

# Balitaan

Newsletter 48, Spring 2009

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## New scholars

Eight new scholars are named by the PCAFPD in a range of fields: speech pathology, tourism, engineering, social work and psychology.

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## From RPCV to CD



Sonia Derenoncourt (right, with PCV Kuang-Ning "Annie" Huang) has had some challenging jobs.

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## Views from scholars

One student persuades her family that Manila is safe; another finds that her scholarship lets her move to a new campus; and a third finds it hard to cope with the costs of study.

Pages 1, 2, 4, 5

## Remembering Julia



Slain PCV is honored by new scholarships.

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## Our generous donors

A listing of donors to the Foundation since our last newsletter. And please see our website (listed above) for special scholarships and other ways to offer support.

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## Former scholar's book

Ariestelo Asilos is author of "Anak ng Jueteng," a book about a small-town lottery system.

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## Winning the bet: She makes it through the first year

**Krisna R. Ocong** is an engineering materials major at University of the Philippines, Diliman. She is from Negros Occidental.

My family was against me leaving home for college. They thought that it would be dangerous since it is Manila. To finally agree to my plans, I made a deal with mother: If I would have a failing grade during the first semester, my trial semester, I would go back and study near home.

The first few days in the dormitory were so exciting. I met so many kids from Luzon, Mindanao and, of course, Visayas. The lobby in Kalayaan Dorm was where my new friends and I hung out. As days went by, I spent most of my time inside

my room studying. I did not chit-chat with them like I used to. We grew apart.

I learned that the people you meet first will not necessarily end up being your best buddies. You have to explore some more in order to meet your bosom friends. Well, I found my very own collection just next to my bed and in front of my door.

College emphasizes the fact that there are so many people better than me in different aspects, or should I say, "In almost everything." I am just a tiny existence in a vast universe.

Having different classmates in all my classes was very interesting. They come in all shapes and sizes. What I love about these oh-so-perfect-creatures is the challenge is not to compare myself with oth-



ers. I am competing against the UP standard and not against my friends.

Here's a look at my first year:

**Marine Science I:** There were only four freshmen in the class. Even though the "freshies" were outnumbered, we were not outshined. Yes, they were more experienced but the younger ones also have ideas to share.

Our MS1 group called ourselves "Fortes V" to please Dr. Fortes, our professor. The members became very close but before the end of the semester, we had a dispute. It was about the division of labor. The eldest member complained that she did most of the work from the beginning. The rest of us disagreed because we fulfilled our part, too. We talked it over but never really compromised.

I learned that someone can do more than what I can but it does not mean that person gave more effort than I did. What I can do is based on my abilities and the heart that I put in it.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Winning the bet

(Continued from Page 1)

**School Trips:** Two of my classes have educational trips in our syllabi. I did not miss any of them.

The first trip was to Puerto Galera for my MS1 Class. One of the activities was to observe the marine animals in their habitats. We snorkeled in the beach and saw fishes, sea urchins, starfish, sea cucumber and so much more. And we also tasted sea grass seeds – they were crunchy; I'd never thought they were edible.

**Geography:** Four sections went to Mango Camp at Zambales. From the beginning, our class, the Green Mangoes, was the most quiet and inactive team. Through out the camp we bonded together. We told riddles, mind games and stories. The activities prepared by the camp staff were super-duper cool. It was like the Amazing Race (of course, relating to geography). My favorite one, unrelated to geography, was paint ball. Our team got on the offensive and literally took out our opponents. We "killed" all of them, captured their flag and became the victor. I was the only female in the team but I shot three people. I love paint ball. This time I did not die but turned into a predator.

On-hand experiences can teach you more. What you learned from the classroom can easily be forgotten but what you experienced will be etched in your memory for a long time.

**English Literature and Society:** My professor was extraordinary. She wanted us to show "rage against the dying of the light" in getting the highest grade. Instead of long exams and a midterm, we performed speech choirs, conducted interviews and watched plays. For her, literature is not just about reading books and writing papers about them. We went out of the classroom and searched the meaning of literature for ourselves.

Talents are unfairly distributed. I never got a big piece out of the cake – just crumbs, but I am not complaining. Being deprived makes you work even harder and become bolder. For the English final, we chose a performed final exam, a French novel turned into a Tagalog rock musical. I played one of the main roles. I was Abaya, a dead activist, who met the

author of *The Germinal* (the French book) between heaven and hell. Yes, I was a *he* because we lacked *man* power in the class. Here was I, a non-musical oriented performer, who boldly held the microphone and rapped / sang a song in front of the audience (high school students). My intro was perfect but I messed up the middle part. I stammered. Fortunately, my friend came into my rescue and we finished with a blast. For the entire semester, it was the time that I begged Mother Earth to swallow me whole but she never did.

During the semester break, I was awaiting the judgment of my math professor. To pass or to fail was the most critical point; I was getting impatient and scared. After opening and digesting his e-mail, I slapped my face a few times and reread the result. I let a sigh of relief escape me. I nailed it! *I passed Math 17!* My grade was higher than I expected.

Betting is not really one of my strong points but working hard is. Those sleepless nights spent solving problems were not in vain. Yes, I won!!! UP Diliman, here I come again!

## When you pay by the hour, schoolwork can run up your costs

**Prue Earl Bayungan**, from Ifugao, is majoring in social work at St. Louis University, Baguio City.

This past semester was a fruitful one for me. I learned a lot of things, earned new friends and gained exciting experiences.

As a student all kinds of emotions surfaced – stress, anxiety, anger and many more. I experienced stressful and sleepless nights because of unfinished projects and long assignments. Sometimes I wish that with just one click in the computer the assignment would just pop out and I would just copy and pass it. But clever instructors give us long

assignments that need to be researched in the library. I sometimes spent an hour or more researching but to no avail.

Even my classmates are having a hard time researching because the library lacks social work books and most of the books are not updated and are obsolete. Most of our take-home work or assignments are done electronically or computerized. Our instructors give us the formats to follow in encoding, like font size and style. In my seven major subjects, I have two subjects under one instructor. She has required us to post term papers or a compilation of all the topics that we have discussed. So we have to put up all the material that we have discussed for the whole semester and pass it before the final examination. The term paper is usually 100-200 pages. If the school computers are not available I am forced to go outside. Computer shops charge 20 to 25 pesos per hour.

In my anthropology class, we were asked by our instructor to have a project, an outreach program. We were to choose our own locale, the respondents and the topic to be discussed with the respondents. My group chose to conduct our outreach to a school located in a far-flung area in Dalupirip, Itogon Benguet. We were to talk about sex education with the third- and fourth-year students of Fianza Memorial High School.

We were so excited because of all the groups we were the only one that chose to conduct an outreach program off the school campus. I was excited and at the same time nervous because it was my first time to talk with students. But they were so friendly and accommodating that we forgot our nervousness. The outreach went well and we were so happy to impart our knowledge.

I was given the opportunity to visit the detained CICLs (Children in Conflict With the Law) in Baguio City Jail because of my research class and was able to talk to them and ask some questions. Our research is entitled, "Situational Analysis of Children in Conflict With the Law." The research is to continue in the second semester.

With these experiences I learned to be resourceful and to be patient in everything I do. I am being challenged to achieve more in my studies so that my parents will not be disappointed with me.





# To the Philippines via Mauritania, Mali and Haiti

*Sonia Stines Derenoncourt, Peace Corps director in the Philippines, was a Volunteer herself, serving in Northern Africa. We asked about her background and about Volunteer programs in the Philippines.*

*First, could you give us a bit of vita -- where you're from, where you grew up, went to school, and the like.*

I was born and grew up in Washington, D.C. I am the third child of six as first-generation Americans. My parents were both immigrants from Haiti. I went to a D.C. public elementary school, an all-girl Catholic high school and then the Catholic University of America, where I graduated with a bachelor of science in biology in pre-med program. After my Peace Corps service I did a master's in public health at Tulane University.

*How did your first PCV experience come about – did you sign up right after college?*

The first time I heard about Peace Corps was in the second grade when an RPCV from Togo (if I recall correctly), who was also an alumnus of the elementary school, talked about her Peace Corps experience to the entire student body.

**It was a long time ago**, but I recall the beautiful picture slides, her African attire, the smell of incense, her beating the drum to explain how villages communicated with each other at long distances. I remember being impressed, in awe and I believe that is when the Peace Corps seed was planted in the recesses of my brain.

It was when I was at the university, considering which medical school to apply to, that I came across a Peace Corps pamphlet and decided to apply to the Peace Corps as well. Once invited, I decided to hold off on medical school and join the Peace Corps instead (much to my parents' dismay!).

*What sort of project was it, and where*



PC Director Sonia Stines Derenoncourt (third from left) visits PCV Ben Miller and (from left) co-teacher Nora Dalampasig, Supervisor Jocelyn Frencillo and teachers Natividad Billones and Rosificacion Lasala at Dasmariñas National High School in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

*were you stationed? What were the high points and low points?*

Over a period of almost two years, I was offered three different countries, but each fell through for one reason or another (Haiti, then Zaire, then Thailand). It finally worked out for me to go to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in 1989 as a water and sanitation volunteer.

In addition to learning about Islam, the culture and local language, on the technical side, I learned how to build and repair both latrines and wells – and to ride a camel.

**In Mauritania** I was stationed in the Gudimaka Region, near the shared borders of Mauritania, Senegal and Mali. I was placed with the Fulani people, who had been nomadic but became more sedentary due to losing a majority of their cattle during a long drought.

Lowest point was my inability to get buy-in from my community to build a well, even though I was able to access funds from an NGO [nongovernmental organization] to pay for the construction. I felt that after over a year of discussing water-borne diseases such as guinea worm (which several community members contracted), and hygiene and sanitation (which was a big problem – with several children dying from diarrhea) the community would jump at the opportunity.

But they were still not willing to contribute in-kind to make it happen, and thus it would not be sustainable, so I was not able to move forward with it.

Sometimes it could take hours to get water for the day. The only water supply in the village was a foot pump which occasionally broke down. When it did break down, women would walk for an hour to a dried up river bed and dig a few inches down till water to seeped up and then they would scoop it up into a bucket– easily a three- to four-hour endeavor. These women indeed wanted the well, but in the African and Islamic culture it was the men (elders), not the women, that were allowed to make the decisions. Needless to say I was quite frustrated.

**Highest point** was when the lowest point did a 180-degree turn. I had no access to vegetation and fruits in this sub-Saharan village, my diet consisted of millet (a grain) for breakfast, lunch and dinner – day-in and day-out. One day I learned about layering dung with sandy terrain to retain water, thus grow crops. Eventually, I was able to get access to some vegetable seeds and the villagers, elders included, were interested in growing a cooperative vegetable garden.

This garden then led to building a well (Continued on Page 8)

## Change of fortune takes her to campus with more options

*Lydia M. Hopguidan is a secondary-education student at St. Mary's University in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. She is from Ifugao Province.*

I started and finished my first year at Ifugao State College of Agriculture and Forestry, knowing that this school offered the cheapest education.

I'm fatherless and my mother is alone, working hard eking our living on a small parcel of rice field so we may have a little something to eat.

It was a cousin who pushed me to start my studies in college. For a year sometimes I experienced going hungry even if I tried to stretch whatever little money was given me. It was with great courage, sacrifice and great desire to pursue my studies that I was able to finish my first year in college. And there was that lingering fear that I might be told to stop schooling.

Unexpectedly, however, a miracle happened that erased all my fears – a full scholarship was granted to me by the PCAFD. This must be a God-sent answer to satisfy my thirst for a college education. It was the biggest news in my life to be a full scholarship grantee, and surely it must also be so for my cousins and my mother.

High in spirit with this grant, I decided to transfer to St. Mary's University, not only for its prestigious name but more so because I knew it would give me a good Christian foundation. News of this institution's deep educational training and values formation often reached my ears then but it was not the place for me because financial requirements were steep and beyond my cousin's limited budget. I must however state that ISCAF where I finished my first year is a very good college run and managed by a highly efficient president and friendly staff.

The PCAFD scholarship has made it possible for me to be in this well-known

institution. It also offers me a good opportunity to reach greater heights of educational training toward becoming a well-instructed future teacher in this university.

My first months here were not easy. I encountered difficulties because every nook, place and person was new to me and I was lost. I didn't know where to go and what to do. Today however, I have become familiar with schedules, scholastic activities, instructors, rooms and have made many friends.

As I rest each evening, I think of the PCAFD as this benevolent body I owe for my being able to pursue my studies and the assurance that I shall finish my course through its support. The PCAFD has relieved my mother and relatives of a heavy burden. The PCAFD will ever be my inspiration as I journey through the years of schooling.



## Foundation chooses eight new scholars on Philippine campuses

At its January meeting, the board of the PCAFPD chose eight new scholars to support in their pursuit of a college education in the Philippines.

The new recipients and their home provinces, majors and schools:

**Rachel Briones**, Cavite; speech pathology, University of the Philippines, Diliman

**Jody Cestina**, Negros Oriental; tourism and ecology, Silliman University

**Jeffrey De Lumen**, Albay; mechanical engineering, Bicol University

**Paul John Malaca**, La Union; electromagnetic engineering, Don Mariano Marcos University

**Vanessa Melio**, Sorsogon; social work, Bicol University

**Orange Happee Omengan**, Mountain Province; psychology, University of the Philippines, Diliman.

**Allan Paul Pigudo**, Ifugao; civil engineering, St. Mary's University

**Elmar Quiza**, Eastern Samar; psychology, Mondrian Aura College

A few words on the process of selection:

Each year, Roland de Jesus, the Foundation's vice president in Manila, circulates scholarship announcements and applications via a network of community contacts, including Peace Corps Volunteers and school officials throughout the country.

Completed applications are screened by the Manila office then forwarded to the Foundation in Washington for final review and award. Applicants submit information about their educational goals, economic circumstances, transcripts of grades and recommendations from schools and community leaders.

The Board of Directors reviews all applications and ranks applicants based on candidate potential for contribution to Philippine development, financial need, academic record and community activities.

Scholarships may be granted for study in any academic or technical discipline and may be tailored to individual needs. The Foundation encourages applicants with career interests in underserved fields.

All scholarships cover the cost of tuition, books and fees. Scholars also receive a living allowance to help defray expenses such as room, board, and transportation. Continued payments are contingent on academic progress.

Scholarships are granted to the completion of a degree or certificate program, so long as the student maintains Foundation standards. Depending on the school and the course of study, full scholarship costs range from \$500 to \$1,500 a year. Individuals or groups may sponsor a scholar for a donation of \$1,000 per year.

## Philippines creates national service corps

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in April announced a new national service corps that she said will take the lead in promoting the spirit of community and volunteerism in the country. Patterned after the U.S. Peace Corps, the new national service will enlist unemployed and underemployed skilled youths or college graduates, aged 18-24, who will be trained to carry out education and community service programs under a two-year commitment.



## A Fulbright gives him a chance to see things in a new perspective

*Marlon Pura of Sorsogon, a political science major at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, has been in the United States since August on a Fulbright scholarship.*

When I was younger, I always wanted to study abroad, to meet new people, to savor new food, to learn about a different culture and to experience a different education. But who am I to aspire for such lofty things? I was just a regular student, born to a regular family in a far-flung barrio in rural Sorsogon.

But because of hard work and determination, I made it to the AFS-YES Scholarships and studied in Boston for one year of high school. After that, I got into the University of the Philippines Diliman, with a PCAFPD scholarship.

Now, more than ever, I feel so blessed to have been awarded a Global Undergraduate Scholarship by the U.S. Department of State through World Learning and Fulbright Philippines. I studied at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y., in political science for one year, from August to May.

When I first arrived at Nazareth, I fell in love with the campus right away – its architecture, beautiful foliage and home-like environment. My dormitory was also a place where all of us in our floor treated each other like family. My roommate, Brett, is American. He helped me get through the first few days of school.

Schoolwork was so much fun at Naz. My professors were so well trained; there was just a teacher-student ratio that facilitated exceptional learning. I took political science courses and several electives. For the first semester, I took Peace and Justice, American Government and Politics, Politics of the Developing World, Anthropology of Terrorism and Social Problems. I also made it to the Dean's List. For the second semester, I had Thomas Merton, Liberation Theology, International Law, Social Classes and Human Rights/Social Justice.

These courses were very close to my heart and reflected my deep interest in politics and humanitarian issues.

Community service has been my passion for years now. I always want to volunteer for any cause that I deem important and necessary in this world. Also, Nazareth College has a strong tradition of community service, where 91% of undergraduates participate in community service. I worked in a local soup kitchen and served food to the homeless during the weekends. I was also a lector at Sunday Mass. In school, I volunteered for various events raising awareness and money for AIDS, malaria, poverty reduction and education.



I also had my fair share of fun times. I attended parties and dances, mingled with a lot of people, dined with friends, climbed the rolling hills, swam in ponds and pools, made snowmen during the winter, ice-skated, did some skiing, went to the gym or simply sat under a tree, basking in the sun. I also participated in retreats in the mountains, which were relaxing and revitalizing, and which also heightened my faith and belief in God and deepened my spirituality.

With what is happening in the world, we need a moral revolution. We can do it in our individual, personal relations with our families, friends, classmates and even strangers on the street. We must change toward greater sharing and regard for others, shifting our values from capitalism and materialism to altruism, from "personalism" to communalism, from domination to compassion, from hegemonic to pluralistic, from intolerance to acceptance.

Education for life is what we also need. Achievement is not measured with the number of awards or medals we receive. Rather, it is anchored in our ability to translate the knowledge we have learned in school into meaningful action. After all, the end goal of education is the betterment of the community.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the PCAFPD for everything. Given the right opportunity and exposure, I believe I can do something for the community and for the country. Thank you so much for believing in me.

## Former scholar looks at *kubrador* life in his first book

PCAFPD celebrates along with former Foundation scholar **Ariestelo Asilo**, who has published his first book. Ariestelo is the current president of the PSAA (PCAFPD Scholars and Alumni Association); he earned a degree in nutrition in 2007 from the University of the Philippines, Los Baños.

Asilo gives a description of his book: "*Anak ng Jueteng* is an outpouring by an undaunted boy toward getting an education, thereby giving his family a chance for a better life. He is a son of a *jueteng kubrador* (a small-town lottery system recently legalized by the government after existing more than 300 years).

"Asilo narrates his hopes and dreams amid the marginalized sectors of his town, the poverty he was born into, his acceptance to the state university at Los Baños and a scholarship from the Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development that enabled him to hurdle obstacles.

"He is presently learning to be a full-fledged businessman in the field of agriculture, technology, writing and nutrition. In honest and from-the-heart narratives, Asilo reveals to his readers the other side of *jueteng* that can't be read in newspapers. Support his sharing and be inspired to give more compassion to the struggles of the son and daughters and families of the *kubradors*, who are very much a part of Philippine society's way of life, one that Asilo is a part of.

"For book orders please e-mail [jennybonto@gmail.com](mailto:jennybonto@gmail.com). Book price without shipping is \$7."

Ariestelo has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds from sales his book to PCAFPD to help future scholars.

### WAYS TO REACH PCAFPD

- > Website: [www.rpcvphilippines.org](http://www.rpcvphilippines.org)
- > Email: [board1@rpcvphilippines.org](mailto:board1@rpcvphilippines.org)
- > Yahoo Discussion Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PCAFPD/>
- > Peace Corps Connect: <http://community.peacecorpsconnect.org/group/rpcvphilippines>
- > Facebook: ASK TIM

## Someone's birthday, a group anniversary? Remember PCAFPD!

By Maureen Carroll  
President, PCAFPD

Young, bright and financially needy Filipinos are benefiting from two innovative forms of financial support to PCAFPD's scholarship program.

The first was through the celebration of an important birthday milestone by one of our board members. Rather than collect more "stuff" from well wishers, Ron and Lilia Peters did a special mailing to their wide circle of friends and invited them to donate to PCAFPD in Ron's honor. We received about \$7,000 as a result!

So, if any of you are heading toward a noteworthy birthday or other celebratory event such as a wedding anniversary, please consider a similar appeal.

In another instance, a friend of RPCV Sunshine (Eugene) Gibbs wanted to honor him and decided to set up a scholarship in his name. Sunshine took the innovation a step further—he asked that the scholarship be named in honor of his Peace Corps group—Group III, which was posted to Leyte and Samar. Thus, we now have the Peace Corps Group III Scholarship at Visayas State University, awarded to Marc Calayugan, who is studying agriculture.

Peace Corps Philippines is close to having 300 Groups who have served there. Aren't there at least one or two other groups out there that would like to have a scholarship in their name?

### These innovations in giving augment the current variety of ways supporters contribute to PCAFPD:

- Checks in response to two newsletter mailings per year
- Checks in response to annual fall special fundraising appeal
- Sponsorship of a specific scholar by either an individual/couple or an organization/association (\$1,000 per year)
- Donations in memory of departed family and friends
- Donations in honor of individuals
- Estate giving

We hope that all of you will continue to give as you have in the past. We also hope that you, too, think about new ways that PCAFPD scholars can benefit from your generosity.

This message is important at this time. We recently compared PCAFPD income and expenses for the past two calendar years. Our direct scholar expenses in 2008 increased by \$7,800 and our income from traditional source was down slightly. We discovered that it was the income from Ron Peters' birthday appeal (\$7,000) that allowed us to break near even in 2008. The reduction in traditional giving may reflect the uncertain economic times, so innovations in giving are necessary and welcome.

Please feel free to send along any creative ideas you may have for how we can maintain and expand giving levels. As always, however, thank you for the support you so loyally provide year in and year out—a great tribute to the Peace Corps spirit.

## Joanne Jorz: What the Peace Corps is all about

By Charlie Schwartz

The stars shine brighter over Lingayen than anywhere else in the world. At least that's what Joanne Jorz felt. She spent two years in Lingayen, Pangasinan,, 1965-67, as a Peace Corps Volunteer and, until her death Dec. 5, 2008, continued to refer to it as a second home. She made numerous return trips over the years.

In 1965, after graduating from Marquette University and teaching elementary school for several years in her hometown of Cleveland, Ohio, Joanne joined Peace Corps. Her assignment to a divisional office in the Department of Education allowed her to travel around neighboring provinces teaching demonstration classes, giving lectures and leading teacher-training sessions and conferences.

While some volunteers extend their service beyond two years, Joanne did it differently. In 1967 she became Peace Corps staff and as such worked out of Manila but traveled the entire archipelago visiting and counseling math volunteers.



Joanne Jorz at a barrio fiesta in Lingayen, Pangasinan, when she was a Volunteer.

In 1969 she joined Peace Corps headquarters staff.

Along the way as a volunteer and on return trips to the Philippines Joanne picked up many stories and traditions, which she enjoyed sharing throughout her life. Anyone who visited her home could expect to be regaled about life in the Philippines. The stars were always brighter, the bananas sweeter, the mangos bigger to the point where even Filipinos wondered which country she was talking about. But that too is part of the whole Peace Corps experience – it is bigger than life.

Her professional career as a training and development specialist in public and private service were, in many ways, an extension of her Peace Corps experience. After her retirement in 2007 she continued to give through volunteer activities with hospice organizations, a tutoring program and with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) helping children in the court system.

In many ways Joanne Jorz exemplified what Peace Corps is all about, why we all joined it, and why so many still do.

*Charlie Schwartz was a Volunteer in Manila, 1967-69, assigned to the Philippine Normal College working in mathematics. He lives in Washington, D.C.*



# New scholarships in memory of PCV Julia Campbell

By Maureen Carroll  
*PCAFPD President*

The Julia Campbell Memorial Foundation was established by Julia's family in 2007, in the aftermath of her murder in the Philippines shortly before the completion of her Peace Corps service in Sorsogon and Albay provinces. She was killed while hiking in the rice terraces in Ifugao. The slayer was sentenced to 40 years in prison.

Throughout the ordeal of Julia's death and the subsequent investigation and trial, Julia's family has acted with great compassion and generosity toward the Philippines. They have chosen to honor her life and work in many positive ways, including the establishment of the memorial foundation, which is led by her mother, Linda M. Campbell.

The Memorial Foundation has awarded college scholarships to graduates of the high school in Virginia that Julia attended, with the hope that the recipients of the scholarships will see how they, like Julia, can make a difference in the world. This past August, I met with Linda Campbell to respond to her interest in extending their scholarship awards to the Philippines as well as here in the United States.

In February, PCAFPD presented Linda Campbell with several scholarship applications that had been screened by the PCAFPD Board as potential candidates for the Memorial Foundation's support. Demonstrating the family's habitual generosity, Linda Campbell decided to support two new scholars: Joylene Puguon and Regina Sagamla. Joylene is pursuing a degree in journalism, which was Julia's major, at St. Mary's University; Regina is studying information technology at Ifugao State College of Agriculture and Forestry.

Both scholars are from Ifugao, the province in which Julia was killed. And both scholars have been involved in paying tribute to Julia's memory through their association with the Julia Campbell Agro-forest Memorial Park in Asipulo, Ifugao.

After Julia's death, the community of Asipulo felt a great sense of sadness and moral responsibility. A community organization, the Indigenous Farmers for Sustainable Agriculture, decided to develop a memorial park in Julia's honor, an idea which took on life when the Puguon Family donated 40 hectares of land for the park, inaugurated in June 2007. With the assistance of PCV Dustin Butler, of Julia Campbell's group, the farmers' group won a grant from USAID for the development of an eco-camp for visitors to the park. The camp development project is a steppingstone to a municipal-wide ecotourism plan that will benefit the whole community.



Friends of Julia Campbell gather with her mother, Linda Campbell (second from right, back row), and PCV Dustin Baker (fourth from right, back row) at the site of the Julia Campbell Agro-Forest Memorial Eco-Park in Asipulo, Ifugao, established in 2007..

Linda Campbell was able to visit the park last summer and was taken with the beautiful setting of the park as well as with the hard work and vitality of the community of Asipulo. The two new scholars have both been volunteers at the park, acting as guides and participating in a range of park development activities.

Last year, PCAFPD set up a special fund in honor of Julia Campbell, and supporters contributed to a scholarship that was awarded to Jonalyn Dulagan, who is studying accounting at St. Mary's University. PCAFPD is proud now to have three scholars honoring the life of Julia Campbell. And we are honored to receive the trust and support of Julia Campbell's family through the Julia Campbell Memorial Foundation. We encourage our supporters who visit the Philippines to visit the park in Asipulo.

## PCAFPD signs new agreements with two Manila-area schools

PCAFPD signed agreements in November with two schools in the greater Manila area – the University of the Philippines at Los Baños and St. Bridget College in Batangas City.

The two agreements join a previous one with Visayas State University.

As part of the agreements, each school will promote PCAFPD scholarships, screen and select scholars and meet with them regularly during their college careers.

Each school also will handle the financial disbursements to the students. Selections of scholars are based on regular PCAFPD criteria.

It is hoped that these agreements will lighten the administrative workload of the PCAFPD office in Manila.

## Contributions from our generous supporters

We thank those listed below whose contributions to PCAFPD were received between October 10, 2008 & May 3, 2009. Numbered contributions are designated : (1) in honor of Patricia & Pedro Bayuga; (2) in honor of 61-63 Pioneers; (3) in memory of Ed Adriano; (4) in memory of Ron Carlisle, Group IX; (5) Rachel Singer Memorial Scholarship; (6) in honor of Maureen Carroll; (7) in memory of Alice Waters Spring; (8) in memory of Boy Pamugaling; (9) in memory of her father John Cort; (10) in memory of Pam Johnstone Moguet; (11) in memory of Roger Flather; (12) in memory of Phillip J. Hiller; (13) in honor of her sister Sarah McMeans; (14) in memory of Max Katigbak; (15) in memory of Ronald Wilcox, Bontoc 64-66; (16) in memory of Seymour Greben; (17) for Julia Campbell Scholarship Fund; (18) in memory of Carol Valentine; (19) for Maureen Carroll Scholarship Fund; (20) in memory of loved ones; and (21) in memory of Carolyn Ekdahl Wylie.

+The plus identifies those who made more than one contribution since the last list of contributors was reported.

Theresa Ahles	MN	Abra 78-80	Carol Freeman	MN	Aklan 1965-1967
Miriam Aiken	VA	Ozamis City 65-67	Kate French	MN	Romblon 1983-1985
Chuck Alexander	VA	Davao & Cebu 73-75	Lois A. Fucci	CT	Bicol 1965-1967
Nancy Foral Andal	PA	1962-1964	Barbara Gaerlan (9)	CA	Quezon/Negros 62-64
Richard & Heather Ames	NH	Negros Occidental 68-70	Cathy Garman/Larry Parker	VA	Naga City 1978-1981
Chuck Amorosino	VA	Group 19 1965-67	Stan Garnett	VA	Mt. Province 62-64
Jeff Amundsen	MN	Negros Occidental 83-85	Arlene Goldberg	VA	Zamboanga N. 66-68
Stephen Banta	Manila	Aklan & Rizal 67-70	Lynn Gorton (10)	FL	Region Four Staff 80-85
David Barnstable	MD	1962-1964	Carol Graham	AL	Bulacan 1962-1964
Eloisa Bayuga (1)	Canada	Friend of PCAFPD	David W. Grant	DC	Tarlac 1981-1983
Pamela Cohelan Benson	DC	Quezon 1963-1965	Ron Gratz +	MI	Camarines Sur 68-70
Robert G. Berg	CA	Friend of PCAFPD	George Grills (11)	Canada	Baguio 1963-1965
Linda Cover Bigelow	France	Iloilo 1961-63	Stephen Growdon (3)	WA	Aklan 1983-1985
Paul Bixby (2)	PA	Training Staff 61-63	Dan & Ana Gudahl	AR	Aklan 1981-1984
Olive & Thomas Blackburn	FL	Batanes 1986	Mary Guerrero	MN	Ilocos Norte 66-69
Sharon Blankenship	AZ	Zamboanga 65-67	Steven Hall	IL	Ilocos Sur 1982-1984
Michael Blaylock	CA	Pangasinan 78-80	Judy Harrison	KS	1965-1967
Ben Bloom + (3)	OH	Ilocos Norte 78-82	Ben Harvey	CT	Laguna 1967-1969
Kenneth Bollerud	NY	Misamis Oriental 63-66	Ken Heatherington	FL	Albay 1973-1975
Emery & Annie Bontrager	CA	Camarines Norte 61-63	Jeff Heilman	OR	Romblon 1983-1986
Ruth Boone	KY	Capiz 1961-1962	Linn Henderson	IL	Capiz 1967-1969
Anthony J. Brancato	NC	Bulacan 1966-1969	James & Portia Henle	VA	Benguet 1968-1970
Morton Braunstein	OH	Ozamis City 66-68	Joe Higdon & Ellen Sudow	DC	Cotabato 1962-1964
Marilyn Lathrop Brown +	MO	Lanao del Norte 1962-64	Judy Swigost Hill (5)	FL	Iloilo 1964-1966
John Buckstead (4)	HI	Ifugao 62-64	Barbara S. Hiller (12)	IL	Luzon 1963-1965
Charles D. Burtner	AZ	Cagayan 1965-1967	Steven Holbrook	VA	Quezon 1965-1967
Gerald Capozzalo	NJ	Davao del Sur 66-68	Susan Hollingsworth	OR	Aklan 1981-1982
Maureen Carroll	DC	Sorsogon 1961-1963	William Holman	CA	Friend of PCAFPD
Bob & Rosemary Carter (5)	MA	Iloilo 1963-1964	Calvin & Nita Holt	VA	Cavite 1968-1971
Don Chauls	MA	Bohol 1962-1964	Mark Holt	DC	Tarlac 1982-1984
Timothy "Camote" Considine (3)	IN	Iloilo 1987-1990	Richard Holtzman	MA	Capiz 1961-1963
Helen R. Cooper	MA	Leyte 1981-1983	Mark Horowitz	CO	Quezon 1965-1967
Susan R. Cort	NM	Biliran/Leyte 80-83	Connie Curry Hughes	PA	Zamboanga N. 67-69
Carol Bradley Cukier	MI	Laguna 1968-1970	Nancy & Derek Hulse	NC	Zamboanga 64-67
Robert Currie	MD	Quezon 1963-1965	Jean Wilkinson Inglis (13)	CO	Friend of PCAFPD
Jon Curtis	TX	Leyte 1963-1965	Dick Irish & Pat Reilly	VA	Lanao del Sur 62-64
Pera & Margo Daniels (6)	NV	Camarines Norte 61-63	Loisann Jacovitz	CA	Group 52, 1972-1974
Richard Dertadian	FL	Camarines Norte 61-63	Steve Jasper	IN	Agusan 1967-1969
Dennis & Carol Ann Detlef	VA	Leyte 1964-1966	Joe Jerardi	PA	Isabela 1962-1964
Judy Kealey Diaz	FL	Agusan del Norte 79-81	Mary Lois Baker Johnson	CA	Negros Occ. 1961-1963
Stephen J. Dienstfrey	VA	Bukidnon 65-67	Eve Juliano	NC	Albay 1964-1966
George T. Duncan	NM	Lanao del Sur 65-67	Pat M. Kasdan (14)	DC	Iloilo 1961-1963
Nancy Dunetz (7)	NY	Group 2 1961-1963	Ralph & Mary Kemphaus +	OH	Negros Occ. 65-67
Judith Lesner (5)	CA	Oriental Mindoro 63-66	Melissa Walkup Kennison	DC	Surigao del Norte 99-01
Gretchen Faro +	OH	Davao City 77-79	Mary C. Kilgour	FL	Surigao del Sur 62-64
Lloyd Feinberg	VA	Laguna 1965-1968	Mark & Mirasol Kittrell	IL	Suriago City 2001-2003
David Flaccus (8)	NY	Bohol & Cebu 65-68	Joel Kolker	Kenya	Davao City 1982-1984
Josh Fliegel	WA	Romblon 1987-1990	Carol Kuhlmann	WI	1975-1978
Detlef J. Frank	OH	Bulacan 1964-1966	Harriet Mentis Kulis	IN	Negros Oriental 69-73



David Lang/Maureen Ross-Lang	MO	Agusan/Palawan 02-04	Michael Rodell	CT	Basilan 1962-1964
Jennifer Leinhauser	PA	Palawan 1995-1997	Paul A. Rodell	GA	Zambales/Manila 68-71
Stella Leland	TX	Quezon 1970-1973	Nick & Ruth Royal	CA	Panay & Samar 62-64
Barbara Leitch LePoer (15)	DC	Benguet 1964-1966	Karen Olness Rudio	MA	Pangasinan 83-85
David M. Lieberman	CA	South Leyte 2000-2003	Steve & Nancy Rye	CA	Laguna/Manila 70-74
Tom Lo	NY	Manticao 1977-1979	Bennett Samuels	FL	Misamis Occ. 62-64
Susan Long-Marin	NC	1977-1981	Jim & Mary Ann Scheirer	NJ	Iloilo/Lanao Sur 63-66
Patricia Lutz	FL	1961-1963	Allen & Lilia Schlorff	IN	1969-1974
James & Susan Lytle +	PA	Manila/Luzon 65-67	Charles F. Schwartz	DC	Manila 67-69
David MacDougall	NY	Negros Oriental 80-82	David Searles	KY	Manila 1971-1976
Denis Maloney	NH	Group 89 1975-1977	Mike Shafer	WA	Davao del Sur 80-82
Bob Manlove +	CA	Zamboanga Sur 64-66	Bruce & Bunny Sims	MT	Nueva Ecija 1973-1976
Sherry Katherine Manning	WA		Ed Slevin (3)	CA	Manila 1984-1988
Kathy Hodge Dries Mario	NY	Zamboanga N. 64-66	Don Smith	IL	Leyte 1961-1963
Cathee Robb Marston	FL	Cebu 1964-1966	Michael K. Smith	CA	Cebu 1978-1980
David J. McKoski	IL	Zamboanga Sur 85-87	Richard D. Smith +	NY	Cotabato 1966-1969
Chris Evans McCarthy +	OH	Sorsogon 80-82	Ann Snuggs	DC	Negros Occ. 61-63
Ray McEachern	FL	Camarines Sur 61-63	Jane Sommer	MA	Negros Occ. 64-66
Sarah Wilkinson McMeans	DC	Cebu 1962-1964	Karen Steele+	NY	Lanao del Sur 65-67
John Michalski	NC	Catanduanes 88-90	Tim & Eden Stewart + (3)	SC	Antique 1984-1986
Jane Petrich Miller	MO	Bohol 1975-1978	Terry Sthymmel	CA	Sorsogon 1972-1974
Loretta Moser	CA	Luzon 2001-2002	Melba Stockhausen	WI	1963-1965
Joyce Mary Moses	VA	Cotabato 1962-1964	Stuart Taylor	MD	Albay 1961-1963
Lue Muldoon +	WI	Camarines Norte 89-90	Mary Davenport Thilly	WI	Davao/Manila 68-71
William Murphy	FL	Mindoro Oriental 63-65	Roy Thilly	WI	Masbate 1969-1971
Susan Musich	VA	1989-1990	Ralph B. Thomas +	CA	Negros Oriental 61-63
Susan Marie Neyer	CA	1962-1965	Susan Thompson (18)	MN	Iloilo 1961-1963
Jerry Y. Ogawa	TN	Manila 1970-1974	Tyler Thorpe (3)	CT	Albay 1983-1985
Phillip B. Olsen (16)	HI	Cebu/Zamboanga 62-67	Ralph Thurston	ME	Oriental Mindoro 83-85
Rebecca Holt Palmer	CA	Cebu 1964-1966	Pat McMahon Towle	MA	Nueva Ecija 1964-1966
Barry Parks	CA	Manila 1963-1965	Andy Tracy	VA	Ilocos Norte 1965-1968
Kay Linder Parrish	MO	Benguet 1966-1968	Bill Tucker	NJ	Laguna del Norte 62-64
Anne Pearson	MA	Mindoro Oriental 67-69	William Valentine	MA	Albay/Manila 68-70
Lilia & Ron Peters +	IL	Sorsogon 1961-1963	Mary Herbert Vanderford	MN	1969-1971
Heidi Peterson (17)	OR	Sister of PCV Benguet	Joe Veneklase (3)	MI	Tarlac 1980-1982
Jim Peterson	IL	Zambales 1976-1978	Guia Villapando	NC	Friend of PCAFPD
Leslie Piotrowski	IL	Negros Occ. 83-85	Mike & Joan Walsh	VA	Nueva Ecija 1981-1984
Jerry Poznak	MA	Zamboanga 61-63	Ann Walter	MN	Cebu 1970-1972
Herbert A. Probasco	CO	Ilocos Sur 1962-1964	T. Chad Walter	DC	Metro Manila 78-82
Bob Purdy	NC	Zamboanga Norte 70-72	Larrie Warren	MD	1982-1984
Maggie Purves	OR	Negros Occidental 64-67	Joan Weaver	NH	Batanes 1992-1995
Carol & Mark Radomski	MD	Batanes 1980-1983	Pat Wernert	KY	Zamboanga City 64-66
Deborah Rector	CA	Lanao del Sur 64-66	Richard Wetmore	FL	Misamis Oriental 74-77
Dick Redmond	WA	Antique 1964-1966	Alan & Patricia White	MA	Luzon 1963-1967
Bob & Bev Reeves	OR	Cotabato 1970-1972	Dave & Hermie Wilder	PA	Albay 1983-1987
Alan & Adela Renninger	HI	Rizal 1965-1968	Shirley Scott Williams +	TX	Ozamis City 65-67
Michael & Rufina Rice	RI	Pangasinan 81-85	Anne Wilson (18)	VT	Sorsogon/Manila 61-63
George Ricketts	IL	Laguna 1964-1967	Adamson Wong (20)	PA	Friend of PCAFPD
Norman Ridker Foundation	CA	Negros Occ. 61-63	Ray Woods	KS	Negros Occ. 65-66
Eugene Robinson	NY	Friend of Ron Peters	Evelyn Mittman Wrin	DC	Camarines Sur 61-63
Larry Robertshaw	AZ	Davao 1964-1967	Deane Wylie (21)	CA	Masbate/Albay 61-63

### News briefs and milestones . . .

**Ben Bloom (Ilocos Norte/Pangasinan 1978-1982)** reports, "I have retired from teaching (high school special education) and together with my partner am looking forward to the next chapter of my life being written." ■ **Steve and Nancy Rye (Laguna/Manila 1970-1974)** write: "We had our three daughters with us when we served in the Philippines. We're interested in other families' experiences." The Ryes can be reached at [shrye@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shrye@sbcglobal.net). ■ for **Jerry Poznak (Zamboanga 1961-1963)** we offer congratulations and good luck to Jerry Poznak's son Abe who was drafted by the Denver Nuggets National Basketball Association Team. ■ **Susan Neyer** has sent us news of the passing of Group IX volunteers **Ron Carlisle**, who died following an accident in his home in December 2007; and **Paula Hagan Popovich**, who died in December 2008. Following her return from the Philippines in 1964, Paula completed her BA and worked with children of migrant workers and programs for seniors. She later moved to San Jose, CA, where she married John Popovich in 1971. She and John were both active in local politics and community affairs and travelled extensively.

## PC Director

*(Continued from Page 3)*

to maintain the garden. The elders and the women and the children all participated in its construction. When the elders saw the feasibility and the benefits of the garden well, they agreed to build another well for drinking also. It was pure elation to drink from that well, and to eat vegetables from that garden which we all toiled from sun up to sundown day in and day out to make a reality.

*Did you join the PC staff directly after your PCV years?*

No, I was evacuated out of Mauritania three months before the date of my original Close of Service, and I joined CARE International in Mali doing maternal health. As Country Director in the Philippines, it is my first time back with the Peace Corps after 19 years, mostly in Africa and Haiti managing public health programs.

*What kinds of assignments do PCVs have*

*now in the Philippines, and how many are there?*

Peace Corps Philippines currently offers three assignment areas (projects): Teaching English, Coastal Resource Management (environment), and Children/Youth and Family. There are currently 120 PCVs in country.

Peace Corps Philippines has the capacity to increase the number of PCVs should more funds become available. More Volunteers have served in the Philippines – around 8,300 – than any other of the 139 countries where the Peace Corps has been. We have 37 persons on our staff, and currently take in about 65 PCVs a year.

*Is there a chance of serving areas in the Philippines where the Peace Corps now has no presence? Mindanao, for instance.*

Peace Corps did serve in Mindanao at one time, but we are not currently placing PCVs there, or in any other locations that are considered a security risk. Should those high-risk areas become lower-risk

areas, Peace Corps will wholeheartedly serve where there is an expressed need. We cluster PCVs in regions for support and for safety reasons as well.

*Some volunteer experiences are much the same the world over -- staying healthy, countering stereotypical images of Americans; is there anything that makes service in the Philippines much different or perhaps more challenging – or less so?*

Volunteers in the Philippines may have different challenges from PCVs placed in countries with much less infrastructure and physical comforts. With so many urban centers, shopping malls, internet cafes and fast-food chains, a PCV can be lulled into believing it is the same culture as the U.S.A. But it is not. So a PCV may need to be extra observant and attentive to note the cultural differences and learn to work and live in respect of them. Last year PC Philippines boasted the lowest Early Termination rates in the region – PCVs seem to like it here

## PCAFPD Board

**President:** Maureen Carroll (Sorsogon 1961-63); **Vice President/Philippines:** Roland de Jesus; **Vice President/U.S. and Webmaster:** Carol Hammaker Radomski (Batanes 1980-83); **Treasurer:** Stuart Taylor (Albay 1961-63); **Secretary:** Mike Ollinger (Iloilo 1982-84); **Vice President, Database Management:** Sarah Wilkinson McMeans (Cebu 1962-64); **Vice President, Student Affairs:** Carol Hammaker Radomski (Batanes 1980-83) **Vice President, Communications:** Deane Wylie (Albay & Masbate 1961-63); **Vice President, Institutional Relations:** Hans Groot (Negros Occidental & Laguna, 1961-64); **Board Members at Large:** Dave Brandt, (Bataan 1987-89); William Bright (Manila 1965-67; APCD 1998-2000; Country Director 2000-03); Mark Holt (Tarlac 1982-84); Geraldine Maiatico (Batangas 1966-68; APCD 2000-2005); Tim O'Brien (Sorsogon, 2000-02); Ron Peters (Sorsogon 1961-63); Alex Romero; Michelle Slavin (Negros Oriental 2001-03)

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