

# TAMBULI

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The Tambuli is a monthly publication of the Filipino Association of Greater Kansas City.

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1 Community News**
- 2 Upcoming Events**
- 3 Event Photos**
- 4 Feature Stories**
- 5 Community Celebrants**
- 6 Meeting Highlights**

*The Filipino Association of Greater Kansas City is a not-for-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organization established to preserve, promote, and enhance Filipino culture through education and cultural arts, and to provide service to the community at-large through its projects and programs.*



## IT'S BACK!

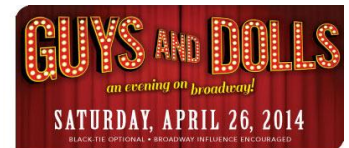
You've missed it, you want it!  
See Pinoy Breakfast on page 2!

## ANNOUNCING A NEW PARTNERSHIP

New for 2014! The Filipino Association is partnering with the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City (AACCKC), and as a benefit to our members, you are entitled to the member activities and benefits of the AACCKC. Network with the Asian business community, attend development seminars, post job postings/openings/resumes/bids, receive discounts at participating locations, and more!

To register for AACCKC events at member rates, simply mention in the notes section that you are a member of the Filipino Association of Greater Kansas City. AACCKC members are also entitled to area discounts, including Thai Place, Swagat, and more. E-mail us at [info@filipino-association.org](mailto:info@filipino-association.org) to request an AACCKC membership card.

## GIVE YOUR REGARDS TO BROADWAY!



You are invited to the 23rd Anniversary Celebration of the Philippine Nurses Association of Greater Kansas City (PNAGKC) at The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center on Saturday, April 26 from 6 PM to midnight. With the theme 'Guys and Dolls – An Evening on Broadway', glitter and glam, bling and bang are expected to fill the evening!

All proceeds benefit the numerous charitable activities of the PNAGKC including free health care screening services, scholarships for deserving Filipino nursing students and medical missions to the Philippines.

Black tie optional; Broadway influence encouraged! \$85 per person before April 12; \$90 after or at the door.

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[alauriesc@gmail.com](mailto:alauriesc@gmail.com) / 913-485-7431

For sponsorship and advertisement opportunities:  
Contact Jessamine Endaya  
[jessamine.endaya@gmail.com](mailto:jessamine.endaya@gmail.com) / 816-217-9112

## TAMBULI STAFF

### Editor-in-Chief

Ping Bayani

### Contributors

Edward Tumanut

Want to submit content or even be part of the staff? Contact the Editor-in-Chief at 913-558-4332 or [pbayani@filipino-association.org](mailto:pbayani@filipino-association.org)

## FROM THE EDITOR

by Ping Bayani

Okay, so I have moved back to Los Angeles and except for a couple of instances, it has been a relatively warm and dry winter. By all indications, the Midwest has had quite a different spell – some really heavy snowfalls and many frigid days. I've seen the FB postings from my KC friends and despite some pretty pictures, my old bones say 'thanks but no thanks!'

Still, I know I will again miss all the beehive of activities of KC spring that I have come to love. There is something to be said about the rejuvenation that one feels after a prolonged hibernation.

Even though I'm on the outside looking in, I'm glad to hear about the fresh faces and fresh ideas that the younger leadership is bringing in. It is only through change that progress can be made, be they baby steps or giant leaps. And the beauty of experimentation and change is that they, too, can be changed in pursuit of the ideal.

So my wish for FA-GKC is to come out swinging, positively charged for a 2014 full of accomplishments, as it has always done.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

View a complete listing at [www.filipino-association.org/calendar](http://www.filipino-association.org/calendar)

### Pinoy Breakfast

Saturday, April 12, 2014

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM, Filipino Cultural Center

Rise and shine! Whether you're a longtime member, someone who hasn't been around in a while, or are new and interested in meeting the local Filipino community – please join us for a delicious breakfast get-together. We'll host a menu of your favorite Filipino breakfast foods every quarter. Open to all, but members get a discount! Hope to see you there!

Contact: *Remy Bump*

[rbump@filipino-association.org](mailto:rbump@filipino-association.org) / 913-962-5972

### Clink & Clique: Networking Happy Hour

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM, TBD

This new event series for 2014 aims to bring (back) a new generation to the Filipino Association! Young (and young-at-heart) professionals are invited to a monthly networking happy hour to hang out with old friends, meet new ones, and discover new connections and opportunities within the community. RSVP not required, but helpful in reserving space. Venue: TBD

Contact: *Sarah DeHart*

[sdehart@filipino-association.org](mailto:sdehart@filipino-association.org) / 816-898-8312

### Easter Picnic

Sunday, April 20, 2014

11:30 AM – 3:30 PM, Filipino Cultural Center

Come join us for our annual Easter Potluck Picnic! The following is a *suggested* dish based on the first letter of the family name:

A - F: appetizers, soups, or salads

G - L: main course (beef, pork, chicken, seafood)

M - S: side dish (may include rice, grains, or pastas)

T - Z: desserts or fruits

Everyone should also bring soda/drinks to share.

Games and fun prizes will be organized for all ages, including the traditional Easter egg hunt for kids! Bring an Easter basket along with your family and friends!

Contact: *Edward Tumanut*

[etumanut@filipino-association.org](mailto:etumanut@filipino-association.org) / 816-699-6523

**Can you believe it's already April? As the first quarter of the year has sped by, don't forget to renew your membership (or join us for the first time!) for 2014. Fill out a membership form and submit your dues online.**

<http://www.filipino-association.org/membership/>

## EVENT PHOTOS

View more photos of our events and activities at [www.filipino-association.org/photos](http://www.filipino-association.org/photos)



Panelists and audience participate intently at the Filipino-American Experience - A Panel Discussion on Race, Immigration and The American Dream. Hosted last March 28 by the Filipino Association of Greater Kansas City as part of the *Your Fellow Americans* project. Photos by Marvita Oliver.



Incoming officers of the Philippine Medical Society get sworn in at their *Raising Hope Gala* held last March 15. Photos by Armando Costes.



Some members of our Philippine delegation pose with other attendees at the Ethnic Enrichment Diplomatic Ball last March 1, celebrating KC's diversity.

## CITY OF BOGO, CEBU: A Microcosm of Rebuilding After Yolanda

by Lillian G. Pardo, M.D.

It was a disaster truly unprecedented in the annals of weather history. 'Yolanda' (international name 'Haiyan'), the mightiest typhoon ever recorded on earth, hit the Visayan Islands on November 8, 2013. As news from Leyte and Samar trickled in through the media worldwide, the damage to the islands and the death toll gushed to higher and higher numbers.

The global response to help the Philippines was overwhelming. Donations and aid from several countries literally came to the rescue the soonest they could, despite the politics.

Deeply touched by the images shown on television and by stories of relatives of fellow Kansas Citians, our Filipino Association (FA) immediately started collecting clothing and other goods. Cash donations from total strangers poured in. Relief boxes were sent to Samar and Leyte and funds were allocated to two charities – the Divine Word Hospital of St. Scholastica's College in Tacloban, Leyte and the SHEO, an entrepreneurial group of women who are helping rebuild houses in Leyte.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Medical Society of Greater Kansas City (PMS) and the Philippine Nurses Association of Greater Kansas City (PNA), already bound for a medical mission to Angono, Rizal in January 2014, wanted to do more to directly assist the people affected by Yolanda. An extension mission to Bogu, Cebu was quickly organized.

We had been to Bogu before - on an earlier medical mission in 2009. We were familiar with their hospital and their community. This familiarity, however, was shattered when we saw the largely unreported damage inflicted on the city.

Located in the northernmost part of Cebu, Bogu (population 82,000) was hit by 250 miles per hour winds. Initial damage assessments: 17 deaths, 6000 houses to be rebuilt on site, 8000 to be repaired and 4000 to be relocated; coconut plantations destroyed, fishermen's boats washed away, thousands homeless.

We dropped off 20 boxes of medicines and supplies at the Severo Verallo Memorial Hospital, the site of our medical-surgical mission for the weekend. In addition to the medical/surgical clinic, we also sponsored a feeding program for some 120 homeless schoolchildren. Slippers, stuffed animals and toys were distributed, making the children quite happy with their new but meager possessions, having lost so much more.

We were brought to Yolanda Village, one of the relocation sites where 120 houses are planned to be built on one hectare (2.47 acres) of government land. With the help of some donated materials and labor, a 12 ft x 14 ft house can be constructed for PhP50,000 (around \$ 1,100). Our medical group put together enough money for two houses and remitted the funds to the City of Bogu that very week.

*Continued on page 8*

## WHAT HAPPENED TO MANILA? Observations of a Recent Visitor

By Manuel P. Pardo, M.D.

Once known as The Pearl of the Orient', Manila in the pre - World War II era was a beautiful City by the Bay. Many of its buildings were designed by the famous American architect and urban planner Daniel Burnham who designed many of the government buildings in Washington D.C.

Luneta Park and Dewey Boulevard were favorite places for lovers as well as those who just want to relax, take a leisurely walk, inhale the fresh air from Manila Bay, or ride the open air double decker tour bus called Maturco that went up and down the boulevard. Coffee at the Manila Hotel? Ah! What sweet memories of happy times!!

Renamed Roxas Boulevard in the 1960's, the old Dewey Boulevard is dirty with trash all over, choked with traffic polluting the air. Try taking a walk and you won't get very far before you are approached by a vendor who want to sell you cheap jewelry or worse by somebody who asks you, "You wanna woman?" Facing Manila Bay now are bars, restaurants, barbecue stands, makeshift stores, and street vendors.

Part of Manila Bay has been "reclaimed," meaning it was filled and converted into land for hotels, a Cultural Center, an abandoned Folk Arts Center, and other structures like a shopping mall. The water is full of trash and foul smelling. When there is a storm the boulevard gets flooded and trash from Paranaque and Cavite float to the street. When there is demonstration in front of the American Embassy, which is an almost daily occurrence, traffic comes to a standstill.

Trying to get to the historic Manila Hotel can take one to two hours depending on which direction you are coming from due to traffic. Want to see the famous Walled City of Intramuros? Where do you find parking? How do you get through all the vendors? Same with trying to visit Fort Santiago.

Been to Taft Avenue lately? Surprising they have not changed that name. Since they installed a light rail transit above the street, Taft Avenue is now dark and dirty with vendors, beggars, and homeless people below the pillars along the street, not to mention traffic.

But, look above. Wow! Skyscrapers – everywhere! They are called condominiums. Apparently, it is a status symbol for the locals to own a condominium unit no matter how small. People from the nearby provinces buy condominium units in Metro Manila to come to the city on the weekend to shop in the malls, visit relatives, see movies and enjoy the sights. Who else buys condominiums in Manila? Many Chinese and Koreans. Why? Because they have the money and can pay cash. Besides, they can't buy a house because foreigners are not allowed to own land. But in a condominium they don't own the land. It is also said many of them want to have a place to run to in case trouble breaks out in their homeland.

*Continued on page 5*

## COMMUNITY CELEBRANTS

If any of the information below needs to be updated, contact the Editor-in-Chief.

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Wayne Darsnek	1	Shelby Russell	8	Linda Baguyos	15	Mica Spradlin	24
Nandy Kruger	1	Ronald Simonis	8	<b>Cris Bautista</b>	15	Elvie Tabije R.N.	24
Ed Limayo	1	Yonatan Bagunu III	9	Rene Lansangan	16	Adela Tan	24
Jihan May	1	Abraham Horne	9	Bradley Menzies Jr.	17	Bing Ganon R.N.	25
Sonny Ruiz II	1	Mac Juan	9	Babette Orlich R.N.	17	Rose Kollauf	25
Chito Belchez R.N.	2	Edgar Limayo Jr.	9	R Jay Pineda	17	Murphy Tinio	25
Dave Caudill	2	Alexis Snyder	9	Justin Estes	18	Mary Alice Brooks	26
Mina Renee Kuhlmann	2	Angela Glean	10	Brad Haag	18	Leah Brown	26
Nicole Ruffy	2	Keith Hopkins	10	Soledad Menguillo	18	Rea Alaniz	27
Frank Gador Jr.	3	Elena Sabido R.N.	10	William Schilling	18	Mike Luebbert	27
Ric Labayen M.D.	3	Sofronio Adenic	11	Chris Tangonan	18	Issa Sullivan	27
Peter Vilkins II	3	Bruce Baker	11	Mae Ballares	19	Alex Pacis	28
Valerie Cabalse	4	Dominic Francia	11	Jackie Covillo	19	Ludivina Vinluan	28
Gerry Labayen	4	Leon Kagahastian	11	Kevin Carey	20	Flor Borchartd	29
Anabelle Mitchell	4	JP Larson	11	Will Ridnour	20	Marilyn Carino R.N.	29
Jojo Orlanes	4	Cely Medel-Vitug	11	Lydia Elizabeth Taute	21	Tianna Pander	29
Sara Peñaloza	4	Ria Tadeo-Eugenio	11	<b>Alcy Malkmus</b>	22	Bill Farrar	30
Ness Perry RN	4	Mike de los Santos	12	Annie Vogel	22		
Leimarr Vitug R.N.	4	Mayette Teopaco	12	Reina Enriquez	23		
Allison Cooper	5	Vickie Calderon	13	Beth Summers	23		
Jane Miciano	5	Andrew Conde	13	Taylor Dent	24		
Tony Racela Jr., M.D.	5	Sammuel Seymour	13	Philip Helton	24		
Shannel Williams	6	Sophia Barnhart	14	Therese Martin	24		
Crystal Cross	7	John Fread	14	Leonila Menguillo	24		
Dercel Yrreverre	7	Amado Mamuric	14	<b>Nonong Pardo M.D.</b>	24		

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Tom and Lillie McGovern	1	Howard Evans and Rebecca Castro-Evans	12
Wayne and Vi Darsnek	2	Ernie and Beth Rosas	21
Manny and Sue Pardo	4	Michael and Adela Tan	23
<b>Jimmy and Lita Hipona</b>	4	Ric and Cecil Anterola	24
Ruben and Pros Bunag	7	Levi and Nora Lira	24
Dodge and Aleth Flores	7	Karl and Nandy Kruger	25
Loy Vitug and Cely Medel-Vitug	8	Art and Zelpha Umali	26
Michael and Melissa Sullivan	10	Jun and Venir Rivera	26
		Greg and Nena Bittner	28

### NEW MEMBERS

Name	Name

### What Happened to Manila? *(from page 4)*

Look at restaurants, from fast food to high end, and they are packed with people. Filipinos love to eat. Resorts have sprouted everywhere there is a beach - and there are lots of them. In the nearby city of Makati, a modern metropolis, almost like New York, one can find upscale shopping, five-star hotels, gourmet restaurants, banks and major business establishments.

No doubt there is still a wide gap between the rich and the poor. But they say the economy is good. The source of money is from foreign remittances from overseas Filipinos. There are millions of them all over the world.

I guess change is inevitable, for better or for worse. Population explosion is quite apparent. There is hardly any "green space" left in Manila.

That is what happens when progress evolves.

## FEBRUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For the full meeting minutes, go to [www.filipino-association.org/links](http://www.filipino-association.org/links) and check out the Resources section.

1. Guests were introduced:
  - a. Michael Winkley is a guest of Cory Sorio but had also worked with Kelly Tumanut. Michael donated medicines and other items for future medical missions.
  - b. Sarah DeHart and her boyfriend Shawn are new members. Sarah also serves as the new Networking Happy Hour chair.
  - c. Emily Kalthoff, on behalf of her mother Tacing Jalbuena, presented donations in total of \$1,095 in memoriam of Cito Jalbuena.
  - d. Rommel Chico, on behalf of the PMSGKC, reached out to members about their recent medical mission and invited guests to the Raising Hope Gala on March 15.
2. Mary Ann Deming gave the Treasurer's Report. It is summarized as follows:

	GENERAL FUND	BUILDING		PETTY	CULTURAL ARTS		TOTAL
		SENIORS	FUND	CASH	CHOIR	SINAG-TALA	
Balance as of Jan 31	\$ 22,688.88	\$ 12,252.90	\$ 67,435.34	\$ 187.75	\$ 4,470.65	\$ 15,500.96	\$ 122,536.48
Receipts	\$ 2,524.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 77.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,176.00
Disbursements	\$ (44.57)	\$ (317.29)	\$ (10,648.92)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (11,010.78)
Balance as of Feb 28	\$ 25,168.31	\$ 14,510.61	\$ 56,863.42	\$ 187.75	\$ 4,470.65	\$ 15,500.96	\$ 116,701.70

The December and January Treasurer's Reports were accepted and approved. The February Treasurer's Report was approved as reported.

Mila Tiojanco recommended that we watch our FCC operating expenses. Mary Ann suggested that we use QuickBooks for better record-keeping and quick access to reports.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. **President.** Edward reviewed his message in the February Tambuli. Paid membership is encouraged. Two new member benefits for 2014: [1] partnership with the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City (AACCKC); and [2] opportunity to be listed in a community business service referral directory.

We continue to receive support for ongoing typhoon relief. The medical mission team comprised of the PMSGKC and PNAGKC returned from Angono and Bogo last month with positive reports, including funding home-building using donated funds and supplies.

Pursuant to extending our visibility to the broader community, we sponsored the first of hopefully several informational workshops as part of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Make sure to download and read the Tambuli. Thanks to Bong Tumanut, the FCC's Wi-Fi is working again; we also have a new phone number (816-888-4416). Our gratitude as well to Jon Onstat who donated more of his father's Filipino books for our library.

Please continue your prayers for the families of Cito Jalbuena and David Merrick.

4. **Board of Directors:** Mila Tiojanco reaffirmed that the role of the FCC Foundation is to support the loan repayment. She thanked the President's efforts to broaden the Association's community involvement.

The role of the BOD is to help move forward FCC building projects and other related business of the Association. Expect to see new construction completed before the Fiesta. Jun Puno and Rizvend Pecana are working on security and monitoring measures.

5. **Executive Director, Filipino Cultural Center.** Jun reported that water in the Philippine House has been shut off due to a leak. Carl Estep offered to help in finding assistance.

## FEBRUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

For the full meeting minutes, go to [www.filipino-association.org/links](http://www.filipino-association.org/links) and check out the Resources section.

Security cameras are being installed and Jun is doing research on installing a non-monitored local alarm system. He also reported that building signage would cost \$3,800 for a lighted sign at the building entrance while a less elaborate monument-type sign at the entrance driveway will cost \$1,300.

Finally, Jun reported that the walkway drawings are ready for submission.

6. **Executive Director, Sinag-Tala Performing Arts Troupe.** Mila reported that Lillian Pardo has resumed this position while Ian is chief choreographer.

7. **Public Relations Officer.** Stephanie Paradies reported that our Facebook page has hit a milestone with 1,000+ likes. She encourages everyone to keep checking out our various media outlets to keep up with community goings-on.

8. **Tambuli.** Edward reported for Ping Bayani. The February issue has been published. Ping is graciously putting the Tambuli together while living in California.

9. **Auditor.** Mirla de los Santos, Angie Chico-Agustin and Lita Hipona have begun auditing the 2013 books. Their goal is to finish by April and prepare a report of recommendations. Mirla noted that our annual registration in Missouri may be missing.

An external audit for 2014 has been planned and budgeted. The last external audit was in 1999. Recommendations for an external auditor are welcome.

### STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

10. **Community & Volunteer Outreach:** Bing Sakach reported that we will look to continue with the White House Initiative. Mary Ann added that members are welcome to participate in local runs as part of a Filipino Association team.

11. **Information Technology:** Bong Tumanut reported that the FCC Wi-Fi and new phone service are working with Voicemail automatically forwarded to the FCC Exec Director, the FAGKC President and PRO.

12. **Finance:** Mirla De Los Santos ha agreed to chair this committee.

13. **Membership & Hospitality:** Edward reported for Mike Dacunos. He recognized new and renewed members, encouraging online sign-ups through PayPal. Expect acknowledgment letters with benefits disclosure.

14. **Nominations:** Bing reported for Lilia Bautista. They are working on securing a President-Elect.

15. **Programming and Social Affairs:** Sarah is planning the monthly Networking Happy Hour. Edward announced the debut of the Speaker Series on March 28; he has approached someone to chair the Easter Picnic but there are several more open positions.

16. **Scholarship:** Edward announced that we have approved a significantly higher award amount in our budget but the position of Scholarship Chair is still unfilled.

17. **Senior Council:** Kelly announced that preparations for the annual Parents Day are in full swing.

18. **Ways & Means:** We will keep our Kansas Speedway events; Peter Sakach will commit to the May 9-10 weekend.

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

19. **Ethnic Enrichment Commission.** Bong recapped the Diplomatic Ball held on March 1. He also announced that he will step into the role of commissioner in April, with Gemma Alemania-Snyder as alternate commissioner.

20. **Fiesta Filipina.** With no President-Elect, Edward will send out invitations to help in planning the event.

21. **September Affair:** Sonia Tumanut reported that the co-chairs are forming their plans before an official all-committee kickoff. Kevin Bautista will work directly with the hotel on the contract, catering, and event details. The theme for the event will be "Under a Harvest Moon." Ticket prices will be \$89 per person (same as last year).

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Edward brought to light expressed member concerns regarding the move to Thursday meetings and reaffirmed reasons for doing so. Further discussion may be needed to clarify.
2. Interested members are invited to attend the Mid-America Asian American Culture Association (MAACA) Cultural Festival on April 26 at Blue Valley North High School. The Sinag-Tala will perform at the event.
3. Stephanie invited everyone to the Kansas City World Outreach Lions Club bowling fundraiser on March 30.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM

## City of Bogo, Cebu *(from page 4)*

Coupled with their repair, rebuild and relocate projects, the local government envisions a revitalization program. Working with Non-Government Organizations (NGO's), the goal is to enhance and upgrade the existing livelihood opportunities for the community, thereby expediting economic recovery.

The commitment of the city to assist their citizens on various levels is, without question, a critical key to this city's full recovery. Their planning cycle predicted a two-year community rebuilding plan, requiring a minimum of PhP295M (\$ 6.5M). Raising this amount will be an ongoing project of the community and funds from all sources will be needed.



Similarly, in-kind donations and, in our case, medical support – no matter how brief – will always be accepted with a sincere gratitude and a smile.

*Editor's note: This is an edited and condensed version of Dr. Pardo's article. For the original and unabridged version (including more photos), please visit our website at [www.filipino-association.org](http://www.filipino-association.org). For additional information on the medical mission, please email Dr. Pardo at [lpardo39@gmail.com](mailto:lpardo39@gmail.com).*

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