

# THE LINK

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

## AWESNA Spiritual Retreat 2019: *As God Forgives*

Miracle Springs Resort & Spa, 10625 Palm Dr, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240, January 25-27, 2019

[www.awesna.org](http://www.awesna.org) Winter 2019





# THE LINK-AWESNA

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**AWESNA** "...to Serve and Shine!"

### Cover photo

Left to right clockwise: Four AUP Teachers in Harvard; Convention picture of Reuel Narbarte, Dr. Elmer Bangloy, Dr. Ken Denslow, Lorie Bangloy, Lita Laoyan, Loida Miguel, Dr. Jun Miguel, Oemer Daquila, Marjorie Reyno Huynh; PUCA Class of 1958.; Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, Lita and Ralph Laoyan. Group picture in Lake Louis: Marjorie Reyno, Lita Laoyan, Crisamar Anunciado, Miriam Peralta, Reuel Narbarte; Lita Laoyan, Dr. & Mrs. Banaag.

Website: [www.awesna.org](http://www.awesna.org)



The Link-AWESNA



## Message from the AWESNA President



December 14, 2018

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends,

Season's Greetings to All of You!

The executive officers of the PUC/AUP Alumni of Western North America (AWESNA) welcome you to our annual Spiritual Retreat on January 25-27, 2019 at the Miracle Springs Resort and Spa with natural hot mineral pools nestled in the foothills of Desert Hot Springs, just minutes from the Joshua Tree National Park. This is an opportunity to experience the therapeutic and health benefits of the healing waters discovered centuries ago by the Cahuila Indians, the native American people of southern California.

As we come to the last Spiritual Retreat for this term, may we be reminded of God's command to *"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."* Ephesians 4:32. *"Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."* Colossians 3:13.

Our theme **"As God Forgives"** is a continuity of our previous themes, "As Jesus Loved" and "As Jesus Served." Let us remember that it is only through God and His perfect love that we can experience the power and joy of forgiving one another, loving each other, and serving the world!

As we embark on another year of many opportunities, may we develop a stronger and deeper relationship with our awesome God, our Lord and Savior in order to "Shine on, Forever" as alumni of our beloved Alma Mater.

We thank our spiritual advisers, Pastor Dem Robles and Pastor Jose Manalo as our primary speakers for Vespers Service and Hour of Worship respectively, as well as, Dr. Octavius Quijada, Chair of Community Affairs, for the Sabbath morning service. Other participants include the executive officers and AWESNA members from the different chapters.

Thank you everyone for joining us this weekend. May we truly experience spiritual refreshing and fellowship with our fellow alumni and friends; and may God's bountiful blessings be upon each one of us as we start another year!

Sincerely,

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





# EDITORIAL

BY: MARJORIE REYNO HUYNH, AWESNA PRO

January 20, 2019

Dear Alumni,

Welcome to the AWESNA Spiritual Retreat 2019 here in the beautiful, refreshing pools of Miracle Springs Resort and Spa on January 25-27, 2019. Happy New Year greetings to each and everyone of you!

Our theme, "As God Forgives" reminds me of the Lord's Prayers: *"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"* (Matthew 6:14-15). First, I am grateful for God's forgiveness! It is a manifestation of God's love for mankind to let us live even if we are sinners. Jesus died for us. His forgiveness allows us to enjoy His goodness without the weight of sin. Secondly, as God has forgiven us, we in return should also do our part in forgiving others. By forgiving others we allow ourselves to be free of hatred, hurt feelings or resentments and we can enjoy peace. It is my prayer that as you listen to our speakers, Pastor Dem Robles, Pastor Jose Manalo and Dr. Octavius Quijada you will be blessed and refreshed.

I would like to thank all the contributors for their reports and stories, the photographers—Pedrito Tongpo, Dr. Ernesto Banaag, Doug Anunciado, Manny Abuel, Angela Manalo Lasas, Eunice Miguel Aclan, Ruth Sanchez, Rabi Velasco, Miriam Narbarte and Dr. Gracel Saban, Oemer Daquila and Dr. Doris Mendoza. I hope that the stories and photos inspire you to be more active with AWESNA.

I would like to thank Edwin Araba, our former PRO who created the Facebook page, **The Link-AWESNA**. As of this writing, we have 894 members from around the world. They are comprised of 60% women, 40% men. Countries represented are: United States = 758, Philippines = 389, Canada = 64, United Kingdom = 13 and Indonesia = 6. I encourage each of you to add your classmates and alumni friends so you can get updated with the AWESNA activities.

I wish you all the best this New Year 2019 and continue to SHINE ON FOREVER!

## THE LINK

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The LINK-AWESNA in Facebook

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# AUP NEWS

**C**ongratulations to Dr. Reuel E. Narbarte, Human Resources Director, and Dr. Miriam P. Narbarte, Vice President for Academics, Adventist University of the Philippines for being selected from the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office (CHEDRO)-endorsed list of nominees to participate in the three-day Training Program for Potential Assessors for the Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) on November 14-16, 2018. They were recommended to represent the whole Region 4-A (Calabarzon) as ISA assessors. Calabarzon means universities located in the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon. Only those nominees who received an invitation letter from the Office of Institutional Quality Assurance and Governance (OIQAG) were allowed to join the training program.

After the three day training, practical and theoretical examinations were given, both Dr. Reuel and Miriam Narbarte passed the examinations. They received a congratulatory message from the Commission of Higher Education (CHED).



Miriam & Reuel Narbarte at the 46th AWESNA Convention in Edmonton, Canada Aug. 31, 2018

**F**ive Teachers from AUP attended the 21st Century Academic Forum held at Martin Conference Center, Harvard University, MA, USA on November 15-16, 2018 with the theme, "Education 2030: Preparing Students for an Uncertain Future."

They were Dr. Rufina P. Francisco, Elementary Education Chairperson, Mr. Jeruel B. Ibanez, History Department Faculty, Dr. Eunice M. Aclan, College of Arts and Humanities Dean and Dr. Ruben T. Carpizo, AUP Accreditation Director who presented a study entitled, "International Student Mobility in the Philippines: A Qualitative Case Study."



Dr. Ruben T. Carpizo

(Photo credit: Eunice Miguel Aclan)



Left to Right: Dr. Thomas Lechner, Director of 21CAF at Harvard; Dr. Rufina P. Francisco, Mr. Jeruel B. Ibanez, Dr. Eunice M. Aclan



The teachers in New York City with Weanne Estrada



# AWESNA ELECTIONS

By Jerry Deganos, COMELEC Chairman

On December 23,

2018, the AWESNA COMELEC composed of Jerry Deganos as chairman and Marcel Velasco, Torcuato Billones and Ben Cuizon as members voted the following provisions regarding the upcoming AWESNA Election:

That the general AWESNA election



Left to right: Marcel Velasco, Jerry Deganos, Torcuato Billones, and Ben Cuizon

- 1) Alumnus or alumna of PUC/AUP,
- 2) Bona fide AWESNA member for a minimum of two consecutive years,
- 3) A qualified nominee shall fill out a certificate of candidacy.

That incumbent

and the chapter elections shall be held concurrently on the same balloting.

That qualified voters have the option of sending their ballots by either snail mail or email.

That chapter elections shall be conducted in coordination between the chapter COMELEC representative (with the support of the chapter secretary and treasurer) and the assigned COMELEC member as follows:

Mar Velasco, coordinator of Hawaii, La Sierra, Las Vegas and Young Alumni chapters

Ben Cuizon, coordinator of Pacific Northwest, San Diego, Loma Linda Chapters

Torcuato Billones, coordinator of Greater Los Angeles, Glendale, Greater Northern California chapters

Jerry Deganos, coordinator of Alberta, Cascadia, Greater Central Valley

That candidates for the President and Vice President should have the following qualifications:

AWESNA chapter officers who have not served the full 3-year term shall automatically serve the following 3-year term. This is a one-time provision done due to the transitional nature of this new election procedure.

That election activity schedule shall transpire as follows:

- 1) Candidate nominations held beginning February 2019 and ending at the end of March 2019
- 2) Official candidates announced in April 2019
- 3) Official ballots are printed in May 2019
- 4) Voting begins in June through July 15, 2019 noon time
- 5) Canvassing and counting of ballots done after noon on July 15, 2019
- 6) Winning candidates declared during the AWESNA board meeting immediately following the ballot canvassing/counting
- 7) Installation/inauguration of the newly elected set of officers held at the AWESNA 2019 Convention.



# Tribute to Teachers

By: Marjorie Reyno-Huynh

On September 23, 2018 at 3:00 pm, the AWESNA History & Archives Committee and the PUCA Classes of 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 presented "Tribute to Teachers" at Loma Linda Filipino SDA Church.

Everyone was welcomed by Bangele "Nonoy" Alsaybar, PUCA Class of 1966 and AWESNA's History and Archives chairperson.

The program honored the principals and teachers from 1960 to 1964 and a slide show was prepared by Tita Villanueva Rada and Vilma Hechanova Jornada. Former teachers who are still living, Bonifacio M. Donato and Juana Trilles Donato were honored and the life of Ester Gonzaga Manalaysay (Miss Man) was remembered.

We learned that Mrs. Juana Trilles Donato died recently on January 9, 2019.

Also in the program, Abel Pangan gave the history of how the Mirrorflect was named. Mirrorflect contains several minibiographies of PUC/AUP Alumni. Dr. Joselito Coo gave a review of Mirrorflect Volume Five which was available for purchase after the program.

The tributes for the Donatos were given by Welda Donato Duque, daughter, PUCA Class of 1971, who came all the way from the East Coast for this occasion; Philip Trilles, PUC 1969 brother of Juana Donato and Rhody Lyn Ocampo, a former student. Bonifacio Donato was the first "Model Teacher" awardee of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila and Juana Donato was described as a

kind, motherly and godly Home Economics teacher.

For more info on the life of Bonifacio and Juana Donato, an article can be found on Mirrorflect Volume Five pages 93-106.



Welda Donato Duque, (center) being congratulated by AWESNA President, Lita Laoyan while Bangele Alsaybar, History and Archives Chairperson looks on with Phillip Trilles, brother.

Miss Ester Gonzaga Manalaysay, born September 18, 1918 and died May 31, 2018 in Caloocan City received her Bachelor's degree in 1938, and a Master's degree in 1971 from Philippine Union College. She served as Dean of Women, Academy Registrar, Teacher and Department Head. "Miss Man" was remembered as a smart, adventurous, supportive, kind and influential woman by her relatives Cynthia Fajardo Helms, Elizabeth Ann Fajardo Redei, Nat Manalaysay Fajardo, and by friends: Tita & Henry Rada, Norma Tulio Amoguis as told by Wilma Dauglash.

Beautiful music during the program were provided by the Brown Brothers, Lily Pan Diehl PUCA, 1964, Sergio Leiva, Silvino & Melissa Briceno.



Juana and Bonifacio Donato



"Miss Man"



Fajardo Family

Continued on page 22





# College of Education Inauguration Ceremony

By: Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, COE Dean



Left to Right: Dr. Miriam Narbarte, VP Academic Affairs; Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, COE Dean; Dr. Rabi Velasco, Treasurer of the NPUC and AUP Board of Trustees handing over the key to Dr. Gracel Saban; Dr. KB Lee, President of Crocodile Foundation; Dau-phine Yang, daughter of Dr. Tan, Owner of Crocodile Foundation; Dr. Frank Gayoba, President of AUP; Mrs. Lee and Beth Casel

**S**unday, September 23, 2018, at 9 in the morning, the University celebrated the official opening of doors of the College of Education building. It has been a year and a month since the groundbreaking ceremony took place on August 25, 2017. AUP worked with Engr. Gerardo Beltran and the Absolute Concrete Forms Builders Corporation and completed the building that it may be used by this school year, 2018-2019.

The College of Education traces its origin in the first education course that was offered in 1926 when the then Philippine Junior College as located in Calle Luna, Pasay, Rizal. After years of growth and advancement, increase in enrollments, and God's lavish provisions, in 1981, the campus was transferred to Silang, Cavite. Fast forward to March 31, 2016, CMO 32, Series of 2016 was released stipulating the designa-

tion of AUP Teacher Education Program as **Center of Excellence**. All the College's hard work paid off. All praises be unto God who manifested that true excellence goes beyond what meets the eye!

Since August 2015 when the Dean of the College of Education, Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, wrote to Dr. Francisco Gayoba about the then location of the college beside the Philippine International Church. Dr. Saban brought up the need of a new home for the college for some reasons. These being the rapid dilapidation of the building due to the classrooms not only being used for Education classes, but for small group and Sabbath School gatherings. Also, the growing number of students and the unfortunate flooding of some of the offices during typhoons do not make them suitable working areas. Since then, prayers and planning started with focus being a new home for the College of Education.

The year 2016 was God’s perfect time for AUP to discover His instruments as channels of His provisions to make the construction of the new COE building possible. The AUP Administration approached the Crocodile Foundation and their founders, Dr. Hian Tsin and Sui Lan; and chairman, Dr. Lee. Kay Beng. Along with them, the Groundbreaking ceremony that took place on August 25, 2017 commemorated the start official start of construction. Again, all to the glory of God!

September 23, 2018 marks another historic event in the continuous progress of the sacred work of operating “Education programs” --- means of training young people to teach the future generations until Jesus comes. The inauguration program started off with multiple talented young people singing and sharing music to the guests. Our Chinese students sang as well and delighted our special guests, Dr. Lee Kay Beng and Dauphine Yang, daughter of Crocodile Foundation’s founders Dr. Hian Tsi and Sui Lan. Some of COE’s faculty members participated in the program such as Dr. Rufina Francisco, Department Chair of Basic Education, Dr. Leonardo Dorado, Dept. Chair of Graduate Program Education, Dr. Elmie Lagajino, Associate Professor of College of Education, and our COE Dean, Dr. Gracel Ann Saban who enlightened us on the history of the building. Our administrators were present and participated as well with Dr. Miriam P. Narbarte welcoming all the guests and the AUP community that graced the event. Dr. Francisco Gayoba and Mr. Oemer Daquila made sure that our special guests were well taken care of. It was also a pleasure to have Mr. Rabi Velasco the Treasurer of NPUC, Mrs. Lilibeth Casel, NPUC Administrative Assistant for Advancement, and Mr. Wilson Sia, Director of Philanthropy and Public Relations of Adventist Medical Center.

This new building means so much not only to the COE faculty, staff, students but also to its pioneers, alumni, friends and supporters. Not because of the convenience of having to work in a more comfortable physical space, but because of the great need of a learning facility that fosters our aim for quality

teacher education programs. We will keep on giving all the glory and honor to our Lord for now, our future Educators have a home of their own. (Photo credits: Rabi Velasco, Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, Oemer Daquila)



College of Education Building



Unveiling the stone marker of the donors Hian Tsin & Sui Lan of the Crocodile Foundation Singapore to which the building is named after. Dr. Lee Kay Beng, Chairman of Crocodile Foundation and Ms. Dauphine Yang, youngest daughter of the donors along with AUP Administrators.



College of Education Hian Tsin & Sui Lan Building Ribbon cutting ceremony



AUP College of Education was designated a Center of Excellence. Pictured: Dr. Gracel Ann S. Saban, COE Dean





# ALUMNI NEWS



Carlo  
Manalo, MD



Serafin  
Lalas, MD

Carlo was featured in the Missions section of the magazine, **Radiogram**, Spring 2018 for his month's work in the Philippines as part of his Global Health Elective.

According to Carlo, he chose to do this radiology elective in Medical Center Manila (AMCM) to *"explore different ways of radiology practices, to serve a unique patient population, exchange ideas and establish new connections, participate in quality improvement projects, get a unique cultural experience."*

Carlo was born at Adventist Medical Center Manila, went to school at Adventist University of the Philippines before transferring to the US where he graduated his Bachelor's degree in La Sierra University and continued his medical training at Loma Linda University. He finished his Fellowship in Pediatric Radiology and is starting his new career as Attending and Faculty Physician at Loma Linda University Health.

He is the son of former AUP faculty, Drs. Jose and Eppie Manalo. He is married to Domilyn Gonzales-Manalo and are expecting a son soon.

(Source: Radiogram, Volume 33, Number 1, Spring 2018)



Serafin was recently featured in the magazine, **Inland Empire's Top Doctors** on their September 2018 issue. A coworker, Jennifer Weniger wrote:

*"Dr. Lalas is one of the most caring and kind child psychiatrists that I have worked with. He has such wonderful rapport with the children and their parents. He always takes time to listen to their needs and interacts with them with the utmost kindness and respect."*

He previously 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.

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 works 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.

He is married to Angela Lalas and have two children, Sophia and Serafin Alexander III.





# BSN Class of 1972 Reunion

By: Ester Bacud

We gathered in Takoma Park, Maryland, a special place close to the World headquarters of the Seventh Day-Adventists and the capital of the United States, Washington D.C. for our BSN Class 1972 reunion on September 2018.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Abelardo T. Osorio. He served in several Adventists Hospitals as a General Surgeon in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kenya, Zambia with his wife and our beloved classmate Ofelia M. Osorio. Ofie, as we fondly call her has two doctorate degrees: Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) from Adventist University of the Philippines, Silang, Cavite and a Doctorate in Education (EdD) from Philippine College of Health and Sciences in Manila, Philippines. Ofie served as a secretary, Operating Room Supervisor, Director of Nursing and served beside her husband who served in many capacities as a surgeon, associate medical director, medical director in the Philippines and countries mentioned above.



Dr. & Mrs. Abelardo Osorio

It was a joy to have both of them for this special occasion. We were blessed by the messages of Dr. Osorio in our daily devotionals. He is truly a humble, quiet spiritual servant of God. He shared his extreme experiences in the mission field when they were just truly dependent on God's provisions in the care of very sick and dying patients and with the use of natural remedies. The patients miraculously were cured along with prayers. Dr. Osorio taught us how to encourage one another by singing songs of praises and thanksgiving to the Lord. We especially remember the text that he shared with us found in Ephesians 5:19-20. ***"Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord!"*** We learned to sing and pay attention to the lyrics of the sounds and make them as our inspiration everyday.

We honor Dr. and Mrs. Osorio who dedicated their lives to serving God and attaining the highest education for His honor and glory. They took time and effort to reach out to our classmates in Maryland, Texas, Chicago and California. It was a very

meaningful and happy reunion for Nursing Class of 1972.



Maryland Reunion: Left to Right: Ofelia M. Osorio, Aurea N. Almagro, Ruel Almagro, Ester E. Bacud, Fely A. Dawson.

There was also a mini-reunion held in San Bernardino, California on October, 2018. Out of 42 graduates, twelve were able to see each other after 45 years! The picture below was after a dinner treat by Glenda Macasinas Roderos. The next reunion will be in Las Vegas on February 2019.



California Reunion: Back Row Left to Right: Loida Valencia, Fely Dawson, Norma Espelita, Glenda Roderos, Marylyn Cook, Erlinda Mercado, Ofelia Osorio, Beethoven Tanada, Asher Reyes.

Seated in Front row, Left to right: Aurelia Gumangan, Mariette Reyes, Edna Domingo



# College of Medicine Activities 2018

By: Dr. Doris Mendoza, Dean College of Medicine

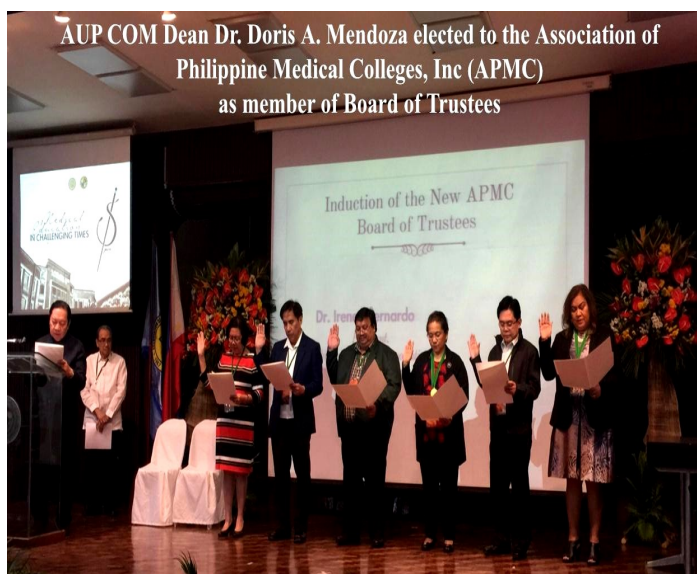


On February 7-9, 2018, the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges, Inc. (APMC) held its 51st Annual Convention at Pamantasan Ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

## Induction Of Dr. Mendoza as APMC Board Member

During the Convention, Adventist University of the Philippines College of Medicine Dean, Dr. Doris Mendoza, was elected and inducted as a member of the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges, Inc. (APMC) Board of Trustees. The members of the Board are from these Medical Schools:

1. UP College of Medicine
2. Ateneo COM



Induction of New APMC Board, February 9, 2018. Inducting Officer is Philippine Medical Association President Ireneo Bernardo

3. Far Eastern University COM
4. Siliman University COM
5. La Salle COM
6. Adventist University of the Philippines COM

## Project Gifted Missions

The “Project Gifted Missions” was conceptualized by Pioneer Batch 2019 Class President, Serg Aclan on October 2016 who at that time was thinking how to celebrate his birthday. By January 2017, Aclan’s birth month, he and his friends formed **Project Gifted**, an organization “with the passions to use their God-given talents and gifts to help and inspire others, most especially children, to develop their own.”

The organization is composed mostly of students from the Adventist University of the Philippines in Silang, Cavite. In just seven months, they were able to raise around P100,000 that benefited 460 youth. They proposed using music therapy to keep children with mental health issues and out-of-school youth off the streets of Lipa City. They decided to put up the Lipa City Youth Orchestra for this purpose. “First, they can develop a hobby, at the same time, they can gain friends, then they can acquire skills that hopefully they can use to teach others to make music as well, said Aclan.

Project Gifted’s music therapy plan emerged as the best one out of the 10 winning project proposals chosen by **Angat Buhay**, Vice President Leni Robredo’s flagship anti-poverty program. The



awarding ceremony was held at the end of the two-day Angat Buhay Youth Summit held on August 16, 2018. Each of the 10 winning groups was given P25,000 by the San Miguel Corporation in partnership with the OVP to implement their projects.

Also, on November 10, 2017, Aclan and the organization's advocacy officer, Reiner Lorenzo Tamayo headed to Hanyang University in South Korea where they represented the Philippines in an international youth summit where they pitched the Lipa City Youth Orchestra to get more funding. Hanyang University is a partner school of Angat Buhay. They won the One Million Korean Wong grand prize besting all other organizations from different nations. "I am happy because at least now, Project Gifted has been given recognition. What started out as a simple birthday celebration is now on its way to help more people." says Serg.

Photo credit: Dr. Doris Mendoza & AUP Medical Student Council

Top Ten Outstanding Medical Student Organization (TOMSO) Awards Night, February 7, 2018 with Serg Aclan



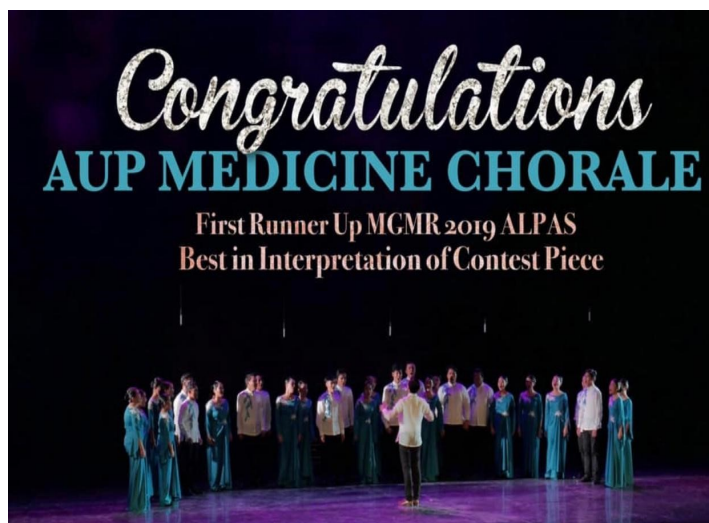
Serg Aclan & Reiner Lorenzo Tamayo in Hanyang University, South Korea

Pioneer Batch 2019 Class President  
Jon Sergie Aclan of AUP College of Medicine accepts the  
Top Award for "Project Gifted Missions"



#### AUP Choral First Runner UP

We give out utmost appreciation to the AUP Medicine Chorale for garnering the First Runner Up Award and Nest in Interpretation of Contest Piece Award in the MedGrove MedRhythmia 2019: ALPAS (To Break Free) on January 20, 2019 at ALIW Theater Pasay, Metro Manila.







# AUP Endowment Fund and COM 2018 Update

By Dr. Alfonso Miguel, Jr.

The past Holiday Season has been busy in the Miguel's new home in Loma Linda. Indeed, it was a great joy to spend time with our family interacting and spending quality time—all bubbling with joy, peace, love and in truth. Hopefully, this will be also be our experience as we enter the Year 2019.

## College of Medicine

As I write this short article, let me walk you through on how God has made the dream of 40 years to have a Medical School come to reality. The AUP College of Medicine eventually opened in August 2015 with sixteen (16) pioneer medical students and the Lord willing the first batch will graduate in June 2019. There were many hurdles to overcome such as government regulations, permit to start and operate a new medical school, requirement to have a standing medical school building, search for a founding Dean, recruitment of committed faculty members, a dedicated training hospital within the region of AUP and in the near future a University teaching hospital medical center that has to be fulfilled.

Kudos to the past and present AUP leadership for their tenacity and continued commitment, to all Alumni and friends for their loyal support and prayers and above all to the Giver of ***“Every good gift and every perfect gift from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow or turning.”*** James 1:17

Having been tasked by our present AUP leadership to serve as a liaison of our AUP COM since its inception and also serving as a visiting faculty for the second year medical students teaching CMED 214: Surgery correlates of Vascular Surgery Diseases and disorders, it has been an honor and privilege to serve in the Admission Committee and as a resource in regards to some concerns or problems of our fellow alumni here in the USA

## Endowment Fund

This is a short update of the Endowment Fund from the latest statement ending November 30, 2018 prepared by our Fund Treasurer, Albert Bagingito. The increase yield is at a slow phase because of the volatility of our US economy in this uncertain time. Additionally, the increased amount of the Endowment Fund from donations of our Alumni and friends have trickled to almost a complete stop. However, there was a small surge of >\$20,000 added to the fund through the Fundraising concert coordinated by Mrs. Perida Tongpo and hosted by the Loma Linda Chapter last May 2018.

To this date, the amount of grants to AUP is \$52,068.93 for the faculty upgrade and research fund.

The AWESNA Endowment Fund Committee members are: Alfonso Miguel, Jr., Chairman; Edna Domingo, Secretary; Albert Bagingito, Treasurer; and members Annelie Madigan, Octavius Quijada, Miguelito Fernando, Lita Laoyan, AWESNA President, ex-officio and Rene Donato, AWESNA Treasurer.

Finally, I strongly urge each of you to earnestly keep this fledging AUP COM in your prayers including your financial support as you are blessed in a mighty way in all your professional endeavors from whom All Blessings Flow.



AUP College of Medicine Inauguration , August 7-9, 2015

# My Marriage to a non-Seventh Day Adventist

A personal testimony by Fely Andres Dawson

I graduated from Philippine Union College School of Nursing without a boyfriend even though I had three different suitors during my college life.

When I came to the United States, I met a wonderful man, Emanuel, who later became my sweetheart. When we presented our plans to get married to our family, the members of my family questioned me about *“being unequally yoked together with an unbeliever.”* In 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 it says *“For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness and what communion has the light with darkness?”* I knew this text very well. I prayed for guidance from the Holy Spirit, and that God would work through me in mysterious ways.

I read the book, *The Adventist Home*, by Ellen G. White on the chapter on Forbidden Marriage. It said, *“those who profess the truth trample the will of God in marrying unbelievers. They lose His favor and make bitter work for repentance.”* This was a strong statement from the prophetess. She further wrote, *“A Seventh-Day Adventist marrying a non-believer makes a very difficult marriage relationship and their wrong decision may result in the loss of their souls.”*



Fely and Emanuel in Egypt, 2018

## We got married anyway.

I asked the Lord to forgive me and I continually prayed for my loving husband. Everyday, I made a conscious decision to be

faithful to God. Emanuel is a loving husband. He always attended church with me. People did not even know that he was not an SDA. He did not have any issue with food. He was thankful and happy for the food on the table and for God's provisions. He never argued with me going to Medical Outreach Missions, once or twice a every year. He did not stop me from doing what I enjoyed doing which was joining yearly mission outreach groups and helping a few seniors in out neighborhood, assisting their needs in some way. He gave me a life partner who stayed with me when I was sick, cared for me and prayed for me many times. I had cancer twice and my Healer God spared my life twice.

Last April 2018, Emanuel surprised me when I arrived home from a medical outreach saying he wanted to be baptized!

After 41 years of marriage, my husband surrendered his life to Jesus and was baptized by Pastor Tony Zman. We repeated our baptismal ceremony at the Jordan River officiated by Pastor Abdul Rajagukguk and renewed our marriage vows in Cana, Israel.

Thank you Lord for forgiving me and hearing my prayers. Thank you Lord for strengthening our union with you and with each other!



Emanuel being baptized in the Jordan River

# The Birth of Medical Technology in the Philippines

By: Dr. Miriam Estrada

In the Philippines, Medical Technology was introduced by the 26<sup>th</sup> Medical Laboratory of the 6<sup>th</sup> United States Army before the end of World War II in September 1945. The laboratory was established at 208 Quiricada St. Sta. Cruz, Manila where the Public Health Laboratory (a division of Manila Health Department) is presently located.

The training of high school graduates to work as laboratory technicians started in February 1945 by the 26<sup>th</sup> Medical Laboratory. However, in June 1945, the 6<sup>th</sup> United States Army left the laboratory. Although the Medical Laboratory was endorsed by the United States Army to the National Department of Health before they left, the National Department of Health did not take interest on it, maybe because the science was not very well known and popular during those days.

One of the Filipino doctors, Dr. Alfredo Pio de Roda, a well-known Bacteriologist who was among the dislocated staff of the 26<sup>th</sup> Medical Laboratory took the pain to preserve and save the remnants of the laboratory. This was because of a very noble idea that came into his mind for the good of the residents of Manila. He thought that the residents of Manila could be better served by laboratory methods to solve their problems in relation to their health. Hence, Dr. Pio de Roda went to see Dr. Mariano C. Icasiano, the first city health officer of Manila and presented his ideas and good intentions in the preservation of the remnants of the 26<sup>th</sup> Medical Laboratory. His plan was to organize a new medical laboratory in order to give better health services to the people of Manila. Dr. Icasiano, seeing the noble ideas, sincerity, purity of intention and concern about the health of the Manilenos, was touched and convinced. He accepted the proposal of Dr. Pio de Roda to establish a medical laboratory under the city health department.

It was on October 1, 1945 when the medical laboratory, now known as the Public Health Laboratory was formally organized under the leadership of Dr. Pio de Roda.

The training of medical technicians started in 1947 under Dr. Pio de Roda and Dr. Prudencia C. Sta. Ana. The trainees were mostly high school and paramedical graduates. The course was free to all interested persons, but the course had no specifics of a definite period of training. There was no certificate of

completion issued for such training. Some of the trainees trained only for a week, some for two weeks and others for several weeks.

It was in 1954 when Dr. Pio de Roda instructed Dr. Sta. Ana to prepare a syllabus for training for the medical technicians. A formal six-month training period was required and a certificate of completion was given to successful trainees. Later on, Dr. Tirso Briones joined the two doctors in the training program at the Public Health Laboratory.

The training program did not last long when Manila Sanitarium and Hospital (now Adventist Medical Center Manila) in Pasay City and its sister establishment, Philippine Union College (now Adventist University of the Philippines) at Baesa, Caloocan City (now at Silang, Cavite) started to offer the Medical Technology program through the pioneering efforts of Willa Hilgert-Hedrick, an American medical practitioner and a missionary of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in the Philippines. She was assigned to work at Manila Sanitarium and Hospital with her medical internist husband in 1953.

Mrs. Hedrick, Dr. Reuben Manalaysay, then president of Philippine Union College, Rev. M.C. Warren, then President of North Philippine Union Mission of Seventh-Day Adventists and Dr. Manuel L. Carreon of the Bureau of Private Education, met and decided that Mrs. Hedrick do the preparation of the degree curriculum and put up the first Medical Technology School in the Philippines. Mrs. Hedrick had some difficulties in working for a complete laboratory in the division of Microbiology, Parasitology and Histopathology. Fortunately, Antoinette McKelvey who just came from New York and trained under Dr. Papanicolaou, joined Mrs. Hedrick in putting up the first complete laboratory in the Philippines at the Manila Sanitarium & Hospital.

The application of Manila Sanitarium and Hospital and Philippine Union College to open the Medical Technology School with a five-year curriculum leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology was approved by the Bureau of Private Education in 1954.

In 1955, Philippine Union College (now Adventist University of the Philippines) had its first Medical Technology graduate in the person of Jesse Umali. He then took up his medical studies



at Far Eastern University and became a very successful OB-Gyn practitioner and was the owner of Omega Laboratories at Vito Cruz, Manila, before he finally left for the United States. In the summer of 1955, two more Medical Technology students also graduated. They were Avelino Oliva and Adoracion Yutuc.

Several colleges and universities throughout the country are now offering the Medical Technology program with a new nomenclature, Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science (BSMLS). According to the recent records of the Philippine Association of Schools of Medical Technology and Public Health (PASMETH), there are now more than 90 colleges and universities throughout the Philippines offering the program.

## *Willa Kathryn Hedrick*

APRIL 1, 1925 – OCTOBER 9, 2018



Mrs. Willa Hedrick was awarded a Special Recognition Award during the 42nd AWESNA Convention held on August 3– September, 2013 in La Jolla, California for her pioneering the Medical Technology Bachelors program in the Philippines

## Clinical Laboratory Science News bits

### SCASM Board Member

Marjorie Reyno-Huynh, BSMT Class of 1984, Manager of the Clinical Laboratory, Microbiology Department at Loma Linda University Medical Center was elected as Board Member of the Southern California Branch of the American Society for Microbiology (SCASM). She is also an active member of the National American Society for Microbiology (ASM) where she has presented two student posters in the 80s. The SCASM promotes microbiology education and research in Southern California through meetings, discussions, newsletters and publications. [www.scasm.org](http://www.scasm.org).



Marjorie at 2018 SCASM Annual Meeting w/ mentee (right)

### AUP Bags 1st, 2nd, 3rd Places in 5th CALABARZON Research and Statistics Forum By Arem Noryn Caringal-Agum



Batangas City—5th CALABARZON Research and Statistics Forum with the theme Innovations and Competitiveness, October 18, 2018 Batangas State University: Twenty eight researchers from various government and private institutions exhibited 27 research papers and posters that were screened and filtered from among hundreds of entries.

Six presentations and posters were entries from AUP. Researcher Ferdinand E. Mendoza, with his paper entitled: “Detection and Differentiation of Enterococcus, E. coli, and Other Coliforms in Drinking Water Using a Novel Testing Method”, earned the 1st Place with the monetary prize of Php10,000.00.

Among the 27 exhibited posters, “Efficacy of Ripened Extract Peel of *Musa paradisiaca* (Banana) Against *Staphylococcus aureus*” by Student Researchers Jahzeel Neil Salagubang, John Mikko Riosa, Florence Gaye Salido and Research Adviser Carmela G. Malabat and “Phytochemical Screening and Anti-Fungal Activity of *Pseudelephantopus spicatus* (Dong’s Tongue) Against *Aspergillus niger*” by Student Researchers Edelweiss Tutor, Dennis Rane Zamora, Edriel B. Rivero and Research Adviser Joyosthie B. Orbe obtained 2nd and 3rd Place, respectively with the monetary prizes of Php5,000.00 and Php3,000.00.



## AWESNA Convention 2018 Photos



AWESNA members at Lake Louise, Alberta



Class of 1993



Class of 1968





# Cascadia Chapter Report

By: Rachel "Ching" Varona Pedernal, Chapter President



December 22, 2018 was the annual Sabbath celebration gathering of all Filipino Adventist churches here in the lower mainland Canada. It's a time of togetherness, fellowship, discipleship, united prayer event, praise and worship. The gathering was participated by AUP Alumni who are members from different churches.

Our guest speaker this year was Pastor Jose Cortes, Jr., the Associate Director for Evangelism of the North American Division. He expanded our theme, "Reflecting His Glory" by emphasizing that love is the best way to show others that we are God's disciples.

God bless us all this new year 2019. From Cascadia with love!







# Glendale Chapter Report

By Arlene Tordecilla—Ferrolino, Chapter member

## Meistersingers 8th US Tour 2018

For the first time ever, the internationally acclaimed Philippine Meistersingers arrived in California in the middle of winter for their 8th US Tour. This year's tour, the shortest of their US Tours thus far, actually spanned the last few days of December 2018 and officially ended in the middle of January, 2019 and took this world class choral group from Loma Linda to Glendale and Los Angeles to San Diego.

During this tour, the Meistersingers formerly known as the AUP Ambassadors, under the baton of Maestro Ramon Lijua-co, Jr., had the opportunity to perform at schools, churches, convalescent facilities and private holiday parties. With general coordinator, Homer Mendoza at the helm, area coordinators Gemma Banaag and Arlene Ferrolino pulled together to make this one of the most memorable California appearance for the group. Not only did they perform but during the week between weekend engagements, the singers even had the rare privilege of enjoying snow in the mountains and taking in Christmas and New Years traditions like viewing holiday light displays and watching the Rose Parade.

Although the Philippine Meistersingers is no longer officially connected to AUP, most of its members are either current or former students and faculty members of the university. Still enthusiastically and generously supported by AUP alumni all over the world, the Meistersingers are warmly welcomed wherever they go. This premier choral group has continued to thrive and flourish and has been able to share their ministry of music both in the homeland and internationally. Recently concluded choral tours have taken these much-sought after performers to Dubai, Indonesia and Thailand where they con-



Meistersingers at Central Filipino Church

certized to fully packed venues.

The coordinators express their appreciation to alumni and friends who hosted, sponsored and donated their time and resources to make this tour possible.



The Ferrolino family with their 6 Meister daughters

## Filipino American Symphony Orchestra (FASO)

To mark its 10th anniversary, FASO, the Filipino American Symphony Orchestra presented "FASO@10: A Decade of Music, Harmony and Community," a special concert on November 3, 2018 at the Alex Theatre in Glendale, California. A decade after it instantly earned the title an excellent reputation as a durable Filipino-American cultural institution.

Maestro Robert Shroder has served as artistic director and conductor since FASO's inception.

From FASO: A History by Ruben V. Nepales

FASO's President is Arlene Ferrolino, PUC/AUP alumna, who share these thoughts:

*Had you asked my younger self if heading the Board of a symphony orchestra was one of my ambitions, I would've laughed and shook my head. Stepping into the role as the first president of FASO was not something that I had every dreamed of doing.*

*After giving much thought and prayer, however, realizing who I was working with, knowing the musical caliber of FASO and just imagining where this organization could go, I was up for the challenge.*

Continued on page 22...



# Greater Central Valley Report

By: Doreen Cometa—Carter, Chapter PRO



On November 3, 2018, about fifty chapter members and officers of Central Valley met with AWESNA President, Lita Laoyan for lunch potluck held at Central Valley SDA Church in Fresno, California. Carmelita Laoyan was accompanied by her husband, Ralph Laoyan.

The program included reports from Cajil and Phoebe Fadri who represented the Central Valley Chapter as delegates to the 46th AWESNA Convention in Edmonton, Canada. They shared their experiences from the Convention.

Lita Laoyan, AWESNA President updated the chapter regarding the upcoming 47th Convention in Portland, Oregon, Spiritual Retreat in Miracle Springs Resort this January 25-27, 2019 and the Medical Mission in Davao this coming February 2019.

After the meeting, Gladys Gallego, Central Valley Chapter President accompanied by some chapter officers: Annie Polite, Chapter Auditor and Chapter Advisers: Cajil Fadri and Pastor Abel Pangan proceeded to Armona with

Lita Laoyan to meet more AWESNA members there. About a dozed members attended the Harvest Celebration at the Armona Academy where they met. It is sad to announce that we lost our brother, Nemy Marcelo who was an active officer and member of the chapter.



**Chapter members in Armona**



**At Central Valley SDA Church**



## Tribute to Teachers continued...



Bangele "Nonoy" Alsaybar, Jr., Vilma H. Jornada, Tita Rose V. Rada



PUCA Class 1965

## Glendale Chapter Report continued...

The FASO Board is comprised of successful professionals—who are extremely passionate about what they do. They are fiercely driven by the desire to help FASO succeed, for its vision and mission to be fulfilled. That continues to resonate in all that we do. Seeing the joy on each face at every performance, watching each child as he or she grows musically at our workshops and knowing you've played a small role and this is satisfaction enough for me.

*It has been not just a challenge but indeed such a pleasure and a great honor to be a part of FASO's history and to see it through to the next decade.*

FASO has announced its 2019 season highlighted by a concert and gala event at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall on August 3 and a Christmas concert at the White Memorial Church on December 7.

FASO is a 501 3(c)non-profit organization. For more information please visit our website: [www.fasofoundation.org](http://www.fasofoundation.org).

Photo credit: Arlene Ferrolino & Rick Gavino



Arlene T. Ferrolino, President of FASO (in purple)



The Meistersingers with some of their hosts at the Roman residence celebrating New Year's Eve.





# La Sierra Chapter Report

By: Lucy Fernando, Chapter Treasurer & Ralph Tigno, PRO



The AWESNA-La Sierra Chapter got together for a post Convention meeting. They are continuing to sponsor worthy working students at AUP as a chapter project. The worthy student project started in the school year 2012– 2013. So far twelve students have graduated. Mr. Marvyn Olarte and Miss Maria Tumangday help screen the junior and senior students who have been in school for 8-10 years.

The latest report from Mr. Olarte from the 2017-2018 grantees are: Four students have graduated from the six students helped. We sent to AUP the amount of \$3,000/year for the Worthy Working Student Project. Mr. Olarte sends me a complete report at the end of each school on the activities of the students. We are pleased to be able to help deserving students to finish their careers, despite the hardship of obtaining tuition for their schooling. The next chapter meeting will be in February, 2019.

## Class of 1958

(Excerpts from The e-Linkette, The AWESNA La Sierra Chapter Quarterly Newsletter , 2018 Summer Special Edition)

“ it is worth mentioning that during the recognition and roll call of this year’s various honor classes at the traditional Saturday evening Gala Alumni Banquet, the PUC Class of 1958, celebrating its 60th year anniversary and the La Sierra Chapter stood out as the only PUC class and the only AWESNA chapter to have full alumni representation from the college, the academy, and the elementary school level. The graduates of PUC Class ‘58 and La Sierra chapter members were: Lucy Fernando, La Sierra Chapter treasurer, BS Medical Technology; Ralph Tigno, PUC Academy; and Betty Flores-Tigno, PUC Elementary School.

## Distinguished PUC Academy Class of 1958

While various PUC graduating classes have undoubtedly produced their respective share of distinguished alumni, PUCA Class of 1958, however, has the distinction of being the first, and so far, the only PUC Academy class in PUC’s 100th-year history to have:

- 1) A Brigadier General in the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Surgeon General of the Philippines — Brigadier General Salvador P. Flores;
- 2) A lawyer who established his own independent, non-SDA affiliated church—Atty. Juanito (John) G. Tulio, Jr.;
- 3) A PUC Music Department head—Prof. Corazon R. Arevalo-Coo;
- 4) One of the three sons of the late Honesto Pascual, Sr., the composer and lyricist of the PUC/AUP school song, *On Ever Onward* —the late Joemie Pascual. Joemie is the first of the 12 class members (so far) to “sleep in the Lord”; he was barely 20 years old, and was a college student at PUC-Angwin (CA), when he passed away. La Sierra chapter members, Delio Pascual (PUCA Class ‘55) and Honesto Pascual, Jr. (PUCA Class ‘59 and former AWESNA President) share with Joemie the honor of being the PUC/AUP school song composer’s son;
- 5) A US Army veteran, who served in the US Army Adjutant General Corps as psychological testing specialist at the height of the Vietnamese War—Ralph Tigno. Also, he is the only PUC

Academy graduate who has had a private congressional bill introduced in the U.S. Congress which was approved by both the House of Representative and the Senate, and signed into law by the then US President Lyndon B. Johnson to make him a US permanent resident and to make him eligible for US military service.

PUC Academy Class ‘58 celebrated its 60th year reunion in February 2018 by going on a Mexican cruise.



# Loma Linda Chapter Report

By: Marjorie Reyno, Chapter Member

The Loma Linda Chapter has been visited by many alumni and friends in 2018. Here are some of the highlights.

## Vice Mayor Baticos

Vice Mayor Cezar Baticos of Roxas, Oriental Mindoro, who was baptized during the AWESNA-Loma Linda Filipino Church mission outreach last February 26-March 3, 2018. Along with him was Pastor Robert Dulay, District Pastor of South-Central Luzon Conference. Vice Mayor Baticos was a guest speaker at the Filipino Adventist Ministers and Members Association (FAMMA).



Vice Mayor Cezar Baticos, Serafin "Bunjoy" Lasas, Dr. Serafin Lasas, Angela Manalo Lasas and Pastor Robert Dulay.



Vice Mayor Cezar Baticos, Pastor Dulay with AWESNA President, Lita Laoyan and Pastor Jose and Eppie Manalo, AWESNA Adviser and Vice President respectively enjoying a meal together.

## AUP Faculty members

Five teachers from AUP who were on their way to present a paper at Harvard University attended church at Loma Linda. They were: Dr. Rufina P. Francisco; Mr. Jeruel B. Ibanez, Dr. Eunice M. Aclan and Dr. Ruben T. Carpizo. Housing accommodations were provided by Meljorie Castelo and meals were provided by AWESNA and hosted by Dr. & Mrs. Lasas. Their story is found in page 5.



The five AUP teachers hosted by Angela Lasas-Manalo (second from right)

## Oemer Daquila

Oemer Daquila, MBA, BSN is AUP's Director for Advancement visited alumni chapters and churches from the East Coast to the West Coast in 2018 to update the various chapters with AUP's extension schools and new certification/degrees offered at AUP.



Oemer (standing in black shirt) with Loma Linda officers and members



### Philippine Meistersingers

The Philippine Meistersingers with Musical Director, Ramon Lijauco Jr. were on their 8th U.S. Concert Tour from December 2018 to January 2019 and performed at Loma Linda Filipino Church and various homes.



The Philippine Meistersingers performed at Loma Linda Filipino Church on Dec. 2, 2018.

### Dr. Doris Mendoza

Adventist University of the Philippines College of Medicine Dean and Founding Dean, Dr. Doris A. Mendoza, MD, FPPS visited Loma Linda after spending a few days at Weimar Institute in Northern California with Lita Laoyan, AWESNA President. Dr. Mendoza attended the AWESNA Board Meeting on October 14, 2018 and gave an update on the AUP College of Medicine. Her update can be found on pages 12-13.



AWESNA Board Meeting, October 14, 2018 at Loma Linda Filipino Church (Dr. Mendoza is wearing a red and blue striped blouse)

### Baby Shower

AUP Alumni Dr. Carlo Manalo, son of Drs. Jose & Eppie Manalo and wife, Domilyn (nee Gonzalez) were honored with a beautiful baby shower attended by family and friends on December 2, 2018. Carlo Manalo is featured in our Alumni news on page 10.



Congratulations to Carlo and Domilyn Gonzalez-Manalo who are expecting a baby son soon!

Photo credit: Angela Manalo-Lalas, Pedrito Tongpo, Marjorie Reyno Huynh

# AWESNA FUNDRAISING CONCERT

By: Marjorie Reyno-Huynh

**A**lumni and friends attended “A Glimpse of the Philippines” a fundraising concert presented by AWESNA in partnership with The Loma Linda Filipino Church on November 18, 2018 at 2:00 pm at the Chan Auditorium, Loma Linda Elementary School 10656 Anderson St. Loma Linda, CA . Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Medical and Evangelical Mission scheduled in February, 2019 in Davao, Philippines.

Our most sincere gratitude goes to our donors, we were able to raise \$10,000.00.

The fundraiser featured *The Marcus and Riza Printup Jazz Combo* and *Kayamanan ng Lahi Philippine Folk Arts*.

## Guest musicians

Riza Printup, Harpist

Riza has recorded with acclaimed Jazz Trumpeter and husband Marcus Printup, Grammy nominated pianist and composer Kenny Werner and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra featuring Chick Corea and the music of Mr. Corea. She has performed with artists varying from virtuoso cellist Yo-Yo

Ma to Jookin to Dance Master Lil Buck and Lady Gaga and has been featured with Pacquito D’Rivera in his presentation of Charlie Parker’s classic, Bird With Strings. With her husband, Marcus Printup, they created RiMarcable Publications where they published their first children’s book and arrangements for big band and jazz combo

Marcus Printup, Trumpeter

Marcus is an internationally acclaimed trumpeter. While attending the University of North Florida on a music scholarship, he won the International Trumpet Guild Jazz Trumpet competition. In 1993, he was inducted into the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. He has recorded several records and made his screen debut in 1999 movie, *Playing by Heart*. August 22



Printup Jazz Combo

has been declared “Marcus Printup Day in his hometown of Conyers, Georgia.

Ahmet, Turkmenoglu, Bass

Ahmet currently a teaching assistant and doing his Masters Degree program for Jazz studies at USC Thornton School of Music.

Abe Lagrimas, Drums

Abe is a musician, composer, educator, and author who plays the drums, vibraphone, ukulele, and studied at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. In 2012, he competed in the highly prestigious Thelonious Monk International Jazz Drums Competition and has worked with many artists such as Eric Marienthal, Eric Reed and Kamasi Washington, among others, and continues to be an in-demand session musician in Los Angeles. As a solo ukulele artist, he is Na Hoku Hanohano Award recipient and has released multiple albums in the United States, Japan, and South Korea. Abe has been featured in ukulele festivals across the United States as well as internationally, including Hong Kong, Japan, Thailand, Philippines and Australia. As an educator, he authored the first ever ukulele curriculum for instrumental music programs in schools titled “Ukelele Ensemble, Beginning Ukelele—Level 1”. His latest book, “Jazz Ukelele: Composing, Soloing, Chord Melodies”, are available in stores worldwide and on Amazon.





### Guest dancers

#### Kayamanan ng Lahi

Established in 1990, Kayamanan ng Lahi Philippine Folk Arts is a critically acclaimed non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, California. Under the leadership of Joel Jacinto, Barbara Ele and Ave Jacinto, Kayamanan is committed to presenting, promoting and preserving the richness and diversity of Philippine culture through dance and music...to entertain, educate and enrich. Kayamanan's artistic approach is based on anthropological research, resulting in a strong and appropriate translation between traditional folk and folkloric Philippine dance and music forms and styles—from village to the stage. The organization has received numerous accolades including LA Times description of "...consistently exciting and a triumph of enlightened cultural preservation."



**SAVE THE DATE— May 12, 2019 @7:00 pm**  
**Endowment Fundraising (Cultural Program)**

Loma Linda Chan Auditorium  
 10656 Anderson St. Loma Linda, CA





# 46th AWESNA Post Convention

Crisamar J. Anunciado,

Co-Chair, AWESNA Health & Fitness Committee, Link Assistant Editor

The highly anticipated convention in Edmonton, Canada was a huge success. Alumni from all over the US, Canada, Philippines and other countries congregated at River Cree Resort on August 31 – September 2, 2018. The theme for the convention was “Building a Transformational Future.” The Alberta Chapter under Ben Barboza hosted the convention. The weekend began on Friday afternoon with the AWESNA Board of Officers and Delegates meeting at 2 pm. This meeting included more than 55 attendees, informed key AWESNA and chapter officers of the state of the chapter, AWESNA and AUP business. This important meeting is essential in the continued collaboration between all parties.

The Vesper’s Service, Grand Opening Ceremonies, Sabbath School, Divine Worship, Sabbath Afternoon Services, and Banquet were attended by 300-500 alumni, friends & family - setting the stage for the message of transformation and worship throughout the weekend. The special guest and speaker was Dr. Ken Denslow, assistant to the NAD-SDA president. Dr. Denslow delivered two messages, Vespers – “Salt & the Good News” and Sabbath divine worship – “Vision & Transformation.” The musical performances were outstanding – delivered by AWESNA Convention Choir, singers from Alberta Chapter, Cascadia Chapter, Loma Linda Chapter, Los Angeles Chapter, Alberta Chapter Youth Singers, Advent Vocal Ensemble, Gospel Echoes, Reflection, Family Circle, Ripples, Fraser Valley Strummers and many more.

AUP was highlighted by Eppie Manalo on AUP-Fulfilling her Mission, Ben Siapco on Alumni Global Mission, Dr. Miriam & Reuel Narbarte on AUP Spotlight, Oemer Daquila on AUP feature, and Dr. Alfonso Miguel on Endowment Fund Update. The main program at River Cree culminated in the annual alumni banquet where alumni recognitions were given by AWESNA president, Lita Laoyan. Other important milestones were also recognized with the participation and attendance of Honor Classes, with special recognition to the Silver and Golden Class Reunions. The AWESNA Leadership Award was awarded to Loida Miguel, President of Greater Los Angeles Chapter while Arlene Tordecilla-Ferrolino received the Most Distinguished Alumna Award.

The Sunday event was a change of pace for the organization

which usually schedules a BOO meeting. However, due to the uniquely amazing location, the meeting was replaced with group and individual all-day tours to Jasper & Banff National Parks. It is important to note that the soul is not only renewed with messages in words, actions, and songs but also in the re-newing of the spirit amid nature that God created. The trips to these parks, especially the beautiful Lake Louise, was water to our parched souls. Some of the tour stops were Athabasca Falls, Sunwapta Falls, Columbia Icefield, Moraine Lake, Peyto Lake, the town of Banff and other amazing sights. Spiritually and physically renewed from this once in a lifetime event, alumni returned home with a full hearts and souls, already looking forward to the 2019 AWESNA 50th Convention in Portland, Oregon. (More photos on page 18)



Ben Barboza, Adviser of Alberta Chapter (Host) welcomes the attendees.

Dr. Ken Denslow, Speaker



AWESNA Folk Dance Presentation





# San Diego Chapter Report

By: Crisamar J Anunciado, PhD, FNP-BC, BC-ADM

(written on behalf of the SD Chapter President – Mar Mutya, RN, BSN)

Reflecting on 2018 brings happy and solemn memories of San Diego Chapter events. It was through God's grace and the dedication of a mighty band of SD chapter officers and members to accomplish what we have done during the year. All our gratitude to God for His guidance and the SD Chapter for all their contributions. Here's some highlights of 2018:

January – AWESNA Retreat in San Diego, CA. We coordinated a chapter-wide effort to host the retreat participants with a healthy breakfast on Sabbath day. It was a huge turnout. We were pleased with the overwhelming response of joy.



April – AUP CON Student Scholarship. Eloisa Africa was the recipient of \$1000. This scholarship aided Ms. Africa to finish her requirements for her BSN and graduate with honors.

August – Valdez's Memorial Service. We co-hosted the memorial service for both Dr. Romulo & Carmen Valdez, founding president/officers of the chapter. The event was held at the San Diego Fil-AM SDA Church in Bonita, CA. Recalling their life of service to the association both locally and at AWESNA gave us inspiration to continue with our mission for AUP.

September – AWESNA Convention in Edmonton Canada. Several SD chapter members and officers participated in the event. We were all blest with the Sabbath program and more importantly, our souls were renewed having visited God's nature in Jasper & Banff National Parks on the Sunday ending the weekend festivities.

December – Chapter Meeting. Hosted by Jing and Eric dela Cruz at their home in Bonita. This meeting was our combined Christmas party and planning for projects/events in 2019.

Nursing/medical books project – another set of 5 boxes will be sent to the CON-AUP for 2019. These books, we hope, will help in advancing nursing science knowledge for both students and faculty alike.

Photo credit: Crisamar Anunciado



Mar Mutya, SD Chapter President with scholarship recipient, Eloisa Africa and Susy Jael, College of Nursing Dean.



Memorial Service for Dr. & Mrs. Valdez at San Diego Fil-AM SDA Church



San Diego Chapter Delegates in Lake Louis Alberta









# AWESNA Board of Officers

## 2016-2019



### AWESNA ELECTIVE OFFICERS

President: Carmelita Laoyan

Vice-President: Eppie Manalo

Secretary: Elenita Espiritu

Treasurer: Rene Donato

Auditor: Oscar Pablo

PRO: Marjorie Reyno-Huynh

Loma Linda: Perida Tongpo

Pacific Northwest: Ardina Wang

San Diego: Mar Mutya

Young Alumni: Liberty Olive Bautista Macias

**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

### 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 Sanchez

Retreat/Convention Program: Eppie Manalo

Scholarship & Aid Program: Emily Garcia & Jun Tanganan



# Spiritual Retreat Schedule at a Glance

**Theme: “As God Forgives”**

## Schedule of Events:

Friday, January 25, 2019

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm    Vespers

Saturday, January 26, 2019

8:30 am - 10:20 am    Sabbath School Service

10:30 am - 12:00 noon    Hour of Worship Service

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm    Afternoon Service

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm    Board of Officers Meeting

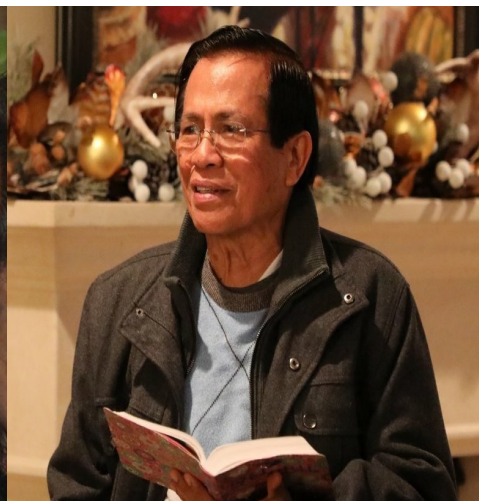
Sunday, Sept 2, 2018

6:00 am    Pool/Class Reunions

## Our Featured Speakers



Pastor Dem Robles



Pastor Jose Manalo



Dr. Octavius Quijada

# *Adventist University of the Philippines*

**Alumni of Western North America  
(A W E S N A)**

**Invites You to the**

## *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention*

*August 30 – Sept 1, 2019*

*Theme: "AWESNA @50: Ablaze for Unlimited Possibilities"*

Vespers Service Speaker



Angela Manalo Lalas  
Chief Finance Officer (CFO)  
Loma Linda University Health



Hour of Worship Speaker



John Wesley Taylor  
Associate Director of Education,  
General Conference of SDA

Hosted by

Pacific Northwest Chapter

Nightly Room Rates:  
Regular Single to Double \$159,  
Triple \$179, Quad \$199 plus tax  
Free Breakfast & evening light snacks  
**\$10 PARKING per night**  
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Contact Persons:

Carmelita Laoyan, Awesna President 909-801-4152

Marjorie Reyno- Huynh, PRO 909-965-6936

Rene Donato, Treasurer 909-783-3108

Phone: 1-800-774-1500

Website:

[embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/P/PDXESES-AUP-20190829](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/P/PDXESES-AUP-20190829), Mention Awesna

Reservation Deadline

**July 30, 2019**

