



... Class '69

PROGRESS NOTES ▲▼



Samuel C. Fernando • Reporter •
 111 Acacia Dr. A-412 • Indian Head Pk., IL 60525 •
 (708) 246-2911 * e-mail pending
Yolanda L. Alcasid * Reporter *
 1551 Harbir Rd., Manasquan, NJ 08736
 (732) 528-6372 * e-mail alcasid@aol.com
Noel D. Canlas * Editor *
 1437 South Main St., Henderson, KY
 (270) 826-1575 * e-mail canlas@dynasty.net

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December Class Reunion: (By Yolanda Alcasid) First, the Philippine group feted the class with sumptuous dinner at **Boy Vasquez's** restaurant in Pasig. On December 18, 1999, a Saturday, after spending a whole day at the Asia Towers in Leveriza, Pasay, for "*alangmer*" (almusal, tanghalian merienda), courtesy of **Elpie & Jean Fonte**, we got ourselves ready for yet another party. This time, the venue was the BAHIA at the Hotel Intercontinental. When we got there, a very nice buffet of Filipino and international dishes was spread before us.

After the usual never-ending picture-taking and the "*beso-besos*", and dinner, a huge cake decorated with unlit candles was wheeled into the middle of the ballroom. With lights dimmed, the members of class '69 surrounded the cake & **Sr. Toni Redito** gave the invocation. As **Sam Fernando** called each one of us by our name & by our hometown, we walked towards the cake to light a candle. (It is amazing how Sam can remember all these). It was a very touching scene, and when it was **Jane Carino's** turn to light hers, she was greeted with thunderous applause. After everyone was called and all the candles were lit, **Boy Vasquez** took the microphone and with a voice full of emotion said a few very sentimental words that brought most of us to tears. We then joined hands and burst into song and dance and the fun began.

The hotel provided DI's (dance instructors--for a fee, of course) for those who desperate to improve their dancing skills; to learn new steps and to provide needed partners especially those with two left feet. Some of the "single men"-**Noel Canlas, Morel Mangubat, Arthur Quito, Dick Maddela**- missed their partners so much that they drowned their sorrows by monopolizing (only the pretty) female DI's. Was that the tango you were doing, Arthur? Even **Freddie Rodriguez**, in full view of his wife Nanette, hogged a DI for most of the night...and did not give a tip!! Others, **Chito Cabaccang, Lito Duque & Gus Quilon**, were content to sit out the dance & just talk and be "merry" - courtesy of the "spirits". Not to be outdone, the ladies too, took advantage of the available male DI's: **Merle Barral** was trying to perfect the swing and so was **Linda Borja-Enriquez**. **Amor Guevarra-Napiza** outdanced everyone including the DI's.

Alice Junio- Salud brought her very own DI and exhibited her moves. **Phil Sia's** wife **Lety & Violie Pagdanganan-Lara**, learned new steps from the DI hoping to teach their hopeless husbands. Incidentally, **Bert Lara**, who was dancing to his own music the night before at **Boy Vasquez's** restaurant, suddenly was "too shy" to dance this time. I wonder why...kulang sa "spirit"

Still, there were those who were just having a good time. **Ed & Evelyn Enriquez** patiently showed us how to tango; **Ruben Montoya** and wife, Ophie, were in perfect harmony ballroom dancing, **Romy de Guzman**, who, inspite of recent by-pass surgery, was shimmying with this wife, Doris, although she danced way better than him. Singles **Boy Vasquez & Sam Fernando** were spreading themselves thin just dancing with everyone. **Zonia & Edgar Rapisora** were cozy with each other. **Archie Go & wife, Diane**, were on the dance floor the whole time. **Henrie Bada-Ellzey** boogied all night. Even **Sr. Toni Redito** danced.

It was a well attended party. Some traveled great distances with their families or just came by themselves. **Remy Alvero-Exconde**, drove through traffic from San Pablo; **Bel Feliciano-Siapno** arrived the night before from Pangasinan (or was it Angeles?), **Domigo Pascual** from Damong Maliit, Novaliches; **Violie Vallejo-Sinavsky** with her husband and kids. **Mario Mercader** came with his family; long-lost **Lydia Quilon-Pacis** from Toronto came with her lovely daughter (from McGill U. in Monteval) who gave us an *acapella* rendition of the the Christmas song "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire. **Rudy "Tisoy" Jandoc** came with his wife, Bernadette; **Willie "mas tisoy" Panganiban** and wife Ellen were there, toe to enjoy the festivities.

While everyone was having a good time, **Lilia Ordinario-Santiago** was making sure everything was in order, hugging her ever-present folder to her chest, checking and re-checking the next agenda. Thanks for your time & effort in making our reunion a success.

Nonoy Zuniga, a popular pop singer in the Philippines, who also happens to be an MD graduate of UST Class '88, entertained us with a few songs courtesy of **Olga Sangalang-Vinoya**. In between songs, he bantered with us, pointing out that **Edna Garayblas-Monson** was his professor, and that **Boy Vasquez** produced his first album. He ended with the Class '69 Homecoming song "Magandang Gabi Sa Inyong Lahat", an adaptation by **Boy Vasquez**.

Before we said goodnight, **Omer Galvez** extended an invitation to lunch at his place in Pakil, Laguna. And of course, we had to have one more practice to perfect the *Merengue* for out presentation the next night at the Grand Ball. Aspiring DI **Dick Maddela** initially took charge of the practice and was later helped by another frustrated DI **Raul Grageda** who called out the steps and the count... until we got it right with **Amor's** guidance. It was a fun night and although we did not want it to end, we had to take our beauty rest for the next party. What a night! What an exhausting weekend!

Island Cove Trip: (By Yolanda Alcasid & also Lino)

The day after the Grand Ball, December 20, 1999, a whole bunch of us, still giddy from the night before, gathered

at the lobby of the Hotel Shangri-La Makati, to wait for the bus that took us for an overnight stay at the Island Cove Resort in Cavite. While waiting, **Arthur Quito's** wife, Maryrose and children, arrived just in time from the USA to join us, but had to have a "quick rendezvous upstairs" while we & their kids waited in the bus! The **Payumos-Carming**, his wife, Lina, & three of their five children made it too, but did not have to rendezvous !! Unfortunately, **Noel's** wife, Alice and their son didn't make the trip due to a delayed flight from USA...he cannot rendezvous ! On the bus, aside from **Lino** & myself (**Yoly/Yolan**), were **Lilia O. Santiago**, **Boy Vasquez**, **Sam Fernando**, **Noel Canlas** & daughter **Karen**, **Morel Mangubat**, **Ed & Evelyn Enriquez**, **Freddie & Nanette Rodriguez** w/ family, **Violie Vallejo-Synavsky** & family, **Mario Mercader** & family, **Phil & Lety Sia**, **Linda Borja-Enriquez**, **Merle Barral**, **Loida de la Cruz-Nadal**, **the Payumos & the Quitos**. We left around 9:30 am. What was supposed to be a short ride took longer because of the usual traffic. While waiting for our assigned rooms, we were served fresh *buko* juice...then proceeded to the pavilion for a hefty lunch. **Zonia & Edgar Rapisora** drove with **Jane Carino** to join us for lunch.

There was lots to explore at the resort. While some played bowling and tennis, some of the children napped but most of us taught each other new dance steps. **Morel** was the DJ, bringing CD's from home and taking charge of the sound system... **Ed & Evelyn Enriquez** taught us how to *tango*; **Carming & Lina Payumo**, the *rhumba*, and **Linda Borja-Enriquez**, the *Todo-Todo*. After countless demonstrations and individual coaching, **Noel** finally learned the *Todo-Todo* and even started teaching. Dinner was served by the bay and after dinner, we went back to the pavilion to continue our dance lessons (the DIs stood us up... they heard about **Freddie Rodriguez**...*hindi nagtitip!*). **Lilia Ordinario-Santiago's** husband, Nel, joined us. **Amor Guevarra-Napiza** arrived w/ her *buko pie* and *esposol*. The buffet was again was set up for another meal, our midnight snack. There were *arroz caldo*, *pansit* and *lumpia* & dessert. We sat around just talking and eating until the wee hours.

We were all up bright and early the next morning and had breakfast at the resort restaurant. *Tapsilog* (tapa, sinangag, itlog) was the order of the day for the US based classmates and bacon, eggs and toast for our Philippine-based classmates. After breakfast, we boarded the bus for our lunch date with **Omer Galvez** in Pakil, Laguna. Thanks **Omer** for your hospitality !!! Also, **Sr. Redito** thanks the generous classmates who donated to her Addis Ababa Medical Mission Center.

Medical Missions: After X'mas, onward to Bayombong under the direction of **Dick Maddela & Willie Panganiban**. Although only a handful could make it, the mission was very successful. Surgical team was composed of surgeons **Dick**, **Arthur Quito**, **Fred Rodriguez**, **Rudy Jandoc** & lone anesthesiologist **Mario Mercader**. Daughters **Yvonne** (nurse) & **Diane Maddela** (med student) along with **Karen Canlas**, also med. student were pressed to duty in the OR. Medical team: **Sam Fernando**, **Noel**, **Willie** and 69'er wives **Nanette Rodriguez & Zeny Maddela** graciously helped. **Rodriguez'**

kids, **Joseph & Gigi** along w/ **Rico Maddela** under **Jane Carino's** guidance manned the pharmacy. We were shorthanded, but the mission was accomplished !! On way back, we passed by the Rice Terraces & did more wood carving shopping. Everybody was tired but "felt good" Special thanks to **Charlie & May Capati** of Class 1970 for donating \$300 to our mission.

The next medical mission is tentatively for 2001 - two interested hosts, **Linda Borja** for Nueva Eijia & **Lorna Adolfo** for Cebu. Next time, we need more firm commitment & more participants.

Class Cruise for Turkey & Greece from July 2-14 is almost here. Tour will start in Istanbul, Turkey, pass through Greece & end in Rome, Italy. There a strong movement to have the Class tours yearly instead of every other year!! Time is running short...we're getting older & weaker to travel !! Next year, some suggestions are Holy Land tour, Scandinavian & Russia or the Eastern European tour. Send your suggestions to Sam or Morel.

Class Legacy: The "Teacher of the Year" award perpetually funded by our class has been established. It has become a prestigious award in the college. We award 4 teachers and give \$2000 each to their respective departments for educational use. A \$4000 plaque (paid by the USTMAAA) is prominently displayed in the bldg. with the donors' names. Thanks to the additional belated donors: **Angie Dingcong**, **Lita Lua**, **Fernando Rivera**, **Cora Cadiz**, **Villamor Reyes**, **James Ho & Rolando Dy**. The Philippine group also contributed \$1000. Although we were "short" of our \$100,000 goal by \$25,000, our class is still the biggest & most generous benefactor to the Foundation. Maybe we will reach our goal by Y2004 on the 35th reunion. Thanks to all who have given...the Dean & Regent also are most appreciative of our Class '69 !! In addition, we gave \$2000 to **Sis. Flor Inzon**, our classmate for the Family & Life Apostolate in Bicol.

Congratulations: To **Violie Kalaw** on her "better late than never" wedding in Malate last December. To Kay of **Bob & Millie Corpus**, **Christine of Manny Tan** & **Judith of Noel Canlas** - the UST Med Y2K grads. Good luck to **Dora Kabatay** & **Anna Ogena** both '99 UST grads on their residencies. **Aning Jara's** daughter started her 1st year med in UST. Congrats to all sons & daughters of Class '69 who have graduated this year. **Cora Cadiz** has a son in Georgetown Medical School. To **Sis. Toni Redito** for being promoted to Superior-General.

USTMAAA Reunion (by Sam Fernando) - San Francisco May 25-29: Early birds included **Chop & Evelyn Enriquez**, **Art Quito** w/ family & **Mary Aguinaldo**. On Thursday, May 25th while on break from the CME, a group of Class '69 faithful congregated at the Hospitality lounge. The noise generated was so unique of our group that several people commented, "this must be Class '69". The same situation happened on Friday the 26th when we were virtually requested to move away from the CME area because of the

fun and laughter. Friday evening found us on a bus to the Foster City Community Hall, celebrating our first reunion activity at the WIND Room. Overall-in-charge **Lu Trazo** with local hosts **Mina Erni, Lorna Adolfo, & Libby Albinda** did a great job with the food, entertainment, and the abbreviated program. The DJ and DI were good, but the highlight of the evening were the UST Singers, who despite being only eleven in the group, rendered terrific music to the delight of everyone. It was good to see **Victor Huang** w/ Sonya, **Ed Rubio** w/ Aurora, **Angie de Vega, Cora Cadiz** and new hubby, Wayne Oshiro. By the way, Cora is inviting the whole class to Hawaii...plus airfare? **Violie Vallejo-Sinavski** & husband always enjoy the commaderie & continue to be very active in our affairs. We had fun doing the Mambo No. 5 dance as well as the Americana Tango. Needless to say, **Agnes Tabo** was the best dressed and most "danced" in the group. Dancing couple **Pong & Pearl Sevilla** again showed their expertise. Locals **Lita Lua, Freda Sumlangcay, Alice Amurao & Lito Manzano** were missed. What happened to **Andoy Torres** who promised to be there?

We got home past midnight, still thinking how good the party was. Thanks very much to the gracious hosts. Saturday morning finds us having the same prolonged and lingering morning coffee, this time the jokes were provided by **Em Macaraeg, Fe Mondragon, the Fonte's and Mir Parungao**. **Mir** knows so much about everyone so that he is now known as the "CNN Class '69" correspondent. Twenty of us including three of the UST singers had a wonderful and chaotic lunch at the "Crustaceans", 11 blocks away from the hotel. **Agnes** could no longer stand the hike, so she hailed a cab...besides, her Prada shoes had gum all over it. The bedlam was such that the maitre d' requested us to tone down our act "in deference" to the other customers. Naturally, it feel on deaf ears.

Mina Erni stole the show with her off colored comments typical of her. Saturday night was a "so-so" at the Ball. The buffett dinner left a lot to be desired. Nonetheless, we had a great time watching the Jubilarians make fun inspite of themselves. The Sunday Mass was celebrated with almost everyone in Class '69 present. At exactly 11:00, the bus rolled to **Libby Albinda's** home for the familiar class picnic. No contributions were necessary. The food again was superb with *fritong galunggong* as the favorite as well as the *inihaw na tilapia* with *ATSARA*. The afternoon was highlighted with the Magnolia ice cream and the *LOQUATS* fresh from the tree.

We could not swim because of the time constraints. The afternoon was spent with mostly socializing in various groups. **Nap & Luz Cuaresma** joined in on the picnic as well as **Nora Tiu Bellosa** with her dirty green jokes. **Tessie Bellamide** gave her share of jokes as well as **Morell, Art Quito, and Chp Enriquez**. **Fe Mondargon** did not know what "burat" meant...*Cebuana kasi*. **Lorna Adolfo** is most willing to host our January 2001 Medical Missions with **Fe Mondragon** as Co-Chair w/ local host **Lito Almendras**. We are all looking forward to this. **Ron & Marylu Macabuhay, Vivien & Cesar Reyes**, flew in from Arizona to join.

Mary Aguinaldo was at her rowdiest best--coupled with **Mina Erni** - they were a riot.

Morel was again alone... so were **Linda Borja, Nora**

Tiu & Manny Pecana who was the source of the usual sarcasm and funny jokes.

Henry Bada was again awarded as one of the 12 outstanding UST Alumnae in academia and research---congrats to her--we are really very proud of you! **Pepe Nebres** ought to know that there is a difference between Castro Street from Castro Valley.

Mir Parungao is retiring but will enter another job at a different county-- this is called "double-dipping"--Way to go, **Mir!**

In case, you're wondering how much fun we really had. Call anyone who came to the reunion-----We got it! Next year's May USTMAAA reunion will be in Viva Las Vegas !! Start saving your gambling money.

Sad News: Sincere condolences to **Lorna Adolfo** whose father died unexpectedly during the reunion & had to fly home quick for the funeral. Belated condolences to **Jerry Vinluan** on death of his mom last Sept and his younger brother last January; to **Vickie Valeriano** whose mother died of stroke early this year. also to **Alice Canlas** on her dad's last April; to **Ofie Montoya** whose dad died in Toronto in March.

More News Needed: Please send, mail, telephone or e-mail news to Sam, Noel or Yoland. It is getting more difficult to make the Progress Notes !

E-mail Club & Website: We have about 40 members in the Class e-mail club. They get updates on news "stat". Also, they get the Progress Notes sooner through the E-mail !! Pls. send your e-mail to **Noel** at canlas@dynasty.net or **Yoland** at alcasid@aol.com. **Sam Fernando** is still computer illiterate...no e-mail yet!! If you don't have one, send your kid's e-mail or even your neighbor's. We save about 75 cents per member sending thru e-mail & also a lot quicker & simpler. Our funds are running low. We are also in the process of having a website exclusively for Class 1969. **Morel's** daughter Mai Lee is working on it and will be available very soon.

Also, there has been a lot of changes in address & area tel codes. Pls. send them to Noel to update our directory.

