

Summer Days!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: *Ching Quejas*

Summer is gone and the chilly season is setting in. In fact, even before summer was officially over, it was already cold I guess everybody has by this time brought out the usual winter gear. We hope it will not be a

sun and the Filipino breakfast afterwards. It was the same at the Mississauga Celebration Square where the Fiesta Ng Kalayaan was held on July 30th. Kalayaan Centre had its own booth and held the raffle draw onstage in the evening. It was a sunny day and the evening was pleasant everyone enjoyed the all-day festivities until



2011 Kalayaan Centre Golf Classic Players and Volunteers

bitterly cold winter so that the elderly especially those who are not very healthy anymore like me would not suffer too much.

It was a good summertime, we had enough sunshine to enjoy the season. Participants in our annual walkathon on July 23rd enjoyed a sunny day walk. The morning weather forecast was not very encouraging and some regular participants did not show up afraid that they would be overtaken by the downpour during the walk. But the expected rain did not come after all and those who walked the 5-kilometer distance enjoyed the

midnight.

The annual classic golf tournament on August 27 was likewise, an enjoyable day. It was bright and sunny and the tournament went on smoothly. A million thanks to our generous sponsors: 9 gold, 14 silver and 27 bronze sponsors. We are deeply grateful for their generosity and civic-mindedness, it was another successful undertaking. These events get better every time. Thank you and congratulations to the golf tournament committee and our loyal volunteers for their hard work and dedication it was a good

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Team Villa Captures 2011 Kalayaan Centre Golf classic

By: *Edgar Frondozo*

Team Villa comprise of *Jason Villa, Michael Villa, Steve D'Orsay and James Amerelo* shot a sizzling 63 to capture the 2011 Kalayaan Centre Golf Classic Tournament (Scramble Format) held at the championship course of Royal Ontario Golf Club last Saturday, August 27, 2011. Team Villa scored 2 strokes ahead of runner up Team Bombardier 3 consisting of *Ambrosio Parnes, Rick Jones, Albert Baclao and Rob Perri*. This is the second year that the scramble format has been used in the Annual Kalayaan Centre Golf Classic

"Fantastic tournament!", "Great day!", "Fun and friendly!" were some of the comments from the players. A survey taken after the event gave the tournament an overall rating of 4.42, just shy of Excellent score of 5.0.

The tournament is fortunate to have the support of several sponsors and advertisers. Kalayaan Centre volunteers conspicuous with their orange t-shirts ensured that the event proceeded as smoothly as possible.

A sumptuous dinner and awards presentation was held at the club house after the game. Every player received a gift bag. Many gift items including certificates to free golf for 4, 2, and 1 players, blue-jay tickets, free weekend stay at Baldwin Village Inn were raffled.

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ANG PINOY

Ni: Tito Adona

(Volunteer and Language Instructor)

Isang Positibong Pananaw sa mga Pilipino



Nakatanggap ako ng e-mail mula sa isang kaibigan, minabuti ko na isalin sa wikang Pilipino na ang sumulat ay isang banyaga ang pangalan ay

Steve Ray tungkol sa mga Pinoy.

Si Steve Ray ay sumulat ng mga kilalang libro na tulad ng *"Crossing The Tiber"* (kasaysayan ng kanyang pagpalit ng relihiyon) *"Upon This Rock"* (may kinalaman sa Papa) at ang pinakuhuli ay *"John's Gospel"* (malawak na pag-aaral sa Bibliya at komentaryo).

Bukas na Liham mula kay Steve Ray Sa mga Pilipinong Katoliko:

Pumasok kami sa isang luma at madilim na simbahan. Kasisimula pa lang ng misa at kami ay naupo sa harapan. Hindi namin alam ang aming ina-asahan dito sa Istanbul sa Turkey. Ang aming ina-akala ay isang matahimik na misa ay hindi pala, narinig ko ang masayang awitin na parang mga angel sa aming likuran.

Ang mga tinig at boses ay napakaganda, sa aking pagtalikod ay hindi na ako na sorpresa dahil narinig at nakita ko na sa halos lahat na simbahan sa buong daigdig. Hindi mga bugkos ng mga angel na may pakpak kundi mga grupo ng mga masayahing Katolikong Pilipino na may ngiti at galak sa kanilang mukha habang sila ay umaawit ng mga papuri sa Diyos.

Maraming beses ko ng nasaksihan ang mga ganitong tanawin sa Roma, Israel, U.S. at iba pang bansa.

Ang mga Pilipino ay may kakai-bang magandang paniniwala

tungkol sa may kapal. Ano ang mga kakaibang ugali na makikita sa mga ganitong masayahing nilalang? Nais kong ibahagi ang mga ilang kakaibang ugali na aking napansin at nakita sa aking paglilibot sa buong mundo kabilang na ang pagdalaw sa Pilipinas.

Una, mayroong pagbubuklod sa pamilya. Sila ay umuupo ng magkakatabi. Hindi umaawit ng matahimik o humhuni ng mga kanta, kundi umaawit ng mayroong galak, saya at pagkakaisa bilang isang malaking pamilya kahit hindi magkakilala.

Pangalawa, mayroong galak at katiwasayan na madalang sa buong mundo. Habang ang ibang mamayan ay balisa at malungkot, napansin ko na ang mga Pinoy ay may kakaibang ugali dala na ng kanilang paniniwala sa Diyos. Maraming suliranin din nga Pinoy at marami sa kanila ang kulang sa mga material na bagay kung ihalalintulad sa ibang tao, pero masaya pa rin dahil sa paniniwala na ang may kapal ang may kagustuhan nito.

Pangatlo, mayroon pagmamahal sa Diyos at ang kaniyang anak na si Hesus na halos kapareho ng mga Pilipino.

Ang Pilipinas ay isang bang Katoliko at nag iisang bansa sa Asya na nagluluwas ng mga misyonario sa buong mundo. Sila sila binabayaran para maging misyonario at mga mangagawa sa simbahan. Hindi, sila ay mga manggagawa, guro, doctor, nurse at mga kasambahay na pumupunta sa ibang bansa para ikalat ang magandang relihiyon at tungkol kay Hesus. Binibigyang buhay nila ang misa sa pamamagitan ng masasayang awitin.

Ang aking hangad at panalangin habang ako ay nasa Pilipinas para ibahagi ko aking kasaysayan sa pag palit ng aking relihiyon mula sa isang Baptist Protestant tungo sa Katolikong Romano, ang mga mamayang Pilipino ay ituloy nila ang na-

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HAWAIIAN NIGHT

By: Ben Montada



Another successful fund raising event by the KCCC on September 23, 2011. It was indeed an unforgettable night where every-

one enjoyed dining to delicious array of food donated by Romy and Dory Arzadon and crispy lechon donated by Archie Ayala, Jimmy Villamater and

Cesar Cruz. Everyone were all smiles as their eyes were intently focus to the graceful gyration of hips and wavy hypnotical hand movements of the Hawaiian Dancers whose ages range from 2 to 94 years old from the Siony Dance Company. There was also the delightful line dancing performance choreographed by Efren Nene. Master of ceremonies Tommy De Guia made sure the programme ran smoothly so that not a moment was wasted to fulfill everyone's desire to dance the night away to the beautiful music provided by DJ Chito Carbonnel.

The KCCC is very grateful to program coordinator Jojo Sebastian, the hardworking volunteers namely Zeny Ayala, Lumi Montada, Nora Nunez, Jimmy and Divine Villamater, Ginny and Frances Sevilla, Cesar and Becky Cruz, Marilyn Palileo, Siony and Steve Srnka, Edgar and Ellen Arcon and the Board Of Directors for their team effort in making this event a success.

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CONBUSAC

By: Dr. Romy Sinajon



It was a warm Friday morning last July when I woke in anticipation for my trip to attend the 14th Biennial CONBUSAC (Confederation of Boholanos in the USA and Canada)

convention in Edmonton, Alberta. I had my bags packed the night before. After a quick shower and a quick breakfast, we were on our way to the airport.

I must confess, I do not know much about Edmonton, Alberta. I know Alberta is the oil producing province of Canada and Edmonton the oil capital of Canada. I also know that Edmonton is the city where Wayne Gretzky and the Edmonton Oilers hockey club played with their fast paced brand of hockey and winning 4 Stanley Cup championships. That was before Gretzky was traded by Peter Pocklington to the Los Angeles Kings. Now, like the Toronto Maple Leafs, the Edmonton Oilers have fallen into mediocrity. I had also the chance to pass by Edmonton when we drove to Vancouver in the late 1980's with my young family. The drive from Toronto to Vancouver took about 5 days. We passed by Winnipeg, Saskatchewan, Calgary, then Jasper, before reaching Vancouver.

The 4 hour flight to Edmonton was uneventful. As the norm now for short haul flights, there is no more free meal but you can buy food with your credit card, no cash allowed. As we neared Edmonton, we could see the North Saskatchewan River snaking its way thru the heart of the city. From the air the terrain looks flat, the city crisscrossed by highways and lakes.

Welcome to Alberta, home of the West Edmonton Mall, the worlds largest shopping centre. The provincial motto "fortis et liber"----which means "strong and free"---is reflected in the spirit of modern Edmonton. Today's metropolis grew from humble beginnings more than two centuries ago. In 1795-the Hudsons Bay Company trading post---known as the "Edmonton House" is established near the present day Fort Saskatchewan. 1904-The city of Edmonton is incorporated (pop.8350).1905---When Alberta enters Confederation, Edmonton becomes the provincial capital.1947-Oil is discovered in nearby Leduc, turning

Edmonton into the oil capital of Canada.2008 city's population passes the 750,000 mark as the Edmonton region tops one million people for the first time in its history.

It was midday when we arrived in Edmonton. , so we decided to have a quick bite and survey our surroundings to get ourselves acquainted with the place. We grabbed some tourist brochure before we took a cab to head to the hotel. The taxi ride downtown was a little longer than I anticipated. We arrived at the Sutton Place hotel in downtown Edmonton, the hotel is spacious, and clean. We check in the hotel as well as registered with the CONBUSAC convention.



Confederation of Boholanos in the USA and Canada (CONBUSAC)

is the biggest umbrella of Boholano groups in the USA and Canada. Bohol was once one of the poorest province in the Philippines. This was one of the primary reasons for organizing CONBUSAC - to help the less fortunate brothers and sisters of Bohol. Another reason was to unite Boholanos all over the world, for get-together and camaraderie and networking.

CONBUSAC in partnership with the province of Bohol, help with the funding of selected programs to eradicate poverty in the province of Bohol. One of the programs is called "Lets Help Bohol Program". This program is an integrated area initiative where livestock is infused in the community with the objective of catalyzing economic and social growth in the rural areas. The aim is to reduce mass poverty and malnutrition and empower community organizations manage their resources for project sustainability. In 2007, CONBUSAC-BOAWAS offered to the province assistance by providing GIFT ANIMALS to augment the program's requirement for dispersal animals.

Another program was to help with monetary support for the formation of a SWAT unit in the province of Bohol to help combat criminality in the province. Another project initiated by CONBUSAC is the CPG park in Tagbilaran City.

This 14th biennial convention is hosted by Edmonton Boholano Cultural Association, headed by President Alejandro Aurestila. The chief of staff of CONBUSAC is David Fabiosa also an officer of the EBCA. He coordinated with CONBUSAC and EBCA to make the convention run as smoothly as possible. The 14th CONBUSAC convention is the second ever held in Canada. The first was held in Toronto in 1991. The rest of the past assemblies had been held in different US areas since its founding convention in Alameda ,California in 1986,except for the two which were both held in Bohol. While Bohol is emerging as a convention center largely as a consequent of its growing tourism, Edmonton has an impressive track record for hosting world -class conference and special events. After the registration, we attended the Family Night Dinner and dance which was held at the Delta centre Suite Hotel Grand Ballroom. This is another hotel adjoining the Sutton hotel. It was a 10 minute walk from our room. The two hotel is connected by a walkway above the street. At the family night affair, we met old friends and exchanged pleasantries with new ones. We were joined by the Bohol Association of Canada (greater Toronto Area) headed by Pres. Manny Morala and his lovely wife Lilebeth Morala, Luvino and Fidela Uy and Madoline Baluca, CONBUSAC Reg V.P. Eastern Canada .

It was a night reminiscing about the home country, exchanging news of loved ones and mutual friends. The next day, Saturday was spent exploring Edmonton by foot. We ended our exploration of Edmonton near our hotel by going into the casino near the hotel, then we went back to the hotel and prepared for the Gala Night Dinner and Dance. On Sunday, we attended the wellness walk for Bohol, thanksgiving mass, and the picnic at the HAWRELAK Park. This was also the time to bid adieu to our friends and make plans for the 15th biennial convention to be held in Chicago, in 2013.

Looking back, the past few days was well spent in terms of relaxation and visiting a beautiful city and enjoying the Northern Reflections. It was also a time spent in exploring serious issues about our home country and how best we can contribute towards addressing these issues.

Ghosts & Night Creatures

By: Gerry Rulloda



Do you believe in ghosts? I have never seen one, but a dog howling, a floor squeak, or a little wind that will put out a candle will bring a chill up my spine. Don't look at the leaves. With the moonlight behind them and with a vivid imagination, there may be formations that will scare the bejeezus out of you. My hometown Aringay is full of ghosts, so they say. The closer to the church you are, the more there are ghosts, but not inside. Aringay church is a century old church dated 1729 until it was leveled during the big earthquake of 1990. When you open the church north door, the door squeaks and in front of you is a tomb. Outside the main door on the west side are tombstones galore. How do you feel when you do this at 4:30a.m., before the first mass?

There's the "kapre" who you can see in a dark night atop a mango tree smoking his big cigar. If he likes a girl, he will put a spell on her until she looks like him. There's the headless priest by the acacia tree near the convent. Ghosts must like Uncle Peter. He always sees them and he claims that if you scold them or just ignore them, they are harmless. There was this candle in a coconut shell that was following him one night. When he stops walking, the coconut stops. When he walks faster, the coconut keeps pace. Eventually, he sat down and talked to the coconut saying not to follow him because he is tired (I'd say drunk) and going home. For some unexplained reason, the coconut vanished.

When we renovated our house, he was the master carpenter. One night, he and the maids hear someone is pumping water into the reservoir which eventually was overflowing. Uncle Peter shouted, stop that now! The pumping stopped and then they

found out the following morning the water reservoir is empty. What? How can that be?

I was the most scared kid in town. I would make sure that I would be home long before it got dark. I'd rather go home, haul water from the "balon" until my muscles were sore and water the plants. Then I would remind Auntie to light up the Petromax while there's still daylight.

And then I became an acolyte. That was the in thing. It is kind of a status symbol, that you are good and belong to the elite. And as we grew up, I noticed that the acolytes seemed to be harmless to the girls. I became a little braver. I go to church every day at 4 a.m. and next to my Godly duties, I was there mainly to impress. Ghosts are not so scary when you are inspired or not looking for one. You also become the teacher's pet.

After the harvest season, there's lot of housework to do. There's tobacco leaf sorting but removing the kernels from the cob is the hardest work. You end up with calluses on your hands. But they tell war stories, first to entice you to do the work then ghost stories so you can't leave. You see, our bedrooms are in the second floor and you don't want to be there in the dark by yourself. They say ghosts always walk sideways and along the wall. So you lean your back against the wall and you won't see any. Then sometimes, they point to the wall and say, what's that?



But my favorite ghost story was about the buggy (kalesa) driver who fetches passengers on the 11:30 p.m. train from Manila. One night,

Kalayaan Centre 2011 Upcoming Activities

October Children's Choir practice

Oct 29 Halloween Party

Dec 31 New Year Bash

Weekly / Monthly Activities

Rondalla Class
Thursday 7:00pm

Line Dancing
Monday 6:30pm

Philippine Tango
Monday 7:30pm

Conversational Tagalog
Wed 6:30pm

Ballroom Dancing
Tue 7:00pm

Board Meeting
3rd Friday of the month

KCCC Book Club
Monthly

To sign-up for an activity, please contact the Centre:

Tel. **905-602-0923**

Email: info@kalayaancentre.ca

he was not so lucky, no passengers. To get home to San Benito, he has to pass by the church then the cemetery. It was just past midnight and he was whipping the horse to go faster when all of a sudden the horse stopped. No amount of more whipping would budge the horse. The kutsero gets off the buggy and started pulling him to move forward to no avail. As a last resort, he grabbed the horse's legs when all of a sudden the horse spoke and said "Hey, I saw the money first".

Presidents Report

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day not only for KCCC but for the players too. God is looking after us indeed.



I am happy to announce that the Ontario Trillium Foundation has approved our application for a grant from the Community Capital Funding. Barring unforeseen circumstances, we'll have a new-look grand hall including reception and pre-function areas and the hallways before Christmas. Notice of approval was received on July 22, 2011 and we received the check representing the government's counterpart on September 10. The first phase of the \$90,000 + renovation was started on September 19. The existing tubular fluorescent lamps that lighted the former warehouse have been replaced by low bay lights and wall sconce lamps and the electrical system has been upgraded. The work done has greatly enhanced the personality of the big hall. The painting of the ceiling is being done presently and is expected to be finished in a couple of days. The next phase is the laminate flooring in the grand hall and tile flooring in the pre-function area, the reception hall and the hallways. We are presently negotiating for an affordable quotation. The last phase will be that of the stage and theatrical lights and sound system. We expect to inaugurate the finished project and the previously finished kitchen sometime in February 2012. God has constantly been pouring blessing after blessing to Kalayaan Centre and we are so thankful. May the

almighty God look upon us with favour always.

We said good-bye to summer with a Hawaiian Night with our energetic director Ben Montada as chairman. It was a very well-attended event we had to add tables to accommodate more guests. The number of attendees far exceeded our expectations and I think it was the happiest event so far this year. Ben had an equally energetic team of volunteers composed of his better half Lumi, Nora Nunez, director Archie Ayala and his wife Zeny, Jimmy and Divine Villamater, Cesar and Becky Cruz, Our coordinator and house manager Jojo Sebastian, Evelyn Laraya, Rene and Ginny Sevilla, Frances Sevilla and Marilyn Palileo. Romy and Dory Arzadon donated food for the evening and lechon was donated by Ben Montada, Archie Ayala, Cesar Cruz and Jimmy Villamater. Lumi Montada added a Hawaiian touch – she donated Taro dessert. The Board of Directors were all present except one and they were all on their feet helping with everything that had to be done. I was not feeling too well that night but I was very happy watching all of them moving around helping in every way they could – serving food, moving tables, emceeing, etc. Yes indeed, inch by inch, step by step, we are getting there. Teamwork is the magic word and it has been doing wonders for our centre.

Tickets are now out for the Halloween "Fright Night" on Friday, October 28. They are \$20 per person. Halloween night is usually a well-enjoyed occasion and this time should not be different. Everyone comes in various costumes and prizes are given to the best ones. The fol-

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lowing month, we'll have a concert by two upcoming artists, Ivy Joy Maniquis and Rico Callao entitled As Time Goes by. It will be held on November 26, 2011 at 7:30 PM. The ticket is also \$20 each and light snacks will be served. There will be dancing for those who will want to stay after the concert, And of course, the culminating event for the year will be the much-awaited masquerade ball on New Year's Eve.

September 30 is the end of the KCCC fiscal year, we hope to be able to publish our financial statement for 2011 in the next issue. Till December, by God's grace!

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LOOKING OUT!

By: Edgar Frondoza

Filipino Rising!



The Filipino image is rising! Led by Manny Pacquiao, the image of the Filipino shines bright in the world. In sports, music, medicine, business, technology, culinary arts and beauty, the Filipino excels: Charise, the singing sensation; Cristeta Comerford, the White House Chef; Dado Banatao, technology pioneer and venture capitalists; Tani Cantil-Sakauye, first Filipina-American to assume highest judicial office in California as Chief Justice; Araceli Piccio, the Royal Nanny to Prince William and Prince Harry; apl.de.ap of the Black Eyed Peas and Arnel Pineda of the rock band Journey.

Even half Filipinos are proud to proclaim their heritage and connection. Bruno Mars, nominated for 7 Grammys last February won the award for Best Male Pop Vocal Performance for his song 'Just the way you are'. Erik Spoelstra, head

coach of the Miami Heat, lead the team in its quest for NBA championship this year. Cy Young Award winner Tim Lincecum led his team, the San Francisco Giants to the major league World Series Championship last year.

Not too long ago, Filipinos were perceived primarily as overseas workers, nurses and nannies. Now a generation later, Filipinos are seen as achievers. Last season's So You Think You Can Dance show featured two Filipinos in the top four. And the American Idol had a 16 year old Filipina in the top 12.

Here in Toronto, *Daniel Bryan Ledda Garcia* graduated last June from McMaster University with Summa Cum Laude honors and a recipient of NSERC and Canada Graduate Scholarship.

Filipino doctors, engineers, accountants, scientists and other professionals are recognized and respected for intelligence, innovation, industry, loyalty, friendship and courtesy.

*Being Filipino is IN!
I'm Filipino and I'm proud!*

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TEAM VILLA

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Other winners include:

Longest drive men:

Chris Beliski

Longest drive women:

Justine Lopez

Closest to the pin men:

Paul Bidini

There were hole-in-one prizes with the major prize of \$10,000 but the closest tee shot was about 5 feet from the hole. It was a beautiful and fun day for golf. As one of the player's commented, "Will see you next year!"

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POSITIBONG PANANAW...

(Continued from page 2)

pakagandang kaugalian. Ipinag dasal ko na ipagpatuloy nilang mahal ang kanilang pamilya, simbahang Katoliko, pagbabasa ng Bibliya, mahal si Hesus ang inang si Maria at Espiritu Santo. Habang ang ibang relihon at sekta ay patuloy na inaakit upang iwanan ang simbahan, harinawa, bigyan sila ng lakas at tatag para ipaglaban ang kanilang paniniwala sa simbahang Katoliko.

Sana ay ipagpa tuloy ng mga nakakasiyang Pilipino ang pagkalat ng mabuting salita ng Diyos!

Ipagmalaki ang pagiging Pilipino at ibahagi ito sa mga kamag-anak at kaibigan!

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NAYON

Quarterly Newsletter of the
KALAYAAN CENTRE

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