

# Pinoy Bulletin - FAACCV Quarterly Publication

## Filipino-American Association of Clark County & Vicinity



Editors: Rita Schaljo  
Zenny Way

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## Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon!

### Feast Day of San Lorenzo Ruiz

by Francis "Kiko" Guevara

On September 23, 2012, The Filipino Community of Oregon and SW Washington celebrated the Annual Feast Day of the First Saint of the Philippines, Saint "San" Lorenzo Ruiz De Manila.

A mass was held at Christ the King Catholic Church in Milwaukie Oregon followed by a lunch reception and a variety of performances. Lourdes Mashinski, our chairwoman for FAACCV, invited my wife Susan and me to be a part of the mass by being the candle-bearer during the mass offertory.

Lourdes' daughter Zoe and Evelyn Katigbak (FAACCV Boardmember) also volunteered by carrying banners during the procession. It was a great community and spiritual experience to attend this special mass and event. It was nice to see familiar faces from the Fil-am community who have gathered and attended the special mass for San Lorenzo Ruiz. Besides the delicious Filipino dishes and desserts that were donated and served by the Fil-Am community, we also enjoyed watching entertainment of cultural dancing and singing.



FAACCV Boardmember, Evelyn Katigbak and Zoe Mashinski carrying banners at San Lorenzo Ruiz procession.

### History of San Lorenzo Ruiz:

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KONSULADO PANLAHAT NG PILIPINAS



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINES

PORTLAND

November 21, 2012

Ms. Lourdes Meneses Mashinski  
Fil-Am Clark County  
Chairperson; Board of Directors

Dear Lourdes:

As honorary Philippine Consul General of Oregon and on behalf of the Philippine Consulate General in San Francisco, my wife Margie and I are looking forward to attending this year's Pasko Na Naman Dinner Dance joining with so many of our friends and colleagues. I am also honored to have invited to be the inducting officer for the upcoming induction of Chapter officers at this December event.

In recognition of your organization's past accomplishments, its continuing leadership and all those who step forward giving of their time and energy to the Philippine American community, allow me to congratulate you for your tireless efforts, good deeds and generous contributions your organizations offers throughout the year.

In my capacity as the Philippine's official consular representative in Oregon, it is my duty and my privilege to insure your organization's continued well being by supporting your mission of fostering community spirit and keeping Filipino heritage alive among your members. With that in mind, please accept Margie's and my very best wishes for a wonderful Pasko Na Naman celebration with special regards to all who serve.

Sincerely,  
Richard

Richard K. Woodling  
Consul General, a.h.  
Republic of the Philippines  
Portland, Oregon



## From the Upuan

By Lourdes Mashinski

Another busy year for the Filipino American Association of Clark County and Vicinity (FAACCV) is now almost over. Thanks to all of the Officers and Board of Directors for your time and hard work. Your effort shows great pride and eagerness in helping promote our heritage as a Filipino in SW Washington and Oregon. FAACCV is grateful to all who has supported our various outreach events and for being a part of our community.

We've had some great highlights this year and at the same time, a new learning experience for us:

- FAACCV along with the San Francisco Philippine Consulate sponsored a 3 day "Consulate on Wheels" at the beginning of the year.
- In April, FAACCV was presented with an award for Exemplary Community Volunteer at the Asian Reporter Foundation Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet.
- Also in April, FAACCV had to cancel a major event, but we were able to reschedule the University of the Philippines Concert Chorus (UPCC) to July. It made the event even more special and rewarding for both FAACCV and UPCC.
- In June, the annual FAACCV Philippines Independence Day Picnic was held at Vancouver Lake. We had our usual games and prizes, but it was more exciting to see everyone get together and enjoy each other's company!



*The Chairwoman*

- Thanks for all those who brought food, a potluck picnic that is loaded with food means SUCCESS!
- We needed a rest after all these crazy, busy times but we kept on! We had our first FAACCV Retreat at Ocean Park, WA! Time for us step back and review who we are as a group.
- Finally, our end of the year event! Pasko Na Naman, FAACCV's annual Christmas Dinner/Dance featuring the Warm Reception Band and DJ Jon!

FAACCV welcomes Bob Osilla, our 2013 incoming director. We are honored to have you on board! Congratulations also to the newly elected officers! We hope you are ready for a busy and exciting 2013!

A huge thanks to Marci Hope, we are glad that you were able to be a part of FAACCV before moving to Guam. We are lucky to have had the chance to work with someone who has a great heart and who's very hard working!

To our nurse in the house... Lettie Tadeo, whose retirement to the Philippines is just around the corner, we will truly miss you, your smile, your laugh and all the ticket sales that you do for us!! We will definitely make plans for an FAACCV Retreat in your new home in our motherland.

I have learned so much from all of you, past and future directors of FAACCV. I thank you for the four years you have allowed me to lead FAACCV to where it's at right now.

### 2013 FAACCV Outreach Events:

Philippines Independence Day Picnic (Jun. 15th)  
Annual Pasko Na Naman Dinner & Dance (Dec. 7th)

Keep in touch! You can find us at [www.filamclarkcounty.org](http://www.filamclarkcounty.org) or like us on Facebook!

## FAACCV Scholarship Awards

Sharpen those essay-writing skills and apply for FAACCV's Scholarship Award. A \$500 award will be presented to each of two eligible and aspiring students selected by the Scholarship Committee.

For more details and to apply for an FAACCV Scholarship Award, please contact:

FAACCV Scholarship Committee  
c/o Julius Agbayani, CPA  
4606 NE 126th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98682  
Email: [agbayani@gmail.com](mailto:agbayani@gmail.com)

Application Deadline: **May 31, 2013**



## Off to My Homeland

At first I did not want to do this... because saying goodbye is always hard for me, whether it is a "pleasant" goodbye or "hard" farewells, they're not my cup of tea as they portend sadness... this goodbye business. All the same I'd like to just say some parting words to you all who have become dear and familiar to me.

My husband Milo and I are finally moving to the Philippines to retire in my hometown, San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte for good. As most of you know, it has been a long and grueling experience with all the preparation and construction of our retirement home. The first property we chose was in Pangasinan, but it did not materialize as the land was not cleared for sale and we just couldn't wait for it. We were very disappointed at first, but in the long run, we accepted it as a blessing in disguise. There was a pending disaster because in a few months, the town we initially selected got flooded and was devastated with typhoons and more flooding thereafter. The place was buried in mud and I felt great pain for the residents, but thankful that we were spared a costly mistake.

We thought long and hard and we finally decided to look for a property nearby where I was born and grew into a teenager. We found a small hill that was for sale but it looked like a forest to me, but Milo was ecstatic about it. At first, I did not know what he was thinking, because at the time, I thought "no way could we build a bamboo hut, let alone a residence for our retirement" on this piece of land. Within the next few days, Milo got busy, rented a bulldozer, and started clearing the area. Well, after years of going back and forth to the Philippines, first clearing the hill, then sculpting the top of the slope into a flat buildable area, then constructing a retaining wall that consisted of some 5,000 river rocks, we now have a comfortable retirement home to call our very own.

We were very lucky because the government paved the dirt road that divided our properties (the original parcel had been divided and we had to buy all of 7 acres of the other half or none at all). The road is going to be named Imelda Marcos Highway (not Lettie Salvante-Tadeo Highway even if it is part of our property, mind you!).....but lo and behold, it now makes our place even more attractive and more accessible.

So my dear friends, we are saying goodbye for now, but we will be back again... that is our promise! Our children and grandchildren are here in the USA so we will be visiting regularly... so you won't be able to get rid of Milo and me so easily. We are also extending an open invitation to all of you to come our way when you want to visit the North side of the Philippines. Our new home is very close to Pagudpod, the future Boracay of the North... my thanks to the Marcos family and of course our governor Imee Marcos. You will be able to visit the oldest church of the Philippines, Paoay Church, Bangui where the wind mills are, the Malacanang Palace of the North, the Sand Dunes and Fort Ilocandia which is 15 minutes away from our home. The Laoag International Airport is only 15 minutes away from us. Oh yes, we also have two brand new hospitals, as well as SM Shoemart, Robinsons, and Pure Gold, so we are not in the boondocks like I thought it would be when I first saw our forest. You my friends are all welcome to visit and stay for as long as you wish as our pampered guests.

I thank all our friends and family from FAACCV, for having me as member of the board, as well as my friends from PNAOW and PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center for allowing me to grow as a professional, and to grow old with dignity. Having worked for many years with most of you in my nursing career, I will miss you all. I hope you'll come and visit us in our retirement home and allow me to be your host in San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte. Remember your promise FAACCV!

Now with all sincerity and love, I now bow and say Goodbye, Adios, and Thank You for all the wonderful Memories.....

As always, with Love,  
Ate Lettie



## Balikbayan box blacklist: 14 firms cited for boxes that failed to arrive

It feels like a blue Christmas when a balikbayan box full of imported goodies fails to arrive.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) wants to save families waiting at home from this fate by warning them about 14 freight companies that didn't deliver. Many of the boxes were held at Customs because of customs duties issues.

"Ang hindi tumutupad sa tungkulin 'yung mga freight for-

warders. Kasi ang tungkulin nila, dalhin 'yung mga Balik-bayan boxes dito sa Pilipinas. Pagdating sa Pilipinas i-clear nila sa Customs at pag-sinabing clear sa Customs dapat magbabayad sila ng mga kaukulang fees, charges, duties and tax," Customs Commissioner Ruffy Biazon said in an interview on GMA News TV.

From January to September, the DTI's Philippine Shippers Bureau received about 500 complaints of non-delivery of balikbayan boxes.

Cont'd. on p. 6

## Bull's-eye word game included among 15 Great Word Games

by Nilda Loriz



DNA Family Games proudly announces that their first-invented Bull's-eye word game is now available in New Seasons Market - their 69th specialty toy store carrying their game. It's also available in other online stores and on their website [www.dnafamilygames.com](http://www.dnafamilygames.com). More than 1,000 games of their first-edition copies of 1,500 were already sold since introducing it on the market in March 2011. The company successfully promotes their game by attending big game conventions in Chicago, New York, Seattle and other game shows in Vancouver and Oregon. They have 19 different game shows lined up until December. Recently, they successfully attended the Uniquely Portland show and other Christmas Bazaars around town.

The inventors are so excited with all the great feedback they are getting about their game. Both kids and adults loved it. Teachers endorse their game in their classrooms and a writers' group included it among the 15 Great Word Games along with famous and classic games like Scrabble, Apples to Apples, and Boggle. Several news articles have also been written about the game in

the Oregonian, Columbian newspapers, the Philippine Times Canada and other game reviewers in the internet. The inventors were also interviewed in a radio station, and most recently, they were featured in a TV interview by the KGW Channel 8 News, Portland ([http://www.kgw.com/home/board-game-1732094\\_1.html](http://www.kgw.com/home/board-game-1732094_1.html)). They have also applied to the ABC Channel 2 show called Shark Tank for possible casting by next Spring.

DNA Family Games hopes that their Bull's-eye game will be a hit in the stores not only in the U.S., but also around the world. They hope to be able to translate the game in different languages as several people have already shown interest in distributing their game in other countries. The company also has plans to put the game in an app someday and to publish their second new game in the near future.



Top Left: DNA Family Games Inventors, Doug, Nilda, & Anna Loriz. Above: Nilda Loriz playing Bulls-eye game with Jaime Lim and Dory Osilla-Lim at the Uniquely Portland event

### History of San Lorenzo Ruiz: (Source: Wikipedia) Cont'd. from p. 1

San Lorenzo Ruiz is the first Filipino saint venerated in the Roman Catholic Church; He was killed for refusing to leave Japan and renounce his Roman Catholic beliefs during the persecution of Japanese Christians under the Tokugawa Shogunate in the 17th century. Saint Lorenzo is patron saint of, among others, the Philippines and Filipinos.

#### Early life

Lorenzo Ruiz was born in Binondo, Manila, to a Chinese father and a Filipino mother who were both Catholic. His father taught him Chinese while his mother taught him Tagalog. Ruiz served as an altar boy at the convent of Binondo church. After being educated by the Dominican friars for a few years, Ruiz earned the title of *escribano* (calligrapher) because of his skillful penmanship. He became a member of the *Cofradia del Santissimo Rosario* (Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary). He married Rosario, a native, and they had two sons and a daughter. The Ruiz family led a generally peaceful, religious and content life.



Binondo Church, the main shrine of St. Lorenzo Ruiz

In 1636, while working as a clerk for Binondo Church, Ruiz was falsely accused of killing a Spaniard. Ruiz sought asylum on board a ship with three Dominican priests: Saint Antonio Gonzalez; Saint Guillermo Courtet; Saint Miguel de Aozaraza, a Japanese priest; Saint Vicente Shiwozuka de la Cruz; and a lay leper, Saint Lazaro of Kyoto. Ruiz and his companions left for Okinawa on June 10, 1636, with the aid of the Dominican fathers and Fr Giovanni Yago.

#### Cause of beatification and canonization

The *Positio Super Introductione Causae* or the cause of beatification of St. Lorenzo Ruiz was authored by respected historian, Fr. Fidel Villaruel, O.P., which

Cont'd. on p. 11

## Filipina and Go Get it Gal Founder Honored by University of Washington Women's Center

Go Get it Gal Founder, Taryn Kama, daughter of Bernie and Paul Gerhardt, is one of a handful of women who was honored at The University of Washington (UW) Women's Center's annual "Women of Courage: Braving New Horizons" Gala event held Nov. 3 in Seattle.

The 2012 Gala was held at Fairmont Olympic Hotel and honors women in Washington State who have made lasting contributions to the communities they serve by creating innovative ways to approach and solve social and political issues. The UW Women's Center recognizes women who set precedents for civic engagement by braving new horizons and inspiring others to follow.

Go Get it Gal, is an Olympia-based business, that provides women with resources, a supportive community, and outdoor opportunities in which they can challenge themselves and connect with other liked-minded people. The idea is that through these adventures and preparation, these experiences transform their lives. Go Get it Gal currently offers European cycling tours, learn to surf clinics, training rides and training plans.



Go Get It Gal, Taryn Kama (middle) with parents, Bernie and Paul Gerhardt

Olympia resident, Taryn Kama, launched the company in Jan. 2012. Go Get it Gal held the first cycling tour in the Alps in Aug. 2012 and held numerous training rides.

"I am deeply honored to be recognized in this way and I am proud to represent Go Get it Gal and all women who dare to push themselves to the limits in the outdoors," Kama said.

For more information, go to:

Go Get it Gal: <http://www.gogetitgal.com>

UW Women Center: <http://depts.washington.edu/womenctr/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GoGetItGals>

### Balikbayan Box... cont'd from p. 5

The 14 freight forwarders on the DTI blacklist:

United Arab Emirates

- Al Rodah Marine Cargo
- Cityline Cargo
- Dagupan Cargo Packaging Services
- Smooth Express
- Express Link Cargo Services

United States of America

- Associated Consolidation Express
- Alas Cargo
- AAA Cargo Express Inc.
- Shipping Express in Chicago
- ABS-CBN Star Cargo

Saudi Arabia

- RJM Freight Cargo Forwarders
- WRJ Freight Forwarders

Ireland

- SCRL Cargo
- Maharlika Enterprise Cargo Services

### "It is so unfair"

Alas Cargo Philippines' general manager Glorina Marzo told GMA News Online that DTI has not formally informed them that they were on the blacklist.

It is so unfair. Nalaman ko lang na kasama kami sa black list nung tumawag 'yung sister ko from the States na may report nga raw sa TV na blacklisted kami," said Marzo.

"Prior to the allegations, wala kaming na-re-receive na formal letter or call naman lang," Marzo noted.

Some of their customers, reacting to the report, even wanted to attest that all balikbayan boxes have been delivered to their recipients in the Philippines, the Alas Cargo official said.

"Baka black propaganda lang itong ibang cargoes in time for peak season," she added. "We are just trying to improve our growing business."

Director Vic Dimagiba of the DTI Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection said: "We always decide cases in favor of the consumer. So we file formal charges. We impose fines. And we can revoke accreditation."

Some freight forwarders supposedly failed to pay the right duties to the Bureau of Customs so their shipments were held.

To report similar cases, call the DTI Hotline at 751-3330 or the Philippine Shippers Bureau at 751-3304. — **Rouchelle R. Dinglasan/ VS/HS, GMA News**

## Reflections of an FAACCV Director by Cori Susi Harms

In early 2011, I was invited to my first FAACCV meeting by the Board's Chair, Lourdes Mashinski. I had not planned on joining the Board in the near future due to my busy schedule, but I was intrigued by this friendly and welcoming group. FAACCV continued their Open House invitation and before I knew it, I was attending their meetings on a regular basis and was enjoying the gatherings immensely. I was impressed with how well the board members got along, their respect for each other, and the fun they all have together. At one of the Fil-Am events, Lourdes asked my husband and me, if I was willing to serve FAACCV as one of its board members. I hesitated at first, my husband did not. Pakipot pa!

Looking back, I do not have any regrets. FAACCV is very dedicated to its missions and the board is composed of educated and respectful members. The meetings are disciplined and everyone is heard. Through it all, we find time to eat, have fun, and form lasting friendships.

It was an honor to host the first summer retreat in July at the family cabin in Surfside, Long Beach Peninsula. What teamwork! What a family! I couldn't be any prouder. Each of the FAACCV family and kids participated and more! What a blast we all had! Campfire, marshmallows, beach combing, banka ride, and of course the directors' retreat session. At the end of the retreat weekend, we came out stronger and mission-oriented!

Two months ago, this same FAACCV family attended my 20th wedding anniversary party. What an honor to have them party with my big Susi and Harms family and friends. We stayed till the last note of music was played.

As I start my second year, I am privileged to be elected as your new Vice-Chair. I am looking forward to another year of hard work, community service, and reaching out to the other associations. Together we can do this! Thank you for taking me in as one of yours.



Cori, husband Bob, daughter Jewel and son Kenneth

### ***SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PRIZE DONORS***

*Pasko Na Naman 2012*

***AJ REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING,  
LLC***

***ARIE KIMIKO AULI' FREEDLAND***

***BOB & CORI HARMS***

***BRADLY & SALLY RAMOS VENTURA***

***BRADLY VENTURA, JR. & FAMILY***

***BRADLY VENTURA, SR. & FAMILY***

***BRANDON VENTURA & FAMILY***

***CHUCK & CINDY REIDY***

***DEMARCUS & LEANDRA DELOS SANTOS***

***DR. MONCHITO & ANNIE ENTENA***

***ELIZABETH VENTURA KUALII & FAMILY***

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***MAIN EVENT SPORTS GRILL & BAR***

***MARK & ASHTON VENTURA MILET***

***MELVIN & LEONORA TSUBOTA***

***MIKE LLORENTE***

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***REY & ELIZA PIRA***

***SANTA BARBRA BAKERY***

***TRACY KATIGBAK***

***UPCC KORUS***

***VICTORIA RAMOS ANGLIN***

## Pasko: Christmas in the Philippines

The Tagalog word **Pasko** derives from the Spanish word *Pascua*. Although the word *Pascua* means Easter, *Pascua de Navidad* refers to Christmas.

The Philippines is known for having the world's longest Christmas season. The four months that end with the syllable *-ber* are considered Christmas months, which is why stores and households start playing carols on the first day of September! And the holiday season extends beyond December 31st. It doesn't end until the Feast of the Epiphany or Three Kings (**Tatlong Hari**) which falls around January 6th.

If Mexico has *piñatas*, the Philippines has its parol. Of course, a parol is not something to hit with a stick. It is a Christmas lantern, most commonly in the shape of a five-pointed star. The bamboo or rattan frame is covered with rice paper, tissue or cellophane. Almost every family either builds or buys one to hang by the window or door. Shopping malls construct giant versions of parol. Traditionally, a candle was placed inside for light to shine through; for safety reasons, people now use bulbs or even a flashlight.

Families, schools and other places also display a creche or nativity scene called *belen*. Christmas trees made of plastic are decorated with lights, tinsel and balls.

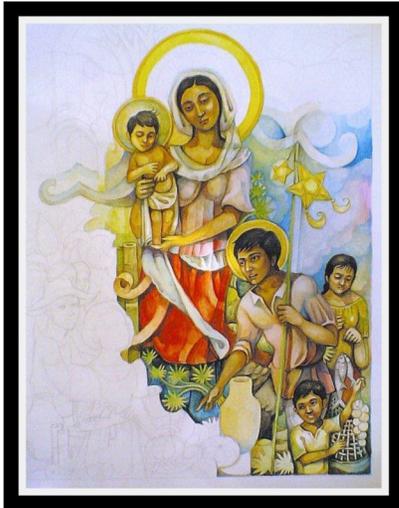
The Tagalog word for gift is **regalo**, but Filipinos have a special word for "Christmas gift" — **pamasko**. The Filipino version of Secret Santa is called *Monito Monita* or *Kris Kringle*. Students in their classes and office workers all hold gift exchanges during the Christmas season. Children receive fresh bills of money called **aginaldo**, usually when they visit their godparents and elderly relatives on Christmas morning.

Mostly Catholics, Filipinos begin a novena (a series of nine masses) on December 16th. The masses are part of the cherished religious tradition of **Simbang Gabi**, which literally means "Night Worship." Filipinos go to church at four o'clock in the morning and afterward have breakfast together. A traditional drink during this season is a warm ginger tea called **salabat** and a traditional treat is a flat but thick yellow rice cake called **bibingka**.

On Christmas Eve (*Bisperas ng Pasko*), a few Filipino towns commemorate Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay with a reenactment called **panunuluyan**, a tradition very similar to the Mexican *posadas*.

What every Filipino looks forward to is **Noche Buena**, the grand family dinner after the midnight mass. Christmas morning is the time for visiting relatives. Filipinos wear new if not their best clothes. Children do **mano**, which is kissing or bringing to their forehead the hand of an elderly person. This is when they receive their *pamasko*, certainly *aguinaldo* from godfathers and godmothers. Christmas lunch and Christmas dinner are usually with family.

*The Filipino Community cordially invites you to the Christmas Novena Masses "Simbang Gabi" 2012*



**St. Therese Catholic Church**  
1260 NE 132<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97230  
December 15<sup>th</sup> – December 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Masses @ 7:30 PM

**Parol-Making Class**  
Saturday, Dec. 22, 1:00-4:30 pm  
Parish Social Center

## Simbang Gabi Schedule

Date	Participating Parishes
Sat., Dec. 15 @ 11:00 am	St. James Cathedral, 804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104
Sun., Dec. 16 @ 5:00 pm	St. Rose de Viterbo, 701 26 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Longview, WA 98632
Mon., Dec. 17 @ 6:00 pm	Our Lady of Lourdes, 4723 NW Franklin St. Vancouver, WA 98663
Tue., Dec. 18 @ 6:00 pm	St Joseph Catholic Church, 400 S Anderson Rd, Vancouver, WA 98661
Wed., Dec. 19 @ 6:00 pm	St. James, 218 W. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver, WA 98660
Thu., Dec. 20 @ 6:00 pm	Sacred Heart, 1603 N. Parkway Ave., Battle Ground, WA 98604
Fri., Dec. 21 @ 6:00 pm	St. John the Evangelist, 8701 NE 119 <sup>th</sup> St. Vancouver, WA 98662
Sat., Dec. 22 @ 5:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas, 324 NE Oak St., Camas, WA 98607
Sun., Dec. 23 @ 11:30 am	Holy Redeemer, 17010 NE 9 <sup>th</sup> St., Vancouver, WA 98684

## FAACCV Board of Directors and Officers 2013

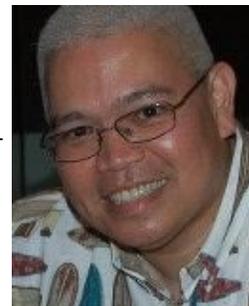
### VIVIAN TADEO, Chairperson

Ate Vi to most, fondly lives by four "F" words. FLORA. FUN. FOOD. FABRIC. Happily, another F has been added... FAACCV. A career "Fil-Am (er)", Vivian has lived and breathed Fil-Am for the last 40 plus years, where she has found some of the most incredible and closest friends. Always a "Pinay" at heart, she prides herself with planting a "Pinakbet" garden every summer. A full time Mom and Homemaker, she is blessed with a caring husband Eric, lovely and caring daughters Noelle and Charis, respectful and also caring son-in-law Ricky. Most of all, she is blessed with who she calls "the boy I love the most", the one who calls her Lola, the apple of her eye, 5-year old Mason Carlo Emmanuel. They are glued together by their love for God.



### FRANCIS "KIKO" GUEVARA, Asst. Secretary

In 1998, Francis moved to Vancouver from Guam with his wife Susan. They enjoy fishing, dancing, singing and spending time with family and friends. Francis has been in the banking industry for 28 years. He is also active in his church community. Francis enjoys being a part of FAACCV and always looks forward to helping the community with this great group.



### CORI HARMS, Vice-Chair

A native of Pampanga, Cori is from a big Susi family. She migrated to Portland in July 1990, and moved to Vancouver when she married Robert Harms in 1992. She is a graduate of Philippine School of Business Administration, major in Accounting. To further her education, she pursued other courses in City University of Vancouver and Portland State University and also attended a lot of business conferences related to

her field.

Cori works for Meggitt OECO in Milwaukie as Asst. Controller. She is also a board member of OnPoint Community Credit Union; past treasurer and board director of Aguman Capampangan, a Filipino-American association in Portland which was co-founded by her late father-Ben Susi. Cori is a busy mom of twin 17-year old teenagers: Kenneth and Jewel who both are juniors at Heritage High School. Favorite times for Cori includes: weekends at the coast, shopping, gardening, and doing charity work.

### LIELANIE VILLANUEVA, Secretary

Lielanie is married to Julius Agbayani and together they have two girls, 7-year-old Alexa and 6-year-old Adrienne. She is very active in her daughters' school and is the treasurer for the PTO. Lielanie is a new graduate from Washington State University – Vancouver, with a Bachelor's degree in accounting. She has also been an FAACCV board member for the third year. In her spare time she enjoys scrap-booking, stamping, gardening, and crafts.



### JULIUS AGBAYANI, Treasurer

Julius Agbayani is a Certified Public Accountant with Houck and Associates, PC, a CPA firm in Vancouver. He is licensed to practice in WA and OR. He received his B.A. in Business Administration, with emphasis in accounting, graduating Cum Laude from WSU Vancouver in 2006. He is a certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor. He specializes in small business accounting and taxation.



His clientele includes professionals, retailers, and service-providers.

Julius is active in the community. He serves as treasurer of the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon and Kiwanis International – Cascade Park. He is also on the board of the SW Washington chapter of the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants. He enjoys basketball and taking part in running events.

### GRETEL NESS, Asst. Treasurer

Gretel, a partner and immigration attorney with the Portland firm of Parker Butte & Lane, focuses her practice on employment immigration, family immigration, and citizenship issues. In line with her specialty, Gretel has the unique advantage of knowing firsthand what it is like to be an immigrant in a new country, having immigrated from the Philippines in 1985.



In her leisure time, Gretel enjoys spending time with her family and visiting the many areas of the world from which her clients originate.

### Happy Birthday!

Lourdes Mashinski Dec. 14

Mikey Way Dec. 22

Gary Freedland Jan. 01



## FAACCV Board of Directors and Officers 2013



### **BERNICE BEVARD, Auditor**

Bernice moved to the Portland-Vancouver area in 2007, when she and her husband, Nick, tied the knot. She has been a member and director of the FAACCV since 2008. Currently, Bernice is a Sr. IT Business Operations Analyst at Nike.

During her free time, she enjoys traveling, visiting family & friends, and trying new adventures. The most exciting

adventure recently came in the form of parenthood with the recent arrival of her and Nick's adorable baby girl, named Audrey.

### **RITA SCHALJO Newsletter Editor**

Rita Gaerlan Schaljo hails from the land of Lam-Ang. She enjoys working with special needs children in the Vancouver School District. She sings for the Lord on weekends and with the Warm Reception Band once a week :) She is a proud mother of Maria who is a Freshman in high school at the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics. Rita loves to read when she is not driving her daughter around to her Violin class, Art class, soccer games and Boys and Girls Club activities, as well as helping with Homework. She is glad for the support of her husband Steve, who understands that she has to attend Fil-Am meetings and activities at least once a month to keep her sane : ).



### **ZENNY WAY, Newsletter Co-Editor**

Zenny was born in Manila where she spent her early years up to age 14. She then, together with her family, moved to southern California where she continued her education and finished college. Zenny and her family resettled in 1998 to SW Washington where she's managing a thriving real estate career.

Zenny has also been involved in several local community outreach programs and for the past three years, has served on the FAACCV Board of Directors. Coming up is her fourth year with the association and she is looking forward to another exciting year serving as Newsletter Co-Editor. Zenny is blessed with one guapo husband (Guy), two equally handsome sons (Alex & Patrick), one married daughter (Nicole), two teen grandsons (Alex & Mikey), and two unruly granddogs (Boris & Rocket). She also enjoys family time, yoga, golf, and playing mahjong with her cohorts.



### **CHUCK REIDY, Webmaster**

Chuck is a mestizo, born and raised at Clark Air Base in the Philippines and who is married to Cindy Fernandez Reidy. They have 3 children: Clarissa, Carlo and Cameron (fraternal twins). Chuck graduated from Saint Martin's University, Lacey, WA with a BA in Management Information Systems. Retired from the US Air Force (20 yrs) he is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and now works for Microsoft

as a Technical Account Manager for the Veterans Administration.

### **LOURDES MASHINSKI, Public Relations Officer**

Lourdes is glad to be handing over the role of Chairwoman to Vivian Tadeo. Lourdes had the responsibility of being FAACCV's Chairwoman for the last 4 years and she is looking forward to spending more time with her family. She has two daughters Angela and Zoe with husband, future RN, Andy. Lourdes celebrated her 23<sup>rd</sup> year working at Nordstrom. She currently works at the Distribution Center in Portland, OR. Since moving to the Pacific NW, she has also been active in the community by volunteering at St. Joseph Catholic Church, her children's school and is the Calendar Administrator for CFAA covering both OR and SW WA. In 2009, Lourdes was crowned Mrs. Philippines of Portland.



### **AMY FREEDLAND, Resource Developer**

Amy has years of experience in the travel; import & export; wholesale & retail business in the Big Island of Hawaii. In 2003, Amy and her husband moved to Oregon where she prepared for her kidney transplant. On October 25, 2004, she received "THE GIFT OF LIFE" from Mary France Gallen, her remarkable then 21-year old niece (now age 28), who came especially

from the Philippines for the sole purpose of donating one of her kidneys to her aunt. Amy is now healthy and semi-retired as she manages Freedland's Travel on a part-time basis. Her goal in life is to give back to the community here in Washington, Oregon, & Hawaii, and to thank God everyday for the many blessings in her life! CFAA recognized her outstanding contribution to the Fil-Am community by presenting her with a Recognition Award at the 2012 convention.

She and her husband Gary are blessed with two married sons, Leonard & Aaron and 3 grandchildren, DeMarcus, LeAndra & Arie Kimiko Auli'i.



## FAACCV Board of Directors and Officers 2013

### **BERNIE GERHARDT, CFAA Representative**



Bernie Gerhardt has been active on the FAACCV Board for three years. Since Bernie "retired" from the State of Washington, she has been committed to public service in the community. Bernie and her family have hosted three Filipino Muslim exchange students from Mindanao, for three separate school years to introduce the students to the American Culture and for the community to be exposed to the Filipino Muslim Culture. When Bernie is not doing public service, she enjoys spending time with her son, Paul; her two daughters, Taryn and Amy; and her three grandchildren.

### **BOB OSILLA, Director**

Bob Osilla is a graduate of University of the East with a Bachelor's degree in Law. He has worked for Comcast for 27 years and has since retired from the company. He's now the Operations Manager for Santa Barbra Investments and will soon open his own Filipino Bakery in Portland, to be called Santa Barbra Bakery. He's also the Founding Director of Filipino Business Professional Network, and an active member of both Fil-Am Portland and PACCO.



He has also been a constant supporter of FAACCV events and activities for the past several years, and is now looking forward to being its newest Director for 2013. Bob has been married to Charisse for the past 27 years and together they have one daughter, Jade. In his spare time, Bob enjoys camping, hiking, and traveling to exotic places.

### **EVELYN KATIGBAK, Director**



A pure Batangueña, Evelyn Katigbak has been active with the Fil-Am Association of Clark County since 1990. She has served the association in different capacities, as its Chairman and as the PRO. She has brought various Filipino artists to perform in the Northwest such as Gary Valenciano, Vina Morales, Diva To Diva's Kuh Ledesma & Zsazsa Padilla, The Hitmakers and more. Most of these concerts have contributed to the fund-raising efforts of the association.

Evelyn Katigbak was a former TV news anchor with PTV Channel 4 in Manila during the Cory Aquino's government. She holds a degree in Mass Communication. Evelyn has two children, Trixie & Nico and she also owns and operates an adult care home in Portland.

### **NILDA LORIZ, Director**



Nilda was born in Manila and graduated in FEU with a degree in Mass Communication. She has lived in Dubai UAE where she worked as an Executive Secretary and Asst. Marketing Manager for 14 years. She moved to the U.S. in 2002 and got married. She and husband Doug (a retired Air Traffic Controller) are blessed with a daughter, Anna (8), now in Grade 3.

They established DNA Family Games, LLC last year to invent and produce family-friendly board games. These days, they're busy promoting their word game "Bull's-eye", a game idea that woke Nilda up in 2008. In just 19 months in the market, their game is now available in 69 specialty toy stores and sold more than 1,000 games already. You can check out their website at [www.dnafamilygames.com](http://www.dnafamilygames.com). A stay-at-home Mom and a school volunteer, Nilda is also an avid photographer, who likes traveling, gardening and now enjoys doing trade and game shows. She is looking forward to her fourth year with FAACCV.

### **THELMA MAGNO, Director**

Thelma Magno graduated from Phil. College of Commerce major in Accounting/Bus.Mgmt. – later graduated from University of Portland with a Masters in Bus. Adm. - President and CEO of Magno-Humphries Labs., in Tigard Oregon since 1982. We manufacture and distribute dietary supplements, OTC Drugs and nutritional supplements to Major Drug Wholesalers, Independent Drug Stores, and various marketers in the US and foreign countries.



### **History of San Lorenzo Ruiz: *Cont'd. from p. 5***

led to his beatification during Pope John Paul's papal visit to the Philippines. It was the first beatification ceremony to be held outside the Vatican in history. San Lorenzo Ruiz was canonized by the same pope in Vatican City on October 18, 1987, making him the first Filipino saint.

#### **Miracle**

The miracle that led to his canonization took place in 1983, when Cecilia Alegria Policarpio, a 2-year-old girl suffering brain atrophy (hydrocephalus) was cured through the intercession of the family and supporters to Lorenzo Ruiz. She was diagnosed shortly after her birth and was treated at Magsaysay Medical Center.

**Filipino-American  
Association of Clark  
County and Vicinity**

www.filamclarkcounty.org  
PO Box 65053  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
Phone: 360-574-6275  
Fax: 360-694-7061  
Email: evcntadeo@msn.com



# FAACCV

To engage in humanitarian, civic, educational, cultural and charitable activities that would preserve, promote, and share with the community the customs, values, and heritage of the Filipino culture.

**Check us out on the Web:  
[www.filamclarkcounty.org](http://www.filamclarkcounty.org)**

## Filipino-American Events

**December 8, 2012 - OCFAA Annual Christmas Party**

DATE/TIME: December 8, 2012 (Saturday) / Time: 5:30 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY: Oregon Coast Filipino American Association  
LOCATION: North Bend Community Center  
2222 Broadway Street, North Bend OR 97459  
COST: \$5  
CONTACT: Helen Couglin [ging\\_ging@yahoo.com](mailto:ging_ging@yahoo.com)  
Potluck; please bring your favorite dish.

**December 8, 2012 - CSO Annual Christmas Party**

DATE/TIME: December 8, 2012 - Saturday  
SPONSORED BY: Cebuano Speaking Organization  
LOCATION: SHERATON HOTEL, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97220  
COST: \$45  
CONTACT: Mila Dones [503-508-1079](tel:503-508-1079), Maricel Beaman [503-282-8974](tel:503-282-8974) Esther Kaiban [360-635-3480](tel:360-635-3480)  
Live Music provided by Manila Band

**December 8, 2012 - OCFAA Annual Christmas Party**

DATE/TIME: December 8, 2012 (Saturday) / Time: 5:30 p.m.  
SPONSORED BY: Oregon Coast Filipino American Association  
LOCATION: North Bend Community Center  
2222 Broadway Street, North Bend OR 97459  
COST: \$5  
CONTACT: Helen Couglin [ging\\_ging@yahoo.com](mailto:ging_ging@yahoo.com)  
Potluck; please bring your favorite dish.  
<http://ocfaa.net/>

**December 15, 2012 – Fil-Am Portland Adult Christmas Potluck Party**

DATE/TIME: December 15, 2012 (Saturday) / Time: 6 pm to midnight  
SPONSORED BY: Filipino American Association of Portland and Vicinity  
LOCATION: Fil-Am Portland Ctr, 8917 SE Stark St. Portland

COST: Free Admission for Members and their guests  
CONTACT: Ben Avecilla [\(503\) 706-2061](tel:503-706-2061)  
Live Band – J & M Band  
Please bring canned foods for the Food Bank

**December 15, 2012 – DCFAA Christmas Party**

DATE: Saturday, December 15 TIME: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
SPONSORED BY: Douglas County Filipino American Association  
LOCATION: Douglas Courthouse Annex (OSU Ext.)  
1036 SE Douglas St., Roseburg, Or 97470  
COST: Please contact Cynthia  
CONTACT: Cynthia Mounts 541-817-7049  
Pls. bring canned goods and share your blessings for our hungry children in Douglas County

**December 16, 2012 – Fil-Am Portland Children’s Christmas Party**

DATE/TIME: December 16, 2012 (Sunday / Time: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
SPONSORED BY: Filipino American Association of Portland and Vicinity  
LOCATION: Fil-Am Portland Center, 8917 SE Stark St. Portland, OR  
COST: Free Admission for Members and their guests  
CONTACT: Lynn Avecilla [lynnasdh06@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnasdh06@yahoo.com); Marissa Pascual (503) 784-0770

**December 31, 2012 – Fil-Am Portland New Year’s Eve Costume Party**

DATE/TIME: Monday, December 31, 2012 Time: 8:00 pm – 1:00 am  
SPONSORED BY: Filipino American Association of Portland and Vicinity  
LOCATION: Fil-Am Portland Center, 8917 SE Stark St. Portland, OR  
COST: \$10 per person  
CONTACT:  
Live Band – J & M Band