

THE RAPIDS NEWSLETTER

An official publication of the Pagsanjan Club of California

May, 2004

Series No. 1

From the Editor's Desk...

This is the first Pagsanjan Club Newsletter issued for sometime. The last one was issued some nine years ago by the then President **Lorie Opelano Buencamino**. Our goal is to publish this newsletter at least twice a year. We want this to be a vehicle by which an exchange of thoughts, ideas, concerns and just any relevant information is facilitated. Through this, you will learn more about your club and its many worthwhile activities. We hope that through awareness, we will be able to elicit greater involvement from the membership. You can start by sending us your news articles. If you just came back from a visit to Pagsanjan, tell us how it is back there. It does not matter how you write it. Send it to us in any form. Scribble it on a dinner napkin, on a pad paper, on a dollar bill or on anything. Send it to us through the mail, in a diskette or CD, as e-mail, or via voice or text message. Say it in Tagalog, English, Spanish, French, Ilocano, Pampango, Waray, Cebuano, Ilonggo, Bicolano, or any other dialect and somehow we will get it printed.

Ely Trinidad graciously offered to publish the newsletter in the Pagsanjan Website that he is hosting at www.pagsanjan.org. We will also mail a copy of each issue to all the members of the club.●

You may send your news articles to:

Pagsanjan Club Newsletter
C/O Rodel B. Ual
5909 Edgefield Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90713
Email: RodelUal@yahoo.com

President's Message...

2003 was another banner year for the Pagsanjan Club of California. We continued to pursue the objectives of a group dedicated to the welfare of its hometown while providing a venue where townmates can get together and have fun.

We embarked on several activities each of which provided fun and entertainment for the membership while generating funds for our civic endeavors. We had the turn-around to Laughlin, Nevada, the Luau in September, and the Christmas caroling in San Diego and Los Angeles areas culminated by our fiesta celebration in December. We showed our solidarity by helping ensure the success of the Grand Reunion in New York in July 2003.

Almost unnoticed were the efforts of the dedicated members who volunteered their time and efforts in preparing for each activity. I salute them for working so hard to keep the group together. Their only reward is the satisfaction of having served the membership well.

We continue to provide scholarships to deserving students from Pagsanjan. We support the Puericulture Center by providing funds for medicines our kababayans back home could not afford.

I am pleased to report that the Pagsanjenos in California have been generous with their donations and we hope they will continue to do so.●

...**Gloria Apolo Dinfotan**
President

Pagsanjan Club of California Membership. It goes a long ...long way!

The \$20.00 annual membership fee is not much but indeed it goes a long way. Your fee is deposited into the club's interest bearing account. The interest earned on this account is used towards the many projects that the club is undertaking such as the celebration of our town fiesta. We give financial support to Filipino groups who are involved in the promotion of our culture and traditions like the Dance Troupe. We also grant aids to the different barrio schools that find themselves in dire need of school supplies. We send books to our libraries and other donated items to various organizations. The club membership lends support to the bi-annual Pagsanjan Reunion that began nine years ago. We are taking a supportive role in the planning and organizing of the next Grand Reunion in San Francisco, California in July 2005.

Being an active member gives you the feeling that you are a contributor to worthy causes and that you are sharing your good fortunes with our indigent kababayans back home. **Your club officials cannot do it alone! We need your help! We need your involvement!** Call me at telephone number (714) 775-7160 for anything you want to share with our kababayans.●

...**Marina Villarica Garcia**
Vice President

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“On your way up, remember the people you leave behind. You might need them later to cushion your fall.” R. B. Ual

25th Anniversary Update

Laguna Woods in Orange County will be the setting of a much-awaited celebration of Pagsanjan Club of California's 25th Anniversary. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new friends and renew acquaintances with folks you might not have seen for a while. It will be very likely that you will meet some townmates you do not even know are in the country.

The affair will be held at Clubhouse Number 2 of Leisure World in Laguna Woods on July 17, 2004 starting at 3:00 p.m. **Pianing and Livia Limlengco**, residents of Laguna Woods, are helping with all the preparations.

Mark your calendars and watch your mails for further details.●

Club Scholars

Following is a list of Pagsanjenos our club has helped and is continuing to help:

Freddie Babaan - Finished high school from Pagsanjan Academy. Graduated from Laguna Maritime Academy as a Merchant Marine in March 2003.

Iris Penaverde – Finished high school from Pagsanjan Academy. Graduated **Cum Laude** from AMA Computer College with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in August 2003, two semesters ahead of schedule.

Mary Margie Litan – Finished high school from Pedro Guevara High School. Studied Nursing in San Pablo City and will be transferring to MCU this coming school year.

Juvieann Mogol – Will be on her third year of high school at Pedro Guevara High School.

Rhea Marie Malonzo – Will be on her third year of high school at Pagsanjan Academy.

We solicited recommendations from three elementary schools in Pagsanjan for prospective high school freshmen scholars. At this writing, we have not received any response from the school principals. We are continuing our search.

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With Deepest Sympathy....

The Pagsanjan Club of California extends its sincere condolences to the family of **Atty. David Velasco**, past Club President and one of the original organizers, who passed away on April 4, 2004 at age 86. He is survived by his wife and seven children. Noted for his civic mindedness, he established an orphanage in Pila, Laguna five years ago that is now the sanctuary for seventeen homeless children. Let us all remember him and his family in our prayers. ●

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New Grandparents....

Lib (Opelanio) and Rick Ramos became grandparents with the birth of **Faith Angelina** to their daughter **Lorelei** and her husband, **Dave Baptista**.

Gloria (Apolo) Dinfotan had a grandson named **Elliot** from her son **Ronald** and his wife.

Connie (Edesan) and Orly Reyes became first time grandparents with the birth of their granddaughter, **Megan Hanako Reyes**.

Seen In Town

Roslyn Kimhoko Cabrera (PA '60), a native Pagsanjena and now a resident of Davao City, visited her friends and relatives in the US. She joined the Pagsanjan Club carolers in San Diego. She was

also present during the fiesta celebration last December.

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Kudos

Julia (Gigi) Reodica, daughter of **Lita (Labit) and Mario Reodica**, was a guest artist/lecturer at a biotechnology and art conference in Bristol, UK. Do it yourself DNA DAY was the theme and Gigi facilitated DNA isolation activities with participants. The lecture continued by showing how artists like her would create engaging art exhibits from scientific research. Gigi resides in Troy, NY and is teaching and finishing her masters degree at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Michael Rodel M. Ual is the top candidate for **Valedictorian** when he graduates from Saint John Bosco High School on June 4, 2004. He was also the Junior High School Valedictorian from Trinity Christian School in 2000. He will be attending the University of California, Berkeley this fall.

And they're going.....

Several member couples and their friends are going on a Western Caribbean cruise on the third week of August. Contact **Lib Ramos** at LibRick@cox.net if you are interested.

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