



ECTOPIC MURMURS

Volume 22

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April 2011

Opinions and articles published herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect that of the FEUDNSM Alumni Foundation

Bravo, FEUMAANI!

CESAR V REYES MD⁶⁸

Eighteen alumni and non-alumni guests braved some of the harshest and coldest nights and days in Chicago this year, to practice, two- to three-days a week, songs for the 50th anniversary Winter 2011 musical festival of the Philippine Medical Association in Chicago (PMAC).

They finally showcased their talent on Saturday, March 26th, held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, and their program was as lively as can be and, at the same time, a formal repertoire of *I believe (quodlibet with Back Ave Maria), Pamulinawen, and Mutya Ng Pasig*.

The women were formally dressed in white-and-mint

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Message from the PRESIDENT



OSCAR C
TUAZON MD

The Winter Board Trustees' meeting was held at Long Beach CA, on Saturday, March 26, 2011. All officers, board members, chapter presidents who showed up on Friday March 25, 2011 were taken to Hokkaido Seafood Buffet

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Message from the BOARD CHAIRMAN

Age is largely decided through perception of the person involved. From birth to



PEPITO C
RIVERA MD

age 2, other people celebrate the passage of time for us; our first tooth, first step, first words, etc. We are not

even aware that time is measured. Then somewhere around age 2 or 3, we begin to notice and look forward to time passing. We begin to discuss how old we are in half years. We are in a hurry to be older. *I am 2 and a half; I am 5 and a half.* We are excited

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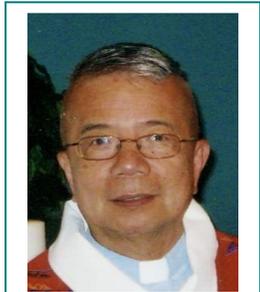


The FEUMAANI Choral Group, from left, Flor Tembrina RN PhD, Celso Del Mundo MD, Tita Del Mundo RN, Violeta Magsino RN, Dr Virgilio Magsino MD, Melinda Tolentino MD, Remedios Sales MD, Frank Montellano MD, Leilanie Mon MD, Nida Blankas Hernaez MD (president), Greg Tolentino MD, Mrs Nanette Montellano, Mrs Susan Rabang, Edward Hernaez MD, Ms Marina Ozaki, Mr Gerry Tabang, Arturo Fogata MD, and Pascual Sales MD.

FAITH CORNER

REV MELVIN ANTONIO MD⁶⁵

April showers bring May flowers. It seems overly



REV MELVIN ANTONIO MD

optimistic to say this while we are officially in drought conditions where I live in South Texas and

there is flooding elsewhere.

Then again, it is in our nature to be eternal optimists.

Our Christian heritage has a lot to do with it, I think. At Easter we are reminded that even in the worst of times, God is with us, that we have a Sovereign Lord who lives! We take comfort in the fact that the resurrection of Jesus affirms God's saving grace. The pain of Good Friday leads us to the expectancy of the joy of Easter. We, as a people, have gone through many Good Fridays in our lifetime. The current economic recession pales in comparison to the Great Depression. Two World Wars, many smaller conflicts that have been just as deadly, 9/11. We have felt the awesome power of nature. Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis. Individually, we have experienced tragic losses that remind us of our mortality. But we bounce back, sometimes not as gracefully as we might like, but we bounce back nonetheless. What keeps us from lapsing into a catatonic helplessness? What keeps us

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CHARLATANS IN THE PHILIPPINES

CESAR D. CANDARI MD⁶¹

Why Filipinos Resort to the Use of Quacks? I became interested on the practice of medicine in the Philippines by a quack. They are considered fraudulent or ignorant pretenders to medical skill and



CESAR CANDARI MD

pretend to possess skills, knowledge, or other qualifications. They are charlatans.

Do not confuse their quackery with

holistic medicine.

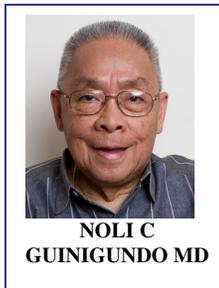
The practice of quackery among the Filipinos in spite of the advance in medical science still exists especially in the rural

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TENDERLY YOURS

NOLI C GUINIGUNDO MD⁶²

1 - The Long Beach CA



NOLI C GUINIGUNDO MD

Winter meeting on March 26 was a complete success, with so many things accomplish

ed. Chairman Pepito Rivera conducted the meeting. In spite of several board members that were excused, it was well attended.

The host was the FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation California Chapter headed by President Oscar Tuazon. We thank the group for taking care of our gastronomical needs and our spiritual needs.

The host for the Saturday dinner after the meeting was Dr Jun Castro and his beloved wife Daisy.

The group was taken by several cars to St John Fisher Church prior to the trip to Catalina. It was a sumptuous dinner at their magnificent home. Pictures were taken and will be provided by Dr Jay Mendoza eventually.

2 - The trip to LA in terms of plane fare was quite exorbitant. We just chose the cheapest available fare to make the trip. Not much choice in seat assignment indeed.

American Airlines is quite accommodating because when we requested for adjoining seats they were kind enough to grant our request and also moved us

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FROM DAVAO WITH LOVE



After 40 years, here we are in a chance reunion at the Brokenshire Memorial Hospital, Davao City, where we interned, from left, Job Tongonon MD⁷⁰, Josefino Ramos MD⁶⁸ and Cesar Pizarro MD⁷⁰.



ROLANDO SOLIS MD



Resting hummer displaying its elongated tongue which is especially shaped to suck nectar.

HUMMINGBIRD IMAGES

ROLANDO M SOLIS MD⁶³



The only bird that can fly forward, backward, up and down and even upside down. It's the acrobat of birds.



Its wings flap from 50 to 200 times per second. A Nikon D 90 camera and a telephoto lens with two strategically placed flash with synchronized speed of 1/250 second were used to capture this image. Photographing this bird in motion is the ultimate challenge and requires extreme patience.

BORACAY HOLIDAY

RODOLFO SON MD⁶⁰

Its easy to get to Boracay. The flight takes less than an hour from NAIA, either via Kalibo or Caticlan in Aklan. Then a short boat ride to Boracay Island from Caticlan.



Dr and Mrs Rodolfo Son

The airport in Kalibo accommodates bigger jets and is safer but 1¹/₂ hours away. Book your flights way ahead as they fill up easily in the high season.

Book your hotel early as they fill up also fast in the high season. Promotion packages are available. You can search the internet, simply Google *Boracay*. Make sure BBF and airport to island transfers (both ways) are included.

Promotions generally suggest 3 days/ 2 nights but I recommend 4 days/ 3nights. First timer should stay near Station 2 but for those annoyed by noise and crowd, stay closer to Station 1 or 3. However, the action is around Station 1.

Take a boat tour around the island. Our group of 9 in a small boat cost 3000 pesos (for everybody). They will charge tourist 10000 pesos for this tour. Make sure you designate where you want to stop or else they will take you at hi-speed. They have life vest for everybody.

Take a tour of the different places inside the island or walk the

beach like I did. For a short ride, take a tricycle and haggle the price to below 100 pesos.

Get a sun tan or soaked in the sea. On the white beach, the water is very shallow and safe for the non-swimmers. Do not miss the sunset and take the photo behind the palm trees and beach umbrellas with the sail boats in the water. Lots of clouds will help. At night, you can stay late listening to music and having a drink.

There is no problem with water and electricity. Most hotels have WI-FI. Drink bottled water. Bring your own cash in pesos and have small bills for tipping like 20/ 50/ 100 pesos. Do not show your \$ bills.

Bring a hat, sun blocker, off ziplocs (to protect your cell/ camera/ computer). Crocs, shorts and sunglasses. Most small boat will beached on the sand and you will get wet. Leave your long pants and shirt home. You will look ODD with them.

Buy an Accu-map (blue colored) Boracay Island Map (P10) in Manila. You do not need any detailed guide or book. You can ask your *pinoy* friends to get you a copy of *Asian Traveler Tropical Holiday Escapes, the Best of Boracay* at any bookstore or magazine stand. For those interested in retiring in the Philippines, get a back issue of *Health & LifeStyle* with the cover of Dr Fe del Mundo, November 2008. Back issues are available in a magazine store, third floor Virra Mall near the escalator.

Do not buy the SI issue with Boracay. There are no pictures of the island except sexy girls with sand, sea and rocks (generic for any beach resort).

I will be happy to answer any questions at rodyson@aol.com.



Banyugan



Boracay boats and palm trees



White Beach like no other place



Pacman seaside villa



Sunset in Boracay

MEDICAL MISSION IMAGES

The **Georgia Medical Group** served Puerto Princesa, Palawan, in mid-January 2011.

Among the missionaries were Rene Estrella MD⁶⁸, Rorie Estrella MD⁶⁷, Mike Tan MD⁶⁸ and Willie Magat MD⁶⁸.

Later in early February, they joined the **St Louis MO Medical Group** of Fred Jimenez MD⁶⁹, Leonardo Patron MD⁶⁸, and Willie Magat MD⁶⁸.

Their third stop was in Marinduque, a week later, also participated by Rodolfo Suaverdez MD⁶².



At Jun Acosta's mausoleum, from left, Dr Nancy Corpuz, Drs Rene and Rorie Estrella, Ralph and Dr Becky Salvani and Dr Angelita Mercado Acosta.



Dr Rorie Estrella attends to a patient in Palawan.



Dr R Estrella with a pre-operative hysterectomy patient at the Western Command Hospital of Puerto Princesa.



Drs Rene and Rorie Estrella at the entrance of underground river in Palawan.



Acosta Drs Rorie and Rene Estrella posed with a local anesthesiologist for hysterectomy at Marinduque Provincial hospital.



Drs Estrellas, Emma Santos, and Mrs and Dr R Suaverdez



At Lopez Quezon medical missions, they are Drs Estrellas, Willie Magat, Leonardo Patron, Fred Jimenez and Bernardo Rodrigo.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I was privileged to attend the Board Trustee Winter meeting in Long Beach CA on the weekend of March 26, 2011.

I would like to take a moment to thank the officers and members of the FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation Southern California Chapter for the lovely welcome reception and the two wonderful dinners that were provided us. The meals were delicious and the ambiance was very cordial.

I especially enjoyed the Saturday evening meal at the beautiful home of Drs June and Daisy Castro. The Pacific Ocean view from their home was quite captivating and very relaxing.

I would also like to thank the President, Dr Oscar Tuazon, and his wife Ochie for all their careful planning.

The meeting was a success in all aspects and I feel that it is important to identify and thank those involved in making it a success.

MINERVA C RIVERA MD
FEUDNRSMAF Board Trustee

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The good reward of Cesar taking the Chair of the Editor of the ECTOPIC MURMURS and the FEUMAANI News is the issues keep



**EUGENE S
SIRUNO MD**

on coming out with regularity sometimes earlier than the deadline of submission but are well laid out. The columns, commentaries, news releases and letters to the editor, you

never miss a beat and has encourages more participations. Cesar, congratulations for a job well done.

It is never too late to congratulate Dr Eleanor dela Pena and Dr Noreen M. Dizon for the super doper results of the recent Philippine Medical Board exams. *Numero UNO, numero 5* – Hooray, congratulations!

The overall passing percentage is extremely significant. *Kudos* to Dean Remedios Habacon and the Faculty, Dr Arsenio Martin and the FEUDNRSMAF. This is not luck, they were lucky because they were prepared and they have what is in between their ears. As Theodore Roosevelt said *the credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena.*

I can sing, *Far Eastern Onward Beloved Alma Mater...*

I enjoy reading Dr Cesar Candari's series of articles and speech. I have known him for almost four decades in the alumni activities as well as in the national medical politics. I consider him very bright and a romantic – who try to create a new and better world from the drabness of everyday life.

Reading his speech 25 years ago, the message is very clear and it still reverberates Democracy – Democracy was attained! However, I hate to say this, we, Filipinos, did not follow through the fruit of EDSA. A lot of us were, are not interested citizens. We did not become good citizens. The attitudes of people in positions and powers were, are maladjusted. This kind of attitude contributed a lot to the problems of the Philippines today.

People in positions have more than enough yet they want more. That is GREED. I thought when EDSA #1 came, democracy restored a new beginning was to come. But no, almost every succeeding regimes were just as evil, greedy, corrupt, more plundering, they committed and omitted, they stole, they leaned on their political affiliations and cronies, no transparency, committed intellectual dishonesty and betrayed the PUBLIC TRUST. They served their own and not the people. So how could we have UNITY.

Even here in the land where we decided to stay, we, amongst ourselves, are educated and considered professional, we can not even stay level with each other and be united. We associate, we make and bring forth missions and visions and we can not even agree and be united. Some have their own agenda. We split and sometimes we form another association and, to the extreme, go to court. Why, how could we, well the saying goes, *Filipino kasi*. From EDSA's democracy, we practice DEMOCRACY.

On Dr. Philip Chua's People Power: A Filipino Legacy opined *the Filipino people must RISE, not against President Aquino, like in EDSA – a peaceful protest for the elimination of cheaters, plunderers and corrupt government officials*. Now that is what you call a selective uprising! I believe the president is trying hard and doing a decent job from what I can read. Let's give him more time and pray that the conscience of the

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people doing all those corrupt deeds get to them. (How *sa mga walang conciencia*) – Let us continue to pray for our poor *kababayans*.

The Lord is listening.

GENE SIRUNO MD⁶³

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have been dedicated to *Gawad Kalinga* for 6 years as a full time volunteer spokesperson/ partner. I returned January 2011 from my 6th trip abroad. I am a Caucasian woman who bleeds brown for all Filipinos as my heart belongs to God and HIS beautiful Filipinos. As I opened this email I was once again brought to tears of love and respect for Filipino Americans. I am also saddened by the loss of your fellow doctors and friends. I had the great honor to be invited to a medical mission with the Texas team 2 years ago. What an amazing experience to meet dedicated men and women to help the poorest of the poor Filipinos.

I hope to see you at the Hope Ball.

As I stand tall and proud to say I AM Filipino from my heart and my last name is that of a noble Filipino man Gene Nuqui, my humble and succesful Filipino pilot. My stand is my Fil-Am husband served my country in the USA Army as a pilot for my freedoms and now I will serve HIS homeland until every Filipino is free - free from harm, poverty and restored dignity!

Thank you so much for sharing this beautiful newsletter.

In God's love,

MRS NANCY NUQUI

Proud to be a Filipino

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I pray that everyone is healthy, happy, and embracing this very special time of year: *LENT!* As I reflect on the splendor of the meaning of Lent, my heart desires to grow closer to Our Lord.

Through prayers, I hear my heart speak once again to remain open to the cries of the poor. Once again after my 6th trip to the Philippines this past January, my heart has been touched by the poorest of the poor. May I never forget them!

After my return from the Philippines, I began wondering what I could do to raise at least one home for the poor in a *Gawad Kalinga Village* that is now under construction. I was asked by the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce here in Phoenix if I would like to be on a rowing team. The race is The Dragon Boat Race on the Tempe Town Lake, March 26 and 27th. I decided to enter this race and row a boat to build a home for a family. Believe me, I am not an athletic person, BUT I will do anything to help the poorest of the poor in the Philippines. I am asking for your sponsorship of any donation.

Your check is tax deductible and can be made to **GK USA**, a 501(3)(c) corporation, Tax ID #2361640 . Please mail your check to:

Nancy Nuqui
19146 E. Macaw Drive
Queen Creek, AZ. 85142

I can receive your checks even after the race, until April 15th.

THANK YOU!!

The cost of a *GK* village home is \$2,800, which includes a bathroom, clean running water, healthcare, education, values' transformation, and a livelihood program for all the families. A village being constructed in *Bagong Silang*.

It is the *GK HOPE BALL* flagship village. The home will be presented at the *GK Hope Ball* taking place in Las Vegas on April 30, 2011. If you are interested in attending this very uplifting event, please go to gkhope.com for all the information.

True Charity - where giving is not a dole-out but an investment in restoring human dignity.

God bless you as you give from your heart.

My love and gratitude,

NANCY NUQUI

CHARLATANS

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areas. In fact the uneducated rural folks believe more in the *herbolarios* (healers) than in the doctor. Our people in these areas adhere to some superstition and beliefs that no amount of coaxing can detract them and be led to the scientific know-how of real medical men. The sick need care and attention and the look for aid and love to all who can dispense it to them.

The charlatan all too often plays on the human motive, and frequently succeeds for more than the most skillful doctor. He asserts with fullest confidence and permits him to dominate his patients well. Since the earliest times, >>>

quacks of all sorts have preyed upon mankind and have been the source of trouble to qualified medical practitioners of all ages. Our era is no exception. It flourishes with quacks and quacks flourish through an inherent weakness in human nature.

The sick are petulant and prone to delusions. Like a drowning man, they seize anything that may readily relieve their distress of saving their lives. Since they need ease and comfort, they often find the charlatan and the most sympathetic to their plea.

Quacks are cunning and impudent. Because of their rash avariciousness, they tempt the sick to spend their money by means of false and deceptive publicity regarding their pills, herbs, and methods of cure which oftentimes is a poor imitation of a recent medical discovery. The promises of a quack rest on the sand, they bring just untold misery and useless expense and what is more tragic, the loss of life. So long as there are fees to collect for service, and money at stake. There will always be quacks and charlatans.

This is a true story of an incident about the practice of quackery. A six-month-old robust child, son of a laborer, who resides in one of Manila's suburbs suddenly, began vomiting accompanied by persistent cries. Few minutes later the child excreted fresh blood in his stool. There was a Health Center nearby, but because the father had more faith in the *herbolario*, he brought the child to the latter. The *herbolario* not sensing a very catastrophic condition in

the abdomen of the child applied a poultice consisting of chewed *buyo*(plant) leaves gave the child a decoction to drink and told the father to go home and wait for the recovery of the child.

Three days passed but the child's condition, instead of improving, grew worse. He continued on vomiting and his abdomen was distended. He has not moved his bowel for two days. On the fourth day of his illness, an uncle of the child accidentally visited the family and saw the languishing child. Without wasting time, he brought him to the center. In the hospital where the child was immediately brought, the surgeons discovered the large intestine of the child had swallowed a portion of the small intestine (intussusceptions). The surgeon performed an operation and was satisfied for he knew he was correct in his diagnosis, but dismayed because he saw portions of the intestine gangrenous. After removing the dead intestine he closed the abdomen and hoped the child would live. A few hours later, however, the child died.

This is only one of many others portraying the ill-effects of superstition and quackery in our country. This happened around Manila, the most civilized part of the Island; and therefore, we can presume that many more must be happening in the remote barrios of our country.

We could launch innumerable programs calculated to instill consciousness of modern medicine among the people but for as long as the faith healers and other varieties

of herb doctors roam the country, these programs will not succeed. The thing to do is still to take to court the quack doctors whose practices seem to be flourishing even in such supposedly intelligent communities as Manila, where the Mecca of advanced medicine from America is now available.

How these impressions can be eradicated in the minds of our people is for the Department of Health to remedy before it can cause irreparable damage to lives of thousands of Filipinos.

The availability of far advanced medical science plus adequate medical facilities in our country, I am sure will solve the health problem of our country and no doubt will eradicate the existence of vicious practices of quacks.

Holistic Medicine. The American Holistic Association defined holistic medicine as the art and science of healing that addresses care of the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. The practice of holistic medicine integrates conventional and complementary therapies to promote optimal health, and prevent and treat disease by addressing contributing factors.

Furthermore, this approach is more complete and treats a patient like a whole person—not simply a piece of biological or organic machinery that needs to be fixed when its parts are broken or worn out. Such an approach offers treatments that target a person's physiology, psychology and spirituality.

Of interest and acceptance, the Philippine Department of Health supports and fosters indigenous Philippine >>>

healing knowledge and herbal products. Heal and Wellness Alliance of the Philippines in partnership with the Department of Tourism, the Department of Health and the top medical institutions and wellness organizations are promoting overall, holistic health.

Our Department of Health says there are healing modalities, knowledge and herbs outside of the US western medical paradigm. We also have laws protecting the rights and freedom of what you call *alternative* healing.

The World Health Organization (WHO) of the United Nations had addressed traditional medicine and has made a number of recommendations designed to improve the practice of traditional medicine in Pacific island to supplement the inadequacy of their health service programs. Even as of today, the so-called Western science-oriented societies now give recognition to some meritorious treatments through holistic medicine.

FAITH CORNER

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always looking to a future that focuses on a light at the end of a dark tunnel? It cannot be anything else but our faith that Easter will dawn on us sooner or later. When one feels abandoned by God yet continues to trust him, we are worshiping in the deepest way. We take comfort in Scripture that paints a picture of a loving and faithful God: *Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone* (Lamentations 3: 32, 33). Even in the worst of times, there is a

seed of joy just waiting to come out.

For weeks now, we have been unwilling witnesses to the awesome destructive forces of nature as a major earthquake hit the east coast of Japan, spawning a deadly series of waves that wiped out entire communities and felt all the way to the West Coast of the United States. The toll in human lives may not ever be known and the material damage is still being tallied. The Japanese people have a history of resiliency that defies logic. As a people, they are inherently cooperative, caring and self-restrained. In her morning show, Diane Sawyer made the observation that through all the devastation, there had been no looting. Instead, people busy themselves with rescue and recovery operations, working diligently together, sharing what little they have left. There is no hoarding of goods that can only close out those in need. In other words, we see a people who suffer and grieve but remain determined to survive.

It is to our credit as people of God that we do not hesitate to help those who cannot help themselves. We have demonstrated this whenever and wherever tragedy strikes, New Orleans after Katrina, the Texas Gulf Coast after Ike, Haiti, Chile, and now Japan. We look to our Christian heritage and remember that all of humanity was a slave to sin and death until God took human form to liberate us. Surely *he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows...he was pierced for our transgressions* (Isaiah

53)... We can do no less. Showing acts of charity and kindness to our neighbors in need is the least we can do to ease the pain of Good Friday and raise the expectation of the resurrection of Easter Sunday when a new beginning dawns upon God's people once again. Alleluia, He is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Happy Easter, everyone.

TENDERLY YOURS

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closer to the front.

Delta Airlines, too, has improved because if one requests for the same, it went along with our request.

3 - The item of the memorandum of agreement as initially requested by Dr Daniel Fabito was discussed. The rough draft of the same has been submitted to the Chairman and President, respectively, and the copy of this was sent to the FEU-NRMF Medical Society President Dr. Tamesis.

Nothing was definitely decided.

4 - Nothing definite was decided on the 2012 venue of the 33rd annual reunion. It is most likely to be held in California.

The Winter 2012 meeting venue was also not formalized yet. But it is also most likely in California.

5 - More information to come after this.

APRIL QUOTE

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24

Message from the BOARD CHAIRMAN

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to be growing up.

From ages 10 to 12, we talk of being *almost a teenager*, bragging about how close we are to that hallowed ground. We establish friendships, join clubs, and enter physical activities that test our physical and mental prowess. Then along comes the long awaited *teen years*. We are sure that the world revolves around us, that no other persons or things are more important. Still, we use positive phrases. We have a *sweet 16 birthday*, become a voter at age 18 and finally, we have the all-important celebration. We turn 21. Now we are in full control, a person of our own, not answerable to anyone, and able to vote, drive, drink, party, work, or anything our heart desires.

Things roll along smoothly until about age 30, then suddenly, age and time become more negative. We *turn 30* a phrase that sounds sour and not quite good. We are *over the hill* at 40 and after that we *HIT 50*. How painful that sounds. During these years, we begin to reassess our lives and where we want to be in the future. We no longer measure in future halves, but in past halves. For example, we are now *only 49 and a half*. We begin to have the middle age crisis, looking back on our lives wishing we could relive or change certain things in our past.

Things get worse. Between ages 55 and 70, we move into the *ripe old age category* which gives a mental impression of over-ripe

fruit, maybe starting to rot a little. We talk of retirement, aches, pains, glasses and dentures. We refer to the younger people in less than kind tones, remarking on how juvenile they are. We notice friends are no longer with us and wonder who will be around to mourn us when we are gone.

But, all is not lost. If we make it past age 90 and are healthy, we begin to enjoy life more, becoming more positive, counting again in future halves. *Well, I am 95 and a HALF.*

So for all my friends over 50, there will be hope, you just have to wait awhile. Enjoy life whatever your age and help those around you along.

On a separate note, I participated in the Winter Board Trustee meeting that was held in Long Beach CA on the weekend of March 26, 2011. We had a very good meeting with a friendly atmosphere and positive input.

Various reports were received from the chairman, president, treasurer, and executive director.

Various committees also reported on their results and ongoing projects.

Oscar Tuazon, president, is including specifics of the meeting in his Message.

The venue for the next Winter Board Trustees meeting will be in March 2012 in San Francisco CA and will be hosted by Dr Rick DeLeon. The 33rd annual reunion homecoming will be in June 2012 in Orange County CA.

Further information will be forthcoming.

I would like to thank all those who participated in the meeting and look forward to the next year.

In closing, I would like to extend my congratulations to the recent Philippine medical board exams topnotcher Eleanor De Guzman De La Pena MD and to the fifth place scorer Noreen Manlapaz Dizon MD. Our students

continue to excel and showcase our school in a positive manner. Please continue to encourage, support, and congratulate these hard working students as they complete their studies.

Message from the PRESIDENT

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tendered by Southern California Chapter which is headed by Dr Victoria Sanchez-Bal.

The Saturday meeting was held at the Renaissance Hotel of Long Beach CA.

Presided by our Board Chairman Dr Pepito Rivera, the meeting was a very successful one.

Many topics were discussed and eventually resolved and approved.

The annual amount given as professorial incentive was restored.

The money for the scholars was also approved through the donation from the Southern California Chapter.

The June 15-18, 2011, 32nd annual reunion was finalized. All the details of the reunion were endorsed by Dr Melinda Fabito, Nevada Chapter president and overall chairman for this year's convention.

The mutual agreement between the FEU-NRMF Medical Society and the FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation will be revisited when Dr. Linda Tamesis arrives in June at the reunion.

The next Winter Board Trustees' meeting will be held in San Francisco CA. The 33rd annual reunion will be hosted by Southern California Chapter in 2012. The details for the 2012 convention will be further discussed during the Summer meeting in Las Vegas.

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The Winter 2011 meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Attendees were driven to Dr Jun and Daisy Castro's residence for a welcome Filipino buffet dinner.

BRAVO, FEUMAANI

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green and elegant *patadyong* with green tartan shoulder cover, while the men in the traditional *Barong Tagalog*.

The sopranos were led by the president, Dr Nida Blankas Hernaez, along with Drs Leilanie Mon, Remedios Sales, and Melinda Tolentino, Nanette Montellano, Susan Tabang and Evangeline Tabayoyong.

The altos included Delores Del Mundo, Violeta Magsino and Dr Flor Tembrina.

The tenors were Drs Virgilio Magsino, Franklin Montellano, and Greg Tolentino; while Drs Arturo Fogata, Edward Hernaez, Celso Del Mundo and Pascual Sales provided the bass notes.

Mr Gerry Tabang, the musical director, and Ms Marina Ozaki, pianist, displayed what a great conductor and accompanist, respectively, should be.

We are very proud of you, FEUMAANI Chorale Group! We salute your dedication, enthusiasm and selfless sacrifices to again put up a traditional entertainment with other medical school alumni singers for the ultimate goal of continuing the projects of the PMAC focused on the annual medical mission in the Philippines.

You also made our evening at the 50th anniversary PMAC musical festival! BRAVO!

UPDATE #2: OUR TURKEY GREEK ISLES CRUISE ITINERARY

Like our Israel Egypt religious pilgrimage last year, our Turkey/ Greek Isles cruise will be highlighted with a daily breakfast and dinner continuing medical education seminars.

It is scheduled for October 12 through October 21, 2010.

Please reserve early because available space is limited.

The cost per person based on double occupancy is \$2889 which includes air fare and all port taxes.

The itinerary includes, as follows:

Wednesday, October 12 – depart Chicago for Istanbul.

Thursday, October 13 – private Istanbul arrival, transfer from the airport to hotel, welcome at the hotel.

Thursday, October 13 – Saturday 15: two nights in Istanbul (Old City) at the boutique class Celal Sultan Hotel, or similar, double occupancy room, breakfast included, and **Breakfast and dinner CME.**

Friday, October 14 – full day classical tour of Istanbul, including lunch, and **Breakfast and dinner CME**

> visit to the St Sophia Museum circa 6th century and once the largest Christina Church in the world,

> the Topkapi Palace, the imperial residence of the Ottoman sultans with displays of priceless world-class collections of artifacts, jewelry and rare porcelains,

> the Blue Mosque that is unique with its 6 minarets and famous for its blue Iznik tiles,

> the Hippodome Square where ancient chariot races were held, and

> the famous grand covered bazaar.

Saturday, October 15 – private Istanbul departure from the hotel to the airport. Private Athens arrival transfer from the airport to hotel, welcome dinner at the Athens Hotel.

Saturday, October 15 - Tuesday, October 17:

two nights at Athens at a first class Dorian Inn Hotel, or similar, double occupancy room, buffet breakfast daily.

Monday, October 16 – half day at Athens sightseeing tour, > Acropolis and Acropolis, the crowning beauty and glory of the Ancient Athens, Parthenon, Propylea, temple of Athena, Nike and Erechtheion, Porch of maidens,

> drive to the Roman temple of Olympic Zeus, Panathinaikon stadium, the site of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896,

> the Tomb of the unknown Soldier in front of the Parliament House on Constitution Square

> view the government buildings and elegant structures of the 19th century,

> drive along Panepistimiou Avenue to see the Catholic Cathedral, the Academy, University, National Library.

>>>



The Parthenon in Acropolis, Athens



The Majesty

Monday, October 17 – private Athens transfer from the hotel to Pireaus Port for departure on cruise with the Louis Majesty.

Monday, October 17 – Friday, October 21: night cruise, Category 1B STANDARD INSIDE cabins, double occupancy, all meals, port taxes, fuel surcharges all included.

Day port of call arrival departure is, as follows:

Monday, October 17, 11: am – Piraeus,

6:00 pm – 11:00 pm: Mykonos, **Breakfast and dinner CME;**

Tuesday, October 18, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm – Kusadasi, Turkey **Breakfast and dinner CME;**

4:00 pm – 9:00 pm Patmos, Greece

Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm - Rhodes, Greece **Breakfast and dinner CME;**

Thursday, October 20, 7:00 am – 11:30 am: Heraklion (Crete) Greece



Blue Mosque, Istanbul, Turkey

4:30 pm – 9:00 pm: Santorini, Greece **Breakfast and dinner CME;**
Friday October 21 - Athens (Piraeus) Greece, private



Mykonos, Greece



Patmos, Greece



Ephesus, Kusadasi, Turkey



Rhodes, Greece

transfer from port to airport.

Proposed Air Itinerary (included) based on availability at time of confirmation)



Horse riding in Crete, Greece



Santorini, Greece

LH435W Tuesday October 12 ORD FRA 3:40 pm > 6:50 am, Wednesday;

LH11298W Wednesday, October 13 FRA IST 9:10 am > 1:00 pm, Thursday;

OA316K Saturday October 15, IST ATH 10:35 am > 11:55 am, Saturday;

LH 1279S Friday, October 21, ATH FRA 1:40 pm > 3:35 pm, Friday;

LH432S Friday, FRA ORD 5:35 pm > 7:30 pm Friday.

Charges: all air, port, hotel and service are included.

Total cost per person for package in double occupancy: \$2889 which includes all air/port taxes.

Triple occupancy: \$2799

Quad Occupancy: \$2729

3rd or 4th Child rate sharing with 2 adults: \$1999

Outside cabin upgrade \$150 per person (double occupancy.

>>>

Tour departing October 25 - November 04, 2011 will have a \$100 per person reduction.

The package price includes: Roundtrip Airfare from Chicago to Istanbul, and return from Athens, including all air taxes and fuel services.

Air flight between Istanbul and Athens.

Two-night accommodations in Athens at the first class Dorian Inn Hotel, or similar, breakfast and dinner included.

Four-night Greek isle cruise on the Louis Majesty of Louis Cruises, standard inside cabin category IB, all meals on board ship.

Full-day Istanbul tour, including lunch.

Half-day Athens City sightseeing tour including the Acropolis, fully-escorted transfers throughout itinerary, full portorage and baggage handling of 1 piece per person.

All site entrance fees, all hotel taxes and service charges, ground transportation via deluxe air conditioned motor coaches tour conducted by licensed English speaking guide.

Deluxe document holders.

Services of Apollo Tours Athens Staff.

A deposit is due within 7 days after confirmation and may include full prepayment of international air.

Full payment is due 45 days prior to departure, or whichever comes first.

Apollo Tours reserves the right to cancel any itinerary if deposit and payments are not received by the specified dates.

Revision fee of \$30 per revision will be charged after confirmation.

Cancellation fees of \$200 per person PLUS additional applicable cancellation penalties charged by airlines or cruise companies if cancelled after confirmation.

All arrangements cancelled within 30 days of departure are NON-REFUNDABLE.

Airfares are subject to change without prior notice until date of ticket issuance. Prices are subject to change without prior notice up to receipt of deposit. Receipt of any deposit will represent acceptance of Apollo terms and conditions.

For further details, inquire with:

N BLANKAS HERNAEZ MD
ednida@sbcglobal.net
CESAR V REYES MD
acvrear@aol.com

Apollo Tours 1701

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IL 60025 **CARIMA**
SALAMEH (847-293-3411)
csalameh@apollotours.com
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Telephone 847-724-3270
Fax 847-724-3277

ACCREDITATION

*The Philippine Medical Association in Chicago is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. This course meets the criteria for **14.0** credit hours in Category I of the American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award. CME credits to be received by the participants will be limited to the actual hours attended at the seminar.*

Editorials

commentary,
news releases,
letters to the editor,
column proposal
and manuscripts are invited.

Email submission,
including figures or pictures,
is preferred.

ECTOPIC MURMURS

Deadline for the May 2011
issue:

April 30, 2011

Email to acvrear@aol.com

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Do you want to know a little bit more about the Student Achievement Awards? The cost for each Student Achievement Award is \$50. If you want your award in perpetuity, it is \$1050. You can label your award in your name, or in the name of the person you wish to honor. So let me challenge you to channel the extra dollars of your donation/ charity budget to recognize an honor-roll needy student or two at the medical school. Your donation(s) are tax-deductible. Please make your check payable to

FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation.

Your donation this year will be awarded during the Student Recognition of the 2012 Balik-FEU in mid-January 2012 at the FEU-NRMF Institute of Medicine, in West Fairview, Quezon City. If you want you can also distribute your award(s) in person during the ceremonies! Let me hear from you about your award(s).

CESAR V REYES MD⁶⁸

6530 Dunham Road,
Downers Grove, IL 60516
Phone 815-942-2932 x7565 or
acvrear@sbcglobal.net

JOINT GET TOGETHER PARTY

Class⁶³, Class⁶⁴ and Class⁶⁵

Thursday, June 16, 2011

6:00 pm

Venue: Café

Spring Mountain & Jones
Dinner, Karaoke and dancing

Hosts

Dr Art Basa

440-525-0909 216-244-4348

Dr Daniel Fabito

Dr Reggie Tobias

702-622-2974

Dr Linda Fabito

702 -622-2976

If you have prior dinner commitment, you are welcome to join us during dancing, karaoke and singing

If you plan to golf, please make reservation with Drs D Fabito, Tony Zantua, or A Basa, at least two weeks before the reunion to be included in foursomes.

Balik-FEU 2012 January 19-21, 2012

Venue Crowne Plaza Galleria
at Ortigas & EDSA

CELEBRANTS

Class⁶² (Golden Jubilee)

Class⁸⁶ (Silver Jubilee)

Class⁶⁶ (Sapphire Jubilee)

Class⁷¹ (Ruby Jubilee)

Class⁷⁶ (Coral Jubilee)

Class⁸¹ (Pearl Jubilee)

Class⁹¹ (20th Anniversary)

Class⁹⁶ (15th Anniversary)

Class⁰¹ (10th Anniversary)

32nd Annual Reunion & Scientific Convention June 15 – 18, 2011



Monte Carlo Resort & Casino, Las Vegas NV

Hotel room rate for June 15th-16th \$50/night

June 17th-18th, \$115/night, plus taxes

Telephone (888) 529-4828

(702) 730-7000

Hotel Reservation deadline

May 15, 2011

Celebrants

Class⁶¹ (Golden Jubilee)

Class⁸⁶ (Silver Jubilee)

Class⁶⁶ (Sapphire Jubilee)

Class⁷¹ (Ruby Jubilee)

Class⁷⁶ (Coral Jubilee)

Class⁸¹ (Pearl Jubilee)

Class⁹¹ (20th Anniversary)

Class⁹⁶ (15th Anniversary)

Class⁰¹ (10th Anniversary)

UERM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Inc

42nd annual medical alumni homecoming, February 6-10, 2012

to honor GOLDEN JUBILARIANS CLASS⁶² and SILVER JUBILARIANS CLASS⁸⁷.

Contact Ms Ida Tabuzo, UERMMMCI, 64 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City, (632)715-0861
local 319 / 0920-6748830 Email uerm_alumni@yahoo.com or uerm-med_alumni@yahoo.com

GAWAD KALINGA



GK GAWAD KALINGA USA
PRESENTS

THE PHILIPPINE HOPE Ball
LAS VEGAS

SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011 . 5PM
A BLACK TIE EVENT

SPECIAL GUESTS:
VICE PRESIDENT JEJOMAR BINAY
EFREN PENAFLOIDA
ANTONIO P. MELOTO
STEPHANIE REESE

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES: MIKE & LUZ MICABALO 702.375.7874 OR
MAGGIE VILLANUEVA GKUSAINFO@GK1WORLD.COM 1.866.543.8026

WWW.GK1WORLD.COM/USA

MONTE CARLO RESORT & CASINO
GRAND BALLROOM | 3770 LAS VEGAS BLVD, SOUTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89109

Join *Gawad Kalinga USA (GK USA)* on Saturday, April 30th, to celebrate the completion of GK USA's 1st Hope Village which is being constructed in *Bagong Silang*, Metro-Manila, Philippines.

To be held at the Monte Carlo Hotel in Las Vegas, NV, the Hope Ball will be a gathering of GK supporters, *kababayan*, or families and friends, from all over including celebrity advocates such as Taboo from The Black Eyed Peas, Sony/Epic recording artist Jasmine Villegas, and Miss Saigon's, Stephanie Reese to name a few.

As well as renowned guests including, CNN Hero of the Year Efren Penaflorida, GK Founder Antonio Meloto, and Vice President of the Philippines Jejomar Binay, and more!

On April 30th, partners and beneficiaries will connect LIVE via Skype at the ball. It's not too late to be a part of this momentous event! Be the bearer of hope. Make a difference that lasts a lifetime. Be part of a living legacy. Then, come celebrate the victory with us in Las Vegas!

It's with great excitement that I greet you as chairman and CEO of GKUSA Foundation, Inc. We are honored this year to be the cause for two of the most inspiring social events of year — the Philippine GK Hope Ball and Golf Classic. These events will be held in Las Vegas on Saturday, April 30, and will bring together the most eminent and prominent leaders in the continental USA the who's who among the FilAms who have had longing to give back but may not know how. This year's campaign will also highlight the new breed of Filipinos in America who fuel their love for beloved Philippines not with words but with action, and not because one is *Ilocano* or *Visaya* but because he/she is Filipino. The Philippine GK Hope Ball and Golf Classic are the celebration of a campaign where we hope to provide homes to 150 families in *Bagong Silang*, Philippines through *Gawad Kalinga* in what would be a flagship village for all to honor and admire as one's own.

Between now and April 30, 150 homes will rise. And they will rise because you have chosen to partake of true charity-where giving is not a dole out but as an investment in restoring human dignity. We Filipinos in America will build, and we will build as one! Ultimately, these events seek to establish a legacy of hope and a sense of harmony that will translate into valuable support on the ground for the poor of the Philippines. The *Gawad Kalinga* Philippines Hope Ball and Golf Classic will bring together for the first time diverse sectors in the Filipino community in the US to create something more important than history: HOPE.

See you in Las Vegas on Saturday, April 30 *Walang iwanan!*

TONY OLAES, GK USA Chairman & CEO