

Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development

Newsletter 28
Spring 1999

P.O. Box 126
Arlington, VA 22210

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

6 New Scholars Make 17



RETCHEL EDANG (right)
Secondary Education
Expected Graduation: 2003
Central Philippines University,
Iloilo City - Home: Guimaras

(left) **ROSEMARIE ALDEA**
Secondary Education
Expected Graduation: 2003
West Visayas State University
Home: Guimaras



(left) **MARICYL FLORES**
Biology
Expected Graduation -- 2003
West Visayas State University
Home: Guimaras
Sponsor: Lynn Gorton



ROY ROXAS (right)
Civil Engineering
Expected Graduation: 2004
Pablo Borbon Memorial Institute
of Technology - Home: Batangas



(left) **ZAYDA TAGABUEN**
Elementary Education
Expected Graduation: 2003
West Visayas State University
Home: Guimaras



CYRYN TIROL (right)
Agricultural Engineering
Expected Graduation: 2004
U.P. Mindinao
Home: Davao



President Reports on Financial Status, Growth

by Maureen Carroll, Philippines I, 1961-63

Many, many thanks to our loyal supporters of the Foundation. During the calendar year 1998, you contributed \$11,317 to support the scholarship program. Because of your steadfast generosity, we were able to increase the number of scholars for the 1999-2000 school year from 11 to 17.

Our newsletters are usually focused on reporting to you from and about the students you support. In this issue we add some information about the finances of PCAFPD so you have a clearer sense of how much we collect from whom and how we spend the money.

Mail List. Until this issue of the newsletter we have maintained a mail list of close to 1000, who have received the two issues a year that we publish. The newsletter is our largest administrative expense--each issue costs about \$900 to print and mail. Over the past year, we have alerted all readers that in 1999 we planned to reduce the mail list to include only those readers who had made at least one contribution to the Foundation since 1996. We've taken that step with the mailing of this newsletter, reducing the list to approximately 450. So, congratulations for making the cut! The list will grow again with the discovery of others interested in our work.

Contributor Profile. PCAFPD supporters come from every state in the union except one and live in 15 countries overseas. Forty-one percent are Volunteers and staff from the 1960's, when the largest number of Volunteers served in the Philippines. Forty-seven percent of the contributions we receive are between \$25 and \$49, demonstrating that the Foundation continues to be supported by modest but regular donations from a broad base. Thirteen percent of the contributions are above \$100. We have several individual sponsors of scholars who contribute from \$350 to \$1200 per year. A Filipino-American Association, BIMAK, has contributed \$1000 per year to support students from its home provinces. A significant source of income for the Foundation also comes through the Foundation's affiliation with the National Peace Corps Association,

(Continued on page 2)

President Reports. . .

(continued from p. 1)

whereby RPCVs joining NPCA can designate PCAFPD to receive \$15 of their membership fee. During 1998, 16% of our contributions came from these rebates.

Expenses. Several times a year, the PCAFPD Treasurer wires money to our VP for Operations in the Philippines to cover students' tuition, fees, and living expenses. Tuition and fees vary widely depending on the school and the course of study of the scholar. A standard living allowance of approximately \$75 to \$100 per semester is provided depending on whether the setting is urban or rural. Our annual cost per student ranges between \$350 and \$1200.

Other than what we spend to print and mail the newsletter, the Foundation's administrative expenses are very low and are spent primarily on communications (postage, telephone calls) and primarily in the Philippines to stay in touch with students and schools. For example, in 1998, we spent about \$300 in the Philippines for this type of expense.

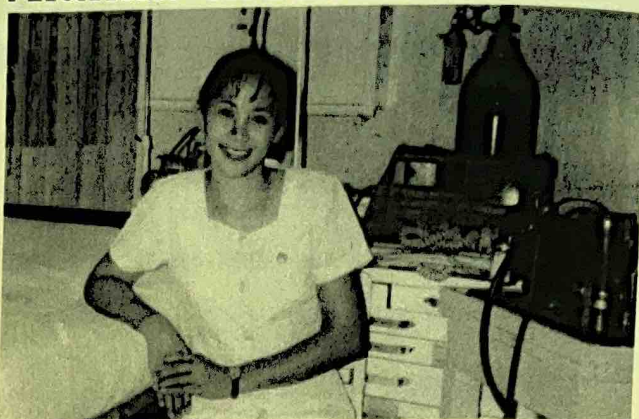
Reserve. Each winter when we decide on the number of students we can support, we make our decisions in the context of a four-year commitment, even though each scholarship is reviewed annually to be sure the students are meeting their commitments to the Foundation. Therefore, we manage our resources—your contributions—in a way that builds a reserve account, should contributions fall off in any given year. PCAFPD currently (as of May 15, 1998) had a domestic balance of approximately \$25,000 in a checking account and a certificate of deposit. Half of that will go to support the 18 new scholars—but we know will be replenished by your generosity in the coming months.

In a recent communication from Roland de Jesus and a visit from RPCV Geri Maiatico (1966-68), who lives in the Philippines, the economic news is not good for the average Filipino. Tuition prices, which apparently have increased 2000% since 1982, will be increasing again in the future, as will all other costs for books, fees, uniforms, lodging, and food. Please know that whatever you are able to send to the Foundation is a very valuable investment in the lives of bright and motivated young people. Please continue to help.

PCAFPD Officers and Board of Directors

Maureen Carroll (1961-63) President
Roland de Jesus Vice President/Philippines
Stuart Taylor (1961-63) Vice President/US
Ann Snuggs (1961-63) Secretary
Alexander Sinclair (1983-86) Treasurer
Andre Bald (1996-98) Special Events
Lynn Gorton (Staff, 1980-85)
Patricia MacDermot Kasdan (1961-63) Newsletter
Sarah Wilkinson McMeans (1962-64) Data-base
Carol Hamaker Radomski (1980-83) Student Affairs

Alumni Check In:



Amy Edang, BS, Nursing, 1993, awaits you in the ICU at Puerto Azul Resort Hotels in Ternate, Cavite.

- **Ronnie M. Benitua, BS, Agriculture, 1994**,
"Since January 1998, I was already with the Special Project Management Unit (SPMU) under the Office of the Governor still of the Province of Negros Occidental. For the first six months I was assigned as technician to the newly started Negros Occidental Highland Crop Experimental Station (NOHCES) in Don Salvador Benedicto. Here we raised strawberries and other high valued crops. As of now, the office are planning to transfer my assignment in Lacastellana, Neg. Occidental to our newly opened Reforestation and Vegetable Production Projects."
- **Robert C. Cajes, BS, Biology, 1993, MD, 1997**,
was among 1,288 of 1,916 applicants to pass the Board of Medicine's Physician Licensure Examination. He is a resident in General Surgery at Cebu Doctors Hospital and has volunteered to help PCAFPD—an offer VP Roland de Jesus is planning to accept.
- **Jenny A. Mercado, BS Civil Engineering, 1996**,
works for VP Roland de Jesus on PCAFPD business one day a week.
- **Judith C. Mocomo, Dentistry, 1996**,
". . . here in our town Biliran. . . I enjoyed very much visiting the different elementary schools, testing the dental health problems of the pupils as well as preventing their teeth from decaying by giving them a weekly fluoridation and by applying pit and fissure sealant to free caries 1st molars. . . As of now, I and our Public Health Dentist continue doing free dental service every Saturday."
- **Liza G. Permelona, HS 1992, BS, Education, 1992**,
"As of now, I am still connected with the Naga Parochial School. . . As to my post-graduate studies, right now I stopped school because I can't afford to pay my school fees due to financial constraints. I am supporting the studies of my younger siblings. . . I am still thankful to God for giving me a generous organization which financed my studies since high school. . . In case the Foundation needs some write-ups for the newsletter or whatsoever, perhaps I can be of help. You just inform me. Perhaps through this I could compensate what the Foundation has done to me."

Roland de Jesus (alias "Mr. Blue"), Our Man in Manila, Tells All



"Sir" Roland de Jesus, as our VP/Philippines is affectionately called by many PCAFPD scholars

I was born, raised, and grew up in the historic City of Pasay. I lived just two blocks away from the present Peace Corps offices which is adjacent to the Seafront Compound. Right next to it was my playground as a child called Derham Park (before it gave way to what is now the Cuneta Coliseum, a play venue for the Philippine Basketball Association). Further down Roxas Boulevard (then called Dewey Blvd) one finds the former Asian Development Bank building (now housing the Dept. of Foreign Affairs) which used to be the site of the Philippine Nautical School, another favorite playground of mine.

FEU--AB, Psychology

I started off as a PreMed student at the University of the Philippines (Diliman). After one year I was granted a leave, as I embarked on a "self search". This journey was to last for 2 years and it was during this hiatus that I went "on board as a disc jockey". . .

I decided on "Mr Blue" as my radio monicker, that being the signature song of a favorite teenage trio known as the *Fleetwoods*. This American group (made up of Bob, Gary and Gretchen) gave us popular ballads such as Confidential, Come Softly, You Mean Everything to Me, among others. The listening public came to know us DJs only by our aliases and fans wrote to these mysterious characters by their *nom de guerre*.

I got off the dream train as fast as I got in and went back to enroll at Far Eastern University (where I attended high school). It was a colorful and memorable collegiate stint and I graduated with a Liberal Arts degree, Major in Psychology.

Student Leader, Campus Figure

I led an active campus life (oratorical club, captain of the University Debating Team, student council officer, Features Ed of the school organ, prexy of the Human Relations Club), was a recognized student leader ("Pag Asa ng Lahi" awardee) and

dubbed a "Newsmaker" by the Student Advocate. All my college honors/citations were for extra-curricular pursuits (but ironically these paved the way for my first career job in an institution of higher learning).

Married to Former Classmate

Maria Carmelo, "Ningning" (translates to "sparkle"), was my classmate and an officer in the Human Relations Club, a group of psychology majors which I headed. I hardly knew her then, overly absorbed as I was with various campus activities. I was to meet her again after graduation as a member of my (non-academic) staff in the Manila Central University. . . As the cliché goes, the rest is history. . .

I have only one child, a beautiful girl (like her Mom). Janice, now 22 years young and working in a Makati law firm, is an Assumption '98 graduate, major in Wholistic Human Development and Management [WHDM].

Director, PERT, Manila Central University

My professional career started in the academe, at the Manila Central University. I was to reorganize the Guidance Center into the Personnel Evaluation, Research and Testing Centre and be its first Director.

The first four years at MCU were significant in a number of ways. First, I got to represent the Philippine Committee of the World University Service (WUS) in the UN-FAO sponsored "2nd International Youth Strategy for Development" conference in the Netherlands. Second, I was part of the group that conceptualized and launched "Project LINA (Lingap sa Nayon)", a university-based youth program for the development of the barrio. Every summer during those years, we would train, field and work with student volunteers to do community organizing work and short-term developmental projects at the grassroots level in the rural areas.

Delta Motor Corp, Air Manila as VP-Admin

Later I was recruited to join the Delta Motor Corporation, assemblers of Toyota cars. I worked with a team doing systems and organizational development for the various divisions of the Silverio group of companies (Nipponenso air-conditioning, Sharp refrigeration, TV & audio). My detail assignment at Air Manila as Vice President for Administration was my most memorable as it was my last with the conglomerate. (For two years after that stint, I was to try being a self-employed entrepreneur).

Benguet Corporation Handling Personnel

Twenty years ago I joined Benguet Corporation as Personnel Manager-Makati office. This month I am chalking up another year of service to a natural resource company which has 97 colorful years of history. As Asst. Vice President for Personnel I handle the full range of personnel services for corporate headquarters and operating units (training/development, wage/salary/benefits administration, labor relations and negotiating Collective Bargaining Agreements, medical and security services, cooperatives).

I like to fix things and putter around the house. I am a handy man and enjoy working on things with my hands. If time permits, I like an occasional quiet game of chess (last December I joined the International Email Chess Club but still has to play one serious game). My most recent interest is in accessing the information highway by email, BBSing and discovering free services in the internet. My other involvement is with the National Council of Churches in the Philippines as head of its Personnel Committee. I took over the work started by my Dad and have been at it for the past 4 years.

OBITUARIES

Virginia Hopkins Hayes

RPCV Virginia Hopkins Hayes, who was among the first group of Peace Corps Volunteers to serve in the Philippines from 1961 to 1963, died last February 17. Gini grew up in Portland, Oregon, and received her BEd from the Oregon College of Education. In the Peace Corps, she was a Teacher's Aide in Tigaon, Camarines Sur, where she lived with housemates **Clare Horan Smith**, **Sue Johnson** (also deceased), and **Betty Jo McMakin Brooks**. After service in the Peace Corps, she earned a Masters degree in Education from Columbia University. At the time of her death, Gini was an Administrator at the Educational Opportunity Center of the State University of New York, where she had also served as acting Dean of Students. Her husband, **George Dallas Hayes**, an actor in New York, died in 1980. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Rosie Lee Hopkins, a daughter, Amanda, and a son, Gregory.

In addition to her family, her loss is mourned by her co-workers at SUNY, her friends at Calvary Baptist Church, and her fellow Peace Corps *Kuans* who remember her as a beautiful lady with a beautiful voice. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to her mother at: 4425 SE 16th Avenue, Portland OR 97202.

Leo Anthony Pastore

RPCV Leo Anthony Pastore, also a member of Philippines I from 1961 to 1963, died on December 7, 1998. Born in 1932, he spent 37 years working in international development in many countries and cultures; he also earned a reputation as a gourmet cook. In the Peace Corps he lived in Pontevedra, Negros Occidental, with housemates **John Bossany** and **Lee Johnson** (both deceased) and **Pat Rowe**; he also served as a Volunteer Leader.

After service in the Peace Corps, Leo worked with CARE and USAID, then formed his own consulting company. He and his wife, Edmee Hawkes, served as Peace Corps Co-Country Directors in Morocco. His wife, also a member of Philippines I, is a Foreign Service Officer serving in Nigeria. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Julie and Lael, and a son, Michael.

PCAAPD has already received contributions in memory of Gini Hopkins Hayes and in memory of Leo Pastore. Scholarships will be established in Gini's name and in Leo's name, to be awarded to qualified students from the regions where they served, once sufficient designated contributions are received.

Donations may be made in Gini's name or in Leo's name to:

PCAAPD, P.O. Box 126, Arlington, VA 22210.

RPCV Builds Habitat Houses

RPCV Geri Maiatico (1966-68) joined over 2,000 local and foreign volunteers in Habitat for Humanity's Jimmy Carter Work Project. In one week, they built 293 houses for poor Filipino families in: Maragondon, Cavite; General Santos City; Dumaguete City; Tagbilaran City; Bacolod City; and Don Bosco, Parañaque. Geri worked in Cavite and reported she found the experience moving and inspiring.

Former Presidents Carter and Fidel Ramos, their wives, and President Estrada, surrounded by a ring of Secret Service agents joined volunteers in Maragondon. New owners pay about \$20 a month for 15 years and volunteer 400 hours of service to keep their new homes.

RPCV Seeks Filipino Folk Tales

RPCV Jill Johnson (1970-72) is a professional storyteller in Jonesborough, Tennessee--home of the annual National Storytelling Festival. She is searching for Filipino folk tales from every ethnic group, plus information on stories, tellers, publications, storytelling history, historical background. Contact Jill at: 123 Bob Walker Road, Jonesborough, TN 37659.

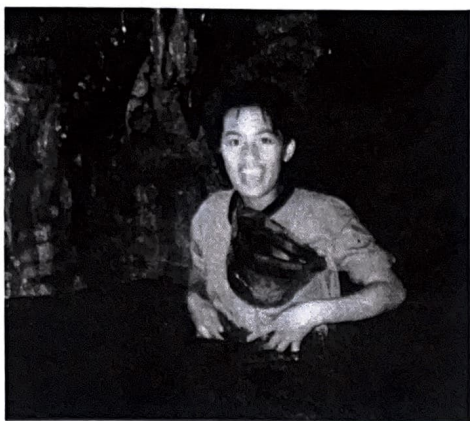
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO . . .

. . . **Norman Brown (1970-72)**, former President of the Kellogg Foundation, has been appointed President of Partners for the Americas, a non-profit organization that provides Volunteer experts to development projects in 31 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

. . . **Tom Dine (1961-63)** is President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, headquartered in Prague. RFE/RL reports international and local news in 23 languages (not including English) to support a free, accurate, and independent press in 20 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union.

. . . **Diane Rodill (1985-87)** reports that she has been promoted to Special Assistant in the Health Resources & Services Administration's Center for Public Health Practice, Office of the Administrator (DHHS). The Center works with state health departments and health professional organizations to deliver health services to under-served populations.

. . . **Nick Royal (1961-63)** retired from directing the Merrill Field Program at the University of California, Santa Cruz, but still teaches one course, "Americans in a Changing World." He sings with the Cabrillo College Symphonic Chorus of 130 voices which performs with the Santa Cruz Symphony and toured Italy last summer. His wife, **Ruth Kesselring Royal (1962-64)**, works at a small branch library and hopes to retire soon. Their daughter, Suzy, is pursuing an MA in Art History at the Courtauld Institute in London, and their son, David, is a photographer in Santa Cruz.



Scholar "Dinah" Latus braves cold water in "The Dancing Hall" of Sumaguig Cave, Sagada, Mt. Province

Scholar Reports Struggles and Successes

To the PCAFPD family,

Kumusta na po kayong lahat?

It is my joy to share to you once again how school life had been. Just like any other students, we've had our 'ups' and 'downs,' our struggles, our triumphs and in spite of all these, we feel happy and inspired knowing the foundation, our family will always be there for us.

This past semester, I finished 6 major Environmental Science courses and 2 minor courses and these are:

English - Intro to Literature

Philo - Ethics

ES - Extension Education & Community Development

ES - Resource Economics

ES - Intro to Microbiology

ES - Sustainable Agriculture

ES - Farming Systems

The highlight of our activities are on our laboratory since we were able to reach out to the rural areas and to the farmers.

Also, we were able to finish two major papers.

Last August 13 and 14, our BSES group traveled up North to Besao, Sagada, and Bontoc, Mt. Province and to Banaue, Lagawe and Kiangnan, Ifugao. We were able to go spelunking in the famous Sumaguig Cave of Sagada and it was an incomparable adventure to find ourselves bathing in cool, very cold water hundreds of meters underground! During the trip, we were able to discover the richness of the Cordillera - the thick pine forests in Mt. Province and thick mossy forests in Ifugao with a lot of waterfalls. Nature is really being taken good care of by the people and that can be seen in the environment-friendly and environment-enriching farming systems the farmers employ in the said areas. Their way of life is simple, yet, sustainable. Truly, the said trip was educational and it's all worth it.

Reaching out to the farmers of Tonglo, Amlimay, Buguias was also a challenging activity. I chose the said place and I adopted some area where to conduct our tree planting. During my stay there, (August 29 and 30) the residents have been supportive with our project and a friend of mine and some residents helped me plant a total of 130 Benguet Pine seedlings in distributed areas. There, I was able to find out that the farmers showed interest in saving the disappearing forest covers in their place. It was also sad to find out that most of the farmers practice conventional or chemically-based farming system in order to have a high yield, and that they are unaware of some of the adverse effects their practices cause them.

In Farming Systems, we conducted an investigative study (by groups) on: Contract Growing as a Means of Broiler

Production in Pozoirubio, Pangasinan. The study looks into the different farm practices conducted by the farmer, the profitability of the farming system and other factors affecting the system. The group (our group) was able to interview the farm managers and the farm proprietors and they were ever willing to give us the facts and figures we asked from them. Also, we stayed for a day to observe how the farming system works and on the later part of September (3rd week) we went back again to observe some developments. As for the paper, we worked real hard and sometimes even at night (for 2 days) we stayed awake. It was also challenging and fun to be working with my classmates. After the paper was done, we were required to do an oral defense in the class and present our study to our class mates and to our instructor - Dr. Edwin T. Bataki. I was tensed and we did good! The instructor was convinced.

The other paper we were required to do was a term paper on Marriage, Legal Separation and Annulment in the Philippines. It was focused more on research and I'm glad I finished it in time and I was able to give an oral report. This was a course requirement in Ethics. Furthermore, my Microbiology subject was also interesting. In our lab, we learned how to grow a bacteria or a fungi or a protozoan in a culture media. We often made use of agar slants in test tubes to grow 'germs' and at the same time study them. During our final sessions, we were able to conduct a water test and find out if the water is infected or not with the *coliform* bacteria.

Going further, cases of dengue fever is increasing here in the Philippines and in our region - the Cordilleras. It is nearly to become an epidemic since almost or even more than a thousand had been infected with the virus. In our municipality alone, we have 30 cases. The government and the Health Department are doing all their best to prevent further the transfer of the said virus.

Life in the Philippines is really getting harder and harder as the days pass. The prices of basic commodities are soaring high and the Filipinos could hardly cope with it. In school alone, all of our expenses increased but despite all of these problems we encounter, we know that we still have hope - our God Almighty. My family is also very thankful for your continuous support and may God bless you and your family for your goodness.

Till next mail.

Yours truly,

Segundina C. Latus (St. Louis University 00)

Scholars Work, Keep in Touch

Jannah B. Anamong, Community Development/Social Work (01), continued attending classes at Cordillera College throughout a five-day protest of tuition increases.

Maricel Fortaleza, Business Administration (02), was awarded "First Placer, Folk Dance" during Students' Day Celebrations at Romblon State College.

Narda C. Itong, Environmental Science (00), enjoyed a semester of investigative study, experimental research, and field work on problems such as waste management and reforestation, at Benguet State University.

Riza San Juan, Accountancy (02), reports she has switched her major from Computer Science (with PCAFPD approval) at the Ateneo de Naga.

Sharon Tamiking, Management (December99), has also changed majors (with PCAFPD approval)--she began in Accountancy at the Baguio Colleges Foundation.

Contributors

We thank those listed below who recently contributed to PCAFPD.

The Foundation receives \$15 in your name if you check *Philippines* on the membership application or renewal form for the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA).

Karen & Ulysses Agpaoa NJ	William Donohue NY	Joyce E. Johnson Canada	Jan & Eliot Putnam MA
Theresa Ahles MN	James Dries NY	Mary L. Johnson CA	Carol Hammaker Radomski
Miriam Aiken VA	George T. Duncan PA	Lee & Kay Jones VT	MD Dorothy Jordan Rayburn
Ginny Allen Japan	Nancy Dunetz NY	Joanne Jorz VA	DC Dick Redmond NC
Wally Allen AZ	Laura & Michael Edmonds MD	Jack D. Jourdain FL	Robert & Bev Reeves OR
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"Tuition increased 2,000% since '82 says solon," *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, April 14, 1999

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30% of '95 grads unemployed, but only 5% on scholarship unemployed--*Manila Times*, July 11, 1998