

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Alvarez Betans
- Get to know the MEB, FSH, Officers, and New Residents
- BEFAAA Prez meets with BESA Prez in Toronto
- Be Kapihan turns 25!

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# BE News

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2011

Residents'  
Issue

## Betans Dominate 2011 UPAAE Awards

2010 was a banner year for Be in terms of recognition of the noteworthy work and achievements of Betans. A total of 24 Betans were included in the UP Alumni Engineer's list of 100 Most Outstanding Alumni. Joe Cruz '50 received the UP Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 2011, Be continues this streak. Mon Ramirez '63 received the UPAA Science and Technology Award (Social Cohesion) last June 25<sup>th</sup>. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, six Betans will accompany eight other distinguished alumni to receive the 2011 UPAAE Awards at the Bahay ng Alumni, Diliman, Quezon City.

Be Fraternity is proud to honor the following illustrious Betans:



### UPAAE Grand Reunion at the Bahay ng Alumni.

- Tito Aliga '63, UP College of Engineering Service Award;
- Bong David '69, Achievement Award for Finance;

- Pete Maniego '68, Service to the Industry Award (Renewable Energy);
- Alex Ibasco '78, Professional Degree Award for Electrical Engineering;
- Fel Ople '54, Professional Degree Award for Civil Engineering; and
- Lito Bermudo '79, Professional Degree Award for Mechanical Engineering.

BEFAAA's Fel Ople of California and Bong David of Maryland shall travel to Manila to personally accept their awards.

Congratulations brods, you are inspirations to us all.

Hail Beta Epsilon!

## Message from the President

Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving! I named this issue the "Residents' Issue" for it contains several articles pertaining to campus events and personalities. This is in effort for the BEFAAA's to get to know the residents a little better.

The resident articles were drafted by the Brother Reporter Tim Cruz '08. As I edited the articles, they transported me to the old stomping grounds of Melchor Hall. I was able to relate with MEB

Baste Julian '07 as I was thrown back in time to when I was MEB '81. Those were memorable times, indeed.

A Betan is a gentleman and a scholar. We are always pleased to hear about our brods topping the engineering board examinations or achieving Latin honors. We are proud of our Betan UPAAE awardees, in general, and BEFAAA's Fel Ople '54 and Bong David '69, in particular. Finally, we are humbled and honor a patriot, Alejo Alvarez

'41, who celebrates his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday and 70<sup>th</sup> batch anniversary this month.



This issue contains a featured project, reports on various Be group' activities and projects, a potpourri of announcements and milestones and a discovery of what Washington, DC is all about.

Enjoy! — GLA '79

# Two More Join the BEFAAA Board

BEFAAA Regional Map



The Board consists of five officers and seven regional directors. The Board has a term of two years, 2011-13.

The Officers are:

- Greg Africa '79, President;
- TBA, Vice-President;
- Benjie Lopez '67, Sec-

retary;

- Marty Martinez '53, Treasurer-for-life; and
- Didin Manahan '84, Assistant Treasurer.

The Regional Directors are:

- TBA, Western Canada
- Ernie Santos '73, Northern California;

- Angie Alvarez '75, Southern California;
- Ricky Manahan '86, North Central;
- Bogie Jaranilla '82, South Central;

- **Ted Cresencia/Rod Reventar, Eastern Canada;** and
- Didin Manahan '84, Eastern United States.

## Know Your Director Angie Alvarez '75



Angel Ilejay Alvarez entered the fraternity in 1975. Angie graduated from the University of the Philippines with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Since then, he garnered experience in business, management, engineering and marketing in the petroleum, construction and equipment trading industries.

Angie's employment history started with the National Economic Development Authority (PH) in April 1979. At NEDA, he worked as a researcher and later as a research engineer for its Transport Planning Projects. In August 1980, Angie joined Asia Industries as a Sales Engineer and was sent on assignment to Malaysia from 1981 to 1987. While in Malaysia, his networking landed him an importation and marketing operations position in 1987 at Integrated Holdings, a

company involved in aquaculture farming and processing in Malaysia. In 1991, he returned to the Philippines and was hired by D.M. Consunji-CERI heavy equipment leasing and project support operations.

Angie moved to California in November 1992. In 1993, he obtained his Engineer-In-Training License. In May 1994, he became part of Woodside Engineering Associates (Southern California) and was involved in emission reporting and other environmental projects.

Between July 1995 to January 2002, Angie helped establish and manage a number of businesses including, an oriental grocery store, a Filipino restaurant, a cargo forwarding company and money remittance operations. His last employer was Baseline Plus Inc, a company involved with

inspection, monitoring and inventory contracts in the oil industry, where he worked from 2002 to 2008.

Angie decided on a career change and moved from employment to entrepreneurship where he presently owns and manages his cargo forwarding, money remittance and trading business.

It is interesting to note that throughout his employment career and business, Angie had many occasions to work with or for Betans.

Angie currently resides in Moreno Valley, CA, where he is proud to say that he is the official caregiver of his parents, Alejo '41 and Clotilde Alvarez. Angie is the Southern California and Mexico Regional Director.

*Angie Alvarez '75 contributed to this article. Read more about Alejo Alvarez '41 on Page 4 of this issue.*

**BEFAAA**  
Objective  
No.1: "To  
foster the  
spirit of  
brotherhood  
among its  
members."

# Financial Report (as of October 31, 2011)

## General Fund (Unrestricted)

Balance as of 07/31/11	\$13,723.11
Receipts (From Annual Dues)	2,225.00
Disbursements	(383.00)
<b>Balance as of October 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$15,565.11</b>

## Endowment Fund:

Principal (Restricted Fund)	\$9,050.00
Interest (Unrestricted)	1,680.93
Receipts	0.00
<b>Balance as of October 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$10,730.93</b>

## Scholarship Fund (Restricted):

Balance as of 07/31/11	\$1,005.00
Receipts (From Annual Dues)	445.00
<b>Balance as of October 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$1,450.00</b>

## Amenity Fund (Restricted):

Balance as of 07/31/11	\$465.00
Receipts (From Annual Dues & Donation)	455.00
Disbursements	(400.00)
<b>Balance as of October 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$520.00</b>

## Emergency Reserve Fund (Restricted):

Balance as of 07/31/11	\$800.00
Receipts	0.00
<b>Balance as of October 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>

**BEFAAA Account Balance as of October 31, 2011** **\$29,066.04**



*“To date, forty-one brods remitted 2011/12 Annual Dues, five brods remitted 2011 Annual Dues and one brod remitted 2007/08 Annual Dues. Thank you very much for your support!”*

## Northern California Kapihan

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Chito '73, Gem and Alex Calingo hosted a fall kapihan in their Greenbrae, CA home. Figuring that the Christmas kapihan was a long wait, Chito added a fifth kapihan to the San Francisco area's repertoire of quarterly kapihans.

Seventeen Betans, 12 Betanettes, 2 Betanaks and a UP alumnus guest attended the Kapihan. Included were Alex Inserto '53, Joe Socorro '56, Dennis '58 & Kirsten Quinto, Danny '61 & Lydia de la Cruz, Ed Punzalan

'61, Dom '63 & Annette Ofrecio, Joe '64 & Fae Albano, Cenon '64 & Mimi Carolino, Vic '69 & Carol Villagrancia, Herbert '70 & Marie Li, Gil '70 & Liz Ongchangco, Ed '72 & Terry Ng, Ernie '73 & Leny Santos, Nott Ocampo '75, Jinggoy '78 & Rafael Mempin, Manny '97 & Venus Nova and guest Gelay.

The Calingo home was tastefully decorated in fall colors. Philippine and American food and dessert were paired with fine California wines. An entertain-



**Seated L-R: Dennis, Dom, Ernie, Chito, Ed, Alex & Cenon; Standing L-R: Jinggoy, Nott, Gil, Ed, Danny, Joe A, Joe S, Herbert, Vic & Manny**

ment highlight was provided by soprano Lydia de la Cruz accompanied by guitarist Chito Calingo.

# Halu-halo Special



Ricky '86, Arlene, Doris, Didin '84, Meg and Roni '57 Manahan in Chicago, IL.

- Visited: Roni '57 and Didin '84 Manahan in Chicago, IL late May;

- Visited: Tom Buvenvenida '58 & Sonny Alhambra '65 in Houston, TX from

Chicago, IL Sep 4<sup>th</sup>;

- Visited: Andy Soco '62 in Sugarland, TX Sept 30<sup>th</sup>;

- Visited: Arnel Platon '75 in Houston from Diamond Bar, CA Sep 7<sup>th</sup>;

- Visited: Cenon Carolino '64 & Vic Villagracia '69 in Williamsburg, VA from

San Francisco, CA Sep 29<sup>th</sup>;

- Opened: Disney Aulani Resort, Oahu, HI. Rey de la Cruz's '76 niece Jeannette Lomboy is Sr. Creative Show Producer;

- Anniversary: Renan '80 and Naty Pineda cele-

## Alejo Alvarez '41 Turns 95!

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Alejo F. Alvarez '41 will celebrate his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. In the same month, he will be commemorating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his fraternity batch. In November 1941, Alejo was initiated into the Be fraternity when he transferred from the Philippine Military Academy to the UP College of Engineering to pursue a Geodetic Engineering degree. Shortly thereafter, Japan's 14<sup>th</sup> Army began its invasion of the Philippines with a landing on Batan Island on December 8, 1941.



Alejo Alvarez '41 and his wife of 65 years, Clotilde

Alejo was the closest comrade-in-arms of Prof. Dom Ilio '37 during the Second World War. He served as Captain while Prof was second lieutenant in the Panay USAFFE under the famous Col. Macario Peralta, Jr. Having attended PMA and been an ROTC officer, Alejo was recruited to head the Manilao unit of the Panay USAFFE. Upon orders of Colonel Peralta, he and Prof convened disbanded Filipino soldiers in Sitio Buntalao, Liloan town, Aklan. Alejo was designated as Company Commander first of the G Coy, 64<sup>th</sup> Inf

Reg and later the reorganized H Coy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, 66<sup>th</sup> ICT handling four platoons of 38 men each, armed with three Browning Automatic Rifles and 149 Springfield and Enfield rifles. Alejo led his company of resistance fighters in conducting raids and ambushes.

Alejo became a legend himself due to his military exploits against the Japanese. In his novel, *Guerilla Memoirs*, Prof named a character Phil Fernandez in Alejo's image. The details of one of their exploits are in the fictionalized account of one of their encounters with the enemy in the novel. Malinao was under siege from a Japanese garrison in adjacent Banga town. The attackers attempted to cross over to Malinao and was promptly thwarted by Alejo Alvarez and the Malinao Braves as fictionalized in the poem, *Sineangan*. The piece captured the heroism of the guerillas and the climate of fear that the locals felt.

After the war, Alejo was commissioned as captain in the fledgling Armed Forces of the Philippines. His notable assignments included,

assistant provincial commander of Rizal and provincial commander of Iloilo and Camarines Norte. Alejo obtained his law degree from National University in 1960. In 1970, he retired from the military with the rank of Colonel.

Alejo worked for a Palawan logging firm in the early seventies. Then, he served in the personnel and legal departments of the British firm, Allied Thread. After leaving the private sector in 1988, Alejo maintained his own law practice until going into full retirement.

Alejo married Clotilde Imperial Ilejay, kin of Prof. Ilio's wife Clotilde Ilejay Yerro. Alejo's wife is first cousin of Mon Castillo's '79 mother Agnes Ilejay Castillo and first cousin of Amy Imperial Dajay, wife of Mayor Dominador Ilio, Jr. Alejo and Clotilde bore ten children. One son, Angie '75, is a Betan, also. The couple currently lives with Angie in Moreno Valley, CA.

Alejo Alvarez — Betan and Patriot. We salute you!

Angie Alvarez '75 & Dom Ilio '37 contributed to this article.

# Halu-halo Special (second serving)

- brated their Silver Wedding Anniversary last June;
- Christmas Party: UPAAGLA Dec 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00PM to Midnight, Golden Coast Buffet, 2223 W. Commonwealth Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803;
- Traveling: Joe Albano '64 & Cenon Carolino '64 on a 12-day Baltic Cruise starting 05/21/12. Contact Cenon if interested in joining;
- Awarded: UPAA Iloilo Chap-

- ter's 2011 Outstanding Professional Award for Higher Education to Tristan Macapanpan '62;
- Birth: Matthew, 6 lbs. looks like his proud grandfather Norby Perrin '69, late October;
- Surgery: Jim Ocampo '68 had gall bladder removed Sep 5<sup>th</sup>. Lost a lot of weight; building a new wardrobe late October;

- Departed: Cherilyn Mendoza-Sison, wife of Joel Sison '79 in Manila, Sep 14<sup>th</sup>; and
- Departed: Nikki Nepomuceno, mother of Maxine Mamba FSH '04 in Manila, Sep 20<sup>th</sup>.



Andy Soco '62 with hosts Bix, Benjie and Ernie in Sugarland, TX.

## Betans Give Back Across the Borders

We have heard of instances where two or more Betans collaborated on technical or business projects. This is a story where two Betans from opposite sides of the world but with common interests outside their professional careers partnered for a charitable cause. Sonny Gancayco '75 and Lino Angeles '66 joined forces to pursue a humanitarian project in Morong, Rizal.

Sonny Gancayco is an active Rotarian in the United States. He was Past President and International Services Chair of the Rotary Club of Historic Filipinotown. Lino Angeles has been a long-term active Rotarian in the Philippines. He was Past President of the Rotary Club of Lakeshore Rizal. While the duo had known each other through BE circles, they grew closer after meeting in the 2008 Los Angeles Rotary International Convention. Shortly thereafter, Sonny and Lino started talking about engaging in humanitarian projects.

Sonny's strength is his ability to gather resources from US donors through the Rotary Club.

For US donors, the value of using Rotary Club is its eligible tax-deductible donations. Another advantage for using Rotary Club is its matching grant system that multiplies donated amounts.

On the other hand, Lino related the need for computer hardware and computer education especially in the resource-strapped Philippine public high schools. Sonny and Lino conceived a project the would provide and install 30 new internet-connected computers in Morong National High School (MNHS). Using his business and social connections, Lino was able to include air-conditioning to the classrooms, teacher training and double the number of computers eventually installed in the local public high school. In addition, Lino would ensure that the project was managed with full integrity.

MNHS has about 3,000 economically disadvantaged students, all of whom want to learn how to use the computer. Sonny commented, "Computer education is one course in which every young person

wants to learn." Lino added, "The students are even willing to pay just to have this opportunity."

The project was completed and delivered in July 2010. One year later, Lino is happy to report that MNHS is now the computer hub for the region. The project generated such success that MNHS hosts a regional computer science contest. Computer education contest participants include not only MNHS students, but others in the community, especially the physically handicapped. Recently, the students who won the regional computer science contest developed a sophisticated proprietary program.

This featured project exemplifies how our brotherhood can extend beyond doing business with each other, beyond helping brods in need, and beyond the socials in which we partake.

Bless you, Sonny and Lino.

*Sonny Gancayco '75 contributed to this article.*

**BEFAAA**

**Objective**

**No. 3: "To**

**stimulate**

**educational...**

**activities."**



## ...Washington, DC *(from Page 12)*



Washington, DC is divided into four unequal quadrants.



The Smithsonian Institution operates 19 free museums.

the poverty level in 2005. According to 2008 data, about two-thirds of District residents identify as Christian: 28% are Baptists, 13% are Roman Catholic, and 31% are members of other Christian denominations. Residents who practice other faiths make up 6% of the population and 18% do not adhere to a religion.

Crime is highest in areas associated with illegal drugs and gangs. A 2010 study found that 5% of city blocks contributed to over one-quarter of the District's total crime. The more affluent neighborhoods of NW Washington are typically safe, but reports of violent crime increase in poorer neighborhoods generally concentrated in the eastern portion of the city. Many neighborhoods are becoming safer and vibrant. However, incidents of robberies and thefts have remained higher in these areas due increased nightlife activity and greater numbers of affluent residents. While instances of property crime remain high, reports are still half the level cited during the mid-1990s, and the patterns of theft continue to disperse to the north and east of downtown. By 2009, the annual murder count in the city had declined to 143, the lowest number since 1966. In total, reports of violent crimes and property crimes have both declined by half since 1993.

Washington has a growing, diversified economy with an

increasing percentage of professional and business service jobs. As of June 2011, the Washington Metropolitan Area had an unemployment rate of 6.2%. In 2008, the federal government accounted for about 27% of the jobs in Washington, D.C. The District has growing industries not directly related to government, especially in the areas of education, finance, public policy, and scientific research.

Gentrification efforts are taking hold in Washington, D.C. Development was fostered in some neighborhoods by the late-1990s construction of the Green Line on Metrorail, Washington's subway system, which linked them to the downtown area. Gentrification is revitalizing Washington's economy, but analysts claim its benefits are unevenly distributed and that the economic growth is not directly helping poor people.

The National Mall is a large, open park area in the center of the city where the Washington Monument, Jefferson Pier, Lincoln Memorial, National World War II Memorial, Reflecting Pool, Korean War Veterans Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial are located. Directly south of the mall, the Tidal Basin features rows of Japanese cherry blossom trees that originated as gifts from the nation of Japan. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, George Mason Memorial,

Jefferson Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial and the D.C. War Memorial are located around the Tidal Basin.

The National Archives, Library of Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court Building are located on Capitol Hill. The Smithsonian Institution operates 19 museums and the National Zoo, all free to the public. The National Gallery of Art features American and European collections. The National Building Museum may be of particular interest to engineers and architects. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum maintains exhibits, documentation and artifacts related to the holocaust.

Private universities include American University, Catholic University of America, Gallaudet University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Howard University, the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, the Corcoran College of Art and Design, and the University of the District of Columbia. The District is known for its medical research institutions such as Washington Hospital Center, the Childrens National Medical Center, and the National Institutes of Health. In addition, the city is home to three medical schools and associated teaching hospitals at George Washington, Georgetown, and Howard Universities.

# Prez Joins BESA Prez and Eastern Canada Betans



Taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with visiting BESA Prez Abe Amores '62, Betanette Tessie & sis-in-law Zeny, and the eastern Canadian Betans, Prez Greg Africa drove to Mississauga, ONT last September 11<sup>th</sup>. Playing host to

**Ted, Joe, Tady, Jetro, Tito, Arrow, Abe, Dan and Greg.**

this brunch meeting was Ted '62 & Suzette Cresencia in their lovely home. Eight other Betans attended: Joe '68 & Celia Aquino, Tad Consunji '63, Jetro Banlaoi '90, Arrow Armena '92, Larry '68 & Annette Pay and Rod '58 & Irene Reventar; Dan Consunji '65 visited from Bacolod and Tito Fajardo '84 visited from Detroit, IL with Betanette Carmen and their three daughters.

Greg delivered a Powerpoint presentation of his program and the status of achieving his goals. Other lively comparative discussions included, public/private health care, Australian/Canadian/US political systems, Mexican/Filipino boxers, wasps/bees/hornets and Original/Sheila's buko pie.

Brunch and late lunch were painstakingly prepared by the hosts, assisted by the Betanettes. At the end of the day, Abe distributed tokens from Australia.

**BEFAAA**  
**Objective No.2:**  
*"To promote friendship and cooperation among...alumni in the...other parts of the world."*

## U.S. East Coast Triple Gatherings

BESA Prez Abe Amores '62 continued his North American tour through NJ where his son Jowell lives. Etao '60 & Luz Salcedo hosted a barbeque in Abe's honor at their home in Somerset, NJ. Several U.S. Northeast Betans welcomed Abe to the east coast. Steak, pork belly and sausages were matched with beer, cognac and cigars.

The U.S. east coast Betans held their annual 3-night Rosh Hashanah pilgrimage to Williamsburg, VA. Twenty Betans, twelve Betanettes, nine Betanaks and two guests converged at the Greensprings Plantation Resort from September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, c/o Etao '60 & Luz Salcedo and Pete '64 & Nilda Dy.

The outing was dotted with common potluck and restaurant meals. The weekend's highlight was dinner hosted by Williamsburg local Monty '60 & Linda Dionisio in their golf course community home. The next morning, chef Pete and sous-chefs Willie Mejia '73 & Didin Manahan '84 whipped up a hearty breakfast. In between the common meals, the group broke down into

smaller units who separately enjoyed the various amenities of the resort or visited the many local attractions.

The balance of the group consisted of the families of Prez Greg '79 & Pinky Africa, Wilford '80 & Maribel Lim, Renan '80 & Naty Pineda, Butch Reyes '76, Mulong '68 & Esther Manlapig, Ernie '68 & Monica Amparo, Norby Perrin '69, Butsch Marfa '71, Leo '66 & Mila Figueroa, and Alexis Erica '64 and Doris Manahan. Steve '69 and Bernadette Andaya drove down from CT, Ace Castillo '01, Ronnie Manook '00 and friend Paula came all the way from Boston, MA and Vic Villagracia '69 and Cenon '64 & Mimi Carolino flew in from San Francisco.

On October 22nd, six Betans, three Betanettes and one Betanak trekked to St. Michael's MD to feast on Chesapeake Bay crabs, ribs and pulled pork for three hours. Wilford Lim '80, Renan '80 & Naty Pineda, Greg '79, Laura and Linnea Africa, John '76 & Gigi Reyes, Ernie Amparo '68 and Etao Salcedo '60 consumed at least a

dozen-and-a half crabs each while enjoying the local entertainment of music and dance. The group brought their own blends of spiced Philippine coco and cane vinegar as dipping sauces.

After lunch, the group strolled along historic St. Michaels main street, visited the local artisan shops and continued their lively discussions over afternoon tea and coffee at the Blue Crab Coffee House. For some, this will be their sixth year of attendance to this annual event.



**BESA Prez Abe Amores '62 in Somerset, NJ.**



**Kneeling L-R: Wilford, Cenon, Alexis, Ace, Ronnie, Monty & Pete; Standing L-R: Etao, Wil-lie, Didin, Mulong, Vic, Renan, Steve, Ernie, Butch, Norby, Greg, Butsch & Leo in Wil- liamsburg, VA.**



**Wilford, Renan, Greg, Ernie, John and Etao in St. Michael's, MD.**

## This is the MEB Baste Julian



MEB Sebastioan D. Julian, III

"I want a happy Beta Epsilon. And a Beta Epsilon formed by the experiences shared with each other, as well as embodying at all times, brotherhood and excellence." This is the vision of this year's Most Exalted Brother, Sebastian Daral Julian III, '07.

Baste, as his contemporaries call him, was born and raised from Oroquieta City, Misamis Occidental. He is a big man who resembles Pau Gasol, the Spanish player for the Los Angeles Lakers, in his looks and in his moments of basketball brilliance. Baste enjoys the company of the residents in all occasions, whether it is work or play. During his spare time, he reads books by Neil Gaiman, Agatha

Christie and John Grisham. Baste is outgoing and adventurous. He is always willing to try new things.

With regard to  $\beta\epsilon$ , Baste's experiences in leadership include assuming the a co-chairmanship for the 2007 Blockbooster and the Music Academy event. He was the externals committee head for 2008 U.P. Fair called "Rakestra". Through these experiences, he notes that, in all leadership positions it is important to lead by example. He perceives leaders to be multi-taskers and overseers, in the sense that they manage all the people, tasks and resources available and always are on top of every situation.

Baste believes that in the

role of MEB, to be an example of a gentleman to everyone, Betans and non-Betans alike, is very important. He feels that it is his responsibility to lead the residents by gaining credibility through his actions and developing more leaders who will contribute to the succession of leaders for the continuation of the Beta Epsilon's legacy. In his pursuit of his goals, Baste is never without the support of Betans, whether they be residents or alumni.

Baste has been in direct contact with the BEFAAA president and hopes to build stronger relations with alumni the world over.

*Tim Cruz '08 contributed to this article.*



FS Gianella D. Reyes

## Who is FSH Gianella Reyes?

An aspiring lawyer, a dancer, and so much more.

What more can you imagine?

This lady leads a double yet unpretentious life. She can be the cool, fun and gregarious person in the university and the quiet, private and serious person at home. Simple things like chocolates, ice cream, sushi, shopping for clothes, being with friends, performing and dancing make her content.

She took up dancing at the early age of four. In high

school, she joined the Aglala Dance Club of the School of the Holy Spirit in Quezon City, PH. Aside from dancing, she also knows how to paint, engage in a rapid game of badminton and play the violin. She is currently pursuing a Diploma in Creative and Performing Music Arts while majoring in Dance. In addition, she is a member of the UP Dance Company.

For Beta Epsilon, the fraternity sweetheart is the epitome of the Filipino Lady. A rose in the midst of resident Betan thorns, binding them closer with her gentle

grace, sweet smile, warm laughter, and dreamy chatter. Surely, everything about her makes the residents proud to be Betans.

She is the Fraternity Sweetheart 2010-11, a rose so distinct — Ms. Maria Gianella Dizon Reyes.

*Tim Cruz '08 contributed to this article.*



# Meet the $\beta$ e Resident Officers & 2011 Betans

## 2011-12 Officers:

- Most Exalted Brother: Sebastian D. Julian, III '07, BSEM
- Exalted Brother: Francis F. Liwanag '09, BS Arch
- Brother Porter: Kim C. Loor '10, BSCS
- Brother Chaplain: Virgilio R. Hernandez, Jr. '10, BSIE
- Brother Custodian: Jan L. Fajardo '09, BA ComRes
- Brother Recorder: Lawrence U. Chua '09, BSCE
- Brother Reporter: Timothy A. Cruz '08, BSIE
- BC Chairman: Roland C. Resurreccion '08, BSIE
- Resident Adviser: Marlon A. Macatangay '05, BSEM
- Faculty Adviser: Dr. Leonardo Q. Liongson '67, BSChE

With the addition of fifteen new Betans in the early part of the academic year, the residents now total forty-one strong. The 2011 Betans include:

- Kenneth B. Aguirre, BSME;

- Nolphi R. Biton, BSCE;
- Leo C. de la Cruz, BSIE;
- John L. Cua, BSIE;
- Alnoor H. Ebrahim, BSCE;
- Mark M. Gregorio, BSCE;
- Roderaid T. Ibanez, BEME;
- Justin C. Jacildone, BSCE;
- Rafael R. Khemlani, BS Arch;
- Jun B. Lidasan, BSME;
- Miguel M. Malolos, BS Arch;
- Edward G. Sapina, BSME;
- Pope T. Sotto, BSME;
- Mark G. Tolentino, BSCE; and
- Joseph N. Veluya, BSGE.

The BC Chairman conducted a Leadership Seminar for the residents in effort to share that he learned during his two-year service with the Engineering Student Council. Alumnus Leonard Berba '81, delivered the  $\beta$ e Leadership Lecture Seminar on leadership and Career Management. Four residents participated in the Engineering Marketing Congress in October.



2011-12 Resident Betans

In the first semester, the fraternity welcomed over 80 freshmen teams by hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Blockbooster Quiz Show. During the 82<sup>nd</sup> Foundation Week, the residents hosted a photo-exhibit, " $\beta$ e Gives Back" - a tribute to 35 COE administrative, library and maintenance staffs, and the Grand Pakain.

After the Foundation Week, the residents resume recruitment activities and prepare for Engineering Week, the  $\beta$ e Maskipaps Christmas program, the Lantern Parade and University Fair.

*Tim Cruz '08 contributed to this article.*

**BEFAAA Objective No.5: "To render in every possible way moral and financial support to the  $\beta$ e Fraternity..."**

## Fireworks Fund Goal Met!

This year, the  $\beta$ e 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 will cap the university's yuletide celebration of music, dance and parade of home-

grown lanterns and costumes on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.

Towards the close of October, Lito Manahan '58, BEAI Treasurer-for-Life, reported that  $\beta$ e received pledges for the P120,000 required for the fireworks show. Donors are requested to remit their pledged contributions.

Thank you much to all BEFAAA Fireworks Show supporters!

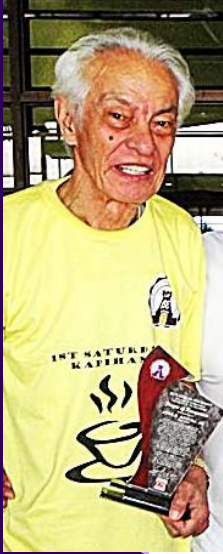


### REMINDER/REMINDER/REMINDER

Block some Yuletide time for fellow Betans and their families. Plan your regional holiday gatherings early. Tell us about them and take copious photos. Cheers!

# 300<sup>th</sup> Be Kapihan in 25 Years!

Donning the official 300th Kapihan commemorative T-shirt, Joe Arvisu '47 receives a plaque of appreciation from Be for 25 years of service as Mr. Kapihan.



At the wake of Pete Corpuz '50 in Sept 1986, one Betan asked the large group of brods: "Are we going to get together only when someone passes on?" And, so was born the Kapihan idea. An idea that has lived on virtually uninterrupted through twenty-five years, unaffected by natural calamities or political upheavals. The Be Kapihan has been held every first Saturday morning of the month for a quarter century. Amazing!

BEAI celebrated the First Saturday Kapihan's Silver Anniversary by holding the 300<sup>th</sup> Kapihan in a grand fashion on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> at the DMCI Homes Roofdeck in Makati, PH. The 300<sup>th</sup> Kapihan turned into brunch as the feast of local delicacies, breakfast dishes and coffee, donated by several Betans, were served.

About 100 Betans, Betanettes, Betanaks and Beta-pos attended the once-in-a-lifetime affair. Betans from eight decades were repre-

sented. It was the first time guests other than Betans graced a Kapihan.

There was a brief program whose highlight was the awarding of a plaque to Joe Arvisu '47 for spearheading and managing the Kapihan for 25 years. Rey Bautista '58 was presented with another plaque for having the best attendance and was bestowed the title, "Top Kapihanero".

*Ojie Alzona '74 and Lito Manahan '58 contributed to this article.*

## Vale, Oca Cruz '51...



Oscar (Oca) V. Cruz '51  
(2010 file photo)

Oca Cruz passed away on Aug 28<sup>th</sup> in Manila. Be lost another brother from Batch 1951 within months.

During Oca's wake, Joe Cruz '48 started the eulogies with stories about their teenage years at Bulacan High School, tales of college days and accounts of their monthly high school reunions. Then, Ernie Tabujara '50 related

how he and "Oskie" practically shared their lives as students in UP. Ernie spent long school breaks with the Cruz family in Calumpit, Bulacan because his family could not afford the expensive fare to his Bacolod home. Ernie and Oca boarded together through their early careers.

Other Betans who attended Oca's wake at the

de la Strada Church in Loyola Heights, QC included Ben Aquino '52, Egbert Abiad '62, Bernie Abis '80, Leony Liongson '67, Ojie Alzona '74, Louie Sison '67, Cesar Yniguez '65, Jabby Jasminez '51, Juanito Gregori '52 and Tito Aliga '63.

*Tito Aliga '63 contributed to this article.*

## ...Et tu, Ben Dia '59

On Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, over a score of Betans paid their respects to Ben Dia '59 at the UP Church of the Risen Lord.

As a resident, Ben was as adept with his slide rule as his literary pen; he was an editor of the *Philippine Collegian*.

Throughout his life, Ben honed his writing skills. He

wrote over 20 short stories which were published, along with his political/editorial cartoons, in the *Philippine Free Press*. Ben pursued writing as an avocation to his electrical engineering, marketing and purchasing career.

Ben was a deeply religious man. As a Bible study leader, he would combine well-researched essays with his mother's spiritual reflec-

tions when he facilitated group discussions.

In January 2011, Ben's health started to decline rapidly. Betans provided financial and moral support which lifted his spirit until he unexpectedly expired on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Dennis Quinto '58 and Boy de Leon '59 contributed to this article.*

Benjamin  
(Ben) A.  
Dia '59  
(undated  
file photo)



# UP Lagoon and Be Theatrum Improvement Project

This BE News' issue updates the readership on the technical aspects of the UP Lagoon and Be Theatrum Improvement Project. In particular, this article focuses on the environmental improvement aspect of the project.

Specific designs of channels and water bodies:

- The cross-section geometry and gradients of Channels 1, 2, and 3 shall be redesigned in order:
  - To accommodate the efficient drainage of the most frequent annual maximum storm runoffs; and
  - With stable natural lining of hard adobe rock, softened by the growth of tall trees and smaller plants along the banks of the channels and the lagoon.
- The larger upper portion of the lagoon which receives through Channel 2 both low flows and floods from the Roces Ave. Double Barrel Circular Culvert (DBCC) and surrounding swale flows, shall be converted into:
  - A Phase 1 lake with a crescent beach accessible from the Be Theatrum audience area;
  - A Phase 1 temporary flood retention reservoir, equipped with a

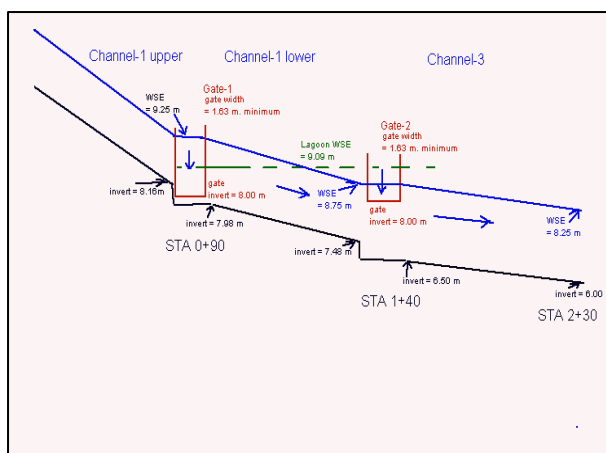
Weir #2 as an outlet spillway to enable flood releases towards Channel 3;

- A Phase 1 water body which provides Weir #2 for water-falls visual experience and a moving/wading water habitat for feeding aquatic birds and other fauna, thereby enhancing biodiversity; and
  - A Phase 2 phytoremediation water body to improve the water quality of all incoming effluent and runoff from the upper wetlands (through Roces Ave. DBCC) and various colleges and units: CAL, Film Center, University Theater, Music and Quezon Hall.
- Channel 1, carrying the sewage treatment plant-treated effluent plus storm runoff, being steeper than the other channels, will be naturally stabilized under Phase 2 by means of V cross-vanes, made of boulders, tree trunks and geo-textiles, which are stream-habitat improvement structures aimed at:
    - Long-term natural channel stability;
    - Attraction of biodiversity through growth of bank vegetation and presence of steps and pools for small animals; and
    - Weir #1 (optional under Phase

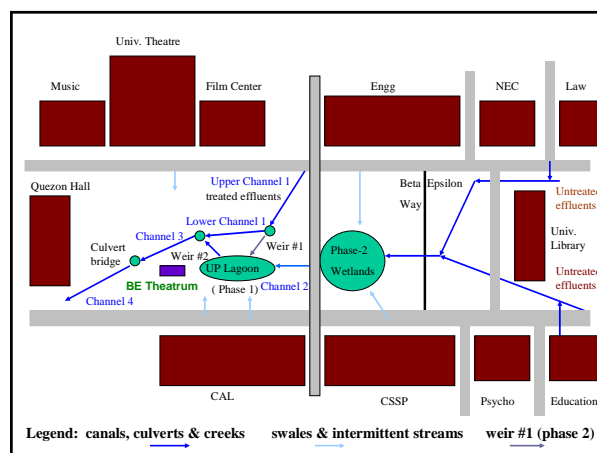
2), may directly feed low flows to the lagoon.

- The large ponded area in the central part of the Sunken Garden, downstream of the Be Way culvert bridge, and upstream of the Roces Ave. DBCC, shall be converted to
  - A re-engineered (under Phase 2) wetlands in order to improve the water quality of untreated effluents and polluted runoff - coming from various colleges and units: Engg-NEC, Law, Economics, BA, University Library, Education, Psychology, and CSSP —
  - By means phytoremediation by selected aquatic plant species.
- Channel 3 receives both low flows and flood flows from Channel 1 and Weir #1 (the latter releases water from the lagoon);
  - Channel 3 connects downstream to Channel 4 downstream of a pedestrian box culvert bridge; and
  - Channel 4 then carries the flows to the bigger creek which drains towards the Diliman Creek in the PHILCOA area.

**“Phytoremediation...(will) improve the water quality of all incoming effluent and runoff from the upper wetlands and various colleges and units.”**



Profile Drawing of Channels 1 & 3 and UP Lagoon.



Flow Network of UP Diliman Lagoon area.



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



# Welcome to Washington, District of Columbia!

Washington, D.C. is the capital of the United States. The District is not a part of any U.S. state and is instead directly overseen by the federal government through a mayor and a 13-member city council. Washington, D.C. has a resident population of 601,723; its population rises to over one million during the workweek. The centers of all three branches of the U.S. federal government are located in the District. Washington, D.C. hosts 176 foreign embassies as well as the headquarters of many world organizations, trade unions, lobbying groups, and professional associations.

Washington is located in the subtropical climate zone with four distinct seasons. Its climate is typical of Mid-Atlantic areas. Summers are hot and humid with a July daily average of 79 °F and average daily relative humidity around 66%. This combination of heat and humidity brings frequent thunderstorms.

Washington is a planned city. The city's design was largely the work of Pierre Charles L'Enfant. The city plan was modeled in the Baroque style and incorporated avenues radiating out from rectangles, providing open space and landscaping. The 1910 amended Heights of Buildings Act restricts building heights to the width of the adjacent street plus 20 feet. As a result, Washington's skyline is low and sprawling, in keeping with its Parisian-style design.

The District is divided into four quadrants of unequal areas: Northwest, Northeast, Southeast and Southwest. The axes bounding the



**The White House on a typical June day.**

quadrants radiate from the U.S. Capitol building. All road names include the quadrant abbreviation to indicate their location, and house numbers are assigned based on the approximate number of blocks away from the Capitol. In most of the city, the streets are set out in a grid pattern with east-west streets named with letters and north-south streets with numbers.

According to the 2010 Census, the population distribution of Washington, D.C. was 50.7% Black, 38.5% White, 3.5% Asian, and 0.3% American Indian. Other races made up 4.1% of the city's population while individuals from two or more races made up 2.9%. A 2007 report found that about one-third of District residents are functionally illiterate. On the other hand, nearly 46% have at least a four-year college degree. In 2006, D.C. residents had a personal income per capita of \$55,755. However, 19% of residents were below

*(continued on Page 6)*