

## MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. It is celebrated to honor those who have died in the military service and held every last Saturday & Sunday of the month of May. Saturday is Flag Planting Day; many volunteers place Philippine and American flags on each grave at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial. On Sunday, May 24, 2015 PAGA beneficiaries participated in the Memorial Services ceremony.

From PAGA, Michael Martin, Patricia Borromeo, Mendrick Lankford, Ashley Lopez, Aaron Yabut, JC and Judy Ann Santos with their family, Jolina, Jerrico and Jennifer Lopez with their family, and Brendz and Clarisse Ann with their family witnessed the ceremony. Mr. Frank Holz, Mr. Terry Haas and Mr. Tom Hoes

attended and represented PAGA during the floral offerings.

Jerrico Lopez, 13 years old, grade 9 student was chosen by American Association of the Philippines (AAP) together with Miss Sahana Ashley to do the National Moment of Remembrance Tribute. After the ceremony, the PAGA group were so pleased to have a photo with U.S. Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg. They further roamed around the Memorial grounds and did a lot of picture taking as remembrance. \*\*\*



Mr. Jerrico Lopez and Ms. Sahana Ashley

## 2015 Balik-Eskwela Program



PAGA beneficiaries with Mr. Bill Pfluger (Board Member), Mrs. Deanna Bajar-Executive Director and Social Workers Mhel and Janette

The Balik Eskwela Program held on May 30, 2015 delighted 74 beneficiaries from Elementary, High School and College from Metro Manila when they received their school supplies, tuition fees, uniform and shoes assistance. Many came with their parents.

In the afternoon, a simple Awarding program was held to present the 21 beneficiaries who are covered by the schol-

arship, sponsorship and educational support programs. Board Member Bill Pfluger emphasized the importance of the 3 P's (Partnership, Participate and Performance) in his message and later followed by Chairman Atty. Al Ancheta's words of encouragement and motivation that inspired them all – "Aim High Always". \*\*\*



US Ambassador to the Philippines Hon. Philip Goldberg poses with PAGA beneficiaries and their families together with Mr. Frank Holz (PAGA President), Mr. Terry Haas (Board Member) and Ms. Melissa Echevarria (Social Worker).

## Welcome - Second Issue of Newsletter

This is the second issue of our Newsletter which covers our activities during the months of January to May 2015. Every summer has a story for our beneficiaries. As you read through this newsletter, you will get to appreciate the activities that PAGA is doing for its beneficiaries. Happy reading! \*\*\*

## Medical and Dental Check-up



PAGA beneficiaries joined the group picture with the Bureau of Fire and Protection-Medical Service Division Team

Simultaneous with the Balik Eskwela Program, PAGA conducted a Medical and Dental Check-up to ensure the good health condition of its beneficiaries before the opening of SY 2015-2016. This was held in coordination with the Bureau of

Fire Protection – Medical Service Division.

59 children/youth beneficiaries and 30 parents were examined by BFP's six medical team as they also were provided with multi-vitamins and medicines prescribed by the doctors. \*\*\*

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## Summer Enrichment Activities - Art Workshop and Tutorial Classes

To make a worthwhile vacation for its beneficiaries, PAGA had various Enrichment activities lined up for the summer.



*Young artists pose with their painting.*

*Standing (L-R) JC Santos, Jomer Borromeo and Carl Salingay  
Seated (L-R): Jerrico Lopez, Jennifer Lopez, Janine Uy,  
Juday Santos, Jolina Lopez and Aaron Yabut*

### ART WORKSHOP

11 beneficiaries attended the art workshop held on April 20-24, 2015 at the PAGA Office. Mr. Rico Mariano, a painter and experienced Art teacher facilitated the workshop.

During the five-day workshop, the participants were guided to painting landscape, still life and mural theme using acrylic paint. They were taught with

the use of different brush sizes and how to make a canvass. Further learned techniques of mixing colors, strokes and finally how to describe or title their works and signing their paintings. Each of them was able to complete 3 sets of painting - Landscape, Still-life and Mural with a theme "What is PAGA" to them. \*\*\*

### TUTORIAL CLASSES ON BASIC ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS



*Tutorial classes participants poses with Teachers Claudia, Evelyn and Sharon. Standing (L-R): John Magbanua, Dimuel Gullas, Lezter Magabanua, JM and Mikaella Greason. Seated (L-R): Lady Heart Garcia, Janette Magbanua, Social Worker Janette, Jennyvie Duenos and Dalinsel Mortalla*

The 8 days Tutorial Classes in Basic English and Math is part of a 2-year program which aims to enhance the academic performance of Bulacan-based high school beneficiaries.

9 HS beneficiaries attended the Tutorial Classes held from April 21 to 30, 2015 at the Bagong Buhay E Elementary School, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan. The English class focused pri-

marily into the most basic lessons on use of nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and subject verb agreement, sentence construction and English communication. While Mathematics class covered the mastery of the basic math operations i.e., Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and its application to whole numbers, integers and radical numbers. \*\*\*

## 2015 Summer Youth Camp



*PAGA youth - now ready to take the lead.*

The Summer Camp is the most awaited activity for the youth. This year's theme was "Positive Decision Making: PAGA Youth as Future Leaders" held on May 20-22, 2015 at His Land Christian Retreat and Courtyard, Sta. Maria, Bulacan. 46 youth who are now ready to take a lead learned to value education out of poverty,

build a team as PAGA youth and be able to make positive decisions for their future. This was facilitated by Mr. Benhur Tuazon.

This camp helped them to grow, be matured and think wisely with new learning. They all now look forward to attending next year's camp especially the first timer youth. \*\*\*

## Angeles Kids Summer Outing



*These kids enjoyed the pool, swimming and playing with their parents*

The summer season is the most awaited time of the year for kids because they get a break from busy school activities. Most Filipino families spend their summer vacation with swimming or family outing activities. But since most of our PAGA families do not have the means to spend for such leisure activities, a swimming activity was arranged for our young Angeles based new beneficiaries (aged 4-13). The activity created a venue to get to know others and build camaraderie to serve as a strong support group

amongst them.

This Summer Outing is the first activity done for the Angeles based beneficiaries held on April 18, 2015 at Vista Verde Resort in Pulung Maragul, Angeles City. 7 out of 10 families or a total of 22 participants, enjoyed the resort's facilities especially the swimming pool while interacting with each other. The children bonded and played games in the pool. The parents also had a chance to share about their families and the children's education while preparing food with the staff. \*\*\*

## School Supplies Distribution in Angeles



*Dylan and Janelle Reed all smiles with their school supplies. Behind is Richard, their father.*

This is our second year of school supplies distribution to our Angeles based beneficiaries. They received their school supplies, uniform and shoes assistance from SW Janette and Melissa on May 28, 2015 at the Barangay Hall, Balibago, Angeles City.

As classes opened on June 1, 8 beneficiaries were ready and very excited to go back to school. \*\*\*

*Maraming  
Salamat po!*

## Couples Enrichment Seminar



*Group Picture after the Seminar*

This year, the 3rd edition of this seminar entitled "Growing Together in Marriage" generally aimed to strengthen the couple's relationship by growing together in the context of their marriage. 28 participants or 14 couples attended this seminar with 2 completing all three, 7 have attended two seminars and 5 are first-timers.

All participants realized the importance of being true, honest and faithful to their partners. Expressing one's thoughts and complementing each other were samples of building good communication and building intimacy, that made them feel loved, given importance and appreciated.

They all expressed gratitude for the lessons learned during the seminar. \*\*\*

## BENEFICIARIES CORNER

These are Messages of thanks delivered during the Balik-Eskwela awarding ceremonies.

### On Behalf of Scholars

*"We, the scholars and beneficiaries of Philippine American Guardian Association, Inc. are very overwhelmed with gratitude to the people who are kind hearted, made us deserving and appreciated by giving us importance, We thank you for helping us in every aspects that we need. We will always remember you all in times of our struggles because you give us strength and we know that you are all working for our future. We wish you good health and strength to continue helping us. Every bit of benefits are highly appreciated and we are making sure that it will help us in a good way.*

*Lastly, we promise to study well and graduate for all of you too see what your hard*

*work brought us. We will give back and help the next generation and be responsible individuals."*

Thank you very much.

By:  
Patricia C. Borrromeo  
Scholar, 2nd year,  
B.S. Mechanical  
Engineering  
TIP-Manila

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### On Behalf of Parents

*"To PAGA Board of Trustees and also to the beautiful, kind and hardworking Social Workers, Ms. Mhel and Ms. Janette, good afternoon to all.*

*Thank you for all your support, for educational assistance, scholarship support of*

*my daughters, Janine and Janna Uy and also for the medical assistance for Janine, for the continuous support, it is a big help for their studies. In return, I will guide them with their studies so that they can get high grades and to finish their studies in all way that I can support and guide them.*

*Again, I am very thankful to all of you. Please continue your good heart and have all of you a good health in many years to come so that PAGA will continue to support and help all of us in our needs."*

By:  
Jonabel Miller -Uy  
Parent, from  
Sta. Ana, Manila

\*\*\*



Patricia Borrromeo reading her message of Thanks during the 2015 Balik-Eskwela Program



Jonabel Miller -Uy reading her message of Thanks during the 2015 Balik-Eskwela Program

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## Testimonial from the Couples Enrichment Seminar

**O**ne couple shared about the struggles of entering family life young. Jay-jay's (not his real name) family was against Nena (not her real name) because she came from a broken family, her parents were separated but they fought for their love. Their adjustments were not easy. Jay-jay continued to hang-out with friends to drink which Nena strongly disagreed. They almost got separated when Nena left their home but she returned and discussed things out with Jay-jay because she did not want to have the same 'broken family' like she have grown up. There were many struggles but they made sure to face these problems together.

*Now, having 6 children is the fruit of their love. They surpass all challenges because they discuss things to settle their differences and resolve their problems. **From the seminars attended, Jay-jay learned the significance of their good communication as a couple.***

*Also, he expressed his dream to spend a special time with Nena such as walking in the beach and watching movies.*

By:  
Ms. Janette Corollo  
PAGA Social Worker

## You Can Make A Difference

We believe in the power of education and training to provide opportunities for cognitive growth and development for our beneficiaries. For more than 90 years of its existence since founded in 1921, PAGA as a registered NGO, has worked tirelessly to make a difference for our 200+ PAGA family.

□ **Balik-Eskwela Program** provides basic school supplies, t-shirt, bags, umbrella and assistance for school uniform and shoes to all beneficiaries.

□ **Scholarship Grants** are awarded to academically excellent students. They are provided with monthly allowance, assistance for school fees and projects.

□ **Sponsorship Program** welcomes donors to support underprivileged students from elementary to college.



### EDITORIAL

Greetings from PAGA to all its valued regular donors, members and friends. The PAGA Today, official newsletter is a campaign innovation to increase our presence on the social media and reach out to more people who have the compassion in helping the poor. The PAGA newsletter will further give its readers an update on the programs and services implemented for underprivileged Filipino-Amerasians towards

*...Building a Brighter Future for Filipino-Amerasians*

**Deanna Bajar**  
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## BENEFICIARIES CORNER

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### Wonderful Experience

I would like to thank PAGA for this Art Workshop, I am happy to tell you that my talent in Arts is improving.

Thank you for this wonderful experience. I will use this experience in my everyday life.

By: Aaron C. Yabut  
Grade 10 student  
\*\*\*

### Leadership

Leadership is not simply about power. It is a work on deciding with other people that leads to your success and also to the group.

I believe in the saying "Nothing is impossible if you are responsible"

By: Ashley W. Lopez  
2nd year college student  
Youth Camp participant  
\*\*\*

### Thank you for the Art Workshop

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to learn more about art and I am so thankful too to our teacher, Mr. Rico Mariano, for his patience although we are naughty. And thank you too for giving us more learnings like how to hold the brush right if you are painting and how we maintain the darkness and lightness of our paintings.

I think all of my learnings will help me if I am going to join again in the contest in our school.

I hope next year, art workshop will not be removed to PAGA's summer activity.

Thank you and God bless.

By: Ma. Judy Ann H. Santos  
Grade 8 student  
\*\*\*

We need DONORS to continue this program.

## PLANNED CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES JULY - DECEMBER 2015

MONTH	PARTICULARS
July	4th of July Celebration
July	Life Skills Training (Modules 1-2)
July	Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response Orientation–Workshop, Angeles City
Aug	Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response Orientation–Workshop, Metro Manila
Oct	Livelihood Seminar
Nov	Parenting the Adolescent (Modules 1-3)
Dec	Christmas Celebration

L-R: Janna Faith M. Uy, Jerrico H. Lopez, and Ma. Judy Ann H. Santos  
PAGA beneficiaries needing Sponsors for their education

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