



News

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



Chapter News

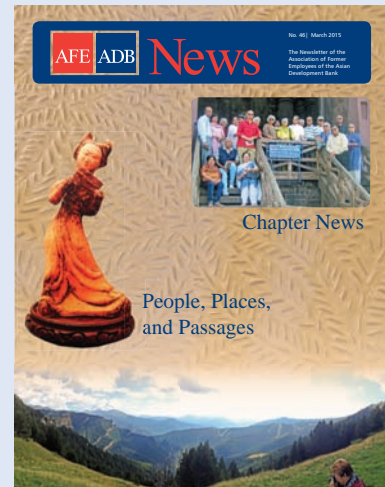
People, Places, and Passages



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MARCH 2015

Our Cover



Top left: Ming dynasty terracotta figurine; Jonker collection. Right: India Chapter tour. Below: Friederike Kantner and an Andorra Panorama by Patrick Thomas. Background: Floor of La Casa de la Vall, Andorra.

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AFE-ADB News

Publisher: Hans-Juergen Springer

Publications Committee: Jill Gale de Villa (head), Gam de Armas, Stephen Banta, Anna Maria Juico, Wickie Mercado, David Parker, Hans-Juergen Springer

Graphic Assistance: Josephine Jacinto-Aquino

Photographs: ADB Photo Bank, ADB Security, Nannette Guinto Amorado, Gam de Armas, Steve Banta, Barindra Ganguli, Nikki Gojo-Duterte, Ron Hamilton, K. Rudolf Jonker, Keith Johnson, Motomu Kariya, Bruce Murray, Dimyati Nangju, Larry Ramos, Nida Rodrigo, Hans-Juergen Springer, Paul Turner, Jill Gale de Villa, Allen Williams

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AFE–ADB Updates

The Chairman



Bong-Suh Lee (ADB 1993–1998) visited Manila on 8–11 February 2015 and discussed AFE’s change of Treasurer, the new funding for the retirees’ portion of the Group Medical Insurance Plan, and progress toward the Annual General Meeting in Baku on 2–5 May.

He also attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of the AY Foundation. His father and Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco (who served as ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea) became good friends, as both were in the insurance industry, and Bong-Suh Lee is now a member of the Foundation’s Board. The AY Foundation invests money from the Yuchengco group of companies in social development programs focusing particularly on education, health, and nutrition, and on research into social issues such as the care of aging populations ■

From the AFE President

Hans-Juergen Springer (ADB 1972–2002)



Another year has passed in which the Association consolidated its strength. Membership rose to 2,719, the Philippines chapter being the largest with 859 members. Several AFE chapters again organized eventful and enjoyable reunions, foremost among them the Europe chapter in

Andorra, the India chapter in Bhopal, the Australia chapter in Canberra, and the Association’s largest chapter, the Philippines chapter, which held again a joyous song and dance event in November.

Considerable time was spent during the year to make our membership directory ready to be uploaded onto the

AFE website. By the time this issue reaches you, you will be able to access the directory online. Thanks go to all those involved in the process, especially our two assistants Arlene and Malou, who patiently completed the tedious task of proofreading the directory to ensure correctness of the information and consistency with our data bases in use for internal purposes.

There is nothing new to report on pensions as the ongoing review, to be completed in mid-2015, focuses on the Staff Retirement Plan provisions which came into effect for staff engaged after 2006. There is, however, a very positive development following the approval by ADB’s board of directors to establish a Retiree Medical Fund, which will place our health insurance on a more sustainable footing (See Jill’s article on health insurance, which follows).

Jill attended in October the meeting of eight international alumni associations and the annual meeting of the World Bank Group’s alumni association, 1818 Society (p. 7–9).

The upcoming annual meeting in Baku from 2 to 5 May promises to be an exciting event in a country of rich history and diverse cultures. Hope to see you there. ■

Vice President’s Report

Jill Gale de Villa (ADB 1993–2005)



Regarding the health insurance, we have good news on funding for the plan, and some information regarding current costs versus income.

Prefunding the Retirees’ Group Medical Insurance Plan (GMIP).

Rajiv Nundy of the policy group of the Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMMSD) recently met with Hans and me regarding establishing a fund for the retirees’ portion of the GMIP, as detailed in a confidential Board paper of 14 November 2014. Action to fund the medical insurance had



Rosario Abad-Santos

been proposed several years ago by, among other people, AFE members Rosario Abad-Santos, Richard Eyre, and Julia Holz plus Farzana Ahmad (still an ADB staff member), but had not made its way successfully through the

organization’s approval tiers. Rajiv and Rosario had resurrected the idea and this time, with the backing of Director General Y Kanzaki and Rosiario’s successor, Director Anna Catterton, successfully had a fund approved in December 2014 for the retirees’ portion of the medical insurance.



Richard Eyre



Farzana Ahmad

Funding part of the medical benefits will help lower the long-term costs of the plan while increasing ADB’s net income. Pressure on funding of the plan comes from two sources: the growing amount needed to fund the medical insurance liabilities,



Julia Holz

and pressure from member governments to decrease this burden. Pressure from member governments continues to arise when they see, under notes owed in the financial statements, the growing net liability associated with the plan. ADB is required by the Financial Accounting Standards to set aside an amount to cover its future liability for the post retirement portion of the medical insurance plan. The liability will naturally increase as the ratio of retirees to current staff increases and costs of medical care continue to rise faster than general inflation. Lately this has been exacerbated as interest rates have dipped to very low levels. The money ADB must set aside to cover the liability has been parked in ordinary capital resources (OCR) earning minimal interest. As a result, the liability associated with the retiree portion of the GMIP has soared.

The funding is being accomplished by taking the amount of the liability and moving it from OCR to a retiree medical fund so it can be invested in the financial markets and thereby earn higher investment income. The Pension Investment Committee is tasked with investing the money, and the details of how this will be done are still being worked out. The money has been transferred from OCR to the retiree medical fund while the details are being finalized. One idea is to assign the money in three lots to three of the fund managers of the Staff Retirement Plan.



Yasushi Kanzaki and Rajiv Nundy.

The stated intent is for ADB to continue to contribute 2% of payroll yearly to this new fund until the medical plan is 115% funded. This overfunding is necessary to compensate for the vicissitudes of the market and other impacts on the GMIP, such as occasional very costly medical cases.

This change will not have an impact on how you use your plan, or on your current premium, but will greatly enhance the plan’s sustainability—and we are very thankful to ADB for this, and to those who have put time and effort into bringing it about.

Cigna. By now you are likely aware that Vanbreda → Cigna. You may have noticed that when you type “Vanbreda” into your Google or other search engine, you now initially get Vanbreda but are then shifted to a Cigna URL (www.cignahealthbenefits.com) for information about your plan. Indeed, after August, Cigna is no longer legally allowed to use the Vanbreda name. Hans and I met with the Cigna representatives on 5 February, and the following items are of note:

1. **No change in your online access.** You still use 017 plus your ADB ID as your personal reference number, then your password.
2. **Premiums.** The expenses of the insurance (outlays) and the inflows (income) were about equal last year, so premiums may increase in future—a decision ADB will take, based on the amount they expect to have to pay Cigna.
3. **Interfacing with government requirements.** There is some uncertainty about how our medical plan is accepted by or acceptable to governments that require their citizens to have some or a specific level of insurance. For example, a Swiss national has been wrestling with this issue and the implementation of Obamacare has left many questions, especially as it is being refined. For 2014, US citizens living outside the country are covered by IRS document 5187, p. 16.
4. **Coverage while traveling.** If you need proof of coverage for visa purposes and while traveling, you

may download a certificate of coverage from the Cigna website. Go to the website (<https://www.cignahealthbenefits.com/en/plan-members>), log in, click on "My Plan," and go to the last item: Insurance Certificate. You then enter the language you want for the certificate, click on the button, and *voilà*.

5. **Stem cell treatment.** We specifically requested that the insurers review the exclusion of stem cell treatment from coverage, as we understand it is an accepted treatment of choice for some medical conditions. We believe that stem cell treatment should be acceptable in some circumstances.

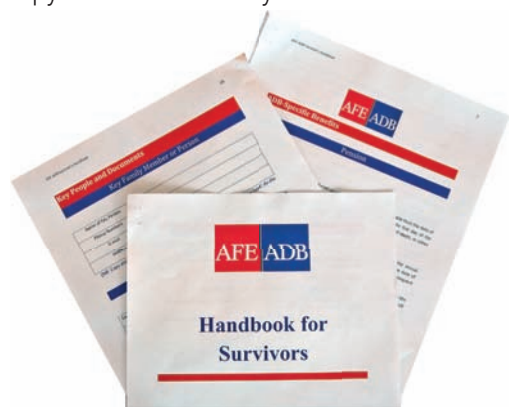
6. **Costs not covered.** Occasionally, plan members are unhappily surprised that the insurance will not pay for a certain procedure or cost. It is very important to be aware of

- what the insurance will cover,
- what you need preapproval for, and
- what the room and board limits are.

We each need to be very clear about this before starting a procedure that is not an emergency. We asked Cigna to check their documents for such clarity. Members need to look at the website, and the steps involved in obtaining clearance and information about what is covered regarding any particular procedure, and follow those steps prior to any non-emergency medical treatment.

Plan members who are not comfortable with electronic access should have a family member or friend print out the requirements and have these on hand.

We continue to encourage members to fill out the *Handbook for Survivors* (copy available from the AFE office, electronically or in hard copy) and to provide a copy to a trusted family member or friend.



7. **Long-term care insurance.** We again noted that this plan seems expensive and few who have joined the plan have actually used it. Cigna actuaries say our rate is cheap, and that the duration of our use of the plan is too short to establish a reliable record on which to base future use. They also wonder if some people who could

have used their long-term care insurance for a while did not do so because their care-givers were unaware that they were entitled to it, or of how to access it. Again, an argument for filling in and using the *Handbook for Survivors*. Hans also noted that our plan has more stringent requirements before benefits kick in than do some other plans.

Insurance cards. New Cigna cards (replacing the ones with Vanbreda on them), will be issued this year, by ADB for the general cards and by Cigna for those to be used in the US.

AFE News. This issue has been a bit of a struggle because some articles did not arrive in a timely manner. Please (1) do submit articles—our readers have a wide variety of interests; (2) do so on time, as this is essential to producing the magazine; and (3) include images of people, but also of places and items relevant to the article—readers want to see people but they also want to see other subjects. ■

Eight Key Actions for Development

ADB President Takehiko Nakao



Ed: The following is excerpted from an article published on 14/1/15 in ADB Today, Daily Star, Jakarta Globe, Livemint, Himalayan Times, Mint Asia, and Nikkei.

Asia is making remarkable progress in development and poverty reduction. But, why have some countries developed more rapidly than others? ...

My experience of developing Asia tells me that good government policies comprising eight key actions provide the answer to this question. The right policies in these eight areas can lift low-income countries at least to upper-middle income status.

The first key to success is high-quality infrastructure. Without adequate power, roads, and ports, investment from both domestic and foreign sources is difficult, and industry cannot develop. Infrastructure also gives people access to basic services such as healthcare and education. Every time I go to [the People's Republic of] China I'm struck by new urban and rural infrastructure. The public investment to GDP ratio there is 22%, while much of developing Asia's doesn't even reach 5%. Better mobilization of domestic resources, especially through tax revenues, is essential. Countries can also attract private funds by increasing the use of public-private partnerships.

Second, investments in human capital—education and health—are vital. While many countries across Asia now have high primary school enrollment rates, the quality of teaching at the secondary and tertiary levels often disappoints. Countries also need to improve their technical and vocational education and training to match the needs of industry with the skills of the next generation....

The third condition is good economic policies. Double-digit inflation, excessive government spending, and high interest rates deter savings and investment. Since the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis, many countries in the region have reinforced their fiscal, monetary, and financial sector policies. Fiscal deficits are now smaller, and inflation is more manageable, while banks are better capitalized and regulated. We should not lose our hard-won gains in macroeconomic stability.

Openness to investment and trade is the fourth ingredient. Countries that hide behind closed doors will not advance. In the past, many countries suffered from socialist or inward-looking economic policies such as import substitution, price controls, and the nationalization of major industries. Those days are gone, and there is now consensus in Asia about the importance of market-oriented policies.

By improving the investment climate, countries can exploit their comparative advantages, gaining access to global markets, foreign capital, and advanced technologies. Red tape and complicated regulations—though created with good intentions for certain policy purposes—impede investment. There are encouraging signs in streamlining regulations. India's new government has pledged that it will offer foreign investors the red carpet rather than red tape. Countries such as Viet Nam are also making serious efforts in reforming state-owned enterprises and nurturing their financial sector to better allocate resources through market mechanisms.

Fifth is governance. Corruption is fundamentally unfair. It also diverts the energies of the people from productive endeavors, thereby damaging growth. It is pleasing to see a number of Asian countries step up the fight against corruption.

Transparency and accountability are indispensable not only for government but for state-owned enterprises as well. Governance is also about the administrative capacity of governments to deliver on their commitments. To do this, enhancing the capacity of the civil service is imperative.

Equality of access to income and other opportunities is the sixth condition. A wide gap between the rich and poor prevents shared efforts for development. It also erodes the quality of a country's workforce, as the poor are deprived of incentives and opportunities to acquire the necessary education and skills. To make growth more inclusive and sustainable, countries need to create quality jobs and plug gaps in access to education, health, and financial services. Sustainable growth also requires policies to tackle climate change and manage disaster risks.

The seventh point is the importance of a clear vision for the future. The successes of Singapore and [the Republic of] Korea are testaments to this. Governments have a responsibility to plan for their country's future based on careful analysis of its comparative advantages and the evolving global economic landscape. This does not mean that the economy should be state-driven, but it does mean that the government should prioritize its spending and public works and provide appropriate guidance to the private sector. The strategy should be shared with the people and be flexible to respond to changing environments, but also consistent beyond changes in government.

Finally, growth is underpinned by security and political stability. Conflict disrupts development, and ending it can yield tremendous benefits. Myanmar's emergence from isolation has allowed it to attract private investment and assistance from multilateral and bilateral donors. In the Philippines, a comprehensive peace agreement with Islamic groups in Mindanao could unleash the rich potential of the region. Peace and geopolitical stability should continue to support robust growth in Asia.

I've been impressed by the strong commitment of developing Asia's leaders to market-oriented reform and other elements of the eight actions. Still, fully implementing them will require sustained, firm leadership and continued public support. ■

Visit <http://afe-adb.org>

For information
on membership contact
afe-adb@adb.org

DC Meetings: A Short BTOR

Jill Gale de Villa

In October 2014 I attended the workshops that the 1818 Society held as part of its annual meeting, and the ARAIO (Association of Retirees' Associations of International Organizations) meeting. All were both constructive and instructive, and provide the platform for our organizations to interact on matters of interest throughout the year. The full BTOR is on the AFE website. Highlights of the meetings follow.

1818 Society Meetings

1818 Society Health Insurance Workshop. The World Bank's Health Advisory Board includes 1818 Society representatives and consults with retirees. World Bank insurance requires members to participate in national health plans, but reimburses the cost thereof. The 1818 Society works with members to try and keep plan costs down. To administer its self-insured plan, the World Bank uses AETNA in the US and Vanbreda→Cigna outside. The average US increase in medical reimbursements is 7.2% per annum, but for the World Bank it is 5%. Premiums have increased 4.7% for active staff and 3.1% for retirees.

Changes in implementation of the health insurance administered by AETNA include requiring prior authorization for some nongeneric drugs where generic or cheaper drugs are available for the same condition. This can result in a delay in filling a prescription, especially if it entails additional justification. Claims rejected by AETNA have three levels of appeal re drugs: first, to the Pharmacy Benefits Manager, which takes 15 days to process; then an appeal takes another 15 days; a third appeal is referred to independent review, which takes the final decision.

1818 Society Pension Workshop. The World Bank's Pension Finance Committee (PFC) comprises staff, retirees, and experts hired to run the pension fund. The PFC operates by consensus; it is not influenced by the World Bank; and its management is guided by a strong governance structure, determines the appropriate risk tolerance, and evaluates the fund managers and changes them as needed.

The World Bank's Staff Retirement Plan (SRP) has a long-term objective of a 3.5% real return per annum, at which rate the World Bank will always have to contribute about 19%. The SRP was revised due to changing expectations, such as the inflation rate and real discount rate, and to the longevity and gender of participants. Assets are in a trust separate from the World Bank. The SRP is fully funded and is paying out less than its income. The SRP would have difficulty with a major market downturn of 3 years.

The Aging in Place workshop comprised a presentation on preparing the home for people with declining physical abilities. Salient points include

- installing gutter drains in showers to avoid having to step into them over a bund;
- providing a wide bench or space beside a bath, to sit on and swing legs over into and out of the bath;
- noting that sample layouts are available at Houzz.com;
- demonstrating kitchen layouts; and
- discussing door widths for accessibility.

The World Bank Reforms discussion commenced with a representative from the World Bank's human resources unit, who presented the reforms. He noted that the reforms were wide ranging because the World Bank had not reformed in 25 years—a statement met with some incredulity by the audience. The reforms were subject to intense questioning and severe criticism from 1818 Society members.

The 1818 Society Annual Meeting included some repetition of information given at the workshops and other sessions, an address by the 1818 Society's president, and questions and answers.

Association of Retirees' Association of International Organizations—ARAIO, 20 October 2014

On behalf of AFE, Bernard Donge, Clay Wescott, Chantale Wong, and I attended and participated in the meeting. ARAIO currently has eight member associations (one more



At the head of the meeting: Nancy Berenstein, President of PAHO-ASFM group, with Leslie Schnier and J. Shivakumar of the 1818 Society on either side.

since last year):

- the 1818 Society (World Bank);
- AFE-ADB;
- AFICS (the Association of Former International Civil Servants [United Nations]);
- AFSM-PAHO (Association of Former Staff Members of the Pan American Health Organization);
- AROAS (Association of Retirees of the Organization of American States);
- the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Alumni Association;
- the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) retirees' association; and
- IMFRA (International Monetary Fund Retirees' Association).

During the morning session, each organization had 20 minutes to sum up its current status, changes that have transpired or will in the near future, and challenges.

The afternoon sessions had three breakout groups, followed by a plenary session.

Knowledge and Communications. Bernard Donge represented AFE at the Knowledge and Communications group. The group categorized the types of knowledge our organizations have as technical, country-specific, operational, and intra-institutional.

Knowledge-sharing was discussed:

- In the World Bank group retirees' associations, outside requests for knowledge sharing are handled by forwarding them to members who may have the needed information.
- The World Bank has a Skill Finder program to match retirees' skills with World Bank needs.
- Retirees could be involved in supporting "parent" organizations' corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities.
- Issues with maintaining a skills base through the parent organization are firewalls and privacy.
- Need to avoid becoming employment exchanges and



Hernan Rosenberg of PAHO-ASFM and AFE's Bernard Donge at the meeting.

stay with matching skills with needs.

Two types of communications discussed were with our memberships, and with our parent organizations.

- Communication with members is maintained through websites and portals; social media such as Facebook pages (PAHO has several Facebook pages) for social purposes and LinkedIn for business-oriented purposes (some of us have none); newsletters; e-mail posts; and meetings, luncheons, seminars, and other gatherings. PAHO is experimenting with a "virtual room" for participation in meetings and other activities. Issues pertaining to monitoring input to social media were discussed.
- Communicating with the parent organization is handled by participating in benefits committees; inviting staff to address retirees; maintaining presence and contact with crucial people; and participating in retirement seminars, CSR activities, and review of technical and policy papers.

Relevance of our Associations. Chantale Wong participated in this discussion for AFE. The roles we play include both traditional and new ones.

- The traditional role is benefits-protection. For this, we need to be represented on the relevant committees, and to get there we need to deploy the influence of powerful former staff. We need to cultivate advocates in management who can provide input to our boards of directors and governors. We need to convince members of management to act in their own long-term interest.
- A new role is to incorporate networking for professional needs, as new staff are often 25-30 year-olds who are not interested in pension but rather in future careers and wellness.
- Knowledge is common across age groups; older members have the knowledge base and could offer mentoring, but younger people often do not see their own need for this.



AFE's Chantale Wong and Pat Neill of the 1818 Society preparing a presentation on relevance of our organizations. To their right are George Krivicky (EBRD) and Evangeline Javier (1818 Society).



The ARAIO group photo at WHO in Washington, DC, representing former employees of ADB, IADB, IMF, OAS, UN in the US, WHO Pacific area, World Bank, and the newly formed alumni group for EBRD.

To enhance our relevance to current staff members who leave our former employers, we need to have the “right” people on the association board, which should be diverse in gender and nationality, highly active, and showing presence at the parent organization. We need to proactively bring in new people, give them committees and jobs, and let them do the jobs without micromanagement.

Chapters’ roles were discussed, with me representing AFE in this group. Across our organizations, the AFSM–PAHO number of chapters ranges from 1 to many. The 1818 Society has thematic as well as geographic chapters. Membership in chapters also varies. Some chapters have members who are not also members of the central organization; but they can’t vote. Most chapters allow outside participation at their functions; some charge extra for nonmembers to participate (if they charge at all). Surviving spouses continue to participate; in some organizations they continue to pay membership, in others, not. Some chapters are closely linked with the local resident mission.

Issues common to our organizations include how to unite different interest (social versus professional) and socioeconomic (local hires versus international) groups under the umbrellas of our organizations, while meeting their specific needs.

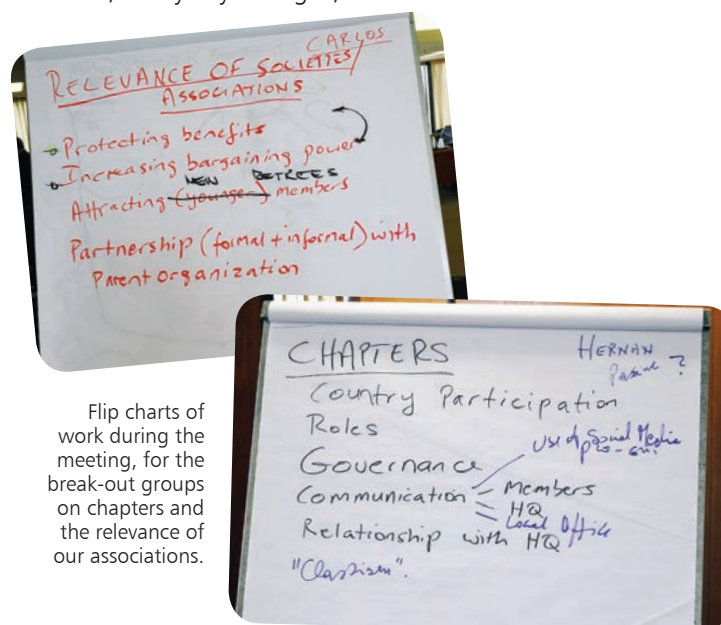
The Plenary included a summary of the breakout groups. The 1818 Society’s Lesley Schnier noted she would form a LinkedIn group for the participants of the ARAIO meetings to facilitate information exchanges on continuing challenges and how we are managing them—what works and what doesn’t. (This group has been formed.)

Washington DC Chapter

Clay and Alison Wescott hosted a meeting of the DC area chapter with about 20 AFE members and spouses. NARO Resident Representative Craig Stephenson briefed us on the latest activities at ADB, including the interesting developments of the new BRICs bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Comments included the need for ADB to keep a competitive edge in staffing and processing, given the new banks, and that the vast need for financing leaves much space for filling.

Informal Get-Togethers

I also much enjoyed time with Ellery Owens; dinner with Cinnamon Dornsife, Chip Barber, Thelma Diaz and others; and lunch at the International Monetary Fund with Bobbi Montesa, Cathy Reyes-Angus, and other former ADB staff. ■



Flip charts of work during the meeting, for the break-out groups on chapters and the relevance of our associations.

Chapter Coordinators

Peter Carroll—Australia
 Bruce Murray—Canada
 John Rive—Ottawa
 Fraternidad Rodrigo—Toronto
 Günter Hecker—Europe
 Barindra Ganguli—India
 Putu Kamayana—Indonesia
 Tsuneaki Yoshida—Japan
 Yoong Soo Seo—Republic of Korea
 John Colin Pratt—New Zealand
 Shahid Mirza—Pakistan
 Gamaliel de Armas, Jr.—Philippines
 Cheng Huat Sim—Singapore
 Ranjith Wirasinha—Sri Lanka
 Clay Wescott—Washington DC, United States (US)
 Nannette Amorado—New York—New Jersey, US
 Yolanda Laurel-Houtby—Southern California, US
 Vacant—Taipei,China

AFE–ADB Committees

Insurance Committee

Jill Gale de Villa—Chair	Dang Fook Lee
Lourdes de Belen	Ferdinand Mesch
Edward Breckner	Axel Weber
Randolph Earman, Jr.	Clay Wescott
Evelyn Go	

Pension Council

Ivan Zimonyi—Chair	Antonio Quila
Randolph Earman, Jr.	Graham Walter
Jan van Heeswijck	<i>Ex officio</i>
Renato Limjoco	Hans-Juergen Springer
Filologo Pante	Jill Gale de Villa
Brahm Prakash	David Parker

Publications Committee

Jill Gale de Villa—Head	Wickie Mercado
Gamaliel de Armas, Jr.	David Parker
Stephen Banta	Hans-Juergen Springer
Anna Maria Juico	

What's New at HQ?

ADB's three atria—the new one is on the left.



Ribbon cutting ceremony. From left: OAS Director, Facilities and Asset Management Division, Makoto Ojio; OAS Principal Director, Hyong-Jong Yu; VP Bruce Davis; President Takehiko Nakao; President and CEO, EEI Corporatin, Robert Castillo; Chief Architect, CPG Consultants Pte. Ltd., Peter How; OAS Unit Head, Facilities Planning ang Management, Chatiya Nantham.

Chapter News

Australia

Paul Turner (ADB 1991–2007)



The 2014 AFE–ADB Australian Chapter’s 9th annual reunion was held on 21–24 October in the Australian capital city of Canberra. We had a really great turn-out, with 41 AFEers and partners, including Hans and Liz Springer, and David and Arnie Parker from Manila as well as Colin Pratt and Ron Hamilton from

the New Zealand Chapter. Others came from as far away as South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, and New South Wales. It was really lovely meeting again with many old friends and sharing some good food and wine.

We were thoroughly entertained with a program of sightseeing, wine tasting at some superb wineries, and inspection of a pottery kiln being prepared for firing. I guess I also have to confess we made a timely stop at a yummy chocolate factory and outlet!!! A special feature of all the Australian Chapter reunions is the Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Tournament. We not only took time out to remember a much loved mate, but we played what we thought was USPGA standard team golf!!!!!! Ok, ok, it

was a bunch of hackers having good fun pretending to play quality golf.

As usual, the reunion dinner was a highlight. Beth and John Thorp masterfully managed their impromptu roles as comedian/quizmasters and had the room buzzing with mirth and fierce competition. The end result was neither pretty nor dignified, but we loved every minute of it and hope that the Thorps will continue bringing great enjoyment to future reunions.

At the Chapter meeting Peter Carroll was unanimously re-elected as the Coordinator of the Australian Chapter, a position he has held since the Chapter was formed 9 years ago. AFE–ADB members also decided that the next reunion would be held in the second half of October 2015, in Adelaide, the “city of churches.” It is anticipated that the Adelaide reunion will be very well attended by Australian members, but we are also hoping to see many of our overseas friends there. So what are you waiting for, plan it, and book it, and come on “down under” for a rollicking good time.

Special thanks to Andrew Proctor for a super job in planning and hosting the Canberra reunion, and to all who attended. The Chapter also extends our deep appreciation to ADB for the financial assistance provided to the Chapter and to the AFE–ADB Executive Committee for the terrific ongoing effort and support on behalf of our Members. ■



Annual dinner attendees, l-r: Peter Carroll, Hans Springer, Phil Bowen, Ann Proctor, Neil Collier, Chàn Carroll, Julie Bowen, Trevor Smith, Liz Springer, Arnie Parker, Anne Willoughby, David Parker, Ainslie Smith, Con Pappas, Louine Tay, John Ling, Sin Yan Tay, Alan Hartley, Helen Pappas, Sophie Pappas, Ai Tee Loh, John Whittle, Beverley Baker, Wouter Vochteloo, Anne Whittle, Beth Thorp, Monique Vochteloo, Colleen Turner, Paul Turner, Pat Talib, John Thorp, Mrs. Narayanasuwami, Nam Narayanasuwami, Ron Hamilton, Colin Pratt, Roger and Margaret Weir, Dereck Rooker-Smith, Andrew Proctor, Abas Talib, Stephen Baker.

Canada: 2014 Report from Toronto, Ottawa–Montreal, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island

Bruce Murray (ADB 1980–2007)



Bruce Murray

In 2014, Canadian AFE chapter members met, renewed friendships, and caught up on the news. A year-end report sent to all Canadian AFE members listed AFE members who passed away and covered issues related to (1) the main activities of the Canadian AFE chapter in 2014; (2) pensions; (3) health insurance; (4) news from ADB (e.g., income taxation of Filipino staff, 2014 Annual Meeting and future meetings; financial issues for ADB, competition for ADB from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the BRICS Development Bank); (5) news from AFE (e.g., AFE coordination with ADB Management, BPMSD, and the Staff Council; the AFE website; donations for the victims of Typhoon Yolanda; AFE election results; and AFE Europe reunion). Some of these topics were also covered in the business portions of the Ottawa, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island reunions and occasional E-mails from the chapter coordinator.



Nida Rodrigo, Toronto area coordinator (ADB 1976–1996)

Toronto. The AFE Toronto group, led by Nida Rodrigo, was very active in 2014, organizing potlucks and other get togethers throughout the year. In April, 16 Toronto AFEers and spouses gathered at the beautiful home of Paz and Ed Ravadilla to cheer on Manny Pacquiao and to blow out candles to celebrate two birthdays. The night was filled with laughter, food, stories, fellowship, and Pacman’s win over Bradley. In July, Lindy and Mike Trabulsi opened their home for a summer potluck—17 people renewed their friendships and had a

lot of fun. November saw 13 Toronto AFEers gather for an authentic Italian fine dining experience at the Westin Harbour Castle. The views of the Toronto skyline and Lake Ontario were beautiful. A large AFE contingent attended the 75th birthday party of Lea Gojo that was organized by her family.

To improve communications between former ADB staff, Nida moderates/comoderates three groupsites: AFE Toronto (over 50 active/inactive members), the former Agriculture East 2 group (14 Filipino members), and ex-ADB Filipino Staff (over 350 members). These groupsites use Facebook and Yahoo Groups, free public meeting sites that provide members with discussion forums, a shared calendar, member profiles, a photo gallery, and file sharing/storage. Nida found it heartwarming when one of her former colleagues in Toronto said that her ADB friends were one of her “life lines.”



AFE Toronto Gala Dinner at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. Back Row (l-r): Jenny and Boy Amigleo, Ed Ravadilla. Middle Row (l-r): Ernie Flores, Jun and Malou Trasporto, Tito Jugo, Lea Gojo. Front Row (Left to Right): Nida Jugo, Leah Flores, Paz Ravadilla, Helen and Rolly Duenas.



AFE Toronto Cheered on Manny Pacquiao. Standing (l-r): Ed Ravadilla, Tito Jugo. On Couch (l-r): Paz Ravadilla, Ron and Anisa Jameson, Ellen Ballares, Lea Gojo, Lindy and Mike Trabulsi, Ollie and Lucien Nogard (who drove from Hamilton to attend the event). On the floor (l-r): Nida Jugo, Rey Ballares, Boy and Jennie Amigleo. Not in the photo: Lou Angelo who left early for another commitment.



John Rive, Ottawa area coordinator (ADB 1978–2002)

Ottawa–Montreal: Asian Dining and Story Sharing.

On 2 October 2014, 17 AFEers and spouses living in the Ottawa–Montreal area met at the Coconut Lagoon restaurant in Ottawa to relish South Indian cuisine. Everyone enjoyed catching up with friends and remembering ADB days, and appreciated John Rive’s efforts

to organize the reunion. During the business portion of the meeting, Farrokh Kapadia provided a briefing on the excellent AFE Europe reunion in Andorra, which he and Rita attended in September, and an update on health insurance, pension, and AFE matters.



Ottawa AFE 2014 Dinner. Front Row (l-r): Subadra Kappagoda, Mariam Pal, Patricia Eyre, Rita Kapadia, Helen McNeely, Ken McNeely. Back (l-r): Audrey Jorssen, Allan Barry, Ana Barry, Marilyn Collette, Farrokh Kapadia, Vernon Jorssen, Nihal Kappagoda, Robert Collette, Jeanette Rive, John Rive. Photographer: Eli Krantzberg (Husband of Mariam Pal).

Vancouver Island Brunch. Nine AFEers attended a brunch on Vancouver Island hosted by Bev Bauche in her lovely home on Friday, 7 November. We reminisced about our ADB days over delicious food prepared by Bev while gazing out over a beautiful view of the water. In addition to the brunch, Vancouver Island AFE spouses sometimes got together during the year. Bruce Murray brought the members up to date on developments at ADB and pension and health insurance issues.

Vancouver: Fine Food and John Cole Quizzes.

Nineteen AFEers and spouses/guests living in the Vancouver area got together at the River Rock Casino for a buffet on 22 November to renew friendships, recall fond memories, and enjoy good food. Two John Cole Memorial Quizzes tested the knowledge of the attendees on ADB and the



Vancouver Island 2014 AFE Brunch. Back (l-r): Dick Gold, Alex Jorgenson, Ed Hourihan and Bruce Murray. Front (l-r): Jane Hourihan, Leslie Gold, Laura Jorgenson and Bev Bauche. Photographer: Emma Murray.

Christmas season. Bruce Murray brought the group up to date on news from ADB and pension and health insurance issues. In April, Yang Weimin organized a lunch for some former ADB colleagues—Lew Hayashi, Bill Fraser, Kimlin Lin, Bruce Murray, and Yang Weimin attended and enjoyed excellent Chinese food. Marites Sumagui-Zamora has a weekly radio program in Vancouver broadcasting news from the Philippines. ■



AFE Vancouver dines at the River Rock Buffet. Front (l-r): Jenny Palmiano-Majarreis and Vir Majarreis; Ky and Lew Hayashi; Back (l-r): Malu Dizon and her mother; Marites Mendoza (visiting from Winnipeg); Angelita Celestino; Nemy and Fremma Esquejo; Bill and Christine Fraser; Marites Sumagui-Zamora; Jay Dimailig, Lenn and Rey Castro, Loi Dimailig and Bruce Murray. Photographer: Sean Dimailig.

Europe: Modern and Medieval Andorra

Elizabeth Reyes (Hans Springer was at ADB 1972–2002)



Reading the lead-ups to AFE Reunion 2014 in Andorra, we wondered: What’s so special about this tiny, relatively unknown mountain place aside from its very isolation in time and space? From the first hours of arrival, our host, Rudolf Jonker, a long-time resident of Andorra, had an all-knowing twinkle

in his eye as he started doling out his love for Andorra in dribs and drabs. After 3 days in his mountain town, we too fell under the Andorran spell.

This mountain country called Andorra is a tiny independent co-principality up in the Pyrenees, nestled between the giant nations of France and Spain. Andorra’s mixed population lives in narrow valleys deep inside the 2,000-meter-high Pyrenees Mountain Range. Comprising



just 70,000 citizens (half of whom are native Andorrans, while the rest are Catalans [the majority], other Spaniards, French, Portuguese, and other Europeans), Andorrans know the meaning of isolation and security: their land can be accessed only by long tunnels through the mountains from Spain and a climb of 2,407 meters—the Valira Pass from France. (Most of us flew into Barcelona and drove 3 hours into Andorra.) Until the 1960s there were only two tunnels in and out; by the 1990s there were seven tunnels in and out. Andorra is now connected to the modern world.

Still, Andorrans maintain an old-fashioned character and quaint sensibility in their modern-day country. Their constitution was written only in 1993; and until today Andorra is ruled (quaintly) in tandem by the Bishop of La Seu d’Urgell in Cataluña, and the President of France. Both these national leaders, called *co-princes*, live outside



By row, front to back (l-r): (1) Jill Gale de Villa, Pilar Zimonyi, Wolfgang Teschner, Esther-Marina Teschner, Gunter Hecker, Dolor Tejada, Emma Murray, Edwige Suos, Sylvia Dick, Ana Ma. Belen Tan, Enriqueta Hecker, Angela Quila, Marilou Hakuta, Jackie Metzger, Friederike Kantner, Monique Freiwald; (2) Hans-Juergen Springer, Ivan Zimonyi, Bill Fraser, Christine Fraser, Erika Henrich, Aimo Juhola, Barbara Addison, Ursula Taylor; (3) Werner Schelzig, Maarten van der Schaft, Uwe Henrich, Someth Suos, Alain Dick, Bruce Murray, Rodney Addison, Jack Taylor; (4) Helga Schulz, Tony Quila, Hermann Escher, Günther Schulz, Ricardo Tan,



La Casa de la Vall, Andorra's first Parliament building.

Andorra's borders. The Andorrans are aware and proud of their 11th century origin—the first Covenant determined that Andorra would be jointly governed by the Count of Foix and the Bishop of Urgell—while culturally they celebrate their medieval traditions in modern dress.

Contemporary Andorra is amazing among these high mountains. It draws 10 million tourists a year, especially in winter, when visitors gather to ski the lofty slopes. In summer, too, Andorra comprises a modern and medieval experience—a fascination for the 70 ADB retirees attending this annual European-chapter affair. For all seasons, Andorra was a memorable modern-medieval destination! The meeting's organizers had originally planned for about 30 participants and were stretched to the maximum to accommodate the big unexpected demand. Participants included four former VPs, several EDs, and a large non-European contingent.

Day 1: Government and Gala. We awoke to our first tour-day in the mountains and found ourselves among the stone buildings and sturdy founding values of old Andorra. **La Casa de la Vall**, the first Parliament, constructed in 1580, was our initial stop. We gathered in sunshine outside a solid stone edifice with sentry boxes on two corners and a heavy iron key above the big wooden door. We had an appointment with history and a charming guide to take us through the hallowed halls of the **Council House** and Seat of Justice. We sat where the first sessions of Parliamentarians—the **Consell General**—were held. We glimpsed the Council's Cupboard of 7 keys, traditionally opened by representatives of the seven parishes. Finally, we exited through rustic rooms of a woody home-museum, paved with a tapestry of river stones. We noted the inspiring insignia of Andorra, which reads: *Virtus Unita Fortior*: Truth, Unity, Strength.



Top: St. Joan des Caselles, built in the 11th and 12th centuries.
Right: Monique Freiwald in an archway of St. Joan des Caselles.



After Parliament came our first Romanic (as in Romanesque) stone church. The large AFE group took turns entering the tiny stone church of **St. Joan des Caselles**,

built in the 11th and 12th centuries. The interior is adorned with remains of a 12th century Romanesque stucco crucifix, while the nave is enriched by a fine Baroque altarpiece.

We tipped our first sangrias al fresco at the **Borda de l'Horto**, a former farm and alehouse in Ransol village; then tried our fine gazpacho andalus, paella de la montagna, and crème caramel. The post-prandial tour comprised a visit to the heritage museum, **Areny Plandolit**, in Ordino. The AFE group wandered through this stately house, gazing at the stone archways carved with hundreds of picturesque animals and goblins.

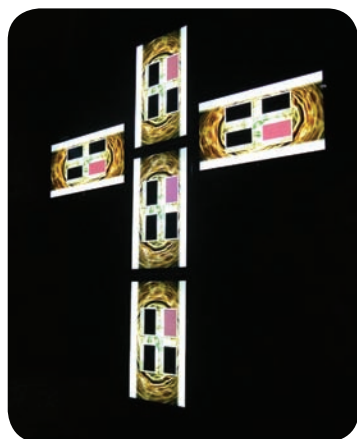
AFE's Gala evening started with an hour's drive south from Ordino into northern Spain, depositing us at the **Castell de Ciutat** atop a hill of La Seu d'Urgell. Our spritely host Rudi Jonker outdid himself on AFE's Gala Night, conjuring up a grand, splendid, fantasy soiree among the castle's high stone walls. Everyone came stylish, elegant, and feeling Cataluñan. Former Vice-President Peter Sullivan



and family from San Francisco were the best-dressed trio. And 14 Filipinas relished their AFE family "photo-op" in the castle garden. Along with a sparkly aperitif and an elegant

dinner (of salad with prawns and veal cheeks with red wine sauce), we had rousing Pyrenean guitar music, Pyrenean traditional folk dances, and multicultural bonhomie.





Day 2: Exquisite Chapels, Vast Views, Bath before Business. On Sunday we headed for tiny **Pal Village**, a mountain fastness comprising a dozen uniform stone houses built for drying highland tobacco, and 37 people living around their ancient **Church of St. Climent**. Taking turns in groups, we walked along stone corridors, up stone

ramps and steps, coming face to face with expansive roof planes and walls of granite stone and shale. Rudi Jonker explained that most of the Romanesque frescoes had been removed and saved in the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya in Barcelona, so only some originals and reproductions remain in medieval Andorra.

After the compact Church of St. Climent, the best show in Pal was the audio-visual documentary in the Centre Interpretacio Romanic. A fine modern video displayed exquisite images from the illuminated manuscript called the Beatus, enthroned there under glass. Its fragile pages contained the monk's commentary on the Apocalypse, reflecting the medieval mindset of the 11th century.

Sunday afternoon brought a scenic stopover at the **Pal Ski Station**, where thousands of skiers flock from all over Europe to hit the high winter slopes of the Andorran panorama. Meanwhile, our 85-year-old host was hopping on and off the tour bus, checking in English, French, Spanish, and German if all his retiree charges were comfy and adequately informed with copious notes and research hand-outs about Andorran stones or tobacco or Romanic architecture!

Mid-afternoon was for the **Caldea Spa**, Europe's largest mountain spa resort, offering up Andorra's splendid thermal waters. A modernist spa installation designed by Jean-Michel Ruols comprises an amazing mirrored pyramid

amid the mountain environs. Inside awaits a unique experience among futuristic interiors of Caldea's thermal leisure center. One can try hydro massage, Jacuzzi, saunas, and more; or just loll in the 600-square meter Laguna, where thermal waters are always 32°C whatever the outside temperature may be. We loved the outdoor pool with a dozen spa jets massaging us within sight of the mountain scenery!



At the business meeting: (l-r) Günter Hecker, Günther Schulz, Hans-Juergen Springer, Jill Gale de Villa, and Bruce Murray.

In the afternoon, we had a well attended **2-hour business meeting**, where issues regarding pension, taxing of pensions, health insurance, and various issues on general AFE matters were discussed. Naomi Chakwin, Resident Representative in the ADB Frankfurt Office, updated us also on the newest developments.

Before Sunday's dinner in Hotel Coma, we had a fine aperitif of Esbart music and dances performed by the lively dancers of Rudi's troupe from Ordino. The jolly high kicks of the Jota gave way to the AFE members trying the Esbart



Dancers of the troupe from Ordino.





Barbara and Rodney Addison and Maarten van der Schaft at Pal.



Sta. Coloma church.



At the Bishop's Palace: Left: Uwe Henrich, Rudolf Jonker, the bishop's representative, Lamcelot d'Urseil, and (foreground) Jackie Metzger. Right: learning about the museum.

group dancing, and the local youngsters hugging Uncle Rudi with great affection.

Day 3: La Seu, More Museums, Tiny Church, Au Revoir. On another trip south to La Seu, we stepped again into medieval environs: the **Diocesan Museum**, the cloister, San Miguel Church, and Santa Maria Cathedral. Then followed a visit to the Municipal History Museum—four modern stories of socioeconomic displays and history panels. In between medieval sites, Rudi rounded up the official representative of the Bishop of La Seu d'Urgell (and Prince of Andorra) for a "live" welcome and chat in the corridors by the ancient gates. Finally, we walked through the authentic historic quarter Barri Antic of the 13th century city for our lunch at the Italianate restaurant, Andria.

Our last little stone church was **Sta. Coloma**, a 10th century Romanesque jewel with its unique circular

bell tower and ancient remnants of painted altar and frescoed walls.

Our *despedida* dinner in Hotel Coma was preceded by effusive appreciation. Gunther Hecker noted "Great thanks must go to our host Rudolf Jonker. We've done 4 days in Andorra that have been such a pleasure and an education too. We have learned about art and architecture, fine arts and history, music and culture, food and dancing. And then tonight before our last dinner, we even had a session of Andorran economics with Rudi's financial consultant."

Dutchman Rudolf Jonker had brought a joyful depth and personal engagement to our experience of Andorra. Uplifted by our smiles and compliments, he glowed and grinned, ear to ear, saying: "The Andorans always loved their peace.... This is the most peaceful place on Earth."

We gulped in our last glimpses of Andorra with mountain peaks soaring over neat little villages, and



Pal village.

rivers running through small towns. And we recalled the lovely Romanic frescoes that graced her tiny stone churches back in the 11th and 12th centuries. And we were satisfied to have tasted Andorra.

On to the United (still) Kingdom. This year, the AFE Europe Chapter Reunion is programmed for Edinburgh, Scotland and promises to be another unique experience. ■

India: Fun and Business

Barindra Ganguli (ADB 1979–1995)



The Twenty-First Annual Business Meeting of the AFE–ADB India Chapter was held in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh State, at the invitation of Ajay Nath. He is currently Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) of the Madhya Pradesh government, and formerly worked in the office of the Indian Executive Director at ADB. He helped us finalize an astonishingly crowded but eventful

schedule, with two trips from Bhopal before the business meeting and two more after it.

Pre-Meeting Trips: 26–27 September 2014. On 26 September, participants visited the **Shiva Temple** and the world heritage site in **Bhimbetka** in **Bhojpur**, 46 kilometers (km) from Bhopal. Steeped in antiquity, this Shiva Temple is made of red sandstone and has the largest Shiva Lingam in India. The temple was constructed in



Sanchi Stupa.

1,000 AD, and is a marvellous example of ancient India’s stone architecture.

Bhimbetka, a United Nations World Heritage site, is surrounded by mountains, hidden amidst deep forests. Bhimbetka has many caves with colored paintings on the cave walls, depicting hunting; dancing; regal processions; festivals; and animals including elephants, tigers, wild boars, horses, and bison. The caves were used periodically as human dwellings from 5,000 BCE to 1,600 BCE, covering the Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Chalcolithic periods. The paintings give a glimpse of the life of the prehistoric cave dwellers.

In the evening we had a boat cruise on the big lake artificially made by the then King of Bhopal Raja Bhoj, followed by fine dining overlooking the lake, at Winds and Wave, managed by the Madhya Pradesh Tourist Development Corporation (MPTDC).

On September 27, in the forenoon we visited two historical sites—**Udaygiri Caves** and **Sanchi**—70 km northeast from Bhopal. Carved out of sandstone hills during 382–402 AD, the Udaygiri Caves exemplify the skills and artistry in stone sculpture of the ancient master craftsmen



Taj-ul-Masjid in Bhopal.



Business meeting.

architecture. The very informative guide, Mr. Chauhan, who was provided by the MPTDC, noted that Emperor Asoka’s son Mahindra and daughter Sanghamitra were trained in Sanchi Vihara and sent to Sri Lanka, where they converted the people to Buddhism.

of Besnagar (now Vidisha). This was fully visible in cave 5, where a massive, awe-inspiring statue of Vishnu in his Varaha (Boar) incarnation holding the earth aloft on one tusk completely mesmerized us. The Udaygiri caves richly present the strength and vitality of the Gupta period stone art and architecture.

Sanchi is 13 km from Udyagiri on the main highway. The site’s Buddhist stupas, monasteries, temples, and pillars were erected in the 3rd century BCE to the 12th century CE, and have been well preserved. Recently, Sanchi has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The most famous stupa, known as the Great Stupa, was originally built by the great Mauryan Emperor Asoka. Carved with stories of Buddha’s life and time and the subsequent history of Buddhism, the gateways and stupas in Sanchi are the finest specimens of early classical art, and provided inspiration for the subsequent Indian stone

After a refreshing lunch in the Great Way Retreat, we toured part of old **Bhopal town**, passed through the big lake, and visited the **Taj-ul-Masjid**—claimed to be the largest mosque in Asia—and the two museums in Shamla Hills in Bhopal. The Tribal Museum and its artefacts displayed in bold colors were very impressive.

Business: 27 September. The Business Meeting was held in the hotel’s ornate hall and the cocktail and dinner followed in a long corridor adjoining the meeting hall, both facing the big lake. Chapter President Prateep Lahiri welcomed the participants and thanked Ajay Nath for helping Barin Ganguli hold the meeting in Bhopal. The Meeting observed a minute of silence in the memory of P.K. Thomas, a chapter member who passed away early in 2014.

Prateep Lahiri, briefed the members partly on the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP). He assured members that, based on



Seated, (l-r): Shipra and Barin Ganguli, Lata Deshpande. Standing, (l-r): Rakesh and Asha Gupta, Shobha Juneja, Supra Saha, Prateep Lahiri, Shyam Bajpai, Malti Kelkar, Rajani Bagal, Sujata Godbole, Jayanta Madhab, Baskar Saha, Ramdass Keswani, Rajni Bajpai, Krishna Bagal, Snimer Sahni, Sudipto Mundle.

his recent discussion with AFE–ADB President Hans-Juergen Springer (HJS), he was confident that the SRP review would not adversely affect the pensioners.

Ajay Nath and his wife Sadhna Nath were our special guests. Ajay Nath thanked us for coming to Bhopal. He also apprised us of the quantum jump in economic growth (more than 10%) and growth in agriculture production (16.7%) in Madhya Pradesh due to good policies and governance.

Proposal for the 2015 AFE–ADB India Chapter Meeting.

The consensus at the Open Forum was that the Chapter's Annual Business Meeting should be held outside Delhi as far as possible to increase participation of members from outside Delhi and give members an opportunity to see places of historical and cultural importance of incredible India. It was decided to explore holding the 2015 Meeting in West Bengal or Gujarat.

Participants enjoyed the cocktail and the wonderful and tasty buffet dinner. The evening ended with a vote of thanks and a few warm and encouraging words to the Chapter Coordinator, who worked hard since June to make this meeting a success in Bhopal. Participants also thanked ADB and AFE–ADB Manila for providing a subsidy stimulus to bring us together.

Post-Meeting Trip. The trip to **Ujjain**, 210 km east of Bhopal, was a great success. Thanks to Ajay Nath, we had the privilege of visiting the **Mahakaleshar Temple**, the most sacred Shiva shrine in India. We also visited the Ram Ghat of the sacred Shipra River in Ujjain, the Kal Bhairava Temple, and the Manginath Temple, from where one can see the clearest view of Mars.

A few members visited **Panchmari** about 210 km southeast of Bhopal. Panchmari is a hill station in Madhya Pradesh. While travelling to Panchmari we passed through the rich expanse of a virtually unscathed ecosystem characterized by thick dry deciduous forests of teak, rugged hilly backdrops, gorgeous waterfalls, and breathtaking landscapes of ravines and a maze of gorges sculpted in red sandstone carved by wind and water. The sunset in Dhup Garh had a fascinating influence on us. Second by second, we saw how the intense red sun turned yellow and suddenly the whole sky where it met the mountains was draped in golden yellow. The western horizon was filled with cumulous cloud that glowed in vermilion rays of the departing sun. For the 2-day leisurely interlude, we stayed at a heritage hotel, the Rock View Manor, built in 1910. ■

Visit <http://afe-adb.org>

Indonesia: The Baton Passes

Dimiyati Nangju (ADB 1978–2001)



Excerpted from Dimiy Nangju's "Terminal Report."

I held the position of [Chapter] Coordinator for more than 11 years, from 2001 until 2012. In December 2012, I decided to resign from my position because I felt that it was time for other members to take over the leadership of the Chapter so that there would be rejuvenation and sustainability of the Indonesia Chapter...

Under my leadership, I expanded the activities of the Indonesia Chapter by carrying out the following activities:

1. Increased the number of meetings for its members and their families from once a year to at least three times a year. Two of these meetings were sponsored by members on a rotational basis, while the third meeting (the annual general meeting held in December each year) was financed from the ADB subsidy to AFE.
2. Held the meetings not only in Jakarta but also outside Jakarta, such as in Bandung, Bogor, and Sentul City.
3. Supported charitable work, such as providing financial support to education of orphaned children in Bandung and Jakarta.
4. Provided moral support to members who were sick and hospitalized by sending them flowers or fruit on behalf of the members.



Chapter Coordinator Dimiyati Nangju (r) congratulating Putu Kamayana (l) on his election as the new coordinator of the Indonesian Chapter.



Participants at the Special General Meeting on 26 October 2014. Front (l-r): Tutty Cagayat, Sonya Rahardjo, Ratna Halimoen, Wati Kamayana, Anna Soerkakoesoemah, Tuti Kaswadi, Nora Nangju, Roslaini Rasuman, Dian Prijomustiko, Zsi Zsi Rahman. Second row (l-r): Nani Bhinekawati, Ida Ponteves, Ruben Cagayat, Pamoedjo Rahardjo, Eddie Gunadi, M. Soerakoesoemah, Nadia Idris, Jusuf Anwar, Putu Kamayana, Abdullah Rasuman, Philip Daltrop, and Dimiyati Nangju. Standing third row (l-r): Prijomustiko, Michel Ponteves, Halimoen Margono, Adrian Ruthenberg, Adiwarmarman Idris.

5. Collected annual dues of Rp200,000 per year from each member so that the Chapter had adequate funds to finance its activities.

The total number of members grew from about 20 in 2001 to more than 50 in 2014 as membership was expanded to accept not only former ADB staff from Headquarters but also those from the Indonesia Resident Mission.... As [Chapter] Coordinator, I participated in the Coordinators' Meeting and the Annual General Meeting of AFE-ADB held each year in conjunction with the ADB Annual Meeting....

The Indonesian Chapter has been in existence for more than 25 years. As more and more ADB staff have retired and resigned from ADB, the Chapter is expected to have more new members.... With the election of a new team for the Indonesian Chapter, comprising Putu Kamayana as [Chapter] Coordinator, Dian Prijomustiko as Secretary, and Nina Bhinekawati as Treasurer, the future outlook for the Chapter is bright as the new team is expected to formulate a new strategy and plan to make the Chapter more relevant to meet the current challenge. ■

Japan: Barrio Fiesta

Motomu Kariya (ADB 1980-1983)



The 34th Barrio Fiesta was held on 12 January at the Palace Hotel in Tokyo. Barrio Fiesta is an annual event for Japanese staff members who worked at ADB at the time of Mr.

Yoshida, the third President of ADB. To our deep regret, Mr. and Mrs. Yoshida are no more in the center of the party. But 44 members who respect them and cherish their memory joined the party. All



participants are longing for the old good days in Manila.

The party was organized under the chairmanship of Mr. Shoji Takahashi. An impromptu chorus sang songs under the direction of Mr. Makoto Sunagawa and other party members joined as well. Participants also enjoyed playing bingo. ■



Participants at the 34th Barrio Fiesta. Mr. and Mrs. Hideki Abe, Mr. and Mrs. Arao Abe, Mr. Yuzo Akatsuka, Mr. and Mrs. Susumu Fujimoto, Mr. Moriyasu Furuki, Mr. and Mrs. Kazuo Fuse, Mr. and Mrs. Hiroshi Hida, Mr. Tomohiro Ishiguro, Mrs. Motoko Kanamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Motomu Kariya, Mr. Isao Kawahara, Mr. and Mrs. Takashi Kobayashi, Mr. Kazuhisa Matsuoka, Mr. and Mrs. Yasuhide Nakagawa, Mr. Genji Nozaki, Mr. and Mrs. Akio Sato, Mr. and Mrs. Takeshi Shibuya, Mr. and Mrs. Shigemitsu Sugisaki, Mr. and Mrs. Makoto Sunagawa, Mr. and Mrs. Shoji Takahashi and their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Eiichi Watanabe, Mr. and Mrs. Yukinori Watanabe, Mr. Takashi Yajima, Mr. and Mrs. Tadashi Yoshida, Mr. Tsuneaki Yoshida, Mr. and Mrs. Masataka Yoshitomi.

New Zealand: Taupo

Ron Hamilton (ADB 1981–1986)



Eight members and seven partners attended the 2014 chapter meeting in Taupo on 3–6 March. It was agreed that, although it may have been a small group, it was all quality!

The gathering was organized by Bruce Smith, Stew Andrews, and Mike Ryan. Bruce was ably supported by Carol, who took charge of the off-agenda events. The weather was

less than kind, which meant a boating activity to see Maori carvings and to remove a few trout from Lake Taupo had to be abandoned.

Taupo is a large town on the northern shore of Lake Taupo. The Lake is sometimes compared in size to Singapore. It is a geothermal center and has long been the location of New Zealand's geothermal power stations. The district also has a number of geothermal and volcanic activities, and tourists are able to wallow in natural and constructed hot pools. The Waikato River, the lake's only outlet, has spectacular falls, adjacent to the world-class Huka Lodge luxury accommodation. For golfers, the Wairakei Golf Course is cited as an international level course.

As always, the gathering seriously addressed local dining establishments, with Brantry being an excellent venue for the "formal" dinner. As a variation, a lunch was

held at a nearby prawn farm.

A visit to the newly commissioned Ngatamariki thermal power station was extremely interesting. This station harnesses the power of super-heated steam and mud surging out of the earth's depths. The Ngatamariki Geothermal site consists of 7 geothermal wells (3 production and 4 reinjection). In addition to the main geothermal wells, there are 21 sentinel and monitoring wells, to depths of 1,500 meters.

Another visit was to Orakei Korako, a short distance from Taupo. Orakei Korako boasts the most active geysers of any geothermal park in New Zealand. Up to 23 active natural geysers play freely through the area, which is constantly changing. Visitors marvel at the number of boiling hot springs and the vibrant colors all around them as they take a native bushwalk through this untouched geothermal paradise. The Lonely Planet guide describes Orakei Korako as "...arguably the best thermal area left in New Zealand."

At the formal chapter meeting, it was agreed that the next gathering will be in Dunedin in 2016. ■



Standing (l-r): Mike and Pat Ryan, Leith Hamilton, Rosemary Fox, Carol Clendon, Gordon Fox, Colin Pratt, Marian Bond, Ross Clendon, Gaye and Stuart Andrews, Francis Narayan. Seated (l-r): Ron Hamilton, Bruce Smith.

Philippines: Annual Get-Together

Gam de Armas (ADB 1981–2000)



Fresh with the memories of Typhoon Yolanda that struck the country on 8 November 2013 and the massive relief and recovery efforts that followed, the Philippines Chapter adopted “Share More” as its theme for the 2014 Annual Get-Together held at the ADB Executive Dining Room on 20 November 2014.

During the business meeting portion, members who passed away during the year were remembered: Victor The, Imelda David, Aluida Pardo, Eustaquio Tolentino Jr, Ramon Hontiveros, and Herminigildo Quintana. The address and relevant updates of the AFE–ADB President Hans-Juergen Springer and Vice-President Jill de Villa, came next followed by the Report of the Philippines



Chapter Coordinator highlighted by the help extended to the Typhoon Yolanda victims through the combined donations of the Philippines Chapter and other AFE–ADB members. Group (area) coordinators who recently retired from their posts were thanked for their splendid work in keeping their respective groups active and informed. These were Raquel Cabiles of the East Group, Carmen Dimayuga and Glo Ferry of the North Group, and Baby Girl Cruz, Lou de Belen, and Ophie Sta. Ana of the South Group.



Dinner ensued at 6:00 PM with the “New EnTHREE Band” providing ‘60s and ‘70s music. One hundred fifty two members and their spouses attended the affair dressed in their cowboy outfit, many with matching boots and hats.

Then, it was time for fun, dancing, games, and entertainment. The winners of the “It’s Christmas Shopping” game were Nes Diasanta, George Villamor, David Parker, and Will Ferguson. Prizes were awarded to the winners and losers got consolation prizes. Another game, hosted by the West Sector was the “Kuwarta o Bayong” (Money or Bag) and prizes were also awarded to the participants.

Ten finalists were chosen in the Best Cowboy Costume Contest. Winners Edna Villareal and Arnold Jalandoni. For the female category, the 1st runner-up was Lina Ledesma and Dina Real got 3rd place. In the male category, Winnie Soriano was the 1st runner-up and Ed Alvarez took 3rd place.

Dancing to the excellent music and songs provided by the spiced up the evening while raffle prizes went to lucky members. The grand prize went to Aida Lizarondo—3 days, 2 nights in a Boracay resort hotel. ■



New York–New Jersey: Annual Reunion

Nannette Guinto Amorado (ADB 1982–2007)



One is always running after time in New York! Coordinating the 2014 reunion was one such case, as even the ExCom members were in different spaces at different points in time. The ExCom, composed of Florence Rafulowitz and Oscar Colmenar (as co-chairs) and Nena Villena Tanedo, Margie Ferrer Baccay, and myself, met a few lunchtimes to plan, plan some more,

and then finalize, with lots of e-mails and errands in between.

Then on 25 October 2014, time suddenly stopped and there was magic in the air!

Former ADB staff, spouses, and friends convened and all we could hear was laughter and never ending stories, some of which were even repeats of last year and years past, reminiscing about days at ADB and all the nostalgic craziness. Mind you, they all came—New Yorkers and New Jersey folk were joined by Ophie Sta. Ana and Cherie Melencio all the way from Manila, Y-Chie Belarmino from Boston, Wilma and Raffy Buenaobra from Washington, DC, and Precy Mallari-Andrews from Geneva; and there were first-timers like MG Quibria and Noemi Nazario. We had a mystery thriller that night, directed by Mia Jose. The long play was done in installments so that we forgot who killed

who and what really happened. But Don O’Buckley (Chato’s endearing spouse) did such a great job of making the thriller exciting that he ended up as the emcee the whole night! The other scene-stealers were the hilarious albeit naughty games led by Nena.

Again, one can only hear screams, mostly of women! Of course, there cannot be a party without ballroom dancing and the all-time favorite line dancing. If only I could dance! I happen to have two left feet. But I enjoyed watching, as always!

The games were awesome! Our guests were literally almost falling off their seats from laughing too much and could not believe that serious-looking ADBers could be beyond wacky! But what made the evening really memorable was that former ADB staff were obviously happy to bond and just totally enjoy each other’s presence. Our yearly reunion has become an event that we all look forward to and I really wish that it will be so for many years to come.

The next magical night in 2015 will be choreographed by Chato O’Buckley. This is something that should not be missed. With Chato and spouse Don, it will fun from A to Z, hands down. I have it from a good source that there will be prizes galore and tons of giveaways! So plan your next trip to New York! Feel free to contact me at nannette.amorado@undp.org or Chato at chato@twcmetrobiz.com. ■



The original party “think-tanks”: Standing - Chato O’Buckley and Emma Dumalag; Seated - Nannette Amorado and Florence Rafulowitz.



People, Places, and Passages

The Ecstasy of Art

K. Rudolf Jonker (ADB 1972–1992)



During my years of collecting in the Philippines, I experienced the ecstasy that this brought about. The ecstasy of art is the eternal glow of the delightful beauty that warms the heart and soul. My interest in spontaneous collecting was born and in later years grew deeper out of fascination for the creative output from the artistically

talented peoples of these lands.

I experienced the enjoyment of different cultural aspects of this relatively small corner of the world by visiting, studying, and collecting mainly in the Philippines, the country where I had the privilege to spend many good years of my life.



Pottery horse and carriage. Tang.

The first book of my collection deals with the antique Chinese ceramics, in the broader sense, that I was able to collect in the Philippines and the People's Republic of China, while the second volume deals with the ethnographic art of the Philippines and Asian artifacts in brass and bronze. If you are interested in receiving an electronic book of either collection, please contact me through AFE-ADB.

The Middle Kingdom. The Chinese name for China conveys clearly the sense that the country is the center

of civilization: the Middle Kingdom. In this civilization the manufacture of ceramics became of extreme importance. Ceramics became, after the techniques were perfected around the 7th century (Tang Dynasty), also big business for the Chinese traders. They shipped their wares to Persia and beyond, along the Silk Road. By the 10th century Chinese ceramics went overseas to Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

The mystery and attraction that China holds is partly inspired by its vast size and its culture. This collection chronicles one aspect of its great culture: ceramic development from the 7th to the 21st century, during which its unique ceramics became synonymous with "China."

Chinese Ceramics. To China go the laurels for the discovery of porcelain. Primitive societies all over the world developed pottery for storage, cooking, and transporting water. In China, several thousand years of ceramic tradition and experimentation led to the intermixing of china stone and china clay to produce a new material "true porcelain," a strong, white, translucent material that does not chip or crack easily. It was made in the early Tang Dynasty, 618–907.



Shard from a Pandanan shipwreck, Palawan. Ming Dynasty.



Stoneware bottle. Song



Terracotta lady musician. Ming.



Sawankhalok bottle. 13th–14th C.

1368); Ming (1368–1644); and Qing (1644–1912) dynasties; and the Republic (1912–1949).

Pottery statuettes of the Tang Dynasty in the collection include the famous Tang Horses, an equestrian pottery, a sole horse, and a farm wagon driven by a horse and rider.

Most of the objects of the Song, Yuan, and Ming periods in this collection were found during archeological excavations, and many came from burial sites, especially in the Philippines in the second half of the 20th century.

Chinese stoneware and porcelain reached the Philippines as early as the 9th century. The arrival of stoneware, which was more durable than the local unglazed earthenware, was a success, as people preferred the nonporous wares for storing liquids.

During the Song and Yuan Dynasties, trade with the Philippines reached its peak (960–1360). When foreign trade was controlled in the mid–14th century, Thai and Vietnamese ceramics flooded into the Philippines. Celadons were highly prized. Later the Philippines became an ideal market for blue and white and other wares. The importance of this trade diminished gradually in the Philippines towards the end of the Ming Dynasty (1644).

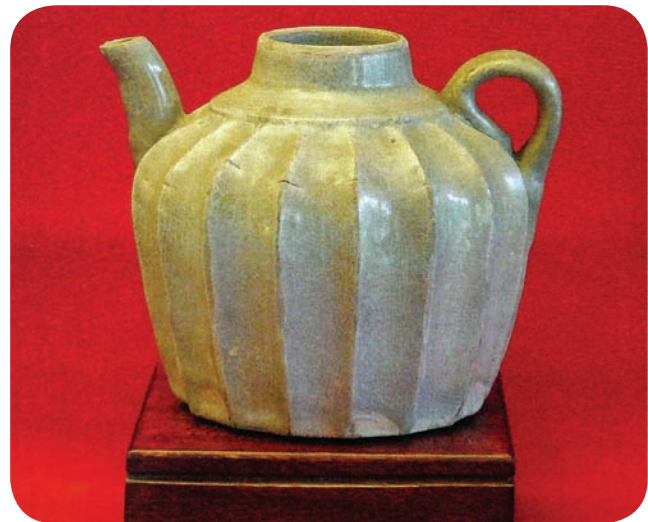
The periods of importance in the collection are the Tang (618–907 AD); Five Dynasties (907–960); Northern Song (960–1127); Southern Song (1127–1279); Yuan (1280–

The kilns of Jingdezhen in Jiangxi Province rapidly dominated porcelain production. The production of high-quality Celadon also started in Jingdezhen. Celadon refers to the mostly greenish glaze color, and its production became increasingly important during the Song Dynasty. It was produced only in Asia.

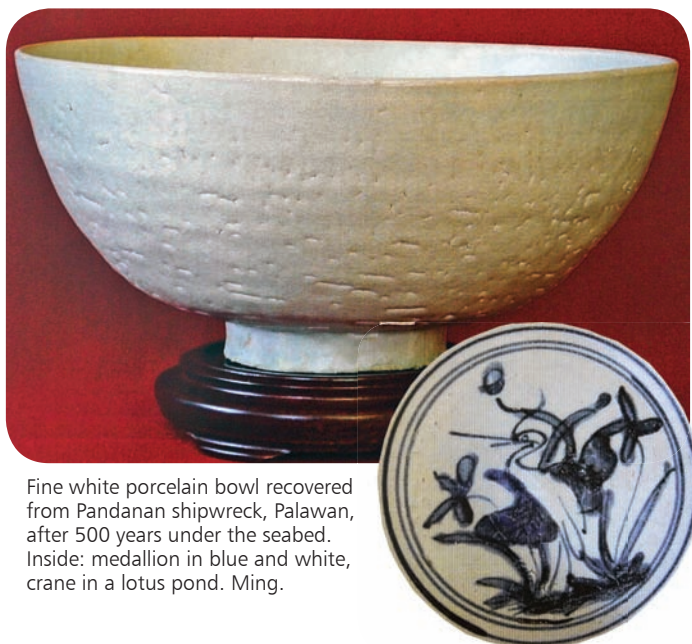
In the Qing period many more new wares were created, drawing on the long experience of both folk and imperial kilns. Jingdezhen had become a world famous center for the production of porcelain. Most famous are the blue and white underglazed wares with naturalistic designs painted in cobalt blue on white porcelain (a mixture of local kaolin clay with china stone). These were fired at 1,400 degrees centigrade, producing a delicate white ware, hard to scratch, being covered with a translucent glaze before firing.



Blue and white bottle. Yuan or earlier.



Olive green celadon with ribbed body. Song.



Fine white porcelain bowl recovered from Pandanan shipwreck, Palawan, after 500 years under the seabed. Inside: medallion in blue and white, crane in a lotus pond. Ming.

Ceramics Explained. Ceramics are objects made of fired (baked) clay. High firing is at 1,200–1,400 degrees centigrade and is used for porcelain; moderate firing at 1,200–1,280 degrees centigrade is used for stoneware; and low firing at 800–1,100 degrees centigrade is used for earthenware.

Earthenware is made from ordinary clay and is sometimes called terracotta. It can be red, tan, brown, or black. Traditional earthenware is not glazed. It is porous, coarse, and breaks easily.

Stoneware is hard, durable, and not porous. The clay may be gray, tan, or red. The pieces are usually glazed. Stoneware is generally thicker and less translucent than porcelain. Porcelaneous stoneware is better than the average stoneware but not as good as true porcelain.

Porcelain is fine pottery of high quality, hard, dense, nonporous, and often translucent. Porcelain makes a ringing sound when struck with the fingers. ■



Fine blue and white porcelain; dragon design. Ming.

Blogging Along

Keith Johnson (ADB 1984–1991)



Ed: Keith (a.k.a. Joe Shorrocks) is keeping quite busy indeed—visit his blog. Last year the Pendle War Poetry Competition (United Kingdom; <http://www.pendlewarpoetry.com/>) awarded him first prize among overseas entries for “A Brief Visit to Mellor.” Keith’s father died before Keith was born.

Back in 2009, I was heavily engaged in one of those typical pursuits of the semi-retired—researching my family history. Finally I deduced (by cross-matching Y-chromosome DNA; Births, Marriages, and Deaths Census Information; and oral history snippets), that my grandfather had changed his surname around 1905 when he left Northern England to settle in London. He started out as Harry Shorrocks (a lovely old Lancashire surname meaning “shire oaks”) and surfaced again as plain old “Harry Johnson.”

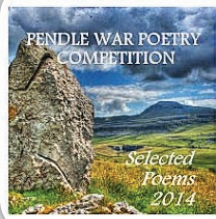
As my “Who Do You Think You Are” research narrowed down, I became dissatisfied with constantly updating the book-type text that I had initiated, which in any event read badly because there were many time overlaps. And I decided that I needed safe storage for my results. So I used Google’s Blogger facility to break down my life story and family vignettes into more easily adjusted chunks and to provide online storage.

It wasn’t long before I started getting inquiries from “distant cousins”—one of whom had been a Park Lane Bunny Girl in the 1970s and who sent me some stunning photographs of her younger self in a leotard plus fluffy tail.

Slowly, I came to realize that I could use the Blogger platform to run my own online magazine. The magazine now has nearly 1,300 articles (including photo sets and cartoons). So far the site has recorded around 600,000 page views from readers and currently gets 500–700 hits per day. It is around the 20th most popular New Zealand blog and its ranking is rising steadily. Around 60% of the readers live in the United States and the remainder is scattered around the globe, with hot spots



Keith’s distant cousin.



NOV 1 Wellington Poet Keith Johnson wins Pendle War Poetry Prize
RESULTS OF THE 2014 PENDLE WAR POETRY COMPETITION

Each of the following prize winners receives an official certificate and a free copy of the Selected Poems 2014 Anthology:

Entrants Under 18:

1st Prize: The Guns of War - Lauren Christopher
 2nd Prize: Dear Mum - Astrid Blumink

in New Zealand and the United Kingdom—and latterly the Russian Federation, where Putin’s crack-down on the Web has given bloggers even more currency.

My aim is to provide quality citizen journalism and in-depth magazine essays about issues, events, and trends in New Zealand and overseas. The Internet gives us new opportunities to synthesize and explore causes, links, and consequences, and having worked across the globe and across social science disciplines as an academic, development consultant, and public policy analyst, I want to explore these.

You can find the Blog by searching “Keith Johnson Wellington NZ.” Its URL is www.kjohnsonnz.blogspot.co.nz.

In addition to the serious stuff, you may also enjoy the reviews, humor, and poetry. The articles tend to revolve around my nine lives: (1) my current primary role as a superannuated second-time-around, generally stay-at-home dad; (2) my observations as a dedicated citizen of Wellington who is passionate about local affairs and politics; (3) my upbringing and youth as the son of a dairy farmer in Cheshire and life in England “back then”; (4) my post-graduate student days at the Australian National University, including my wild colonial boy depredations in the Northern Territory; (5) my experiences as a consultant in the Middle East; (6) my time with ADB in Manila and in developing member countries; (7) my interpretations of subjects like economics and ethics through a Buddhist lens; (8) my commitment to citizen journalism by following domestic and international news stories and providing independent and hopefully original comments; and (9) my aspirations as a creative writer.

My creative writing online has led to me winning a poetry competition in England and contributing poems and lyrics to a pop-up musical that opened in London’s West End in January 2015.

There are currently around 1,100 articles and items on the site and you can scroll down from beginning to end if you are so motivated. There is also a search engine on the site so that you can pick up on old articles, e.g. “Adam Smith,” “Ageing,” “The Nature of History,” “Urn,” “Happy Feet,” “Portuguese Toad-in-the-Hole,” “Pole Dancing,” “Who-do-you-think-you-are? (WDYT YA),” etc.

“And,” I hear you ask finally: “Why did your grandfather change his surname?” Well, in July 2013, I met up with the

NOV 2

A Brief Visit to Mellor



*Expecting a call from distant ancestors
 I had checked in at the Millstone Hotel
 In Mellor on a warm autumn evening.
 After sitting in the snug nursing a beer
 And wolfing down a Lancashire Hotpot
 I wandered out to the churchyard.*

*There sure enough was a Shorrocks grave
 And in the morning I drove to Shorrocks Hey
 Stopped by the gate and watched the cows.
 When he fled Salford to escape a debt or a girl
 My grandfather, who was a bit of a lad,
 Ditched the family name for anonymity
 But his male-line chromosomes betrayed him
 And I tracked down old deeds to Pendle Hill.*

*My father, who was killed before I was born
 Had died a hero flying in Bomber Command
 And I willed him to be with me now -
 The two of us beguiled by history
 Taking our journeys with false papers
 Come home to clear our names.*

*I wanted us to smell the air of old haunts
 Be stung by the nettles, eat the blackberries
 Feel the stones of the old cottages
 But taking a last look at the village
 Someone made that call and I saw him
 A tall blond youth so very like my own eldest son*

*I had seen that same boy in Jerusalem
 Among a detachment of Israeli conscripts
 The others dark and unfamiliar, he blond
 And as he looked towards me I owned him.
 That makes three sons of killing age.
 And now I hear the ram bleat and a still small voice.*

Posted 2nd November 2014 by Keith Johnson

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descendants of Harry's brother for a pub lunch in Cumbria. Talking to my father's long lost cousin who was well into his eighties, he was reticent. "Erm," I said, "the consensus on our side of the family is that he was a gambler, womanizer, and heavy drinker." "You have it," was the response. It's nice to know that I carry such good genes! ■

Go Godyo!

Nida Rodrigo (ADB 1976–1996) and Nikki Gojo-Duterte



Lea M. Gojo, also fondly called "Godyo" or Mama Lei, was feted by her family and friends on the occasion of her 75th birthday, last November 29 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It was a wonderful surprise, as she had no idea that her daughters had travelled to Toronto from Manila and Calgary to celebrate her birthday.

Lea's 75th birthday was also celebrated by Toronto AFE–ADB during their annual gala dinner at Westin Hotel, with a candle blowing ceremony and presentation of greetings from Canada's Prime Minister.

Godyo joined the Office of the General Counsel in 1968 at the Rufino Building, Ayala Ave. She was an active member of and trophy collector from ADB clubs—Homemakers, Table Tennis, Bowling, and Slimnastics, to name a few.

She married her high school sweetheart Col. Tomas Gojo, Jr., a Philippine Air Force pilot, in June 1965. They were blessed with four lovely daughters—Chinkie, Babette, Donna, and Nikki. But in January 1987, Tom went missing in a plane crash in Zamboanga.

Lea, a woman of strength and faith, did all she could to raise her four daughters while hoping that one day Tom would somehow return. As each year passed, every Christmas, birthday, and wedding anniversary still brought sadness and tears to Lea. But her faith in God kept her going to fulfill her dream of giving her children a better future.

Since Tom went missing, Lea underwent multiple surgeries, and she is proudly a breast cancer survivor. One

would think life has brought her nothing but one tragedy after the other. But these life events did not stop Lea. A bible study group in Villamor Air Base served as her support group. Through ADB, Lea was able to build a home for her daughters in Muntinlupa, as Tom's accident also meant the family had to give up their residence in Villamor Air Base.



Lea Gojo

All of her daughters are now happily married and have given her nine wonderful grandchildren. Her oldest daughter Chinkie is now a flight purser of Philippine Airlines and serves with her husband John as one of the elders at Lighthouse Community Church in Alabang. Babette is a document controller at Stantec Consulting in Calgary and serves with her husband Andoni as senior pastor of Word International Ministries Alberta. Donna is an AVP of the Home Loans Division at Security Bank and is married to Chef Ziggy, who is also a culinary arts professor. Nikki is a consulting sales manager at Oracle Canada and also serves with her husband Jong as senior pastor of Word International Ministries Ontario.

After retiring from ADB in 1998, Lea, a Canadian permanent resident, spent her time travelling to Legazpi City to visit relatives and in Canada (Toronto and Calgary) to visit her two daughters and families. Mama Lei is an active member of both AFE–ADB Toronto and AFE–ADB Manila. She is also an active member of Lighthouse Community Church in Alabang and Word International Ministries Ontario.

During her surprise birthday celebration, Lea's daughters gave her a message of blessing. These three words were all found in them: faith, hope, and love. Mama Lei is truly an inspiration to her family and her circle of friends in and out of ADB. Godyo—Mama Lei, we all salute you! ■



Lea and daughters.

Wickie Weds



On 29 December, Wickie Mercado (ADB 1993–2007) and Joe Zveglich (future AFE member and current Assistant Chief Economist at ADB) wed at Villa Escudero, in a lovely setting and on a lovely day. Family and friends arrived the day before to soak up the surroundings or earlier on the day. First Joe and then Wickie arrived at the chapel in a landau (a 4-wheeled carriage) drawn by a white horse. Pastor Noel Suministrado officiated at the service. Joe’s parents, son, and good friends had arrived from the United States. Wickie’s children and brother were part of the entourage.

The service was followed by champagne toasts and lots of good food and fun for all. AFE’s newest member, Kazu Sakai, attended—it was his last working day at ADB. ■



Macao—the Old and the New

Steve Banta (ADB 1991–2003)



For my 70th birthday, my four sons rented a 4-storey condo in Fenwick Island, Delaware, less than 100 meters from the site of the house that my parents and three other families rented for a month every summer until I graduated from high school—right on the beach. Of course the buildings were all new,

but surprisingly little had changed, and the sound of the waves lulling us to sleep every night (and every afternoon) was, well, identical. We—myself, my wife Cheli, four sons, two daughters-in-law, and two grandchildren—had an absolutely wonderful time.



At the Venetian casino.

So when Cheli was about to reach the same age, the kids asked her what she wanted to do. Her first thought was to rent a place in Tagaytay, but the kids said that wasn’t special enough. How about Macao? she countered. All agreed,

and we should have left after Christmas last year. But a medical emergency in the family put the plan on hold until August, and by then it changed to a week in Macao and Hong Kong, the latter portion being joined by #2 son, his wife, and their 3-year-old daughter.

Cheli and I had both been to Macao, but the most recent visit was years ago. What we remembered was the old town, a few floating casinos, a bumpy hydrofoil ride from Hong Kong, good Chinese and European food, and a distinctive Old World—Portuguese—ambiance. What we saw when we got out of the taxi was a glitzy clone of Las Vegas. Three hotels—casinos meld into each other on the island of Taipa. The premier one, the Venetian, has a canal running throughout, complete with gondolas and gondoliers singing in Italian. Every top-drawer designer has a shop, and the prices are expectedly astronomical.

But the room included breakfast buffet in a restaurant shared by the three hotels, and it was certainly worth the price of admission. It would probably take a week to taste everything in the buffet. We didn't have that much time, but we tried valiantly to sample all. There was a Japanese section, a Korean one, an Indian one, a European one, a Chinese one, a grill, an omelet station, a crepe station, six flavors of lassi, a bakeshop, and every juice known to humankind. We would take the newspaper and books there and take brunch over a two-hour period every morning. True to the word, that was breakfast and lunch each day.

In the afternoons we would go into the old town. This has not changed that much, although it seems smaller than before and overflowing with mainland Chinese. There

are dim sum places, balconies, narrow streets, winding footpaths, and tons of people. We visited museums, climbed up to the old St. Paul Cathedral, and sometimes just sat and watched the people stream by. Macao seems to be a major tourist spot for those from the giant to the north. These same folks will be in San Francisco, London, and Rome in a few years (if not already). What struck us was the *joie de vivre* of all these new travelers. Sadly, though, the tourist overload has not meant that everything is being preserved. We visited one church that has been turned into a bodega.

Not being a gambler, I kept my book with me while Cheli disappeared into one of the casinos before dinner each day. She would rejoin me with a big grin on her face, saying, "Where do you want to eat tonight? I just won enough for a fancy dinner." So our evening meal was always great, thanks to the slots.

We hear all the time about the Filipina maids in Hong Kong, but we discovered that the most visible *kababayans* in Macao are male security guards. A Filipino who needs to find a place, a store that sells a certain item, an open church, a flea market, or almost anything, can ask one of the friendly security guards. They also know the best hole-in-the-wall eateries for local delicacies. And they love speaking their native language with visitors.

So you can have it both ways in Macao: the old and the new. Hopefully the old will not shrink too much. As for the new, some day they will no doubt run out of space for hotels and casinos. But for now it is a nice balance. ■

Heritage Hideaway in Tagaytay

Allen Williams (ADB 1992–2005)



My wife, Menchie, and I have recently completed the construction of our rest house in the grounds of the Chateau Hestia Garden Restaurant. Our new house—Casa Carmen—is in Silang, Cavite, right on the boundary of Tagaytay City and just a couple of kilometers from Taal Volcano ridge.

We bought the 700 square meter lot a few years back from our dear friends, Maria and Johannes, the owners of Chateau Hestia. The restaurant is set in about 2 hectares of rolling terrain on the side of Taal in a verdant, tropical garden deep in the heart of the countryside. Our lot is



Cheli on the steps of the ruins of St. Paul's.



Entrance to Casa Carmen.

within the restaurant grounds and, although secluded from the restaurant, our agreement was to develop it in sympathy with the rustic nature and rural setting of Chateau Hestia.

Our concept for the development was to recreate a traditional Philippine Heritage house that reflects the original features and elegance of 19th century colonial era living plus all the modern, 21st century, facilities and conveniences. The house and associated buildings are constructed entirely from salvaged and recycled hardwood that has been rescued from old buildings that were being demolished. Not a scrap of new-cut lumber has been used in the construction.

We have researched the architectural style of the era and construction techniques used in the past and, using Menchie's design flare, have tried to create an authentic period look with an old world charm that is welcoming, comfortable, and practical for today's lifestyle. We



were lucky enough to find in Dante Porca, the owner of Antigong Kahoy (Antique Wood), a contractor with a deep knowledge of traditional building techniques, whose expertise and abiding passion is rescuing the timber, architectural features, and other artefacts from old buildings being demolished and giving them a new lease on life and purpose in projects like ours.

The main house is on two storeys and each level has been designed as a completely independent living unit. The upper floor is for Menchie and me and the ground floor is for guests. Entrance is through magnificent, antique narra wood double doors. Inside there is a surfeit of ancient wooden posts and beams and hardwood floors.

The accommodation comprises an open plan living room and bedroom with dining area, small kitchen nook and separate, modern bathroom. The living room opens onto a wide, secluded veranda overlooking the terraced garden and mini forest at the rear. The site has been developed as a small cluster of buildings around a semi-formal tropical garden with gazebo, fruit trees and flowers, and a passing reference to the English country garden style. Other features include the self-contained guest house built on stilts overlooking the garden; the Philippines' provincial style "dirty kitchen"—it's really very clean—and the Bali style, open air, garden shower and bathroom enclosure. The furnishings are an eclectic mix of antiques, artwork, and ethnic pieces including four-poster beds. The group of buildings is intended to give the impression of a small, provincial sitio.

Menchie and I spend as many weekends at Casa Carmen as we can and enjoy the serene atmosphere and clean air. The garden and surroundings are attracting a wide variety of birds and butterflies and one gets a real sense of being close to nature. Casa Carmen also serves as a good base for exploring the area around Taal Lake, Batangas, and Cavite. Chateau Hestia itself is a very good restaurant with a European menu, deli shop, and a good selection of wines and imported and local beers.



Chateau Hestia also hosts bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodation in its own casitas and, at the suggestion of Maria we have decided to offer the Casa Carmen ground floor suite, which can accommodate four people, and the guest house known as Garden Cottage, suitable for 2 people, for B&B accommodation, managed and serviced by Chateau Hestia.

We really love the atmosphere and ambiance at Casa Carmen and Chateau Hestia and hope that others will be tempted to try the experience. Anybody who is interested in finding out more can check us out at www.kabukiranresorts.com. ■

Cruising through Retirement

Dimiyati Nangju (ADB 1978–2001)



About a year after I retired from ADB, my wife, Nora, and I decided to see the world on a cruise ship, rather than by plane or other means of transport. When I was still with ADB, several friends told us that travelling on a cruise ship was very nice. But at that time, I was scared to try it because I was afraid

that I might get seasick. In the past, whenever I traveled by boat to visit an island in Indonesia or the Philippines, I always got seasick. However, this time I was determined to try a short cruise to see whether Nora and I would enjoy it.

Thus, in July 2002, we joined our friends, the late Soegito Sastromidjojo, former ADB Executive Director, and his wife on a 4-day trip from Singapore to Phuket, Thailand, via Langkawi, Malaysia, on a large cruise ship. Unfortunately, one day before we were to board the ship, Nora had to be rushed to hospital in Singapore because part of an apple became lodged in her throat. Her doctor told her to stay a few nights in the hospital for observation, but she was determined not to miss the cruise.

She and I enjoyed the short cruise very much because it was really fun and different from travelling by plane or bus. On top of that, I did not get seasick at all because the big ship was very stable and comfortable even when the waves in Malacca Strait were high. The Captain explained that all the cruise ships are now equipped with stabilizers enabling them to be comfortable even in rough seas.

After that experience, we decided to take a longer cruise. Our second cruise was to visit five Caribbean



Dimiyati and Nora and the Royal Princess, built in 2013 in England.

destinations—Bermuda, Turks and Caicos, the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands—for 10 days in 2004. We boarded the ship in New York City which was not far from where my son Daleel and his family lived in Nanuet, New York. So we combined the trip with a visit to see our children and grandchildren in the United States.

The following year, we took a third cruise to visit five countries in the Mediterranean—Italy, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, and Malta—for 14 days. The Mediterranean trip was memorable because it was full of ancient history. The cruise started from and ended in Barcelona, Spain. The fourth cruise was for 11 days to visit Australia and New Zealand. It started in Sydney, Australia, and ended in Auckland, New Zealand. This was a very interesting cruise because the scenery in New Zealand was fantastic. The fifth cruise was to visit Alaska for 7 days to see beautiful snow and glaciers in the mountains during the summer.

Our most recent cruise was to visit seven Baltic countries—Denmark, Norway, Germany, Estonia, Russia, Finland and Sweden—from 19 to 31 August 2014, on a new ship, the Royal Princess. This time, we travelled with our close friends, Krishna and Fe Alluri, who live in Vancouver,

Canada. We got to know them when Krishna and I worked together in Ibadan, Nigeria during 1972–1978 with the International Institute of



A beautiful atrium in the center of the ship in 5th, 6th, and 7th decks, where passengers meet after dinner.



Nora and Dimy with a waitress in one of several dining rooms in the ship. The food was excellent and we did not have to worry about tips.

Tropical Agriculture before I joined ADB.

We began our Baltic cruise from Copenhagen, Denmark. Unfortunately, the weather during this trip was wet and cold even though it was in the middle of summer. So we could not

take good pictures. The bad weather was compensated for by the good company: Krishna and Fe love playing bridge as much we do. So the four of us played bridge for hours. To avoid any conflict, as the game was very competitive, I partnered with Krishna, and Nora partnered with Fe. In this way, I avoided fighting with my wife in case Nora or I made a mistake in bidding.

As in the previous cruises, we learned a lot from visiting different countries even though our cruise ship stopped over for only 1 day or at most 2 days in each port. During our visit to different Baltic countries, we were very impressed with St. Petersburg, with its beautiful palaces and buildings and numerous canals criss-crossing the city. We were also lucky to visit the Nobel Museum in Sweden to learn about the work of Mr. Nobel in giving Nobel prizes to many outstanding people in the world.

Our experience from taking six cruises during the last decade convinced us that travelling on a cruise ship is really fun, particularly for retirees like us. The main advantages of cruise ships are:

- Boarding the ship and going through formalities with immigration and customs are very efficient and fast, even with more than 2,000 passengers boarding in one afternoon.
- Once on board, we avoid packing and unpacking suitcases even though we may visit several cities or countries. The service on the ship was generally very good, with one crew member for every three passengers. Most of the crew members came from developing countries such as India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Viet Nam.
- The cruise tickets include food, drinks, accommodation, and entertainment. On average, the cost per head is very reasonable, ranging from a low price for rooms without windows or balcony to a high price for large rooms at the top of the ship.
- The cruise price generally does not include sightseeing tours offered during stopovers. There were many options for sightseeing tours: some required a lot of

- walking, and others required very little walking.
 - The ship has very good facilities, including a small medical clinic staffed with competent doctors and nurses, many restaurants offering a variety of choices, a spa and a beauty salon, swimming pools, a cinema, game rooms, children’s play room, library, casino, theater, karaoke bars, sport center, and many others.
 - Every night, the ship offers a very attractive musical, dancing, or acrobatic show free of charge.
- If you have not experienced travelling on a cruise ship, I would strongly recommend trying it. There are cruise ships travelling along big rivers as well as on the open seas. There are many destinations to choose from and prices to suit your pocket. Even though Nora and I are now over 70 years old, we still look forward to taking more cruises in the coming years. ■

**For information
on membership contact
afe-adb@adb.org**

New Members

A FE-ADB extends a warm welcome to the following new members of the Association (country of residence is indicated in parentheses):

August 2014

- Brooks, Douglas (United States)
- Destombes, Jerome (France)
- Park, Sangyoung (Republic of Korea)
- Stables, Maria Luz (Canada)

September 2014

- Abello, Annabelle R. (Philippines)
- Khazova, Galina (Russia)
- Latay, Vergel K. (Philippines)
- Mella, Teresa H. (Philippines)
- Rao, Narhari (India)

October 2014

- Arciñas, Yolanda F. (Philippines)
- Balanay, Angelina S. (Philippines)
- Calcetas, Patricia P. (Philippines)
- Frielink, Abraham Barend (Australia)
- Hossain, Mohammad (Bangladesh)
- Macariola, Manolo D. (Philippines)
- Yue, Fei (People’s Republic of China)

November 2014

Ahmed, Firoz (Bangladesh)
 Aparri, Evelyn C. (Philippines)
 Jucaban, Carlos D. (Philippines)
 Kelly, Allan T. (Australia)
 Kerr, Susan Anne (Australia)
 Racoma, Bernadine B. (Philippines)
 Sakai, Kazu (Japan)
 Vera, Severino Magellan S. de (Philippines)
 Villena, Delia P. (United States)

December 2014

Abad Santos, Rosario B. (Philippines)
 Begum, Ferdousi Sultana (Bangladesh)
 Chander, Seethapathy (India)

January 2015

Festin, Ma. Rita R. (Philippines)
 Gonzalez, Melani A. (Philippines)
 Kim, Jong-Inn (Republic of Korea)
 Murillo, Alfredo (Canada)
 Stickings, Jeremy (United Kingdom)
 Swarankar, Ramesh (India)
 Thant, Myo (Myanmar)
 Yeager, Carey (United States)

February 2015

Song, Pil-Bae (Republic of Korea)
 Dalaguit-Truong, Clarita H. (Philippines)
 Weidner, Lise (Spain)

For information on insurance contact
insurance@adb.org

Senior Appointments in ADB

A FE—ADB congratulates the following staff members on their new appointments.

Arjun Goswami—Director, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) concurrently Technical Advisor (Regional Cooperation and Integration), assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Takeo Koike—Director, Office of Public-Private Partnership (OPPP), assumed office on 19 December 2014,

concurrent with his appointment as Technical Advisor (Public-Private Partnership), assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Yongping Zhai—Technical Advisor (Energy), Sector Advisory Service Division (RSAS), Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD), effective on assumption of office.

Vijay Padmanabhan—Technical Advisor (Urban and Water), RSAS, RSDD, effective on assumption of office.

AKM Mahfuzuddin Ahmed—Advisor, Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security Unit, RSDD, assumed office on 2 October 2014, concurrent with his appointment as Technical Advisor (Rural Development and Food Security), assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Sonomi Tanaka—Technical Advisor (Gender Equity), Social Development, Governance and Gender Division, RSDD, assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Tatiana Gallego-Lizon—Director, Urban Development and Water Division, Southeast Asia Department (SERD), assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Allen Furnas—Director, Solutions Delivery Division, Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST), assumed office on 24 February 2015.

Timo Teinila—Director, Credit Risk Assessment Division, Office of Risk Management (ORM), assumed office on 23 February 2015.

Sangay Penjor—Director, Urban and Social Sectors Division, East Asia Department (EARD), assumed office on 3 February 2015.

Pierre Van Peteghem—Treasurer, Treasury Department (TD), assumed office on 2 February 2015.

Indu Bhushan—Director General, Strategy and Policy Department (SPD), assumed office on 2 January 2015.

Atsuko Hirose—Advisor, Office of the General Counsel (OGC), assumed office on 1 January 2015.

Valerie Reppelin-Hill—Advisor, Office of the Director General, SPD, assumed office on 17 November 2014.

Jinlin Yang—Country Director, Kazakhstan Resident Mission (KARM), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), assumed office on 3 December 2014.

F. Cleo Kawawaki—Director, Energy Division, CWRD, assumed office on 3 December 2014.

Kelly Bird—Director, Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division, SERD, assumed office on 2 December 2014.

Craig Roberts—Director, Portfolio Management Division, Private Sector Operations Department (PSOD), assumed office on 2 December 2014.

Thomas Robert Panella—Country Director, Afghanistan Resident Mission, CWRD, assumed office on 30 November 2014.

- Joji Tokeshi**—Advisor, Office of the Director General, CWRD, assumed office on 6 November 2014.
- Qingfeng Zhang**—Director, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, EARD, assumed office on 3 November 2014.
- Shantanu Chakraborty**—Director, Private Sector Transaction Support Division, PSOD, assumed office on 1 November 2014.
- Amy Leung**—Deputy Director General, EARD, assumed office on 1 October 2014.
- Diwesh Sharan**—Deputy Director General, SARD, assumed office on 1 October 2014.
- Nessim J. Ahmad**—Chief Compliance Officer, RSDD, assumed office on 30 September 2014, concurrent with his appointment as Deputy Director General, RSDD, assumed office on 15 September 2014.
- Rune Stroem**—Head, Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO), assumed office on 29 September 2014.
- Johannes Versantvoort**—Assistant General Counsel, OGC, assumed office on 29 September 2014.
- Ayako Inagaki**—Director, Human and Social Development Division, SERD, assumed office on 29 September 2014.
- Walter Poick**—Director, Procurement Division 2, Operations Services and Financial Management Department (OSFMD), assumed office on 18 September 2014.
- Philippe Leclercq**—Senior Advisor, RSDD, assumed office on 16 September 2014.
- Rana Hasan**—Assistant Chief Economist, Development Indicators and Policy Research Division, ERCD, assumed office on 5 September 2014.
- Gil-Hong Kim**—Senior Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Division, RSDD, assumed office on 18 August 2014.
- Ryuichi Kaga**—Head, OPSP under the Office of the President (OPR), assumed office on 1 September 2014.
- Jitendra Jethalal Shah**—Special Project Facilitator, Office of the Special Project Facilitator (OSPF), assumed office on 1 September 2014.
- Hiroaki Yamaguchi**—Director, Transport and Communications Division, SARD, assumed office on 25 August 2014.
- Leonardus Sondjaja**—Deputy Country Director, India Resident Mission, SARD, assumed office on 25 August 2014.
- Ana Cristina Catterton**—Director, HR Policy and Program Division, Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMSD), assumed office on 18 August 2014.
- Shang-Jin Wei**—Chief Economist, Office of the Chief Economist, ERCD, assumed office on 6 August 2014.

Obituaries

With deep regret and sorrow we announce the death of the following AFE members. Our heartfelt and sincere condolences to their families.

Sri Pamoedjo Rahardjo, former Population Specialist in the former Agriculture Department East (AED), passed away on Wednesday, 11 February 2015 at the age of 71. Condolences may be sent to his wife: Sonya Rahardjo at Jalan H. Muhi IV No. 23, Pondok Pinang, Jakarta Selatan 12310, Indonesia.

Dieter Bucher, former Head in the Training and Resources Development Unit (BPHR), passed away on Wednesday, 28 January 2015 at the age of 70. Condolences may be sent to his wife Akiko Bucher at Hardtwaldallee 10a, O.T. Seulberg, D-61381 Friedrichsdorf, Germany.

Satish Jha, former Director and Chief Economist in the Economics and Development Resource Center and concurrent Director in the Development Policy Office, passed away on Sunday, 25 January 2015 at the age of 80. Condolences may be sent to his wife Kalyani Jha at G-61, P.O., Palam Vihar, Gurgaon 122 017, Haryana, India.

Flor Angel Suaco, former Senior Technical Assistant (Professional Staff Employment) in the Employment and Staff Relations Section (BPPE-ES), passed away on Sunday, 11 January 2015 at the age of 89. Condolences may be sent to her daughter Angelica Lavares at 71 Dona Ines Street, Alabang Hills Village, Muntinlupa City, Philippines.

M.S.A.R. Ahmad, former Senior Project Specialist in the Central Projects Services Office (CPSO), passed away on Friday, 7 November 2014 at the age of 88. Condolences may be sent to his son Aftab Ahmad at 10469 Garibaldi Place, St. Louis, MO 63131, United States of America.

Vladimir Bohun, former Director General in the Operations Evaluation Department (OED), passed away on Sunday, 23 November 2014 at the age of 71. Condolences may be sent to his wife Maria Joycelin Bohun at Calle Fuego 10A, E-11310 Sotogrande, Spain.

Anthony Van Vugt, former Senior Financial Analyst in the former Infrastructure Department (IFD), passed away on Sunday, 21 September 2014 at the age of 81. Condolences may be sent to his wife Genie Van Vugt at 1031 Carper Street, McLean, VA 22101, United States of America.

Donald William Mummery, former Education Specialist in the former Infrastructure Department (IFD), passed away on Thursday, 23 October 2014 at the age of 81. Condolences may be sent to his wife Faith Mummery at 31703 Riverside Hamilton, 2 Harbour Road, Hamilton, 4007, Queensland, Australia.

Terence Neal Woods, former Senior Procurement Specialist in the former Central Operations Services Office (COSO), passed away on Thursday, 30 October 2014 at the age of 65. Condolences may be sent to his wife Hilary Woods at Blacksmith's Cottage, 3a High Street, Wellow, Bath, BA2 8QQ, United Kingdom.

Hans Martin Schmid, former Executive Director, ADB Board of Directors, passed away on Sunday, 31 August 2014 at the age of 77. Condolences may be sent to his wife Aafje Schmid at 199 Rue des Pommiers, L-2343 Luxembourg.

Ramon Hontiveros, former Senior Assistant (Housing) in the Compensation and Benefits Section (BPCT-CB), passed away on Saturday, 30 August 2014 at the age of 84. Condolences may be sent to his daughter Risa Hontiveros at risa_hontiveros@yahoo.com.

Ni Ni Nyunt, former Senior Librarian in the General Services Division (OAGS), passed away on Thursday, 28 August 2014 at the age of 92. Condolences may be sent to her daughter at snyunt@yahoo.com.

Ma. Imelda David, former Executive Assistant in the Budget, Personnel and Human Resources (BPHR), passed away on Saturday, 9 August 2014 at the age of 73. Condolences may be sent to her niece Karen David at Unit 4C, Gilmore Heights, 18 Gilmore Ave. Cor. Castilla Street, New Manila, Quezon City, Philippines.

Erratum: Last issue we mistakenly listed Tuti Wilujeng Witoyo Kaswadi. The obituary should be for Edi Kaswadi, former Senior Consulting Services Specialist in the Central Operations Service Office (COSO), passed away on Tuesday, 8 July 2014, at the age of 74. Condolences may be sent to his wife Tuti Kaswadi at Jalan Pondok Hijau 1 No. 20, Pondok Indah, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia. We apologize sincerely for the error.

Visit <http://afe-adb.org>

For information
on membership contact
afe-adb@adb.org

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- (2) Articles that are accepted will be edited for language, content, and length that the Publications Committee deems appropriate for the readership.
- (3) Images must be of print quality (at least 280kb file size or 600dpi is preferred).
- (4) 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.
- (5) Authors and photographers will be acknowledged and retain ownership of any material submitted for publication.

Articles for publication may be sent in MS Word as e-mail attachments to afe-adb@adb.org. Articles will preferably be 250–750 words. Please send images in a separate file. Comments that will help improve *AFE-ADB News* are most welcome.

Acknowledgements

Josephine Jacinto-Aquino, AFE-ADB's able former assistant, provided invaluable help, including typesetting and layout. Steve Banta, Wickie Mercado, and Jill Gale de Villa copy edited. They also proofread, as did Arlene Ayson, Malou Magalued, David Parker, and Hans-Juergen Springer. AFE sincerely appreciates ADB's Department of External Relations and printing unit for assistance with finalizing the magazine. Cesar Juan prepared it for mailing.

Announcements

2015 Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors

The Forty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank will be held on 2–5 May 2015 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Chapter Events

The **Indonesia Chapter** will hold its Annual Reunion in March or April 2015. Please contact Putu Kamayana (putu_kamayana@yahoo.com), Dian Prijomustiko (dprijomustiko@gmail.com), or Kinan Bhinekawati (kbhinekawati@yahoo.com) for date and venue suggestions.

The **Europe Chapter** will hold its Annual Reunion on 17–21 September 2015 in Edinburgh. Contact Gunther Hecker (ghecker1@online.de) for details.

The **New York–New Jersey Chapter**'s Annual Reunion is on 17 October 2015. Please contact Nannette Guinto Amorado, Chapter Coordinator (nannette.amorado@undp.org) and Chato O'Buckley, 2015 Party Chairperson (chato@twcmetrobiz.com) for details.

The **Australia Chapter** will hold its Annual Reunion at the historic village of Hahndorf, some 25 km outside Adelaide in South Australia, from Tuesday, 20th to Friday, 23rd October, 2015. It will be hosted by Sin Yan and Louine Tay and will include visits to a famous wine region of Australia and to heritage sites, the AGM, the Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Tournament, and the annual dinner. All AFE–ADB members are invited and overseas visitors would be especially welcomed. For details contact Peter Carroll (pet@bigpond.net.au) or Sin Yan Tay (sylatay@gmail.com).

The **Canada Chapter** is planning dinners in October–November 2015 in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island. The exact dates will be announced during the year. AFE members who expect to visit Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island in October/November can contact Bruce Murray (bmurray.xadb@gmail.com) for details.

The **Southern California Chapter** will hold a simple picnic in July 2015 or luncheon in October 2015. For more details, please contact Yolanda Houtby (yolahoutby@gmail.com).

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Please send, by July, 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 any member whose address and other contact details are not listed, or are incomplete or wrong, please let us know.

AFE–ADB

President, AFE–ADB
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 (President)
+63 2 632 5196 (Administrative Assistant)
Fax +63 2 636 2444
E-mail hjspringer.consultant@adb.org
afe-adb@adb.org
Website www.afe-adb.org

