



The Alumni Newsletter

Pre-Convention Issue

Plano, Texas

May 2002

31st Homecoming Fetes Top Alumni, Class '76

Querubin Recognized for Leadership

The 31st homecoming of the UERMMMCC College of Medicine honoring the silver jubilarian class '76 was held December 19-23. It began with a college tour and welcome party at the campus and culminated with the grand ball at the Westin Philippine Plaza in Manila.

Highlights of the week were the convocation and fellowship night. Dr. Joven Cuanang inspired the 68 toga-clad '76ers, who received their medallions from school and alumni officials at the former, to uphold the ideals and best traditions of the college. They were then toasted at the latter affair on Dec. 21st at the gala.

Honored also that night were the outstanding alumni for 2001 including our president Dr. Renato Querubin, the lone U.S.-based awardee who shared the leadership nod **more on page 3**

Hawaii 2002 All Set

The 14th UERMMMCCMAAA convention and reunion to be held in Honolulu on August 1 - 3 is officially open for business. This was announced in late February by Dr. Fortunato V. Elizaga, '67, overall chairman of the convention and head of the host committee. Venue will be the Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa which began taking reservations in early February. He promised a fun-filled reunion honoring classes '77 (silver jubilarians), '72 (pearl), '67 (jade), and '62 (ruby).

The meeting will feature sports events (golf & tennis), a *luau*, CME, Cuyegkeng memorial lecture, jubilarian and batch parties, gala, Miss UERMMMCCMAAA pageant, business meetings to be attended for the first time by Drs. Romeo Divinagracia, Erlinda Valdellon, and Ed Firmalo, new president, dean, and alumni president, respectively, and the election of officers. See pgs. 13-14 for details.



Outstanding alumni receiving their awards from President Henry Yanez: Romeo Divinagracia, Leonardo Almeda, Reynaldo Lopez, Leonardo Astete, Vicente Tanseco, Joven Cuanang, and Renato Querubin.

2000 Grad Grabs 6th in Boards, UERMMMCC Slips

Forty-six of 51 graduates from UERMMMCC belonging to class 2000 passed the Philippine medical board examinations given last February, 2002 in Manila, Cebu, and Davao City. They were part of the 834 successful examinees out of the total of 1,263 (overall passing rate of 66%) who took the tests. The results were announced by the Board of Medicine of the Professional Regulation Commission two days after the last day of the exams. The new physicians were later sworn in by the board on Sunday, March 10, 2002 at the Manila Midtown Hotel. Registration began on February 27th for a fee of P400.

UERMMMCC bet Dr. Ivy Mae Hernandez Salapare who was sixth in her class of 197 placed sixth, thus ending a three-year drought in top ten honors for the school. She scored a grade of 85.75% with the no.1 making 86.83% and the no. 10 85.17%. The last time UERM made the magic 10 in the boards was in August, 1999. Dean Lansang reported at the time that Salapare, a *summa cum laude* graduate in B.S. Med Tech at the Philippine Union College (now Adventist University of the Philippines) and resident of Pasay City, finished her postgraduate internship at the UP-PGH.

The 90% passing rate of UERMMMCC graduates in the February 2002 boards is an improvement from August 2001's (82%) and February 2001's (77%). However, the comparative results this time showed a drop in the school's ranking from third to fifth as competition heats up among the top medical schools in the country. Sources at the Board of Medicine released the following rankings: St Louis (Baguio) 97%, U.S.T. 96%, U.P. 94%, F.E.U. 93%, UERM 90%, Pamantasan (Manila) 83%, AUF (Angeles City) 81%, Davao Medical School 77%, Fatima and St. Luke's 73%, La Salle 71%, and M.C.U. 62%. Special mention was again made for Mindanao State whose 3 graduates all passed. Class 2000's feat foreshadowed the graduation of the first batch of the PBL curriculum and the end of the five-year deanship of Dr. Lansang last month.

First Leadership Workshop Held



Workshoppers: Back, L-R - Alex Bobila, Benjie Rigor, Francis Rabadam, Sam Dona, Ado Miranda, Rene Querubin, Bayani Elma, El Castro, Danny Mangunay, De Kiam Ong, Jeff Rastrollo, Elmer Gilo, Joe Prudencio, Roy Baldomero; Front, L-R - Mrs. Elma, Amor Castro, Vickie Casibang, Penny Miranda, Debbie Bobila, Vickie Camacho, Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz, Ruby Reyes.

The Association and Foundation held their first joint orientation and leadership workshop on Saturday, December 1, 2001 at the Days Inn Hotel, Newark International Airport, New Jersey. The workshop aimed to train present and future officers of both organizations in the proper conduct of their respective operations.

The day-long meeting hosted by the Northeast Chapter led by Dr. Alex Bobila covered various topics vital to the efficient management of the alumni groups.

Speakers included senior officers of the alumni association and foundation, and guest consultants. Amuerfina T. Castro, foundation secretary, in a report detailed the day's events: after a welcome remark by Bobila, the histories of both organizations were reviewed by Frank Rabadam, former foundation president and Isabelita Casibang, association vee standing in for her husband Vincent, an association past-president.

Rabadam traced the accomplishments of the foundation since its inception. Casibang showed the growth of the association from the national to the chapter levels along with all the presidents' legacies. She stressed the relationship of the foundation and association with the medical center.

Drs. Renato Querubin and Conrado Miranda IV emphasized adherence to the Robert's Rules of Order and by-laws for their respective groups. Dr. Bayani Elma, foundation vice-chairman and past association president, discussed the need for synchronizing the constitutions and by-laws of both groups and offered ideas for future charter amendments.

Dr. Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz, association secretary and foundation board member, explained how quality assurance principles can be used in the implementation of both organizations' projects. Dr. Nely Recano, foundation treasurer stressed sound bookkeeping, timely filing of annual reports and tax returns, and prompt acknowledgement of donations as required by law.

Woody Griffiths and Cheryl Covington of Merrill Lynch presented ideas on managing non-profit accounts, and the use of automatic checking account deductions and charge cards to encourage donations. Dr. Benjie Rigor, CME director and association immediate past president, tackled strategic planning concepts. Each group was then led by its president in setting goals, procedures, timetables, and assignments for its respective projects. Capping the day was a dinner given by the host chapter.

In their evaluations, the 25 participants rated the speakers as "good or excellent," the site as "conducive to learning," and the workshop as helpful for effective leadership. All suggested that such workshops in the future be conducted during annual conventions.

Dateline Philippines

Center gains deregulated status

The Commission of Higher Education (CHED) in December, 2001 granted UERMMMMC a deregulated status until 2006, a step closer to full autonomy, President Romeo Divinagracia wrote in the Center's management publication *Mediscope*. It cited the school for its accreditation participation, high passing rates in licensure exams, and "untarnished reputation" in the field of medical education. UERMMMMC joins 21 other private colleges in the country so honored, six of which are from Metro-Manila. The new status frees the Center from onerous regulations and allows it to compete nationally and globally through course and curriculum innovations. Accreditation has begun for medicine and physical therapy and expected to be completed in the summer. A high rank is expected for each unit following the level III accreditation of the College of Nursing in 1999.

Faculty research awards given

Renamed *Dean Fernando S. Sanchez, Jr. Research and Publication Award*, the faculty research plum for 2001 was given in December to ENT for *Diameter of the Adult Filipino Bony External Auditory Canal*, pediatrics for *Effect of Air Pollution on the Respiratory Health and Pulmonary Function of Children: The Iligan Experience*, and preventive and community medicine for *Dose Response Relationship of Cigarette Smoking and Ischemic Heart Disease Among Filipino Males: The Ischemic Heart Disease Case Control Study*. The awards were received for their groups by principal authors Drs. Rupert Aniceto Somera, Milagros Bautista, and Grace Encelan Brizuela, respectively.

Teachers earn masteral degree

Ten medical and 4 physical therapy professors from UERMMMMC were conferred the degree of master in educational management in March by the Polytechnic University of the Philippines next door after a rigorous 18-month study. **Continued on page 7**

* NEWS BRIEFS * NEWS BRIEFS *

41st Class Graduates

The 41st commencement exercises of the College of Medicine were held Friday, April 19, 2002 at the Teatro Aguinaldo in Quezon City, the first time the ceremonies were not done at the hospital quadrangle.

The guest speaker was Ester Albano-Garcia, Ph. D., Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education.

Class 2002 is the first batch to finish under the new PBL curriculum and the fifth under the deanship of Dr. Esperanza C. Lansang. Rowena Medina, *vaedictorian*, and Jennifer Balde, *saluatorian* led the 255 new alumni which included seven from the United States.



Our Hawaii Hosts: Standing, L to R - Manuel Ang, Romeo Pineda, Antonio Ramos, Jose De Leon, and Fortunato Elizaga; Sitting, L to R - Rhodora Borlaza Atienza and Marina Badua. Not in Picture: Godofredo Baclig, Estrelita Baldovi, Erlinda Magsalin Cachola, Peter Dee, Amelia Reyes Jacang, Jeffrey Kam, Benilda Luz, Aurora Cunanan Maniani, Ernesto Orinion, Frank Singer, Aurora Villanueva Sison.

31st Homecoming . . . continued from page 1

with former dean Dr. Joven Cuanang, '62 and Dr. Vicente Tanseco, Jr., '74, UERMMH administrator and past president of the Philippine College of Physicians. The most outstanding alumnus for 2001 was Dr. Romeo Divinagracia, currently president of the medical center. Other awardees were: Drs. Leonardo Almeda, '67 (research), Reynaldo Lopez, '78 (medical education), and Leonardo Astete, '73 (community service).

The evening also saw the swearing in of the new UERMMMC Medical Alumni Association (Phil.) officers: Eduardo C. Firmalo, president; Lydia P. Tanseco, vice-president; Jesus Tamesis, Jr., secretary; Raul T. Quillamor, treasurer; Albert T. Chua, Jesus Adelo B. Inciong, and Florianne Feliza F. Valdes, board members; immediate past-president Henry Yanez, ex-officio.

A three-hour CME program led by the 3rd Dr. Potenciano Baccay Memorial Lecture in Nephrology was also held on December 20 following the convocation. The silver jubilarians held their class night at the Plaza Hotel that evening and rounded out the year's festivities with the traditional overnight class and family excursion to the Tagaytay Highlands on the 22nd to the 23rd.

Hawaii Is Calling by Dr. Fortunato V. Elizaga

Aloha to all UERMMMC alumni! Hawaii is calling - inviting all of you to our 14th annual convention and reunion on August 1-3 at the beautiful Hilton Hawaiian Village by the famous Waikiki Beach.

Why attend the Hawaii reunion? Why travel thousands of miles to attend it? What's so special about this reunion?

Well, if you have not seen Paradise, this is your chance. For indeed Hawaii is *Paradise!* The climate is incredibly fantastic, second to none. It is mostly sunny and relatively cool with plenty of breeze even in the hottest day of summer. You can play golf or tennis at anytime without worrying about an adverse weather spoiling your game. For sun lovers (any Filipino sun lover you know?) and beach bums, Hawaii is The Place. Oahu where Honolulu is located and other islands are lined by pristine beaches with white to black sands caressed by silvery white foamy waves gracefully rolling from the blue ocean. If you love snorkling and enjoy watching the multicolored fishes swimming around you, there is the gorgeous and enchanting Hanauma Bay about 15-20 minutes from the hotel. A segment of Elvis Presley's *Blue Hawaii* movie was filmed there. If you like Boracay, you will like this place even more. I guarantee it! For the more adventurous, surfing the high waves would be the ultimate thrill. For the less prone, body surfing the smaller waves is as enjoyable.

For the history buffs, Pearl Harbor is a mere 15 minutes drive from the hotel. Then from the harbor, a few minutes of U.S. Navy ferry ride to the USS Arizona Memorial. Also about 10 minutes by car from the hotel is the majestic Iolani Palace, seat of power of the old Hawaiian monarchy.

A stone's throw from the hotel is the famous Diamond Head, a dead volcano according to experts, a signature sight in the Hawaii Five O TV series, now a super expensive piece of real estate where a house can cost millions of dollars. Wanna buy your winter home here?

Children and animal lovers can walk to the Honolulu Zoo and Aquarium from the hotel. You'll never see a more awesome sunset anywhere than in Waikiki beach where an illusive green flash may be seen just before the sun completely disappears from the horizon.

On the first convention night (August 1), we will treat you to a *luau*, a traditional Hawaiian party with lots of food, dance, and music. So you may want to bring your Hawaiian shirts and muumuus and practice the *hula*. For the uninitiated, here's your chance to learn the *hula*, like ballroom dancing, a good way to slim down, keep fit and be healthy.

With all these, what more can I say? So pick up the phone now and call 1-800-HILTONS for hotel reservations. Mention University of the East-RMMMC or log on to www.hilton.com, reservation code BRZ. The deadline is July 1, 2002.

Some of you have indicated interest in post-convention island cruise. There is a one-day or a 7-day cruise. If interested in either one, please let Roly Mendoza, Ado Miranda or me know.

See you in August. Questions? E-mail me at FElizaga@aol.com, call 808-595-2120 or 808-524-1144.



Alumni After 25 Years



Homecoming Diary

by Dr. Edgar C. Banez

Our homecoming started with a tour of the medical center and hospital. After 25 years, changes were noticeable: administrative offices are now at the former Dentistry building; the residents quarters' building is gone, in its place a packed parking lot; traffic is worse on Aurora Blvd. with the railway still under construction. The charity and pay wards did not change much. The medical offices are the same but for their occupants except for the familiar names of classmates who have stayed on. The library is in the same place but computers are visible, more journals maybe. The quadrangle seemed smaller. Welcome reception took place there. It was awesome to behold your *Alma Mater* again after being away for so long. It brought back memories. It sure was nice to be back!

The next day, we had the convocation at the auditorium with Dr. & Rev. Fr. Jerry Bongcawil saying mass. Wearing caps and gowns once again, we were very proud to be UERM graduates. Then we heard Dr. Claver Ramos talk about Nephrology in the Care of the Critically Ill at the Dr. Potenciano Baccay Memorial Lecture. Dra Baccay was there to express her thanks. Everyone remembered how great a mentor Dr. Baccay was. The afternoon session featured several speakers including Drs. Honorata Baylon who discussed apheresis and Renator Querubin rhinosinuitis..

Later that evening at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel, the Silver jubilarians had their time. Food was plentiful including *lechon baka* and two *lechon baboy*. We played games, sang, and watched our old pictures on the screen and some new ones from the Cleveland reunion courtesy of Bee Ramos. We talked and shared new and old stories, we bonded.

On day 3, it was time for the 31st Grand UERM Alumni Homecoming Gala at the same venue. Sixty-eight 76ers made it, eleven from the U.S., one from Australia, the rest from RP. Everybody looked elegant in their *barong tagalog* and long gowns. Sen Ramon Magsaysay, Jr. was guest speaker. He spoke of his father as a simple but truthful man who championed the cause of the common man. What name could be more appropriate for our *Alma Mater* than the Guy's!

Comedienne Nanette Invetor cheered everybody with her humor and songs. Two dozen pairs of 76ers danced the *Rigodon de Honor*. Dr. Cuanang, our class adviser, was so elated that he danced with us all night. As honorees, we were presented one by one with our families by Dr. Andy Borromeo. The candles were lighted. Auld Lang Syne was sang. Everyone had tears in their eyes. The Spirit of '76 lives on!

We stayed overnight at Tagaytay Highlands the next day. The majority of 76ers were there. The tents and cottages were comfortable. We showed unity and resiliency. Renato Carasig and his family had a car accident in which his 13-year old daughter broke a femur. She was admitted to and later released from UERM Hospital and as of this writing she was well on her way to full recovery.

Then it was time to say "Goodbye." It was hard but we would see each other again sooner not later for life is short and we have lots of things to share.

But amidst all the celebration, I noticed the rarity of other alumni especially the teaching faculty of the medical center. Except for a few younger ones and alumni officers, the rest were silver jubilarians. Maybe because annual reunions in RP are organized mainly by the celebrating silver jubilarians so others feel left out. Or lack of loyalty. "There is no reason to go back. I had a hard time," said one alumnus. U.S. alumni reunions are usually well attended by those who have had their silver anniversaries perhaps because of renewed sense of belonging and identity.

Everyone Counts in '77

by Dr. Susan Perez-Suntay

Dear Classmates, preparing for our 25th Class Reunion is quite a nostalgic experience. One is never emotionally ready for the "bag full" of mixed feelings encountered in reaching out to old friends you have not contacted in 25 years. It is joyous to hear some good news about them but shockingly sad about bad ones such as death and illness. It is hard to come to grips with the reality of losing classmates whom we never bothered to call or miss earlier. How different it might have been had we remained in touch with one another. Thanks to the e-mail we are now able to reach more classmates.

But why should we wait for our 25th reunion to take the time to keep in touch with one another? Why have we just found out now that a classmate has been dead for one or ten years? Until I heard these sad news, I never realized that our departed classmates were truly part of our lives and that I love and miss them. I am sure we would have responded and supported them in their hours of need had we known. Indeed, everyone counts in our class!

I guess after 25 years we have grown wiser and now know that what counts *most* in life are families and friends. We are reminded of this especially after 9/11. Not everyone of us became successful in medicine. Some never even practiced. Others worked in other fields by choice or by force of circumstances. One thing is sure, "the ground is level for us all" in God's sight and wherever we were planted, we grew and bore fruits. No one is less or better than the other. If any of you have negative reasons for not wanting to attend our reunion in Hawaii or Manila, I say throw those reasons out immediately and just COME! All of us earned and received the *same* M.D. degree from our *Alma Mater* in April 1977. We are all alumni and silver jubilarians of UERMMMCM. EVERYONE COUNTS!

What then is the true meaning of reunion? It is to "re-unite and to re-visit." With whom? Since "re" is an act of "doing again," then it means whom we once knew, about what was "then" and what it is "now." What is important to you and me is whom we all knew then and whom we will now be closer with.

I was asked to give a "head count." Whom should I count as members of Class '77? Everyone! Not just the ones listed by the PMA or AMA directories. But all who are in our Yearbook and old class list. EVERYONE COUNTS!

Come to our reunion then. Let us walk back to memory lane and re-kindle our old friendship. But most of all, let's have LOTS OF FUN!

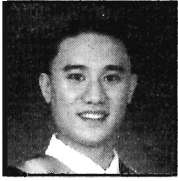
Does it take 25 years for us to realize that UERMMMCM made us what we are today? No matter the answer, there are problems and solutions must be instituted beginning with first year to senior internship to the completion of residency. Faculty and alumni must work together to foster pride and loyalty among our graduates.

"The absence of proof is not the proof of absence"
- Dr. Conrado Aramil

From the Trenches, Students Speak

Crossroads to Greatness

by Jonathan C. Piga, MS IV



Three years ago, I faced a difficult crossroad in my educational life. Although I was graduating from college, I faced a tough transition with my post-graduate plans. Less than a week after finishing at the University of Texas at Dallas, I traveled to the Philippines to start my first year of medical school at UERM, the beloved *Alma Mater* of my mother and father.

Reality only started to sink in after I arrived. After overcoming the obstacles of document authentication and immigration registration, I had to face the challenge of trying to learn medicine while also trying to blend with the Filipino culture. I admit this was a hard reality to accept even though I had already lived away from home during my first 2 years of college. It was now a different scenario. As a result, I expressed much anxiety to both my parents. The culture shock was just too much to bear at the time. However, I'll never forget my father's words to me after that emotional epiphany. He said simply "Don't let a little thing like that defeat you."

Today, I am proud to enter my 4th year as a junior intern. Although I know that this year will be the hardest and the most challenging, I also know that it will be the most rewarding. Despite one more year as a medical student, the coveted degree of doctor of medicine is now within my grasp. During the past three years, I have enhanced my education not only academically but also culturally. UERM has taught me two important aspects about medicine. First, nothing can replace a history and physical exam. Second, even if you only have one or two patients, you should know everything about the person and his/her medical condition. I have learned that these principles can make a difference in gaining a patient's respect as a person and as a physician.

In addition, I have personally experienced both the positive and negative aspects of Filipino culture. I have appreciated the fact that I grew up with an integration of both the American and Filipino cultures. Due to my own experiences, my identity as a Filipino-American can no longer be misunderstood or stereotyped. Next year, I will graduate and return home, but I will always cherish my memories of the Philippines and my new *Alma Mater*.

AIMS Seeks Alumni Help In U.S. Clinical Rotation

About 10% of UERMMMC enrollees are foreign students, one-third of whom are from the United States and mostly of Filipino heritage. Few years ago, they formed AIMS, Association of International Medical Students which seeks, among others, ways for their members to experience clinical clerkship or rotation in the United States during their fourth year and enhance their joining mainstream American medicine after graduation.

Currently, UERMMMC has no formal affiliations with any teaching hospitals in the U.S. for this purpose and it is up to individual senior medical students to go out and find opportunities for themselves.

In last year's Cleveland alumni convention, AIMS asked for alumni help in their predicament until UERMMMC finalizes such a program.

As in the past, most UERM students have distinguished themselves in their U.S. rotations. Their plight is an opportunity for alumni assistance and solidarity.

Class 2002 - David Giovanni, Christine Garcia, Christine Villamor, Ed Victoria, Christina Chancoco, Jeff Jimenez, Eilla Gualberto; 2003 - Ben Alilin, Jun Alacaraz, Verna Cabigas, John Fermo, Mitchell Guanzaon, Laarni Gonzales, Genie Adraneda, Jonathan Piga, Robin Pinzon, Ryan Manuel, Sheila Tecson, Wesley Pascual; 2004 - Tina Gesmundo, Caryl Guillermo, Jason Nuguit, Lambert-Ian Santos, Esther Recano, Todd Reiter; 2005 - Ruby Bayog, Siegfried Yu, Sam Dona, Ian Alvarez, Allan Valle, Joseph Sengco, Jeff Tudla, Matt Guanzon. aimgsc@hotmail.com.

Ideas For Gift-Giving: Students' Wishes

For the second year in a row, we turn to the *Aesculapian*, the official independent student newspaper of UERMMMC, to get an idea of what students are thinking. This time, the *Aesculapian* in its January 2002 issue asked students about what improvements they would like to see at UERM.

Just like the 2000's we looked at last year, this survey is a random one but gives us a close to an accurate picture of the areas of student concern already identified by the Alumni Foundation in its first official survey last year, namely: learning environment or facilities and human resources (teachers).

On the quality of teaching, this is what they say:

"PD (patient-doctor) tutors should attend their PD meetings!"

"Doctors should be early in their lectures, PD sessions, and tutorials."

"More cadavers."

"Integration of the major cases in all modules."

"Faster feedback of exams and grades from previous modules."

"Consult whole batch before changing any schedule, especially exams."

On the learning environment, their main concerns are safety and comfort:

"Pedestrian lane and traffic enforcer in front of UERM."

"Overpass for pedestrians crossing the street from the out-patient clinic side to the hospital side."

"Stoplight para dun sa lilikuan sa ospital."

"Security guards should watch the boundaries in and outside the campus. More lights available outside the school."

"Better facilities for the hospital and school . . . not just a few paint job(s)."

"Renovation of other hospital departments especially the charity and OPD."

"A new elevator!!!" **more on page 15**

Banawe Mission

by Dr. Ida Tiongco



Banawe Terraces (The whole mission except coordinator Alex) L - R: Pai, Sim, Judie, Zende, Sylvia, Arcee, Pearlie, and Ida (wearing shorts and hat)

Class Notes

Jedi Class of '68

Really and truly! Their active e-mail exchanges reveal not only their social conscience but more so their social action. Totoy Castrence constantly prods the conscience to make peace with one's self to be able to touch another in a cosmic way. While up in Ifugao, Tony Ligot lives the Good News daily as Ida Tiongco crisscrosses the ocean to impart of herself to young UERM residents and to needy patients at home with the material support of their classmates and other alumni. And having so much fun in the process! Guardians indeed of our highest ideals! May the *Force* be with you!

Fighting Class of '71

Vickie Casibang summons us to the barricades as she asks us to join the RRTNP (Rapid Response Team Network of Physicians) which will lobby legislators in Congress and across the land for our agenda like tort reform, medical payments, etc. and match the lawyers' lobby fire-for-fire and never again yield any inch to them on our turf, *patient-doctor relationship!* *Kung di tayo kikilos, sino? Kung di ngayon, kailan?* To enlist, sign up with Ibcasibang@aol.com.

Scholarly Class of '75

From a student to doctor to medical manager to student again to . . . You get it! Our learning and studying never end. *Doctore*, Latin for "to lead," confers upon us the burden of seeking constant enlightenment to be able to serve humanity in a better way. That's what we see in Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz' zeal in pursuing studies in physician executive and master's degree in medical management at Tulane. Go Irene!

Teeming Class of '78

Franklin's horde, about 90 in the U.S. alone, believe in early start so they drove through a snowstorm in mid-January, met at Joey Prudencio's home in Harrisburg, Pa, got organized and began planning for their 25th bash in 2003. Roman Santos, Tina and Orson Battad went too. Ruby Reyes was made in charge of the class album (23 Moran Ave., Princeton, NJ 08542, rcereyesmd@pol.net).

Our mission to Banawe was a success. We left Manila Friday, January 4, 2002 at 10 P.M. and arrived in Banawe at about 7 A.M. the next day. Tony (Dr. Antonio Ligot, '68) was there ready to bring us up to his Good News Clinic. He had wanted us to rest a while but I told him that we were there to work and not on a holiday. The mission members were: Zende Elaba, Chief Resident in Dermatology at UERM, her two third year residents Simeon Veluz, Jr. and Judie Fuentes Duculan, two former residents Arcee Grey and Pearlie Portugal, a resident of mine at Cornell Pai Lao who had just visited Thailand, and myself. We finished the derm mission at 1 P.M. the following Monday the 7th, then left for Manila by nightfall after some sight-seeing and shopping in Banawe. We arrived in Manila by 2:30 A.M. the next morning. The long, winding zigzag road from Banawe to the Santa Fe Trail gave two of our crew motion sickness.

We treated 400 patients plus about 150 family members with scabies, did close to 60 surgeries (excision of nevi, keratoses, warts, keloids, and biopsies of pathologic lesions for specimen interpretation in Manila). We worked all day and all night on Saturday, the 15th, and also managed to conduct a roundtable CME-like conference with very receptive and interested area medical doctors at the Banawe Hotel. We were able to accomplish so much because we came prepared with everything we had needed including supplies and medications provided mostly by classmates and friends with help from the Alumni Foundation. This impressed the Philippine Dermatological Society's VP when I talked to her about the mission. Another reason is the before-and-after mission care and follow-up by Tony Ligot and his staff. When I spoke with Tony from Manila, there had not yet been any complications from our surgeries.

Like any "medical mission," we doctors benefited more from the experience than the poor patients since it made us feel good and learn from the pathologies we had seen. In all of these endeavors, we try to be as academic as possible.

Although UERM Derm did not send any of their attendings to join us, we could do the mission annually as long as the residents and staff are interested and Tony and the people of Banawe still love us. Besides, my body and mind can still tolerate the travel and work involved. Ask my staff, I can still act as a "slave driver" to them. Finally, the weather is cold up there. You do not sweat at all. I has helped a lot.

(Ed.'s Note: Dr. Ida Tiongco, '68 was chosen as the "Best Teacher in Dermatology" at Cornell Medical Center late last year. To an accolade she got from a classmate about the mission, she replied "What I did was only a 'micro or nano-fraction' of what Tony has been doing in Banawe. I am not . . . fit to tie his sandals." Read her letter on page 11.)

Lansang Ends Term

Dean Esperanza C. Lansang ended her five years at the helm of the College of Medicine on April 30th the same way she came in, with a bang! Just as she had to roll up her sleeves to tackle the low morale and poor state of affairs at the school in 1998, she worked her last months in office at a dizzying pace to firm up the twin achievements of her tenure, curriculum and research developments, and see to the College's accreditation this summer, yet finding the time to write reports, respond to alumni concerns, care for students, train faculty, go to meetings. She must have loved UERM so! *Mabuhay! Salamat po!*

Class Notes

Promising Class of 2001

We've always felt that IMGs given a fair shake can succeed in America and never doubted that UERMMMC prepares her graduates to be just that and more. In this light, we proudly congratulate four 2001 alumni who got matched in their first crack at residency matching after obtaining their full ECMG certification: Drs. Brian Bruel, physical medicine and rehabilitation, Baylor College of Medicine, transitional PGY1 medicine at New York Medical College (Brooklyn/Queens); William Le, internal medicine, SUNY-Syracuse Upstate Medical University Program; Elizabeth Leynes-Le, pediatrics, SUNY-Syracuse Upstate Medical University Program; and Rose Santiago, pediatrics, University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. Good luck!

NEWSBRIEFS

Continued from page 2 . . .

Clinical skills exams expanded

The medical school has started them young and early indeed as it held the first-ever promotional clinical skills exams for first and second year students. The third years began taking the exams last year as a prerequisite for junior internship which starts on April 1st. In addition, incoming JIs as fourth year students are now called undergo an advanced life support training during their orientation in March.

Minister of the Body and Spirit

In this issue, we begin a series on alumni in North America who have found their own answers to vexing questions in a physician's life such as those of professional satisfaction, balancing career and family, ethics and morality, financial security, and retirement. There is so much to learn from the wide spectrum of alumni experiences, young or old, starting in training or established in practice, academic or non-academic. We shall listen to what they have to say so that we can catch a glimpse of how they set out on the trails they have taken. In the end, we hope to profit from their wisdom and examples so we too can find our own answers.

A happy face is a window to an enlightened spirit and a soul at peace. Such is the radiance of our alumna's presence.

I may have caught her by surprise when I approached her for this interview. She has retired from active practice, I heard. Not



Dr. Dolores Corpuz Bauzon, '64

only that. She was studying to be a minister. This all the more caught my attention.

My wife has a close pediatrician friend who left it all, entered a Unity seminary, and embarked on a new life as a pastor finding her way from one congregation to another and liking it all. Is there a common thread to this?

None, I gather. Whereas our said friend found her calling from her exasperation in the business of medicine, Dr. Dolores Corpuz Bauzon, UERMMMC Class '64 was led into it by the steady hand of God that has seen her through difficult training years in Maryland-Washington D.C., "intimidating" practice climate in Dallas when she moved here, and 14 years of single parenthood after her divorce. In short, she has an innate capacity to listen and see things within the context of a larger vision that unfolds from the purposeful will of God.

The offshoot is a loving, giving, and serving heart. So she recalls playing doctor to her cherished grandfather in her childhood. At UERM, "I enjoyed everything, from first year to fifth, especially fourth year when you get near people and be able to touch them. Patients became my friends." She adds, "I learned to prioritize, listen, and be sensitive to patients at UE." "*Wala akong sama ng loob sa UERM!*" she declares. Of being a doctor she affirms "I find it joyful!"

She was a natural then for a successful, solo, woman internist practice in these parts. Then fifteen years ago, she began teaching Sunday school at her church International Church Assembly of God in the Dallas area and joining medical and evangelistic missions to the Sierra Madre Mountains that bordered her native Nueva Ecija. Several years after that she took a correspondence course leading to a ministerial license with the Berean College based in Springfield, Missouri. In the last two years, she continued her studies with the non-denominational Christ for the Nations Fellowship of Ministers and Churches.

In 2000, she decided to give up her practice to pursue a full-time ministry. The only hitch was finding the right doctor to take over. "In the fullness of time, things fell into place," she said, as she credits God for the coming of her associate, Dr. Rufino Talatala, also from UERMMMC Class '88. This enabled her to begin phasing out in mid-2000 and concentrate in her ministerial studies. By January, 2001, Dr. Talatala was fully in-charge.

On December 14, 2001, Dr. Dolores Corpuz Bauzon, now happily married to Jerry Bauzon, was ordained minister by Christ for the Nations in Dallas to continue to serve mankind this time as a minister of the spirit.

Editor

Alumni Association Bulletin Board

Querubin fulfills pledge

The UERMMMCMAAA, Inc. not only fulfilled its pledge to donate to the Alumni Foundation after last year's convention in Cleveland but also exceeded it. In a memo to Cristy Magpantay, treasurer, President Rene Querubin, before his departure for the Philippines last December, ordered the remittance of \$30,000 to the UERMMMCAFUSA, Inc., surpassing the earlier plan of \$27,500. Magpantay confirmed the donation in a memo to the president and executive director on January 11th.

Pay your dues please

Treasurer Cristy Magpantay has already mailed statements for annual dues in March 2002. All alumni are encouraged to pay their dues on or before June 30, 2002 to be included in the current fiscal year final accounting in time for the annual meeting in Honolulu.

\$50 is the annual dues. Better still pay only once for a lifetime membership of \$500. Cristy would love to hear from you. So

please mail your check payable to UERMMMCMAAA, Inc., to Cristy Magpantay, M.D., 8921 Harvest Square Court, Potomac, MD 20854.

Nominations are now welcome

The two-year term of current officers of the association is ending this summer so their replacements will be chosen and sworn in at the Hawaii convention. Standing and special committee members will likewise be appointed by the new executive council in its first meeting following the elections. They will serve *coterminus* with the appointive leaders, i.e. two years.

According to Benjie Rigor, head of the nominating committee, here's how it works: "1) the nominating committee now accepts nominations for officers of both the association and foundation (resume or c.v. of the candidate is required); 2) candidates who have served as officers before and dues-paying are

preferred; 3) the nominee must accept the nomination and be willing/able/capable of doing the job (*This is very, very important, to say the least*); 4) during the election in Honolulu, I will entertain nominations from the floor but also present the 'preferred slate' of the nominating committee; 5) then the 'one man/one woman' vote election will proceed either by open or secret ballot (if secret, the Association will provide the ballots)."

For questions or nominations, please contact Dr. Benjamin Rigor at bmrigo01@louisville.edu.

Let us continue to build and support our alumni organizations with our "time, talent, and treasure!" to quote Dr. El Castro.

The positions to be contested are: president-elect, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

The committees to be appointed are: budget, membership, audit, newsletter, CME, and constitution and by-laws.

Alumni Foundation Appeal

The UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. presently spends about \$16,000 yearly for its projects in the areas of scholarship, memorial lectures, faculty development, resident physicians, research forum, library, and community service. In addition to these regular commitments, it has been able to meet special situations such workshops, conferences, medical missions, and wish lists.

Last year alone, about \$55,000 was disbursed for the above needs. So far this year, in addition to its regular projects, the foundation has contributed to Dr. Tiongco's dermatology mission in Banawe, physiology head Dr. Florina Estrada's doctoral dissertation on educational management, and is considering other ideas put forward by former Dean Lansang.

Dr. El Castro, board chairman, assures donors that as a 501 C 3 charitable organization, the foundation handles "all donations with respect, confidentiality, and in compliance" with U.S. laws. "Gifts are used only for their intended purposes" he affirms.

UERMMMC ALUMNI FOUNDATION USA, INC. 2002-2003 DONATION/PLEDGE FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Enclosed is my gift of: ___\$100 ___\$75 ___\$50 ___\$30 ___\$ (Other)
I pledge a gift of \$ _____ which will be paid on the following dates:
1st payment _____, 2nd payment _____, 3rd payment _____

Please make your check payable to: **UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.** All gifts are tax-deductible.

My gift will be used for:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Workshop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty/Best Teacher Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Skills Laboratory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residency Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publication/Research Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Wish List |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigent Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Specify) | |

The gift is in honor or in remembrance of: _____

Thank you for your generosity!

Please mail this form (or photocopy) and your check to El B. Castro, M.D., 9 Mimosa Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854 or Nely S. Recano, M.D., 605 Floyd St., Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632.

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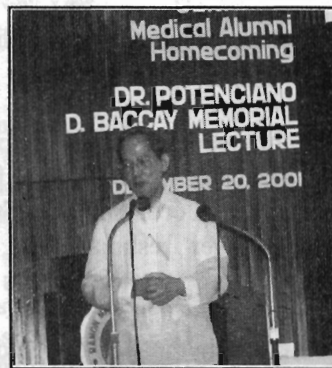
Spirit of '76 lives on!



Sen. Magsaysay, P.O. Domingo and celebrants & awardees.



'76ers at the gala night's candlelight ceremony



Dr. Claver gives Baccay lecture.



Dr. Querubin greets RM, Jr.



Endless smiles at the silver jubilarian night!



Good News O.R. with Banawe missionaries, '68 at work.

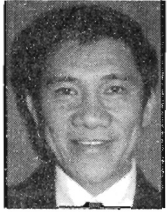


The faculty at the teaching workshop in Lake Caliraya.



The Castrences and friends on a trip to Turkey, '68 at play.

Editorial



Changes and Stability

Spring always brings a breath of fresh air, a new sprout from the rain-soaked ground, a newly hatched school of fish in the lake, a suckling calf from the pasture, or a chirping chick from the warm nest.

Soon the prairie will be covered with a green mantle that turns gold in the summer. Then the pond will teem with jumping bass that await the angler's cast. And the field will dance to the tune of the bird's choir singing to the gentle herd grazing in the plain.

Certainly, life has a rhythm, a cycle of beginning and ending, ebbing and rising, of elation and exhaustion. Yet, there is a purpose to it all, a direction, a destination.

Thus, each spring brings a new but anxious interns' batch but also sends out a humbled but also hopeful class. This season gives a fond farewell to a motherly dean but also a warm welcome to her succeeding one. Soon, the summer will usher in a new schoolyear with its eager freshman class, another reunion, one more jubilee with its cheers and tears, a new set of leaders with their visions and prescriptions for the future.

Most certainly, these changes have rhythms of ups and downs, success and failure, union and division, of sending forth and gathering in. Yet, they do not occur by happenstance. There is a purpose to it all, a spoke-like movement forward, a destination perhaps to constancy and normalcy, and the long-awaited dawning of stability.

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*** Please send articles, news items, notices, announcements, photos, and other contributions to the Editor-in-Chief at the above mailing or e-mail addresses. Photos unless otherwise requested will be kept on file.***

Help support our newsletter!

Advertisement space available!

Full page ads \$250; Half-page \$125;
Quarter page \$75. Please make checks payable to UERMIMC-MAAA, Inc. Payment and your ads may be mailed to the editor-in-chief.

From Lolo Totoy's Active Desktop

Two married men talking . . .

1st man: *Swerte ko, my wife is an angel.*

2nd man: *Buti ka pa, ako ang asawa ko buhay pa.*

Wife: *Love, mahal mo ba ako?*

Husband: *Siyempre, asawa kita eh.*

Wife: *Enjoy ka ba sa akin?*

Husband: *Siyempre, asawa kita eh.*

Wife: *Baka naman niloloko mo lang ako?*

Husband: *Siyempre, asawa kita eh.*

ROBERTO CASTRENCE'S OF LOLO TOTOY



Belated Apology and Thanks, An Open Letter to Drs. Doreza, Reyes, Lara, Baccay & Guevara

Time is a great healer and teacher indeed . . .

When you deprived me and my classmates of the class '68 of our universal human right to sleep . . . we thought you were all followers of the famous French Marquis. You instilled in our young clean minds a needless, obsessive and murderous thought of how and what was the best way to kill you. Little did we know that you did it all for love. Now we know and thank you for your deep concern for our well-being.

Even then, some had been thinking that you were not all that bad. And recent findings by sleep experts, that people who sleep less than eight hours a day live longer, prove it. You should have told us of your secret prescient knowledge of this fact and made us feel less guilty for the nice things we had planned for you. We hope that you are following your advanced ideas and not sleeping for more than 8 hours.

Another argument for not sleeping came from a very close friend, one of the first board-certified sleep experts in the world. When asked why he hardly slept himself, he answered "No need for that Roberto . . . we will all get that long sleep that you so want!"

Love, from Roberto Castrence and the class of '68, the only known mass case of acquired insomnia due to involuntary forced opening of their eyelids.

Letters to the Editor

In Search of Miss UERMMMCMAAA

by Fely Bangayan, R.N., UE'64



The alumni reunion in Cleveland last year was a successful one and the Auxiliary is proud to have furnished the people

who manned the various areas of its operation. They all did a wonderful job in the solicitation and collection of funds.

In Cleveland, we also took the necessary step of formally adopting a constitution and by-laws which will guide us in future activities. We now call ourselves UERMMMCMAAA Alliance and Friends, Inc. We are here to support the Alumni Association and help generate funds for the Alumni Foundation.

We then discussed fund-raising options and decided to launch the Miss UERMMMCMAAA Pageant and hope to crown the first queen at the Hawaii Convention gala on August 3.

The winner will be determined by the amount of money raised from selling raffle tickets, placement of ads, and other forms of monetary donations. Proceeds will go to the Alumni Foundation, the 501 C3 tax-exempt charitable arm of the Alumni Association. Contributions to this contest are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

A candidate must be: 1) 16-23 years old, daughter or nearest of kin residing in the same household as the alumnus/alumna or within the same city and (2) of good moral character and must possess good communication skills.

The winner will receive an official sash, title, tiara, and, if we are successful, represent UERMMMCMAAA in the next homecoming in December.

Candidates please fill out the form found on page 13 and mail it with a short biography and photo to **Fely D. Bangayan, R.N., 7368 Old Quarry Lane, Brecksville, Ohio 44141. Tel. 440-526-9144 H; 216-351-4657 O**, or nmbangayanmd@cs.com.

From Southern California

Got copy of the Dec. 2001 Alumni Newsletter today. Read it cover to cover. Are you interested to receive approximately 75 alumni addresses here in Southern California so they can receive copies of our Newsletter? Too bad Gerrie and I were not able to attend the reunion in Cleveland. For sure, Honolulu homecoming is already in our schedule for this year.

Dr. Freddie P. Dial, '69

From Northern California

Thank you so much for getting a post-convention UE Alumni Newsletter out. Your effort during the holiday season deserves credit and recognition. Happy New Year . . .

Dr. Albert Gaw, '64

From Maryland

I like the newsletter arrangement. It is very interesting and inviting to read.. Kudos. I hope that more of the younger alumni will come in to be members of the board of the national organization. We need young bloods with interesting and fresh ideas . . .

Dr. Isabelita B. Casibang, '71

From Virginia

Our class is coming up with plans for a class fund. Since we are all busy but would like to do this the right way, we would like to get your advice. How do we set up a not-for-profit organization? Is this the way to go? Or do we sign up with the alumni association as a chapter? If we do, do we have autonomy over our own funds or is it subject to approval by the national organization? How are the other classes doing it? Please advise.

Dr. Nathalie B. Quion, '88

(Ed.'s Reply: Before anything else, decide what you want to do with your class fund. If you intend to use it to fund charities of your choice, then you would be better of doing it with our alumni foundation. With it, your class is in control. You pick and choose which project to support. All your contributions are tax-deductible, you do not have to worry about the legalities of establishing one for your class. Your alumni foundation has already done that for you or any donor. About your question on a chapter, you can also do this but it would be better for your class to find your area chapter, be active in it, and influence the direction of our organization. Remember, the alumni association is our mother organization. It does not handle the donations to UERM. The foundation, which is its charity arm, does. For more info, contact any officers of the foundation or association.)

From New York

I am writing on behalf of a classmate who asked me to forward a message to all UERM alumni. His message reads: "UERM alumnus (US citizen) is seeking a challenging non-clinical position. Candidate is a board-certified physician executive with 20 years of clinical, administrative (medical director), and consulting experiences, possesses MBA and MPH graduate training. Both private and public sector opportunities would be considered." Interested alumni should make confidential inquiry to CCaraos@aol.com.

Dr. Dads Caraos, '79

From Cornell

For no apparent reasons, I just happened to read the April 2001 issue of the newsletter. I had already e-mailed you a small article on the Banawe Mission 2002 together with 4 pictures. My classmate Totoy is so enthused to feature some of us and our activities and I am proud of that. About 4 or 5 years ago, the UERM Derm was **more on page 15**

Time Marches On

by Dr. Bayani B. Elma



"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose in heaven," Ecclesiastes 3:1

To some people, the year 2002 has just begun but to others, the months after January flew as fast as their spouses made a thousand dollars disappear in one throw of the dice in Las Vegas. To some of our classmates and friends, 2002 ushers in the wedding, graduation of a son or daughter or becoming a grandparent for the first time. How about the Holy Grail for everybody - the much anticipated and glorious retirement! Corollary to this is that darn birthday coming too fast again especially for those 65 and over. (in the U.S., there are now 35 million people over 65, 13% of the population. With the reluctant help of the baby boom generation, there will be 70 million elderly by 2030). That is one thing amazing about this benevolent despot we call time.

To illustrate time, as you read this sentence, about 1000 neutrinos are passing through your body, like gnats flying through the New Orleans Superdome. The electrically neutral particles were released about one second after the theoretical big bang at the start of the cosmic history. The inflexible authority we give to the Gregorian calendar and clock intrigues me because REAL TIME is as arbitrary to us as the measurements. The system of placing REAL TIME into a clock and calendar allows us to place otherwise disorienting events into orderly little slots.

Let me cite a few examples. On a September morning in 1928, in a cluttered laboratory at London's St. Mary's Hospital, Alexander Fleming, then 47, discovered penicillin. On a cold December day in 1903, the Wright brothers, bicycle mechanics from Middle America, launched the first successful flight of their flying machine *Flyer I* at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

With this system, we feel secure inside such a dependable arrangement. Christmas arrives regularly on December 25, Thanksgiving on the 4th Thursday of November, and Labor Day the first Monday of September. Furthermore, we not only limit REAL TIME to a system of charts of numbers but we also anthropomorphosize it. For example, we refer

to "Father Time" and the clock's "face" and "hands." We make time "stand still," "crawl," "march on," and even "fly." Sometimes, we try to "keep pace with time," other times, we "kill time."

How time really passes is very subjective. As I recall, it took centuries for me to turn 18, decades to age 19 to 30, and only months to zoom from 30 to 40, about a week to pass between 40 and 50! It seemed like eternity when Drs. Romulo Guevara, Jr. and Benjamin Limson did their rounds or when we went on extra duties imposed by power-drunk residents. (Totoy Castrence and Frank Mallilin of Class '68 are the resident authorities on that subject). For the medical alumni who had to pass the comprehensive examination to graduate and take the Philippine Medical Board Examination, was the time allotted too short or too long? Author Thornton Wilder wrote, "it is only in appearance that time is a river. It is rather a vast landscape and it is the eye of the beholder that moves." Yes, time has a way of defining passage through life: the rebellious youth, acquisitive yuppie, the overburdened parent, cautious mid-lifer, and the oft-maligned retiree. Many retirees fear that after retirement, there is no more challenging activity to do. Yet retirement from work does not mean retirement from life!

History shows that many great and ordinary men showed their best after retirement or after turning 65. For example. The founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken Col. Saunders was in his 70's when he founded his business. So was Ray Kroc of McDonald's when he bought out 2 California brothers to launch what has now become the largest restaurant-chain in the world. Goethe began to write *Faust* at 60 and completed it at 82. Gladstone became England's prime minister at 70. Plato was a student at 50 but a great teacher at 60; Socrates presented his most memorable philosophical treatise at 70; and Noah Webster compiled his dictionary at 70.

Events that we all share assume their own relative time measurements as well. It took New England Patriots quarterback and Super Bowl XXXVI MVP Tom Brady *less than 2 minutes* to get the ball to the St. Louis side for their kicker to score a field goal. On September 11, the two World Trade buildings collapsed in *less than 15 minutes*. From beginning to end, a flurry of frenzied activity and publicity surrounded each event. For each incident, however, we wanted more input for each moment that time allowed. After each event, the subjective movement of time continued. We waited day-by-day for news of possible survivors and accounts of how the hijackers were able to do their evil deeds.

There is something else about time. We freeze certain images and keep the characters in those events untouched by it. Last summer my high school class had its 40th year reunion. By then, we presumed we had settled into whatever life we've chosen or been led into. We were of assorted ages, hair colorings (gray was shunned upon), specialties, and waistlines. After the high-pitched greetings, gleeful back-slapping and embracing, we turned to reminiscing. How could it be otherwise? Some have troubled pasts, others had lives akin to the running of the bulls in Pamplona. A few were really down and out. Later, talk centered around jobs and careers. How much fun it was to listen to tales of jobs lost and found, and career histories that resembled the perils of Pauline. For their chosen professions, some used words, others art, the rest brains and charms. Finally, the inevitable talk came: about lovers, husbands and wives; romances gone sour, men and women that got away.

With all these in mind, I leap into celebrating every morning as I open my eyes and see that today is a reality and tomorrow is another day, a kind of a measuring device to help me understand such an unfathomable entity we call time. In truth, we celebrate our own experiences at moments rather than minutes in time. Perhaps it is in the collective remembrances of these subjective "moments," the glory and folly of yesteryears, that we thank our Maker for the Gift of Time. (*Ed.'s Note: Dr. Elma, '68, was the first editor of the Newsletter*)

Convention Announcements

Hotel Reservation
HILTON HAWAIIAN VILLAGE
 2005 Kalia Road
 Honolulu, HI 96815-1999

For reservations, call (800)-HILTONS (948-7643), fax (808)-947-7914, or e-mail www.hilton.com. Contact person: Susan Wong, Sales Manager (e-mail: susan_wong@hilton.com).

SINGLE/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
 \$150.00 TO \$175.00

Mention Group Name: University of the East-RMMC

Deadline for Hotel Reservation:
 July 1, 2002



The silver jubilarian class of 1977 has arranged for an alternate hotel with Aston Hotel Waikiki Beach.

Rates are: \$95/night for 2 double beds, \$105/night for an ocean view room for a limited time or until blocked rooms are filled.

Contact person is Mr. Dominic Patacsil (808-923-9805, M-F between 3 - 11 P.M. only). Fax reservations to (808) 924-3220. Code: Univ. of the East Med. Center Reunion.

14th Annual Convention and Reunion Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa August 1 - 3, 2002, Honolulu, Hawaii

Events Registration Form (Fee Per Person)

NAME _____ Yr. of Graduation _____
 ADDRESS _____ (Home or Office?) _____

TEL: HOME _____ FAX _____
 OFFICE _____ FAX _____
 E-MAIL: HOME _____ OFFICE _____

Day 1, Thursday, August 1, 2002

Golf Tournament	\$110.00 ()	\$ _____
Tennis Tournament	50.00 ()	\$ _____
<i>Luau</i> : Adult	50.00 ()	\$ _____
Children (6 - 20 years old)	35.00 ()	\$ _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

Make check payable and send to:

UERMMMCMAAA, Inc.
 c/o Fortunato V. Elizaga, M.D.
 1712 Liliha Street, Suite 306
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
 Tel. (808) 524-1144, Fax (808) 531-0718

Day 2, Friday, August 2, 2002

Registration Fee: (Including Welcome Night & Dr. Cuyekeng lecture Luncheon)	\$100.00 ()	\$ _____
CME	150.00 ()	\$ _____
Additional guest for luncheon	25.00 ()	\$ _____
Student/Resident	75.00 ()	\$ _____

Day 3, Saturday, August 3, 2002

Gala Dinner/Dance	95.00 ()	\$ _____
Youth Dance	30.00 ()	\$ _____
Membership Dues: Annual	50.00 ()	\$ _____
Lifetime (one-time)	500.00 ()	\$ _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

Make check payable and send to:

UERMMMCMAAA, Inc.
 c/o Jose de Leon, M.D.
 1520 Liliha Street, Suite 203
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
 Tel. (808) 528-3571

Overall Convention Chairman, Dr. Fortunato V. Elizaga, '67
 (For multiple registrations, feel free to copy all forms herein.)

SOUVENIR PROGRAM ORDER
14TH ANNUAL REUNION AND CONVENTION
HILTON HAWAIIAN VILLAGE RESORT & SPA
 2005 Kalia Road
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96815-1999
 August 1-3, 2002

UERM MMCMAAA, INC.
CHARITY GOLF
TOURNAMENT

Please include my Name or Company, _____
 with address at _____ in the 14th Annual
 UERMMMMC MAAA, Inc. Reunion & Convention Souvenir Program.

- () Full Page _____ \$ 150.00
- () Half Page _____ \$ 100.00
- () Enclosed is the layout for my message (camera ready)
- () Design an appropriate message for my ad (enclose calling card)

Please return this form with a check payable to:

UERM MMCMAAA, Inc.
 c/o Amelia Reyes Jacang, M.D.
 1712 Liliha Street # 304
 Honolulu, HI 96817

Your donation is tax-deductible. The association Federal Tax I.D.
 Number is: 52-1745846. **Deadline for submission: June 30, 2002.**

On behalf of the UERMMMMCMAAA, Inc. we thank you for your support!

Location: **Waialele Golf Club**
 94-200 Paioa Place
 Waipahu, HI 96797

Date : **Thursday, August 1, 2002**

Tee Time : **9:00 A.M.**

Registration

Fee: **\$110.00**
 (Includes Green Fee, Cart, Lunch,
 Prizes, Transportation)
**HOLE-IN-ONE: MERCEDES
 BENZ!**

Registration Deadline: **July 15, 2002**
 Sign up early and submit your
 foursome.

Make check payable to:
UERM MMCMAAA, Inc.
 c/o Fortunato V. Elizaga, M.D.
 1712 Liliha Street, Suite 306
 Honolulu, HI 96817
 Tel. No. (808) 524-1144
 E-Mail: *FElizaga@aol.com*

For more informaiton call:
Romy Cachola
 Tournament Chairman
 Tel No. (808) 523-4978

Name _____
 Address _____

 Tel No. _____

HANDICAP (USGA Golf Handicap Index)

- * **No pre-registration, NO game.**
- * **No handicap golfers will use handicap computed by schied system.**
- * **Tournament field is limited to the first 40 golfers.**

MISS UERM MMCMAAA, INC. 2002

The UERMMMMC Medical Alumni Aliance and Friends, Inc. is searching for the first **Miss UERMMMMCMAAA, Inc.** to be crowned during the Gala Night Dinner Dance on August 3, 2002 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Resport & Spa in Honolulu, Hawaii..

Proceeds from this event will be channeled to the UERMMMMC Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. which is a 501C3 tax-exempt entity. The winner will be determined by the amount of funds raised by the candidate through **(a) sale of ballots, (b) advertisements, and, (c) donations.**

QUALIFICATIONS: (1) any daughter or nearest kin living in the same household of a UERMMMMC medical alumnus/alumna and (2) she must be 16-23 years old.

If interested, please fill out the following form:

NAME _____ Date of Birth _____
 PARENT'S NAME _____ Year of Graduation _____
 ADDRESS _____
 TEL NO. _____ E-Mail _____
 CAREER INTEREST _____
 SCHOOL/COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____
 HOBBIES _____
 SPECIAL TALENT _____

Please mail the completed form with photo and resume to:

Fely D. Bangayan, R.N.
 7368 Old Quarry Lane
 Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Anyone interested in a post-
 convention cruise, please contact
 Dr. Fortunato V. Elizaga at (808)
 595-2120 or (808) 524-1144 or
FElizaga@aol.com

Ideas for Gift-Giving . . . from page 5

"Ayusin ang gymnasium."
 "Better sound system for the Ana Amphi."
 "Repair broken tables, chairs, and the ceiling in Little Amphi."
 "Cleaner restrooms, more high-tech facilities, and strict compliance of uniform."
 "Cover that space between the last stall of the girls' CR and the boys' CR in all floors of the JMC."
 "More books and copies of current books in the library."
 "More reference books in the library and more journals."
 "More computers in the Cyberlib. Faster

"Photocopier in the library."
 "Xerox machines on campus."
 "Free immunization."
 "Improved services at the ER."
 "Bigger chapel for students."
 "Better cafeteria, thermostat for the aircon in the PLR and CA, water in the restrooms."
 "Canteen, study area, parking space for students, and benches around campus."
 "Canteen at the JMC side."
 "Cleaner tutorial rooms."
 "PBL rooms should be available to students during independent time instead of locking them."

President's Report

(Editor's Note: Following is an excerpt of President Dr. Renato Querubin's report to Association officers following his trip to the Philippines in December. After the report is his letter of thanks to former Dean Lansang in February.)

I would like to inform everybody that my UERMMMC visit was a very fruitful one. Ma'm Espie gave me a tour of all Basic Departments. I met some of the Chairpersons especially Nina Estrada, Physiology, who has requested financial assistance for her dissertation. She did promise to stay with the Center after she receives her Ph. D. She plans to chop up her paper into 3 parts for publication into a *refereed journal* and it will be UERM based. I consider it a good deal for her to be a recipient of our financial and moral assistance.

I also had a hospital tour with Dr. Ofulencia, otolaryngology chairman. As always, the concern is lack of funds to support charity patients' expenses in all clinical departments. The P20,000 per surgical patient that the Philippine government gives is not enough, I'm told.

I had lunch with chairman P. O. Domingo. We talked about the "changing of the guards" and our on-going and planned projects there. I invited him to give the Cuyegkeng lecture at the Hawaii convention (*Ed.'s note: Mr. P. O. Domingo in a letter to the Association in late March declined the invitation for health reasons*).

I received my award during the gala night and had the pleasure of meeting Sen. Ramon Magsaysay, Jr.

Dear Ma'm Espie:

On behalf of the officers and the general membership of the UERMMMCMAAA, Inc., I would like to extend my congratulations to you for a job well done. You have given much to the growth and welfare of the Medical Center as Dean for the past few years. Your extraordinary academic leadership will definitely leave a great legacy for all medical alumni to emulate. Personally, I would like to wish you luck in your future endeavors. May God continue to show you His grace.

Rene

Letters to the editor

continued from page 11 was featured in the *Newsletter*. Since its inception more than 12 years ago under Dean Cuanang, I have been involved with it closely as a visiting professor. Within that time, the Section on Dermatology has graduated 15 dermatologists all of whom but one are board certified. As a result, UERM has had a very good reputation in Philippine dermatology as our residents almost always win prizes in clinical and research contests. Last year, the Philippine Dermatological Society gave UERMMMC the first prize for the first-ever complete derm surgical presentation that included suction blister for vitiligo, dermabrasion, and hair transplantation.

We have given 7 post-graduate courses in dermatologic surgery, almost annually, the last one in May 2001 involving hair transplantation, basic derm surgery, cryo, and sclerotherapy. The format has been lectures, laboratory practice, then actual patients. The programs are well-received such as the one on facial rejuvenation in 2000. All 40-50 of the limited slots in such courses are packed. The last 2 courses and the Banawe mission were sponsored by the Alumni Foundation. UERM dermatology residents love these courses and are very proud of them because they participate in these activities and actually do procedures while in other programs, residents only observe. Twice a year for the past 3 years, we have conducted Derm Surgical Mission in Sta. Mesa for 3-4 days each time rendering free surgeries to the poor. I try to provide all equipment and materials except gauze. We'll try to do these including dermabrasion when I go back to Manila this May.

It is sad to read that UERM is only the 5th choice of applicants to medical school. We used to be the first or second. In dermatology, we are tops. For two positions, we get 50-60 applicants from all over. The current chief resident, Dr. Zende Elaba and a first year come from U.P.

Our involvement with UERM should not be restricted to attendance in local chapters, reunions or even homecoming in Manila but must entail helping the areas of our specialties, whether in kind, money, or time. The time teaching residents and even consultants at UERM is priceless. Working with residents makes you feel young. The most important factor to consider in helping the department of your specialty is the receptiveness of the chief and other consultants. I was lucky, our former professor Dra. Juanita Arcilla was so open. So have been her successors, Drs. Nora Cortez and Ruth Medel. If any graduates would like to help their own specialties there, tell them to get in touch with me since I have more than 12 years of experience with dermatology.

Dr. Ida Tiongco, '68

Calling All Classes 1977, 1972, 1967, and 1962!

Aloha! This is your second invitation to the 14th reunion and convention in the beautiful island of Oahu on August 1-3, 2002. You are the principal honoree as we celebrate your 25th (silver), 30th (pearl), 35th (jade), and 40th (ruby) years of graduation. Come and enjoy Waikiki Beach, renew ties with classmates, meet new friends, and toast the good old days at the popular Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort! Make your reservations now (details on page 13-14).

Jubilarians, please contact your class coordinators for details: '77 (Susan Perez Suntay, Ruby Cecilio Claraval, Sonia Rico Todd, Randy Puno, and Merlyn Asuncion at uermmm1977@yahoo.com); '72 (Marile Narciso Hoffman at MHoffman@concentric.net); '67 (Roly, Rene, or Ado Miranda at uermmm1967@yahoo.com) or Toton at FElizaga@aol.com; '62 (Benjie Rigor at bmrigo01@louisville.edu). Mahalo!

Reunion Schedule

Hawaii Convention

- Day 1 (Thursday, August 1st) -**
 Golf and tennis tournaments (9am-4pm)
 Welcome reception and luau (6pm-12am)
- Day 2 (Friday, August 2nd) -**
 CME (8am-4pm)
 Cuyegkeng Memorial Lecture (12-1pm)
 Silver jubilarian night and class parties
- Day 3 (Sat. Aug. 4th) -**
 Silent auction (8am-4pm)
 Business meetings (8am-4pm)
 Gala night (6pm-1:30am)
 Youth dance (9pm-12am)

Reminder: If you know anyone who wishes to receive this newsletter, please e-mail us their names, addresses, years of graduation, specialties, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses.



The Alumni Newsletter

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Inside This Issue

- *News pgs. 1-3, 4-5
- *Features pgs. 4-7, 11
- *President's Report pg. 15
- *Students' Corner pg. 5
- *Association/Foundation Page pg. 8
- *Pictorials pg. 9
- *Editorials pg. 10
- *Letters to the Editor, pgs. 11,15
- *Convention Registration pgs. 13-14