



# MUSA BULLETIN

**musa**

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MAMBURAO-U.S.A. ASSOCIATION**

**A non-profit and non-political organization**

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Editor**

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Artist  
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**Supporting our beloved town  
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines (Capital)**

## **A Follow-up Open Letter to the Mamburao Government for the Proposed MUSA Public Library Addressed to Mayor Alan Aquino**

June 15, 2002

The Honorable Mayor Alan T. Aquino  
Mayor of Mamburao  
Municipal Hall  
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro  
Philippines

Dear Mayor Aquino:

Aside from the **MUSA Little League** that was successfully launched in Mamburao at the beginning of this year, another important project of the Mamburao-U.S.A. Association, the **MUSA Public Library**, is currently underway for the benefit of our students and the whole community in Mamburao and adjacent towns.

We had been in consultation with the town's teachers regarding possible site of this project, who had been helpful in bringing us to understand the current educational needs of our public and private school students. Since our primary consideration is an ideal location accessible to the entire community, we thought that the best location would be in a central public area like the Municipal Hall.

Therefore, we would like to explore the possibility of establishing the library within the spacious premises of the Municipal Hall so that we ask for your kind assistance in studying and considering this concept. The MUSA President, Roger Calabio, who was in town last March to witness the initial participation of the MUSA Little League in a major competition in Cabanatuan City, was scheduled to personally discuss with you the following proposal and get your recommendations to make this project realized but your were unavailable at that time:

1. The Mamaburao municipality will establish a government-funded building for the proposed public library within the vicinity of the Municipal Hall. As a temporary site, we suggest that a wing be added to the

Municipal Hall to possibly start this project.

2. Proposed signage of the library is as follows:

Mamburao Public Library  
Founder: Mamburao-U.S.A. Association

3. The Mamburao government will provide the necessary manpower and appoint volunteers to run the daily operations of the library.
4. MUSA will supply books, magazines, audio-visual materials, computers, other media equipments, etc. and will help manage its development and schedule of operations.
5. Annual fund-raising events for the benefit of the library will be held both in the U.S.A. and the Philippines which will be managed by the Mamburao-U.S.A. Association (MUSA), the Youth Club of MUSA, the Friends of MUSA and the International Group of MUSA.

Your support will make a big difference in the realization of this dream for our people and will be greatly appreciated.

With our kind regards.

Sincerely,

*Thelma P. Calabio*

Thelma P. Calabio  
Chairman Emeritus  
MUSA

Cc: Ms. Rizelita T. Abeleda  
MUSA Public Library Coordinator

## **The Campaign for the MUSA Public Library**

As we embark upon the mission of establishing the **MUSA Public Library**, we ask for your active participation in building the foundation of this worthwhile project in any way you can, to help meet the educational needs of our needy townspeople back home. This endeavor would only materialize with a tremendous and dedicated support of our members and officers. **Rizelita T. Abeleda**, MUSA Public Library Coordinator, is currently coordinating with our first library volunteer couple in Mamburao, **Dr. Ner** and **Fe Agoncillo** who are willing to take a chunk of their precious time and effort to help push this great undertaking ahead, for which we express our most sincere gratitude.

Contributions of any amount or in kind for this project and your cooperation to invite sponsors from among your relatives and friends will be highly acknowledged. As you well know, **Reggie C. Pacal**, Chair of Community Relations, spearheaded the donation drive for this project early this year with his generous gifts of 3 computers that he personally delivered to Mamburao. For further information about this support initiative, please contact Rezzie Abeleda at (323) 257-3391 or send us e-mail at [musatcom@aol.com](mailto:musatcom@aol.com).

Let's all be partners for the common good. Thank you to your continuing support.

## What a Difference MUSA Little League Makes . . . .

As the project began to unfold at the start of the year under the dynamic and magnanimous leadership of the MUSA President, **Roger P. Calabio**, the sport outlook of Mamburao youngsters and adults alike changed dramatically and diverted their attention and interest into baseball game - a healthy recreation that develops their strength, discipline, self-esteem and competitive skills and a wholesome and exciting pastime for all in the community to enjoy.

The first quarter of operation ran smoothly that focused mainly on the formation of 7 sponsored teams, selection of players and their initial field training and practice, but surprisingly, the boys' performance turned out to be much better than what was anticipated, having right away the momentum and capability to accept the challenge in a national competition held in Cabanatuan City last March, with 68 teams participating, each representing its own area in the country. Their early and first participation was made possible by the admirable management of the MUSA Little League President, **Chito A. Ramirez**, the superb direction and supervision of its competent Vice President, **Manolo Navarro**, the unselfish support of the team sponsors, and the generous grant from the Mamburao-U.S.A. Association (MUSA). We further acknowledge with great thanks the benevolence of both Roger Calabio and Chito Ramirez to willingly finance from their own pocketbooks the budget deficiencies.

Although the boys did not come home as the national champion, we were thoroughly proud of their aggressive involvement and their ability to defeat the Bulacan Team and that of the Mountain Province. The sophisticated Manila Team was the lucky ones to bring home the trophy, whose Managing Director, **Mr. Lehmann** was thrilled to find a team from Mamburao where he used to own and run the best beach resort in town and so very kindly offered their baseball equipments as their parting gifts to our team, for which we sent our deepest appreciation. It is also fitting to gratefully acknowledge the hospitality of **Danilo and Lourdes "Lulu" Calabio** for hosting graciously the team's 2-night stay in the hotel and entertaining them warmly with a sumptuous picnic in the hotel's resort after the game and of course, the courtesy of the city's Vice Mayor and spouse for the lovely dinner reception before the tournament.

Looking ahead, the League is still in process of accepting applications for additional Second Year Team Sponsorships until the end of September deadline, in preparation for the Grand Opening of the MUSA Little League Tournament in Mamburao, tentatively scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2002. A stunning celebration is now being planned, once again with a spectacular town parade of athletes and with refreshments, added attractions, entertainments by invited actors and comedians, etc. The League President, Chito Ramirez has pledged to underwrite this special program for which we are happy to acknowledge with huge thanks.

The MUSA Little League of Mamburao is a registered and recognized member of the International Little League of the United States and among the few members who are privately funded without any assistance from the government. The strong teams to beat for the second year are as follows:

### TEAMS

Angels  
Devils  
Cubs  
Dodgers  
Cardinals  
Giants  
Yankees  
Taj Pacal

### SPONSORS

Mr. Roger P. Calabio  
Mr. Michael Alan R. Calabio  
Mr. & Mrs. Julius S. Pacal  
Mr. & Mrs. Pepito L. Santander  
Dr. & Mrs. Adolfo P. Calabio  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry S. Calabio  
Mr. & Mrs. Erick S. Calabio  
Mr. Reggie C. Pacal

## Membership and Fundraising Update

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the **Annual Potluck Summer Picnic & General Meeting** at the well-kept **Yorba Regional Park** on **Saturday, August 31, 2002** - a great time to mingle, chat, meet new friends, enjoy the day with our Kababayans and be reminded of your membership renewal. It is now time to renew for this year and try to bring in new members and friends. Please do so at the picnic and if you are away, kindly send your fee or donation by mail. **Edna Pacal Palma**, our new Treasurer, will be around to remind and assist you.

Our Fundraising Committee headed by **Bernard T. Abeleda** is coming up with fun and innovative ideas to support our two major projects. Each dollar we raise will touch the lives of our people in Mamburao, so please join us as we raise funds for the MUSA Public Library and MUSA Little League. We need your kind support as donors or in any way you are able. We also invite you to become a member of this committee.

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## Philippine Consulate-General Events

### PLRA / SPECIAL RESIDENT RETIREE'S VISA

An informative evening gathering was conducted by the government-owned and controlled **Philippine Leisure and Retirement Authority (PLRA)** at the Community Hall of the Philippine Consulate-General on Monday, August 26, 2002, briefing Filipino-American community leaders on the features and benefits of the **Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRVisa)** and the PLRA programs, aimed to encourage Filipino expatriate and foreigners alike to consider the Philippines as their retirement destination. Contact the Philippine Consulate-General at (213)639-0980 for further information.

### PHILIPPINE TOURISM VOLUNTEER 12

An exciting musical extravaganza and reception hosted by the Department of Tourism was held at the Universal Hilton Hotel on Sunday night, August 25, 2002. Emceed by Willie Nepumoceno, the program culminated with the urging talks of Batangas Gov. Antonio Leviste and Philippine Tourism Secretary, Richard J. Gordon who aggressively presented his interesting **Wow Philippines Programs**, including **Visit Philippines 2003**, the **Philippines: More Than the Usual** and the **Philippine Tourism Volunteer 12 Program**. The musical cast included Filipino notables such as Mon David, Grace Nono and Lynn Sherman with their entourage of young dancers from Manila.

The Tourism Volunteer 12 Program appeals to overseas Filipinos anywhere in the world to bring at least one foreign visitor to the Philippines each year to uplift the dignity and livelihood of our people back home. We are all invited to register as Tourism Volunteer and have some kind of travel award incentives. Travel agents and operators, as well as airline personnel are ineligible to join the program. For further information, we suggest that you contact the Philippine Tourism Office at (213)487-4525.

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## Sharing Your News, Time and Talents to MUSA Bulletin - Paper and Website

We welcome and need your support by sharing your personal and family news, your time and talents in assisting as news contributors. Our website is currently undergoing a facelift and changing our website host to upgrade and accommodate more sections, such as photographs of events and advertisement.

[www.musabulletin.com](http://www.musabulletin.com)

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## Honoring Mamburao's Pride - Professor Remigio E. Agpalo, PhD.

The association honored our distinguished fellow Mambureno, **Dr. Remigio Agpalo** with an informal celebration of his 74<sup>th</sup> birthday, hosted by the MUSA President, Roger Calabio at Shilla Restaurant in Los Angeles on June 10, 2002. He was on his way to return to Manila from a four-day Class 1952 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion at the University of Maine where he graduated with highest honors.

Overwhelmed by the presence of close relatives and "kababayans" he regarded as "kindred in mind and spirit", he expressed his sincere gratitude and gave a stimulating short talk after dinner, inspired by the immortal poem of John Donne "No Man is an Island", the biblical passages from St. Paul's in Corinthian 1 and the all-time Filipino folk saying "Ang sakit ng kalingkingan ay damdamin ng buong katawan", being the philosophical underpinning of his outstanding undergraduate thesis at the University of Maine that won him highest honors in 1952, entitled "Co-Security Through Sympathetic Intercultural Toleration" and had been regarded as eternal and universal since it focused on "pagdamay" and "pagibig" (sharing with, caring and love) for fellowmen, so relevant to this era of tumultuous and conflicting civilizations. His speech concluded with a timely message to us that unity, sharing, caring and love must prevail, quoting St. Paul once again "If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given a special honor, all enjoy it."

Dr. Agpalo was just nominated to receive the International Peace Prize, a once-in-a lifetime accolade that transcends all other honors during this time in world history. An accomplished author, he is the Chairman of the Department of Political Science in the University of the Philippines, co-founder of the Political Science Association of the Philippines, Manuel Roxas Professor of Political Science, National Social Scientist, formulator of the concept of "Pangulo Regime" based on Philippine cultural moorings and historical foundations and Lorenzo Tanada Professor of Political Science at De La Salle University. He was recently honored in the International Biographical Center in England and in several publications distributed to all great universities worldwide, such as, Outstanding People of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Who's Who in Asia and the Pacific Nations, 2000 Scholars of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 2000 Intellectuals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the Dictionary of International Biography

## Chit Chat Around the City

It was great to rendezvous and chat with our visiting Kababayans in California. **Mamburao Councilor Boy Maneja** made it to the Third Anniversary Ball and the dinner party hosted by Roger Calabio at his home on the eve of the annual celebration. Ditto with **Bhing Estrada**.

**Danny and Lulu Calabio** with their two teenage boys, **Mar** and **Jude**, had a grand time sightseeing and visiting friends and relatives for a month around the East Coast and the West Coast. **Chito Ramirez**, President of the MUSA Little League in Mamburao, arrived later and joined their busy and hectic itinerary in California.

**Carmencita "Chuchi" Sison Garma** enjoyed her brief California vacation, met for the first time George and Nini Garma's cute twin boys and arrived on time for Nini's birthday party. A farewell bash for her was organized by her mother, Paz. S. Garma.

Shoemart President **Senen Mendiola** and his lovely wife, **Pining**, accompanied by their protective children, **Jojo Mendiola** and **Marissa Mendiola Aguirre**, spent most of their vacation time in Northern California with their San Francisco-based son, **Jimmy Mendiola** and his family.

A splendid Hawaiian Night party in the garden to celebrate **Michael Calabio's** birthday was beautifully managed by close pals and well attended by his many young friends. His father, Roger Calabio gladly hosted the affair at his home on August 17.

Another birthday celebrant, **Henry Ketikian** was the honoree of a surprise party given by his parents in a posh Los Angeles restaurant on August 20.

Our warmest good wishes to retired **Philippine Consul-General Edwin D. Bael** who now heads the San Diego branch of the Korenberg, Abramowitz and Feldun, the leading immigration law corporation.

Sending our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery to **Consul Malou Montero**, with best regards to hubby, **Consul Chris Montero** of the Philippine Consulate.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Perfecto "Jun"** and **Vicky Pacal Alegre** of Oak Brook, Illinois on their forthcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary grand celebration.

## Welcome Aboard New Members

Mabuhay to our new members and happy welcome to the Mamburao-U.S.A. Association.

**Leo & Edith Alcaide Cardarelli** Malden, Massachusetts

Our big thanks to your generous donation of \$50.

**Filadelfo & Elizabeth Rodriguez** Juliet, Illinois

**Lourdes Balanza** San Diego, CA

### FRIENDS OF MUSA

**Salome "Nena" Leonor** Glendale, CA

**Estelita Santiago** Los Angeles, CA

**Purita "Angel" Macalino** Los Angeles, CA

**Leny Askev** Los Angeles, CA

**Estrella Duban** Los Angeles, CA

## Birthday Greetings

Heartfelt warm wishes and love to our third quarter celebrants and many, many happy returns of the day.

Cocoy C. Niebres	July 4
Edna Pacal Palma	July 7
Delion Cardarelli	July 6
John Maurice Rodriguez	July 9
Lerma Fontanilla Tajonera	July 16
Redem Espinosa Satin	July 23
Victoria Pacal Alegre	July 23
Jenelle Shelvy Borja	July 25
Bernie Barnachea, Jr.	Aug. 1
Perfecto Alegre, Jr.	Aug. 11
Minda Pacal Barnachea	Aug. 12
Mark P. Palma	Aug. 13
Anthony San Jose	Aug. 15
Michael R. Calabio	Aug. 17
Filiberto T. Abeleda	Aug. 20
Bernard T. Abeleda	Aug. 20
Henry H. Ketikian	Aug. 20
Maria Corazon Tria Galo	Aug. 21
Norma Abeleda Torralba	Aug. 22
Diana Katrina A. Rodriguez	Sept. 12
Christian P. Palma	Sept. 15
Gladstone M. Borja	Sept. 16
Adolfo P. Calabio	Sept. 16
Michael Paul Mavar	Sept. 19
Fely Sison Calabio	Sept. 25
Thea "Szondi" C. Dizon Lomibao	Sept. 27
Connie L. Dizon	Sept. 28

*Happy Birthday!*

## **OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Pilar Servando Rendon**  
**Rogelio P. Calabio**  
**Nora Flores Panganiban**  
**Edna Pacal Palma**  
**George S. Garma**

**Chairman**  
**President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Auditor**

### **HONORARY DIRECTORS**

**Thelma P. Calabio** - Chairman Emeritus /Honorary Life Director  
**Adolfo P. Calabio, M.D.**  
**Henry H. Ketikian**  
**Rudy M. Montemayor**  
**Julius S. Pacal**  
**Remy R. Panganiban**  
**Lamberto V. Tajonera**

### **WEBSITE OFFICERS**

**Thelma P. Calabio**      **Chair, Website Operations**  
**Lamberto V. Tajoera**      **Chair, Website News**  
**Erick S. Calabio**      **Webmaster, Technical & Design**  
**Reggie C. Pacal**      **Webmaster, Business Affairs**

### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

**Jannette Servando Maneja**      **Chair, Membership**  
**Minda Pacal Barnachea**      **Chair, Social/Cultural Affairs**  
**Bernard T. Abeleda**      **Chair, Fund-raising**  
**Reggie C. Pacal**      **Chair, Community Relations**  
**Patria Cosuco Mercene**      **Chair, Mamburao Link**  
**Vincent V. Rendon**      **West Coast Coordinator**  
**Oscar V. Urieta**      **East Coast Coordinator**  
**Alicia Liboro Velandria**      **East Coast PRO**  
**Francisco R. Flores**      **West Coast PRO**  
**Fely Sison Calabio**      **Liaison Officer, Northern California**  
**Alice Catama Pascua**      **Liaison Officer, Southern California**  
**Victoria Pacal Alegre**      **Liaison Officer, Illinois**  
**Constancion G. de Jesu**      **Liaison officer, New York**

**Rizelita Tarriela Abeleda**      **Coordinator, MUSA Public Library**  
**Pepito L. Santander**      **Coordinator, MUSA Little League**  
**Cecile Pagilagan Cabrera**      **Coordinator, Friends of MUSA**  
**Presentation Trajeco Tria**      **Coordinator, International Group of MUSA**

### **YOUTH CLUB OF MUSA - OFFICERS**

**Joan Baldonado Pacal**      **President**  
**Michael Rosales Calabio**      **Vice President**  
**Valerie Servando Rendon**      **Secretary**  
**Erick Sison Calabio**      **Treasurer**  
**Nolda Abeleda Torralba**      **Auditor**  
**Thea "Szondi" C. Dizon Lomibao**      **West Cost PRO**  
**Steve Pacal Alegre**      **East Coast PRO**  
**Wendyll Cosuco Mercene**      **Friends PRO**