



FILIPINAS

YFAP Valentine Party

Come and join us!!!

Saturday, February 4, 2012

Phipps Garden Center

1059 Shady Avenue ♦ Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232

Near the intersection of Shady Ave and Braeburn Pl.

412-441-4442

7:00 - 11:00 pm

Food served 8:00 - 9:00 pm

\$20 per ticket

Dancing, Raffles, Games, Gift Shop and Chinese Auction

Semi-Formal Attire

**Make your Check payable to FAAP*

mail to: Marita Sebastian,

172 Southridge Drive ♦ Cranberry Township, PA 16066

** Change will be provided for meter parking.*

Our objective is to Generate donations for the Sendong victims. Net proceeds of the event will be donated to the victims. Malou Intong, whose family still resides in Iligan City, will be present to answer questions.

Everyone is encouraged to make a tax deductible contribution to benefit the Typhoon Sendong Relief Campaign. Donations which will be collected at the party or can be mailed to Cora Bakth, 5460 Northumberland St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 2012! Let it be another productive and fun-filled year!

As we usher in the new year, our FAAP Membership Committee wishes to remind current and past members to renew their membership ASAP. For your convenience, we have enclosed in this first issue the application/renewal form and a return envelope. As always, we encourage new members to join our FAAP family!

It occurs to me just now that we have never spelled out in black and white all the benefits - tangible and intangible - of an FAAP membership. I think it's as good a time as any to list as many as I can think of (with an angel looking over my shoulder for help!) This is in no particular order and I apologize in advance for missed items:

BENEFITS: Free Picnic, Free Christmas Party, Participation in cultural events such as the Pittsburgh International Folk Festival and other ethnic programs in the tri-state area, FAAP Directory every other year, 4 quarterly issues of FILIPINAS Newsletter (hard copies and online), monthly BALITA and special issues, Discounted entrance to Induction Ball and other events, Scholarship Awards (Jan Maramba and Asian-American Heritage Awards & Luncheon), Health and Wellness Clinic as well as other charitable benefits.



SOME MORE: Charitable donations to the Philippines; Folk Dance training by our Dance Troupe choreographers, free use of costumes and props, YFAP events such as educational and cultural Field Trips, Consular Outreach programs, sports and recreation programs, and food at every gathering – especially beloved Filipino dishes. Year round cultural, charitable, and educational events among the Fil-Am members and non-members, kinship with Filipino-American families and “kababayans”, networking, leadership skills training in the YFAP, exposure of our families, especially our children, to the traditions, customs and ways of our homeland, voluntary work by all the officers/board members/committee members/members, including spouses and families, providing, in short, a home away from home.

INTANGIBLES: The listing above is already pretty extensive, but I bet I can pose a challenge for our members to come up with even more benefits to complete our list. What else do you feel you get out of belonging to the FAAP? Do write, email or just call. I think I have a pretty direct line to our editor so I can talk her into publishing your answers!

Happy New Year; Manigong Bagong Taon!

*– Jun Calejesan
FAAP President: 2011-2012*

CONDOLENCE

To Juanito Co, Marian and their children, on the recent demise of Nitoy's beloved mother, FLORENCIA SALVADOR CO, in the Philippines. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Christmas Party 2011 - An Affair to Remember

Fanny D. Eudela Spanos, Chair
 Malou Intong, Marie Young, Co-Chairs

The celebration of the 2011 Christmas Party, held at the Bethel Park Community Center, was exciting, filled with the joy of friendship and Christmas spirit.

My heartfelt thanks to the helping hands of the many volunteers who made the event an "Affair to remember." To **Myrna Bella** and her family for the beautiful table decorations and centerpieces and to **Bonnie Reyes** who did the very creative Christmas table tags. The event started with a Holy Mass celebrated by **Father Mat Quimno**, through the arrangement made by **Joji & Tom Smith**, and a warm welcome by the FAAP President **Jun Calejesan**. This was followed by the beautiful rendition of our US National Anthem by our lovely young ladies: **Gabrielle Young, Christabelle Intong, Sharmaine Tolosa & Annie Spanos**, and the Philippine National Anthem by **Claire Rethage** and **Sharmaine Tolosa**.

The "sariling ating" parol decorations lent by **Andy & Fely Ticzon, Beth and Awel Villegas, Jun and Cynthia, and Odette and George Ong**, were really admired by our guests. To **Jae Villao, Olie Angeles & Mark Knapp** for putting up all the lanterns, the 2 flagpoles and the FAAP Banner. To **Rey Cuevas** for volunteering his time and labor in making the 2 flagpoles. Big applause for our energetic **DJ Vince Gancia**.



The children were happy to participate in the Traditional "Mano Po" by our loving **Lola Esther Miranda** and her two daughters, **Ala & Marieta Miranda**, followed by our jolly Santa Claus, **Hector Portugal** and his elf **Marilou Intong**. The entertainment was heartwarming and varied. The Nativity Scene idea from the choral group under the leadership of **Anatalya Cabeguin**, finalized by **Carmen & Dave Shively** and the support of all the parents and cast members for reviving memories of Christmas back home. The Nativity cast: **Kristina Pacifico** as Mary, **Michael Pacifico** as Joseph:

the 3 kings : **Jae Villao, Gerald Dampil & Joshua Feich**; In-Keeper: **Boboy Cabili** ; Angel Gariel : **Pearl Joy Rethage**, Angels : **Dalisay Quemado, Peighton Walsh, Aris Pastor, Mary Elizabeth Fey, Annie Spanos, Jamee Cabili, Christabelle Intong, Tiffany Thomas, Sharmaine Tolosa, Gabrielle Young, Ela Young, Jennifer Kinder, Jaime Delre, Sophia Ramos, Audrey Hohn, & Aleya Calauad**; The Shepherds: **Gary Dampil, Jacob Feich & Preston Mears**. The nativity animals: camel brought by **Gloria & Curt Lamperski**; great narration by: **Jennifer Sebastian**; beautiful rendition of "O Holy Night " by: **Gabrielle Young**, and our budding violinists: **Marissa Bella, Hanna Lea Resnik & Yani Quemado**, were soothing and such a pleasure to listen to; the FAAP Dance Troupe for another splendid performance! Thanks to **Nenette Angeles, Judith Portugal, Lilian**



Stefanick, and all the parents for their dedication and support.

The choral group: **Marilou Treglia, Merlin (D-ding) Tolosa, Mila Lopez, Nancy McIntyre, Dolly Lansang, Eldee Capillan, Ben and Lorna Pacifico, Lorna Cabili, Jun & Cynthia C., Marina Rethage, Fe Michalek, Atring Miraveles, Joji Smith, Fanny Spanos, Beth & Awel Villegas**, under the direction of **Anatalya Cabeguin**, accompanied by our wonderful guitarists, **Paterno Miraveles & Chris Manuel**. Thank you for sharing your precious time coming to my home and Homeville Christian Church for Sunday practices over two months.

The membership committee, led by **Dave and Carmen Shively** assisted by **Gerry Cobbs**, did an excellent job of registering and welcoming the members and guests, including the new sign-ups. **Pastor Dave Shively** offered a wonderful invocation.

The delicious foods were made possible by our excellent cooks who volunteered their time and talents: **Marilou Treglia, Sarah Sherf** - Baked Salmon, **Dolly Lansang** and **Nancy McIntyre**- Palabok, **D-ding Tolosa and Bong Tolosa**, - Dinuguan with puto, **Maria Cobbs** - Ginataan, **Joji Smith**, lasagna and macaroni and cheese, **Marie**



Christmas Party 2011 - An Affair to Remember

Young - fried chicken; First lechon was prepared and roasted at **Tom & Joji Smith's residence** by **Rodel Quemado, Jun C. and Joji's brother-in-law**; the second lechon - cooked by **Diane & Larry Podsiadlo**; Fruit Salad - **Carmen Shively**, Leche Flan - **Lexie Petilla, Gloria Lamperski, Lorna Pacifico** and **Precy Hermicilla** -sariling atin Suman and to all who donated their favorite desserts, drinks and canned goods for the food bank. **Thank you very much.**

Million thanks to **Marilou and Franco Treglia** for helping with the shopping and transporting the food up to the last minute; to **Lulu and Auntie Natalya**, for helping us roll the shanghai lumpianitos even past midnight. To **Sarah Sherf, Marina Rethage, Maria Cobbs, D-ding and Bong Tolosa** for slicing all the vegetables, meats and ingredients for the main dishes.

To all our energetic food servers and those who helped arrange and replenish the chafing trays headed by **Marie Young** and her charming angels: **D-ding Tolosa, Mila Lopez, Eden Delre, Joji Smith, Dolly Lansang, Eldee Capillan, Fe Michalek, Maria Cobbs, Nancy McIntyre**. My kitchen crew, with all their smiles and laughter, who did the non-stop cooking of pancit, veggie eggrolls headed by **Lorna**

Cabili, Lorna Pacifico, Flora Najos and Phil Mendoza. To **Boboy Cabili, Bobot Nera and Ralph Munizza** for chopping lechon, ham and clean-up.

Collection of canned goods was coordinated by the youth group, Tiangge and Bake Sale by **Deedee and Hector Portugal, Nenette and Olie Angeles, Linda Sabido, Eva Resnik and Marita Sebastian**. Thanks to **Irna Knapp and Ben Pacifico** for being the lively Emcees for the evening and **Malou Intong** for collecting prizes and gifts for the Christmas party.

Thanks to **Marilou Treglia, Marina Rethage, Eva Resnik, Becky and Rodel Quemado** for supervising the parol-making contest, one of the evening's highlights. **CONGRATULATIONS** to all who participated and tried their very best to make a beautiful parol. Our winners: 1st place: **Sharmaine Tolosa and Alexandra Knapp**, 2nd place: **Kristopher and Brandon McWen** and 3rd place: **Aubrey Knapp and Claire Rethage**. Thanks to **Andy and Fely Ticzon, Cora and Sham Bakth, Cherry and Robert Woolhandler and Gloria and Curts Lamperski**, for sponsoring the parol prizes. To our Judges: **Nenette Angeles, Buddy Portugal, Carmen Shively and Cynthia Calejesan**. The winner of our Oldest Guest, **Lola Esther Miranda**, 95 yrs.old, and the youngest guest **Baby Antonio George James Calub**, 7 months old. Prizes donated by **Nancy McIntyre and Teody Schipper**.

For transporting the food and equipment: **Jae and Trudy Villao, Chris Manuel, Franco Treglia, Marie Young, Marina Rethage, Ameer Dampil and Mila Lopez**. Thank you for your helping hands. All parents and guests who helped in the breakdown and clean-up especially: **Lorna and Boboy Cabili, Ben & Lorna Pacifico, Cynthia and Jun C., Marilou Intong, Marilou Treglia, Carmen & Dave Shively, Flora Najos, D-ding & Bong Tolosa, Marina Rethage & Natalya Cabeguin, Marie Young and Phil Mendoza**.

Our gratitude goes to **Jun and Cynthia Calejesan** for donating the juicy and yummy hams and cost of labor for one lechon, to **Teody Schipper** for the printing of the Christmas program. To everyone who supported our Bake Sale, Tiangge, Food Drive, to our friends and guests, the Christmas committee thanks you all for your generous support. To our energetic FAAP Board and officers and the leadership of our President. To my co-chairs : **Marilou Intong and Marie Young, thanks to you both for sharing your precious time and energy. Daghang Salamat!**

To my wonderful and loving daughter **Annie Spanos**, for her patience, understanding and kindness, sharing our home with everyone with a smile. **Maraming salamat, anak!**

Happy New Year Everyone! **Maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat!**



COMMITTEES ON PARADE

***Communications Committee – Marita Sebastian, Chair**

The Board has approved the merger of Balita and Community Bulletin in 2012. This publication will include news/events/articles that are significant to the Filipino American community in Pittsburgh and surrounding areas. The Information Systems Officer will be responsible for publication and transmission of Balita. Balita will come out on a monthly basis or as needed.

***Nominations and Elections Committee – Teody Schipper
Members: Nenette Angeles, Warren Bulseco, Cynthia Calejesan, Irna de Leon Knapp and Tina Purpura**

The Nominating Committee is requesting nominations for Board Director positions from the FAAP general membership with a deadline set for **March 8, 2012**. Afterwards, the committee goes through a screening and interview process with the nominees. This entire process enables the committee to form a slate of qualified candidates, which slate is presented to the Board for endorsement, prior to the election at the annual picnic in July 2012.

Qualifications: Nomination and election as Board Director requires membership and service in an FAAP committee for at least one year. The committee requires an answer to the following questions:

1. What does the FAAP mean to me?
2. How can I best use my talents in service to the FAAP and its members?
3. Name the committee you have participated in before. For new candidates, please state which committee(s) you are interested in joining. For example: Education, Cultural, Charity, Membership, Picnic / Christmas Party.

***CHARITY COMMITTEE – Cora Bakth, Chair**

The Charity Committee has been busy from the closing days of 2011 right into the new year. Flooding from Typhoon Sendong dealt severe hardships to Iligan and Cagayan de Oro so monetary donations were quickly sent to the First United Methodist Church (Iligan) and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church (Cagayan de Oro). The needs remain great so tax-deductible

donations are still being solicited by the FAAP through Balita and direct phone calls. Deadline for contributions is **February 7, 2012**. These contributions will be hand-carried by Cora Bakth and daughter Melissa, who are leaving for the Philippines at that time. **ALL** the monies will be used for immediate purchase of much needed items like mosquito nets, kitchen equipment, linens and other such necessities.

Relief Boxes: Since the New York Philippine Consulate has offered to ship relief boxes to the Philippines without cost to local fundraisers, FAAP is also accepting new and gently-used clothing, towels, sheets and non-perishable foods. Drop-off points are the homes of Malou Intong, Fanny Spanos and Homeville Church. These will then be delivered to New York/New Jersey. Deadline is also **2/7/12**.

The Second Annual Health and Wellness Fair is being planned and will be announced later this year.

***CULTURAL – Becky Quemado, Chair**

This committee aims to promote understanding of the Filipino culture among its members and the general public in the Greater Pittsburgh area through its Dance Troupe performances, participation in cultural events such as the Pittsburgh Folk Festival, Festival of Nations (W.Va.), Int'l Village Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Asian Days at Heinz History Center and Kennywood Park. The committee is also studying ways to be self-sustaining. Do **SAVE THE DATES** for the **Pittsburgh Folk Festival: May 18, 19 & 20**.

***MEMBERSHIP – Carmen Shively, Chair**

Joining the Filipino American Association of Pittsburgh (FAAP) provides members the opportunity to share, appreciate and learn about the Philippine culture; to be a part of a positive social network supporting and strengthening the Filipino American community; and to encourage the youth to grow in their understanding of the Philippine heritage.

FAAP membership fosters a sense of purpose, commitment, definition and community. Most importantly, it offers fun and fellowship with other Filipina Americans and friends. FAAP membership welcomes you; be a part of this unique and dynamic association.

Welcome to the following new members: **Henna and Primo Bautista; Rose and Romeo Calauad and children; Nitoy and Marian Co and children; Alpa**

COMMITTEES ON PARADE CONTINUED

and Christopher Epondulan and children; Jocelyn and Andrw Hohn and children; Lorly Kensinger and children; Paterno and Esterella Miraveles ; Rose Padden; Tim and Felicisima Padden; John and Dezza Pastor and children; Christine Silo; Mario and Raffaella Silva and child.

Save the dates: Araw ng Kalayaan (Independence Day) 6/10/12

Consular Outreach: 8/11/12

***PICNIC – Fanny Spanos, Chair**

When : 1st or 2nd week of July, depending on the availability of the place.

Where : Vietnam Veterans Pavilion, Schenley Park, Pittsburgh, Pa

Members and Guests: Bring a gallon of water, drinks and dessert to share.

Members : Free entrance

Guests: Adults - \$10.00 per person; 5 yrs. old to 12 - \$5.00; Free - under 5 yrs.

Games - Volleyball tourney, Children's Games and Activities

***SPORTS & RECREATION – Mark Knapp, Ed Intong, co-chairs**

1. Basketball Weekly Pick-up games is continuing at the St. Mary of the Mount Gym. School policy requires a fee of \$30 per session (negotiated down from \$75), payable monthly at the start of the month (\$120), for gym use to cover lighting, water, etc. Fees are paid through collection from players.
2. Fifth FAAP Annual 5K Charity Race is planned for September this year. Traditionally at North Park, there is are plans to synchronize this with the Health Fair at Schenley park.
3. Pacquiao books shall continue to be promoted for fund raising purposes (\$19.90 donation) during FAAP events (e.g. Valentine's Party, Picnic, Christmas party, etc.) Limited supplies available.
4. Annual Ticzon Cup Volleyball Tournament will be conducted during the summer Picnic.

5. Drive for more memberships through sports is continuing and shall be coordinated with Membership Committee.

***YFAP – Jennifer Sebastian, Kristin Portugal, Co-presidents**

The YFAP Valentine Party at Phipps Garden Center (see front page) kicks off our year's activities. Field trips are being planned to the Museum of Art, Natural History, Rock 'n Roll Museum and Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio as well as a camping trip to Assateague Island National Seashore.

Fundraising activities include a Flores de Mayo/ Santacruzán for Mother's Day, Bake Sales, Car Wash, Food Sales at different events and Christmas Caroling. Charities being considered are Sendong victims, a Philippine Charity still to be chosen, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Food Bank.

***INDUCTION BALL – Carmen Shively, Jae Villao, Co-chairs**

Save the date: Saturday, October 27, 2012, Crowne Plaza

***FOLK FESTIVAL – Lexie Petilla, Jun Calejesan, Co-chairs**

The 2012 Pittsburgh Folk Festival will be held at the Monroeville Convention Center on May 18, 19 and 20. This is the 55th year of a great international festival celebrating the cultural traditions of the many ethnicities that are represented in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Dancers from countries all over the world will present colorful folk dances. Many nationalities will have food booths with very wonderful ethnic delicacies. Most participating groups will have a beautiful display booth showing their interpretation of this year's theme: A Festival of Festivals. And there will also be an international marketplace where many different types of wares are for sale. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy themselves and learn about traditions from all over. Still TBA, the exact hours and ticket prices.

Newsletter

Policies and Guidelines

We welcome input from our readers.

For consideration of print publication, please send/e-mail material to:
tingtinge@hotmail.com or
Cynthia R. Calejesan, 159
Kermiet Dr., Monaca, Pa. 15061

Letters, comments and articles will be edited for accuracy, clarity, and length and should be in keeping with the mission we have set for ourselves.

All submissions should be signed with the full name of the sender. Please provide your home/cellphone numbers for verification purposes.

Submissions – the earlier the better – should be received no later than the 15th of the month previous to the month the issue comes out. For ex. Mar. 15 is the deadline for the April 15 issue.

STAFF

Publisher

Filipino American Association
of Pittsburgh

Editor in Chief

Cynthia R. Calejesan

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Christine Manigan

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Lori Cabili
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Rodel Quemado

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Fanny Spanos

Circulation Manager

Dave and Carmen Shively

GIRLS HOPE OF PITTSBURGH

Over the break, the Cotillion girls were invited to visit the Girls Hope of Pittsburgh. Unfortunately, only Kristi and I were able to attend. We were toured around the house and given information about their routines. We met a few of the girls that were home and got the chance to talk and listen to them share their experiences as scholars of Girls Hope of Pittsburgh. The youngest scholars in the house are in middle school and the oldest range from High School to College. Many enjoy sports, dancing, and other interests. While we were visiting, they were wrapping gifts for a family. Kristi and I even helped them wrap a gift. I am so glad that the YFAP chose Girls Hope of Pittsburgh for their donation.



-Sharmaine Tolosa



Raja Brooke's Birdwing

This butterfly is about as big as an adult hand. It is a powerful flier. Sometimes it can be seen gliding over the surf where streams meet the sea. The males are drawn to water, often drinking from wet mud on riverbanks. Females prefer higher ground. The caterpillar is dark brown or grey with a large black head and soft, yellowish-brown spines. It feeds on leaves of the pipevine. This butterfly is found in Palawan.

NEWSLETTER MISSION

The Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the FAAP which keeps members informed on FAAP's year-round activities, governance and special events. It aims to promote Filipino culture, foster a sense of unity among its members and cultivate the goodwill of the Greater Pittsburgh community.



Carmen Shively
Membership Chair
4610 Eliza
West Mifflin, PA 15122

2012 Calendar of Events

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Jan 21 | 1Q FAAP Board Meeting |
| Feb 4 | YFAP Valentine's Party |
| Mar TBA | FSA Barrio Fiesta, University of Pittsburgh |
| Apr 14 | 2Q FAAP Board Meeting |
| May 4 | Asian American Heritage Students Awards Luncheon |
| May 13 | Asian Day at Kennywood Park |
| May 18,19,20 | Pittsburgh Folk Festival, Monroeville Conv. Ctr. |
| Jun 10 | Araw ng Kalayaan (Independence Day)
Spring Classic 5K Race |
| Jun 16 | 3Q FAAP Board Meeting |
| Jul 14 | Annual Picnic & Elections |
| August 11 | Consular Outreach, Homeville Church |
| Aug 14,15,16 | Int'l Village Festival, Renziehausen Park,
McKeesport |
| Sept 9 | Fall Classic 5K Race/Walk, North Park |
| Sept TBA | Dragon Boat Festival, Riverfront Park, South Side |
| Oct 27 | 56th Annual Induction Ball |
| Nov 17 | 4Q FAAP Board Meeting |
| Dec 8 | Annual FAAP Christmas Party |