

People and Events

APRIL MIXER AND POST-ELECTION VICTORY CELEBRATION

FABAG-PAC endorsed candidates win big – all but one got elected

GLENDALE – The Filipino-American Business Association of Glendale (FABAG) cordially invites the public to its business mixer and post-election victory celebration consisting of good food, drinks, world-class entertainment, raffle, and dancing. The celebration event will be held at Verdugo Hills Country Club (400 W. Glenoaks Blvd. Glendale, CA 91202) on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, starting at 6.30 pm to 10.30 pm.

Headlining its roster of impressive VIP guests and speakers will be the Honorable Judy Chu, Chair of the California State Board of Equalization.

Grace Llana-Walker, FABAG President, shared, "We are delighted to have Hon. Judy Chu as our keynote speaker. The California State Board of Equalization is the nation's only elected tax commission and it plays a vital role in the economic sustainability of the state through its primary function of assessing and administering property taxes. We are honored to have a fellow Asian-American elected in this important office. Collaborating with other API communities is part of our strategic plan for political empowerment for the Fil-Am community in general."

FABAG will also be celebrating the success of its FABAG-PAC campaign during this event. All but one of its eight endorsed candidates was elected.

Manila U.S. Times editor and FABAG media partner, Johnny Pecayo, noted, "By getting out of the shells, deliberating, discussing, planning and implementing strategies for candidates FABAG has chosen to support and campaign for, and eventually making it at the polls, save one candidate, we have shown to the community that we have led by example."

Ruby De Vera, Immediate Past President, added, "We were able to show the world how to get involved in politics, as well as how to involve the electorates in the political process, thereby leading the endorsed candidates in their journey onward to victory."

Councilwoman Laura Friedman, one of the successful FABAG-PAC endorsed candidate, impressed with FABAG-PAC, attested, "I saw an indelible mark in the group's leadership - planning, leading, coordinating, thinking, strategizing, and utilizing precious resources that include fellow leaders and volunteers -- achieving the overall goals within the very limited time frames, at the polls. I thank the Fil-Am community for standing behind me and trusting me with the important role of councilwoman for Glendale and will try my very best to work hard

for the good of all."

Incumbent Councilman Dave Weaver commends the group and said, "Give yourselves a pat on your backs, for setting a vision, working around it, and mustering enough courage to awaken the community, to participate in this laudable and formidable electoral task. This is just the beginning. Keep it up."

Other FABAG-PAC candidates joining the VIP roster for this celebration include: Council Members Laura Friedman, Frank Quintero; School Board Member Greg Krikorian; City Treasurer Ron Borucki; Glendale College Board Members Anita Quinonez Gabrielian and Armine G. Hacopian.

FABAG's homegrown talent, Shea Chambers, TYAD Music Corp. of Glendale, and Jaja Bolivar, The Filipino Channel t.v. host, will provide entertainment.

Shea Chambers is a multi-talented vocalist, & songwriter whose vocal stylings and songwriting skills cover all genres of music, including jazz, r & b, funk, smooth jazz, pop, rock, and theatrical. She has graced the stages and studios around the world, and performed with top legendary performers such as Mariah Carey, Elton John, Brian McKnight, Michael Bolton, Prince, Sting, Sheryl Crow, Billy Idol, Stevie Wonder, and Bruce Springsteen, to name a few.

Jaja Bolivar is a tv and events host, comedienne and singer. She hosts Adobo Nation, a premier lifestyle magazine television show catering to the Filipino-American community aired globally on The Filipino Channel. Apart from tv, she hosts and sings for live stage events and shows as well as private parties. Jaja continues to go out of her comfort zone to pursue greater heights for her entertainment career; thus making her the most promising celebrity of the Filipino-American community today.

Cost: FABAG Members: \$20 ; Others: \$40 (Hors d'oeuvres, Coffee/Tea, No Host Bar, Opportunity Drawings, Souvenir Photo Opportunities, Dancing)

RSVP: GWalker515@aol.com
Online Registration: www.fabag2009.eventbrite.com ■

Alpha Phi Omega Hollywood Alumni Association feed the homeless in Lancaster

by TIMOTHY H. ALMAZAN

LANCASTER'S homeless population got a taste of homemade, traditional Filipino cuisine this Easter in another one of Alpha Phi Omega-Hollywood Alumni Association's service projects. Alpha Phi Omega-Hollywood Alumni, or APO-HA for short, is a Southern California based group of kababayans, each of whom were once involved in the fraternity Alpha Phi Omega during their college years. Wishing to continue the frat's mission statement of friendship, leadership, and service, the members of APO-HA organize service projects throughout the state. The group is currently 80 members strong.

In APO-HA, many fraternal traditions are kept alive. Members refer to each other affectionately as "brother" or "sister." Additionally, each member wears a nametag that displays their Greek Chapter name and the year they were inducted into Alpha Phi Omega.

The group's most recent service project on April 12, 2009 landed APO-HA members in Lancaster, CA, where Fortune Cumigad connected APO-HA with Grace Resource Center, a Christian organization that serves the Antelope Valley. Grace Resource Center is known for being a major food distribution site for the low-income or homeless population of Lancaster and its neighboring cities. Their mission statement is to eliminate hunger in the Antelope Valley and "share the love of Christ in a tangible way by the giving of services. "Manang Pompei's" catering of the delicious foods made the table full of graces. June Lafiguera was instrumental with the preparation. Our leaders Richard Lacson and APO-HA president Jun Bangan remains strong with the support in the project's logistics.

On the day of the event, pounds of home-cooked pansit, soup, meat, rice, pastries, and baked potatoes began to arrive at the resource center car by car with some members tagging along their children and friends to witness and be a part of this service. Within an hour APO-HA had assembled



tables and chairs, transforming the empty hall into a cafeteria. The finishing touches consisted of putting up the Alpha Phi Omega-Hollywood Alumni banner, which filled the room with the Alpha Phi Omega logo and letters.

Food distribution began in the early afternoon, as waves of homeless individuals arrived to eat. APO-HA members busied themselves by serving food, refilling drinks, and bussing tables. Most importantly, members mingled with the homeless and learned more about their personal lives. One of the more outgoing homeless individuals had worked as an editor and writer for more than a decade.

For the many homeless children that arrived with their families, the Grace Resource Center donated Easter-themed toys and stuffed animals.

After more than a hundred individuals were fed, many of whom came for second or third helpings, APO-HA members felt a sense of accomplishment and pride in having served the less fortunate. Many members decided that this was the most appropriate way to celebrate Easter.

As the day ended, the brothers and sisters of APO-HA took pictures next to their banner and then had their own Easter celebration in the house of Fortune Cumigad where a whole roasted pig was waiting compliments of the Cumigad family. Throughout this celebration, the members of APO-HA felt a sense of humility and humbleness about them. The success of the day's event was a sure sign of the importance of service and fueled APO-HA members to continue such charitable acts in the future. ■



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PACSPA Dinner/Dance Fundraiser

THE Philippine American Society of Certified Public Accountants (PACSPA) cordially invites you to its Dinner/Dance Fundraiser on Saturday, May 30, at the Philippine Village Center 4515 Eagle Rock Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90041 starting at 6pm. Donation: \$20 per person; Attire: Dress-to-impress.

Proceeds will benefit PACSPA's scholarship and various charitable projects, including the University of the East projects. To RSVP, please call any of the following contact persons: Francine Clara (818) 482-3245 or email frc962002@yahoo.com; Anita Domingo (818)832-9592 or email agdomingo7@gmail.com. ■

St. Joseph School reunion



The general reunion of the high school alumni, St. Joseph School (San Jose, Nueva Ecija, Philippines), was held recently at the Gold Coast Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada. Pictured above are the 1959 alumni (golden jubilarians), the event's host class. Standing, from left: Bishop Oscar Solis (alumnus and guest of honor), Josephine Viloria Feliciano, Rustica Sta. Ines Gapuz, Dolly Tecson, Leonor Ramiscal, Patricia Sta. Ines, Corazon Pascual Ayala, Zenaida Ordone Gutierrez, Dr. Artemio Ignacio, Lorna de Guzman Halili, Eleanor Dacanay Villajuan, Dr. Cecilia Anzures Antle, and Fr. Manny Guico. In front, from left: Patricia Torres Hoerst, Dr. Roger Guico, Rodegelo Pascual, and Lilia Cardenas.



MEETING OF GREAT MINDS. Sports aficionado Hermie Rivera meets with boxing promoter Bob Arum. For more boxing news visit <http://sports.prepys.com>