

# People and Events

## Former Pres. Fidel V. Ramos to speak before townmates, May 23

ALL roads will lead to 4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood for Asingianians in the United States and Canada on May 23 for their First Grand Reunion Dinner-Dance to be held at the Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn.

Former Philippine President and most illustrious son of Asingan Fidel V. Ramos will be the guest of honor and speaker during this affair. He will be accompanied by former First Lady Ming Ramos. Also gracing the gala night is Los Angeles Consul General Mary Jo Aragon.

Raphy Agsalud, chairman of the One Asingan Unity & Coordinating Council (OAUCC) who is spearheading this event said that he had received enthusiastic response from his fellow Asingianians. The Asingan Association of California/Los Angeles is also lending a helping hand to ensure the success of this two-day affair.

As a follow through, a picnic will take place the next day (Sunday) at Lake Balboa Park in Encino. Abundant food will be served for free. Ramos and his entourage will also be attending the picnic. Other major activity of Ramos while in Los Angeles

is to attend a reunion with his fellow Korean War veterans in Glendale.

Pangasinan Brotherhood-USA, an umbrella organization of all Pangasinan town associations in Southern California of which Asingan of California/Los Angeles is a member, expresses its eagerness and enthusiasm to meet once again its favorite son from Pangasinan province.

One of the main objectives of this huge gathering, is to bring together more closely former natives of Asingan now residing in North America and to establish stronger bond, rapport and unity among them.

Whatever proceeds from this event are earmarked for the Pura Ramos Agsalud Memorial Puericulture Center of Asingan, the Libreng Gamot Para Sa Mahihirap Charity Drive and Pamasko Para Sa Mahihirap.

Ramos is the eldest among three children of undefeated five-time Pangasinan (5th district) congressman and former secretary of Foreign Affairs Secretary Narciso Ramos.

For more information and reservation, interested parties may call Raphy Agsalud at 818-830-3263. (Dan E. Nino)



ALAY KAY MARIA, FLORES DE MAYO AND SANTACRUZAN. Alay Kay Maria, Flores De Mayo And Santacruzán held May 9, Saturday at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. AJPress Photos by Andy Tecson

## OMASC to hold annual picnic May 30

THE Oriental Mindoro Association of Southern California (OMASC) will hold its annual membership picnic on May 30, 2009 at Barnes Park, 350 S. McFerrin Ave. in Monterey Park starting at 9:30 in the morning. This year marks the 16th year OMASC is hosting the fun-filled event featuring free food, entertainment, games, and prizes. There will also be an election of a new set of officers to serve for two years when the term of the current set headed by President Ernie Cleofe ends in September 2009.

During the first quarter of 2009, OMASC was involved in various activities benefitting the poor in Oriental Mindoro, particularly in the areas of education and health care. On January 31 to February 3, it sponsored a medical mission by a team of doctors from the UST Medical Alumni Association of Southern California (USTMAASC). The mission was held in Calapan, Roxas, and Puerto Galera and served the general health, dental, and eye care needs of poor patients from the three towns

and surrounding municipalities. OMASC mobilized several local and international agencies and individuals, including the Rotary Club of Calapan, the Oriental Mindoro Dental Association, the Surgical Eye International Organization, Resources for the Blind, One World Institute, PhilUSA, Phil, Dr. Linda and Congressman Alfonso Umali, Mrs. Nora Liwanag, and the provincial government of Oriental Mindoro under the leadership of Governor Arnan Panaligan. Several OMASC officers, including project leader Eleanor Evangelista, and a host of volunteers from the US and the Philippines also served in different capacities from crowd control to assisting physicians and nurses on duty. It was arguably the most extensive medical mission of its kind in the province, with over 2,000 patients served, including some Mangyans from the highlands of Roxas and Puerto Galera.

In conjunction with the medical mission, twenty wheelchairs were donated by One World Institute under the auspices of OMASC and in cooperation

with the Rotary Club of Calapan. OMASC also donated on the same day thirteen mattresses to the provincial hospital. Dr. Normando Legaspi, Provincial Health Officer, who was on hand to receive the donation, expressed his gratitude to OMASC for the mattresses. The provincial hospital was also the recipient of prior OMASC donations of anesthesia machines, hospital beds, medical and surgical supplies and equipments.

In February, OMASC also donated two computers to the Jose J. Leido Jr. Memorial National High School (LEMNAHIS) in Calapan. The donation was presented at the high school library to Dr. Donato G. Bueno, LEMNAHIS Principal and to other school officials by OMASC first president Hermie I. Maramot. Dr. Bueno expressed his thanks for the computers and led everyone to the library shelves lined with books previously donated by OMASC.

For more information about the medical mission, visit the blog at our website, www.omasc.org. For picnic details, and for

the 16th anniversary and induction ball on September 19, 2009, at which Ms. Charo Santos Concio will be the guest speaker, please call Ernie Cleofe at (714) 523-2803 or Jojo Leviste at (562) 946-5786.



BOARD SPECIAL ELECTION. The Filipino-American Community of Los Angeles (FACLA) will have a Board Special Election this coming May 31 at the FACLA Hall on Temple Street. 32 Certified Candidates will participate including (L-R) Abelardo Lopez, Femy Nieva, Patricia Kegley, Purita Dinsay, Rosalinda Nery, Greg "Meng" Gatus, Apolonio Julian, Erlinda Guerchoum, Marcelina Jensen, Venerando Digal, and Austin Baul. Meng Gatus is the standard bearer of the Ideal Party - "One for all - All for one."

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