



AFF-ADB News

No. 34 | May 2009

The Newsletter of the Association of Former Employees of the Asian Development Bank



Updates



Chapter News

People, Places, and Passages



IN THIS ISSUE

MAY 2009

- 3 Bong-Suh Lee: the New AFE-ADB President
- 4 The Financial Crisis and Asia

5 AFE-ADB Updates

- 5 From the Executive Secretary
- 5 Editorial Note
- 6 AFE-ADB Website
- 6 By-Laws—New Voting
- 6 Bali Annual Meeting
- 8 Health Matters
- 8 Pension Matters
- 10 ADB Alumni Website
- 10 Philippine Retirement Visa

11 Chapter News

- 11 Australia
- 12 Canada: Toronto • Western Canada
- 13 Europe
- 15 India
- 16 Indonesia
- 17 Japan
- 18 Korea
- 19 Philippines
- 20 US: New York–New Jersey • Washington, DC

22 Continuing ADB Assets

- 22 The Conciliators
- 23 From Misfit to Mostfit
- 24 Opening Channels—Helping Hands

25 People, Places, and Passages

- 25 What's New—In Brief
- 26 Educating Women in Balochistan
- 28 Manila's Cultural Delights
- 28 A European Cultural Smorgasbord
- 29 International Outreach
- 30 L-Yoga
- 31 Stalking Wildlife—With a Lens
- 32 A Week in New Zealand
- 32 Winter to Spring
- 33 Time Swiftly Passes...
- 34 Sauerkraut and Hamburgers
- 35 Sailing Nicely Through Life

- 36 New Members
- 36 Senior Appointments in ADB
- 38 Obituaries
- 40 Announcements

OUR COVER



Bong-Suh Lee, AFE's new president
AFE photographer in Thailand
Gathering in Potsdam
Fun in Toronto

AFE-ADB News

Publisher: Hans-Juergen Springer

Editorial Board: Jill Gale de Villa (head), Gam de Armas, Stephen J. Banta, John Cole, David Parker, Hans-Juergen Springer

Graphic Assistance: Josephine J. Aquino

Photographs: ADB Archive, Arao Abe, Alan Burrell, Charles Currin, Gam de Armas, Jill Gale de Villa, Guillerma Dumalag, Elvie Estavillo, Gordon Fox, Ian Gill, Shahida Jaffrey, Keith Johnson, Cynthia Kaufman, Hi-Young Kim, John Ling, Ethel Luzario, Dimiyati Nangju, Gene Owens, Nida Rodrigo, SCF, Hans-Juergen Springer,

Fulfillment: Alexander Tarnoff, Carolyn Dedolph Cabrera, Vic Angeles, Anthony Victoria, Keech Hidalgo, Anna Juico, Gregg Garcia, and the ADB Publications and Printing Units

Distribution: Josephine J. Aquino, Andrea P. Carlos, Cesar Juan, Marilou P. Magalued, and Reymundo Navarro—ADB Communication Center

Note: Dates with authors indicate the years of service with ADB, or the year of leaving service.

Bong Suh Lee: the New AFE-ADB President

Mr Bong-Suh Lee, ADB vice-president during 1993–1998, was elected AFE president for a 4-year term starting on 16 February 2009. Mr Lee has a BS in finance from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD in economics from Harvard University.

He started his career as an economist at the World Bank. Before joining ADB in 1993, Mr Lee held a series of senior positions in the Korean government, culminating in his appointment as minister of energy and resources during 1988–1990 and as minister of trade and industry during 1990–1991.



AFE-ADB President Bong-Suh Lee and ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda

In 1993, he became vice-president for Projects at ADB. After ADB regionalized its operations, he became vice-president for Region West.

Since leaving ADB in 1998, Mr Lee has been chairman of several Korean enterprises.

AFE-ADB is most pleased to welcome Mr Bong-Suh Lee as our new president.

AFE-ADB President Bong-Suh Lee was in Manila on 26–28 March 2009 to pay a courtesy call on ADB President



Haruhiko Kuroda, and to meet with AFE officers Hans-Juergen Springer, Jill Gale de Villa, and David Parker to learn about AFE's current status and activities. In the meeting with Mr Kuroda, Mr Lee emphasized that pensioners as a group feel vulnerable, especially during the present economic downturn, and are looking to the ADB for reassurance that their pensions are safe. AFE hosted a cocktail reception that brought together ADB vice presidents, staff, and AFE members actively engaged in cooperation between ADB and AFE. Bindu Lohani, vice president for finance and administration, tendered a lunch in honor of AFE President Lee. Mr Lee also met with some AFE members and reconnected with the organization that he had served as a vice-president for 5 years.



C. Lawrence Greenwood, Bindu Lohani, Bong-Suh Lee, Xiaoyu Zhao, and Rajat Nag



Malou Magalued, Jo Aquino, David Parker, Hans-Juergen Springer, Bong-Suh Lee, and Jill Gale de Villa

The Financial Crisis and Asia:

President Kuroda speaks at the Asia Society CEO Forum

In November 2008, ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda spoke at the Asia Society CEO Forum in New York. His topic: The Financial Crisis and Asia—Short-Term Challenges, Long-Term Solutions.

He said the trouble that began in the United States in 2007 had now reached Asia. Fortunately, the region had learned well from the crisis of a decade ago. Governments had pursued sound macroeconomic policies, companies had strengthened balance sheets, and banks had reduced nonperforming loans. Most of the region's economies were fundamentally stable and massive foreign exchange reserves would help them withstand difficulties.

Nevertheless, the negative impact on regional growth could be pronounced. More than \$100 billion in foreign capital had flowed out of the region's top stock markets in 2008, market capitalization had plummeted, and currencies had tumbled. Both external and domestic demand would slow. ADB expected regional growth of gross domestic product in 2008 to be lower by around 1.5% at about 7.5%, with a further fall likely in 2009.

Mr Kuroda said the crisis had to be tackled at national, regional, and global levels. National policies had to focus on mitigating the impact of global problems, while providing safety nets for those most affected. Inflationary pressures were receding in the region owing to declining commodity prices and weakening demand. This and tighter financial conditions in some economies could provide room for maneuver. But higher food prices would likely add a significant burden on the poor.

He spoke of the need to strengthen crisis management frameworks, and said governments had to push banks to



introduce robust credit risk systems. ASEAN+3 countries¹ had agreed to upgrade their bilateral swap agreements into a more powerful \$80-billion fund, and ADB's recent study, *Emerging Asian Regionalism*, had proposed the creation of an "Asian Financial Stability Dialogue." Through this dialogue, countries could coordinate regulatory development and monitor financial vulnerabilities.

He said multilateral development banks had to ensure that Asia had sufficient access to finance for the fight against poverty. ADB could channel more resources to this, but it needed to increase its capital. A tiny investment by shareholders would translate into billions of dollars of additional assistance.

A global crisis, he said, required a global solution. Asia had to have a seat at the discussion table, especially given the savings Asia had parked in the advanced

economies. Asia was poised to take greater responsibility in addressing global challenges.

Mr Kuroda concluded by saying that he was confident Asia's leaders would deal with the crisis without losing sight of the need to continue to better the lives of their people. ADB would do everything within its mandate to help them. ■

¹ Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) plus the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea

The full speech is available at www.adb.org/Documents/Speeches/2008/ms2008084.asp.

AFE–ADB Updates

From the Executive Secretary

Hans-Juergen Springer (ADB 1972–2002)

The days in the office have been eventful, more than I expected them to be. The provisions in our by-laws for the election of officers have been changed. Mr Bong-Suh Lee, who has had a distinguished career in the Korean Government and ADB, became our fourth AFE–ADB president on 16 February 2009. We are looking forward to a fruitful working relationship with Bong-Suh Lee.



We sincerely regret that our distinguished AFE member, Mr Kimimasa Tarumizu, ADB president from 1989–1993, passed away on 21 February 2009. AFE expresses its sincere condolences to Mrs Tarumizu and family.

AFE's 2009 work program and budget based on an ADB subsidy of \$18,000 was endorsed by the Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMSD) and approved by the acting AFE president on 9 January 2009. Meetings on the AFE website were held with Gam de Armas and the website designer. The AFE website will be accessible by the time of the Bali AGM. Three committees—The AFE Editorial Board (for our *AFE-ADB News* and website), the AFE Health Insurance Committee, and the AFE Pension Council have been established and are up and running. The AFE Team of Hans-Juergen Springer, Jill Gale de Villa, and David Parker met with ADB's Staff Council to discuss topics of mutual interest, in particular health insurance and pensions. I also met with J. Shivakumar, president of the World Bank's retiree organization (the 1818 Society) during the European chapter's meeting in Potsdam in September 2008 to discuss matters concerning both organizations. We will continue the dialogue at a meeting of the Washington-based retiree organizations (World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and International Monetary Fund) in the spring of 2009. We are also beginning a dialogue with ADB management, select board members, and staff on matters

of importance to the Association. We have met with ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda, the US Executive Director Curtis Chin, BPMSD Director General Masayuki Tamagawa, and the two elected professional staff members on the ADB Pension committee—Francis Emmanuel and Barry Reid.

In my capacity as executive secretary I have attended the annual gatherings of the Australia, European, India, and Indonesia chapters and a gathering of staff of the ADB Thailand Resident Mission and former ADB staff in Thailand, expertly organized by Country Director J.P. Verbiest. At all these gatherings, questions were asked "Is our pension safe?" We hope that the assurance given by ADB Secretary Shyam Bajpai, Secretary of the ADB Pension Committee, in his memorandum of 7 October 2008 has contributed to reassure ADB pensioners about our "defined benefits" pension plan.

The ADB annual meeting in Bali on 2–5 May is drawing near, as is our AFE annual general meeting on 2 May. We hope to see you at the meeting and at the cocktail reception we are hosting in the evening of May 2.

Last but not least: M. Ikramullah Khan, AFE executive secretary emeritus, turned 83 on 20 February 2009. Happy birthday, Mr Khan!

With best wishes for 2009. ■

Editorial Note

Jill Gale de Villa (ADB 1993–2005),
for the Editorial Board

When we requested members to send in news of their activities, we hardly expected such varied, interesting, and inspiring submissions. The variety in this edition ranges widely from a spouse's quantum leap from housewife-cum-student to chancellor of a women's university; to former staff still serving ADB's needs; to an education-specialist-turned-photographer's images fit for National Geographic; to delightful travels, visits, and reunions with numerous members; to life passages achieved; and much more. Each story is unique and valuable. Thus, it is sometimes a bit painful to have to shorten to fit the space and the readership's expressed desire for concise pieces. Truly it is an honor to be able to prepare these submissions for publication.

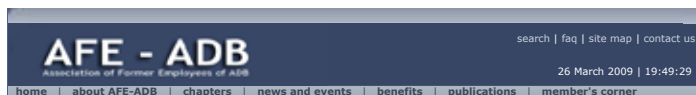
For icing on the cake, it is a great pleasure to work with such an experienced and congenial team in producing the magazine—four seasoned editors/journalists (including

Steve Banta, John Cole, and Gam de Armas)—plus David Parker and Hans-Juergen Springer.

We hope you enjoy this edition as much as we do.

We look forward to an equally interesting edition later this year and encourage you to send us news of your activities. ■

AFE-ADB Website



Gam de Armas (ADB 1981–2000)

To provide members a convenient way of getting in touch with one another and keeping abreast of AFE-ADB's activities and projects, chapter happenings, significant events in ADB, and changes and improvements in benefits, the AFE-ADB website was launched in April 2009. The website can be accessed by typing <http://afe-adb.org>.

As seen from the homepage, the website has 6 other main tabs.

- **"About AFE-ADB"** gives a short history of the association and its organizational structure. It includes a write-up and pictures of AFE's past and incumbent presidents and officers, and its articles of incorporation and by-laws.
- **"Chapters"** contains news and pictures of recent chapter events and postings on coming chapter happenings.
- **"News and events"** focuses on important news-worthy items related to AFE and to ADB.
- **"Benefits"** provides an update of the latest pension and benefits changes.
- **"Publications"** lists AFE publications and how they can be accessed. Initially, select articles published in the latest issue of AFE-ADB News will be available online. In the future, the complete newsletter and some past issues will also be available for viewing.
- **"Member's corner"** will provide interesting articles on AFE members as they enjoy life's challenges and opportunities "after ADB." It will have a forum corner where members may provide suggestions and discuss issues of common interest.

Additional facilities will be activated as information gathering is completed. Members are encouraged to share their suggestions and comments on the AFE website. ■

By-Laws— New Voting

David Parker (ADB 1976–2004)

In 2008, in light of the concern expressed by AFE members about the "negative voting system" that had been used for the elections for the executive secretary and the deputy executive secretary in accordance with Article VI of the AFE by-laws at the time, a review was undertaken to see if a more suitable positive voting system could be found. Four voting systems were considered. The review concluded that overall, instant runoff voting, also known as preferential voting, would be the most appropriate for AFE. Comments received from members indicated that they were much in favor of such a system being adopted. Accordingly, a suggested amendment to Article VI, incorporating the proposed instant runoff voting system, was circulated to members for voting, and was approved in January 2009. At the same time, members approved some proposed changes to Article IX, Section 5, to spell out in detail the actions to be taken for amending the AFE by-laws. ■

Bali Annual Meeting

Gam de Armas



The 23rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of AFE-ADB will be the first under the aegis of Hans-Juergen Springer, only the second executive secretary in AFE's history. Joining Hans are Jill Gale de Villa, deputy executive secretary, and David Parker, treasurer.

Country coordinators and other delegates to the AGM are expected to arrive on 1 May 2009, a day before the AGM at the Bali International Convention Center on 2 May 2009.

First on the list of official activities is the Country Coordinators' Meeting from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the Bandung Room. The meeting will be chaired by the executive secretary. Country coordinators will provide updates on their chapters. Other matters, including policies, will also be taken up.

The AFE-ADB AGM will follow, 2:00-5:00 PM at the Hibiscus and Frangipani Rooms. The executive secretary will report on AFE's activities and present recommendations that need general membership action. The treasurer will report on AFE's financial condition. Members are free to raise or discuss matters of general interest. The newly elected president of AFE-ADB, Bong-Suh Lee, former ADB vice-president (west), will chair the meeting. The AFE-ADB website will be launched officially.

Finally, the Cocktail Reception, 6:00-9:30 PM, at the Capsicum Restaurant, Westin Resort, will officially end the AGM and the day's activities. Organized on a cost-sharing basis, the reception will provide everyone the opportunity to meet old friends and former officemates in a relaxed atmosphere.

ADB's Annual Meeting. Meanwhile, the 42nd Annual Meeting of ADB's Board of Governors will be held at the same place, the Bali International Convention Centre (BICC), from Saturday to Tuesday, 2-5 May 2009. The opening session will take place on Monday morning, 4 May. Business sessions will take place in the afternoon, and the whole day of Tuesday, 5 May. Seminars and member country presentations will

be held from 2 to 5 May. The meeting will close at about 5:00 PM, Tuesday, 5 May.

Annual meetings are statutory occasions for governors of ADB member countries to provide guidance on ADB administrative, financial, and operational directions and are held in a member country in late April or early May.

This year, Indonesia will host the event, its second time in over 30 years. According to Sri Mulyani Indrawati, minister of finance of the Republic of Indonesia, the ADB Annual Meeting will be the most important international economic and development gathering in Indonesia in 2009. This meeting will afford member governments the opportunity to interact with ADB staff and the more than 3,000 people from across the globe who will attend, including finance and economic planning ministers, senior government officials, representatives of the multilateral development bank community, investment bankers, representatives of nongovernment organizations, and members of the media.

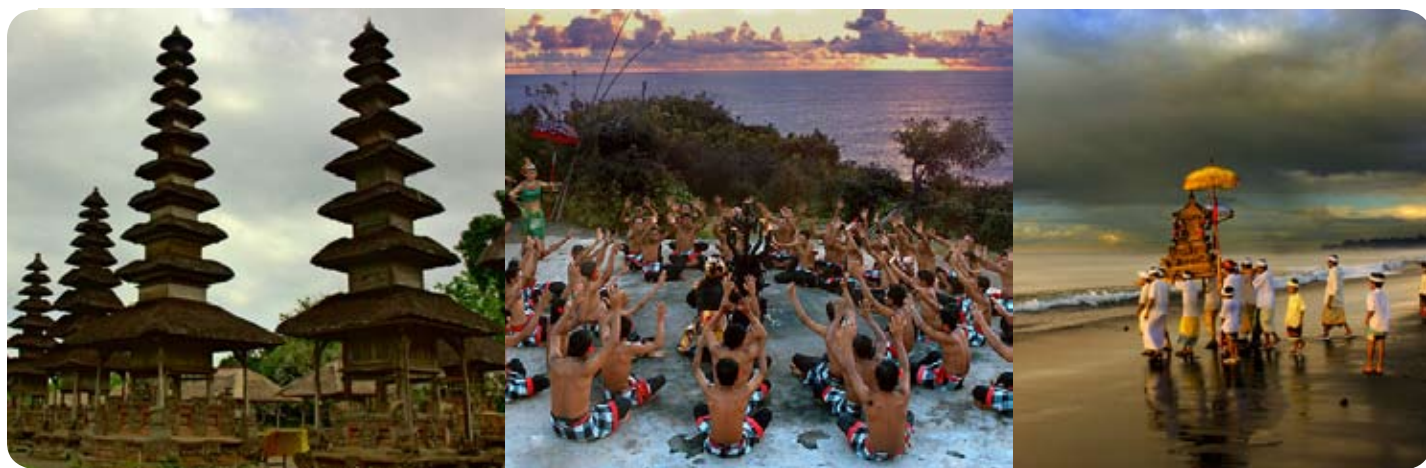
Accompanying Persons Program. Host-country activities for people who accompany participants in ADB's annual meeting.

Full Day Tours (3 May):

- Tour 1—The Beauty of Kintamani
- Tour 2—The Eastern Bali Mystic
- Tour 3—The Magic of Northern Bali

Half Day Tours (2, 3, 5 May 2009)

- Tour 4—Oleh-oleh (2, 3, 5 May)
- Tour 5—Mengwi, Alas Kedaton & Tanah Lot (2-5 May)
- Tour 6—South Orientation Trip (2-5 May) ■



Photos courtesy of the ADB Bali Annual Website

Health Matters

Jill Gale de Villa

AFE's Health Insurance Committee currently comprises Jill Gale de Villa (head), Lou de Belen, Ted Breckner, Fred Mesch, Evelyn Go, Hans-Juergen Springer, and Axel Weber.

Our goals are to keep members informed of health events affecting the membership; to liaise with ADB's compensation and benefits division, which has recently been renamed the Staff Development and Benefits Division (BPDB), on any pertinent matters; and to recommend to AFE-ADB any action needed.

Long-term care insurance. ADB's Cristina Keppler is working on a welcome ADB initiative—a proposal to make long-term care insurance available to staff, retirees, and their spouses. The insurance will serve as a savings program that allows the participant to pay in a defined amount monthly depending on your age and, when the need arises, become a beneficiary and receive a predetermined amount monthly. The monthly allowance to be paid out will be directly related to the amount signed up for and paid in. Eligibility for payout will be determined on medical grounds such as inability to dress, feed, and move about adequately to care for one's self. The payout will allow the insured to, for example, offset part or all of the cost of needed care. The program will not be subsidized by ADB, and will be part of an arrangement Vanbreda will be offering to several organizations.

Generics. Retirees in the US are taking good advantage of generics—which is helping to keep their bills and all our premiums down. However, retirees in some other countries are not following suit. We aren't sure why—but among the reasons may be failure of doctors to prescribe generics, failure of patients to ask the doctors to do so, and concerns about the effectivity of generics. In the Philippines, where we have many retirees, locally manufactured generics—for example by Unilab (carried by Mercury Drug) and other known drug makers—are of good quality and are well monitored by the government. Imported generics are not so well monitored. Thus, the local brands should be preferred. Retirees in other countries may wish to check with their physicians regarding recommended brands of generics.

Vanbreda insurance is secondary. If you have another medical insurance or a medical discount, the amount will be deducted first from the total bill before the insurer computes for its share of 75%—not vice versa. For instance, if you

have an operation that your national insurance covers, and it covers 80% of the cost, then Vanbreda will pay 75% of the balance, leaving the 25% as retiree share. Similarly, if you have a senior citizen discount of 20% then Vanbreda will compute for the plan's share of 75% based on the amount after deducting the 20% discount.

Claims are up. We don't know the breakdown yet, but claims were up about 25% last year, and this was not due to a few big cases. We can expect continued increases in our total claims, as the population of retirees increases vis-à-vis that of active staff. One way to mitigate the increase is to use generics. Another way is to get the best care we can, while being cognizant that the best care isn't always the most expensive care. We want the best care—but we don't want to overpay for it. If you know in advance you will need a medical procedure—check with your doctor and with Vanbreda. For example, if I need a new knee, I'll check to see if I can get the same quality in Bangkok as in California, but at a much lower cost. If you need to be hospitalized in the United States, let Vanbreda know a week in advance because Vanbreda may be able to arrange for direct billing, negotiate rates with the hospital or medical provider, and recommend a provider from their preferred provider organizations. If you don't let them know a week in advance or before you leave the hospital, the reimbursement will be lowered to 70% instead of the usual 75%. ■

Pension Matters

Hans-Juergen Springer

How Safe Are Our Pensions? This question is frequently being asked these days, understandably so, by many former ADB staff members whose livelihoods depend on their ADB pension. Therefore, I asked ADB's Compensation and Benefits Specialist Cristina Keppler to answer a few questions. In addition, the letter of 7 October 2008 that is from the Pension Committee's Secretary Shyam Bajpai, pertains to our pensions, and was sent to all participants in the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP), is reproduced here.

1. What is the basic document that sets out the arrangements for the SRP?

The SRP document with its 17 Articles is the basic document that deals with contributions, benefits, SRP administration, management of the Retirement Fund, and other matters. The most recent version of the document (October 2006) is available on-line at www.adbalumni.org. You may also request for a hard copy from the ADB Pension Unit. An



Memorandum Staff Retirement Plan

7 October 2008

All SRP Participants and Beneficiaries:

1. This is to inform our staff and retirees of the overall soundness and integrity of the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP) and the Discretionary Benefit (DB) plan in light of the recent turbulence in the financial markets. The SRP is a defined benefit plan which guarantees benefits that are not directly tied to the performance of the SRP assets whereas the DB plan has a guaranteed return which is also not linked to the performance of its assets.
2. The SRP's assets are diversified and have performed remarkably well in recent years under the close supervision of the Investment Committee. From 2003 through 2007, these assets have outperformed our investment benchmark including major indices. The average return has been over 15%. In comparison, the S&P 500 Index had an average return of less than 13% and the Lehman Aggregate US Bond Index returned 4.1% during the same time period. Although the 2008 returns are not expected to be as high, we are confident that over the long run the pension plan will, as in the past, meet and may even exceed our investment benchmarks.
3. The SRP and DB funds will continue to be managed in a prudent manner in accordance with accepted pension governance practices incorporating an appropriate level of risk through these volatile times. As long term investors of a well-diversified portfolio, we are confident that we will weather this period as we have in the past.

Sincerely yours,

SHYAM BAJPAI
Secretary
SRP Pension Committee

explanatory booklet on the SRP dated October 2007 is also available on-line and in hard copy.

2. How is the SRP managed?

The overall responsibility for the SRP rests with the Pension Committee. It has nine members and is chaired by the ADB President. Two ADB staff members, one representing the professional staff and the other representing the national officers and administrative staff, and a pensioners' representative nominated by AFE-ADB are members of the committee. The Investment Committee, appointed by the Pension Committee, directs the management and investment of the Retirement Fund. The Administration Committee, also appointed by the Pension Committee, is responsible for administering the SRP.

3. How are the investments of the Retirement Fund managed?

Nine fund managers are responsible for the Retirement Fund's equity and fixed income investments. Most of these assets are classified as long-term investments that are expected to produce high returns over the long term rather than short term. The ADB Investment Committee determines the investment guidelines for the fund managers. The guidelines include parameters for risk management, procedures for compliance, and exposure to equities.

4. Can I be sure that my pension will not be curtailed, especially in times of a financial crisis?

Yes. The SRP is a defined benefit plan (as opposed to a defined contribution plan). This means that ADB guarantees

your pension benefits. Article 7, Section 7.2 (a) clearly states that ADB will contribute the part of the cost and expenses of the Plan not provided by the contributions of the participants and income on the Retirement Fund.

5. How much does ADB contribute?

As recommended by the Pension Committee based on the actuarial valuation report, ADB has contributed 16% of active staff's remuneration in recent years. For 2007 and 2008, ADB made additional contributions to increase the contribution rate to 24% and 28%, respectively. For 2009, the budgeted contribution rate was increased to 19% of active staff's remuneration.

6. How has the Retirement Fund performed for the last few years?

The value of the SRP Fund investment follows generally the conditions in the world's major financial markets. During the difficult environment of the IT crisis in 2001–2002, investment returns were negative. However, as in previous market downturns, the Retirement Fund recovered and posted double-digit returns in 4 of the 5 years, 2003–2007. Market performance has now deteriorated to an unprecedented extent. The Retirement Fund's investment policy aims to maximize long-term returns on the fund's investment. Thus, it is expected to produce positive returns when economic conditions improve.

The AFE-ADB Pension Council. These and other questions are being posed by AFE's new pension council. The council is headed by Ivan Zimonyi and includes Brahm Prakash, David Parker, Filo Pante, Fred Pascual, Graham Walter, Jan van Heeswijk, Jill Gale de Villa, Randy Earman, Rene Limjoco, and Tony Quila. The council is holding a series of meetings with BPMSD representatives to gain better understanding of the status of the pension fund and the actuarial reports on the fund. ■

What's in a Logo?

More than we thought. A new logo is still being worked up. ■

ADB Alumni Website

Hans-Juergen Springer

ADB's Office of Information Systems Technology (OIST) and BPMSD have an e-mail forwarding and communication system for all former staff. The website, www.adbalumni.org, was launched in October 2004 and is a very useful means to access important information on, among other things, pensions and health insurance. For example, all pensioners with an e-mail address on record with BPMSD can now access their monthly pay slips and the annual report of the Staff Retirement Plan.

To use this website, you input your "user name" and "password," both of which were sent to you when the website was established. If you have misplaced or forgotten that message, you can retrieve it by sending an e-mail to alumniadmin@adb.org, and your username and password will be sent to you by return email. ■



Philippine Retirement Visa

Hans-Juergen Springer

The Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA) has reduced the deposit requirements for "current and former staff of international organizations recognized by DFA (i.e., Department of Foreign Affairs) including ADB." What used to be a hefty sum of \$50,000 to obtain the Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRV) is now only \$1,500. This amount has to be deposited with one of the PRA-accredited local banks.

In return, PRA provides an unlimited resident visa for the applicant, spouse, and dependents. Applications can be online or in person at PRA's Manila Office, 29th Floor, Citibank Tower, Makati City. Check details on PRA's website www.pra.gov.ph. Staff who previously paid a higher amount are not entitled to the current lower amount. ■

Chapter News

Australia

John Ling (ADB 1973–1995)

The Australian chapter held another successful reunion and annual meeting on 12–15 October 2008, this time at Warburton, a beautiful rural setting in the Dandenong Mountain ranges, some 70 kilometers east of Melbourne. The venue was the Yarra Valley Grange Country Retreat on the upper reaches of the Yarra River, a pristine, swift moving river with prolific avian life that provided a nonstop symphony of bird calls through the day. The 39 participants came from several Australian states, New Zealand, and Manila.

The activities commenced on the 12th with a “meet and greet” gathering to welcome returnees and new members and reflected on our activities.

Annual Meeting. On the 13th, Chairman Peter Carroll called the attendees to order and extended a very warm welcome to Sin Yan and Mrs Tay, Ron and Vida Skeates, Ken and Rosalie Waller, Amar and Colleen Hinduja, Mr and Mrs Narayanasuwami, Joe and Margaret Rajaratnam,

Andrew and Anne Proctor, Alex and Lynne Gordevich, John and Beth Thorp, Con and Helen Pappas, Willy and Nolleen Lim, Abbas and Pat Talib, Peter and Jill Thomas, Chân Carroll, Bob Byrnes, Alicia Maclan, John Ling (secretary–treasurer of the Australian Chapter), AFE Executive Secretary Hans-Juergen Springer and Treasurer David Parker, and Colin Pratt and Ron and Leith Hamilton from New Zealand.

Peter Carroll reported on the year’s events, including the election of Hans-Juergen Springer as the new executive secretary and Jill Gale de Villa as deputy. Peter reported that

- he had initiated correspondence highlighting the Australian dissatisfaction with the negative voting system;
- Queenslanders Phil and Sue Young held a very successful BBQ-picnic at their Brisbane residence, with 18 attendees enjoying good fellowship and fun; and
- ADB’s 41st Annual Meeting in Madrid, in May 2008, was a wonderful opportunity to meet with former colleagues and raise issues (including pensions, the AFE budget and related finances, medical insurance, life insurance, underuse of the ADB Alumni Portal, and the need for members to keep the AFE office in Manila informed of their current addresses).



The Australian chapter expressed its appreciation to Mr Khan, the previous executive secretary, for his efforts in setting up and maintaining the AFE over the past 22 years, and noted with sadness the deaths of former President Tadao Chino and Hospice Coronado.

Peter concluded by extending his gratitude to John Thorp and his wife Beth Hilton-Thorpe for the superb effort they had put into selecting the venue for this reunion and arranging the tour of wineries and the dinner.

Elections. For 2008/09, Peter Carroll was re-elected as country coordinator and John Ling as secretary and treasurer. State representatives are Con Pappas and Alex Gordevich (New South Wales); Phil Young, Neil Collier, and Pat Talib (Queensland); and John Thorp (other states).

From HQ. Hans-Juergen Springer addressed the meeting, explaining the AFE work plan's initial focus on forming a strong working executive, dedicated to teamwork, regular meetings, communications, and sound administrative infrastructure support, and commenting briefly on pension, health insurance, life insurance, web site for AFE, and the ID system for retirees. David Parker discussed finances, including subsidies for chapter activities, as well as options for a new voting system.

Wining, Golfing, and Dining. Following the meeting, attendees toured three wineries capped by a gourmet meal and followed, on the 14th, by the Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Tournament, with Anne Proctor, Willy Lim, and John Thorp the champions. The festivities were capped by a formal dinner and then a farewell breakfast on the morning of the 15th. ■

Canada: Toronto

Rodney Tucay & Nida Rodrigo (ADB 1976)

The snow and winter chill on 29 December 2007 did not stop former colleagues and families from renewing friendship over a sumptuous Chinese buffet lunch replete with festivity, exchanges, and laughter, which continued a full 3 hours.

Toronto is blessed with five husband and wife teams: Rey and Ellen Ballares, Ernie and Leah Flores, Jun and Malou Trasporto, Mike and Tina Sanchez, and Leo and Celine Abada.

Visitors in 2008 included New Yorkers Nena Villena and daughter and Mila Simolde in August (visiting Linda Trabulsi); and Lea Gojo, and Nes and Rose Diasanta of Manila in November (visiting Ernie and Leah Flores), duly secured by Roger Viernes, formerly of ADB's security unit.

During summer we had a BBQ-picnic at Paz Ravadilla's home, from mid-afternoon to almost midnight.

The year-round agenda was always reconnecting, sharing happy memories, and enjoying good food.

Ernie and Leah hosted the big bang to celebrate Christmas and welcome 2009 on December 27. Out-of-town guests included Dr Rodney Tucay, (Medical Clinic) of Ohio, an honorary member of AFE-ADB Toronto, Lourdes Marzan of Washington DC, and Nes Diasanta and wife Rose of Manila.

Three wise men and a princess from the east came in their regalia. Coach Jun Trasporto (alias Abdul of Qatar bowling team) came in regal thawb and ghutra. Rodney Tucay wore a fur coat and Russian fur cap with red star and sported a Dr Zhivago moustache/beard. Rey Ballares was a Japanese



samurai sans armor and sword. Nida Rodrigo was modest with a shawl covering her hair and looked like a mid-eastern princess.

After the sumptuous feast prepared by US-trained Master Chef Ernie, the group spent the night in games, ADB trivia (business and technical), and a Toronto Idol Sing and Dance contest—yes, ADB Toronto can sing!

ADB trivia did elicit protest from those who left ADB during the IBM selectric era and had not heard of the Office of Computer Services! Singing idols in pairs drew lots from the list of old tunes, and hit the notes with gusto. With all inhibitions gone, everyone impatiently waited to grab the mike to sing ala Celine, Elvis, or Madonna.

Past 1:00 AM, we parted with hugs, kisses, and warm greetings and nonstop camera clicks and flashes. We all felt again the kinship and camaraderie, and were thankful that we once worked and lived under the ADB roofs at Roxas Boulevard and Ortigas. ■



Nida Rodrigo, Jun Trasporto, Rodney Tucay and Rey Ballares

Canada: Western Canada

John Cole (ADB 1983–2004)

The Western Canada chapter held its annual reunion on 8 November at the Arbutus Ridge Golf Club on Vancouver Island. This is the “home” club of both Alex and Laura Jorgensen and Dick and Lesley Gold, which ensured friendly service and excellent food. Other participants were Bev Bauche, Karol Charleson, Anne Porter, Ed and Jane Hourihan, Bill and Christine Fraser (and daughter Christina), John Kuiper, Richard Marshall and Sharon Broadley, and John and Lynne Cole. Coordinator John

Cole talked a little about AFE–ADB matters, and there was a general expression of (1) thanks to recently retired Executive Secretary Khan for his many years of service, and (2) goodwill toward the new AFE management team. A musical quiz with an historical twist, presented by John Cole, tormented the crowd for a while, but the evening was mostly devoted to renewing friendships, enjoying each others’ company, and reminiscing. Next year’s reunion will be held in Vancouver. ■

Europe: Potsdam Weekend

Hans-Juergen Springer

The Potsdam experience. They came for a carefree weekend to the town of Potsdam, these 45 AFE members and partners.

Located just to the southwest of Berlin, Potsdam was the garrison town of the Prussian kings. It attracted great minds like Voltaire, who lived in Sanssouci Palace on the invitation of his friend Frederick the Great. The scientist Albert Einstein lived in the nearby village of Caputh; he liked the orderly town nestled between woods and crisscrossed by rivers, lakes, and canals. In the 1920s and 1930s, Potsdam was a major center of the film industry. Since the reunification of Germany in 1990, Potsdam has again attracted people who like its sober, old-world charm, including creative designers such as Wolfgang Joop and scientists working in the newly-established university and the science park.

The ex-ADBers gathered here on 5–7 September at the invitation of Peter and Marilies von Brevern, recent migrants to Potsdam. Fascinated by its splendid past and its current vibrancy, they came not just to have fun but—as Ahn, wife of Philippe Benedic put it—“to touch base with good friends and reconnect with ex-colleagues, and to walk around sanssouci—carefree—in this our age of retirement.”

The gathering started with an informal dinner in Hotel Travel Charme, where most of us stayed. The hotel is located right across from Hunters Gate, one of several that access the 1,000 year-old town. After the usual hellos and how-are-yous, everyone sat down to a delicious meal of salmon on spinach with herb-flavored risotto and saffron sauce. German white wines and Potsdam beers added to the high spirits.

Saturday morning started with a tour of the park and palace of Frederick’s Sanssouci summer residence. The whimsical name was chosen by Frederick the Great under whose supervision the rococo palace was built in the 1740s. Frederick’s antechamber, library, bedchamber, private study,

and all 300 odd rooms still stand in rococo splendor with paintings, mirrors, antique furniture, and stucco adornments everywhere.

After all that history we needed to unwind, and had a brief lunch, then a water tour of the lakes and rivers surrounding Potsdam. Unfortunately, the weather god required umbrellas to open midway, but that did not dampen our spirits.

The day concluded with a sumptuous dinner, showing off the best of today's German cuisine at Hotel Bayerisches Haus, a former hunting lodge in the woods, built by King Frederick-William IV in 1841.

Over dessert, host Peter von Brevern delighted his guests with an inspired speech.

On the Sunday morning, members held their annual business meeting while the spouses took a walking (or was it shopping?) tour through the Dutch Quarter. The typical Dutch redbrick buildings, built during the 1740s, were erected to house "guest workers" from Holland. Today, the Dutch Quarter is a fashionable area for shopping, dining, or just having coffee and cake at La Maison du Chocolat. Members and spouses reported successful outcomes to their morning's work.

The gathering concluded on Sunday afternoon at the von Breverns' spacious, artistically decorated 19th century villa. The villa has extra large rooms and high ceilings. Sipping kaffee on the balcony overlooking a quiet tree-lined street of similar alt-bau villas and eating delicious kuchen, everyone enthusiastically thanked Peter and Marilies for an expertly-arranged program and for their gracious hospitality.

Most of the participants then went their own ways, back to Austria, Canada, France, Luxemburg, Switzerland, and

the United States, already looking forward to the next reunion in Bremen on 4-7 September 2009. But a few wanted to see more and so the executive secretary, a Berliner, led a walking and bus tour of Berlin proper.

Among the highlights: the Brandenburg Gate, where in 1987 President Reagan called on General Secretary Gorbachev to tear down the wall and open the gate; the Holocaust Memorial of 2,711



Participants of the Potsdam Weekend Get-Together

steles; the newly-opened glass-domed Reichstag; and of course remnants of the Berlin wall where streetwise operators wearing the uniforms of the old German Democratic Republic's police offer visa stamps to the now defunct country.

See you in Bremen!

Highlights of Peter von Brevern's welcome remarks Peter von Brevern (ADB 1997)

Potsdam, with its palaces, parks, and lakes, deserves its status as a World Heritage Site. The island has become a paradise—this was the wish of the first ruler, the Great Elector, one of the many Fredericks and Frederick Williams you have to deal with when you wish to get to know Potsdam, for its history is the history of the Prussian kings, the Hohenzollerns.

When you visit Sanssouci park and castle, you will see that the royal dream of paradise was not too farfetched. Its founder was the philosopher, poet, composer, and architect King Frederick the Great, but it was his father—the "soldier" king—who made Potsdam a garrison town. He would I am sure have drafted me into his personal guard for he was especially fond of Lange Kerls or tall fellows, whom he recruited from all over Europe. The minimum height was 1.88 meters. I am 1.98 m and, wearing the red hat of the king's guard, I would have reached a terrifying 2.29 m. Two colleagues and I would have been billeted with a family in town. Oh those uncomfortable



German Democratic Republic's "police officer" giving visa stamps to Alain Dick

nights with snoring comrades and beds designed for dolls.

ADB President Fujioka too was interested in tall fellows. He kept a list of tall staff members in his drawer. He once asked me: "Who is the tallest in the Bank, Peter Riha or you?" I immediately asked myself: Is he an admirer of the soldiers' king and is he planning to surround himself with a personal guard of tall staff members?

The conversion of Potsdam and its surroundings into the Prussian Arcadia owes itself to Frederick William IV, our invisible host at the Bayrisches Haus. As a hobby architect he turned Potsdam into a piece of Italy, for the Italian touch is almost always present in his designs. This gifted king went mad. His place was taken by his brother, who became our first emperor, William I. It was in Potsdam in 1914 that his grandson, William II, also a grandson of Queen Victoria of England, declared the opening of WW I. Also in Potsdam, in 1933, Hitler, newly installed as Chancellor, declared he was "peace-loving." In 1945, four days before the end of WW II, Potsdam's historic center was almost totally destroyed; later, during communist rule, the remains were dynamited. (There are plans to resurrect the buildings.) Here, too, in 1945 the victors met to determine the post-war order for Germany and Eastern Europe.

When you leave Potsdam, you cross Glienicke Bridge, which marks the border with Berlin. At the center of the bridge, the Iron Curtain divided East and West, and people were exchanged during the Cold War. But I want you rather to remember a day in October 1989, when Potsdam's citizens were rushing across it to West Berlin after the fall of the Wall.

I am sure you are enjoying your excursion. My wife and I are sparing you the experience of strict Prussian frugality and military discipline; instead we are hoping to create a favorable impression of a place we have learned to love. ■

India

Barin Ganguli (ADB 1979–1995)

The India chapter held its 16th meeting in Bihar in January. The meeting was hosted by Jwala Pradhan, ably assisted by his wife Rama and their family.

We arrived in Patna, the capital of Bihar, from all over India: Ramdass and Indra, Shipra and I, Indra Jerath, Shobha and Sant Juneja, Savi and Devinder from Delhi; Laxmi, Srin, and Pammu from Bangalore; Sharad from Mumbai; Sheela, Malti, Rajani, and Krishna, and Madhav and Sujata Godbole from Pune; Debu and Krishna from Kolkata. And we were joined by Hans-Juergen and Elizabeth from Manila. We toured the city and had a wonderful lunch at the home of Pradhan's

daughter Meera and son-in-law Girja. More touring in the afternoon was followed by another fabulous meal, this time at Rama and Pradhan's. It was accompanied by a cultural program and singing by their son Ajit.

The next day we travelled to Bodhgaya, 110 km from Patna. After lunch we visited Mahabodhi Mahavihara, the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage palace in the world and a World Heritage Site. We were accompanied by the secretary of the Temple Management Committee and were presented with gifts by the district collector of Gaya. In the evening, a young group entertained us with a play depicting the political realities of Bihar.

In the morning, we set off for Rajgir by bus. Our first stop was at the Vishnupad Temple, a Hindu shrine where Vishnu alighted on earth. Then it was on to Vishwa Shanti Stupa, which is reached by ropeway (with bucket chairs with a sling and a pulley). The stupa was opened in 1959 and benefited from donations from the Japanese and Indian governments.

The chapter meeting was held that evening at the Indo Hokke Hotel. Ramdass, the chapter president, opened the meeting and I handled the business portion. The ensuing social evening was very entertaining, with singing and speeches.





Urvashi and Abhiram

On the return journey to Patna we visited the ruins of Nalanda, the first residential international university in the world, which is being excavated. I imagined I could see candle lights in the hostel rooms and hear the voices of young scholars in the lecture halls and the sound of gongs announcing prayers.

After lunch at the ever-generous Pradhan and Rama's home (we were 25 in number), Pradhan took some of us to the Jeevak Heart Hospital he had established with one of his friends and Pradhan's son Ajit, a heart surgeon.

After the Bihar visit some of us attended the "ADB" wedding in Kolkata of Tilak and Mala Sen's daughter Urvashi with Abhiram, the son of Rajendran and Shobhana. We met many of our former colleagues still working in ADB. It was a grand get-together and a lovely conclusion to a great January for us all. ■

Indonesia

Dimtayi Nangju (ADB 1978–2001)

Officers. At the Annual General Meeting on 9 December 2007, the Indonesian chapter elected the following officers



Front row: Roslaini Rasuman, Tuti Kaswadi, Ibu Soegito, Lestari Pakpahan, Anna Soerakoesoemah, Chaya Soeksmono, Emmy Gunadi, and Nora Nangju. Second row: Bistok Sitorus, Ms. Soegito, Mia Costing, M.M. Soerakoesoemah, Soegito Sastromidjojo, Soekmono Martokoesoemo, Nadia Idris, Dimyati Nangju, and Edi Kaswadi. Third row: Adiwarmen Idris, Hans-Juergen Springer, Ida Ponteves, Margono Halimoen, Normin Pakpahan, Michel Ponteves, Jean-Marie Lacombe, and Eddie Gunadi

for 2008–2011: Dimyati Nangju, country coordinator; Roslaini Rasuman, deputy country coordinator; and Sonya Rahardjo, treasurer.

Meetings. To discuss business and promote close relationships among members, the Indonesian chapter organized social and/or business meetings several times during the year.

- two most enjoyable social meetings (one on 15 March 2008 at the vacation house of Mr and Mrs Margono Halimoen in Depok, South Jakarta; and the second on 15 June 2008 at the vacation house of Mr and Mrs Soegito Sastromidjojo in Gadok, near Ciawi and Bogor);
- two social-cum-business meetings (one on 10 August 2008 at the Rasumans' house in Jakarta—discussions included the preparations of the Annual General Meeting and the visit of the AFE-ADB executive secretary—and a second on 8 November 2008 at the house of Mr and Mrs M. Soerakoesoemah in Bandung, West Java); and
- the Annual General Meeting on 14 December 2008 at Sate Khas Senayan Restaurant in Menteng, Central Jakarta, with Hans-Juergen Springer, AFE's executive secretary, attending.

Membership. In 2007, the Indonesian chapter had 38 members, about 90% of them living in Jakarta and the surrounding areas and the rest in Bandung, Denpasar, and Banjarmasin. Most members are former ADB staff from the headquarters; a few are former staff of the Indonesia Resident Mission. Five are foreigners who live in Jakarta. Only 24 members (63%) were considered "active" (i.e., participated in the activities organized by the chapter). During 2008, the chapter lost three members—Vladimir Bohun and Pin Yathay completed their assignments in Indonesia, and Burhom Natapermadi, the oldest retiree in our chapter, passed away in October.

Finances. The chapter's total income for 2008 amounted to Rp4,698,954 comprising dues (Rp1,950,000) and the ADB subsidy of \$300. The total expenditure was Rp3,866,239. The balance of our fund as of 14 December 2008 is Rp8,737,715.

Major Issues. The primary matters at hand pertain to the new team at the AFE helm and the 2009 Annual General Meeting in Bali. Many members

have high expectations that the new team will improve AFE's performance. Major problems confronting the association are (1) poor participation of the members in the election process, in the discussion of problems affecting the association, and at the ADB Annual Meeting; (2) increasing cost of medical treatment, which has threatened the viability of medical insurance provided by Vanbreda International; and (3) AFE's heavy dependence on an ADB subsidy to finance its operations while funds contributed by members are accumulating and not being used for the benefit of the Association. The Indonesian chapter stands ready to assist Mr Springer and Ms de Villa to solve these problems.

In the past, only a few members of the Indonesian chapter have attended the ADB Annual Meetings. However, given that the next ADB Annual Meeting will be held in our country, all chapter members are encouraged to participate in the AFE activities.

Future Plans. The Indonesian chapter will continue its program by holding several social-cum-business meetings and an annual general meeting in December 2009 and will participate actively in the Annual General Meeting in Bali. ■

Japan: Barrio Fiesta

Eiji Kobayashi (ADB 1968–1994)

The annual Barrio Fiesta gathering was held at the Palace Hotel in Tokyo on 11 January 2009. This is a group of retirees honoring former President Taroichi Yoshida. Altogether 52 former colleagues and spouses attended.

President and Mrs Yoshida were happy to see the members exchanging new year greetings. President Yoshida said that though all present are aging, they remain reasonably fit. He is now 90, but is still healthy and drives around his neighborhood daily.

Mr Harushisa Segawa proposed a toast, wishing a happy new year for everybody, followed by a buffet lunch. Four members were then asked to speak: Dr Kunio Takase described his involvement in agricultural development in Africa, I provided information on current AFE–ADB activities, Mr Akio Sato explained the current and forthcoming agenda at the

National Diet sessions, and Mr Shigemitsu Sugisaki discussed the international financial outlook based on his experience at the International Monetary Fund.

Thanks to Messrs Arao Abe, Takashi Kobayashi, and Masaaki Kushida, this year's organizers, the lively gathering was successful. Mr Kobayashi, the Palace Hotel's president, said this will be the last meeting at the current hotel because it will be demolished. He expects to welcome the Barrio meeting again after the 3-year reconstruction project is finished.

Tokyo weather was favorable, as usual, for our Barrio Fiesta, though a bit crisp in the middle of winter. The attendees were impressed with the greenery of the Imperial Palace, just a stone's throw away.

This is one of the three annual gatherings of Japanese retirees. The other two are with former President Kimimasa Tarumizu, scheduled for March, and with former President Masao Fujioka, for May. The Japan Chapter's members are always pleased to see each other on such occasions to talk about their Manila days and current activities. ■



Front row: (from left to right): Mrs Sugisaki, Mr and Mrs Yukinori Watanabe, Mr and Mrs Kunio Takase, Mr Haruhisa Segawa, Mr and Mrs Taroichi Yoshida, Mrs Segawa, Mr and Mrs Isao Kanamoto, Mrs Yasunaga, Mrs Shoji Takahashi and Miss Reiko Takahashi; 2nd row: Mrs T. Kobayashi, Mrs Kariya, Mrs Sunagawa, Mrs Furuki, Mrs E. Watanabe, Mr Shigemitsu Sugisaki, Mr Kouichi Morizono, Mrs Sato, Mrs Morizono, Mrs Fuse, Mrs Fujimoto, Mrs Hida, Mrs Yoshitomi, Mrs Shibuya, and Mrs Nakagawa; 3rd row: Mr Arao Abe, Mr Masaaki Kushida, Mr Takashi Kobayashi, Mr Makoto Sunagawa, Mr Eiichi Watanabe, Mr Akio Sato, Mr Takeshi Shibuya, Mr Yasuhide Nakagawa, Mr Eiji Kobayashi, Mr Masataka Yoshitomi and Mr Hideki Abe; 4th row: Mr Motomu Kariya, Mr Tomohiro Ishiguro, Mr Kazuhisa Matsuoka, Mr Hirosumi Takahashi, Mr Fumio Yasunaga, Mr Shoji Takahashi

Korea

Hi-Young Kim (ADB 1977–1991)

During 2008, the AFE-ADB Korea chapter continued to make big strides in attaining its objectives—strengthening cohesiveness and friendly relations among its members, fostering cooperation and assistance among them, and providing AFE’s executive secretary with advice and service to help make the association more effective and productive for its members and more useful to ADB.

As of 4 December 2008, the chapter had 62 members, versus 63 in December 2007. The number of associate members, who worked in ADB for about 1 year as in-service staff, remains at 18. Thus our membership size remained virtually unchanged in 2008.

I am proud to note that over 90% of our members remain active. Many hold top positions in the government, banks, and private enterprises. Several are professors, lecturing in English at high-ranking universities in Korea. Several members are international consultants and/or entrepreneurs.

Our chapter holds a luncheon on the second Thursday of each month except December. Attendance at the lunches averages 10 members who renew fellowship, exchange views on issues and events of common interest and concerns including matters relevant to AFE, discuss ways to promote mutual assistance and cooperation, and so on.

During the year, we also gathered for marriage and funeral ceremonies of close dependents of our members, exhibitions of art works and others, golf, group travel within and outside the country, and so forth.

The chapter’s major event is our Annual Meeting, held in combination with our year-end party. This year the meeting was held on 4 December 2008 at the Grand Hyatt Seoul, with 34 members participating. At the meeting, AFE Korea chapter members reviewed achievements and major issues and tasks to be resolved by AFE. The members then resolved to request me, on behalf of our chapter, to

- extend heartfelt and sincere appreciation to Mr M. Ikramullah Khan for the altruistic devotion, willingness to render service above self, and strong leadership with which he founded AFE in 1986 and played the crucial role in laying the association on a solid foundation over the past 22 years;
- congratulate from the bottom of our hearts Mr Hans-Juergen Springer for assuming the position of AFE executive secretary in June 2008;
- express sincere felicitations to Ms Jill Gale de Villa, who has been elected as the AFE deputy executive secretary; and
- especially, express deep sorrow on the demise of AFE President Tadao Chino and to render condolences to his bereaved family.

The Annual Meeting was followed by our year-end party—an extremely delightful sit-down dinner party at which we enjoyed delicious food, wines, and other drinks in a function room with a panoramic night view of southern Seoul across the Han River. Filipino musicians entertained us during dinner with songs including “Dahil Sa Iyo” and “Anak,” which brought to our minds the good old days in the Philippines. ■



Group picture of the Korean chapter members who participated in the annual meeting-cum-year-end party

Philippines: Dancing the Night Away

Danny Muñoz (ADB 1976–2005)

The usual sights and sounds: The Executive Dining Room (EDR), excited crowd, handshakes, hugs and kisses, laughter, picture taking, story telling, table hopping, smiles for long-time-no-see friends. Some came from abroad just to join in the fun.

There were videos of live performances by the Beatles, Ventures, BeeGees, and other bands of renown, and photos old and new of retirees. Then emcees, Julie Guevarra and Danny Muñoz, called on Benny Serafica for the invocation and Gam de Armas, Philippines country coordinator, to offer his welcome address. A survey form was distributed to gauge opinion on having more area groups, adding interest groups such as cooking and sports, having a summer picnic, and making use of the AFE website. Andy Eugenio showed up in a wheelchair (he has had a stroke) and was warmly welcomed as Gam spoke. Jill Gale de Villa read the message of Executive Secretary Hans-Juergen Springer. The emcees acknowledged the work of the get-together committee: Penny Laquindanum, Odette Reyes, Julie Guevarra, and Peter Aguilar.

Then the South Group danced the cha-cha, choreographed by Beth Cabuay, to Sway. Tek Ablaza, Yoly Asuncion, Carmen Bontia, Beth Cabuay, Lina Cadorniga, Lou de Belen, Raquel de Leon, Lorna Esguerra, Lita Gamboa, Rosie Luistro, Zeny Tomelden, and Liza Vitangcol won much-deserved long applause.

Prizes were raffled off throughout the evening eliciting the usual “oohs” and “ahs.”



The ladies of the Philippine chapter performing a line-dance number

The Committee members and friends provided a colorful human puppet show (to *Dancing Queen* and inspired by the movie *Mama Mia*) conceptualized and directed by Penny. She, Odette Reyes, and Peter Aguilar wore colorful wigs and fancy make-up making it hard to recognize them. Behind them doing synchronized hand and foot movements were Noli Alimon, Pines Ngini, and Marie Galura. It was superb and much photographed.

Josie Cataluna, a real star, belted out Tina Turner's *I Will Survive* and other hit songs of the 80s as everyone enjoyed a sumptuous Chinese dinner.

Games, like group pet sounds (won by Roby Espiritu and Nieves Callanta) and one copied from a TV show *Hep, Hep, Hooray* (won by BJ Elizaga) were played by unwilling volunteers to the delight and amusement of the audience. Thanks to emcee Julie who coaxed everyone into action.

At 9 it was time for line dancing run by dance instructor Bebel. Soon everybody led by Vivs Quiroz were stretching their legs to *Achy, Breaky Heart*, and then even more lively music. There were photos galore, everyone trying to be in everyone else's picture. It was incredible!

When the partygoers were spent, Gam announced that next year's committee would comprise Lita Gamboa, Rosie Luistro, and Ophie Sta. Ana.

At half past 10, the reunion was over and attendees left the EDR, tired but very happy. ■



Penny Laquindanum, Peter Aguilar, and Odette Reyes

Visit the AFE website for the whole story.

US: New York– New Jersey

Guillerma Dumalag (ADB 1979–1994)

Despite rain, the New York–New Jersey Chapter reunion on 25 October was as usual a happy, lovely, crazy affair. About 70 people attended.

Chairperson Thelma Altiveros, husband Lino, and reception committee Ruth Esmilio and Cholly Mauricio welcomed members. Roman Alcartado and son, Aurora Marino and son, and Nannette Amorado and Lazaro dela Cruz and their families came. Frank Berena, Angel Calilap, Juliet Pantaleon-Capati, Techie Zaide-Capistrano, Josie Catuncan, Raul Estrellado, Florie Flores, Elenita Mignini, Chato Ledonio-O’Buckley, and Elvie Purino were there with their partners. Edna Cabrera, Oscar Colmenar, Emma Dumalag, Libby Gutierrez, Normal Lao, Chato Rivera, Mila Simoldi, Vivian Villanueva, and Nena Villena-Tanedo came alone. And Eunice Tusalem was there with Edith Coloso of ADB Credit Union.

Out-of-town guests included Raffy and Wilma Buenaobra and Precy Lizarondo from Washington DC, Medy Hain and Au Villamor from the Philippines, Florence Rafulowitz from The Hague, Dina Villaluz from Chicago, and Sofia Marquez from Chad.

The party opened with a message from the chair and a prayer. Emcee Chato Ledonio-O’Buckley then took over and did a great job. Her ad libs, especially during the “garter” game brought the house down. The Renaissance Hotel’s food was superb. The DJ played an excellent selection of dance tunes and the line dancing was fun. Au Villamor and Precy Lizarondo led the “papaya” dance. Thelma Altiveros and Rhona Mae Amorado both sang delightfully. The ADB spirit was very much present in all of us.

Prizes were awarded to Frank Berena as the earliest bird, to all the out-of-towners, to Lazaro dela Cruz as the “youngest” attendee, to fashion show winners Norma Lao and Mario Mignini, and “garter” game winners Richard Rafulowitz, Nena Villena-Tanedo, and Roman Alcartado.

Oscar Colmenar won both the consolation prize and the grand prize of \$60 from the 50/50 raffle.

To everyone’s surprise, the party ended exactly at 11PM. No one wanted to go home: we had had such a good time. ■



Front row: Sitting down (from left to right): Roman Alcartado, Raffy Buenaobra, Angel Calilap, Frank Berena; 2nd Row, Sitting down (from left to right): Florie Flores, Vivian Villanueva, Nena Villena-Tanedo, Thelma Altiveros (2008 Chair), Emma Dumalag, Ruth Esmilio, Cholly Mauricio; 3rd Row, Standing (from left to right): Sofie Marquez, Dina Villaluz, Elvie Purino, Precy Lizarondo, Elenita Mignini, Chato Rivera, Norma Lao, Techie Capistrano, Juliet Capati, Medy Hain, Libby Gutierrez, Wilma Buenaobra, Josie Catuncan, Florence Rafulowitz, Au Villamor, Edith Coloso, Eunice Tusalem, Oscar Colmenar, Chato Ledonio-O’Buckley, Edna Cabrera, and Lazaro dela Cruz

US: Washington, DC

Gene Owens (ADB 1982–1997)

The Washington, DC chapter of AFE–ADB, held its Fall meeting on 13 September 2008 at the home of Gene and Ellery Owens in Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting was a working session to identify new ways to bring chapter members together, elect a new country coordinator, decide on future activities, and socialize.

The business session reviewed the minutes of the AFE Annual General Meeting in Madrid, Spain. It was decided to send a special note of congratulations to our new AFE executive staff in Manila. Several of the proposals from the Madrid meeting were explained, and members shared their expectations for new voting procedures. We extensively discussed the chapter budget and its use for promotional activities, and efforts to obtain more reliable and up-to-date contact addresses for members. The new computer system being developed in Manila to track AFE members was briefly described.

A major area for discussion was how we define the “Washington, DC chapter,” as many of our retirees and former members have moved beyond the Washington suburbs. Thus, a wider area designation would be more appropriate. People in the immediate vicinity of Washington and in nearby states will be invited to future meetings. Notices of meetings will be sent to other chapter heads in the United States and to country coordinators, so that former employees living anywhere can join us. Planning for a



Robert Schoellhammer, Karti Sandilya, Warren Evans, Jeff Stubbs, and Gene Owens

possible weekend retreat in Eastern Maryland was discussed and is still on the drawing board. This would enable those coming from outside Washington to join us for a 2-day holiday linked to the Spring chapter meeting.

Robert Schoellhammer, representing Thelma Diaz, head of the North American Resident Office (NARO), gave an interesting presentation outlining NARO activities and ongoing discussions with US government representatives about their unique perspectives on funding the ADB lending program. The role of US taxes, current salaries, human relations, and staff departures are also major issues. It was concluded that patience—an Asian virtue—was perhaps an appropriate strategy for development diplomacy in the US election year.

At the conclusion of the business session, Gene M. Owens was elected by acclamation as the Washington DC chapter country coordinator for a 2-year term, 2009–2011. Gene had been the coordinator during 2001–2004.

Last and perhaps most important was the evening’s social event. Members had brought pot luck offerings, which were delightful—we had tasty food and snacks from the Philippines, Thailand, South Asia, Europe, and the US, as well as wine, beer, and sodas. Attendees included, in the order of their signing in, Indira and Karti Sandilya, Anita Kartadjoemna, Don Sherk, Warren and Aw Evans, Robert Schoellhammer, Wilma Gonzales, Rafael Buenaobra, Matête Naratez-Garrison, Tita Acupanda, Judy Francia-Reyes, Cherie Melencio, Sonia Regalado-Huang, Clay Wescott, Des Horton, Steve Whitmer, Jeff and Karen Stubbs, Bill Peterson, and Gene and Ellery Owens. A fine time was had by all. ■



Back Row, (from left to right): Wilma Gonzalez-Buenaobra, Matete Nartatez-Garrison, Cherie Melencio; Middle Row, (from left to right): Indira Sandilya, Steve Whitmer, Karen Stubbs, Jeff Stubbs, Anita Nades-Kartajoemna, Tita Acupanda, Judy Francia-Reyes, Karti Sandilya; Front Row, (from left to right): Ellery, Gabriella and Gene Owens

Continuing ADB Assets

The Conciliators— Win-Win Solutions for ADB and Staff

Jill Gale de Villa

Three AFE-ADB members—Julia Holz, Robert May, and Pablo Trillana—serve ADB and ADB staff as intermediaries in complaints processes. I recently asked them: “What’s in it for you, and what’s in it for ADB?”

Finding Solutions. Pablo Trillana responded that, as a lawyer, he considers conciliation an important part of his professional work. He noted that conciliation is increasingly used in the Philippines to declog the overloaded courts. He said that the confidentiality aspect of conciliation—complainants are assured that no part of the discussions can be used later in any continuing process—is greatly appealing to staff. The reward to the conciliator is knowing you have helped in considering alternative solutions that may lead to an early settlement.

Indeed, ADB decided to institute a conciliation step in its grievance process in 2002 precisely to cut down on the number of cases going to appeals and the Administrative Tribunal and to avoid the collateral damage they cause along the way of lost time, energy, and good will. Where did (BPMSD) look for conciliators who would be good at conflict resolution within the organization’s culture?

The obvious answer—retirees.

The first two conciliators were Robert May (retired from ADB once as Resident Representative in Indonesia) and

Pablo Trillana (retired from the Office of the General Counsel). In 2004 Julia Holz (retired Principal Change Management Specialist and former head of Staff Council) replaced Robert May, who is now back on staff, heading the Office of the Special Projects Facilitator, where he conciliates complaints lodged by affected people against ADB projects.

Resolving conflicts. Julia Holz stresses that the conciliation process is one of resolving conflict by taking an “interest-based approach.” This means looking beyond the stated issues to find amicable resolutions. She says a conciliator must be a good listener to understand the person and must know the organizational culture in order to come up with solutions that may satisfy both sides. She says you have to think out of the box to find ways to satisfy both parties’ interests.

Pablo Trillana adds that even if a settlement is not reached, staff are often gratified by having a neutral party listen. Julia Holz notes that the process often helps preserve the staff member’s relationship with ADB, which is often something they actively wish to do. We can’t talk about actual cases—they’re confidential. (Jill de Villa notes that while she was head of Staff Council, at least two people who had gone to conciliation told her they found it helpful and valuable).

Robert May notes that his current work is very different in that he deals with complainants who are not ADB staff, but that the process is the same—bring people together, facilitate a solution. If both sides are willing, there is a good chance of finding a solution.

What is the conciliators’ success rate? The statistics aren’t tabulated. However, ADB wouldn’t keep the process going if it didn’t feel it is successful. Robert May noted that in the last 5 years, most external complaints (to the Office of

the Special Projects Facilitator) are really seeking a solution, and that is likely why only 2 have gone beyond conciliation. ■



Julia Holz (ADB 1985–2002), Pablo Trillana (ADB 1976–1994), Robert May (ADB 1977–2000)

From Misfit to Mostfit

Steve Banta (ADB 1991–2003)

By age 14, Ian Gill realized he wanted to be a journalist. After university, he persisted through more than 150 rejections from newspapers before landing a job on

the Department of External Relations—DER) in 1985. At ADB “I was lucky to be encouraged to write about ADB projects in the field and, later, to produce video documentaries,” he says.

Ian found it natural to return to journalism after he retired from ADB in October, 2005. “I freelanced, writing on business for *Asiamoney*, leisure for my old paper (now the *Wall Street Journal Asia*), and travel for Discovery.”

He has also been writing “impact stories” on projects for various ADB departments in close cooperation with DER. “I find the developed world too predictable. I love going to remote places in developing countries, sometimes to the chagrin of my wife. She once came with me to Sri Lanka to



Ian being feted with gratitude by the Kumbulga tribe for an ADB-financed road in Papua New Guinea's Western Highlands

a weekly in Brighton, England—as a result, he claims, of emotionally blackmailing the editor. “He said he had no vacancy, but I said I would write for nothing,” says Ian. “Fortunately, he had a soft spot for misfits—the office was full of them—and I got a paycheck after my first week. My reaction was—gosh, they actually pay me to do this? The odd thing is, I still feel the same way today.”

Ian worked as a journalist for nearly 20 years in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Fiji, Australia, Hong Kong, and Singapore—where he was staff reporter for the *Asian Wall Street Journal*—before joining ADB's Information Office (now

shop—and ended up wandering around refugee camps and devastated villages in Jaffna.” Ian believes that much of ADB's best work is in the field. “I've seen many well-designed projects that make a difference to people,” he says. “Our job is to paint the big picture of what a project is trying to achieve through the eyes of ordinary folk and officials.” Ian says he never fails to be impressed by how people cope in simple circumstances, often working closely with, and sometimes struggling against,

nature. “Most people are extraordinarily resilient—and hospitable even if they have very little,” he says.

Ian and his wife Jean have twins, Brian and Sabrina, aged 9. “They are doing a good job raising me,” he says. “I advise them to do only what they enjoy. That way, they'll never have to work for a living.”

Ian is rarely idle—his services are often in demand at ADB, given both his institutional knowledge and knowledge of the audience, his love of what he does, and his ability to do it well. Since he doesn't consider what he does to be “work,” perhaps we could call it “play for pay”? ■

Opening Channels— Helping Hands

Jill Gale de Villa

Opening a channel for AFE-ADB members to contribute to the ADB Staff Community Fund (SCF) was one of our initiatives for 2008. The pilot test kicked off rather close to the deadline for donations, but nevertheless the Philippine chapter raised over P25,000, including a continuing pledge from one retiree who signed up to make a monthly donation from her pension.

The SCF primarily supports grassroots charities in Metro-Manila. But before providing support, staff members on the SCF Steering Committee thoroughly vet each proposal, and follow through with monitoring during the year. The payback? Seeing disabled people better able to cope through facilities

and services provided through our donations; seeing street children grow and mature with proper care and education; knowing that those of us who are secure can in some small way assist those who started life on the tough side.



Masato Miyachi



Arto Ahonen and Wouter Lincklaen-Arriens



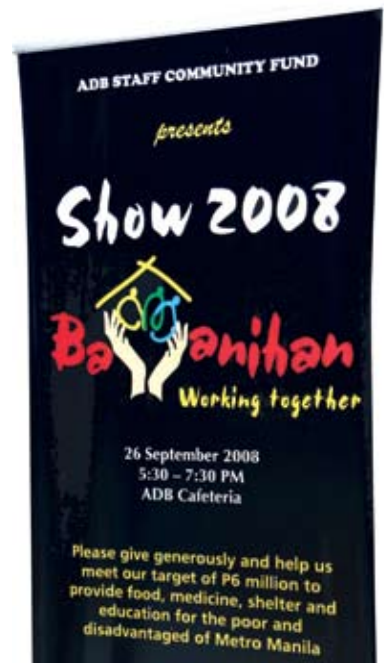
Ryoko Omura, Yumiko Tamura, and Vicki Lahoz



Resources for the Blind—an NGO the Staff Community Fund supports

Every year the SCF runs a fabulous Show to cap its fund-raising activities. Where? In ADB's cafeteria. Why fabulous? Because some highly talented ADB staff (plus a few retirees and consultants) get together and put on some amazing acts—jazz bands, rock stars (Elvis, move over, baby!), flamenco dancers, modern dance, and so much more. During the run-up to the Show, there is a major push around ADB's corridors for staff to contribute. This year, P5.5 million was raised.

The SCF welcomes donations in cash, talent, and time. Any retiree who would like to help out with visiting the organizations supported, and with other SCF work, is most welcome to contact Susan Onda, (632) 632-4444, ext. 70293. If you would like to donate through a deduction from your monthly pension, please contact afe-adb@adb.org and request for the form for donating to the SCF. ■



People, Places, and Passages

What's News— In Brief

Ed Haugh (ADB 1980–2006) and **Gordon Wilkinson** (ADB 1982–2003) are neighbors in Chapel Hill North Carolina. Both are taking courses at the University of North Carolina. Gordon is studying information systems and knowledge management, particularly as they relate to international development and the nonprofit sector, and Ed is studying nonprofit management.



Gordon Wilkinson and Ed Haugh

A.M.A Muhith (ADB) won the parliamentary seat of Sylhet-1 in Bangladesh's 9th Parliamentary Election, December 2008. In January 2009 he was appointed as the country's Finance Minister. During 1974–1977, he was Bangladesh's first (and only) executive director at ADB (his successors have been alternates). In 2000–2001, he served as one of the five members of the ADB-sponsored South Asian Eminent People's Committee.

Tess Perez (ADB, 1989–2008) is now state archivist of Yap State Government, Micronesia. She notes: "Working here is a new experience, living in a totally different cultural and social environment." Tess has two local staff working for her and deals directly with the heads of government departments and offices, providing advice and training in archives and records management.

TK Jayaraman (ADB 1982–1997) retired from ADB's Port Vila office in 1997 and joined the Macmillan Brown Center

for Pacific Studies, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, as a post-doctoral research fellow. He has been teaching at the University of the South Pacific since September 1998, where he is currently associate professor at the Faculty of Business and Economics. He recently received the Vice-Chancellor's Prize for Best Research Publication for his chapter, Regional Economic Integration in the Pacific Problems and Prospects, in a book published in 2007. For more information, see www.fbe.usp.ac.fj/index.php?id=6974



TK Jayaraman

Christian Perez (ADB 1980–2006) is traveling widely and documenting the wild side of life in Alabang Hills Village—he has two websites, one on the birds he and friends have seen in the village, and another on the trees that line the streets and fill the green spaces, both beautifully done. Click on <http://manilaoldtiner.net/Trees%20of%20Alabang%20Hills/trees.html> and <http://manilaoldtiner.net/birds.html>.



Marie Tordesillas (ADB 1980–2006) had a grand vacation in America and Canada. Because she could not be an ADB consultant, she put up a tutorial center in front of her home and a canteen for the students, nannies, and homeowners. One parent then hired Marie as director of operations and management of his culinary school. In December Marie’s husband had a serious stroke, and she left her job to care for him “for better or for worse, in sickness and in pain, ‘till death do us part.”



Marie Tordesillas

Anthony (Ton) Van Vugt (ADB 1997) is connecting his roots, his development work, and his new homeland with a consortium of Dutch and American sponsors to celebrate in 2009 the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson’s arrival in Hudson Bay. Hudson was a British explorer working for the Dutch to find a shorter route from Holland to Asia. For a presentation of the plans, photos, and more information, go to www.van-vugt.com/HH400 and/or contact Ton by email at HH400NY@gmail.com or at 703 734 2727 in the United States.

Anisa Yacub-Romero (ADB 1978) is actively involved with the Inter Religious Solidarity Movement for Peace (IRSMP), which aims to foster peace and harmony among the religious groups in Mindanao. ■



Educating Women in Balochistan

Shahida Jaffrey (Tarik Jaffrey left ADB in 1989)

We left the Philippines in October 1989, after 14 fantastic years with ADB. A week after arriving in Islamabad, my husband, Tarik Jaffrey passed away due to heart failure. Returning to Pakistan after 17 years abroad was like coming to a foreign country. Today—I look back on the intervening years.



Shahida Jaffrey

December 1989. Some may have thought I was crazy to have decided to move into the Karakoram mountains to live and work in northern Pakistan. I took a job with the innovative Aga Khan Rural Support Programme, founded and run by a charismatic man, Shoaib Sultan Khan. He later received numerous international and national awards (including a Magsaysay award) for his pioneering poverty reduction work in the mountainous regions of Pakistan. He expanded his work throughout Pakistan and in other South Asian countries. Numerous international development agencies replicated his rural development model in other parts of the world.

For me, it was a great challenge and experience, and I developed a passion for working for the underprivileged. I have since been involved in several development programs in Pakistan—as a consultant with the World Bank, and working for the Balochistan Rural Support Programme, of which I later became the chief executive officer—a woman CEO of a rural development program in Balochistan—quite an amazing undertaking for me!!

21 Years. What am I doing now? While in Manila, in 1983 I earned a PhD in Education, Language Teaching from the University of the Philippines, Diliman. In March 2004, 21 years later, I became the founding vice chancellor and president of the first public sector women’s university in Balochistan—Sardar Bahadur Khan Women’s University.

Balochistan comprises about half of Pakistan's land area. It borders Afghanistan, Iran, the Arabian Sea, and Pakistan's North West Frontier Province. Balochistan has Pakistan's lowest literacy rate, and female literacy is even lower, especially in the rural areas.

The society is conservative and tribal.

Balochistan has a coeducational university, but few families permit their young women to attend it. To fill the void, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University was formed in March 2004 (www.sbkwu.edu.pk). The university strives to be the main source of skilled females in Balochistan and to bring a cultural revolution by placing an educated lady in every household.

University on the Move. So far, 500 young women have received masters degrees; 200 more will earn degrees this spring. Among the university's staff are 100 young women recruited locally as faculty, purely on merit; 18 of them are pursuing their PhDs. The university currently has over 2,000 students.

The university offers masters degrees in 12 disciplines, 4-year bachelor programs in 6 subjects, and courses in



practical living to empower women both socially and economically. PhD courses are being added. The academic standards are high, the indicators very positive; students are sought after even before they have graduated.

Students and faculty members have received numerous awards; some have gone to the People's Republic of China as exchange students and some will soon go to California on scholarships. Several university students have published research papers in scientific journals. Most graduates are employed in education, or are married, educated, and enlightened mothers, raising educated and enlightened children.

Science laboratories are fully equipped. The library has over 10,000 national and international books and research journals; 20,000 journals are available in the digital library, and video conferencing facilities will soon be available. The entire campus is interconnected through fiber optics and is computerized.

The university aims to be an internationally recognized institution of higher learning contributing to positive socioeconomic and cultural change through empowering women in Balochistan and Pakistan. (Shahiha Jaffrey's late husband, Tarik, was at ADB during 1979–1989). ■



Manila's Cultural Delights

Günter Rametsteiner (ADB 1982–1999)

Günter Rametsteiner shares cultural activities he enjoyed in Manila in early 2008.

The year began with the grand meeting of the Cheese Club in the Manila Polo Club, now a regular feature of our Manila social calendar.

Additional highlights included

- Repertory Philippines' production of "Tuesdays with Morrie;"
- The University of Santo Tomas Conservatory of Music's presentation of the popular Strauss operetta "Die Fledermaus" sung in English and set in 1920s Berlin—an excellent production with music performed by the UST Symphony Orchestra;
- Ballet Manila's "Le Corsaire," based on Lord Byron's poem "The Pirate"—The 40-strong corps de ballet offered a perfect presentation;
- Repertory Philippines' bold new version of Shakespeare's "Hamlet," set in an apocalyptic wasteland populated by a brutal race of warriors;
- The International Bamboo Organ Festival in Las Piñas, with music by Puccini and Bach;
- "Latin Heat," by Ballet Philippines—its interpretation of salsa, rumba, bossa nova, reggae, and Caribbean music was a feast for the eyes;
- the musical satire "The Altar Boyz" about a boy-band on the rise to stardom, gave Repertory Philippines a chance to showcase the talents of young Filipino; and
- the Cultural Center of the Philippines' outreach program, an open-air concert in the Salcedo Village park, featured Filipino singers accompanied by the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. ■

Manila Entertainment Updates

For information on

- current entertainment – click on ClickTheCity.com
- exhibits and activities at Metro Manila museums – click on www.mvphilippines.hypermart.net/resources/links.html

A European Cultural Smorgasbord

Günter Rametsteiner

With my college group of 27 engineers, I celebrated the 45th anniversary of our graduation from the Technical College in Graz. We visited a car components manufacturing complex and then the Katerloch, a cave where we descended 135m, passing curtains of stalactites, fragile sinter formations, sparkling crystal columns, and huge stalagmites, before reaching a beautiful subterranean lake. It was well the effort of climbing out again.

Back in Vienna, there were festivals and expositions everywhere: "Wonderful Thailand" and "Tutankhamen and the World of the Pharaohs" among them. Preparations for the European Nations Football Championship were in full swing.

A brief visit to Brno in Moravia gave me an insight into this commercially and historically important town, and the presentation I saw of "The Magic Flute" was remarkable.

The next stop was Brussels. Today it is a service sector city, but it is steeped in history. A full-day excursion included visits to the King's palace, the World Exposition of 1958, the Palais Royal, the Palais de la Justice, the Palais des Nations, the Stock Exchange, the Cathedral of SS Michael and Gudula, the Grand Place, and the statue of the most famous inhabitant of Brussels, the Manneken Pis. Then we visited Antwerp, famous for its port and its diamond industry, and Leuven, Tournai, and Ghent. But the highlight was the daylong visit to Bruges, "the Venice of the North." The city is a living museum.

From Vienna I made a side trip to the Royal Palace of Gödöllő, some 20 km northeast of Budapest. It is the largest Baroque palace in Hungary. On a sunny day I went to the Wachau, upstream along the left bank of the Danube where since Roman times wine has been grown. While dinner and drinks were served night fell and the "Midsummer Festival Nibelungengau" began, with fireworks and bonfires on both sides of the river. I visited the newly opened museum, Vienna in Roman Times. And then I was underground again visiting the salt mine Altaussee in Bad Aussee, a truly unique underground world, culminating with a ride on the miner's train out. This was followed by a visit to an iron mine in Styria and then one to Forchtenstein castle, with magnificent murals and paintings and the Esterházy "treasure vault." July and August in Austria and surrounding countries are the time for open-air presentations, and I feasted on them, enjoying Emmerich Kálmán's operetta "Czárdásfürstin," "The Man of La Mancha," "Tutanchamun," "Der Zigeunerbaron," and "Der Vogelhändler."

Also in August I watched the Spectacle at Dürnkrut, a reenactment of a medieval battle. ■

International Outreach

Ether Luzario (ADB 1976–1981) and Gam de Armas

Ethel Luzario left ADB in 1981 and joined the United Nations Development Programme as a human resources specialist. After 15 years in New York her desire for another change took her to Phoenix, Arizona in late 1996. She became a real estate agent, as this would allow her to spend more time with Nicco, her 9-year-old son; she also started joining organizations to expand her contacts.

In 1998, Ethel joined the Phoenix Phil-Am Lions Club, which was involved in many areas of volunteerism. In 2007, Ethel became the club's third female president. During her term, she led two medical missions: to Mexico and the Philippines.

Missions to Mexico. During 2–4 November 2007, Ethel led 34 club members (including 2 ophthalmologists, 3 anesthesiologists, and 9 registered nurses) to Hermosillo, Mexico. Hermosillo is the capital of Sonora, and is about 200 miles south of the border with the United States. Ethel's team performed 44 eye cataract surgeries prescreened by an earlier delegation, and arranged with local doctors to follow up on the patients. The supplies used on medical missions are usually donated by large pharmaceutical companies; the medical equipment, if not owned by team members, is lent by member doctors or longtime supporters.

After her term as club president, Ethel and three other members traveled to Caborca, Mexico to prescreen over 60 eye patients. They identified about 46 patients to receive free cataract surgery, scheduled for 21–24 May 2009, and arranged for a 38-year old father and his 12-year old son to travel to Phoenix to see a specialist to prevent impending blindness.

Back to Bacolod. Immediately after the Lions Club's mission in Mexico, the group started gathering the supplies and equipment needed for its mission to Bacolod, 14–22 February 2008. The team comprised 3 ophthalmologists, 3 anesthesiologists, 2 obstetrician-gynecologists, several registered nurses, and members of the Phoenix club.

In Bacolod City they met a contingent of Lions who helped clear the equipment from the airport, then visited Corazon Montelibano Regional Hospital to prepare for the operations. Patients operated on were checked again the following day, and arrangements were made with local doctors for additional follow-ups. Among the patients was 12-year-old April Joy, whose vision had been impaired by an accident when she was



Ethel Luzario with beneficiary April Joy

5 years old. After the operation, she performed two songs, American Idol style, for the doctors who had operated on her. In all, the medical mission performed 174 eye cataract surgeries, distributed over 6,000 eye glasses, and held over 1,900 eye screenings and 200 diabetes screenings. Three further missions are planned—two to Mexico, and another to the Philippines.

Well-Deserved Recognition. As a result of these accomplishments, Ethel's Lions Club received the Filipino American Journal's *Gabi ng Parangal* Award for Outstanding Organization in May 2008, with the Philippine Ambassador and his wife present as guests of honor. The club was named the Outstanding Lions Club in District 21C (which includes 54 clubs). Individual awards were given to Dr Conrad Ballecer and Ethel. Ethel received the Melvin Jones Award, Lions Foundation's highest honor, signifying humanitarian qualities such as generosity, compassion, and concern for the less fortunate.

The 3000 Club. In May 2008, Ethel and a long-time friend, Lon Taylor, founded The 3000 Club. The club's main objective is to create awareness about recycling and to rescue, transport, and distribute the over 30 million pounds of usable produce that is thrown away yearly in Nogales, Arizona. Recently, Ethel and Lon's roles have expanded as they accepted a challenge to distribute four container truck loads of used medical equipment valued at nearly \$2.4 million. They entered into partnership with another nonprofit, the Southwest Medical Aid in Tucson, to receive, sort, and distribute the donations to the needy. The used medical equipment has already benefited several Lions Clubs and smaller agencies in Mexico. Ethel is currently looking into shipping some equipment to the Philippines and other countries.

Ethel's contacts are e-mail ethel@the300club.org, telephone 1 602 549-1011. ■

L-Yoga

Elvie Punzalan-Estavillo (ADB 1969–1973)

As we all know, laughter is the best medicine! Combine laughter with yoga stretching and breathing exercise—and you get nature’s best and fastest stress buster. It lifts our spirits with a happy high, making us feel good, improves our relationships with others.

After coordinating with Dr Kataria, founder of the international Laughter-Yoga (L-Yoga) Club, I put up the Philippines’ first L-Yoga Club on 1 February 2008. Happy participants asked if courses could be held on a regular basis. One lady told me that the pains in her body were gone; two ladies, who are breast cancer survivors, said that whenever they attended L-Yoga sessions, their chemotherapy pains disappeared. Many people became curious about L-Yoga after it was featured in three top-rated TV shows. As I now receive offers from companies and individuals to do L-Yoga, I hope to establish as many L-Yoga clubs as possible in the Philippines. There are over 5,000 L-Yoga Clubs in 55 countries worldwide.

Dr Kataria notes that physical, mental, and emotional stress exhausts us, with emotional stress the most difficult to release. Through L-Yoga, stress is effectively and quickly released. “As we laugh, our bodies release a cocktail of hormones and chemicals that have startling positive effects on our system.” L-Yoga employs a blend of playful, empowering, “tension-releasing” simple laughter exercises,



Laughter-yoga session at the San Lorenzo Village Park

interspersed with gentle breathing and stretching exercises, rhythmic clapping, and chanting in unison, which releases laughter and allows it to flow easily, like a fountain.

The result: stress is reduced, blood pressure drops, depression lifts, the immune system is boosted, pain-reducing endorphins are released, and more.

Sharing L-Yoga’s tremendously beneficial impact with many people is balm for my soul, giving me an immeasurable sense of fulfillment and inner joy. For a positive (and hilarious) way to welcome 2009 and shake off the hassles of the year past, I conducted an L-Yoga session

for Novartis Pharmaceutical’s sales conference in Shangri-La Mactan Hotel on January 7–10. This was a big challenge, as participants numbered 250—my biggest crowd so far! Because the mission of L-Yoga is to help promote peace, each session is capped with collectively praying for world peace—the whole world being an extended family.

L-Yoga lifts up spirits, nurtures hearts and minds, gives joy and happiness, and lightens people’s burdens. As we navigate our way out of and above these rough-and-tumble faith-and-courage-testing times, let’s laugh! A day without laughter is a wasted day. ■



Laughter-yoga session with the staff of Philippine Star

Stalking Wildlife— With a Lens

Charles Currin (ADB 1988–1991)

The jump from ADB lead education specialist to amateur wildlife photographer is not as big a leap as one might think. True, my 35-year career, which I enjoyed tremendously, was built around education development in countries ranging from Somalia and Guyana to Indonesia and Uzbekistan.

My interest in ecology and wildlife photography predates that career, but had to be put on the back burner all those years. Now that I am happily retired and living in Hua Hin, a resort town on the Gulf of Thailand 250 kilometers south of Bangkok, I can indulge in my lifelong interests. My garden,



the fields around my house, and nearby national parks at Pala-U waterfall in the mountains and Sam Roi Yot on the coast provide plenty of interesting subjects to photograph.

All it takes is a camera (in my case, a Canon EOS 350 digital with a macrolens and a telephoto zoom), a lot of patience, and willingness to crawl through bushes and tall grass to sneak up on the target. An extensive collection of guidebooks complemented by a lot of Internet searching allows me to identify most of the birds, reptiles, wildflowers, butterflies, and various other insects. My ever-growing collection now includes images of well over 200 species, with more added almost every week. It's educational, too—a self-conducted course in the ecology of southern Thailand. The images here are a few examples. ■

A Week in New Zealand

Gordon Fox (ADB 1992–2002)

Thein Swe and Tynn Tynn Sann (Marilyn) met Gordon and Rosemary Fox in Auckland, New Zealand for a reunion after nearly 10 years, and a 3-day tour to Wellington. On day one, they visited the world famous Glow Worm Cave at Waitomo, a bird sanctuary near the small town of Otirohanga, and—at Marilyn’s special request—the “Hobbiton” set of the *Lord of the Rings* movies. During the next 2 days they saw steaming geysers and visited a Maori cultural center at Rotorua, viewed the Huka Falls near Taupo, walked on the snow at a ski field high on Mount Ruapehu, and picnicked on the shore of Lake Taupo.

After arriving at the Foxes’ house Wellington, the foursome spent a day looking at Wellington’s scenic coastline, riding the funicular Cable Car that connects the city center with the Botanical Gardens, sampling one of Wellington’s outdoor restaurants, and visiting “Weta Cave” at the Camperdown Film Studios where the *Lord of the Rings* movies were produced. That evening they visited Victor and Allison Diem for dinner.



Rosemary Fox, Marilyn and Thein Swe, and Gordon Fox at the Hobbiton Visitor Centre

During the next 2 days Victor and Thein Swe conquered the Makara golf course, Rosemary and Marilyn conquered the shops, and then the four spent most of a day at Te Papa Tongarewa, New Zealand’s national museum. The week was over all too soon.

PS. Victor and Allison Diem hosted Willie and Nolleen Lim on a tour of New Zealand’s North island. Rosemary and I met up with them all in Wellington 27 March.

On 5 April, Victor, Allison, Rosemary, and I met again—this time at Wellington airport to start on a study tour, organized by Victoria University of Wellington, of classical sites in Greece. ■



Winter to Spring

Cynthia Kaufman (ADB 1985–2005)

I was with the Human Resources Division (BPHR) when I lost my first husband to a fatal stroke in 2001. With all my children grown up, I was lonely and signed up with an Internet dating site. One night I found “Tenderstorm.” He turned out to be a Filipino living in Pasadena, California. His challenge: “you can be Annie Reed to my Sam Baldwin.”

After discovering that these people were the characters played by Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks in *Sleepless in Seattle*, I wrote back: “Yes, I’ll be your Annie Reed.” We exchanged real names and pictures, wrote each other daily, and chatted on weekends, learning that we had a lot of things in common. We were both Born-Again Christians, we went through years of caring for and losing our first spouses to lingering illness, our children were in their 30s, we both worked in banks, our moms were teachers, we did not swim, we both loved books and movies and did not like spicy food.

I had planned to visit Washington DC in April 2004 for a class reunion but decided to reroute to Los Angeles and meet Bob in person. So on 12 March 2004, he picked me up from my hotel for our first date, his face covered with a Tom Hanks photo. After 4 days, he proposed but I did not want to make quick a decision. Marrying him meant leaving my life in Manila, my family, my job at ADB, my church, and my friends. During my stay in Washington he called me

every night and after the reunion I flew back to Los Angeles and spent one more day with him before flying back to the Philippines. That was when I decided to accept his proposal.

One of my concerns in returning to ADB was how my bosses would react if I left. I really enjoyed working for Bob Dawson and Ken Chee and working with all the other BPHR staff members. So I was relieved when I found out that they would soon be reassigned to another department.

I filed my retirement effective in March 2005. Bob flew to the Philippines to meet my children, my friends, and my ADB family. I flew to the United States with him on 16 September, on the 17th we were married in civil ceremonies in Los Angeles, and we repeated our vows in church on 6 November.

We spend our free time watching and photographing birds. For accounts of our birding sorties go to <http://ornithographer.blogspot.com>. This year we celebrate our 5th wedding anniversary. I am truly blessed to have met Bob. I thank God and my prayer partners at ADB. Love is truly lovelier the second time around and each day is a promise of better things to come. ■



Bob and Cynthia Kaufman

Time Swiftly Passes...

Keith Johnson (ADB 1984–1991)

In October 2008, I was invited to take morning coffee with the VP. But in this case, there was no need for circumspection or temerity. Twenty years had passed, and both of us were older—and hopefully in my case also wiser.



M. Narasimham, Mohammed Quibria, and Keith Johnson



Keith Johnson and M. Narasimham (now)

The meeting took place in the dignified but quietly understated office of M. Narasimham, the Chairman of the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), in the lovely old palace that houses the College in the center of Hyderabad.

I was visiting India as a guest speaker on finance and risk issues at a seminar for high-level officials from South Asia organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management on “Innovations and Good Practices in New Public Management.”

In the previous month I had mentioned my impending visit to ASCI to my ADB colleague Bruce Smith, with whom I had been collaborating on developing a national investment strategy for Jordan. Bruce reminded me of the important role that ASCI had played in ADB’s affairs as the source of some very eminent senior managers—including Vice President M. Narasimham.

I was therefore delighted to see the VP's photograph beaming down from one of the Bella Vista Palace corridors among the long line of previous ASCI directors—and to learn that he was still coming into ASCI regularly to contribute to its programs. It was then a short step to letting him know that I would like to pay my respects.

As it happens, I have a photograph in one of my albums of a previous meeting with the VP dating from 1988. We were both engaged in welcoming participants in an ADB seminar on applying partial equilibrium modeling to estimate the economic costs associated with agricultural subsidies and trade protection. This led to the publication of an ADB book entitled *Evaluating Rice Market Intervention Policies*.

Some 20 years later, as the second photograph illustrates, we have both changed somewhat—though, I hasten to add, at least one of us is as smart as ever! Over coffee, the 79-year old VP launched into a fascinating assessment of the evolution of the relative incremental capital output ratios (ICORs) of India and the People's Republic of China, and I was given a rapid reprise of his superior intellect. Thankfully, I was able to shift the conversation laterally to less-demanding waters by raising my interest in Buddhism. This definitely touched a cord, and we had a delightful conversation on the evolution of Buddhism in India—including his account of the adoption of the *dharmachakra* ("ashoka chakra") as the central symbol in India's national flag. His natural spontaneity and clarity are very Buddhist characteristics, and I came away with the definite impression that he now spends at least as much time meditating on the heart sutra and the identity of relative and absolute as he does thinking about ICORs.

So "time swiftly passes...." Good then to spend time with those, like the VP, who have retained their curiosity, vitality, and equanimity into later middle age—and a wonderful bonus from my trip to India to trace a gyre back over 20 years and "square a circle" with the rather brash and earnest younger self with the sideburns who is so obviously deep in techno-speak and oblivious to other paths in the earlier photograph. ■

Sauerkraut and Hamburgers

Gene Owens (ADB 1982–1997)

Every year in the winter months, like Santa Claus, Gerhard Kahl, and his lovely wife, Lilo, fly over to the United States from Germany to travel around and

visit with old friends, and especially to see their sons and extended families in California. In 2008, when we met at the Madrid Conference, it was decided to honor the long-serving European country coordinator with a special American-German AFE-ADB Dinner in Washington. The idea was to enable Gerhard to get in touch with ADB colleagues who live in and around Washington DC.

The event was scheduled for Columbus Day, 13th October, which in itself celebrates a long-serving European-American linkage. A sumptuous dinner was arranged for 14 friends, former colleagues and their wives at the home of Gene and Ellery Owens. Attending the dinner were Lilo and Gerhard Kahl, Maria and Otto Raggambi, Conchita and Willem Van Tuijl, Jenny and Edward Chesky, Dixie and Hla Aung, Firoze and Zafar Shah Khan, and Warren Evans.

What was most exciting was that in two or three instances, it had been more than 10 years since Gerhard and Lilo had last seen some of their friends. As many of us have experienced, to again see someone with whom we worked, had gone on mission, or even shared a desk, it is as if time never happened. Old friends seem the same as when we were together back in Manila. The evening was one of reverie, good feelings, and great memories. ■



Lilo and Gerhard Kahl, Maria and Otto Raggambi, Conchita and Willem Van Tuijl, Jenny and Edward Chesky, Dixie and Hla Aung, Firoze and Zafar Shah Khan, and Gene and Ellery Owens

Sailing Nicely Through Life

Alan Burrell (ADB 1974–1995)

It is nearly 15 years since I left ADB in 1995. After 21 very exciting years, including the last 15 as division manager for energy, I opted for early retirement at age 55. Khin Soe Tin (Suzie) and I still live in Dasmariñas Village, Makati and are in our 35th year in Manila with no intention whatsoever of leaving! Suzie is still with the International School in Learning Support.

I never really retired. As soon as I left ADB, I signed retainers with three consulting companies—Fichtner of Germany (primarily power engineering consultants), PA Consulting of New Zealand (specialists in power markets and power sector privatization), and Taylor DeJonge of Washington DC (financial advisers in privatization). The workload was overwhelming—even worse than it had been at ADB. I primarily specialized in preparing technical bids for projects financed by ADB, Japan, and the World Bank, but also became a jack-of-all-trades, traveling widely throughout Asia to pre-bid site visits; undertaking due diligence on private sector projects; and even spending some months living in Moldova, privatizing its power generation and distribution facilities. Later, I worked extensively with

Tokyo Electric Power Company, and took assignments as an ADB staff consultant—mostly in East Timor. Gasp!

Early in 2008 I started extricating myself from free-lance consulting to focus on our fledgling yacht charter and villa rental business in Puerto Galera, Mindoro, which had come about rather by accident. In 1999 we designed and constructed a 3-bedroom villa in Puerto Galera, and in 2007, a second 6-bedroom villa not far from the first one.



(These efforts were not least to salvage my diminishing engineering skills after 21 years of being some kind of banker.) We have two 36' racer-cruiser sailing yachts—Rags and Sandoway.

Yacht Charter Philippines offers inexpensive packages of a villa and a yacht (together or separately)—for sailing or just lazing around in the beautiful Puerto Galera area. In the last 2 years our services have become increasingly popular and we are meeting our self-liquidating objectives nicely.

The packages include an aluminum speedboat, a Hobie 16, a mirror sailing dinghy, a 2-person kayak, a motor banca, and (if required) sail training. Check out www.yacht-charterphilippines.com or www.puertogalera villas.com. If you're interested, e-mail me at aburrell@pacific.net.ph or call +632 844 6067. I especially welcome former (and current) ADB staff. The new life seems a far cry from working in ADB or free-lance energy consulting, and it is great fun. ■



New Members

AFE-ADB extends a warm welcome to the following new members of the Association:

September 2008

Arana, Jocelyn T.
Esteras, Anthony C.

October 2008

Fernando, Nimal A.
Pascual, Alfredo E.
Suarez, Charito L.
Wangdi, Nima

November 2008

Bantulan, Ricardo T.
Cabangbang, Jesus H.
De Pierpont, Juan
Hamid, Khalilullah
Hombre, Severino B.
Labid, Efren S.
Manzano, Gloria A.
Marasigan, Ricardo I.
Montino, Cecilia M.

Morante, Jose G.,
Perez, Ma. Theresa B.
Racelis, Danilo O.
Rivero, Vicente G.
Ryynanen, Tarja H.
Serrano, Rodolfo D.
Sibtain, Fazal Halim
Sweetser, Anne T.
Valenciano, Vicente
Rolando
Villagrancia, Carolina C.

December 2008

Ferreira, Jacques M.
Flores, Alejandro M.
Floresca, Dario T.
Fontelo, Mayonito F.
Lesaca, Diana B.
Marmita, Ruben V.

Nacario, Odelon L.
Pantaleon-Capati, Juliet J.
Quinto, Gladys L.
Weber, Axel

January 2009

Abundo, Fe B.
Alberto, Marilyn S.
Bueno, Romeo L.
Buncab, Manuel D.
Fostejo, Evelyn N.
Kobayashi, Yoshiharu
Laluz, Juanito M.
Perez, Eva P.
San Diego, Marilu D.
Santos-Tigas, May T.

February 2009

Amba, Leodegario M.
Capulong, Maria Delia

Green, David Jay
Limjoco, Renato M.
Llaguno, Rebecca
Ramos, Patricia Agnes
Sen, Tilak
Tadle, Maria Arlene
Tsukahara, Osamu
Wallum, Peter
Yang, Weimin
Yasukawa, Takako

March 2009

Banning, Judith A.
Burston, Roger A.
Everitt, Robert R.
Huang, Heqing
Juliano, Ma. Perpetua
Liwanaag, Eloy G.

Senior Appointments in ADB

AFE-ADB congratulates the following staff members on their new appointments:

Hemamala Hettige, appointed Director, Operations Evaluation Division 2, Operations Evaluation Department (OED), effective 10 October 2008.

Frederick C. Roche—Deputy Director General, South Asia Department (SARD), effective 1 November 2008.

C. R. Rajendran—Principal Director, Office of Administrative Services (OAS), effective 4 November 2008.

Anthony J. Jude—Director, appointed Infrastructure Division, Southeast Asia Department (SERD), effective 27 November 2008.

Ikuko Matsumoto—Director, Staff Development and Benefits Division, Budget, Personnel and Management Systems Department (BPMSD), effective 5 December 2008.

Shiladitya Chatterjee—Advisor, Office of the Director General, Strategy and Policy Department (SPD), effective 12 December 2008.

Hua Du—Advisor, Office of the Director General, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), effective 12 December 2008.

Noriko Ogawa—Advisor, SPD, effective 12 December 2008, concurrent with her appointment as Head, Results Management Unit.

Bruce Purdue—Secretary, Compliance Review Panel, Office of the Compliance Review Panel (OCRCP), effective 12 December 2008.

N.J. Ahmad—Practice Leader (Environment), concurrent with his appointment as Director, Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD), effective 16 December 2008.

Robert Dobias—Senior Advisor for Climate Change Program, RSDD, effective 16 December 2008.

Jill Marie Drilon—Lead Professional (Conference), Office of the Secretary (OSEC), effective 16 December 2008.

Tyrrell Duncan—Practice Leader (Transport) effective 16 December 2008, concurrent with his appointment as Director, Transport Division, EARD effective 3 November 2008.

Suganya Hutaserani—Lead Professional (Development Evaluation), OED, effective 16 December 2008.

Jingdong Hua—Deputy Treasurer, Treasury Department (TD), effective 16 December 2008, concurrent with his appointment as Assistant Treasurer, Funding Division.

Riccardo Loi—Lead Professional (Financial Partnership – Official Cofinancing), Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO), effective 16 December 2008.

Katsuji Matsunami—Practice Leader (Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development), concurrent with his appointment as Advisor, RSDD, effective 16 December 2008.

Marcelo Minc—Lead Professional (Project Management), EARD, effective 16 December 2008.

Kathleen Moktan—Practice Leader (Public Management and Governance), concurrent with her appointment as Director, RSDD, effective 16 December 2008.

Yukihiro Nishimiya—Lead Professional (Investment), TDID, effective 16 December 2008.

Xiaohua Peng—Lead Professional (Counsel), OGC, effective 16 December 2008.

Ann Quon—Senior Director, Department of External Relations (DER), effective 16 December 2008.

Narhari Rao—Lead Professional (Country Economist), India Resident Mission, effective 16 December 2008.

Robert Rothery—Lead Professional (Procurement), Central Operations Services Office (COSO), effective 16 December 2008.

Avonechith Siackhachanh—Practice Leader (Financial Sector), concurrent with her appointment as Advisor, Office of Regional Integration (OREI), effective 16 December 2008.

Pieter Smidt—Lead Professional (Water Resources), India Resident Mission, effective 16 December 2008.

Anil Terway—Senior Advisor, RSOD concurrently Practice Leader (Energy), effective 16 December 2008.

Shahid Zahid—Lead Professional (Aid Effectiveness), Private Sector Operations Department (PSOD), effective 16 December 2008.

Yongping Zhai—Lead Professional (Energy), SERD effective 16 December 2008.

Shamshad Akhtar—Special Senior Advisor, Office of the President (OPR), effective 2 January 2009.

Indu Bhushan—Director, Strategic Planning, Policy and Interagency Relations Division, SPD, effective 5 January 2009.

Peter L. Fedon—Advisor, Office of the Director General, EARD, effective 15 January 2009.

Mitsuhiro Yamawaki—Advisor, Risk Management Unit, effective 22 January 2009.

Robert W. Van Zwieten—Director, Capital Markets and Financial Sectors Division, PSOD, effective 30 January 2009.

Alessandro Pio—Senior Advisor, Office of the Director General, BPMSD, effective 5 March 2009.

S. Chander—Principal Director, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST), effective 10 March 2009.

Diwesh Sharan—Director, Budget and Management Services Division, BPMSD, effective 23 March 2009.

Robert L.T. Dawson—Senior Advisor concurrently The Secretary-Designate, OSEC, effective 9 March 2009, and as The Secretary effective 6 April 2009.

SPAM from ADB Alumni

A few members have complained about SPAM that purports to come from the ADB Alumni address. ADB's computer department explains—it's not actually coming from the ADB Alumni address, but from some wily people who have managed to substitute that address for their own address. Because this SPAM isn't actually coming from or through ADB—ADB can't block it. So, please groan and trash it!

Obituaries

It is with deep regret and sorrow that we announce the death of the following former ADB staff members. Our heartfelt and sincere condolences to their families.



Kimimasa Tarumizu, ADB president from 1989 to 1993, passed away on 21 February 2009 at the age of 78. During his term as ADB president,

- Mr Tarumizu redirected ADB's financing activities from mainly project loans toward more socially oriented development assistance programs;
- ADB moved to its new permanent headquarters in the Ortigas area of Metro Manila;
- ADB focused on broad-based assistance, covering issues such as gender, governance, environment, and HIV/AIDS; and
- ADB formalized its strategic planning process and strengthened country-specific programming in its operations.

Farewell to Mr Tarumizu

Eiji Kobayashi

The sudden demise of the former President Kimimasa Tarumizu on 21 February 2009 was a shock to everyone, as he looked healthy despite his 78 years.

To pay respects to late Mr Tarumizu, nearly 1,000 people gathered at Gokokuji Temple in downtown Tokyo on 27–28 February. The funeral service was held solemnly

Continued on next page

James Lahren, former Education Specialist, Agriculture and Social Sectors Department (West), passed away on 21 August 2008 at the age of 72. Condolences may be sent to his wife Marylou Lahren at 1194 Ocean Blvd. West, Holden Beach, NC 28462–1715, United States.

Burhom Natapermadi, former Senior Agronomist in the former Agriculture and Rural Development Department, passed away on 29 September 2008 at the age of 88. Condolences may be sent to his daughter Isye Natapermadi at Jalan Tomat No. 125, Cinere Mas, Jakarta, Selatan, Indonesia. Telephone 0062 21 754 8173.

Masunuru Rao, former Manager in the former Social Development Division, passed away on 18 May 2008 at the age of 68. Condolences may be sent to his wife Kancharla Rao at 2246 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 20201, United States. Telephone 001 847 869 8650.

Hermann Schempp, former Program Officer, PED, passed away on 3 January 2009 at the age of 69. Condolences may be sent to his son Alexander Schempp at Renaissance Tower Condominium, Unit 1403-F, Merlaco Avenue, Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Ken Tanimura, former Senior Economist in the Programs Department (West), passed away on 7 February 2009 at the age of 63. Condolences may be sent to his son Justin Tanimura at 51 Grange Grove, London N1 2NP, United Kingdom.

Jay Carter, former Director, Projects Department, passed away on 19 January 2009 at the age of 83. Condolences may be sent to his wife Mary Carter at 2129 West New Haven Ave., Apt. 370, West Melbourne, FL 32904, United States.

Augusto R. Tulao, former Control Officer, Controllers Department, passed away on 13 February 2009 at the age of 75. Condolences may be sent to his wife Chichi Reyes-Tulao at Arias Compound, Tambo, Parañaque, Metro Manila, Philippines.

William Brown, former Deputy Secretary, The Office of the Secretary, passed away on 5 March 2009 at the age of 73. Condolences may be sent to his wife Clare Brown at billandclare@yahoo.com.uk.

Continued from previous page

at the temple, attended by Mrs Tarumizu; her family members; and friends including Mr and Mrs Masao Fujioka, Mr and Mrs John Lintjer, and Mr Bindu Lohani.

Following a ritual prayer by a Shinto priest, two speakers delivered memorial addresses. First Mr Akira Nishigaki (former Vice-Minister of Finance) spoke as a long-time old friend. He deeply regretted Mr Tarumizu's sudden departure and recollected his 50 years' association with him at the Ministry of Finance (now Treasury) in Tokyo. Both had studied at the Law School of Tokyo University and worked together at senior posts of the ministry. Mr Nishigaki said that Mr Tarumizu was a hard working man but paid careful attention to his colleagues. He willingly accepted difficult assignments including director, Tokyo Tax Office; minister, Embassy of Japan in Washington, DC; and director-general, Customs Bureau.

Next I spoke about Mr Tarumizu's ADB days, as the fifth president, from November 1989 to November 1993. I first mentioned that the Tarumizus had to evacuate to a hotel immediately after their arrival in Manila, due to a military coup attempt. After that, their stay in Manila was smooth. Mr Tarumizu's major achievements included overseeing ADB's transfer to its new headquarters after 19 years on Roxas Boulevard. He directed lending operations to focus more on socially-oriented fields. Loans to Viet Nam were resumed and lending to the People's Republic of China and India progressed rapidly; as a result, total lending reached about \$5 billion in 1991. On fund raising, the "Dragon Bond" was successfully issued in Hong Kong, China; Singapore; and Taipei, China.

Mr Tarumizu left ADB in November 1993, thanking Board members for their deliberations, but he hoped that in the future he would serve organizations without a board. After his retirement in Tokyo, Mr Tarumizu organized a group of Japanese former staff members to meet in early spring each year to renew friendship—its 15th get-together was scheduled for 6 March, just a fortnight away.

Mr Tarumizu showed keen interest in AFE-ADB matters and attended annual meetings to happily talk with us. At its 2008 annual meeting in Madrid, he presided on behalf of Mr Chino. When I talked to Mr Tarumizu on 16 February, he said he was very pleased to learn Mr Bong-Suh Lee would be AFE's next president, as he knew Mr Lee very well. Mr Tarumizu was a person with a kind heart and was liked by everybody in Manila and elsewhere.

Mrs Tarumizu mentioned in her remarks at the funeral that Mr Tarumizu breathed his last as he was sitting quietly in his usual chair, just as he was relaxing in the evening. May his soul rest in peace.

The *AFE-ADB News* is published twice annually under the auspices of the AFE Editorial Board, which currently comprises Jill Gale de Villa (head), Stephen J. Banta, John Cole, Gameliel de Armas, David R. Parker, and Hans-Juergen Springer.

The views expressed in the articles are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of AFE-ADB, its officers, or its Editorial Board; or of ADB or its Board of Governors. AFE-ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of information or data presented or accept any responsibility for any consequences of their use.

The policies of the Editorial Board of the *AFE-ADB News* include the following:

- (1) Articles and images may be accepted for inclusion if, in the opinion of the AFE-ADB Editorial Board, they are germane to AFE-ADB activities and membership, are of interest to a significant portion of the membership, and do not contain material that promote a political or religious stance or is potentially inflammatory or offensive to the readership.
- (2) Articles that are accepted will be edited for language, content, and length that the Editorial Board deems appropriate for the readership. Images must be of print quality (at least 300dpi).
- (3) Any photograph that was not taken by the sender should be sent with the photographer's permission for AFE-ADB to publish it. Please identify all people shown in photographs so we can include adequate captions.
- (4) Authors and photographers will be acknowledged and retain ownership of any material submitted for publication.

No articles or images may be reproduced in any form without the permission of the publisher and author(s) and/or photographer(s).

Articles for publication may be sent in MS Word as e-mail attachments to afe-adb@adb.org. Articles will preferably be 250–500 words. Please send images in a separate file. Comments that will help improve the *AFE-ADB News* are most welcome.

Acknowledgements

Josephine J. Aquino, AFE-ADB's able assistant, provided invaluable help, including gathering materials and initial typesetting and layout. Andy Carlos and Cesar Juan prepare the magazine for mailing. AFE-ADB sincerely appreciates ADB's assistance with publishing the magazine, especially Carolyn Dedolph Cabrera, Vic Angeles, Keech Hidalgo, and Tony Valencia at the publications unit and Alexander Tarnoff, Anna Juico, Vic Lo, Gregg Garcia, and Judy Yñiguez and the printing unit.

Announcements

Chapter Events

The **European chapter** will hold its 12th annual gathering in Bremen on 4–7 September 2009. Hosts Roland and Clarissa Engelbart have arranged an attractive program comprising a guided walking tour through the centre of this medieval city, a tour of city hall, a harbor tour of sister city Bremerhaven, and lunches and dinners for participants to rest and recreate. Anyone interested in joining should contact Roland for further information at <roland.engelbart@hotmail.de>

The **New York-New Jersey chapter** will host its Year-End Get-Together Party on Saturday, 24 October 2009, 7–12 midnight. Venue to be announced in due course. All AFE members are invited to attend. Please contact Nannette Guinto Amorado, Chairperson for 2009, at <Nannette.Amorado@undp.org>

AFE-ADB News No. 35 (September 2009)

Please send in articles, photos, updates, or comments for publication in our next newsletter.

Annual Association Dues

Members who have not yet settled their annual Association dues are requested to do so.

Keep your address updated with AFE-ADB

Please keep us informed about any change in your address, telephone/fax numbers, and e-mail address. We don't want to lose touch with you. Also, if you know of any member whose address and other contact details are not listed, or are incomplete or wrong, please let us know.

AFE-ADB contact details

Mailing address	Executive Secretary, AFE-ADB P.O. Box 789, 0980 Manila Philippines
Street address	c/o Asian Development Bank Room 2837E (SF) 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550 Metro Manila, Philippines
Telephone	+63 2 632 4444 (ADB Operator) +63 2 632 5556 (Executive Secretary) +63 2 632 5196 (Administrative Assistant)
Fax	+63 2 636 2444
E-mail	hjspringer@adb.org • afe-adb@adb.org

