

BAYANIHAN TIMES

WINTER NEWSLETTER JULY 2009



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Early this year, Bayanihan members suggested a newsletter to provide communication updates to community groups and the public about our happenings in addition to the BACNI website. BACNI is trialling a newsletter to enhance our current communications by email, fax and phone- just call to let the Committee know ways the Network can help your own work in your local communities.

“Success is a journey, not a destination” - Arthur Ashe Jr.



The Network held its second AGM on 5 July 2009. Our heartfelt thanks to Guest Speakers Carmela Sison (Filipino media) and Dr Luigi Soccio (Department of Immigration & Citizenship, DIAC). I want to acknowledge and thank the founding Bayanihan Network members, community volunteers, private supporters and government departments for the faith in the Bayanihan vision. The Network members express their gratitude to the first BACNI Committee who worked very hard in setting up the operational infrastructure of BACNI in the right direction: Mila, Chito, Melissa, Susan, Lilia, Christine and Pio. We have been blessed with strong support coming from the City of Boroondara and *ourcommunity* for the

Leadership Development Program; to La Trobe University for the meeting rooms and the City of Melbourne for the City Village office. All our successes in this journey we owe to each of you.

The AGM Chairperson's 2008/09 report is attached and the 2008 and 2009 reports are on the website www.bayanihanaustralia.org for the public to download. The AGM Treasurer's reports as audited statements also on the website. Our thanks to Baltazar & Ren Accounting for auditing the BACNI financial records pro bono in the last two years.

We welcome and support the **BACNI Committee 2009-2011:**

Chairperson- Mila Cichello (chairperson@bayanihanaustralia.org) or fax (03) 9817 5288
Vice Chairperson- Norminda Villanueva (vicechair@bayanihanaustralia.org)
Secretary- Francesca Borghini (secretary@bayanihanaustralia.org)
Treasurer- Mertz Baera (treasurer@bayanihanaustralia.org)
Public Officer- Christine Noveloso (public@bayanihanaustralia.org)
BACNI Office Coordinator- Praveen Viswanathan (office@bayanihanaustralia.org)
Honorary Bookkeeper- Ruth Limueco
Web administrators- Pio Lavilla / Carmelle Lavilla
Legal Adviser – Vytas Valasinavicius

I want to note here that nearly all members of the Network are juggling a job, studies, elderly care, caring for *apos* and/or raising young families. Yet these members still give time to community work, as a supporting mentor or an elder leader, in building stronger partnerships among us and for the next generation of Filipino Australians. To these members- I applaud you and wish you more power!

Kind regards
Mila Cichello (Chairperson)



IMPORTANT NOTES:

BACNI Calendar of Events - the yearly Calendar remains a very good tool in planning community events. It avoids date clashes for organisations and enables us to take turns in supporting one another with different activities. May I remind the organisation contacts please to call, fax or email updates to the Committee so we can pass on to the Website administrators, to other BACNI members, to mainstream community and to the media.

FAFAG Health & Migration Rural Seminar (15 August 2009) – speakers from Barwon Health, a Geelong legal firm and from DIAC, see flyer attached. Filipino and non-Filipino rural women are welcome! Dr Luigi Soccio (DIAC) will give a visa update and answer questions.

BACNI Residential Retreat in Boronia (28- 30 August 2009) - this was suggested by the Committee last year and this first one will get us all together to meet up, share Filo foods, have fun and start strategic planning to year 2015 for the future Filo generations. The input from you will contribute to government submissions, grant applications for the community and the BACNI Strategic Plan. The cost of \$105 /person (accommodation, linen, food and drinks for Fri-Sun) is very reasonable and I encourage all BACNI members to attend. Any query, concern, problem with cost- please do not hesitate to email me or text on mobile 0408 800 288 (details on attached flyer)

BACNI Monthly meetings- the BACNI Committee tried meeting every two months this year and found that it slowed down our projects. We will therefore resume meeting on the first Tuesday/ month at 6 pm – 8 pm in City Village. Please try to attend all meetings as we make decisions at meetings: all we ask is you **invest 2 hours a month** in shaping the Filipino community's future in Australia.

Website development – thanks to Pio and Carmelle for taking on this challenge recently. We look forward to an easier site to browse. Keep the articles, photos, flyers and ideas coming!

3rd Pasko sa Nasyon Christmas Concert- date has been set for 12 December 2009 at Federation Square. Every year we have introduced something different and this year's theme is “Gen2Gen- generations together”.

Pasko 2009 Community CD Project- last year we had the Pilipino Parols Project where young people made parols by hand- what a hit they were! This year we have started discussions with community partners to make a Christmas CD of Filipino and English carols (see flyer on website).

The next months are busy for the Network members, as we have the 28th Anniversary Dance (**FAFAG, Geelong**) on 3 October 2009; the Annual **MISCI** Fundraising Dinner Dance on 17 October 2009, the AGM for **CPCA** tentatively for 23 October 2009 and PEASER with fortnightly seniors programs in Clarinda. Detailed flyers will be posted on the website or faxed to organisations with no access to email.

Finally, a reminder to Network members that the incorporation renewals have been mailed out by Consumer Affairs Victoria. Let the BACNI Committee know if you need help with AGM or other requirements. Mentors and other people with experience are here to help – just come to the office or call. For now – keep up the good work!

