

# All Aboard the Shuttle



**LAICOS SCORE BIG WITH FREQUENT FLYER MILES!**

**T**here are about 17,000 air miles between the Philippines and the U.S. and up to 18 hours of travel time. But for the Laicos, it's just an easy shuttle ride. The Juarezes topped the air miles chart. Bingbing and Bambi were here for Alfie's wedding last December. Then Bingbing went back home to the P. I., while Bambi stayed on. Bubbles then flew over and joined Bambi. When

is here for the holidays, waiting for Santa.

Carlo Santayana, who arrived in April, had no problem renting a car and finding his way all around Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Jersey, Washington DC, and Virginia, using internet maps and his common sense.

In May, Edwin and Peewee Villanueva and family were in the States for a hectic family

Bambi went back home, Bubbles stayed behind. Then Bubbles left and she was replaced by Bingo who

vacation.

Meanwhile, Jondi and Mayleen Laico, with Kuykuy and new baby Aiyan, packed up and moved from Florida to set up shop in Cebu.

They were followed by Rory Packwood and daughter Olivia Alfonso who went to the Philippines where Rory was god-mother for Anton Santayana's wedding.

Shortly thereafter, Davids Rey, Jovits and Gina were in the Philippines, followed by Tony, better known as Popoy, and Carol Laico and kids including 3-month-old baby Timmy in tow.

Rumor has it that Rene Santayana will be on the East Coast any day now. Hope he doesn't miss the shuttle plane! **LL**

## BUBBLES' BLOOPER

by BUBBLES LAICO JUAREZ

**DURING** my first trip to San Francisco, I had to relieve myself after the long drive from Fremont. We stopped over in one of the buildings to use the "loo" but in order to do this, I had to ask the security man where it was. The security man looked so vicious and scary. Initially, I was intimidated by his big build and hard face. Just imagine that he did not smile at all, but I really had to go, so I took the chance of talking to him. Finally, I approached him and said in a very nice manner, "Excuse me sir, where is your comfort room?"

And he answered in a loud, scary voice, "COMFORT WHAT?"

Oh Boy! Was I shocked and scared! But then, I still had to compose myself and look normal as if it was a normal

thing for me. Then I quickly remembered that the term used in America is not "comfort room" but "restroom"! So I rephrased my question by using "restroom" instead of "comfort room", with a big and embarrassed smile.

And guess what? The big and scary security man smiled and gave me the keys to the restroom. He was not a scary man after all. I guess the smile I gave him worked and softened his heart. Maybe I looked more like a kid than an adult who needed to use the "loo" very badly.

This was one of the "boo-boos" or should I say "bloopers" I had on my first trip to California. There were a lot more but this was the most unforgettable one. It was a good learning experience for me rather than just an incident that happened during my trip. People in California or in any part of the U.S. for that matter, are mostly bigger and taller than me, so that intimidated me at first. But as the days passed, I got used to it and slowly the intimidation faded away. I even learned to speak English with the "twang" or else no American would understand me! Thanks to my sister, Lia, who let me answer her phone calls whenever everyone else was out of the house, I was forced to answer the calls and talk to the American callers with the "Twang accent." **LL**

## I REMEMBER WHEN...

by Rory Laico Packwood

### NINI...

- would use me as a "skeleton" for her studies as a medical student and probe and poke me.

- would be visited by Dan. Peewee and I would peep and watch from the top of the stairs as the courting progressed. We noticed that they inched closer to each other from each end of the eight-seater sofa with every visit.

- became the "Reyna Elena" and Mommy was so thrilled. She wore Mommy's crown jewel, the 9-one carat diamond necklace and she looked more regal than Grace Kelly.