



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **New BEFAAA President** presents his program for the next two-years
- **Wish you were there** at regional gatherings and reunion
- **Updating existing contact information**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Know Your Board & President	2
Financial Report	3
2011-2013 Goals	4
BEFAAA News & Events	6
UPAE Nominations	8
Featured Project	9
BE & BEAI News & Events	10
BE Theatrum Renovation	11
Remembering Respi (BE '51)	10

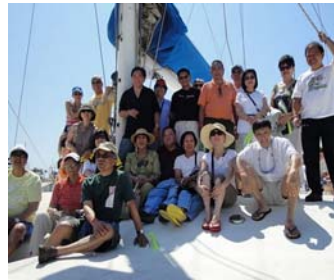
BEFAAA Holds Cabo San Lucas Reunion

The 2011 BEFAAA reunion was held from June 20th to 24th at the Hotel RIU de Santa Fe on the sunny beaches of Cabo San Lucas, Baja California Sur, Mexico. Thirteen Betans, 10 Betanettes, 1 Betanak and 1 Betanette-in-law attended the occasion.

The reunion's all-inclusive resort package was comprised of room, meals and drinks. The group partook of additional activities such as deep sea fishing, snorkeling, kayaking, swimming, boat cruise, shopping, dancing, and singing. The weather was perfect and so was the company. In addition, the attendees held the traditional busi-

ness meeting.

Thanks to the following whose presence made the 2011 reunion a great experi-



Reunion revelers on board a catamaran yacht.

ence: Arnel/Chris Platon, Al Daco, Angel/Linda Salcedo, Angie Alvarez, Ben/Emy Soriano with Betanak Raymund and daughter-in-law Marissa,

Danny/Lydia dela Cruz, Etao/Luz Salcedo, Frank Aguilin, Gene/Abeth Corpus, Joe/Fe Albano, Marty/Frida Martinez, Pete/Nilda Dy, and Rey/Helen dela Cruz. Wish you were there.

Special appreciation and sincere muchisimas gracias goes to Al Daco who single handedly took care of all the resort and additional activities' arrangements necessary for a very successful reunion.

Where to next? It looks like BEFAAA may be heading to the U.S. capital — Washington, DC! Mark your calendars for the summer of 2013. Hope to see you then!

Message from the President

Greetings! I am looking forward to the next two years as your BEFAAA president. Thank you for your many congratulatory messages. I will endeavor to meet your expectations.

This e-publication is the revival of the BE News that will be distributed to BEFAAA members in effort to maintain close connections and promote the objectives of the

Association. I urge readers to share this e-publication with other members who are not in the BEFAAA Yahoo group and encourage them to subscribe. What is advantageous about an e-publication is that you may zoom in the newsletter to view the text or photos in larger format. It saves on postage and paper, too.

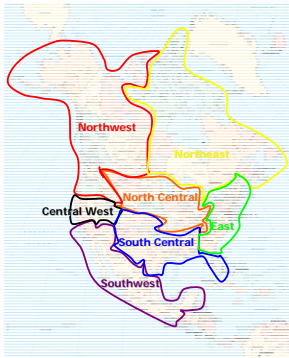
In this issue, you will get to

know your new president, be aware of my 2011-13 goals, share a potpourri of member and regional news, read about a brod's project, get smart on BE/BEAI activities and review a recent financial report.

In future issues, you will be apprised of the accomplishment status of my goals, in addition to new developments here and abroad. Enjoy. - GLA

Who are your BEFAAA Board Members?

BEFAAA Regional Map



The BEFAAA Board consists of five officers and seven regional directors. The Board has a term of two years, 2011 to 2013.

The Officers are:

- Greg Africa, President
- TBA, Vice-President
- Benjie Lopez, Secretary
- Marty Martinez, Treasurer-for-life

- Didin Manahan, Assistant Treasurer (aka. Manahan Express)

The Regional Directors are:

- TBA, Pacific Northwest (aka. Western Canada and NW U.S.)
- Ernie Santos, Pacific Central West (aka. Northern California)
- Angie Alvarez, Pacific Southwest (aka. Southern California & Mexico)
- Ricky Manahan, Mid-Continent North Central
- TBA, Mid-Continent South Central
- TBA, Atlantic Northeast (aka. Eastern Canada)
- Didin Manahan, Atlantic East (aka. U.S. East Coast)

"I am ready to take BEFAAA to the next level and I hope that I meet your expectations."



Know Your President

Greg Africa was accepted into the U.P. College of Engineering's Beta Epsilon fraternity in 1979. He held positions such as BC Chairman, Brother Chaplain and Most Exalted Brother. Greg obtained a civil engineering degree. With a diploma and professional license, Greg got involved in industrial, military, utility and residential projects. He rose through the construction industry ranks from cadet engineer to assistant project manager. He joined the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers. To expand his skill set, Greg attended the UPMBA program in the evenings.

Greg explored career opportunities in the U.S. in the late 1980s. He held consistent and progressively responsible positions from project manager to division director of a Maryland state agency. Greg

consolidated an \$18M/year waste management services division which included the state's first regional solid waste management facility, the state's first scrap tire recycling facility, two of the state's largest materials recycling facilities and two of the U.S.' largest yard waste composting facilities. He joined the American Society of Civil Engineers, U.S. Composting Council, American Management Association and the Solid Waste Association of North America. Greg obtained several professional certifications in the waste management field and an MS Environmental Management degree from the University of Maryland.

By the mid-2000s, Greg's adopted home, Anne Arundel County, enticed him to join its Department of Public Works as deputy director. He was enlisted to take the reins of the Bureau of Highways. Greg is responsible for a road net-

work equal to the Mapquest distance between Annapolis, MD and Denver, CO. This includes a \$70M/year pavement, stormwater, streetlight, traffic engineering and right-of-way management operations. At this time, he joined the American Public Works Association and the County Engineers Association of Maryland (CEAM).

Currently, Greg lives in the Annapolis area with his wife Pinky, daughters Nina and Linnea and their Yorkshire Terrier, Mac. He is immediate past-president of CEAM, and member of the county's Commission on Disability Issues, an advisory board member of the state's Transportation Technology Transfer Center, a technical affiliate of the Maryland Association of Counties, the treasurer of the Patuxent Glen Community Association, and a blackbelt of the International Shotokan Karate Federation.

Financial Report (as of May 31, 2011)



General Fund:

Balance as of 12/13/10	\$13,811.11	
Annual Dues	70.00	
Total as of May 31, 2011		\$13,881.11

Endowment Fund:

Balance as of 12/31/10	\$10,730.93	
Receipts	0.00	
Total as of May 31, 2011		\$10,730.93

Scholarship Fund:

Balance as of 12/31/10	\$970.00	
Receipts	0.00	
Total as of May 31, 2011		\$970.00

Amenity Fund:

Balance as of 12/31/10	\$830.00	
Disbursements	(200.00)	
Total as of May 31, 2011		\$630.00

BEFAAA Account Balance as of May 31, 2011 **\$26,212.04**

“Every good act is charity. A man’s true wealth hereafter is the good that he does in this world to his fellows.”
- Moliere

BEFAAA needs your Support!

As you know, the Association is purely supported by voluntary annual dues and other contributions. Through the years, only a minority of the membership consistently remit annual dues and donations. The Board encourages greater participation

from the membership in order for the Association to meet its benevolent objectives.

Annual Dues for 2011-12 and 2012-13 are \$35.00/year. It is suggested that members remit \$70.00 each (two years’ dues).

Annual Dues and other contributions may be mailed to Marty Martinez, BEFAAA Treasurer, at 5042 Lauderdale Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214. Make checks payable to “Beta Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Association of America” or “BEFAAA.”

Let’s Update our BEFAAA Directory

BEFAAA Objective No. 2: “To promote friendship and cooperation among its members....”

One fundamental component in building and maintaining relationships is an accurate and current database of contact information on BEFAAA mem-

bers. Our secretary, Benjie Lopez, is tasked to scrub existing data and obtain missing information on Betans residing in the Americas.

Through our BEFAAA Yahooogroup, Benjie recently shared our existing database

and requested members to update their information.

If you have contact information of Betans residing in the Americas but are not in our existing database, please send information directly to Benjie at benjielopez@comcast.net.





2011-2013 Goals

The goals of the 2011-13 term will be activities that support the established objectives of the Association. In addition, there will be activities that are administrative in nature that are aimed to better define the structure of the Association. To the greatest extent possible, these goals will be specific, measurable, ambitious but realistic, and time-bound. - GLA

“These goals will be specific, measurable, ambitious, but realistic, and time-bound.”

Objective One

1. Objective: To foster the spirit of brotherhood among its members

1.1. The President will form the Board (i.e., Officers and Regional Directors) of BEFAAA by the end of August 2011.

1.2. The Board will update the Articles of Association and By-Laws before the end of this term of office.

1.2.1. There are three documents that have to be reconciled:

1.2.1.1. By-Laws of BENA, Inc. (ca. 1987);

1.2.1.2. Charter of the BENA (2004); and

1.2.1.3. BEFAAA Articles of Association (ca. 2007).

1.2.2. The Secretary will post the approved Articles of Association and By-Laws in the “Files” section of the BEFAAA Yahooogroup.

1.3. The Association will provide moral or financial support to members in dire circumstances through the Amenity Fund on an as-needed basis, as approved by the Board through simple majority vote.

Objective Two

2. Objective: To promote friendship and cooperation among its members and fellow Beta Epsilon members and alumni in the Philippines and other parts of the world

2.1 The Association will utilize the Yahooogroups as the primary resource.

2.1.1 The Secretary will be the moderator of the BEFAAA Yahooogroup.

2.1.2. The Board will encourage members to subscribe to the BEFAAA Ya-

hoogroup and either BE Matters or Beta Epsilon Yahooogroups. Members can receive emails automatically or only when they log in a particular Yahooogroup; and

2.1.3. The Secretary will subscribe the Officers and Directors in the BEFAAA Board Yahooogroup.

2.2. The Association will update the BEFAAA directory by end of July 2012;

2.2.1. The Board will encourage the membership to provide current valid infor-

mation on members;

2.2.2. For security reasons, the Secretary will safeguard the detailed directory of the membership and this will not be published; and

2.2.3. Members seeking other members’ contact information may get in direct touch with the Secretary.

2.3. The President will coordinate with the Most Exalted Brother and the presidents of BEA and BESA on a monthly basis.



Objective Three

3. Objective: To stimulate educational, cultural and social activities

3.1. The Association will hold the BEFAAA Reunion in 2013;

3.1.1. The President will form the reunion workgroup before the end September 2011;

3.1.2. The workgroup and the Board will promote reunion through 2012; and

3.1.3. The workgroup will finalize reunion details by July 2012.

3.2. The Board will encourage frequent regional gatherings of members.

3.3. The Association will award one scholarship grant per regular semester to one BE resident for SY 2011-12 and SY 2012-13, as approved by the Board through simple majority vote.



Objective Four

4. Objective: To enhance and encourage the professional advancement of its members

4.1. The Board will revive the BE News in electronic format in effort to maintain close connections and promote the objectives of the Association.

4.2. The Board will establish Projects of the Year awards

4.2.1. The purpose of this award is (a) to showcase a member's accomplishment, (b)

to acknowledge a member's exemplary achievement, (c) to get to know our members better which includes potential networking, and to (d) inspire others to attain similar successes in their own fields;

4.2.2. Projects may be in any field (ex. private industry, public service, non-profit organization, academia);

4.2.3. The Board will solicit projects in small, medium and large size categories (ex.

Small<\$500,000; \$500,000<Medium<\$5,000,000; Large>\$5,000,000); and

4.2.4. The Board will select six Projects of the Year, present and award them at the 2013 BEFAAA reunion (two awardees per category; one each for 2011-12 and 2012-13 years).

4.3. The Board will submit nominations to the annual UPAA and UPAE awards through BEAI.

"To enhance and encourage the professional advancement of its members"

Objective Five

5. Objective: To render in every possible way moral and financial support to the Beta Epsilon Fraternity of the College of Engineering, University of the Philippines

5.1. The Treasurer will fine-tune the financial reporting by December 2011

5.1.1. The Treasurer will draft

descriptions of the various funds (ex. purpose, asset form, restrictions, disbursements, financial goals, source of funds) by December 2011; and

5.1.2. The Treasurer will provide bi-annual reporting and include the financial reports in the "Files" section of the BEFAAA Yahooogroup.

5.2. The Association will provide financial support to official BE activities through the General Fund, as approved by the Board through simple majority.





**“Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal”
-From an Irish headstone**

In Memoriam: Lourdes Agustin

Lourdes Cunamay Agustin, wife of Bert Agustin (BE '62), courageously fought ovarian cancer for over 13 years and through it all she taught her two daughters how to be strong, independent women and loving mothers.

She peacefully joined the Lord on April 22, 2011. Lourdes will forever be remembered for her un-

wavering strength, love of gardening, cooking, watching Filipino soap operas, and especially, playing mah jong with her outrageously hysterical family and friends.

At the business meeting of the 2011 reunion, it was agreed to allocate \$200.00 from the BEFAAA Amenity Fund and raise voluntary contributions to extend

financial assistance to Bert. The Pacific Central West Betans had been very supportive of Bert through his trying times.

Contributions may be mailed to Marty Martinez, BEFAAA Treasurer, at 5042 Lauderdale Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214. (Note: Bert Agustin).

Atlantic Northeast's BBQ

On July 23rd, Joe Aquino (BE '68) and his Betanette Cel hosted a BBQ for the Atlantic Northeast (aka. Eastern Canada) Betans at his newly renovated Richmond Hill, ONT home.

Arrow Armena, Jethro Banlaoi, Solomon Con-

sunji, Tad Consunji, Ted Cresencia, Larry Pay and Rod Reventar attended the gathering with their Betanettes. Tricia Apela-Aquino (SH '92), Betanette Miren Dumlao-Santos (of Alex Santos BE '59) and daughter Trixie Santos (SH '96) graced the gathering with their presence.

A particular topic of conversation was Ben Dia's (BE '58) medical and financial condition (see Page 11 article). Special thanks to every Betan in attendance who contributed financial assistance to Ben Dia which will be coursed through the Manahan Express.



Back: J.R. Gimne Banlaoi, Trixie Santos, Irene Reventar and Sarette Cresencia
Front Row: Miren Santos, Sheila Armena, Jethro Apela Aquino and Celia Aquino
The kids are Ted and Sarette's grandchildren.

BEFAAA Prez Meets Pacific Central West Betans

BEFAAA President Greg Africa took his family to tour San Francisco for a few days in July.

With short notice from Cenon Carolino (BE '64), the Pacific Central West Betans (aka. Northern California brods) mustered a

few of their members and met up with Greg and family for a kainan brunch at the Ongpin Restaturant in South San Francisco on July 16th.

Greg discussed UPAA matters and presented his program and goals for his term

as BEFAAA president.

Present were Joe/Fe Albano, Cenon Carolino, Bert Agustin, Dennis Quinto, Alex Inserto, Mon Cruz, Ernie/Leny Santos, and Jinggoy Mempin.



Atlantic East Betans hold a BBQ, too



The Atlantic East (aka. U.S. East Coast) Betans got together on July

23rd for a BBQ hosted by Wilford Lim (BE '81) and his Betanette Maribel at their home in Edison, NJ.

In attendance were Wilford Lim, Butch Reyes, Renan Pineda, E tao Salcedo, Tom Choa, Pete Dy, Didin Manahan, John Reyes, Check Bautista, their Betanettes and Beta-

Pete and E tao related stories from

the Cabo San Lucas reunion. They planned their August Connecticut swimming & BBQ, Jersey shore crabbing, and the 4-day September Williamsburg outing. Also discussed were BEAI and BEFAAA projects, including the 2013 Washington, DC reunion. The group called Greg Africa, who was still visiting LA, to extend their best wishes.

BEFAAA Prez Meets Pacific Southwest Betans

This summer, BEFAAA President visited family and friends in Southern California. Greg took time out to meet with the Pacific Southwest Betans (Aka. SoCal brods) from around the LA area.

BEFAAA treasurer Marty Martinez (BE '53) and his Betanette Frida hosted a welcoming BBQ at his La Crescenta, CA home on July 19th. With the view of the mountain from Marty's backyard, the mood

was right.

Aside from Marty, Arnel Platon, Sunny Mirasol, Sonny Gancayco, Pio Advincula, Sarcee Monzon, Gilbert Sta. Maria, Angie Alvarez, Toti Kasilag, Gene Corpus, Hernan Gonzalez, Frank Aguling, Rey dela Cruz were accompanied by some of their charming Betanettes to meet Greg and his family. Coincidentally, Lino Angeles of BEAI was also visiting.

Greg presented his ideas for implementation during his term amid good food, great friends and exotic drinks with claimed "medicinal" properties.



Gear up for the 82nd Beta Epsilon Anniversary!

BEFAAA Objective No. 3. "To stimulate educational, cultural and social activities."

August 23, 1929 - the date a great institution was born. Beta Epsilon Fraternity. Brotherhood of Engineers.

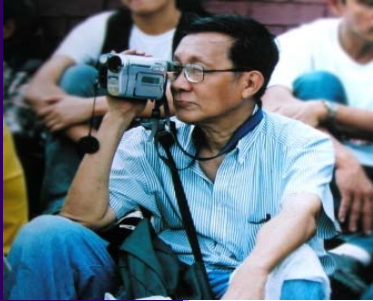
August 23, 2011 - Beta Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Association of America. Beyond Engineering.

Are you geared up for our 82nd anniversary? The regional groups are encouraged to hold

August gatherings to commemorate our Foundation Day. Kapihan. Kainan. Need not be grand; it's all about the company we keep. Take copious photos and tell us how you spent your time celebrating this memorable date.



Mon Ramirez Receives UPAA Award



Congratulations to Mon Ramirez (BE '63) for being one of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA) awardees. On June 25, 2011, Mon received the Science and Technology Award for his outstanding achievement in the field of Social

Cohesion.

At the business meeting of the 2011 BEFAAA reunion, it was agreed to allocate \$200.00 from the BEFAAA General Fund and raise voluntary contributions to replace the aging equipment Mon uses for photo documentation of his social work and Beta Epsilon activities; specifically, a 2007

Canon camera donated by Al Daco and a 2004 DVD writer donated by Ted Cresencia.

If you would like to support Mon's endeavors, contributions may be mailed to Marty Martinez, BEFAAA Treasurer, at 5042 Lauderdale Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214 (Note: Mon Ramirez).

BEFAAA Nominations for UPAA Awards

BEFAAA Objective No. 4: "To enhance and encourage the professional advancement of its members"

Since the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) Awards were established, only 15 Betans received the Outstanding Alumni/Professional Award. Less than 20 Betans received the Most Distinguished Alumni Award from the UP Alumni Engineers' (UPAE). And, there was not a single Betan recipient of a UPAA centennial award (there were two Alphan awardees though).

Historically, Prof. Ilio (BE '37) would nominate Betans for UPAA or UPAA awards. Since Prof. Ilio passed away in 2006, there has been no organized Betan effort to nominate brods for UPAA or UPAA awards. In fact, it was

an Alphan who nominated a Betan for inclusion in the first batch of 100 Most Outstanding Alumni (MOA) awardees.

In response, a handful of BEAI brods formed an *ad hoc* committee to intensify efforts to nominate exemplary Betans for UPAA and UPAA awards. As a result, 2010 was a banner year for Beta Epsilon in recognition of the work and achievement of Betans. A total of 24 Betans were included in the UPAA's list of 100 MOA. Joe Cruz (BE '50) received the UPAA Lifetime Achievement Award. If we put our minds to it, we obtain results!

Currently, there is momentum led by Leony Liongson (BE '67), Ed Paynor (BE '69), Mon Ramirez (BE '63) and

Ojie Alzona (BE '74) to formalize the Beta Epsilon Nominating Committee (BENCom) with the presidents of BEAI, BESA and BEFAAA as *ex-officio* members. This makes sense since we can agree that there are many BEFAAAans who can easily qualify for recognition of their accomplishments in their chosen fields. In addition, there are other awarding organizations such as UPAAA, DOST, NAST, etc that may receive nominations from BEFAAA.

UPAA is now accepting nominations for the 2011 Alumni Awards that will be bestowed on November 12, 2011. Once we receive the awards criteria, we will be fielding our BEFAAA nominees. Heads up! We will need suggestions and resumes soon.



BEFAAA Projects of the Year Awards

BEFAAA Objective No. 4: "To enhance and encourage the professional advancement of its members"

In line with meeting this objective, BEFAAA will hold Projects of the Year Awards. The purpose of this award is (a) to showcase a member's accomplishment, (b) to acknowledge a member's exemplary

achievement, (c) to get to know our members better which includes potential networking, and to (d) inspire others to attain similar successes in their own fields. (See mechanics on Page 5)

Members are encouraged to share their or their brod's accomplishment by submitting featured projects to

Greg Africa at gafri2@yahoo.com. Hopefully, at least one project will be featured in each BE News issue. Below, is our first feature project involving Jim Ocampo (BE '68).



Betan Creates Elegant Rhythms in Concrete

Among the assortment of iconic structures in Dubai, O-14 is truly unique. Its perforated concrete exterior shell, which serves as an environmentally smart *brise soleil*, i.e. sunscreen that allows light, air and views, is its main architectural feature and also its primary structural system. A space nearly 40 inches wide exists between the shell and the main enclosure. This gap creates a space for hot air to rise, thereby effectively cooling the surface of the glass windows behind the concrete exterior shell. This exoskeleton-sunscreen wall features more than 1,300 openings of different sizes, arranged in an apparently random pattern. Far from being random, however, the seemingly arbitrary arrangement of the openings in the wall creates a diagonal grid that enables its use as a gravity and lateral supporting system.

Although meticulously designed, engineered and executed, O-14 displays the abilities of concrete design to achieve an elegantly rhythmic structure. This design solution

represents the use of concrete at its best.

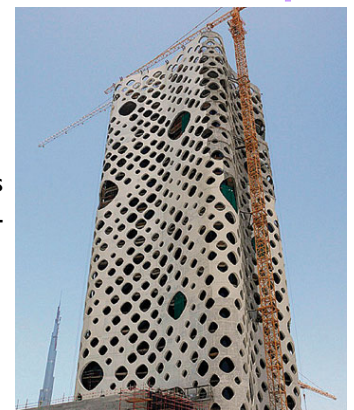
O-14 is prominently located along the waterfront esplanade of the extension of Dubai Creek. The 22-story tall commercial building is enclosed by a two-story podium that is not attached to the tower. Five pedestrian bridges, each passing through a wall opening, provide access between the tower and the podium. O-14, named after its lot designation, stands on a site of 34,392 square feet, while the building has a total area of 300,000 square feet, including four levels of basement. The typical interior column-free office floor area is 6,000 square feet. On May 14, 2009, the tower's concrete structure was completed, making it one of the first towers to appear in the skyline of Business Bay.

With the exterior shell being a primary structural element, the architect, Reiser + Umemoto (RUR) and the structural engineer, Ysrael A. Seinuk, P.C. (YAS) col-

laborated closely in configuring the entire façade. Jim Ocampo (BE '68) is YAS senior vice-president and principal responsible for the O-14 project.

O-14's innovative design has generated extraordinary interest around the world. It was featured in an hour-long documentary about Dubai ("Impossible City"), which was produced by CBS News and shown on the Discovery Channel in October, 2008. O-14 is the winner of the 2009 Silver, Emporis Skyscraper Award. O-14 also won the 2010 ACEC National Diamond Honor Award for Excellence in Engineering Design. O-14 was the recipient of the best tall building in Middle East and Africa in the best tall buildings awards by Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

Congratulations, Jim!



38th Annual Blockbooster Quiz Show



As in recent tradition, every match of THE freshman quiz show started out with, "Welcome to the 38th Annual Blockbooster. Blockbooster is brought to you by everybody's favorite fraternity..." and the freshmen will shout out, "BETA EPSILON!".

There were many very competitive teams. As teams were knocked out one after another, the games grew more intense. In the end, a

crowd favorite team of engineering students garnered first place.

This year, the BE residents added an innovative on-line registration system to complement the manual registration process. The on-line process contributed to the participation of over 80 enthusiastic teams comprised of 3 to 5 freshmen each.

A Sony Playstation 3 was set up to entertain the teams

while they waited for their turn to compete in the quiz show. In addition, mini-games were conducted for the audience to keep up the tempo of excitement and air of competition.

Blockbooster exceeded its purpose by welcoming freshmen to their first year as U.P. students through a fun and competitive experience and promoting a positive image of fraternities; Beta Epsilon, in particular.

Contact Rellan Castro
BE'08 @ 917-525-7368
or
rellan_18@yahoo.com

2011 Beta Epsilon Jackets



Features:

- Embroidered front logo and back text

- Cotton twill
- Inside pocket at left side
- External pockets at both sides
- Zipper ex-

tends up to collar

- Button at the end of sleeves

Small:

Sleeves- 22" [shoulder to end]

Height- 25.5" [shoulder to bottom]

Shoulder Width-

18" [shoulder to shoulder]

Medium:

Sleeves- 23"

Height- 26"

Shoulder Width- 18.5"

Large:

Sleeves- 26"

Height- 27"

Shoulder Width- 19"

XL:

Sleeves- 27"

Height- 28"

Shoulder Width- 20"



2011 Lantern Parade Fireworks Show

This year, the Beta Epsilon Fraternity will once again bring joy and awe to the campus community and surrounding neighborhoods by sponsoring the Lantern Parade Fireworks Show at the University of the Philippines. This annual year-end event has been a much anticipated

delight. The Fireworks Show caps the university's yuletide celebration of music, dance and parade of homegrown lanterns and costumes.

As you will recall, the charter contributors to this annual event were BEFAAA members.

If you are interested in participating in the funding of this year's fireworks show, please send your donations through the Manahan Express via Didin Manahan, Assistant Treasurer, 61 Elsie Drive, Plainsboro, NJ 08536 (Payee: "Adrien Manahan"; Note: Fireworks).



Mike Villanueva BE '59



Mike Villanueva (BE '59) passed away in Manila July 4, 2011, one day before his birthday. Mike's remains were cremated and

fraternity necrological rites were held the next evening at the Santuario de San Antonio funeral chapel in Makati City. One of Mike's last requests was to keep the rites short and happy. Eighty-seven Betans attended the event. His grandchildren gifted him a birthday cake while family and friends chorused a rousing birthday song.

Messages of cheerful memories from Betans all over the globe

were read. Mike's son, Mikey (BE '87), delivered the response in behalf of Mike's Betanette, Mila, and the Villanueva family.

In keeping with Mike's wish for a happy send off, he requested that the Betans totally consume his collection of wines and liquor. The brods complied with farewell cocktails held on the evening of July 7th.

Good-bye, Mike. A fine friend and gentleman. We will re-

2011 BE Theatrum Renovation Project

The concept of a theatrum was part of UP's overall plan to develop the lagoon area into a park whose facilities the community could utilize and enjoy. With limited available funds amid a difficult economic time, Beta Epsilon pushed through with the construction of the Theatrum's basic frame. The BE Theatrum was Beta Epsilon's gift to the university on its Diamond Jubilee.

After 25 years, BEAI's BE

Theatrum Renovation Project is at the center of the UP Wetlands Master Plan and Urban Wildlife Habitat Initiative. Phase I of the plan includes drainage improvements, channel control gates, land reclamation, and foot bridges (Est. US\$12,500). Phase II includes the theatrum roof, sanitary facilities, lighting, broad-crested weirs, phytoremediation pools, engineered wetlands, landscaping, fitness stations, concrete park benches and tables (Est.

US\$14,700).

Prof. Leony Liongson (BE '67) provides the hydraulics and wetlands design. Arch. Buboy Espina, executive director, UP Office of Design and Planning Initiatives provides the urban wildlife habitat plan. AMH Philippines, Inc. provides the civil works and theatrum renovation designs. BEAI provides construction management, fund-raising effort, and overall project management.



Ben Dia, Get Well Soon

Due to a serious kidney ailment, Ben Dia (BE '58) has been undergoing twice a week dialysis. Ben seems to be responding to his dialysis, extensive regimen of medication and liquid food diet. He is regaining some of his lost weight. According to his physician, if this improving trend continues, his kidney may still recover.

However, his family reports that Ben seems to be giving up the will to live. Contemporary Betans Lito Manahan, Boy de Leon, JoeVic Gonzalez and Alex Santos visited our ill brod to boost his morale. Ben was ecstatic to receive the brods.

Ben's hospitalization and treatment has been a financial drain to his family and any assistance

from the BEFAAA brods will be appreciated.

You can send your assistance through the Manahan Express via Didin Manahan, Assistant Treasurer, 61 Elsie Drive, Plainsboro, NJ 08536 (Payee: "Adrien Manahan"; Note: Ben Dia).



A reclined Ben Dia waves to the camera for the brods.



Beta Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Association of America

c/o 310 Buskin Court
Severn, MD 21144

Landline: 410-551-5229

Mobile: 443-336-2385

E-mail: gafri2@yahoo.com

Connecting Brothers throughout the Americas

Beta Epsilon, the Brotherhood of Engineers, is the first college-based fraternity to be established at the University of the Philippines. Founded on August 23, 1929 by nine pioneering scholars, athletes and student leaders, Beta Epsilon has been a second home to the best and brightest from the U.P. College of Engineering.

True to its aim of promoting the interests of the country, university and college while enhancing closer relationships among its members, the fraternity has engaged in activities that reflect its own credo of scholarship, excellence and service even beyond engineering. These tenets continue to motivate the actions of Betans, individually or collectively, through the years.

The Beta Epsilon Fraternity Alumni Association of America is a social and non-profit organization composed of members of the Beta Epsilon Fraternity currently residing in the United States of America and its territories, Canada and Mexico.



Farewell, Respi. My brother, my friend.

Kuya Ope, Da Apo, Ku Satur, Respi. Call him by any name but, we all know him by "brother" and "friend". Sadly, Respi succumbed to cardiac arrest Sunday afternoon, July 31, 2011. He will be sorely missed.

Kuya Ope lived in Singalong, Manila. He graduated with Class '49 from Araullo High School. Kuya Ope obtained his Mining Engineering degree in 1953 from the College of Engineering of the University of the Philippines.

Da Apo was a very active member of 49ers during and even after his student years. He worked in various mines in the Philippines. Da Apo was a registered professional engineer in the Philippines and the United States and became one of the most prominent Filipino "engineer of mines", as he would call himself. He was a recognized development and operations management professional in the mining and metals industry. Even as recently as a couple of years ago, Da Apo was critical of the Ar-

royo administration's MOU with the ZTE Corporation regarding mining Mt. Diwalwal in Compostela Valley.

Ka Satur entered Beta Epsilon Fraternity with Batch 1951. He was brother of Bella Respicio (SH '56), brother-in-law to Franklin Sison (BE '53, MEB '56) and uncle of BenBen Sison (BE '79). Ka Satur and his Betanette Renee were fixtures in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco BEFAAA gatherings. On occasion, he would spend extended periods in the Philippines with the BEAI Betans.

Among his many talents, Respi is well-known for his writing skills and iron-clad memory. During the 2000 Chicago BENA reunion, he was designated "Editor-for-Life" of the BE News. Respi was a wealth of information. Just last September despite being ill, he wrote about his eyewitness account of J.P Laurel's inauguration as the president of the Second Philippine Republic on October 15, 1943.

Unbeknownst to many, Respi had

been seriously ill for some time and had been out of steady work. The board agreed to allocate \$200.00 from the BEFAAA Amenity Fund and raise voluntary contributions to extend financial assistance to Renee.



Respi at his last SF kapihan in June 2010

Contributions may be mailed to Marty Martinez, BEFAAA Treasurer, at 5042 Lauderdale Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214. (Note: Respi Respicio).

This issue of the BE News is dedicated to Respi. Farewell, our brother, our friend.