

F.A.N.H.S. Sonoma County Filipino American National Historical Society

Featured FANHS Member

Beginning with this issue of the newsletter we will feature FANHS' members. We request your consideration to be featured in upcoming issues. Enjoy!

Karen Canoy O'Neal

Karen Canoy-O'Neal was born and raised in Cebu, Philippines and attended the University of San Carlos. She immigrated to the US in 1997 and lived in Southern California. In 2001, a job op-

portunity enabled her to relocate to Santa Rosa. She is currently employed at the City of Healdsburg's Planning and Building Department.



In April 2006 she crashed a birthday party and met this wonderful group of Filipinos that

introduced her to FANHS. "Joining FANHS has been very exciting and educational for me. This year, I am eager to support and contribute as much as I can to meet the FANHS mission & goals." It didn't take her long to join other Filipino organizations in the area and is currently a member of PAARP and FACSCI. She is also a founding member and an active volunteer for *MoveOn Philippines, Inc.*, a 501(c)

Karen Canoy continued on Page 5

Human Race

The Human Race is Sonoma County's largest community fundraiser sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County. FANHS of Sonoma County will be participating for the second consecutive year in May. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to continue our mission to preserve, share and educate the community about Filipino American history, specifically in Sonoma County. In particular we will be raising money to finish our documentary film, *Remembering Our*

Manongs and the accompanying book for this project. The race will take place on **Saturday, May 12, 2007** in Santa Rosa.

You can support us in a couple of ways:

1. Join our FANHS team — Delia Rapolla, Alicia Watson, Pat and Danny Romero, Flori Nowelsky, Liz Kausteklis, Karen Pennrich, and Priscilla Sharp, and walk or run in the Human Race. You can register to be a team member by going to: <http://www.volunteer.org/>

and clicking on the Human Race 2007 icon. Then search for the FANHS team link on the right side of the page; or

2. Become a pledge donor. Send your donation to FANHS Sonoma County, PO Box 6915, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Make your check payable to the Human Race and write "FANHS of Sonoma County" in the memo area of your check.

Your donation, which is tax deductible, will support this worthy cause. Thank you for your support!

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Filipino American National Historical Society
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Santa Rosa, CA 95406
Phone: 707.823.8715
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FANHS is a non-profit organization.

Remembering Our Manongs in Pictures

These photos are from the collection gathered to date by the FANHS Oral History Project team. Wherever possible, individuals in each photo have been identified. However, the names of some individuals, as designated by “??” below, have not yet been identified or confirmed by the project team. If you recognize any of them, please provide their names to any of the FANHS Board members listed on Page 6.



Legionarios del Trabajo local chapter, circa 1960s

Top Row (left to right): John Rosario, Joe Bernal, Joe Rivera, John Ganding, George Rosario, (??), Max Merlin, Bob Benes

Bottom Row (left to right): Gene Mendoza, Jim Jimenez, Manuel Toscano, Frank Mejos, Joe Boesa, Louis Galletto

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Katherine Baguio



Philippine American Women's Club participates in the Rose Parade, circa 1955

Fourth St. at Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, California

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Katherine Baguio

2007 Membership Meeting Schedule UPDATE!

FANHS membership meeting times have been changed! They will be held monthly, on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Sonoma County Volunteer Center, 151 Stony Point Circle, Suite 100, Santa Rosa.

Saturday, April 28
Saturday, May 26
Saturday, June 23

Saturday, July 28
Saturday, August 25
Saturday, September 29

Saturday, October 27

☞ Please note time change!

New FANHS Members

FANHS proudly announces the following new members who have joined our organization since January:

Jeannette and Carrol Anglin
Vera Galleto
Mary Gardaya

Judith Hatfield
Dave and Siony Lorange
Faye and Joel Mendoza

Elenita (Leny) Strobel
Alicia T. Vilorio
Dr. Carl Wong

Welcome to all—we look forward to working with you!

Thank You Supporters

FANHS Sonoma County extends sincere thanks and appreciation to the following supporters for their generous donations, received during the first quarter of this year:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| ☞ Sonoma County Office of Education | ☞ Delia & Joe Rapolla |
| ☞ Pilipino American Association of Rohnert Park | ☞ Priscilla Sharp |

Your generous contributions will help support our mission to preserve and share Filipino-American history.

Oral History Film Project Update

Assistance is still needed with interviews, filming, photo scanning, research, publicity, and more. Already into the second quarter of the year, a recent poll of the project team (Alicia, Josie, Delia, Pat, and Karen) indicates we have major catching up to do if we're to meet our projected year-end completion date. The good news is that progress *is* being made, albeit small steps at a time.

All team members are reviewing and logging tapes of the more than 20 interviews conducted in 2006—a

time-consuming effort. Pat and Alicia have created a shortened version of the *Remembering Our Mornings* preview; the three-minute trailer that will be included in a "funding presentation package" soon to be developed and presented to potential donor organizations. In addition, several pre-interview meetings have recently been completed, and more are scheduled with potential interviewees. In this process, new acquaintances are being made, and compelling stories are emerging.

Team members agree that the rewards of our work overwhelmingly offset the challenges.

Whether you're of Filipino ancestry, a history buff, or simply want to contribute to a worthy project, we need you. Any amount of time that can be contributed is welcome. For more information, or to sign up, please email or call Alicia, Project Lead, at avil@comcast.net or (925) 687-3423, or contact any Board member. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Fil Am Curriculum Conference

KAPWA: You and I are One Infusing Filipino and Filipino American Content in the Curriculum

On June 15 and 16, 2007, Sonoma State University will host a multicultural conference for K-12 educators. Academic materials and tools will be provided for teachers to successfully integrate Filipino American experience

into their K-12 classes. The conference includes an evening performance of Filipino dance and music, and a presentation by FANHS of Sonoma County. Keynote speaker is Father Alberto Alejo, Ateneo de Davao University, the Philippines. Topics include Filipino American Educational issues, Philippine history and culture,

colonialism and revolution, and Filipino American history.

To register for this conference, go to: www.sonoma.edu/projects/nbisp/ For additional information, contact Leny Strobel at 707.494.4967 or Miriam Hutchins at 707.664.2409.

FANHS Wish List

FANHS is in need of equipment and supplies to support its ongoing work on the Oral History Project and other educational and cultural endeavors. Donations of new or used equipment in good working condition, and the supplies listed below are welcome. All donations are tax deductible subject to IRS rules.

Equipment:

LCD Projector
Portable Photo/Document Scanner
Microcassette Tape Recorder
Laptop Computer with Windows 97
or later operating system

Supplies:

Printer Paper

Microcassette Tapes
Mini DV Tapes
Postage Stamps

Making donations of this type provides another opportunity for history buffs and FANHS supporters to contribute to our historical preservation work!

Upcoming Events

- Smithsonian Centennial Symposium, California Maritime Academy, Vallejo, May 5, 2007
- Sonoma County Volunteer Center Human Race, Santa Rosa, May 12, 2007
- National Museum Golf Tournament, Stockton, May 12, 2007
- Pacific Rim Festival, Sacramento, May 20, 2007
- Fil Am Curriculum Conference, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, June 15 & 16, 2007

Remembering Our Manongs – In the Words of Danny Cardona

In a recent interview with FANHS, long-time member of Sonoma County's Filipino Community Danny Cardona reminisced about his early experiences with the Sakada pioneers. (Sakadas are those workers who first migrated from the Philippines and other Asian countries to work on Hawaiian sugar and pineapple plantations in the early 1900s. Many Filipino Sakadas continued on to the mainland, where some ultimately settled in Sonoma County.)

It began when Danny first met Manong Joe Bernal and his fellow Sakadas in Healdsburg during the early 60's. Danny helped the manongs with their communications to those back home in the Philippines, and in return, they offered him their help in whatever ways they could. "And so when I was building a house in Windsor, they'd come around and they'd help me

also," recalls Danny.

"The Sakadas [had] a different way of custom and tradition. They [had] this community spirit and they always believed in hard work." Danny remembers the manongs' hard work in renovating the Filipino-American Community Center, and the pleasure they took in making it a place where they could gather and where all were welcome. He also admired the values that they lived by. "It [was] always their belief of the Golden Rule – that was their style ... don't do unto others what you don't want to be done unto you, and always try to help the community. I really admired their customs and traditions," Danny recalled.

"The Sakadas are the best people that I met here in the United States, even though they were so discriminated against at that time... I met a lot of Sakadas and they told me stories about their discriminatory adventures. At that time they couldn't even buy a piece of property, and then they couldn't even marry a white girl. That was the truth, they were discriminated [against]."

"they persevered, and together nurtured a rich community spirit that carried them through..."

And yet they persevered, and together nurtured a rich community spirit that carried them through in good times and bad.

More of Danny's recollections will be shared in the final cut of FANHS' "Remembering Our Manongs" documentary film.

Karen Canoy (continued) & Move-on Philippines, Inc

registered non-profit organization who raises funds, collects books and provides educational tools to poor school children of the Philippines. She has since invited fellow Filipinos to start volunteering for this worthwhile cause. Karen enjoys anything outdoorsy, dancing, travel, and photography. She is married to Steve O'Neal, a native of Santa Rosa.

MoveOn Philippines, Inc.

MoveOn Philippines is a nonprofit, charitable organization established in the United States whose mission is:

- To provide tools for improving the quality of education of poor

Filipino children in remote, poverty-stricken areas of the Philippines.



- To create partnerships among Filipino expatriates that provide

avenues for them to make a difference in the lives of native Filipino children.

Karen Canoy-O'Neal and others will be participating in the Human Race on May 12 in support of MoveOn. The volunteers and staff of MoveOn Philippines are unpaid; therefore, you can be assured that any donation you make will be used to pay for projects and not payrolls.

If you have questions, would like more information, or would like to support MoveOn Philippines, please e-mail:

info@MoveOnPhilippines.org

If you do not want to receive the newsletter, please let us know. Thank you.

FANHS Mission

The mission of the Filipino American National Historical Society shall be to promote understanding, education, enlightenment, appreciation, and enrichment through the gathering, identification, preservation, and dissemination of the history and culture of Filipino Americans in the United States.

United States

In 1763, Filipino seaman established a settlement in what is now known as Louisiana. The Spanish American War made American “nationals” of Filipinos and from the early 1900’s through 1935 they were free to enter the United States as long as they had the price of a boat ticket.

Waiting to be told are the stories of the descendants of those “Spanish

colonial” seamen, early workers in sugar plantations of Hawaii, men who served in the U.S. Navy since World War I, women who came in the 1920s and 1930s, ambitious and aspiring college students, young men who laboriously toiled in canneries in Alaska, farms in California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Montana, and the subsequent generations of Filipino-Americans whose stories are waiting to be told.

Sonoma County and California

Spanish galleons plied up and down the California coast in the early 1500s. The history of Filipinos in Sonoma County has a vital connection to the historical fact that two Filipinos landed in Mendocino County

on a ship commanded by Capitan Unamuno. The Filipino American Community established in the early 1900s in Sonoma County was a very diverse community influenced by many rich cultures, primarily Mexican and Native American. Today, most of the founders of the community, the manongs, have passed on, and their places in history are yet to be recorded. The subsequent stories of their children, grandchildren and newcomers must be recorded for historical purposes.

FANHS Sonoma County is undertaking the task of researching, chronicling, and publishing the history of the Filipino experience in Sonoma County. We hope you will join us in our endeavor.

FANHS Board of Directors



L-R: Delia Lanosa Rapolla, Flori Cabergas Nowelsky, Karen Mejia Pennrich, Josie Quimado, Patricia Vilorio Romero, Alicia Vilorio Watson

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Filipino American National Historical Society of Sonoma County FANHS SONOMA COUNTY

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & RATES — 2007

Annual Membership

Individual \$25.00
Full/part time student \$5.00
Senior (62+) \$5.00
Family* \$30.00

Decade

Individual \$100.00
Family* \$125.00

Life Time

Individual \$250.00
Family* \$275.00

*Family category includes "dependent children" living at home.

Membership Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

(Family membership, include names of children) _____

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Check here for permission to print contact information in Chapter Membership Directory

Area of Interest/Expertise (check all that apply):

Archival/Record Collection

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Writing/Newsletter

Oral/Written History

Videography

Research

Public Relations/Sponsorships

Lectures

Public Speaking

_____ Other interests

For our newsletter: Tell us why you decided to join FANHS _____

I am unable to participate as a member. Enclosed is a donation to support your efforts. \$ _____.

Please make checks payable to: FANHS Sonoma County

Office Use Only:

Amount Paid \$ _____ Type of Payment: Check Number _____ or Cash _____

Mail your membership application/donation to: FANHS Sonoma County, P.O. Box 6915, Santa Rosa CA 95406
or FAX to (707) 823-7322. Questions? Please call (707) 823-8715.

FANHS SONOMA COUNTY

Filipino American National Historical Society
P. O. Box 6915
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

Preserving the History