



REMINDER: If you are an Annual SCMA Member please renew your membership by going to our website at www.socalmapua.org and clicking [Join Us](#). Please consider registering as a Lifetime Member to avoid the need for annual renewals and be perpetually included in our annual Souvenir Program.

President's Message:



Ross Papilla, EE'75, PE, MBA

Greetings and blessings to you all fellow Mapuans. At the outset, I'd like to apologize for the late issue of this Newsletter. We waited until we're able to finalize arrangements for our 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance and Induction Ball, which will be held on April 29, 2023 at the Buena Park Doubletree hotel. Our theme for this fun event is *"Revitalized during the pandemic, SCMA emerges stronger than ever!"*

I'm happy to announce that we now have a new set of young and energetic officers headed by our new President, Russel Viloría. In SCMA's 46-year history, this group of officers can be thought of as the 3rd generation of leaders who will continue to uphold our mission and update our organization. I urge you all to give them your full support.

As we pass the baton to the new leadership, it's worthwhile to reflect on the progress that we've made in the past two years. We started our term when the Covid-19 pandemic was raging in 2021, so we had to adapt and innovate, and we made it a goal to revitalize our organization. As a result, we reached new heights in many aspects. Our membership is more energized and has grown, including a record 32 new Lifetime Members. We created a highly-functional website and institutionalized the use of technological tools such as on-line meetings, cloud-based central filing, on-line forms and event processing, electronic banking and payment systems, and more social media presence. We supported four (4) new Mapua scholars, one of whom just graduated with Magna Cum Laude and Gold Medal honors. We established new fundraising methods such as the Scholarship Matching Fund (SMF), Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), and Adopt-A-Scholar programs. As such we increased our General Fund and Scholarship fund reserves by over 150%. We enhanced the quality of our socialization programs such as our dinner dance and golf tournament, both of which raised significant funds. We also started our Engineer-in-Training review program, which is still on-going. I'm happy to report that our organization is healthy and strong and our future is bright, specially with our new set of young officers.

Since our July 2022 Newsletter, we've had several major activities: Annual Family Summer Picnic, EIT Review, New Officer Election and Annual Christmas Party. Our Annual Summer Family Picnic was held at Creekside Park in Walnut, CA on August 27. It was a fun event with lots of food, games and camaraderie among fellow alumni. We signed up many new Lifetime Members, as the picnic serves as our membership drive event. We also started our New Officer nominations, which subsequently led to the election and oath-taking of the new officers. These new officers are young and dynamic and ready to move our association onward. Also during the picnic, we started the sign-ups for our EIT review program, which subsequently had its first review class in on October 8. It's great to see that we are able to have a sufficient number of students and instructor-volunteers after many years of inactivity. Our Annual Christmas Party was held at Aly's Dance Studio Hawthorne on December 10. It was a festive informal event with lots of food and dancing and where the new Officers as well as the new Lifetime Members were introduced to the group. We also had Christmas greeting videos from our four (4) Mapua scholars. It was great to hear from these young people how we're positively impacting their lives.

As we continue to move forward with our activities, we should always be thankful for our opportunity to help others through our scholarship and professional development/career assistance programs while savoring the memories of our time at our Alma Mater and the joy of friendships that we have formed and are forming as Mapua alumni in Southern California.



To learn more of Southern California Alumni, please visit www.socalmapua.org. There you may register to attend our upcoming 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance and Induction Ball or you may text Grace Viloría anytime at 909-545-4433 or call her (after 5pm on weekdays or anytime on weekends). We also ask that you advertise on our Souvenir Program to help with our cause. For advertisements go to our website or call Ed de Mesa at 323-423-0777. If you are an Annual SCMA member, please renew your membership by March 30 so that you can be included in the Souvenir Program membership list.



New SCMA Lifetime Members:

We continue to encourage new members and those renewing their annual membership to sign up as “New Lifetime Members”. This reduces the administrative effort involved in renewing memberships each year, so that we can focus on the important work of our organization. Lifetime members do not need to renew their membership each year, will be in the SCMA souvenir programs and website, and will be eligible to vote on SCMA issues for life. New Lifetime Members will be “Pledged” at the upcoming Dinner Dance and Induction Ball on April 29, 2023. Here’s a list of New Lifetime Members since the last dinner-dance. Those who sign up as new Lifetime Members before March 30, 2023 will be included in the list.

Edward Aguinaldo, ECE’97
Claro Dela Cruz, ME’81
Renato Perez, EE’76
Primitiva Vidal, ChE’86

Lynjohn Claricia, AR’71
Danny Hilario, CE’72
Rudy Santuray, AR’69

Jose Capati, CE/EN/SE’84
Roland Allen Madrazo, CE’13
Fabian Santa Ana, ME’67

SCMA Scholarship Matching Fund (SMF):

During our 2022 Christmas party, we re-launched the Scholarship Matching Fund for Tax Year 2023. The SMF was initially launched in 2021 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic because of our inability to raise funds through traditional means for our Scholarship Program. The SMF has been quite successful and has a lot of appeal as donations made are fully tax-deductible per IRS 501(c)(3) since 100% go directly into the SCMA Scholarship Fund account, which is used only for scholarship grants. Also your donations are matched by Patrons, SCMA Members who pledge or make large donations (\$500 or more), thus effectively doubling the impact of your donation. As Mapua alumni in Southern California, we are so blessed, and this is an excellent way to share our blessings with our scholars who are smart but financially struggling. This program is also open to non-Mapuans as donors. To make a Scholarship Matching Fund donation, go to our website at www.socalmapua.org/matching-fund-program, or simply send your contribution via Zelle or Venmo to “Southern California Mapua Alumni” at 626-227-6109 with the memo “SMF.” We will acknowledge your donation with an e-mail or text, and SMF donations of \$100 and above will be acknowledged at the upcoming Dinner-dance/Induction Ball event on April 29, 2023. Thank you for your kindness, and may the Lord bless you and your family always.

SCMA Mapua Scholarship, Adopt-A-Scholar Program and Scholar Visit:

As you may know, we currently have four (4) scholars studying at our beloved Alma Mater, Mapua University a.k.a. Mapua Institute of Technology. They were selected by our Scholarship Committee from a field of 15 nominated by the school based on grades, financial need, and essay. SCMA remits \$400 to Mapua University per quarter for each of our scholars. Letters from these scholars demonstrate that their SCMA Scholarship has been a source of inspiration, encouragement and much-needed support in finishing their education. I’m happy to report that they they have either just graduated or are completing their graduation courses. Here are our scholars:

Nicole Maceda is a Chemical Engineering student who came from a family with meager means that got even worse with the job losses of her family due to Covid. She is humble in that she saw herself as an average student but she works hard and perseveres not just for herself but also for her family. With her tenacity and the help from SCMA and particularly her Adopt-A-Scholar sponsors Dan Nable, ME’71, SCMA President 2015-2016, and his wife Melanie, Nicole was not only able to graduate recently but graduate with Magna Cum Laude and Gold Medalist honors. Nicole is now studying for the ChE board exam. Congratulations and good luck Nicole! Your success is also our success.

Kyla Athena Bermundo is a Civil Engineering student who grew up in a broken family and had to be taken cared of by a grandmother so she had to mature fast. She’s hard-working, faith-filled and very smart, so she was able to finish high school

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by selling food and with a grant from the Don Tomas Mapua foundation. She was initially not among the SCMA scholars, but through our Adopt-A-Scholar program, we were able to grant her an SCMA scholarship when BFF's Cynthia de Leon, CE'70 and Rosalinda Tandoc, CE'66 offered to be SCMA scholarship sponsors. With the help of SCMA and PCSO, Kyla Athena has completed her graduation course requirements and will soon graduate and take a CE board exam review class. Way to go Kyla Athena! We're proud of you.

Mel Patrick Malinis is a Chemical Engineering student, whose aging parents could barely afford to send him to school, was heavily affected by the pandemic. But Mel Patrick was determined to send himself to school and become an engineer even as his parents could no longer afford to, so he focused in studying hard and applying for scholarships. With his excellent grades and scholarships from MAA and SCMA, he was recently able to complete courses required for graduation. He was in the process of going to his OJT, but he decided to focus on actually graduating and taking the ChE board exam. Good work and good job Mel Patrick! Do keep in touch.

Hazelle Jae Abanilla is a Chemical Engineering student who is a continuing SCMA scholar with 5 more units to graduate. She is very family-oriented and with her father not able to work because of a spinal condition, she helps her mother as much as possible in her small on-line business and studies very hard getting high enough grades to qualify for some academic scholarships from Mapua. With her SCMA scholarship, Hazelle Jae hopes to graduate next quarter. Keep plugging Jae. We're behind you 100%!



On October 17, 2022, CSFA organized a get-together for the SCMA scholars and Berwyn Salazar, CoE'92, Vice-President of SCMA. The group enjoyed a meal with introductions and discussions on academics and the scholarship. The scholars mentioned that they were already taking their internship and thesis courses; while most of them were interning onsite, there were also a few who were able to intern online for overseas companies. The scholars affirmed how the scholarship has become a strong support in their studies and expressed their gratitude to the SCMA organization for having accepted them as scholars. Berwyn mentioned that SCMA will be happy if the scholars kept in touch even

after their journey in Mapúa. Pictured L-R are: Berwyn Salazar, SCMA VP; Ms. Justine Olis; Hazelle Jae Abanilla, Kyla Athena Bermundo, Shaira Mae Hermanno (Mapua CSFA), Nicole Maceda, Mel Patrick Malinis, and Jessica Faigones (Mapua Admissions Officer).

SCMA 2022 Annual Summer Family Picnic:



The 2022 annual summer family picnic and membership drive was held at Creekside Park in Walnut, CA, on August 27, 2022. This festive day was filled with lots of fun, meet and greet, and games for all ages. There were 7 new Lifetime members who either came for the first time haven't been coming in a long time. The youngest attendee was 1 year old and the oldest

6 years old, both from the Papilla family. The oldest Mapua alumnus who attended was Emilio Achacoso, BA'54, who was the captain of the Mapua Cardinals basketball team and who represented the Philippines in the Olympics after graduation.

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SCMA Election of Officers for 2023-2024 Term:

Nominations for a new set of officers was started at the Summer picnic and since there were only 9 nominees who accepted, the SCMA Comelec Committee did not have to conduct a full membership election. At the November 19, 2022 SCMA Board meeting held at President Ross Papilla's residence, the following set of officers were elected:

President:	Russel Viloría, CE'90	Assistant Treasurer:	Joel Hornilla, HS'83
Vice President:	Roderick Dela Cruz, CE'90	Business Manager:	Berwyn Salazar, CoE'92
Secretary:	Janiña Lyka Baiza, CE'13	Public Relations Officer:	Ed De Mesa, ECE'90
Corresponding Sec:	Roald Bueno, ECE'12	Auditor:	Roland Allen Madrazo, CE'12
Treasurer:	Jesse San Miguel, ME'01		



This is the youngest set of officers in SCMA's history. Their mean and median age is about 42 y.o. They can be considered the 3rd generation of leaders since the founding of the association in 1977. They were sworn in via zoom in January 2023 by Florentino Quiaot, CE'72, President 2005-2006, and signed their pledge papers at the first 2023 SCMA Board physical meeting on February 4, 2023. They will be inducted at the SCMA 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance and Induction Ball at the Doubletree Hotel Buena Park on April 29, 2023. Please join us in congratulating these new officers and in supporting them as they carry SCMA's torch of leadership into the future.

Engineer-in-Training (EIT) Exam Review:



One of the most important missions of SCMA is to help in the professional development and advancement in the career of its members and the community. As an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization of alumni from an engineering school, we are proud to offer a free review course to anyone wanting a California Engineer-in-Training registration. After a multi-year lull, we are again offering this course, which consists of 8-10 weeks of common core and discipline-specific classes taught mostly by SCMA members. In

2022, we started enrollment during the Summer Picnic and held our first class at the Church Hall of our Education Chairperson, Roderick Dela Cruz, CE'90. Pictured are Roderick dela Cruz (CE instructor), Jesse San Miguel, Ed De Mesa, Diane Lim (CSUF), Iva Vidal, Jushua Teodoro (Math instructor), Robelyn Patricio, Faye Llanes, Janiña L. Baiza, Minda & Ross Papilla, President (EE Instructor). Not pictured are Stephen Carigma (reviewee) and Joey Uy (Env E instructor).

SCMA Annual Christmas Party:



The year 2022 ended on a positive note for the members of Southern California Mapua Alumni (SCMA). On December 10, over 80 members, family and friends gathered for the last and final time of the year to share life updates, take selfies and portraits, dance and celebrate another year of success. The jolly celebration was held at Aly's Dance Studio in Gardena.

Anya Tino, CE'17, our youngest and newest member. New Lifetime Members were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and tell their stories. Various groups such as the new set of officers, the past presidents, EIT review participants, current officers and volunteers were presented.

The Christmas Party paid for itself and actually made a small amount, thanks to donations from some alumni. We also re-launched the Scholarship Matching Fund, and we had an on-site collection of \$540 that evening, plus more pledges made for tax year 2023. To help our scholars with this program, go to our website or donate via Zelle or Venmo at 626-227-6109 and put "SMF" on the memo.