

People and Events

Consular Outreach in Las Vegas

LOS ANGELES – A team from the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles will be conducting a Consular Outreach Program in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 23-24 2009 from 9 am until 5 pm at the Colonnade Square Plaza, 8826 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89123 (corner S. Eastern Ave. & Pebble Rd., Southeast Las Vegas).

This outreach program is being undertaken in cooperation with the National Federation of Filipino American Associations-Nevada (NaFFAA-Nevada) under Mr. Jing Espiritu, State Chair, NaFFAA-Nevada.

The following Consular services will be rendered:

Applications for Machine Readable Passport (Cost: \$50) and returned to the applicant by mail at an additional cost of \$6.

Applications for the retention and re-acquisition of Philippine citizenship pursuant to Republic Act 9225 or Dual Citizenship Law (Cost: \$50). Oath-taking will be scheduled on the same day for qualified applicants.

Notarization of documents (Cost: \$25) will be accepted but this will be processed in Los Angeles and returned to the applicant by mail at an additional cost of \$6.

Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV) Registration. (Gratis)

The Consulate will only accept payments in cash, postal money order or cashier's check. Personal checks will not be accepted.

Application forms and requirements can be downloaded from the Consulate's website at www.philippineconsulatela.org.

In view of the anticipated high volume of applicants and in order to ensure an orderly flow of operations, this Consular outreach shall be guided by the following:

All Applicants for any of the above consular services are requested to set up an appointment with the Consulate, not later than 20 May 2009, either through fax (213) 639-0990 or through email at laphilcongen@gmail.com.

Passport Applicants should send an advance copy of their passport application forms and data page (bearing the name and photo) of their passports to the Consulate either by fax or by email. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Dual Citizenship Applicants should send an advance copy of their application forms and supporting documents. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

OAV Registrants should also send an advance copy of their application forms and supporting documents. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

Confirmed appointments of all applicants will be posted at the Consulate's website (www.philippineconsulatela.org). Personal appearance is required for all applicants.

While walk-in applicants will also be entertained, priority will be given to those with confirmed appointments with the Consulate, as posted in the website. All walk-in applicants are advised to transact their business directly with Consulate officials and not through travel agencies. Walk-in applicants are by definition those who did not pass through travel agencies.

For general information, interested parties may wish to call Consul Jim San Agustin (Tel: (213)637-3011 | laphilcongen@gmail.com) and Mr. Jing Espiritu (Tel: (702)858-8771), or Mr. Bernie Benito (Tel: (702)528-6298 or (702)633-0000), or Ms. Cielo Martinez (Tel: (702)494-9155).

For the information of the public, the Philippine Embassy and Consulates General in the U.S. started to accept and to process applications for Machine Readable Passports (MRP) on June 2, 2008. This is in compliance with the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for its member states, including the Philippines, to issue MRPs not later than 1 April 2010.

Since applications received by the Philippine Foreign Service Posts in

Saint Joseph's Academy Las Piñas, Philippines 2009 grand reunion in Oxnard, California

VINCENT Baltazar, the current president of St. Joseph's Academy Alumni Association of Southern California (SJAAASC), and Lucie Mayuga Ongaco, the event chairperson, cordially invite all former students of St. Joseph's Academy (Las Piñas, Philippines), to the upcoming Third SJAAASC Grand Alumni Reunion that will coincide with the Labor Day weekend of 2009.

The Grand Reunion will be held on the entire day of September 5, 2009 at College Park - 3250 South Rose Avenue, Oxnard, CA 93033. This will be a morning-to-dusk affair; and the costume theme will be Hawaiian. The association has contracted vendors to provide food and drinks for individual purchase. There will be games and fun activities - so needless to say, family members are welcome.

Two nearby hotels are recommended:

Comfort Inn at 1001 E. Channel Islands Blvd. Oxnard, CA 93036 (about 1/2 mile from venue), Phone: (805) 487-7755, and

Best Western at 1156 S. Oxnard Blvd. 93030 (about 2 miles from venue), Phone: (805) 483-9581.

*** Bring your proof of stay at any hotel in Oxnard, to the reunion. We will have a drawing, and two lucky alumni will be reimbursed - thanks to the generosity of our First Lady - Mrs. Vollette Baltazar!***

The following evening, Sunday Sept. 6, 2009, the reunion celebrations will continue with a Reunion Dance at SMR Dance Studio - 10591 Mills Avenue, Montclair, CA 91763. This will be from 7pm till midnight. The theme will continue to be Hawaiian. A dinner buffet is included with the \$25 entrance ticket. Since the venue has a maximum occupancy of 150, this will be a first come-first seated basis. Tickets will be pre-sold.

The recommended hotel is:

Hotel Clairemont at 840 South Indian Hill Blvd. Claremont, CA (about 1.5 miles from venue), Phone: (909) 621-4831.

It is extremely exciting to be able to re-connect and catch-up with your beloved classmates and everybody else, so start contacting your buddies, and make your vacation plans.

For more information, you may email: Vincent Baltazar (res04fgu@verizon.net) and/or Lucie Mayuga Ongaco (Longaco@osterkampgrp.com).

Class Participation

Get together with your classmates to prepare for the Class Cheering Contest!

Yes, we will have a Cheering Contest. So, come up with your best cheers and choreography - SIS-BOOM-BAH! Praise your Class, Praise SJA. Design your best cheering squad outfit: pom-poms, bull horns...the works! Practice your high kicks, and SCREAM! This will be FUN!

During the Reunion, we will introduce and photograph each Class. You may want to have your Class T-shirts made, and wear them for this souvenir photograph. (Please include: "SJAAASC 2009 Reunion".)

While the different batches are being introduced and photographed, we will set up a projector for a picture slide show (no live-video/audio). Each Class will be allotted 3 minutes, so we will include 36 of your class pictures (5-second slide). You may include old, recent, group, or individual pix. Let's get busy! Please send a zip file of your JPEG formatted pictures to Mel Rivera at: mky1mse@gmail.com. Mel will compile the pictures for the slide show, so he has to receive them by August 10, 2009. Thanks.

Class '73 will be in charge of coordinating the entertainment activities before and during the Reunion. So, if you have any suggestions, or if your class will provide a special number that you want included in the program, please contact: Lyn (De Leon) San Miguel at: lynsanmiguel@yahoo.com.

Needless to say, after the programs, you'll put-on your dance shoes, and do some serious SWING, CHA-CHA-CHA, BOOGIE, SALSA, and of course...LINE-DANCING!

You may forget to bring extra socks and underwear, but DO NOT FORGET to bring your cameras! ■

City LV High School Basketball Leagues registration open through April 23

Doolittle High School Basketball Leagues Registration Open Through April 23

The city of Las Vegas invites high school boys' and girls' basketball teams, ages 14 to 18, to participate in competitive leagues that begin the week of April 27 at Doolittle Community Center. Teams will play one evening each week between 6 and 9 p.m. for an eight-week regular season, plus a single-elimination tournament. Boys will play on Mondays and Wednesdays; girls will play on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Team registration will be open at the center through April 23, or until full. The cost is \$250 per team, plus officials' fees. Games will be played in the center's gymnasium, located at 1950 N. J St., near the corner of Lake Mead Boulevard. For more information or to register, call (702) 229-6374.

Teams will play in divisions based on grade. Freshmen and sophomores will make up one division; juniors and seniors will comprise the second. Each team is required to have matching numbered shirts, a

roster of six to 12 players and at least one coach over 18 years of age. Players must wear rubber-soled gym shoes. Trophies will be awarded to first- and second-place teams. Individual awards will be given to the first-place team members.

Doolittle Community Center offers two indoor gymnasiums, a swimming pool, water tot lot, computer lab, game room, cardio/weight room, kitchen and banquet room. The center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., providing a variety of activities and special events. Youth enjoy many sports, swimming, martial arts, dance classes, educational workshops, computer labs, and camps during school breaks. Adults benefit from weekend and evening basketball, exercise classes and use of the weight room and fitness equipment. Call the center for a class and activity schedule at (702) 229-6374. ■

the U.S. will be sent to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila via diplomatic pouch, it will take six weeks for a passport to be released to the applicants, from the time the application is accepted. Personal appearance for all will be required for data verification, finger-printing and signature capture. Applications by mail will no longer be accepted.

In compliance with the new photo requirements for the MRP, applicants are requested to visit the Consulate's website.

While some countries may still honor valid green Philippine passports beyond 1 April 2010 as bona fide travel documents until they expire, most countries will require travelers to hold either MRP or e-Passport for their sojourn by 2010.

Thus, all Filipinos, including those with valid green passports, are therefore encouraged to apply for their machine readable passports as early as possible. ■



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