



# ALUMNEWS

Website-Link: [uerm.edu.ph](http://uerm.edu.ph)

Newsletter of the UERM College of Medicine Alumni Association, Inc.

2007

## HOMEcomings 2006

UERM@50 Exhibit in celebration of the Golden Jubilee of UERMMMCM: the Silver Jubilarians put up an exhibit featuring the history of the college, all graduating classes 1961-2006, and in particular, memorabilia of class 1981 at the College of Medicine Bldg. lobby from December 12-20, 2006 and, at the Edsa Shangri-La Isla Ballroom foyer last December 21, 2006.

Golden Jubilee Alumni Homecoming Golf Tournament, Tuesday, 20 December 2006, at 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. held at the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo, the first-ever local golf fellowship during an alumni homecoming week. Dubbed as the Presidential Cup (in honor of UERMMMCM President, Dr. Romeo A. Divinagracia), it was a fundraising project by the Silver Jubilarian Class of 1981. The winners were: Overall -Anton Aquino; Class A Champ-Virgilio Sioson and runner-up-Jonathan Sebastian; Class B Champ - Celso Fernandez and runner-up - Cervin Sarte; Class C champ - Bayani Garcia, Jr. and runner-up - Ben Lumicao, longest & most accurate - Chito de Guzman; and shortest - Celso Fernandez.

UERMMMCM Grand Alumni welcome Party for the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Physical Therapy was also held on Tuesday, 19 December 2006, at 6:00 p.m. It has been an annual homecoming hosted by the Medical Center. At around 4:00 p.m. reported at the old admin building lobby to meet the early birds. The first to be there were balikbayans Jerry S. and Anthony S. Soon Portia and Cherrie showed up but they soon disappeared to the auditorium as both were on panic mode preparing for the big event (convocation ceremonies) the following morning.

After spending some time viewing the lobby display (which Class '81 had to share with all the previous and later batches) and wondering how Annette V. was able to preserve all the students stuff ( including tuition receipts) and how Portia was able to squeeze into the tiny uniform she claimed to be hers, off to the hospital we went.

(Sorry) I did not take any photos of the CCU and Virtual Library; but yes, we do have them now. Anthony S. lingered for a while at the pedia wards which was now on the 3rd floor of the charity hospital, away from the potential flooding of the hallowed grounds from the river Seine (San Juan actually!).



*Continued on page 4*

## Bits and Pieces - 9,716 and counting

**ANDRES D. BORROMELO, M.D**

**President**

**UERM - CMAA, Inc.**

Now, it is official. Starting 2009, the Annual Homecoming for the UERM College of Medicine Alumni Association here in Manila will be held during the first week of February. The first Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be on Feb. 5,6 and 7. The formal night will be on a Saturday. Class '84 has been informed about this change and some batches have started planning their medical missions and reunions revolving around this new schedule. The present board consulted other batches and past alumni association presidents before agreeing to make this major change. This event will be staged approximately 7-8 weeks after the last December homecoming in 2008 being organized by Batch '83.

The Present Board will continue to go around the Philippines and try to reach out to our graduates, many of whom have been "offline" from UERM since graduation. I met some of our graduates in Nueva Vizcaya last May 13, 2007 in an informal dinner meeting at the residence of Dr. Willy Damasco (batch 70) in Solano Nueva Vizcaya, he prepared a sumptuous Italian inspired menu. Dr. Tony Ligot of class 68 and past Alumni Association President in 1982, drove all the way from Banaue (3 hours of winding but scenic roads) to attend the occasion.

As of this writing, we have already planned another sortie to Cebu City sometime in September 2007.

The College of Medicine has produced graduates since 1961. That would roughly be 200 graduates per year. It would be nice to know their whereabouts. Just to complete our stats, the alumni office here in Manila will try get these figures from the class coordinators. Most of our graduates went into clinical practice after graduation with many taking up specialties in the different fields of Medicine. A good number are in the academe in various institutions like UP-PGH, UERMMMCM, St. Luke's, San Beda, St. Louie University and others. Quiet a few are into general practice, moonlighting, with some going into nursing and most of whom are now in the US.

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### UERM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

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**VISION:**

We envision:

- A robust network of highly organized and linked alumni at the global, national and local levels.
- A strong partnership between the alumni and the Alma Mater
- Alumni who are committed to giving back and paying forward for the love of their Alma Mater

**VALUES:**

- Generosity and selfless sharing for love of Alma Mater
- A home where we nurture a sense of belonging and goodwill
- Loyalty and gratitude
- Spirit of Bayanihan (Willingness to participate in joint endeavors for a common cause)

**MISSION:**

Promote:

- Sense of pride in and belonging to Alma Mater
- Strengthening of the College of Medicine Professional growth
- Advancement of the medical profession
- Adherence to Hippocratic oath
- Establish more meaningful and greater linkage, greater social interaction and bonding among Alumni and between the medical center and Alumni
- Build UERMMMC as the Medical Community of excellence, compassion, harmony and respect

## 37th Alumni Homecoming

The UERM College of Medicine Alumni Association & the Homecoming Organizing Committee are privileged to invite you to it's **37<sup>th</sup> Annual Homecoming** on **December 18-21, 2007**, Our Association will honor Medicine Class 1982 as the Silver Jubilarians

### Schedule of Activities

#### **December 18, 2007 (Tuesday)**

Tour at the Center  
Grand Alumni Welcome Party  
(Colleges of Medicine, Nursing & P.T.)  
*UERM Hospital*

#### **December 19, 2007 (Wednesday)**

Convocation Ceremonies  
CME Lectures  
Business Meeting  
*UERM College Auditorium*

#### **December 20, 2007 (Thursday)**

**37<sup>th</sup> Grand Alumni Fellowship Night**  
*Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City*

#### **December 21, 2007 (Friday)**

Silver Jubilarians Outing / Bonding  
*Golden Sunset Resort, Calatagan, Batangas*

### **Celebrating Classes**

**Sapphire (45 years) Class 1962**

**Ruby (40 years) Class 1967**

**Coral (35 years) Class 1972**

**Pearl (30 years) Class 1977**

**SILVER (25 years) CLASS OF 1982**

**China (20 years) Class of 1987**

**Crystal (15 years) Class of 1992**

**Tin (10 years) Class of 1997**

**Wood (5 years) Class of 2002**

**Paper Class of 2007**

Please be a part of this celebration. Let us renew acquaintances between students and mentors and cherish this reunion among colleagues. For more information, please contact the Alumni Secretariat at [uerm\\_alumni@yahoo.com](mailto:uerm_alumni@yahoo.com) / (02)716-0771 / 0920-6748830.

## HOME COMING 2006 .....continued from page 1

Soon, we were in the old canteen where the rest of our classmates joined us to share a plate of Pancit New York, and where we had the first of a series of shocks, foremost of which was whatever happened to Gil G! (Gil F.: “Neurosurgeon ka daw!!). Then, across the road, to the old gymnasium we went and gathered like so many times before (opening of classes, basketball/volleyball, games etc.) It was decorated with Christmas motif and at one side of which a stage was set. People started trickling, in and when it was our turn to have a class picture, there were 19 of us with big smiles and much bigger hearts (not in failure, of course). And we all knew this was just the start of building memories and reconnecting with dear old classmates. The night was spent with laughter, lots of talking, drinking, eating and of course dancing. - **Ric Zotomayor, M.D.**

*Yesterday* was a wonderful, wonderful affair, even if I arrived early and attended mass incognito with the nurses in the quadrangle, feeling sorry for myself for having believed any of my classmates would brave the traffic and come here for a “lousy” convocation. Al by my lonesome in UERM, trying very hard not to listen to the many, many familiar happy and sad stories its walls were trying to convey, I ended up touring the center and trying to see familiar faces in my desperate effort to connect. Except for Nonoy, one of the “boys in the back” of the Gross Anatomy room whom I instantly recognized, everyone else was a stranger.

I wanted to just leave and forget about ever being there when I decided to call a few classmates. Two unanswered calls from 2 different classmates... then, on the third call, I got Glenn J., “Where the F\* are you?? The mass ended, Dr. Cuanang just finished giving his talk and all of us who now in togas lining up for our anniversary march!! - **Benjie Luna, M.D.**

*Silver Jubilarian Class '81 Welcome Party* at the residence of Estelita Ignacio in Valle Verde VI, 20 Dec 2006... It was a pleasure on my part to have contributed my share in the planning of these events, especially the welcome party and the souvenir program. I was determined to give our classmates a memorable welcome, considering that some came all the way from abroad and the local provinces. The only thing beyond my control was the weather! Thanks to the sisters of Sta. Clara who bombarded high heavens with prayers for a pleasant weather, after our offerings of hen layers and leche flans, our wishes were granted with a perfect weather!! Two days before our welcome party, a tropical storm was forecasted to make landfall in the Phil. Now I'm a firm believer!!! See what collective prayers can do! I hope that everyone enjoyed that night as much as I did. The venue and food hopefully were to everyone's liking. Overall it was genuine happiness of being together again. Even if it was just for 3 days! I wouldn't have missed it for anything else!! See you all NEXT TIME!!! - **Boy Querol, M.D.**



## The Golden Jubilee Alumni Homecoming

culminated in the grand ball held at Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. According to Coric's announcement, the Silver Jubilarians were supposed to come in 2h earlier at 4pm to practice the dance routine for the finale that, to many, was learned for the first time the night before. To no one's surprise, not a soul was there (even the DI) except for Tes A. and Bob B. Did it not make you feel like med school days again?? (HaHa!). When they started trickling in after 6pm, many alumni and Silver Jubilarians were nearly unrecognizable because their countenance were fetching, dashing and sophisticated, all at the same time. As Jerry S. said, when he and Dimmy J. were complemented for their sharply handsome looks in their silver satin sash and bow tie, "talagang ganito lang kami magbihis sa New York". Many alumni were escorted by their spouses, children or family members. Sonia Mac's escort however stood out amongst all. Sonia, didn't I see you in the Vegas tape being escorted by 2 adolescent young men. Well this time, she came escorted by a small boy in barong tagalog. As she always said, her taste gets younger all the time! The inflammatory quip of the night was inadvertently given by the mellow, well-meaning, kind-hearted Boy Q. Anthony S. to Boy: "This is my wife Marisa." Boy to Marisa: "Oh hi, you were there last night at the welcome party." Marisa to Boy: "No, I was not," Now I better search through my brother's welcome party video tapes to save Anthony from damnation!

**The grand night** was emceed by the invigorating Ric Zotomayor who did an amazing job. His co-emcee were the acclaimed beauties Lantern Queens Lulu Marquez for the first half and Bessie Luna for the second half. In their scripted dialogue, Lulu decide to ad lib deeper into what she was currently doing; stating that departing from anesthesia, she was now doing something better: "*hosting a radio broadcast program and selling Allura.*" Knowing impish Ric, I'm sure he was tempted to take a crack at an Allura joke, but he resisted. We were all ears when it came to Bessie. Ric opened with "*We heard that Vegas was a raving success, so tell us about it.*" And Bessie caught us all with "*What happened in Vegas, stays in Vegas.*"

**Did I mention** to you that Class '81 waltzed in with sophistication, all prim and proper at heir best. Well, yeah in the first 30 minutes! After that, it became hard to follow the sequence of the speakers or the content of their speeches, or if there was any content. That's because tables 21-34 which were reserved for the Jubilarians, were pulsating with an uncontrollable rhythm all their own. Like a complete AV block! Some serious speaking was trying to happen in the front of the ballroom and revelry was breaking out in the back. Giggling, private chattering, and huge group picture-taking. You couldn't get mad even when you were trying to listen to Board Chairman P.O. Domingo or Pres. Ed Banez from the US Alumni Association. You just gave a wide smile and understood that it was homecoming fever-- too much catching-up in so little time!! I was as guilty and noisy as everyone. I wish I knew that I was going to be asked to recount this event so I would have paid more attention and written some of my famous notes. We've all lost our grand ball program copy, and as it turned out, none of our classmates I spoke to remember the wise words of the speakers. All that was vivid in our minds was the magical moment when the Silver Jubilarians were presented individually in a candle-lighting ceremony. The list was long, and for us at the back, the glass candle holders were "borderline blistering". The stage was quickly overrun by 78 beaming gleeful young (at heart!) Class '81 graduates. Tony Anastacio turned over the Alumni presidency to incoming president Dr. Borromeo. Corics turned over the torch of responsibility to Class '82 represented by Jeff Battad. He also called Estrell A. who in turn presented to Josie Cadorna, head of Peds, the US donation of the incubator, ventilator and 5-balikbayan boxes of supplies for the charity ward (the Phil donation is still being awaited).

**And, for the grand finale**, a choreographed dance rendition by Class '81 dancers -- any one with rhythm, dancing feet, and "apog" was invited to be a part of it. It was a wonderful synchronized grand finale, not because I was a part of it, but because everyone was dancing their heart away in their own I-don't-care-if-I-just-learned-it rendition of the slide, shuffle and Elvis Presley moves! Don't ask me the names of the music pieces that were played. I never heard it before. And that was just the beginning of the endless night on the dance floor! There were several DI's to swing you into those irresistible dance moves. UERM alumni from all generations were gyrating or hustling in unison depending on what the DI prompted. Rose P, probably intoxicated with delusion, started emulating the singer of the live band. Well, we Class '81 felt that this night was ours, compliance was not our mission, our 2 goals for that night were fun and more fun and the pulse of the homecoming was going to be paced by us, the Jubilarians. And we achieved all of the above. One younger alumni who attended the homecomings yearly commented that, of all the homecomings, this was by far the happiest and most fun crowd. "It will be tough to beat the spirit of this crowd."

*Continued on page 16*



### *Grand Alumni Welcome Party*



# Homecoming 2006: Convocation Ceremonies & Grand Alumni Fellowship Night





### Class 1981 donates to UERMMMMC



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### Rock Rythmia Concert

May 2, 2007  
Metrobar  
West Ave., QC



### Alumni Assembly Saturday, 12 May, 2007, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya



#### Seated, Front (L-R)

Maria Isabel Nuestro-Venturina '84, Marilou Allas-Tagayuna '81, Maribel Moscoso-Codamon '90, Maria Selina Rupisan '94, Minnie Darling Gambito-Padre '01

#### Standing, Back (L-R)

Edwin Galapon '82, Cesar Tagayuna '81, Antonio Ligot '68, Antonio Padre '79, Pres. Andres Borromeo '73, Willie Damasco '70, Jaime Padre '03

## It's Just The Beginning... Of More Happy Reunions

*I haven't been back to the Philippines* in over 2 decades, preferring to labor as an underpaid healer here in the good old USA and taking vacations in other parts of the world. Then, the invitation came to join the Philippine WBA Reunion. It was a most welcome opportunity that I didn't want to miss. So my wife Prescy and I took the sentimental journey back home with our dear friends Elmer and Violie. There was no tsunami of excitement, but I felt like more of having assorted waves of apprehension, excitement, hope and caution..... as I embarked on this journey. I even asked my parish priest for a blessing for a safe journey. As I looked at the schedule of the 4 day affair prepared by Della and Associates, it looked like a very promising and enjoyable get together.

The USA and Germany contingent were all billeted at Linden Suites Hotel along Ortigas apparently picked for its location and beauty. There were 15 of us from abroad and 26 from the Philippines who participated one way or the other in this reunion after over 35 years post graduation.

Etot/Nora and Christian came to pick us up early from the hotel. Regarding the choice of rides, the WBA ladies chose Etot/Nora while the fun loving boys... Jun C, Jimmy T, Tenyente, Elmer, Delay and I obviously picked Christian. Interestingly, he had the Emergency: Doctor on Call placard on both sides of his car to which the wild jeepney and taxi drivers played oblivious to. Some things never change as Manila drivers still ruled the streets like kings.

The festivities started off with a mass at the relocated Chapel of the UE hospital next to the lobby, followed by breakfast and then CME. As we walked along the corridors next to the registration office, I heard Lani said, I got my first kiss here while making a quick wink at Tenyente. Wonderful memories were starting to come back and it was only the first day. There were lectures by 2 distinguished classmates of ours...Romy Encanto, Surgeon and Romy Saavedra, Cardiologist, whose clientele include prominent figures of the country. They are top notch lectures, highly regarded professors and respected members of the Philippine Boards of their respective specialties. They are both Romeos who hailed from the beautiful city of Iloilo. The only difference between the two was their attire for that day, with Romy E wearing shirt and tie giving a hint of love of life, party and travel (he was in all reunion activities) whereas Romy S who was wearing barong apparently implying his love of a quiet serene life.. Such love is evidenced by his frequent weekend trips to his beautiful farm in Cavite which we had the pleasure of visiting. Our dear Lily was the moderator extraordinaire,, even reminisced that she thought Romy E to be a snob when he ignored her inquiries in one anatomy class, who turned out he couldn't speak tagalog. Now, he is so proficient in tagalog, he is now a bilingual lecturer. Lily carried herself so professionally during this reunion that I felt I was talking to my professor instead of my classmate. She also gracefully showed her genuine concern for her students. Dean Paredes gave us an inspiring message and acknowledged the strong support of the WBA and the alumni associations and appealed for continued support and involvement to the programs and projects of the school. Dr. Divinagracia spoke to us about the vision of new UERMMMCM. Together, their speeches provided an inspiration to entice our future generations to enroll at UERMMMCM. The 2 smart female medical students who are beneficiaries of the WBA scholarship program were also introduced.

The lectures and Q & A were so spirited that even Rey C. wanted to get a commitment from the group who would attend the forthcoming Washington Reunion. It was, of course, out of order, but he is the most vocal supporter of the Washington Reunion. He couldn't get off his mind how much he enjoyed the last reunion in Las Vegas. We appreciated his enthusiasm. But rest assured Rey, What stays in Vegas stays in Vegas.

Two prominent ophthalmologists were there too. Delfin R. who was introduced by Lily as a good swimmer and one of the heroes of the NAGA bridge collapse a few years back. Jack D., ophthalmologist and Professor at U.P, was noted to have all the answers for everything. That's typical of Jack. I have to tell you guys that Delfin, Jack, Romy E. and Romy S. all intellectuals in class, knew me without introducing myself but when I introduced myself as Dennis instead of my real name of Christian, he took the bait, hook line and sinker. Does that tell you something?

Della and Tenyente introduced the rest of the participants from the Phil and U.S. respectively ...they were Amelie, Elena, Evelyn, Lydia, Ferdie T. Violeta, Rene G., William T., Vangie (who opened the program), Delay, Jimmy O., Cynthia, Mina, Amy, and Lani. Rudyard R. made a quick personal appearance at the chapel but had to leave for an appointment. Afterwards, we were treated to a tour of the UERMMMCM by Lily and Romy E. The Interns quarter is now a parking lot and the Dental school across the street housed the administrative offices, Physical Therapy classrooms, and part of the nursing college. Some Department halls inside the UE building were unrecognizable from renovation and expansion but there was no denying that we have walked those halls before as a typical wide-eyed and eager Student.....and now, we're back.... Walking with pride and joy....although our steps were a little bit slower now. We met some of the Interns with uniforms different from ours but who looked like our younger version. The Blue House has lost its grandeur but, still standing proudly. It has housed and fed many great minds in the nation, some of whom were our own WBA.

***We had our evening Dinner get-together at the Cabalen Restaurant*** eat all you can party place at the Megamall. Nora said this was where we had the most complete WBA gathering. It was supposed to be Etot/Nora's wedding anniversary who had been going steady since High school. We might as well recognize them as the longest married couple of WBA... The morning crowd were still there, Rosemary B. took time off from her busy practice in Quezon City to join us, Joey B. and Eleonor drove down from Baguio to join us. Their youthful looks haven't been touch by time... It's getting crowded at Chuck's and Bien's forever young Department, that's for sure. Also Ernie Q. and Emps came all the way from Dagupan City to participate in this fun-filled Reunion. Everybody had a good time. We renewed friendships again with classmates we have not seen for a long time. There were lots of laughter and abundance of food which included fish, which reminded me of the Chinese New Year simultaneously being celebrated at that time. It is the tradition that the preparation and consumption of the fish signified togetherness, and in that particular night we were celebrating togetherness among friends. And, just like the song says.... "And nothing else matters.... We were together again!!!!

### **Day 2, 2/16/07**

***Early a.m around 5:30***, 2 vans carrying sleepy-eyed but spunky WBA were transported to the pier along Manila Bay for a tour of Corregidor Island. It felt like going back to the past. Remember the sleep deprived days of med school? There were lots of whining and grumbling then ...but not this time... not this reunion.

Corregidor used to be an island of paradise for early Filipino settlers and explorers, a mini city complete with all the amenities amidst big guns and barracks before WWII. The preserved island is now a historical site of the remains of the old City, serving as a memorial to the courage and heroism of those who fought for it and it is now a popular tourist destination. There was an hour's boat ride to the island. I was seated beside Evelyn and husband Don, a nice couple, a prominent FP and Surgeon practitioners, solidifying my belief that if you like the WBA then, you like them even better now.

On the island tour I made sure I was seated with Rey C. and Jun C. for humorous effect and with Logie for intellectual conversation, Mina made one silver coin peddler happy by purchasing his supplies. Silver coins from the Yamashita loot apparently were dumped in the ocean before the end of the war. Coin collecting is another passion among other things for our very own Donald Trump. It was nice to see Elena. She has that sweet, caring way towards the WBA just like a devoted mother that she is. There was one Hotel here on top of the hill overlooking Malinta Tunnel and part of Cavite where we had our lunch break. The sumptuous lunch was a delight made more enjoyable by a guitar band serenading us. Ernie Q. got up and joined the band and entertained the WBA. The rest of the WBA included Joey B. /Eleanor, Romy E, Delay, Lily and family, Ernie/Emps, Cynthia/Bert, Elmer/Violie, Lani/Tenyente, Delay, Delfin and of course our guardian angels---Nora /Etot and Della, Lydia, Elena.... Amy was also there, she was the most dedicated WBA in this reunion. Like Nimfa from the past, she was here with a heavy heart having lost her loving husband a few months ago. We all appreciated this show of love for the group, real WBA troupers.

After Corregidor, the group proceeded to RJ TV Bar, with Ramon Jacinto performing that evening. Some of us grew up with his music so this was a special treat by the Phil WBA for us. Since we were early we had the place to ourselves for a while. We even had a meeting regarding future reunions initiated by Romy E. Christian made a loud entrance and lit up the room like nobody else can. He and Delay, although they came in solo managed not to run out of dancing partners. The newly weds Afric/Rolly fresh from another honeymoon in Beijing, China showed up. Vangie, Jimmy O. and Rene G. came together and Amelie and Art showed up... There were lots of dancing to the 70's rock music appropriate for us, middle age rockers. At 11 p.m. the place was televised live just Dance-O-Rama of the past, and a Doctor friend of mine from California, here in town on a medical mission called me up the next day, told me he saw me on T.V. It's a small world indeed, but, at least the WBA got their 15 minutes of fame.

### **Day 3 2/17/07**

***There was a convoy of 3 vans*** and a SUV that drove us to the farm of Romy S. in Cavite. But, we first made a detour to visit our classmate Jovencio C. confined at De la Salle Medical center in Dasmariñas. You could see the joy in his eyes as he tried to guess the names, but he had more success describing their coca cola figures like that of Vangie and Cynthia and facial beauty like that of Emps. Like a typical WBA, he appreciated beauty in all circumstances and conditions. He fondly remembered his groupmates especially Mari. We missed also our classmates Leony and Florence who were staff of this facility, but currently in the U.S. for CME. Our visit to him was most wonderful for each and everyone.

The Farm is a wonderful retreat for a busy cardiologist like Romy S. The farm house is a cute yellow wooded dwelling in a 5 hectare lot plated with a variety of local and exotic fruits like Dragon fruit and others too many to remember. Romy and his lovely wife, Baby treated us to a wonderful lunch picnic under the shade tree behind the house surrounded by colorful flowering garden. We savored Filipino delicacies with the likes of the Phil. crabs, lechon, dinuguan, guinataan, kuhol, and fried tilapia. The fruit cocktail was prepared fresh from the fruit trees of the farm. Later on, Christian came with some delicacies from Batangas including pancit guisado, pancit canton, sapin-sapin, and suman. I reacquainted myself with this delicious feast. A toast has been dedicated to them many times over. I wish my compatriots from the frozen tundra of Wisconsin were here to partake of this hard to come by meal. The farm used to be a coffee plantation but which Romy transformed into a beautiful forest park next to another farm owned by a top Philippine singer, Kuh Ledesma.

*Continued on pages 12 & 13*

## It's Just The Beginning ..... *Continued from page 11*

***There was a lot of fun in this place.*** Ernie Q. showed us again his wonderful guitar playing, especially when he serenaded the ladies with the song "Irog, ako ay mahalín". I remember the time in the old days when he performed with Mandy singing in falsetto the same song in one of our PRRM activities. There was a contest where the ladies were fitted against the Men in a singing contest in which the group has to come up with a song containing the word "LOVE" with Emps, Della and Lydia conducting vs. maestro Christian. The boys handily won the contest when Christian came up with his version of the songs "Love-bandera ko" and "Don't LOVE for me, Argentina". For a few moments there, we were like kids, but we didn't mind it as we were having fun and the neighbors were far away.

Afterwards, the WBA split up into 2 groups. The ladies went home on a leisurely drive via Tagaytay even stopping at a road side fruit stand, then proceeded to hang out at Amy's room till late in the evening at the hotel while some of the Boys went with Christian on a tour of his Mansion he designed himself, built on a sloop off a hill in Calaca, Batangas. The house is named Dr. Suave mink ranch. In this reunion, apart from being a flamboyant, great charmer, we saw the other side of Christian as a successful medical person/businessman/sportsman, and a generous entertaining host. The WBA is full of wonderful characters but Christian is in a class by himself. There was a quotation in the movie Forrest Gump .... "life is like a box of chocolate, you'll never know what you gonna get"... well, the WBA got Christian... and I think we'll keep him!!!

### Day 4 2/18/07

We started the reunion with a mass and it was most fitting to end it with another mass. It was a beautiful Sunday morning and we were transported to St. Agustin Church. This is the oldest stone church built in the country. Afterwards we did a walking tour of the church museum and surrounding Intramuros. We had a refresher course of Philippine history brought to us by a very knowledgeable and theatrical tour guide.

Aristocrat restaurant. This is where we had our lunch get-together, compliments of Rene G. and suitably held at the nostalgia room. It looked like this restaurant has been there forever and it still carried a lot of memories from our college and med school dating days. The food was typical pinoy delicacy with buko pandan providing a wonderful finishing touch. The Phil WBA organizers were champions in time and place management. Aware of the traffic situation in the city, they planned the activities in strategic locations. The main attraction of this day was the dinner cruise and the activities prior to that were conveniently close by.

We hanged out at the penthouse condo of Rene G. which had a view of half of Metro Manila. We continued our story telling and reminiscing in that beautiful condominium with Rene's beautiful practice in Guam for a few months and the Philippines the rest of the year. What an interesting concept.

At around 6pm we boarded the boat M/V Tennessee Walker for a dinner cruise along Manila bay. We occupied the whole lower section of the boat, and as we sailed and sat with our sodas and beer, we watched the glorious sunset, the dazzling fireworks with the backdrop of the new baywalk and its colorful lights, and reveling crowd and the tall buildings beyond. It was a beautiful night and a splendid sight being spent with your friends and loved ones. There was dancing and the music was provided by an amusing pinoy band.

There was Elmer/Violie, Lani/Tenyente, Amelie/Art, Amy, Jun/Evelyn, Romy, Etot/Nora, Della, Afric/Rolly, Vangie, Lydia, Jimmy T., Prescy and I., all enjoying the merry making and line dancing. Logie came late but we waited for him. Etot made sure he got in, just like the marines, so nobody got left behind. Jimmy T was the most well dressed WBA this reunion, together with his lovely wife, Elsie as they brought home their colorful New Orleans flair.

When Lydia started showing us a glimpse of the twist I know we were gonna have fun. She always had the smile for you and I appreciated her zest and cheerfulness. Afric/Rolly were the most romantic dancers of the night. Amelie & Art, beautiful dancing couple, were always present in all the days of the reunion. Her husband Art even recited with me one of Mark Twain's Quotations.... "Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails.. Explore, Dream, Discover". We were having so much good time; this was our fervent invitation to the WBA for the next reunion. Lani and Tenyente took time off from their annual medical mission to join us. Jimmy O has left but he joined us with his usual hit and run style just like in reunion past, Ferdie T has gone back home too. He showed up the previous days despite a little leg pain and a cane. He is truly the big boss and cowboy of Mountain Province. We appreciated them all.

***Etot/Nora were the hardest working couple in this reunion...*** when Etot saw me seemed lost and worried about the schedule, he said "Huwag kang mag-alala, Sir". When your own classmate called you Sir, that's the epitome of respect and I knew the WBA was in good hands. With the guidance of Etot/Nora, the group was treated to a smooth, fabulous reunion. Della, the eyes and ears of the Phil WBA, the counterpart of benching in the PI. Despite her busy practice she took time to pick up some of the WBA at the airport in the wee hours of the morning. She was the star in this get-together spectacle. While Etot/Nora provided an outstanding directorial touch to the affair, Della worked the crowd beautifully together with Lydia, Amelie, Evelyn, Elena, Rey, Romy E, Lily, Christian, Rene and others. Vangie worked behind the scenes providing a Godfather-like influence.. if there was a hitch to the schedule, she was the go-to person to call. She was always on the phone. Each and everyone of the WBA have their own roles and that is to make sure everybody enjoyed the reunion. We enjoyed this revelry so much Romy E was already plotting for next year's reunion. We thank the Phil WBA for this wonderful reunion, well done! Indeed! My special thanks to Elmer whose kindness and encouragement enabled me to reconsider and come to enjoy this reunion and made one of the most wonderful decisions in my life.

After the reunion, we went our separate ways, some to Boracay, one to Mountain Province, one to Marikina, a few stayed in town for family and class reunions, a couple continued on with their unending honeymoon, some just hang around town, some went back to the US, some stayed. And just like after graduation many years ago, we all went our separate ways..... but we always come back because we always have the WBA spirit in us..... Why not?

On my way back to California with Elmer, it was a long flight and there was a lot of movies to choose from. Elmer chose the police drama "The Departed." I picked the romantic comedy "A Good Year", a movie about a successful Bonds Trader named Max Skinner (played by Russel Crowe) who inherited his Uncle's vineyard estate where he spent a lot of childhood summers. In one scene, while he was drinking with the illegitimate daughter of his uncle, He said, "Every single one of my memories took place about 100 ft in this forest park" and she said, "Are they good memories?". Max answered "No"..... "they're grand".... Like Max, my memories of UERMMM and the WBA, recent and past, are not only good.... They're GRAND! ... Thank you. – *El Vhic, M.D.*

## ***UERM MED '65 JOIN MEDICAL MISSIONS***

***Several USA*** based members of UERM Med '65 have been active in various medical missions in the Philippines. The latest batch to share their skills and expertise were Dr. Leonardo Chato (Chicago), Dr. Josefina Garcia-Sidiq (Ohio), Dr. Sofronio de la Vegas (Pennsylvania), Dr. Erlinda Rausa-Ariola (Kentucky) and Dr. Edna Angeles-Butaney (Massachusetts) who rendered medical and surgical services at Baranagy Sapa Libutad and at the EPSA Resettlement Hospital in Mabalacat, Pampanga. The mission was a joint project of the Angeles University Foundation College of Medicine (AUF-COM) with the cooperation of Angeles City Mayor Carlo Lazatin and Mabalacat Mayor Marino Morales last Feb 13 & 14, 2007

Dr. Edgardo Balde also served as the Anesthesiologist of another group that went to Tagum, Davao last Feb 2007. Last October 2006, Dr. Rodolfo Velasco joined a medical mission at Calamba District Hospital, Ozamis Occidental. Dr. Rodolfo Canos also was part of a group that had their medical mission in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila.

Dr. Ruben Fermin (GS), Dr. Willie Apostol (GS) and Dr. Leonardo Chato (GS) performed various major surgical procedures at Catarman General Hospital, Catarman, Samar from Feb 3-7, 2006. During this same period, another team led by Dr. Conrad Zapanta (ENT-Head & Neck Surgeon) performed microsurgeries of the middle ear and mastoids at the Allen Provincial Hospital, Allen, Samar.

Another dedicated group also led by Dr. Conrad Zapanta which also included Dr. Dennis Ching (Pedia-Ophthal), Dr. Ruben Fermin (GS), Dr. Virgilio Cabigas (IM), Dr. Edna Angeles-Butaney (IM), Dr. Dolores Corpuz-Bauzon (IM) and Dr. Ronnie de la Vega (Anesth) operated on and treated over 700 patients at Good News Mission Hospital, Banaue, Mt Province last Feb 2006. The medical mission was coordinated by Dr. Antonio Ligot, the Medical Director of the Hospital, Dr. Ligot is also a UERM graduate, Class '68. ***Manny Ramos, M.D.***

### **Alumni Association Newsletter**

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## *UERMMM, in Celebration of its Golden Jubilee*

### **Most Outstanding Alumni Awardees**

Abraham, Regina, M.D., Amante, Jonathan, M.D., Astete, Leonardo, M.D., Babilonia, Noe, M.D., Banatin, Carmencita, M.D. Bayugo, Gerardo, M.D., Bongcawil, Jerry, M.D., Borromeo, Andres, M.D., Contemplacion, Romeo, M.D., Cortez, Edgardo, M.D., Cuanang, Joven, M.D., Dañocop, Muriel, M.D., De la Rosa, Miles Francis, M.D., Divinagracia, Romeo, M.D., Firmalo, Eduardo, M.D., Fortun, Raquel, M.D., Gose, Mayvelyn, M.D., Henares, Elvira, M.D., Hussin, Parouk, M.D., Lesaca, Reynaldo, M.D., Lopez, Reynaldo, M.D., Ludovice, Antonio, M.D., Makabali, Gilbert, M.D., Malaya, Arnel, M.D., Manila, Jaime, M.D., Mendoza, John, M.D., Obillo, Consuelo, M.D., Olveda, Remigio, M.D., Ordon, Jovencio, M.D., Palaypay, Metodiod, M.D., Pamugas, Reginaldo, M.D., Paredes, Georgina, M.D., Puno, Randy, M.D., Reyes, Alfaretta Luisa Tan, M.D. Reyes III, Jose Albert, M.D., Rigor, Benjamin, M.D., Sibulo, Antonio, M.D. Tan, Daniel, M.D., Tayag, Eric, M.D. Valdellon, Erlinda, M.D., Villalon, Antonio, M.D.,

#### **Posthumous:**

Peralta, Jorge, Baccay, Potenciano, Agcaoil, Norberto and Guerero-Cucueco, Eunice

### **Achievers Awardees**

Almazan-Gomez, Lynn, M.D., Almeda, Leonardo, M.D., Anastacio, Antonio, M.D., Aquino, Abdias, M.D., Arandia, Rosalinda, M.D., Baltazar, Eduardo P., M.D., Battad, Grace, M.D., Bundoc, Josephine, M.D., Cadorna-Carlos, Josefina, M.D., Cammayo, Primitivo, M.D., Carilo, Noel, M.D., Chua, Albert, M.D., Chua, Ernie, M.D., Chua, William, M.D., de Guzman, Ludivino, M.D., Domingo, Shirley, M.D., Dy-Mancao, Betty, M.D., Galindez, Cirilo, M.D., Gaw, Albert, M.D., Ibanez-Manlapaz, Irene, M.D., Javier, Bernardita, M.D., Ladines-Llave, Cecilia, M.D., Lu, Enriqueito Rodriguez, M.D., Luntao-Milan, Linda, M.D., Madarcos, Floro, M.D., Manzano-Manzon, Amelia, M.D., Nagtalon, Eric, M.D., Padolina, Christia, M.D., Payawal, Fidel, M.D., Pelea-Nagtalon, Susan, M.D., Pena, Adrian, M.D., Policarpio, Jonas, M.D., Querubin, Renato, M.D., Rabe, Milagros, M.D., Rivera, Ignacio, M.D., Rodriguez, Sonia, M.D., Salud, Edgardo, M.D., San Luis, Amado, M.D., Sia, Rolando, M.D., Tordesillas, Edward, M.D., Uy, Norbert Lingling, M.D., Vera, Ma. Trinidad, M.D., Ver-Bareng, Juliet, M.D.



## HOME COMING 2006 ..... *continued from page 5*

*Needless to say*, when the Retrospect Band bade adieu at 11:30 pm, it did not sit well with many silver jubilarians, and they had to find another venue to vent their energies. Chat and the boys, just kidding, actually a big group of boys and girls went out, chatting and or drinking till the wee hours UNTIL THEY COULD HARDLY WAKE UP IN TIME FOR THE BUS TO MAKILING! To all who made it, let's do it again -- Washington, Ifugao, Manila.., name the place! To those who didn't, I hope I have infused you with a tinge of the fibrillating pulse of that crazy crowd called Class '81! - *Grace Sagayadan-Souhlal, M.D.*

### Silver Jubilarian Class '81 Family Outing, 22 Dec 2006

*About 50* of our classmates and family members joined the class outing on Friday, December 22, 2006. The two-hour long trip was hardly felt as there was a lot of catching up to do, 25 years worth in fact. Around 5% of the time was devoted to describing one's work while the rest of the time was allotted to the more interesting details about, among other things, the long, long process of finding Mr. Right; on finding Mr. Love-of-My-Life and losing him; being with Mr. Good Enough; discussing the reasons behind radical image changes; sharing the joys and pains of family life. Before we knew it, we were in the lush fields of Ayala Greenfields where coordinator Dennis S. was waiting for us. Every twist and turn was a photo opportunity, like the groupies at Benjie L's BMW motorbike, or whatever they call two-wheeled vehicles these days. Despite 3 days of continuous Bacchanalian partying, the group gamely participated in the Amazing Race, which was rumored to have served as the inspiration of the second rate, trying hard copycat TV show of the same title. The 4 teams set out to do their tasks: that is running, walking, or in some cases, strolling from the Clubhouse to the Treehouse to the Badminton court, Basketball court, Fishing Lagoon. Some complained of palpitations; some admitted this was the first form of exercise they'd had in years. The winning team was spearheaded by the beautiful little girls of Benjie who ran on full batteries all the way. Pity Rec S., who was stuck with 4 ladies whose mouths ran faster than their feet.

The trip home took around 4 hours but that was fine because more stories had to be told. When we finally in Manila, there was no time for proper and formal good byes as everybody was just so eager to go home to their respective hotels and homes. This was good actually. There were no periods - just pauses, commas, put-on-hold modes. Everyone seemed to assume this was just a temporary parting yet again. Meantime, until that time is achieved, we do have good memories to reminisce - of 4 days that seemed to pass in flash, images that we can tune in and out of as we please, till we all meet again. - *Ruby Nagtalon-Foronda, M.D.*

*We are in the process of updating our Alumni Directory.  
Please fill-up and mail, fax or e-mail it to the Alumni Office.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Member: yes/no  
 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel. No. (Res.): \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. (Office/Celfone): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Office Address/Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_ Board Cert: yes/no, Sub-Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_ Board Cert: yes/no  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_