

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

US tops OAV registration—DFA exec

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"The figures are so different from the previous registration periods, when the US was usually last in the list, with the Middle East and Asia vying for the top spots," he said.

Philippine elections. He said that while the law was there for the 2007 elections, not as many people knew about it then as now. "The consulates in Los Angeles and New York seem to be competing against each other," he said.

to the Filipino mentality of doing things at the last minute. "That's why we're urging all Filipinos abroad, starting with diplomats and staff members in all Philippine posts around the world, as well as their dependents, to register now. Don't wait until the last minute," he said.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 470; Spain, 468; Italy, 440; Brunei, 306; and Kuwait, 236.

Pinoy wins P6.6M in Reader's Digest contest

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daluyong City. "I almost gave up joining because I've also joined before and I never won anything, not even a minor prize," he said.

they can now go on with life easily because they have all this money. We want to tell them that they still have to work hard," he said.

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The DFA official said he remained hopeful that the one-million target for OAV registrants could be reached. "This is an opportunity to choose our leaders. This is also our duty," he said.

Seguis said he expected registration to shoot up when another bill, the one to undo the requirement for an affidavit promising to return to the Philippines, would become law.

After the US, the next nine countries with the most number of OAV registrants are: China, with 1,844; Canada, 1,404; United Kingdom, 1,085; Singapore, 987;

As Dangcalan's name spread in media circles and strangers came to know of his win, three people close to him, ironically, were still unaware—at least, as of Thursday, March 5 he said—of his immense luck: His three children.

Money isn't everything
The new multimillionaire said he and his wife had decided not to tell their three children about his winning the grand prize until they had thought of a way to explain to them that money was not the answer to everything in life.

"Up to now, we haven't informed (them). We want to think of a way to deliver the news to them without them thinking that

He said he liked the way the magazine "presents various interesting topics and gives a lot of information in a very concise manner." On top of that, he said, its compact size sets it apart from other magazines because it is handy and can be brought anywhere.

Yes or no
As a subscriber, Dangcalan has continually received direct mail promotions and sweepstakes offers sent out by *Reader's Digest* to promote not only the magazine but also other reading materials.

Dangcalan said he had been sending entries to the direct mail contests since 2006, but luck had proved elusive.

In 2008, he received yet another product offer asking customers to return the mail with either a "yes" or "no" reply. He sent a "No" reply signifying he wasn't interested in the offered product.

It was that entry that brought him P6.6 million.

Promise to God
Dangcalan said he and his wife considered the prize to be "a blessing and an answered prayer."

"I haven't really been lucky. I was just banking on chance," he said. "The contest has a wide coverage so I didn't think I'll win. But I prayed for it."

Dangcalan said his prayer was accompanied by a promise to God that if he won the prize, the money would not only be for himself but would be shared with others.

Until now, he and his wife are still "trying to discern what God wants (them) to accomplish with the win," he said.

Dangcalan is sure of one thing though: With the money that has suddenly fallen into his hands comes a responsibility.

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