

LEADERS' DIGEST

Filipinos are everywhere in America - from the East to the West coast. However, as the second largest Asian American community in America, we still have to empower ourselves to become more visible in the political mainstream. Unknown to us, fellow FilAms are making a difference across the US - as appointed and elected leaders in their respective areas. The Asian Journal Leaders' Digest aims to present to readers these leaders who have made - and continually making a difference for the Filipino American community.

Rep. Lyla Berg

by JOSEPH PIMENTEL
AJPress



She is a Jill of all trades. Fil-Am Lyla Berg is not only a Hawaii Representative but also carries the title doctor, radio host, state coordinator and Chief Executive Officer.

The 57-year-old is a member of the Democratic Party and represents the 18th Representative District in the Hawaii State House of Representatives of the Hawaii State Legislature. Her district includes Hahaione, Kuliouou, Niu Valley, Hawaii Loa Ridge, Aina Haina, Waiulu and Kahala on the island of Oahu.

Berg was elected to the Hawaii State of Representatives in 2004 and reelected in 2007.

She is the Assistant Majority Floor Leader.

Born in 1951, Berg was an overachiever from the start.

After graduating from Punahou School, Hawaii, she attended Georgetown University where she double majored.

During her time at Georgetown, she attended the University of Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria.

After graduating with a Bachelor in Arts in German and English degree, she earned her Masters in Education at The American University in Washington D.C. and Masters of Education Degrees in Curriculum & Instruction and Educational Administration at the University of Hawaii-Manoa in Honolulu, Hawaii.

In 1994, she then received her PH.D. in Education at The Union Institute, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Most recently in 2006, she graduated at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, Cambridge, MA.

A career educator with the

State of Hawaii Department of Education, she has served in a number of teaching capacities from classroom teacher, student activities coordinator, Vice Principal to Principal.

She also became an instructor to help other teachers in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction of the College of Education at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

In 1990, she became a small business owner. She founded Lyla Berg & Associates, a business training organization aimed at consulting, training, and facilitation services on leadership development, effective communication skills, interpersonal relationships, and customer service.

She is also the founder of Kids Voting Hawaii and is the moderator for "211," a talk show sponsored by Aloha United Way, which airs weekly on a local Hawaii cable channel.

As a Hawaii State representative, she serves at the Vice-Chair of the Education Committee, a member in the House Policy Committee; Water, Land & Ocean Resources; Energy & Environmental Protection; Hawaiian Affairs; and Higher Education Committees.

Many supporters credit Berg for her commitment to support working people, the environment and issues and policies that affect women and families. ■

BARRISTER'S CORNER



ATTY. KENNETH URSUA REYES

MANY child support obligors wonder whether their wages will automatically stop being garnished once their child turns 18. Well, it's not as simple as that. The obligation to pay child support pursuant to a Court Order or Judgment continues until the child turns age 18 if the child is no longer attending high school as a full time student, until age

Does my child support garnishment automatically terminate once my child turns 18?

19 while still in high school full time, until completion of 12th grade while older than 18 but younger than 19, or if the child marries or becomes self-supporting (emancipated) before reaching the age of majority. A disabled adult child is entitled to child support beyond this period. (Fam.Code, §§ 3901.)

Even if any of the above conditions are met, the child support wage garnishment will not automatically terminate. Child support obligors whose earnings are being garnished through wage

assignment do not automatically stop when a child attains the age of majority. The obligor must obtain a court order to stop the wages from being automatically paid to the other parent. This can be done by agreement with the other parent otherwise called a stipulation and order. If an agreement cannot be reached, then the obligor will have to file an Order to Show Cause, set a hearing, and request that the Court terminate Child Support and vacate the wage assignment order. The obligor will then have

to request a new wage assignment order for zero to be issued by the Court. The obligor must be current in his child support obligations to get this.

Attorney Kenneth Ursua Reyes was President of the Philippine American Bar Association. He is a member of both the Family law section and Immigration law section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. He has extensive CPA experience prior to law practice. Law Offices of Kenneth Reyes, P.C. is located at 3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA, 90010. Tel. (213) 388-1611 or e-mail kureyeslaw@aol.com. Website kenreyeslaw.com (Advertising Supplement)

People and Events

'Green & White': Animo La Salle May 22-24

by ROBERT PEREZ DE TAGLE

ALL systems are definitely go - "Green & White" for the 7th La Salle Alumni World Congress in Los Angeles this Memorial Day weekend, with the 5th La Salle invitational golf tourney on May 22 kicking off this reunion.

The golf event will be held at the Brookside Golf Course # 1 in Pasadena, starting at 7:30 am, with registration at 6:30 am.

The list of registrants for the World Congress continues to grow, but don't worry: We'll take more! Interestingly, confirmed attendees already include graduates from 1958 up to at least 2006 (a Metro New York Chapter officer).

Election of new DLSAA officers

Themed "Green and White Convergence," this last World Congress in North America before the Centennial Celebration in Manila in 2011 includes the election for the new De La Salle Alumni Association President - replacing outgoing head Johnny Valdes - and other officers.

"We salute the outgoing officers for their achievements," says World Congress Chair Ramon Manalo, adding that funds raised from the souvenir program drive - with a top prize of a new Honda Civic Hybrid - will go toward the One La Salle Scholarship Endowment Fund as well as

other causes supported by the host Southern California Chapter, headed by Denny Cagaman.

The One La Salle Scholarship Funds aims at granting scholarships to one out of five students enrolled in all La Salle schools in the Philippines, based on financial need, by 2011.

Dine & dance

The hosts announced new dining options, with tickets available on site, specifically, \$35 for Friday Night, \$30 for Saturday's Plated Breakfast, \$45 for Saturday Lunch, \$75 for Saturday's Dinner Dance, and finally, \$30 for the Sunday Brunch.

It is, after all, the grand reunion of all the La Salle alumni chapter officers and members from around the world. In highlighting the diversity of the alumni group, the host chapter will recognize the attendance of different Lasallian "batches," in addition to honoring outstanding Lasallians.

Coming together

Why do alumni go to this biennial event? Rekindling friendships, networking, keeping in touch with the De La Salle Philippines schools and programs. The savvy ones make it a family vacation or combine it with business or pleasure, especially since it's the Memorial Day weekend, the signal to summer, and what better venue than Southern California?

On the first day, in addition

to golf, other activities include Bowling, a Universal City Walk, and Americana at Glendale. That evening features a Fellowship Night featuring jazz star Boy Katindig and Band, plus Chito Dakay at Ballroom A.

Saturday's schedule after the Breakfast is highlighted by the Election of DLSAA Officers as well as separate sessions on "La Salle Education," "Social Responsibility" and other topics. Bishop Oscar Solis of California will also celebrate Mass at 6 pm. To cap the evening, the Dinner Dance starts at 7 pm, featuring performances by Kevyn Lettau, Louie Reyes and Joey Albert, and the raffle for that \$20,000 Civic Hybrid (Go GREEN!).

Sunday wraps up the Con-

gress, starting with brunch on to the talent show song and dance face-offs, and opportunities for one-on-ones with La Salle Brothers.

Relive the Lasallian spirit and camaraderie. As the host chapter declares, "It is our hope that the World Congress will rekindle the spirit of St. La Salle within each one and make us ever more proud to be called a green-blooded La Sallite" and to "continue to work toward the goal of educating the next generation of nation builders."

Sunny Southern California beckons: "Animo La Salle!"

For more info and to register, please check out www.dlsaasc.org, or Robert P. De Tagle, robertnewyork2@gmail.com. ■

PACSPA Dinner/Dance Fundraiser

THE Philippine American Society of Certified Public Accountants (PACSPA) cordially invites you to its Dinner/Dance Fundraiser on Saturday, May 30, at the Philippine Village Center 4515 Eagle Rock Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90041 starting at 6pm. Donation: \$20 per person; Attire: Dress-to-impress.

Proceeds will benefit PACSPA's scholarship and various charitable projects, including the University of the East projects. To RSVP, please call any of the following contact persons: Francine Clara (818) 482-3245 or email frc962002@yahoo.com; Anita Domingo (818)832-9592 or email agdomingo7@gmail.com. ■

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