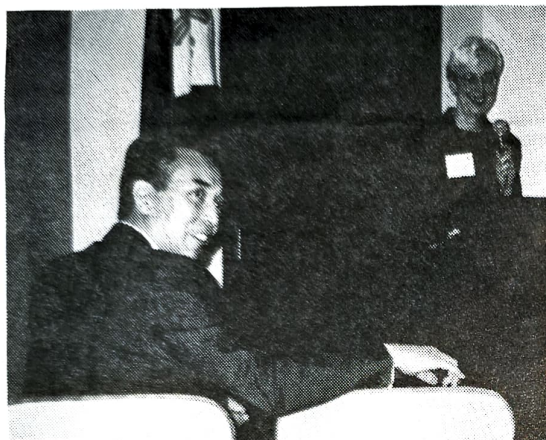


Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development

Newsletter 23
Spring 1996

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 to attend college in their country. You can join us by sending a contribution in the enclosed envelope.



Ambassador Raul Ch. Rabé listens to PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll at Philippine Embassy



RPCVs who have served in the Philippines since 1961 enjoy speakers at Philippine Embassy

PCAFPD Accepts New Scholars for 1996-1997

PCAFPD Board members reviewed the applications and references of students referred by community contacts. Four high-school graduates have been selected as PCAFPD scholars for the 1996-1997 academic year; another may be named pending submission of references. One student declined a scholarship when he was offered a job which he needed to help his family; he has been replaced by a new, qualified applicant. New scholars are:

Narda C. Itong, Benguet
Environmental Science
Benguet State University

Segundina C. Latus, Benguet
Business Administration
St. Louis University

Sharon Tamiking, Baguio City
Accounting
Baguio Colleges Foundation

Ronald Yaco, Biliran
Electronics Communications Engineering,
University of San Carlos, Cebu

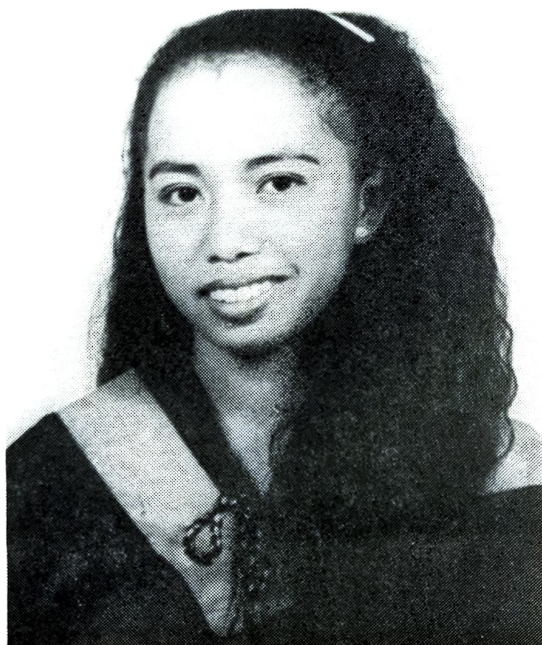
Five Foundation scholars graduated from college this year, and two others continue as PCAFPD scholars, bringing next year's total to six scholars.

Philippine Embassy Fetes RPCVs on Corps 35th Anniversary

On March 2, 1996, Ambassador Raul Ch. Rabé and his staff gave a magnificent reception for Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who had served in the Philippines, in honor of the 35th anniversary of the Peace Corps. The reception was held in the stunning new Embassy building on Bataan Place in Washington, D.C., where Ambassador Rabé charmed his audience of nearly a hundred RPCVs with a traditionally warm and amusing Filipino welcome.

Economics Officer **Victor Goslingfiao** followed with a fascinating update on the encouraging economic situation in the Philippines. After PCAFPD President **Maureen Carroll** (1961-1963) described the Foundation and its work to date, Peace Corps Director **Mark Gearan** thanked Ambassador Rabé and his staff for their superb hospitality.

All adjourned for an exquisite *merienda*, including such delicacies as chicken *adobo*, *pancit*, and *arroz valenciana*, which brought back fond memories of barrios and barangays. RPCVs also met Consul General **Eduardo Maglaya**, Political Officer **Laura del Rosario** and Cultural Officer **Elizabeth Garcia**, all of whom had been instrumental in orchestrating this memorable and delightful event.



Grad Lives Community Service

Liza G. Permelona (above) recently earned a BS in Education at the University of Nueva Caceres in Naga City. She was sponsored by PCAFPD through high school and college. Lisa wrote to PCAFPD VP **Roland de Jesus**:

April 9, 1996

Shalom!

...As to my activities, the most significant ever happened to me while I was having my practicum was when we had our community service at Brgy. Del Rosario, Canaman, Cam. Sur. As part of our course requirements, servicing a community composed mainly of depressed families is given a prime importance by our department. So, after our off-campus training, we were immediately emerged in Del Rosario.

While we were there, we were given the opportunity to experience the way of life of the people of the said community by living there for more than a month. It's a pity to find that there are still families who can't cope up with the harsh realities of life. When we first went there, the people were passive to our projects. They thought that our presence might only interfere their daily existence. What we did was to bring out the very best from us and through our combined efforts, we proved to them that they got the wrong impression on us. Now, I realized that servicing a community is a challenging task but an exciting one - I also realized the reason behind the depressions felt by some of our fellowmen. I also realized why there is a great need to help our less fortunate brothers. Finally, I now realized the reason behind the existence of the Foundation and the people behind it who devoted their precious time and efforts unselfishly by serving their fellow men. Surely, in the coming years, I will then be proud and glad to tell my children that I was once a part of the Foundation.

During my graduation day, mixed emotions consumed my whole being. I really can't decipher what I felt then except with the most obvious one: I was overjoyed to receive my diploma I know that words are not enough to express my gratitude to the Foundation for it is like a family to me who cradled and comforted me for almost 8 years. Nevertheless, I hope that what I will write next will serve as the "instrument" of expressing my gratitude to the Foundation, that is: thank you!

Although my connection with the Foundation being its scholar is now about to end, I promise that I will still be keeping in touch with the Foundation. What I have achieved and will be achieving in the coming years are attributed to the Foundation, to you, Sir and most especially to your father, Mr. Modesto de Jesus.

To all of you, MERCI BEAUCOUP!

Med Student Takes Busman's Holiday

PCAFPD Medical student **Robert Cajes** wrote to VP **Roland de Jesus** on March 3, 1996:

...I'm in vacation right now. But this is starting to be a very memorable one. Folks in our barrio would parade to our house for me to determine their blood pressure. I learned something new about these people. Only recently did I know they're curious about their health just like the people in the cities. Although they believe so much in superstition, the fact remains they're also hungry for scientific knowledge. It pays to explain to them since they really listen attentively. They would ask me questions which I answer eagerly as far as my present knowledge would allow. This is really exciting and it gives me satisfaction and sense of purpose.

Our barrio is facing tough problems recently. Aside from the burden imposed by higher prices of basic commodities, livelihood is unstable. The fishing industry is not that productive as it was once. Farming, the foremost industry is in a standstill. Farmers are patiently awaiting for the proper distribution of the sequestered agricultural land acquired by the government from the former administration. Busali Farm, the name of the estate, is supposed to be distributed next month. But life goes on here. Even though the cost of living is not that affordable for the people...

Five Graduate

CONGRATULATIONS 1996 PCAFPD graduates!

- **Rosanna Almoradie, Masbate**
B.S. Computer Secretarial
- **Anais Filog, Mountain Province**
B.S. Chemistry
- **Jenifer A. Mercado, Batangas**
B.S. Civil Engineering
- **Judita Mocorro, Leyte**
Doctor of Dental Medicine
- **Liza G. Permelona, Camarines Sur**
B.S. Education

Graduate Engineers Project

Jenifer A. Mercado, recent BS in Civil Engineering at Pablo Borbon Memorial Institute of Technology, reported to PCAFPD Vice President **Roland de Jesus**:

March 27, 1996

... Being a graduating student takes so much time, effort, and money as well. Aside from challenging exams and oral reports, we are required to have a project study (CE Project) and two other more designs. My project study is a proposed river bank erosion control structure for the Dacanlao River along the boundary between Balayan and Calaca, Batangas. The project is approximately 2.5 hr. drive from Batangas City proper and I had to stay there a few days in gathering data and information for the study and sometimes had some long distance calls to the concerned persons and offices as well as the manufacturing industries for the availability of materials for the proposed project. However, despite of the difficulties we had encountered during the study, we had successfully defended it from five panelist last March 15, 1996. Now we are working for submission of our written documents. I am also having a structural design of a proposed warehouse and a proposed telecommunication tower to be submitted before our graduation day on April 9, 1996.

... In behalf of my family, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the FOUNDATION for their invaluable support in earning my college degree. Few days from now, I'll be marching on the stage. This will mark the beginning toward the fulfillment of my dreams. Without the FOUNDATION, my dreams will not be realized.

April 15, 1996

.. During my graduation day, when I received my diploma, I remembered the Foundation especially the late PCAFPD Vice President, Mr. Modesto de Jesus, for giving me this opportunity that among the treasures which I will have is the remembrance of love to your fellowmen, your effort for giving good opportunities to less fortunate people like me to uplift my family and those of others. I will always look back in sincere gratefulness and gladness for having my dream realized and share it to others who are not given the same, by serving my community with the best of my ability.



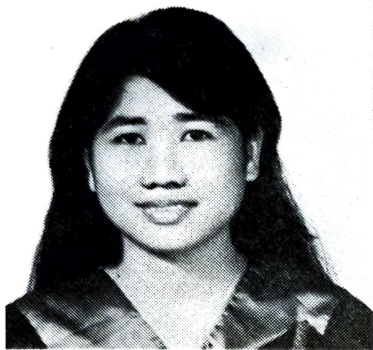
Jenifer A. Mercado (above) accepts diploma in civil engineering.

My last year in college was the most difficult so far in my studies. Hectic schedule for meeting all requirements, going here and there, meeting people, conducting interviews, making designs and the like became the monotonous work for us in almost all subjects. Beyond such interconnections however is the fact that Civil Engineering requires more than what you have to be in the future. It is not enough that you had met all the requirements in order to pass the subjects nor accomplished a thing because your work requires it for you to do, but what is important is you do what you believe in and we live not only for ourselves but for others. Those are what I learned during my Project Study regarding erosion control structure. Seeing lives in jeopardy, beset by natural catastrophies, tries the endurance of even the most stoical among us. The fact the Civil Engineers are singularly well informed about the physical aspect of town and country planning, so have a dual interests, not only as engineers but also as citizens in the impact of natural hazards on all aspects of planning the environment. Civil engineers must not only face structural problems but must also consider the collateral effects that the resulting structures in the future. Maintaining a structurally sound engineering works for progress and development is no doubt a triumph of Civil Engineering. Its increasing appreciation of the role as "Stewards of the land", gives increasing attention to safety and welfare of the people.

Graduation is not the end. It is only the beginning of a new journey. A journey that is hard and competitive. But armored with knowledge accumulated, through perseverance and strong faith in God nothing is impossible. I am positive that with the opportunity given to me by the Foundation to prepare myself for struggling the hardship of life, I am ready to tackle my new world.

PCAFPD Officers 1996

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



Parents Thank PCAFPD Sponsors

The parents of Judita C. Mocarro wrote to PCAFPD:

May 23, 1996

Hello! Good day to everybody. May all of you are in the best of health.

We are sending you our deepest thanks and gratitude for helping our child Judita C. Mocarro (Dodot) obtained a Degree in Doctor of Dental Medicine. With your help, especially the financial and moral support, her dream to become a Dentist comes true. What she is now, she owes much to the PEACE Corp Foundation and most especially to her sponsor the **Johnson Family**. We may extend also our sincerest thanks and gratitude to them. May God always shower His Blessings to the Foundation as well as to the **Johnson Family** and also to all sponsors for being so generous and helpful to the needy students obtained a degree. The Peace Corp Foundation helped much in the countryside development by helping poor but deserving students obtained a higher learning. With this, the lives of these students you have helped had been elevated and improved which will in turn improved the living condition of the people in the community by exercising their respective professions. May they be of good help also to the needy in their respective places.

Again, a million thanks to the staff, the sponsors, the Foundation and above all to our Almighty God for helping Dodot in her studies.

Please extend our thanks to the **Johnson Family**.

Thank you and more blessings to the Foundation.

Respectfully yours,

MR. & MRS. HIPOLITO E. MOCORRO
BNAC, Biliran, Biliran

P.S.

Dodot will take the board exam. on Dec./96. Please pray for her success. She will take her review class comes July/96.

New Dentist Earns Diploma

Judita (Dodot) C. Mocarro (left) gave the following report of her dental school experience:

Six Years have passed, as if it was only yesterday when I enrolled in Cebu Doctors' College, Cebu City. I was then among the fresh and shy students quenching for knowledge in that prestigious college, the Cebu Doctors' College.

It was way back in 1990 when I enrolled in CDC College of Dentistry. As a freshman student, I have to adjust to the place as well as to the people I am with. At first, I find it difficult since the students or my classmates were all strangers to me, but later on, we became friends. We had been helping one another especially in our laboratory subjects.

In my pre-dental years of my course, it was enjoyable and there was so much difficult problems I met. But in my dentistry proper, it was a period of happiness and tears. Happiness, when we had accomplished our most tedious laboratory work successfully. Tears, when my patient in Resto- and Prothodontics don't appear. This is the most hectic moment This is the most hectic moment I had. I have to attend to both academic as well as to laboratory classes where most of the patient don't appear/come on scheduled date which caused the delayed of my laboratory work. I was so depressed sometimes that I think I had to quit. But "*sayang*" if I do that. So I prayed for God's guidance that He will give me enough patience, courage and perseverance to overcome the problems I had encountered.

At last, my dream comes true. It was March 23, 1996. A day of happiness and fulfillment. It was a day of our graduation where I obtained a degree in Doctor of Dental Med. With this degree I obtained, I owe much to the Foundation, PCAFPD volunteers and my sponsor, the **Johnson's Family**. I am very much thankful for all the financial support you have extended for my studies. With it, I had obtained this degree.

Again, my sincerest thanks to the staffs of the Foundation, especially to the late Sir **Modesto de Jesus** "may he rest in peace", I can't forget his fatherly advice; the PCAFPD volunteers, the **Johnson Family** and also to my parents. Thanks to all of you for all the moral and financial support and above all to our Almighty God for the strength, knowledge and wisdom that I have.

Alum Completes CD Assignment

Ronie M. Benitua wrote to VP/RP Roland de Jesus:

I am still connected with the Provisional Environment Mg't Office of Negros Occidental as Community Development Assistant (CDA) and presently assigned in the ISF areas of San Carlos City but maybe until June 1996 only for my contract with the Provincial Government will end this June.

After my contract with the Province I am planning to find work with the NGO here in Negros or to stay at our home to help my father in our little farm so that I could use my knowledge in agriculture and I can also extend my help to my fellow farmers in our place.

For almost two years of performing community development works I've learned a lot of things, I also encountered a lot of problems and difficulties but of course I really enjoy it. And it is the PCAFPD which I thank most for all my success in life.

FLASH: *The Economist*, of May 11, 1996 features a very encouraging economic survey of the Philippines. If you want a copy, write to PCAFPD.

35th Anniversary Return Trip Takes Off October 10

Thirty-eight RPCVs/family/friends will return to the Philippines to celebrate Peace Corps' 35th Anniversary.

PAL round-trip fare, with open return:

\$723 from West Coast

\$923 from elsewhere in the US.

Events in Manila:

- Merienda with PCAFPD scholars,
- Ateneo symposium on the US in the Philippines,
- Symbolic tree-planting ceremony,
- Fiesta at RPCV **Tim Peterson's** (1961-63) house,
- Party at RPCV **Jim Turner's** (1961-63) "Hobbit House" club,
- Possible update at the Peace Corps,
- Explore or return to place assigned.

For information call Maureen Carroll

(202) 462-4045 *pronto* - time is short!

New Grad Works with Urban Poor

Rosanna D. Almoradie reports from Manila:

May the Blessing of Almighty God be always with the Foundation (PCAFPD).

"At long last, I am very happy to become a successful graduate student in the year 1996 without failing grades. In spite of challenges and struggles that I have faced in everyday life, I'll become strong.

"At present, I am employed as a Staff Volunteer for the Urban Poor, our mission is to help and serve with other people without counting the cost.

"I am very much concerned for those people who have suffering poverty, and those students who will not enter Elementary, High School or even College because of financial problems, lack of money to support their studies. But many of them counting as a "working students", who will support their needs in school and many of them will finish their studies successfully.

In behalf for the support of the FOUNDATION (PCAFPD), we, the scholar are part of it. Thank you very much for the support and thank you also for the contributors to the Foundation, I hope that the Foundation may continue to help the student who cannot afford for the financial aspects. GOD BLESS AND MORE POWER to the Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development (PCAFPD). Keep it up!

Once again, thank you.



Rosanna D. Almoradie receives her diploma.

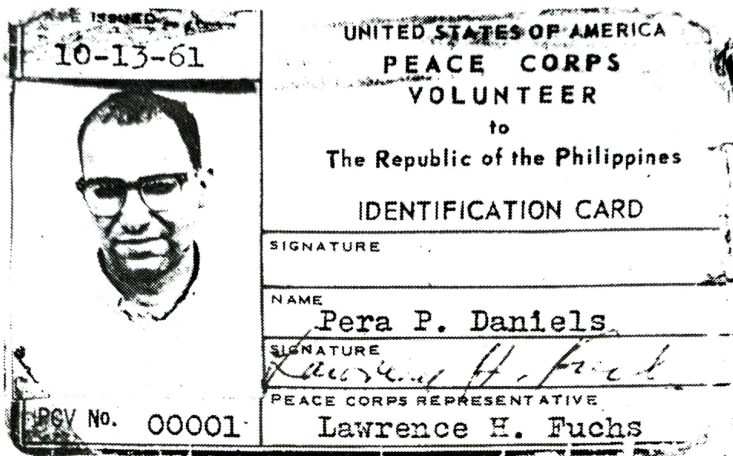


Associate Peace Corps
Director Lawrence Howard

35 Years Ago in 1961...



First Peace Corps
Country Director
Lawrence H. Fuchs



Peace Corps/Philippines, PCV No. 1.



(Left) Peace Corps/Philippines
Group 1 ("Botch I") finishing a 50-mile
"Bikol Trot" in emulation of 50-mile
hikes by the Kennedy administration.
Still recognizable are (front) Tom
Sharpless and Zeny, a Filipina friend
of the group, and (rear) Hope Gould,
Gloria Paulik, Maureen Carroll, Lee
Ann Justice, and Mary Ann Gould.

(Right) Peace Corps/Philippines Group 2
("Botch II") congregates outside first
Peace Corps office at 728 Herran Street
in Manila in February 1962.. Still recognizable
are (from left) Hazel Land, Phyllis Clemenson
(wearing shades), Director Larry Fuchs,
Alice Waters, (flowered skirt), Associate Director
Harvey Pressman (glasses), Albert Bradford,
and Richard Lewis.





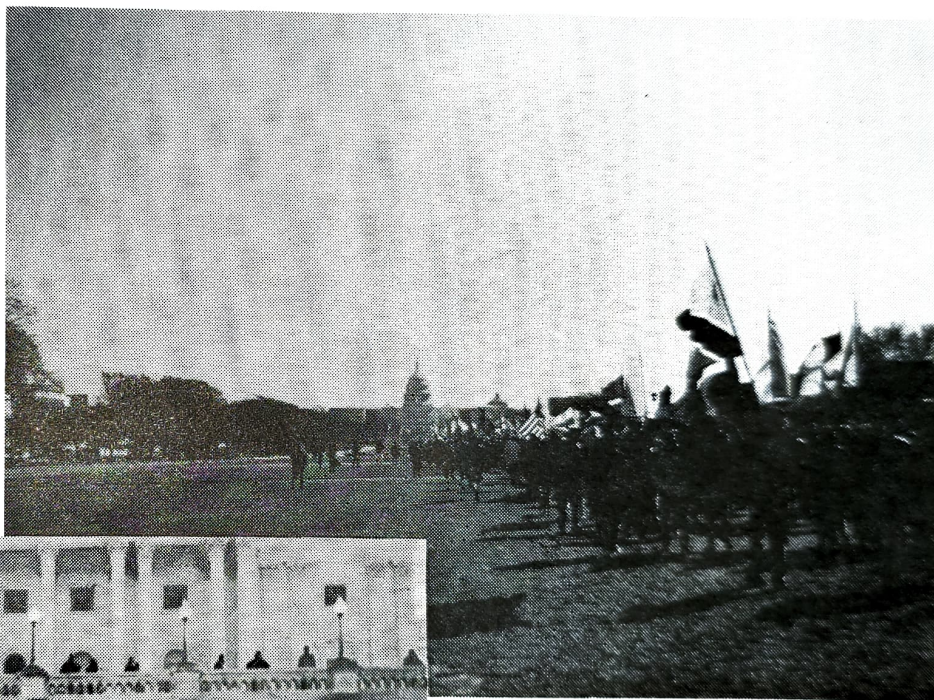
**35
Years
Later**

**March
1 - 3,
1996**

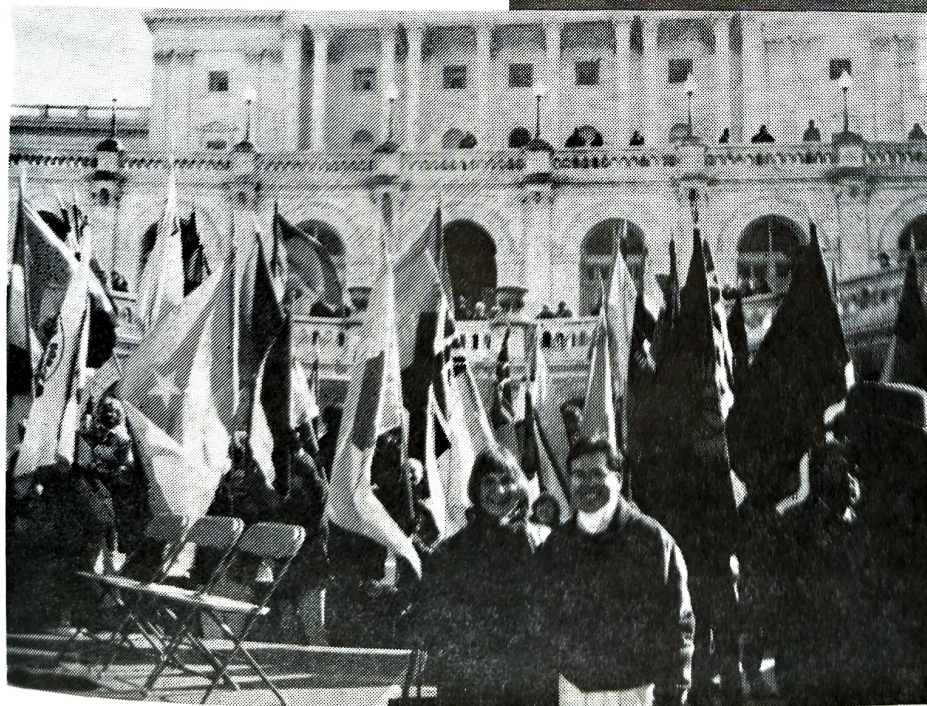


Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan and PCAFPD President Maureen Carroll celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Peace Corps at the Embassy of the Philippines, Washington, D.C. RPCV Richard Holtzman (1961-63) is visible at right, rear.

"PCV No. 1" Pera Daniels and wife, RPCV Margo Heineman Daniels (1961-63) carry Philippine flag to the US Capitol, followed by RPCV Sylvia Boecker (1961-63).



(Above) RPCVs who served in many countries march to the US Capitol carrying the flags of 130 countries where the Peace Corps has served.



(Left) RPCV Joan Aragone (1961-63) with Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan and (far right) Deputy Director Charles Baquet at the end of 35th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the Peace Corps.

CONTRIBUTORS

We thank all 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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