

Katague Wears MIINC Style, Looks Presidential

Executive Director, Macrine Jambalos Katague (MACA), won the MI, Inc. Presidential election over Edgar Alandy of MANC held at the Capital Hilton on August 9, 2003. Chapter representatives gave Mrs. Katague overwhelming votes to lead the organization for the next two years. Edgar Alandy was nominated again for Vice-President and won the second post. The rest of the elected officers are as follows:

SecretaryAlbine L. Blanche
Treasurer. Vi Luz Magsino
Auditor Danilo Lim
P. R. O. Gerry Mantaring

Macrine was born in Boac and a product of the Immaculate Conception Academy High School. She obtained her Bachelor in Business Administration degree in 1957 from the University of Santo Tomas. Two month after graduation she married her college sweetheart, David Katague from Iloilo who was then teaching chemistry at UP Diliman. They immigrated to the US in 1960. Macrine stayed home for 18 years raising her four children but decided to go back to nursing school in California.

In 1979, she received her Bachelor of Science degree from Holy Name College in Oakland, CA. as well as a Certificate in Public Health Nursing specializing with Spanish speaking patients. In 1990, Macrine and Dave moved to Maryland where she worked for nine years as Quality Improvement Nurse for several Home Health organizations in the Washington, DC area. It was then, when she joined the Marinduqueno Association of the Capital Area (MACA) and became



L/R: Danny Lim, Gerry Mantaring, Violeta L. Magsino, Albine L. Blanche, Edgar Alandy, Macrine J. Katague & Amb. Albert Del Rosario

an active member of the association. She retired in 1998 and got involved with the Filipino-American organizations in the DC metropolitan area. In 1999, she was elected co-chair for the PAFC Independence Day Celebrations for the tri-state area-VA,MD and DC. Macrine went to Marinduque in 2000 and acted as the "advance person" of Marinduque International, Inc. for the Medical Mission II in May, 2001. As Executive Director of the MI, Inc., she was instrumental in arranging the food and housing accommodations, and transportation for the 70 medical missionaries from US and Canada. Her efforts resulted in huge savings from the mission's budget.

Edgar Alandy on the other hand, was from Santa Cruz, the eldest of five brothers and six sisters. He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree in FEATI University that leads him to be employed by the Manila Electric Company (MERALCO) until his resignation in 1970 to emigrate to the United States. He worked with Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco in the design and construction of Nuclear Power Plants and retired from the company in 2000. He was one of the founders of the Marinduque Association of Northern California and one of the main supporters of the creation of the Marinduque International Executive Council. Edgar make himself busy by getting involve in various Filipino-American social, civic and religious organizations in Vallejo. At present, he is serving as one of the Commissioners on the Vallejo Commission on Aging and a member of the Fil-Am Democratic Club and Fil-Am Political Coalition.

SORE, HEAD OF MACA, FELT RELIEVED AT END OF MI, INC. CONVENTION



Engr. Gaudioso Sore, president of the Marinduqueño Association of the Capital Area (MACA) felt some relief at the conclusion of MI, Inc. 6th Convention & Election of Officers held at Washington, DC on Aug. 8-10, 2003.

The biennial event is gaining popularity amongst Marinduqueños in the United States and Canada, which was evident in the increasing attendance in the organization's events since its establishment in the East Coast in 1993. It takes months, if not years, for the host chapter to plan and make the international convention an experience that out-of-towners won't forget. The event also reunited the Marinduqueños in the US and Canada.

The interpretation of the "Legend of Marinduque" performed by Y-MACA, the younger and second generation of Marinduqueños in the Maryland and Virginia area, was absolutely spectacular. Manny and Mariam's daughter, Marnie Mataac, highlighted the presentation even more with her original song composition. Bravo, Y-MACA!

SOSA BATTED HOME RUN. Scored big hit.



Steve Sosa, the outgoing President of the Marinduque International, Inc. was given a high score for his excellent performance as the fourth President of the organization with the full support of his energetic officers and confidence of the members of the Board of Trustees.

"The event is momentous and historical because it paved the way for the ratification of the Constitution & By-Laws. The picnic, election and gala night had been a much awaited breather and respite to everyone who joined the occasion. By way of the M.I.'s missions, this meeting has inspired and brought us all to a better commitment to serve the needs of our beloved hometown province of Marinduque." Quoted from his thank you letter to the officers of Marinduque International. It was a big surprise that few of our kababayans from the British Columbia attended this affair in DC.

Nag-Chapter ang mga taga-Vancouver



Annie Jalac-Miles, President of MABC gladly accepted the invitation to be the 7th chapter of MI, Inc.

It was a love affair or out of love in the affairs of the Marinduqueños that they became the 7th Chapter of MI, Inc. when Annie Jalac Miles (with microphone), President of the Marinduque Association of British Columbia (MABC) accepted the invitation to be a member of the Marinduque International, Inc. In addition, the MABC promised to host the next convention in Vancouver in 2005. So folks, put it your memory bank or in your calendar, and tell your relatives and friends who have not yet seen the largest gatherings of Marinduqueños here in North America, to join us and our Canadian *kumpadres and kumadres* for yet another exciting moment soon to happen. †

MATAAC'S FANS COOLS DOWN HEAT

MACA's giveaway fans found to be helpful and appropriate in the ballroom's soaring temperature as a result of the heat generated from the people's sweat in the festive atmosphere in the main ballroom. Guests, especially, the ballroom dancers found their selves sweating but gave them the energies to dance all through the night. The big area of the ballroom seems too small for the dancers who really showed their grace and expertise in dancing that night. Approximately four hundred guests came to celebrate the joint party of the Marinduque International, Inc. (MI, Inc.) and the Marinduqueño Association of the Capital Area (MACA), much to the amazement of other members that were reluctant and nervous to host such an event with guests coming from all over the United States and Canada. Congratulations to President Dio Sore for putting up such a party that everybody would surely remember.

SOLOMON'S WISDOM PROJECT CLASSY IMAGE



Ex-Mayor Alejandro Solomon and wife, Ruby nee Sto. Domingo

Alejandro “Amba” Solomon, former Mayor of Boac and Chairman of the Advertisement and Souvenir Program Committee pulled his string of influence to come up with a beautiful Souvenir Program that projects a classy image to the association. His energetic members deserves to be congratulated for their hard work and diligence soliciting for contributions and advertisements to help defray the cost of hosting the Marinduque International, Inc. convention.

XAVIER & The BAND PERFECT IN HARMONY



Xavier “Cugie” Dela Santa, the emcee of the program, captivated the audience with his wit and humor at the Gala Night. His excellent performance coupled with the live band’s magnificent music selections brought the dancers on their feet, the rest of the guests in admiration to MACA’s versatile members that carried the program in a near professional level of performance. Talking of performance, Y-MACA was at the top. †

Ladies showers Ambassador ALBERT DEL ROSARIO



Ambassador & Mrs. Albert Del Rosario



Amb. & Mrs. Albert Del Rosario

MACA ladies showers Amb. Albert Del Rosario with flowers at the “putong” rite during the intermission of the ballroom dance. The song and dance presentation, unique to Marinduque, have received plenty of praises from the guests who experienced of being a “King or a Queen”, crowned with intricately made headgear adorned with flowers. The experience is everlasting that you will cherish it for as long as you live. †

MCSC DELIVERS

The Marinduque Cultural Society of Canada sent four balikbayan boxes of medical supplies to Marinduque in addition to the Chapter’s monetary contribution to MI, Inc.’s medical mission (Mission of Love III) scheduled on Feb. 9-14, 2004. Summary of which can be found in MI., Inc. website: www.marinduqueinternational.org †

Y-MACA

Young Marinduqueño Association
of the Capital Area



The Skit

Tale of Marinduque



The awesome performance of the Young Marinduqueño Association of the Capital Area won the biggest applause and admiration from the audience in their version of the “Tale of Marinduque” written and directed by Marnie Mataac, daughter of Manny & Mariam.

The touching song, “Alaala” by the Tropical Depression Band sang by Marnie and Will Marte gave meaning to the two young lovers’ everlasting affection for each other.

The skit was synonymous to the “Legend of Marinduque” wherein two individuals – Mariin and Duque fell in love with each other against the wish of her father, Datu Batungbacal, to marry another man of his liking. The couple eloped as a result of the Datu’s objection.

Their enduring love ended in despair and death when they drowned in the sea that gave rise to the island of Marinduque, the very spot where their lives ended trying to evade the rage of the Datu and the pursuing warriors.

By Rey J. Muhi



MABC

The Marinduque Association
of British Columbia becomes the
7th Chapter of the Marinduque
International, Inc.



OFFICERS

Annie Jalac-Miles

President

Pete Romey

1st Vice President

Domingo Almonte

2nd Vice President

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Vancouver

DENNIS PE LIAO

Richmond

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Vancouver

DOMINGO ALMONTE

Surrey, Langley, Delta

EVELYN FAJARDO-LUARCA

Vancouver

ILDEFONSO ESTRELLA

North/West Vancouver

LITO LAZARTE QUIAZON

Richmond

NORI LIM-MUSLIH

Coquitlam





The more I see you

Our flight from Chicago to the Ronald Reagan National Airport was on time but considering that the picnic we were to attend at the Seneca Park in Maryland was only until three in the afternoon, we knew we were going to miss a lot of the fanfare and the frolic at the picnic. We rented a vehicle in Washington and drove directly to the park armed with driving directions we obtained beforehand. But even with the most precise instruction, we still managed to get lost in this unfamiliar but friendly and yet unforgiving territory. A wrong turn is a wrong turn and getting lost is never funny until you find your way. It took us more than an hour to get there and I was beginning to think that we were being punished without being given a chance to err first.

On the long trip, one in our group said, “We are sorry Mr. Sore... if we cannot make it.” And we had with us the uniform T-Shirts to be worn by the Chicago delegation some of whom, we assumed were already at the picnic. We got to the park asking, “Why this far?”

Tired and disappointed? Maybe, but we were relieved to see that there were still several cars in the parking lot. We also heard the amplified music coming from the picnic area and we thought that we were not really that late after all. Then I saw a group of people whom I thought were on their way out. I was told that they were on their way to the rest rooms that were about a mile away. Of course, they were just exaggerating although the rest rooms were really quite a distance from where the people were gathered. But I think the group of late comers still had had plenty of time to enjoy the picnic for it was nice to see faces again that we last saw when the Canadians hosted the reunion two years ago. And the food? We had more than enough although we were too late to have a piece of the lechon. Other than that, everything was fine. It was like having modern amenities in the middle of the wilderness.

Going back to civilization, the last thing that I wanted would be to get involved in discussions of anything. Tired as I was, I would have preferred to take a shower then go to bed. My second choice would be to

go around the city and have a close look at some historic sites and sights. But there was Steve, the ever hard-working president of the MI, Inc. Who was I to try and refuse? So, we proceeded to a hall at the Capital Hilton where the meeting was supposed to take place. The first thing that I did in the hall was to take on the karaoke equipment, which is the trademark of any occasion attended by Flo Apeles. OK, so I only tried to sing. Then we had some snacks... then came the inevitable – “the meeting”. It was actually a plenary session that was attended by many of the greatest minds that Marinduque will ever know. (If I omitted quotation marks, it’s because I do not know where to place them.) Noticeably missed was Aida Hulen who wasn’t there.

The discussions were serious but not without a touch of humor, not without arguments as though we were on the floor of congress, which was nice. We went to Washington to have fun in the first place and we enjoyed it no matter how and even if we were in a working environment. Some concerns including the ones I brought from Chicago were discussed, some doubts were erased and the air was cleared somewhat. Or was it? Some questions may remain unanswered and one of them could be why our constitution is so long. I suggest that we read the documents again and if we find anything that adversely affects the chapters (or member organizations) or if we feel that there are some parts that should be deleted, altered or rephrased, let’s hear it now or forever we shall keep our feelings unknown and hidden under our sleeves.

Then there was the meeting the morning before the big Gala Night. The meeting should have been shorter were it not for my lengthy report. The election that followed went well – and quick. Having two candidates for president gave the voting delegates a chance to cast their ballots the way they should. Thanks to Edgar Alandy for running. At least, Macrine Katague can say that she was elected and not appointed. Edgar lost but his running served its purpose. Perhaps, in the future, aspirants won’t have to wait to be nominated for any office.

One should be able to declare his/her candidacy without having to wait for the blessings of any group. Edgar, however, won the vice presidency single handedly. Most of all, the Marinduque Association of British Columbia became the seventh member organization of the MI, Inc. We are getting bigger, guys! We should be getting better too.

The dinner and dance was something else. “Cugie” kept it alive and the Pilar family from the MACUSA helped the band by rendering a few musical numbers to the delight of everybody. The despedida at the Mataac residence marked the culmination of this year’s international reunion. So, in the aftermath, it was a good feeling to be among Marinduquenos from all over the USA and Canada once again. But time was of the essence and we did not have enough of it. Evanescent as it was, the memories of the reunion shall keep us yearning for more until we meet again. May it keep us looking forward to the next Marinduque International Grand reunion and some mini reunions in between. With the Marinduque spirit that I have known, familiarity breeds not contempt but longing for togetherness. Isn’t it like that old song that goes, “*The more I see you, the more I want you*”? It can’t be otherwise.

To Dio, Mr. MACA President, rest assured that the first impression that we had while driving to the picnic, no matter how unfavorable, did not last. You did so well in playing with our emotions. You did so well in making us think that the worst was yet to come. You brought the storm before the calm. We expected the least. We got the most. We had a good time. |



By; Rudy L. Rubio
President, MACUSA

Capital Hilton Flooded

The prestigious Capital Hilton, venue of the Marinduque International, Inc. convention and election of officers gets flooded by Marinduqueños coming from all over the US and Canada for two days. The local chapter, Marinduqueño Association of the Capitol Area hosted the event from August 8 – 10, 2003 and threw a big dinner/dance party at the heart of the city. Golf aficionados took off early for their morning tee time. The welcome picnic was also an exciting one. Meeting your classmates, former officemates, and distant relatives and just connecting with everybody is quite an experience. After the picnic some guests toured the historic sites in the city.



MACA Pres, Engr. Dio Sore cuts a piece of lechon for his wife, Loyda. Honey, you're on diet, he said.

Plenary Session:

Friday night, in the Federal room



MI, Inc. outgoing Pres., Steve Sosa presided the Friday night plenary session. Seated are.MASC Pres. Albine Lansangan-Blanche & Dr. Hector Sulit.



MI, Inc. VP, Edgar Alandy of MANC has the floor.



L/R: Thelma M. Santos, Dio Sore, Willie Monroyo, Steve Sosa, Ching J. Manalo, Dave & Macrine Katague

Election of Officers: August 9, 2003

Saturday was the big day. Election of new officers for two years term and the formal Gala Night held in the Presidential Ballroom.



*Board of Trustees & Chapter Representatives
Jorge Bunag, Dio Sore, Ned Santo Domingo, Albine L. Blanche, Annie J. Miles, Edgar Alandy, Rudy Rubio & Andre Belarmino representing Miriam T. Borlaza.*

Activities

By Andre Belarmino



The Marinduque Association of Northern California during the past and current years has been involved in various activities. Our tireless and hardworking president, Miriam Trivino Borlaza leaves no stone unturned to ensure that her pet projects be realized to fruition. One of these projects is to build a “waiting shed” in each of the six municipalities in Marinduque. This is in addition to our participation in the MI Medical Mission 2004.

Last April 20, 2003, a trip to Reno was held with positive results. It was fun and complete relaxation for everyone. The second activity for the year was the annual family picnic and reunion last June 29, 2003. This was held at Elizabeth Park in Fremont, California. Quite a number of them met their long lost relatives. Some families came from as far as Canada and Los Angeles, who have not seen each other for 20 to 40 years. It was a very momentous and happy reunion.

In July 2003, our president joined the “*Adopt a Barangay Alliance*” an alliance to implement a “*holistic approach in mitigating poverty*” in the Philippines, sponsored by the Philippine Consulate in San Francisco. The alliance can share with MANC their services in the future and make use of their facilitators like LBC which give considerable discounts in the shipment of balikbayan boxes. The Ayala Corporation will help expedite the release of boxes containing goods bound to different distressed areas in the Philippines. Miriam also attended the 1st Filipino Global Community Networking convention held in San Francisco last August 31 to September 1, 2002.

It was a huge gathering of Filipinos all over the world in their efforts to improve the socio-economic strength and morality of Filipinos in the Philippines. On September 28, 2002, the 13th Anniversary Dinner/Dance and Induction Ball of MANC was held at the Grand Ballroom of South San Francisco Convention Center.

Our keynote speaker was Consul General Delia Menez-Rosal of the Philippine Consulate in San Francisco. Our beautiful ladies performed the traditional Marinduque “Putong”. We were graced with the presence of MI President, Steve Sosa and his charming wife, Alma and by General George Aliño. The annual Christmas Party was held on December 8, 2002, which coincided with the Boac town fiesta. It was an affair to remember, because we were once again reunited as one family in the spirit of Christmas.

Another successful event was a Hawaiian Night at Arroyo Community Hall in South San Francisco held on September 19, 2003. Our special guest was Consul General in San Francisco, Delia Menez-Rosal. We also have prominent officers and members of the Filipino-American Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco headed by our very own Puchi Carrion-Di Ricco. Flo Apeles of MASC also graced our affair. We are very grateful for his unselfish and continued support. We had sumptuous food and our music was provided by DJ Pol Bayamor. The dance lasted up to midnight to the delight and content of everyone. A significant event was the celebration of the 6th Marinduque International Reunion, in Washington, DC on August 8-10, 2003. Edgar Alandy attended as Executive Vice-President of MI, Inc. while Andre Belarmino, Chairman of the Board of Director of MANC, represented Pres. Miriam Trivino Borlaza.

The event was without an iota of doubt as one of the most successful events ever held by one of our chapter organizations. The picnic at Gaithersburg, Maryland was a resounding success. MACA, the host, was so hospitable and generous, that they provided plenty of sumptuous food and impromptu entertainment.

The general meeting was held at the prestigious Capital Hilton in the heart of downtown Washington, DC. It was orderly and many important matters were thoroughly discussed and harmoniously resolved. There was merriment and socialization after the meeting which lasted past midnight.

The election was exciting. Congratulations to the newly elected officers for 2003-2005 term. The gala event was held at the Capital Hilton's Grand Ballroom. Prominent officials from the Philippine Embassy and local officials in Washington, DC attended the party.

Kudos to the officers and members of MACA, who hosted this affair. It was a job well done. You cannot help but appreciate the tremendous efforts put forth in this event.



The feast of Our Lady of Biglang Awa will be celebrated on November 9, 2003 at San Lorenzo Village Community Center, 377 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. Most Reverend Jose Oliveros, Bishop of Marinduque who will come all the way from Marinduque will officiate the mass at 4:00 in the afternoon. This year's Hermana is Dinah Alino. Bishop Oliveros will also celebrate mass at the residence of Bob and Elisa "Baby" Orlina-Howard in South San Francisco, California on November 8, 2003.



Edgar and Lita Alandy are the proud grandparents of their first grandson, Breindel Joy, lovechild of Joy and Brendalie Alandy. Pete and Pat Rey are also the proud grandparents of their first grandson, Rob Junior, born to Rob Fournier and Lissa. MANC will be holding the election of its officers and directors on December 13, 2003 for the term 2003-2006. |



Marinduque Cultural Society of Canada (MCSC)



Marinduqueño Association of the Capital Area (MACA)



Marinduqueños of the Eastern Seaboard of America



Marinduque Association of Southern California (MASC)



Marinduque Association of British Columbia (MABC)



Marinduque Association of Northern California (MANC)



MI, Inc. Grand Reunion in Washington, DC hosted by the Marinduqueño Association of the Capital Area (MACA)



MACA Officers