President’s Message

Embracing a Theme to Engage and Make a Difference

Reynaldo R. Rivera, DNP, EdM, MA, RN, CCRN, NEA-BC

Consider this quote by anthropologist Margaret Mead.
“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

In my travels to the various chapters, I was warmly greeted by Chapter members in that familiar Filipino fashion – great hospitality, lively discussion and of course fantastic food. These past six months, I have traveled and you have provided me with an eye-opening experience. Each chapter is unique and they shine in their own manner. I have learned much from my interactions with you.

I can proudly say that the PNAA spirit shines in all the communities that I have visited. Each induction event was successful; and the support that their members have received from the community was amazing. During these gatherings, it was great to see members of the community enjoying themselves and listening to the messages of the local PNA chapter. You engaged those who attended these gatherings by letting them know that each PNA chapter has a defined mission and a goal. The support that these chapters have received was a testament of their stature in the communities.

In meeting with the chapters, PNAA members engaged me with their success stories and how they were giving back to their communities and colleagues through health and educational programs. They shared their stories of success and their struggles. As I continue my travels to your communities, I want you to share your stories of engagement with me.

The Road to Engagement involves knowing your members, growing your members, inspiring your members, involving your members and rewarding your members.

Know your members. As I attended the different induction events, I met with Executive Board members to get to know their respective chapters and understand their members. In addition, we need to conduct a Chapter Engagement Survey to find out what drives our membership engagement. The engagement survey will commence on March/April 2011. Grow your members. Each chapter should provide educational opportunities to its members, which foster life-long learning and intellectual challenges. Inspire your members. Tell your inspirational stories to each other. Most people want to have an emotional connection to what they do and the difference that they can make. Members are inclined to go above and beyond when purpose and meaning infuse their daily activities. Additionally, when members respect their leaders and colleagues, they are more inspired to go the extra mile. Involve your members. Involved members are engaged members. Reward your members. Acknowledgement is a great reward.

In conclusion, there is much to be thankful about during this Thanksgiving season. Engage and Make a Difference today and everyday.
Editorial
By: Davy G. Diongson, RN

As you read the articles in this issue, you’ll be inspired and engaged. There’s a story about Willie Manzano and how she rose to become the Chief Nursing Officer at one of the largest health systems in New York. Then there is the story of Jessica Pasion who was inspired by her mother to become a nurse. These are both inspiring stories. We can relate to the stories in this issue in one way or another – be it our first attendance at a national convention, participating in community events or transforming lives. I encourage you to share your stories with our community of nurses. President Rey Rivera has requested for stories of engagement for submission in a book that will be published. Reflect back on your own career and find that event that transformed you.

Share your story.

Research Committee Report
By: Cecilia D. Alvarez, DNP, RN - Chairperson, Research Committee

Please welcome the PNAA Research Committee, 2010-2012. The committee is chaired by Dr. Cecilia D. Alvarez from PNA New Jersey, Bergen Subchapter and co-chaired by Dr. Kathy Abriam-Yago from PNA Northern California. There are four members representing the different regions. The regional representatives are Marlon Saria (PNA San Diego) representing the Western region, Dr. Remylyn Bruder (PNA Michigan) representing the North Central region, Gemma Rio (PNA Northeast Florida) representing the North Central region; and Dr. Dina Krenzischek (PNA Maryland), representing the Eastern region. These members were chosen based on certain criteria. The members have either a doctorate degree or are enrolled in a doctoral program; do active research or have done research; have published, have leadership ability; are willing to mentor PNAA members; and are willing to serve PNAA.

The Research Committee has several functions. These include conducting research as needed, applying for appropriate grants to provide funding for any research project, acting as a resource to any PNAA member who is interested in research, reviewing all requests and applications for research, maintaining a directory of all Filipino-American nurse researchers, monitoring the progress of any on-going PNAA research projects, and evaluating the relevance and impact of PNAA-sponsored research projects. The committee is starting with two projects. The first project is the PNAA Anthology Book entitled Engage and Make a Difference: How Filipino Nurses Are Making a Difference? Please refer to the second edition of E-Balita for instructions on submission of manuscripts. The second project will be a research on Filipino nurses.

In support of Dr. Rivera’s theme of Engagement and Making a Difference, the regional representatives of the PNAA Research Committee will be reaching out to the Research Committee Chair of each chapter. The goal is to have member participation at the chapter level. The Research Committee is grateful to the Regional Vice Presidents for identifying a group of talented members. The committee is also grateful to Dr. Reynaldo Rivera, Perry Francisco, Gloria Beriones, Dr. Pam Windle, and Dr. Joyce Fitzpatrick who participated in a conference call in July. A lot of great ideas came out of this meeting. Finally, the committee is grateful to receive $1800 seed money through the PNAAF. Perry Francisco contributed $350. Dr. Reynaldo Rivera, Research Committee Board Liaison raised $500 during his birthday celebration. Moving forward, Ernie Rosas announced during the Executive Board meeting that money will be earmarked for research.

PNA Georgia Hold 16th Annual Educational Seminar
By: Glo Beriones, RN

PNA Georgia had their 16th Annual Educational Seminar "Engage in New Trends: Make a difference" with 7.5 contact hours through PNAAF. Topics included Healthcare Reform: Impact on Hospital Bottom Line and Clinical Staff's Business Role, Hand and Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation, Cord Blood Preservation, Dementia and Delirium in Older adults, Bringing Faith and Health/Congregational Health Ministry, Right Brain/Left Brain: Exploring Your Nursing Style. PNA Georgia through the leadership of Pam Peterman, President and Executive Board were able to get sponsors to pay for breakfast and lunch. They had 60 attendees, with renewals for 2011 membership.
Call for Manuscript

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing to invite you to contribute to a PNAA Anthology Book entitled *Engage and Make a Difference: How Filipino Nurses Are Making a Difference?*

This book will profile the local, national, and international work of Filipino nurses who go above and beyond their work environments to give, nurture and mentor others. It is envisioned as a celebratory book for annotating our contributions to the society we live in and a legacy for all of us, individually and collectively.

Manuscripts focusing on compelling stories will be considered on the following topics:

- Historical accounts of making an impact on one’s community and the world-at-large;
- Response to natural disasters locally, nationally, and internationally;
- Contribution to public health issues;
- Impact made on the world of nursing education;
- Personal philanthropy that helped change the world;
- Impact on national and international health issues through entrepreneurship;
- Innovative approaches to make the world a better place for all; and
- Other topics of how Filipino nurses are engaged and making a difference.

Should you accept the invitation to become a contributing author, the manuscript should be no more than 10 double-spaced pages, with one-inch margins, using a 12-point Times New Roman font. Authors may email their manuscripts to Dr. Reynaldo R. Rivera, PNAA President at *ReyRRivera@aol.com*. All manuscripts are being received subject to review and acceptance by the editorial board. We are under a tight time frame and will need to receive your completed manuscript by January 30, 2011.

Thank you very much for your interest and participation in this project. If you are unable to participate as a contributing author, please recommend any other individual or author who might have a compelling story to tell. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need additional information. You may also reach Dr. Reynaldo R. Rivera at (212) 746-4416.

Please indicate your interest by return email to Reynaldo Rivera by December 15, 2010.

Sincerely yours,

Joyce Fitzpatrick, PhD, RN, FAAN
Reynaldo Rivera, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Josefina Tuazon, DrPH, RN
Cecilia Alvarez, DNP, RN
Editors
South Central Region is Passionate about Making a Difference

By Gloria Lamela Beriones, MSN, RN, Vice President (SCR)

On September 18, 2010, the PNA Central Florida under the leadership of Virginia Alagano, President; Rosie Antequino, Education Chairperson and the Executive Board collaborated with the Filipino American physicians on their Annual Interdisciplinary Education Seminar. The seminar was a product of partnerships and collaborations among nurses, physicians and other health care disciplines.

The PNA of Metropolitan Houston had their Annual Fall Education Seminar “The Power to Transform and Make a Difference” on October 16, 2010 at the Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center, Houston, Texas. It was well-attended by nurses from the community, including some members of its subchapter, PNAMH Golden Triangle. The goal of the education seminar is to enhance nurses’ knowledge, skills, and passion in their roles as positive agents of change, thus making a difference with their patients, families, and in the communities they serve. The speakers shared their knowledge of current evidence-based practice standards on deep vein thrombosis, polypharmacy in the elderly, new strategies against cardiovascular diseases, lessons learned in pediatric codes, and healthcare reform and the nursing practice. Not only were the presenters experts in their fields of practice but also passionate in sharing stories of how they make a difference in the lives of people every day. Throughout the seminar, the attendees were fully engaged and inspired by the valuable topics that have impact in their practice, as well as the speakers’ dynamic teaching and learning strategies. It was a day of learning and networking. A gourmet meal was prepared by the chefs of Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center, Houston, Texas for the attendees. The Annual Fall Education Seminar was the product of the hard work and team efforts of the PNAMH Education Committee Chairperson Rosnela Hardesty, BSN, RN, CNOR and Co-Chair Shela Ecobiza, BSN, RN.

On October 22, 2010, the PNA Texas Cameron County, (PNAT-CC) Inc. celebrated the Leadership and Education Seminar “Engaging Nurses’ Roles To Make a Difference and the 4th Spirit of Nightingale Awards (SONA) was held at Ringgold Civic Pavilion, Brownsville, Texas. The nominees for the 2010 SONA were the following: (1) Amelia Casanova, BSN, RN - Valley Regional Medical Center, Brownsville, Texas; (2) Ada Centeriero, RN- Valley Baptist Medical Center, Harlingen, Texas; (3) Rosa Ferandez, RN - Valley Regional Medical Center, Brownsville, Texas; (4) Grace Diaz-Font, MS, RN- West Houston Medical Center, Houston, Texas; (5) Marilu Franco, RN - Valley Baptist Medical Center (Harlingen), Harlingen, Texas; (6) Henrietta Peynado, MSN, RN - Valley Baptist Medical Center (Harlingen), Harlingen, Texas; (7) Merlita Velasquez, BSN, RN - Nursing Resource Home Health Services, Houston, Texas. The recipients of this year’s SONA Award were the following: Grace Diaz-Font for Modern Nightingale, Henrietta Peynado, Amelia Casanova, Merlita Velasquez and Rosa Ferandez.

The recipient of the 2010 PNAT-CC, Inc. SONA is Grace Diaz -Font, MS, RN - Immediate Past President, PNAMH. The following are part of the Executive Board based on a special election and appointments during the General Assembly on that same day: President-elect, Crisanto Bernal; Secretary, Lyka Agorilla; Asst Treasurer, Marylou Franco; Board member, Riza Abrencillo; Chair for Community Services, Sarah Souffrant.

The 11th PNAA South Central Regional Conference will be held March 25, 26, and 27, 2011, hosted by PNAT-CC, Inc. in Brownsville, Texas. The South Central Region (SCR) Leadership has been fully engaged in building and implementing the 2010-2012 Priority Focus Teams. The goals of the SCR Priority Focus Teams center on four key categories:

- **Leadership** by developing topics for the Regional Conference Leadership based on chapters’ SWOT analysis by October 31, 2010. Each chapter will submit their SWOT analysis to Glo Beriones and Riza Mauricio by October 15. In addition to this, there will be an increase in the SCR leaders attending the Regional Conference Leadership Institute.

- **Membership.** There will be a 10% increase in membership in each SCR chapter by May 2011. There will be two SCR chapters established by May 2012 and one PNNA chapter will be established in a state without a chapter in the South Central Region by May 2012.

- **Community Outreach / Collaboration with Professional Organizations “Synergy Teams”** SCR will create a strategic alliance with another organization (e.g. NCEMNA, State Nursing organization and other PNAA Chapters) in

The goal of the education seminar is to enhance nurses’ knowledge, skills, and passion...
South Central Region (cont’d from previous page)

order to pursue a common goal. SCR will also keep its members well-informed about current news on nursing and healthcare. The SCR will promote academic and professional development of Filipino nurses.

- **Awards and Recognition.** There will development of an annual SCR Awards and Recognition Program for the Regional Conference which will be held from March 25 to 27, 2011. The chapter will submit a newsletter for the PNAA Pride Award Committee before the deadline in 2011.

### SCR PRIORITY FOCUS TEAMS

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<tr>
<th>Practice / Leadership</th>
<th>Membership</th>
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<th>Awards and Recognition</th>
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<td>Pam Peterman, PNA Georgia</td>
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<td>Velia Callao, PNANEF</td>
<td>Ted Ray Llasos, PNA ST RGV</td>
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<td>Homer Capiral, PNANT</td>
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<td>Daphne Viray, PNANEF</td>
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<td>Romy De Vera, PNANEF</td>
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<td>Ampy de la Paz, PNAMH</td>
<td>Hedda Gonzales, PNASA</td>
<td>Mona Gnaw, PNANT</td>
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<td>Emy Santos, PNA Gulf Coast</td>
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<td>Cora Timoteo, PNAGF</td>
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<td>Victoria Fabreo, PNA Tampa</td>
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| Liaison Officer: Glo Beriones | Liaison Officer: Riza Mauricio | Liaison Officer: Riza Mauricio | Liaison Officer: Glo Beriones |
Facts Nurses Need to Know About New Legislation
By Madelyn Yu, MSN, RN, Chairperson, PNAA Legislative Committee

The goal of the Legislative committee is awareness of congressional and state agenda on nursing and immigration updates. The committee disseminates information regarding current issues and legislative proposals that directly or indirectly affect the members and the profession. The committee collaborates with other organizations and agencies in addressing and supporting legislation that affect the nursing profession and healthcare. The committee prepares quarterly reports from all four PNAA regions as it pertains to legislations, immigration issues, practice issues and healthcare updates. The committee disseminates information to PNAA Chapters member through available media such as email, websites, E-Balita, etc.

The Legislative Committee is chaired by Madelyn D. Yu and its co-chair is Matilde Upano. Dino Doliente serves as the Executive Board Liaison. The members of the committee are the following: Fred Calixtro- Western Region, Elena De Jesus- North Central Region, Riza Mauricio- South Central Region, and Marley Nicolas- Eastern Region.

The committee has provided the Fact Sheet information to PNAA Chapter Members. Most Filipino nurses come to the USA on a working visa. These visas have expiration dates.

Period of Stay according to the USCIS

As an H-1B nonimmigrant, you may be admitted for a period of up to three years. Your time period may be extended, but generally cannot go beyond a total of six years, though some exceptions do apply under sections 104 (c) and 106(a) of the American Competitiveness in the Twenty-First Century Act (AC21).

Your employer will be liable for the reasonable costs of your return transportation if your employer terminates you before the end of your period of authorized stay. Your employer is not responsible for the costs of your return transportation if you voluntarily resign your position. You must contact the Service Center that approved your petition in writing if you believe that your employer has not complied with this requirement.

When the working visas expire, the nurse must go back to the Philippines; or if electing to stay in the USA, must have applied for and converted to a permanent resident visa, or an immigrant visa (green card) before the working visa expires.

Other options available for nurses with working visas are: F1 student visas, H1B visa see http://www.musillo.com/2009/08/h-1b-for-nurses.html , as one suggestion from North Central Region; or go to the official USCIS website (www.uscis.gov).

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today that it would allow F-1 students who are the beneficiaries of selected H-1B petitions for fiscal year (FY) 2009 to request a change of status in lieu of consular notification. This short-term measure follows an April 8, 2008 interim final rule that, among other actions, automatically extends the F-1 status of qualifying students who are the beneficiaries of approved H-1B petitions to cover the gap between the expiration of a student’s F-1 status and the H-1B employment start date of October 1. To obtain the automatic extension, a student must be the beneficiary of an H-1B petition filed for the next fiscal year (with an October 1 employment start date) and have requested a change of status. For F-1 student beneficiaries of petitions that USCIS subsequently rejects, denies, or revokes, or for those who violate their status, the automatic extension terminates at that time.

Since the rule was published after the filing period had closed for new FY 2009 H-1B petitions, many petitioners of F-1 students did not include a request for a change of status with the H-1B petition. Instead, petitioners requested consular notification based on the assumption that these students would have been required to leave the United States to obtain an H-1B visa at a consular office abroad.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010 (CIR 2010)

Facts Nurses Need to Know (cont’d from previous page)

This is the summary of the legislation from Immigration Impact, Oct 5, 2010:

After two years of repeated attempts to get a bipartisan immigration reform bill in the Senate, Senators Menendez (D-NJ) and Leahy (D-VT) finally said “enough” and introduced the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010 (CIR 2010) last week. Plenty of people have pointed out that the bill was introduced just as Congress left Washington to go into full-time campaign mode, leaving Sens. Menendez and Leahy virtually alone in Washington to promote their new bill. On a conference call Friday, however, Sen. Menendez said he aims at moving the bill during lame duck session or next Congress, but urged advocates and the media to focus on the merits of the bill, rather than the timing. (Other immigration bills passed during lame duck include the LIFE Act and NACARA.)

CIR 2010 doesn’t stray too much from the general framework we have seen since 2006 and builds on much of Sen. Menendez’s own work in the past two years. Analysts are digging away at the details of this massive bill (the official summary alone ran 73 pages) but the outline should be familiar to everyone by now.

The bill is broken into six parts—titles—addressing the major elements of reform: 1) Border security 2) Interior Enforcement 3) Employment Verification 4) Reforming Legal Immigration 5) Legalization of the Undocumented and 6) Integration and Citizenship. It adheres to many of the major principles outlined in the bipartisan REPAIR proposal released by Senators Schumer, Graham, Menendez and others earlier this spring. It incorporates many provisions of past and current legislative proposals that have had bipartisan support in the past—AgJobs, DREAM Act, Strong STANDARDS Act. It also includes provisions long advocated by Senator Grassley (R-IA) on routing out fraud in the immigration system.

CIR 2010 pushes the envelope, too, most notably by including the Uniting American Families Act (UAFA)—a bill which provides equal immigration protection and benefits for permanent partners of LGBTQ U.S. citizens. It includes the creation of a Standing Commission on Immigration which would have the authority to dig deep into the impact of immigration on our economy, national security, and labor markets. The bill also creates a new temporary worker program, but leaves the politically delicate question of how many new workers to the Commission to solve. The Menendez-Leahy bill also offers an extremely generous legalization program, making anyone in the country as of September 30 eligible to apply. Like the Gutierrez-Ortiz bill in the House, it offers a more streamlined approach to legalization than the complicated and bureaucratic approaches that emerged from bipartisan bills in 2006 and 2007. In a nod to the continuing sluggishness of the economy, however, CIR 2010 abandons all pretense of requiring gainful employment during the Lawful Prospective Immigrant phase (the six to 11 year period before someone could qualify to get a green card). That’s not to say that people won’t work—but by eliminating that provision and focusing on the basics—paying taxes, learning English and civics, passing all criminal and background checks—CIR 2010 offers a clear-headed process for getting people registered and moving the country beyond the rhetoric of amnesty.

The PNAA members can support this bill by writing to their congressmen or senators in their own respective states. The PNAA strongly supports the nurses who are here on a working visa and advises them to follow the USCIS rules and regulations governing the status of their visas. It is encouraged that the nurses seek legal advice from immigration lawyers.

The PNAA strongly urges these nurses on working visas not to overstay their working visas, but follow legal ways to convert the visas as advised or look for alternative employers to petition for them or relocate in states that still petition for working visas within the allowed time framework.

Contribute to the PNAA Anthology Book entitled Engage and Make a Difference: How Filipino Nurses Are Making a Difference? Submit your manuscript by January 30, 2011
The mind is a terrible thing to waste,” so the saying goes. She had always believed and battled towards perfection, towards professionalism and community involvement. But just like everything else, she had come to her end. Her passion cascaded. She would go daily to work drifting and having lost her purpose. She felt melancholy for following the same routine for seventeen long years.

Then came an awakening. People with unrelenting passion surrounded her. The energy and enthusiasm that they brought, the welcoming smiles, the warm hugs, her spirits were rekindled and her passion reignited through community involvement. Fate brought her to Colorado for a reason. Time and again, she had reminded herself to bloom where she was planted. Colorado seemed to be a fertile ground. Enveloped with the warm sunshine of her new found friends.

She arrived in Miami, a place new to her. She had no expectations. But she was captured by the wave of untiring, high-spirited people in that one big room. This group of people call themselves NURSES and their gathering is “The 31st PNAA National Convention.” The nurses had their PRISM KING. They were magnanimous. They sang well. They danced well. There nurse were all highly educated, very gifted, and talented. And much to her surprise, she belonged to this group. The scene came alive. The windows were opened widely.

This article is a reflection of my insights. I write this about the organization of which I belong proudly and somehow has been entrusted to me. Attending the PNAA National Convention for the first time was an eye-opener. Beyond the educational offerings, I felt a kinship with the nights that I spent with my roommates as we came to know each other. I got to know the person behind the nurse and our shared stories about caring for our patients as we inform them, “No, sir, you may not get out of bed. It is not safe for you.” I noticed the nurses’ true character in their respective communities, their fears, their triumphs, their ongoing battles, the saga that they have to continue their legacy. My simple joys were rediscovered through my roommates, the dynamic speakers, and the slide presentations. Miami was my new beginning. I strolled and basked in the sunset. And on that Sunday afternoon, I left the convention and returned to Colorado. I accomplished much and gained much confidence in myself. I will not cease to serve and to continue on the path that I had started. I will go against the stream of indifference. I will continue to be engaged and to make a difference just as the current PNAA President Rey Rivera had stated. I recall that when I received by baccalaureate degree someone remarked that I was “special and different and to go and make a difference.”
Why I Became a Nurse
By: Jessica Pasion, RN, PNA Colorado

In my journey to become a nurse, I have heard several assumptions that people have made regarding the reason why I chose this profession. The most popular one that I have heard people say, “Oh, you must have chosen nursing because it’s the Filipino thing to do. Filipinos are so good at it.” In one way, the assumption makes me proud that Filipinos have established a positive reputation as nurses. However, it also has made me think that people assume that I had no choice and that the profession chose me. In my head, I have wondered if people think I am just trying to fit into the stereotype that Asians only choose professions in healthcare or business. While these assumptions, along with others that I have heard, may have had a tiny influence on why the healthcare field caught my eye, the main reason that I was drawn to nursing is passion for taking care of others.

Form the time that I was a little girl, I can remember my first experience that made me realize how much I love caring for others. When my maternal grandmother became ill, I remember a day when she was feeling too weak to perform self care activities. My mother was taking care of her and while I was there, I discovered this newfound admiration for my mom in the way that she knew exactly what to do and how easily she went into “nursing mode.” This was the first time that I saw my mom in action since I had never visited her workplace. I carefully observed the way she cared for my grandmother, and when I felt that I knew how to do some small tasks I tried to jump in and lend a helping hand. When I did this, I remember the look that my grandmother gave me. It was this look of pure gratitude and this look of pride when she saw how I wanted to help. Since then, I have always had a passion to be present for those that need help at the time when they feel most vulnerable.

It is true that there are several other factors that influenced my choice to become a nurse. A few examples would be my need to always learn something new, job stability, and the opportunities that come with the diversity of nursing specialties. The main reason why I chose this profession is my love for being part of a person’s healing process and assuring patients that there is someone to care for them.

This article first appeared in the PNA Colorado Induction Journal.

PNAAF Collaborative Conference - Iloilo City February 2011

The Philippine Nurses Association of America Foundation, Inc.
Philippine Nurses Association Iloilo Chapter and
PRC Iloilo Employees Multipurpose Cooperative

Collaborative Conference

Promoting Health Care Quality Through Leadership and Global Health: Translating Research into Practice Conference

Iloilo Grand Hotel – Iloilo City
February 3 to February 5, 2011

For More Information:
Call 424-209-0642

Or Email:
ledadanao@yahoo.com
bravofox526@yahoo.com
mila.velasquez@yahoo.com
aracelidantonio@aol.com

Approved for
20 contact hours by the California Board of Nursing

CONFERENCE and related FEES

Registration Fee
PNA Member $300
Non-PNA Member $325
Welcome & Gala Night $25/guest
Community & Nurses Night $30/guest

Make Check Payable to:
PNAAF

Mail Check & Completed Form to:
Leda L. Damao
4304 Summertime Lane
Culver City, CA 90230

Visit
www.pnaafoundation.org
Getting Ready for the Embarcadero

On October 17, 2010, a group of PNA-Northern California members and May Mayor conducted an ocular review of the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the Embarcadero, site of the 32nd PNAA National Convention. Function rooms and venues were reviewed. Logistics, food, sponsorships and flow of events were discussed and brainstormed. It promises to be a wonderful convention and San Francisco is a city with so many wonderful things to offer. PNA Northern California is in full throttle as they prepare to welcome delegates and this will be a convention to remember.

Attendees will certainly leave their hearts in San Francisco.

L-R, Cherina Tino, Joseph Mojares, Pete Calixto, Marife Sevilla, May Mayor and Malu Cruz
By: Dino Doliente III, MBA, BSN, RN
PNAA Board Member & Co-Chair Ways & Means Committee, 2010 – 2012

Miami, Florida - It was still dark at the break of dawn on June 26, 2010. All participants got up early and convened at South Bayfront Park for the 3rd PNAA and PNAAF Wellness Challenge.

There was a soft hush as the runners waited for the gunshot to mark the start of the 5K Walk/Run Wellness Challenge. One could sense their feet padding on the spot in eager anticipation. At the first mile, runners jostled for space as shoulders bumped. The weather was hot and humid, but thankfully, the runners were cheered by volunteers offering them water. Before the runners realized it, they were at the home stretch. This year’s winners are the following:

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<th>Running Category</th>
<th>Walking Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place – Yturri Camara (SCR)</td>
<td>1st Place – Noli Dimaano (ER)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place – Amie Valera (NCR)</td>
<td>2nd Place – Lourdes Nisperos (WR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place – Nicole Desnaves (SCR)</td>
<td>3rd Place – Elvie Leone (NCR)</td>
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Through the persevering leadership of power couple, Ernie and Beth Rosas, the Ways and Means Committee and the Circle of Presidents, the four regions and PNAAF worked together in achieving an impressive total of $43,609. After all, raising fund was the ultimate goal of the Wellness Challenge. The Eastern Region received the much-coveted Rosas Cup by leading the pack in achieving 111% ($9,975) of its goal, followed by PNAAF with 77% ($10,815), the Western Region with 76% ($6,859), the South Central Region with 68% ($6,140), and the North Central Region with 55% ($4,920).

This year’s Wellness Challenge was graced by the presence of a celebrity runner. The Third Secretary and Vice Consul of the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C., Robert E.A. Borje, traveled to Miami and enthusiastically led the Wellness Challenge.

The current Ways and Means Committee 2010 – 2012 wasted no time to rest on its laurels. The committee is now planning the 4th PNAA and PNAAF Wellness Challenge, which will be held San Francisco, California on July 2011.

Get those running shoes and purses ready. Let the games begin!
Wilhelmina (Willie) Manzano embodies the ultimate success story of a Filipina nurse who succeeded in the higher echelons of healthcare management and leadership. Becoming the Chief Nursing Officer for the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Health Care System is an achievement worthy of accolades from all her nursing colleagues, and we of the Filipino nursing community, are especially proud! By every standard, her achievement is extraordinary. Her ascension to CNO of the largest healthcare system in New York City remains an awesome accomplishment. As such, her responsibilities are tremendous, with the hospital system spanning across five sites – Columbia University Medical Center, Weill Cornell Medical Center, Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital and Sloane Hospital for Women, Allen Hospital, and Payne Whitney Westchester – and ranking as the highest rated hospital system in New York City, according to U.S. News and World Report. E-Balita is honored to feature Willie Manzano, nurse extraordinaire and PNA-NY member! PNAA recognizes her past and present accomplishments, and had a rare chance to catch up with her for this personal interview.

It was a nice Friday evening in August at Buddakan, a popular restaurant in the Meatpacking district of Manhattan. The atmosphere was bustling and energetic, literally pulsating with people and the rhythms of life. It was in this setting, over a menu of pot stickers, edamame dumplings, braised short ribs, black cod, and ginger crème brulee, that I had the privilege to interview Willie Manzano, and to explore what makes her tick. Our dinner was surprisingly relaxed, despite her busy schedule and immense responsibilities. We had ample time to discuss her passions beyond nursing and see her outside of her executive role.

We spoke at first about her professional responsibilities, but our conversation became more personal as our fine meal progressed. Her eyes lit up and there was a joyous lilt in her voice when she spoke about a musical band she sings with. I was surprised to learn that she sings in a rock-n-roll band comprised of all NYP staff that performs at famous Manhattan venues such as the Bitter End! Singing has always been her passion; in fact, she sang “Through the Eyes of Love” at her friend’s wedding and has performed impromptu at many social events and gatherings. Her participation in the NYP band about two years ago was serendipitous, beginning when she overheard that an "NYP band" was performing. She jokingly inquired why was she not being asked to sing. That innocent inquiry precipitated a string of e-mail correspondence, ultimately ending with her joining the band as vocalist. Everyone was surprised and thrilled to see this side of Willie Manzano, whose previous identity was strictly as the CNO of NewYork- Presbyterian Hospital, and who oversaw about 4,700 nurses. But this is the essence of Willie Manzano; while her role as CNO would consume most people, she takes time to realize her potential across all aspects of her life. She is the ultimate role model for us all!

Beyond music, Willie Manzano embraces another of life's pleasures with similar passion: food and dining. Harking on her Filipino “foodie” roots, she loves kare-kare, pinakbet, (and yes, her mother is Ilocano, so there is that side of her that loves all Ilocano, apritada, dinuguan, and biko), to name a few of her favorite Filipino gourmet degustations. She also loves to cook and bake, but with her immense responsibilities as CNO can only dabble as "chef" occasionally. However, when she needs an outlet or cannot sleep, she has been known to bake chocolate chip cookies for the administrative staff! Clearly, Willie Manzano is not your typical CNO.

Born to parents with healthcare backgrounds (father was a doctor and mother is a nurse), Willie Manzano was exposed early on to the medical field. She considered becoming a doctor but ultimately opted for nursing as the profession in which she would make her mark.

I asked about her career trajectory and what led her to where she is now. To Willie Manzano, it was having the passion and the drive to do what you love, embracing hard work, a commitment to excellence, passion for knowledge, and simply doing your homework. To me, it was clear that her success was a product of her hard work throughout her career trajectory. Her story is familiar to most of us, but her success most extraordinary.

Willie Manzano migrated to the United States at age 17. Following graduation from New York University with a BSN degree, her professional nursing career has been a dynamic process, moving from one hospital to the next, each step of the way ascending the nursing ranks. She started out as newbie nurse at Beth Israel Hospital on a medical-surgical floor, and shortly moved to the Operating Room – her main interest at the time. She left the OR to return to the nursing floors and took on her first supervisory role on a medical rehabilitation unit. Along her subsequent journey, she worked at Mount Sinai Medical Center, Lawrence Hospital in Westchester, then back to
Willie Manzano (cont’d from previous page)

Mount Sinai, assuming various leadership roles and responsibilities, and was ultimately recruited to join New York Presbyterian Hospital.

She overcame many challenges along the way, gaining the notice of the higher echelons of management. In 2005, Willie Manzano was named by Dr. Herbert Pardes, NYP President and CEO, as Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. In this interviewer’s opinion, Willie's innate intelligence, people know-how, and her knowledge, skills and abilities in navigating a complex and complicated health care system made her success truly possible, if not inevitable.

In this era of health care reform, Willie Manzano is busy juggling her hospital's many challenges and priorities, such as strengthening and enhancing the role of nurses in patient care, patient quality and safety, enhancing nursing practice, workforce recruitment and retention, leadership and staff development, and contributing to a healthy hospital bottom line. She emphasizes teamwork, human relations, "crucial conversations," and the reality that nurses play a key role in the health care team, with nursing as the core of the bedside strategy. She supports her nurses to be critical thinkers, nimble of feet and mind, and able to function optimally in high-performance organizations such as NYP, the number one hospital in New York and ranked number 6 in the nation!

NYP is an employer of choice in the greater New York region. It has a very strong reputation and is a beacon for new graduate nurses and experienced nurses alike who want to be part of a winning team. They have anywhere from 275 to 400 new graduate nurses on their employment wait list. Willie's nurses tend to stay at NYP and are happy and engaged as indicated by NYP's excellent retention and recruitment statistics. All this is due in part to strategies she and her team have put in place to recruit and retain talent. Examples are the Nurse Residency Program, the NYU/Wagner graduate program, onsite certification reviews, the Hunter BSN program, and many other continuing education programs. There are also a variety of awards and recognition programs for nurses who consistently excel in their areas of clinical practice.

During dessert, we touched upon the dilemma of Filipino nurses in the Philippines, their frequent desire to come here to the U.S. and this country's present economic challenges. The nursing shortage has its ebbs and flows, and we agreed that we just have to navigate the situation and be able to respond nimbly. We both agreed that the situation depends upon many factors: immigration reform, politics, labor lobbies, the current Obama administration initiatives, Congress, and a maze of complex issues. It is clear that Willie Manzano is mindful of these many factors, and sees the larger picture for the benefit of her organization.

Willie Manzano has been supportive of PNA-New York activities, and in fact sponsored a Christmas fellowship gathering of PNA-NY and NYP nurses during the term of Mary Joy Garcia-Dia in 2006-2008. She has also spoken at the Eastern Regional Conference in October 2005 at the New York Hilton, as well as at the 5th International PNAA Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii in January 2006. PNAA is proud of Willie Manzano and her accomplishments! She has a glowing nursing career, and has attained a position of great prominence in health care, if not the business world in general; she is accomplished, actualized and successful, and a role model for all nurses! Kudos and applause!

Mabuhay ka, Willie!

Willie Manzano and the NYP Band
PNAA Builds a Village and Makes a Difference in the Philippines

By: Gilda Lauchli, RN BSN, Board Member, PNA Indiana, PNAA GK Project Coordinator

PNAA’s support of the Gawad Kalinga has yielded success. Gawad Kalinga Community Development Foundation, is a Philippine-based poverty reduction and nation-building movement which has now become global in scope.

Since the Groundbreaking of the PNAA Gawad Kalinga Village on January 4, 2010 in Piel Bulacan, many positive developments have occurred. There are several phases to the PNAA Gawad Kalinga project. The first phase was the ten homes that have been completed and were awarded to the first ten recipients last July 21, 2010. The GK recipients (Kapitbahayan) were strictly screened by the Philippine GK Team and Caretakers. The recipients were required to attend several seminars given by the caretakers in order to qualify for a home. As part of their commitment, they have accepted the responsibility to build their own homes (sweat equity), and help their neighbors build theirs. Self improvement in all levels is an integral part of the recipients’ transformation as a foundation for a self-sustaining and productive community.

The following PNAA chapters and donors were the first ten who donated $2,300 towards one GK house: PNA Illinois, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fitzgerald c/o PNA-Indiana, PNAGC-Florida, PNA Metropolitan DC, PNA-OHIO, PNA-Maryland, PNA North Carolina, PNA South Carolina, Tess Occulto and Ramon Sumicbay c/o PNA-Hawaii, Eddie and Merlita Velasquez c/o PNA-Metro-Houston.

The second phase is the next 10 homes which are under way and many new proposals have given PNAA GK Committee much to celebrate. The development site will only accommodate 50 homes to provide enough space to accommodate other structures for the prosperity of the village. There will be a multi-purpose village community center, which could serve as a school, library, clinic and/or chapel. The center may also hold various activities such religious services, adult education, feeding center, health screenings and mini medical missions.

The site has been qualified by Meralco for a Meralco Sibol School, pre-school, which entitles the recipients for aid and installation of electricity. The Meralco program grants participants with a complete package of books, toys, equipment and skills training for teachers and community members. There are plans to implement “Bayananihan”, the GK Food Sufficiency program in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture to teach the “Kapitbahayan” how to become more self-sufficient by producing their own food to augment their needs, such as cultivating vegetable and fruit gardens, poultry raising and production of Philippine crafts and products. PNAA GK Village site is located near a working irrigation system, which provides the possibility for aqua-agriculture.

The second phase includes the next 10 GK houses that were funded by PNAST Rio Grande Valley, PNA Greater St. Louis, PNA Virginia, PNA Indiana, YFC Colorado, PNA Wisconsin, PNA NY, PNA Nevada, PNA New Jersey and PNAA Hawaii. Since the last Annual PNAA Convention in Miami, more donations and support were forthcoming towards this GK project, which will be allotted towards the third phase. The donors for the third phase are Nancy Dimaano c/o PNA-Virginia, Leonila Mariazeta and family c/o PNA-New York, PNA- Greater Kansa City, PNA Colorado and PNA Delaware Valley.

If you are interested in supporting the PNAA GK Village, please contact Tita Ravi, the GK / GKal Liaison officer at (727)455-0224.

One house that was already built on the site before the PNAA GK groundbreaking was donated by the Local Government Unit (LGU). Improvements on this unit will be undertaken by the LGU so that it will become a “model” unit. This will provide the recipients ideas on what they could do to improve their homes. Any future improvement to the units is the responsibility of the recipients. Some members of the PNAA GK Committee have been instrumental in making sure that each house is built with a “loft” so that additional space could be added later. We hope to complete the three phases in the building of the PNAA GK Village by 2011.

The PNAA GK Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the chapters and all the individual donors who made this dream possible. With your continued support we hope to build a “Model GK Village”. Once the village is completed, it will provide a perfect stage for the implementation of Gawad Kalusugan and its many programs. The village also has great potential for future research in health and other socio-economic issues affecting the poorer segment of our society. Moreover, PNAA can be proud of its contribution in providing a holistic outreach to aid the poor and to end poverty.
PNAA Builds a Village  (cont’d from previous page)

Groundbreaking Ceremony
January 4, 2010 Freda Azardon, Gel Awad, Doy Campos, Nitz de la Cruz, Dino Doliente, Erna Gutierrez, Leo Jurado, Nini Jurado, Gilda Lauchli, Fred Luyun, Leonnie Mariazeta, Sol Montilla, Vicky Navarro, Sonia Neumeier, Luz Newell, Evelyn Parangalan, Jenny Aying, Tita Ravi, Beth Rosas, Myrna Santos, Sehnie Talisayon, Merlita Velasquez, Madelyn Yu

PNAA Delegates and GK Recipients
PNA North Carolina Celebrates 10th Anniversary
By: Helen Grinstead, BSN, RN - PNA North Carolina

PNA-NC celebrated its 10th Anniversary and Florence Nightingale Centennial Dinner-Dance at the Croasdaila Country Club, Durham, NC on June 18, 2010 honoring the founders Gabby Sapalaran, Monette Mabolo, Nora Tapales, Linda Zaballero, Helen Grinstead, Angie Kabigtin, Reggie Horwitz, Rusty Aujero, and Emily Hill. PNA-NC also crowned its Little Miss Nightingale 2010. The recipients were Miss Community Outreach Siera Garret escorted by her father, Miss Scholarship Dianne Celemen escorted by her father, Miss Education Leila Peries escorted by her father, and Little Miss Nightingale Lia Grinstead escorted by her uncle.

On September 18, 2010, PNA-NC was one of the coalition partners of Asian Focus at the Asian Health Fair, Brier Creek Community Center, Raleigh, NC Officers, members & volunteers checked blood pressures & analyzed body metabolism intake. Cristina Hendrix gave a talk on Health in Aging. Teenage children of volunteers were helpers.
13th Annual PNAA Eastern Regional Conference a Huge Success

By: Fe Nieves Khouw MSN, RN - PNA Maryland

It was noon on October 8, 2010 and Ferdie Luyun, PNA Pennsylvania (PNAPA) president was warmly greeting and welcoming Leadership Institute attendees to the Crowne Plaza. The PNAPA team was busy checking in participants, giving out nametags and materials for the Leadership Institute. Thus began the thirteenth annual Eastern Region Conference hosted by the Pennsylvania chapter of PNAA.

Approximately 40 presidents, president-elects and other leader protégés attended the Leadership Institute designed to hone participant’s expertise on leading an ethnic based professional organization such as the PNAA. Perry Francisco, Chair of PNAA Education Committee moderated the afternoon’s activities.

PNAA President Rey Rivera presented to this leadership group the theme for his presidency: “Engage and Make a difference”. Rey explained that PNAA leadership provides the foundation for engagement, which supports five pillars, or areas for engagement. These are membership engagement, practice development, community partnership, finance, and operational strength. In describing this conceptual framework, Rey provided the avenues for engagement that Institute attendees could follow as a roadmap.

The Leadership Institute also touched on important topics that imparted needed information and skills for Eastern Region presidents and president-elects to lead. Atty. Letty Hermosa did an excellent presentation on fiduciary engagement. My head was spinning from this new information but as president-elect, I came away convinced that I needed to know and be very familiar with the information she presented. Dina Krenzischek gave a dynamic presentation on tools for communication and engagement and Perry Francisco introduced us to outcomes measurement. I was proud to be given the opportunity to share stories and lessons learned from Maryland about language diversity and speaking Tagalog or one’s native dialect in the workplace. Our language is part of our identity but speaking it in the workplace in the midst of non-tagalog speaking peers and patients present specific risks to colleagueship, teamwork, patient care and ultimately the security of our jobs.

Forty-four evaluation sheets were submitted by participants. Ninety-eight per cent strongly agreed that the leadership institute was well organized and presentations were relevant. All participants strongly agreed that speakers were knowledgeable content experts and presented their content using strategies consistent with objectives.

The three Ts can describe the evening’s networking night. Traffic, Tasty food and Talent. The Ocean City Chinese restaurant could not be that far from the Crowne Plaza. Nevertheless, with rush hour traffic, it seemed we would never get there. It was bumper-to-bumper most of the 45 minute travel to see Ferdie, once again, ever the good host standing atop the stairs to wave everyone in.

Oh but was the 45-minute trafficky travel time so worth it! The food was good and the entertainment even better. Who knew that Whitney Houston has an advance practice nursing degree, the chair of PNAA Advance Nursing Practice Committee and an executive board member of the PNAA? Moreover, that she changed her name to Jenny Aying. Jenny brought down the house with her rendition of “I will always love you” which received a standing ovation from her audience. Hilarious were the backup up performers from New York, all dressed up in Halloween costumes and ready to perform behind each of their two entries to the Karaoke contest. North Carolina would not be outdone. They had back up performers too! President Rey Rivera and immediate PNAA president Leo Jurado got up and joined the fun. It is unclear whether they sang voluntarily or there was some arm-twisting that went on. It is anybody’s guess.

Networking night was what networking nights ought to be - hilarious, down-home fun, and so warm. Its simplicity may have given us all a chance not only to know and connect with each other but also to connect with the thing Filipinos most enjoy – singing and line dancing.

The Education Day titled Nurses Engagement: Making a Difference in Administration, Education, Research and Practice was the next day, Saturday, October 9, 2010. Dean Afaf Meleis PhD, FAAN addressed approximately 100 members of PNAA. Dean’s Meleis’ keynote was titled “Making a Difference: Identity, Engagement, Voice.” She spoke to the audience from the perspective of a nurse, an immigrant, researcher, theorist, mentor and dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania. As an immigrant, Dean Meleis gave voice to our own immi-
grant experiences. We could relate to examples she described. As a scholar, we were inspired by her example, her courage to speak to the slight and often ignored injustices immigrants and foreigners routinely face. She exhorted us to play a vital role in influencing healthcare policies because healthcare reform is synergistic with nursing leadership. The day got started on a very strong note!

Clinical presentations were made by Dr. Herbert Patrick on pulmonary hypertension and Ms. Suzanne Tirado, surgical nurse practitioner on robotic surgery. Let’s Fly like Geese was a dynamic and realistic presentation on mentoring presented by Lorraine Micheletti, nurse manager of an ICU, CCU and telemetry units. It was clear that Lorraine lived the concepts and characteristics of mentoring she shared. Her content was a mix of concepts and real live examples that she delivered with candor and much humor. She made mentoring come alive and she took us on that journey with her. We learned a lot, laughed a lot, and left her lecture with lingering motivation to live up to the guidelines she provided. We will all treat our next mentee better because her voice will live on inside our heads. Dr. Vicki Lachman from Drexel University closed the education day with a presentation on Power and Politics. Dr. Lachman defined politics as the “ability to influence”, power as the ability to “make things happen” and power politics as the “ability to make things happen the way you want them to happen”. The lesson? Our goal is to combine politics and power so that we can engage and influence not only our current environment but also our future as nurses and as immigrants to this country.

The Gala night capped this wonderful conference experience. It was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Vicky Navarro who was selected MVP of the year. There was a touching slide presentation representing each of the eastern region chapters and their message to Vicky as well as the funniest roast of Vicky by Alice Andam, president of PNA, metro DC.

We never forget the source of our blessing; and in this vein, the conference was closed with a mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Patrick McStravog, OSA on Sunday. The mass was attended by about eighty PNAA members before they made their way home.

Congratulations to Ferdie Luyun, Ruth Luyun, Marylou Arocena, Lorileen Bautista, Eastern Region Vice President Susan Castor, Education Chair Perry Francisco and the planners of the 13th Annual Eastern Region Conference for a job well done. Feedback after the conference was consistently along the lines of simple but enjoyable, well-balanced presentations, simple but warm. This conference was, in fact, somewhat different from ones I have attended. People were excited to see each other, were thrilled to put a face to a name.

Yes, it was simple, elegant, and elegant in its simplicity. Thank you, Pennsylvania.

Members of the PNA Eastern Region flanked by Felix Jurado and Rey Rivera
Filipino Cancer Network of America
Second Annual Celebration of Life Health Fair and Picnic

By: Cherry Sloan Medrano, RN - PNA Metro Houston

The Filipino Cancer Network of America - Metropolitan Houston is a community outreach program of the Philippine Nurses Association of Metropolitan Houston. The group held its second annual Celebration of Life Health Fair and Picnic on Saturday, October 23, 2010 from 9:00AM- 4:00PM at Kitty Hollow Park in Missouri City, Texas.

It was a beautiful, bright and sunny, and breezy day last Saturday as we set foot on the familiar cabana’s wooden floor by a lotus laden mini lake. We were so excited to host this annual event to honor all the Filipino Cancer survivors and their caregivers in Metro Houston. This was the second time that we held this health fair and we made sure that the word got around. We advertised it in the local papers and flyers were flying all over work stations, offices and hospitals. We were determined to make this one another success. We even invited our Spiritual Adviser, Fr. Salen to do the anointing of the Survivors, bless our food and finally pray for all the survivors and those who have gone before us because of Cancer.

UT MD Anderson Public Education was invited to set up a booth, and there at the health, fair and as an Ambassador for MDACC, I laid out brochures and other informative literature on Cancer and Cancer Prevention. There were also giveaways from MDACC for all to take home. The Anti-Smoking Puppeteer was also there with huge anti-smoking puppets that were hits with all the kids who attended the fair. The Anti-smoking booth was manned by Puscilla Ip, an Oncology nurse and MDACC volunteer. Tony Fernandez represented Garden Terrace and the Vosswood facilities. He had a nice table display on their facilities with lots of information about assisted living, long term care, and hospice care. He also had some giveaways for all to enjoy. Last but not least, the Philippine Nurses Association of Metro Houston lead by Vangie Masalta, APN, Community Outreach Chair and Board Member was very busy taking blood pressure and glucose readings of attendees. They did not have a dull moment as there was another picnic by the Ilocano Association going on at the neighboring cabana and the members there were invited to go to the FCNA-MH booth to participate in the screenings. All told, all the PNAMH volunteers were kept busy by the constant flow of people taking advantage of the free screenings. The volunteer nurses also took the opportunity to provide health education when they found abnormal readings, advising the persons to seek medical attention and follow-up for abnormally high blood pressure and/or glucose. Vic Ramos, one of our Cancer Survivors, and member of our support group was there too with his elaborate poster display of the Aboitiz Cancer Center in Cebu City, Philippines. He was promoting our “Vitamins for Life” project which he spearheaded with FCNA-MH to benefit the center. He will be shipping vitamins and dietary supplements quarterly to Cebu as one of his endeavors to help the Filipinos, especially in Cebu. The PNAMH and FCNA-MH members were encouraged to bring their vitamin donations and some did bring them at the last fall seminar and then again to the health fair. Vic was extremely happy with the response and hopes that we will expand this project to other parts of the Philippines in the future.

With a good number of attendees present around 11:00 AM, Fr. Salen asked everyone to gather all the Cancer survivors around the table, and performed the “laying of hands” with the rest of the people surrounding them, praying and anointing the Cancer survivors present. It was very special ceremony, particularly to the survi-
vors and their families. Then we all prayed for all relatives and friends who have gone before us because of cancer. The survivors’ names were written on red Mallard star-shaped balloons and those of the expired on white star-shaped Mallard balloons. Then everyone was given a balloon to release to the heavens as we looked up above the tree line, prayed, and remembered our loved ones. Some present at the health fair cried quietly as they released their balloons. It was another touching ritual that we repeated from last year. Fr. Salen then blessed the food and it was “chow time.” We had a good time spending time together and bonding on such a beautiful day at such a heart-warming event. We all went home with full stomachs and hearts filled with the joy of knowing that we have each other, that we are not alone, and that we will support each other no matter what. Everyone present there knew after the health fair that the Filipino Cancer Network of Metro Houston is here for all Filipinos afflicted with and affected by Cancer: that together....we care!!!
President Benigno S. Aquino, III Visits New York

His Excellency President Benigno S. “Noynoy” Aquino III visited New York from September 21 to September 24. He was in New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly. This was his first foreign trip since becoming president. The highlight of his trip was a town hall meeting at Baruch College of the City University of New York on Thursday, September 23 with the Filipino-American community of the northeast. A group of nurses from PNANY and PNANJ represented PNAA including with PNAA President Rey Rivera.

President Aquino spoke for about 30 minutes to the enthusiastic Filipino-American crowd in Tagalog. The highlight of his speech was about the commitment of Filipinos in the United States to their motherland. He encouraged US Filipinos to continue helping their brethren in the Philippines. He spoke about discussing Medicare coverage for retiring Filipinos in the Philippines with President Obama. Overall, he was warmly greeted with loud applause and laughter. During this trip to New York, he signed an agreement with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) for funding of $434 million. The government will use this funding for poverty reduction, revenue generation and infrastructure development.
Photos
PNAA Eastern Regional Conference
Photos

South Central Region—PNA Metro Houston Seminar Education Day, October 16, 2010

5K Run/Walk - Miami, FL
Palakpakan Corner

Dino Doliente, RN of PNA Maryland was one of the recipients of the 20 Outstanding Filipinos Abroad. Members of the PNA MD, KATIPUNAN MD and his family were present to witness the event. The award is given to those in recognition of their inspirational, dynamic and positive Global Filipino Image.

Leonida Lacdao, RN of PNA New York is the President-elect of the New York Chapter of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

May Mayor, RN of PNA New York was highlighted in Nurses Advance as she retired from the Veterans Administration after 27 years of service. During that time she held various leadership positions, including director of quality and special assistant to the hospital director.

Grace Diaz-Font, MS, RN - Immediate Past President of PNA Metropolitan Houston from West Houston Medical Center and Amelia Pacardo, RN - Member of PNA Metropolitan Houston from St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital are the two recipients among the 20 Outstanding Texas Nurses Association District 9, both will be honored on Nov. 18, 2010.

Beatriz F. Miranda, RN, MSN, FAAN was recognized as one of the Lifetime Achievement Finalist for the Tampa Business Journal 2010 Healthcare Heroes. She has been past President of the PNAA and PNANJ. This is a prestigious award given to individuals and organizations who have contributed significant impact on the quality of healthcare in their community. At the opening of the event, the masters of ceremony announced, “You are here tonight not only because you are finalists but because you are all winners.” Ms. Miranda is a retired nurse from the Department of Veterans New Jersey Healthcare Systems in 2003. Her 19 years service at the VA Healthcare Systems included employment at Bay Pines VA where she coordinated the staffing methodology and acted as liaison between nursing and human resource. She worked in Saginaw, Michigan where she directed and supervised the nursing education and community education consortium program. At the New Jersey Healthcare Systems, Lyons, New Jersey her roles included managing a 38 Medical Rehab, Geriatric evaluation and 60 Bed Dementia Program. She has served 44 years of nursing practice in diverse clinical, teaching and administrative positions not only at the VA but other healthcare facilities. Through her continued community involvement after her retirement, she brings inspiration to those who work with her. She has been past president for the PNA of New Jersey and the Philippine Nurses of America and had been a strong advocate and supporter of human rights. At 73, she remains a stellar leader and mentor to the PNA of Gulf Coast Florida Inc. where she serves as advisor and chairperson for the Scholarship and C.A.R.E. Awards committee.

Sandy Lalata, BSN, RN - President PNA Texas Cameron County, Inc. passed the Academy of Medical Surgical Certification Exam.

Gloria Lamela, MSN, RN - PNAA SCR Vice President and PNA Metro Houston Past President/Advisory Council passed the ANCC Nurse Executive, Advanced Certification Exam.

Susan Castor, RN Regional VP Eastern Region was recognized by the Awards Committee of the Organization of Nurse Executives/New Jersey as the recipient of the Professional Recognition Awards. The ONE/NJ Professional Recognition Award is presented to an ONE/NJ member who demonstrates nursing leadership through a professional achievement or accomplishment that has made a significant impact on nursing. The award will be presented on Friday, December 3 at the ONE/NJ Holiday Meeting and Awards Brunch at Forsgate Country Club in Monroe, NJ.

PNA Northern California was chosen as one of the six finalists of the Gawad Geny Lopez, Jr. Bayaning Pilipino 2010 that were recently honored at the Studio TFC at the ABS-CBN corporate office in Redwood Shore, California.

Rizza Ditchella and Salve Cornilles of PNA Arizona passed the Academy of Medical Surgical Certification (CMSRN).
Palakpakan Corner

Beth Rose, PNAA WR Vice President and PNA Arizona Founder/Founding President, Advisory Council passed the Certification for Home Care Administrator Exam (CHCA). She was also elected as the 2010-2012 Secretary of the Arizona Association for Home Care. She is the first and only Filipino nurse who holds an Executive Board position in the Home Care Association in Arizona.

Grace Armada, Grace Ibe, Bea Chaves, Jay Maningo Salinas, and Erlinda Singarajah of PNA Arizona are the Global Caring Forces of Change honorees among the 28 Nursing Leaders, Nursing Mentors and Global Health volunteers statewide because of their significant contributions in shaping the future of nursing and global health. This event is hosted by the Global Caring Nurses Foundation as collaborative partnership with the Philippine Nurses Association of Arizona, Arizona Nurses Association, Chapter 30 East Valley, National Association of Hispanic Nurses, and Transcultural Nursing Society of Arizona. The major sponsors of the event are the Arizona Nurses Association, Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation, and the Grand Canyon University College of Nursing.

PNA Arizona, Research Committee is the recipient of the 2010 Community Outreach Grant from the Global Caring Nurses Foundation. The $500 grant will be used as a seed money of the Research Committee in "Assessment of the Health and Quality of Life among Filipinos and Filipino-Americans in Arizona."

Jay Maningo-Salinas, PNA Arizona Recording Secretary, has completed her PhD in Human Service Administration from Capella University.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Be Healthy

Do you have a story to share with other PNAA Members? Submit your story to EbalitaEditor@gmail.com by December 10, 2010. All articles are subject to review prior to publication.
Calendar of Events

Upcoming Induction Events

November 7, 2010
PNA New Hampshire

November 13, 2010
PNA Virginia

December 18, 2010
PNA Maryland

Educational Seminars

PNA Illinois, Inc. in cooperation with UP Nursing Alumni Association of the Midwest
Speaker: Sharon Canariato, RN, MSN, MBA
Deputy Executive Director, Illinois Nurses Association

Saturday, November 20, 2010
9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Lateral Violence Bullying in the Workplace
SMEMC-St. Elizabeth Campus
1431 North Claremont Ave
10th Floor, Paisley Conference Room
Chicago, IL 60622

Saturday, December 18, 2010
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Delegation in Nursing
Norwegian American Hospital Auditorium
1044 North Francisco Avenue
Chicago, IL 60622
Contact: 773-292-6200

For both programs:
Registration Fee:
$30.00 Members, Non Members
Payable to PNAI

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Board Member
Antonio Jayoma, RN

Board Member
Iluminada Jurado, RN

Board Member
Madelyn Yu, RN

COP 2010-2011

Western
Fred Calixto, RN

Eastern
Marley Nicolas, RN

North Central
Elena deJesus, RN

South Central
Riza Mauricio, RN

Executive Director
Rosario-May P. Mayor, RN
Parliamentarian and Legal Counsel
Leticia Hermosa, RN

Regional Conferences

March 25, 26 and 27, 2011
Host Chapter:
PNA Cameron County Texas
South Central Regional Conference
Holiday Inn, Brownsville, TX
Regional VP Contact: GBeriones@comcast.net

April 29, 30 and May 1, 2011
Host Chapter:
PNA Greater St. Louis
PNA North Central Regional Conference
Hotel Lumière, St. Louis, MO
Regional VP Contact: BethBRosas@gmail.com

November 4, 5 and 6, 2011
Host Chapter: PNA North Carolina
PNA Eastern Regional Conference
Biltmore Inn, Asheville, NC