

THE FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER COLUMBIA

*Red Carpet Event*



27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GALA  
*and*  
17<sup>th</sup> INDUCTION BALL

SEPTEMBER 2, 2017

*Columbia Marriott*

1200 Hampton St. , Columbia, SC 29201





**2017-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*President*



**GINA CASTANEDA**

*First Vice-President*



**REYNA FUNDERBURK**

*Second Vice-President*



**MARIBEL TIJING**

*Treasurer*



**TERESITA HILL**

*Secretary*



**TERESA ZIEGLER**

*Assistant Treasurer*



**ALAN MATIENZO**

*Assistant Secretary*



**EMILY CHENEY**

*Executive Board Member*



**JUDY BERENDS**

*Executive Board Member*



**ERIC (BUDDY) BURKE**

*Executive Board Member*



**JOY CLARK**

*Executive Board Member*



**JASON EBERHARDT**

*Executive Board Member*



**JOSEPH SZOKE**

**Together We Make A Difference**





# FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia, SC



## 17TH INDUCTION BALL 26TH ANNIVERSARY 27TH ANNUAL GALA

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2017**  
**COLUMBIA MARRIOTT HOTEL, COLUMBIA, SC**



**5:30 Registration / Reception** (*Doors open at 6:00 pm — cash cocktails at the Sports Bar near the ballroom*)

- 6:30 ♦ National Anthems:** *United States* . . . . . **Demetrio Matienzo**, USN Retired  
*Philippines* . . . . . **Hannelore Peña Ignacio**
- ♦ **Invocation** . . . . . **Peter Liunoras**, USA Retired (FAAGC President, 2001-2003)
- ♦ **Welcome Remarks** . . . . . *Emcees* . . . . . **Celyn Szoke** & **Eric Sosa**, Major USAF Retired  
    ▶ Recognition of Attendees (FAAGC Lifetime Member) (FAAGC 2nd VP, 2013-2015)  
    ▶ Recognition of Benefactors/Sponsors/Donors

- 7:00 Dinner**
- FAAGC Video Showcase . . . . . **Carlton & Carmelisa Edwards** (FAAGC Lifetime Members)  
**Jason Eberhardt** (FAAGC Board Member, 2017-19)
- Piano Performance . . . . . **Dr. Nancy Elton**  
*(Introduction by)* **Teresa Ziegler** (FAAGC Secretary, 2017-2019)

- 7:45 ♦ Guest Speaker** . . . . . Colonel **Scott C. Bridgers**, USAF  
*(Introduction by)* **Joseph Szoke**, MSG USAF (SCANG) (FAAGC Board Member, 2017-19)
- ♦ **Message — Outgoing President** . . . . . **Cecille Jacobsen** (FAAGC President, 2013-2017)
- ♦ **Induction of FAAGC 2017-2019 Officers..** **Colonel Scott C. Bridgers**, USAF
- ♦ **Message — Incoming President** . . . . . **Gina Castaneda** (FAAGC President, 2017-2019)

**8:20 CULTURAL SHOW & AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

- ♦ *Karatong* . . . . . **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Youth Group
- ♦ *Banga* . . . . . **Hiyas-Min** (The Philippine Cultural Society of Charleston, SC)
- ♦ **Presentation of 2017 FAAGC Awards:**
- ▶ *Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship* Recipients . . . . . **Dr. Tess Hill** (FAAGC Treasurer, 2017-2019)  
    & **Engr. Alan Matienzo** (FAAGC Asst. Treasurer 2017–2019)
- ▶ FAAGC Lifetime Members . . . . . **Reyna Funderburk** (FAAGC First Vice-President, 2017-2019)  
        • MSG Joseph & Mrs. Celyn Szoke *Assisted by:* Emily Cheney (FAAGC Asst. Secretary, 2017-2019)  
        • Mr. Richard & Mrs. Tessie Bannister  
        • Engr. Ranjel & Dr. Judy Salvador Asis
- ♦ *Hawaiian Dance* . . . . . **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Adult Group
- ♦ **Presentation of 2017 FAAGC Awards:**
- ▶ Recognition of Outgoing Officers . . . . . **Dr. Marj Peña** (FAAGC President, 2009-2013)  
    *Assisted by:* Maribel Tijing (FAAGC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 2017-2019),  
    Judy Berends & Joy Clark (Board Members, 2017-2019)
- ♦ *Bailes de Antano* . . . . . **Hiyas-Min** (The Philippine Cultural Society of Charleston, SC)
- ♦ *Tinikling* . . . . . **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Youth Group
- ♦ *Finale Dance* . . . . . **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Adult Group

**9:20 ~ 12:00 Gala Ball** . . . . . *Dance ~~~ Raffle ~~~ Dance ~~~ Raffle ~~~ Dance ~~~ Raffle ~~~ Dance*



Department of the Air Force  
 South Carolina Air National Guard  
 169<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, McEntire JNGB  
 1325 South Carolina Road McEntire JNGB South Carolina 29044



18 August 2017

I offer my sincerest congratulations to the **Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia (FAAGC)** on the occasion of its **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala** and its **17<sup>th</sup> Induction Ball**.

The FAAGC continues to work diligently to promote diversity and cultural acceptance within the community. Their participation in McEntire's *Diversity Day* and in other events in the capital city, such as the *Columbia International Festival*, help to preserve and to share the Filipino culture and to promote cultural camaraderie.



The FAAGC is a tremendous influence on the younger generation, reminding them that this nation is indeed a melting pot of rich and beautiful heritages which have formed the greatest country on Earth.

*Mabuhay ang FAAGC!*

**SCOTT C. BRIDGERS**, Colonel, SCANG  
 Commander, 169<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group



## Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia, SC

*(An All-Volunteer, Non-Profit Organization to Promote Inter-Cultural Education and Understanding)*

P.O. Box 24112, Columbia, SC 29224

EIN 57-0942802

Email: [FAAGC@hotmail.com](mailto:FAAGC@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.FilAmSC.org](http://www.FilAmSC.org)

*"Together we make a difference"*

Let me start by saying *Mabuhay* to all of us here tonight celebrating the 27th gala.

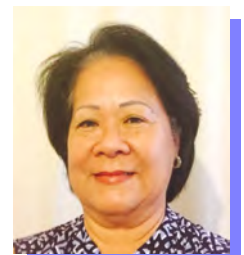
This event is rather significant to me because it brings my part of the journey to a close, but with great memories to take and cherish. As we turn the page to the next chapter of FAAGC's memoirs, I see good things and accomplished accounts. Women especially are participating in sports, even the seniors and juniors. The Filipino community in Columbia is becoming more involved not only in sports but other organizational activities.

There's no right word to describe how much I have enjoyed the experience and challenges along the way during those four years. As I pass the baton to our next leadership, there begins a fresh start of a new chapter that requires our continued support. On behalf of outgoing officers, I appreciate your support.

Thank you, FAAGC! You've been very kind and I thank every one of you.

Congratulations to the incoming officers!!!

**Cecille Jacobsen**  
 Outgoing FAAGC President, 2015-2017







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## 2017-2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

**Gina Custodio Castaneda**  
(803) 212-8952  
[3.7alohagina@gmail.com](mailto:3.7alohagina@gmail.com)

First Vice-President

**Reyna Funderburk**  
(803) 261-6515  
[reynafunderburk@yahoo.com](mailto:reynafunderburk@yahoo.com)

Second Vice-President

**Maribel (Bambi) Tijing**  
(803) 749-2177  
[btijing@hotmail.com](mailto:btijing@hotmail.com)

Secretary

**Teresa Irang Ziegler**  
(803) 338-6008  
[Teresairangziegler@yahoo.com](mailto:Teresairangziegler@yahoo.com)

Asst. Secretary

**Emily Cheney**  
(unlisted)  
[emily37cheney@yahoo.com](mailto:emily37cheney@yahoo.com)

Treasurer

**Tess Hill**  
(803) 603-6432  
[Teresita.hill@strayer.edu](mailto:Teresita.hill@strayer.edu)

Asst. Treasurer

**Alan Matienzo**  
(803) 331-5048  
[Alanmm22@gmail.com](mailto:Alanmm22@gmail.com)

### Executive Board Members:

**Judy Berends**  
(803) 743-4531  
[Judy.berends@yahoo.com](mailto:Judy.berends@yahoo.com)

**Joy Clark**  
(803) 315-4350  
[Junica2000@bellsouth.net](mailto:Junica2000@bellsouth.net)

**Eric (Buddy) Burke**  
(803) 240-7097  
[bddyburke@yahoo.com](mailto:bddyburke@yahoo.com)

**Jason Eberhardt**  
(unlisted)

**Joseph Szoke**  
(803) 673-2376  
[Joseph.a.szoke.mil@mail.mil](mailto:Joseph.a.szoke.mil@mail.mil)

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### DANCE TROUPE COORDINATORS:

Youth:

**Carmelisa Edwards**  
**Marj Peña**

Adults:

**Tess Hill**  
**Haideline Sosa**  
**Teresa Ziegler**

Fellow members, friends, and guests,

“MABUHAY!” (Live!) and welcome to the **2017 Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia (FAAGC) Annual Gala!** This year marks FAAGC’s **26th Anniversary**, and I’m pleased to have you join us in celebrating another great year!

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all involved in helping make this evening a success. Each year, select members of FAAGC devote much of their valuable time and energy to the planning and preparation of this yearly event. Because of this collaborative team effort, we are able to take part in this evening’s wonderful festivities. So, please celebrate with your special friends and look for opportunities to meet new ones tonight. Your enjoyment is our reward!

Secondly, as a Fil-Am organization, our objectives are simple, with sincere intent. Many of us are U.S. citizens, by birth or through naturalization, who are proud of the unique Philippine culture that helped shape us and influence our values. Sharing bits and pieces of these cultural “roots” through fellowship with friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. is how we preserve our rich heritage. By doing so, we also enrich our local communities, our great state of South Carolina, and even American culture! Yes, that’s what we do!

That being said, we are aware that we do not live in a bubble here in the Midlands. Many of us still have close connections to relatives and communities back in the Philippines. So, helping to support or contribute to various charities in the Philippines is FAAGC’s way of giving back to our Filipino brothers and sisters in need. Tangible action inspired by faith and goodwill can make a world of difference.

Lastly, it has been my pleasure to be involved with FAAGC over the last several years. Now, as Association president, I feel privileged to be able to contribute and serve, alongside a dedicated set of Officers & Executive Board Members. It is our goal to not only fulfill the objectives that were established since its inception, back in 1991, but also to help FAAGC progress into the future and to thrive in the face of change. I am so encouraged by those of you who have recently stepped up to the challenge of helping us work toward these goals. Moreover, I am excited for the many more of you who will seize opportunities to get involved and, in turn, have a lasting impact on FAAGC’s future success!

Whether you’ve been attending our Gala over the years or you are new to our organization, I want to welcome you all to experience the joy of being in the company of your old-time friends, new friends, and friends-to-be! I hope we represent the true friendliness and kind spirit of the Filipino people well enough for you to rekindle an old interest or spark a new interest in our Association. I look forward to seeing many of you during this special evening and throughout the upcoming year. So, again, *MABUHAY!!!*

May God keep you and Bless you,

*Gina C. Castaneda*

**Gina C. Castaneda**

*Incoming FAAGC President, 2017-2019*



# THE COLUMBIA FIL-AM DANCE TROUPE



**KARATONG** Kalatong or Karatong have dancers use kalatong or bamboo tube about a yard long, tied horizontally below the waist and struck by two sticks to tap the rhythm of the dance. there are two dances - The Tobong Kalatong, from Pangasinan, which is a ceremonial dance performed to frighten the evil spirits away. Bunga Mangga, from Cuyo, Palawan, is a part of the Karatong in which dancers collect flowers from the mango tree - thus the bunga mangga contraption.

**Phia Rabaca, Jasmine Flora, Phina Rabaca, Kathleen Elder, Alisha Rabaca, Jaxen Castaneda, James Gregory, Paul Daniel Peña, Jericho Broome, Laurence Lafuente, Gyles Gregory**

**TINIKLING** One of the world's most exciting folk dances, this most famous of all Philippine dances is a favorite among performers and audience alike. In imitation of the long-legged *tikling* bird, the dancers nimbly hop in and out between bamboo poles which are clapped together vigorously and rapidly in time with the music, whose tempo gradually accelerates.

**Dance Instructor: Joette Flora**

**Slow Version:** Savannah Carswell, Julia Szoke, Ethan Sosa, Braden Sosa, Gyles Gregory, James Gregory, **Moderate Version:** Phia Rabaca, Phina Rabaca, Jasmine Flora, Laurence Lafuente **Fast Version:** Alisha Rabaca, Ashley Rabaca, Jaxen Castaneda, Paul Daniel Peña





# THE COLUMBIA FIL-AM DANCE TROUPE



## HAWAIIAN DANCE

Diana Dingman, Vivianne Elder, Sheena Shearer, Marie Broome, Cecille Geoghegan, Emily Cheney, Gyliza Ramos Gregory, Haideline Sosa

Choreography by HAIDELINE SOSA

## DANCE FINALE

Loren Iacono, Teresa Ziegler, Tess Hill, Alan Matienzo, Haideline Sosa, Gyliza Ramos Gregory, Cecille Geoghegan, Emily Cheney, Diana Dingman, Marie Broome

Jaxen Castaneda, James Gregory, Paul Daniel Peña, Laurence Lafuente, Ethan Sosa, Gyles Gregory, Brayden Sosa



## HIYAS-MIN

The Philippine Cultural Society  
of Charleston, SC

## BANGA DANCE

The Banga or pot dance is from the Kalinga Tribe of the Mountain Province in the Philippines. Heavy earthen pots are balanced on the heads of maidens as they trudge to the beat of the "gangsá" or wind chimes displaying their stamina and strength as they go about their daily task of fetching water and balancing the banga.

## BAILES DE ANTANO

A combination of dances including the polka sala, preceded by a paseo.

Flor Agner, Liza Bickley, Maria Hatzl, Aileen Francisco, Nelia Boykin, HenGie Quindo







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## 2016 ~ 2018 MEMBERS

Dan & Tess	ADCOCK	West Columbia	SC	Carlton, Jr. & Amy	EDWARDS	Blythewood	SC
Conrad & Rita	ALCANTARA	Columbia	SC	Butch & Dhel	ELAMPARO	Columbia	SC
Noel & Helen	ALON	Columbia	SC	Charles & Vivianne	ELDER	Columbia	SC
Edith	ALSTON	Hopkins	SC	Sally	ELLIS	Columbia	SC
Leroy & Lulu	ANDERSON	Columbia	SC	Chris & Miriam	ESCHENFELDER	Columbia	SC
Jordan & Ivy	ANTONIO	Columbia	SC	Jojo & Joette	FLORA	Columbia	SC
Carlos & Kathy	AREVALO	Columbia	SC	Ted & Lynn	FUGRAD	Columbia	SC
Ranjel & Judy Salvador	ASIS	Lexington	SC	Terry & Reyna	FUNDERBURK	Irmo	SC
Ruben & Chari	BAGNAL	Columbia	SC	Robert & Laisa	GADIAN	Columbia	SC
Richard & Tessie	BANNISTER	Prosperity	SC	Alan & Cecille	GEOGHEGAN	Columbia	SC
Lu & Merlyn	BAJAMUNDE		SC	Methuselah & Parrish	GIBBONS	Blythewood	SC
Roy & Carina	BALACANAO	Columbia	SC	Imelda	GO	Columbia	SC
Grace	BALANQUIT	Columbia	SC	Ed & Yani	GOULD	Lexington	SC
James & Edith	BARKER	Saluda	SC	Charles & Bev	GOYENECHÉ	Hartsville	SC
Steven & Josephine	BATTLE	Columbia	SC	Liza	GREGORY	Blythewood	SC
Brian & Danilyn	BETERBO	Hartsville	SC	Jimmy & Janet	HARRIS	Gilbert	SC
Terry & Judy	BERENDS	Columbia	SC	Steve & Mhai Mhai	HASTEROK	Blythewood	SC
Divina	BOUKNIGHT		SC	Robert & Julie	HETRICK	Hopkins	SC
David & Odess	BRINKMAN	Columbia	SC	Walter & Tess	HILL	Chapin	SC
Jason & Marie	BROOME	Irmo	SC	Ralph & Lorencita	IACONO	Chapin	SC
Linda	BROWN	Columbia	SC	Saldee & Hannelore	IGNACIO	Lexington	SC
Buddy & Sai	BURKE	Columbia	SC	Pete & Cecilia	JACOBSEN	Sumter	SC
JC	CALLAHAN	Graniteville	SC	Michael & Lianne	JOHNSON		ME
Robert & Jadith	CARSWELL	Lexington	SC	Sidney & Joanne	JOHNSON		SC
Jon & Gina	CASTANEDA	Lexington	SC	Paul & Linda	KASERMAN	Lexington	SC
Tangierina	CENA	Lexington	SC	Jim & Tessie	KENERSON	Columbia	SC
William & Joy	CLARK	Blythewood	SC	Don & Evelyn	LIESTER	Columbia	SC
William & Emily	CHENEY	Columbia	SC	Peter & Olga	LIUNORAS	Columbia	SC
Al & Leila	COCKEREL	Columbia	SC	David & Julie	LIETNER	Gilbert	SC
Deanna	COFFEY	West Columbia	SC	Jim & Juvie	LOWDER	West Columbia	SC
Randy & Tessie	COLLADO	Columbia	SC	Lolita	LUCAS	Lexington	SC
Ron & Faye	COLLEY	Irmo	SC	Teresa	LUCAS	Lexington	SC
Grace	COLLINS	Lexington	SC	Alan & Jennifer	LUCILLO	Columbia	SC
Fred & Gloria	COYLE	Elgin	SC	David	MACK	Columbia	SC
Manny & Leah	CUARESMA	Columbia	SC	Martin "Ike"	MAGAT	Columbia	SC
John & Flordeliza	CUMMINS	Columbia	SC	Mitch & Juliet	MARTIN	Chapin	SC
Ali & Janet	DABIRI	Gaston	SC	Alan Matienzo	MATIENZO	Columbia	SC
Christopher & Elvy	DABROWSKI	Columbia	SC	Doris	MATOS	Columbia	SC
Ben & Aida	DAQUIOAG	Columbia	SC	Sean & Shirley Grace	McGUINNESS	West Columbia	SC
Arsenio	DAQUIOAG	Columbia	SC	Michael & Mary	McILVOY	Aiken	SC
Glenn & Taryn	DAQUIZ	Columbia	SC	George & Nieves	McNULTY	Columbia	SC
Tony & Tessie	DE CASTRO	Plano	TX	Manuel & Eva	MIRANDA	Columbia	SC
Glenn & Carmela	DE GUZMAN	Columbia	SC	Bill & Amy	MOORE	Chapin	SC
Arnel & Ali	De LARA	Columbia	SC	Vanessa	MOTU		SC
Gerry & Chona	DE TORRES	Columbia	SC	Joe & Lors	MURPHY	Lexington	SC
Jason & Rose Ann	EBERHARDT	Elgin	SC	Matt & Joy	MYRICK	Columbia	SC
Carlton & Lisa	EDWARDS	Eastover	SC	Marvin & Beth	NOBLE	Columbia	SC





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e-mail: FAAGC@hotmail.com

website: www.FilAmSC.org

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## 2016 ~ 2018 MEMBERS

Gerry & Amelyn	OLSON	West Columbia	SC	Maria	SILVER	Columbia	SC
Jun & Elvie	PADING	West Columbia	SC	Terry & Janet	SMITH	Blythewood	SC
Susana	PASICATAN	Columbia	SC	Eric & Haidee	SOSA	Columbia	SC
Victoria	PAYUMO	Columbia	SC	Brian & Cecile	STRICKLAND	Lexington	SC
Lee & Polly	PEARSON	Dalzell	SC	Joseph & Celyn	SZOKE	Hopkins	SC
Edsel & Marj	PEÑA	Columbia	SC	Joel & Joy	TALDE	Columbia	SC
Florencio Jr & Corazon	PEÑA	Lexington	SC	Jun	TEJADA	Eastover	SC
Diana	PHILLIPS	Cayce	SC	Dave & Cindy	TEFFT	Las Vegas	NV
Robert	PRESTON	Greenville	SC	Jeff & Anna	TEMPLES	Irmo	SC
Kenneth & Ma. Lileth	RAIN	Columbia	SC	Kermit & Candida "Eding"	THOMAS	Columbia	SC
Philip & Anna	RABACA	Columbia	SC	Francis & Eugene	THOMPSON		
Charles & Arabella	REYES	Lexington	SC	Neil & Bambie	TIJING	Columbia	SC
Mark & Prescy	RAMIREZ	Columbia	SC	Todd & Richel	VAULES	Columbia	SC
Dolly	RITCHIE	Sumter	SC	Eric & Kathy	VIRAY	Columbia	SC
Roger & Naty Akana	ROBERTS	Columbia	SC	Charles & Precy	WALKER	Columbia	SC
David & Alma	ROBICHAUD	Columbia	SC	Francisca	WALKER	Wedgfield	SC
Keith Howard	SEYMOUR	Columbia	SC	Warren & Myrna	WHITMIRE	Columbia	SC
Scott & Sheena	SHEARER	Lugoff	SC	Joseph & Maria	YU	Columbia	SC
James & Perlita	SINGLETON	Lexington	SC	John & Teresa	ZIEGLER	Lexington	SC
Charles & Aida	SIKORA	Sumter	SC				

As of August 15, 2017, the persons listed above were paid FAAGC members for all, or at least part, of Association Year 2016 -2017 and/or 2017-2018 (July 1 — June 30).

Many have renewed their FAAGC membership for 2017-2018 (a few even beyond 2018). We hope the rest, as well as others not on the list, will rejoin or join us soon.

### ◆ Lifetime Sustaining Charter Members Continuous Members since 1991

- ◆ Rita Houston ALCANTARA
- ◆ Noel & Helen ALON
- ◆ Edith ALSTON
- ◆ Lulu ANDERSON
- ◆ Ruben Matias BAGNAL
- ◆ James & Edith BARKER
- ◆ Linda BROWN
- ◆ Grace COLLINS
- ◆ Manny & Leah CUARESMA
- ◆ Tony & Tessie De CASTRO
- ◆ Gene ? & Sally ELLIS
- ◆ Jim & Tessie KENERSON
- ◆ Juliet MARTIN
- ◆ George & Nieves McNULTY
- ◆ Marvin & Beth NOBLE
- ◆ Alfonso ? & Susana PASICATAN
- ◆ Naty AKANA ROBERTS
- ◆ David & Cindy TEFFT

### ★ Honorary Lifetime Members

- ★ Eva RIGNEY  
(FAAGC President, 1991-1992)
- ★ Remie MORALES-SARMIENTO  
(FAAGC Treasurer, 1991-1992)
- ★ Minerva WHEEDLETON  
(FAAGC President, 1992-1994)

At the 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA on Sept. 10, 2011, the Columbia Fil-Am Association honored those who had steadfastly supported and continuously sustained FAAGC from its beginning through its first TWENTY (20) years by recognizing them as LIFETIME CHARTER MEMBERS (◆).

Others have or can become Lifetime Sustaining Members if they have paid or willing to pay the equivalent of 20 years of membership (#).

At the 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA on Sept. 24, 2016, FAAGC honored who were instrumental in establishing and guiding FAAGC during its early years by recognizing them as HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS (★).

### # Lifetime Sustaining Members Members for 20 years or more

- # Charles & Bev GOYENECHÉ (since 1991)
- # Lee & Polly PEARSON (since 1992)
- # Joy CLARK (since 1993)
- # Jim & Juvie LOWDER (since 1993)
- # Imelda GO (1993-94, since 1996)
- # Butch & Dhel ELAMPARO (since 1995)
- # Peter & Olga LIUNORAS (since 1995)
- # Charles & Precy WALKER (since 1995)
- # Warren & Myrna WHITMIRE (since 1997)
- # Lu & Merlyn BAJAMUNDE (since 2000)
- # Edsel & Marj PEÑA (since 2000)
- # Don & Evelyn LIESTER (since 2003)
- # David & Odess BRINKMAN (since 2004)
- # Carlton & Carmelisa EDWARDS (since 2006)
- # Pete & Cecille JACOBSEN (since 2006)
- # Maria SILVER (since 2009)
- # Walter & Tess HILL (since 2012)
- # Ranjel & Judy Salvador ASIS (1992-98, since 2001)
- # Richard & Tessie BANNISTER (since 2005)
- # Joseph & Celyn SZOKE (since 2007)

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# COLUMBIA FIL-AM EXECUTIVE BOARDS THROUGH THE YEARS

	1 1991-1992	2 1992-1993	3 1993-1994	4 1994-1995	5 1995-1996	6 1996-1997
<i>President</i>	Eva Rigney	Minnie Wheedleton	Minnie Wheedleton	Helen Alon	Helen Alon	Helen Alon
<i>1st Vice-President</i>	Susana Pasicatan	Helen Alon	Sally Ellis	Sally Ellis	Sally Ellis	Ernest Ellis
<i>2nd Vice-President</i>	Minnie Wheedleton	Randy Collado	Grace Collins	Grace Collins	Grace Collins	Tessie Kenerson
<i>Secretary</i>	Helen Alon (7/91—2/92) Edith Barker (3/92—6/92)	Sally Ellis	Judy Salvador	Judy Salvador	Judy Salvador	DeeDee Stewart
<i>Treasurer</i>	Remie Sarmiento	Remie Sarmiento (July—Dec. 1992) Tessie Kenerson (Jan.—June. 1993)	Polly Pearson	Mark Yutani	Mark Yutani (July-Dec. 1995) Wilfred Jeffcoat (Jan.-June. 1996)	Wilfred Jeffcoat
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>			Gloria Yutani	Eugenia Panela	Leah Cuaresma	Maria Aiken
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>			Marvin Noble	Jerome Robinette	Wilfred Jeffcoat (July—Dec. 1995) Naty Akana (Jan—June 1996)	Leah Cuaresma
<i>Board Member</i>	Grace Collins	Marvin Noble	Nel Fernandez	Linda Brown	Frederick Balangue	Frederick Balangue
<i>Board Member</i>	Cindy Tefft	Dom Perez	Dom Perez	Leah Cuaresma	Linda Brown	Linda Brown
<i>Board Member</i>	Jun David (7/91—2/92)	Tessie DeCastro (1992)	David Tefft	Wilfred Jeffcoat	Tessie Kenerson	Peter Liunoras
<i>Board Member</i>	Dom Perez (2/92—6/92)	Polly Pearson (1993)		Tessie Kenerson	Polly Pearson	Marie Salvador
<i>Board Member</i>				Polly Pearson	Larry Smith	Bill Simmons

	7 1997-1999	8 1999-2001	9 2001-2003	10 2003-2005	11 2005-2007	12 2007-2009
<i>President</i>	Nieves McNulty	Nieves McNulty	Peter Liunoras	Grace Collins	Alan Geoghegan	Alan Geoghegan
<i>1st Vice-President</i>	Peter Liunoras	Grace Collins	Tessie DeCastro	Alan Geoghegan	Alan Matienzo	Sally Ellis
<i>2nd Vice-President</i>	Ofelia Milligan	Bill Simmons	Tessie Kenerson	Julieta Iglesias	Mario Viray	George McNulty
<i>Secretary</i>	Eloisa De Castro	Eloisa De Castro	Marj Peña	Marj Peña	Odess Brinkman	Shirley McGuinness
<i>Treasurer</i>	Imelda Go	Jon Glenn	George McNulty	George McNulty	George McNulty	Myrna Whitmire
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	Chari Bagnal (7/97—8/98) Racquel Dizon (9/98—6/99)	Edith Alston	Lulu Anderson	Amy Charles	Edith Alston	Albert Taylor (7/07—3/08) Carmelisa Edwards (4/08—6/09)
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Rowena Arroyo	Joy Clark	Polly Pearson	Daniel Adcock	Daniel Adcock	Odess Brinkman
<i>Board Member</i>	Edith Alston	Helen Alon	Ruben Bagnal	Merlyn Bajamunde	Galen Manapat	Leah Cuaresma
<i>Board Member</i>	Patrick Baens	Patrick Baens	Rudy Dizon	Rudy Dizon	Keith Seymour	Cecilia Jacobsen
<i>Board Member</i>	Manny Cuaresma	Frederick Balangue	Hector Galang	Charles Goyeneche	Precy Walker	Tessie Kenerson
<i>Board Member</i>	Ernest Ellis	Tessie Kenerson	Diane Phillips	Jojo Goyeneche	Cecille Wessinger	Mario Viray
<i>Board Member</i>	Marie Salvador	Roger Lawsin (7/99—6/00) Ruben Bagnal (7/00—6/01)	Alan Geoghegan	Rex Santos	Bernadette Yavis	Precy Walker (7/07—3/08) Bernadette Yavis (4/08—6/09)

	13 2009-2011	14 2011-2013	15 2013-2015	16 2015-2017	17 2017-2019
<i>President</i>	Marj Peña	Marj Peña	Cecille Jacobsen	Cecille Jacobsen	Gina Castaneda
<i>1st Vice-President</i>	Cecilia Jacobsen	Carmelisa Edwards	Faye Colley	Tess Hill	Reyna Funderburk
<i>2nd Vice-President</i>	Carmelisa Edwards	Grace Balanquit	Eric Sosa	Alan Matienzo	Maribel Tijng
<i>Secretary</i>	Shirley McGuinness	Odess Brinkman	Jocelyn Locke	Reyna Funderburk	Teresa Ziegler
<i>Treasurer</i>	Nieves McNulty	Nieves McNulty	Priscilla Ramirez	Miriam Eschenfelder	Tess Hill
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	Maribel Tijng	Faye Colley	Sheena Shearer	Doris Matos	Emily Cheney
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Wyda Viray	Maribel Tijng	Miriam Eschenfelder	Anna Temples	Alan Matienzo
<i>Board Member</i>	Daniel Adcock	Carlos Arevalo	Edith Alston	Carlos Arevalo	Judy Berends
<i>Board Member</i>	Grace Balanquit	Grace Collins	Carlos Arevalo	Al Cockerel	Eric Burke
<i>Board Member</i>	Grace Collins	Rio Daquilanea	Tess Hill	Glenn De Guzman	Joy Clark
<i>Board Member</i>	Jojo Flora	Peter Liunoras	Francisco Rances (7/13—6/14) Peter Liunoras (7/14—6/15)	Peter Liunoras	Jason Eberhardt
<i>Board Member</i>	Cecilia Geoghegan	Francisco Rances	Alma Robichaud	James Orlick	Joseph Szoke

**FAAGC OATH OF OFFICE**

I, (name), having been duly elected as (position) of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia, do solemnly pledge and swear:

THAT I will discharge the duties and responsibilities of my office to the best of my knowledge and ability;

THAT I will obey the By-laws of the organization;

SEE to it that every member is in good harmony and understanding;

AND, as a faithful instrument of the Association, I shall carry this obligation without mental reservation.

*So help me God.*



## Columbia FIL-AM Scholarship Program



DYONN  
DINGMAN



DIEGO LUIS  
IGNACIO

### A Columbia Fil-Am Youth Scholarship program

has been often discussed since the formation of the Association in 1991. Officially started in 2002 by the FAAGC Executive Board through the initiative of Peter Liunoras (FAAGC President, 2001-2003), the **Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship** awards are given to Fil-Am college-bound high school graduates whose families are currently paid FAAGC members and who (or their parents) have participated actively in Fil-Am activities. As specified by the Executive Board recently, criteria are involvement in FAAGC (50%), academics (30%), and interview and essay (20%).

Funds for the scholarship program are generated from donations, raffles during FAAGC gala and Christmas events, food sales at basketball tournaments, and from 2004 to 2010, fund-raisers by the Ridge View High School (RVHS) **Fil-Am Youth Club** under the direction of Peter Liunoras.

FAAGC presented the first **Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship** award at the 13th Annual Gala on September 13, 2003. Since then, award certificates (and checks) have been presented to deserving and qualified students every year during the annual gala. Interestingly, most of the past scholarship recipients had been **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** performers at one time or another.

## Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship Recipients

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>2017:</b> ★ <b>Dyonn Dingman</b>   | ★ <b>Diego Luis Ignacio</b>                                |
| <b>2016:</b> ★ Kathleen Arevalo<br>★ Joan Rose Peña   | ★ Roy Balacanao, Jr.<br>★ Joey Szoke III                   |
| <b>2015:</b> ★ Denise Daquilanea<br>★ Angelica Robichaud  | ★ Severina Lowder  |
| <b>2014:</b> ★ Jonathan Jacobsen  |  |
| <b>2013:</b> ★ Darryl Arevalo<br>★ Khoi Nguyen<br>★ Shannin Scott                               | ★ Justine Flora<br>★ Michael Sanchez                       |
| <b>2012:</b> ★ Elaiza Apan<br>★ Nicole Daquilanea   | ★ Kirkwood Bautista<br>★ Douglas Miguel Tupas              |
| <b>2011:</b> ★ Christine Arroyo<br>★ Nicole Phillips<br>★ Joseph Szoke III<br>★ Andrew Whitmire | ★ Karen Magsino<br>★ Nicholas Roberts<br>★ Nicole Victoria |
| <b>2010:</b> ★ Paul Adcock<br>★ Fides Elamparo<br>★ Sean C.A. Tupas                             | ★ Nicole Anderson<br>★ Steven Do                           |
| <b>2009:</b> ★ Jessamine Cuaresma   | ★ Jeffrey Noble  |
| <b>2008:</b> ★ Butch Deo Elamparo<br>★ Mark Allen Viray   | ★ Christian Ysmael Tupas                                   |
| <b>2007:</b> ★ Raquel Bagnal  | ★ Michelle Peña  |
| <b>2006:</b> ★ Aileen Leigh Alon<br>★ Christian Elamparo<br>★ Fay Manapat                       | ★ Jasper Lim<br>★ Marianne Magapan                         |
| <b>2005:</b> ★ Justin Anderson  |  |
| <b>2004:</b> ★ Danielle Glenn<br>★ Michaela Kenworthy<br>★ Judith Peña                          | ★ Amanda Goyeneche<br>★ Michael McNulty                    |
| <b>2003:</b> ★ Raymund Elamparo   |  |

## NATIONAL ANTHEMS

### THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say, can you see,  
by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed  
at the twilight's last gleaming?  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,  
through the perilous fight,  
o'er the ramparts we watched,  
were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare,  
the bombs bursting in air,  
gave proof through the night  
that our flag was still there;  
Oh, say, doth that star-spangled  
banner yet wave  
o'er the land of the free  
and the home of the brave?



## PAMBANSANG AWIT NG PILIPINAS

Bayang magiliw,  
Perlas ng Silanganan,  
Alab ng puso  
Sa dibdib mo'y buhay.  
*Lupang hinirang,  
Duyan ka ng magiting,  
Sa mantulupig  
'Di ka pasisiil.*  
Sa dagat at bundok,  
Sa simoy at sa langit mong bughaw,  
May dilag ang tula  
At awit sa paglayang minamahal.  
*Ang kislap ng watawat mo'y  
Tagumpay na nagniningning;  
Ang bituin at araw niya  
Kailan pa ma'y 'di magdidilim.*  
Lupa ng araw, ng luwalhati't pagsinta,  
Buhay ay langit sa piling mo;  
Aming ligaya na 'pag may mang-aapi,  
Ang mamatay nang dahil sa iyo.



~ A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S ~

BEHIND THE SCENE

2017-2019 FAAGC Executive Board  
~ Gala Planning Committee ~

Reception Tables:

- ▶ Judy Berends
- ▶ Emily Cheney
- ▶ Deena Coffey
- ▶ Leah Cuaresma
- ▶ Tessie Kenerson
- ▶ Janet Smith
- ▶ Myrna Whitmire

Ushers:

- ▶ Diane Dingman
- ▶ Sharless Dingman
- ▶ Anne Eberhardt
- ▶ Liza Gregory
- ▶ Sheena Sheerer
- ▶ Haideline Sosa
- ▶ Teresa Ziegler

Invitations / Tickets/Brochures:

- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ Gina Castaneda

Seating Arrangement

- ▶ Reyna Funderburk
- ▶ Gina Castaneda

Emcees:

- ▶ Celyn Szoke
- ▶ Eric Sosa

Program Coordinator/  
Floor Manager:

- ▶ Jadith Carswell

Raffle Tickets/Prizes:

- ▶ Buddy Burke
- ▶ Joy Clark
- ▶ Grace Collins
- ▶ Tess Hill
- ▶ Maribel (Bambi) Tijing

Photography:

- ▶ Carlton Edwards
- ▶ Marj Peña

DJ Coordinators:

- ▶ Joe & Celyn Szoke

Venue Coordinators:

- ▶ Cecille Jacobsen
- ▶ Gina Castaneda
- ▶ Reyna Funderburk
- ▶ Tess Hill

FAAGC Video Showcase:

- ▶ Carlton & Lisa Edwards
- ▶ Jason Eberhardt

Dance Troupe Coordinators:

- Youth:
- ▶ Carmelisa Edwards
  - ▶ Marj Peña

Adults:

- ▶ Tess Hill
- ▶ Haideline Sosa
- ▶ Teresa Ziegler

Dance Troupe Instructors:

- ▶ Joette Flora (Youth)
- ▶ Reyna Funderburk (Youth)
- ▶ Alan Matienzo (Youth & Adults)
- ▶ Haideline Sosa (Adults)

Dance Troupe Photography

- ▶ Marj Peña

Souvenir Program:

- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ The LEGGZ Collective

Dance Troupe Technical &  
Miscellaneous Support:

- ▶ Helen Alon
- ▶ Marie Broome
- ▶ Jadith Carswell
- ▶ Gina Castaneda
- ▶ Vivianne Elder
- ▶ Carmelisa Edwards
- ▶ Gyliza Ramos Gregory
- ▶ Jojo & Joette Flora
- ▶ Reyna Funderburk
- ▶ Liza Gregory
- ▶ Tess Hill
- ▶ Alan Matienzo
- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ Philip & Anna Rabaca
- ▶ Eric & Haideline Sosa
- ▶ Anna Temples
- ▶ Teresa Ziegler
- ▶ Alon Residence—practice venue
- ▶ “Chauffeurs” of the Dancers
- ▶ Food Donors for the Dance Practices

Photographs used in this souvenir program courtesy of: ♦Carlton Edwards ♦Marj Peña ♦Celyn Szoke ♦NCA



FAAGC Executive Board for 2015-2017

(front, l-r): Carlos Arevalo (Board Member), Anna Temples (Asst. Treasurer), Tess Hill (1st VP), Cecille Jacobsen (President), Miriam Eschenfelder (Treasurer), Reyna Funderburk (Secretary), Doris Matos (Asst. Secretary), Peter Liunoras (Board Member). (back, l-r): Glenn De Guzman (Board Member), Al Cockerel (Board Member), James Orlick (Board Member), Alan Matienzo (2nd VP).

~ ~ ~ Thanks Y'all ! ~ ~ ~

MARAMING SALAMAT PO SA INYONG LAHAT !



THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION 2016-2017



© Carlton Edwards



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BASKET INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT AND FILIPINO FOOD SALE - RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL, COLUMBIA SC APRIL 23, 2016



THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION 2016-2017



2016 CHRISTMAS PARTY, ST. JOHN NEUMANN GYMNASIUM, DECEMBER 17, 2016



ASHEVILLE GALA, SEPTEMBER 17, 2016



THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION 2016-2017



COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL GALA - MARCH 23, 2017



COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL APRIL 3-4, 2017



# THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION 2016-2017



**HALLOWEEN PARTY AT SEVEN OAKS PARK - OCTOBER 29, 2017**



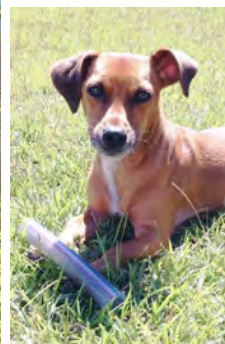
**ANNUAL EASTER PICNIC, SESQUICENTENNIAL PARK—APRIL 16, 2017**





# BENEFACTOR

**THANK YOU, FAAGC  
and  
CONGRATULATIONS  
to my fellow  
2017-2019 Officers  
and Executive Board  
Members!**



Phillip

Best Wishes from  
**JON, GINA, and JAXEN CASTANEDA**





# BENEFACTOR

Congratulations FAAGC on your 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!



**CARLTON, SR. & CARMELISA EDWARDS**

*© Celyn Drake*



**Carlton, Jr. Amy, Trey, Brandon & Kaylee EDWARDS**



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Creation**

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# FROM THE EDWARDS FAMILY





## BENEFACTOR

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FAAGC ON ITS 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



*Best wishes from Edsel and Marj PEÑA*



**and the SC PEÑA CLAN**



## BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to the New Officers and Executive Board  
of the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia*



**CHASE, JULIA, JENNA, AMBER, and JOEY**

Greetings from  
**JOE & CELYN SZOKE AND FAMILY**





## BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to the FAAGC on 26 years of wonderful accomplishments! Wishing you continued success!!*



Manny and Leah



Jeslie Ann and Paul Kessenich  
and baby son Henry



Jessica and Josh Todd  
and sons Ethan and Aaron



Jessamine Cuaresma

Best Wishes from  
**MANNY & LEAH CUARESMA AND FAMILY**





# BENEFACTOR

## Pet Vac Animal Hospital

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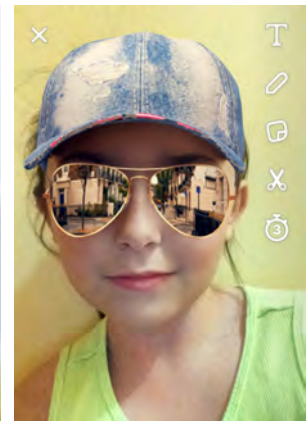
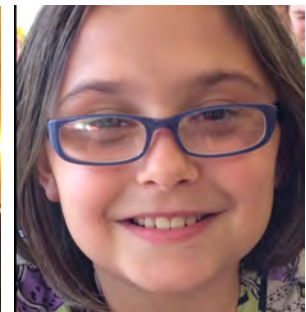
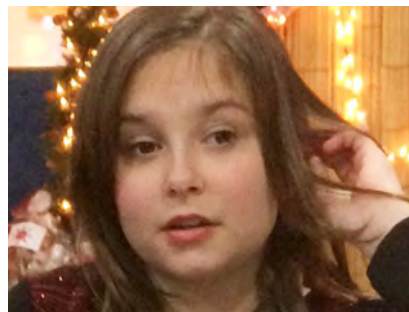

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Veterinarian

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Best Wishes from  
**The ADCOCK FAMILY**





## **BENEFACTOR**

**Congratulations to the FAAGC on its 26th Anniversary  
and to the New Officers and Executive Board Members!**

**TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



Best Wishes from  
**JOHN and TERESA ZIEGLER**







## BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to the Newly Elected Officers*  
OF THE FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER COLUMBIA



Best Wishes from  
**WARREN, MYRNA and ANDREW WHITMIRE**





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*"Best Wishes for another great year for FAAGC!"*

- Eric, Haideline, Ethan, and Brayden Sosa

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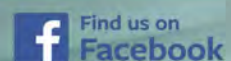
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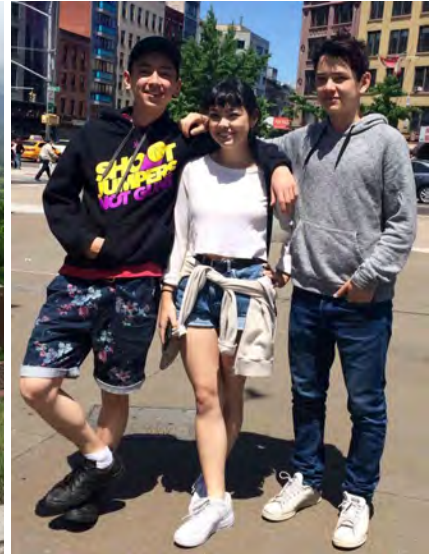
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# BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to the FAAQC!*



## **MARK and PRISCILLA RAMIREZ**

Children: Elen and Gene, Rachel, Marc & Sophie  
Grandchildren: Eamon, Adam, Leon & Georgia



*Best Wishes from*

## **EDING & KERMIT THOMAS**

Sallie, Princess, Ginger,  
Duke, Chico, Dudley





**BENEFACTOR**

# COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2018

**SATURDAY, APRIL 14  
& SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018  
AT THE STATE FAIRGROUNDS**

GLOBAL EDUCATION DAY: APRIL 13, 2018



**INTERNATIONAL FASHION & CUISINE**





**BENEFACTOR**

*Happy 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the*  
**FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF GREATER COLUMBIA**



*Best wishes from*  
**LEE & POLLY PEARSON and FAMILY**  
DALZELL, SOUTH CAROLINA





## BENEFACTOR

Congratulations to the Members  
and Officers of the FAAGC on its  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 17<sup>th</sup> Induction Ball!!

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Best Wishes from  
**MICHELLE CHIN and FAMILY**



## BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to the Officers and Members of the FAAGC on another successful year !! Best Wishes and Good Luck to the Newly-Elected Officers !!*



*Best Wishes from*

**The MATIENZO FAMILY: MATT, MERCEDES & ALAN**  
FORT MILL and COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA





## BENEFACTOR

***Congratulations to the new officers***  
**OF THE FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER COLUMBIA!**



**MABUHAY!**  
**THE LIUNORAS FAMILY**



# BENEFACTOR

*Happy 26th Anniversary to the FAAGC and Congratulations to the whole membership for keeping it strong!*



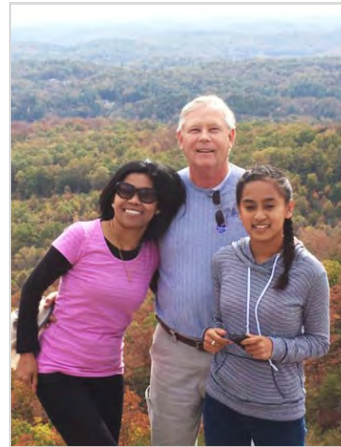
*The happy faces of the family and friends of*  
**PETE and CECILLE JACOBSEN**  
SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA





# BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations FAAGC for another successful year.  
Best wishes for the coming year and beyond!*



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**Happy Birthday, Ed Gould!!**





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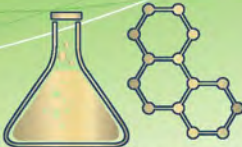
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*Picture taken 27 years ago.*

*Congratulations to FAAQC  
on its 27th Gala  
and  
Kudos to the Incoming Officers  
and Board Members*

*George and Nieves McNulty*



**SPONSOR**

*Our Best Wishes to the FAAQC!*



**DON AND EVELYN LIESTER**  
Columbia, SC





## SPONSOR

*Congratulations to the  
FAAGC Members, Officers,  
and Executive Board on their  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!*

*Best Wishes*

*Mr. and Mrs.  
William and Emily*



## SPONSOR

*Congratulations to the FAAGC on its 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!*



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*Alicia Porter*



# PATRON



*Best Wishes to the FAAGC!*

**DIANA, SHARLESS, AND  
DYONN DINGMAN**



# PATRON

*Best Wishes to the FAAGC!*



**BRIGIDO AND EVELYN TAHOP**

Creedmoor, North Carolina



# PATRON

*Best Wishes to the FAAGC!*



**MARVIN AND BETH NOBLE**

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# MABUHAY!!



**2017-2019 FAAGC OFFICERS AND  
EXECUTIVE BIARD MEMBERS**



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CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE MEMBERS  
AND OFFICERS OF  
THE FAAGC ON  
THEIR  
26<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
AND  
17<sup>TH</sup> INDUCTION BALL

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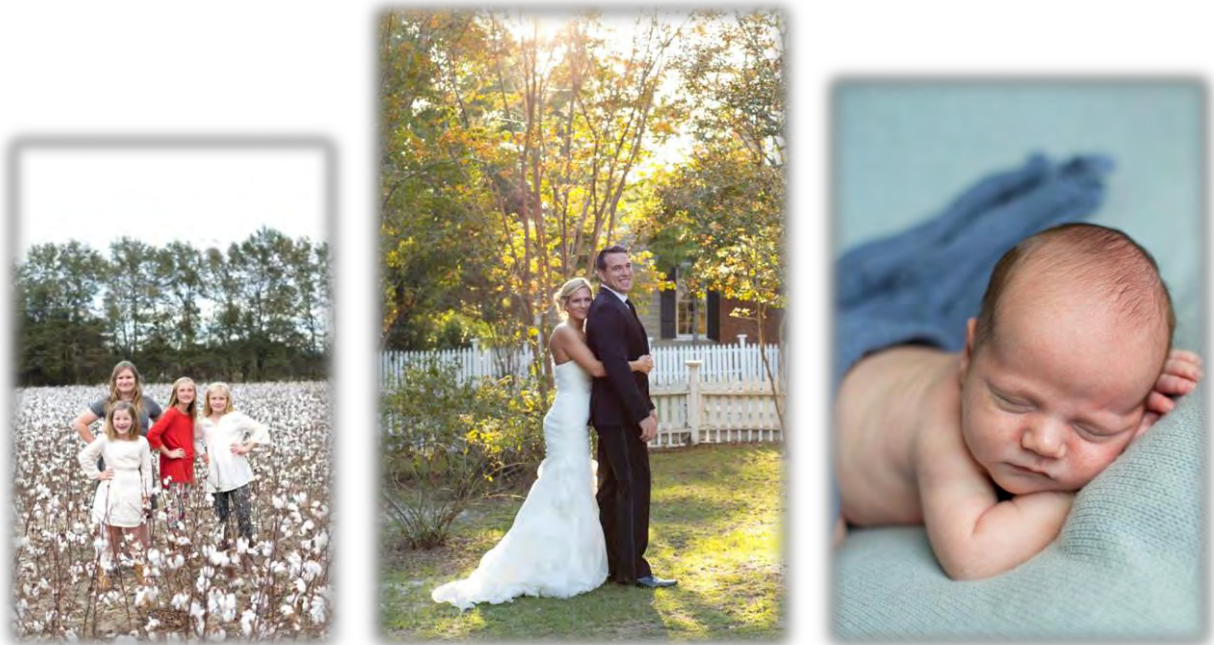




Nickie Norris

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Family, Children, Newborn and Wedding Photography



*Congratulations to the FAAQC on their  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 17<sup>th</sup> Induction Ball!!*



Congratulations to  
The Filipino American Association  
Of Greater Columbia

On your

**27th Annual Gala**

From:



*The Filipino-American Community of Western North Carolina*



*Congratulations to the Incoming Officers!  
Carry on with the good work!*



*From:*

**SUSANA B. PASICATAN  
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MICHELLE, MARCO,  
MARVEL, AND MARY  
AND GRANDCHILDREN  
KADAN, AVA, AND  
JONATHAN**

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Ministry of Christ**



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**1 Corinthians 11:1**

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Contact: 803-767-2446  
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# PHILIPPINE JEWELS

## Precious Treasures of a Beautiful Country



**LUZON: TAAL VOLCANO** Known more famously as Vulcan Point, it is a small patch of land in a crater lake on Volcano Island. It is the largest island on a lake on an island in a lake on an island in the world.



**LUZON: KILTEPAN SUNRISE IN THE SAGADAS** If you're missing the beautiful sunrises in the Philippines, the best are known to be from Kiltapan Tower, part of Sagada. Come early and bring a camera and don't worry about clouds - those are what make it so amazing.



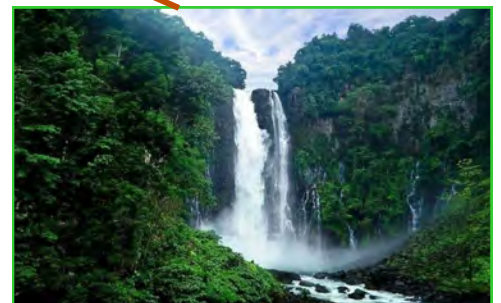
**VISAYAS: PALAWAN ISLAND** This island is home to some of the most important historical events in Philippine history. Under these waters lie shipwrecks, marine reserves, and geologic wonders such as underwater limestone cliffs. All visible, of course, under the crystal-clear Philippine waters!



**MINDANAO: SIARGAO** Take a boat through the largest mangrove forest reserve in Mindanao on Siargao Island. Afterward, take a short jump off a long pier because there may be crocodiles in those forests!



**VISAYAS: SIPALAY NEGROS OCCIDENTAL** A small, non-descript city holds some of the best water and beaches in the Philippines. Commonly known as Sugar-Beach, it is full of white sand beaches. It also boasts a bit of hiking. While it may be a long drive from Bacolod, it's worth the wait.



**MINDANAO: MARIA CRISTINA FALLS** Forever falling together, the twin waterfalls are an astonishing sight. Surprisingly, they're not only beautiful, but also useful, providing hydroelectric power to the local Barangays. But, clearly nature sculpted



# 26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA RE-VISITED

