



Tribo ni Bado

*"Be Courageous,
Reach Out!
Everyone
Matters"*

Vol 43 Issue 1 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALPHA PHI OMEGA GREATER LOS ANGELES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION January 2023



APOGLA family welcomed 2023 with a big bash at Sis. Emma Rubina-Galang's place in North Hills, CA

New Year's Eve Bash 2023

By: Emma Galang and Fely Logarta-Montecillo

North Hills, Calif. - In the evening of December 31, it was raining cats and dogs. It was indeed, a lovely weather for ducks! This, however, did not deter APOGLA members from trooping to North Hills, site of Sis Emma Galang's residence, where the New Year's Eve party was going to be held.

And they came from all directions. Brother Bobet and Me Ann Peneza came all the way from Torrance while senior Brod Buddy and Eva Salvador made it! May Sy who just had surgery came to join the gaiety.

Yes, there were only 30 of them but it was a riot! Singing was the great event of the evening. There was a contest as to who were the better singers - the ladies or the gentlemen? Of course, each group, claimed winning over the other!

What could be a better way of welcoming the New Year? Food was bountiful, drinks we're overflowing. Like any APOGLA gathering, nothing was lacking. The reason? Members are so generous to share whatever they have.

Yes indeed, the spirit of camaraderie abound. Joy and happiness were felt all over the place. Brotherhood was very much evident! How else would one want to welcome the New Year?

At this point, let us remember what Lord Alfred Tennyson said: "Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering 'it will be happier.'" **Bonne Année!**

See more pictures on page 5 & 6

Happy New Year 2023!

By Brother Toti Ayo

We welcome the New Year 2023! And to our New Set of Officers, Welcome!

Just recently, I was reading through an article which I shared with you all in January, 2021. It's been two years since, but my thoughts brought forth nostalgia which somehow tells me that maybe, I can share some excerpts . . .

We all hope to somehow get our lives back to 'normal'. Our new normal will certainly be different. But we welcome that new sense of normalcy and will live with it the best we can.

What a period of time that we lived through during the Pandemic years indeed. Years we shall long remember. Many lives lost, from near and far. Covid scared us all! Lost years in many ways. We lived through all of its angst and discomfort - realizing however, that life well-

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Warmest greetings mga Kapatid!

Here we go . . . Full of energy and ideas, I'm raring to start the year 2023 ! I appreciate all the phone calls and messages full of support, guidance and assistance. This has made me even more enthusiastic to lead our organization this year.

I am committed to fulfill one of our goals and that is, to reach out to members of our APOGLA family. In fact, Brother Bobet Lara and I began our quest by visiting Brod Virgil Junio who is recovering from surgery. He was very grateful for the visit and even donated 1,100 DVDs (some are collector's items) for us to sell and for the proceeds to be added to our funds. This is such an encouraging beginning. Expect our 2023 to have our go-to fundraising activities, service projects, and skills –sharing workshops and of course, our sought- after fellowship opportunities.

Together with our leadership team, we hope for all of you to join us on Flight #2023. We are ready for takeoff with positive attitude and energy. No “extra” baggage allowed, leaving negativity and discouragement behind. With Faith, we will be able to assist one another. With Hope and Dreams, we will reach our final destination with love, joy, and peace - but we should do this all together, as one. Everyone has a seat on this flight!

So fasten your seatbelts, enjoy the flight. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our first GMM and every month's activities.

In LFS,
Bro. Rene Calvario
President, APOGLA 2023



***“Be Courageous, Reach Out!
Everyone Matters”***

Tribo ni Bado Newsletter

is a monthly publication of the Alpha Phi Omega Greater Los Angeles Alumni Association exclusively for its members, families and friends. The opinions expressed herein are those of the writers, and are not intended to represent APOGLAAA.

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Remembering Our Dear Christa

Dear brothers, sisters, and familial members,

Please allow me to share some thoughts with you. Christa Paredes was one among us. From the time that brother VicPare became a part of our Association in the early 90s, Christa has also become a part of us. As different as the culture she grew up in, she learned and lived with the ways that brother VicPare and us have lived.

She was sweet and understanding, kind and beautiful. To many who were with us from those earlier years, we have seen her ever presence. She was with us in our monthly meetings. She was part of many family camping adventures. She was always with us in our Annual December Affair. In fact, she also participated with the Maria Clara Dance in a December Affair presentation during the early 90s.



In her passing, she reminds us of our own mortality. It brings us to think of how father time is - in relation to our human body. It leads us to reflect deeper on how important it is to spend quality time with our family and a more meaningful relationship with the outside world. It makes us realize somehow that having those more meaningful relationships spent in a fraternal group as we do in GLA, is worthy of our time and effort and something that we hope our younger generation will continue to work on and emulate.

For the last time, we shall see Christa's earthly being on Monday and Tuesday (Jan 16 & 17). We shall pray for her safe travel to eternal life. We shall ask her to remember us as well to the angels and saints in God's heavenly kingdom.

Thank you, Christa, for the gift of life that you lovingly shared. Much appreciated! Certainly, you will be missed! *TA13January2023*

INTERMENT SCHEDULE:

Viewing 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Monday, January 16, 2023
Montecito Memorial Park and Mortuary
3520 E Washington St., Colton, CA 92324

Catholic Church Mass (at Mausoleum) - the same address (with Christa's casket in church)
11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon - Tuesday, January 17, 2023
After mass, the crematory will take Christa. No burial ceremony.
Lunch to follow at Luxe Buffet, 701 N Milliken Ave. Ontario, CA 91764

Happy New Year 2023!

Continued from page 1

lived is not to be lived in comfort. We made sacrifices. Yes, we did. We had to. But “let us not waste the sacrifices we made during those Pandemic years,” Pope Francis said. The fear of uncertainty has lessons to give us. Let us learn from them. Always, opportunities present themselves amidst these hardships. We try to seek and save what was lost. We try to make sense of it all. But we trust. We believe. Always there is and will be a ‘silver lining’.

As I’ve mentioned in the past, may we have considered them a period of transformation. With APOGLA’s rich tradition and historic past, quite a lot had to be learned from our failures and our misgivings as an organization. But those have made us strong. They were a learning experience. And certainly, we have much to emulate from. With our leadership resource, and a membership - committed and full of enthusiasm, the promise of a greater GLA is right here. Right now.

Past President Brother Domel had this call for ‘conversion, change and transformation’. Yes, through the years, we become the GLA we ought to be. Yes, ours is not an easy task, but it’s always worth the effort. In GLA, everyone is expected to generate new ideas that create value. We create our future from everyone’s contribution from our membership.

As we move on along, hoping that the Pandemic is now behind us, I came across this fable of the Porcupine from one of my CGs. As big as we are in our extended APOGLA family unit, we may find some relevance in staying together considering our differences every now and then.

The Fable of the Porcupine

It was the coldest winter ever. Many animals died because of the cold. The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together to keep warm. This way they covered and protected themselves, But the quills of each one wounded their closest companions. After a while, they decided to distance themselves from the other and they began to freeze, alone, and die. So they had to make a choice: Either they accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the earth.

They decided to go back to being together. They learned to live with the little wounds and pains caused by the close relationships with their companions in order to receive the warmth and comfort that came from the others. This way they were able to survive.

The moral here is: the best group is not the one that is made up of perfect friends, brothers, and sisters, but by each individual member learning to live with the imperfections of others - yet admire the other person’s good qualities.

May we find it better to be surrounded by warm pokes than be frozen in solitude. May the love and the principle that brought us together bind us together and keep us healthy and strong enough to stand the storms, the heat, the cold and sometimes freezing temperature and the seasons of life.

May we ever be blessed. May we always inspire and be inspired! TA11Jan2023

Pictures from New Year's Eve Bash 2023



Pictures from New Year's Eve Bash 2023

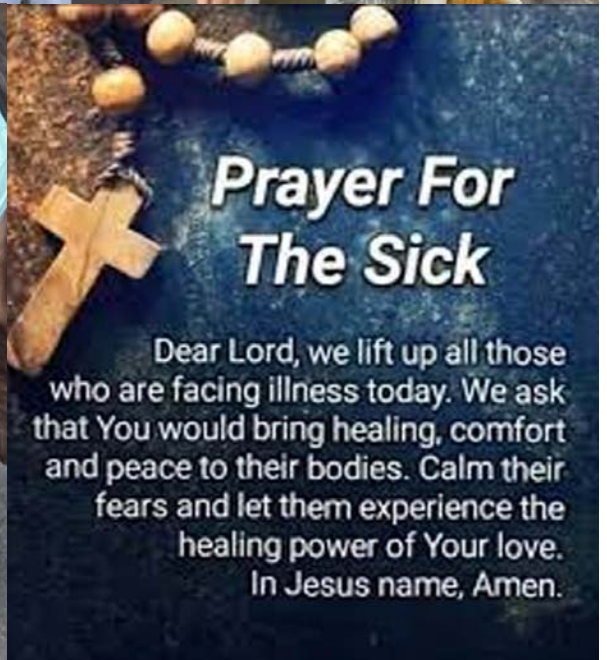


Pictures from 1st Joint Meeting/Roundtable





One of Bro./Pres. Rene's goals this year is to reach out to members of our APOGLA family. Top picture: with the Junio family, visiting **Bro. Virgil Junio, Alpha Pi** who's recovering from recent surgery. Middle pictures: A visit to **Bro. Bobby Antonio, Beta Kappa** in Santa Clarita with Bro. Bobet Lara. Bottom picture: Hospital visit to ka-chap **Bro./PP Tony Amon, Alpha** who is recovering from heart issues and Sis. Ophel Amon with daughter Dainty.



FROM MY POINT OF VIEW

BY BRO. DAN E. NINO



Income Tax Updates and Non-Profit Orgs Deadline

January is the start of Income Tax filing once again. It is due on or before April 15, 2023. However, due to the natural disaster caused by the so-called atmospheric-river storm that battered California, the Internal Revenue Service just announced that your tax filing can be extended to May 15 for counties covered by a federal emergency declaration to file their income tax returns for 2022. Among the counties included are Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura and San Diego and the rest of several beleaguered counties. But we don't have to wait if we can do it now to get it out our way.

And if you have a tax-exempt non-profit organization, the tax filing for both federal and state agencies is from January to May 15 if you are on a calendar year. If you file on a fiscal year, your entities' tax return is filed within five months after the end of your fiscal period.

Here are the salient pointers to consider in filing our tax returns. We need the figures of all our income from all sources that are listed from our W-2s, 1099s, IRA/Pension distributions, social security benefits, capital gains, dividends, interests, unemployment compensations, lotto and gambling winnings, business income, personal property rental income, stock options, among others.

The next important information are your deductions, exemptions, withholding taxes, property taxes, mortgage interest, dependents that you claim like your minor or qualifying children, parents whom you provide more than half of their support, gifts to charities, etc.

Shown below are some of the updates that I want to share with you. And due to some space constraints, I will mention some of them, then continue in our next issue.

Earned Income Tax Credit

What is an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)? It is a refundable tax credit for low to moderate-income working individuals and couples, particularly those with children. The amount of EITC benefit depends on a recipient's income and number of children to get a tax break. The main requirement is that you must earn money from a job. If you qualify, your refunds might increase or it can eliminate federal tax you owe.

The minimum age to collect EITC for a taxpayer without a qualifying child is 25 and below 65 which is the same as pre-2021 rules. Taxpayers must use their 2022 earned income to claim the credit.

The maximum amount of EITC for a single taxpayer without children is \$560 in 2022. This is a significantly lower amount than 2021. The maximum income for a single filer without a qualifying child is \$16,480.

Taxpayers filing Married Filing Separately that are separated from their spouse and living apart for the last six months of the year may be eligible for EITC if they have a qualifying child that lived with them for at least six months out of the year.

No Recovery Credit On Tax Year 2022

The Recovery Rebate Credits or Stimulus Refunds were authorized by Congress to address the Coronavirus pandemic and were issued in 2020 and 2021. No recovery rebate credit was authorized for 2022 and the taxpayer cannot claim any Recovery Rebate Credit on the 2022 tax return.

Child Tax Credit Provisions

What is Child Tax Credit? It is a tax break a tax filer can take for qualifying children to offset the costs of raising kids. In 2022, the Child Tax Credit is \$2,000 for each qualifying child under age 17 that is claimed as a dependent on the tax return. If you are above 17, you are not eligible for the CTC.

The refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit for additional child is up to \$1,500 for each qualifying child. The refundable amount has been increased over the 2020 amount because the refundable portion of the CTC is adjusted based on changes in the C-CPI-U Index.

To receive the Additional Child Tax Credit, the taxpayer must have earned income. This is the same calculation that existed in 2020.

Child Tax Credit is phased out if the Taxpayer's Adjusted Gross Income is more than the following:

- \$400,000 for Married Filing Jointly.
- \$200,000 for all other filing statuses

To qualify for the EITC, you should have worked and have earned income under \$59,187 and have a minimum investment income below \$10,300 which will be adjusted in future years for inflation.

The maximum amount of EITC for a single taxpayer without children is \$560 in 2022 This is a significantly lower amount than 2021.

Taxpayers filing MFS that are separated from their spouse and living apart for the last six months of the year may be eligible for EITC if they have a qualifying child that lived with them for at least six months out of the year. Should you have inquiries, you can reach me at 562-508-8099 or email at denino1951@gmail.com



GOINGS ON by Sis. Fely Montecillo

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all the first birthday celebrants of the year! Don't count the candles just enjoy your day!

If you were born between December 22 and January 19, you are a Capricorn. If your birthday falls between January 20 and February 18, you are under the zodiac sign of Aquarius. The Capricorns are overachievers, persistent, practical and sensitive. They're known for their hardworking habits. The Aquarians are highly intellectual and creative. They are the types who don't want to be told what to do. They are ideas people, never lacking inspiration. So, birthday celebrants, may you have a year full of blessings and love!

The New Year inspired me to look into the predictions for 2023 according to Nostradamus and here are some of what I have gathered:

1). The earth may suffer another climate disaster in 2023. As climate change continues to worsen, this forecast doesn't seem farfetched.

(2) There will be more social upheavals and civil rebellions in the coming months. The speculations are that the prophecy refers to riots in Iran. It is always thrilling to know about predictions for the next year that is, 2023 in science, medicine, health and other fields. Here are some of them:

(1) Modifying genes to renew all body issues to youthful versions becomes possible.

(2) The Covid 19 ends.

(3) The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency launches the world's first WOODEN satellite.

(4) Ten percent of the reading glasses will be connected to the internet.

(5) Ninety per cent of the global population will have a super computer in their pockets.

(5) The average person would live longer in 2023.

(6) The average life span could reach 100 years, though some individuals could make it to 150 years or even 200. Another cited a scientist who put the average to 300 years!

And lastly, (7) there was much excitement about the idea of wireless and paperless communication.

The Christmas Party we recently had turned out to be a fashion event as well. It could give the red carpet event a run for its money! Ladies and gentlemen came in their best and added to the glamour of the evening. Sis Melody A. Gayon looked so chic in her black gown with a see-through overlay which revealed her recently-attained slimmer figure. Sis Emma Galang wore an elegant gown with an off the shoulder sleeve accentuating her slim figure and a slit displaying her long legs. Whew! Gie Paras was so dramatic in her red gown with off the shoulder sleeves. Sis Ann Asuncion was so glamorous with her black gown accentuated with feathers. Sis Rachella Williams' long light green gown was so trendy specially with boots as part of her get up. May Sy's gown just simply emphasized her height which gave a regal air to it. Sis Malene Bonete's blue gown with spaghetti straps revealed her very fair complexion while Sis Gloria Imperial's was whimsical and fairy-like. Sis Ophel Amon's Chinese-inspired neckline exuded elegance. Sis Eleonor Villaver's black gown with faux fur was a classic, very flattering while Liza Valera's gown was so cool and clinging.

On the other hand, Gie Rivera's pink and pearly attire strikes us as something ohhh so feminine! The simple and sequined black gown of Sis Malou de Leon was just sensational. Lou Carbon's sleeveless gown with a glittery bodice was fabulous while Sis Josie's attire was show-stopping. Everybody came dressed for the occasion and this added grandeur to the evening affair.

It's so heartwarming to note that PP Roehl Reyes acknowledged the extra work extended by these three ladies: Sisters Emma Galang and Jen Evangelista and the VP's wifey Gie Paras. They really worked beyond what was expected of them. So to you gals . . . Congratulations!

TREASURER'S REPORT *By Sis. Emma Rubina-Galang*

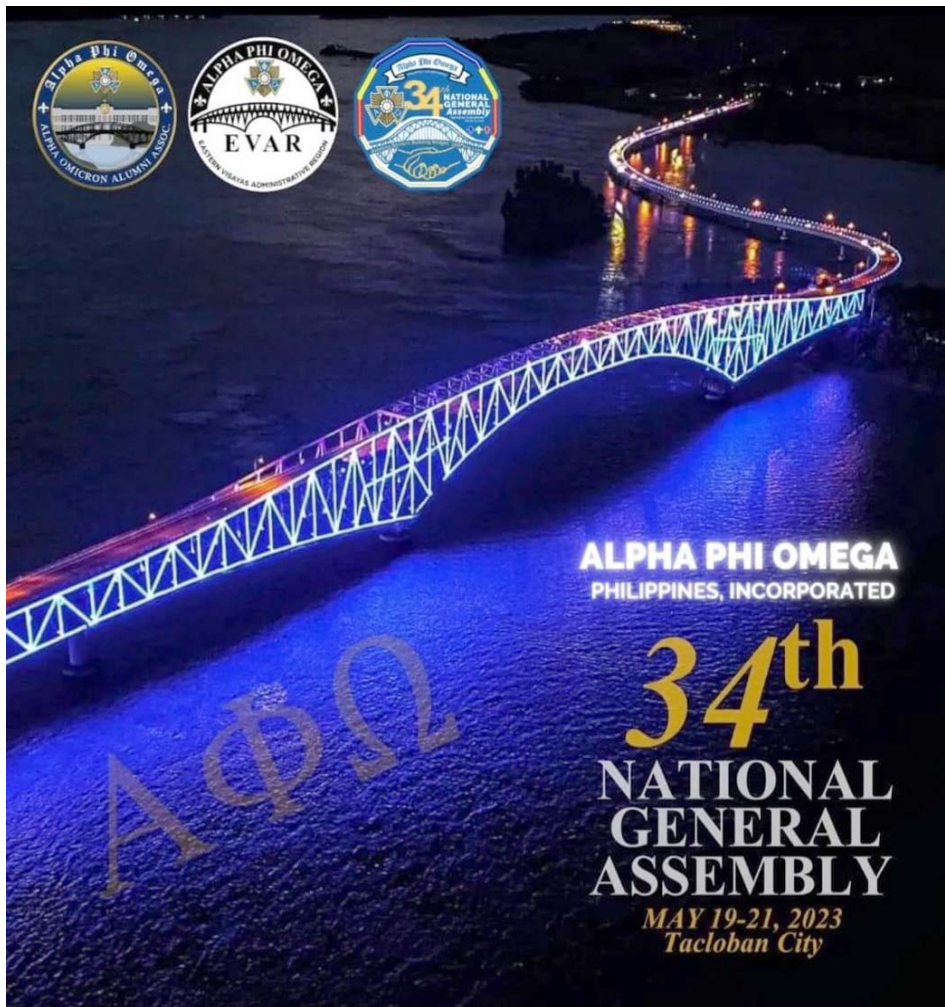
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|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Ayo, Toti | 12. Reyes, Roehl |
| 2. Calvario, Rene | 13. Rubina-Galang, Emma |
| 3. Dime, Emmanuel | 14. Sipin, Perry |
| 4. Duldulao, Gielly | 15. Sugay, Jay |
| 5. Evangelista, Domel | 16. Sy, Sancho |
| 6. Evangelista, Jen | 17. Valdecantos, Henry |
| 7. Gopez, Bernard | 18. Valentino, Hero |
| 8. Junio, Virgil | 19. Valera, Liza |
| 9. Mercado, Bebot | |
| 10. Paredes, Vic | |
| 11. Remorozo, Gerald | |

as of January 13, 2023

Please send your
\$50.00 Annual Membership Dues to:
SIS. EMMA RUBINA-GALANG
15844 Londelius St., North Hills, CA 91405

Please make check payable to: APOGLA
OR Zelle to: apogla.info@gmail.com
Zelle account under: APOGLA AA

Plan ahead if you are planning to attend



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY CELEBRANTS



MEMBER:

- 02 - Domel Evangelista
Glenda Tavera
- 03 - Ellen Apura
- 07 - Mike Chua
- 08 - Jun Madrigal
- 13 - Oscar Angeles,
- Ernie Garrovillas[†]
- 14 - Wilson Lautchang
- 20 - Bobet Lara
- 21 - Wilson Arucan
- 24 - Gil Magno
- 25 - Lino Chatto,
- Albert Peralta,
- Leonardo Caldoza,
- Sammy Clarete
- 28 - Vinz Argonza
- 30 - Rico Lainez[†]

SPOUSE:

- 11 - Andrew Millano
- 13 - Ella Gomez
- 20 - Minda Chin
- 24 - Myrna Nino
- 26 - May Sy,
- Alma Delmolin

APO KIDS:

- 01 - Michael Arevalo
- Matt Emperado
- 04 - Celeste Medina
- 05 - Don Adriano
- 07 - Lindsey Mejia
- 09 - Alexa Reyes
- Aileen Talabis
- 10 - Andrew Evangelista
- Jan Arciga
- 12 - Grant Gomez
- 22 - Chinggoy Serrano
- 24 - Clarissa Tecson
- 27 - Maria Rica Serrano
- Hazell Arucan

JANUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join us to our 1st GMM of the year!
5 pm Saturday, January 21, 2023

Venue:
Rosemead Masonic Lodge
8637 Valley Blvd.
Rosemead, CA 91770

For other details contact:

Bro. Rene Calvario **(323) 828-8862**
Sis. Ophel Amon **(818) 970-4614**



www.apogla.org