



# ECTOPIC MURMURS

Volume 23

Number 11

November 2012

Opinions and articles published herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect that of the FEUDNSM Alumni Foundation

## It is a sad day, Obamacare to stay.

It is a sad day,  
Obamacare to stay.

As a last wishfulness for a great repeal promise that was not meant to be, let me quote it one more time.

*As you might imagine, I disagree with the Supreme Court's decision and I agree with the dissent. What the Court did not do on its last day in session, I will do on my first day if elected President of the United States. And that is I will act to repeal Obamacare.*

*Let's make clear that we understand what the Court did and did not do. What the Court did... say that Obamacare does*  
*continue to page 16*

## CHAIRMAN'S Message

Congratulations to Dr Frank Montellano and the officers of FEUMAANI on their induction.



HERNANI  
TANSUCHE MD

New faces in your leadership are part of the normal change in our Alumni Foundation.

For the past 5 years our medical school has made great strides under the stewardship of Dean Remedios Habacon. From 2003-06, our passing rate for  
*continue to page 15*

## President's TENDERLY YOURS

In my childish thoughts, Thanksgiving Day will soon be followed by Christmas.



NOLI C  
GUINIGUNDO MD

Thanksgiving is sort of preliminary to the grand occasion. We pray and give thanks on Thanksgiving

Day. We pray not just the safe pilgrim's trip to the New World but also to the fact that we are all alive and in existence with our Lord God. As we all know, it's only here in America that we celebrate Thanksgiving. It doesn't mean that we don't have to be thankful for what we are and what we are in existence for.

On the last Sunday of November, we are celebrating the first Sunday of Advent, which ushers in the upcoming Christmas celebration, the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Four Sundays precede Christmas. We are often asked what do we have to offer Jesus for his coming birthday. What do we have to sacrifice to welcome his coming? It's like trying to sacrifice something during Lent.

It's nice to sacrifice pomposity, let us not be too ostentatious in celebrating Christmas. Christmas is not

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## POST-ELECTION WONDER

ROSE ESPIRITU RN SLANF<sup>64</sup>

For those who feel as I do, always remember, today after the election is over, I can predict (and guarantee) the following:

- 1 - God will still be on His throne,
- 2 - Jesus will still be King of Kings and Lord of Lords,
- 3 - The Bible will still have all the answers to every problem,
- 4 - The tomb will still be empty,
- 5 - Jesus will still be the only way to heaven,
- 6 - Prayer will still work and will still make a difference, and God will still answer prayer,
- 7 - The cross, not the government, will still be our salvation,
- 8 - There will still be room at the cross,
- 9 - Jesus will still save anyone who places their faith and trust in Him, and
- 10 - God will still be with us always, He will never leave us or forsake us.

## FAITH CORNER

REV MELVIN ANTONIO MD<sup>65</sup>

The prayer I use each Sunday is



REV MELVIN ANTONIO MD

the closing prayer of Psalm 19. It tells us how to pray by asking that our words and thoughts will be

acceptable and pleasing to God. Let me go one step further by saying that when we pray, we ask that our words and thoughts and actions will be acceptable and pleasing to God.

Words and thoughts are not that hard to explain, but what about actions? Are these the good works that James is talking about in his letter when he says, "faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead?" What does it mean to do good works? We might say to ourselves, I go to church every Sunday, I take communion whenever it is offered, I study my Bible, contribute to my favorite charities. These are good works, are they not? They certainly are, but are these all that are acceptable and pleasing to God? How will I know when I have done things that are acceptable and pleasing to God?

For this, we turn to Scripture for answers. Ezekiel chapter 24 says to us: *For thus says the Lord God, I myself will search for my sheep and seek them out...I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep...I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered...I will feed them with good pasture...I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the*

*continue to page 10*

## DEMOCRACY IN ACTION:

### PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS ULYSSES M CARBAJAL MD

#### INTRODUCTION.



ULYSSES M CARBAJAL MD

In my previous published observations on past presidents of the Philippine Republic, I expressed my

deep concern over the fact that instead of building on the accomplishments of the previous administration, the incoming president (or the party it heads) tended to belittle the good things which had taken place before. The mistakes or negative aspects of the previous administration were resurrected and even exaggerated. Why? The real motive seemed to outshine the other party. Lamentably, this was sometimes carried out in the name of democracy — freedom of speech, freedom to worship, freedom to do anything as long one does not infringe upon the rights of others. Above all, the right to vote, of course, is upheld and encouraged in a true Democracy.

The main objective of this article is to portray the different factors which influenced the outcome of the recent national election in USA, extracting pearls of lessons from them.

#### ELECTIONS IN USA.

**An Expensive Campaign, 2012.** It is now believed that

*continued from page 11*

## RESILIENCY, FAITH, HOPE and LOVE

ERLINDA B BARRANDA MA MSc MD

Rushing to catch up the



ERLINDA G BARRANDA MD

County Services Office one Saturday this month of October before noon time, in order that I

could have car license plates renewed as well as apply for an absentee election ballot, I did not realize that a huge family van was passing through a neighborhood intersection I was entering. I believe the image was in my blind spot (visual) and my mind was not really on the road, then I was surprised to hear that the front left side of my SUV lamp light cover broke and I heard it falling on the ground. When I stopped I found out the right side panel of the other van was ugly hit. Good my car insurance was up to date, and I was not driving so fast. Had it happened in the highway, the couple in the other van would have sustained shock and physical injuries. That reminded me to always take my time particularly when I am driving and or climbing stairs anywhere.

The Highway Patrol Officer issued me a minor traffic violation ticket and assured me that I can pay the fee by mail. He also quietly said to me: *Relax, it is not the end of the world!* I did introduce briefly myself to him and my line of

*continue to page 7*

**RESTRICTIVE  
RULES ON MEDICAL  
MISSION IN THE  
PHILIPPINES  
DONATIONS  
OF HOSPITAL  
EQUIPMENTS TO  
DISTRICT HOSPITALS  
ARE NOT ACHIEVABLE**  
**CESAR D CANDARI MD<sup>61</sup>**

FCAP Emeritus, Henderson NV

I wrote in the September 7,  
2012 issue of  
**Asian**



**CESAR  
CANDARI MD**

**Journal**, San  
Diego, an  
article entitled  
*Medical  
Mission To the  
Philippines  
May*

*Disappear. I stated the  
Philippine Regulatory  
Commission's (PRC) stringent,  
unfair and unnecessary  
requirements for Foreign  
Surgical Medical Mission  
(FSMM) in the Philippines are  
our concerns."*

The stringent requirements  
include a stiff increase of the  
renewal fee for temporary  
medical license to scorching  
\$300 per volunteer Filipino  
American doctor and required  
to buy local malpractice  
insurance coverage during the  
medical mission.

The various Medical Alumni  
and Physician organizations in  
America made a loud outcry  
and the advocacies for FSMM –  
the Global Coalition for  
Humanitarian Efforts-  
Philippines were able get the  
support of the Commission for  
Filipino Overseas (CFO) and  
the Department of Health  
(DOH) to pressure the PRC to

*continue to page 8*

**A VETERAN'S  
LAMENT**

**FERNANDO ATIENZA MD<sup>62</sup>**

CAPTAIN USN Retired

Each year in November



**FERNANDO  
ATIENZA MD**

essays,  
speeches,  
tributes, and  
various  
celebrations  
honor this  
country's  
veterans. We  
thank you for

it. But while this expression of  
gratitude to veterans past and  
present is deeply appreciated  
and heart-warming it is hardly  
necessary in today's military.

Why? Because we are all  
volunteered. We were not  
coerced to do a job that has the  
potential for putting us in  
harm's way. It was our choice  
to take that risk. It was our right  
hand, and nobody else's, that  
was raised in an oath "to protect  
and defend" the country against  
all enemies.

There is however, just one thing  
that our fighting men and  
women will be most grateful  
for, and rightfully expect. It's  
leadership. We expect  
leadership from both our chain  
of command as well as our head  
of state, who, after all took the  
same oath we did. Leadership  
with a clear vision for America;  
leadership that is bold, honest,  
and does not renege on its  
promises; leadership unsullied  
by ideology foreign to our  
traditional roots, or any political  
agenda other than an American  
one; a kind of leadership that  
will dare to take risks when  
necessary to protect the national  
interest.

**CLASS<sup>63</sup>  
GOLDEN JUBILEE**

**Class<sup>63</sup>** will start its celebration in  
West Fairview QC, on January 21-23,  
2013, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in  
Ortigas Avenue, and at the residence  
resort of classmate Rosario Manuel  
Santos in Marikina.

Dr Ethelyn Pasion Nieto will  
coordinate these local events.

Please make it a point to join us in  
Chicago IL on July 17-21, 2013, at  
the Intercontinental Hotel, Michigan  
Avenue Magnificent Mile.

Contact yours truly at  
[abasa204@gmail.com](mailto:abasa204@gmail.com) or  
11620 River moss Road,  
Strongsville OH 44136.

If you wish to be included in our  
Golden Jubilee book, submit your 50-  
year biodata and your pictures/  
family to the editor Dr Renato G  
Ramos.

**ARTURO S BASA MD<sup>63</sup>**

*Failure to dare is often to  
run the greatest risk*, said the  
nation's foremost naval  
historian, Alfred Thayer  
Mahan. Effective leaders have  
to make decisions and accept  
risks. Often, events happen as in  
the Benghazi massacre that  
leaves no time for hand-  
wringing or for a committee or  
an advisory panel to ponder.  
This is the defining and  
awesome responsibility of  
command. To know that our  
leader has this grasp of  
command and has the courage  
to protect the nation and the  
troops that guard her is all that  
we ask for.

Wherever you send us, there  
we shall be. But should we ever  
ask for help, please answer the  
damn phone.

# THE BLOWING WINGS

CELSO DEL MUNDO MD<sup>62</sup>

Every time the soft wind  
caresses  
your face,  
Blowing and  
touching  
your silky  
hair,  
And every  
time you  
feel and  
hear the blowing breeze,  
I am always beside  
you, even though I  
am already gone.



CELSO DEL MUNDO MD

I'll be there to watch  
your footsteps ,  
As you walk the rugged aisles,  
I'll be there to hold your  
weakened hand,  
To guide and protect you from  
falling down.

On the night when it is dark and  
moonless,  
When you feel so lost and  
lonely,  
The blowing wind will  
wishper the sweet  
nothings,  
The unspoken love I have  
for you.

When I am gone, don't be  
sad and lonely,  
Keep your face dazzling  
with glow,  
Think of me, that I am beside  
you,  
Every time the wind caresses  
and blows.

## TEXAS IMAGES

ROLANDO M SOLIS MD<sup>63</sup>



ROLANDO M SOLIS MD



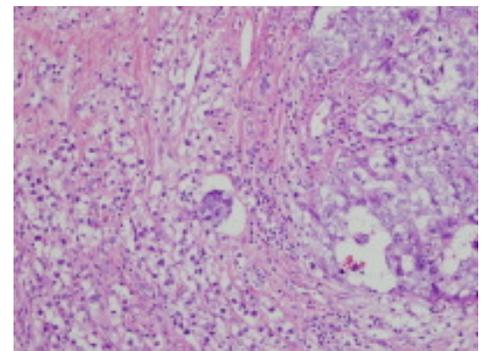
## NOVEMBER CLINICAL IMAGES

Does vasectomy accelerate testicular cancer?

CESAR V REYES MD<sup>68</sup>



*Figure 1 – A fairly extensive nodular and necrotic mixed embryonal carcinoma and classic seminoma effaces 80% of the testicular tissue.*



*Figure 2 – Mixed classic seminoma (left) and embryonal carcinoma (right), hematoxylin eosin stain, x200.*



**Figure 3 – Retroperitoneal lymphadenopathy due to metastases (arrow).**

These four images are from a 47-year old man who complained of right testicular pain, which on ultrasound was due to a tumor, associated with markedly elevated *beta*-human chorionic gonadotrophin and *alpha*-fetoprotein.

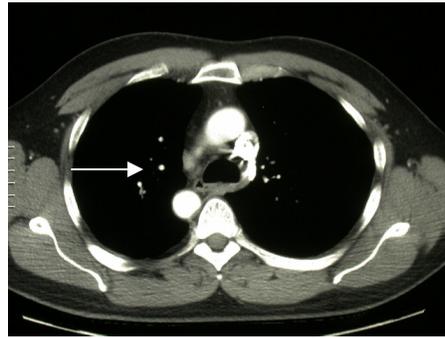
Radical right orchiectomy confirmed an infiltrating, mixed, necrotizing embryonal carcinoma and classic seminoma, involving 80% of an atrophic testicular parenchyma (Figures 1 and 2). There was an invasion of the rete testis by the embryonal carcinoma. Tunicae vaginalis and albuginea, epididymis, spermatic cord and proximal resection margins were negative for malignancy.

Two months earlier, the patient had elective vasectomy with unremarkable clinical evaluation and adequate laboratory studies.

Work-up evaluation revealed metastases in the retroperitoneum and right lungs (Figures 3 and 4), transforming a pathologic stage of  $T^1N^xM^x$  into clinical Stage IIIC.

The question is does vasectomy cause an explosive growth in testicular cancer?

**LITERATURE REVIEW** and **COMMENTS.** In a



**Figure 4 – A few tiny central non-calcified nodules of metastases (arrow).**

published series of 23 patients who are diagnosed with germ cell testicular tumors in six-year period, three have a history of recent vasectomy. These three patients have several attributes in common, including age between 35-38 years and the development of pain and swelling within eight weeks of vasectomy. A pathology of mixed elements of seminoma and intermediate-grade malignant teratoma is found in all three vasectomized men compared with only 7% in the broader population of tumor patients. All patients have Stage I testicular tumors and remained well after treatment.

Although it is unlikely that the vasectomy caused the testicular tumors, vasectomy may produce accelerated development of subclinical testicular tumors. This could be a result of the immunological processes that occur after sterilization. Given the fact that the cancer frequency observed in this series (three cases) is significantly higher than that expected by chance (0.8 cases), the relevance of vasectomy to subsequent testicular cancer requires further investigation. A thorough testicular examination should form a part of the

vasectomy screening process and there should be careful follow-up and attention to cases in which pain and swelling develop.

Our index patient also suggests an association between vasectomy and subsequent development of testicular tumor which was not diagnosable at vasectomy, eg, in-situ tumor, or development post-vasectomy.

Immunological and pathophysiological effects have been shown to occur after vasectomy. It has also been observed an increased incidence of testicular tumors in men who had had vasectomies but suggested that the tumors had been present at the time of the procedure. The time interval between vasectomy and diagnosis of a testicular tumour in one study would seem to support this hypothesis as new tumors are unlikely to arise in such a short period.

Other workers and four large multicentre studies, however, have not shown an association between vasectomy and testicular cancer. The combined power of the multicenter studies to show a twofold increased incidence of testicular cancer, however, is only 0.25 because of the low incidence of testicular tumors. Perhaps, only a very large cohort study would be able to discover whether a true association exists.

It is suggested that vasectomy accelerates the development of a palpable tumour from a carcinoma-in-situ or that palpable tumors are overlooked at the time of vasectomy. Thorough examination before a vasectomy should pick up most palpable tumors, and carcinomas could

be detected by cytological examination of semen expressed from the proximal end of each vas during the vasectomy. Alternatively, men could be screened by a single examination 12 to 18 months after the vasectomy. Swelling after a vasectomy is common, and if it persists it may delay the diagnosis of tumor.

Results require clarification from a large prospective study and analysis of confounding factors such as smoking and social class.

The possibility of vasectomy affecting the etiology of testicular malignancy is important especially in view of the current trend towards male sterilization.

A list of **REFERENCES** is available upon request.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As of now many of our colleagues have heard/ read about the new malpractice law passed by the Philippine



**NOLI C  
GUINIGUNDO MD**

Congress. This would definitely affect both visiting medical missionaries and of course Philippine medical practitioners. I am not sure how the malpractice situation in the United States has been copied by the Filipinos. I am not sure if the situation in the United States has been studied by the staff of the congressmen before embarking on the task of

formulating malpractice regulations. If the intent was mainly for the medical missionaries, then it will probably backfire on the local medical practitioners.

The malpractice regulations are complicated items here in the United States. Different states have different provisions. I used to practice in the State of Indiana, where there is a limit on the amount of malpractice liabilities, which other states tried to copy. When I moved to Louisiana, then Congressman Cooksey have made a special trip to Indiana to try to adopt the same provision for a 300/600 limitations. Practitioners in the surrounding States have tried to move to Louisiana because of the better malpractice environment in our State.

I wish the sponsors of the malpractice law in the Philippines tried to consult with Pilipino practitioners in the US and get their views of this upcoming law. Local medical group would probably object to this new malpractice law. And I am reminding them of the potential problems they would encounter in dealing with their current medical practice.

Lawyers will probably have fun with the new law. Are they behind the formulation of the new law? Local medical practitioners would probably either retire or go abroad, and indirectly will cut down on active medical practitioners, limited access to medical care, and more strict screening of potential patients.

Watch also for increase of use of diagnostic equipments to protect one's medical practice.

This malpractice law will bring potential medical and health care problems not known at present in the Philippines.

If the original intent is to protect local medical practitioners, this may not happen and would even backfire to the detriment of the general health care practice in the Philippines.

**NOLI CGUINIGUNDO MD<sup>62</sup>**  
FEUDNRSMAF President

## AN OPEN LETTER

**Melanio Cruz MD<sup>68</sup>**, professor of surgery and program director of the plastic surgery fellowship at the FEU-NRMF Institute of Medicine, is requesting the FEUDNRSMAF



**DANIEL  
FABITO MD**

Alumni Foundation for support of his program.

A dermatome and plastic surgery textbooks and references are needed by his fellows and surgical residents.

At the recent American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in Chicago last October 2012, I scouted for these.

I run into Inex Surgical Company which sells dermatome, and scanned the books at the Elsevier display.

I found an excellent six-volume plastic surgery book by Dr Peter Neligan.

I negotiated a discount price being offered to ACS Fellows. Hopefully, I will get a set with a discount.

Therefore I appeal for your generosity to help our plastic surgery trainees back at the FEU-NRMF Hospital.

We are also in the process of creating a laparoscopic surgery fellowship to supplement our annual laparoscopic surgery workshop/symposium by the FEU-NRMF department of surgery.

I firmly believe that these fellowship programs will definitely enhance the prestige and excellence of our Alma Mater and her postgraduate Surgical education and training.

Any amount of donation will be appreciated. Please make your check payable to:

**FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation** to make it tax deductible.

I plan to hand carry the dermatome and the Neligan plastic surgery textbook in January 2013.

For my surgical colleagues, if you could get a used dermatome, hand-held knife or electrically driven, from the hospital where you operate, it will be much appreciated.

Any used plastic surgery book from your personal home library will also be welcomed.

**DANNY C FABITO MD<sup>64</sup>**

**FACS FPCS**

Chairman

PostGraduate Surgical

Education

Department of Surgery

FEU-NRMF Medical Center

65 Tapadero Lane

Las Vegas NV 89135

## AN OPEN LETTER TO ARELLANITES

I would like to ask you for a special favor. You know that we have just founded last July, 2012, a tax-exempt public charitable organization aimed at helping our AHS students and its organizations. It has been incorporated in the State of WA and I had been selected as its first Prez and Chairman of the Board.



**JESSE D  
TIAMSON**

Except for two non-Arellanites sitting on the Board (WA CPAs Seginando Cantor and Evelyn, my wife), all of our Directors and members (you're all automatically in by virtue of being AHS alumni), are AHS alumni. Will

you kindly write us a letter of support (and or commendation) that we can publish in our official website, <http://www.cahsafi.com/>, which you can visit and read Remy's and Kuya Herman's endorsements (under the tab More.../Blogs)? The site tells you our beginning and will continue to undergo changes. You can write on the blogs directly or you can send your comments to me at this address and I will post it on the site.

We are currently in the process of applying for a 501(c)(3) tax status and this site will be visited/monitored by the IRS. We look up to you as our senior mentors that are involved in your own charitable work and civic organizations. Thus, your endorsements will carry a big weight and influence to whoever will read it and inspire us to pursue this endeavor.

We have just expanded our board to 19 directors (although the website has not been updated yet).

**JESSE D TIAMSON AHS<sup>68</sup>**  
Cayetano Arellano High School  
Alumni Fund International

## RESILIENCY,

*continued from page 2*

work before he finally left us



**ERLINDA G  
BARRANDA MD**

all. I apologized to the older-looking couple and they assured me they were alright after I asked them. I

introduced myself to them while the Highway Patrol Officer was busy processing the paper work.

The following week-end I heard over the radio that a super storm was coming and people in the coastal areas in ten states were asked to evacuate. Indeed, hurricane *Sandy* came in a hurry. I reported to work that Monday as I had to teach two classes that day. I announced it to my students and asked them to take time to pause in prayer silently when they return to their dorms because I knew it in my heart that so many will be affected. After dismissing my classes, I found out that even the New York Stock Exchange in Wall Street in New York was closed that Monday and it will be closed again the following day. I informed my fellow

State workers that I will file a one day vacation leave form for Tuesday because he wind was simply blowing hard outside and I do not want to be on the road at all the following day. Taking the day off I slept and rested most of the day. I meditated. I prayed. I felt my judgment served me right. Besides I have accumulated so much unused vacation hours that if I do not use some, it will be taken away from me as I

already maxed out per 1199 Union Contract.

By Wednesday, I finally saw the massive devastation through my PC. While I am in Central Ohio, the northern Ohio region felt the brunt of Sandy. I felt so sad after I read and saw what happened in New Jersey and New York. Once again I prayed earnestly to God so that, everyone could cope up. Even the campaign for election stopped. President Obama surveyed the havoc that Super storm Sandy caused to millions. Likewise Presidential candidate, the former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, asked that everyone pitch in and donate through the Red Cross and other organizations so that the victims can feel they are never alone.

During the following weekend I was finally able to get my car license plates renewed as it was already a day after my natal day. The lamp light of my SUV was replaced instantly when I saw a car collision repair shop while on my way home. The person in charge asked me when it happened and he stated, *it could happen to anybody, in fact recently my wife while driving a rental car coming from New Jersey, she too was in an accident and it was a total wreck, as another car hit her car. I had to pick her up after many hours of driving.* The absentee election ballot reached me by mail few days later and I in turn filled it up carefully and mailed it back immediately.

Yes, at anytime, anywhere, something or everything can be taken away from us. Hurricane Sandy did just that to millions in the Eastern seaboard and up to

now, many are still looking for a place to stay, because their places of abode and work are gone, and it will take time before they could even begin to recover. I interviewed by phone my cousin, Dr Gerry Barranda, a resident of New York city, and he shared with me: *Cousin Linda, second to 9/11/2001 event, is this hurricane. Severe cold weather adds to the pain and suffering. In fact another storm named Nor'easter is being predicted as coming soon.* My brother, Robinson G Barranda, a retired Deputy of the NY State Board of Bank Examiners after several days finally was able to email me and assured me and gave me the news that he and his whole family are fine. They reside in Upper Manhattan and have a cozy condo in Atlantic City. I was happy to finally hear from him because the last opportunity I enjoyed his brotherly presence was when he was my invited guest during my being honored as one of the *Champions of Change* program held last April 5, 2012 at the White House Eisenhower Executive Building in Washington DC.

Yesterday, November 6, 2012, was the final day to vote for leaders of this nation. Sandy could not totally take away the right of suffrage from anyone. After a grueling and a very expensive campaign, the American people finally made their voice heard. Within few hours, last night after polls closed, it did not take long to know the outcome of the people's preferred choices in most states.

Congratulations and Godspeed to all who won and also lost. Together, we simply need to move forward, bounce back and move on. As a favorite hymn goes: *I would be true, for there are those who trust me. ... I would be bold... for there is much to suffer... for there is much to dare...I would look up, and laugh and love and lift..*

With our natural endorphins, with our strong faith in God and with each other, and capacity to love and serve, we move FORWARD.

## RESTRICTIVE

*continued from page 3*  
suspend temporarily two unwanted regulations.



CESAR  
CANDARI MD

Are we, expatriates and Good Samaritans will rejoice at the good news that the Philippine Professional Regulatory Commission

(PRC) has temporarily suspended two sections of the regulations? I have the hunch that the remaining several PRC regulations of 2009 shall be more strictly implemented! I hope not.

I read with interest the principal reason why the PRC revised the regulations. It is basically what Consul General Leo Herrera Lim stated: *It seems, among other things, the main explanation why the Philippine Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC) guidelines were issued is to preserve the medical practice*

*and to lessen the loss of income of local physicians.*

Dr Juan Montero of Virginia said *To me this is RIP to our enviable, proud tradition of giving back to our less fortunate fellow countrymen* while Dr. Zorayda Lee-Llacer of Maryland said, *When the requirement becomes too difficult, less physicians will volunteer their time to join medical missions.*

I said this before and I am going to say it again. We feel we are unwanted...subjected to superfluous administrative, civil, criminal & malpractice liabilities. We do not wish to be subjected to unscrupulous/frivolous medical lawsuits in our humanitarian medical services.

It now appears that the implementation of the regulations for medical /dental missionaries and material donations to District hospital are to be followed to a tee. What I have learned today is that the requirements still include a notarized declaration of guarantee by missionaries and the host organization assuming full responsibility for the outcome of the mission, i.e., foreign doctor missionaries are to be responsible for any post-operative follow-up, shoulder the financial cost of post-op complications. At the end of the day, missionaries shall be inundated with the burden of paper work and time to spend in a project like medical mission. Again, this is a very restrictive and unfair PRC Guidelines for foreign medical missionaries in the Philippines.

Jay LaVigne, an American lawyer and director of Mending Faces, together with his Pilipina

wife have been active in Medical Missions to the Philippines as well as efforts to provide donated materials to hospitals in the poorer regions of the country. He stated: *We often feel that it is Manila 's desire to build a bureaucratic wall around the country so high, that no medical missions will ever come to the country again. For most of us, mission preparation, fund raising, recruiting medical personnel, working with Philippine local governments to secure invitations, organizing licensing documents, dealing with the PRC, customs is a yearlong task, amounting to an almost 2nd full time job. Every extra step, every rule and every extra dollar threatens our organizations which we have so lovingly built over the years (often decades) so we get pretty grumpy when a bureaucrat in Manila says here is a bunch of extra forms, fees and folderol that you have to endure before you can go to the remotest regions of our country and treat those who, without the mission, will never have a chance to lead a normal life.*

The Value Added Tax (VAT) of 12% to donated medical equipment and supplies to those most in need are a source of huge frustration. VAT is now a law of the land. This is directed to the threat of diverting these shipments of expensive equipments for commercial purposes. We all acknowledge this threat, a common practice in the Philippines.

LaVigne, continued to say, *... I believe that the Philippine's greatest resource is the Filipinos working and living*

*overseas. These overseas Filipinos desperately want to give back to their country. These wonderful people in combination with just everyday Americans willingly give of their talent, time and treasure to provide a chance at a full and productive life for those in the Philippines who suffer without medical care and whose families live without hope. It feels that, rather than encouraging missions and donations which are so desperately needed; the Government in Manila is actively thwarting such efforts. It may not be the intent but it is clearly the result of the plethora of rules that impede our efforts and is most notably evident in the failure to consider or consult with missionaries before such rules are made.*

Philippine columnist Jose Ma Montelibano has these suggestions. He said: *Abroad, Pilipinos in developed countries often have access to used but fully operational medical equipment. Many of these Filipinos are doctors or medical professionals who have good relationships with hospitals and clinics that are willing to donate this equipment. Maybe the DOH and the management of all these ill-equipped hospitals can consolidate a wish list and coordinate with Filipinos abroad to solicit the necessary supply for free. The Department of Finance and the Bureau of Customs can then facilitate the entry without duties and taxes to be paid by either the donors abroad or the beneficiary hospitals. These amounts can be inputted in government books as non-cash budgets for the DOH.*

I have a humanitarian project of *Adopt A Hospital* in my hometown Pandan in the province of Antique. The town have a 40,000 populations, 70% are poor of the poorest. We have a dilapidated district hospital I wanted to help.

The Philippine government is building a barrier for those humanitarian equipments donations. My Foundation (Pandan Antique Foundation) here in America have acquired hospital equipments and supplies to be shipped in a 40-footer container. It is still on hold for about 12 months at the donor's warehouse of Medical Ministries International in Clovis, California. I am not assured of a duty free/tax free status. It is estimated my Foundation will pay the VAT of 12%. The value of the equipments listed in 28 pages is \$325,000. The VAT of 12% equals \$39,000.

The DOH Secretary Dr Enrique Ona was in Phoenix AZ recently. He was quoted to say: *that the Philippines is lagging behind from other Asian countries in terms of hospital facilities for every 10,000 population,*” which according to the standard set by the World Health Organization (WHO), “*there should be 20 to 27 hospital beds for every 10,000 population.*” □□ The Philippines, he said, has but “8 hospital beds for every 10,000 Filipinos as compared to China (30), Vietnam (28) and Thailand (22). Other countries like Indonesia have 6, Nigeria, 5, Afghanistan, 4 and Bangladesh, 4. The United States has 31 hospital beds for every 10,000 Americans.

I really hope Dr Ona have a clear view of what is the current problem of medical missionaries in the Philippines, especially the shipment of hospital equipments donated to District Hospitals. Dr Daniel Fabito and Dr Philip Chua co-chairs of Loyal Alliance for Medical Missions in the Philippines (LAMP) have recently discussed these issues with Dr. Ona. LAMP needs our wholehearted support. An audience with the President of the Philippines is planned this coming January 2013.

The question is whether the Philippine government is building a barrier for those humanitarian equipments. It is reminiscent of the *BERLIN WALL*.

Remember President Ronald Reagan said, *TEAR DOWN THAT WALL!* It was torn down!

Mr. President (PNoy), *PLEASE TEAR DOWN THAT BUREAUCRATIC ‘WALL’.*

Our heart bleeds for those poor people in our country.

## FAITH CORNER

*continued from page 2*  
*injured, and I will strengthen the weak...I will feed them with justice.*



REV MELVIN ANTONIO MD

Other sources on the same subject are: **Matthew 10:42** which says – *If anyone gives even a cup of water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.* **Micah 6:8**

– *And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.* The Gospel of **Matthew 25:31-46** puts these all together as Jesus compares himself to a king who will judge his subjects according to how he has been treated. Christ the King is pretty clear on how we will be judged just as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He tells the sheep they will be rewarded because, *I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.* And he tells the goats they will be punished because they did not do these things for the least of these – therefore, for him.

One of the challenges of this gospel text is that we might wonder who the *least of these* are that Jesus refers to. By the text itself, we discern that they are the poor, the homeless persons living in the streets, the persons living on the fringe of society, the ones behind bars, or the persons who are excluded from society because of the things they have done or the lives that they live.

However, I am not convinced that *the least of these* are not simply those who may be different from us. I believe it includes everyone, even those who look a lot like us, but who may be ignored or overlooked or despised. It could also be the

little child in church, the person sitting next to us in the church pews, the co-worker we see every day. Love for others glorifies God by reflecting our love for God. We are to help one another, not out of expectation of some kind of reward, but out of love. Mother Teresa gave her life into the care of the poorest of the poor in India. When asked by a correspondent about why she devotes her time with those who are considered untouchable in Indian society, she said, *I see the face of Christ, my Savior in each of them.*

There are many wonderful stories about St. Francis of Assisi, many are true and some are mythical. One story I read recently noted that Francis was born into wealth. He was high-spirited, code word for wild and crazy guy. But he was not happy. He felt that his life was not complete. One day, he was riding in the country and he met a leper. As with everyone else in his time, Francis found the disease disgusting and repulsive, but something moved him to dismount and fling his arms around the leper. In his arms the face of the leper changed into the face of Christ. Thus began the ministry of St. Francis of Assisi. It was to him a reminder, and a reminder for us, that no person, no matter how dirty of diseased or repulsive, is beyond the reach of God's love or beyond ours. We are invited to look at *the least of these* and see the face of Christ the King. As with Mother Teresa and St. Francis, we just may see the face of Christ when we do what is acceptable and pleasing to God.

On the other side of the coin, the face of Christ may be seen in you as well for each act of kindness, mercy and justice that you do for *the least of these*.

I have a challenge for you. It is a challenge to live into the future with a merciful heart. On any given day, find someone whom Jesus describes as *the least of these*. It doesn't matter what scale you use to determine that. It may be someone who is hungry or thirsty or who has been stripped bare of outward appearances. We see them almost every day in street corners, the shopping malls, under the bridges in inner cities. It may be someone who is in prison right now or someone who is living in a prison of their own making, bound by emotional and spiritual chains that are even stronger than prison bars. It may be a stranger or a friend, a co-worker or a family member. On any given day, the Lord may send someone across your path, someone to whom you can show mercy – without expectation of reward, without recognition or without praise.

May you not only have the opportunity to address a specific need but have the opportunity to share the Good News of the kingdom of God and see Christ the King in their faces. And may the face of Christ be seen in you as well.

## NOVEMBER QUOTE

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

**Romans 5:19**

## DEMOCRACY IN

*continued from page 2*

the recent national election has been: (1) the most



ULYSSES M  
CARBAJAL MD

expensive. Each of the two candidates spent over a hundred million dollars, to say the least. (2) The most number of

*negative* speeches were fired by each side during the campaign tours throughout the country. (3) Each side resorted to half truths or half lies or even distortions of events in order to demean the opponent. Is this democracy in action? (4) Candidates, singly or together with leaders or family members, scoured the country by land or air covering thousands of miles more than in previous campaigns in order to win supporters and voters

**Campaign for Nomination within the Party.** In 2008, Obama and Hilary had to fight it out bitterly until convention time in Colorado. Some (especially female leaders) suggested that the two team up in full reconciliation, but Obama, instead, picked Joe Biden to be the vice-president nominee. A few opined that the previous struggle between the two contenders had obviously played some role in this decision.

On the other hand, John McCain, campaigned and quickly eliminated his opponents, displaying *Love for Country* or *Country First* as his battle cry or theme. His choosing a lady partner — the fiery governor of Alaska -- for

vice-president partner in the person of Sarah Palin rejuvenated his campaign for a while until the debate between Palin and Joe Biden when the ignorance of Palin in foreign affairs was unmasked! The national conventions that followed were marked with great enthusiasm, Obama, firing up his supporters with *Time for a Change* and *Yes, We can*.

In 2012, the Republicans witnessed a brutal struggle among nine candidates, but slowly dwindled, with the passage of time, into the final four aspirants: Romney, Satorium, Paul, and Gingrich. Not long after, this finally wound up with two contenders, Satorium and Romney. At the end, Romney came out the victor, having won the endorsement of wealthy supporters. This hot struggle was marked with sharp criticisms that would soon be utilized by Obama during the ensuing the presidential run. The two finalists — presidency and vice-presidency -- were confirmed in the two party conventions: the first one by the Republicans, held in Florida; the second by the Democrats held in North Carolina.

### **Omission and Mistakes.**

The failure of Romney to mention in his acceptance speech the handling of the ongoing war in Afghanistan led to some 6 percent in favor of the Democratic Party. All along the way, however, the dismal picture of economy and high unemployment rate appeared to whittle this advantage. Then bang! Disclosing on September 25 the previous secret messages uttered by Mitt while talking

with his wealthy advisers during a special meeting in the past, the Democratic party caught the Republicans by surprise.

Romney's lack of concern for the 47% who will be depending solely on government support greatly tarnished the good image previously published: his knowledge and experience in running certain businesses, his successful business and health plans for his home state, his uniting both Democrats and Republicans in espousing his excellent plans, and other fine concepts. His finally admitting this as a mistake did not improve the situation for him.

**The Debates.** As expected, the first debate in October gave Romney a great chance to show his worthiness to run as president. His more positive performance during the said debate made him break even with or even surpass Obama's chances of victory. But the debate between Biden and Paul Ryan stopped the bleeding. Then Obama won in the second and third debates.

### **Powell's Endorsement.**

October 25, Former Republican Secretary of State, Colin Powell, endorsed President Barack Obama for a second term, telling CBS *that he voted for Obama in 2008 but this time was going further and publicly backing him*. He further said that when Obama took over *the country was in very difficult straits. We were in one of the worst recessions we had seen in recent times, close to a depression. . . and I saw over the next several years stabilization come back in the financial community . . . He got us out of one war, and started to get us out of a second war,*

*and did not get us into any new wars*. However, he emphasized that he still is a Republican.

**The Hurricane Sandy.** But victory was not sealed until the Hurricane Sandy devastated the Northeastern section of the country, including New York, Virginia, New Jersey. At first, I thought this calamity would endanger Obama's stronghold and base. But political analysts pointed out the contrary. Obama's genuine love and community leadership emerged instead!

The following remarks by Margaret Carlson, November 1, in a campaign ad, is noteworthy: *It took a tragedy to bring them (Christie and Obama) together, but there they were: President Obama and Governor Christie of New Jersey, arm in arm, complete with a bro-to-bro handclasp and shoulder pat a week before the election. . . The timing for Obama couldn't be better. To make the trip to New Jersey, the President had to give up an appearance with another Big Guy, Bill Clinton, in Florida and Iowa. This non-campaign stop more than made up for it. . .* When Christie was asked by Fox News if he'd also be giving Romney a tour of the storm-struck areas, he retorted *I have no idea, nor am I the least bit concerned or interested. . . If you think right now I give a damn about presidential politics, then you don't know me.*

### **IMMEDIATE POST-ELECTION REPORT OF THE MEDIA**

The Los Angeles Times, November 7, 2012. Headline: OBAMA AGAIN. Swing States Seal Second Term. Mark

Harabak reports: *The President wins reelection with a diverse coalition that reflects a changing electorate.*

From Washington, David Lautmer reports: *On Tuesday, Democrats won a significant victory in reelecting Barack Obama as President and retaining control of the Senate.*

From Columbus, Ohio. Michael Finnegan reports. *For many in Ohio, the ritual of stepping up to a ballot machine on Tuesday came with a sense of relief that the long, ugly presidential race was finally drawing to a close.*

Tribune reports: **OBAMA GETS SECOND CHANCE.** President dominates swing states, face divided Congress. Romney says in concession speech we need to *put people before politics.*

David Espo of the Associated Press reports: *President Barack Obama rolled to re-election Tuesday night, vanquishing former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney despite a weak economy that plagued his first term and put a crimp in the middle class dreams of millions. In victory, he confidently promised better days ahead.*

Obama spoke to thousands of cheering supporters in his hometown of Chicago, praising Romney and declaring his optimism for the next four years. Romney made his own graceful concession speech before a disappointed crowd in Boston. He summoned all Americans to pray for Obama and urged the night's political winners to put partisan bickering aside and *reach across the aisle* to tackle the

nation's problems.

La Opinión. **CUATRO ANOS MAS!** (*Four more years*) *El voto latino con Obama* (*The Latino votes for Obama!*) 75% of the Latino votes went to Obama, while Romney got 23%.

### **MIXED REACTION OF THE MEDIA**

New York Times. Thomas Friedman reports: *No one can now for sure what complex emotional chemistry tipped this election Obama's way . . . It came down to a majority of Americans believing that whatever his faults, Obama was trying his hardest to fix what ails the country.*

Washington Post. Dan Balz says: *Tuesday's election produced an uncertain mandate, although Obama will attempt to claim one. Obama offered a plan but not one that deals directly with some of the problems he will have to confront immediately."*

Wall Street Journal. *Obama said little during the campaign about his first term and even less about his plans for a second. Instead his strategy was to portray Mitt Romney as a plutocrat. . . It worked with brutal efficiency- -the definition of winning ugly.*

The Los Angeles Times. Doyle McManujs writes *If we're lucky, we will find that we elected a different Obama from one who won four years ago — not just a grayer Obama but a wiser one too.*

The foregoing reports portray *Democracy in Action* -- freedom of speaking and of writing in a democratic country.

**Contrasts with the Election in the Philippines.** The campaign speeches in US

appear to be as negative as those in the Philippines. The main difference is that there are no reports of violence or fraud in USA. In the Philippines, there has not been a national election that is devoid of violence and irregularities (fraud, vote-buying, etc.) Another difference is that the defeated candidate makes a concession speech to include praise for the opponent and an invitation to all to work together and thus enhance peace and progress in the country.

### **A RECAP OF THE ELECTION ISSUES**

**Economy and Jobs.** Obama inherited a huge task, economy-wise. The last two years of President Bush began to show an unstable and collapsing economy. I finally lost almost all my investments in stocks. Obama had to come to the rescue of the leading banks and of the auto industry. Unfortunately, Romney opposed this, thus casting doubts on his unexplained good proposals to solve the current economic national problem. Moreover, drastic rules were made to reform the banking system and Wall Street Stock Exchange.

Obama also thought of taxing the wealthy more than the middle class, improving revenues, including fair trading with other nations, like China and Mexico. On the other hand, Romney wanted no such increased taxation for the wealthy as they are the ones who hire more workers. Furthermore, his reluctance in releasing his income tax returns for the past ten years made many doubt his integrity and

even suspected his relationship with the wealthy, like himself.

The present administration tried to diminish the unemployment rate by engaging in massive construction projects—better roads, bridges, parks, etc. But the Republicans in the House blocked this initiative. Nonetheless, in the last two months, there have been signs and evidences of more jobs and significant decrease in home foreclosures.

**Foreign Policy.** At first, he would not count Al Queda's capture as an important accomplishment of the present administration. It was kind of late for him, finally, to congratulate Obama on this. I was confused and offended by his making the death of the Ambassador and three others in the American Embassy in Libya a gross mistake of the Administration instead of rallying American citizens to support the national fight against terrorism as had been done by George Bush following the tragedy, September 11, 2000.

**Immigration.** Mitt appeared finally to agree with Obama in some aspects of the problem on illegal entrances into the country. The latest move to help entitle young and promising students to become residents of the county they have learned to love paid good dividends for the Democrats. The great majority of Latinos came out supporting Obama.

**Medicare and SSS Benefits.** Ryan's voucher plan was feared by the Democrats, who would rather continue with the status quo. The claim that Obamacare takes away

760 billions or so from the Medicare fund is not true. This money comes from savings resulting from the reforms initiated in the Obamacare Plan.

**Social Issues and Religious Principles.** The stand of Romney is close to biblical standards. Proper marriage is only between man and woman. His pro-life support is sound. As a Republican, I salute Romney on this. However, the Bible advocates freedom of worship and choice in religious matters. Even the atheists (enemies) have to be loved or at least be allowed to choose their destiny. Furthermore, Obama's marriage, family, treatment of the two girls, showed he did not swerve from the Bible. In fact, his closing words in his post-election speech showed his abiding trust in God: *By the grace of God let us move forward.*

**Education.** Both parties indicated support for educating children to prepare them for jobs, and for doing research to help mankind in the effort to stop planet warming and changing weather. Obama placed high priority in his dream of getting our children at par or even surpass the progress of other nations, like Japan and a few European countries (especially in math and science).

**Bipartisan Approach.** Mitt cited his bipartisan approach while governor in Massachusetts. However, he failed to mention that the Republican-controlled House did not have much to show of bipartisan partnership. His resolve to repeal the Obamacare later was toned down, much to the delight of the Democrats.

**Proper Perspective.** I agree with Dr Cesar Candari's balanced and unbiased presentation on the status of medical care in the country and the Obamacare -- advantages and disadvantages. We learn from the recent election that it is not profitable to exaggerate and misconstrue events, putting the blame on the President for an unexpected attack. It would have been wiser for Mitt to have rallied the country in supporting the fight against terrorism rather than blaming the President and making this a political issue. Did we blame Bush for the September 11 debacle when the second plane that destroyed the second building could have been prevented by ordering the Air Force to get ready to intercept the attacker? The people could have resorted to faulting the government for failing to do this. Instead, all people rallied behind the President in declaring our contempt at violence and in resolving to prevent such in the future.

**Sportsmanship.** It is heart-warming, indeed, to note that the losing candidate sincerely concedes, accepting defeat and wishing the winner success. (How I wish this were equally practiced in the Philippines!) It is hoped that Romney and the Republicans now join hands with the administration in an all-out effort to save the country from an impending financial cliff or crisis?

**Cooperation among All Nations.** Judging from the reactions of the various nations of the world, the victory of Obama (who is well known and widely recognized to be a champion of peace and

economic growth) is perceived as a signal or an indication of greater cooperation in maintaining peace and order in the world and the possibility of economic progress among all nations.

### CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

**Golden Rule.** *Do unto others as you wish them to do to you.* This principle was reiterated by Jesus, who came to this fallen world to save mankind from utter perdition as a result of the disobedience of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. This rule had become the secret of success for Biblical heroes and world rulers who have succeeded in their leadership roles. It is worth following and practicing nowadays. Our two aspirants for the US Presidency could have avoided spending millions. How? By campaigning positively and with an attitude conforming with the Golden Rule.

**God Is Still in Control.** The events surrounding the recent national election appear to show that God is still in control. A first, I thought that the Sandy hurricane would lead to chaos and anger in the states supporting the current administration. Instead, it soon became evident that it was the single factor that turned the tide in favor of Obama. It is now generally believed that were it not for this unprecedented calamity, Romney would have won handily. Why? The depressed economic situation, the first debate showing Romney as a capable leader, and the increased enthusiasm of the people in listening to

Romney in the last few days before election could have catapulted him to sweet victory. But Sandy came just in time to give an opportunity for Obama to demonstrate, in deeds, genuine leadership and true compassion as President of USA and leader of the world.

### President's TENDERLY YOURS

*continued from page 1*  
expensive toys, Christmas is not



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expensive gifts to give one another. It's the feeling, the thought that counts in giving gifts, not because of what a negative comment would come up. Remember that Jesus was born in a lowly barn. Remember that several inns had rejected them and they ended up in a lowly situation, a humble condition. Be humble and be happy with what you got. Remember that *desiderata*. I have always looked at it in my wall by the typewriter. Be happy with what you got. Do not compare yourself and your life situation with someone else. Because there is always someone with more than what you got. And this would make you unhappy. Try to be happy with what you have.

There is always someone with a bigger house. There is always someone with bigger families. There is always someone with more possessions than you. There is always someone more religious than you, but probably hypocritical.

When we hear those church bells (not anymore) indicating the birth of our Savior, let us kneel and pray fervently. Let us pray that we will love each other. Love prevents war. If people just love each other and care for each other, there will probably be no war. Yes this Christmas let us follow good deeds, let us care for our neighbors, but most of all love Jesus our Lord and Savior.  
**NOLI CGUINIGUNDO MD<sup>62</sup>**  
FEUDNRSMAF President

### CHAIRMAN'S Message

*continued from page 1*  
the national board exams ranged



HERNANI  
TANSUCHE MD

from 64-72% slightly higher than the national passing rate of 52-57% (February) and from 50-65%

compared with the national rate of 51-57% (August exams).

Starting in 2007, our overall passing rate has gone up consistently with overall rate of 76% in 2012 (national rate of 52% in February) and in August with an overall rate of 89% (national at 78.8%). For three consecutive years, our passing rate was higher than the national rate.

Our Foundation scholars have done well in the Board examinations, topnotchers on two prior exams and consistent placement in the top ten, including this last exam in August (#7). Several alumni members deserve credit for these accomplishments. Our

past chairman, Sen Martin who is in charge of our scholarship program deserves commendation. Dean Habacon and her faculty staff should be equally commended. Our thanks also to our alumni members who have generously supported the scholarship program and other projects of the school with their donation of laptops, video projectors, books and journals for the library and so on

Just as here in the United States, the Philippines have an agency, the Commission on Higher Education, that oversees the performance of local medical schools. Thru this commission is another agency called the Phil. Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities. This particular association conducts a survey of an applicant medical school and grades the applicant in several areas such as faculty, curriculum and instruction, library, facilities, research among other things. Some of the areas in the survey that we need to improve are in research and library. There are several ongoing research projects but like any program it requires constant funding till completion. The Alumni Foundation and the medical school Dean are asking for support from the Chapters such as yours and the general membership to help these research projects.

There are 4 or 5 levels of accreditation granted. Whatever the results of the survey are, the applicant is always granted level 1 accreditation. This recognition is good for a three year period and the medical

school reapplies after three years. Depending on the results of the survey, the medical school is either elevated to the next level or stays at the same level or if the scores are bad it is removed from the list and has to reapply again after three years to initiate the process. Currently there are two medical schools at level 3 (UP and UST), one at level 2 (UE) and one at level 1 (FEU). This was granted to us last Aug. 2011 good for three years. Why, you may ask is FEU at level 1 when I just enumerated their stellar academic accomplishments? Because FEU never applied for accreditation until Dr. Habacon was appointed as medical Dean.

As graduates of Far Eastern University we should be proud of the accomplishments of the medical school and the strides made to maintain our status as a premier school. I personally believe that our success achieved in the medical profession is partly due to the medical education and training received at our alma mater. What better way to reciprocate but to be generous with our time and resources to help our medical school?

We would like to applaud the FEUMAANI chapter on their yearly humanitarian project, the medical missions, in providing medical and surgical assistance to our less than fortunate *kababayans* in the Philippines.

I am honored to have been given the opportunity to serve as the current chairman of our Foundation. This current leadership will continue to assist our medical school to maintain its status as a premier medical school. We cannot do this alone. We need the help and support of our active State chapters such as yours.

I would like to thank the FEUMAANI for inviting me to be your guest speaker. We hope to see all of you come July 17-21, 2013

at the Intercontinental hotel Chicago at our annual reunion.  
**HERNANI TANSUCHE MD<sup>68</sup>**  
 Chairman of the Board

## It is a sad day,

*continued from page 1*  
 not violate the Constitution. What they did not do was say that Obamacare is good law or that it's good policy.

*Obamacare was bad policy yesterday. It's bad policy today. Obamacare was bad law yesterday. It's bad law today. Let me tell you why I say that.*

*Obamacare raises taxes on the American people by approximately \$500 billion.*

*Obamacare cuts Medicare, cuts Medicare, by approximately \$500 billion. And even with those cuts, and tax increases, Obamacare adds trillions to our deficits and to our national debt and pushes those obligations on to coming generations.*

*Obamacare also means that for up to 20 million Americans, they will lose the insurance they currently have, the insurance that they like and they want to keep.*

*Obamacare is a job killer. Businesses across the country have been asked what the impact is of Obamacare. Three quarters of those surveyed by the Chamber of Commerce said Obamacare makes it less likely for them to hire people. And perhaps most troubling of all, Obamacare puts the federal government between you and your doctor.*

*For all those reasons, it's important for us to repeal and replace Obamacare. What are some of the things that we'll keep in place, and must be in place, in a reform, a real reform, of our healthcare system?*

*One, we have to make sure that people who want to keep their current insurance will be able to*

do so. Having 20 million people, up to that number of people, lose the insurance they want, is simply unacceptable.

Number two, got to make sure that those people who have pre-existing conditions know that they will be able to be insured and they will not lose their insurance. We also have to assure that we do our very best to help each state in their effort to assure that every American has access to affordable healthcare. And something that Obamacare does not do that must be done in real reform is helping lower the cost of healthcare and health insurance. It's becoming prohibitively expensive.

And so this is now a time for the American people to make a choice. You can choose whether you want to have a larger and larger government, more and more intrusive in your life—separating you and your doctor—whether you're comfortable with more deficits, higher debt that we pass onto the coming generations.

Whether you're willing to have the government put in place a plan that potentially causes you to lose the insurance that you like or whether instead you want to return to a time when the American people will have their own choice in healthcare. Where consumers will be able to make their choices as to what kind of health insurance they want.

This is the time of choice for the American people. Our mission is clear: If we want to get rid of Obamacare, we're going to have to replace President Obama. My mission is to make sure we do exactly that. That we return to the American people the privilege they've always had to live their lives in the way they feel most appropriate. Where we don't pass on to coming generations massive deficits and debt, where we don't have a setting where jobs are lost. If we want good jobs and a bright economic future, for ourselves and

for our kids, we must replace Obamacare. That is my mission. That is our work. And I'm asking the people of America to join me. If you don't want the course that President Obama has put us on, if you want instead a course that the Founders envisioned, then join me in this effort. Help us. Help us defeat Obamacare. Help us defeat the liberal agenda that makes government too big, too intrusive, and is killing jobs across this great country. **Mitt Romney**

It is a sad day,  
Obamacare to stay.

One saving grace in this matter of concern is that I am also in the last hoopla for the care of my career.

by **Cesar V Reyes MD<sup>68</sup>**

## COMMENTS

Editorials, news releases, letters to the editor, column proposal and manuscripts are invited.

Email submission, including figures or pictures, is preferred.

## ECTOPIC MURMURS

Deadline for the  
December 2012 issue  
**December 15, 2012**

Please address submissions to  
**acvrear@aol.com**

**FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY  
DR NICANOR REYES MEDICAL FOUNDATION  
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**Grand Alumni: Golden & Silver Jubilarians Night**

**Saturday, January 26, 2013**

Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila

Ortigas Avenue @ Asian Development Bank, Quezon City

**Honorees**

**Class<sup>63</sup> (Golden Jubilee)**

**Class<sup>67</sup> (Sapphire Jubilee)**

**Class<sup>72</sup> (Coral Jubilee)**

**Class<sup>77</sup> (35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**Class<sup>82</sup> (30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**Class<sup>87</sup> (Silver Jubilee)**

**Class<sup>92</sup> (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**Class<sup>97</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**Class<sup>02</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

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- Class<sup>58</sup> (Emerald Jubilee)
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- Class<sup>88</sup> (Silver Jubilee)
- Class<sup>68</sup> (Sapphire Jubilee)
- Class<sup>73</sup> (Ruby Jubilee)
- Class<sup>78</sup> (Coral Jubilee)
- Class<sup>83</sup> (Pearl Jubilee)
- Class<sup>93</sup> (20th Anniversary)
- Class<sup>98</sup> (15th Anniversary)
- Class<sup>03</sup> (10th Anniversary)



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ACCME accreditation provided by  
the **PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION in CHICAGO**

**July 17 - 21, 2013**

*Intercontinental Hotel Magnificent Mile Downtown Chicago*

505 N Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL  
(800) 948-0424 (312) 944-4100

The link below will allow guest to book, modify and cancel their reservations online. Additionally, guest can book their reservation by calling our Hotel directly at 1-800-628-2112 (312-944-4100 for international callers) and identify themselves as participants of the Far Eastern University room block (or group code CHE).

<http://goo.gl/QgCHi>

Please note that your group rate is available until **June 26, 2013**. Any reservations requested after this date will be based on availability and at the Hotel's prevailing rate. Please let me know if you wish to receive weekly reports reflecting your current pick up once the registration opens.

**STUDENT**  
**ACHIEVEMENT**  
**AWARD**

Do you want to know a little bit more about the Student Achievement Awards? The cost for each Student Achievement Award is \$50. If you want your award in perpetuity, it is \$1050. You can label your award in your name, or in the name of the person you wish to honor. So let me challenge you to channel the extra dollars of your donation/ charity budget to recognize an honor-roll needy student or two at the medical school. Your donation(s) are tax-deductible. Please make your check payable to **FEUDNRSM Alumni Foundation.**

Your donation this year will be awarded during the Student Recognition of the 2013 Balik-FEU in mid-January 2013 at the FEU-NRMF Institute of Medicine, in West Fairview, Quezon City.

If you want you can also distribute your award(s) in person during the ceremonies! Let me hear from you about your award(s).

**CESAR V REYES MD<sup>68</sup>**  
6530 Dunham Road, Downers  
Grove, IL 60516  
Phone 815-942-2932 x7565  
or [acvrear@aol.com](mailto:acvrear@aol.com)

**FEUDNRSM**  
**ALUMNI FOUNDATION**  
**WINTER MEETING!**

**Saturday, March 16, 2013**  
**Treasure Island Hotel Resort**  
**Las Vegas NV**  
Details tba

**Professorial**  
**Chair Fund**

Interested to establish a  
in your name or of  
someone you wish to  
honor?

Please inquire with  
**CESAR V REYES MD<sup>68</sup>**  
6530 Dunham Road  
Downers Grove, IL 60516  
Phone 815-942-2932 x7565  
or [acvrear@aol.com](mailto:acvrear@aol.com)

**Class<sup>87</sup> with FEU-NRMF Medical Alumni Society**

presents **SWING FOR LIFE**,  
on Wednesday, January 23, 2013  
at 7:00 am Shotgun at the Arnold Palmer Course  
Forest Hills Golf & Country Club Antipolo City  
to benefit the FEU-NRMFMAS indigency program.

Registration fee Php 2, 500 includes green fee, lunch and snack.

**Golf sponsor** Php 20,000 for golf holes 1-9-10-18, posting of sponsor's logo, name at designated hole, posting of your tarpaulin at the awarding area, and two golf tickets.

**Silver sponsor** Php 10,000 form posting of sponsor's logo, name at designated hole, posting of the tarpaulin at the awarding area, and one golf ticket.

**Bronze sponsor** Php 5,000 for posting of sponsor's logo, name at designated hole.

**Donors** Php2, 500 for posting of donor's logo at the awarding ceremony

Please send jpeg file of your logo to  
[quidemd87@gmail.com](mailto:quidemd87@gmail.com) or [eumd87@gmail.com](mailto:eumd87@gmail.com).

For details and inquiries (02) 935-0025 Ms Cely Ocampo

Please make checks to **FEU-NRMF MAS**.

*Maraming salamat po!*  
**COL EDWIN B BAUTISTA MD<sup>87</sup> (MNSA)**  
Chairman, Golf Committee



*Caraga Regional Training Hospital*



*Miranda Family Clinic*

## **PMAC medical surgical mission, January 21 - 25, 2013**

**Venues: Caraga Regional Training Hospital, Miranda Family Clinic,**  
and the *barangays* of **Sabang, Sucailing, Gigaquit** and **San Francisco,**  
**Surigao City**

For further information please contact **Simeon Sevandal MD** [773] 471-3600 [sevandalsimeon@ymail.com](mailto:sevandalsimeon@ymail.com)



Tavern Hotel Surigao



Philippine Gateway Hotel