



# Ortho Balita

Official Newsletter of the Philippine Orthopaedic Association, Inc.  
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*Let's give our share in ...*

## Healing the Nation



Keynote Speaker Senate President Aquilino 'Nene' Pimentel, Jr. is flanked by POA President Lauro M. Abrahan, Jr. during the opening ceremonies of the 12th Mid Year Convention.

*Cottolengo Filipino*

### POA Board Visit

### Pricks Social Conscience

**T**he POA Board of Trustees made a three-hour trip from the Philippine Orthopaedic Center to Montalban,

Rizal on April 7, 2001 to visit Cottolengo Filipino, Inc., an institution for abandoned children with various abnormalities and infirmities. They came in full force together with the POA secretariat staff and some representatives of Pfizer Philippines, Inc.

**16 pages  
this issue**

**S**enate President Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel, Jr. urged delegates and guests to the Philippine Orthopaedic Association (POA) 12<sup>th</sup> midyear convention in Cagayan De Oro City last May 3 to 5 "to help in the process of healing the nation of its problems".

In his keynote address during the opening ceremonies held at the Xavier Sports and Country Club auditorium on May 3, Pimentel remarked that "the government should reach out to the most disenchanted segment of our society – the poor". His message was almost prophetic, as a dramatic turn of events in Metro Manila just 48 to 72 hours earlier, resulted in a "state of rebellion" that Malacañang declared to help the military and the police quell a stage-managed urban poor siege of Malacañang and the Mendiola environs. (*Please see related stories and pictures on pages 6 & 7*)

Pimentel, one of Cagayan De Oro's beloved sons said that "the government must stabilize the business climate so that foreign investments will come in, and it should seriously address the prob-

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## BONE OF CONTENTION

**RODOLFO L. NITOLLAMA, MD, FPOA**



# Looking Back

**O**ne of the joys of writing lies in the pleasure a writer derives in being able to help chronicle some events in history. As I was concentrating on closing out this tenth issue of the Ortho Balita, it suddenly struck me that our newsletter is now on its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of existence, and that it is getting stronger with each issue.

From the Ortho Balita's maiden issue published in March 1999, which consisted of only 8 pages in black and white print and glossy bookpaper, this official newsletter of the POA fellows has since gone a long way.

We started with colored logos and titles beginning with the second issue published in June 1999. By the time the 5<sup>th</sup> issue came out in March 2000, Ortho Balita already had colored photographs aside from the colored logos and titles which varied every issue.

An attempt was also made to increase the Ortho Balita's page contents beginning with the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue (November 1999) which had 10 pages and 2 supplement pages containing the programs and activities of the POA golden anniversary combined meeting.

The regular 12-page format with 2 supplementary pages containing mostly colored photographs and special interest fea-

tures was maintained beginning with the 6<sup>th</sup> issue (June 2000).

Beginning with the 10<sup>th</sup> issue however, the Ortho Balita will now come out in 16 regular pages. We shall try to give all the information that you as POA fellows should know.

As a flashback, it would be interesting for you to know that the origins of the Ortho Balita came into being when then POA president Bibs Carilo, then POA secretary Boy Abrahan and yours truly sat down to concoct the idea of a regular quarterly publication to serve as a conduit of information between the national association and the POA fellows, especially those practicing outside of Metro Manila. Things started to roll, and soon the title "Ortho Balita" was coined by Bibs Carilo and Andy Borromeo. United Laboratories through Westmont and Biomedis offered to print the Ortho Balita through the intercession of Joey Solidum, who is Bibs' neighbor in Quezon City.

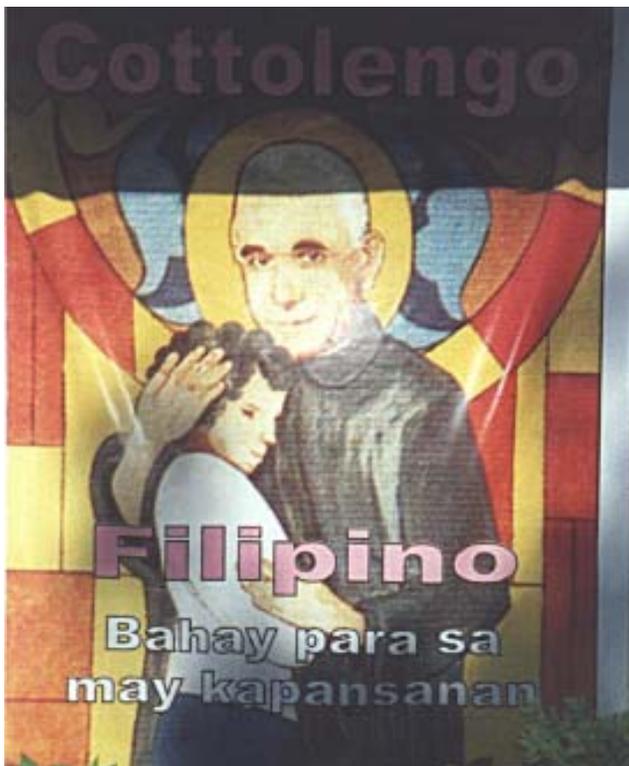
The Ortho Balita needs more writers and contributors especially from the POA chapters and the PBO-accredited orthopaedic training institutions. Special articles have also appeared, courtesy of Dr. Tyrone M. Reyes (*The Bone and Joint Decade and Philippine Orthopaedics*- December 2000 issue) and Dr. Jose M. Pujalte (*Make Haste Slowly*-March 2001 issue).

As a chronicler of POA history, the Ortho Balita has printed highlights of the combined golden anniversary meeting, among others. It has seen the ups and downs of the administration of deposed Philippine President Joseph Ejercito Estrada, the rise to power and takeover of new Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo during the EDSA II revolution, and the crisis the GMA government went through during the siege of Malacañang by Erap loyalists on May 1, 2001 as the bulk of POA fellows were on their way to Cagayan De Oro City for the 12<sup>th</sup> POA midyear convention. A special article on Clarissa Grey-Ocampo of Equitable-PCI Bank also appeared in the December 2000 issue. It also highlighted the birth of the POA's 5<sup>th</sup> chapter – the POA Western Visayas chapter.

Basically the Ortho Balita is a labor of love for the POA fellows. We in the editorial board and staff will strive to continue bringing you news and features regularly in the years to come.

\* \* \*

The Philippine Journal of Orthopaedics (PJO) first came out in December 1982 as a publication containing research papers and articles written by Filipino orthopaedic surgeons. It is usually distributed or inserted inside the souvenir bag every annual convention. This year the PJO will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year. Congratulations are in order for Dr. Antonio Montalban, its editor-in-chief since its inception, and a past POA president and PBO chairman aside from having been chairman of the UP-PGH Department of Orthopaedics and medical director of the UP-PGH Medical Center.



**BLESSED LUIGI ORIONE (1872-1940) clutches in embrace a disabled child.** This picture typifies the logos of all Cottolengo homes similar to the Cottolengo Filipino mural in Gloria Vista, Montalban Rizal shown above.

*PBO Corner*

## All Set For In-Training Examinations

The Philippine Board of Orthopaedics (PBO) will conduct the in-service training examinations (ITE) for orthopedic residents on Sunday, July 22, 2001 at the Bayanihan Hall, Unilab, Mandaluyong City.

The ITE is an annual evaluation for all training residents of PBO-accredited orthopedic training institutions.

Meanwhile, PBO chairman Dr. Mario B. Geronilla advised all prospective applicants to the diplomate examinations to file their applications early. The PBO diplomate examinations are scheduled on October 7, 2001 (written), October 14, 2001 (oral) and October 15 and 16, 2001 (practical).

The written and oral examinations will be conducted at the Bonaventure Plaza, Ortigas Ave., Greenhills, San Juan, while the venue of the practical examinations is the Philippine Orthopaedic Center, Banawe, Quezon City.

The deadline for filing of applications and submission of requirements for the diplomate examinations is September 7, 2001. A non-refundable application fee of P500.00 and an examination fee of P3,000.00 for the written, oral and practical examinations is required. For further details, please contact the PBO secretariat at telefax number 743-0105 and e-mail address [pbo@mindgate.com.ph](mailto:pbo@mindgate.com.ph). or visit them at the POC Mezzanine Floor.

*The true measure of man  
is not the number of servants he has,  
but the number of people he serves.*  
**Arnold Glasgow**



**PBO BOARD GOES HAWAIIAN TOO!** PBO Chairman Dr. Mario B. Geronilla and 12th mid year convention honorary chairman Dr. Manuel Z. Sison lead members of the PBO Board of Trustees, shown here in their resplendent uniform tropical print shirts, during the processional of the opening ceremonies in Cagayan De Oro City. Behind Geronilla and Sison are PBO treasurer Dr. Camilo Te, trustee Dr. Regalado Dela Paz, secretary Dr. Luisito Maaño and trustee Dr. Leslie Reyes.



**SPEAKERS AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** (From right to left) Drs. Edward Lim, Paskorn Chaivanichsiri, Farouk Marohombsar say "Cheeze" with Jac Pimentel.



**SHARING FOOD AND HOPE WITH THE COTTOLENGO KIDS** - POA Office Manager Sol De Jesus helps feed a disabled child during the POA's visit in Montalban, Rizal. Some POA trustees (Johnny Villaluz, Art Cañete and Ed Sarrosa) are shown busy attending to the hapless PWDs.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**LAURO M. ABRAHAN, JR., MD, FPOA**



# President's Mid Year Report

### POA Matters

The First Residents' Interactive Forum was held last January 26, 2001 at the Richmond Hotel with Dr. Edward Lim as session chairman. Other faculty members were Drs. Albert Dy, Bill Lavadia, Jofe Syquia and JP Leung. About 50 residents attended this meeting jointly sponsored by Searle-Pfizer.

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The Mindanao Chapter had its first meeting and induction of officers last February 3, 2001 at the Dynasty Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City.

President - Dr. Noel Gloria  
No Vice President

Secretary - Dr. Roberto Deniega

Treasurer - Dr. Delfin Rabe

Trustee - Dr. Dimarin Dimatingkal

Dr. Emmanuel Reinoso

Ex-Officio - Dr. Renan Abellera

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The POA Northern Luzon Chapter had their 1<sup>st</sup> Scientific Meeting and Induction of Officers on February 23, 2001 at the La Parilla Hotel, Cabanatuan City.

President - Dr. Glorifino Juan

Vice-President - Dr. James Paggao

Sec.-Treasurer - Dr. Rolando Dela Cruz

Auditor - Dr. Alex Supapo

PRO - Dr. Simeon Du

Dr. Ed Clemente was the Guest Speaker and talked about the current status of the different HMO's in the Philippines. Of the 52 member fellows and 27 associate members only 28 attended the meeting.

The POA Northern Luzon Chapter has reaffirmed its commitment to host the 13<sup>th</sup> POA Midyear Convention at the Baguio Country Club on May 2-4, 2002. Proposed theme is "Aksiyon sa Kumplikasyon": Strategies for Orthopedic Complications.

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The inaugural meeting and induction of officers of the newly organized Western Visayas Chapter was held at El Fischer

Hotel, Bacolod City last March 27, 2001.

President - Dr. Jose Maria Coruña

Vice-President - Dr. Manuel De Asis

Secretary - Dr. Teodorico Pacaldo

Treasurer (Bacolod) - Dr. Anthony Kho

Treasurer (Iloilo) - Dr. Rolando Tiongson

This was a joint meeting with the PCS local chapter and Dr. Kups Villaruel delivered his Dr. Jose V. Silao Memorial Lecture on Food, Wine, and Art as it relates to his career as an Orthopaedic Surgeon.

The Western Visayas Chapter will bid to host the 14<sup>th</sup> POA Midyear Convention in Bacolod City in 2003.

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The 12<sup>th</sup> Midyear Convention last May 3-5 at the Xavier Estates in Cagayan de Oro City was very successful and a hard act to follow for the future hosts of our mid-year meetings.

The CME and social events were well balanced and the delegates enjoyed the scenic Camiguin Island, Tinago Falls and the white water rafting.

The Residents' Annual Research Paper Contest sponsored by Biomedis on its third year and the 1<sup>st</sup> Residents' Quiz Show contest sponsored by Pfizer Philippines were well attended. These two projects will now coincide with the midyear meetings of the association.

The sports events particularly the golf on May 5 was jointly hosted by POGI (Philippine Orthopaedic Golfers, Inc.) and the Westmont Pharmaceutical Co. The other sports events i.e. Bowling, Billiards and Tennis were participated in by our POA Fellows with as much enthusiasm.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to congratulate Drs. Wewel Sison and Renan Abellera and all other orthopods of Cagayan De Oro City for a job well done.

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### PCS Matters:

The RVS (relative value scale) which is the new term for RUV (relative unit value) and its implementing guidelines will be released by June or July 2001.

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POA members of PCS local chapters need not pay annual dues since our PCS annual dues include payment to the local chapter membership. However, special assessments may be imposed by the local chapters.

The PJSS is a mandatory subscription by the fellows of the PCS.

\*\*\*

The midyear meeting of the PCS was held last April 19-21 at the Xavier Estates, Cagayan de Oro City. The subspecialty session of the POA was conducted by the Northern Mindanao Chapter. Dr. Jac Pimentel formatted it in an interactive manner by presenting interesting trauma cases involving the different surgical disciplines.

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The PCS Annual Convention will be on December 2-5, 2001 at the Edsa Shangri-La. The Philippine Foot and Ankle Society has agreed to conduct the POA Subspecialty Symposium.

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The POA Board has again nominated past POA president and past PBO chairman Dr. Andres Borromeo as candidate for the PCS Board of Regents and expects full support from the POA fellows who are active fellows in the PCS.

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### ASEAN Orthopaedic Association Matters:

#### 1. Travelling Fellowship

1.1 Zimmer AOA Travelling Fellow is Dr. Venancio Garduce. This will run from May 20 - June 13, 2001 to culminate at the AOA Meeting in West Palm Beach, Florida.

(Continued to page 5)



*POA delegates to the 13th APOA Triennial Congress in Adelaide, Australia last March 31 to April 6, 2001 hold aloft the letter logos of POA, PGH and POC. From left, Drs. Andy Borromeo, Boy Abraham, Lewy Pasion, Gregorio Azores and Tammy Dela Rosa. Kneeling is Dr. Mikey Bengzon.*

## President's Mid Year Report

(Continued from page 4)

1.2 The EFORT Travelling Fellowship sponsored by Depuy – Johnson & Johnson will be hosted by the British Orthopaedic Association. The Board has nominated Dr. JP Leung and this will run from September 2-14, 2001 within the United Kingdom area and culminating at the BOA Annual Congress in Birmingham.

1.3 AOA Travelling Fellowship  
- Senior Travelling Fellow is Dr. Tony Montalban and the program will be from July 14-29, 2001 starting in Bangkok and ending in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- The Junior Travelling Fellow is Dr. Edmund Oreta and this will run from September 10- October 13 culminating in the 21<sup>st</sup> AOA Congress in Kuta, Bali, Indonesia (October 11-13, 2001)

2. The First American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the ASEAN Orthopaedic Association (AAOS-AOA) Instructional Course will be held in Singapore in 2002. This will coincide with the SOA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the 22<sup>nd</sup> AOA Convention. The Faculty members will be coming from AAOS.

3. Venues of the ASEAN Orthopaedic Association (AOA) for the next 5 years:

2001	-Indonesia
2002	-Singapore
2003	-Malaysia
2004	-Philippines
2005	-Thailand

The POA will try to bid for the 2005 meeting which coincides with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the AOA founding in the Philippines in 1980.

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### AAOS Matters:

The 65<sup>th</sup> AAOS Congress was held at the Moscone Center, San Francisco, California on February 27- March 3, 2001. About 50 Filipino Orthopaedic Surgeons attended this meeting.

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The International Presidents' Forum was scheduled in the morning of February 28. The main topic of discussion was on Road Trauma, which is the same project of the Bone and Joint Decade for this year.

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The Presidents of the different National Associations were presented to the audience with their respective flags during the Opening Ceremony on February 28. This was followed by a welcome reception at The Presidio where there was an exhibition of Orthopaedics in Art.

\*\*\*

The Bone and Joint Decade meeting with Prof. Lars Lidgren was attended by Dr. Dela Paz on March 3, 2001 where the 2001 action plans were presented.

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### Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association Matters:

The 13<sup>th</sup> Triennial Meeting of the APOA was held in Adelaide, Australia on March 31- April 6, 2001.

\*\*\*

In the international presidents' meeting on March 31, the following issues

were discussed:

Relationship of National Association with APOA; Maintenance of databases of National Associations; Orthopaedic Publications in the Asia Pacific Rim; Road Trauma Prevention; Shared training opportunities and fellowships; Collaborative Research; and Third World Orthopaedics

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### Bone and Joint Council Matters:

The Philippine Orthopaedic Association participated in the Bone and Joint Decade Exhibition last February 14, 2001 at the SM Megamall. The POA Orthopaedic Trauma census was highlighted in this exhibition.

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### Outreach Program:

The POA Board of Trustees visited the Cottolengo Filipino, Blessed Luigi Orione, Bahay Para Sa May Kapansanan last April 7, 2001 in Montalban Rizal. There is a plan to adopt this center and set up a playground for these handicapped children and extend our specialty expertise in helping to surgically correct some of the musculoskeletal deformities of these children.

Hopefully, we can plan on a big outreach program this November 2001 and involve the POA Fellows in putting up a small playground and hold a Kiddie Olympics with our kids participating with the handicapped children. Let us all join hands and make the Christmas of these abandoned children merry and more meaningful.

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### Other Matters

The AOEA (AO East Asia) has recently introduced their web page for all interested trauma surgeons at the home page <http://www.aoea.org>. You can conveniently access this web page anytime

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The POA will also be launching our new website <http://www.philortho.com> through the assistance of Pfizer Phils. Inc. This is being registered in the world wide web and will soon be available to our members. You can still access our webpage at <http://www.pfizer.com/poa.html>.

# Highlights of the 12th POA



## AT THE OPENING CEREMONIES:

Senate President Pimentel discusses seriously with POA Mindanao Chapter president Dr. Noel Gloria, while mid year convention honorary chairman Dr. Manuel Sison listens.



**POA VICE-PRESIDENT** Dr. Venancio Garduce and POA Treasurer Dr. Rodolfo Nitollama are all smiles as they lead the POA Board of Trustees during the processional. Others in picture are Drs. Paskorn Chaivanichsiri of Thailand (foreign speaker), Jofe Syquia, trustee Dr. Ed Sarrosa and secretary Art Cañete (in background). Note their colorful Hawaiian prints.

(Below) **WINNERS OF THE POA-UNILAB Annual Residents' Research Forum** receive their certificates from Joel Prescilla of Biomedis, Drs. Art Cañete and Boy Abrahan. From left: Priscilla, Cañete, Estrella (1st prize), Castillo (3rd prize), Alagar (2nd prize) and Abrahan.



## Healing the nation...

(Continued from page 1)

lem of poverty." He urged the doctors to help medically by delivering quality health services to the poor. He likewise entertained his audience with jokes about the current political situation, especially the just-finished attempt to overrun Malacañang Palace. In parting, he admonished everyone "to talk things over, and not to shoot each other."

One of Pimentel's sons, JAC L. Pimentel IV was active in the organizing committee of the convention as chairman of the scientific committee, while another son, Koko, who was a bar topnotcher, ran for city mayor but lost in the city's problem-marred elections.

## POA - Unilab Research Forum Takes a Bow in Mid Year

The POA-Unilab Annual Residents' Research Forum took a bow in the mid year convention beginning this year. Henceforth, the event will be conducted in this new schedule, thereby allowing the PBO training institutions and their residents more time to concentrate in doing their researches. It also freed the residents of the difficulty of preparing the research papers and then taking the in-training examinations the following day.

Dr. Emmanuel Estrella of UP-PGH copped the first place with his entry "Predictive Factors in Osteosarcoma of the Extremity in a Tertiary Hospital".

Second prize went to Dr. Dave Alagar of POC with his entry "Percutaneous Bone Marrow Injections In The

Treatment Of Long Bone Non-Unions".

Third prize went to Dr. Rommel Castillo of East Avenue Medical Center with his entry "The Effect Of Ofloxacin-Impregnated Pmma Beads: An In-Vitro And In-Vivo Study".

The Board of Judges was chaired by Dr. Eric SM Talens, FPCS who came despite his birthday on that day. He was cheered and greeted with a birthday song by the POA delegates. Dr. Leslie Reyes, FPOA and Dr. Randy Te (who substituted for Dr. Edgardo R. Cortez, FPCS) were the other judges. Dr. Ruperto O. Estrada headed the research forum committee with Drs. Miles Dela Rosa, Jofe Syquia and Mikey Bengzon as members and Dr. Art Cañete as research committee chairman.

# Mid Year Convention in CDO



(Above) **WINNERS OF THE POA-PBO-PFIZER Residents' Quiz Show** receive their prizes and pose with the judges and organizers. From left, Dr. Andy Borromeo and Sunny Rose Morales of Pfizer, emcees; Jean Rogacion (CME); Jonas Santos (Pfizer); PBO chair Dr. Mario Geronilla, judge; first place winners Drs. Pandanan, Librodo, and Lopez; Drs. Lewy Pasion, Badjun Reyes, Camilo Te and Tony Rivera, board of judges and POA President Boy Abrahan.

## Quiz Show A Success

Six groups of orthopedic residents from the 17 PBO-accredited orthopedic training institutions and one from Northern Mindanao Medical Center of host Cagayan De Oro City went through a gruelling elimination bout in the first-ever POA-PBO-Pfizer Orthopedic Residents' Quiz Show Contest last May 4, 2001.

In the end, the three-man team of Drs. Mark Allan Lopez (UP-PGH), Joaquin Pandanan (DLSUMC) and Gerard Mark Librodo (MMC) went home with the top prize. They defeated the trio of Drs. Roel Escarillas (WVMC), Jan Baltazar (WVSUH) and Emily Merzo (CLMMMC), who settled for second place.

Amid the intense competition among the residents of the different institutions, the camaraderie that is a trademark of orthopedic surgeons was not lost, but was further enhanced.



Organizers and judges were unanimous in hailing the show's success. To further fine-tune future contests, they have already reviewed the mechanics and suggested changes. Among the changes being looked into are: random grouping of the participants one day prior to the actual contest, use of more sophisticated materials like lighted buzzers, point system for questions and bigger prizes for the participants.

**CROWD FAVORITE** Hazel Bautista provided entertainment during the closing ceremonies, UP-PGH reunion and at *Violy Dablo's* real estate booth (at left).



**BIG CHECK** is presented by POA President Boy Abrahan and Jean Rogacion (CME) of Pfizer to first place winners.



**YELLOW TEAM** member raises the team's answer while the Blue Team members hesitantly choose their reply. A Pink Team member hoists their choice with confidence.



**EAGLE-EYED** members of the Quiz Show board of judges watch the proceedings intently and assured fairness and accuracy of the answers during the conduct of the contest. (They certainly were not watching the voluptuous singer on the left)

# The Cottolengo Filipino Visit in Pictures



*(Left and below left) ADIDAS VS. CLUBFOOT - Boy Abrahan bewails the neglect of this CP child's left clubfoot, as Art Cañete asks him to stand on bad leg while being examined.*

*(Above) TRUSTEES Art Cañete and Rod Nitollama say "Aaaaaah!" as they try to help the PWD's in maneuvering their utensils-held food in their moving target mouths. (Above left) Art with favorite PWD in a closer pose.*

*(Right) TRUSTEE Renan Abellera feeds PWD with spaghetti and chicken as Boy Ab looks on approvingly.*



*(Below) MORE "JAPORMS" poses from the young PWD's who were unmindful of their heart-wrecked visitors.*



*(Left) COTTOLENGO PWD who underwent at least 3 plastic and neurosurgical operations to correct a scalp and facial defect smiles through it all.*



*(Right) ALL MALES, they spend some outdoor time for a breath of fresh air, coupled with purposeless musculoskeletal movements so typical of their abnormal conditions.*

# POA Board Visit Pricks Social Conscience

*(Continued from page 1)*

Cottolengo Filipino, Inc. (*Bahay Para Sa May Kapansanan*) is situated in Gloria Vista Subdivision, Rolling Hills, San Rafael, Montalban, Rizal. It is run by the Cottolengo Filipino, a non-stock, non-profit religious organization with a board of trustees headed by Rev. Fr. Daniel Bouza, FDP, of Argentina. POA president Dr. Lauro M. Abrahan Jr. came across the organization's name in one of Atty. Art A. Borjal's *Jaywalker* columns in *The Philippine Star*. Borjal is one of the institution's members/ trustees together with Ms. Mari-Leen Dinglasan (vice-president), Ms. Catalina Eming (secretary), Rev. Fr. Orlando Normiella, FDP (treasurer), Arch. Edwin Andrews (member/trustee) and Eulalia H. Lim (member/trustee). It is funded by the congregation in Rome and supported in large part by donations locally and abroad. There are about 200 Cottolengo institutions around the world.

Cottolengo Filipino caters to PWD's (persons with disabilities) who are poor, abandoned, orphaned, unwanted, neglected, and surrendered regardless of tribe, religion and nationality. They are physically and mentally impaired, like the mentally retarded, blind, deaf, mute, orthopaedically handicapped and those with cerebral palsy, autism, Down's syndrome and others.

The POA board toured the facilities of the institution, talked to the staff which included professional nurses, physical and occupational therapists, counselors, and caregivers. They also took a closer look at all the 34 PWD's aged 0-15, all of whom are males with special needs. Then they tried to be close to the PWD's and fed them with the packed lunch which the board brought along. *(Please see related stories and pictures on page 8)*

Before each of the board mem-

bers set foot on the Cottolengo compound, nobody realized how disadvantaged the PWD's were. While the visit was in progress, those with families soon appreciated how much their children had in their lives. Pretty soon, plans were afoot to put into motion the POA outreach projects concerning the PWD's – have a family day at Cottolengo with the POA fellows and their children, construct a playground for the kids, and offer more professional services for them, especially for the children with orthopaedic disabilities like clubfoot and the like. Before the day was over, it was mission accomplished! – our social conscience has

been pricked.



*(Counterclockwise from top) A MACRO-CEPHALID child strikes a "Japorms" pose; the institution's building below the poetic rolling hills of Montalban. Note the possible site of a children's playground in the foreground.*



*(At left) POA SECRETARIAT staff Rogie and Mike with Sunny Rose and trustee Dr. Johnny Villaluz share a light moment with Cottolengo Filipino professional staff.*

*(Below) THE POA BOARD and Secretariat pose with Rev. Fr. Daniel Bouza and his staff after sharing packed lunch and spreading cheers to the PWD's. In return, the POA Board left home with plenty of compassion and a pricked social conscience.*



## Traveler's Diary

# MOSCONE

I have just returned from my annual intellectual Sabbath. This time I attended the 68<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) in San Francisco, California from February 28 to March 4, 2001. I looked at the opportunity to attend the AAOS conventions as my mission to update myself intellectually and academically in medicine and orthopaedics. This is a duty which I owe my patients who will be the ultimate beneficiaries of whatever advancement in knowledge that I would gain.

\* \* \*

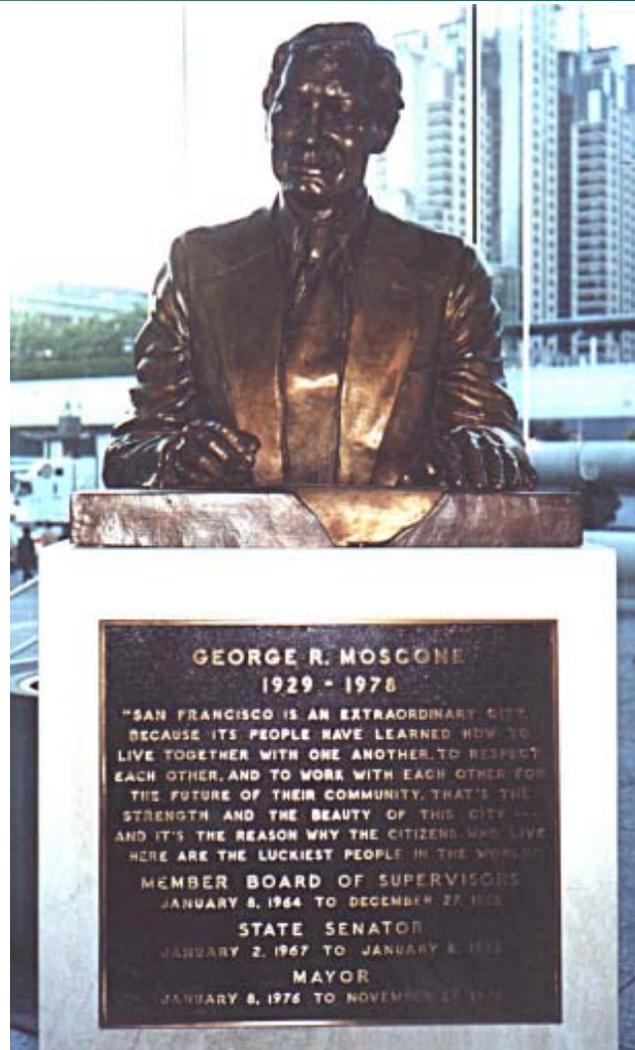
More than 10,000 orthopaedic surgeons from all over the world gather yearly in a US city for the AAOS convention. The choice of San Francisco as the venue was a very good one considering the climate, the city's atmosphere, its friendly people and its topnotch convention facilities. The cool spring weather was unspoiled, and the rains started to come only during the last day of the convention when a good majority of the attendees and visitors have left or were starting to leave for home. The Philippine delegation itself was led by officers of the Philippine Orthopaedic Association, Inc. (POA) headed by president Dr. Lauro Abrahan, Jr. and Philippine Board of Orthopaedics (PBO) chairman Dr. Mario B. Geronilla. More than 50 Filipino orthopaedic surgeons were in attendance, including the chiefs of the two biggest and oldest PBO-accredited orthopaedic training institutions – Dr. Ellewellyn Pasion of the UP-PGH Department of Orthopaedics and Dr. Jesus Dueñas of the Philippine Orthopaedic Center (POC). Likewise, Philippine Hip and Knee Society president Dr. Liberato Leagogo, Jr, Philippine Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (POSSM) president Dr. Noel Carilo and past president Dr. David Cabatan, POA vice-president Dr. Venancio Garduce, POA secretary Dr. Arturo Cañete and myself as POA treasurer, were there among others.

\* \* \*

The AAOS convention itself was held in the sprawling Moscone Center – two separate buildings (North and South) occupying one block each, separated by an 8-lane road and connected by an underground pass way. There, simultaneous symposia, lectures, poster sessions and technical and pharmaceutical exhibits were going on with a clock-like precision. All sessions were started and finished on time and there was hardly no confusion at all. The air-conditioned halls themselves were fully equipped with hundreds of pay telephone facilities that can connect you anywhere in the USA or the world. There were plenty of self-help computers for the participants to print their own Certificates of Attendance and tens of computers with internet and e-mail capabilities for AOL, Hotmail and Yahoo connections. Bus shuttle services to at least 9 routes continuously service the attendees to their hotel destinations every 15 minutes throughout the day. In all, conventions of this kind are very well organized and managed by professional staff.

\* \* \*

Who is Moscone? This huge convention center was



***HIS BUST LIES IN A SECLUDED, LONELY CORNER*** of the lobby of the huge convention center that bears his name - and unless a visitor is dead curious and nose, he is bound to miss this important landmark.

named after George R. Moscone (1929-1978). In a plaque attached below the bust of the man in a corner of the center, I gathered the information that Moscone was a member of the Board of Supervisors from January 8, 1964 to December 27, 1966. He was a State Senator from January 2, 1967 to January 8, 1976 or a period of 9 years. He became Mayor of San Francisco from January 8, 1976 to November 27, 1978. And his famous last words: "San Francisco is an extraordinary City, because its people have learned how to live together with one another, to respect each other and to work with each other for the future of their community. That's the strength and beauty of this City - and it is the reason why the citizens who live here are the luckiest people in the world."

\* \* \*

We are all familiar with the very popular song "I left my heart in San Francisco", which describes the romantic beauty of the place. With the climate and uphill-downhill terrain similar to Baguio's but on a larger scale, San Francisco has famous land-

(Continued to page 11)

*Postscript*

# 12th POA Mid Year Convention: *How We Did It*

by *Renan B. Abellera, MD*

In the business world, successful companies have shown the following factors as crucial for providing a competitive edge: Financial Capital, Technology and People. These factors were taken into account when the organizing committee planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> POA Midyear Convention.

Most conventions nowadays are facilitated by event organizers. They make things easier for the host chapter. However it has been my observation that even if you get the best people, it does not logically lead to outstanding results. In this convention, no event organizer was hired.

How did we do it? The first and toughest challenge was how to get people together to work as a team. Members of the organizing committee vary in age, training, religious persuasions and temperament. How to get senior members to work is difficult. How to make the good and bad boys mingle is tough. These issues were given importance by the leadership, albeit in a concealed manner.

The members of the organizing committee are mainly orthopods from Cagayan De Oro (CDO) City and outlying areas representing the POA – Mindanao Chapter. To make them “Come Together”, there has to be a permanent headquarters. Thus, the Mindanao Orthopedic Learning Center (MOLC) was established on Jan. 20, 2000. The center serves as the conference room, library and telecommunications center. Likewise, it serves as an entertainment center. As in any organization, infrastructure is a basic component in providing an environment conducive to productivity.

To make the members “Stay Together”, one has to make work fun, enriching and challenging. So last year, our meetings were punctuated with orthopedic conferences, karaoke sessions and drinking sprees. Eventually the members established firm working and friendly relationships. With such an environment, the members were now ready to work as a *TEAM*.

Since the group had only twelve members, we created only five working committees: the committee on scientific lectures was chaired by Dr. Jac Pimentel; registration committee by Dr. Wewel Sison; logistics committee by yours truly; sports committee by Dr. Jovito Lao; and fellowship committee by Dr. Ramon Te, Jr. As early as May 4, 2000 during the 11<sup>th</sup> POA Midyear Convention in Cebu, the organizing committee presented the *MASTERPLAN* to the then president Dr. Regalado Dela Paz. It contained details on committee objectives, manpower and timetable. The POA Board gladly accepted and approved our proposals.

Only through constant and periodic brainstorming, planning and consultations with different people from government and private agencies did we finally produce a complete masterplan that has firmly guided the different committees. Plans were implemented on time. By Oct. 30, 2000, letters were sent out to the different pharmaceutical and implant companies. The documents include contract for booth, advertisement and CME sponsorship. By sending proposals early, these companies were able to deliberate on our proposals in their year-end meetings. The results were gratifying. Through

the intense lobbying of Dr. Abrahan, we got one premium sponsor, one major sponsor and two regular sponsors for the event. The participation of Globe Telecom proves trade exhibit should not be limited to pharmaceutical and implant companies.

As scheduled, a pre-registration was conducted by Dec., 2000 during the POA 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Congress. The scientific program was complete by then. It generated much publicity about the 12<sup>th</sup> POA Midyear Convention in CDO.

With advance planning, the scientific program was enriched by the integration of the Annual Residents’ Research Forum, through the help of Dr. Art Cañete. Furthermore, Dr. Abrahan introduced the First Residents’ Quiz Show. Likewise pre-convention workshops by the Philippine Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (POFAS) and Philippine Spine Society (PSS) significantly contributed to the continuing medical education of the delegates.

To promote the *Filipino Hospitality*, the Delegate Assistance Center was formed to assist the delegates in their needs. The subcommittee on transportation, telecommunications and physical ways and means were placed under the supervision of this center. An ambulance was on standby for any emergency. The Department of Tourism provided a van.

In the final analysis, the skillful use of power led to the dynamism shown by the organizing committee. The mastery of timing, planning, leadership by example and the creation of an atmosphere of fairness and equality, effectively unleashed the human potential. In essence, this is how we did it. “*Working Together*” is success.

## Moscone

(Continued from page 10)

marks like the Golden Gate bridge and the Fisherman’s Wharf. San Franciscans’ concern for the environment is paramount. The city rose from the rubble and destruction of a killer quake less than 10 years ago. With all its natural amenities, it is no small wonder why the biggest Filipino congregation in the United States is in the San Francisco area.

\* \* \*

The hotel that we were billeted in was the Radisson Miyako Hotel. It used to

be a subsidiary of the Westin Philippine Plaza before it was sold to a Japanese and was then subsequently managed by Americans. It was rumored to be one of the late dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos’ overseas properties. Although a modest hotel, among its staff were long-time Filipino residents who are now American citizens. We were pampered by the courteous and highly commendable service of Filipino waiters who had been with the hotel from 25 to 28 years. And we felt dizzy with the constant refilling of our cups with hot brewed coffee. Other Filipino staff were the bellman and the concierge who have been there for more than 20 years in the service. The only mis-

givings we had with the hotel were the extra narrow single beds that prohibited us from even turning from one position to another at the risk of falling off from the bed, and the Japanese baths which required us to go down a bath tub-like area deep enough for you to drown. Otherwise, the buffet breakfast and the hospitality of the Filipino staff more than made up for the lack of other amenities. - RLN

(Editor’s note: This article was reprinted with permission from the March 18, 2001 issue of *The Bicol Chronicle*)

## “WHAT’S UP DOC?” CORNER - ARTURO C. CAÑETE, MD, FPOA



# OCME Problems and You

### MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Currently the Association is composed of 382 regular fellows. This excludes the honorary, emeritus & associate fellows. Our records tell us that among the regular fellows, there are 263 (68%) members in good standing.

We have noted, based on our constitution, that some of those fellows not in good standing already qualify for termination. These members are currently being analyzed because of the gravity of their situation. Considering that a sizeable number of our members are not in good standing, I tried looking into the possible reason for the difficulty of these members in meeting the annual OCME requirement.

So far, one possible reason that I have identified is the fact that some of our fellows are abroad, working or probably undergoing fellowship training. In this connection I have presented a recommendation to the POA Board that members who are going to work abroad or undergo fellowship training be given an option to apply for a leave of absence from the Association, and upon approval of the application by the Board he or she may be exempted from the OCME requirements, or if possible, both financial and OCME obligations.

One other issue is whether the annual OCME requirement is fair for fellows practicing far away from Metro Manila. This is considering that there are more orthopedic scientific meetings being held in Metro Manila, and this of course includes the annual congress, which carries the biggest OCME points. On the other hand, if the POA Board will be lax with regards to OCME requirements, it may be accused of being remiss in its responsibility to provide the fellows with an opportunity to constantly update themselves. The pros and cons of this issue obviously require looking into by the POA Board of Trustees.

### RESEARCH FORUM

The POA BIOMEDIS-UNILAB Midyear Research Forum was a well-attended session. This time as expected we had more “Fellow” attendees compared to previous fora. This year’s forum was chaired by Dr. Ruperto Estrada and our distinguished judges were composed by: Dr. Eric SM Talens a general surgeon and a clinical epidemiologist, Dr. Leslie Reyes an orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Edgardo R. Cortez a General Surgeon and Dr. Randy Te, another orthopedic surgeon who proxied for Dr. Cortez who could not make it to Cagayan.

Reaction forms were distributed during the forum and this reflected a unanimous choice for conducting the forum during the midyear meeting. This was construed as something that is reflective of our members’ desire for further exposure to local developments, and their appreciation of the relevance of these research works to our local practice.

We acknowledge and are thankful for the participation of the different institutions, winners as well as non-winners for sharing their work to the fellows of the Association. It has always been our objective that beyond the recognition of the best research work, one inherent objective of this forum and for that matter any other research forum, is the improvement of patient care as a result of these new insights in the field of orthopedics.

An observation that the presentation was quite long was one of the reactions and a suggestion that the presentation be limited to 8 papers was made. We have taken note of this suggestion and shall consider it in planning future research fora. Just to clarify matters we just want to mention that the basis of the decision to have 10 papers presented in this particular forum was to allow more institutions to present their research work. We hope this

will encourage future participation as well as expose the fellows to more developments. One option to address this issue as suggested by our president, is to divide the forum into two separate sessions interspersed by a lecture session. We shall consider this too and we shall remain open to any other suggestion regarding this matter. To end this topic let me just say that it is with deepest appreciation that we would like to thank all participating institutions, our judges, the Mindanao Chapter for absorbing this forum into their program and to our generous sponsor BIOMEDIS UNILAB.

### AO East Asia (AOEA)

Communication from the AOEA President Prof. S. P. Chow to the POA President informed us with regards to their activities within the region which includes the following:

- a. Regular AO instructional courses within the region
- b. Junior Ambassador Scholarship (2 weeks trauma training all expenses paid c/o AOEA)
- c. Senior Ambassador Program - 1 week teaching tour to other member country. To be nominated by national delegate to AOEA Education Committee.
- d. Availability of Speakers on trauma topics at national society annual congress.
- e. AOEA Newsletter - 5 issues annually; we are encouraged to contribute articles, and identify 10 key trauma surgeons or institutions who will be recipients of future issues.
- f. AOEA (Web Page [www.aoea.org](http://www.aoea.org)) request for linkage with association’s web page and dissemination of AOEA web page address to our members.

### Subspecialty Society News

## POFAS Conducts Workshop, Plans Postgraduate Course

The Philippine Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (POFAS) conducted its 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop on total contact casting for the diabetic foot last May 2 at Cagayan De Oro City. It was one of the pre-convention activities during the 12<sup>th</sup> midyear convention at Xavier Sports Complex, and was co-sponsored by Pfizer Phils. and Johnson & Johnson Depuy Phils.

POFAS president Dr. Emiliano B. Tablante talked on principles of partial foot amputation for diabetics, while Dr. Jose Fernando C. Syquia discussed the pathophysiology of the diabetic foot. A hands-on workshop including demonstration of how to apply a total contact cast on diabetics followed. New POFAS members were also inducted into the society.

Meanwhile, Dr. Tablante also announced that POFAS in cooperation with

the Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Department of Orthopedics and Traumatology will hold its 1<sup>st</sup> post-graduate course entitled "Understanding Common Foot and Ankle Problems" from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1, 2001 at the Manila Midtown Hotel.

Topics include basic science, foot and ankle trauma, sports injuries, pediatric and dermatologic disorders of the foot, foot and ankle reconstruction, diabetic foot, prevention of foot injuries and rehabilitation of foot and ankle problems. Interested parties may contact the course secretariat at telephone 743-1088.

POFAS has also agreed, on behalf of the POA, to handle the subspecialty lectures during the Philippine College of Surgeons annual convention on Dec. 2-5, 2001.

## Philippine Spine Society Holds Annual Congress

The Philippine Spine Society (PSS) conducted its annual meeting on May 3, 2001 at the Xavier Sports Complex in Cagayan De Oro as one of the pre-convention activities during the 12<sup>th</sup> POA midyear convention.

PSS President Dr. Antonio A. Sison welcomed the PSS delegates to the scientific meeting with the theme "Decision-Making in Low Back Surgery".

Speakers included Drs. Adrian Catbagan, Jose Manuel Ignacio, Mario Ver and Prof. HK Wong, who lectured and conducted a workshop on Spine Instrumentation.

## MYC Sports Winners Bared

A well-rounded program was conducted on at least 4 sports during the 12<sup>th</sup> POA Mid-year convention in Cagayan De Oro City.

Dr. Jovito Lao, sports committee chairman, announced the winners in golf, tennis, bowling and billiards during the closing ceremonies.

The golf competition was supervised by the Philippine Orthopaedic Golfers, Inc. (POGI). POGI Chairman Dr. Vedasto Lim announced that Dr. James Paggao of Baguio City emerged as the over-all champion. Class A champion is Dr. Jovito Lao. Class B champion is Dr. Henry Chua of Davao City with Dr. Alfred Lim as first runner-up. In Class C, Dr. Andy Borromeo emerged champion with Dr. Jun Collantes as first runner-up.

In tennis, the doubles pair of ageless Dr. Johnny Villaluz of POA-SL and Dr. Jun Morante of AFPMC beat Dr. Badjun Reyes of Davao City and his partner Dr. Bob Duzon.

In bowling, Dr. Gary Sevilla emerged champion with Dr. Albert Dy as first runner-up.

In 9-ball billiards, Dr. Farouk Marohombsar of host POA Mindanao beat Dr. Jeffrey Luna to emerge champion.

During the fellowship night, the daughter of POA Mindanao chapter fellowship chairman Dr. Ramon Te, Jr. emerged as the one with the best costume. In the chapter singing presentation, the original POA Elvis Presley, Dr. Ellewelyn Pasion led the Metro Manila fellows to snatch the best presentation award.



**POSSM MEMBERS** (From left to right) Drs. Edgar Eufemio, Andy Racpan, Tony Rivera, Butch Cabatan, Willie Pacheco, Bimboy Garduce, Miloy Te, Boy Abraham, Jose Raul Canlas, Bibs Carilo, Edwin Mercado, Peter Bernarndo, Jay Suntay, Art Cañete, Benedict Valdecañas and Ed Sarrosa at Tagaytay Highlands.

## POSSM Flexes Muscles Anew

The Philippine Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (POSSM) held its induction of new officers for 2001 at Tagaytay Highlands on April 26. Inducted were: Dr. Noel B. Carilo, President; Dr. Arturo Cañete, Vice President; Dr. Wilfredo Pacheco, Secretary; Dr. Peter Bernardo, Treasurer; and Dr. Jose Raul Canlas, P.R.O.

As part of the POSSM tradition, the morning session was devoted to sports activities. Drs. Tony Rivera, Willie Pacheco, Bimboy Garduce, enjoyed the windy scenery at the golf course while Drs. Miloy Te, Art Cañete, Jay Suntay, and Peter Bernardo

polished their bowling skills. Drs. Bibs Carilo and Dr. Ed Sarrosa honed their muscles in the gym.

In the afternoon, the induction ceremonies and scientific meeting were held. In the scientific meeting, new POSSM applicants Drs. Benedict Valdecañas and Andy Racpan presented their lectures on "Arthroscopic Treatment for Shoulder Impingement Syndrome" and "Horse Racing Injuries Among Jockeys" respectively.

The activity was supported by Pfizer Phils. and was arranged in Tagaytay Highlands through Dr. Lauro Abraham, Jr.

*CME Outreach Program***POA Speakers Spread Goodwill, Share Knowledge with PAFP**

The POA and Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) launched a unique lecture series tie-up that will see members of the POA speakers' pool touring PAFP chapters nationwide.

Under the sponsorship of Westmont Pharmaceuticals, the program known as POA-PAFP-Westmont CME Outreach Program debuted in Puerto Princesa on April 5, 2001 with Dr. Noel Carilo as speaker.

Concentrating mainly on the topics Osteoarthritis and Low Back Pain, the outreach program has utilized the following speakers thus far: Dr. Noel Carilo (Palaywan-April 5); Dr. Art Cañete (Tacloban and Ormoc-May 19, and Naga City-June

2-3); Dr. Regalado Dela Paz (Cebu-June 8); Dr. Jose Pujalte, Jr. (Tuguegarao and Santiago City-June 16-17); Dr. Andres Borromeo (Bacolod and Cabangalan-July 4-5); and Dr. Venancio Garduce, Jr. (Imus, Cavite-July 15)

The POA Faculty for this outreach program have shared their knowledge with the family physicians and have acted as POA ambassadors of goodwill to the different PAFP Chapters nationwide. The faculty pool includes Drs. Lauro Abrahan, Jr., Garduce, Jr., Cañete, Carilo, Borromeo, Dela Paz, Miles T. Dela Rosa, Pujalte Jr., Ambrosio Brabante, Jr., Peter Bernardo, Wilfredo Pacheco, Irwin Rivera and Albert Molano.

**POA North Luzon to Host 13<sup>th</sup> MYC in Baguio City**

After POA Mindanao conducted a highly successful 12<sup>th</sup> midyear convention in Cagayan De Oro City, it will be the turn of POA North Luzon Chapter next year to show its wares.

POA-NL will host the 13<sup>th</sup> midyear convention in Baguio City on May 2-4, 2002, with the proposed theme "Aksyon sa Komplikasyon": Strategies for Orthopaedic Complications.

POA-NL president Dr. Glorifino N. Juan, Jr. and over-all convention chairman Dr. Reynaldo F. Cariaga are considering the Baguio Country Club and the Camp John Hay as possible venues.

**POA Standing and Ad Hoc Committees 2001****52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Honorary Chairman	Lauro M. Abrahan, Jr., MD
Over-all Chairman	Venancio P. Garduce, Jr., MD
Scientific Meeting	Arturo C. Cañete, MD
Ways & Means	George Winston B. Estera, MD
Trades & Exhibits	Rodolfo L. Nitollama, MD
Registration	Miles T. Dela Rosa, MD
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Publicity & Documentation	Copernico J. Villaruel, Jr., MD Juan C. Villaluz, MD (Luzon) Marcelo N. Jaen, MD (Visayas) Renan B. Abellera, MD (Mindanao)
Souvenir Program	Miles T. Dela Rosa, MD Rodolfo L. Nitollama, MD
Awards	Regalado L. Dela Paz, MD

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

Ethics and Grievance Committee	- Venancio P. Garduce, Jr., MD
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**Accreditation Committee /Membership and Credentials**

- Arturo C. Cañete, MD

**Orthopaedic Continuing Medical Education Committee**

- Miles T. Dela Rosa, MD

**Affiliation Committee - Edward A. Sarrosa, MD****Constitutional Committee/Constitution and By-laws****Amendment Committee**

- Winston George B. Estera, MD

**AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Research Committee	- Arturo C. Cañete, MD
Newsletter (Ortho Balita)	- Rodolfo L. Nitollama, MD
Building Committee	- Winston George B. Estera, MD
Traveling Fellowship	- Miles T. Dela Rosa, MD
Historical Committee	- Copernico J. Villaruel, MD
POA Research Council	- Noel B. Carilo, MD
Commission on Elections	- Antonio B. Sison, MD

**LIAISON COMMITTEES**

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PMA Affairs	- Miles T. Dela Rosa, MD
Bone and Joint Council	- Regalado L. Dela Paz, MD
HMO	- Arturo C. Cañete, MD

## PHKS has new board, more projects

The new Board of Directors of the Philippine Hip and Knee Society for the year 2001, was elected and inducted recently

Dr. Liberato Antonio C. Leagogo, was elected president. Other officers are Drs.: Albert Y. Dy, vice-president; Antonio N. Tanchuling, secretary; Reynaldo E. Ang, treasurer and Rodolfo L. Nitollama, public relations officer-auditor.

Although in existence for 8 years now and accredited with the Philippine College of Surgeons, it is only this year that the PHKS has applied for accreditation with the POA.

Dr. Leagogo announced that the first activity of the PHKS for this year was the just concluded "Current and Future Trends in Hip and Knee Arthroplasty II" which was co-sponsored with Johnson and Johnson. This was a three-day affair where Asian experts (including Filipinos) in total knee and hip arthroplasties presented lectures, conducted hands-on workshops and demonstrated surgical procedures.

Two general membership meetings have been scheduled for this year: one, on July 14 at the Orthopaedic Innovations Industrial Plant in Cabuyao, Laguna; and the other on December 3, 2001 at the Makati Medical Center Doctors' Lounge. The latter will serve as the PHKS's 8th annual convention, with the theme "Avascular Necrosis of the Femoral Head - a Teleconference among Nations". Prof. Myung Chui Yoo from Korea is coming over to the Philippines to present a lecture in the convention

Meanwhile, the Fifth PHKS Residents' Case Presentation Contest will be held on September 28, 2001 at the new world Hotel. The contest is open to all residents of PBO-accredited orthopaedic training programs. The organizing committee has already written the training officers for papers. Commensurate prizes will be given to the top three winners. For this year the Board of Judges are Drs. Godofredo Dungca, Jose Syquia and Aquilino Pimentel IV.

## Chapter Activities



**POA-SL FELLOWS** honed their research skills during a workshop held in coordination with the DLSUMC Department of Orthopaedics. (From left to right) Drs. Winston Estera, Johnny Villaluz, Ruben Arafiles, Leony Castillo, Rod Nitollama, Joy Hipol, Mark Macias and Edwin Mercado.

## POA-SL Conducts Research Workshop

A research workshop was conducted last April 21, 2001 by the POA South Luzon Chapter in cooperation with the De La Salle University Medical Center Department of Orthopaedics and Searle-Pfizer.

Titled "Basic Research for Orthopaedic Surgeons", the one-day workshop dealt on possible research topics, review of

literature (didactics with hands-on computer session), research designs, sampling and sample size, data collection and data analysis. Among the resource persons were Drs. Jose M. Acuin, Charles Yu, Melchor Victor G. Frias IV, Madelaine Sosa, Jesus Versoza Josephine Carnate, Ms. Danalda B. Marcelo and Prof. Isaac Ilano, all of DLSUMC.

## MOVING?

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## 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention Updates

**POA Vice-President Dr. Venancio P. Garduce, Jr., over-all chairman of the POA 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, urged POA fellows and residents to register early to avoid the expected influx of attendees to this year's convention.**

With the theme, "Orthopaedic Trauma Trends in the 21st Century", more than the usual number of registrants might clog the onsite registration lines on Dec. 5, 2001. General surgeons and trauma practitioners from outside Metro Manila have expressed interest in attending.

At least 9 foreign and 4 local faculty have already confirmed their participation. International faculty invited include Drs. Kyle Dickson, Dolfi Herscovici, David Seligson, Richard Kyle, George Russell, Randy Rosier, M. Banchong, Edward VA Lim, and Randy Puno.

Pharmaceutical and orthopedic implant companies meanwhile, have been advised to confirm and finalize their reservations as the organizers are having difficulty coping up with the increased demand for booths and hospitality suites.

Deadline for pre-registration is Sept. 14, 2001. Below are the registration rates:

	Pre Registration	On-Site
Fellows (Php)	2,500.00	3,000.00
Non-Fellows (Php)	3,500.00	4,000.00
Residents (Php)	1,500.00	1,500.00
Foreign (\$)	200.00	250.00

Government physicians are likewise encouraged to register early and secure Department of Health (DOH) permission to attend on official time.

### New POA Office

## Renovation Now in Full Swing

Interior decorations and renovation of the new POA office condominium unit at Future Point Plaza along Panay Ave., Quezon City went into full swing recently.

POA trustee Dr. Winston Estera, who is in-charge of the POA building committee, bared this after the POA Board of Trustees approved the bid of Ramel Interi-

ors.

The POA has made the initial payment of P200,000.00 out of the bid price of P500,000.00 for the office renovation and interior decoration. Transfer to the new office by the POA secretariat is expected in a few months' time.

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