

THE LINK

The Official Publication of PUC/AUP – Alumni of Western North America

www.awesna.org Fall 2018

AWESNA 46th Annual Convention 2018

River Cree Resort and Casino, 300 E Lapotac Blvd, Enoch, Alberta Canada

August 31-September 2, 2018



Theme: Building a Transformational Future





THE LINK-AWESNA

VOLUME 49 ISSUE 2 WWW.AWESNA.ORG FALL 2018

PUC/AUP Alumni of Western North America (AWESNA)

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 Eppie Manalo— *Vice President*
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Cover page from top clockwise: Carmelita Laoyan, Dr. Tavy Quijada, Honorable Governor Alfonso "Boy" Umali; Ben Siapco (red shirt); Rene Donato (Treasurer) with Carmelita Laoyan, Edwin Araba; Mass Baptism in Oriental Mindoro; Loma Linda Chapter Officers and members; Welcome banner for AWESNA and Carmelita Laoyan at the GNCC Rally, Angela Manalo-Lalas.

AWESNA

"...to Serve and Shine!"

Website: www.awesna.org



The Link-AWESNA



Message from the AWESNA President



August 31, 2018

Dear fellow alumni and friends,

On behalf of the executive officers of PUC/AUP Alumni of Western North America (AWESNA), I welcome you to our 46th alumni convention here in the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Alberta, Canada. Allow me to express my heartfelt gratitude to you for – attending this year’s convention; giving your financial contributions; volunteerism, commitment and participation; offering valuable feedback; and above all, your sincerest prayers.

Through God’s grace, we were able to reach significant accomplishments this year. The highlights are as follows:

Spiritual retreat focused on the theme, *As Jesus served*. The well-attended retreat was held at the Best Western Island Palms Hotel and Marina in San Diego, California on January 12-14, 2018. Our main guest speaker was the famous Adventist author, 3ABN TV personality, Miss Brenda Walsh. Evangelistic series and medical mission outreach held in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines on February 26 – March 3: yielded precious souls brought to Christ through 507 baptisms, including Vice Major Cezar Baticos; provision of invaluable medical services to 4,949 patients . Fundraising concert featuring the esteemed group Musikappelle held in Rancho Cucamonga, California on May 6 raised an impressive \$25,000 towards the endowment fund. The proceeds, through the generosity of our gracious donors, will help support future projects.

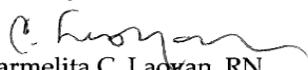
As we focus on *building a transformational future* in this year’s convention, let our efforts always be aligned to God’s grand design as we bring others closer into His loving fold. As a staunch supporter of our vision and mission, I urge you fellow alumni and friends to never waiver in your faith and service. For the bible said, ... *with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible*. Matthew 19:26.

Our strength is in Christ and in our love for our Alma Mater who had, those few or many years ago, trained us for service. If you’re not a member of one of our 13 AWESNA chapters, I implore you to experience the joys, camaraderie and sense of purpose that a membership to AWESNA affords you. With just \$25/year, your contribution will help us grow our service within our immediate community and around the world.

Looking ahead in 2019, I am delighted to announce the upcoming 50th anniversary of AWESNA. This will be celebrated during our 47th annual convention on August 30 - September 1, in the Pacific Northwest area of Portland, Oregon. This momentous occasion is exceptional opportunity for us all to unite our efforts in making this an affair to remember for a lifetime.

In closing, I pray that you find happiness and blessings in the company old friends and acquaintances as well as establish new connections within our AWESNA family. My friends and fellow alumni, may God richly bless you and yours during this alumni weekend and throughout the rest of the year. And as you depart from here with warm hearts and a renewed sense of commitment and purpose, may you go onward and continue to SHINE ON FOREVER.

Sincerely,


Carmelita C. Laoyan, RN
President, AWESNA 2016-2019

Adventist University of the Philippines



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31 August 2018

Dear AUP Alumni,

Greetings to those who are gathered to fellowship in the AWESNA Convention. I am sure that as classmates and friends meet and worship together, this will be another memorable convention.

"Transformation" is a key word in your Convention theme, a byword in many organizations and societies today, especially in a time of crisis and ever changing challenges. Indeed, whether we like it or not or whether we are aware of it or not, transformation, change, is taking place.

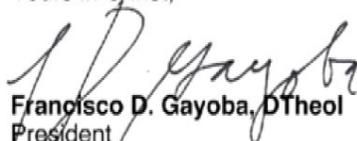
The Adventist University of the Philippines, the alma mater of most of you in this Convention, has been going through transformation in its more than a hundred years of existence. From an academy in Pasay, to a junior college and finally a college in Baesa, then a university in Silang. Changes in location, number of students, programs offered, personnel and leadership, and others, have taken place. We are now a university recognized among faith-based institutions in the Philippines as a medium sized school yet with high academic achievements, vibrant residential student life, and a large campus. Let us pray however that despite these transformations, we will ever be known as a 'school that trains for service' and where students are prepared for heavenly citizenship.

Your alma mater needs your prayers and support that the kind of transformation that is taking place is not only responsive to present challenges but resolute in maintaining our spiritual roots and identity, and ever conscious of our mission. The affirmation we receive, even the critiques for improvement, are valuable in setting the direction we need to pursue in this changing world.

More importantly let us remember that though institutional issues are significant they are not everything. The most essential thing is who and what each one of us has become in our inner selves. Though our bodies may be ageing, the inner person is being transformed. Romans 12:1 states that we should be "transformed by the renewing of your mind". Yes, transformed by God's Word (John 17:17). The ultimate result is that each is "being transformed into the image of Christ" (2 Cor. 3:18).

As you gather together to hear about updates of your alma mater, as you catch up with the happenings in the lives of your classmates and friends, may your greatest joy and excitement be the sharing of how God has truly transformed your lives.

Yours in Christ,


Francisco D. Gayoba, DTheol
President



EDITORIAL

BY: MARJORIE REYNO HUYNH, AWESNA PRO

August 30, 2018

Dear Alumni,

Welcome to the 46th AWESNA Convention here in beautiful Edmonton, Canada! I am so excited to meet my classmates, friends, teachers and fellow AUP alumni from all over North America and beyond. I am looking forward to the beautiful program prepared by our Convention Committee! I am thrilled to visit this part of Canada which has been on my bucket list because of scenic pictures I've seen on Banff and Jasper Lake which we will get a chance to see on our Sunday tour! We have an exciting weekend ahead of us!

When I was reflecting on the Convention's theme "Building a Transformational Future" a few things came to mind. First, on a personal scale, I think of the verse in 1 Corinthians 6:19 NIV: "Do you know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit?" Along with a group of friends, I "transformed" myself by following healthy ways of living - good nutrition, exercise, drink water regularly, sunshine, temperance, air, rest and trust in God (NEUSTART). Under the guidance of our classmate, Yvonne Deoso-Afenir this "transformation" has made me lose 10 pounds and has given me more energy and stamina to tackle my job, home life and editorial work! Check out our story on page 31. My daily walks included you-tube tutorial time to learn how to do lay-out! A Harvard research showed that regular exercise changes the brain to improve memory and thinking skills and reducing the odds of developing heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Oddly enough, I learned computer skills better while walking rather than sitting in front of the computer!

Second, on an organizational scale, alumni members of AWESNA had two successful Medical Dental and Evangelistic Missions on pages 18-20 and 31-32 and the Endowment Fundraising Concert on page 16. Our Endowment Fundraising Funds help to upgrade our teachers and research at AUP and we thank our donors and artists. Mission volunteers not only met the health needs of our fellow Filipinos but more importantly "transformed" other lives to follow Jesus Christ. It takes time, effort, financial resources and commitment to participate in projects and we praise the Lord for the unselfish acts of our alumni which embodies Awesna's motto: "To Serve and Shine". In 2 Corinthians 3:18, it says, "we ...are being transformed into his image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit".

Third, I am proud of our alumni who got promoted and awarded, see pages 10-11. Kudos to all the Chapter representatives who submitted reports and photos for The Link. Let's congratulate the new sets of officers from the Loma Linda and Greater Central Valley Chapters and a warm welcome to our new members/recruits! For our next issue, I expect to get a 100% participation of all chapters to submit their reports for the Spiritual Retreat issue on January 25-27, 2019. The deadline to submit articles is December 25, 2018.

Fourth, we are happy for the AUP College of Medicine for reaching it's fourth year! Truly a dream of 30 years has come into fruition and now the senior medical students are on their way to clinical experience. Walk with them on their clinical orientation found in pages 14-15.

Last but not the least, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Edwin Araba, who had been our Lay-out and Design Editor in the last three issues of my term as Editor-in-Chief. I am proud and humbled at the same time to say that I did the layout of this issue which truly "transformed" me in a lot of ways! Special thanks to Ben Barboza, Alberta Chapter Adviser, who helped me to get the costs and details for printing in Edmonton, Canada. Thank you to my husband, Donald Huynh with his patience, support and help to organize files and pictures! Thanks to the Editorial Board for approving the last minute changes in our printing budget to accommodate more stories and for their advice. Thanks to Crisamar for proof-reading and suggestions. Thanks to God for giving me the energy and wisdom to do his novel task that I never thought I would be able to do with my busy schedule but was made easier with the healthier lifestyle I have adapted and your support and prayers. To our readers, may your presence in this Convention transform you not only socially and spiritually but get you more involved with AWESNA and AUP organizations as we embark on more positive changes for the Glory of God! Wishing you all a fulfilling and fun-filled 46th AWESNA Convention here in Edmonton, Canada!



The LINK-AWESNA in Facebook

Administrator: Marjorie Reyno Huynh; Co-administrator: Edwin Araba

THE LINK

The Link is published by the Adventist University of the Philippines Alumni of Western North America (AWESNA).
www.awesna.org

Please send articles and photos to: The Link, 2772 S. Erin Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408 or email: MajoReyno2@gmail.com

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In Retrospect: AWESNA at a GLANCE (2016-2018)

By: Carmelita Laoyan, AWESNA President (2016-2019)

We are excited to be in Edmonton, Alberta to celebrate our 46th Annual Convention on August 31 – September 2, 2018 with our theme *“Building a Transformational Future”* as we end the 2nd year of our three-year-term. Thank you, Alberta Chapter, for hosting this event for the very first time at the beautiful rocky mountain site of Canada!

2016

With much enthusiasm, the new AWESNA officers for 2016-2019 took oath during the 44th annual convention on September 2-4, 2016 at the beautiful island of Honolulu, Hawaii gathering many alumni and friends to visit the “paradise” for the very first time!

Elected AWESNA Officers 2016-2019:

President – Carmelita Laoyan
Vice President – Eppie Manalo
Secretary – Edwin Araba
Treasurer – Ella Alcaide
Auditor – Oscar Pablo
PRO – Marjorie Reyno Huynh



October 2 – 2017 Medical Mission team meeting, Covina, CA

October 2 – Loma Linda Chapter meeting, Loma Linda, CA

October 9 – Board of Officers meeting, Loma Linda, CA

October 12 to 19 – Provided assistance to Dr. Marissa Virgines, Dean, College of Dentistry and Dr. Doris Mendoza,

Dean, AUP College of Medicine to attend the conference at Loma Linda University.

October 18 – Attended Glendale Chapter meeting with AWESNA Vice President, Eppie Manalo and Spiritual Adviser, Pastor Jose Manalo.

November 1 – meeting with AWESNA officers on the 2018 convention

November 1 – San Diego Chapter meeting

November 15 – Endowment Fund committee meeting at Ontario, CA chaired by AWESNA President

November 27 – Loma Linda Chapter meeting, re-election of new officers with Jerry Degaños (COMELEC representative) and Eppie Manalo (Vice President), presiding

Loma Linda Chapter Officers:

President – Joselito Coo
Appointed Associate Vice President - Myrna Dial
Vice President – Perida Tongpo
Secretary – Amy Galang
Treasurer – Armand Zabala
Auditor – Violeta Palma
PRO – Elfrie Cuizon
Advisers: Romulo and Arlegie Tabo,
Ben & Carmen Nate

December

15 – Endowment Fund new committee members meeting at Ontario, CA

December

19 – Loma Linda Chapter

Executive Officers meeting, Loma Linda, CA



2017



January 13 to 15 – Spiritual Retreat at Staybridge Suites, Carlsbad, CA; theme - “As Jesus Loved.”

January 15 – Board of Officers meeting, Carlsbad, CA



Centennial Celebration in AUP

February 2 to 5 – Attended the AUP Centennial Celebration in Philippines

February 3 – Participated in feeding the AUP working students in Philippines with the Los Angeles Chapter

March 11 – Service of Remembrance (phase I) by Loma Linda Chapter commemorating the AUP centennial event, Loma Linda.

April 9 – Board of Officers meeting, Riverside, CA. College Of Education building Trust Fund was started.

April 22 – Songs of Praise (phase II) by Loma Linda Chapter commemorating the AUP centennial event

April 26 – Ad Hoc Medical Mission committee meeting, Ontario, CA

July 9– Board of Officers meeting, Bradbury, CA



Board of Officers in La Sierra

July 15 – Glendale Chapter Rally, Glendale, CA

Glendale Chapter Officers:

- President – Gorden Farinas
- Vice President, Religious – Albert Regoso
- Vice President, Social – Geraldine Gutierrez
- Secretary – Cora Arguelles
- Treasurer – Miriam Banaag
- Auditor – Ben Co
- PRO – Ismael Junio
- Advisers – Ernesto Banaag, Wilma Dauglash, Lemuel Niere



Glendale Chapter

July 22 – San Diego Chapter meeting, Bonita with their new set of officers

- President – Mar Mutya
- Vice Presidents:
 - Religious – Lemuel Liwanag
 - Socials- James Tibudan
 - Young Alumni – Kym Liwanag
 - North County – Gloria Maravilla
- Secretary – Sen Roble
- Associate Secretary – Connie Mirasol
- Treasurer/VP Membership – Nelly Alamo
- Associate Treasurer – Josie Apilado
- PRO – Fem Ramirez
- Associate PRO – Ember Suasi
- Project/Scholarship – Flory Velasquez & Nevin Napod
- Advisers– William Ombao, Crisamar Anunciado



Board of Officers in Bradbury

September 1-3 – In 2017, the 45th Annual Convention held at Loma Linda Filipino SDA Church, CA underscoring the theme “#Involve” aimed at encouraging more AWESNA

members to be involved in alumni affairs, programs, and projects.

September 1—House of Delegates meeting, Loma Linda, CA



45th AWESNA Annual Convention 2017

September 15 – It was an experience of deep sorrow to witness our true servant-leader Ella Alcaide, AWESNA Treasurer, took her last breath during the night at the Loma Linda University Medical Center. She was laid to rest on September 24 at the Montecito Memorial Park in Loma Linda, California.



Ella Alcaide (center)

October 1 – Alumni meeting with Pastor Romy Mangiliman, President of the North Philippine Union Conference, held at the Loma Linda Filipino Church in Loma Linda, CA, coordinated by the Loma Linda Chapter with Dr. Joselito Coo.

October 15 – The Board of Officers voted Rene Donato as AWESNA Treasurer Board of Officers meeting in Bradbury, California.

November 18 – Reunion of international alumni and overseas missionary families with the theme: “Unity of Mission Amidst Diversity” hosted by the Loma Linda Chapter, with Dr. Joselito Coo, Chapter President, Chinese SDA Church in Loma Linda, California in conclusion of the 2017 Centennial event.

December 2 – Alumni Fellowship Rally with the theme, “Shining for Him” at the San Jose Fil-Am SDA Church, San Jose, California, was hosted by the Greater Northern California with Roditha Pablo, Chapter President.



Greater Northern California Chapter

2018

January

12 to 14 –

Spiritual

Retreat

with the theme “As

Jesus Served” held at the Best Western

Plus Island Palms Hotel and Marina in San Diego, California hosted by the Young Alumni Chapter with Liberty Olive Macias, Chapter President.



AWESNA Board of Officers 2018



AWESNA Retreat 2018, San Diego



AWESNA MEDICAL DENTAL MISSION 2018

January 14 – Board of Officers meeting in San Diego, CA

February 27 – Attended AUP Board of Trustees meeting in Silang, Cavite, Philippines.

February 27, 28, March 1 and 2 – Evangelism/Medical Mission in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro, Philippines coordinated by our Community Affairs Chair and Co-Chair Dr. Octavius and Araceli Quijada. There were 56 AWESNA volunteers and about 100 volunteers from the Philippines. There were 507 baptisms including the Vice Mayor of Roxas and there were 4,949 patients being served. About 500 bags of non-perishable food were distributed at the Mangyan community.

March 28 to 30 – Visited Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort in Alberta, Canada to meet with the coordinators in finalizing out 46th convention event. Hotel was in transition of changing management to the new name, River Cree Resort and Casino.

April 15 - Chaired Loma Linda Chapter meeting to elect Chapter President and Vice President to fill the vacant positions. Candidate nominations were done instead of election.

April 21 – Glendale Chapter Rally at the Glendale SDA Church, Glendale, CA with Gorden Farinas, Chapter President.

April 23 – Loma Linda Chapter votes tallied by designees and proclamation of new Chapter President and Vice President via email:

Chapter President – Perida Tongpo

Vice President – Edwin Tolentino

April 29 – Board of Officers (BOO) meeting in Loma Linda, California. The Honor and Awards Committee met before the BOO meeting. The Endowment Fund Committee met after the BOO meeting.

May 6 – Fundraising concert featuring the Musikappelle for the Endowment Fund held in Rancho Cucamonga, California coordinated by Perida Tongpo, Chair AWESNA Fundraising and new Loma Linda Chapter President. Thank you to all

supporters for providing assistance to AUP for faculty upgrading and research, important components for maintaining university, autonomous, and accreditation status. We raised about \$25,000.



May 29 – Lunch meeting with Pastor Wally Panaglisma, South Central Luzon Conference President, and his wife, together with Chair and Co-Chair of Community Affairs Dr. Tavy and Cellie Quijada, regarding Mindoro Outreach update.

June 23 – Attended rally hosted by the Greater Central Valley Chapter in Fresno, California. New officers were elected and inducted.

President – Gladys Gallego

Vice President – Geminiano Sulit

Secretary – Marilyn Pimentel

Associate Secretary – Doris Sulit

Treasurer – Russell Sulit

Associate Treasurer – Andy Tuazon

Auditor – Annie Polite

PRO – Doreen Cometa- Carter

Advisers: Pastor Abel Pangan and Jil Fadri



July 1 – Loma Linda Chapter meeting and induction of Chapter Officers with the newly elected President, Perida Tongpo.



July 15 –

Board of Officers meeting in Arcadia, California.



August 31 to September 2 – 46th annual convention in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada hosted by the Alberta Chapter with the theme “*Building a Transformational Future*”

August 31 – House of Delegates meeting, Alberta, Canada

September 2 – Bus tour to Jasper, Glacier Skywalk, Lake Louise, and Banff.



ALUMNI NEWS



Angela M.
Lalas,
MBA, CPA

Angela has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Loma Linda University Health, as well as, Senior Vice President/CFO for Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Loma Linda Behavior Medicine Center, Loma Linda University—Murrieta since May 21, 2018.

In her post as Senior Vice President of Finance since 2015, Angela oversaw the financial operations for the system's six hospitals and the Loma Linda University Shared Services.

Angela was recognized for the past two years as a "**Rising Star in Healthcare**" and one among the "**CFOs to Know in Healthcare**" by Becker's Hospital Review, and one of the 15 "**Up and Comer Award**" recipients by Modern Healthcare in 2017.

Angela is a CPA, holds an MBA from Claremont Graduate University and a Bachelor's degree in accountancy from the Adventist University of the Philippines. She is married to Serafin T. Lalas, Jr., a child psychiatrist at Loma Linda Behavioral Medicine Center and have two children, Anna Sophia and Serafin Alexander III. She is the daughter of former AUP faculty, Drs. Jose and Eppie Manalo.



Serafin
Lalas, MD

Serafin received an award from Loma Linda University Department of Psychiatry Medical Student Education Program for being an "**Outstanding Teaching Attending in Psychiatry Award**" in recognition for his excellence and enthusiasm in the teaching of medical students 2017-2018. The award was granted after the Department of Psychiatry solicited the feedback of medical students.

Serafin graduated from AUP with a BS Biology degree in 1999 and a Medical Degree from MCU in 2003. Post graduate internship and residency from MAMC(2004), residency in psychiatry from LLUMC(2012) and fellowship from USC(2014). He is currently with the LLU Medical Group as an attending physician at the LLU Behavioral Medicine Center as a Medical Director of the Child Inpatient Unit and at the LLU Behavioral Health Institute. He is also an Assistant Professor at the School of Medicine and Board certified in General Psychiatry and in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. He is married to Angela Lalas and have two children, So-



phia and Serafin Alexander III.



Jethrone
Role, MS,
RN

Jethrone "Jet" Role is an AUPian by education and by birth. He finished his elementary, secondary education and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 2004. He worked at White Memorial Medical Center in 2006 and joined Loma Linda University Medical Center in 2008. In 2014, he was accepted to the Loma Linda University Nurse Leadership Residency and received a scholarship to continue his education. He graduated with a Master's Degree in Nursing Administration in 2016 and later accepted the position as Manager for the LLUCH Supplemental Staffing Network and was later promoted as Director of the same department. He is pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Informatics at the University of Minnesota.

Jet is the eldest son of Dr. Jesse and Elizabeth Role both former AUP faculty who are working as missionaries in Kenya. He is married to Jewel Mahinay-Role, a registered nurse at LLUMC, and have two beautiful girls, Julienne and Jayleen. Jet was a recipient of the AWESNA Young Alumni of the Year Award in 2011. He is always proud of his roots as an AUP alumni, His goal in his career and his life is to share Jesus wherever he goes.

Benjamin Siapco Receives LLUH 2018 Global Service Award

By: Eppie Manalo, PhD

For his outstanding contributions to the Church's global outreach, Loma Linda University Health named Mr. Benjamin J. Siapco, recipient of the GLOBAL SERVICE AWARD at the graduation ceremonies of the School of Allied Health professions on June 10, 2018.



Benjamin J. Siapco, Clinical Laboratory Instructor and Consultant, Adventist Health International (AHI) is the eldest of seven children born in Manila to Seventh-day Adventist parents. After completing his B.S. degree at Philippine Union College in 1965, he joined the staff of Manila Sanitarium and Hospital (now Adventist Medical Center-Manila) as a medical technologist; as well as the faculty of Philippine Union College's (now Adventist University of the Philippines) School of Medical Technology. He was later appointed laboratory manager for the hospital.

Sponsored by his employers in 1969, Mr. Siapco completed a master's degree program at Loma Linda University in 1971 before returning to Manila to resume his responsibilities at the hospital and the college, and to provide consulting services to the Adventist-based clinical laboratories throughout the country. In 1980, he accepted a call to serve as manager of Taiwan Adventist Hospital and as director of the School of Medical Technology in Taiwan—appointments he held until 1986. During this period, he also became professionally involved in mission projects for the Taiwan Christian Hospital Association, the Mennonite Christian Hospital in Hualein, and the Kaoshiung Medical Center.

Returning to the United States in 1984, Mr. Siapco continued his academic training. In 1986, he relocated to the Inland Empire where he worked in various clinical laboratory positions until joining the Department of Microbiology at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) in 1999. He served concurrently on the faculty of the Department of Medical Technology in the University's School of Allied Health Professions.

Ben holds the following certifications: Certified medical technologist, American Society for Clinical Pathology (MT-ASCP), Specialist in microbiology, American Academy of Microbiology (SM-AAM). Recognized for his outstanding performance and commitment to service, he received the following previous awards: School Distinguished Service Award AH, Loma Linda University 2014;

Most Outstanding Alumni Award, Adventist University of the Philippines 2003;

Best Cytology Research Award, Los Angeles County -University of Southern California Medical Center.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Siapco has served the church at mission sites that include



Dr. Hart, LLUH President presenting the award to Ben & Clarita Siapco

Global Service Award

Afghanistan, Belize, China, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Venezuela, and Zambia. Since retiring in 2002 from LLUMC, he has served as laboratory technical consultant for Adventist Health International (AHI). In this capacity, he visits, establishes, and develops laboratories in Adventist hospitals.

Mr. Siapco has been happily married to Clarita (Espelita), a retired nurse, for more than half a century. They have been supportive partners of each other; and their work internationally has been a team effort. Their three children have followed in their father's footsteps—all alumni of Loma Linda University and all committed to medical missionary service. (Photo credit: Leh Chang)



Ben & Clarita Siapco

AWESNA Spiritual Retreat 2018

Theme: “As Jesus Served”

By Marjorie Reyno Huynh



AWESNA’s Spiritual Retreat on January 12-14, 2018 was held at Best Western Island Palms Hotel and Marina, San Diego, CA. It was hosted by the Young Alumni Chapter, with coordinators, Gladys Araba-Roman, Liberty Bautista-Macias and overall coordinator Dr. Eppie Manalo.

Brenda Walsh, the main speaker was a dynamic speaker who related her experiences how God has used her in His ministry, She prayed “Lord , use me in a special way,” and God did! She is currently the General Manager of the New 3ABN Kids Network and has produced CDs, cookbooks , devotionals and has traveled around the world to speak. Her talk included “Three Things you must have (if you really want) to Serve Jesus”:

- 1) Be willing; 2) Be obedient—Matthew 7: 21-23 and 3) Be joyful—no attitude. We were truly blessed and inspired by her stories.

Sabbath Day started with a worship at Dr. Elmer Bangloy’s room and a nutritious breakfast was provided by the San Diego Chapter under the leadership of Mar Mutya, Nelly Palomero, Doug and Crisamar Anunciado!



Gladys Roman



Brenda Walsh



Lita Laoyan and Brenda Walsh



Liberty Olive Macias

In the afternoon, Colonel Jovie Espenido, an SDA Chief of Police of Ozamis City, Philippines talked about how he used his faith and lifestyle to witness to the people around him. He was accompanied by his wife, Sheila.

Pinky Flores, former AUP First Lady emotionally related how her husband, Gladden Flores contracted tetanus and was put in an induced coma and eventually recovered and is currently serving as President of Mountain View College.

The Retreat was blessed with talented singers—Mirielle Anne Enriquez, who has been singing with Brenda Walsh’s 3ABN Kids Network for the past ten years. The Sabbath afternoon, was a mini-concert by Los Angeles Youth Singers (LAYA), San Gabriel Octet and Jestine Caagbay. The La Sierra Praise team was led by Rico Macias.

The Medical-Dental Mission Team going to Mindoro was dedicated in prayer by Pastor Dem Robles. Saturday Night Socials were led by Don and Gladys Roman. On Sunday, the Board of Officers met. We were refreshed from the retreat!



Mirielle Enriquez



Jestine Caagbay



Breakfast from SD Chapter



Pinky Flores



Col. Jovie Espenido



La Sierra Praise Team



San Gabriel Octet



LA Young Singers



Social Night



Medical Dental Mission team



Awesna Board Officers

SAVE THE DATE— January 25-27, 2019
AWESNA SPIRITUAL RETREAT
 Venue to be announced



AUP College of Medicine 2018 Update

By Dr. Alfonso Miguel, Jr.

The first three years in a life of a medical student are spent sitting in coordinated, rigorous didactic lectures that cover a systematic study of the intricacies of the human body. These lectures are followed by short quizzes and comprehensive examinations both written and practical. Unique from other medical schools are subjects additionally integrated each year that touch the spiritual dimensions of life as a whole and global mission as taught in our mother school, Loma Linda University School of Medicine. "Through Christ, Healing and Wholeness" reflects the Vision and Mission of our newly minted first Adventist Medical School in the Asia-Pacific region, and sixth Adventist medical school in the world - producing a wholistic physician.

The final fourth year is the year that the medical student is looking forward to- the clinical year that portends the much anticipated graduation and receipt of their Medical Degree (MD) diploma. May 19, 2018 was the start of the 365 day clinical clerkship rotation of our pioneer first batch of AUP College of Medicine. The sixteen (16) pioneer students will be divided to rotate in all the clinical departments at our designated teaching hospitals, namely, Adventist Medical Center of Manila (AMCM) and Batangas Medical Center (BatMC). The pictures submitted by Dr. Doris Mendoza, Founding Dean of the College of Medicine, AUP showcases the 3-day Clerkship Orientation of the seniors.

Day 1 AUP COM Clinical Clerks Orientation at AUP Campus, Silang Cavite—May 29, 2018

**Overall Clinical Clerkship Coordinator
Dr. Elmer Valenzona
reviewing the contents of the Clinical Clerkship Manual
for the Pioneer Batch (Class 2019)**

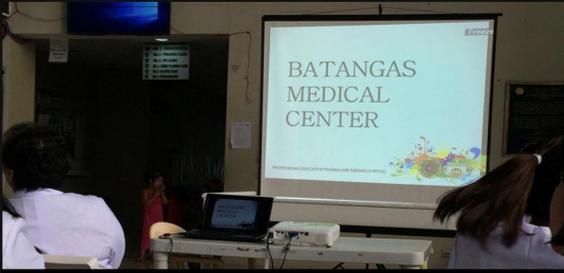


**COM Founding Dean Dr. Doris Mendoza welcoming
the incoming Clinical Clerks to the clinical phase of
their medical education**



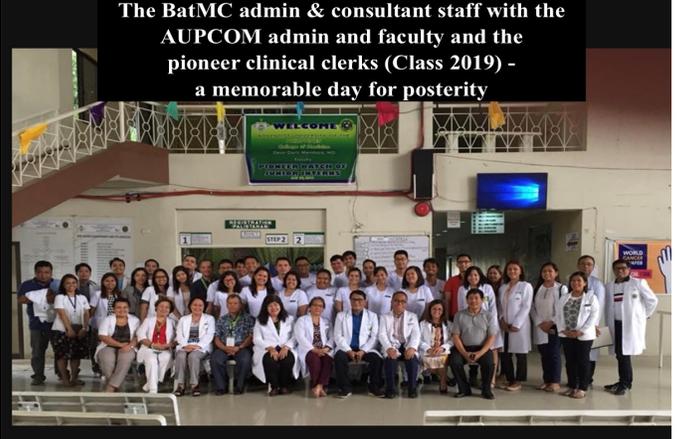
**Clinical Clerks showing off their Clerkship
Manuals for their 365-day clinical rotation**

Day 2 Batangas Medical Center (BatMC), Batangas — May 30, 2018



The DAY has finally come to usher our Pioneer Batch - Class 2019 - to 365 days of Clinical Clerkship from 1 June 2018 to 31 May 2019.

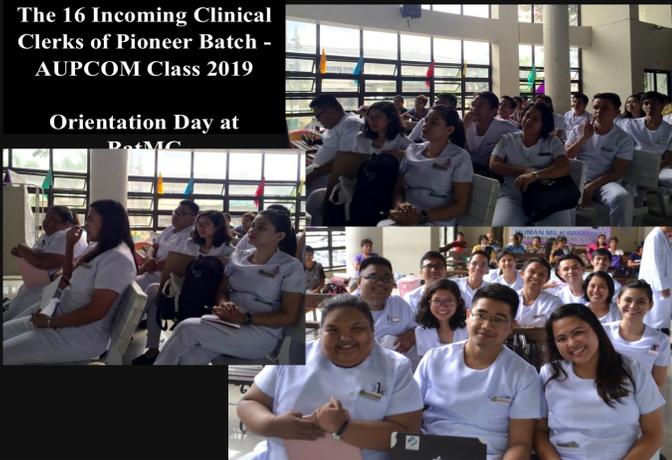
Welcome to the Batangas Medical Center!!!



The BatMC admin & consultant staff with the AUPCOM admin and faculty and the pioneer clinical clerks (Class 2019) - a memorable day for posterity

The 16 Incoming Clinical Clerks of Pioneer Batch - AUPCOM Class 2019

Orientation Day at BatMC



The group of 8 Clinical Clerks assigned to rotate in Community Medicine for 2 months and their BatMC Community consultants and residents

Day 3 Adventist Medical Center Manila (AMCM) Pasay City, Metro Manila—May 31, 2018



Clinical Clerks raring to get started!



AMCM Clerkship Mentoring Program Coordinator Dr. Linda Varona orienting the clinical clerks

AUPCOM Clinical Clerks ORIENTATION

Day 3

Adventist Medical Center Manila (AMCM) Pasay City, MetroManila - 31 May 2018





AWESNA FUNDRAISING EVENT

By: Perida Tongpo, AWESNA Fundraising Chairperson

There were lots of encouraging comments expressed regarding the fund-raising campaign which transpired on May 6, 2018 at the David Dreier Hall in Rancho Cucamonga Central Park, Rancho Cucamonga, California. The event was sponsored by AWESNA and the proceeds benefited the Endowment Fund.



Dr. Ephraim de la Cruz



Kit Navarro

The concert was performed by the Musikappelle chorale directed by Ephraim dela Cruz. This is a group of Filipino singers who are also AWESNA members. The group started singing together in the Philippines, and in celebration of their 37th anniversary, they presented the concert *“Romantic Songs at Awiting Pinoy”* to benefit their Alma Mater. The event was graced by the stunning voice of Kit Navarro, their guest soprano vocalist who easily captivated the audience. It was a fun night—one that will be remembered for a long time.

Our most sincere gratitude to the benevolent people who funded the campaign. By their devoted sacrifices and undying support, we were able to raise about \$25,000. Good job Benefactors, Patrons, Sponsors and Donors! Thanks to all who attended, because your presence made the event a huge success. Your donations will be used for a good cause.

Another fundraising event will be held on March 17, 2019. The Loma Linda Chapter will present an event to be held at the Loma Linda Chan Auditorium. This will be a Philippine Cultural Program depicting the cultural heritage of the three major sections of the Philippines: The Ilocano, Tagalog and Visayan regions.

Proceeds of the event will go to the AWESNA Endowment Fund. I urge every member to support the event. Thank you very much!

Save the Date

Endowment Fundraising (Cultural Program)

March 17, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Loma Linda Chan Auditorium

10656 Anderson St. Loma Linda, CA

AWESNA ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

By: Dr. Alfonso Miguel Jr. MD, D.Hum



The Endowment Fund is a continuing project over seven (7) AWESNA Administration and still counting. The projected goal of \$1 million still needs to be realized. It was, so we thought, by many well-meaning PUC/AUP Alumni of different generations that the goal could be reached without much of a hitch-considering that all of our Alumni scattered in the Western region of North America are professionals, who have been blessed by our Almighty Provider with rich goods. However, it's not meant to be so.

As a matter of fact, we could still hear comments in AWESNA circles that inject doubts in some alumni minds where the annual fund given during the yearly Convention banquet event to the AUP President is really used to for the intended recipient or purpose. A lingering question about how the fund was divided (75%) for our AUP faculty education and advancement and for continuing research (25%) remains, a subject of intense discussions in AWESNA Chapter rallies, Board meetings, HOD reports and in The Link Newsletters. Let it be made clear to all our AWESNA constituents that the Endowment Fund Committee under the AWESNA Board are the steward of this fund in collaboration with AUP leadership. Until such time that there will be mutual changes made by AWESNA and AUP, our Endowment Fund Committee and AWESNA board will continue to keep this project going as

is. Copies of the Recipients and use of the Annual Endowment Fund Committee interest yield could be obtained from the Chair of the Endowment Fund Committee and the AWESNA President and Secretary. Hopefully, this explanation will put questions to rest and will create faith and trust to our fellow alumni holding the positions of leadership.

Please pay attention to the AWESNA Endowment Fund graph. As of 2018, we have \$387,634.71 net after the Endowment Fundraising event in Rancho Cucamonga Center last May.

As you see, my fellow Alumni and friends, we still have >\$600K left. And this is the reason that I am appealing for your support to make this this AWESNA project a reality through your generous giving. Imagine how much more we could share with our Alma Mater annually to maintain its autonomous and premier status , a haven for our young people obtaining a well rounded Christian education for service in the Lord's work, if we only pool together our financial support as we are blest in our professions (past and present) to reach our goal of \$1 million.

Remember this sage from Winston Churchill -

"We make a Living by WHAT WE GET, but make a LIFE by WHAT WE GIVE".

May the Good Lord richly bless you all in all your endeavors.

AWESNA ENDOWMENT FUND





2018 AWESNA MISSION FOCUS: ROXAS, ORIENTAL MINDORO

By: Eppie Manalo, Ph.D., AWESNA Vice –President

The Scriptures underscore the indispensability of sharing the Gospel (Matthew 18:19-20) and making disciples. God's Word and the Spirit of Prophecy also emphasize the relationship between the good news and the medical missionary work.

Medical missionary work is the right hand of the gospel. It is necessary to the advancement of the cause of God. As through it men and women are led to see the importance of right habits of living, the saving power of the truth will be made known. Every city is to be entered by workers trained to do medical missionary work. As the right hand of the third angel's message, God's methods of treating disease will open doors for the entrance of present truth. -Ellen G. White,

As an alumni association, AWESNA (Alumni of Western North America) adheres to the biblical principles of healing of the physical and spiritual aspects of man. It is also committed to fulfilling its mandate articulated in its constitution to promote and support the welfare of Adventist University of the Philippines, and to reach out to the community. Thus, AWESNA has for more than a decade, engaged in medical-dental - evangelistic outreach both locally and abroad.

This year, AWESNA's leadership through the Community Affairs under the leadership of Dr. Octavius Quijada, responded to an invitation from the governor of Oriental Mindoro, "Boy" Umali through the local Seventh-day Adventist coordinators – Pastor Arnel Gabin, Health Ministries Director, North Philippine Union Conference; and Pastor Robert Dulay, district coordinator for Roxas, Oriental, Mindoro—for AWESNA to hold a medical-dental and evangelistic outreach to that city, a territory under the South-Central Luzon Conference. Thus, this year's outreach was collaborative endeavor between AWESNA and NPUC/SCLC.

More than a hundred participants joined the 2018 team. Fifty-six from AWESNA shared their financial resources, precious time, and services for this year's mission trip on February 26-March 3, 2018, namely: Josefina Ariola, Angel and Esther Arafles, Yolanda Bagwell, Esther Bautista, Evangeline Bautista, Ryan and Merredith

Bonham, Maria Socorro David, Federico Duran, Cecilio Cabansag, Alfredo and Zenaida Concepcion, Nida Galeon, Eduardo Gonzaga, Danilo Gutierrez, Leo and Lolita Hequibal, Edna Ilacas, Rafael and Carmelita Laoyan, Nemy and Pearl Legaspi, Samuel and Miriam Liongco, Robert and Erlinda Lodevico, Gabriel and Angeline Lopez and children—Gabrielito and Angelo, Gizela Maglalang, Jose and Eppie Manalo, Miriam Oconer, Octavius and Araceli Quijada, Prudencio and Ruth Ranchez, Joseph and Naomi Rastrollo, Liza Rastrollo, Marlene Robertson, Jing Mercado, Josie Santa Ana, Lydia Sullivan, Marjorie Tablante, Pedrito and Perida Tongpo, Emmanuel and Luzviminda Ulanday, Ferdinand and Evelyn Victorio, Euleterio and Cordiceta Vigilia, and Emelda Wolney.



Group picture at NPUC before boarding bus

In addition to the AWESNA team from the US, volunteers from the International College of Surgeons (St. Luke's Hospital), the Roxas Provincial Hospital, and AUP Health Service Department, led by Dr. Prudencio Sta. Lucia, medical director; and the Assistant Secretary of Health for Field Implementation and Management Cluster, Dr. Maria Francia Laxamana joined the medical team.



Police escort

On board two RORO buses, escorted by PNP Traffic Police till the Buendia highway, the group headed for Batangas pier on February 26 to take the boat that will transport the volunteers to Calapan—the capital of Oriental Mindoro. Upon arrival at Calapan, the team was

was also escorted by highway police and warmly welcomed by the city band and bugle corp. Later, the team had late lunch at the Governor's office. It was heart-warming to listen to the welcome speech of the Governor who even shed tears as he expressed gratitude to the group for extending health services to the people of Oriental Mindoro.



Band and Bugle Welcome

Honorable Governor Alfonso Umali welcomed group to Oriental Mindoro



Group posed with Oriental Mindoro Governor, Alfonso "Boy" Umali



Ruth Ranchez and a volunteer



Volunteers by the welcome banner



Dr. Eduardo Gonzaga



AWESNA Pres, Lita Laoyan with volunteers



Dental Team



Dr. Gabriel Lopez



The AWESNA group having lunch at the Governor's Office

It was a long journey from Calapan to Roxas. The volunteers settled in different hotels and despite jetlag and other challenges, set to accomplish their task — to reach out to the underprivileged/marginalized patients in that part of the globe; and above all, lead souls to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ — Great Physician.

Alongside the medical-dental-surgical mission was the Revelation of Hope crusade held at the Roxas City gymnasium (same venue for the medical-dental services) during the evening. Pastor Jose Manalo, senior pastor of Loma Linda Filipino Church and one of AWESNA's spiritual advisers, delivered a series of sermons for the



Pastor Jose Manalo, Speaker



Group picture after the Revelation Of Hope Crusade



Pastor Manalo receiving A plaque of Appreciation



Vice-Mayor Cezar Batlicos being congratulated by Pastor Manalo for accepting Jesus Christ during the crusade.

week; assisted by local pastors and the singing group named "Friends" and local church singers, which provided nightly music during the reaping crusade.

In addition to attending to the physical and spiritual needs of the patients and "seekers of God's kingdom," during the 5-day outreach, several team members visited the school for Mangyan children began and supported by the Quijadas, in cooperation with SCLC. Some members likewise dared the long drive through rough roads to the mountain site where more than 500 school children and their families received food supplies from AWESNA.



AWESNA Team before food distribution

A happy Mangyan boy

During the culmination of the outreach event, Oriental Mindoro Governor Alfonso "Boy" Umali, Roxas Mayor Violeta Demapilis, and Vice-Mayor Cezar Baticos expressed their profound appreciation and deep gratitude to the team for the lasting memory of love and kindness, and the positive influence the team has cast during the mission trip. In particular, the vice mayor related his early experience and family connections with Seventh-day Adventists through a well-written and well-expressed Tagalog poem.



AWESNA Group pose with the Mangyan people

The week-long experience provided not only an opportunity for service, but above all reaffirmed the participants' faith in our miracle-working Creator and Redeemer.

Praise God for performing a miracle in our modern day — 4,949 patients served — including services such as cataract, cyst, circumcision, and other minor surgeries; and 407 souls baptized (an earlier baptism of more than 100 souls was done prior to the crusade) on March 3 by at least 20 pastors led by Pastor Romy Mangiliman, NPUC president and AUP Board chair. The team who assisted in the baptism included Pastor Jose Manalo, and AWESNA Community Affairs chair, who is an ordained elder — Dr. Octavius Quijada, authorized by the SCLC conference president, Pastor Pascual Panaglisma. Roxas Vice Mayor Cezar Baticos were among the 407 who

decided during the Sabbath service to accept Christ as his personal Savior. The Revelation of Hope crusade and the satellite meetings (concluded by SLCC district local pastors and laymen) prior to the nightly services and the baptism were part of the "Philippines for Christ" program for the 2018 Philippine nationwide Year of Evangelism.

AWESNA expresses gratitude to alumni and friends for their unselfish service and financial contributions; Loma Linda Filipino Church for funding the evangelistic crusade through members' and friends' donations; the North Philippine Union Conference and South-Central Conference for financial and human resource assistance; and above all to God, our Great Physician and Leader, for using the team to reach out to and bless the underprivileged in Roxas, Oriental Mindoro.

Indeed, there is joy when the work is done — service that God Himself ordains and blesses. And despite all the challenges attendant to any human program in this imperfect world, we "praise God from whom all blessings flow," and allow Him to use again in future AWESNA outreach. For we firmly believe — "the service of Jesus true pleasure affords."



MASS BAPTISM



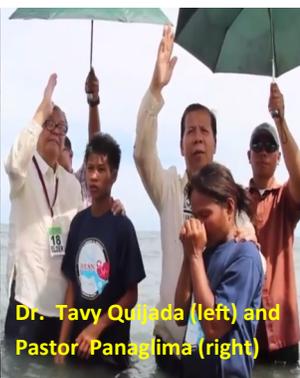
AWESNA TEAM with Governor Alfonso "Boy" Umali



Lita Laoyan, AWESNA President and Dr. Octavius "Tavy" Quijada, AWESNA Community Affairs Chairman, receiving a Plaque of Appreciation from Governor, Alfonso "Boy" Umali.



L to R: Dr. Tavy Quijada, Pastor Wally Panaglisma, Pastor Jose Manalo baptizing



Dr. Tavy Quijada (left) and Pastor Panaglisma (right)



MEET OUR AUP GUESTS



**MIRIAM
PERALTA
NARBARTE,**
Ph.D., FBE

A Fellow in Business Education, Dr. Miriam P. Narbarte currently serves as Vice President for Academics at Adventist University of the Philippines. A seasoned administrator and educator, she is a PUC alumnus who earned her Master's and Ph.D. in Commerce from the University of Santo Tomas. She has twenty-eight (28) years of experience in academic administration as College Dean and Vice President for Academics at AUP – an autonomous, institutionally accredited higher educational institution, a Center of Excellence in Teacher Education, and a Center of Development in Business Administration. For ten years, she was corporate secretary and member of the Board of Trustees of AUP. In addition, she was involved in quality assurance as accreditor of the Association of Christian Schools, Colleges, and Universities-Accrediting Council Incorporated (ACSCU-ACI), Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission On Accreditation (PACUCOA), and Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA); member of Commission on Higher Education-Regional Quality Assessment Team (CHED-RQAT); external examiner of a university in Kenya; and evaluator/reviewer of Commission for Higher Education Academic Quality Assurance in Kenya.

Consistent with AUP's emphasis on research, she has not only promoted faculty research, but also published articles and presented papers in seminars

and research-related symposia. Besides her significant role in ensuring academic excellence in all the academic programs of AUP, Dr. Miriam is equally engaged in alumni affairs and above all, in the spiritual life of the university, consistently involved in various church leadership roles .



**REUEL
ESTEBAN
NARBARTE,**
Ph.D., CPA,
MBA

Presently the AUP Director for Human Resources Management, Dr. Reuel E. Narbarte, has shared his talents, education, and experience for more than three decades as Human Resource Director (10 years) and Treasurer (13 years); Human Resource Director (10 years) and Treasurer (13 years); Chair of Graduate Business Programs (1 year) and Chair of Accountancy Department of a university outside the Philippines (6 years); undergraduate and graduate levels faculty including six (6) years at the University of East Africa in Baraton, Kenya and holder of the rank of professor since 2007.

Dr. Reuel earned his master's and doctorate degrees with high honors at the University of Santo Tomas is a member of the CHED-IVA RQAT, Evaluator for Proposed Business Programs of the CHE-Kenya, External Examiner for a government university in Kenya, Internal Auditor for ISO 9001:2008, and Accreditor of the ACSCU-AA.

Also a strong advocate of research, Dr. Reuel has presented papers in international and local research conferences. Besides his strong engagement in the academe, he has been in church leadership as ordained elder and ordained deacon of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The Narbartes are blessed with two children, both medical doctors: Marianne Narbarte-Gines (married to Dr. (Pacifico "Jjawo" Gines III), a pediatric resident physician at Adventist Medical Center-Manila; and Marlon Narbarte, orthopedic surgery resident at Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Manila.



**OEMER REY
DAQUILA**
MBA, BSN

Oemer Rey Daquila,

PUC BSN '03, MBA '17 is AUP's Director for Advancement. Prior to accepting the call to AUP in June 2017, he served in the following capacities at Adventist Medical Center-Manila (AMCM) – ER/medical-surgical staff nurse (2003-2006), Clinical Instructor (2006-2009), Clinical coordinator in the College of Nursing (2009-2014) Director for Student Services for 2 years (2014-2016) Director for College Advancement (2016-2017) at Manila Adventist College.

Oemer is married to Wendell (nee de la Cruz) with whom he has a very talented daughter, Onyx.



Alberta Chapter Report

By: Ben Barboza, Chapter Adviser

History of Alberta Chapter, host of the 46th AUP- AWESNA Annual Convention, August 31– September 3, 2018 began when Alberta Chapter joined the AUP- AWESNA during the 2nd joint convention of EASNAC-AWESNA in Richmond, British Columbia, Canada (near Vancouver) in 2009. The officers were inducted by Dr. Alfonso Miguel, president of AWESNA. Unfortunately, this chapter was dormant after becoming a member of AWESNA. It was only when Dr. Elmer Bangloy visited the Alberta Chapter during the Fil-Can Camp meeting in 2015 that it became active again and a new set of officers were elected.



Dr. Elmer Bangloy speaking on Saturday afternoon, Filipino-Canada Camp meeting.

During the 44th AUP-AWESNA annual convention in Honolulu, 2016, Ben and Adeline Barboza represented the Alberta Chapter. We were asked if we could host the convention. We agreed to host the convention on 2018. Upon returning to Edmonton on September 11, 2016, I informed the officers regarding the possibility of Alberta hosting the 2018 Convention. Nothing was done until around early part of October, 2017 when Lita Laoyan, the president of AWESNA, phoned me. The chapter was faced with a decision whether to host the convention in Edmonton, the capital city or Calgary, the business centre with over 1000 head offices.



L-R Roger Rodriguez, President; Ben Barboza, Treasurer; Jocelyn Adante, Secretary and Dr. Alfonso Miguel, AWESNA President



Ben and Adeline Barboza

By October 12, 2017, the AWESNA Executives gave Ben Barboza a go ahead to look for a venue. Since I am from Edmonton, I looked for a venue in Edmonton. On November 1, 2017, we signed the contract with Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort.

Being that this is a huge responsibility, we immediately called a meeting on November 19, 2017. Two other meetings on January 28 2017 and April 15, 2018 transpired. Lita Laoyan, President of AWESNA, came to Ed-



ALBERTA CHAPTER NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS & ADVISERS

monton on March 27-29 to finalize our arrangement with River Cree Resort.

We praise God for all His continued guidance and the training we all received from our alma mater, Adventist University of the Philippines, "the School that trains for Service." As members of the Alberta Chapter, we are honored to host the 46th AUP-AWESNA Annual Convention here in Edmonton. We would like to welcome Dr. Ken Denslow, our featured speaker, Dr. Miriam Narbarte, AUP Vice President for Academics and her husband, Dr. Reuel Narbarte and Oemer Daquila, AUP Director of Advancement office and all the delegates from all over western north America and other guests from Virginia Beach, Winnipeg and others.

(Continued on page 23)

Alberta Chapter Officers

President: Roger Rodriguez

Vice President: Julius Betoya

Secretary: Nanette Bathan Quines

Treasurer: Marilyn Berto Garin

Auditor: Jocelyn Adante

PRO: Jeanette Lucas Requentin , Cindy Navarro

Advisers: Ben Barboza, Pastor Daquila, Sergei Ferrer

Cascadia Chapter Report

By: Rachel "Ching" Varona Pedernal, Chapter President



It's been another year of blessing for us here in Cascadia AUP Alumni Chapter, Vancouver BC, Canada!

Last June 30, 2018, we witnessed the baptism of four precious souls, held at Camp Hope where we do our yearly Filipino Camp Meeting. They are the result of our combined Filipino Churches Evangelism effort, particularly the Burnaby Fil-Can SDA Church and the newly organized, Inspire Ministries Company SDA Church.

Members of our Cascadia Alumni Chapter have contributed significant roles in the nurture, fellowship and discipleship of these new converts.

Let us celebrate with Heaven as quoted in Luke 15:10,

"In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents".

May the Lord find us all faithful as we live to our Alma Mater's tag line "The school that trains for service".



Cascadia Chapter Group Picture

Four new converts

Alberta Chapter Report ... Continued



First Meeting, Nov. 19, 2017

Alberta Chapter Committees:

Reception & Guest Relations: Adeline Barboza

Banquet/Lunch: Jocelyn Adante, Ann Betoya

Registration: Ben Barboza

Decorations: Marjorie Paraiso

Platform Coordinator: Rodney Caponpon

Convention & Audio Visual: Ben Barboza

Jasper/Banff Tour: Ben Barboza



Second meeting, Jan. 28, 2018

Glendale Chapter Report

By Arlene Tordecilla—Ferrolino, Chapter member

On April 21, 2018 the Chapter held a Rally at the Glendale SDA Church. The Sabbath School program featured PUC/AUP alumni with a report from Edna Domingo about the medical mission in the Philippines (see page 32 for the story). All the participants of the Sabbath School and Hour of Worship programs were chapter members including Daniel and Ruth Ranchez, Dr. Ernesto and Miriam Banaag, Ismael Junio, Geraldine Gutierrez, Cora Arguelles, Wilma Dauglash and Gorden Farinas, Glendale Chapter President. Guest speaker for the Hour of Worship was Pastor Aitken II. His wife, Anna Godoy Aitken is also an AUP alumna. Theme for the day was about spreading our influence and being a witness.

A chapter meeting and election of officers was held in the afternoon.

(Photo credit: Dr. Ernesto Banaag).



Glendale Chapter Officers:

- President – Gorden Farinas
- Vice President, Religious – Albert Regoso
- Vice President, Social – Geraldine Gutierrez
- Secretary – Cora Arguelles
- Treasurer – Miriam Banaag
- Auditor – Ben Coo
- PRO – Ismael Junio
- Advisers – Ernesto Banaag, Wilma Dauglash, Lemuel Niere



Greater Central Valley Report

By: Doreen Cometa—Carter, Chapter PRO



On July 23, 2018 at 3:30 pm there was an AWESNA chapter meeting held at Central Valley SDA Church in Fresno, California. AWESNA President, Carmelita Laoyan and her husband, Ralph came to represent the AWESNA at Central Valley.

The program started with a song, “Give of Your Best to the Master” and prayer by Joe Esposito. Noli Poblacion, the previous President of the Chapter gave the welcome remarks. After the AUP song “Shine On Forever” was sang, a Special Feature on AUP Updates and a video presentation of “Medical Mission trip to Mindoro” was presented. A beautiful Musical Trio was rendered by the Misal Sisters—Zeny, Belma and Lorna. Pastor Abel Pangan gave the sermon and the program ended with a song, “Higher Ground” by the Central Valley Church Choir and prayer by the speaker.

Election of officers and induction to office by Carmelita Laoyan, AWESNA President followed the service.

New AWESNA Greater Central Valley officers :

President: Gladys Cometa- Gallego

Vice President:: Getminiano “Nonoy” Sulit

Secretary: Merlyn Pimentel

Associate Secretary: Doris Sulit

Treasurer: Russell Sulit

Auditor: Annie Polite

PRO: Doreen Cometa-Carter

Advisers: Pastor Abel Pangan & Gil Fadri



Gladys Gallego, New Chapter President

(Continued on page 26)



Carmelita Laoyan



Noli Poblacion



Pastor Abel Pangan



Induction of Officers by AWESNA President, Carmelita Laoyan



Central Valley Choir



Central Valley Chapter Officers and Members



Greater Los Angeles Chapter Report

By: Loida Miguel, Chapter President

Our Chapter continues to sponsor AUP deserving students for the Rice and Tuition Aid Program. Several students have graduated and are now working in different parts of the country.

According to AUP Administration, there are fewer working students, due in part to the many building constructions going around the area. They find work in construction or business offices.

Year 2018 is Election year for a new set of Greater LA Chapter officers. Chapter members are encouraged to start looking for potential candidates for the position of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and PRO. Thank you!



Three of seven AUP working students being sponsored by Greater LA Chapter

Greater Central Valley Chapter Report ... Continued

On July 28, 2018, just a few weeks after the Induction of the Officers, the officers visited the AUP alumni at Armona SDA Church and recruited them to join the AWESNA Central Valley Chapter. Gladys Cometa Gallego (white and blue stripe dress), the new Chapter President, led the officers in this recruiting campaign. They were also able to get 11 Convention souvenir sponsors!



New Officers with Noll Poblacion (2nd from right)



Alumni at Armona SDA Church

La Sierra Chapter Report

By: Lucy Fernando, Chapter Treasurer



The AWESNA-La Sierra Chapter got together for a pre-spring quarter meeting on Sunday, 11 March 2018 at the “chapter clubhouse” -

Lucy and Mike Fernando’s home.

Attendees were Linda and Nap

Alinsod, Kathy and Delio Pascual, Ching and Onie Pascual, Betty and Ralph Tigno and Leni Espiritu.

The group shared a delicious potluck lunch before the day’s business. Following the “feast”, Lucy Fernando gave a devotional based on how important it is to spend time with one’s loved ones; she also pointed out the fact that stewardship involves not only one’s time and money, but also one’s talents and all the rest of God’s gifts to us. Mike Fernando offered the opening prayer and officially opened the meeting.

The items of business included:

- 1) AWESNA Fundraising Concert; 2) 2018 Annual Convention in Canada; 3) Chapter membership fees;
- 4) Worthy Working Students’ Scholarship Project (WWSSP). Lucy Fernando, the chapter treasurer, reported that in February 2018, a cheque for the WWSSP in the amount of US\$3,000.00 had been sent through Tita & Romy Torres to the AUP Student Finance Director, Mervyn Olarte. Also, fifteen (15) La Sierra scholarship awardees have already graduated from AUP and are now gainfully employed since the La Sierra WWSSP inception.



- 5) Attracting more members especially the young alumni;
- 6) Improving chapter meeting attendance by designating the first Sunday of March, July, October.

- 7) New activities to bring members to-

gether such as watching shows. The group suggested to watch the Candlelight Dinner Shown “Singin in the Rain” on May 6, 2018.

- 8) Other concerns and desires were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm after Delio Pascual gave the closing prayer. Post meeting socialization and pabaon occurred after the meeting. (Report prepared by Lucy Fernando and Ralph Tigno)

A very short story. . .

Every weekend after church, it was Mr. and Mrs. Jones practice to invite certain church folks and visitors home for lunch. One particular lunch, Mr. Jones thought that for a change, instead of him or Mrs. Jones or some adult saying grace before the meal, it would be nice to ask the pride and joy of their old age (they were childless for a long time), their 6-year-old adopted daughter, Susie, to do the “honors”. Unlike most girls her age, who are shy in front of older folks, Susie said she gladly would but she said she did not know what to say. So Mrs. Jones told her, “Just do it like Mommy does.” And so, Susie, bowed her head, and said: “Oh Lord, why did I have to invite all these people? Amen.”



Loma Linda Chapter Report

By: Perida Ilacas Tongpo, Chapter President

On July 1, 2018 the new set of officers for the Loma Linda AWESNA were sworn to office by the AWESNA President, Carmelita Laoyan. The meeting agenda consisted of plans on how to activate members, fundraising, chapter activities and projects. Amy Galang, the chapter secretary, is in charge of updating addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. In that way, we can give each member some information about activities that transpire in the organization. Armand Zabala, the treasurer, heads the collection of membership fees.

A fundraising event is being planned for March 17, 2019, and this will be held at the Chan Auditorium in Loma Linda. Proceeds will benefit the AWESNA Endowment Fund. It will be a Philippine Cultural program and we are setting \$25,000.00 for our goal. Another fundraising plan is to do caroling during the Christmas season.

A very important project for the chapter is the sponsorship of a graduating AUP working student in Education. We believe that this is worth investing in, so that the selected student will graduate earlier and will serve either as a faculty in AUP or serve in other educational institutions. The selection process will be in accordance with the criteria set by the university.

Activities of the chapter include: chapter meetings every quarter and social gatherings every 6 months. This will foster camaraderie, spiritual fellowship and teamwork. We will endeavor to continue the work entrusted to us in the service of the King.



Left to Right: Romulo Tabo, Violeta Palma, Amy Galang, Armand Zabala and Perida Tongpo being sworn in by Carmelita Laoyan, AWESNA President



Loma Linda Chapter Officers and members



2019 is AWESNA Election Year

By: Jerry Degaños, COMELEC Chairman

As soon as 2019 begins, nominations are welcome for all official AWESNA positions as follows: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations Officer (PRO) and Auditor. Members in good standing who are able and willing to serve are encouraged to submit their names for any of the aforementioned positions.

Ballots are mailed to qualified voters by the end of May. Voting occurs the whole month of June. Ballot canvassing is done and completed by the end of July. Election results are announced during the first meeting of the AWESNA Board immediately following the canvassing. Finally, the installation/ inauguration of the newly elected set of officers is held during the 2019 AWESNA Convention.



Pacific Northwest Chapter

By: Marjorie Reyno Huynh, PRO

Ardina Wang, President of Pacific Northwest Chapter invited a few AUP Alumni to her home in Portland, Oregon to discuss the upcoming 47th Annual Convention to be held in Portland, Oregon in 2019. Her home garden was filled with beautiful blooming flowers. Ardina has been scouting for venues for the Convention and the other officers had been checking on tours for the alumni to enjoy after the Convention. Next year we celebrate the golden anniversary of AWESNA and the 47th Annual Convention and we invite everyone to participate.

Portland, capital of Oregon is very scenic and bordered by Columbia and Willamette rivers. The landscape is dominated by green trees, numerous waterfalls and plenty of healthy restaurants.

During our visit, she was discussing about the "Feed the Homeless" Project they have at church. This occurs every Sunday feeding the homeless with French toasts, hash browns, pastries, hot coffee and cocoa. A couple of pictures are shown below and to the right.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER OFFICERS:

President/Vice President: Ardina Abawag Wang

Treasurers:

Oregon - Ardina Cababat Rabanal

Washington - Art Clemencia

Secretaries:

Oregon - Jennifer Dalusong

Washington - Sheila Eusoya

PRO: Evelyn Pangan Rojas

Adviser: Pastor Ed General

SAVE THE DATE

**50th Anniversary of AWESNA
and 47th Annual Convention
August 30– September 1, 2019**

Portland, Oregon

Hosted by PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER



San Diego Chapter Report

By: Crisamar J. Annunciado, Chapter Adviser

Marked chapter accomplishments are not confined to traditional ways of service when assessing San Diego's Alumni activities in 2018. Apart from the usual weekly services rendered in various church functions, alumni are involved in serving the homeless and fellow alumni.

A sad loss and survival

The year began with a bit of heartache, Christmas day 2017, we tragically lost a most beloved couple in the San Diego Filipino Community, Ruth and Jose Cortez, alumni of Mountain View College, in a fatal car accident. Ruth and Jo served as



Ruth and Jose Cortez

deacons and members of Paradise Valley SDA Church for 39 years. The couple were the epitome of loving and selfless service at home, the church, in the community and MVC alumni. Long-time

AUP alumni and former SD chapter officer, Cherrylou Eriman Nunez, who drove the car with the couple, survived with injuries. She continues to recover to this day in the company of her loving family.



Cherrylou Eriman Nunez

San Diego Chapter President visits AUP CON

April 2018, AUP College of Nursing (CON) welcomed our chapter president, Mar Mutya at AUP campus. He hand delivered a donation of a lump sum of money to aid the tuition fees of a highly deserving student. He was welcomed by Dr. Suzy Jael,



Mar Mutya, SD President at the AUP CON Office

College of Nursing Dean, and the faculty. San Diego chapter is committed to tuition assistance for deserving students.

In honor of AWESNA Founding Officers

Since it's founding almost 50 years ago, AWESNA had the honor, support, and service of dedicated and esteemed alumni like the power couple, Dr. Romulo and Mrs. Carmen Valdez. For decades, they serve AWESNA tirelessly as officers and members. They launched and/or supported building projects, rice program, scholarships, and many more. The couple are now at rest with Christ.



Dr. Romulo and Carmen Valdez

On Saturday, August 18, 2018 at 4:00 pm, a special program will be held at the San Diego Fil-AM SDA Church, 3602 Bonita Rd., Chula Vista, CA 91910.

Change Your Life, Anyone?

By Arlene Tordecilla-Ferrolino



What started out as a meeting of classmates to plan a class reunion turned into a life-changing weekend for this group of 6 friends. Gathered in a beautifully appointed 6-bedroom home nestled deep in the forest on the Oregon and Washington border, the friends had planned a retreat with daily hikes to visit the surrounding mountains for sightseeing and relaxation as an escape from the cities of Glendale, Loma Linda and Palos Verdes. Healthy food for the weekend was to be prepared by their friend, Yvonne Deoso Afenir, a dietician, nurse, natural remedies practitioner and certified aerobics instructor based in the Portland area.

Little did each of these friends know that after 4 days together filled with inspirational messages, moments of sharing encouraging stories, preparing and partaking of delicious nutritionally sound, plant-based meals, their lives would be transformed and the road paved for a journey to better health and wholesome living.

Using the simple NEWSTART method, fueled with scientific research and bolstered with Biblical promises, the group of friends—Nestor Zerna, Lysenia and Reuben Quijano, Marjorie Reyno Huynh, Don and Arlene Ferrolino - all pledged that they would adhere to the program and even created a support group. Helping each other out with everything from reminders to exercise to sharing healthy, tasty recipes and sending inspirational quotes, the friends have bonded together to encourage and motivate one another on a regular basis.

Barely three months into the program, the 6 have a combined weight loss of over 100 lbs., and have enthusiastically described some of the benefits they have felt thus far:

1. They felt stronger, more energetic, more active.
2. Their minds were clearer, thinking power was sharper
3. Improvement of overall health - Weight loss (5 - 30 lbs. for each of the 6), joint flexibility, increased endurance, smoother and clearer skin.
4. Speaking from firsthand experience, this writer has lost 17 lbs. and is still steadily losing more. Due to a previous injury, she had been suffering from chronic pain in her left shoulder rendering her unable to exercise and precipitating a weight gain of more than 20 lbs. over the past 3 years. Just a couple of weeks into the lifestyle modification, the pain virtually disappeared! Other changes she noticed were clearer, more supple skin, thicker hair and the absence of pain in her knees.

Where does it go from here? With this positive change in their lives, each of the 6 friends have been actively sharing and mentoring their own friends and family, their support group has also grown. Yvonne, who has plans to open a lifestyle retreat in her area, has been invited to speak on lifestyle modification and to give cooking demonstrations at the White Memorial Church and the Inland Empire Church with more to be scheduled. As the saying goes, you can't keep a good thing to yourself!

If you are interested in changing your life, improving your health and adding more years to your life, contact Yvonne Afenir at ydafenir@yahoo.com





Alumni Medical Dental Mission

By Elma Lou Roda, MD

Under the leadership of Edna Domingo and husband, Efren, select US resident AUP alumni embarked on a 9-day medical and evangelical mission to various parts of northern Luzon in Ilocos Sur, mainly in Concepcion Adventist Academy (CAA), Gregorio del Pilar, Salcedo, and Santa Cruz as well as Banaue and Hungduan, Ifugao. They delivered various medical, dental, optical, pharmaceutical, health education and spiritual services in these locations in collaboration with local government officials and volunteers. Altogether, the team visited/participated in various church events, offered health lectures to communities, and 2,035 patients were seen. For more photos and detailed account of the medical mission, please refer to the full online Cyberlink issue 180415—Part 2 or email AUPCyberlink@aol.com to request a copy.

The participants from the US were: Edna & Efren Domingo, Elma Lou Roda, Fely Dawson, Leroy Qherol, Maureen Hernandez, Myrna Castillo, Ofrancia Santos, Wilma Dauglash. Participants from the Philippines were: Arnel & Norlita Vasquez, Arnel Gavin, Beth Casel, Dan & Emy Domocmat, Remedios Domocmat Tortal, Eugenio & Vangie Santos, Federico Fernandez, Filibert & Jacqueline Martin, Glenn Joy Bisoy, Joan Yabres, Karen Cabarubias, Ken Reoma, Matt de Chavez, Max & Rolyn Cadalig, Melvin Orbe Suzette Naquila, Sheenan Ferranco, Jasper, Milky, Tony, Noah Hope, Pastor Bacate, Thelma Pallasa, Pacita Delamen and Mike Ganyano.

(Condensed version by Crisamar Anunciado)



The whole team at CAA



Team with the Mayor of Hungduan in white shirt.



Wilma Dauglash, Registration



Dr. Orbe, Ferranco & Naguila with Dr. Roda



Dr. Roda, Fely Dawson & student



Dr. Fernandez, dentist

What does your gut tell you?

Crisamar J. Anunciado, PhD, FNP-BC, BC-ADM

Co-Chair, AWESNA Health & Fitness Committee



Having a bad feeling in your gut? Is your gut making you sick or fat? Read on....

That gut feeling you have may have more to do about the state of your health (or gut) than mere flutters due to anxiety or falling in love.

Over the last decade, the role of the gut microbiome in health and disease have gained significant attention in science and research. This microbiome numbers over 100 trillion, contains over 3.5 million varied genes (more than 150 x the human genome) and weighs 2-4 lbs. They reside in the pocket of your large intestine called the cecum. Despite its vast population within this confined space, they live together symbiotically. From the moment we are born, we begin life acquiring microbes passing through the birth canal interacting with the unique microorganisms we already possess. Despite its differences, the microbiome collaboratively plays an important role in digestion, blood glucose regulation, immunity, brain health, and fat storage.

Over time, our microbiome changes with the foods we eat, the medications we take and our environment. Change may not always be for the good. A disruption in the ecosystem that causes major shifts in the types of microorganism that live in our gut can cause a variety of diseases/conditions (see table 1).

Effects of food. There's a complex interaction with food and the microbiome. Studies showed that persistent unhealthy diet that is high fat and low fiber (limited whole plant-based foods like fruits and vegetables) can prevent the microbiome from flourishing.

Medications. Antibiotics designed to kill bacteria can also wipe out vast quantities of good gut bacteria. Drugs like metformin for diabetes, proton pump inhibitors (PPIs) for acid reflux, NSAIDs or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as aspirin for pain and antipsychotic drugs can create changes in the composition of the gut microbiome.

Obesity. Studies have shown that babies who were formula-fed and delivered by cesarean section have a higher risk for obesity and diabetes than those who are breast-fed or delivered normally.

Lean vs Obese. Studies show varied differences between microbiota composition of lean versus obese individuals. The microbiome of a lean person is very diverse with wider variety of Bacteroidetes. These microbes break down bulky plant starches & fibers into shorter molecules that the body can use as a source of energy. Obese individuals have less diverse microbiome, with fewer dominant species, lacking Bacteroidetes and have low levels of *H. pylori* which regulate ghrelin, the hunger hormone.

Table 1: Conditions caused by gut dysbiosis

- Acne/Eczema
- GI disorders
- Asthma/Allergies
- Autism
- Autoimmune diseases
- Cancer
- Dental Cavities
- Depression/anxiety
- Diabetes
- Gastric ulcers
- Hardened arteries
- Irritable Bowel Disease
- Malnutrition
- Obesity

What does your gut tell you? (continued)

To maintain psychological and physical health and avoid disease, we need to support the diversity of our gut microbiome. Choosing the right foods and regular exercise are crucial. Some tips to keep or restore gut health are:

1. Eat more veggies. Food sources especially from plants are best for the microbiota. Consume 2 cups of either cooked or raw veggies everyday .
2. Choose to eat more prebiotic foods that are high in fiber like legumes, seeds, nuts and hearty cruciferous veggies, i.e., cabbages, cauliflower, brussels sprouts, and broccoli .
3. Eat more plant-based probiotic foods, i.e., fermented veggies (sauerkraut, kimchi), tempeh, miso, and natto.
4. Drink less alcoholic beverages. Any amount is not conducive to gut health.
5. Avoid junk foods. Processed high fat, low fiber, high sugar foods can decrease the diversity of the microbiome

Table 2: Foods that affect the gut microbiome

GOOD for the Microbiome

- Fresh fruits
- Fresh/cooked vegetables
- Cultured foods—yogurt, kombucha, kefir or cultured/fermented veggies (kimchi, miso, pickles, tempeh)
- Omega-3 rich foods (flaxseed, chia seeds, squash, Beans, green leafy, cabbages)

BAD for Microbiome

- Refined vegetable oils
- Pasteurized dairy products
- Highly processed carbs
- Meat, poultry and eggs
- Added sugars
- Trans-fats
- Alcohol

The best way to keep your loved ones and your gut happy and healthy is to prepare your own gut friendly foods. The following are delicious ways to pack prebiotics and probiotics into

your diet. You can find various vegan recipes online or by going to Facebook at: Crisamar’s Blog



Asian sesame salad



Kimchi



White bean and cabbage soup with barley tea



Cucumber Salad

Resources:

1. Wallis, C. 2014: How gut bacteria make us fat or thin: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-gut-bacteria-help-make-us-fat-and-thin/>
2. TED Talk 2014: How our microbiome makes us who we are by Rob Knight https://www.ted.com/talks/rob_knight_how_our_microbes_make_us_who_we_are
3. Can gut bacteria improve your health: <https://www.health.harvard.edu/stayinghealthy/can-gut-bacteria-improve-your-health>
4. For a healthy gut, feed the good bugs: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthylifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/indepth/for-healthy-gut-feed-good-bugs/art20322495>
5. Food on the Brain – BBC Documentary: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmeYxXv_nheA



AWESNA Board of Officers

2016-2019



AWESNA ELECTIVE OFFICERS

President: Carmelita Laoyan

Vice-President: Eppie Manalo

Secretary: Edwin Araba

Treasurer: Rene Donato

Auditor: Oscar Pablo

PRO: Marjorie Reyno-Huynh

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Elmer Bangloy

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Ernesto Banaag

SPIRITUAL ADVISERS

VicLouis Arreola, III

Jose Manalo, Sr.

Simeon Rosete

Dem Robles

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Alberta: Roger Rodriguez

Cascadia: Rachel Pedernal

Glendale: Gorden Farinas

Greater Central Valley California: Gladys Gallego

Greater Los Angeles: Loida Miguel

Greater Northern California: Roditha Pablo

Hawaii: Ric Calla, Jr.

La Sierra: Miguelito Fernando

Las Vegas: Cris Genobaga

Loma Linda: Perida Tongpo

Pacific Northwest: Ardina Wang

San Diego: Mar Mutya

Young Alumni: Liberty Olive Bautista Macias

CHAIRPERSONS, STANDING COMMITTEES

Community Affairs: Octavius Quijada & Cellie Quijada

Convention: Carmelita Laoyan

Finance and Projects: Alberto Bagingito

History and Archives: Bangele Alsaybar, Jr.

Honors and Awards: Herminia Tamayo

Membership: Lucy Fernando, co-chair: Leni Espiritu

CHAIRPERSONS, OTHER COMMITTEES

Banquet: Elfrida Cuizon

COMELEC: Jerry Degaños

Continuing Education: Gina Siapco & Eduardo Gonzaga

Endowment Fund: Alfonso Miguel, Jr.

Fundraising: Perida Tongpo

Guest Relations: Lorie Bangloy

Honor Classes :Jethrone Role

Registration: Ruth Ranchez

Retreat/Convention Program: Eppie Manalo

Scholarship & Aid Program: Emily Garcia & Jun Tangonan

Social Events: Don & Gladys Roman

Sports and Recreation: Doug and Cris Anunciado

Souvenir Program: Rene Donato & Fenina Garaza

Constitution and Bylaws—Ernie Banaag

46th Annual Convention Schedule

Theme: "Building a Transformational Future"

Schedule of Events:

Friday, August 31, 2018

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm AWESNA House of Delegates

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Opening Ceremonies

7:30 pm - 10:00 pm Choral Festival /Vespers

(Opening night attire—Filipiniana)

Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018

8:46 am - 12:30 pm Sabbath Services

Adult/Youth Children

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm - AUP Hour

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm Alumni Banquet

Sunday, Sept 2, 2018

6:00 am Tours/Class Reunions

Honor Classes

Class '58 - Diamond Jubilee 60 years

Class '68 - Golden Jubilee 50

Class '78 - Ruby Jubilee 40

Class '88 - Pearl Jubilee 30

Class '93 - Silver Jubilee 25

Class '2008 10

High School Class '73

Other Honor Classes

Our Featured Speaker

Dr. Ken Denslow

Assistant to the President

North American Division of SDA



Dr. Ken Denslow is Assistant to the President of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Silver Spring Maryland. Previously he served the Church's Illinois Conference as president, a position he held for nine years. Prior to that he served as a pastor, ministerial director and conference secretary in three conferences. He also was for several years associate director of the North American Division Evangelism Institute. His wife, Patricia, is a seventh grade home room teacher at J.N. Andrews Elementary School in Takoma Park, Maryland. Ken and Pat have two grown children: Michael lives in Chicago and Kristin lives with her husband and daughter in Gainesville, Florida.