



ALIBATA

Newsletter of the CULTURAL SOCIETY OF FILIPINO-AMERICANS

December 2008

Induction of 2008-09 CSFA Officers

The 2008 CSFA Induction Dinner and Dance was held once again at the Zuhrah Shrine in Minneapolis last October 18, 2008.

Masters of ceremony Thomas Burkhart and Lillian Brion formally began the evening's affair with a brief introduction and entertaining welcome remarks. The invocation was delivered by Jean Cruz and was followed by the renditions of the Philippine and American National Anthems by Sandy Rodriguez and the "Munting Tinig". After the sumptuous dinner, Clara Haycraft, Constituent Advocate of Senator Amy Klobuchar, was introduced. She read the Senator's encouraging congratulatory message to this year's CSFA officers. This was followed by the oath taking ceremony for the 2008-2009 CSFA officers. They were sworn in by 1999 CSFA President Marcelo Alojado. Re-elected president Jose Rivera then delivered his speech. This included words of gratitude to friends and members who have been vital to the success of the organization. Representing the CSFA Dance Troupe, Gary Paz and Ligaya Carlos premiered their interpretation of "Jota de Manila". This was a fitting prelude to CSFA's tribute to the participants of the original PAMANA. A photo slide show of the dances and participants of the PAMANA in 1981 was presented. Florante's "Handog" continued to play in the background, while the participants were called one by one and were handed a token and a rose by the young members of Munting Tinig. The tribute was a touching moment.

Later, Glen King introduced the two talented and lovely candidates vying for Miss Philippine Center of Minnesota 2009, Andrea Arambulo and Jennifer Mirabueno. The evening continued with guests and friends on their feet dancing to the music mixed by Ed Faustino.

Kudos to Tonette Burkhart, the tenacious chair of the event, Lorna Faustino for the stylish décor, Ligaya Carlos for organizing the program, Lourdes Rivera for training Munting Tinig, Lynn and Tony Winick for managing the tickets and Therese Peterson and Philippine Student Association for the reception.



Participants of PAMANA 1981 honored at the '08 CSFA Induction Dinner & Dance

Tribute to the Original PAMANA

Parang kailan lang... twenty seven years ago, members of CSFA embarked on a new adventure they called PAMANA. Family and friends got together, gathered resources, rehearsed, and put their full commitment into a show whose outcome and impact was, at that time, unknown. These pioneers whose vision, hard work and perseverance blazed the trail for the Filipino community here in Minnesota, were aptly recognized and honored during the 2008 CSFA Induction Dinner and Dance.

Dahil sa inyo... twenty seven years later, CSFA is preparing for the 8th staging of the PAMANA. This will be held in September of 2009. PAMANA VIII will showcase rich and colorful Filipino culture through music and dance.

To Ephraim, Jose, Moises, Mar and Nena Alojado, Jocelyn, Monico and Rose Ancheta, Benjie, Fil and Shirley Asuncion, Diony, Lising and JoAnn Borja, Dante Canillas, Peping del Carmen, Donny Castillo, Linda Davis, Beulah Dumagan, Tessie Enanoza, Remy Ingenhutt, Eddie and Lina Jonson, Gary and Glen King, Thirldie Lao, Jun Lucas, Ruth Morrisson, Rick and Jannie Noren, Ferdie, Tessie and Therese Oconer, Bobby Pantella, Sandy Rodriguez, Trell Rosso, Gina Schrader, Chris Toso, Mariel Umila, Dave and Lynn Winick, Meliza Woolner and Rafael and Jenny Yasis, thank you for starting what has truly become an important tradition here in Minnesota.

Salamat sa inyong PAMANA!

President's Message

It has been a pleasure leading the CSFA during the past year and I am looking forward to serving you for another term. If I have to summarize my experience in two words, it would be "hectic" but "gratifying". I truly enjoyed participating in all our events and meeting the hundreds of people we run into along the way.

Through our various programs, I'm happy to report that CSFA had a very productive and successful year in fulfilling our mission of promoting and preserving our Filipino culture. Our Dance Troupe performed in over 30 events throughout Minnesota. Our carolers raised and donated over \$4000 to support Filipino causes around the world. We provided cultural education services to over 100 youth and adult participants. We enabled the gathering of over 1000 people to celebrate Philippine Day and Pasko sa Nasyon. Lastly, we shared our food, arts & crafts, and dance to over 100,000 attendees at the Festival of Nations, which was recently selected by the American Business Association as one of the top 100 events in North America.

The year ahead will be an exciting one as we embark on Pamana VIII, one of the largest Filipino folk dance productions in the Midwest. We need the full support of the community to make this project a success, so I hope I can count on each of you to contribute in any way possible. We especially need dancers and donors.

I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season.

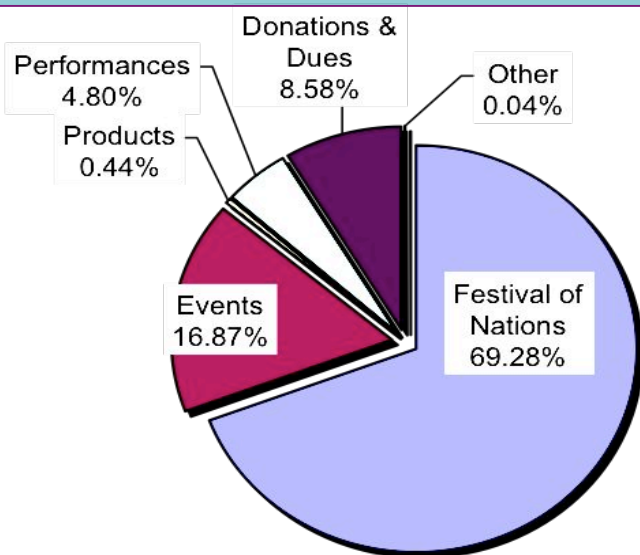
Maligayang Pasko at Masaganang Bagong Taon sa Inyong Lahat!!!

Jose Rivera

CSFA President '08-09



Sources of Income for 2008



In 2008, CSFA generated a gross income of almost \$35,000. The gains of the Filipino Café during the Festival of Nations were the major source of this income. Events like the Bowling Tournament and the Philippine Day contributed 17 % while the CSFA Dance Troupe was responsible for 5 % of the total.

CSFA once again thanks all its gracious and tireless members and volunteers for the very productive outcomes of its activities. This monetary achievement has supported several charities (see September '08 issue of Alibata), scholars, disaster relief funds, Minnesota events and CSFA sponsored affairs.



2008-09 CSFA Officers

President Jose Rivera
Vice-President Ligaya Carlos
Secretary Sandy Rodriguez
Treasurer Willen Korkowski
Auditor Helen Hamman
PRO Lourdes Rivera

Board of Directors

Gary Paz (Chair)	Tonette Burkhart
Fe Castillejos	Jean Cruz
Lina Jonson	Glen King
Pearl Malit	Ferdie Oconer

Philippine Student Association Attends FACT '08

By Jean Cruz

Last October 24, 2008, a group of 29 students from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities made their way down to Urbana-Champaign in Illinois. The reason for this eight-hour long drive was to attend the University of Illinois Philippine Student Association's conference, "F.A.C.T. 2008."

F.A.C.T., which stands for "Filipino-Americans Coming Together", is an annual midwestern conference held at the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign campus. The purpose of this weekend conference is to connect students with other Filipino Americans and to enlighten and empower attendees on issues dealing with self-identity as well as cultural awareness. To accomplish this, the F.A.C.T. coordinators brought in speakers from across the Midwest and across the nation to conduct workshops on topics such as multicultural identity, Filipino dance, Filipino Americans in non-traditional fields, and more. Following these workshops, delegates as well as the greater Filipino community were invited to attend the F.A.C.T. Variety Show. This showcased new and established talent ranging from cultural and modern dances to singing to a demonstration by a yo-yo champion.

Attendance was high this year with a record-breaking 700+ attendees hailing from more than fifteen schools. The U of M PSA also broke a

record with the most students brought to F.A.C.T. Within PSA, members attended workshops such as "Mega Mall and Trash Dumps: Fil-Am Privilege- Tragedies and Ironies," "Personal Mastery: The Pathway to Professional Performance," and "The Power Behind the Punch: Martial Arts and the Filipino Identity" to name a few.

On Sunday, the 26th, PSA made their way back to the Twin Cities, but not before stopping at Chicago's "Filipiniana" restaurant. Not only did the students return with the experience of F.A.C.T., the knowledge gained from the workshops and stomachs full of Filipino food. As the conference's theme states, "I AM-The world around us. The culture among us. The power within ME." PSA members also returned with a better sense of what defines them individually as a person of Filipino-heritage.

NOTE: PSA received partial subsidy from CSFA for their participation in this year and last year's FACT.



Cultural Society of Filipino-Americans **PAMANA VIII** SEPTEMBER 2009



CELEBRATING THE FILIPINO HERITAGE

For more information, visit www.csfamn.org or contact Jose Rivera at 651-578-0540, Glen King at 763-571-7696 or Ligaya Carlos at st.ligaya@gmail.com.

CSFA'S "LEGACY"

Join CSFA celebrate Filipino heritage in PAMANA VIII. This cultural event is a major gathering of families and friends performing Filipino traditional dances from the different eras and regions of the Philippines. These dances depict customs from the Mountain Province in the north, the Muslim people in the south, rural festivities and European colonial influences. Everyone of any age is welcome to participate and be part of this inspiring Filipino-Minnesota tradition.

Practices are currently going on every Thursday from 7 to 9 PM at the St. John's Church (gym) at 977 5th St. E. St. Paul, MN.

For inquiries, contact Ligaya Carlos at st.ligaya@gmail.com, Gary Paz at 651-463-3381, Glen King at 763-571-7696 or Therese Oconer at ocone001@umn.edu.

(Pictures tell it all...by Jose Rivera)

This year's Pasko Sa Nayon 2008 seemed different than in previous years. It was the first time the event was held in the east metro, at the beautiful Guardian Angels Church near Woodbury. It also felt a little balmy by Minnesota standards as the outside temperature almost hit 40 degrees. Regardless, we had excellent attendance this year as we accommodated over 300 guests. The church was warmly decorated by Lorna Faustino, with parols, bahay kubo, Christmas trees and poinsettias gracing all the tables. Nena Alojado's palengke was full of vendors trying to sell food, wine, and other items.



To set the mood, the festivities started with the singing of "Pasko Sa Nayon" by the CSFA Carolers. Lynn Winick did the invocation and was followed by a brief welcome by President Jose Rivera. Master of Ceremonies Gary Paz kept

the program moving and the guests entertained with party games

like "Hip-Hip-Hurray" and pasabog (coin toss) and the announcement of raffle door prize winners. Of course, the main part of the program is the Pasko skit directed by Mar Alojado. Every year, we reenact the story of Jesus and present the traditional Filipino Christmas celebration seen through the eyes of Mar's mother, Ursula. We hope to pass on this tradition to the younger generation. After the skit, came a visit by Santa Claus Randy Tigue, who handed out gifts to all the kids. Finally, the guests were treated to a

sumptuous dinner prepared by Remy Ingenhutt and her helpers.

Committee chairs, Lourdes Rivera and Remy Ingenhutt, thank all the officers, members and other volunteers who helped make this year's Pasko Sa Nayon a success.

Friends, Food, and Frolic Attract Carolers to Raise Funds

One of the biggest fund-raising projects of CSFA is caroling. This year, the proceeds of this venture will be dedicated to the Minnesota Second Harvest Food Shelves, Philippine Scholars and the American Red Cross, earmarked for Philippine Disaster Relief. Jun Lucas, our maestro & guitarist, started us singing Filipino songs to stretch our vocal chords, being dormant for a year! Subsequently, we turned to English songs with some new blending of voices. He was backed up by strummers like Dante Canillas, Judd Knauss, & Roger Ungemach. It seemed like we also were stretching & blending our stomachs in anticipation for more food served during actual caroling. Before, during, & after the practice we snacked on potluck food & spirits. We spread the practice venues to accommodate the carolers who came from all over the place. Some CSFA members volunteered their houses for these sessions. This year, as always, caroling practice was held on Wednesday nights. We started on November 12 at Willen Korkowski's home in Maple Grove. A week later, we gathered at Mar Alojado's home in Woodbury. There was a big attendance



such that we had to move down the basement where we could all fit. On the third week, we met at Fe & Cesar Castillejo's residence in Fridley to polish up on the songs in the basement where the bar & the sound system are. The last practice was held at the Winicks in Burnsville. It was a very cold & wind-chilled night. At this point, the choir was now tuned up and ready to perform at the scheduled private and nursing

homes, and businesses. Committee chairs, Ludy Bergenthal and Jose Rivera, called and scheduled all the hosts.

Our caroling schedule was very hectic as it started on December 6th, going through five days and three weekends, and to 20 different hosts ranging from households, nursing homes, churches and even restaurants. We would like to thank the following people for hosting the CSFA carolers and for their generous contributions: Trell & Steve Rosso, Nanay Ramirez, Bern & Scott Mounger, Joel & Kim Christianson, Angie Colliander, Tita & Belen Andrada, Mike & Willen Korkowski, Medick & Marites Aviles, Willie & Maricel Tropezado, Kevin & Maricor Bryne, Alice Olson, Boyet & Bebot Mangaliman, Jennifer Balagot, Bessie Arnie, Erlinda Shotton, Vangie Stacy, Tom & Nico Haight, John & LeeAnn Fugaban.



Message of US Senator Amy Klobuchar to 2008-09 CSFA President Jose Rivera, Officers and Board Members

AMY KLOBUCHAR
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 16, 2008

Mr. Jose Rivera
President of Cultural Society of Filipino Americans
Zurah Shrine Center
2540 Park Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

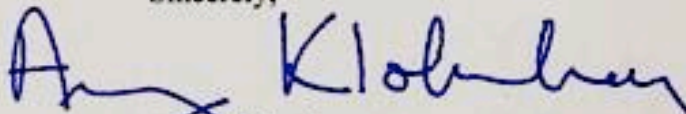
Dear Friends:

Thank you for your kind invitation to join you for this year's annual dinner to induct new officers to the Cultural Society of Filipino Americans (CSFA). While my schedule does not allow me to be there with you in person, I know today's events will not only celebrate the character and culture of Filipino Americans, but will recognize the many contributions of Filipino Americans to the rich cultural landscape of Minnesota.

As CSFA gathers to celebrate another successful year of promoting and preserving Filipino culture, it is especially important to pay tribute to the leaders of this organization. From organizing philanthropic and community service projects to promoting and cultivating appreciation of the Filipino Culture, CSFA's leaders have done a tremendous job. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the new officers and board members of CSFA and thank you for all of your hard work.

Please accept my best wishes, to you as you gather with others to celebrate today. I look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



The Gap Workshop

Generational Gap Workshop III "What's Cooking, Honey?" are grateful to all the participants and volunteers who came to St. Joseph Parish in New Hope last September 27, 2008. Together with the FAWN (Filipino-American Women's Network), CSFA was able to heighten social awareness and raise issues faced by Filipino women in the workplace, at home and in the community here in the United States. Discussions on parenting, reproductive rights, Filipino cultural traditions and the Americanization of the Filipino youth were also discussed in this workshop. Small group discussions, a skit and general sessions were conducted to provide better focus on the topics at hand.

Keynote speaker Nadinne Cruz, an internationally respected speaker, author and consultant on public service education, talked on how the Philippines is represented in different media forms. Films, songs or music videos serve as powerful tools in how the creators want to portray social realities and national idealism, which might



AdopSource is a Minnesota non-profit, incorporated in 2007 and

www.AdopSource.org

chartered as a 501 (c) 3 in November 2007. The mission of AdopSource is "to support the integration of culture, identity and life experience for adoptee individuals, their families and the greater community." AdopSource focuses its efforts on transracial and transnational adoptees in Minnesota; specifically adoptees born in an Asian country and adopted and raised in America. Both adoptees and its parents, sit on its boards, constitute its membership and are reflected

in the themes addressed in events, activities and programming. This

organization was created to offer adoptees and families "one-stop" access to a network of existing adoptee groups, gather and share adoptee related resources, and hold events that further understanding and foster discussion of adoptee/adoption issues from many perspectives. Ami Nafzger, a Korean adoptee, raised and educated in Minnesota, is the current executive director of AdopSource. For inquiries, her email address is anafzger@AdopSource.org.

Fun at the Filipino-American Family Potluck *By Lori Treiber*

On Saturday, November 8, the Filipino-American Adoptive Families potluck was held at Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie. Over fifty people attended the event. We had a wonderful time connecting with other families. Everyone enjoyed watching the CSFA Dance Troupe perform. The children

The Treiber's are also a contact family for anyone interested in the Philippine Adoption program or are in the process of a Philippine adoption with Crossroads Adoption Service. Lori comments, "Although we volunteer through Crossroads, our goal is to form a network of families in Minnesota who have adopted Filipino children through any adoption agency. We are so excited and thankful to also have the support of



especially liked

participating in tinikling. Mike and Lori Treiber who have two Filipino sons hosted the event. They volunteer with Crossroads Adoption Service in Edina, MN as host couple for families who have adopted Filipino children.

an organization like CSFA to help teach our children about their heritage. What better way to have our families learn customs than by being taught by Filipino families that have practiced these customs and traditions for years!" The Filipino-American Adoptive

2009 Schedule of CSFA Monthly Meetings

January 9	Ingenhutt's (Golden Valley)
February 6	Davis' (White Bear Lake)
March 6	Alojado's (Woodbury)
April 3	Korkowski's (Maple Grove)
May 8	Paz's (Farmington)
June 5	Peterson's (Burnsville)
July 10	Santos' (Rosemount)
August 7	Oconer's (St. Louis Park)
September 4	Elections
October 2	Rivera's (Woodbury)
November 6	Burkhart's (Minneapolis)

Visit www.csfamn.org for more information.

BE A CSFA MEMBER!

RENEW your membership!

VOLUNTEER! DONATE!

Fill out form below, clip and mail.

MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEER APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

- ☐ New
☐ Renewal
☐ Volunteer only

- ☐ Individual, \$5
☐ Family, \$10
☐ Donation: \$ _____

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS:

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____

EMAIL: _____

INTERESTED IN:

- ☐ CHRISTMAS CAROLING
☐ KITCHEN PREPARATION
☐ FOLK DANCING
☐ NEWSLETTER
☐ WEBPAGE DESIGNING
☐ CHILDREN'S CAMP
☐ PHILIPPINE DAY
☐ FESTIVAL OF NATIONS
☐ PASKO SA NAYON
☐ WORKSHOPS
☐ OTHERS: _____

Please make check payable to CSFA.

Mail completed form and check to
 CSFA (Membership/Donation)
 PO BOX 2773
 St. Paul, MN 55102

CSFA '09 Calendar of Events

**January 17 Philippine Children's
Winterfest**

February 8 Bowling Tournament

March 22 Philippine Day

April 30-May 3 Festival of Nations

July 10-12 Philippine Children's Camp

**August 7-9 Annual Campout and
Volleyball Tournament**

September PAMANA VIII

October 17 Induction Dinner and Dance

December 12 Pasko Sa Nayon

* Some dates are subject to change.

If you would like more information or would like
 to volunteer in any of these events, please visit
www.csfamn.org or send a message to
info@csfamn.org.

CSFA Dance Troupe

"Promoting Filipino culture in Minnesota"

Be involved. Share your time and talent.

Meet friends. Learn a new dance and perform in different exciting events.

Drop by Thursday dance practices from 7 to 9 PM at St. John Church 977 5th St E in St. Paul. For more information, contact Tonette Burkhart at 952-994-6015, Glen King at 763-571-7696, Therese Peterson at ocone001@umn.edu or Ligaya Carlos at st.ligaya@gmail.com.



Benefit Dance for Kim, Oct 2008



Celebrating Culture, St. John Neumann
October 2008



FMA Seniors' Annual
Meeting November 08



GK Paskuhan, Nov 2008



Grono International Festival
October 08



Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon!

Nawa'y maghari ang kapayapaan sa inyong mga tahanan!

Merry Christmas and Have a Prosperous New Year!

May peace reign in your homes!

*Ligaya Carlos & Mar Alojado
Editors of the Alibata*



CSFA
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St. Paul, MN 55102
www.csfamn.org

Non-profit Org
PAID
St. Paul, MN
Permit No
5235

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