

Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development

Newsletter 24
Winter 1996-97

P.O. Box 126
Arlington, VA 22210

Through PCAFPD, returned Peace Corps Volunteers, staff and friends maintain a bond with the Philippines by providing scholarships for exceptional Filipino students who need help to attend college in their country. Please join us by sending a contribution in the enclosed envelope



Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos (center) leads visitors in his trade-mark "Thumbs Up", flanked by (L-R) U.S. Ambassador Thomas Hubbard, PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll, Peace Corps/Philippines Co-Director Joel Wallach, Sonda Klein, Margaret Sheppard, Alexandra York, Jim Saltz, Ruth Boone, Geri Maiatico, Dorreen Borja, Phyllis Baer, Karin Schumacher, Farrar Atkinson, Pat Kasdan, Judith Lessner, Pera Daniels, Diana DeVito, Patricia Licuanan, Ann Snuggs, Susan Thompson, Annie Bontrager. Kneeling (L-R): Linda Saltz, Dante Borja, Clara Wheatley, Jim Turner, Emery Bontrager, Steve Baer, Dirk Ballendorf, Ted Kelley, Warren Williams, Tim Peterson, Foster Wiggins, Christopher DeVito. Sitting (L-R): Pat Johnson, Louis DeVito, Thomas DeVito, Nancy Dunetz, Mary Gieseke, Anne Wilson, Parker Borg, Ron Peters, Mary Johnson.

RPCVs Return, Meet President Ramos, PCAFPD Scholars

On October 12, 1996, 26 former Peace Corps Volunteers returned to the Philippines, 35 years to the day after the first group of PCVs ("Botch I") arrived in 1961. PCAFPD sponsored this *balikbayan* to raise funds for scholarships, and netted a total of \$3500.

Most returning RPCVs served in the 1960s, including 14 members of "Botch I": Emery Bontrager (with wife, the former Annie Gison of Peace Corps/Philippines staff) Parker Borg, Maureen Carroll, Pera and Margo Heineman Daniels, Mary Teasler Gieseke, Mary Baker Johnson, Pat Joslyn Johnson, Ted Kelley, Sonda Williams Klein, Ron Peters, Ann Snuggs, Foster Wiggins, Anne Wilson (with husband Warren Williams).

Six veterans of "Botch II", who also served from 1961 to 1963, were in the group: Phyllis Smith Baer (with husband Steve), Dirk Ballendorf, Nancy Dunetz, Pat MacDermot Kasdan, Linda Egan Saltz (with husband Jim), and Susan Thompson.

Other travelers were Farrar Atkinson and Ruth Boone (with sister Clara Wheatley) 1962-64, Judith Lessner 1963-66, Diana V. DeVito (with husband Louis and sons Christopher and Thomas) 1966-68, Dorreen Borja (with husband Dante) 1967-69, Karin Schumacher 1968-70, Margaret Sheppard 1987-90.

The *balikbayan* travelers were joined by five

RPCVs who live in the Philippines: Tim Peterson and Jim Turner 1961-63, Alexandra York 1962-64, Geri Maiatico 1966-68, and Steve Banta 1970.

SPECIAL BALIKBAYAN ISSUE



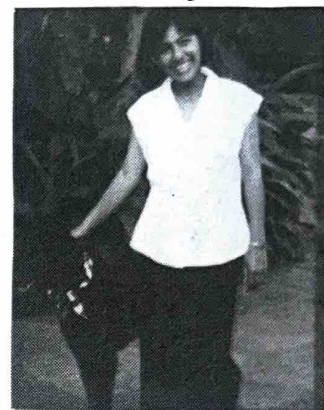
PCAFPD scholars, alumnae and board members at residence of U.S. Ambassador Thomas Hubbard, (L-R) PCAFPD Vice President/U.S. Pat Kasdan, scholar Cresyl Maturan, alumnae Jenifer Mercado and Baby Myra Carpio, PCAFPD Vice President/RP. Roland de Jesus, alumna Marie Jean ("Jazz") Aycocho-Koh, scholars Narda Itong and Segundina Latus, alumnae Rosanna Almoradie and Liza Permelona, and PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll.

Ambassador Thomas Hubbard Hosts Merienda for PCAFPD Scholars

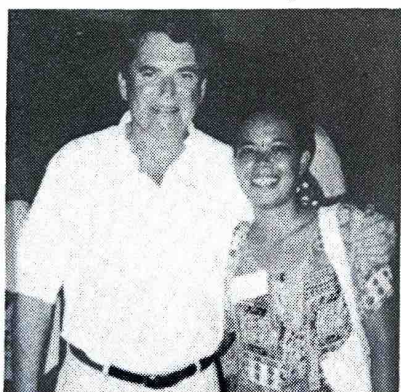


Left Former Ambassador to the U.S., Emmanuel Pelaez, a friend of the Peace Corps since 1961 when he was Vice President of the Philippines, with Annie Gison Bontrager, and Maureen Carroll.

Below Segundina Latus with Ambassador Hubbard's dog "MacArthur".



U. S. Ambassador Thomas Hubbard gave a delightful *merienda* in honor of PCAFPD scholars at his attractive, modern residence in North Forbes Park. Ambassador Hubbard graciously welcomed PCAFPD scholars and board members, RPCVs, and Peace Corps Co-Directors Gale Metcalf and Joel Wallach. He introduced several of his staff who had also served as Peace Corps Volunteers in the Philippines, including Consul General Kevin Herbert (1971-73). PCAFPD contributors were thrilled to meet eight of the 60 scholars who have earned Foundation scholarships, as well as PCAFPD Vice President/RP, Roland de Jesus, who had made all the intricate and careful arrangements for their travel and lodging. All current and former scholars who could be reached were invited and offered a small stipend for travel.



Left Ambassador Hubbard with scholar Cresyl Maturan.

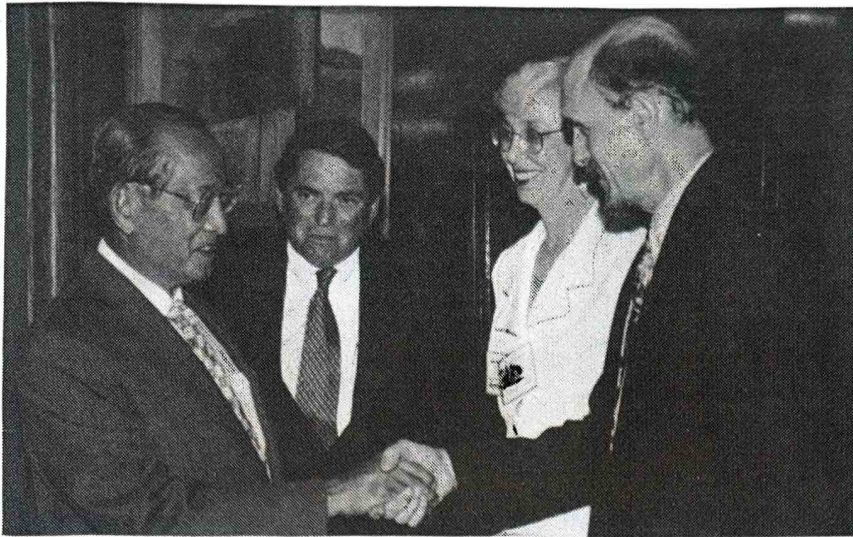
PCAFPD Officers President: Maureen Carroll (61-63)
VP/RP: Roland de Jesus Secretary: Ann Snuggs (61-63)
VP/US: Patricia MacDermot Kasdan (61-63)
Treasurer: Alexander Sinclair (83-86)
Scholars: Carol Hammaker Radomski (80-83)
Special Projects: Margo Heineman Daniels (61-63)

Scholars who were able to attend were alumnae Rosanna Almoradie, Marie Jean "Jazz" Aycocho-Koh, Baby Myra Carpio, Jenifer Mercado, and Liza Permelona, and current scholars Narda Itong, Segundina Latus, and Cresyl Maturan. Alumni unable to attend because of work demands included Ronnie Benitua, a Community Development worker on Negros who was conducting training in capacity-building, and Ricky Lubrigas, a parish nurse in Banisilan, Cotabato, who was organizing far-flung communities to become self-reliant in health, gardening, and nutrition. The occasion was happy, moving, and memorable for all concerned. First-year scholar "Dinah" Latus wrote to Roland de Jesus, "I felt so welcome and loved. I've won new friends, too."



Right PCAFPD alumnae Rosanna Almoradie, Baby Myra Carpio, and Jennifer Mercado, Arlene C. Cordial (Roland's secretary who has helped many scholars); alumnus Elmo Singson (an architect), and PCAFPD VP/RP Roland de Jesus gather in Roland's office.

President Fidel V. Ramos Invites PCAFPD Group to Malacañang Palace



President Fidel V. Ramos, attired in a suit, welcomed the PCAFPD group; most male (and some female) guests wore *barongs*. PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll introduced the group, described the Foundation and recalled the history of the Peace Corps in the Philippines. She presented the President with a Peace Corps hat and T-shirt (which he noted would make a good night-gown), and a PCAFPD newsletter, brochure and *balikbayan* bag. Mr. Ramos presented the Foundation with what he called his "propaganda," a beautiful book about the Philippines. The visit ended with an extraordinary tour of Malacañang Palace, where each room is dedicated to a past president of the Philippines.

Above President Ramos welcomes Tim Peterson to Malacañang along with Ambassador Thomas Hubbard and PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll.

Right President Ramos sports a Peace Corps hat while accepting a Peace Corps T-shirt and PCAFPD *balikbayan* bag from PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll, watched by Ambassador Thomas Hubbard (left), Dirk Ballendorf and Tim Peterson (l-r rear), and Peace Corps/Philippines Co-Director Gale Metcalf (far right).



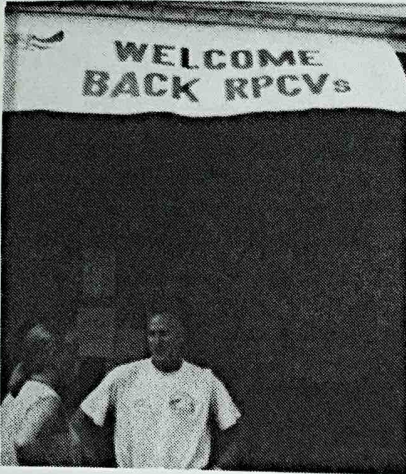
Petersons Host Fiesta

"Botch I" veteran Tim Peterson and his wife Patricia Licuanan held a superb *fiesta* for the PCAFPD group at their stunning Quezon City home. Traditional Filipino music delighted guests as they dined on *lechon*, *babinka*, San Miguel and other typical Filipino delicacies.

Left Enjoying the *fiesta* at the La Vista Village home of Tim Peterson and Patricia Licuanan are Wilfredo Arce (Ateneo de Manila sociologist), Parker Borg, Pat Kasdan (back to camera), Karin Schumacher, Judith Lessner, Susan Thompson and Dorreen Borja.



Peace Corps Co-Directors, Volunteers, and Staff Welcome *Balikbayan* Group



Left Currently serving Peace Corps Volunteers welcome RPCVs.

Right Maureen Carroll plants a tiny tree at the Peace Corps office in honor of all PCVs who have served in the Philippines, under the scrutiny of (L-R) Margo Daniels, Jim Turner, Pera Daniels, Anne Wilson, Tim Peterson, Ann Snuggs, and Geri Maiatico.



Peace Corps Co-Directors Gale Metcalf and Joel Wallach arranged two events - an excellent briefing about current Peace Corps activities and a marvellous welcome to the Peace Corps office, now located at 2139 Fidel A. Reyes Street in Malate, Metro-Manila. The briefing by four PCVs reflected the local Peace Corps focus on environment, education, business, and health.



RPCV listeners were moved when PCV Katy dela Fuente recalled arriving to teach in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, only to hear praise for her PCV predecessors, especially "Miss Judy" and "Mr. Bob" - "Miss Judy" was in the audience: Judith Lessner had served on Mindoro from 1963 to 1966! Katy touched every RPCV when she described her experience in the Philippines as "entanglements of the heart."

The next day, PCVs and staff welcomed the PCAFPD group to the Peace Corps office with magnificent leis of *sampagita* and orchids. RPCVs were surprised to find that the staff is now all Filipino, except for Co-Directors Metcalf and Wallach. After planting a small tree to commemorate the visit, PCAFPD visitors were thrilled to talk to currently serving PCVs while enjoying another *merienda* of once familiar delicacies. RPCVs were impressed by the ability, dedication and sensitivity of PCVs and staff.

Above RPCVs pose by the now "official" PCV Tree: (rear L-R) Pat Johnson, Mary Johnson, Emery Bontrager, Maureen Carroll, Tim Peterson, Foster Wiggins, Jim Turner, Diane Borja (back), Ann Snuggs, Pera Daniels (back), Geri Maiatico, Farrar Atkinson, Dirk Ballendorf, Susan Thompson, Ted Kelley, Mary Giesecke, (front L-R) Ruth Boone, Steve Baer, Phyllis Baer, Linda Saltz, Margaret Sheppard.

Right RPCVs Pera and Margo Daniels of McLean, Virginia, are amused to find that the first PCV they meet is Charlotte Schoeneman, also of McLean, who works in planning and development on Marinduque.



Ateneo Holds Symposium on Philippine-American Partnership in Education



Above Patricia Licuanan welcomes Peace Corps group to the symposium.

Right Symposium participants Lewis Gleek, Ted Kelley, Mary Racelis, Patricia Licuanan, Gale Metcalf, and Emy Pascasio await proceedings.

Ateneo de Manila University held a fascinating symposium to mark the 35th Anniversary of the Peace Corps' arrival in the Philippines. Academic Vice President Patricia Licuanan welcomed the PCAFPD group. Symposium participants included two who had trained "Botch I" in 1961, the Deputy Representative of the Ford Foundation in the Philippines Mary Racelis and Ateneo professor Emy Pascasio. Ms. Racelis introduced the topic "Philippine-American Partnership in Education".

Former U.S. Foreign Service Officer Lewis Gleek, Curator of the American Historical Collection in the Philippines, pointed out that education under the Spanish had been limited to some *mestizos*; it was extended it to all Filipinos

when the U.S. introduced public schools staffed by Americans who taught and practiced democracy. English was required for a government job to attract Filipinos to universal education.

RPCV Edward T. (Ted) Kelley II, Assistant Dean of the School of Health-Related Professions at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, traced the history of the Peace Corps in the Philippines from his arrival with "Botch I" to the present. RPCVs in the audience nodded in agreement as Kelley described how much more PCVs learned than they taught.

Ateneo President Bienvenido Nebres, S.J., raised current issues in education in the Philippines: Should the language of instruction be local,

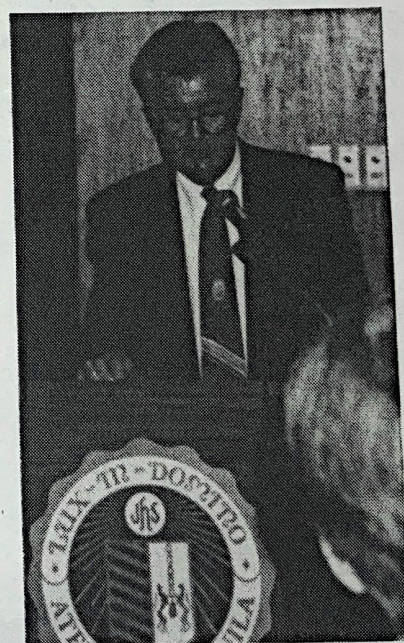
audience noted that these issues were similar to those in the U. S.

University of the Philippines President Jose Abueva emphasized language issues by speaking Tagalog and English. He listed what the Philippines could learn from the U. S.: civic organization and education, public accountability, an internal revenue system, educational reform, and a middle class to foster empowerment.

Discussants were Peace Corps Co-Director Gale Metcalf, and Ms. Pascasio, who noted that PCVs can train Filipino teachers in English, cross-cultural issues, and business. Jesuit trainers of early PCVs, Fathers Bulatayo and Carroll, joined RPCVs in frank discussions of population control and the impact of PCVs.

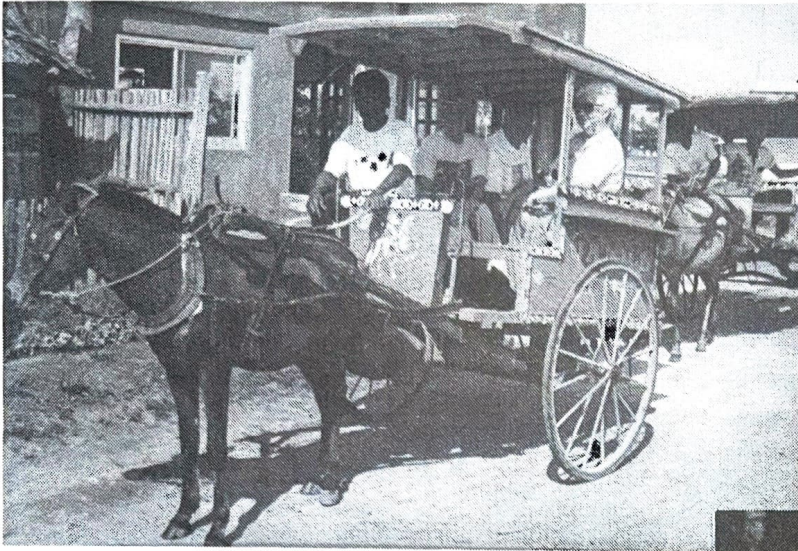


Tagalog, or English? Can only 10 years of basic education be increased? Should curriculum be uniform or local? Should decision-making be centralized or not? How can understanding of change be promoted? How can political leaders learn to appreciate the school system? Father Nebres noted that there are ten million elementary students in 23,000 public schools and only 800,000 in 2,000 private schools. Free public high school education was introduced in 1988, resulting in severe overcrowding with 2 to 3 sessions a day in many schools. Rizal High School in Manila, with 20,000 students, is in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the largest school in the world. Educators in the



RPCV Ted Kelley reviews the history of the Peace Corps in the Philippines.

RPCUs Leave Luxury of Manila Hotel for Former *Barangays*



Left "Botch I" RPCVs abandon their rental car for a *calesa* ride through Camarines Norte to Bagaspas Beach, Margo and Pera Daniels and Ann Snuggs lead, Emery Bontrager follows.

Emery Bontrager: "Nobody said, 'Hey, Joe!'"

Pat Joslyn Johnson: "The changes after a 33-year absence were a shock -
population explosion...
continual traffic jams...
natural resource depletion...
decline in knowledge of English...
lots more goods available.

The same? Friendly and hospitable people...
so many poor people and crowded living conditions...
importance of 'who you know' in getting ahead...
jeepneys..."

Karin Schumacher: "...I flew to Cebu City for the first time since '70, and found lots of familiar places (altho 2 streets where I had lived were almost unrecognizable) and a population twice that of 1970. I visited my old school and re-united with former co-teachers and friends... I gave guest lectures and demonstrations on Physical Therapy topics for 1-3 hours mornings at several schools of P.T. in both Cebu City and Manila (the third week)... I was encouraged by a small but growing environmental movement in the country ("clean and green"). But I could not avoid being struck by the population density, the poverty, pollution and strong political flavor pervading daily life; those things have not changed. The heat and humidity were as bad as I remembered - or worse..."



Left Karin Schumacher (second from left) joins former co-teachers at Abellana National School, Cebu, where she taught in 1968-69.



Diana Veasey DeVito: "...It was great for my kids to see what life is like in another part of the world - which is most of the world... It was lovely to visit the family I had lived with although they are quite elderly now. My kids had never heard real roosters before and were amazed at the racket they make!"

Right Dumalog, Capiz, Ruth Boone meets Mr. Primitivo Focura who was her student when she was a PCV from 1962 to 1964. He is a math teacher.



Left Diana DeVito's Grade VI-A Honor Pupils at Cuenca Central Elementary School, Batangas, pose in 1966-67, including (from left) Nila Larena, Susana Aguila (third) Cristina Javier (fourth); behind, Reynaldo Jusay (center), Leopoldo Magpantay (right).

Below 1966 - Diana DeVito (front right) finds these five former pupils after 30 years: (front, l-r) Reynaldo Jusay, Nila Larena, (rear, l-r) Cristina Javier Magpantay, Susana Aguila, Leopoldo Magpantay, and another former student, Rosalio Remo.



"This is the second greatest return to the Philippines after MacArthur!"

Mr. Vicente Luntao, Pat Kasdan's former District Supervisor, Banate, Iloilo

THEN



Sorsogon

Left 1961,
- Anne Wilson,
Gloria Paulik,
Maureen Carroll,
Hope Gould,
Dr. Oñate,
Foster Wiggins,
Mrs. Oñate,
and Ron Peters.

Right 1996
Foster Wiggins,
Anne Wilson,
Juan "Johnny" Frivaldo,
Governor of Sorsogon,
and Maureen Carroll.

NOW



Conception,
Iloilo

Left 1962
Right 1996
Nancy Dunetz
and
co-teacher
Lilia Nabuab



Susan Thompson: Among the changes: Manila and Iloilo City shopping malls, huge increase in population...paved streets...24-hour electricity...healthier-looking children. Among the non-changes: hospitality, "mum", S.I.R. and related ways of getting things done, colorful political life.



Bitoon
National
Vocational
School,
Dumanjug,
Cebu

Left 1990
Farewell
Right 1996
Hail
for
Margaret
Sheppard



CONTRIBUTORS

We thank all those listed below who have made recent gifts to PCAFPD. If you check "Philippines" on your contribution to the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), PCAFPD receives a \$15 contribution in your name.

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