

People and Events

PAFCOM grand marshal gala night

THE Philippine-American Friendship Committee, Inc. will have its Grand Marshal Gala night on March 21, 2009, Saturday, at the Grand Ballroom of Marriott Hotel Newark Airport from 7 PM until 12 MN.

This year's Grand Marshal is Dr. Lorie Lizardo who is a Diplomate in Psychiatry and Neurology with private practice in East Orange, NJ and currently the Medical Director of the Mental Health Unit of St. James and St. Michael Medical Centers and has been the past president of the Philippine Medical Society of New Jersey.

This year's Over-All Chairman of PAFCOM is Hector Magno, who is a dynamic leader and you can contact at 732-563-4554. This year's Co-Chairs of the Grand Marshal Gala Night is Carmen Flores 201-993-1158 and Seny



Dr. Lorie Lizardo

Lipat 201-344-5071.

For more information please call Rene Ballenas P.R.O. at 646-831-9541. ■

Jaycees Introduce 2009 Board

NEW YORK – The Philippine-New York Junior Chamber (Jaycees), Inc. is pleased to announce the chapter's 46th Induction of Officers and Presentation of Members. The Jaycees will formally introduce their 2009 Board of Directors to the community in a ceremony to be held at on March 14th, from 2PM to 5PM, at the Sheraton La Guardia East in Flushing, NY.

2009 President Elaine Magalona-Dayaoan will build upon a year of great success for the chapter—a year that culminated in the chapter being recognized as the Outstanding Chapter of the Year by the New York State Junior Chamber. Elaine firmly believes that if each Jaycee is encouraged to share his talent and ideas—whether it is creative, entrepreneurial or professional—with another individual; and if they are given an avenue to apply those talents and ideas in real-life opportunities, then the ability of that Jaycee to become a good and effective leader is on its road to flourish. She hopes that under her leadership, she can inspire Jaycee members to realize their talents and reach out to unleash their potentials. Elaine is determined

to tap into the potentials of Jaycee Members so they can all maximize their abilities, share their talents, and grow to become innovative leaders of this community.

Everyone is wholeheartedly invited to attend especially Jaycees from any chapter, past and present. To be placed on the guest list or to request more information, please e-mail info@philnyjaycees.org. You may also visit the chapter website at www.philnyjaycees.org for the latest updates and news regarding the event.

The Philippine-New York Junior Chamber (Jaycees), Inc. is group of young men and women whose mission is to develop leaders who will create positive change in the local and global community and their own lives through training and networking opportunities. For membership information, please visit the chapter website at www.philnyjaycees.org or e-mail msvp@philnyjaycees.org.

Contact Information:
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Manila Hotel jumpstarts 2009 with a bang

MANILA—As 2009 finally sets in, Manila Hotel embraces the New Year with fervour, optimism and pride as it continuously strives to provide only the best leisure, business and dining experience that only the pioneer and established name in the Philippine hotel industry can offer.

Originally built in 1912, Manila Hotel has been suitably regarded by many as the “Showcase of the Philippines,” “Aristocrat of the Orient” and “Address of Prestige.” Its roster of guests is a veritable Who’s Who, which includes Gen. Douglas MacArthur, US Presidents Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon and William “Bill” Clinton, their Royal Highnesses Edward and Charles Princes of Wales, and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore among others. It is marvelously nestled among the Philippines’ historic sights such as Intramuros, Manila’s “Walled City”, Rizal Park, and Manila Bay.

To date, while maintaining its distinctive classic architecture, full of poise and confidence, Manila Hotel introduces its fully renovated guest rooms, which started works last year and should see completion this year. Fully equipped with modern amenities and facilities, the said guest rooms induce an atmosphere filled with elegance and sophistication, at the same time showcasing the authenticity of Philippine culture. Further, the rooms provide a magnificent view of the Manila Bay and the famous sunset. Even against the financial crisis, Manila Hotel has undertaken this move to meet the ever-changing needs of its guests being a hotel of exceptional standards.

Further, this historic mark has recently opened its newest Chinese feast sensation, Mabuhay Palace, which assures on goers of delectable dishes inspired from China, Hong Kong, and Singapore cooked to perfection by no less than Master Chefs Chen De Bin, Hou Zhen Hui, Josephine Candelaria and Lin Jie Min. The restaurant’s refined ambiance exhibits a Classical and Contemporary Chinese motif with precious stones visible on its jade panels. The main dining area has



a seating capacity of 140. The four private dining rooms offer around 80 more seats giving the restaurant a total seating capacity of 220 seats.

Moreover, the new pool and garden feature an expanded Ylang Ylang café, better access to both the adults’ and children’s pools, and a lanai to take advantage of an existing, but underused, second story open deck beside the pool. The new lanai for the Ylang Ylang café opens up to the outdoors. The cool shades of existing mature trees combined with the pleasant views of the new pool provide a cool setting for alfresco dining. From this area, guests can go up through a garden staircase and proceed to the upper deck, which wraps around the whole pool area.

The pool itself has been reconfigured and re-engineered with brand new state-of-the-art pumps and filter system. It has likewise been expanded to include a new children’s pool and wet play area. The original wet bar has been refurbished to house additional tables and seating enhanced with ceiling fans and lighting. Contemporary Asian décor, a sun deck and water features enhance the new pool’s ambiance on the southern side of the garden. Decorative spouts and jets add flavor and compliment the new ‘Quartzon’ finish of the swimming pools.

Beyond the pools is an event

space with a seating capacity of over 200 guests for a sit-down function. It fits over 350 for cocktails including space on an upper open air deck, embracing a dramatic view of the bay and sunset. Decorative metal screens rotate to enclose this space and keep it segregated from the pool area. Enough space has also been allocated for a stage or band platform, electronics, lighting and power.

The whole area is protected from the sun by generous timber trellises laden with colorful flowering vines and punctuated with tall royal, coconut and Madagascar ‘traveler’ palms. Original tree and shrub planting like Sea Grapes, Barringtonia Asiatica and Bougainvillea were conserved and enhanced with additional landscape and mood lighting. Fiery red gingers, orange heliconias, succulent bromeliads, luscious philodendrons and fashionable dwarf bamboos are some of the thousands of new plants added to the garden.

Apart from all these, also located by the bay is the spa, which will open March this year. As an institution full of rich Filipino history, the said spa prides in making available the Aromatherapy Massage or “Amuin.” This gentle healing is meant to bring into modern-day therapy the centuries-old knowledge of the use of plant essences for restoration and disease prevention. “Amuin” makes use of 4 various scents

(Alaga, Hulay, Sigla, Gayuma) that provide corresponding psychological benefits to the guests. Other services also include Hair and Scalp Treatment and Aromatherapy Face Treatment.

To complete the guests’ rejuvenation and wellness interests, next to the spa is the health club, which features state-of-the-art and high technology Life Fitness Elevation series machines such as the Treadmill, Crosstrainer, Upright exercise bike and Recumbent exercise bike all with touch screen LCD, ipod control and believe it or not a virtual trainer. A yoga/aerobics room with two separate lockers for male and female is made available to those who want to go dancing or do pilates, taichi and spinning. For an even more luxurious treat to pamper one’s self, the health club has its own dry sauna, steam room and Jacuzzi.

“Truly, Manila Hotel continues to carry on the elegance of the past combined with the expediency and modernity of the present. It is nurtured not only by patronage but also by the high regard of those who come through her doors as demonstrated by the numerous local and international awards and distinctions it has garnered over the years. Now on its 97th year, Manila Hotel remains to be a proud institution, a landmark and a heritage preserved,” said Atty. Jose D. Lina, Jr., President of Manila Hotel.

(Advertising Supplement)

Robinsons Land: Welcomed by ‘OFWs’ and ‘Kababayans’

ROBINSONS Land Corporation (RLC), one of the Philippines’ leading property developers, proves that its huge success in the Philippine realty market can be duplicated even in foreign shores, particularly in USA, Europe and Middle East. Robinsons Land Global marketing team was well received recently in its UK and Italy Roadshows—a well thought campaign that started in 4th quarter of 2008.

With its wide network of licensed brokers in UK, USA, Spain, France, Italy and Middle East, superior product offering and affordability—RLC is recognized as one of the market leaders in the sale of Philippine real estate properties across the globe. Despite financial concerns experienced by some, the take-up of RLC properties has been so impressive due to its niche marketing, reason that RLC’s global team has decided to further expand and reach more fellow *kababayans* worldwide this 2009.

According to Raoul E. Littaua, SVP for Sales & Marketing of Robinsons Land Corporation, “The OFW’s play a critical role in keeping the Philippine economy afloat these days. They remit about \$17 billion a year to the country and RLC would like to see a healthy share of their earnings allocated to quality affordable housing, as only RLC can provide.” Asked to give investment tips to OFWs—Littaua mentioned that residential buyers should only choose quality projects and trust their hard-earned money with solid and reputable companies. Adding that investing in a real estate project helps create much needed jobs for our fellow Filipinos because a typical construction project will provide work cycle to a hundred allied industries.

RLC is a mixed-use conglomerate with huge operating cash flow of Php 6 Billion a year that has presence spanning in malls, hotels, offices, residential buildings and housing & land development—a testament to the soundness of its financial strength and reputable standing in the Philippine real estate industry.

Acknowledging this positive outlook, RLC’s Director for International Marketing Ferdinand Adriano, shared that Robinsons Land Corporation has been in the real estate business for over 25 years and has completed a lot of real estate projects. “Being a leading Philippine developer, RLC intends to uphold its reputation and continue its solid track record”, Adriano said.

It is interesting to note that there is a healthy mix of RLC’s client base and among them are the baby boomers who want to spend part of their retirement years in the Philippines. They are convinced that they can maximize their retirement pay more by investing it in the Philippines, which many of them still consider home. Others are end users, composed mostly by our OFWs, Foreigners and investors who want to diversify their investment portfolios and venture into property holdings in the country. Not least are those who simply have kept the flame of patriotism and sense of nationalism alive, aware that any investment in the Philippines will somehow spur economic growth.

RLC is now actively marketing several big ticket residential projects like The Trion Towers—This

new icon of the city skyline boasts of an ingenious tri-axial design which allows all of the units to enjoy privacy, good quality daylight, natural ventilation and multiple views of the city. The groundbreaking design, the buildings’ height, and the triangular formation of the towers all contribute to uniqueness and grandness that The Trion Towers embody, setting it apart from other residential developments. All three buildings will tower at 49 storeys each. Planned by ASYA Design Partner, The Trion Towers feature premiere condominium units with 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units ranging from 37 square meters up to 114 square meters.



On the value for money side, RLC boasts of a garden inspired residential community in south of Manila. Named, Woodsville Viverde Mansions, this master planned condo community has its own Robinsons Village Mall, 70 percent open space and only minutes away from nearby SM Bicutan, Makati and NAIA. Located at Merville, Parañaque City-Woodsville is an ideal home for expanding and start-up families. Units are affordably available in studio, 2, 3BR.

For condo resort vacation in the queen city of the south, RLC welcomes you to its first residential beach condominium complex in the tourist-haven, Mactan, Cebu. Named ‘AmiSa’ which in Sanskrit means something beautiful—AmiSa is a beautiful place which can serve as the perfect and ideal getaway from the city, a second home for accomplished Filipinos from Manila and the provinces, a vacation haven for foreigners, and a deserved and welcoming retirement home for Filipino *balikbayans*. Units are available in studio, 1 & 2 bedroom units.

Robinsons Land Global is the international marketing arm of Robinsons Land Corporation and part of the JG Summit Holdings—one of the Philippines’ largest conglomerates, founded by its Chairman Emeritus Mr. John Gokongwei, who is one of Asia’s top businessmen and among the Philippines’ richest taipans.

For property inquiries and to get list of RLC US official Brokers, please call Robinsons Land Global -USA coordinator at 1-866-401-4441 or e-mail at usa.coordinator@robinsonslandglobal.com or usa.coordinator@robinsonsland.com, or call VoIP USA 1-323-208-9950. Or contact its Manila office hotline (office hours: 8 am-6:30 pm, contact person: Mike Barit or Irene Rabena) at (632) 683-6365 or (632) 683-6367 or email at imservices@robinsonsland-global.com or log on www.robinsonslandglobal.com.

(Advertising Supplement)



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