



News

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



ADB@



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Our Cover



Cover: ADB's Roxas Boulevard headquarters, 1972-1996.

AFE-ADB News

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AFE–ADB Updates

From the Chair

Bong-Suh Lee (ADB 1991–1998)



I congratulate ADB on achieving 50 years of working to improve peoples' lives in Asia and the Pacific. Those of us who once worked at ADB look forward to its continued successful fulfillment of its mission.

In this regard, I am pleased to continue as the chair of AFE–ADB, and appreciate the membership's confidence in reelecting me. I am glad

that AFE participated in the work of the 2016 Advisory Task Forces on the pension and health insurance.

Now that the Advisory Task Forces have been closed, we must continue to work with ADB, especially on the evolving health insurance. We must also continue to work on any pension matters that may arise, and to stay connected to share information and experiences.

I look forward to seeing many members at ADB's 50th Annual Meeting, in Yokohama. ■

From the AFE President

Hans-Juergen Springer (ADB 1972–2002)



By the time this issue, the 50th *AFE News*, reaches you, we are probably already in Yokohama, Japan attending ADB's 50th Annual Meeting, and participating in AFE's Annual General Meeting and related business and social events. In view of the important anniversary, a large number of AFE members are

expected in Yokohama.

Last 6 months in Review. The second half of 2016 saw a lull in work by ADB on pension and health insurance

matters—since the two advisory task forces were disbanded at the end of June. We circulated both “final” reports in July. ADB may have continued to work on these two matters of extraordinary importance, but task forces have not been reconstituted, nor have meetings of any significance taken place except for a Pension Committee meeting on 19 October.

Bylaws and Election. The AFE Executive Committee tackled a couple of internal matters in the second half of 2016: simplification of certain bylaws sections dealing with the election of officers if only two candidates have been nominated. The changes were approved by the membership and became effective on 28 November 2016. Second, we got the election process going for the position of AFE chair, as the term of our current chairman, Bong-Suh Lee, was to end on 14 February 2017. Bong-Suh Lee agreed to stand as a candidate for another term. By the end of the nomination period on 5 January 2017, no other candidate had been nominated. In accordance with AFE bylaws, Bong-Suh Lee was therefore declared elected for another term of 4 years starting 15 February 2017.

2017. In 2017, we are looking forward to further working together with ADB on important issues relating to the planned health insurance reforms, and to tidying up details of the pension plan reforms for staff to be hired after 1 October 2017. We will also place priority on obtaining a permanent assistant to be engaged under ADB auspices. We will actively review the need for an updated printed AFE membership directory, the last one having been issued in 2013. The introduction of social media for AFE's and AFE members' purposes is high on our mind; to pursue this, we need the help of knowledgeable volunteers. ■

Pension Matters

Hans-Juergen Springer

The Pension Advisory Task Force (SRP ATF) was disbanded at the end of June 2016, and submitted its report to ADB Management. Management commented on the report on 30 September 2016, accepting all SRP ATF recommendations with one major exception. Management's view is that the retirement age for staff to be hired after

1 October 2017 should be 62 and not 65 as unanimously recommended by the SRP ATF. Management stated that certain human resources (HR) issues have to be resolved before a retirement age of 65 can be introduced.

Pension Committee. A memo on 14 October to the Pension Committee, signed by the Executive Directors for Australia and Canada, the two staff representatives, and the pensioners' representative on the Pension Committee, repeated the compelling arguments in favor of a retirement age of 65—such as the funding advantages for the plan, the favorable demographics of a longer working life, and the example of practically all other international organizations and the civil service plans of many countries.

Management noted that a retirement age of 65 could be introduced for new staff hired in 2021 if favored by a review in 2020 of the HR and other factors underlying the retirement age issue. The pending age issue is up for Board approval in the second quarter of 2017, before this and other pension matters for new staff become effective on 1 October 2017.

New Plans for New Hires. I reiterate that the pensions for current pensioners are not affected by the pending decisions on pensions for new staff. Similarly, the defined-benefit pension scheme for current and former staff members remains unaffected, as are the interest rates for discretionary benefits for current staff (and current pensioners). But new contracts for current staff under the discretionary benefit scheme will have a much lower interest rate, which will henceforth be largely in line with interest rates for long-term US Treasury bonds.

The retirement plan for staff hired after 1 October 2017 will, however, be markedly different. It will consist of a modified, downscaled defined-benefit pillar and a new defined-contribution pillar, into which both ADB and the staff member pay. These major changes will introduce, for the first time, a risk-sharing between the employer and the employee. This is not done by most other international organizations. The change will limit ADB's contributions to the SRP and make them more predictable.

COLA. On another matter, the Pension Committee approved in June 2016 the supplementary annual cost-of-living adjustments of ADB pensions. The guaranteed annual minimum adjustment to pensions of 3% is paid each year in October. Over and above that adjustment, pensions paid in disbursement currencies that have an inflation rate higher than 3% receive a further adjustment to fully compensate for the increased cost of living in the applicable disbursement currency. Of the 27 disbursement currencies, 7 received an additional adjustment ranging from 0.1% to 4.2% effective 1 October. ■

From the AFE Vice President

Jill Gale de Villa (ADB 1993–2005)



A FE Work Goes On. AFE never has a dull moment. Although the Administrative Task Forces have been terminated, we continue to send news of what's happening to members, liaise with ADB on implementation of the health insurance, answer queries that continue to flow in from members asking what changes are happening, and assist some who need help liaising with ADB/Cigna.

We Need You. Communications about our activities and with members continue, although we are hampered by insufficient staffing to always handle them promptly and very much need volunteers to assist. We would like to do more on FaceBook, Linked-In, and the like, and seek volunteers to assist with this as well as with ensuring that the content of our website is updated.

AFE News. We continue to request and receive really good articles. Who could not be heartened by the amazing story "Kim Swims" on p. 43 of this issue, dazzled by the photographs on pp. 36–40, or interested in the Chapter doings and the members' travels and other activities. These articles make the AFE News the magazine that we love to receive—keep the stories and pictures coming, focused on our members and our activities. ■

Insurance Matters

Jill Gale de Villa

Changes to Medical Insurance. In late January, we sent information on changes to our insurance that ADB has had Cigna make since 1 January, as well as prospective changes. We also forwarded to members the Summary Plan Document that ADB has prepared in conjunction with Cigna. All members are much encouraged to access this document online at <http://gmipdocs.adb.org/spd>. It is a "living" document, meaning it will be changed from time to time. If you don't have on-line access, consider asking a friend or family member to assist you

with staying updated. If you do print the document, be sure to refer to the online version for any changes that may have occurred since you printed it.

Survey of Healthcare Use and Costs in the US. Also during January we surveyed members to gather information that helps us when discussing with ADB regarding prospective changes to users of health care in the United States. Examples are introducing up-front charges in the US for visiting primary care doctors, specialists, and the use of Medicare. 300 people responded, of whom about a third had used medical care in the US. Despite the small size of the sample respondents, especially for some questions, we gained useful information and thank members for taking the time and making the effort to reply. Results were e-mailed to members. The results of the survey have been circulated to members and are available on our website, Members Only section.

What's App? Note also that you may download an "app" that allows you to search for medical providers in the Cigna network, download and save your membership card, view and check the status of claims, and easily contact Cigna. This is available from the Apple App Store (for iPhones) and Google Play (for Android systems). Just type in Cigna and the app should appear. ■

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ADB@50 YEARS



Takeshi Watanabe (ADB 1966–1972)

Ed: This list of 50 firsts, milestones, and important events necessarily leaves out many items that would validly vie for inclusion. Thus, the list is illustrative rather than definitive.

The First Decade (1966–1975)

- 1966: 19 December, the Asian Development Bank formally opens for business.
- 1967: Asian Agricultural Survey approved—the first Regional technical assistance (RETA).
- 1968: First loan, for a development finance institution in Thailand, for on-lending to private enterprises.
- 1968: First ADB Annual Meeting, in Manila.
- 1969: First loan on concessional terms from ADB’s Special Funds resources, for an irrigation project in Indonesia.
- 1969: First energy sector loan to Malaysia for an electricity supply project.

- 1970: First bond issue in Asia, for \$16.7 million, in Japan.
- 1970: First education loan, to Singapore for a college expansion project.
- 1970: First multisector loan, to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic for agriculture development.
- 1971: Southeast Asia’s Economy in the 1970s published.
- 1972: ADB responds to food crisis in the region.
- 1972: ADB moves to its first permanent headquarters, on Roxas Boulevard, Pasay.
- 1974: Asian Development Fund established to provide concessional lending.



Shiro Inoue (ADB 1972–1976)

The Second Decade (1976–1985)

- 1978: First loan in the health sector, to Hong Kong, China.
- 1979: First program loan, for the cement industry program in Myanmar.
- 1979: First loan for rural electrification, in Samoa.



Taroichi Yoshida (ADB 1976–1981)

50 Milestones

- 1979: First multiproject loan, in Tonga.
- 1980: Sector lending initiated.
- 1982: First resident office opened, in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1983: First issue of Asian Development Review published.
- 1984: First regional office opened, in Vanuatu for the Pacific.
- 1985: Policy on the role of women in development approved.

The Third Decade (1986–1995)

- 1986: First loan without government guarantee, for a development leasing company in Pakistan.
- 1986: Pool-based variable lending rate system introduced at a time of increasing globalization and deregulation.
- 1986: People's Republic of China joins ADB, and India begins borrowing.
- 1987: Program lending widens, with expanded emphasis on policy support.



Mitsuo Sato (ADB 1993–1999)

- 1988: Republic of Korea graduates (final loan was in 1988).
- 1989: Asian Development Outlook launched, reflecting increased commitment to knowledge and research.
- 1990: Task Force on Strategic Planning established.
- 1991: ADB moves to Ortigas.
- 1992: Promoting regional cooperation in the Greater Mekong Subregion.



Kimimasa Tarumizu (ADB 1989–1993)

- 1994: Central Asian republics begin to join (Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic join).
- 1995: ADB becomes the first multilateral organization to have a Board-approved governance policy.
- 1995: North American Representative Office (NARO) opens, ADB's first official presence in a donor country.



Masao Fujioka (ADB 1981–1989)



Tadao Chino (ADB 1999–2005)

- 2004: Tsunami in the Indian Ocean. ADB hosts a high-level meeting on the reconstruction of affected areas and establishes the Asian Tsunami Fund.
- 2005: Promotion of renewable and clean energy technologies; and first project under ADB’s Clean Development Mechanism Facility.

The Fifth Decade (2006–2015)

- 2007: Eminent Persons Report results in ADB strengthening approach to working with weakly performing countries.
- 2008: Strategy 2020 (LTSF) approved for 2008–2020; first *Development Effectiveness Report* released.

- 2009: Fifth General Capital Increase triples ADB’s capital base, enabling ADB to respond to the global Financial Crisis of 2008.
- 2010: First thematic bonds issued—for water and clean energy.
- 2012: Myanmar resumes operations; extended mission to Myanmar established.
- 2015: Asian Development Fund and ordinary capital resources merger approved effective 2017, increasing lending by 50%.

The Fourth Decade (1996–2005)

- 1996: Representative offices open in Japan and Europe.
- 1997: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program formed.
- 1997: Financial Crisis. ADB approves its largest single loan—a \$4 billion emergency loan to the Republic of Korea—and establishes the Asian Currency Crisis Support Facility to accelerate assistance.
- 1997: Asian Development Bank Institute established.
- 1999: ADB adopts poverty reduction as its overarching goal and approves policies relating to indigenous peoples, cooperation with NGOs, and anticorruption.
- 2001: First long-term strategic framework (LTSF), 2001–2015, is launched.
- 2002: Major reorganization—policies and programs merge; emphasis on knowledge increases.
- 2003: SARS epidemic; ADB devotes more attention to infectious diseases (including avian flu and HIV/AIDS).



Haruhiko Kuroda (ADB 2005–2013)



Takehiko Nakao (ADB 2013–Present)

Philippine President Visits ADB

Source: *ADB Today*, 22 February 2017. <https://www.adb.org/news/philippine-president-dignitaries-join-adbs-50th-anniversary-celebration>

On 21 February 2017, ADB President Takehiko Nakao welcomed Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, senior Philippine government officials, and Manila-based dignitaries to the headquarters to celebrate 50 years of the ADB–Philippines partnership. About 400 senior government officials, ambassadors representing ADB member countries, development partners, and media attended.

The two presidents held a short discussion before joining the event. Philippine dignitaries included former Presidents Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Fidel V. Ramos, and Carlos Dominguez III, Secretary of Finance and Governor of ADB.

President Nakao emphasized that 50 years ago, ADB was created through the collective wishes and collaborative efforts of people and countries from within and outside Asia and the Pacific. Many people made great contributions to the creation of the institution. Among them was Florentino Feliciano, a Filipino lawyer, who helped write the ADB Charter.

President Duterte valued the partnership with ADB as its host country, and expressed his appreciation for ADB’s support to the Philippines in the past 50 years. “It is my hope that the ADB will continue to lend its support, as the country accelerates its development efforts,” he said.

President Nakao noted that the Philippines has proven a good base for ADB because ADB is closer to its developing member countries, has benefited from the hospitality of the Philippine government and people, and can draw on a strong pool of English-speaking professionals.

Starting with ADB’s first loan to the Philippines in 1969, ADB has provided \$16 billion in loans and grants to the government and about \$1 billion in loans and equity investments to private companies. In the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) in 2013, ADB provided \$900 million for affected areas. President Nakao noted the Philippines’ recent strong economic performance, adding that ADB is strongly committed to supporting the 10-point Socioeconomic Agenda set out by the Duterte administration right after his election.

Fifty years ago, Asia was poor, food was in short supply, and it lacked resources to finance development. It



L-r: President Takehiko Nakao and President Rodrigo Duterte.

has evolved into a dynamic growth center of the world, but 330 million people still live on less than \$1.90 a day. Large infrastructure gaps constrain economic development and people’s welfare. Asian countries need to address climate change, further promote the private sector, and enhance gender equality. Asia is also facing challenges such as urbanization, aging, and widening inequalities.

The first ADB President Watanabe wanted ADB to be a “family doctor” for Asian countries and an institution that “learns before teaching.” President Nakao said these approaches have been an integral part of ADB’s tradition over the past 50 years.

He said that in the coming years, ADB will become stronger, better, and faster. ADB will continue to scale up its operations, promote infrastructure with cleaner and more advanced technologies, act as a knowledge provider based on its experience across countries, and expand support for public-private partnerships. ■

**For information
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Photo Exhibit at Former ADB HQ

Hans-Juergen Springer

On the occasion of ADB’s 50th anniversary, the Philippines’ Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and ADB launched on 23 November 2016 a photo exhibit entitled “Improving Lives for a Better Future.” The launch took place in the spacious lobby of the former ADB Headquarters on Roxas Boulevard, which now houses the DFA. ADB’s Vice-President Deborah Stokes and DFA Undersecretary Linglingay Lacanlale addressed an illustrious group of visitors that included former Prime Minister Cesar Virata.

Stokes emphasized the close partnership with ADB’s host country stretching over 50 years. Lacanlale pointed out the crucial role ADB has played in supporting socioeconomic development in the Philippines and in the rest of developing Asia.

Several large black-and-white photographs in the exhibition showcased the ADB’s early years including, its inaugural board of governors’ meeting in Tokyo in November 1966. Color images depicted ADB’s assistance for projects to provide relief after natural disasters such as typhoon Yolanda in 2013.

The launch of the exhibition was an opportunity for some ADB staff and retirees to revisit for the first time the building where we had worked until 1991, when ADB moved to its present Headquarters in Ortigas. And some of

us could not help but ask to be taken to the former ADB board room, where we had faced severe scrutiny of our projects from ADB’s executive directors. And we also looked into the former ADB library and the large auditorium. ■

Woman Professional #18

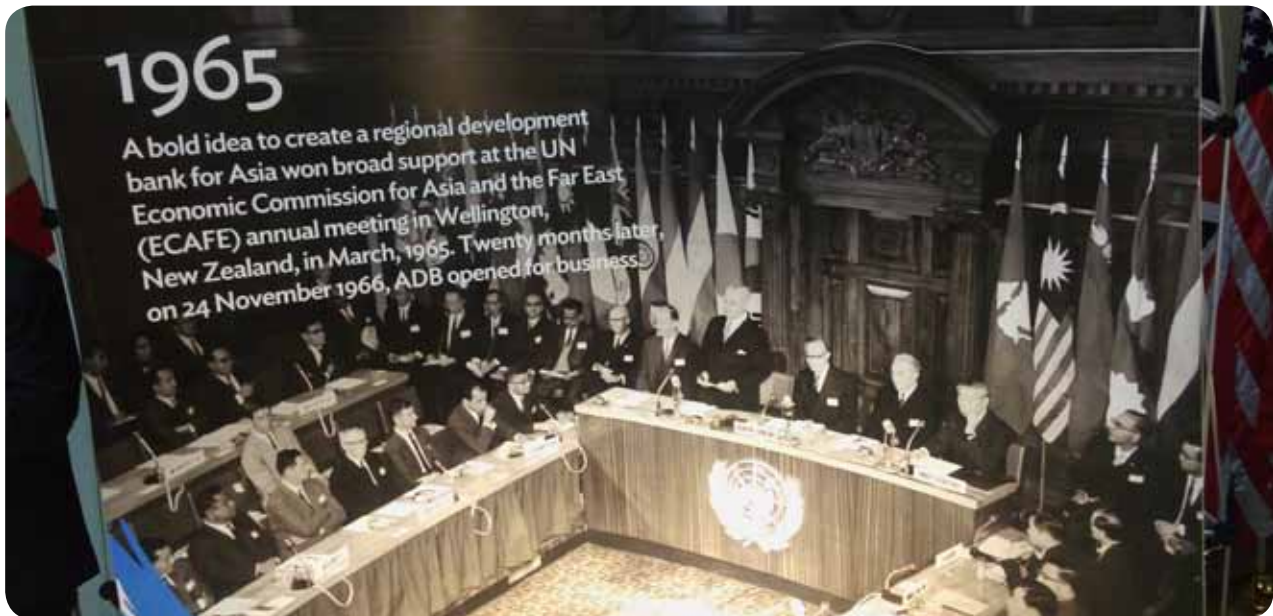
Julia Holz (ADB 1985–2002)



After 4 years of applying to ADB, I finally had an interview with the head of Consulting Services in 1984. Armed with CPA and MBA degrees, extensive work experience, and a big smile, I was totally unprepared for the interviewer’s closing comment: “You have a family! Just for killing time you should stay home with your family.” It was

another year before I was successful in my application and convinced ADB recruiters that they needed me. I became woman #18 out of 550 international staff, increasing the proportion of women to 3.3%.

My years in the Controllers Department, under the kind direction first of Louis Wong and then Bernard Donge, were productive and highly enjoyable. It took some time before ADB was willing to send a woman on mission, but it eventually did. I examined disbursements



and trained government executing agencies in countries as diverse as Bhutan, India, Maldives, and Pakistan.

Early in my career, as one of the driving forces in the newly established Professional Women's Committee, I remember being surprised and dismayed that Than Win—a man—was appointed to lead the charge. How wrong I was! He was a vital mentor and essential force in the slow march to grow the ranks of women professionals in ADB. Some years later, as Chairperson of Staff Council, I was able to keep the Committee from being absorbed into the Council.

Women now represent 33.9% of International Staff. There's still a long way to go to gender equality, but it feels good to know I did my part as an early pioneer. ■

Makati Days

Eiji Kobayashi (ADB 1968–1994)



It is really gratifying for us all to recognize ADB's 50th year anniversary. I joined the Bank in September 1968 as a Country Officer. Looking back, those initial years are happily recalled with the colleagues who worked together. Our office was then at the Metropolitan Bank building on Ayala Avenue in Makati.

We had only about 80 professional staff members, recruited by Masao Fujioka, then Director of Administration. All of us worked hard for the newly established bank. President Takeshi Watanabe encouraged us, saying the Bank should play the role of "a family doctor for developing member countries (DMCs)."

The Programs Department, where I belonged, was directed by Howard Farely, and my direct boss was Bong H. Kay. On the project side, Sam Hsieh was busy conducting an Asian agricultural survey, together with Kunio Takase. Agriculture was of utmost importance for most DMCs, since meeting food shortages was their top priority. Kazuaki Suma was also there; he was a character and was liked by many of us.

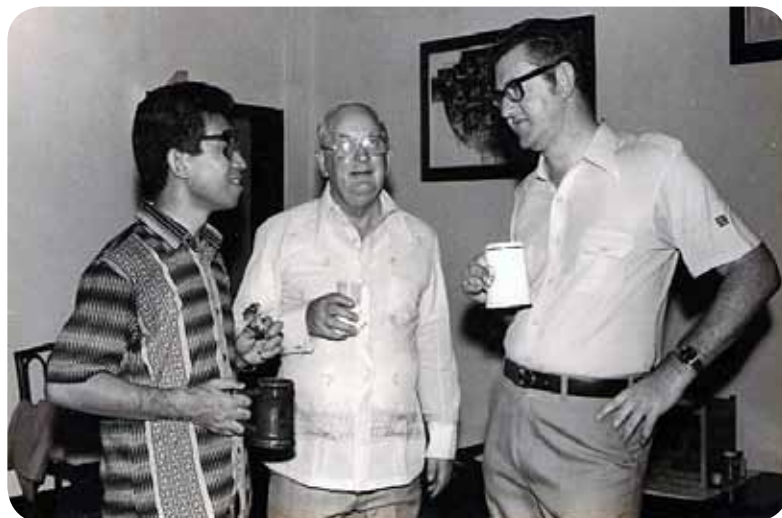
Since our ADB family was small, we knew each other well—expats and locals. Communication with DMCs was essentially by letter and telegram. Machine-gun-like tapping of typewriters filled the offices, as secretaries were busy typing memos with several carbon copies. Mistyped words had to be erased and corrected on each copy.



Eiji Kobayashi. Watercolor. Overlooking Makati and the birthplace of ADB.

In the office beside mine was H. King Hedinger, who came from an American oil company. He was tall and stout like a real king. Every now and then his loud voice was heard when he called his secretary to dictate letters and memos. There was also Bob Byrnes from the Australian civil service. He told me that he had had bitter experiences fighting in New Guinea. Somebody advised him not to use military jargon in the office.

Most of us lived in Makati, making it easy to commute and even to go home for lunch. Makati villages and shopping areas were still being developed. The entrance of Ayala Avenue had a sign warning "This is a private road. Please proceed at your own risk." Good old days! ■



Eiji Kobayashi, Bob Byrnes, and Alan May, Metropolitan Bank Building, Makati.

The First 25

Shamshad Ali Khan (ADB 1969–1991)



Presidential Presence. The Bank is celebrating its 50 years of a successful journey. My 85-year-old mind is full of many sweet memories of ADB's early years. There were many events, big and small; I would like share my perspective on just a few. I had the privilege of serving the Bank under its first five presidents:

Watanabe, Inoue, Yoshida, Fujioka, and Taramizu. The first president, Watanabe, with his white hair, was a fatherly figure to the staff of that time. He was a noble and soft-spoken man. On memoranda for the heads of departments he avoided writing the word "No," but would rather use phrases such as "I do not think so" or "Is there any other alternative?" Perhaps, it was his Japanese way of "saving face" for his staff. He worked late in the office and often would bring files home to study. He remained calm and sober even in adverse situations. In one instance I observed as his Protocol Officer, he was going to Singapore to attend a financial conference. It was supposed to be an early morning flight to reach the conference in time, but the flight was delayed. We had already arrived at Manila Airport's VIP Lounge on time. I was feeling restless and anxious, but President Watanabe remained sitting calmly. Finally departure was announced at 2.30 pm. President Watanabe then asked me to send a telex to Singapore informing them that he would not be able to address the conference, but he would keep his dinner appointment.

Moving House. I also remember the Executive Director for the Philippines, Cornelio Balmaceda, who was acting as the coordinator for providing furnished office accommodation for ADB. Until ADB's Roxas Boulevard building was finished, temporary office space and furniture were provided in the MetroBank Building in Makati. Balmaceda was a very humble person (despite his rank of Minister in the Philippine Government) and was always approachable. At the time,

the Bank was expanding fast, and we needed more office space. I remember searching and finding some vacant floors in nearby buildings. Balmaceda had them rented by the Philippine Government and furnished for ADB. Before the move to its new Headquarters, ADB was spread over five buildings (a total of 13 floors full of staff). The move was a monumental task, and planning was done so as not to disrupt the Bank's work. And we did the move all in one weekend—Friday afternoon through early Monday morning. What dedication from the Filipino Bank staff and the movers!

European Opening. At the 1971 Annual Meeting, the opening of a small ADB Office in Zurich was approved. I was asked to go to Zurich to do the job in 1 week—from finding office space in the Financial District to making the office functional with phone, telex, etc. I also helped Edger Plan, our Financial Adviser, who was assigned to that office. Before I left Zurich, I hired for him a bilingual secretary and even found him a parking space for his car near the office.

In the early years, records management was not considered a priority issue. However, I thought it necessary to establish a backup plan for the Bank's policy documents and financial records. Initially, photocopies of these documents were made and put in the Zurich Office. Later, we could microfilm such records, keeping one copy in Zurich and another in the vault of the Philippine National Bank in Makati. As the Bank grew, to improve the system, we hired an American records management consultant who had also worked for the World Bank.

Helping Hands. In August 1974, President Inoue called me to say that an Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) was being established in Jeddah. They had asked ADB to help by sending some experienced officers for a year. He said that he intended to send only two professionals (one for administration and finance and one for loan operations) initially for 6 months. President Inoue told me that he had chosen me and Zaki Azam. We flew to Jeddah in December of 1974. The IsDB was not functional at that time. It had no professional staff. I had to wear many hats, and some of my tasks were to prepare job categories and descriptions for the different IsDB departments, draft financial regulations, and create basic administrative orders and loan disbursement procedures.



First ADB Headquarters,
Metropolitan Bank.



The Candid Camera

Larry Ramos (ADB 1989–2000)



I cherish this image. I remember I was all alone at DER at lunch time, then suddenly Tsukasa Maekawa came rushing up asking: "Do you have a camera there?" I said "Yes of course." Maekawa responded, "The president is going to have lunch at the cafeteria."

True, he was there, in a queue to get food. Then he paid cash. I followed him to the veranda where I took a candid shot while he was talking with some staff members.

A week later Steve Griffiths saw the photo, said that it was the most relaxed photo of the president that he had seen, and suggested I send a copy to President Chino.

After a couple of days got a call from Rosie Luistro, the president's secretary, who said "Where have you been? I have called you three times because the president wants to talk to you." After a couple of minutes, the president's voice was on the line and we talked very briefly. That made my day. ■



Sense and Cents. A big challenge came in 1975/76, when it was decided to computerize our accounting ledgers. Manila Electric Company (Meralco) had installed an IBM 370 model 145. With its whirling tape drives, it was as large as a room. It had ample spare memory space, a whopping 262 kilobytes (I think now they don't even sell USB flash sticks that small) to accommodate our records. Meralco also provided programmers to work for ADB as consultants. ADB Management decided to hire Meralco's services for a few years before establishing its own Computer Department. Meralco asked for 3 months to complete the job of computerizing ADB ledgers. We continued running our old accounting system on Burroughs 2000 machines. In the meantime, I took four short crash courses in computer knowledge and its applications to learn this new office business tool.

Meralco worked for 6 months but still could not reconcile the computerized accounts. To find out the

problem, I used my detailed auditing technique and discovered that the Meralco programmer had put two cent (decimal) positions for the amount figures. This seemed normal for most currencies, but not for the Japanese yen, which has no cents. So the program was reading the last two digits of the yen amounts as decimals when converting to United States dollars. I made a temporary solution by putting 2 extra zeros for Japanese yen amounts, in the cent column of our accounting vouchers. The fix worked well and the Bank's ledgers were completely on the computer for the first time.

All Good Staff. In 1977/78, the Bank hired human resources consultants for revising the salary structure of the professional staff. They assigned points for each job, introduced a quintile systems, and made recommendations on staff performance evaluation. On professional staff evaluation, department heads could rate only 10% as outstanding and should rate at least 5% as poor performers. I could not reconcile how to rate 5% of staff members in the latter category. ADB was recruiting the best talent, and my department had a small but dedicated staff. Sometimes rules are not a great fit.

There are many more stories I would love to write, but it would make for a rather large novel. ADB was and is a great multicultural organization with many different nationalities. Working with such a diverse staff was a great experience for me, which I will always cherish. During my 22 years of service, ADB blossomed brightly from its early roots into maturity. ■



Pacific Memories

Heh Song Wang (ADB 1971–1995)



During my 24 years with ADB, I had the opportunity to participate in appraisal and economic missions to 22 member countries. Two amusing incidents occurred in the Pacific, with its very different context to most of the rest of ADB’s members.

Nauru. On a 6.5-hour flight from Manila to Nauru, there were only four passengers onboard the Boeing 737, all ADB mission members. The airline crew outnumbered the passengers. When the plane landed in Nauru, an official came to greet us as we deplaned, and he presented us with his business card. We were surprised to find that he was not only the Minister of Finance, but also the Minister of Trade and the Minister of Tourism. After arriving at the hotel, we asked the receptionist for a city map. She told us, “Nauru has only one street. You do not need a map!”

Solomon Islands. During one of my missions to the Solomon Islands, a 7.9 magnitude earthquake cracked the walls of my hotel, and the street in front of the hotel was split in half. Surprisingly, after 2 days of aftershocks, the street reunited itself.

I feel lucky to have had these unique experiences, thanks to ADB’s mission of assisting in the social and economic development needs of the Asia and Pacific region. In celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, I wish ADB every success in elevating its standing as the primary development institution in the region. ■

Anonymous

Anonymous

A few years after ADB moved to Ortigas, a memo appeared in many in-trays. The memo stated that “it had been noticed” that too many staff members were spending too much time in the bathrooms. Consequently, a “bathroom bank” was to be established, whereby each staff member would be allowed 30 visits per month.

Further, stated the memo, “it had been noticed” that some individuals were spending too much time per visit in

the bathroom. Consequently, cameras were to be installed, and after a reasonable time, if someone was still in a cubicle, the door would open and their picture would be taken and subsequently displayed.

The memo purported to be signed by the then head of administrative services.

For the average reader, consternation gave way to laughter as the realization dawned that this could not be serious.

However, the purported signatory was not amused, and sent security around to uncover the culprit or culprits. They never succeeded, and the culprit and the many accomplices needed to disseminate the memo remain anonymous. ■

Greening Initiative

Jill Gale de Villa



A DB has long provided plants to adorn the offices of its managerial-level staff members. Many years back, a plant appeared in Warren Evan’s office, he was not yet at that level. He was informed that only higher level staff members were allowed plants. He responded, “My wife gave me that plant for my birthday. So I am afraid

you will have to discuss this with her.” The discussion did not happen, the plant stayed, and, since then, individual greening initiatives have continued to enhance the scenic beauty and air quality inside the building. ■



Musical Moments

Edith S. Okada (ADB 1969–2004)



Music added color to my ADB world. I cherish the memories...

“Sing Your Blues Away,” my flyer-invitation along the cafeteria corridors in the old ADB Building, rekindled music appreciation among staff through noontime informal sing-alongs in the auditorium. My

soprano experience, piano accompaniment improvisations, and collection of musical selections came in handy. Brad Victoriano revitalized his original group with full soprano–alto–tenor–bass complement, whose members’ passion made possible the acquisition and maintenance of a vintage piano through personal contributions. Mini-concert treats climaxed the activities in the cafeteria lobby on theme occasions like Christmas, Valentine’s Day, and Easter.

The ADB Singing Group, with Brad as conductor, eventually came into being with full support and official backing from BPMSSD.

Flashback standouts ... Vice-President Stanley Katz as Adviser and sharing his flair for arranging and harmonizing choral accompaniments; Kunio Takase meticulously conducting and chairing the ADB Singing Group; Manny Perlas’ strings forte; Helen Veloso’s pop music savvy; Margie Nadal’s flawless accompaniment; the Small Ensemble; the ADB Women’s Club’s “ADB in Concert”; Concert at the Park; Meralco Theatre international concert; ADB’s annual anniversary presentations; song numbers at President Yoshida’s Farewell Cocktails; Auditorium performances; caroling caravans; and the privilege of my requested presence in the turnover of the Government of Japan’s donation of a Yamaha Grand Piano in the ADB Auditorium. ■



MMMemo

Ed: Many moons back, Mongolia mission member Ivan Ruzicka constructed a unique memo, partly reproduced here with his reluctant permission, hence mugshot missing.

To: Management
From: Mongolia Mission
Subject: **Mongolia in Motion**

1. Missions to Mongolia mope about Mongolian Meals. “From morning to midnight, it’s meat, more meat (mostly mutton) and maybe milk”. “Melons and mangy mushrooms at most”, moan the more moderate. “Makes a man muscular and mean”, mutter Mongolian matrons but the mind of mission members is made up. They miss muffins with marmalade. It’s a miracle Manila hasn’t mailed macaroni to Mongolia to mollify marooned martyrs.
2. Millennia of migrating from meadow to meadow meant that Mongolians mistrusted mountains and marshes and moved methodically. The martial mould of men who moved the Magyars at Mohacz¹ mellowed as monasteries multiplied. Monks’ manuscripts mix meditation and mythology with a minimum of military matters such as munitions (methane in mixture with mercury) and miniature mortars.² Matrimony, mostly monogamous, meant much. Mistresses and massages by maidens (molested, maintains Marco Polo, the maestro of minutiae) are mercifully mentioned only in the margins.³ It is a misconception that minorities were mistreated in mediaeval Mongolia or that malnutrition maimed many. Mongolia may have missed medics but midwives more than made up for it. The Manchu magistrates mastered the Mongolian maze for a meaningful moment (1691-1991) before a motley mob, mesmerized by Marxism, marched in.⁴
3. After being manipulated by militants’ maxims such as “Machinery maintenance must be moored in a materialistic method!”, “Merit is a myth and money, a mirage” or the meaningless “many-M maxim” (“Mobilize the means of modernization manifold!” ... a masterpiece of misinformation, that), the Mongolians got miffed and moved en masse to market mechanism. Money does matter even to mock materialists. For the moment, Mickey Mouse has made a monkey of Marx (even if the market mania masks a modest measure of mercantilism) and only the most myopic (Georges Marchais?) mourn it. The management of the Mongolian monolith is no more marred by Muscovite mentality moulded by meetings in Minsk or Magnitogorsk or by the “majestic muddling along” (made memorable in the macabre Mongolian movie “Malice Magnified”). The mandatory memorization of

Molotov’s “Miasma of Moderation” and the mistakes of the misdemeanors and...oh my, oh my....the measurement of Mao’s mausoleum and many more marble monuments with a monotonous message) are mere mementos of misbegotten madness. Marvelous! ■

¹ Many mistake the mustachioed Magyars for Moldavians. When the marauding Mongolian marksmen marched only Magyar moats, the Magyars masqueraded as Moldavians to minimize the massacre (the Moldavians were Mongolians’ mates). Hence the misunderstanding.
² Now the municipal museum.
³ The melodramatic mysteries of merry Mongolian matriarchs, too, are a model of mendacity. Mongolian milieu militated against “meandering” morality. Morass matches were more the Moghuls or Milanese mafia than Mongolia. Moreover, Mongolians are musical, a mark of mild men, not mugs or mindless megalomaniacs.
⁴ Mongolian monarchy (1911–1921), marred by mysticism, monstrous mismanagement and moved more by mahjong than the mood of the masses, is not mentioned.

Aiding Pinatubo’s Victims

Gam de Armas (ADB 1981–2000)



The eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in 1991 and the havoc it wrought did not end in 1991, but continued to bring disastrous and deadly lahar flow and flooding in Zambales and neighboring provinces—notably Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, and Tarlac—in the following years.

Fortunately, many NGOs and civic groups helped the government by bringing relief goods and free medical service through their outreach missions. Having led many such outreach missions through my church, Rotary club, and other nongovernment organizations (NGOs), I collaborated with my wife Vicki, then Social Welfare chair and later president of the ADB Women’s Club (ADBWC), now known as the ADB Spouses Club, in organizing two missions.

The first, in 1992, targeted an Aeta evacuation center in Porac, Pampanga. There, the Aetas or kulot (meaning curly hair people) normally did not mingle with the lowlanders or unat (meaning straight-haired people), so during relief/medical missions, there would be two lines, one for each group. Using their



own resources, the ADBWC distributed much needed implements (picks and spades), mats (banig), blankets, and food. During a pre-mission dialogue with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, we were informed that picks and spades were needed by the Aetas for their livelihood and clearing program in their evacuation area. It was also interesting to find out that the kulots preferred dried fish to canned sardines.

The second outreach was held the following year in Sta. Rita, Pampanga, where most of the town was submerged in 1 to 1.5 meters of lahar from Mt. Pinatubo. Years after the eruption, lahar flowing down the volcano during the rainy season was still hot, adding to its danger. The venue was an elementary school in 1.3 meters of lahar, but with spacious grounds. The ADB President’s wife, Meiko Taramizu, eagerly joined the mission and led the distribution of relief goods. We were all amazed at the extent of damage and change in the landscape wrought by the volcanic mudflow, and gratified we were able to provide, even to a small extent, some help and elicit smiles from a weary community ■



Relief recipients.

Chapter News

Australia: Beautiful Blue Mountains

Paul Turner (ADB 1991–2007)



On 24–27 October 2016, in the late southern hemisphere spring, the Australia Chapter of AFE–ADB held its annual reunion in the spectacularly beautiful Blue Mountains—yes they really are blue when viewed from a distance! As if the towns of Leura and Katoomba knew we were coming to visit, they put on a command performance with

gorgeous sunny weather and botanical splendor. These were masterfully utilized by our hosts, Peter and Chan Carroll, in programming the reunion events.

A mainland record number (47) attended the reunion and included AFE visitors from Canada, New Zealand, and the Philippines, together with attendees from the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Victoria. None left disappointed and most indicated that a return visit was likely. One participant even suggested that the reunion should return every second year to get a full appreciation of the history and beauty that the Blue Mountains offer.



Inside Lucas Cave at the Jenolan Caves, Blue Mountains.

The reunion events centered on the historic Katoomba Carrington Hotel. However, Peter and Chan included a bus tour to the marvelous Jenolan Caves, which enabled stops along the journey to view the breathtaking views of the mountain range and gorges and numerous historic sites. Nothing was missed as a result of Peter's encyclopedic commentary on the colonial history and modern day events and landmarks. In an act of pure programming genius, the bus tour concluded with a visit to the Carrington in-house brewery and tastings!

A traditional feature of the Chapter reunions is the Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Tournament. The very worthy winners this year were Willy Lim and Tshyu Yung Wong. Some were heard to remark after the game that "the

Govett's Leap Lookout, Blackheath, Blue Mountains.





Winners of the 2016 Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Trophy: l-r: Tshyu Wong, Andrew Proctor (presenting the Trophy to the winning pair), Willy Lim.

format and scoring system were far more difficult than the course itself!" It was a fun afternoon and was played with tremendous spirit and friendship. Non-golfers were equally active participating in city tours, shopping, and bush walking.

All too soon the reunion was over for another year. Special thanks were extended to Peter and Chan for being excellent hosts. Appreciation was also expressed for the continued strong support by the AFE-ADB executive team, represented at the reunion by Treasurer Julia Holz, and the ongoing sponsorship of the AFE by ADB Management.

It was agreed that the 2017 Chapter reunion would be held next October in Victoria, perhaps focusing on the historical town of Bendigo. Visitors are very welcome. ■



AFE-ADB Australian Chapter 2016 Annual General Meeting. l-r: Paul Turner, Con Pappas, Alicia Maclan, Jim Rockett, Louis Wong, Peter Hanton, Bruce Murray, Bruce Purdue, Rita O'Sullivan, Andrew Proctor, Joe Rajaratnam, Abbas Talib, Loh Ai Tee, Pat Talib, Peter McCawley, Doug Ferguson, David Parker, Stephen Baker, Michael Ryan, Neil Collier, Roger Weir, John Whittle, Julia Holz, Martin Endelman, Willy Lim, Peter Carroll.

Europe: Überlingen and the Lake

Elizabeth Reyes (Hans-Juergen Springer ADB 1972–2002)



Bodensee may sound like a great sea, and actually it is the second biggest lake in all Europe: Lake Constance (Bodensee) covers 536 square kilometers and is up to 255 meters deep. Its quiet waters have been so pollution-free that they have had difficulty supporting the fish population. The Bodensee is Germany's largest water reservoir and supplies 4.5 million people with fresh drinking water all the way to Stuttgart. The resort town of Überlingen sits on the northwestern shore of the big lake that touches three



Gardens of the Bad Hotel, on the shore of Lake Constance (Bodensee).

countries: Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. In September 2016, 41 AFE retirees and many spouses came driving or flying down to Überlingen to be together among the plentiful vineyards lining the slopes tumbling down toward Lake Constance. The proud chapter president, Gunter Hecker, announced: "I'm from Baden-Württemberg, the provincial motherland of the Bodensee—the state where the Black Forest meets the Rhine Valley."

Our AFE reunion host was Peter Fedon, the gentleman from Birkenfeld in the Black Forest. The handsome host in his Alpine hat set the genteel tone for the Europe Chapter Reunion: "Why have we chosen the town of Überlingen



Peter Fedon, reunion host.

for this AFE reunion? Because this is a fine resort town full of lakeside recreation; because it is the site of Salem, a famous old monastery and academic institution (where several ADB dependents took their secondary education); and because this is the splendid heart of Europe, its second largest lake (after Lake Geneva—le lac Léman), the Bodensee.

Überlingen, the pleasant town on the northwest shore, is all about the Lake, the Lake, and the Lake!”

In 2006, the AFE retirees had met in Bregenz, the Austrian city on the lake; one decade later, we’ve come a full European circle and are meeting AFE friends again on the German shores of the tranquil Lake Constance, the Bodensee, the lake-heart of Europe—the lake, the lovely lake.

Peter and Annette Fedon welcomed the AFE alumni in the gracious old Bad Hotel Überlingen, a traditional hotel on the lakeside fringe of the resort town. From there, we cruised smoothly through the history of Baden (now part of Baden-Württemberg), visiting the castles and vineyards in our large white bus, and twice savoring the Bodensee waterways on a multistory ferryboat.



Peter Bodora: Life imitating art.

Peter Fedon had concocted a delightfully creative taste of the history and culture of the Bodensee—by engaging the personal touches of authentic Baden characters. On Day 1 in Überlingen, we visited the famous town of Salem with its ancient monastery and palace. Salem had its origins as a large Cistercian Monastery circa 1134 AD—charged with the medieval task of producing wines along with saying prayers. Around 1800, the Salem monastery complex was taken over by the House of the Margraves and was called the Salem Palace within the House of Baden. A guided tour of the palatial buildings led us through magnificent interiors with molded ceilings and grand statuary, a monastery museum, the splendid rococo-arched library, and the imperial ballroom—the Kaisersaal (Emperor’s Hall). One reception hall with thoroughly molded ceilings had an antique coal heater with finely painted tiles depicting monks’ lives in the vineyards.

Salem Palace.





Salem Palace.

Just before noon, our Salem Palace tour came alive with a truly royal experience, as we convened to meet his royal highness, the Margrave prince-in-residence. The affable Prince Michael greeted our international AFE group, toasted us with (his) local champagne and posed for the retiree group’s photo-op. We drifted to Salem’s wine press room for an annotated wine tasting of the Margraves’ “crisp and elegant white wines,” then continued to a typical Salem luncheon in the (former) prison hall. Wandering about the sylvan grounds, we found the old stables—with carved and painted wooden stalls for the royal steeds.



Prince Michael, Margrave von Baden, greeted our group, gave a brief talk about the palace and its history, and provided sparkling wine to celebrate the occasion.



Passageway, Salem Palace.



Detail on the ceiling, Salem Palace.



Tile on a heater in Salem Palace.



Organist at Birnau basilica, explaining the psalter.

Next stop was Birnau with its soaring basilica in ravishing rococo and baroque style. On entry, we sat absolutely hushed in our pews, enthralled by a heraldic organ concert that echoed through the high ceilings with grand harmonies. Afterward came our host's surprise guest: The organist descended from the high organ loft. He shared his passion for music and delighted us playing his unique harp-like instrument, a psalter,

noted as a musical instrument in the Bible (Psalm 150). After that spontaneous musical encounter, a short walk down the road past the Birnau vineyards took us to dinner at Rebmann's Hof—a high note after a rewarding royal day.

On Saturday morning, while the AFE members held their annual meeting, spouses explored Überlingen's festive open-air market arrayed along the boardwalk by the lakeside. A homegrown flea market replete with genuine antiques and jewelry. Meanwhile a remarkable fountain sculpture on the walkway featured two giant mermaids carrying a horseman on their raised tails.

By afternoon, the big bus took us to Meersburg, site of an ancient stone castle tucked among half-timbered



Meersburg castle.



Lunch at Meersburg Castle, with (l-r) Anita Fedon, Naomi Chakwin, Gunter Hecker, and Peter Fedon.



Meeting of the Europe chapter, with European Resident Office's Deborah Kertzman (front left), who later provided an update on ADB's current thrusts.



Meersburg Castle guide in medieval attire, in the castle's army.

houses. The German-speaking tour guide (our other guide conducted the non-German speakers) embodied the old castle's atmosphere in his full period costume: dressed as a soldier out of the forest, he bubbled forth medieval dates, anecdotes, and war drama. We discovered the medieval armory, the castle's ancient kitchens, and the secret "loo" folded among meter-thick walls dating back to the 5th century. Soon it was time to catch our modern-day ferry back to Bad Hotel Überlingen. The gala dinner in the hotel featured regional traditional dishes of smoked fish from the lake, char filet, pork and beef sirloin, and apfel strudel (apple strudel). A delicious time was had by all.

Day 3 started with a visit to Unteruhldingen, Bodensee's reconstruction of a prehistoric Stone Age settlement on stilts. The open-air museum (within huts on stilts) recaptured the roughhewn Stone Age life over the lake waters.



Unteruhldingen—a reconstructed Stone Age village.



Mainau Island garden.

The Baden rains fell as when we wandered through the tropical island of Mainau. It was rain enough to disturb our walk through the wide and beautiful gardens—annotated by a vibrant



Dahlia on Mainau Island.

tour guide. Except for the final day's downpour, the Überlingen reunion was deemed the smoothest journey (through medieval time and place) ever to unroll on Lake Constance, the constant lake in the heart of Europe. ■



India: Tamil Nadu

Barin Ganguli (ADB 1979–1995)



Mahabalipuram or from Madurai after post-meeting visits.

Chennai

On Saturday morning the participants visited the impressive Kapaleeswar Temple, San Thome Cathedral with its tomb of St Thomas, Fort Saint George, and the Bronze Section in the Chennai Museum. The most important part of the collection is bronze figures representing the Hindu gods, goddesses, and devotees. The best specimens include the figures of Nataraja, and seeing them was a treat for our eyes. This museum's large collection of bronze figures demonstrates the extent to which the art of metal casting had been practiced in this part of India, unprecedented in world history. Several of them are considered among the world's greatest art treasures. The visit to Madras Fort provided a glimpse of the colonial period of India's history.



Kapaleeswar Temple, Chennai. L-r, front: Barin and Shipra Ganguli, Jill Gale de Villa, Kai Watanabe, Prateep Lahiri, Meenakshi Ghosh, Rita Chatterjee, Makiko Sakai; back Kazu Sakai, Jay Madhab, Eichi Watanabe, Krishna Bagal, Shilo Chatterjee, Rajani Bagal.



Bronze statue of Vishnu in the Chennai (Madras) Museum; 13 the century AD, from Tanjavaram.

In the evening we went to the prestigious Madras Club for dinner. We were cordially welcomed by our hosts Shobha and Shri Ramachandran, Padma and Swaminathan, and Shobhana and Rajendran. The Madras Club, founded in 1832, is the center of social activity in Chennai. It has excellent dining and entertainment facilities, residential rooms, library, restaurants, tennis courts, and swimming pool. The impressive club building is topped with a cupola supported by solid circular pillars.

It was a great evening. We shared news, as many of us had not met for a long time. The snacks, drinks, and wine were delicious; the dinner, sumptuous. The Chettinad region in Tamil Nadu is famous for its unique cooking style.

Mahabalipuram Rock Temples

Sunday we departed for Mahabalipuram, also known as Mamallapuram, about 60 kilometers (km) south of Chennai, in Kancheepuram District, along the Bay of Bengal. Mahabalipuram is an ancient port town that reached its zenith between the 7th and 9th centuries under two illustrious Pallava kings: Narasimhavarman and his successor Rajasimhavarman. During their reign, the rock temples and carvings of Mahabalipuram were hewn from the granite rock face, demonstrating the progress from



Arjuna's Penance, bas relief, carved granite monolith at Mahabalipuram.



At the Madras Club, Chennai. L-r, seated: Makiko Senga, Kai Watanabe, Padma Swaminathan, Prateep Lahiri, Shipra Ganguli, Meenakshi Ghosh, Shovana Rajendran, Shobha Ramachandran, Jill Gale de Villa; standing: Kazu Sakai, Prodipto Ghosh, Rahul and Sindhu Khullar, Barin Gaguli (behind), Rita and Shilo Chatterjee, Seethapathy Chander, Eichi Watanabe, Jayanta Madhab, Rajendran, Rajani Bagal, Sudipto Mundle, Rajiv and Vineeta Kumar, Usha Chander, Krishna Bagal, Lakshmi Venkatachalam, Swaminathan, Snimer Sahni.

rock-cut architecture to structural building. The carvings portray events described in the Mahabharata, in the shape of mandapa (pavilions) and rathas (shrines shaped as temple chariots). The famed Shore Temple, erected later, is however built from dressed stone. No wonder Mahalalipuram has been declared a World Heritage site.



Top: Pancha Rathas—Five Chariots, each carved from one large boulder; below: Krishna’s Butterball—a single, round boulder perched precariously on a large sloping rock.

Top: Kai Watanabe and other visitors as the Shore Temple: the Tamil Nadu people were wonderfully welcoming and friendly; below: Shore Temple.



Chapter meeting: L-r: Swaminathan, Chapter Coordinator Barin Ganguli, Chapter President Prateep Lahiri, AFE Vice President Jill Gale de Villa, Jay Madhab.

Chapter Meeting

All the participants were happy that Mahabalipuram was chosen as the venue, and the delightful Radisson Blu Hotel with its evergreen tropical vegetation and 2,500-square-meter blue meandering pool. Here, the AFE–ADB India Chapter’s 22nd Business Meeting was held in the evening. The venue was chosen by Chapter members Rajendran, Swaminathan, and Ramachandran, who have settled in Chennai.

At the business meeting, Prateep Lahiri, president of the Chapter, welcomed the participants, including Eichi and Kai Watanabe, Kazu and Makiko Sakai, guests from the Japan Chapter, and Jill Gale de Villa, the AFE–ADB Vice-President. He then dealt briefly with the AFE–ADB Annual General Meeting and the ADB Annual Meeting in Frankfurt, and touched on the following: (1) the 2016 Annual Meeting in Frankfurt was attended by over 3,000 participants with 90 countries represented; (2) it was the first ADB Carbon Neutral Annual Meeting; and (3) the ADB president announced at the AFE cocktail that for current pensioners there will be no change to the current pension. This means that the 3% minimum cost-of-living increase will be maintained and there will be no clawback. Prateep Lahiri also touched upon the India Chapter’s request to the AFE president for an increased subsidy, to \$700 from \$600.

Group members under a spreading banyan at Auroville.



Swaminathan welcomed the participants and thanked the Chapter for holding the meeting in Chennai. Eichi Watanabe said that he was very happy to be present with his wife. Kazu Sakai also thanked the Chapter for inviting him and his wife and added that the Japan Chapter might hold a special session during the ADB’s 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting scheduled in Yokohama, Japan in May 2017.

Chapter Coordinator Barin Ganguli reported about the AFE–ADB Meeting in Sunderbans in West Bengal (see AFE News #48), thanked Swaminathan, Ramachandran, and Rajendran for helping to organize the meeting in Mahabalipuram, and informed the members about the AFE–ADB Annual Meeting in Frankfurt (see AFE News #49). He reported that the total number of Indian ADB retirees was 112 as of August 2016. He also mentioned that the Chapter has an Executive Committee comprising 8 members, who meet in Delhi.

On the Group Medical Insurance Policy (GMIP), Barin Ganguli elaborated that ADB retirees pay about twice what current staff members pay, while receiving much lower coverage. CIGNA, the insurance provider, has reduced administrative efficiency, is now more often denying payments, and is not recognized by some providers. Pensioners were worried when they heard that CIGNA may be bought by Anthem.

Jill Gale de Villa, AFE Vice President, informed the group about developments of the GMIP Advisory Task Force (see “Health Matters” in this issue).



Gangaikondacholipuram. L-r, front: Shilo and Rita Chatterjee, Usha Chander, Makiko Sakai, Jill Gale de Villa, Kai Watanabe, Meenakshi and Prodipto Ghosh, Snimer Sahnji; back: Jay Madhab, Kazu Sakai, Eichi Watanabe, S. Chander, Rajendran.



Huge Nundy (Bull) at Gangaikondacholipuram.



The Chanders at a chariot relief on a stairway at Airavatiswarar Temple.



Gangaikondacholipuram temple door.

The next AFE–ADB India Chapter Meeting will be held in Guahati, Assam in October 2017. Shiladyta Chatterjee offered to help organize the meeting and trips. Jayanta Madhab, member from Guahati and ex-President of the Chapter, invited all participants for dinner and a cultural evening in his strategically located home on the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra River.

On to Madurai *(subsequent text is by Jill Gale de Villa).*

Pondicherry. On Monday morning most participants left for Pondicherry. The first stop was Auroville, a “new-age” community partly funded by the United Nations, where people from all walks of life come to “concentrate.” A large golden “egg” is the focal point—a 1 km walk, and we posed under widely spreading banyan trees.

In Pondicherry town, we walked in the “white” area, a former French colony now colonized by French pensioners, who can live happily on their euro incomes. We also visited

the Auroville Ashram—not the same as the earlier Auroville. Then we strolled along the long lovely beach, and stopped in small groups for refreshments and chats.

Great Living Chola Temples. Tuesday we continued to experience the remarkable Great Living Chola temples, which together form a UNESCO World Heritage Site. First we passed Chidambaram Tillai, surrounded by ancient tillai trees, part of the world’s 2nd most extensive mangrove forest. Gangaikondacholipuram is a beautiful sand-colored temple with a huge Nundy (bull) statue, dedicated to the god Shiva. Its tower is 55 meters high, and the temple complex was completed in 1035—but is now abandoned, and peaceful.

Airavatiswarar Temple, in Darasuram, was our next destination. It was built by Raja Raja (King of Kings) Chola II in the 12th century.

In the evening we arrived at the Ideal River Resort, which



Brihadiswarar Temple.



Reproduction of paintings inside Brihadiswarar Temple.

lived up to its name. We gathered for a delicious dinner on a terrace by a river, serenaded by good musicians.

Brihadiswarar Temple. Wednesday, we motored across the dry landscape first to Thanjavur (Brihadiswarar) Temple, the third of the three Great Living Chola temples. It is one of India's largest, and an example of Chola period architecture. The temple is dedicated to Shiva, was built by Raja Raja (King of Kings) Chola 1, and was completed in 1010. This all-granite temple has a Nundy carved from one rock. Granite was brought here from 60–75 km away. The kumbam (rock atop the temple) weighs 80 tons, and was placed by elephants pushing it up an earth ramp built for the purpose.

Hindu group members toured the temple's inner chambers and murals. The other five of us saw reproductions in a side area, which we were allowed to photograph. The temple sits on a huge platform where thousands of dancers perform. It also has a remarkable collection of statues and bronzes.

Next was an impromptu stop at some cashew vendors to watch them opening and roasting the nuts. Yum.

Chettinad Lunch. Then on to lunch at the Chidambara Villas, owned by a family that made its fortune moneylending. The 170-year-old mansion showcases the opulent lifestyle of the Chettinads in the 20th century. The delicious lunch was served on banana leaves, and we overate plentifully before venturing on a tour of the mansion and seeing the views from its rooftop parapets. The villa is now owned by a trust, and one family member is still in residence.

As we approached Madurai, the heavens opened up, the streets flooded, and we were happy to stay put in the hotel rather than wade to a temple.

Madurai. On Thursday the rains had subsided and we went to Shri Menakshi Temple on the southern bank of the Vaigai River. This temple is the heart of life in the 2,500-year old city of Madurai. Construction of the huge complex started in the 6th century, but it was plundered by the Mughuls in the 14th century. The present structure, with its huge, massive pillars, dates from 1623–1655. The temple features stunning gopurams—pyramid-shaped structures that often function as gateways to the temple complex—with brightly colored tiers of sculptures culminating in shell-like finials.

Next we went to the Nayak Palace, with huge opulent ceilings, murals on the walls, and awesome Islamic-style arches. The Nayaks ruled during 1545–1740s, and the palace was built in 1636, but has suffered due to abuse and misuse—including as a garrison. The palace library displays remarkable works of painted literature. Finally, the remaining 11 participants ate a last meal and went our various ways, grateful for a truly remarkable experience. ■



Mural detail, Nayak Palace, Madurai.

New York–New Jersey: Masquerade

Lorna del Rosario (ADB 1994–2001)



The night of 22 October 2016 was not the usual dinner party of the AFE–ADB NY–NJ Chapter. Former colleagues from the Asian Development Bank dressed up for the occasion, the ladies in beautiful long gowns and the gentlemen in their finest suits. Each one came wearing a mask, lending a little bit of mystery as to the identity of the face behind it.

After all, it was a Masquerade Ball!

The decor in the venue, the Crystal Ballroom of the Ramada Hotel in New Jersey, really set the mood. The Ballroom was black-and-white inspired and displayed huge masks on the walls, which served as appropriate backgrounds for the photo shoots. Everyone feasted on a delectable buffet spread. The entertainment was provided by a couple of guest artists, but not to be outstaged were our own ex-ADB staffers. Mia Jose sang a duet with her son, Khris, to the tune of the theme song from the Phantom of the Opera. Vivian Villanueva belted out “This Masquerade,” popularized by Karen Carpenter. To enhance



Faces behind the Masques.

the revelry and the magic of the evening, a guest magician played some tricks.

Of course, no Masquerade Ball would be complete without a filled dance floor! As soon as the guest DJ played songs from the ‘60s, ‘70s, ‘80s, and ‘90s, everyone was up on their feet. Who said waltz is only for the upper class? Line dancing naturally remained a knockout favorite.

It was an opportune time to catch up with each other and, more importantly, to remind each one about the common bond that ties us all. Flyers for the forthcoming 50th Anniversary of ADB and membership forms to renew or register with AFE–ADB were distributed. Chato O’Buckley briefed everyone on the highlights of the AFE–ADB meeting in Frankfurt, Germany.

The NY–NJ Chapter is fortunate to have many active members and participants. This year’s reunion was chaired

by Mia (Baby) Jose. She was ably supported by members of the Executive Committee: Chato O’Buckley, Florence Rafulowitz, Milagros Maculanlan, Nena Villena-Tanedo, Vivian Villanueva, Nannette Amorado, Nerissa Cortez, Margie Baccay, and Lorna del Rosario. The guests came from New York and New Jersey; from nearby Maryland, Massachusetts, and Philadelphia; and all the way from Virginia, Illinois, and even California to enjoy the spectacular and wonderful night! ■



Front Row L to R: Yolanda Laurel Houtby, Remigia Arceta, Angel Calilap, Frank Berena, Carlos Totie Santiago Torrelino, Nena Villena-Tanedo, Luchi Luzares, Sofia Marquez. Second Row L to R: Linda Ocampo Reyes, Marissa Ayento, Beybi Ligon Icasiano, Y-Chie S. Primo. Third Row L to R: Oscar Colmenar, Vivian Villanueva, Mia Jose, Chato O’Buckley, Josie Catuncan, Vhee Martin, Lisa Lacerona, Lorna del Rosario. Last Row L to R: Margie Baccay, Mila Simolde, Litz Aquilizan, Germie Pampo, Ellen Teves Mignini, Juliet Capati, Diane Venegas, Edna Patenia, Ditas Miranda, Elvie Purino.

Philippines: Get-Together at Island Cove

Gam de Armas

The Philippines Chapter held its Annual Get-together (Business Meeting and Christmas Party) on 17 November 2016 at the Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park in Kawit, Cavite. More than 60 members and guests attended.

A hired tourist bus left ADB at 9:00 a.m. and reached Island Cove a little after 10:00 a.m., well in time for the 10:30 a.m. registration. Some came with their own cars including Hans and Jill. Members who came early were given a tour of the resort, and some took a dip in the Oceania Swim and Splash Park.

The South Group, which is closest to the venue, had the biggest delegation, followed by the East Group. The West Group headed by Rory Aragon came next. It has now a new co-coordinator in the person of Nanette Amorado, who had just returned to the Philippines after retiring from the United Nations. She is a former coordinator of the NY-NJ Chapter. When I found out that she was staying in the Mandaluyong area, I asked her if she can take on the task of co-coordinator for the West Group. She willingly accepted and acknowledged it as a good and fast way of getting immersed in the Philippines Chapter. Among the new members from the West Group were Janice Wu and Ofelia Caalim, who was adjudged "best dressed."

"Newcomer" Nanette teamed with Ernie Bondoc as co-emcees. They gamely tried to identify everyone by name with some degree of success. After the touching invocation by Vicki de Armas, I officially welcomed all, followed by the reports of President Hans-Juergen Springer and Vice President Jill de Villa primarily on pension and health benefit issues and the 31st Annual General Meeting of ADB in Yokohama, Japan on 4–7 May 2017.

I then gave a brief background on the decision to hold the get-together outside of ADB, and an update on the Philippines Chapter. The theme for the affair was aptly "Winds of Change," to connote the crucial changes happening on a global scale and even in the Philippines. I named the area coordinators present (Ophie Sta Ana and Baby Girl Cruz for the South, Mayette Domingo and Midi Kawashima for the East, Rory Aragon and Nanette Amorado for the West) to acknowledge their important role and participation in the preparations for the get-together. The North Group's coordinators, Daisy Chavez and Leonie Francisco, were unable to attend. Outgoing coordinators as well as those who had served for 2 years were given gifts.

Then it was time for the sumptuous buffet lunch prepared by the resort, with more than enough for a second helping. While having lunch, we were brilliantly entertained by guest singer Emil Quejada, who sang á la Nat King Cole, Andrea Bocelli, Johnny Mathis, Frank Sinatra, Perry Como, etc., and guest performer/dancer Vhevel de Asis, who did wonderful impersonations and lip syncs of Broadway stars. After lunch, it was time



for line dancing, group games with prizes, and raffle of door prizes. No one came home empty handed as a commemorative mug of the event was given to all members.

It was an enjoyable gathering with everyone dressed in Hawaiian attire. ■



Line dancing.

Singapore

Willie Lim (ADB 1981–2004)



The AFE Singapore Chapter had its yearly lunch gathering at Katong Kitchen in the Singapore Katong V-Hotel on 18 September 2016.

Recent developments in retirees' pension and medical insurance were briefly discussed. We enjoyed the annual catch up with one another, and news of friends whom we have not been able to meet. ■



L-r: Armajit Wasan, Cheng Huat Sim, Banderlipe McRonald, Willy Lim, Ruby and George Chou, Paul Tan, Siew Fing Wong.

SoCal Christmas

Yolanda Laurel Houtby (ADB 1979–1989) and Letty Liong Gomez (ADB 1978–1986)



The Southern California Chapter, which was created under the leadership of Mustafa Ali Khan with the assistance of Los Angeles-based Letty Liong Gomez, grew in the few years after its inception in March 2007. However, due to mobility, our membership has declined drastically. Our 2016 Christmas Get-Together had very few member attendees, but, thanks to our faithful supporters, family, and friends, we were able to celebrate

the holidays with a delicious lunch at the Luminarias Restaurant on 17 December 2016.

The Southern California Chapter members are still proud friends, and we promise to continue to reach out to each other. ■



People, Places, and Passages

Dabarkads

Midi Diel Kawashima (ADB 1979–2007)



Our *Barkada*. Everyone has someone they call their *barkada* (group). For us 13 former ADB staff, this *barkada*—our *Dabarkads*—formed after our retirement. Coming from different backgrounds with unique personalities, and having worked in different departments in ADB, it was a small wonder how our group could even exist. Susan

Francisco and Eufie Vicalra were former Pacific Region staff; Penny Laquindanum and Odette Reyes were from the Consulting Services Division; Marissa del Castillo was from the Procurement Division; Vagie Leon from Controllers; Mirandie Marquez, South Asia Department, Energy Division; and four of us, Yollie Arcinas, Editha Infante, Marissa Espiritu, and I were from the East Asia Department. Not even geography could stop our friendship. Juliet Alfonso Gunter was also from the Procurement Division and is living in Australia, while Oskee Nuñez came from BPMSD and is now in Kansas, United States.



Visiting our BFF Jhet in Sydney, Australia. L to R: Midi D. Kawashima, Mirandie A. Marquez, Juliet Alfonso Gunter and Vagie C. Leon.

Coming Together. Despite our differences, we shared that feeling of wonder and excitement that comes with traveling, new experiences, and meeting different people, which is what probably brought us together. While most of us had opportunities to join official missions and travel to ADB member countries, those trips were no holidays as there was often lots of work to do and MOUs to finish.

It's more FUN after retirement! The *Dabarkads* usually meet once a month for lunch and talk about the trending news and watch the latest movies. We also go out, and

sometimes out of town, to celebrate our birthdays, to check out some spot we read about or saw on TV, or to just relax and take a break. Despite the notorious traffic jams, we enjoy these road trips, which bring us even closer to each other. Our love for traveling has brought us to Australia to visit one of our best friends, Jhet Gunter. The *Dabarkads* have also been to Japan, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Cambodia, and Viet Nam. Hopefully, soon we will be making our way to the United States together to visit our good friend Oskee in Kansas. For the *Dabarkads*, geography is no barrier to camaraderie and friendships span continents, so we will be there for each other wherever we go.



The *Dabarkads* celebrating 2016 Christmas Party. Seating from L to R: Mirandie A. Marquez, Vagie C. Leon and Marissa P. Espiritu. Standing from L to R: Midi D. Kawashima, Editha L. Infante, Yollie Arcinas, Susan I. Francisco, Marissa del Castillo, Eufie Vicalra, Odette Reyes and Penny Laquindanum. Not in photo: Juliet Alfonso Gunter and Oskee Nunez.



Helping Hands. This *Dabarkads* is not only for ourselves; we also strive to share our blessings with others. Just as ADB has lent a helping hand to developing countries for 50 years, we too try to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters by organizing our own little “*kawanggawa*” (charity) missions to share our time and pool our resources to donate some food, medicines, and daily necessities to those in need. In one of our missions, we visited the Margaretha Home for the Blind in Project 4, Quezon City and met some young girls who, despite their visual impairment, were talented children hopeful for their future. Similarly, when we visited several orphanages (Sta. Rita Orphanage in Parañaque and Home of Love Orphanage in Antipolo, to name two), we could see in the children a sense of hope and happiness despite not knowing the love of their parents. We felt a deep kind of joy and fulfillment through sharing our love and touching the lives of these kids. We also had the opportunity to visit Cottolengo Filipino, in Rodriguez, Rizal. Cottolengo is a nonprofit and nongovernment religious organization that takes care of the poor, abandoned, neglected, and surrendered persons with disabilities. We were welcomed and toured by Fr. Stefan Bulai, Chairperson/President. Some of the kids can’t walk; most of them are in wheelchairs. We felt sad because we were not able to interact fully with the kids due to language barriers. However, we could see wide smiles on their faces. Visiting this institution, we learned that we should never take what we have for granted.

Our latest *kawanggawa* activity brought us to Jaen, Nueva Ecija, where one of our ADB friends, Normita Marquez, lives. Her barangay was devastated by typhoons Lando and Nona, which together wrought the worst flooding in a lifetime for the people of Nueva Ecija. In cooperation with the AFE–ADB East Group, we donated and distributed 150 bags of relief goods containing food such as bread, peanut butter, instant noodles, sardines, rice, coffee, and sugar to help affected residents through this tragedy.

Our small missions could not be possible without the support of our friends and the organizations we work with. We would like to especially thank our good friend Mirandie “Randz” Marquez for always providing us transportation, free of charge, for all our trips. Without “our Grandia,” we could never have gone to so many places and shared our lives in the service of others. Our *Dabarkads* hope to continue these *kawanggawa* missions and if you would like to help, we would greatly appreciate any donations from our generous and big-hearted ADB friends.

Thank you, ADB, for touching our lives and giving us opportunities that we now hope to share with others. We would also like to congratulate ADB for 50 years of fighting poverty in Asia and the Pacific and we wish the continued success of this esteemed institution. See you all in Yokohama, Japan in May! *Minna-san, Yokohama ni aimashou!* ■

In Translation

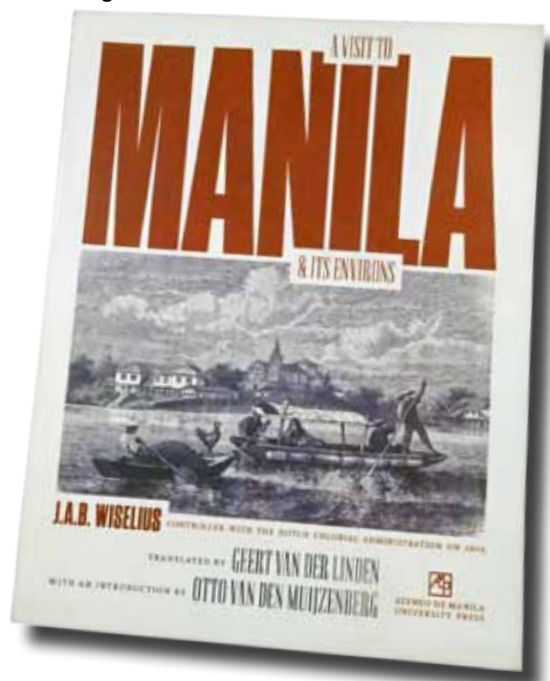
Geert van der Linden (ADB 1978–2006)

Ed: The books are available at Ateneo, and at Fully Booked. The article below is drawn from "Dutch-Authored Books Put Spotlight on Manila" by B.M. Tabora, 21 November 2016, in the Inquirer and from information from the translator—Gerry van der Linden.



In a visit to Manila and Its Environs, J.A.B. Wiselius documents his visit in 1875. Colonial Manila, 1909–1912: Three Dutch Travel Accounts chronicles the adventures of three Dutch travelers in the Philippines at the turn of the last century. The books were published almost one and a half centuries ago.

For many aspiring readers, the main drawback of the books had for many years been that they were in Dutch. Only. Thanks to our Gerry van der Linden, Ateneo Press, and the Dutch Embassy in Manila, this issue has now been resolved. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of the Philippines and its history, Gerry has translated the books into English, and thanks to Ateneo and the Dutch Embassy, the result is now available to the public. The authors of the second book are a suffragist and medical doctor, an orientalist scholar, and an ethnologist. ■



Beyond Frankfurt

W. Doug Ferguson (ADB 1978–2002)



Our story began in December 2015 during one of the regular coffee sessions David Parker, Jim Rockett, and I have at ADB Headquarters. We talked about attending the AFE Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the ADB Annual Meeting in Frankfurt in early May 2016. A tour with our wives in Germany after the Annual Meeting soon entered our discussion. It would

be a perfect time to do it.

In the ensuing weeks, our thoughts turned to where in Germany we should go, what route to take, and which cities to visit. Our search for a suitable small group tour operator led us to Viatorius Tours, run by Markus Germann. He prepared a 9-day itinerary from Frankfurt to Berlin via Heidelberg, the Black Forest, Munich, Rothenburg on the River Tauber, and many other fascinating places. The itinerary included 3½-4 star hotels with continental breakfast, a comfortable Mercedes 9-seater van with adequate space for luggage, and a driver-tour guide.

After the AFE and ADB activities, at precisely 9:15 am on 6 May, the van arrived with our driver-tour guide, Patric Winter, a university student with historical and cultural



Typical half-timbered houses in Gengenbach.

knowledge of Germany and fluent in English and German. Patric promptly loaded our luggage and headed along the autobahn toward Heidelberg. We were all becoming excited. Our wives were even more excited, because Patric closely resembled the good-looking American actor, Keanu Reeves!

Our first stop was in nearby Speyer, to give Markus's stepmother the balance of our payment for the tour. Patric then drove downtown and suggested that we look for a restaurant. It was time to really celebrate with some great German beer, bratwurst sausages, and sauerkraut served by an attractive German fräulein. From that moment on, the unforgettable experiences of one day merged into those of the next. We would need to write a book to account for all the memorable times we had during our tour.

How, for example, could we ever forget the huge **Heidelberg Castle**, partly in ruins, with its cellar and (so we were told) the largest wine barrel in the world, and the magnificent views over the city and river? And of course, the little town of **Gengenbach** on the western edge of the Black Forest, with its picturesque town center and many fascinating fachwerkhäuser (half-timbered houses).

Not to forget also was **Triberg**, where we spent our first night. It lies in a rocky valley at the foot of the Triberg Waterfalls, where the Gutach River plunges over seven major steps. The falls were the highlight of our brief time there. Triberg, in the midst of the Black Forest, is also a great place to buy a cuckoo clock, a favorite souvenir of visitors to the Black Forest. A wide variety of clocks can be seen in the huge displays in some of the shops.

Then there was the view of the **Bodensee** (Lake Constance) from Lindau, the town center of which is on an island in the lake. Further on was a major highlight of our tour—our visit to the **Neuschwanstein Castle**, built



Triberg Waterfalls.

by King Ludwig II of Bavaria in the late 19th Century. To reach the castle after arriving at Hohenschwangau near Füssen, we walked up a long steep winding road, but the reward more than justified our efforts. The castle has magnificent views over the countryside and the Alps in the distance, and its interior is beautifully designed and stylistic.



Neuschwanstein Castle, as we walked towards it up the long, steep, winding road.

Our tour then took us through the scenic **Bavarian and Austrian Alps** and on the unforgettable 2-kilometer cable car ride up the mountain at Garmisch-Partenkirchen to sensational panoramic views of the snow-capped Alps nearby and in the distance, including the Zugspitze, Germany's highest peak.



Lunch with the snow-capped Alps in the background, after we took a cable car up a mountain at Garmisch-Partenkirchen. L-r Arnie and David Parker, Doug and Tina Ferguson, Patric Winter (guide-driver), and Jim Rockett.

In **Munich**, a city guide pointed out the city's many wonderful features. We of course had to visit the BMW world Head Office and magnificent showroom to see and experience the latest motorbikes and cars.

We have great memories of our stopover in romantic Rothenberg overlooking the River Tauber, and our stroll through the streets. Massive stone walls and cobblestone

streets welcome the visitor to one of Europe's most beautiful medieval cities, where some of the shop windows, like a time machine, took us back 1,000 years. Our next stop was **Dresden**, which has undergone considerable reconstruction in recent decades. We had a good look around in the old city, viewing some of highlights, such as the Frauenkirche.

After leaving Dresden we made a side trip to the picturesque **Spreewald** (Spree Woods), about 100 kilometers southeast of Berlin. We took a guided tour along some of the canals in a traditional flat-bottomed boat or punt, with the guide-boatman standing at the rear and moving the boat forward with a long pole-like paddle. On the way, we passed beautiful flowers, overhanging trees, and many historic houses, finally reaching **Lübbenau**, the principal little town in the area. Many tourists, who had come mainly to enjoy the boat rides, sat in cafés or in the sunshine on the marina, or spent time looking for souvenirs.



A canal in the Spreewald.

Approaching the end of our tour, we stayed two nights in **Potsdam**, where we visited Charlottenhof Park and the huge and magnificent Sanssouci Park and Palace—the former summer palace of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, built in the 1740s. Walking through the expansive park was a joy.

Berlin, our final destination, is a big, sprawling city with a colorful history. With a city tour guide, we visited many popular attractions, including the Brandenburg Gate, today a national symbol of German unity; the Deutscher Bundestag, which traces the development of parliamentary democracy; remnants of the Berlin Wall; and of course, the Potsdamer Platz, where our wives did some shopping. Berlin is also home to our AFE President, “the Berliner,”

Hans-Juergen Springer. We had the pleasure of meeting Hans and Liz; Hans led us on a most interesting walking tour, and brought us to a delightful restaurant where we had an enjoyable lunch.



In front of a piece of the graffiti art that adorns the East Side Gallery section of the remains of the Berlin Wall.



In front of the French Church in the Gendarmenmarkt, Berlin, after our walking tour with AFE President, Hans-Juergen Springer.

When we arrived in Berlin, we had covered more than 2,200 kilometers. Along the way, we had passed through forests of tall fir, beech, pine, spruce, and oak trees in the Alps, and past many bright yellow fields of rapeseed, from which canola oil is made. Of particular interest was the architecture of residential buildings that varied in design and emphasis due to the influence of topography, culture, and history. The tour was an unforgettable experience, and we look forward to continuing our journey through Germany in the future. ■

Creatures of Kaeng Krachan

Charles Currin (ADB 1988-91 and 1993-2001)



Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand's largest, covers about 3000 square kilometers (km) of mountainous rainforest along the Thai-Myanmar border in the Tenasserim Range. It is a major biodiversity hotspot with over 461 species of birds, 57 types of mammals, 63 kinds of reptiles, and 300 butterfly species. Mammal species include tigers, primates, elephants, jackals, bears, leopards, gaurs, and tapirs.

The park is 90 km northwest from the town of Hua Hin on the coast where I live. The pleasant 1.5 hour drive to the park goes along rural roads through rich farming country with plantations of rubber trees and oil palms, fields of pineapple and sugar cane, and groves of mango and banana trees. The final 15 km from the park entrance to the ranger station cuts through dense rainforest, where some interesting bird or mammal might appear on the roadside at any moment.

The road ends at the ranger station, where there is a campsite and a small restaurant that sells cold drinks



Asian elephant in the forest.

and offers a menu of fried rice, fried rice, or fried rice. From here several walking trails and rough dirt roads lead deeper into the rainforest. It is a paradise for nature photography—my main hobby—and I am a frequent visitor. I almost always spot gibbons and dusky langurs as well as countless species of birds. In May and June at the beginning of the rainy season, the park has clouds of butterflies of many different species hovering above the streams and waterholes.

Photographing the creatures is a challenge. Many of them seem to enjoy posing beautifully until you point the camera at them and then they vanish into the leaves. Still, it is fun to try. Here are some examples of my few successes. ■



Kaeng Krachan rainforest on a misty morning.



Great Mormon butterfly (*Papilio memmon*), common in Thailand, dining on nectar from a species of wild banana.



The black-and-red broadbill (*Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*) is not commonly seen because it tends to stay deep in the rainforest. This lovely specimen flew across the trail in front of me and perched just long enough for me to take a photograph.



Harmless red-tailed ratsnake (*Gonyosoma oxycephalum*) reaches over 2 meters in length. A graceful arboreal snake, it feeds on birds' eggs, lizards, and bats.



The oriental pied hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*) is the most frequently seen of the several species of hornbills found in the park. They nest inside cavities in dead trees.



The dusky langur (*Trachypithecus obscurus*) moves about in extended family groups of 15 or so members. Entirely arboreal, the groups leap from tree to tree in a noisy search for fruit and seeds.



There are many groups of white-handed gibbons (*Hylobates lar*) in the park. Their hooting call can be heard for several kilometers.



Forest crested lizards (*Calotes emma*) are ubiquitous. They enjoy resting on the side of a tree waiting for a tasty insect to fly or crawl by. The species comes in several color variations—brown, green, and red.



The common rose (*Pachilopta aristolochiae*) is an exceptionally beautiful butterfly found throughout the park, often in great numbers at the start of the monsoon season.



The clouded monitor (*Varanus bengalensis*) is found in a wide variety of habitats, from rainforest to dry grasslands. It digs in the soil with its long claws searching for insects to eat.



The common flameback (*Dinopium javanensis*) has a spectacular red head and a bright golden back making it easy to spot among the trees. It is usually found in pairs of one male and one female. This one is a male; the female does not have a red head.



The common jay (*Graphium doson*) butterfly has spectacular colors.



This hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) was foraging for beetle grubs near the park's campsite. It has an extensive range and is found also in the Middle East, North Africa, and Southern Europe.



The barred gliding lizard (*Draco taeniopterus*) can extend flaps of skin along its sides and glide a considerable distance from tree to tree. This male is displaying its throat flap as a territorial marker.

Pakistan with Shahida

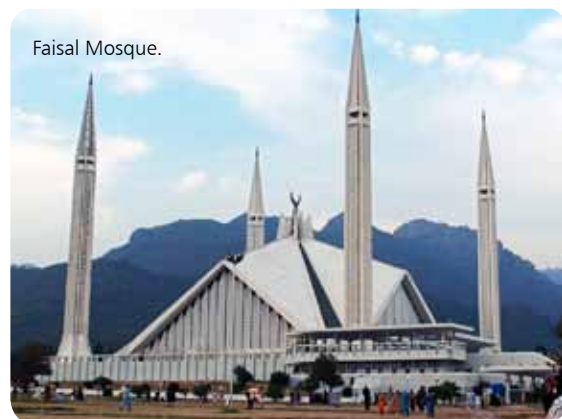
Friederike Kantner (Gerard Kantner ADB 1973–1979 and 1984–1987)



At ADB's Annual Meeting in Baku, I saw Shahida Jaffrey at breakfast—we were thrilled to meet after 29 years. We were friends in Manila—in fact we were both on the Board of the ADB Women's Club in 1977/78. Shahida invited me to visit Pakistan, and I invited her to visit me in Vienna.

My visit came first. In the last week of October 2016, I flew from Vienna to Islamabad to be with Shahida until mid-November in a country unknown to me, and I was very much looking forward to learning more about it.

On my early morning arrival in Islamabad, Shahida heartily received me at the Benazir International Airport. We stayed in her penthouse apartment overlooking Islamabad's largest park—the Fatima Jinnah Park—with a view of the grand Faisal Mosque in the distance. Faisal Mosque is the largest mosque in South Asia and the fourth largest in the world. Beyond that are the Murree Hills in the Himalayas.



Faisal Mosque.

Islamabad is a very well-planned city, built during the 1960s to replace Karachi as Pakistan's capital. Islamabad is known for its several parks and forests, including the Margalla Hills National Park and Shakarparian Park.

After a few days in Islamabad, we flew to Gilgit, capital of Gilgit–Baltistan Province, in the Karakoram Mountain Range. Shahida has built a very beautiful cottage for herself, using hand-chiseled white Hunza marble. The 55-minute flight traversed the mighty Indus River Gorge,



Friederike Kantner and Shahida Jaffrey in Lahore.

with the plane flying at 5,200 meters (m), and mountains along the route rising above 6,700 m; approaching Gilgit is Nanga Parbat

(Naked Mountain, the 9th highest mountain in the world at 8,126 m).

The vast Karakoram Range spans the borders of Gilgit–Baltistan (Pakistan), Ladakh (India), southern Xinjiang (People's Republic of China), and the northeastern frontier of the Wakhan Corridor (Afghanistan). A part of the complex of ranges from the Hindu Kush to the Himalayan Range, it is home to the globe's four most closely located peaks that are higher than 8,000 m—K2, the second highest peak in the world at 8,611 m; Gasherbrum I; Broad Peak; and Gasherbrum II.

The range is about 500 kilometers (km) in length, and is the most heavily glaciated part of the world outside the polar regions. The Siachen Glacier, at 76 km, and the Biafo Glacier, at 63 km, rank as the world's second and third longest glaciers outside the polar regions.

The Karakoram is bounded on the northeast by the edge of the Tibetan Plateau, and on the north by the Pamir Mountains. The southern boundary of the Karakoram is formed, west to east, by the Gilgit, Indus, and Shyok Rivers, which separate the range from the northwestern end of the Himalaya range proper as these rivers converge southwestward toward the plains of Pakistan.

Shahida's cottage, hidden behind a forest of tall trees with golden autumn leaves, was home to us for 10 days.



Shahida Jaffrey's Gilgit cottage.



Rakaposhi peak.

The view from the cottage was of snow-covered Rakaposhi Mountain, at 7,788 m—the 27th highest in the world and 12th highest in Pakistan.

Our daily Pakistani breakfast, consisting of parathas, omelet, pink Kashmiri milk tea, and exotic local fruit, was served by Safia, Shahida’s Balti housekeeper, on the outside terrace in the very bright sun while watching the glistening Rakaposhi—the Mountain of Mists. We sat in the sun, whenever home, watching the spectacular sight of Rakaposhi.

Shahida—a superb mountain driver—drove us around Gilgit in her 23-year-old Pajero jeep. We went on narrow mountain roads to beautiful tourist sights, to very busy local markets, and along the aquamarine blue, clear, snow melt Gilgit River. This is one of the major tributaries of the mighty Indus.

We visited some important people in the administration, especially the Inspector General of Police Gilgit–Baltistan, who also joined us for dinner, and the General Manager of the Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP), Muzaffar ud Din. On return from Manila in 1990, Shahida began her work in Pakistan in Gilgit at the AKRSP.

The highlight of my visit to Gilgit–Baltistan was a day-long drive toward the Chinese border on the Karakoram Highway (KKH) also called the China–Pakistan Highway. It is part of the ancient Silk Road. The KKH is an engineering marvel, and is the highest highway in the world, built by Chinese and Pakistani army engineers. Its highest point is the Khunjrab Pass crossing between the two countries at 4,900 m.

In 2010, a huge part of a mountain in Attabad Hunza came down, blocking the Khunjrab River. The avalanche created a lake 21-km long and 100-m deep and submerged 12 km of the KKH. The government of the People’s Republic of China carved five tunnels through the mountains and constructed several bridges to reopen the highway.

This trip showed me a part of the world that I never expected to see with my own eyes. We had brought our lunch, which we ate on the KKH next to the Passu Glacier, surrounded by fascinating, cathedral-like mountain peaks.

The sights left me with everlasting memories and unforgettable impressions. Along the KKH in Hunza were sacred rock carvings dating back to the 1st Millennium AD.



Karakoram Highway (KKH).

After 10 days in Gilgit we flew back to Islamabad and took the bus to Lahore, a 5-hour drive on the Motorway. Lahore is the capital city of the Pakistani province of Punjab. It is the second largest and most populous city in Pakistan, after Karachi, and is 13 km from the border with India.

Lahore is the historic cultural center of the Punjab region. The city has a long history, and was at various times under the rule of the Hindu Shahis, Ghaznavids, Ghurids, Lodis, Marathas, and the Delhi Sultanate. Lahore reached the height of its splendor under the Mughal Empire, serving as its capital city for many years.

Shahida has a most beautiful artsy museum-like home in Lahore, packed with art works. The highlight of my stay was a tour of the inner city on an auto rickshaw accompanied by two of Shahida’s male staff members. A few hours trip gave me a taste of what Lahori life is—lots of activity, all modes of transport, traffic congestion, people, and lots of economic activity.

In Lahore too we met with Shahida’s family and friends. We also visited a village farm in the Punjab—along the ancient Grand Trunk Road, where Shahida is building a large farmhouse close to the Indian border, an hour from Lahore.

My 3-week trip was soon over, and I took the bus back to Islamabad, and flew home in time to prepare for Christmas with family, sharing with them my memorable trip to Pakistan. ■



At home in Lahore.

Kim Swims

Cheolghee Michael Kim (ADB 1995–2014)

Ed: Excerpted with permission from an article in Safetimes, by Kim Chang Yeoung, translated by Ahn Kyong A.



While working at ADB as a finance expert, Cheolghee Michael Kim was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. He told the doctor "Then, I promise to live the balance of my everyday life happier by three times more." His response was to start swimming to keep his body and mind going.

Due to Parkinson's disease, Cheolghee could not continue his usual daily swimming regimen, and resorted to floating on his back in the children's pool to do his stretching exercise. He and his wife, Kyungin, developed "Yoga Swim" for those with disabilities, a precursor to the "Leaf Survival Float." He demonstrated it at the Asia Parkinson's Disease Forum in Tokyo, Japan and received high acclaim.

Since retiring in 2014, Cheolghee has become "a missionary of survival swimming." He has been teaching "Leaf Survival Training"—a method for surviving in water during a disaster by floating to stay alive until rescue comes. This requires a few hours of training.

Pursuant to the disastrous sinking of the Sewol Ho ferry in 2014, the Korean Ministry of National Public Safety set 1 hour as the "golden time" for rescue in marine disasters. The Ministry's goal is to dispatch helicopters and to rescue the victims who can endure the waves for 1 hour in cold waters.

The person who spearheaded and oversaw the campaign "Save people from drowning!" is Cheolghee Kim. While working for close to 20 years at ADB, he assisted many underdeveloped countries. His humanitarian spirit is now focused on promoting the "Leaf Survival Float." Cheolghee stated, "Anyone whether man or woman, old or young if trained for [about] 10 hours can completely master this technique."

On 7 April 2016, more than 300 Filipino youths participated in a pilot survival exercise by floating in the sea off Santa Cruz Beach on the Philippines' Mindoro Island. This event was headed by Survival Techniques Coach Paul Ahn and Korea Parkinson's Disease Association's Sports Director Cheolghee Kim.



Young Filipinos demonstrating Leaf Survival Floating at Santa Cruz Beach on Mindoro Island, Philippines.

Training the youths for the event consisted of only 3 hours of actual survival techniques for the "Leaf Survival Float," learned in high waves at the beach during the previous 2 days. In unison the participants shouted the campaign slogan, "Save the children from drowning!" and simultaneously jumped into the sea, where they floated with only the buoyancy of their bodies, without any supporting devices or swimming movements. Those who struggled were calmed by the moderator's directions—"lie on the back" and "breathe in." They demonstrated the actual survival techniques by holding hands with each other, or floating on their backs waiting for the rescue team. This was the first deep sea experience for most of the participants. ■

A Shooting Star

Helena Jacinto-Duenas (ADB 1969–1977)



Ed: This article focuses on the remarkable achievements of an AFE member's Olympiad son, and the journey on which the family has joined and supported him.

During the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, our son Crispin was the only Filipino athlete competing in archery for Canada. In a Facebook Live stream interview during the Olympics, on 15 August, one of Crispin's Facebook followers asked him about his heritage. He responded: "My parents came over to Canada in 1977 with just I think \$50 or \$500 in their pockets ... it was a new life for them; it was scary. In 1986, I was born. And I am proud they made it. I love them to death."

Raising children is a challenging task, but raising them in a foreign country brings unique challenges. Both Rolly



(my husband) and I were employed, so Crispin stayed in a daycare center beside an elementary school in our neighborhood of Scarborough, Toronto, Canada. The daycare provided a before-and-after school program for children 3–10 years old. At the daycare, Crispin learned to live, work, and be with children of different cultures and backgrounds. At school, he learned to compete academically; and brought home red ribbons for his winnings in the school's extracurricular track and field programs. But his heart was not in track and field. In 1999, his math teacher introduced him to archery. By early 2000, Crispin started breaking provincial archery records. In the same year, he graduated from the John A. Leslie Public School with awards in mathematics and music, and as the Male Athlete of the Year.

At the Ontario Summer Games in 2000, Canada's Olympic coach for archery talked Crispin into changing from shooting a compound bow to a recurve bow, to be trained as a possible Olympic contender for Canada. This started a new chapter in Crispin's athletic journey. (Note: A compound bow relies on modern technology and is more accurate than a traditional, or recurve, bow. Only recurve bows are allowed in the Olympics.)

Rolly or I used to drive Crispin for lessons at the Archers of Caledon, 75 kilometers from our house. In the course of Crispin's lessons and training, Rolly also learned how to shoot, and eventually pursued coaching lessons as well. Thus, Rolly qualified to become team manager for tournaments and competitions in Canada and the United States. He was also able to go with Crispin on competitions.

Crispin competed internationally for the first time in 2002 at the VII Junior World Target Archery Championship held in Nymburk, Czech Republic, finishing in 7th place. The Federation of Canadian Archers awarded him the 2003 Athlete of the Year. At the 2004 Senior World Target Archery Championship at Lilleshall, United Kingdom, he finished 8th. To train and compete on the world stage required funding. What the Canadian Federation could not afford, we supplemented. Sports Canada provides

funding to elite Canadian athletes. Crispin qualified for this funding by winning medals at world cups, including a silver medal at a PanAm Championship in Brazil, and finishing among the top 10 in national and international competitions.

The first time Canada participated with a full team in archery at the Olympics was in 2008, in Beijing, and Crispin was one of the three team members. The team finished in the top 20 of the final ranking. At the ranking round, Crispin finished with 664 out of 720 points, giving him the 16th seed heading to the elimination round going against Magnus Peterson of Sweden (the 1996 Olympic silver medalist). In the first round they both scored 108 points, forcing a shoot off, which Magnus won by 1 point.

Crispin's second Olympic adventure was in London in 2012, where he was the only male archer who qualified to represent Canada (see AFE News #41). Crispin was one of 25 Olympians and Paralympians in Canada honored with the 2012 Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, "for their dedication, passion and commitment ... inspiring countless Canadians with their contributions on and off the field of play." He finished as the 8th seed. In the 2013 World Archery Championship in Antalya, Turkey, Crispin won the bronze medal. This was Canada's first world medal in the Individual recurve event in 42 years.

At Rio, Crispin was again the only male archer to represent Canada, and he placed 17th in the final ranking. Rolly and I watched him with great excitement—on television from home in Canada, as we did not want him to worry about our safety in Rio. The World Archery's Recurve Men World Ranking Record places Crispin as #19 for 2016.

Crispin is an Ontario Certified Teacher. He graduated with honors from the University of Toronto. During the winter months, he teaches sufficient hours to maintain his "active" member status in the teaching profession. He continues to train 3–4 hours daily, shooting 300 arrows.

As Canada's top archer, he promotes the sport by appearing on television shows, such as the Discovery Channel's Daily Planet or Rick Mercer's Show, giving archery demonstrations. He speaks to students at school assemblies, motivating and inspiring them. He has been a guest on radio talk shows, educating the audience and promoting archery. He has played his guitar accompanying the famous Canadian Astronaut, Commander Chris Hadfield, singing David Bowie's *Space Oddity* at an event recognizing Canadian Olympians.

Our AFE—ADB Toronto Chapter, under the leadership of Nida Rodriguez, has been encouraging us and providing us heads-up on information and articles about Crispin and his archery. To the moderators of our worldwide community of AFE—ADB family, thank you for supporting Crispin with your best wishes, kind words, and thoughtful prayers. To you, my AFE—ADB family, we are grateful. ■

New Members

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

August 2016

Zhou, Xuefan (People's Republic of China)
 Adhar, Rishi R. (Australia)
 Liston, Jim J. (Philippines)
 Gunasekera, Nelun C. (Sri Lanka)
 Bantugon, Cecilia (Philippines)
 Aquino, Pamela E. (Philippines)
 Stroem, Rune (Philippines)
 Morata, Brenda (United States)
 Tiu, Cora F. (United States)
 Arriola, Charito D. (Philippines)
 Soewartono, H.S. (Indonesia)
 Ferguson, Scott G. (Canada)
 Bozakov, Plamen (Germany)
 Rillo, Ma. Felicitas (Philippines)

September 2016

Escaño, Natalie S. (Philippines)
 Panlilio, Ma. Luisa (Philippines)
 Drilon, Jill M. (Philippines)
 Sison, Ma. Corazon Cecilia (Philippines)
 Monzuela, Jemellee C. (Philippines)
 Chowdhury, Najibul H. (Bangladesh)
 Jude, Anthony J. (Malaysia)

October 2016

Candor, Janneth L. (Philippines)
 Santiago, Eden V. (Canada)
 Razon, Ma. Rosario J. (Philippines)
 Losenno, Cinzia (United Kingdom)
 Doyle, Elvira T. (United States)
 Villanueva, Vivian T. (United States)
 Mendoza, Maria Iluminada (Philippines)

November 2016

Gregori, Enzo (Philippines)
 Hernandez, Gaudencio, Jr. (Philippines)
 Tokeshi, Joji (Japan)
 Sakai, Naoki (Japan)
 Potian, Zynthia N. (Philippines)
 De Veyra, Eduardo M. (Philippines)
 Villaflores, Luz B. (Philippines)
 Vikram, Siddhanta (United States)
 Duran, Marilou M. (Philippines)
 de la Merced, Marcela Leonila E. (Philippines)
 Juan, Elizabeth C. (Philippines)
 Deza, Emelita S. (Spain)
 Gewali, Govinda P. (Nepal)

December 2016

Moore, Richard W. (Australia)
 Gendrano, Oscar A. (Philippines)
 Liwag, Cristina S. (Philippines)
 Brimble, Peter J. (United Kingdom)
 Geissler, Guido (United States)
 Ligeralde, Geraldine B. (Philippines)
 Reyes, John Ma. Vianney (Philippines)
 Hnaguie, Christopher T. (Papua New Guinea)
 Vergara, Jeffrey Deo (Philippines)
 Ojera, Maria Pilarcita (Philippines)
 Calanoc, Leona A. (Philippines)
 Martinez, Elvira (Philippines)
 Siddayao, Maria Victoria (Philippines)
 Lopez, Jose (Philippines)
 Firoz, Ali (Bangladesh)
 Coronel, Corazon (Philippines)
 Alejandro, Leonor (Philippines)
 Sinnung, May Antonia (United States)
 Empeño, Cecilia C. (Philippines)
 Hirose, Atsuko, (Japan)
 Kojima, Kazuo, (Japan)
 Ursolino, Fe O. (Philippines)

January 2017

Zheng, Qing (People's Republic of China)
 Leonor, Dorothy Claire (Switzerland)
 Loria, Nerissa (Philippines)
 Inciong, Olivia Sylvia O. (Philippines)
 Hauber Jr., John Grant (United States)
 Islam, Mohammed N. (United States)
 Canzon, Majella (Philippines)
 Tatara, Toru (Japan)
 Cruz, Ma. Editha (Philippines)
 Soriano, Marissa (Philippines)
 Trinchera, Francia Socorro (Philippines)
 Ali, Akhtar (Pakistan)
 Seetharam, Kallidaikurichi (India)

Senior Appointments in ADB

AFE–ADB congratulates the following staff members on their new appointments.

Takashi Matsuo—Representative, Japanese Representative Office (JRO), Strategy and Policy Department (SPD) assumed office on 5 August 2016.

Candice McDeigan—Country Director, Kyrgyz Resident

Mission (KYRM), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD) assumed office on 2 August 2016.

Yongping Zhai—Technical Advisor (Energy), Sector Advisory Service Division (SDAS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) assumed office on 5 August 2016.

Paolo Spantigati—Country Director, Timor-Leste Resident Mission (TLRM), Pacific Department (PARD) assumed office on 9 August 2016.

Bernard Woods—Advisor, SPD, and Head, Results Management Unit (SPRU), SPD effective upon assumption of office.

Bartlet Edes—Advisor, SDCC and Head, Knowledge Sharing and Services Center (SDCC-KS) effective 31 August 2016.

Nessim J. Ahmad—Deputy Director General concurrently Chief Compliance Officer, Environment and Safeguards Cluster (SDEC) effective 1 September 2016.

Gil-Hong Kim—Senior Director concurrently Chief Sector Officer, Sector Advisory Service Cluster (SDSC), effective 1 September 2016.

Vijay Padmanabhan—Technical Advisor (Urban), SDSC, effective 1 September 2016.

Amy S.P. Leung—Deputy Director General concurrently Chief Thematic Officer, Thematic Advisory Service Cluster (SDTC), SDCC, effective 5 September 2016.

Christopher Thieme—Deputy Director General, Private Sector Operations Department (PSOD), effective 1 September 2016.

Giovanni Capannelli—Country Director, Kazakhstan Resident Mission (KARM), CWRD, assumed office on 12 September 2016.

Mark Kunzer—Director, Private Sector Transaction Support Division (PSTS), PSOD, effective upon assumption of office.

Marvin Taylor—Director General, Independent Evaluation Department (IED) assumed office on 17 October 2016.

Benedict Bingham—Country Director, PRC Resident Mission (PRCM), East Asia Department (EARD), assumed office on 17 October 2016.

Andrew Clinton—Advisor, Office of Administrative Services (OAS) and Head, Organizational Resilience Unit (OAOR) assumed office on 10 October 2016.

Kenji Yuhaku—Senior Advisor, Office of the Director General (OPSD), PSOD assumed office on 2 November 2016.

Munawar Alam—Advisor, Office of the Compliance Review Panel (OCR) assumed office on 31 October 2016.

Mio Oka—Director, Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division (SAER), South Asia Department (SARD) assumed office on 4 November 2016.

Safdar Parvez—Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (CWRC), CWRD, assumed office on 9 November 2016.

Yasuyuki Sawada—Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), effective upon assumption of office.

Janette Hall—Director, Private Sector Investment Funds and Special Initiatives Division (PSIS), effective 28 November 2016.

Kai Preugschat—Head, Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO), assumed office on 1 December 2016.

Alfredo Perdiguero—Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (SERC), Southeast Asia Department (SERD), effective 19 December 2016.

M. Teresa Kho—Deputy Director General, EARD, assumed office on 3 January 2017.

Aman Trana—Advisor, Operations Services and Financial Management Department (OSFMD) and Head, Financial Management Unit (OSFM) assumed office on 4 January 2017.

Cai Li—Deputy Country Director, Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM), SARD, assumed office on 3 January 2017.

Kanokpan Lao-Araya—Country Director, Bhutan Resident Mission (BHRM), SARD, effective upon assumption of office.

Leah Gutierrez—Director, Operations Planning and Coordination Division (SPOP), SPD, assumed office on 16 January 2017.

Asel Djusupbekova—Assistant Secretary, Office of the Secretary (OSEC) assumed office on 16 January 2017.

Muhammad Ehsan Khan—Director, HR Business Partners Division (BPHP), Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMSD) effective 1 February 2017.

Yasushi Negishi—Country Director, Lao Resident Mission (LRM), SERD, effective upon assumption of office.

Winfried F. Wicklein—Country Director, Indonesia Resident Mission (IRM), SERD, effective upon assumption of office.

Obituaries

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

Evangeline Barcelona, former Senior Operations Assistant, passed away on 18 December 2016 at the age of 61. Condolences may be sent to her daughter Katrina B. Ongjoco at kbongjoco05@gmail.com.

Manuel P. Perlas, former Senior Social Sector Economist, CWSS, passed away on 12 December 2016 at the age

of 70. Condolences may be sent to his wife Ditas Perlas at ditasperlas@gmail.com.

Teresa Curran, former Director's Assistant, passed away on 14 November 2016 at the age of 55. Condolences may be sent to her husband Thomas Mitchell Curran at ucc@tcmlaw.com.

Bruce Smith, former Financial Analyst in the Energy and Industry Department, Power Division West (EIPW), passed away on 19 November 2016 at the age of 68. Condolences may be sent to his wife Carol Smith at kohicarol@vodafone.co.nz.

Antonio T. Perez, former Principal Agriculturist in the Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Social Sectors Department (AED), passed away on 18 November 2016 at the age of 74. Condolences may be sent to his wife Perla Ortiz-Perez at sweetpearl48@yahoo.com.

Bin Wan Ahmad Wan Azmin, former Health Specialist in the Social Sectors Division, passed away on 6 November 2016 at the age of 69. Condolences may be sent to his wife Zakiah binti Mamat Mohamad and daughter Mimi Zarina Azmin at azmin@unhcr.org.

Nguyen Buu-Hoan, former Alternate Director, passed away on 22 January 2016 at the age of 90.

S.V.S. Juneja, former Director in the Infrastructure Department, passed away on 27 September 2016 at the age of 85. Condolences may be sent to his wife S. Juneja at 214 Sector 15-A, Noida-201301, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Michael Briggs, former Senior Investment Officer in the Private Sector Group, passed away on 26 August 2016 at the age of 76. Condolences may be sent to his son Bryant Briggs at bryantbriggs@yahoo.com.

Seiji Naya, former Chief Economist in the Economics Office, passed away on 10 August 2016 at the age of 83. Condolences may be sent to his wife Jane Naya at jnaya61@gmail.com.

Urs Rolf Sieber, former Manager in the Power Division (East), passed away on 13 August 2016 at the age of 81. Condolences may be sent to his wife Penelope Price at penelope.price@gmail.com.

Haruhisa Segawa, former Executive Director, ADB Board of Directors, passed away on 11 April 2013 at the age of 86. Condolences may be sent to his daughter Hiroko Segawa at hsegawa@ax.em-net.ne.jp.

Engelbert Franz Tacke, former Director, Agriculture, passed away on 14 February 2017 at the age of 88. Condolences may be sent to his son Francis Tacke at tackefranz@gmail.com.

Andrea Carlos, former Administrative Officer (Library), passed away on 12 February 2017 at the age of 87. Condolences may be sent to her daughter Margie Carlos Ruiz at margiecr Ruiz@yahoo.com. For many years, "Andy" helped at the AFE office.

AFE-ADB News is published twice annually under the auspices of the AFE Publications Committee. The views expressed in the articles are those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of AFE-ADB, its officers, or its Publications Committee; or of ADB or its Board of Governors. AFE-ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of information or data presented or accept any responsibility for any consequences of their use.

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- (1) Articles and images may be accepted for inclusion if, in the opinion of the AFE-ADB Publications Committee, they are germane to AFE-ADB activities and membership; are of interest to a significant portion of the membership; and do not contain material that promotes a political or religious stance or is potentially inflammatory or offensive to the readership.
- (2) Articles that are accepted will be edited for language, content, and length that the Publications Committee deems appropriate for the readership. Images must be of print quality (at least 280 kb or 600 dpi is preferred).
- (3) Any photograph that was not taken by the sender should be sent with the photographer's permission for AFE-ADB to publish it. Please identify all people shown in photographs so we can include adequate captions.
- (4) Authors and photographers will be acknowledged and retain ownership of any material submitted for publication.

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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 C. Jacinto, AFE-ADB's able former assistant, provided invaluable help, including typesetting and layout. Steve Banta and Jill Gale de Villa copy edited. They also proofread, as did Julia Holz, David Parker, Hans-Juergen Springer, and Ana Taluga. AFE sincerely appreciates ADB's Department of External Relations and the Printing Unit for assistance with finalizing the magazine, and Cesar Juan's work to prepare it for mailing.

Announcements

2017 Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors

The **Fiftieth Annual Meeting** of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank will be held on 4–7 May 2017 in Yokohama, Japan.

Chapter Events

The **Europe Chapter** will hold its 20th Annual Meeting in Stresa, Lago Maggiore, Italy on 21-24 September 2017. Contact Sharon and Sandro Pio at pio.alessandro@gmail.com or Gunther Hecker at ghecker1@t-online.de for details.

The **New Zealand Chapter** will hold a dinner in Auckland, New Zealand on 26 March 2017. A dinner is also planned for mid-year in Christchurch (which will be the main New Zealand Chapter gathering for 2017). Contact Gordon Fox at gordon.fox@xtra.co.nz for details.

The **Australia Chapter** will hold its reunion in the Victorian historical town of Bendigo on 17–20 October 2017. Contact Paul Turner at paulturner53@hotmail.com for details.

The **India Chapter's** Twenty Third Annual Meeting is tentatively planned to be held in Guwahati, Assam, on 27–29 October, 2017. A tour to some of the historical places in Guwahati including a cruise on the mighty Brahmaputra River is included. Contact Barin Ganguli at shibrabaringanguli75@gmail.com for details.

The **Indonesia Chapter** is planning its next reunion in Yogyakarta, Central Java on 22–25 August 2017 with an option to continue to Malang on 25–27 August 2017. Details of the program will be announced in due course. Members from other chapters are invited to join. Please indicate your interest to Ms. Zsizi Rachman, Secretary, AFE–ADB Indonesia Chapter, zzrachman@gmail.com.

The **Philippines Chapter** will hold its Annual Get-together on 16 November 2017, Thursday, at the EDR, ADB Headquarters Building. Registration will start at 4 p.m., Business Meeting at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. and socials from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Details will follow. Contact Gam de Armas at gamdearmas@yahoo.com.

The **Canada Chapter** meeting dates are not yet firmly scheduled, but Ottawa will host a dinner in the fall; Toronto has get togethers through out the year, with a year-end gala in the late fall; Vancouver will have a dinner in the fall; and Vancouver Island will have a lunch in the fall.

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Please send, by June, 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.

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