

NEWSLETTER OF THE KALAYAAN CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Volume 1 No. 3

September 2009

Kaganapan!

THE SUMMER THAT WAS HOT!

By: Ching Quejas

Summer 2009 is over. Many say it was a summer like no other, a summer that was not! It was rainy, cold and windy except for a few weeks towards the end of the season. Many complained that they did not enjoy this year's summer, it was a washout, and their activities were limited.

But at the KCCC, summer 2009 was hot! We held several major activities including the *Special Children's Fashion Show, Hawaiian Night, Walkathon, Golf Classic and Medical Fair*, all in fine weather. We achieved what we aimed to do! *Kaganapan!*

Summer 2009 is also the time we succeeded in transferring our mortgage to a lender (TD Canada Trust) with a much lower rate of interest, from 9.5 % to 4%, releasing us from the hardship of high interest. It was also during this season that we launched our Donation by EFT Program which we hope will help KCCC pay up its mortgage debt once the community catches on with the benefits of this system of giving. Thanks to our energetic VP for Programs Administration, Edgar Frondoza, for taking charge of negotiating for these on behalf of the board.

We had our hands full with activities and the weather did not matter. We just went on with our schedule of activities, thanks to our energetic and dedicated volunteers led by our hardworking Coordinator, Karyn Milne. We salute them all for their serious involvement in the affairs of the organization. Without them, we could not really do much. These volunteers are the backbone of the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre. And we are grateful to

(Continued on page 4)

KCCC 2009 GOLF CLASSIC

By: Karyn Milne

Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre (KCCC) held its Annual Classic Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 29, 2009 at Royal Ontario Golf Club in Milton. 90 players came out to take part in this annual



Greg Santiago carefully eyes a birdie putt on his way to Low Gross Champion in the KCCC 2009 Golf Classic.

(Continued on page 2)

Typhoon ONDOY Operation Tulong Bayan!

On September 26, 2009, Typhoon Ondoy (Ketsana) brought heavy rains to Metro Manila and nearby areas, causing severe flooding which resulted in the loss of over 250 lives and the displacement of hundreds of thou-



Helping hands raise a young boy to safety from the flooded street.

sands of people. This is the worst flooding in Metro Manila in over 4 decades.

KCCC is organizing a fund-raising drive to help the victims of typhoon Ondoy. A previously planned Jamming Session scheduled for Friday, October 9, 2009 has been converted to a fund raising benefit dance. KCCC will also be accepting money, nonperishable food, clothing, medicine and other necessities for the victims.

Contact KCCC at 905-602-0923 or coordinator.kccc@bellnet.ca to find out how you can help.

- § -

Ang Pinoy nga Naman

Ni: **Tito I. Adona**

Volunteer Language Instructor



Ang mga Pinoy ay p u e d e n g mawala sa Pilipinas pero ang Pilipinas ay kailanman hindi mawawala sa p u s o a t

kaugalian ng mga Pinoy kahit saan at kailanman. Gustong kong tukuyin dito ay ang mga kaugaliang Pinoy na dala na natin dito sa Hilagang Amerika (North America) ang mga Fil-Canadians na anak natin ang mga nakakapansin. Para maging ka aya-aya at nakatutuwa ang aking sulatin na ito, sisimulaan at itutulad ko ito sa isang awiting Pinoy na pinasikat ng isang grupo na kilalang Asin nuong dekada 80's na nagsasaad na, Wala ka bang napapansin.....at iyan ang aking magiging usapin sa lathala ngayon.

Sa mga pagtitipon o handaan (Filipino Party) kapansin pansin ang mga sumusunod, kayo na ang humusga tama o mali (nagkakatuwaan lang po tayo sa lathalang ito):

Halos isang oras na huli sa handaan pagdating sa pupuntahan ala pang mga bisista! Kapag huli ka naman dumating, pag pasok mo sa pinto, santambak na sapatos ang bubungad at halos wala ka ng madadaanan!

Sangatutak ang mga handa, sapat na kainin ng isang barangay! Pag pasok mo sa bahay at makikita mo and isang malaking kutsara at tinidor na nakasabit sa dingding, mayroong litatro ng "Last Supper" o di kaya ang Baguio barrel man! Mayroon handang lechon sa hapag, pero wala ng balat, maliban sa ulo, na itatabi ng may-ari ng bahay para ipaksiw kinabukasan!

Para sa mga Ilocanong bisita, mayroon kilawen kambing at pinapaitan! Hindi ka naligaw at tama ang bahay na yung pinuntahan lalo na

kapag merong karaoke at mayroong kumakanta ng "My Way"! Halos karamihan mayroong sariling magic mic na may kanya-kanyang kanta!

Parang dinaanan ng bagyo ang piniritong lumpia! Tiyak na mayroon kang makikitang ketchup (jufran), patis, at bagoong sa mesa! Laging mayroong nakabantay sa kusina, hindi mo alam kung katulong o kamag-anak na tagahugas ng plato! Kahit anong pilit na kumakain ka ulit dahil sa busog ka na, sigurado pagkatapos ng kainan, mayroon pang baon pauwi o "take home" na nakalagay sa Tupperware!

Kapag mayroon hawak na camera at sisigaw na mag kodakan tayo! Mayroon kang maririnig na bati na galing sa isang matandang tiya na ang pangalan ay Tita Baby o di kaya isang matandang tiyo na ang pangalan ay Tito Boy!

Ang mga magulang gustong ituring na matalik na kaibigan ang mga anak ng kaibigan nila dahil matalik na magkaibigan sila sa Pinas! Ang mga kababaihan ay nag sisipagsayawan ng line dancing, bosa nova, electric slide at iba pa, samantalang ang mga kalalakihan ay nanonood at nag-iinuman!

Mayroong mga kamag-anak na magtatanong kung saan ka nagtatrabaho, sa amusement park ba or retail store, ang dahilan hihingi sila ng discount! Punong-puno ng bisita ang bahay ng mga Tiyo at Tiya na hindi mo naman kamag-anak!

Kung maganda o guwapo ka naman, mayroon magtatanong kung mayroon ka ng nobya o nobyo, kapag ang sagot mo ay wala, mayroon silang ipakikilala sa iyo na magugustuhan mo! At kapag tapos na ang handaan, ligpitan na, mayroon kang maririnig na pakikuha mo nga yung "ano" na sa tabi ng "kwan"!

At iyan ang mga kapansin-pansin na mga pangyayari sa isang party ng mga Pinoy, Ang saya-saya noh! (Ngiti naman kayo dyan)

- § -

KCCC 2009 GOLF CLASSIC

(Continued from page 1)

fundraiser organized by KCCC volunteers.

Sponsors of the Tournament were Century Electric, Kenwin Construc-



Rodel Roda-Meier swing- ing her way to winning the award for Women's

tion, Petra Ltd., Dr. Romy & Virgie Sinajon, Dr. Solon Guzman, B o d y Bliss, Irwin Fefergrad, Greg & Peachy Forbes, Jim & Feliza Kepler, and Quiapo! Quiapo! Filipino Cuisine/ Bakery. The tournament

was an 18 hole, shot-gun start format where players had a chance to win several hole-in-one prizes with the top cash prize being \$20,000. There was also a putting contest with winner Sen Alcober who generously donated his winnings back to the Centre, and a raffle draw for rounds of golf for 4 at Kaneff run courses around Ontario.

The tournament winners were:

Men's Low Gross:

Champion: **Greg Santiago**

Runner Up: **Rod Marinas**

Women's Low Gross:

Champion: **Rodel Meier**

Runner Up: **Pamela Bacan**

Men's Low Net:

Champion: **Ambrosio Parnes**

Runner Up: **Jess Velarde**

Women's Low Net:

Champion: **Luz Del Rosario**

Runner Up: **Cynthia Pangilinan**

Other winners were:

Closest to the Pin: **Pasky Oliveria**

Longest Drive: **Chris Bileski**

Putting Contest: **Sen Alcober**

(Continued on page 3)

Kccc 2009 golf classic

(Continued from page 2)

Other notable sponsors of the Tournament were Archie & Zeny Ayala, Clem Cabillan, Lawrence R. Cutler (Barrister & Solicitor), Ellen's Place, Dr. William Etzkorn, Imperial Travel & Tours (Norma Carpio), JFK's Restaurant & Lounge, Dr. F. Mejilla (Physiomed), Dr. Albine Miciano, Ningning & Benny, Carlos Padilla, Del & Marilyn Palileo, Fran & Baby Pulumbarit, Mama Ching Quejas, Rathburn Animal Clinic, The Smile Centre (Dr. William Rodriguez), Gerry Villareal villaromeroboracay.com, and Dr. Vilma Tan-Jarvis.

KCCC thanks the sponsors, players, and volunteers who came out to support this event!

Please visit www.kalayaancentre.ca for the full set of Golf Tournament pictures. - § -

Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre Presents

Valentina

Featuring Chiqui Pineda
With Kelly Tacacio, Vangie Arces, Joy Almogosa, Edwin Dumlo, Ely Rosalin,
Del Palileo, Marilyn Palileo, Randy Fabico, Jack Arini
With the special participation of the Kalayaan Senior Choir

New Yorker
in
TONDO

Saturday 8:00 pm, November 14, 2009
Meadowvale Theater, Mississauga

Musical Director: Imelda Espiritu Papa
Asst. Musical Director: Ronnie Pasajol
DIRECTED BY: Rey Tamayo, PhD

Audrey Fabico, Jason Nepomuceno, Bernice Fabico,
Francis Pardon and Alma Toranzo

CHILDREN'S FASHION SHOW II

A spectacular show or stage presentation always leads to a clamour for an encore or a second showing. The special Children's fashion show produced and directed by couturier Mrs. Rodel Roda-Meier for the benefit of Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre on June 20, 2009 is one such show. It was the first of its kind that was presented to the Filipino community hereabouts and the young models fascinated and captivated their audience, there have been many requests for another presentation of the event.

The families of those children have every reason to be proud and happy. Come to think of it, infants as young as five months old to preteens, some twenty of them, by their lovely show, helped realize a net amount of more than eleven thousand dollars (\$11,384.58) for KCCC. So far, no individual or group fundraising for KCCC has yet made an amount near that figure. Rodel gave the whole amount realized from the event that



took her several months to prepare for, having made most of the modelled clothing and coaching the tiny models how to go up and down the runway. What a labor of love, indeed!

And so, the sweet and amiable lady that she is, Rodel has

(Continued on page 5)

2009 Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| Oct 30 | Halloween Bash |
| Nov 14 | Zarzuela at Meadowvale Theatre |
| Dec 11 | Volunteer Appreciation |
| Dec 31 | New Year's Eve Ball |

2009 Activities:

Line Dancing on Monday Nights

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. with instructor Gerry Macasero and wife Merilyn

Philippine Tango - Monday Nights

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. with instructor Marilyn Palileo

Ballroom Dancing Lessons on Thursday Nights

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. with instructor Terry Brown is temporarily on hold until more students sign-up

KCCC Book Club

Meets once a month on a Wednesday

KAGANAPAN

(Continued from page 1)

the Ontario Trillium Foundation for funding the position of Coordinator who coordinates with the volunteers in the various activities of the organization. We just finished the first year of four within which we are to enjoy



Everyone ready to start at the Walkathon (Aug. 15th)

the privilege and work towards self sufficiency.

In fair or stormy weather, we made the best of summer. And by God's grace, we accomplished all our scheduled activities without any hitch or hassle. On June 20, 2009, we welcomed summer with a children's fashion show, a first in the Filipino-Canadian community, produced and directed by Mrs. Rodel Roda-Meier who volunteered to help KCCC with her services and donated all the proceeds of the event, making her an outstanding volunteer and donor. The event netted more than any single fundraiser of the Centre so far. Young children from 6 months old to pre-teens took center stage and won the hearts of the audience with their performance. A week after, we had the first Hepatitis B information session, made possible by a grant from Gilead Sciences Canada.

In July, we took the seniors on a get-away trip to cottage country where they had the opportunity to be with nature and breathe fresh air instead of the foggy, polluted air of the city. They learned some crafts and other skills and enjoyed some games too. This was funded by a grant from the Federal Government through the New Horizons for Seniors Program. Later during the month the volunteers organized the Hawaiian Night giving prizes to the best Hawaiian cos-

tumes.

The month of August was dedicated to outdoor activities. We had the annual walk-a-thon and the sumptuous Filipino breakfast prepared for the participants as well as prizes and give-aways. On the last weekend of August, we had the annual golf tournament at the Royal Ontario Golf Club. Board members Mars Cebbrero and Ed Frondoza with ace volunteer Evelyn Laraya organized/managed the event. They were assisted by our Coordinator Karyn Milne and a bevy of volunteers, among them, James Balbastro, Alma Moreno, Linda Salazar, Judy Montenegro, Joy Almojuela, Rene Sevilla, Andre Frondoza, Jojo Sebastian, Minnie Bandayrel, Bert Balbastro and board members Ningning Iiwag, Mayette Balbastro, Del Palileo, Retsy del Rosario and prexy Mama Ching Quejas who came in spite of a severe cough. Prizes and give-aways were distributed during the after-game dinner. These outdoor activities are always enjoyed immensely by the participants. And, winding up the season, on September 13, we had the all-day Medical Fair sponsored jointly with the Filipino-Canadian Medical Association. There were sixteen speakers and



Listening attentively during lectures at the Medical Fair (Sep. 13th)

thirteen exhibitors on health and medicine, loot bags/give-aways and lunch bags for all the registrants.

If this summer was not the summer most people used to enjoy, it was a fruitful season for the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre. In so many ways, it fulfilled its mandate and it demonstrated how much volunteers can do for their community. Long live the KCCC! Long live our volunteers!

- § -

KCCC BOOK CLUB

By: Karyn Milne

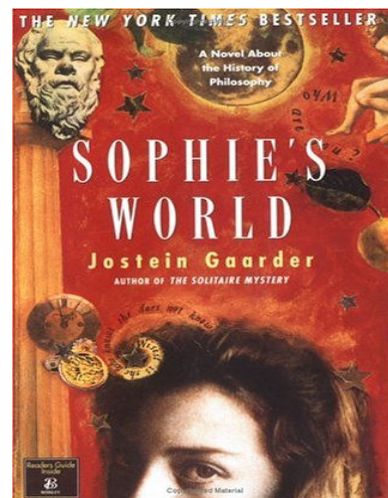
Pushing your literary boundaries can be an enjoyable journey of the mind into places that you never dreamt of venturing. By challenging yourself through reading material you ordinarily wouldn't pick up of your own accord, you can expand your knowledge base and increase your pleasure in the written word. For the KCCC book club, these are the positive outcomes from joining this small meeting of the minds. Gathering about once a month are several KCCC members who have a thirst for reading, and are willing to experiment with different genres and authors.

The book selected this month is 'Sophie's World' by Jostein Gaarder. 'Sophie's World' is a novel about the history of philosophy. Author Jostein Gaarder is a native of Norway who ingeniously weaves philosophical content from the great Philosophers into a storyline which revolves around a young girl. This novel makes the lessons of Philosophy more palatable for the general public.

The KCCC Book Club would like to open its door to new members. If this is something of interest to you please contact Karyn at:

coordinator.kccc@bellnet.ca, or 905-602-0923. This club is free for KCCC members and provides a welcoming and open atmosphere for those who are new to book clubs.

- § -



Your Real Estate Investment Corner

by: *Sheryl Chavez*

Salesperson, Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd., Brokerage
info@yourgtaproperties.com
 647-298-0608



To Invest or Not to Invest?

We all go to work everyday and spend at least 40 hours a week to make money. We have always worked for money. Have you ever thought of how you can make money work for you? Investing in real estate, if done right can make you financially free. Successful real estate investors profit from real estate because they have the right mindset.

Many people spend their lives purchasing 'liabilities' instead of 'assets'. They work hard and then get themselves into 'bad debts'. The harder they work, the bigger their liabilities become. They never seem to build up any savings. This is what a successful real estate investor is NOT.

Successful real estate investors know that they work today to be financially free tomorrow. They understand that to achieve this goal, they have to do 'something else', something bigger than what they are doing now. They have to get out of their shells and comfort zones. They have to make their money grow. They want to gather assets rather than liabilities. Having the right mindset is very important.

Over the years, real estate investment has proven to be a safe way to build wealth. Real estate value increases over time. This is because anywhere you go there will be people who will need a place to stay. This is one of our primary needs. This is a necessity. The world's population is increasing and people are constantly migrating.

People who invest in real estate do so for various reasons. Below are some of them:

KCCC OFFICERS 2008-2009

President
Consolacion 'Ching' Quejas
 Executive Vice President
Luis 'Chito' Carbonell
 Vice President
 Program Administration
Edgar Frondoza
 Secretary
Estelita 'Ningning' Liwag
 Treasurer
Resty del Rosario
 Auditor
Nestor Perez
 P.R.O.
Dr. Romulo Sinajon
 Directors:
Archie Ayala
Mayette Balbastro
Mars Cebrero
Delfin Palileo
Juliet Perez
Charity Roda-Lim
Ruffy Romano
Belle Tumbokon

- Real estate investment can be done 'part-time'. You do not have to leave your job or give up your business to buy and manage an investment property.
- A real estate investment property cannot be stolen.
- There can be multiple income streams: cash flow, appreciation and tax benefits.
- You can own a property with little investment.

So how do you get started? We've heard before that there are no shortcuts to success. Actually, there is. You just have to follow a proven system and talk to the right real estate professional and be with the right team.

In our next newsletter, I will talk about the different types of real estate investments in Canada. One might be right for you.

- § -

CHILDREN'S FASHION SHOW

(Continued from page 3)

graciously accepted to do a repeat of the children's fashion show and it is scheduled for May 23, 2010 from 3:00 – 6:00 P.M. in the same venue, the Kalayaan Centre at 5225 Orbitor Drive in Mississauga. We are starting early to give Rodel more time to prepare for the occasion like coaching the kids to curtsy and turn here and there and to finish the sets of clothing to be modeled because most of those previously modeled were bought immediately after the first show. This time, we promised Mrs. Meier that she will have more help, the members of the KCCC board will have their share of the burden of getting the show ready with of course the indispensable assistance of volunteers. They say that it is always better the second time around. Knowing the calibre of Mrs. Meier, there is no doubt it will be another crowd pleaser.

KCCC is now in search of young models and we are inviting parents, relatives or friends to submit names of children for audition under the following categories:

2 babies, girl/boy, 6-12 months old
 2 toddlers, boys, 2-3 years old
 2 toddlers, girls, 3-4 years old
 1 boy, 5-6 years old
 1 boy, 7 years old
 2 girls, 5-6 years old
 2 girls, 7-8 years old
 2 girls, 9-10 years old

Names of kids for audition must be submitted to Karyn, KCCC coordinator, by calling 905-602-0923 or e-mail her at:
coordinator.kccc@bellnet.ca

Please Include:

- the names of mother/father
- age of the child and talent if any
- contact phone and cell phone numbers.

Deadline for submitting names for audition is October 25, 2009.

- § -

Looking Out!By: **Edgar Frondoza****GILLAGE**

A few months ago, a Balikbayan friend related his experiences about his recent trip to the Philippines. He was excited about the beautiful hotels and resorts and the relatively inexpensive food and entertainment. But what struck me most about his stories was the new word GILLAGE. He could not stop laughing when he explained that the word GILLAGE is used to poke fun at people living in low-class conditions.

GILLAGE comes from the Pilipino word GILID (meaning side or beside) and English word VILLAGE. It is pronounced similar to village and it means a low class area located beside an exclusive upper scale subdivision.

The word shows imagination and sense of humor of the Filipinos.

"Saan ka nakatira?"

"Sa Ayala Alabang Gillage!"

Underneath the humor is the stark and sad reality of the wide gap between rich and poor. Thirty (30) percent of our population suffers from dehumanizing poverty, a hand to mouth existence, yet we have 7 of Asia's top 40 richest people. We are ranked one of the poorest countries in the world with GDP of \$3,400, although Philippines has many of the most lavish and luxurious hotels in the Far East and the 4th largest Mall in the world. Tourism and dollar remittance from abroad estimated at \$18B in 2009 barely filters through to the common man.

It is easy to blame government corruption for our enduring poverty. Yet, the problem is not what our corrupt and inept politicians do but why we continually elect corrupt and inept leaders. In spite of two EDSA revolts, our government is still riddled with graft and corruption.

But there is hope. In May 2010, the Philippines will elect a new president. We have another chance to make bold changes that will improve the lives in the GILLAGES. - § -

NAYON

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Kalayaan Cultural Community
Centre

Editorial Staff:

Edgar Frondoza
Chiqui Kat Pineda
Evelyn Laraya Pond
Karyn Milne
Tito Adona
Joy Almojuela
Ching Quejas

Photographers

Rene Sevilla
Judy Montenegro

Send contributions/letters to:

nayon@kalayaancentre.ca

Visit us at:

www.kalayaancentre.ca

Kalayaan Cultural Community
Centre

Tel. 905-602-0923
3- 5225 Orbitor Dr
Mississauga, ON
L4W-4Y8

P'wede ka Nang magpadala ng pera sa ibang Bansa
P'wede ka pang tumanggap ng pera galing sa kanila



PNB GLOBAL REMIT
A Remittance Subsidiary of the Philippine National Bank

TORONTO
416 960 9231

EGLETON
416 782 2438

MISSISSAUGA
905 268 0580

SCARBOROUGH
416 293 5438

WINNIPEG
204 697 8860

SURREY
604 581 6762

VANCOUVER
604 737 4944