



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MAPUA ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER

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www.socalmapua.org

Reminders

EIT/P.E. Review Classes

Membership

Membership fee: \$15 per year
Lifetime Membership: \$150

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President's Message



Greetings to you fellow Mapuans and your families. My name is Ross Papilla, and I have the pleasure to serve as the new president of Southern California Mapua Alumni (SCMA) for 2021-2122. My fellow officers and I were inducted into office during the peak of the pandemic in January 2021.

A bit about myself. I belong to MIT EE Class 1975, graduating as Silver Medalist and Cum Laude. I taught in Mapua and worked briefly at NPC then joined the US Navy in 1976 to seek better opportunity for my siblings. After the Navy, I joined Southern California Edison in 1980 as an engineer and went up the ranks to senior management after a 25-year career, where I obtained my PE in Electrical Engineering and my Executive MBA from Claremont. After retirement, I formed an Engineering and Consulting group and led a high-performance team of engineers. I volunteered in many organizations, including St. Lorenzo Ruiz Catholic Church where I served in the Pastoral Council. It is this background and the mentorship of the past presidents, especially Glee Quinoveva Quiaot and

Nene Umali-Irlandez, that informs my approach to leading SCMA in an uncharted territory brought about by Covid-19.

Our term at SCMA started with a blessing of a talented set of mostly-young officers combined with a highly experienced group of former presidents serving as Directors and Advisers. With this team, we not only managed, but thrived during the pandemic. We had our monthly meetings on Zoom complemented by "team-building" outdoor excursions. We formed Committees with clear responsibilities. We created a "Revitalization Plan" to reinvigorate SCMA and reposition it for success going forward under the new normal. Surveys and analyses from this strategic plan resulted in a set of integrated initiatives, the most important of which included: (a) grow the membership, (b) grow our scholarship and education/career-assistance programs, (c) use technology to improve our operations, (d) establish new fund-raising methods, and (e) further our socialization programs to strengthen our bond as Mapuans.

We worked feverishly and completed our long-delayed "Website Project", which was done collaboratively with content from the new SCMA Officers, Advisers and Directors. Our new website is full of detailed information such as our history/mission/advocacy, scholarship and career-assistance programs, and alumni life activities; and useful functions, such as on-line membership application, electronic donations/payments, event invitations and RSVP's, sponsorship and advertising, downloadable documents, secure messaging, and links to our new social media platforms. I highly encourage you to visit our new website www.socalmapua.org to learn more and be an active part of this newly-vibrant association.

For improved work collaboration, we centralized our filing system in Dropbox, along with the appropriate file structure and access privileges. For a more efficient financial system, we expanded the use of on-line banking with enhanced security, and established new accounts on Zelle and Venmo to enable on-line payments. You may send money to SCMA via Zelle at treasurer.socalmapua@gmail.com and Venmo at @SouthernCalifornia-MapuaAlumni. We maintain our status as a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. We also created new social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram. Please "friend" Social Mapua on Facebook and "follow" @Connect.Socalmapua on Instagram, and ask fellow alumni to do the same. All of these functions are accessible through our new website. www.socalmapua.org.

As you may know, we SCMA and MAASD (Mapua Alumni Association of San Diego), as chartered members of the National Association of Mapua Alumni (NAMA), were on tap to host the MapuaWorld 2023 event. After much deliberation, we decided to cancel our hosting of the

event (MapuaWorld 2021 was also canceled) due to the adverse impact of the Covid pandemic. MapuaWorld is a major biennial global alumni event that involves significant international travel, and we must prioritize safety. Also, the pandemic has curtailed our ability to raise funds and support the long planning and extensive logistics needed to host such an event. We hope that the virus would soon be under control, so that we can enjoy MapuaWorld 2025 in Manila at the 100-year anniversary of our beloved Alma Mater.

At this time, we are conducting a membership outreach that will culminate with the 2021 SCMA Annual Summer Family Picnic, which will be held at Suzanne Park in Walnut, CA on August 7 from noon to 5 PM. To ensure safety, our event has gone through the approval process of the City of Walnut as restrictions on gatherings have progressively been lifted. We would like to reach out to all Mapua Alumni, especially those who haven't heard of us before. Please be sure to attend and help spread the word, reaching out to alumni within your circle of friends and organizations that you belong to.

We are trying to position our association with the new realities, and we count on the support of all alumni members as we move forward. Much has been started, but much more still needs to be done. With your active participation and support, we hope to look back someday and say that the pandemic has revitalized Southern California Mapua Alumni.

Oath Taking of Officers



On Friday, January 15, 2021, the SCMA Executive Board held its first online meeting via Zoom. SCMA Adviser Tino Quiaot, President 2005-2006, administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers before the start of the meeting.

From Top to Bottom:

First row: Ross Papilla, Glee & Tino Quiaot, Lourdes Jamer, Roderick Dela Cruz
 Second row: Nene Umali-Irlandez, Janina Lyka Baiza, Joey Uy, Emil Venegas
 Third Row: Berwyn Salazar, Roald John Bueno, Russel Viloría, Tony Ballesteros
 Fourth Row: Jesse San Miguel, Cecille Lopez-Brod (no video)

Election of Officers

The nomination of officers for 2021-2022 was to have taken place during the annual picnic. Due to the pandemic, there was no picnic last summer. A Commission on Elections (COMELEC) was formed via email by current President Cecille Lopez-Brod, the COMELEC Chair. Directors Tony Ballesteros and Glee Quiaot volunteered to be members. The nomination of officers was done by email sent to all paid members in September. Per the Constitution and By-laws, only those members who have paid their fees for two consecutive years including election year 2020 were qualified to be nominated. Nine members accepted their nominations. The ballots to elect the respective positions were sent out in December and the results were certified on January 5, 2021.

2021-2022 Officers

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|--|---|
| President: Ross Papilla, P.E., EE '75 | Vice President: Berwyn Salazar, CoE '92 |
| Recording Secretary: Janina Lyka Baiza, CE '13 | Corresponding Secretary: Roderick Dela Cruz, P.E., CE '90 |
| Treasurer: Jesse San Miguel, CE '01 | Assistant Treasurer: Emil Venegas, CE '85 |
| Business Manager: Lourdes Jamer, BA '65 | PRO: Roald John Bueno, ECE '12 |
| Auditor: Russel Viloría, CE '90 | |

SCMA Team Building Hike One, April 17, 2021, Peter F. Schabarum Regional County Park, Rowland Heights, CA

The first-ever team building hike was attended and participated by SCMA 2021-2022 Officers, Members, & Family. This said Regional County Park is a 575 – acre facility with 75 acres of developed and popular spot for walking, hiking, picnics, youth camping, tennis, soccer and other amenities that everyone can enjoy. The SCMA Team went thru the Schabarum – Skyline Trail that runs through open spaces and flood control channels connecting communities from Covina to Whittier. It has the length of 29.94 miles, 8.92 feet average width, elevation gain of 1,138 feet. The trails provide access for commuters and recreational users to a variety of trails such as those in Peter F. Schabarum



Regional Park and Puente Hills Nature Preserve, as well as the Rio Hondo River and San Gabriel Trails. This trail offers scenic views of the San Gabriel Mountains and Los Angeles City skyline. After the hike, the group met up with Glory Montemayor, SCMA President 1983-84 and had lunch with another past SCMA President Edith Garcia-Ramos, 1999-2000.

SCMA Team Building Hike Two, June 5, 2021, Point Fermin Lighthouse, Point Fermin Park, San Pedro, CA

This day was more of socializing than hiking. After over a year that there was no in-person meeting, it was great to see each other again. Early-morning breakfast at the park included tapsilog, longsilog, roast beef, toast, coffee and fruits. After celebrating birthdays and singing to the accompaniment of Ross's ukulele, the group dispersed and went separate ways. The scenic ocean and Palos Verdes Peninsula views along the hiking trail made the walk relaxing and enjoyable.



SCMA Annual Christmas Party, December 7, 2019, Carson, CA

iDance Studio in Carson has been the venue for the Christmas Party for the last 4 years and, as in previous years, it was a fun-filled night of dancing led by DI/DJ Nonie Belarmino, singing, laughing, eating and winning door prizes.

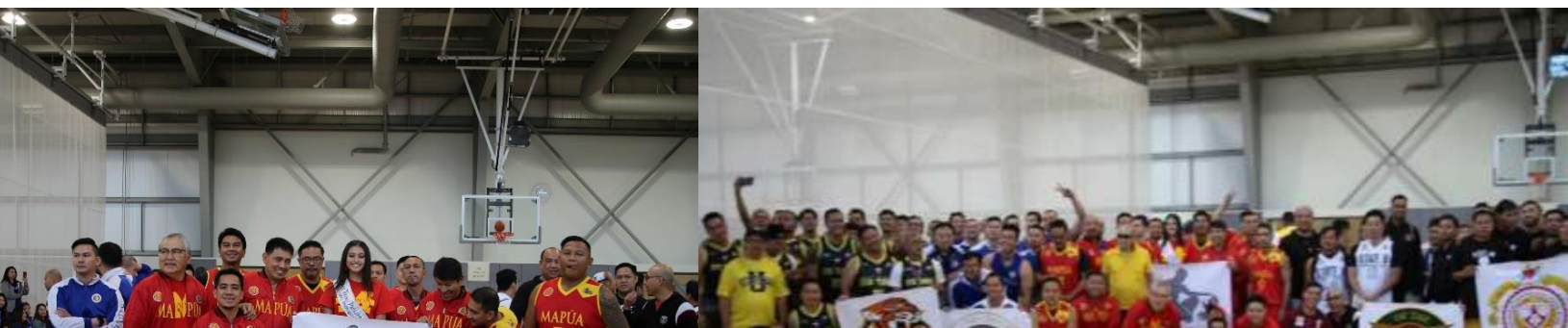


NCAA/UAAP Basketball Tournament, Rancho Cucamonga Sports Center, Rancho Cucamonga, CA

SCMA's Team Mapua joined 7 other teams: Ateneo, De La Salle, Letran, San Beda, San Sebastian, UP, UST, for this one-day tournament on Sunday, September 29, 2019 won by San Sebastian. Although they placed 5th out of 8 teams, they played very well and almost made the playoffs, great effort by Team Mapua. Viva Mapua!

Team Mapúa Roster: Manager – Berwyn Salazar, CoE 92, Assistant Managers – Tony Ballesteros, ME 61, Shirley Hernandez, CE 83, Team Representative – Emil Venegas, CE 85, Coach – Bhot Salas, HS 74.

Players: Team Captain – Joel Hornilla, HS 83; Choy Taberdo, ME 95, Darwin Dialogo, ECE 90, Edward Santos, CE 85; Marco Esposito, ME 00; Mark Cano, CoE 97; Michael Cano, HS 92, Noy Valderama, CE 88; Paul Esteban, CE 97; Ver Puertollano, ME 01, Banjo Gilbuena, IE 96, Darius Leonen Undergrad 07, Jess Zabala, CE 98, Joel Gomez, HS 73, Jojo Palomar, EE 89, Omanzie Rodriguez, ME 97, Patrick Benedicto, IE 96, Paul Pavia, HS 99, Ronald Palileo, HS 99, John Bernales, IE 96, Erwin Leano, HS 79.



SCMA Annual Picnic, Lakewood, CA

The annual picnic and membership drive was held at Bolivar Park on Saturday, July 13, 2019. In attendance were a number of old-timers, young prospective lifetime members, SCMA basketball team and the regulars, making this the most-attended picnic in recent years. Under the leadership of then-current president Cecilia Lopez-Brod, this day was fun-filled with games, music and lots of food.



SCMA Scholarship Program

Glee Quiaot and Ross Papilla, SCMA Scholarship Program Committee members visited Mapua Institute of Technology Scholarships and Financial Assistance Office on April 8, 2019. Financial Officer Mary Rochelle Cordero (left, photo below) and SCMA scholar Angelika Katipunan (4th from left) gave a tour of the campus, cafeteria (canteen) and Dr. Vea's office. Angelika graduated in September 2019 with a B.S. Chemical Engineering degree. Currently, SCMA only has one remaining scholar, John David Andres, BSCE – 4th year, photo below.



Mark Your Calendar

SCMA Annual Picnic

Saturday, August 7, 2021

12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Suzanne Park

625 Suzanne Rd, Walnut, CA

91789

SCMA Annual Christmas Party

Saturday, December 4, 2021

Venue: TBD, to be posted on our website: socialmapua.org

SCMA Annual Dinner-Dance

Saturday, April 30, 2022

Venue: TBD, to be posted on our website: socialmapua.org



Questions, comments?

Contact the Newsletter Staff: Roald John Bueno – bueno_roald@yahoo.com, Ross Papilla – rpapilla@yahoo.com,

Glee Quiaot – gleequiaot@gmail.com, Russel Vilorio – vilorio.russel@gmail.com