirkwood Square, just behind Accent Music and Retro Fitness in Kirkwood Hwy (by the entrance to Delaware Park). Call before the end of the year if you want to get the \$50 enrollment fee waived.

Linda Graham, PAAD Balitaan Editor
6 Deville Ct.
Newark, DE 19711

Effective December 1, the **Philippine Bread House** is moving to the current location of Casa Rap in 3317 D Old Capitol Trail, Wilmington, DE 19808 (behind Prices Corner). There is no change in the menu. Its new telephone number is (302) 998-4740.

Take note ladies: Zazen nail spa is owned by Tien Balan.



200 E. Gay Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Phone (610) 430-1400
zazennailspa@gmail.com
www.zazennailspa.com

"A zen retreat for your hands and feet"