



Southern California
MAPUA ALUMNI

www.socalmapua.org
Cell# 626-227-6109

NEWSLETTER July 2023
Published Semi-annually

President's Message:



Greetings and blessings to you fellow Mapuans. My name is Russel Viloría, the newly elected President of Southern California Mapua Alumni (SCMA) for 2023-2024. It is an honor and great privilege for me to become the President of this prestigious organization. I want to acknowledge my predecessors and mentors, Ross Papilla and Glee Quiaot, for their unending support and guidance as I embark to lead this organization. I also would like to thank our newly elected officers for their dedication, tireless support, and enthusiasm to make this organization succeed. Finally, to our generous Sponsors, we can't thank you enough for your incredible, continued support.

Time has flown and we are already in Q3 of the year 2023. Despite the challenges we had to face during the pandemic, we continue to strive and grow. Our 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance and induction ball on April 29, 2023, was a success. My fellow officers and I were inducted into office and took our oath to carry on the core purpose(s) of this organization. We will keep up the "Revitalization and Strategic Plans" that was introduced by the previous administration with the key objectives of energizing and growing our membership, growing our scholarship and education career-assistance programs, using technology to improve our operations, establishing new-fund raising methods, and increasing the quality of our socialization programs to strengthen our bond as Mapuans.

In order to increase our organization's prominence in the community, we have joined and participated in other Filipino organization events such as; Carson's 125th Independence Day Celebration at Veteran's Park, on June 10th ; The Philippine Consulate General's 125th Philippine Independence Day celebration Gala held on June 25, 2023 at the FACLA Compound and Historic Filipino Town, in Los Angeles; and NaFFA's L.A. County's Largest - 2nd Philippine – American Friendship Day at Don Knabe Regional Community Park, Cerritos on July 15th. Through these community events, we will continue to reach out to more Mapuans who were not aware of SCMA's existence.

"Kudos" to everyone who joined the 2023 SCMA Invitational Golf Tournament, this was another huge success. Golf enthusiasts in and out of the SCMA circle preceded and gathered at Dos Lagos Golf course in Corona on June 17, 2023. Despite the sun's scourging heat that day, everyone still enjoyed the tournament.

The SCMA Annual Summer Family Picnic will be held on August 12, 2023 (Saturday) from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Suzanne Park, Walnut. And our upcoming event for the SCMA Annual Christmas party is scheduled on December 02, 2023, venue to be announced. We are still in the process of searching for the perfect place for everyone. Fellow Mapuans, please reserve this date and invite your family and friends.

To end, I would like to thank everyone for your unending support. This is a team effort, let us continue to promote, protect, and support this organization to achieve our mission. GOD Bless us all! To GOD be all the glory!

Please visit our website www.socalmapua.org to learn more of our organization or perform on-line functions such as membership application/renewal, event RSVP, and donations.

Visit our website at <https://socalmapua.org>

Questions, comments, or suggestions? Contact our Newsletter Staff below:
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SCMA 2023 Scholarship Program Status Update:

SCMA's Scholarship Program is one of the most important programs as stated in our Mission Statement. We believe that a good education is a ticket to a more fulfilling life not only for the student but also for their families and others around them. Although you may be aware of our scholarship program for smart and ambitious but financially disadvantaged students at our old Alma Mater, SCMA also has a local (Southern California-based) scholarship program. To date we've had 42 Mapua scholars and our last batch of four scholars have just graduated or will soon be graduating (see pictures). We are very proud of our scholars and their sponsors, and our donors and supporters.

We are in the process of requesting a fresh batch of Scholarship candidates from Mapua University. We are also in the process of updating our guidelines for our local scholarship program. We currently have substantial funds due in part to three new and popular fundraising methods: the Scholarship Matching Fund, the Adopt-A Scholar, and the Qualified Charitable Distribution programs. Donations received through these programs are 100% tax-deductible due to our 501(c)(3) status as a Charitable Non-profit Organization. Giving back to the community is the main purpose of our existence as an organization. Recently we have received substantial Scholarship Fund donations from Lourdes Cronin, BA'65. and Joe Rigonan, ME'62. If you are interested in making a donation through one of our scholarship fundraising programs, or you simply want to learn about them, please contact our scholarship chairman, Ross Papilla at 909-896-6160 or visit our website at <https://www.socalmapua.org/scholarship-programs>.



Nicole Maceda, BS ChE
Magna Cum Laude & Gold Medalist
Dan & Melanie Nable SCMA Scholar



Mel Patrick Malinis, BS ChE



Kyla Athena Bermundo, BS CE
Cynthia de Leon & Rosalinda
Tandoc SCMA Scholar



Hazelle Jae Abanilla, BS ChE
(Graduating)

SCMA Free EIT Review Course and Professional Development:

SCMA continues to fulfill its core mission of providing career advancement assistance for members and the community. This is done by conducting Free California Engineering Exam review classes, mentoring, networking, and job placement support to individuals in the engineering and technical fields. Engineer- in-Training (EIT) review classes for young engineers and alumni aspiring to pass the Fundamentals of Engineering exam and be granted a California EIT Certificate is one of the most popular of SCMA's public service programs.

Currently, SCMA has started the EIT review classes, which were facilitated by SCMA members and volunteers who have passed the exam and/or have a mastery of specific subject areas. We are now in the process of resuming the course and are looking for students and instructors.

Visit our website at <https://socalmapua.org>

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Some state laws permit the waiving of the FE examination for individuals that meet state requirements. Good news! California is one of the states that allows waiver of the FE exam. One of our EIT students, Iva Vidal, pursued this path with SCMA's support, and has successfully waived the FE exam. She is now busy preparing for the PE Chemical exam this coming December.

Please let us know if you or someone you know is interested in participating in this course or needing assistance to successfully waive the FE exam. For more information on this program, please contact us through our website at <https://www.socalmapua.org/eit-review>.

SCMA 2023 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance & Induction:

SCMA's 46th Founding Anniversary Dinner Dance & Induction Ball was held on April 28, 2023, at the Double Tree Hotel at Buena Park. The night was filled with elegance and joy as the new set of officers took their oath and were officially inducted to help carry out the organization's mission and vision. Other activities that were done during the night was the pledging of new lifetime members and the recognition of the extraordinary Mapuans who gave their time, skills, talents, and kind donations towards helping the organization and scholars located in the Philippines during the past year. Music was provided by the April Velasco band who showcased their talent all throughout the night. Everybody brought their dancing shoes and danced the night away!

The officers and the board are thankful to those who not only attended, but to those who came in a few hours early to set up, volunteered, donated prizes, and supported the successful event! The event has surely raised funds for the new and upcoming scholars and hopes next year will be another success!



SCMA Recording Secretary Janiña Lyka Baiza on acquiring her Professional Engineer (PE) License:



We have good news to share! Our member and current officer, Janiña Lyka Baiza, recently acquired her PE License. Janiña first stepped in the prestigious Mapúa Intramuros Campus in 2008 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 2013.

Janiña arrived in Southern California in 2014 and shortly thereafter, became an official member of SCMA. Leadership saw that she had the potential to help carry out the organization's mission and was nominated to become an officer, which she proudly accepted the role.

Almost a decade has passed since Janiña moved and started a career in Southern California and after constantly hitting the books, and joining SCMA EIT Review Program, she has finally arrived and reached a great achievement for her family, friends, and her fellow SCMA members. Let's all congratulate Janiña on her wonderful achievement! Viva!

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SCMA 2023 Golf Tournament:

The 2023 SCMA Invitational Golf Tournament was held on June 17, 2023, at Dos Lagos Golf Course in Corona. This is the first time that we had a “Shotgun” style tournament. We had 15 teams and we partnered with Superior Golf Club who had 21 teams, bringing the total player count to around 140. The tournament was an unqualified success: it was well-organized, the players had fun, the catered Filipino food was delicious, and we raised a total of over \$1,500. Joel Hornilla, Mapua HS’83 and Ross Papilla, EE’75 were the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, respectively. As in previous years, we adopted the Texas Best Ball Scramble team play with the handicapping calculated using the Callaway method. The championship trophy went to the family team of Willie Papilla; 1st runner-up was the team of Bhot Salas, HS ’74, and 2nd runner-up was the team of Tony Ballesteros, EE’61/ME’64. The lead scorer was Tino Quiaot, CE’72. We would like to thank all the players, volunteers, families & friends, and sponsors for their support. Special thanks to Al Pintor, EE’74 for arranging our venue, and to Berwyn Salazar, CoE’92 for his company’s “Eagle” sponsorship.



Golf Tournament Volunteers at the Registration desk: Russel Viloría (standing), Glee Quiaot, Gemma Hornilla (Joel Hornilla’s wife), Vicky San Agustín, Minda Papilla, Ross Papilla



Golf Tournament Championship Team on the greens with Ross Papilla (Willie’s Kuya) at the center: Wilson Papilla, Willie Papilla, Michelle Papilla Nguyen, Don Nguyen



Awarding Ceremony with 1st Runner-up Team with Tony Ballesteros, Cecille Lopez-Brod, Ross Papilla, and Tino Quiaot: Ernie Dimaculangan, Fernando Decipeda, Norman Ronquillo, and Bhot Salas

SCMA at 125th Philippine Independence and Nationhood Anniversary:



SCMA Officers with Consul General Edgar Badajos

Mr. Roderick Dela Cruz, SCMA Vice President, Jesse San Miguel, SCMA Treasurer and Berwyn Salazar, SCMA Business Manager attend the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and Nationhood celebration at the Community Hall of the Filipino American Community in Los Angeles (FACLA) building last June 25, 2023 on behalf of SCMA. Consul General Edgar B. Badajos lead the celebration that was attended by leaders of various Filipino American community organizations as well as representatives from the diplomatic corps in Los Angeles. Filipino American entertainers and fashion designers graced the event showcasing Filipino talent. The evening was organized by the Los Angeles Consular Office including Ms. Hazel Manahan-Mendoza who facilitated the

Consul General greetings in our anniversary souvenir program and the attendance of Vice Consul Levi Anthony B. Malaylay to deliver a message from the consulate during our anniversary celebration last April.

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SCMA at 125th Philippine Independence Day Celebration at the Veterans Park:



The Socal Mapua booth at the 125th Philippine Independence Day Celebration at the Veterans Park in Carson California on Saturday, June 10, 2023, had a lot of visitors. It was fun hanging out with fellow Mapuans, family and friends and enjoying the exhibits, foods and shows centered on Filipino culture. There were 16 people who signed up to be potential new SCMA members and quite a few more who took our flyers home to their



Mapúa friends and family. Featured performers were, among others, Pops Fernandez and dancers from Manila, the Junior New System who were semi-finalists on America's Got Talent. We networked with various groups like Letran and San Beda and planned the next NCAA/UAAP Basketball Tournament among the alumni in Southern California.

SCMA at 2nd Annual Philippine American Friendship Day:



SCMA officers attended the 2nd Annual Philippine American Friendship Day for the first time. This was held last July 15, 2023 from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm at Don Knabe Community Regional Park (19700 S. Bloomfield Ave., Cerritos CA. This is one of L.A. County's Largest event spearheaded by Janice Hahn, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor (Fourth District). This event is in partnership with the L.A. County and NaFFAA Greater Los Angeles Region. This event attracts over 3000 attendees, with over 65 booths/vendors, and over 45 diverse Filipino American group clubs/organizations are expected to attend this momentous event. The event theme

this year is "Building Bridges Across Communities" where we can have a day of fun, food, music, entertainment, and all sorts of vendors as we enjoy and experience the time-honored traditions and the true meaning of community.

SCMA officers who attended the event were Russel Vilorio (President), Roderick Dela Cruz (Vice President), Roald John Bueno (Corresponding Secretary), Jesse San Miguel (Treasurer), Joel Hornilla (Assistant Treasurer) and wife Gemma Hornilla, Berwyn Salazar (Business Manager), Ed De Mesa (PRO), and Emil Venegas (Event Coordinator). The event started off with a community parade of all clubs/organizations around the event vicinity. Each organization has its own club banner. Other clubs/organization were Los Angeles Maharlika Lions Club, Pangasinan Brotherhood, Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, and Alpha Kappa Rho Fraternity, just to name a few. The parade ended inside the main event tent where clubs/organizations were introduced. Entertainment took place after all the clubs/organizations had been introduced. There were singing and dancing performances. SCMA officers went to almost all the booths to distribute membership forms and flyers for our upcoming SCMA Annual Summer Family Picnic. There were food vendors, health and wellness booths, Toyota dealership booth, McDonald's game booth, etc. It was a beautiful, fun, and productive day. There is an actual operational jeepney onsite.



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The main contact persons for this event were Ms. Mary Ann Omega, VP of Admin., NaFFAA Greater Los Angeles Region, National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA), maryann.omega@naffaa.org | 747.777.9811, and Ms. Lynda Johnson (310)-650-6159.

NaFFAA organized a parade contest and gave away cash prizes for the most delegation, liveliest (loudest cheers), and most colorful group. Unfortunately, SCMA officers must leave around noon time because we have a scheduled Monthly Board Meeting at Salo-Salo Grill Artesia. But for sure, SCMA could have won the most colorful group if we stayed 'til the announcement of winners. Proud to say that SCMA is the only school organization who joined this event, and we met several alumni which we are hoping to see again at the Annual Picnic. VIVA MAPUA!

Contributors:

Ed De Mesa – Newsletter Committee Head

Roald Bueno – Chief Editor

Russel Vilorio – Article #1 (President's Message)

Ross Papilla – Article #2 & #6 (SCMA 2023 Scholarship Program Status Update / SCMA 2023 Golf Tournament)

Roderick Dela Cruz – Article #3 (SCMA Free EIT Review Course and Professional Development)

Roland Allen Madrazo – Articles #4 & #5 (SCMA 2023 46th Anniversary Dinner Dance & Induction / SCMA Recording Secretary Janiña Lyka Baiza on acquiring her Professional Engineer (PE) License)

Berwyn Salazar – Article #7 (SCMA at 125th Philippine Independence and Nationhood Anniversary)

Glee Quinoveva Quiaot – Article #8 (SCMA at 125th Philippine Independence Day Celebration at the Veterans Park)

Jesse San Miguel – Article #9 (SCMA at 2nd Annual Philippine American Friendship Day)

Save the Date!!!

SCMA 2023 Christmas Party

December 2 || Location and Time: TBA

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.

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