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VOLUME XXIV NO. 3



PMA HOLDS 108TH CONFAB



The Philippine Medical Association will hold its 108th Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions on May 19-22, 2015 at the Marriott Grand Ballroom in Newport City Complex, Pasay City.

Atty. Alexander A. Padilla, PhilHealth President & Chief Executive Officer, is the keynote speaker during the Opening Ceremonies with Dr. Janette Loreto-Garin, DOH Secretary, as guest of honor.

With “One PMA, One Health, One Life” as scientific session theme, the PMA-CME Commission headed by Dr. Ramon F. Abarquez, has introduced a major innovation for the scientific sessions. Instead of having small breakout groups to conduct simultaneous symposia there will only be a total of four sessions for the whole duration of the convention with panelists from different specialty divisions discussing the topics. Each session will have a “take home message” making the session an “Ask, Learn, Share” activity.

Scientific Session #1, entitled “Parents not pre-determined, yet offsprings risk-prone” will tackle what, in an apparently healthy maternal characteristics, have prognostic influence on fetal programing and poor offspring outcomes of birth defects and would there be any growing-up management implication.

Will Lifestyle Modification prevent fatal diseases, and if so, how? This issue will be discussed in the Scientific Session #2 entitled “Options for at-risk adults”. Scientific

be discussed in the Scientific Session #2 entitled “Options for at-risk adults”. Scientific Session #3 entitled “Comparative effective CPG – local data outcome” will tackle local vs foreign CPG apprehensions re 2014 editorial on Cardio Vascular Disease management.

Session #4 dubbed as “Must know, must comply” will tackle PhilHealth, BIR, DOH, PRC and Ethics issues.

General Assembly will be held on May 21. Dr. Jose Rizal Lecture and Awards and PMA Awarding Ceremonies are slated on May 22.

Induction of the 2015-2016 PMA National officers, PMA Board of Governors, and Component Society presidents will be held on May 22, 2015 during the Convention’s Closing Ceremonies with DOH Secretary Garin as the guest of honor and inducting officer of the 2015-2016 PMA President.

108th PMA Annual convention Organizing Committee is headed by Dr. Realiza G. Henson, PMA Governor for Quezon City Region, as Overall Chair with PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag as Honorary Chair, Dr. Albert C. Guevarra as Co-chair, PMA Secretary General Dr. Marianne O. Dobles as Convention Secretary, Dr. Maria Corazon S. Maglaya as Convention Assistant Secretary, and PMA National Treasurer Dr. Benito P. Atienza as Convention Treasurer.

In this issue:

The OWL@PMA	2
Editorial	6
As I See It	8
The Vice President's Corner	10
National Treasurer's Report	12
Regional News	15-24
APMA	24
PMA-APPA Story	26
On Higher Ground	27



The OWL@PMA

Online Webbed Learning @ Partnerships for Medical Advancement

Maria Minerva P. Calimag, MD, MSc, PhD, FPBA, FPSECP
PRESIDENT, Philippine Medical Association, Inc

"Today with the emergence of the information age, the strength of a country is based on knowledge. National greatness will arise not from our national resources or our factories, but from our people—people with new ideas and skill,"

Michael Milken

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is defined as the education of physicians following completion of formal training. CPD is the acquisition of knowledge, experience and skills, as well as, the development of personal qualities. It involves both the acquisition of new skills, to broaden competence, and the enhancement of existing skills to keep abreast of evolving knowledge. Among physicians, CPD consists of any educational activity which helps to maintain, develop or increase knowledge, problem-solving, technical skills or professional performance standards. Keeping up-to-date enables them to work legally and effectively all with the goal that they can provide better health care redounding to patient safety. CPD includes 'formal' activities, e.g. courses, conferences and workshops, as well as self-directed activities such as preceptorship and self-determined learning. According to the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) (Marchington. M. and Wilkinson, 2006), CPD should be: 1) continuous - professionals should always be looking for ways to improve performance; 2) the responsibility of the individual learner to own and manage; 3) driven by the learning needs and development of the individual; 4) be evaluative rather than descriptive of what has taken place;

5) be an essential component of professional and personal life, never an optional extra.

Filed in the Senate under Committee Report 95 submitted by the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization and the Committee on Finance, is Senate Bill No. 2581 entitled, "AN ACT MANDATING AND STRENGTHENING THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR ALL REGULATED PROFESSIONS, CREATING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES".

The Philippine CPD Council of Medicine is comprised of the tripartite representation from the Philippine Medical Association, the

Association of Philippine Medical Colleges and the Professional Regulation Commission, All licensed physicians in the Philippines must participate in recognized Continuing Professional Development activities in which they demonstrate their commitment to continued competent performance in a framework that is fair, relevant, inclusive, transferable, and formative. With the ASEAN Integration and the requirements posed by the National Equivalency Framework looming in the horizon, there is a need for 1) a means to provide virtual and remote opportunities for acquiring CPD credits; as well as, 2) a means to document them.

As President of the Philippine Medical Association and a known advocate for Technology Integration in Medical Education and Training, I initiated the OWL@PMA Program for Continuing Professional Development of Physicians. OWL@PMA™ is an acronym that stands for Online Webbed Learning @ Partnerships for Medical Advancement. This will be MOOC site using Moodle, an Open Source Learning Management System that will feature Moodle Analytics. Physicians will be recommended educational and



professional development tracks based on their actual contexts. The intent is to provide an alternative platform for deploying learning materials via the online mode. Pre-tests and Post-tests will also be given to document learning from the online modules as well as from face-to-face encounters in Roundtable Conferences.

Moreover, the OWL@PMA will feature a cloud-based portfolio assessment platform which will be a virtual space for curating and archiving of physician profile and evidences of learning from formal, informal and non-formal Continuing Professional Development (CPD) encounters. CPD credits can be earned through the Online Modules and Roundtable Conferences; Certificates from local and international conferences, seminars and workshops; research outputs, creative works and outputs such as infographics for health awareness advocacies, policy statements, position papers, lectures delivered etc. The portfolio will provide the evaluator with the following information, i.e., 1) a reflection of the physician as a professional; 2) a record of his professional development; 3) proof of his performance on-the-job or in class; 4) what he has accomplished (i.e., tangible artifacts/evidence); 5) paper-, computer-, or web-based evidence of having learned new skills.

The portfolio within the OWL@PMA will be both a product and a process portfolio. A product portfolio demonstrates mastery of a learning task or a set of learning objectives and contains the best works of the physician, while a process portfolio documents the stages of learning and provides a progressive record of the physicians' professional growth over time. All physicians shall simply curate or record all his continuing professional development activities (face-to-face and online) to be credited with the corresponding CPD units.

Our Philosophy

The OWL@PMA Program is anchored on the philosophy of heutagogy. Heutagogy is the study of self-determined learning (in contrast to self-directed learning in andragogy)... It is also an attempt to challenge some ideas about teaching and learning that still prevail in teacher centred learning and the need for, as Bill Ford (1997) eloquently puts it 'knowledge sharing' rather than 'knowledge hoarding'. In this respect knowing how to learn is a fundamental skill that is developed in heutagogy. It looks to the future that moves at pace with innovation and the changing structure of communities and workplaces (Hase and Kenyon, 2000).

It recognizes that physicians are not only lifelong learners but that they are engaged in learning for life. They learn through consultation and collaboration, self-study, and through conferences and meetings, seminars and workshops. Our goal is to create an alternative virtual platform that will elevate the educational experience of physicians by measuring their learning and engaging them at their own pace and convenience. It hinges on Mobile e-Learning as an enabler of change.

Our Vision

- To be the online CPD provider platform that delivers valuable medical education to and enables professional collaboration among Filipino physicians in partnership with healthcare professionals elsewhere in the rest of the world



Figure 1 <http://bibblio.org/>

Our Mission

- To cultivate partnership and understand the educational needs of the Filipino physicians at the PMA.
- To deliver valuable medical education programs that transform the educational experience and improve patient care.
- To utilize mobile technology in delivering innovative educational solutions to provide medical education anytime anywhere.
- To bring together physicians, medical organizations, and other medical education stakeholders into one online community that fosters professional, peer-to-peer discussion and collaboration.

Medical organizations and hospital training departments, can use the OWL@PMA to deliver online educational programs that will help their members provide the best possible care to their patients. In addition, OWL@PMA through its various educational partners can provide solutions to managing challenging cases by consulting and collaborating with colleagues from within their own and across different specialties.

continued on page 4...

It can be a venue to share and discuss the latest techniques, cutting-edge research data, and best practices on a secure, professional platform.

The holistic approach of the OWL@PMA Program integrates the modules from different partners, as well as modules on critical thinking, leadership and management. As our members go through the modules they will learn more than just medical knowledge through the medical

content... they will learn how to use information technology (ICT) to optimize learning, a competency that forms part of the Practice-based Learning and Improvement Standards of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for training in the United States.

The OWL@PMA Program will deliver Continuing Education, Training and Development through

videos, presentations, articles and other multimedia content, plus quizzes and certificates; reinforce learning objectives to and measure learning of the participants; provide course organizers with feedback on participant's knowledge base and learning, time spent on the course, item analysis for quizzes, and other statistics; evaluate the effectiveness of educational programs.

THE OWL@PMA PARTNERS:

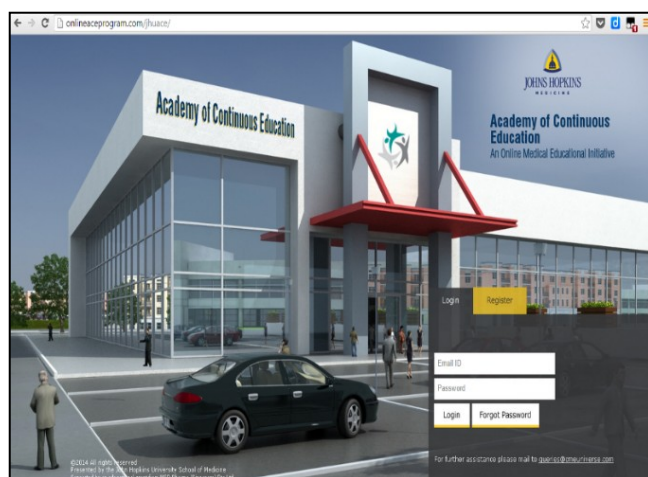


Figure 2 <http://onlineaceprogram.com/jhuace/>
The Academy of Continuous Education at Johns Hopkins through Merck Sharpe and Dome

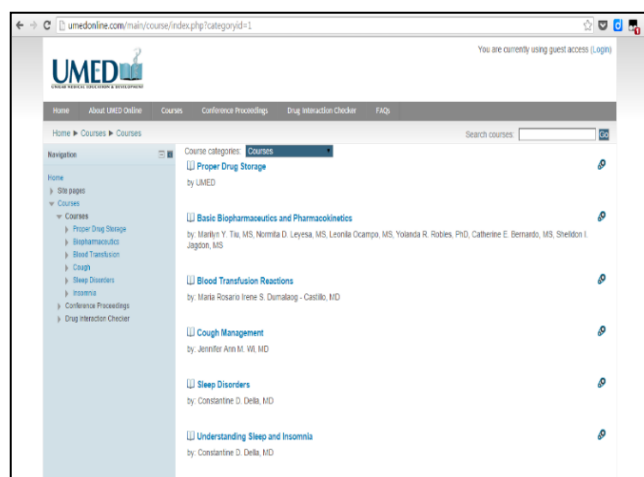


Figure 3 <http://umedonline.com>

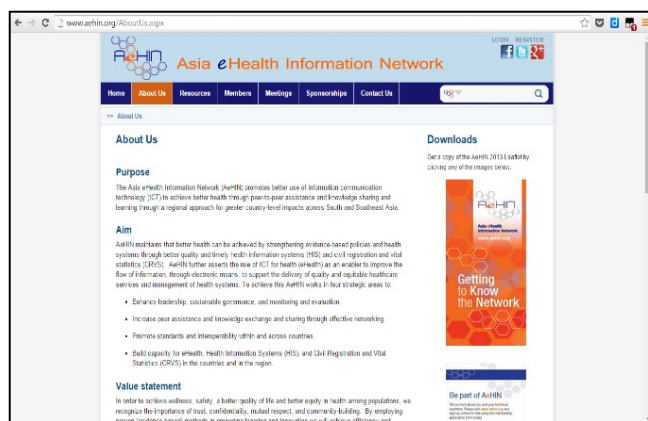


Figure 4 <http://www.aehin.org/AboutUs.aspx>
Asia eHealth Information Network through AeHIN Chair, Dr. Alvin Marcelo

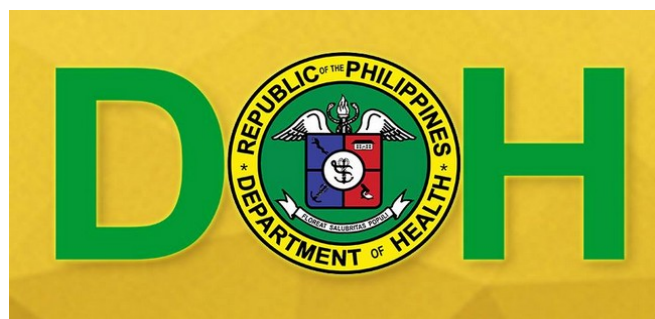


Figure 5 www.doh.gov.ph
Department of Health through HHRDB through Dr. Pretchell Tolentino, Medical Officer IV Planning and Standards Division Health Human Resource Development Bureau Department of Health

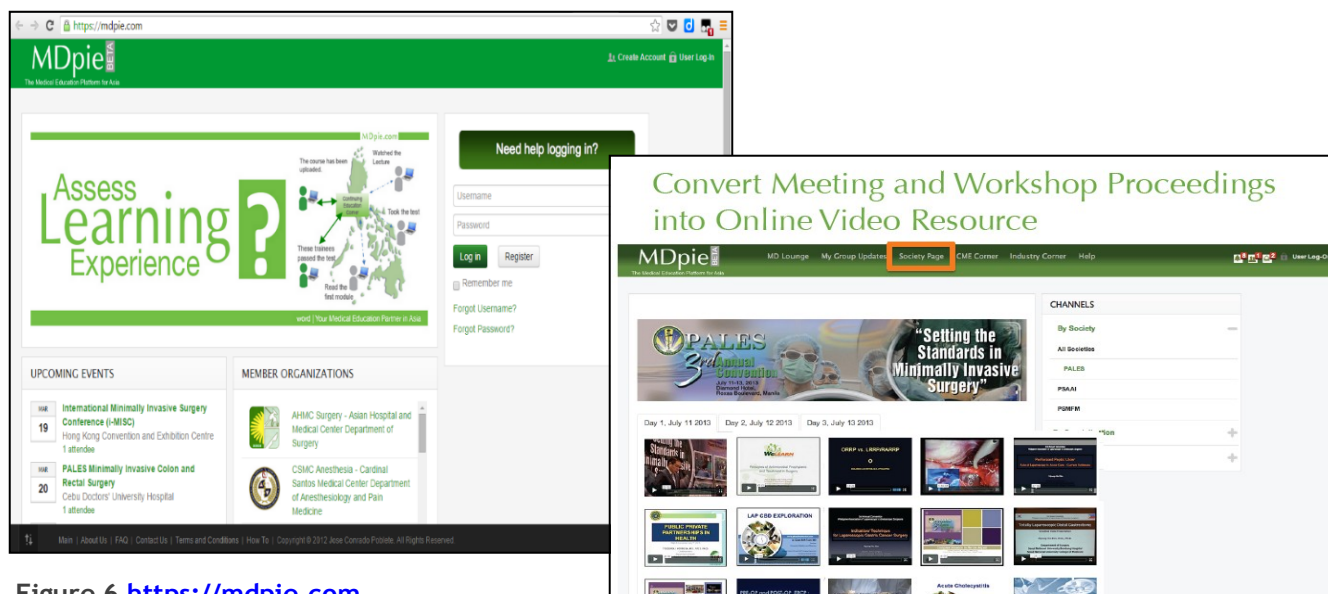
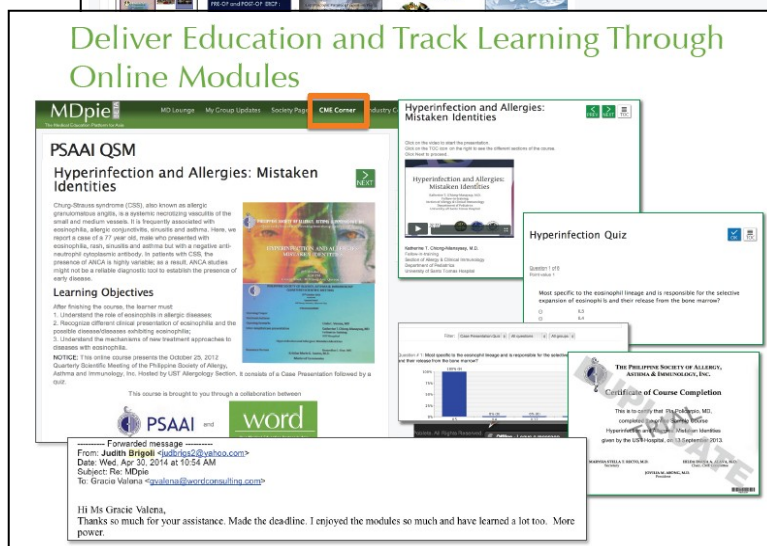


Figure 6 <https://mdpie.com>
MDPie through Word Consulting

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Our Code of Ethics states:

“Colleagues, legitimate children who are minors, or even those who are not minors but mentally incapacitated and dependent upon our colleague for support, should be given the courtesy. However, this shall not apply to plastic or cosmetic procedures unless the cosmetic service is for Reconstructive”
procedure for conditions resulting from diseases or accidents.
In case of package deals, professional fees included in said package shall be waived.”



EDITORIAL

MARIANNE L. ORDOÑEZ-DOBLES, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief

TIME DOESN'T STAND STILL AT THE PMA

There is an advertisement of a very famous and luxurious watch, Rolex that says,

“Why this watch?

This watch is a witness. To words that moved nations.

It has dared men faster, further.

Worn by luminaries, visionaries, champions.

This watch is an icon of Impossible Achievements.

It doesn't just tell time. It tells history.”

Everyone knows what a Rolex is. If you are a sports enthusiast, you probably saw the great players wear one during the last Masters, Wimbledon, and the Ryder Cup. It is found everywhere - in the world of arts and sports like golf, tennis, racing, yachting, and equestrian.

Why is that? The name alone speaks for itself. There are other

brands out there like Patek Philippe, Tag Heuer, Cartier, Breitling, IWC, Longines, Officine Panerai, Tissot, and Tudor, to name a few.

But the Rolex is the most popular brand or the brand of choice. It is what we aspire for. It is something we want, something we endeavor to wear - to put on our wrist.

Rolex wasn't that popular before. It started with humble beginnings in 1905. The owners faced a major obstacle and fierce criticism but they worked hard to bring it where it is today. Now, when one thinks of a high quality expensive luxury watch, one thinks of Rolex. Nowadays, we wear it not only to tell time or as a fashion statement but also as a sign of prestige.

The gears and instruments of any Rolex work in consonance with each other. You also need to use it. If you don't, time stops. The value of a Rolex always increases. Just like real estate, the value has doubled in the last 5 years. Every so often you have to have it cleaned. It needs fine-tuning and polishing. Otherwise,

the gears may get stuck and time becomes inaccurate.

The PMA is our Rolex in the making. Right now, we are on that tipping point just like Rolex when it was on its way to glory and prestige. That's good because we are almost there. But we must continue to strive to get to the next level. Just like the owners, we need to work hard to get there.

And work hard the PMA has. Since Day 1, the strategic imperatives imposed by the PMA president have been put into motion, as in institutionalizing our mission and vision, enhancing our relevance among our members, promoting quality medical education, promoting the PMA policy and legislative agenda, and elevating the PMA in the local and international scene.

To make it work, just like the gears and instruments of a Rolex, we all need to work hand-in-hand, in perfect timing, in unison. If we don't and some gears conk out, turn slower than the rest, or worse, go the other way, the PMA won't be able to function properly. We have projects where you can help the PMA become the Rolex it should be! As the PMA President has always said, we should love our profession, love our fellow physicians, and love the Philippine Medical Association. We must promote strategies to increase membership, to increase

awareness of our organization, and to protect our organization from external conflict.

From time to time, we also need to attend learning programs to keep ourselves polished and up-to-date. Otherwise, we become rusty and will not perform with precision and accuracy. The PMA has all these learning programs in place as in all component medical societies' round table discussions, Regional Assemblies, Specialty Societies' Conventions, hospital grand rounds, as well as in postgraduate courses and International Medical Conferences. This coming PMA Annual Convention on May 2015 will be the launching of the OWL@PMA, the PMA Online Webbed Learning.

There will be partnerships with multiple CME providers to give CME and CPD units.

Even as you read this, there is already that prestige that goes with the PMA. It already speaks for itself.

The PMA, in its over 111 years of existence has proven its place in history. It has stood the test of time. True enough, the PMA has been witness to changes in Philippine History. It has also been a major partner in the progress of the Filipino Doctors and the patients whom they care for. Indeed, it has brought about the best doctors in the country.

Soon, with your help and cooperation, the PMA will be the Rolex that every member will be proud to wear. We are almost there- just a couple more adjustments and tweaking- and we're just right around the corner.

And soon we may borrow the Rolex ad and declare:

“Why PMA?

This association is a witness. To words that moved the country.

It has dared doctors faster, further.

Composed of surgeons, pediatricians, obstetricians, cardiologists, endocrinologists, hematologists, primary care physicians, general practitioners, among others .

This association is an icon of Impossible Achievements.

It isn't just part of time. It makes history.”

☪•☪•☪•☪

Start by doing what's
necessary; then do
what's possible; and
suddenly you are
doing the impossible.

- Francis of Assisi

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The Physician

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AS I SEE IT...

By: Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, M.D.
PMA Secretary General

The end of November 2014, had 2 important events that the Secretary General has been able to attend. The PhilHealth Accreditation meeting at the PHIC building and the workshop sponsored by the PRC on a new Code of Ethics for Medical Professionals.

The Philippine Medical Association has come up with 2 Volumes of the PMA Medical Journal in compliance with the minimum requirements for indexing with the Western Pacific Region Index Medicus (WPRIM). This is a project of the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office. Initially, only one volume of the journal is being released annually.

Dr. Sixta Foronda, President of the Makati Medical Society, successfully chaired the PMA Christmas Party at the PMA Auditorium last December 13, 2014. Beautiful Christmas decorations amidst a sea of flowers transformed the auditorium to a colorful Christmas setting making everyone feel the magic of the Holidays. Pashminas, and jackets, as well as cash were donated by doctors for the residents of Palo, Leyte who were hardest hit by Typhoon Yolanda.

The PMA Membership Committee chaired by the Secretary General with members, Dr. Albert Guevarra, Dr. Agnes Calleja, Dr. Carlito Pajarillo, Dr. Rebecca Sison, Dr. Sierra Hernandez, together with the indefatigable membership staff, had its hands full checking on the

status of members, petitions, and unrecorded bank transactions in preparation for the final voters list released by the National Comelec on February 15, 2015. There is still more work to be done on the membership listing so the PMA may have a more accurate database. The update on the list of its members is ongoing and component societies may continuously update this, by sending their list of new members, inactive and active members, or reporting any deaths of its members to the PMA membership staff.

The grand Manila Hotel was an apt setting for the Joint Congress of the APPA (Association of Philippine Physicians in America) - PMA (Philippine Medical Association). The chair of the Joint Congress was Dr. Alex Cueto who is US based. The Opening Ceremonies was graced with the presence of the President of the Philippines, His Excellency, President Benigno S. Aquino III, as the Keynote Speaker last January 8, 2015. On the 2nd day, January 9, 2015 were CME lectures and a dialogue between the APPA, PMA, and PRC with the UP Chancellor. Closing ceremonies was in the evening. There were medical missions in Payatas, Quezon City and in Masbate.

The PMA Regional Assembly in Central Luzon under Governor Raul Echipare was held at the Traveller's Hotel in Subic, Zambales, with about 250 delegates from the region attending the assembly.

The PhilHealth conducted the forum entitled PhilHealth @20: 4 Tracks, 1 Goal, at the Century Park Hotel, from February 3-4, 2015. The 4 tracks are Membership

Track, Benefits Track, Provider Engagement Track, and Provider Payment Track. There were local and foreign speakers who tackled all the issues. The forum was intended to improve all services of the PhilHealth.

The regular Accreditation Committee of the Phil Health was held on February 5, 2015. A consultative meeting of the PHIC was also held later in the afternoon with the Specialty Societies. Topics were the enhancement of the Accreditation Process, and the oversight of non members of specialty societies at the Philhealth Business Center, SM Aura.

A follow up on PHIC Accreditation issues was made on March 5, 2015 at the PhilHealth Building, attended by the Secretary General.

Pampanga Medical Society had their 3rd Annual Convention at the Otel Pampanga, at San Fernando, Pampanga. The Secretary General together with Dr. Albert Guevarra attended the Convention with Dr. Minerva Calimag as the keynote speaker.

On March 7, 2015, the PMA Board of Governors held the 9th Board Meeting at the MU Manor Hotel, Ozamis City followed by the PMA Regional Assembly for North-Central Mindanao under Dr. Karen Salomon.

A Quality Assurance Meeting was held at the PHIC building which was attended by the Secretary General.

On March 15, 2015, doctors all over the country trooped to their

respective polling places to vote for their chosen leaders for the fiscal year 2015 to 2016.

The PMA held a Regional Assembly in Naga City, Camarines Sur, under Governor Dr. Rufino Bartolabac at the Avenue Hotel.

On March 30, 2015, the PMA National Comelec, held the canvassing of the election results. Proclaimed winners were Dr. Minerva Calimag as president, Dr. Karen Conol-Salomon as Vice President, and Dr. Oscar Cabahug as Treasurer.

The PMA Annual Convention Organizing Committee had several meetings with sponsors, drug companies, and other business establishments to take care of the financial aspect of the Convention. The latter part of March 2015, had the IT Department of the PMA

tackling the Album of Events and Activities of the PMA for its fiscal year for submission to the Professional Regulations Commission as the Accredited Professional Organization for the Medical Profession. The month of April 2015 and the early part of May 2015 has been a busy period for the PMA Secretariat, PMA Officers and Committee and Commission Chairmen and members preparing for the success of the showcase of the PMA, the Annual Convention. The Committee on Publications handled the last issue of the PMA Newsletter, The Physician, with all year end reports of the Board of Governors, and reports of all National Officers. The 2nd volume of the PMA Journal was also collated and prepared by this committee. Reports and the needed materials for the General Assembly have also been prepared by the General Assembly Chairman and Officers.

The Committee on Medical Missions chaired by Dr. Ferdinand Cercenia will be drawing up implementing rules and guidelines in the conduct of medical missions in the country. Coordination by all NGOs, DILG, PRC, and other government entities with the local PMA component society will be a vital factor in the conduct of the medical missions.

The PMA CME Commission under Dr. Ramon Abarquez has adopted the theme "One PMA, One Health, One Life" for its scientific sessions in the 108th PMA Annual Convention. Panel Discussions from experts shall mark this year's convention, an innovative approach to learning,

indeed!

•••••

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THE VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Irineo C. Bernardo III, M.D.
2014-2015

"The PMA and the Philippine Services Industry Roadmap and Global Value Chains"

As Vice-president of the Philippine Medical Association, I have been given the privileged of representing our organization in some, if not most, of the activities organized by the government and its agencies involved in the delivery of healthcare services. The article below are just some of the activities I consider significant to the practice of our profession.

The experience, I must say, had been enriching and the opportunity to view our role, as physicians, from just providing medical care within our country to being able to serve beyond our shores and being part of a global village where our skills as professionals are tested and compared with those who share the same calling are now viewed from a broader perspective. This is what the joint consultative conference organized by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Board of Investments (BOI) and TESDA held last February 26 to 27, 2015, more or less, aim to impart to all the various industries invited to participate. Thus the joint consultative conference held at the TESDA Complex in Taguig City bear the theme: the **"Philippine Services Industry Roadmap and Global Value Chains"**. In view, however, of the limited space allowed for this article, I will try my best to make my report as briefly and concise as possible.

To begin with, the consultative conference was organized with the aim of achieving two main objectives: 1.) to be able to identify the skills and services requirement by industry / sector and 2.) to be able to identify skills priority for development for the period 2015 to 2017. To make the joint conference

manageable and convenient for the huge delegation expected from all the sectors invited, the first day of the conference was devoted for the **manufacturing sector**; while the second day, was concentrated for the **services sector** which include organizations from the Health and Wellness sector, Construction and Infrastructure, Tourism, IT-BPM, Transport and Logistics and Other services.

During the break out sessions, the Health and Wellness Sector was aptly participated in by the Department of Health (DOH); Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Board of Investment (BOI), the Philippine Medical Association (PMA); the Philippine Nurses Association (PNA); Philippine Association of Medical Technologist (PAMET), Philippine Dental Association (PDA), Health and Dietary Supplement Association of the Philippines; Philippine Council for the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (PCAHO); Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA), Retirement and Healthcare Coalition, Inc.; Association of DOH Retired Employees (ADOHRE), National Federation of Health Information Management of the Philippines Inc. (NFHIMPI) and others. I had the honor and privilege of being elected the chairman and presiding officer of the consultative group for the Health Sector. During the workshop, the health industry leaders and their representatives were tasked to identify the skills needed and those that are critical in their own respective fields of concern in terms of shortage, new technologies, availability of resources and emerging challenges.

Attempts at tracking the overall sector's performance show that the medical and the health sector has grown from the usual average of P 7.92 billion in 1991-1995 to P17.31 billion in the period from 2006-2009 with an annual average increase from 4.39 percent to 6.78 percent. The medical and health sub-sector consistently expanded faster than the national economy. "Accordingly, the share of the sub-sector to the Philippine National Income has steadily gone up from 1.06% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1991-1995 to 1.27% during the period from 2001-2005.

Two of the most important sources of growth in demand for health care and wellness services in the country are the relatively rapid expansion in population and longevity. It is estimated that the number of residents in the country would go up to 103 million to 111.8 million in 2015 to 2020 couple with a steady increase in life expectancy—the United Nations (2008) predicted average life expectancy to increase from 71.7 years in 2010 to 74 years in 2020. These translates to a lucrative market to all subsectors in the health and wellness industry. The trend is also expected to continue resulting to a steady increase in the share of senior citizens to the total Philippine population from 7.8% in 2015 to approximately 11.7 % in 2025 (UN 2008). We are also aware that our strong presence is anchored on the fact that we are the largest English-speaking country in Asia and our "unique Filipino brand of caring and compassion". Moreover, the Philippines enjoyed "a higher percentage of medical professionals compared to other countries (Vequist and Valdez 2008); and "the future supply of medical

professionals is reasonably assured by more than 313 health recognized educational institutions" (Jusay-Castillo and Balane) throughout the archipelago.

Our physicians and other health providers can contribute in positioning the country as one of the preferred destinations for retirees especially in Asia by honing skills that are expected to be in demand for the next five to ten years. At present there are roughly 24,000 registered retirees residing in key locations in the NCR, Baguio City, Cebu and Davao, "every retiree corresponds to around 1.5 jobs locally" (Isip 2011).

What do we mean then by the **"Global Value Chain?"**. Allow me to simplify my explanation by pointing to a commonly used Iphone bearing the brand known to many as one that is produced in a particular country. On closer look however, its applications processor and memory flash are made from Korea; the connectivity is from the USA; its power management from Germany; the Interface & sensors are from the USA, Japan and France; the radio frequency is from Germany and the USA; the display / camera are from Korea, Japan, US or Taiwan depending on where it is assembled and the battery is from Korea. In other words an Iphone or cell phone may be thought to be from a particular country because it bears a name that is associated with that country but it bears some parts that are not necessarily from that country. The **"Chain"** refer to the "stages": **pre-production** of a service roadmap and demand, design, (purchasing) ; to **production** and to **post production** (distribution, marketing of services). Most of the goods and services that are of value are made in various parts of the world and countries compete on their economic roles within the value chain. Now given the aforementioned example and applying the same to the MRA or Mutual Recognition Agreement as a condition in carrying out trade in services among nations in the Asean region, I am inclined to believe that we

are moving towards a direction where in the future some health facilities or hospitals in this corner of the world, will be hiring the skills (from top management down to the lowest rank employees) from across national boundaries to promote and provide their **"brand of service"**. I have been hearing the word "branding" more often now than before among hospital owners and other business establishments. If all health facilities will hire the skills needed to remain competitive regardless as to where they come from then we can expect a market that will become more and more competitive as trade in services become more liberal. The race towards global competitiveness and recognition by nationally and internationally acclaimed accrediting bodies will continually drive our health professionals and our institutions to reassess periodically our individual and collective performances as health providers and in raising the bar of excellence in the health sector from time to time.

Shifting to another, but closely related, topic is the representation of the Philippine Medical Association in the **Hospital Accreditation Commission** (HAC) where, again, I am privileged to be a member of. The Commission was created and established as the National Accrediting Body pursuant to **DOH Administrative Order No. 2013-0002** and **Philhealth Resolution No. 786, s. 2005**, "recognizing the Hospital Accreditation Commission (HAC) as the national accrediting body "for all hospitals in the Philippines. The Commission aims to ensure the provisions of quality health services in all government and private hospitals through continuous appraisal of the hospitals' capabilities, processes and outcomes against a set of standards. The "standards" referred to is the **"Enhanced Bench book Standards"** which is still being reviewed and studied by Philhealth. The officers and members of the HAC were inducted on August 8, 2014 during its official launching at the Secretary Ona Hall of the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTi) in Quezon City. The

following government agencies and professional organizations are represented in the Commission namely: The Department of Health (**DOH**) , The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (**Philhealth**), the Philippine Council for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (**PCAHO**), the Philippine Hospital Association (**PHA**), the Philippine Medical Association (**PMA**), Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines Inc. (**PHAPI**) , Philippine College of Hospital Administrators (**PCHA**) and the Philippine Nurses Association (**PNA**). One of the roles of the PMA in this body is to ensure that only physicians who are professionally competent and with high ethical standards are allowed to practice in the hospitals or health facilities to be accredited.

The last time the group met, the present chairman and presiding officer, Dr. Gerardo Bayugo mentioned about the recommendations culled from the workshop organized by the National Hospital Quality Improvement of the DOH regarding the HOSPITAL SCORE CARD which will be the basis in rationalizing the budget and allocating resources particularly government hospitals. The "Score Card" will be based on five (5) key performance indicators, as follows: 1.) Sanitation, hygiene and waste management; 2.) Patient satisfaction 3.) Availability of Services and supplies 4.) Occupancy Rate 5.) Philhealth Utilization Rate. Private hospitals have more elaborate performance indicators but we will not discuss that anymore.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating my friend and successor , Dr. **Karen Conol-Salomon**, "the Defender of the Lanao Votes" during the 2014 PMA polls where by some twist of fate I was given another chance to serve the Philippine Medical Association as Vice-president. My best wishes , as well, to all the other national officers and board of governors for 2015 to 2016.

Mabuhay ang Nagkakaisang PMA!



NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

BENITO P. ATIENZA, M.D., FPPS

Association Funds

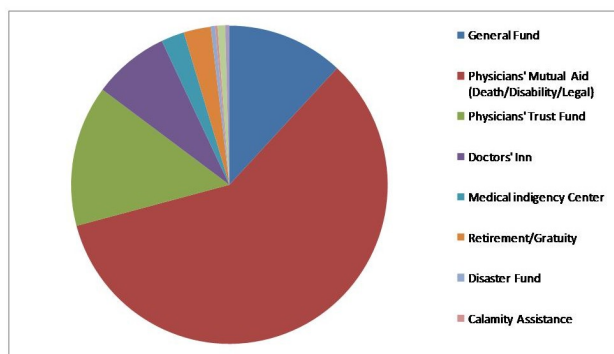
As of March 31, 2015 the total fund balance of the Association is Php 125,008,236.29 deposited in top 10 banks of the country. More than fifty eight percent (58.9%) or Php 73,655,496 is Physicians' Mutual Aid Fund (Death, Disability and Legal) given to members in good standing. The Physician Trust fund is Php 17,893,596.66 or 14.29% of the total fund.

BPI - PMA Credit Card

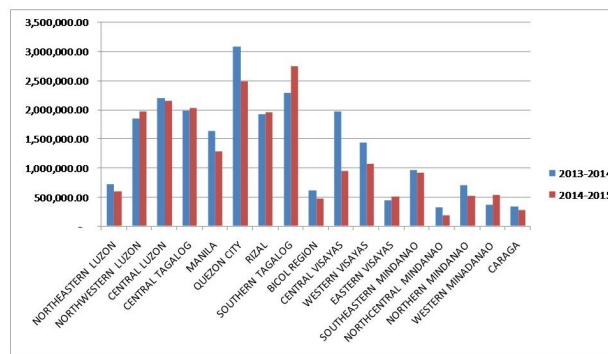
Approved by the PMA BOG during the 11th Regular Board Meeting last April 11, 2015, Resolution # 220, Series 2014-2015.

Comparative Financial Highlights

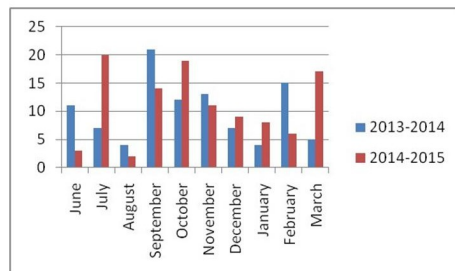
PMA Funds	March, 2014	March 31, 2015
General Fund	15,379,750.07	14,918,578.54
Physicians' Mutual Aid (Death/Disability/Legal)	70,697,849.11	73,655,496.27
Physicians' Trust Fund	17,382,105.76	17,893,596.66
Doctors' Inn	10,114,118.77	9,741,113.47
Medical indigency Center	3,018,988.84	2,961,220.24
Retirement/Gratuity	3,176,207.50	3,475,799.99
Disaster Fund	537,630.04	549,919.58
Calamity Assistance	141,409.15	313,690.40
Anti Cancer	1,020,823.49	969,045.50
Legislative Fund	525,304.23	529,775.64
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	121,994,186.96	125,008,236.29



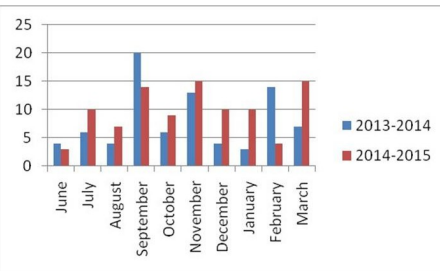
Financial Highlights of PMA Funds as of March 2015



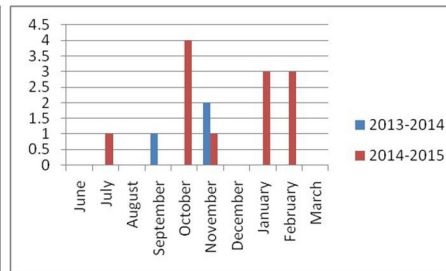
Comparison of Remittances of Regular members per Region Covering the period of June 2013-March 2014 and June 2014-March 2015



Comparison of the Death Benefit claims (June 2013-March 2014 and June 2014-March 2015)



Comparison of the Disability Benefit claims (June 2013-March 2014 and June 2014-March 2015)



Comparison of the Legal Aid claims (June 2013-March 2014 and June 2014-March 2015)

PAID BENEFITS OF MUTUAL AID FUND (JUNE 2014-MARCH 2015)						
MONTH	DEATH		DISABILITY		LEGAL	
	NO.	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT	NO	AMOUNT
JUNE	3	130,000.00	3	65,000.00		
JULY	20	905,000.00	10	230,000.00	1	20,000.00
AUGUST	2	100,000.00	7	175,000.00		
SEPTEMBER	14	640,000.00	14	330,000.00		
OCTOBER	19	920,000.00	9	191,250.00	4	52,500.00
NOVEMBER	11	540,000.00	15	375,000.00	1	20,000.00
DECEMBER	9	420,000.00	10	214,250.00		
JANUARY	8	390,000.00	10	225,000.00	3	75,000.00
FEBRUARY	6	300,000.00	4	90,000.00	3	100,000.00
MARCH	17	830,000.00	15	365,000.00		
TOTAL	109	5,175,000.00	97	2,260,500.00	12	267,500.00
GRAND TOTAL			7,703,000.00			

Commission on Mutual Aid

Chair: Albert C. Guevarra, MD
 Co-Chair: Teresita R. Sanchez, MD
 Members: Benjamin T. Lim, MD
 Primitivo D. Chua, MD
 Lydia P. Calingo, MD
 Lakandula A. Elayda, MD
 Governor-in-Charge: Raul E. Echipare, MD

IMPROVEMENT OF THE PMA DOCTORS-INN**IMPROVEMENT OF THE PMA INDIGENCY CLINIC****Committee on Indigency Clinic**

Chair: Domingo C. Pascual Jr., MD
 Co-Chair: Francisco E. San Diego, Jr, MD
 Members: Margarito D. Hernandez, MD
 Angela V. Cruz, MD
 Sylvanno T. Agustin, MD
 Filipina B. Tan, MD

**Committee on Doctors Inn**

Chair: Francisco E. San Diego, Jr., MD
 Members: Teresita Castillo, MD
 Griselda C. Ishiwata, MD
 Cheryl M. Cristobal, MD

BALIK PMA

As recommended by the Committee on Budget and Finance, this program granted a 50% discount to members that settled their arrears on their Membership dues covering period of 2013 and earlier and full payment of the current fiscal year. It was implemented from Oct 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015. During the 11th BOG meeting, the board passed a resolution to extend the program till April 30, 2015 as requested by most of the component societies.

REGION	COMPONENT SOCIETY	TOTAL	REGION	COMPONENT SOCIETY	TOTAL
Northeastern Luzon	Cagayan	37	Southern Tagalog	Batangas	15
	Kalinga	2		Cavite	104
	Nueva Vizcaya	3		Laguna	36
	Quirino	1		Lipa City	4
Northwestern Luzon	Baguio-Benguet	17		Marinduque	4
	Ilocos Norte	1		Mindoro Occidental	7
	Ilocos Sur	3		Oriental Mindoro	7
	La Union	6		Palawan	3
	Mountain Province	4		Quezon	19
	Pangasinan	23		Romblon	10
	Southern Ilocos Sur	1		San Pablo City	4
Central Luzon	Angeles City	7	Bicol	Taal-Lemery	8
	Bataan	7		Albay	12
	Bulacan	16	Western Visayas	Aklan	15
	Nueva Ecija	53		Antique	1
	Olongapo	5		Capiz	1
	Pampanga	13		Iloilo	3
	Tarlac	25	Central Visayas	Bohol	37
	Zambales	1		Cebu	90
Manila		99	Eastern Visayas	Samar	2
Quezon City		126	Western Mindanao	Basilan	1
Central Tagalog	Caloocan	37		Dapitan	2
	Makati	53		Zamboanga City	44
	Marikina Valley	31		Zamboanga Del Norte	5
	Pasay-Paranaque	24		Zamboanga Del Sur	3
	San Juan	33	Northern Mindanao	Misamis Oriental	76
	Valenzuela City	19	Southeastern Mindanao	Cotabato City	14
Rizal	Antipolo City	8		Davao	8
	Eastern Rizal	2		Davao Del Norte	2
	Las Piñas	49		General Santos City	2
	Malabon-Navotas	2		North Cotabato	8
	Mandaluyong City	4		South Cotabato	4
	Muntinlupa City	8	Northcentral Mindanao	Iligan	4
	Pasig City	19		Lanao Del Sur	5
	Rizal-Paranaque	24	Caraga	Agusan Del Norte	1
	Taguig City	5		Surigao Del Norte	2
	Taytay-Angono-Cainta	14	GRAND TOTAL		1345

External auditor

The Luisa Caleon Auditing Firm was approved by the Board as the PMA External Auditor, Resolution No. 199 series 2014-2015.

Component Society Accounting Report

The PMA National Treasurer is requiring all Component Society Treasurers to submit their updated reports on remittances of PMA annual dues on or before May 31 for proper reconciliation, and correction.

Bulilit and Teen Health Workers Activities 3rd and 4th Quarters



General Santos Medical Society Officers during the Investiture and Graduation Ceremonies



Lipa City Medical Society Bulilit Health Workers during the National Hand Washing Day



Pampanga Medical Society Bulilit Health Workers Graduation and Investiture, held at Sta. Rita Central Elementary School, Lubao Pampanga, March 25, 2015



Zamboanga Del Sur Medical Society Teen Health Force Graduation February 4, 2015



VANTAGE POINT

By: Bayani B. Tecson, MD

Another administrative year for our beloved association is fast approaching. The Philippine Medical Association, just like in the past 111 years, has valiantly hurdled another year of challenges that we as united physicians can be truly proud of.

Steadfast on our role as an important partner of our government in nation building, we, as individual physicians immensely contributed into the success of this administrative year. We, as individual members of the Philippine Medical Association did our share in one way or another, in realizing the change we want for our association and for our country. This collective effort as "One PMA" can be a source of pride and honor for all of us.

The future of our beloved association lies not only on our responsible choice of our leaders, on their best judgments of what is the common good for physicians, but most importantly, on the support and cooperation that we, as individual members will give to the association. I enjoin every member of the association to continue supporting our leaders and our health programs. I humbly request every member of the PMA to set aside partisan political interests, elitist mentality of specialization, and personal biases and just be a productive member of our association. **Who** we are, as individual members is **What** the PMA is, as an organization. A highly revered, noble, and professional physician is a respectable, noble, and professional PMA. Therefore, in everything we do and in everywhere we go, let us always be mindful that we are invariably representing and personifying the PMA as an organization. Every PMA member is the face of the PMA. Whether we like it or not, we are the ambassador of goodwill of PMA in our communities.

Personally, I would like to extend my profound gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support in the previous national election as vice president, as a past Governor and member of the PMA Board, and now, as I serve the PMA as a member of the Editorial staff of our newsletter, *The Physician*, as chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws and PMA Code, as an adviser to the Baguio - Benguet Medical Society Board, and as an ordinary member of our beloved association. It is with great pleasure and honor that I serve the PMA in whatever capacity / position I am appointed to.

I enjoin you to read through the reports of the Governors from the 3 regions of North and Central Luzon for you to have a idea of what went through for the administrative year 2014 - 2015 in the discerning and watchful eyes of our honorable governors.

Mabuhay tayong lahat at Mabuhay ang pinakamamahal nating PMA!



REGIONAL NEWS

By: Bayani B. Tecson, MD



HARRY GUERRERO SOLLER, MD

Governor, Northeastern Luzon Region

My dear colleagues and friends! Foremost, thank you for the pleasure of serving you as your governor for northeastern luzon and my congratulations to my fellow officers in the national board and local component societies.

And to pacify apprehensions and misconceptions which you may have heard or received regarding the otherwise integrity and sanity of our association in the PMA, with a duly constituted set of national officers and board of governors, doing their best for a better PMA, with our continued support and participation are testaments that our organization is well and functional as ever.

Our coming together this year bespeaks of our support to our organization, the Philippine Medical Association, a legacy, that, I believe, bonds us, more than just physicians, attested by the wonderful participation of everyone in the local, regional and national levels!

Our colleague, Dr. Jose Rizal, who happened to be our national hero, (or the other way around), then, laid his life for the love of country. Today, our association asks from each of us, not our lives, not even a call-in-sick day, but the pleasure of being present, whenever needed, and with an exciting involvement. And I believe, my dear friends, PMA needs more of our vital presence, of our all-important participation, especially in these trying times.

continued on page 16...

from page 15, Dr. Harry Soller...

Things, which merit our attention and badly need our support, our coming together as one, strong, and united organization, are the integration of all doctors, regardless of specialization or non-specialization, under the auspices of the Philippine Medical Association, primarily, to cater for its members' concerns, (like our quest as the official accrediting, and self regulating body for physicians (much like the nature of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines for lawyers, wherein membership is a pre-requisite to practice law); notably, we are finalizing the draft of the PMA integration bill under our committee on legislation for consideration of the national board before eventually be filed in congress for its enactment into law; our Philhealth accreditation and compensation issues; BIR issues that beset us also worth mentioning, discussions are already being made (and should be encouraged in the local societies), regarding the lifting of the VAT(value added tax) on medical related services, with the basic argument that we should not be taxed for our misery/sickness; more members' benefits, especially living benefits, we can avail of, while, we are still alive, like improving the services of our health and lodging facilities at our national headquarters, and other important aspects in the pursuit of our profession; the passage of a revised medical act that truly represent the concerns of the present times; the strengthening of our 111 years organization and charter our noble heritage as Filipino physicians; and other issues, that haunt our medical practice, like the ASEAN integration, wherein, practice of medicine, as a service, is affected.

Fellow physicians, my dear colleagues, for so long we've taken for granted the affairs of our beloved PMA. I believe, that today, more than ever, in the history of our organization, everyone of us, need to stand up, and stand out for one another, for the physician, for the Philippine Medical Association!

Aristotle once said, "pleasure in the task puts perfection in the work." My dear colleagues, I urge all of you, to resound this calling, not as a burden, but with a welcoming pleasure, and renewed fervor, and look forward to, a nobler, and stronger Philippine Medical Association!

Mabuhay ang PMA!! Mabuhay tayong lahat! Maraming Salamat po!

☪•☪•☪•☪



**FRANCISCO
BUSTAMANTE
RANADA III, MD**
*Governor, Northwestern
Luzon Region*

Time flies fast and in the blink of an eye, a term of service is about to end and a new one is to begin in a month or so. Gone will be the regular monthly board meetings which has seen a lot of interaction between the members of the board, trying their very best to come up with every idea that could help the PMA as an organization. The last quarter has seen a show of solidarity by the members of the board in spite of the differences of opinion for a variety of issues. I am proud to be part of a team that has gone thru a difficult transition. The show of solidarity with each attendance of monthly regional assemblies prove that we could rise above the politics that has divided all of us in one way or another.

The strength of the PMA can be attributed to a great extent on the support of its component societies and specialty societies. The Northwestern Luzon region has seen action with each component societies' contribution in terms of the different projects that has been submitted to the PMA. We have held recently a Regional Council Meeting hosted by the Pangasinan Medical Society and by all aspects I could say that it was a very productive endeavor. We have been able to dissect in part the problems that could break PMA and suggestions that could make it the PMA that we envision it to be.

It is my hope that as we pass the torch of responsibility, we must stay relevant and assist our mother society in any way possible. I remain your servant. I will continue to serve you and the PMA. Dios ti Agngina.

☪•☪•☪•☪



**RAUL ENCINA
ECHIPARE, MD**
*Governor, Central Luzon
Region*

As I end my term of office on May 31, 2015 I would like to thank my officers and members of Central Luzon Council for the support they have extended to me as PMA-Governor.

I have governed the Central Luzon Council and held quarterly meetings taking important issues and concerns among members as well as PMA National undertakings.

The most significant event that happened in my region are the following:

- Successful holding of PMA Regional Assembly at Travelers Hotel, Subic Freeport, Subic Zambales on January 11, 2015 which was participated by majority members of all component societies of Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Angeles City, Bulacan, Bataan, Olongapo and Zambales and other Specialty Societies of Central Luzon like PCS, POGS, PAFP, PCOM among others and members of association of Municipal Health Officers of the Philippines (AMHOP) Zambales chapter.
- The reorganization and reactivation of Aurora Medical Society to Central Luzon region through my efforts and meetings of some members. Their Society has been inactive status for several years now and just have been reactivated last January 11, 2015 during the

continued on page 17...



REGIONAL NEWS

By: MARIA CORAZON S. MAGLAYA, MD

As the PMA fiscal year 2014-2015 comes to a close the various component societies are also winding up their programs for the fiscal year. I would like to thank the governors of the regions assigned to me, i.e. Drs. Rufino A. Bartolabac (Bicol Region), Rebecca W. Deduyo (Central Tagalog Region), Salvador G. Silverio (Manila Region), Ma. Realiza G. Henson (Quezon City Region), Evangeline F. Fabian (Rizal Region), and Eduardo F. Chua (Southern Tagalog Region), for their cooperation in providing the news from their respective regions.

Component societies nationwide conducted the PMA National and Local Elections last March 15. Members in good standing of the component societies trooped to their respective polling places to cast their votes.

Five regions had their Regional Assembly in the first quarter of 2015. Regions in the NCR, i.e. Central Tagalog, Manila, Quezon City and Rizal, had a joint Regional Assembly last February 15 at the PMA Auditorium, with Central Tagalog as the lead Region. Bicol Region, on the other hand, held its Regional Assembly last March 22 at Avenue Plaza Hotel, Naga City with Camarines Sur Medical Society as the host society.

from page 16... Dr. Raul Echipare

regional assembly in Subic. The new President is Dr. Art Parilla and promised to have strong delegation in the upcoming PMA National Convention in May 19-23, 2015 in Marriott Hotel, Manila. This is my legacy bringing back the Aurora Medical Society into the PMA with more revitalized and reorganized Medical Society.

- I would like to congratulate all my officers and members for being active, participative members in their respective areas as they implemented their different programs and activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the PMA and the Central Luzon Region as Governor for 2014-2015.



SALVADOR G. SILVERIO, MD
Governor, Manila

Since its inception in the 60's of the Manila Medical Society (MMS) Idigency Clinic, it has been the major regular activity of the Society. Free Clinics of different specialties are being done daily from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM at the MMS building located at M. De la Fuente St., Sampaloc, Manila. It has also a project on Cataract Screening spearheaded by Dr. Edgardo Caparas and a Bi-monthly Cataract Operation. A yearly Operation Tuli caters mostly the 3rd District Chapter community where our office is located although a number of them comes from other districts as well.

MMS have adopted Baranggay 448 at Zone 44, M. De la Fuente st., Sampaloc, Manila, and have implemented projects for them. In cooperation with the Colegio Medico-

Farmaceutico de Filipinas, Inc. (CMFFI), there is now an ongoing Feeding Program. This was also coordinated with the Baranggay Health Center. Cooking utensils and kitchen wares were donated for the use. Society of Malta also donated shoes thru the MMS shoes for the pupils of Tecson Elementary School.

A number of fire hit Manila esp in the Tondo Area and MMS responded quickly. This includes those at Baranggay Puting Bato, at Baranggay 80 and 81, all in Tondo last December 2015. Other fires occurred in Baranggay 640, Port Area last January and at Pavia, Tondo. In all of these, besides the immediate response, MMS had relief giving and post-fire Medical Missions.

In coordination with the Baranggay the Committee of Disaster Committee chaired by the husband and wife team Drs. Ismael and Felicisima Bacon, a series of projects like medical missions, Dengue Awareness Lecture and participation in the city wide earthquake, fire, and tsunami drill were done.

By sending 6 members headed by Past President and PMA Governor Dr. S. Silverio and Dr. Celerina Silverio, Chair, Health and Wellness Committee, SSVP, the Manila Medical Society assisted the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) in its rehabilitation effort for the victims of Typhoon Yolanda. They had a Medical Mission last Sept. 6-12, 2014 in the municipalities of Borbon, Bogo, and Bantayan Island in Cebu followed by Training of their Community Health Workers in Cebu city on Nov. 15-16, 2014. They had similar activities in Bgy. Tagumpay, Coron, Palawan last March 19-23, 2015 and in St. Bernard, Southern Leyte, April 19-21, 2015.

The MMS headed by its president Dr. Alejandro Tan held its 51st Annual Convention at Century Park Hotel last March 14-15, 2015 at Century Park Hotel. The Program was presented to the President by the Over-all Chair Dr. Benigno Ong followed by a Message from the guest of honor and guest

from page 17, Dr. Salvador Silverio...

speaker PMA President Dr. Ma. Minerva Calimag. The 2nd day was highlighted by a Holy Mass Officiated by Fr. Benjie Ledesma, MMS Business Meeting, and PMA and MMS election. Scientific Sessions during the convention were "Self Assessment Modules in UTI and Typhoid Fever", by Dr. Anne de Castro, "The 400 Challenge", by Dr. Ma Fe Tayzon, "The Role of Vit B and Neurobics on Nerve Aging", by Dr. Cheridine Oro-Josef, "Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary", by Dr. Albert Albay, "Colon Cancer Screening" by Dr. Robert Chang, "Breast Cancer" by Dr. Myla Torillo, and "Future Minima Invasives Surgery", by Dr. Benito Tan.

Aside from the Scientific Meetings and RTDs by the District Chapters, and the scientific lectures during the 51st MMS Annual convention, the Mother Society conducted several scientific symposia with Dr. Dr. Verner Veloso as speaker and these included the lectures on "Folic Acid in Pediatrics", "The Role of Ancylovir and Zinc Oxide in the Management of Herpetic and Varicella Infection", and "Taurine, Folic Acid, and Riboflavin and the B-Complex Vitamins for Peripheral Neuropathy".

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MA. REALIZA G. HENSON, MD
Governor, Quezon City Region

The last quarter of the fiscal year saw the Quezon City Medical Society winding up its projects for the year, and continuing its programs for the professional development of its members of the various projects that it carries on, the most recent of which was the launching of the Milk Banking Project which will benefit breastfeeding mothers whose breast milk is inadequate.

For its members, the QCMS conducted a Basic Life Support (BLS) Training/Seminar.

Outreach activities included HIV Testing & Education to residents of Project 6 which was held at the Barangay Hall. This was done in line with the DOH HIV Awareness Program owing to the sudden increase of HIV cases in the Philippines. Also, QCMS donated wheelchairs to deserving under privileged residents of Quezon City. Pneumonia immunizations to adolescents & Elderly were done in different districts as well as Blood-letting activities. More importantly, through the QCMS Care to Share Foundation, an implementing arm of the society, the Bato-bato Pick Program which detects cancer of the Prostate & Kidney Stones was continued making its rounds in different barangays of the city with no less than the QCMS President Dr. Wilfredo S. Tagle a certified Urologist, doing the examination, interpretation & possible intervention.

Another significant event where the QCMS actively participated in was in the PMA National Election where it held its own local election simultaneously, on March 15, 2015 at the PMA Auditorium. I am proud to say that it was a peaceful & orderly elections. Last but not the least the year was capped by a Digital Photography Contest which was open to all members entitled "Doctors in Nation Building."

Although the fiscal year is soon to end and awards have been given the Quezon City Medical Society continues to adhere to its vision & mission, working hand in hand with the PMA in achieving its goal "Ons health, one li&, one PMA" Impowering the Filipino Physician in nation building.

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REBECCA W. DEDUYO, MD
Governor, Central Tagalog Region

The year 2014-2015 had been a good year for my being a Governor of a district whose component societies are very active within their component as well as the activities of the Philippine Medical Association. **Marikina Valley Medical Society** and **Makati Medical Society** are both recipients of the most coveted most active component society (Icasiano Award), all my component societies participate in the major activity of the PMA, namely Foundation Day, Medicine Week, Regional Assembly and finally as members of the organizing committee for the PMA annual convention. All of them submitted a complete report for the whole year. To name a few of their participation let me remind you of the following:

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:

Makati Medical Society thru its President Dr. Sixta Foronda was assigned chairman for the occasion. She again decorated the auditorium like a hotel ballroom. She also organized games with raffle and distributed prizes for the participants. The other component societies present like Caloocan, Marikina Valley, San Juan, Pasay Parañaque and Valenzuela also contributed to the program by having some participants to sing or dance. Truly the affair was very successful and enjoyable.

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR

NCR: We had a series of meetings in preparation for this. All were active. Dr. Roger Dazo, President of **Caloocan Medical Society** volunteered to be responsible for the holy mass. **Pasay Parañaque Medical Society** for the reception. Other like **San Juan Medical Society**, **Makati** and **Marikina** were all there. It was a highly successful affair with speakers like Dr. Anthony C. Leachon, PCP President, Dr. Ramon Abarquez for CME, Dr. Bayani Tecson for the Constitutional Amendments and Dr. Zenaida Uy Javier for the comelec rules.

from page 18... Dr. Rebecca Deduyo...

Truly I am very happy to have been a Governor for this district. As mentioned all of them are very active component societies in terms of various programs for it's member. We are now preparing for the PMA Annual Convention on May.

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EVANGELINE F. FABIAN, MD
Governor, Rizal Region

Malabon Navotas Medical Society - An Ounce of Prevention is worth a Pound of Cure (Dr Russell Villanueva): Members of the Malabon Navotas Medical Society are in the forefront of healthcare delivery in our cities. With the growing cases of chronic diseases, concerns on these conditions draining our citizens of their productivity and finances have risen. We believe that medical programs to educate our patients and health screening can help decrease burden of these diseases. For the first quarter of 2015, we had a series of screening programs such as 1) Alaga sa Puso - Hypertension and CV disease evaluation, 2) DRE program -screening for BPH and Prostate Cancer and 3) CV Risk factors screening - Blood sugar and cholesterol determination. Aside from these programs, we had an education program, with more than a hundred attendees, where medical specialists from our society talked about ways to prevent pulmonary diseases (Dr Daryl de Ramos) and renal diseases (Dr Reina Antonio).

Rizal Parañaque Medical Society: Rizal Parañaque Medical Society (formerly Parañaque Medical Society) president, Dr. Jose Ronald Galang presided the RPMS Board Meeting last February 26. Other officers and members who attended were past society presidents, Drs. Leah Castro and Dr. Rey Hipolito, treasurer (Dr. Cecil Sta. Ana), secretary (Dr. Raquel Llarena), and

adviser (Dr Milagros Bacsain). The Board tackled several important matters including several projects and activities for the year 2015, the PMA National and Local Elections, 108th PMA Annual Convention as well as issues regarding membership an

RPMS held the PMA National and Local Elections last March 15, 2015 at the JCLS Bldg. of San Juan De Dios Hospital. RPMS COMELEC Members were Dr. Milagros Bacsain, Dr. Kim Dela Rosa and Dr. Virginia Crisostomo. Not only was the event essential for PMA but during this time members were reunited as they take a break from their busy clinic schedules and hospital duties to fulfill their responsibilities as members of PMA and its component society.

Taytay Angono Cainta Medical Society (TACMS) - "RUN AND WALK WITH MY DOC" by Marivic C. Agulto-Mercadal, MD: Taytay Angono Cainta Medical Society (TACMS) successfully held its first fund-raising fun run last December 14, 2014 at the Manila East Road, Taytay, Rizal. "Run and Walk with my Doc" aimed to raise funds for the constituents of Taytay, Angono and Cainta who are commonly affected during calamities like typhoons and floods. This activity also intended to promote health and wellness by exercise and to foster camaraderie among doctors and patients. The event was participated by young and old, men and women from Rizal and nearby cities. It was a fun-filled event with Mayor Janet Mercado of Taytay opening the ceremonies. A zumba class warmed up the participants, with lots of games and prizes generously given.

At gun start, hundreds of participants run and walked with their doctors. It was a beautiful sight to see, with these people gearing towards one common goal, to be of help to others and making a difference in the society.

The overwhelming turn out of this event was indeed beyond what the organizers expected. The "Run and Walk

with My Doc" was spearheaded by Dr. Marc Collao, TACMS Sports Committee Head and a runner enthusiast himself, under the leadership of Dra. Maribel Diaz, TACMS president, and supported by the TACMS officers and committee heads and members

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EDUARDO F. CHUA, MD
Governor, Southern Tagalog Region

The Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners - STAMP would like to congratulate Dr. Minerva P. Calimag for winning her second term as PMA President, putting aside politics since STAMP solidly voted for Dr. Benny Atienza, we wish her a smooth and productive term this year as head of the PMA. STAMP likewise would like to congratulate Dr. Annette Macayaon from Marinduque Medical Society as the next Governor for Southern Tagalog and Dr. Benjie Alaban from Cavite Medical Society as the in-coming STAMP President and Governor in-line after Dr. Macayaon.

The STAMP members have been busy under taking the task of screening the nominees for this years 24th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Award, the search for outstanding Filipino physician in 5 different categories, we would like to thank our pharmaceutical partner, UniLab, for their annual support of this important PMA endeavor. The STAMPamilya met last February 15, 2015 at St. Cabrini Medical Center in Sto. Tomas, Batangas. to screen the nominees for the different categories. We are happy to report the success of the campaign since all 5 categories had several nominees. The scores where sent to the judges for their basis for selection for the winners. We have scheduled several meetings with the Board of Judges of the different categories to assist them in their selection.

continued on page 20...

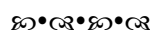
from page 19, Dr. Ed Chua...

The STAMPamilya conducted its Regular Regional Council Meeting at Nawawalang Paraiso in Tayabas Quezon last March 1, 2015 this was sponsored by the Quezon Medical Society, it was joined by majority members of STAMP. Issues pertaining to PMA and STAMP where discussed. The next scheduled Regional Council meeting is on April 25 -26, 2015 at Pwerto Galera, in Mindoro Oriental which is sponsored by both Mindoro Oriental and Occidental Medical Societies.

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I would like to congratulate our STAMP members who won this years Icasiano Award namely Laguna Medical Society - First place and Cavite Medical Society for grabbing the second place both for Category II; Batangas Medical Society - First place for Category IV and getting all the awards for category V are San Pablo City - First place; Taal - Lemery second placer, and tied for third place are Bauan and Oriental Mindoro Medical Societies. They were awarded due to the significant and numerous activities they conducted for the benefit of their patients, the community and their members in their respective areas.



REGIONAL NEWS

By: ERLINDA G. DE LOS REYES, MD



MA. CRISTINA C. DANAC-DELFIN, MD
Governor, Western Visayas Region

The annual PMA-UNILAB Regional Assembly is one of the important events that a PMA Governor has to tackle during his or her term of office. Mind you, it is not an easy task especially if a Regular Board meeting will also be held a day before the Assembly. But if you have the cooperation of your Regional Council members – the Presidents and officers of the Component Societies within your region- then organizing this major proceedings will be a “walk in the park”. And so the big day came! With fellow CMS officers, we welcomed the PMA party of 18 on February 7, 2015 at the Roxas City Airport and brought them to Sand Bar Resto for

their breakfast. After breakfast we took them to a brief tour of the city and stopping in notable places like the Santa Monica Parish Church which houses the Panay Bell – the biggest bell in Asia and to the Dried Fish Market in Banica. Then they checked in at the Sn Antonio Beach Resort in Baybay, Roxas City, Capiz and we all had to get ready for the board meeting. Some Governors who took a short stint in Boracay joined us later. After lunch, the regular board meeting commenced. There was a relatively dynamic and participative discussion so much so that the meeting ended at 9PM. Some of the guests for the fellowship dinner started without the Board. The Regional Council even took time out during the Fellowship Dinner to hold a Council Meeting to discuss concerns to put forth at the Consultative Meeting with the PMA Board the next day.



RUFINO A. BARTOLABAC, MD
Governor, Bicol Region

Aside from the Regional Assembly, component societies in Bicol Region continued their Continuing Medical Education activities. Albay Medical Society conducted activities such as Basic and Clinical Thyroid Course, 3rd Annual Post Graduate Course entitled “Basics and Beyond What you should know” and Alzheimer’s Forum. Catanduanes Medical Society had a lecture on Updates on Azithromycin among Pediatric Patients while Masbate Medical Society had a lecture on Newborn Hearing Screening Law

The societies also continued their service to the community. Camarines Norte Medical Society conducted Medical Mission at Divine Mercy Parish Alawihao Daet, Camarines Norte and a clean up drive at Bagasbas beach, Daet, Camarines Norte while Camarines Sur Medical Society gave a lecture to students of Camarines Sur National High School on First Aid and conducted a clean up drive at the coasts of Pasacao, Camarines Sur.



Come Sunday morning, February 8, 2015, all were ready for the Regional Assembly which started Registration at 8AM and Program Proper at 9AM. This was held at the CAP Auditorium, Fuentes Drive, Roxas City, Capiz. For our region the topics were:

1. Drugs with no Therapeutic Claims: How Safe – Speaker: Dr. Isidro C. Sia.
2. Immunizations: Myths and Fallacies – Speaker: Dr. Milagros S. Bautista.
3. Issues on Pediatric Allergic Skin Diseases & Skin Care Steroid Phobia: Conquering the Fear – Speaker: Dr. Cherry Ann D. Distor

from page 20... Dr. Ma. Christina Danac-Delfin

4. Tested Formula for Preventing Diabetes – Speaker: Dr. Queenie Ngalob – Samonte

During Lunch, the PMA Board had a consultative meeting with the Presidents and other officers of the Component Societies. All Societies were represented during the meeting. It was a fruitful discussion and strengthened the ties of the PMA with its roots or branches? – the Component Societies. I personally could not have pull it through without the magnanimous support of the Officers and Members of the Component Societies – Aklan Medical Society headed by Dr. Feven Palomar, Antique Medical Society headed by Dr. Francisco Aquines, Jr., Canlaon Medical Society headed by Dr. Salve Regina Jesena, Capiz Medical Society headed by Dr. Jesus D. Diaz, jr., Guimaras Medical Society headed by Dr. Edward Jabasa, Iloilo Medical Society headed by Dr. Ruel Malata and the Negros Occidental Medical Society headed by Dr. Bob Puerta. Plus of course, for spear heading the Regional Assembly – the PMA and Unilab. Thank you, thank you everyone.

Madamong Salamat gid sa inyong tanan! Mabuhay kayo. Mabuhay ang PMA. Magandang buhay sa ating lahat.



VICTOR ALAN A. TORREFRANCA, MD
Governor, Central Visayas Region

On June 30, 2014, I was the PMA representative to a meeting with Dr. Celi de Guzman of PMSNC & Provincial Governor, Hon. Atty. Edgar Chatto Re: Medical & Surgical Mission to Bohol on January 2015.

On July 1-3, 2014, Trained and Facilitated the DOH Region 7 on revised

MOP of TB Program at Anda de Boracay Resort, Anda, Bohol

On July 4, 2014, As a PMA Governor, I inducted the officers of AMHOP Cebu at Duero, Bohol.

On July 26, 2014, As PMA Governor, support was given to the Medical Mission Abboitz Foundation at Ramon Magsaysay Gym, Ubay, Bohol.

On August 26, 2014 during the CMS Board Meeting at Harolds Hotel, Cebu City, President Dr. Marlon Co secured approval by the board for the intent of hosting the PMA Annual convention on 2016...also a Resolution for the support of the present administration of Dr. Calimag..

On September 12, 2014, The Bohol medical Society passed a resolution supporting the present administration of Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag.

On September 25, 2014 during the TB Lung Month Celebration given by the Bohol Provincial Health Office gave Dr. Victor Alan A. Torre Franca the following recognition: Champion of All Champion in Advocacy and Best Performing RHU

On September 21 - 27, 2014, The Medicine Week Celebration of Bohol Medical Society had the following events:

- Wreath Laying, Motorcade & Fellowship
- Present during the wreath Laying at the Rizal Park are Dr. Josephine Jabonillo, BMS V-Pres; Dr. Jose Arcay, President & Dr. Grace Araneta Past President & Students from Cristal E College
- During the Fellowship night, The PMA Governor as Host/Emcee; Dr. Disi Yap-Alba Past Governor; Dr. Ben Omo BMS Past President are both with me in the presidential table.

On November 27, 2014, The Bohol Medical Society to responds to calamity caused by Typhoon Queenie.

Last December 12, 2014, Gov. Edgar Chatto was the Inducting Officer of the AMHOP Bohol w/ PMA Governor, Dr. Torre Franca said in his msg., "Why Become A Member of The PMA.?"

On January 3, 2015 The PMA Join BOHOL HEAT IT Caravan at Loboc Bohol with the areas affected by Typhoon Senyang in the municipalities of Loboc, Maribojoc, Cortes & Antequera

On April 11, 2015, the PMA – CME Regional Assembly at Bohol Tropics Hotel, Tagbilaran City, Bohol with delegates coming from all Component Societies of the Region.



ETHEL AURELIA LAGRIA, MD
Governor, Eastern Visayas Region

For the past 10 months as your board of Governor, i am so blessed serving the doctors of Eastern Visayas. I am likewise honored to work hand in hand with the 6 different local society president.. I cannot complain less since these people are really working hard without salary. I am proud to present to you colleague, the 7 local president of Eastern Visayas.

Dr. Gabino S. Velasquez:

He is the President of Biliran Medical Society for several years. Worked as Medical Officer at Biliran Provincial Hospital then at Maripipi as Municipal Health Officer. He was appointed as chief of the Technical section at Biliran Provincial Health Office. Last 2007, he ran in the Municipality of Naval and won as Municipal Councilor. He authored many ordinances related to health, anti-smoking and BHW added benefits to name a few. I would like to name him as the working doctor/councilor.

from page 21, Dr. Ethel Lagria...

Dr. Gilbert Layon:

Dr. Gilbert is a General Surgeon and has been the President for many years of the Northern Samar Medical Society. He finished his residency training for surgery at the Capitol Medical Center.

Dr. Emmanuel Rosales:

Dr. Rosales is the President of the Samar Medical Society for quite a long years too. He is a fellow of the Philippine College of Physician and a fellow of the Philippine College of Cardiology.

Dr. Ma. Imelda G. Rodriguez:

Dr. Imelda is the Chief of Hospital at Southern Leyte Provincial Hospital, Maasin City and President of the Southern Leyte Medical Society.

Dr. Maria Elvira Galapon Casal:

Dr. Elvie Casal is the President of the Leyte Medical Society. She was the past President of POGS region 8 and of Rotary Kandaya Tacloban. She was an assistant Dean of the College of Medicine of RTR and at present is the Dean of the College of Medicine. She is one committed president and i can always depend on her to support every activity that I have as a board of governor. My special thanks to you, Madame Elvie.

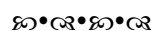
Dr. Rhodette Arevalo:

Dr. Rhodette is very active as President of Ormoc City Medical Society and of Ormoc Bay Rotary Club. She is a well-known practicing Cardiologist. Dr. Rhodette is also one of the local President whom i can depend on. Hats off ako sa iyo...

Dr. Felix Nicart:

Dr. Nicart is the President of my medical society, the Eastern Samar Medical Society. He is the Municipal Health Officer of the Municipality of Canavid. He finished his Medicine at UERM. I can assure everyone that i really can depend on him. Thank you, Mr. President..

To all of you, thank you so much...



MA. GAY M. GONZALES, MD
Governor, Western
Mindanao Region

The PMA Western Mindanao chapter is composed of nine component societies which are Zamboanga City Medical Society, Basilan Medical Society, Zamboanga Del Sur Medical Society, Zamboanga Del Norte Medical Society, Zamboanga Sibugay Medical Society, Sulu Medical Society, Dipolog Medical Society, Tawi-Tawi Medical Society and Dapitan Medical Society.

The 2015 Western Mindanao Regional Assembly was held at Garden Orchid Hotel, Zamboanga City last February 1, 2015 with a theme as "Kapit Bisig sa Pagbabago.... Sa PMA at sa Bayan". The host society was the Zamboanga City Medical Society Inc. headed by ZCMS President Dr. Mansueta A. Sabellina under the supervision of the PMA Governor of Western Mindanao chapter, Dr. Ma. Gay M. Gonzales who was also the past president of the ZCMS for two years.

A day before the event, Dr. Ma. Gay Gonzales together with the ZCMS Officers Dr. Jejunee Rivera (Vice President) and Dr. Amelyn Ulanghutan (Secretary) warmly welcomed the PMA National President Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag at the Zamboanga International Airport.

During the regional assembly, there were 185 participants including the national officers. 75% of the attendance came from the Zamboanga City Medical Society members. There were entrance of colors of the Western Mindanao State University Cadets and processional of the local past governors and past presidents.

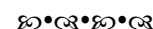
REGIONAL NEWS

By: SOL VERONICA E. BAGAIPO, MD

Highlights of the event were the Presidential Message of Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag and the updates of the Continuing Medical Education given by Dr. Albert J. De Leon, Member of the PMA-CME Commission. Governor Dr. Ma. Gay Gonzales presented the PMA constitutional amendments to the delegates and the rights of every member as well as the benefits.

The assembly was a success. Most of the members actively participated in the open forum. The Zamboanga City Mayor, Hon. Ma. Isabelle Climaco missed to grace the occasion due to her hectic schedules. However, the Mayor feted the PMA National and ZCMS officers to a dinner after the regional assembly at Café Resto, Garden Orchid Hotel before the group boarded their plane back to Manila.

VAYA CON DIOS!



RUBEN O. GO, MD,
FPAFP, PCOM
Governor, Northern
Mindanao Region

My stint as PMA Governor of Northern Mindanao started in June 2015 after I was elected in May of the same year. This is my second term as Governor since my first was in 1993 under the Presidency of Nenita Lee-Tan MD for 2 years. The component societies under my region are Misamis Oriental Medical Society (MOMS), Bukidnon Medical Society (BMS), Gingoog-Medina Medical Society (GMMS) and Camiguin Medical Society (CMS). The activities of the region started with the Leadership Training Seminar in Cebu City attended by officers of the component societies. Then in July 2, Induction

from page 22, Dr. Ruben Go...

of Officers of the Misamis Oriental Medical Society by PMA President Minerva Calimag in Cagayan de Oro City. Then on August, the Gingoog-Medina Officers were inducted by PMA President in Gingoog City. The Bukidnon Medical Society was not inducted by our PMA President but by other person of which I was not informed or coordinated. There was no election of Officers by the Camiguin Medical Society since according to one of the Physician whom I asked to lead the society, the physicians in this area are members of the Misamis Oriental Medical Society or from Cebu Medical Society.

The activities of the societies were mainly Scientific Activities sponsored by Pharma companies and in cooperation with other specialties societies. Non scientific activities include Christmas party, tree planting, strategic planning and activities during Medicine Week and PMA Election. I visited the three component societies except for Camiguin since in spite of many requests for visitation, the physician whom I designated as acting President was always not in Camiguin. It is frustrating on my part because when I was the Governor during my first term, Camiguin Medical Society was reactivated and back to the fold of the PMA. Now I think that this society cannot be reactivated because there are only less than five physicians who are considered active.

After the last PMA Election, I am elected for another year as Governor of Northern Mindanao. I hope that I can reactivate the Camiguin Medical Society and challenge the other three component societies to be more participative to the activities of PMA.



MARIA LOURDES G. MONTEVERDE, MD
Governor, South
Eastern Mindanao Region

PMA National Historic Events

The chapter formation of the **new Component Society** for the Philippine Medical Association, the **DAVAO OCCIDENTAL MEDICAL SOCIETY**, of the Province of Davao Occidental, which is a newly formed province by virtue of RA 10360. The new Society was inducted into office last April 09, 2015 in Davao City by the PMA SEM Governor Dr. Maria Lourdes G. Monteverde, with its founding Chapter President, Dr. Anne Margaux Bautista-Quezada, which was witnessed by the PMA SEM Regional Council of Presidents.

The Reorganization and revitalization of the **Davao Oriental Medical Society**, was done thru the PMA SEM Governor Dr. Maria Lourdes G. Monteverde, with the induction of its New set of Officers led by its President, Dr. Florence Flores, in Mati City last March 22, 2015.

PMA SEM Governor Initiated International Events

Hosted the visit of the **Macau University of Science and Technology visit in Davao City and the Gusi Peace Prize International**, last February 20, 2015, which paved the way for the upcoming **MOU with the Davao Medical School Foundation Hospital** and the partnership of the Philippine Medical Association and the upcoming **Sino Luso International Medical Forum** in Manila this November 2015.

PMA SEM Regional Events

Hosted the **PMA Regional Assembly** at the Marco Polo Hotel, Davao City: Oct. 26, 2014. Organized the **Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR Region XI) Dialogue with the Davao Medical Society** Officers and the Specialty Organizations President. Conducted the PMA SEM Regional Council of Presidents Quarterly Meetings



KAREN Y. CONOL-SALOMON, MD
Governor, Northcentral
Mindanao Region

ILIGAN CITY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Adopt-a-Barangay

For the third quarter, the Iligan Society of Ob-Gyn held their Buntis Day celebration in Barangay Luinab, Iligan city. Lecture on Hypertension in Pregnancy was done in response to one request by the Barangay Health Workers because of cases of hypertension in pregnancy in their community. It followed by prenatal check-ups, ultrasound examinations, and laboratory tests.

Activities done outside the adopted Barangay

December was a busy month for IMS. United Iligan, a non-government organization that aims to help rebuild the lives of the Sendong survivors, invited the Iligan Medical Society in the third Typhoon Sendong anniversary. It was a weeklong celebration which started Dec 7 to Dec 10, 2014. The Medical missions were held. Dr. Arnel Debalucos, our Community outreach committee chairman had assigned different groups each day so that all members can participate. We went to the different relocation sites of the Sendong survivors and did medical check-ups. The activity culminated with a "Lakbayan", a walk from the city post office to ground zero, which is at Hinaplanon, Iligan City. During the walk, the participants were asked to pick-up garbage like pieces of plastics/papers until they reached Hinaplanon. There was an ecumenical service and a program honoring and remembering those who have perished on that fateful day, December 17, 2011.

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL (OROQUIETA CITY) MEDICAL SOCIETY Operation Smile

Last January 12 to 15, 2015, MOMS Oroquieta City with Smile Train, PAMAG (Philippine American Medical

from page 23, Dr. Karen Conol-Salomon...

Association of Georgia), and the Provincial Government of Misamis Occidental conducted surgical mission for the repair of Cleft Palate and Cleft Lip among indigent patients at the Misamis Occidental Provincial Hospital, Oroquieta City. A total of 25 children benefited such project. This was the second time PAMAG sponsored a surgical-medical mission in this city. The first time was in 2011.

Ang Panata

For the last 15 years, San Isidro Labrador Parish of Calamba, Misamis Occidental sponsored medical-surgical-dental mission for indigent patients in the said town every Holy Wednesday. This year, it was held last April 1, 2015. Twenty medical doctors belonging to MOMS Oroquieta City volunteered their services together with 5 dentist, 25 nurses, 5 pharmacists, and 5 medical technologists. The numbers of cases treated were as follows: Medical Adult - 176; Pedia 280; circumcision 400; dental 220. Laboratories did include 160 for blood sugar, and 150 for cholesterol.

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ANGELO L. DIMAANO, MD
Governor, Caraga Region

During the Typhoon Seniang 1,500 families evacuated. Medical Service was given to the evacuees. Doctors were also sent to Borongan Samar form Medical Mission.

Regional Council meeting was held to discuss the upcoming Regional Assembly with Agusan Del Norte Medical Society as Host Society and the issue of the next Governor of the Caraga Region. The council decided to endorse Dr. Alex Bascug of Bayugan, Agusan Del Sur.

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AUXILIARY TO THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

JOINT MEDICAL MISSION

The Auxiliary to the Philippine Medical Association led by President Elvira Estuita, in collaboration with CHAP and Ang Nars Party List, held a medical mission last Sunday, April 12, 2015 at Bgy. 176 in Caloocan City.

The said joint project consisted of medical consultation, medicine dispensing, distribution of health kit and health lecture. CHAP President Carlito Pajarillo, Jr. led the team of doctors in providing medical consultation. Certificates of Appreciation were given to the participants courtesy of Ang Nars, while APMA provided the lunch.

APMA 69TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The APMA 69th Annual Convention will be held on May 21, 2015 at the Manila Marriott Hotel located in Newport Blvd., Pasay City with the theme "Creating a Legacy of Professionalism and Service."

Expected to grace the occasion is Senator Mary Grace Poe-Llamanzares who will be the Key-note Speaker, while PMA president Dr. Minerva Calimag will be the Inspirational Speaker. Varied topics of interest will be discussed such as Breast Cancer, Sex in the 70s, Climate Change and the Legal Rights of Women and Children.

TOPICS AWARDS

APMA's flagship project, the selection of nominees for the The Outstanding Physicians In Community Service (TOPICS) Awards, is underway. The TOPICS Awards Night is the culminating activity of the Physician's Day celebration held every September 27, which was declared through a presidential decree signed by President Ferdinand Marcos through the endorsement of APMA.

The awardees chosen for their exemplary service to the community over and above their professional duties will be honored in fitting ceremonies and will be the receiving the prestigious Abueva trophy made by national artist Napoleon Abueva.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Dra. Malou Alvarado at 09178020037 and her email address at ml.alvarado7@gmail.com.

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I can't change the
direction of the wind,
but I can adjust my
sails to always reach
my destination.

- Jimmy Dean

PMA CHRISTMAS PARTY

at the PMA Auditorium
December 13, 2014



PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag, delivering her Christmas message



The theme of the Christmas party was "Balabal Ko, Panlaban sa Lamig mo, Handog ng mga Mangagamot ng Pilipinas para sa Mamamayan ng Palo, Leyte"

APPA-PMA Joint Congress 2015

at the Rigodon Ballroom, Manila Hotel
January 8-9, 2015



PMA as part of 450 contingent of DOH on Papal Visit



PMA National Elections 2015-2016

Proclamation of Winners, March 30, 2015



THE PMA - APPA STORY

SANTIAGO A. DEL ROSARIO, M.D.

Former PMA President, 1988-1989

World War II exposed the Philippines to the Japanese rules during their regime. Likewise, the country's state of health care was observed by Americans who took over occupying postwar Philippines.

General Douglas Mac Arthur noted the health situation in the country and the quality of Health care. He was being sympathetic to the Filipinos just like his father, General Arthur Mac Arthur who was the military Governor in the Philippines when the Americans took over the country after defeating the Spaniards.

Douglas Mac Arthur was a significant support in the approval of the Visitor-Exchange Program of the US wherein Filipino physicians upon graduation, may avail of the Program to continue post-graduate studies, internship, residency training, and Fellowship in recognized U.S. Medical Universities and Medical Centers, most often the John Hopkins in Maryland, Harvard University in Boston and Cook County Hospital in Chicago U.S.A.

Every year since, a considerable segment of the graduating classes of the major medical schools, i.e. UP, UST, MCU, FEU, and later UERM, extended their Medical Studies in the U.S.A. From 1948 to 1978 tens of Thousands of Filipino physicians resided in the U.S. as medical students, interns, residents, fellows, and even private practitioners as American Citizens.

In 1969 during the PMA presidency of Dr. Fe Del Mundo, many of her former students then in America attended the PMA convention. She learned of the presence of several Filipino Medical Associations in the United States members of which made periodic homecoming visits to attend scientific conventions and medical missions.

In 1974, her favorite student in Pediatrics at the UST College of Medicine, Dr. Felino V. Barnes convinced her to organize a two-weeks Postgraduate Course in Tropical Medicine for the Association OF Philippine Practicing Physicians in America (APPA). Dr. Fe Del Mundo complied with the request of Dr. Barnes as the Overall Chairman for the U.S.A. and Dr. Fe Del Mundo as the Overall Co-Chairman.

As Vice Chairmen, Dr. Carmen L. Asuncion, Dr. Eduardo R. De La Cruz, Dr. Santiago A. Del Rosario were appointed with Dr. Ramon R. Angeles as the Executive Secretary.

This was the biggest scientific joint project of the Philippine Pediatric Society, PMA, Philippine Academy of Family Physicians and the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners. Field trips were made in Baguio, Cavite, and Pampanga, FEU, UERM, UST, and MCU faculties were involved in the joint convention.

Subsequent joint activities were not as large and significant but continued in sporadic missions.

In 1987 there was a renewed enthusiasm in the Association of the Philippine Practicing Physicians in America hence President Nena Eng Tan revived the idea of having a joint scientific venture of PMA-APPA. However plans and preparations were delayed because of the need for a large amount of funding and the setting up of the PMA Library and Archives. Hence, it was during my incumbency in 1988 that the conceived joint project materialized.

A huge delegation of APPA officers and members joined the PMA sector in the First Annual Joint PMA-APPA Congress held for several days at the Manila Hotel. President Cory Aquino learned

about the occasion through Vice President Pelaez and Senator Arroyo and invited the participants to Malacañang as an appreciation to the patriotism of the Fil-American physicians who maintained their interests love and attachments with their former home land.

Since then several PMA-APPA conventions and medical missions were held in the country earning CME units in the PMA and likewise CME credits from the American Medical Associations and Tax allowances from the U.S. IRS taxation office.

Last January 9, 2015, the Association of Philippine Physicians Practicing in America and the Philippine Medical Association conducted a joint scientific congress at the Manila Hotel for several days. Just like President Corazon Aquino in 1988, President Noynoy Aquino with the assistance of Acting DOH Secretary Garin welcomed the occasion and appreciated the Fil-American physicians who maintained their love of the Philippines, their former home land.

PMA delegates led by President Minerva Calimag, Secretary General Marianne Dobles, PMA Governors Rufino Bartolabac, Albert Guevarra, Maria Lourdes Monteverde, Karen Salomon and myself as former PMA President.

APPA delegates were led by President Carlos Patalinghug and wife, Executive Secretary Lucy De Castro, Auxiliary President Lilibeth Carlota, Director Lupo Carlota and Congress Alex Cueto.

Undoubtedly, the spirit of cooperation, mutual support, camaraderie, and unity between PMA and APPA members will prevail in succeeding years to come.



ON HIGHER GROUND: THE PAPAL VISIT

By: **MECHAEAL ANGELO G. MARASIGAN, M.D.**

"Some of us are afraid of the sunset as we are afraid of the dark. But we are not afraid anymore. Because yesterday in Tacloban you taught us that love cast out all our fears. Your love for Filipinos is stronger than all typhoons. Your love is typhoon-proof." Arch. Socrates Villegas.

This is how the Archbishop summarized the sentiment of the calamity-weary Filipinos on the Pope's recent visit to the Philippines, a visit highlighted by the historical mass in Tacloban City - ground zero of a super typhoon a year before that left the nation broken and the world in tears. But the resiliency of the Taclobenos, as well as the Filipinos, made the visit of Pope Francis more significant and meaningful.

As a nation, Filipinos collectively anticipate visits of the Catholic hierarchy, from Pope Paul VI to Pope John Paul II. After being introduced to Christianity centuries back, the only predominantly Catholic country in Asia has exemplified a tenacity that shows its best form in the midst of natural as well as man made calamities. Is it any wonder then that a record-breaking 6 million people gathered in Manila on the Pope's final day of blessing in Luneta? It was not for the Guinness, but to show the world its unwavering Faith.

On the fateful days of January 2015, our everyday lives came to a halt from the time Pope Francis stepped on the tarmac, with the very basic unit of society, the family welcoming him and his entourage with open arms. In a rare collaboration by the state and the church, the success of the Filipinos' encounter with the Holy Father was secured. The Philippine President's declaration of a public holiday completed the scenario of a country eager and anxious of the Holy Father, The Philippines is acknowledged for its longest Christmas season, and the most venerable observance of Lent, two showcases of the Catholic tradition. The coming of the Holy Father was anticipated to be a homecoming of the One that represented

Mercy and Compassion from up above. It is this contagion that spread like wildfire when Lolo Kiko waved his hand and smiled from afar. So far yet so near.

Heeding the call of the Philippine Medical Association through its leader Dr Minerva Calimag, physicians dropped their armamentarium of stethoscopes and diagnostics and planned for the chance encounter with the Pope. It didn't matter to us that as physicians we were used to getting choice seats for dignitaries, what mattered more was that we were one with the Filipino people in paying respect for a future saint.

At crucial moments in our quest for our ambitions in life, our belief in God have been tested and challenged by the experimental method that is deeply ingrained in our profession. We looked up at those which are evidence-based, and become modern-day Thomases doubting those that are not aligned with our scientific way of thinking.

The year before the papal visit, I was shaken by a disease that made me realize life should be treasured and not taken for granted. Doctors, in their desire to make a difference among their patients and own families, should always take time to listen to the signs of weary bodies. Is my quest for knowledge and excellence undermining the given vulnerabilities of age? Have I overlooked my personal well being in my everyday desire to cure my patients? Experiences have always been the best teachers, and after the realization of these lessons, I have looked forward to sharing them too.

The weather forecast for Lolo Kiko's final mass in Luneta was gloomy, yet the spirit of the Filipino physicians who volunteered for the human barricade were not dampened. No amount of rainfall could cast a cloud of uncertainty on our desire to be blessed one final time. We donned transparent raincoats and caps issued by the Department of Health, and was ready to line the streets of Manila where the Pope would pass by on his way to Luneta.

When we got off from our comfortable cushioned cars, and walked to our assigned stations, we shrugged off the rains that were falling on us. We taught of the showers of blessings that God has bestowed on us, and those that we have missed to thank Him for. The climate was unusually cold, but our belief in our existence were burning by the seconds, minutes, and hours that led us to our destination. We walked aimlessly but we arrived in no time, a parallel in Life that our often crooked paths always that our often crooked paths always lead us to where God wanted us to be. We were definitely moved by scenes around us, Filipinos holding hands and clasping rosaries, an overt picture worth a thousand words.

Minutes before the chance encounter with the Pope, doctors were side by side too with fellow doctors in the barricade, regardless of our component societies, and specialties, general practitioners walking hand in hand with pediatricians, obstetricians, surgeons and the other specialties. There were no differences now, only one as a Nation in Prayer. We reflected that when two or more are gathered in his Name, He will be with us. How then can His presence be explained by the millions?

For an organization like the Philippine Medical Association, uniting for a rare expression of faith is a leveling up of the stature of an organization that defines who we are as a profession. The president was not a blind man who showed us the way but an enlightened leader who is guided by Faith. Tonight, let us pray again and thank our Creator for the privilege to serve and make this world a better place to live. Long live Lolo Kiko, long live the PMA!

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PMA SEAL

An inner moss green circle with the Aesculapius symbol (a staff branched at the top standing upright with a serpent coiled around it up to the top) at the center and the capitals "M" on the left and the letter "D" on the right. The Aesculapius symbol and the letters "M" and "D" (or MD for Doctor of Medicine) are all emblazoned in gold. An outer circle colored white inscribes the name PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (all in capital and in bold letter) and the year 1903 (the year when the PMA was founded) below. This outer circle where the name of the PMA and the year it was established is also written or emblazoned in gold. Finally, the two concentric circles are enclosed by a design that resembles a "rope". The "encircling rope" which symbolizes the ties of brotherhood among medical professionals should be in gold just like the symbols and the letters in the seal.

When the PMA partners with an organization, all streamers or stage backdrop should bear the PMA seal on the left (viewer looking at the streamer) and the partner organization's seal on the right (viewer at the streamer). Both seals should be placed on the same level. If in case, however, there are several organizations involved in the program or activity where the PMA is the host, then the seal of the PMA should be at the center of the streamer, backdrop, or backdrop "higher" than the other organizations. During international conferences where the PMA is host, the seal and even the PMA banner or flag should be at the center.