Oktubre/October 2009

ALIBATA

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TUDING CALUZUNAN GO

Newsletter of the CULTURAL SOCIETY OF FILIPINO-AMERICANS

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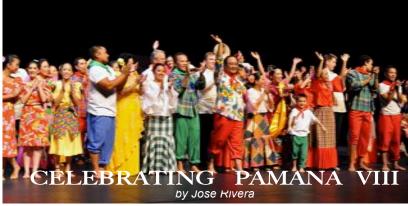
INDUCTION OF OFFICERS by Thomas Burkhart

On October 17, 2009, the Cultural Society of Filipino Americans (CSFA) conducted its 38th annual induction of officers at the Zuhrah Shrine Center in Minneapolis. The focus of the event was two-fold. First was to induct new CSFA officers and board members and second was to raise money for the victims of typhoon Ondoy in the Philippines. On both accounts, the evening was a great success! The evening was also filled with entertainment of the dance and vocal variety that again showcased the talent of the Filipino community. Here are the highlights.

The evening kicked off with the singing of the national anthem of the Philippines led by Dr. Ed Santos, followed by the singing of the United State's national anthem led by Mar Alojado. This was followed by the invocation led by Gian Paz. Prior to dinner the CSFA dance troupe treated everyone to an encore presentation of the dance 'Singkil', which was one of the signature dances of the recent Pamana VIII performance. Raoul and Tisha Alojado, the feature dancers, again nailed the performance, just as they did at Pamana VIII.

After dinner, we were treated to the vocally sophisticated Roberto Mariano whose classic rendition had everyone saying 'isa pa!' Not to be outdone, Dr. Ed Santos, accompanied by Walter Tambor, crooned the audience with two great vocals. Next, as a surprise guest, Dr. Ramon Gustilo spoke to the audience about the importance of giving back to the schools and communities in the Philippines. We thank Dr Gustilo and his wife Gloria for attending.

After the entertainment portion of the evening was complete, it was time to induct (Continued on page 5)



We are still reeling from the buzz created by Pamana VIII, which was arguably one of the best and biggest Pamana productions ever. Eighty performers supported by a 13-person production team, performed 24 dances in front of an audience of 911 people. On the evening of September 26, 2009, over 1000 people gathered at the Burnsville Performing Arts Center to celebrate the Filipino culture and heritage. This was a tremendous milestone for CSFA and our sincerest gratitude goes to all those who participated and attended this memorable occasion. Months of planning and preparations went into the Pamana VIII project, which started over sixteen months prior. The steering committee was composed of Glen King, Ligaya Carlos, Gary Paz, Therese Peterson, Tony Winick and Jose Rivera. This small but nimble team drove the direction and decisions surrounding the project to ensure the best Pamana experience for everyone. To help fund this project, ex-officio Lillian Brion worked diligently and submitted ten grant applications to various government and non-profit agencies, while President Jose Rivera led the campaign to draw financial and moral support from the community. The venue selection process, led by Tony Winick, was especially difficult this time around as we decided to have only one showing this year to save on costs and also make it easier for the performers and stage crew. In addition, we also wanted a professional stage to enhance our presentation and a 1000-seat

theater to accommodate a larger audience. BPAC was an excellent choice as it met all the mentioned requirements. Of course, Pamana would not be possible without the dances, led by Artistic Director Ligaya Carlos and Choreographer Gary Paz. This duo strived for artistic quality and perfection and demanded no less from its dancers. This meant practice, practice and more practice. At one point, there were rehearsals that ran for every night of the week. Their vision and imagination also brought together the beautiful formations and synchronizations on (Continued on page 5)



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President's Message

Note: Condensed from the acceptance speech of Ligaya Carlos during the CSFA 38th Induction of Officers last October 17, 2009 at the Zuhrah Center.

Tonight, my family and I embark on a new adventure as I assume the role of CSFA president. I accept this position with an awareness of the responsibility conferred by your trust and with utmost confidence, with the knowledge that this organization's vibrant membership is second to none.



Being able to serve the community, as CSFA president is truly a great honor.

Through the years, CSFA has played a major role in the Filipino community in Minnesota, through various activities and events, most of which have evolved into Minnesota traditions. These activities have also reached out to Filipinos who miss home and to those individuals who want to learn more about the Philippines and the Filipino culture.

CSFA would have never achieved the success it has attained without the assistance of all the dedicated and hardworking volunteers. These are the unsung heroes who have spent countless hours chopping vegetables and cooking food to be sold in the Filipino Café, who blocked off practically every Thursday of their lives to practice and learn Filipino traditional dances, who weathered the sleet and snow to bring joy and cheer through carols during the holiday season, who helped promote, put together or set up the Philippine Day, Pasko Sa Nayon, Festival of Nations, Cultural Gap and the Bowling and Volleyball Tournaments, who sacrificed weekends in July and August to spend with kids and families in a remote campsite, who wrote and submitted articles for the newsletter whether late or on time, who brought sunshine to sick or bereaving members, those who designed websites, flyers and posters, who attended monthly meetings to sort out CSFA affairs and activities, and who contributed time and talent to CSFA all these year.... Maraming salamat po at huwag po kayong magsasawa!

For CSFA to continue moving forward, we also need to be cognizant of the present day challenges that face us. The past two years have shown an economic downturn that has not been seen in decades. The reality is that activities and events require funding, and this is a fact that rather than being ignored, should be met head on. Therefore, now more than ever, I am hoping for your unwavering and enthusiastic involvement in the different events of the CSFA and with everyone's full support, this challenge will be overcome.

There were two dates in September, which marked important events in my life. The first was September 11, when I was elected president, and the second was on the September 26, when another successful Pamana was staged. The day after Pamana VIII turned out to be a day of mixed feelings. The euphoria from the successful show the night before was met by bad news from home that continuous rains in the Philippines have resulted in flooding causing massive devastation and unimaginable suffering of the victims. Amazingly, but not unexpectedly, within hours of the news, the bayanihan spirit of the Filipino was in full swing. This trait, which shows the Filipinos' innate selflessness and genuine desire to help others, was seen in the outpouring of donations for the flood victims. Here in the Twin Cities, after hearing the news about the catastrophe brought about by Ondoy, CSFA immediately sent emails giving information on how to help and where drop off centers were for the donation of goods. Because of this effort and the generosity of the community, 22 balikbayan boxes of relief goods have been collected by CSFA, most of which will be going to the Philippine National Red Cross and at least \$1500 dollars will also be sent to the Philippine National Red Cross as CSFA's contribution to the Typhoon Ondoy flood victims. Thank you so much for your kindness. This help will surely go a long way.

Together, let us remain firm and steadfast in our commitment towards the fulfillment of the CSFA mission, which in part is to promote and preserve treasured Filipino traditions and culture. And to quote US president Reagan, "let us continue to teach our children the values and the virtues handed down to us by our families and have the courage to defend those values and the willingness to sacrifice for them."

I look forward to a fruitful and successful year for all of us.

Mabuhay po tayong lahat!



CSFA is a 501 c3 non-profit organization serving the Filipino-American community in the Twin Cities with a mission to preserve, promote and share valued Filipino customs and traditions through cultural, educational, social and philanthropic activities.



2009-2010 CSFA Officers

President Ligaya Carlos Vice-president Gary Paz

Secretary Treasurer Therese Peterson Willen Korkowski

Auditor

Helen Hamman

PRO Lourdes Rivera

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tonette Burkhart
Fe Castillejos
Jean Cruz
Paolo Española
Adelina Jonson
Glen King
Ferdie Oconer
Sandy Rodriguez (CHAIR)

PO Box 2773 St. Paul, 55102

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CULTURAL SOCIETY OF FILIPINO AMERICANS

invite your family to experience the sounds, sights & tastes of Christmas in the Philippines.

There will be folk dancing, Pasko skit, door prizes, caroling and shopping at the palengke.

Please bring canned goods or non-perishable items to donate to Philippine flood victims.

Parents please bring wrapped and labeled gifts for your children for Santa Claus visit. We will have pagmamano from Lola and Lolo

Kids interested in participating in the caroling and skit should contact Lourdes Rivera.

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, December 12, 2009 Guardian Angels Church 8260 4th St. N. Oakdale, MN 55128 12:00pm to 4:00pm

For more info call Lorna Faustino 612-232-4308, Lourdes Rivera 651-578-0540 and Gary & Lita Paz 612-849-0917. Palengke vendors call Nena Alojado 651-578-8431

Visit us at wwww.csfamn.org or e-mail info@csfamn.org

Spread joy this yuletide season! Join the CSFA Carolers!

If you want to be part of this holiday choir or if you're interested in hosting the group or to request the group to sing for your event, organization, office or home,

Contact Willen Korkowski at willenk@yahoo.com/763-656-9244 & Lourdes Rivera at joserman98@yahoo.com/651-578-0540.

ALIBATA Oktubre/October 2009

lk Dream Race to Reality

Be one of the first THOUSAND donors to make the DREAM come true! We can NOW realize the longtime Filipino wish to have our own home-awav-from-home when we all participate in this 1K campaign. This promotion will end as soon as 1,000 donors have signed up but no later than April 15, 2010.

Hurry! First come, first served! Only when the pledge is redeemed can it be counted. Be part of history! Your name will be engraved in a plaque acknowledging the 1,000 donors on the facade of the building - a monument of your legacy to future generations!



Sign up as an individual/family, organization or business to raise a total of \$365,000 by making a pledge to donate \$365. That's only \$1 a day for a year! We will collect the payments payable in a year unless paid in full by sending you a bill soon after April 15, 2010. Please check for matching donation programs where you work. applicable, your company will be considered as a Business donor. Donations PCM are taxdeductible!

To date, there are 12 community donors who have pledged. The race continues as pledges are solicited & forms handed out at upcoming Fil-Am events. Sign up now and receive a complimentary tote bag with the PCM campaign logo until supplies last! to www.philippinecentermn.org for more details!

A dollar a day, will get us a building today!





Minneapolis, MN - November 14, 2009 Oak Street Cinema, Oak Street SE, 55414 festivalprogram @ mntrff.org

Inquiries should be made to: festivalprogram@mntrff.org

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.mntrff.org.

Prepay: Seats are limited, first come first serve.

Sponsored by



A non-profit organization committed to supporting the integration of culture, identity, and life experience for adopted individuals, their families, and the greater community.



Also Sponsored by



Counting everyone in Minnesota, All adoptees count. Answer the Census April 1, 2010

United States

After the induction ceremonies it was time to DANCE! To kick off the dancing, some CSFA members opened up the dance floor with a special choreographed Latin number. As in previous years, Ed Faustino rocked the house with a variety of music from many different genres. As always, the dance floor was full and a variety of dance steps (and abilities) were on display.

A special thanks to Tom Burkhart and Arlene Sanchez, who acted as the night's emcees, Lorna Faustino who was in charge of the on-site decorations and set-up, Lynn Winick who was in charge of ticket sales, Sandy Rodriquuez who oversaw the successful silent auction, and Tonette Burkhart who was the chair of the event. A special thank you goes out to all of those who donated items for the silent auction. This auction raised over \$1,100 for the victims of Typhoon Ondoy. Thanks to all others who helped make this 38th annual induction of officers a tremendous success. We will see you again next year!



Oktubre/October 2009

(Continued from page 1. Celebrating Pamana VIII) on each of the dances. One audience favorite of Pamana VIII was the beautiful costumes, brought to life by Glen King and Jannie Noren. This duo led the design and construction of most of the pieces, in addition to leveraging existing inventory of costumes from previous performances.

Tom, Arlene & Gian during the invocation

As the Pamana VIII project draws to a close, there are already discussions underway for the next Pamana, possibly scheduled for September 2011. Everyone is welcome to come to the CSFA dance troupe practices, which are currently held at St. John's Church in St. Paul on Thursdays from 7 to 9 PM. Pamana VIII DVD/Blu-ray discs will also be sold in the coming weeks. Reserve copy now by emailing info@csfamn.com or calling Jose Rivera at 651-578-0540.

For a wonderful and exciting evening, congratulations to the performers and everyone involved in Pamana VIII!

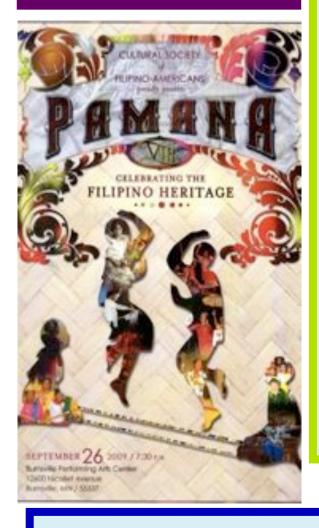
OCTOBER IS FILIPINO AMERICAN NATIONAL HERITAGE MONTH

Filipino American History Month, also known as the Filipino American Heritage Month, is celebrated (mostly in Hawaii and California) in the United States during the month of October. The Filipino American National Historical Society (FAHNS) established this in 1988 to recognize the achievements, contributions, and the historical presence of Filipinos in the United States. October was chosen because the first recorded presence of a Filipino in what is today the United States was in October 1587 when mariners under Spanish command landed in Morro Bay, California. The earliest permanent Filipino Americans to arrive in the New World landed in October 6, 1763. "Manilamen" sailors escaped grueling duties aboard Spanish galleons and made the first Filipino settlement in Louisiana, later creating settlements such as Saint Malo, Louisiana and Manila Village in Barataria Bay. These early settlements were "discovered" in America in 1883 by a Harper's Weekly journalist. . Since then, Filipinos have migrated to all parts of the country and are now one of the largest Asian populations in the US.

Maraming salamat sa lahat ng tumulong at

nag-abot ng donasyon sa ating mga kababayan na nasalanta ng baha dulot ng Bagyong Pepeng at Ondoy! Mabuhay po kayo! Mabuhay ang Bayanihan! ALIBATA Oktubre/October 2009

CSFA is grateful to all who supported and watched PAMANA VIII. Salamat Po!



PAMANA VIII PERFORMERS

Mar Alojado Eddie Jonson Raoul Aloiado Lina Jonson Nena Alojado Greg King Tisha Alojado Glen King Justin Anderson Maia King Josephine Anderson Gary King Jeremy Anderson Geoff King Jennifer Balagot Carina King Evelyn Bayer Willen Korkowski Kemilyn Bayer Bambe Leiviska Tom Burkhart Andrew Leiviska Tonette Burkhart Joe Malinao Justin Calubavan Beth Malinao Jenny Calubayan Andrew Manalo Ligaya Carlos Kate Mancao Rowena Carlson Christine McNally Rianna Chuidian YenYen McSherry Jean Cruz Carla Murdoch Jason Culbertson Rick Noren Christine del Puerto Jannie Noren Francis Dureza Tessie Oconer Ed Faustino Ferdie Oconer Lorna Faustino Gary Paz Joelle Fernandez Lita Paz Gabriel Ignacio Gian-Paolo Paz Angela Ignacio Therese Peterson

Aleah Pimentel Lourdes Rivera Joshua Rivera Emilia Rivera Jacinta Rivera Sophia Rivera Jose Rivera Marco Roque Marlon Roque Mara Roque Mariel Roque Adry Sanchez Ansel Sanchez Jose Santos Ed Santos Isabella Shapland Walter Tambor Kim Torres Rachel Torres Roger Ungemach Jane Ungemach Victoria Weber Villa Williams Lynn Winick Tony Winick Carlo Yao

ARTISTIC COMMITTEE

Artistic Director: Ligaya Carlos **Choreography:** Gary Paz

Choreography: Gary Paz

Costumes: Glen King, Jannie Noren, Lina Jonson, Tessie Oconer, Lynn Winick Dance Masters: Therese Peterson, Mar Alojado, Tonette Burkhart, Glen King, Lina Jonson, Carla Murdoch, Ferdie Oconer, Tony Winick

Make-Up: Nena Alojado, Ruth Morrisson,

Lita Paz, Emily Weber, Fely Thor

Props: Ferdie Oconer, Roger Westerberg,

Tony Winick

Sound & Lighting: Angel Pimentel, Sue

Pimentel

Stage Manager: Angel Pimentel, David Wallin, Gary King, Leo Manuntag, David

Winick

PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

Program Coordinator: Jose Rivera

Children Coordinators: Janie King, Arianne Brion,

Maryann Beltran, Marither Sangalang

Finance: Willen Korkowski, Helen Hamman

Food: Lorna Faustino

Fundraising & Sponsorship: Lillian Brion,

Jose Rivera

Marketing: Lourdes Rivera, Bambe Leiviska,

Jean Cruz

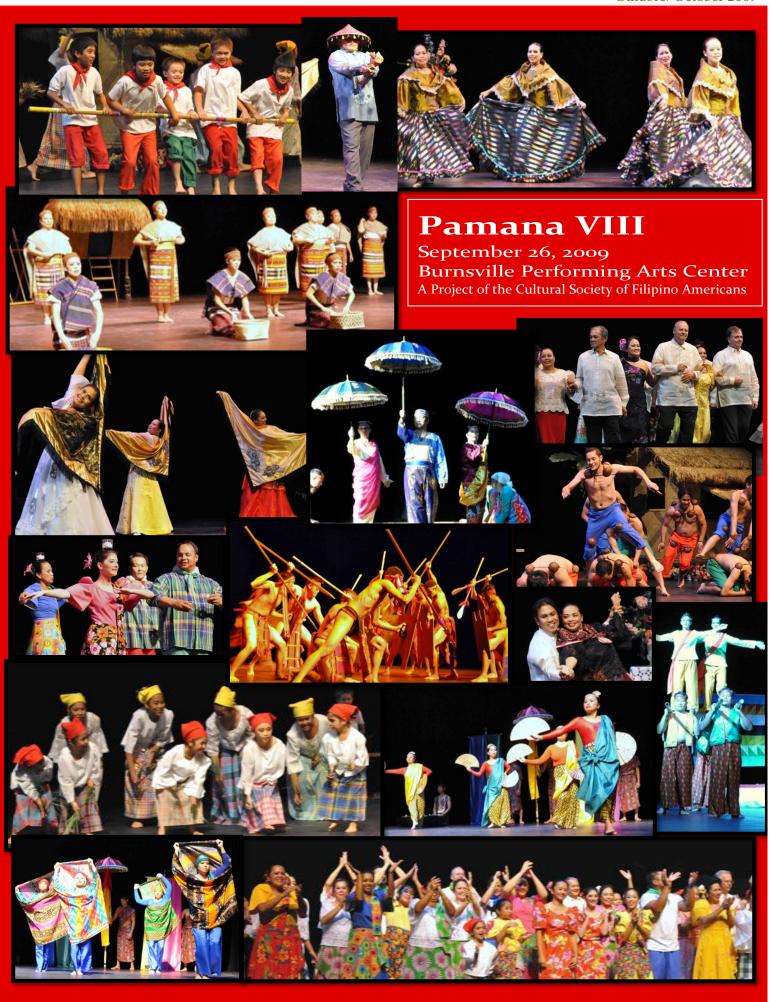
Registration & Ushers: Linda Davis, Fe Castillejos, Remy

Ingenhutt, Tessie Enanoza, Paolo Espanola, Marither

Sangalang, Jo Tigue

Ticketing: Tessie Enanoza, Babie Schneider, Marcy Ager **Venue:** Tony Winick, David Winick, Wayne Winick

Photography: Jeff Leiviska Videography: Sampson Rolen Flyers Design: Madel Aviles Program Design: Ron B. Ramirez ALIBATA Oktubre/October 2009



SIRENS, TENTS AND LECHON by Ferdie Oconer

CSFA 2009 Campout was dominated by the weather. Around twenty people arrived Friday night to start the weekend. They later had to endure the pouring rain that evening. The following day, the attendance swelled to over a hundred in spite of the gloomy forecast. Throughout the day, weather finally cooperated and gave everyone time to enjoy the camp and to finish games for the kids such as balloon toss, egg race (most of the cooked eggs did not survive) and pabitin (there was enough supply of candies for everybody). People shared their food and enjoyed the lechon donated by President Jose Rivera. He was also responsible for organizing the second Annual Coed Volleyball tournament. Mass was celebrated by

Father George who offered spiritual food and blessings for the weekend. After the Mass, weather took over again and some events had to be moved and be held inside the barn. That evening was highlighted by two siren alerts and everybody hurried to take shelter under the barn. Afterward, It was discovered that there were two tornado touchdowns in the surrounding area! Thank God, everybody survived that eventful weekend! Despite the inclement weather, people talked about coming to next year's campout. Several are definitely looking forward to it.

Thanks to everyone who were involved in making this event a success. See ya next year!!!!!



2009 CSFA VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT by Jose Rivera

CSFA held its 2nd Annual Coed Volleyball tournament during the Campout, held at Baker Park Reserve near Lake Independence on August 8, 2009 from 10am to 4pm. There were a total of six teams registered with over 42 players participating. The weather was uncooperative, as rain poured during the beginning of the tournament, which later became hot and muggy for the rest of the day. Despite these conditions, all the players were eager and raring to go play. The tournament started with a mini round-robin to setup seeding for the single-elimination playoffs. champions "Adobong Manok" was the team to Newcomer "Orange Crush" had some very experienced players in the team and was looking for the upset. "ACE", the smallest and youngest team showed how far scrappiness and unyielding attitude would take them. "Spiked Punch" had some high school players on their team and was led by setter and PCM Princess Andrea Arambulo. "Halo-Halo Hurricane" (aka Triple-H) was intimidating as they clearly had the tallest players in the Team "Thunder", led by the tournament. Andersons, rounded out the field with a balanced team.

The playoffs started with an upset as ACE beat the highly regarded Spiked Punch high school team and then went on to defeat Triple-H in their bracket. Defending champs Adobong Manok beat Thunder, but then lost to Orange Crush by the slimmest of margins. This led to a

showdown between Orange Crush and ACE for the championship. Orange Crush dominated early with their offense and thunderous spikes, but ACE came back to push the championship to a decisive third game with their spirited defense, digging balls from out of nowhere. Orange Crush eventually prevailed, winning the prestigious championship t-shirts, while ACE was awarded the \$100 cash prize. Thanks to all the participants and the tournament crews for making this event very enjoyable. We hope to see everyone again next year for an even bigger turnout. Please email us at <code>info@csfamn.org</code> if you are interested in participating in future volleyball tournaments.

| Standings | Team | Captain | Players |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 1 st | Orange Crush | Jose Rivera | Mar Alojado, Jay Bawar, Oliver Mallari, Carla Murdock, Lani Rothmund |
| 2 nd | ACE | Jonas Bonnett | Bry, Joy, John Joseph, Reycarlo, Angela, Sara Bonnett, Jacinta Rivera |
| 3 rd | Adobong Manok | Ron Ramirez | Julie Allen, Jay Jonson, Alex Jonson, Eddie Jonson, Cynthia Oconer, Ray Ramirez, Rose Ramirez |
| 4 th | Halo- Halo Hurricane | Jim Rothmund | Tina Harris, Dave & Elvira Johnson, Darwin Larimore, David & Yen-Yen McSherry, Clarence Schmit, |
| 5 th | Spiked Punch | Andrea Arambulo | Bethany Ames, Russell Esguerra, Dara Fu, Rachael Justesen, Amber Lewis, Jeannine Malinao, Thanh Nguyen, Eugene Talatala |
| 6 th | Thunder | Gary Anderson | Josephine Anderson, Dhel, Vemia, Doug, Louie, Karl, Grant |

BAKIT ALIBATA?

(Reprinted from Alibata September 2008)

Alibata is an ancient writing system that was used in what is now the Philippines. Although the colonizers of the country have tried to extinguish its use, variants of it are still seen in parts of Mindoro and Palawan. Filipinos around the world are searching for and rediscovering their roots and identities and some, especially those belonging to the younger generations, are learning to use this method of writing as a form of expressing themselves. In the same way, the ALIBATA is one medium used by CSFA to achieve efforts of promoting Filipino cultural identity, encouraging the youth to appreciate their ancestry and cultivating Filipino heritage here in the Twin Cities.



"Mabuhay ang Pilipino!"

ALIBATA EDITORS

Ligaya Carlos

Mar Alojado

For your comments and suggestions, to subscribe/unsubscribe or to receive the e-version instead, send us a message at info@csfamn.org or at PO Box 2773, St. Paul, MN 55102.

This newsletter can also be found in www.csfamn.org.

The Filipino Community in Minnesota & Risen Savior Missions present

igay Tulong

a gala dinner to benefit the hungry children in the Philippines**

> November 28, 2009 CrossPoint Church 9801 France Ave South Bloomington, MN

4PM Registration, Silent Auction/Social Hour 5 PM Dinner 6 PM Program

Tickets at \$15 only

Enjoy a delicious Filipino dinner followed by great entertainment provided by fabulous local talents. Also presenting . . . Filipino Children's Choir of Minnesota.

For inquiries, please contact:

Lita Malicsi 612.861.2397 Glen King 763.571.7696 Joey Feliciano 952.406.1928 Aleth Flores 651.735.6591 Elsa Batica 612.871.4205 Meg Layese

Lorna Faustino 612.232.4308 J. Krosnowski 952.432.3359 Darwin Yasis 651.731.5232 Aida Ramos 651.772.6956 Dolly Manalo 763.535.2978 651.646.1985

BE A CSFA MEMBER!

RENEW your membership! **VOLUNTEER! DONATE!**

Fill out form below, clip and mail.

MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEER APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

| □ New | ☐ Individual \$5 |
|------------------|------------------|
| □ Renewal | ☐ Family \$10 |
| □ Volunteer only | □ Donation \$ |

ection

| Note: Membership is for a year effective on day of el (Sept 11'09 to Sept 2 '10) |
|---|
| DATE: |
| NAME: |
| FAMILY MEMBERS |
| |
| |
| |
| ADDRESS: |
| TEL: |
| EMAIL: |
| INTERESTED IN: CHRISTMAS CAROLING KITCHEN PREPARATION FOLK DANCING NEWSLETTER WEBPAGE DESIGNING/HOSTING 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



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

We do our best to keep our database accurate and up-to-date. If you have received multiple copies of our newsletter or it is being forwarded from an old address, please let us know via email at info@csfamn.org.

UPCOMING

Pasko Sa Nayon

December 12, 2009, 12 noon Guardian Angels Church, Woodbury

Caroling

November and December 2009

Annual Bowling Tournament February 2010

Philippine Day 2010

March 21, 2010

Landmark Center, St. Paul

CSFA EVENTS

Festival of Nations

April 29 to May 2, 2010 Rivercentre, St. Paul

Philippine Children's Camp

July 9 to 11, 2010 Baker Park Reserve, Maple Plain

Annual Family Campout

August 6 to 8, 2010

Baker Park Reserve, Maple Plain

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

loved one sa Alibata?
Send your greeting to info@csfamn.org.

CS7A 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 Gary Paz at 612-850-7438 or Therese Peterson at ocone001@umn.edu.