

## People and Events

### Saint Joseph's Academy 2009 grand reunion in Oxnard

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.

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.

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: llynsanmiguel@yahoo.com.

Needless to say, after the programs, you'll put on your dance shoes, and do some serious Swing, CHA-cha-cha, Boogey, Salsa, and of course...line-dancing!

You may forget to bring extra socks and underwear, but do not forget to bring your cameras! ■

### APEX hosts the Third Annual Community Leaders Reception

*Building bridges for community empowerment during Asian Pacific American Heritage month*

LOS ANGELES - The Asian Professional Exchange (APEX) hosted the Third Annual Community Leaders Reception on May 7th at the Wilshire Grand Hotel. Distinguished leaders in government, business and the nonprofit sectors joined the celebrations with the APEX community of young professionals.

Norm Chow, who is currently UCLA Football's offensive coordinator, served as keynote speaker of the evening. A respected coach in both collegiate and professional football, Coach Chow epitomizes the success of an Asian Pacific Islander American in an underrepresented industry.

"The month of May is a great opportunity for all of us to reflect on the past, remember the struggles that generations of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans before us have faced, and the be mindful of the glass ceilings that have been broken," said Ricky Choi, APEX director of community relations.

Over 500 young professionals and leaders from all sectors throughout greater Los Angeles area attended the reception. "We



hope tonight's event will not only provide the future leaders of our community inspiration to reach professional heights, but to give back to the community and celebrate their heritage," said Choi. Pictured from left to right: Hogan Lee, APEX director and president; Norm Chow, UCLA football offensive coordinator; Assemblymember Warren Furutani, 55th district; and Ricky Choi, APEX director of community relations.

#### Background

The Asian Professional Exchange (APEX) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-partisan community based organization with multifaceted goals and purposes that are charitable, cultural and educational in nature. Established in 1993, APEX currently boasts an e-community member-

ship of 9,000 members. For more information please visit [www.apex.org](http://www.apex.org)

#### Norm Chow's biography

Norm Chow, who is considered one of the top offensive coaches in football history, is in his second season as the Bruin offensive coordinator and quarterback coach.

In his years of coaching, Chow has garnered numerous accolades, including: the Broyles Award (2002) as the nation's top assistant coach, National Assistant Coach of the year (1999) by the American Football Foundation and Athlon (1993), and the NCAA Division 1-A Offensive Coordinator of the Year (1996 & 2002) by American Football Monthly. In 2006, FOX's Terry Bradshaw named Chow the NFL's Top Assistant Coach. ■

# ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS

## You can Bring Down Your Loan Amount to Your Home's Current Value

**IF you are upside down by \$100,000 or more**

**IF you purchased in the last 4 years or refinanced in the last 3 years**

**IF you have a "problematic loan":**

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- Non-Amortizing/Negative Amortization loan
- No Doc or Low Doc Loan • Stated Income Loan

**You may be a victim of abusive lending by the mortgage industry**

**You have legal rights to a WRITE DOWN of your mortgage to your home's current value**

**SAVE YOUR HOME!  
SAVE YOUR MONEY!  
SAVE YOUR CREDIT!**

**Not "Attorney-assisted".  
Not "Attorney-backed".  
Licensed ATTORNEYS fight for your rights against predatory lending.**

Total Legal Services for Foreclosure Prevention



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Severely Delinquent? Job Loss or Pay Cut? Investment Property? Residential Property? Struggling to Pay Monthly House Payment? CALL NOW!**

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**You must be upside down by 100,000 to qualify. And you do not need to be behind in your payments!**

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Reasonable Fees And Payment Plans Available

### Avoid these common mistakes that could reduce your benefits

EARNINGS record errors. Social Security benefits are based on your 35 highest-earning years - but errors can occur in your earnings record. If your earnings aren't recorded or are underreported, your future benefits may be reduced.

What to do: Check your annual personal "Social Security Statement" each year. This contains a full record of your year-by-year earnings. If you find a mistake, call your local Social Security Administration (SSA) office to report it. Note: You have three years, three months and 15 days from the close of the taxable year in which the error occurred to make the correction. (Under certain circumstances, earlier years can be corrected.)

Wrong address. If you're employed and the address for you in the SSA's records doesn't match that on your W-2 form and tax return (which report your Social Security tax payments and earnings), an error may occur in crediting your tax payments and earnings. A tip-off that this problem exists is failure to receive your annual Social Security

Statement.

What to do: The SSA obtains its address records from the IRS, so file IRS Form 8822, Change of Address (800-829-3676, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)). Whenever you move in the future, head off possible problems by filing Form 8822 with the IRS.

Wrong name. If your name in the SSA's records doesn't match that shown on your W-2 and tax return, your taxes and earnings may be miscredited. If you change your name, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office (or call 800-772-1213 or visit [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)).

Miscalculation of benefits. Even if your earnings record is completely correct, there's a chance that the SSA will make a mistake in calculating your benefits.

You can check the correct size of your benefits yourself by using calculators provided at the SSA Web site. Enter "benefits calculator" into the search box. Call your local SSA office to report any mistakes and have them double-check the figures. ■

### New Fil-Am literary magazine requesting submissions from youth

HISTORIC FILIPI-

NOTOWN - TAYO is the first independent literary magazine dedicated to Filipino American youth in Southern California. All of the following are accepted: poetry, essays, short stories, digital art, drawings, graffiti, photography, and paintings. Art and written work focusing on the Filipino American experience is encouraged, but not required. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2009. Guidelines and additional information are available at [www.tayoliterarymag.tk](http://www.tayoliterarymag.tk).

The TAYO Literary Magazine aims to empower Filipino American youth through various forms of creative art. By gathering varied literary and art work from young children to college students and beyond, we will produce the first independently published magazine that explores the Filipino-American experience. The first issue will be printed in mid-August 2009. Sponsorship and advertisement opportunities are still available. TAYO is partnered with the Filipino American Library (FAL) and is led by Co-Directors Kristine Co



and Melissa Sipin.

Founded on October 13, 1985 by "Auntie Helen" Agcaoili Summers Brown, FAL is the earliest and largest Filipino library in the country with a collection of over 6,000 titles. Its mission is to provide access to information and knowledge through the collection, preservation, and dissemination of a unique collection of Filipino American and Filipino reading material to those that seek knowledge. Through this collection and its community involvement, FAL seeks to provide access to cultural information and enrich America's diverse cultural tapestry. FAL is located at 135 N. Park View St., Los Angeles, CA 90026. It is open Mondays-Fridays 1:00-5:00pm and by appointment. Online donations are accepted at [www.filipinoamericanlibrary.org](http://www.filipinoamericanlibrary.org). ■