

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

**LOWELL ORIEL PALACPAC**

**In Quest for the Eagle**



Photo shows Lowell at his Eagle Board of Review accompanied by Glenn Askland, former Scout Master Troop 1005, Rulan Miao (BOR member), Richard Brown Board of Review (BOR) Chair, Gary Singh (BOR member), Eric Wu, current Scoutmaster Troop 1005 and Mark Pulido (Guest Board member, who was the President of AABC School Board in Cerritos at the time) at the High Council Room of Church of Jesus Christ of LDS.



Photo shows Council Members John C. Martins, Tony Lima and Larry R. Nelson; (front) Council Member Victor Manalo, Louis (father), Lowell Oriel Palacpac, Imelda (mother), City of Artesia Mayor Sally Zuniga Flowers, Lowell's former Scoutmaster Michael Choi, Lowell's Gahr High School teacher, Miguel Canales at receiving a Certificate of Recognition at the Artesia City Hall.

IN 1908, Lord Robert Baden-Powell founded Boys Scouts of America, an organization committed to developing character, citizenship, personal fitness qualities and an appreciation for the outdoors in young boys around the nation. Those who have participated in this organization have come out of the experience learning the importance of teamwork, social consciousness, and volunteerism, making them better prepared to become future leaders and responsible citizens actively participating in their communities.

Lowell Oriel Palacpac first joined the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 1005 when he was 11 years old. Now at the age of 17, he achieved the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout on Nov. 12, 2008. The Eagle Scout is one of the highest ranks attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boys Scouts of America. The prerequisite to be eligible for the Eagle Scout rank is to earn at least 21 merit badges demonstrating Scout Spirit, service, and leadership. Frequently, Lowell earned his badges in Swimming, Citizenship in the Nation and Community, Environmental Science, Emergency Preparedness, Personal Management, Personal Fitness, etc., at Summer Camps. He was also required to plan, develop, and organize a service project that would benefit another organization.

"I was born in Artesia, and I always wanted to give back to the community," he said so he eventually decided to execute a project for the benefit of his community, more specifically the Artesia Public Library, where he frequented as a child growing up.

"I researched and visited churches and schools and met with parish priest, city council members and other elected officials before deciding to landscape the garden near the entrance of the library. Later knowing that I had the support of my neighbors and the city residents, I was motivated to fulfill the tasks I set out for myself and to exceed their expectations," he shares.

He underwent hours upon hours of planning and conference calls with the City Manager and his Scoutmaster in addition to raising funds for the tools and supplies that were key to the execution of his plan. In fact, the plants he used to landscape the library's garden came from the Palacpac residence and were planted and cared for by Lowell since he was 8 years old.

"I quickly learned that to be the most effective leader, I had to rely on the discipline and patience instilled in me by my parents (Louis Nafarrete Palacpac from Bani, Pangasinan and Imelda Oriel Palacpac from Binalonan, Pangasinan). I saw myself taking more initiative in recruiting volunteers, collecting donations and tools, and educating the neighborhood. In addition, my experiences helped

me to grow as a leader and gain self-confidence. I am humbled and proud that my community is able to appreciate the completed project," he adds.

But the project was not without its setbacks and there were times when he got frustrated.

"I reminded myself of how the community would benefit. My hope was that the beauty of the garden would encourage them to utilize the library, a beautiful and safe environment for learning. This accomplishment has encouraged me to keep pushing myself in my new endeavors and to never lose sight of the bigger picture and rewards that would come at the end. As I end high school and my dreams of college take flight, I look forward to the bigger challenges that await me, which can only allow me to grow into a more confident, stronger person and to realize my full potential," he says.

All his hard work and dedication paid off as Lowell was given a special certificate of recognition twice for beautifying the Artesia Library and also for achieving the Eagle Scout rank. Lowell, on the other hand, insists he could not have succeeded without the help of some people.

"I would like to thank the City Council of Artesia and staffs for all their help and for giving me the opportunity to be do a community project: Mayor Sally Zuniga Flowers, Mayor Pro Tem Tony Lima, and Council Members Victor Manalo, John Martins and Larry Nelson, City Manager Maria Dadian, Public work and Consultant Chuck Burkhardt, Communication Specialist Andrew Perry, and Ms. Amelia Nacu; Boy Scout of America Frontier District, LAAC, Advancement Chair Y. T. Chung, Council Advancement Committee Members, Dianne Culton and Diana Fournier; Eagle Character Board: Richard Brown, Gary Singh, Rulan Miao, Glen Askland and Mark Pulido; Troop 1005 Scoutmasters Eric Wu, Michael Choi and Glenn Askland; Nar Boribon, Nish Choksi, Scouts and parents of Troop 1005. Also to those that have given me recommendation: "Guro" Annalynn Catalasan of Team Intense, Scoutmaster Michael Choi, Tony Manrique of All American Boys Chorus and Father Johnny Zulueta of Holy Family Church. Thank you for all their support."

These days, although he is already an Eagle Scout, he still actively participates in Troop 1005. He enjoys teaching the younger kids and is willing to help fellow scouts achieve the Eagle Scout rank. He further challenged himself by achieving the next higher rank, earning the Bronze Palm rank in February 2009.

It is true that Eagle Scouts go on to accomplish even greater feats in their future, which is also the case for Lowell. In the Fall of 2009, he plans to attend the University of California, Los Angeles, receiving scholarships and majoring in Electrical Engineering. ■

**Family Picnic for Alumnae of the College of the Holy Spirit**



CALLING all alumnae of the College of the Holy Spirit (both Mendiola and Tarlac). The CHS Nevada Mountain States Chapter is sponsoring a family day picnic at the residence of Ditas Palenczuela-Gould on May 17 starting at 1PM. Join us for food, fun and laughter! For details, please call Vikki Manto at 702-897-5973 or Rose Garzon at 702-254-5957. Picture below was taken from the chapter's Christmas party in Las Vegas. ■

SOCIAL SECURITY COLUMN

**In times like these, every dollar counts**

by RITA MEIER  
Nevada Public Affairs Specialist

FATHERS are often known for their good advice, whether it's how to catch a ball, ace a job interview, grill the perfect burger or get the best deal on a new car.

But if your father is struggling with the high cost of prescription drugs, maybe it's time for you to give him a few words of advice. This Father's Day, you may be able to help your dad save an average of \$3,900 a year on his prescription drug costs. Here's how.

If your father, or any father figure you know, is covered by Medicare and has limited income and resources, he may qualify for extra help — available through Social Security — to pay part of his monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments. The extra help is worth an average of \$3,900 per year.

To figure out whether your father is eligible, Social Security needs to know his income and the value of his savings, investments and real estate (other than the home he lives in). To qualify for the extra help, he must be receiving Medicare and also have:

- Income limited to \$16,245 for an individual or \$21, 855 for a married couple living together. Even if his annual income is higher, he still may be able to get some help with monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments. Some examples where income may be higher include if he or his wife:
  - Support other family members who live with them;
  - Have earnings from work; or
  - Live in Alaska or Hawaii; and
- Resources limited to \$12,510 for an individual or \$25,010 for a married couple living together. Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks and bonds. We do not count his house or car as resources.

Social Security has an easy-to-use online application that you can help complete. You can find it at [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp). To apply by phone or have an application mailed to you, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and ask for the Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs (SSA-1020). Or go to the nearest Social Security office.

To learn more about the Medicare prescription drug plans and special enrollment periods, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

So this Father's Day, as the meat is grilling, you're playing catch, and talking about your own kids, fit in a bit of good advice for Dad — advice he can put to use right away. Tell him about the extra help with his prescription drug costs. In fact, you can help him apply online in minutes at [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp). After all, in times like these, every dollar counts. ■

**MBA Students & Professors from Taiwan Attend Immersion Course in Hospitality**

LAS VEGAS, Nevada — May 5 — Thirteen graduate students and their business school professor traveled 7,000 miles from Feng Chia University in Taichung, Taiwan to Las Vegas last week to enroll in a specially designed, educational-enrichment program at The International School of Hospitality (TISOH). The Chinese group wanted to learn how hospitality disciplines can be applied across all business sectors.

TISOH Director, Timothy Lam, explained, "To illustrate how important the principles of hospitality are in many business environments, we designed, "The Las Vegas Hospitality Experience," a four-day course of study that integrated theory, case studies and on-site learning."

Janice Cheng, the group's

study leader summarized the experience, "TISOH has exceeded my expectations in providing a memorable learning and cultural experience for my group's visit to Las Vegas. Students enjoyed particularly the lectures and site visits, where they got a behind-the-scenes overview of how this amazing city became the entertainment capital of world."

Students attended classroom lectures and workshops in the morning and then visited different elite Las Vegas properties in the afternoons to see first hand the application of theory to practice. Professionals from TISOH who taught the program included Debbie Brumfield, Tyra Bell-Holland, Chris Cleveland, Patricia Norman, Angela Roberts and Donna Marcou-Stafford. The Venetian Resort-Ho-

tel-Casino, The Palazzo Resort-Hotel-Casino, Mandalay Bay and Planet Hollywood were among the hotels visited by the Feng Chia University delegation.

Since 2004, The International School of Hospitality is dedicated to helping students enter the hospitality industry, as well as helping current employees advance in their careers. The school offers practical training programs developed for industry and taught by industry professionals and university professors. Courses feature small classes with personalized guidance; short, intensified programs; and online learning options. Internships, networking opportunities and career counseling are integral components of all course work. ■

**City Of Las Vegas seasonal swimming pools Open May 23 and June 1, 8**

Everyone is invited to the summer kick-off fiesta day and school's out splash party

EVERYONE is invited to the Summer Kick-off Fiesta Day at the Carlos L. Martinez and Darrjo J. Hall Family Pool at Freedom Park on Saturday, May 23, the pool's opening day of the season. Participants will enjoy open swimming, the water slide, Latin music, food and beverages from noon to 5 p.m. City of Las Vegas staff will share information regarding swim lessons, aquatics teams, summer passes and pool rentals. The entry fee will be \$3 per person; food and beverages will be additional. Carlos L. Martinez and Darrjo J. Hall Family Pool at Freedom Park is located at 889 N. Pecos Road.

Youth also will enjoy the School's Out Summer Splash Party for all ages on Saturday, June 13, from noon to 6 p.m. at Municipal Pool. There will be plenty of fun, with swimming, games, dancing, treats, prizes, music, and all the splash toys in the pool. Municipal Pool is located at 431 E. Bonanza Road. The cost to attend is the daily pool fee. For more information on the pool parties, call Municipal Pool at (702) 229-6309.

Daily fees at all pools are \$1 for ages 4-17; \$2 ages 18-49; \$1.50 ages 50+; free ages 0-3. A summer pass costing \$40 for an individual, \$60 for a family of up to 8, \$20 for an adult age 50+, may be used May 23 through Sept. 7 at Carlos L. Martinez and Darrjo J. Hall Family Pool at Freedom Park, Doolittle and Municipal pools during free swim hours (not for special events or separately priced activities). This

summer pass also may be used at Baker and Garside pools June 8 through Aug. 15. Pavilion Center Pool will be open June 1 through Aug. 15. A summer pass for Pavilion Center Pool is priced at \$60 for an individual, \$100 for a family of up to 8, \$30 for an adult age 50+. Summer passes are available now at Municipal Pool, and will be sold at all pools when they open.

Everyone who enters the pool must wear a swimsuit. All children 3 and younger must wear a swim diaper, available at the pool for \$2. No street clothes, cut-offs, jean shorts or cotton material will be allowed in the pool for health and equipment reasons.

Swim, dive, synchronized swimming and water polo teams that welcome beginners and intermediate-level youth participants will be offered at five city of Las Vegas pools, in addition to swim lessons and open swimming. Registration is open now for swim lessons and teams offered June 15 through Aug. 8. Information on available swim classes, competitive aquatics teams, summer camps and special events may be downloaded online at [www.lasvegasnevada.gov/files/Leisure\\_Guide\\_Summer\\_2009.pdf](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/files/Leisure_Guide_Summer_2009.pdf). The Summer Leisure Guide with this information also is available at city of Las Vegas community schools, community centers and Municipal Pool. ■



**Kappa Delta Phi Las Vegas reunion**

LOOKING for the following brothers and sisters: Manny Aganon, Benjie Agustin, Sarah Arceo, Clinton Balagtas, Arthur Barga, Evelyn Bergania, Jan Bundoc, Mar Candelaria, Jun Carlos, Boy Cotaco, Marciano Dimacali, Divina Dimarucot, Belinda Duenas, Baby Gatmaitan, Josie Gonzales, Sebastian Gonzales, Boy Guevarra, Bing Hipolito, Bridget Ibay, Nong Juco, Tisoy Lacandula, Eddie Lising, Minda Liwanag, Fanny Magday, Zon Mamangun, Luz Manalo, Bong Manalo, Carling Manago, Bert

Mangila, Abet Maniego, Sebastian Medina, Ding Melendez, Sally Millo, Rose Moldero, Corazon Navarro, Tony Navarro, Volet Navarro, Eddie Ocampo, Nards Pangilinan, Tangkad Ponce, Bong Puno, Ding Quiboloy, Alex Rayandayan, Bert Reyes, Ming Reyes, Lito Sarmiento, Cion Serrano, Mar Simbajon, Teody Suarez, Ramon Tanglao, Tonet Tayag, Angelito Tengco, Lydia Ventura, and Alipio Yumul. Please call or email:

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