

NEWSLETTER

Volume IV No. 2

December 1996

Balik-Bobonanons Treated To A Filipiniana Night

“A rewarding Experience”

This was how one Balik-Bobonanon described her trip back home. For those who joined Balik-Bobon last August, the occasion provided them not only a much-needed vacation but also the opportunity to be with their relatives and friends they have not seen for quite a while. They have witnessed once again the Bobon Town Fiesta which honored them with a Balik-Bobon Night on August 8. It was a night of folk dances, nipa huts, lechon, crabs, fish, pickles and sweets, and other Bobon delicacies.

Among those who took the trip were Terry Knoth, Fatima Carpina, Walter and Glo Emde, Inat Tobes and children, Dick and Epay Paredes and son Dustin, Ana Aquino, Cacoy and Paring Bongalos, Tanoy and Thelma Batiles, Mila Balite, Myrna Lapuz Hattar, Olan and Elsie Paredes, Ely Gorgonia, Dolores Caparal Chapman, Norma Madeja, Sayong Paredes, and Nelly Hill.

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Picture 1 Balik-Bobonanons during the Filipiniana Night

Fiesta '97 in San Francisco

How would you like to celebrate fiesta in the Bay area?

Lydee and Brian Hershey will be hosting the August 1997 fiesta. This will be the first time our fiesta will be held in Northern California and for those who would like to visit the City by the Bay, this will be a good

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Picture 2 Nelly Hill with Epay Paredes, Sayong Paredes, Fe Tagros, Inat Tobes and Tez Paredes doing the line dance...

A rewarding...

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The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the three participants in the search for the Most Popular Matron '96. Nelly Hill represented the Bobon-USA Residents Association, Leila Flores represented the Bobon-Manila Residents Association, and Lydia Paredes represented the Municipality of Bobon.

Lydia Paredes was chosen as the Most Popular Matron '96 for garnering the highest amount of cash votes cast for the evening.

The proclamation and coronation of the winners culminated the evening on the eve of the fiesta.

"It was a rewarding and fulfilling experience for me to have visited Bobon again and seeing many familiar faces, former classmates, former teachers, relatives and fellow Bobonanons. I had fun and wish I could have stayed longer.

The fiesta celebration is one of my many favorite events and this time, not only did I witness the event, but, I felt honored being asked to give the trophy to our representative, my dear, Egso Nelly, during the coronation night of the Most Popular Matron '96."

- Ely Gorgonia

Fiesta '97...

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opportunity for them. The affair will be held on August 23, 1997, in Antioch some 30 minutes away from the city of San Francisco. As a matter of practice, past fiestas have been celebrated on the Saturday closest to August 10. Lydee and Brian, however, requested that it be moved to August 23rd because they will be out of the country on the first two weeks of August.

As in previous celebrations, those who will not be able to bring food will be requested to donate \$10.00 per adult family member and \$5.00 per child. Donation will be a maximum of \$50.00 per family.

Bobonanons living in Northern California who have never attended this annual fiesta celebration can now have a chance to meet their kababayans.

More details of the affair will be provided in our next issue of the Newsletter.

Let's all mark our calendars and get ready to dance the Macarena!



Picture 3 Nelly Hill representing the Association escorted by Cacoy Bongalos

Diocese of Catarman
 Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish
 6401 Bobon, Northern Samar
 Philippines

7 October 1996

Mr. Butch E. Paredes
 President
 Bobon-USA Residents Association
 4912-6 Columbia Road
 Columbia, MD 21044
 USA

Dear Butch:

Peace and every good!

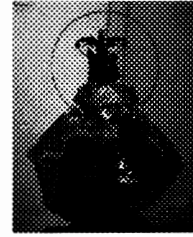
This is to thank you as President and all the Bobon USA Residents as members of the Association, for your generous and great donation of \$4,000.00 to our Church Bldg.. Renovation in our dear town of Bobon. I am cognizant of the love, generosity and sacrifices that went into it. I, therefore consider the whole donation as a sacrificial love gift to our project in reference on its way to completion.

Dick, your brother, handed me the donation a day before the canvass of votes for the Most Popular Matron 1996, August 7th. The committee urged me insistently to have the cheque cashed, since cheques are not honored as votes. But at the time Catarman banks could only offer P24.40 to a \$. So I told them we would be losing sacrificial money, when we could get as much as P25.80 to P26.16 to a \$ at Manila banks and money changers. After the fiesta, a week later, I settled for P25.80 to a \$ at RCBC-Catarman, it was only P25.40 at PNB. In Manila, it was P26.16 to a \$ plus travel expense and risks. In pesos, \$4,000.00 earned P103,200.00, against P94,000.00 had I settled for P24.40 just to have a show of cash votes. Our Bobon-USA candidate understood very easily. But I did not know how the committee felt. Plus the cash donations in \$\$ of our homecomers, I was able to deposit for the construction a total of P154,000.00....

I congratulate you, your staff and all those who worked with you and contributed to the realization of this large sum for our project. Please extend my love and high regards to one and all. With my every good wish and blessing.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Rev. Fr. James Rojo
 Parish Priest



This is where our donation went...



Miscellanews

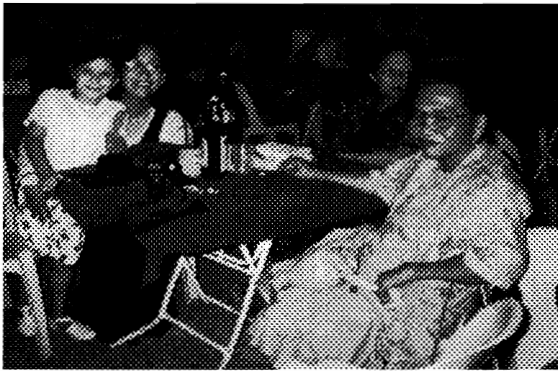
... Fr. Rojo thanked the Association for its \$4,000.00 donation. Full text of the letter is reprinted above.

... Nonong Abellar has remitted proceeds from his raffle ticket sales amounting to \$150.00. This brought the total proceeds from our Easter raffle to \$5,193.00.

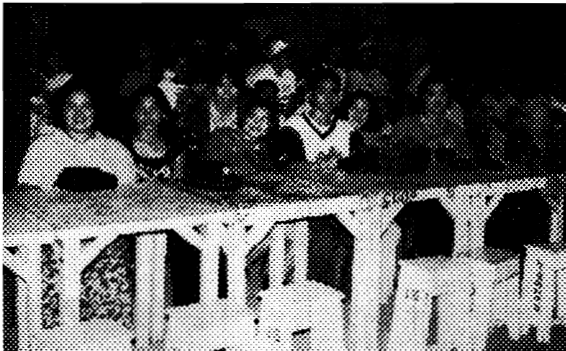
... Fiesta '98 will be hosted by Mrs. Rose Ford and her family. Preliminary plans indicate that it will be held somewhere in Southern California.

Malipayon nga Pasko
 Ug
 Mainuswagon nga Bag-o nga Tuig!

Balik-Bobonanons' snapshots...



Ely Gorgonia with her mom and other family members and friends...



Ana Aquino, Nelly Hill, Epay Paredes, Dustin Paredes, Tez Paredes, Myrna Hattar, Sayong Paredes and other Balik-Bobonanons during the Filipiniana night.

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Los Angeles, CA 90026

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