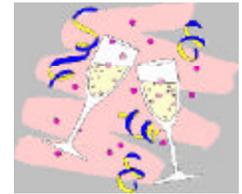




FALEA elected Officers 2003-2004. Sitting from left to right: Alejandria Benitez, Elvira Pineda, Marlo Garcia, Maria Domingo, Marites Shoji. Standing from left to right: Greg Garcia, Florencio Suela, Segundo Velasco, Marcelino Labasan, John Ramos, Joey Resurreccion, Vergel Del Rosario.



The First 10 Years: Reflections

by Frank Sapigao, Jr.

I do not remember how I met Juny La Putt. All I remember is that he was trying to form an engineering organization with a funny name and he wanted me to be the vice-president. Since I had just started Sapigao Construction, any extra-curricular activity that would take me away from my new business was not welcome. Somehow he persuaded me. I rationalized then that if I get elected as vice president, I would not have any responsibilities anyway, like a spare tire that will not be missed even if it were flat, broke or lost. Also, I did not think I had any chance of winning since I did not know a lot of engineers and architects then. Nevertheless, when the votes were counted, everyone in his line up, except for one or two directors, won. I was impressed.

In those early days, I just coasted along. No one would expect much from a vice-president. And I had my construction business to attend to. In the meantime, FALEA's mission and identity began to take shape. Ideas were proposed. Committees were formed. Discussions were endless. Debates were explosive. Personalities clashed. Tempers soared. Nevertheless, many novel ideas, that would soon identify what FALEA would eventually become, emerged.

Perhaps the best idea that was ever approved by the body was the creation of a FALEA newsletter. The newsletter cemented the group together and members were apprised of what was happening in their organization. The newsletter also reminded the members to pay their dues promptly. Another fruitful idea presented was the awarding of scholarships. Greg Garcia was the first chairman of the Scholarship Committee. The next best thing

(Continued on Page 5)

INSTALLATION BANQUET

"History in the making" is how our honored guest speaker, Dr. Amy Agbayani, described our very special event on October 18, 2003. It was the installation of the new FALEA Officers and Board of Directors for 2003 – 2004. It not only marked the installation of the first woman president of an organization in a male-dominated field, but also celebrated FALEA's 10 years in existence.

We have a lot to celebrate, and a lot to be proud of. When Juny LaPutt, Paul Lucero and Vergel del Rosario first called several architects and engineers to a meeting 10 years ago, their goal was to make a difference in the Filipino American community. They formed FALEA, which stands for Filipino American League of Engineers and Architects. They wanted to help their fellow architects and engineers achieve success. And that is exactly what FALEA did, and has been doing these past ten years.

Dr. Agbayani, Director of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED) at the University of Hawaii, and President of FilCom Center, Inc., was right in stating that this special event "should be recognized as a significant part of the history and future of Hawaii." It is "an example of the many wonderful contributions of Filipinos to Hawaii." Amen!

(Continued on Page 4)

FALEA Officers

FALEA Officers 2003 – 2004

Marites C. Shoji
President

Greg Garcia
*Vice-President
President-Elect*

Alejandria A. Benitez
Secretary

Vergel Del Rosario
Treasurer

Maria Domingo
Assistant Treasurer

Marcie labasan
Auditor

Armando Ines
Business Manager

Fred A. Quibol
*Press Relation
Officer*

Board of Directors

Marlo Garcia
Rocky Marquez
Elvi Pineda
John C. Ramos
Joey Resurrection
Florencio Jun A.
Suela Jr.
Segundo Velasco

Past Presidents

Juny La Putt
Frank Sapigao, Jr.
Arturo Lucio
Renie Agsalda
Manuel Lanuevo
Lito Alcantara
Oscar Paez, Jr.
Roger Urbi

President's Mabuhay Message:



Mabuhay FALEA Members:

Our 10th Installation Banquet was wonderful. Our guest speaker, Dr. Amy Agbayani, a Professor at U.H. and recently named as director of National Women Political Caucus shared some inspiring Hawaiian historical events that involved Filipinos which most of us did not know about. Joey Resurreccion showed us a very well done video presentation entitled "A Decade to Remember".

My congratulations to Vergel Del Rosario for receiving the Outstanding Engineer Award and Zam Louie Criste for Outstanding Architect Award. Vergel and Zam have been tremendous help to FALEA and we honor them for all that they have done for our organization. Two scholarships were also awarded.

This year, with energetic and dedicated officers and directors, we have planned many activities such as technical seminars, sports, EIT reviews, fundraising events, picnics, field trips and parties. I hope you will be able to join us and support FALEA.

As the Holiday season is approaching, I hope we will be able to share joyous time with our families and friends. The FALEA choir will be caroling again. Members are encouraged to join. The caroling rehearsal will be the day after Thanksgiving, November 28, at the Cruzata's residence.

I encourage everyone to attend our Christmas party on Saturday, December 13, 2003, 5:30 p.m. This gathering will be a great opportunity for all of us to get together before Christmas and New Year. This year's Christmas Celebration will be happening at St. Philomena Church in Salt Lake.

EIT Reviews will begin on Saturday, January 24, 2004. Special thanks to the instructors who will be volunteering their time to teach the classes. We appreciate your help. Our past president, Roger Urbi was kind enough to organize a Construction Quality Management (CQM) Contractors Course for January 17, 2004 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the FILCOM Center.

I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Party.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Marites C. Shoji

Happy 10th, FALEA

It is certainly a time for celebration. Our young organization has weathered through some pretty tough times, as you will see when you read Frank Sapigao's "reflections" on FALEA's first ten years. However, amidst all that turmoil, it has also accomplished what it set out to do. It has provided the necessary assistance and support system, that our fellow architects and engineers need to meet the requirements to practice their profession in Hawaii.

We want to also welcome you to the "new" FALEA Newsletter. We start a new Editorial Board, which has been given the task of putting together a quarterly newsletter for this coming year, starting with this 2003 – 2004 issue. This is no easy task, as the past Newsletter Committee will attest. Our jobs keep us all very busy, and our family commitments stay on top of our priorities, so that newsletter deadlines may seem quite a challenge sometimes. However, we realize that the newsletter is an important tool that keeps our members abreast of what is happening. It is also a way for them to connect with each other. So, we have made a commitment to give this a high priority. We will strive to get the issues out on time.

We are very grateful to the past Newsletter Committee for all their hard work these past ten years. You have laid the groundwork for us to step into. We know it has been a labor of love. We hope you will continue to contribute stories and ideas to help make our newsletter as interesting and as informative as it has always been.

We hope you will all enjoy this issue and the issues to come, and will find some good information in them. We welcome your contributions, your comments and whatever help you can give us. We know we can not do this alone. We can accomplish a lot more if we work together and collaborate with one another. We want to continue to make a positive difference in the Filipino-American architectural-engineering community in Hawaii. We hope you will support our efforts to give you some great newsletters this coming year.

More power to FALEA!!

Lyna Burian

**FALEA
NEWSLETTER**

Since 1993

**Year X
Dec 2003 - Feb 2004
Issue**

EDITORIAL BOARD

Greg Garcia
Editorial Board Chairman

Lyna Burian
Editor-in-Chief

Joel L. Francisco
Layout Artist

**Marites Calad Shoji
Vergel del Rosario
Oscar Paez
Frank Sapigao**
Contributing
Writers

The FALEA Newsletter will be published quarterly. Your contributing articles or stories are most welcome, but the Editorial Board reserves the right to edit and publish them. Opinions expressed by the writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Board. Written permission from FALEA is required for the reproduction of the contents in whole or in part.

Installation Banquet



Presenting of Outstanding Member awardees are from left to right: Marcel Raza, Florencio Suela, Greg Garcia, Leonard Obaldo, Zam louie Criste, Vergel Del Rosario, Silvestre Ulep.

Outstanding Member Awardees for 2003

Vergel G. Del Rosario, a graduate of Mapua Institute of Technology in Civil Engineering and currently working with the Dept. of Transportation was awarded the Outstanding Member for 2003 in Engineering while **Zam Louie P. Criste**, also a graduate of Mapua Institute of Technology in Architecture and currently working with Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas was awarded the Outstanding Member for 2003 in Architecture.



Enjoying the evening are from left to right: Lyna Burian, guest speaker Amy Agbayani, Manuel Lanuevo, & Lito Alcantara.



2002-2003 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Marysol A. Damo is currently attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa, School of Architecture & College of Arts & Sciences. She was born on October 10, 1981, the second child of Reynaldo & Florasol Damo of Honolulu, Hawaii. She has an older brother Emmanuel. Attended Radford High School from 1997 to 1999.

She is currently pursuing degrees in Architecture (Architectural Doctorate) and Liberal Studies (B.A.), Marysol has earned a Grade Point Average of 3.3. Member of The Mortar Board Honor Society and The American Institute of Architecture Students, UH Chapter.

Christopher Lanuevo is currently taking classes at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Engineering. Born on October 13, 1985, the eldest child of Manuel & Evelyn Lanuevo of Kapolei Hawaii. He has a younger sister, Christie-Joyce, a gifted hula dancer.

Chris graduated Cum Laude from James Campbell High School in 2003, with a Grade Point Average of 3.46. He was accepted at and offered with scholarships at the University of Portland, Gonzaga University, and Seattle University.

Chris opted to attend the University of Hawaii to be close to his family. His goal is to follow his father's footsteps and become an Electrical Engineer.

(BANQUET continued from page 1)

There are so many people that we wanted to thank and honor on that memorable evening at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, but the stage belonged to the new officers, who were being inducted that evening. Our congratulations and best wishes go to President Marites Calad Shoji, President-Elect Greg Garcia, and the rest of the crew who will be at the helm of this outstanding organization. They have the vision and the enthusiasm needed to lead an exceptional group like FALEA, and they deserve our full support.

Our thanks and appreciation also go to the outgoing President, Roger Urbi, and the rest of the Officers and Board of Directors for 2002 - 2003 for all their hard work during a very productive past year.

Last but not least, A big Congratulations to all our awardees this year, the Outstanding Engineer, Vergel del Rosario, and the Outstanding Architect, Zam Louie Criste, and the scholarship awardees, Marysol Damo and Christopher Lanuevo. See article above for more information about them.

All in all, it was an evening that was enjoyed by all. It is that kind of momentous event that makes us proud.

Special dance from left to right: Ofelia Mendez, Siony Garcia, & Elvi Pineda.

Dec 2003

FALEA's Page

(Reflections - continued from page 1)

that came out of the discussions was the decision to award outstanding members. I was appointed chair of the Selection Committee. On that first year, we awarded five outstanding engineers and three outstanding architects. The banquet was outstanding. However, a lot of disagreements between the members erupted. Bitterness was in the air. Members threatened to resign. Juny La Putt himself resigned.

I thought the organization would collapse. I was challenged to keep it together. I could no longer hide in the background. The remaining officers came through, one by one. They pledged support to the organization. Bickering somehow died down. Officers started working together and many things were accomplished. I have never seen such dedicated people.

The newsletter continued with Fred Quibol becoming the tireless editor-in-chief, while Zam Louie Criste provided catchy layout and graphics. The EIT review program got underway with Greg Garcia and Emil Barroga coordinating the review classes, helping many members pass the exams. Art Lucio and his wife Lynn started the Christmas caroling, which has since become a FALEA tradition. Art also started the Speechcraft classes. Oscar Paez initiated a sports program that began with basketball and has since branched out to golf and bowling. The annual picnic was also launched, and has also become a tradition, along with the Christmas party. Lino Visaya organized a dance troop that featured the sensational Joey Magno. It had a lot of following for a while but somehow lost its steps or rhythm, and bowed out in favor of golf. To raise funds, many avenues were attempted including Mary's sweet bread, Zippy's benefit chili, and the slam dunk winner, Huli-Huli chicken.

In those formative years, the officers were extremely busy. We met almost every week instead of once a month as mandated by the Constitution. There was always something to do. To motivate ourselves to keep on attending meetings, we started bringing potluck. We experimented with dancing and karaoke and somehow it worked. If you haven't heard Nitto Torrefranca's rendition of "The House of the Rising Sun," you will want to attend the meetings. Then we started taking our spouses to the meetings, who by then were becoming resentful of the long hours that we were spending in this supposedly doomed organization.

Soon the meetings started to be fun and became less of a chore. Spouses who used to challenge the officers, were the ones now interested in going to the meetings. With such enthusiasm, we were able to do a lot more and in less time, since our spouses rushed us to finish our business so that we can all get to the real agenda, which is either singing or dancing or both. With our spouses behind us, many things got accomplished. Sometimes we stayed at these get-togethers past Cinderella's bedtime, and nobody wanted to leave. The officers became friends and worked together like one big ohana.

Everybody wanted FALEA to succeed. As such, we supported, en masse, the public hearings conducted for the Filcom Center. We not only marched during the Filipino Fiesta Parade, but we also designed and built a beautiful float complete with balusters, dancers, singers, costumes, a water fountain and a sound system. Everyone worked very hard way past midnight to put it all together.

Officers and members also volunteered their time and services to teach not only the Engineering Review Classes but programs of interest in the profession as well, such as CPM. Armando Ines and Chito Alcantra conducted AutoCAD classes. Cathy Dungca represented, and worked on having FALEA included in the Wiliki o Hawaii, the Newsletter of the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies. Suzie Agraan and Grace Bravo coordinated most of the social events and they became the heart and soul of FALEA.

It is very comforting to note that after all these years, the efforts and energies expended by the tireless officers and members were not in vain. FALEA not only survived, but has now become an institution. It is not fair to speculate that only those officers worked hard. But I can only write what I saw through my lenses during my watch. I am sure that many other officers later worked just as hard to make this organization what it is today. I am sure that they too had their own share of crisis and headaches (such as the IRS, etc) but somehow they have also survived unscathed led by able presidents: Renie Agsalda, Lito Alcantra, Manny Lanuevo, Art Lucio, Oscar Paez, and Roger Urbi.

On the Nov/Dec 1994 issue of the FALEA Newsletter, I wrote "FALEA is our organization and it will only be what we want it to be. Please help. We will all work together to collectively attain our goals and objectives as outlined by our Constitution, namely: to promote a high standard of professionalism among Engineers and Architects; to foster opportunities for career advancement; to promote unity, friendship, camaraderie and mutual assistance among members." Everyone rallied to help and the rest is history.

As a teary-eyed parent is glad to see that his child is finally out in the world on his own, while flashbacks of the time he was just learning to crawl comes rushing back, I feel the same way with FALEA. It has become a part of me with all the emotions attached. I have laughed and I have cried. I have worried and I have hoped. I have feared and I have cheered. Of course FALEA is not my child alone. It is also the child of all the officers and members who worked so hard to make FALEA what it is today. It is collectively our child and we must all be proud of it. I am glad that FALEA is finally making a big difference not only for its own members but for the larger community as well.

As we celebrate its 10th birthday, let us all rejoice and continue to nurture our beloved child. Its future is very promising. Let us support Marites and all the officers in all their endeavors. FALEA can only be what we want it to be.

The best thing that ever happened to me at FALEA is that I have earned true friends - friends I would never have met anywhere else, friends I know will remain true no matter what happens - and for that I am truly grateful. For that alone it was worth it all.



Seminars

CQM FOR CONTRACTORS

FALEA is conducting a course on the Army Corps of Engineers' Construction Quality Management (CQM) for Contractors. This is a certification course required by the Army, Navy and Air Force Contracting Agencies, and the State of Hawaii DAGS and DLNR prior to becoming a Contractor Quality Control (CQC) Manager. Attendees need to pass a post-test to be issued a certificate. Certificates are valid for five (5) years from issue date, and is good for all federal government projects worldwide and State of Hawaii DAGS and DLNR projects.

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2003
Time: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Place: Filipino Comm. Cntr, Ballroom A
94-428 Mokuola St., Waipahu, HI
Fee: \$30/person (FALEA members)
\$50/person (non-members)
Make checks payable to FALEA
RSVP: by Jan. 5, 2004

Mail all reservations and checks to:

FALEA
P.O. Box 4135
Honolulu, HI 96812-4135

EIT REVIEW

FALEA will continue to provide review classes for the EIT exam (now known as the Fundamentals of Engineering exam) next year. As in previous years, the classes will be on Saturdays from 1:30 pm at the Group Builders Warehouse at Sand Island. Classes will start on Jan. 24 and will run through the month of March.

Although "the review is not a guarantee to pass the exam," as Past President Roger Urbi has said, "70% of those who have taken the review courses have passed since the program started in 1994."

Below is a tentative schedule:

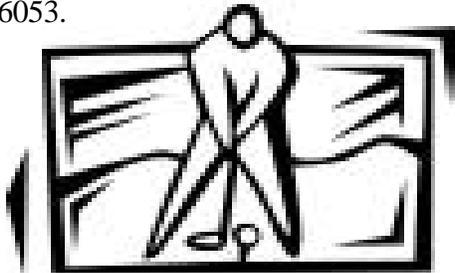
Jan. 24 - Engineering Econ
Jan 31 - Hydraulics
Feb. 7 - Statics
Feb. 14 - Math
Feb. 21 - Electricity
Feb. 28 - Thermodynamics
Mar. 6 - Chemistry
Mar. 13 - Strength of Materials
Mar. 20 - Dynamics
Mar. 27 - Mock Exam

We are hoping that FALEA members, especially those who have taught a class or two in previous years, would consider participating and teaching this coming year. Your "kokua" is badly needed. The above schedule is not set in stone, and can be switched around to accommodate your schedules. Please call Marites at 678-3916 or email her at mshoji@norman-wright.com, if you can help out.

Sports

JANUARY 2004 GOLF TOURNAMENT

There will be a FALEA Golf Tournament on Saturday, January 10, 2004, 7:33am at Mililani Golf Course. For those who would like to join please contact, Sports Committee Chairman, Segundo Velasco at 2566053.



Dec 2003
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FALEA Bowling Team

Filipino American League of Engineers and Architects (FALEA) bowling team participates at the "Wednesday Night Mixed Bowling Tournament" that started on October 13, 2003 at Barber's Point Bowling Center. The team members are: Vergel del Rosario, Nora del Rosario, Emil Barroga, and Joe Dar. Hopefully, this move would create curiosity among members and their families and lead them to be a participant, sometime.

Wednesday Night Mixed Bowling Tournament is a weekly event, conducted every Wednesday, from 6:30 to 10:00 pm at Barber's Point Bowling Center. "Mixed" means the team should at least have one lady. The tournament runs for a 36-week period. This tournament is sanctioned by the American Bowling Congress, which means that each bowling participant can participate in any bowling league in the United States.

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2003

5 Board of Directors Meeting
 9, 16, 23, 30 Bowling Tournament
 13 Christmas Party
 6,12, 19 Christmas Caroling

JANUARY 2004

9 Board of Directors Meeting
 17 CQM for Contractors
 24, 31 EIT Review
 10 Golf Tournament

FEBRUARY 2004

6 Board of Directors Meeting
 7, 14, 21, 28 EIT Review
 13 Valentine & Ballroom Dance
 23 – 27 National Engineers Week

MARCH 2004

5 Board of Directors Meeting
 6, 13, 20, 27 EIT Review
 TBA Speechcraft

APRIL 2004

2 Board of Directors Meeting
 7, 14, 21, 28 Bowling Tournament
 10 Annual Picnic
 17 Zippy's Chili Fundraiser
 TBA Speechcraft

MAY 2004

4, 11, 18, 25 Bowling Tournament
 7 Board of Directors Meeting
 TBA FilCom Fiesta Parade

JUNE 2004

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Bowling Tournament
 4 Board of Directors Meeting
 12 Professional Development Sem.
 19, 26 Career Shadowing

JULY 2004

2 Board of Directors Meeting
 7, 14, 21, 28 Bowling Tournament
 17 Huli-Huli Chicken Fundraiser
 24 Career Shadowing

AUGUST 2004

4, 11, 18, 25 Bowling Tournament
 6 Board of Directors Meeting
 14 General Assembly and Elections
 TBA Banquet Planning Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2004

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Bowling Tournament
 3 Board of Directors Meeting
 11 Outer Island Tour
 TBA Banquet Planning Meetings

OCTOBER 2004

1 Board of Directors Meeting
 6, 13, 20, 27 Bowling Tournament
 TBA Banquet Planning Meetings
 23 Installation and Awards Banquet

FALEA Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 13, 2003
 Where: St. Philomena Church in Salt Lake
 Time: 5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
 What: Potluck Dinner (Lechon will be provided)
 Who to Contact: Elvi Pineda, Cell: 478-8650,
elvira.pineda@kdconstruction.com



This is an event I hope many of you can attend. This party will be a great opportunity for all of us to get together before Christmas. This is a family type gathering so please bring your family and friends. As a tradition, we will be exchanging gifts. If you would like to participate in this, bring a \$15 grab bag. Also, we encourage parents to bring gifts for their children and Santa will be there to distribute them.

Elvi Pineda, one of our directors, will be coordinating this event. Please let her know if you could attend and what dish you will be bringing.



Dec 2003
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FALEA will again be going **Christmas caroling** this year. Try to join the carollers as they go from house to house. You are guaranteed lots of fun and lots of food. For more information, contact Marcie Labasan at 223-5743 or mlabasan@hawaii.rr.com. Caroling dates are:

Saturday, Dec. 6 Waipahu area
 Friday, Dec. 12 Salt Lake area
 Friday, Dec. 19 Kapolei area

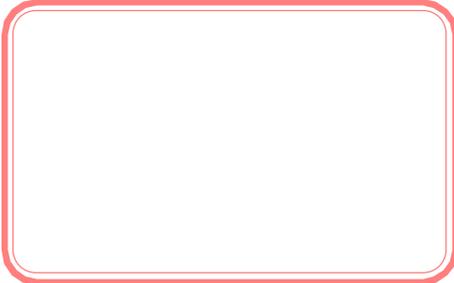


MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The last Annual General Meeting, held on August 23, 2003, has approved that Membership Year shall coincide with the Calendar Year. Effective immediately, all renewals and new membership applications that were submitted from August 23, 2003 shall be considered paid up till December 31, 2004.

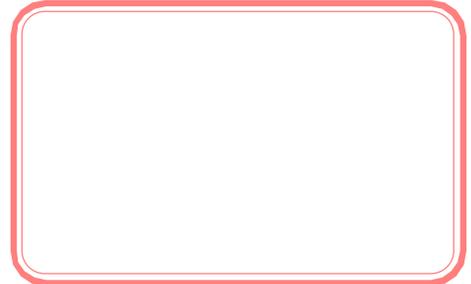
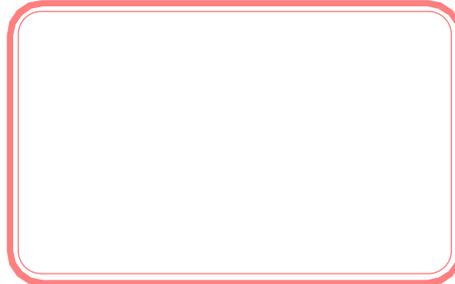
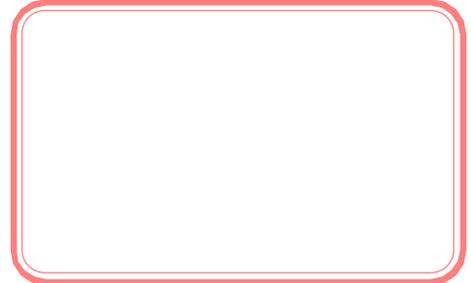
FALEA welcomes the following new members; **Ramon Bonoan Jr., Joseph Cachola and Jessie Flores.** For membership forms, please contact any FALEA officer or send an email to faleagreg@yahoo.com.

Advertising



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Famous Quotations:

A good objective of leadership is to help those who are doing poorly to do well and to help those who are doing well to do even better.

—Jim Rohn



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