



News

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

People, Places, and Passages



Updates

Chapter News



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Our Cover



Top: Albertine Santi in Nairobi.
Center: Barun Roy's painting, *Dreamtime 1*.
Bottom: Indonesia Chapter.

AFE-ADB News

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AFE–ADB Updates

From the Executive Secretary

Hans-Juergen Springer (ADB 1972–2002)



In few other years has AFE achieved more than in 2011. The annual general meeting and related activities in Ha Noi in May, and the 25th anniversary celebrations in Manila that followed, enabled much interaction and communication among many of our members. So,

too, did the chapter reunions that took place as the year progressed. On 26 October 2011, Jill and I attended the annual meeting in Washington, DC, of the former employees associations, which provided useful insights and ideas. The article, “Third Workshop of Associations....” covers the two thought-provoking working groups, in which we participated, together with Bernard Donge and Anisa Romero from the US. One group was on governance and communications and the other on health insurance.

AFE brings to its members a sense of unity based partly on our common heritage of having been members of ADB staff, partly on our interest in the ongoing activities of ADB and AFE, and partly on the ties we share on concerns about their pensions, health insurance and other connections we have with ADB. With AFE members scattered around the world, this sense of unity might be far less evident if it were not for the AFE chapter reunions, where members have the opportunity to come together and keep in touch with one another in an atmosphere of food, fun, and much talk about the old days and matters of common interest.

The subsidy that ADB provides for these reunions helps to make them more attractive and affordable, thereby encouraging AFE members to attend. During 2011, ADB subsidies were provided to 11 chapters—Australia; Bangladesh; Canada; Europe; India; Indonesia; Republic of Korea; New York-New Jersey; Philippines; Southern California; and Washington, DC. The number of chapters eligible to receive a subsidy for their reunions will be even larger in 2012, with the addition of the New Zealand Chapter in 2010 and the Singapore and Sri Lanka chapters in 2011. As an AFE member, you may know of former ADB staff who are not

yet members of AFE but wish to participate in your chapter’s reunion. Please encourage them to first join AFE.

A committee to review the AFE bylaws, chaired by Bruce Purdue, has been meeting since August 2011, and lively discussions have been held on such topics as AFE’s future organizational structure. A draft for comments will be sent to all members before this issue of the AFE–ADB News reaches you. A final draft will be sent to you for approval later this year.

ADB’s next annual meeting will take place in Manila on 2–6 May 2012, and AFE’s annual general meeting will be held on 2 May. The Philippine Government has come up with an attractive Accompanying Persons Program, which is also open to AFE members. We understand that the number of seats on the tours may be very limited. AFE is organizing a golf tournament for its members and publicizing other tourism possibilities. There will of course also be the traditional AFE cocktail reception to be attended by ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda. I hope to see many of you in Manila.

Health Matters

Jill Gale de Villa (ADB 1993–2005)



The primary news on the health insurance front is that ADB is in the process of replacing the Vanbreda health insurance card. Therefore, if you have not already done so, do (1) send new photos in electronic form (1”x1”) to insurance@adb.org; or (2) send hardcopy photos to Staff Development and

Benefits Division, Asian Development Bank, 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines; or (3) if you are in the Manila area, have your pictures taken at the ADB Pass and Key Control Office at the headquarters building.

Meanwhile, keep the new Vanbreda numbers (replacing those on your current card) handy:

Toll free numbers are (1) from the Philippines: 00 800 96 87 46 47; and (2) from the United States: 1 855 882 52 67.

Vanbreda’s telephone number is: 32 3 217 68 24, and its e-mail is mcc017@vanbreda.com.

Please also note that the annual increase in the stop-loss limit is 5%. Consult Vanbreda's website (www.vanbreda-international.com) for details of your insurance.

ADB held its second *Health and Wellness Fair* on 21 October 2011, 9:00-4:30. The venue was the cafeteria hallway and Auditorium Zone A. Staff and Manila-based retirees were invited to interact with providers such as hospitals, dental clinics, other medical services providers, Vanbreda, International SOS, Lifeline, Philippine Red Cross, WHO, and the AIDS Society of the Philippines. Lunchtime forums and presentations were held at Briefing Theater 2 and Auditorium Zone A.

Pension Matters

Hans-Juergen Springer

ADB's Board of Directors approved, upon endorsement from the Pension Committee, several changes to the Staff Retirement Plan (SRP), and we are pleased that the 3% guaranteed annual minimum cost-of-living adjustment for retirees and current staff was retained. However, this provision will be eliminated for participants who join the SRP on or after 1 October 2012.

Three of the changes to the SRP are noted here.

- (1) Staff members who joined the SRP since 1 October 2006 are not required to contribute to the SRP, and many of them have not adequately provided for their future pension. ADB has therefore decided to automatically enroll all new SRP participants with a payroll deduction of 10% or any other percentage they may choose. Participants will also have the option not to make their own contribution to the SRP. (This provision is similar to ADB's health insurance plan.) Board members and management will also be automatically enrolled in the SRP, with a similar option not to participate.
- (2) Registered domestic partners of active participants are now recognized in the SRP.
- (3) Staff can choose any percentage between 0% and 100% of their regular or discretionary pension to be paid in their home currency when they retire instead of being limited to fixed percentages (0%, 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100%).

These and other changes to the SRP were communicated to all SRP participants (staff and retirees) in a memorandum from Director General, BPMSD on 21 November 2011.

Any questions pensioners may have should be directed to the Pension Unit of BPMSD's Development and Benefits Division at pension@adb.org.

Third Workshops of Associations of Retirees and Alumni of International Organizations

Jill Gale de Villa

On 26 October 2011, the International Monetary Fund Retirees Association (IMFRA), held the third annual meeting of retirees' associations of international organizations. The meeting was convened at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by Klaus Boese, IMFRA president, and was again ably coordinated by the 1818 Society's Jean-Yves Maillat. The two working groups, which met simultaneously, pertained to communications and governance and to health insurance. As in 2009 and 2010, the following six retirees' associations attended, in addition to ADB's AFE:

- 1818 Society, Association of World Bank Group Alumni;
- Association of Former International Civil Servants, Washington Chapter (AFICS/W);
- Association of Former Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) Staff Members;
- Association of Retirees of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB);
- Association of Retirees of the Organization of American States (AROAS), and Association of Pensioners of the Retirement and Pension Fund of the OAS (ASPEN); and
- IMFRA.

For AFE, Hans-Juergen Springer and Bernard Donge attended the workshop on the evolving nature of our organizations, and Anisa Romero and I attended the health insurance workshop.

All present affirmed the value of the workshops and stressed the need to continue them. This was reconfirmed by a survey that Jean-Yves Maillat sent to meeting participants. The date and topics of discussion for the 2012 meeting will be determined at the spring 2012 meeting of heads of the associations.

The summary of the workshop, the *Evolving Nature of Retiree Organizations—How to Adapt to the Changing Nature of Our Membership*—is as follows:



The Health Insurance Workshop.

- (1) To make our organizations more relevant to their future memberships, and explore the “alumni” option further. An expert who helps set up such organizations will be tapped for advice.
 - (2) Knowledge networks are useful. We need to know how to tap into them. A team comprising a member from each of our organizations will work together on this.
 - (3) Associations need to concentrate on the concerns of all members, including former “support” staff.
 - (4) Associations need to share experiences through seminars and group e-mails.
 - (5) Associations need to upgrade communications, e.g., through Facebook and Skype.
 - (6) Alumni associations need to strengthen relations with the staff associations of their former employers.
 - (7) Associations need to remain flexible, look into the future, and move with the times.
- The Health Insurance Workshop was facilitated by AFE’s Clay Wescott. The summary is as follows:
- (1) We have a matrix of health insurance benefits, which is useful for discussing health insurance matters at the policy level with our “parent” organizations.
 - (2) Most of our associations need to work to improve governance of the health insurance through better representation on relevant decision-making bodies within our organizations.
 - (3) We aim to build a set of best practices for medical insurance for organizations such as ours, realizing that these are goals that may need to be flexible depending on the organizational culture involved. One representative from each organization will work on a committee to achieve this, with Jill de Villa liaising. Many of these can be pulled from the health matrix and workshop notes. A question is how to mobilize support for securing the best practices from our organizations.
 - (4) We need to liaise with our staff associations to establish synergies on health insurance.
 - (5) The funding of unfunded medical insurance liabilities (i.e., future payments already committed) varies across our plans.
 - (6) The requirement for US residents to enroll in Medicare B varies across our organizations, as does the



Dianna Dennet, external health insurance expert, addresses the health insurance workshop, with Clay Wescott, Jill de Villa, and Annie Romero listening.



Part of the audience at the opening session.

reimbursement for the expenses for being enrolled, from no reimbursement to 100%.

- (7) The two outside experts that Clay Wescott invited to the health insurance workshop provided very useful information on what’s happening in the wider universe of health insurance, what we may be able to achieve, and looking at the writing on the wall.

Klaus Boese thanked the convenors (Clay Wescott and Sheila Meehan), rapporteurs, other helpers, and especially Jean-Yves Maillat for his continuing efforts to coordinate and organize these sessions.



Hans-Juergen Springer and Bernard Donge, AFE representatives at the workshop on the Evolving Nature of Retiree Associations, prepare to handle the Washington DC environment outside IMF.

Chapter Coordinators

- Australia—Peter Carroll
- Canada, overall—Bruce Murray
 - West—Bruce Murray
 - Ottawa—John Rive
 - Toronto—Ma. Fraternidad N. Rodrigo-Jugo
- Europe—Günter Hecker
- India—Barindra Ganguli
- Indonesia—Dimiyati Nangju
- Japan—Tsuneaki Yoshida
- Korea, Republic of—Yoong-Soo Seo
- New Zealand—John Colin Pratt
- Pakistan—Shahid Mirza
- Philippines—Gamaliel de Armas
- Singapore— Cheng Huat Sim
- Sri Lanka—Ranjith Wirasinha
- Taipei, China—Hai-Sheng Ko
- United States:
 - California—Benjamin Bagaoisan
 - New York-New Jersey—Ruth Esmilio
 - Washington, DC—Clay Wescott



What's New at HQ?

Jill Gale de Villa

We are very pleased to note that three former ADB staff members have returned to ADB's top spots.



Yasushi Kanzaki

**Director General:
Budget, Personnel,
and Management
Systems Department.**

In July 2011, Yasushi Kanzaki, who left ADB 6 years ago as the chief advisor to the President, was appointed to head the Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMSD). Shortly after his return, ADB

Today interviewed him through a series of questions. The following is excerpted from the interview. Responding to a question about the differences between ADB then and now, he noted "First of all, I am glad to be back in ADB.... I have happily found out that ADB is still ADB. Good tradition is still here. I also feel comfortable in working with many colleagues I have known from my earlier days. However, I have also noticed many positive changes. Most importantly, ADB's operations are more aligned with the strategic goals incorporated in Strategy 2020."

Regarding his work at BPMSD, Kanzaki-san noted that he will continue a focus on reforms in collaboration with management and staff, and looks forward to good communication and dialogue with all. Priorities will include recruiting and retaining talented, dedicated staff; strengthening managers to be effective and inspiring leaders; improving the working environment, especially so that field office staff feel included; enhancing diversity; improving work-life balance and wellness; and making HR services more responsive. He noted that career development remains a challenge. To the question, "How can ADB staff best serve the institution and the region?" he noted that "staff should have love for the institution and a passion for work in the region." Kanzaki-san also noted the need to "keep a spirit of teamwork."

Vice-President (Operations 2). In September 2011, Stephen Groff was appointed as vice-president (operations 2). During the years between his previous work at ADB, Steve has been deputy director for development cooperation at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation

and Development (OECD) and deputy vice-president for operations at the Washington-based Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), where he helped set up the agency and lead MCC programs.

Steve, who left in 2004, said

that at the time, he felt ADB's relevance in the region was under question, with lending in decline and the first staff engagement survey demonstrating a workforce that was less than content. Since then, the tripled capital base through the General Capital Increase (GCI) and increased Asian Development Fund (ADF) have had a profound influence. People seem happier; while we can't be complacent, transparency has increased and staff members have more confidence in staffing decisions. Shareholders are also happier, as shown by the GCI and ADF results and by the good ratings ADB has achieved by the Department of International Finance, Australian Agency for International Development, and the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network—all due to positive changes in recent years. ADB has increased its outreach to the public and the media. Whereas in 2004, ADB was often media-shy, we now seek to increase our visibility and are more willing to state our opinions and take credit.

Nevertheless, ADB cannot afford to rest on its laurels. Change is very much part of the business ADB is engaged in, and we have to keep up our outreach in order to continue to enhance our image around the world. Former staff members can assist this effort by, for example, spreading information about ADB and countering disinformation, such as the idea that Asia is now rich, whereas in fact it is home to a vast number of poor people. Further, for ADB to enhance its gender diversity, we have to work to both attract and retain good women, by providing relevant policies (pertaining to work-life balance) and assuring they are implemented.

Steve notes that he has worked at other international agencies since leaving ADB in 2004, each with its peculiarities, and none is perfect; and ADB does pretty well in the comparison.

Vice-President, Finance and Administration. Thierry de Longuemar, who returned from the African Development Bank (AfDB) in 2010 to head Treasury, became vice-president for finance and administration in November 2011. On his return, he found a bank that is bigger; younger; and more focused, under Strategy 2020. The younger staff



Stephen Groff



Thierry de Longuemar

complement has energized much of the staff, but they are managed the same way, by the same people, with a cautious approach to change. Perhaps this serves to keep a balance, or perhaps it risks delaying needed changes until they must be implemented hastily.

In 2004, when Thierry left ADB for AfDB, the relevance of the regional development banks was in question, a questioning that subsided during the financial crisis. However, the questioning might be resumed, given the vast investments needed versus what ADB and other development

institutions can muster. While the GCI tripled ADB's capital base, it has so far resulted in only a 20% increase in equity. Thierry notes that the International Monetary Fund has now returned from near irrelevancy to an exploded capacity.

Solutions to development issues are now become region-centric, and the regional development banks need to respond accordingly. Hence, Thierry sees increased "Asianization" of ADB (as well as increased "Africanization" of AfDB and "Latinization" of the Inter-American Development Bank), as regional members may look to take increased control over their own investment decisions. Asia may be looking toward an Asian version of the European Investment Bank.

All this gives pause for thought, and an opening for admiring the paintings in Thierry's room...abstract art he has accomplished over the years. He shared a thought-provoking quote from Oscar Wilde: "Life imitates art far more than art imitates life."

ADB's 45th Anniversary and the Oldest Retiree: Josefina Ramirez



Josefina Ramirez

In December, ADB celebrated its 45th anniversary with performances, speeches, and a documentary video. Among its features, the video honored Josie Ramirez, our 92-year-old and still healthy member. On film, she noted "I joined ADB in 1967.... I came from the

government. I was so happy to be taken in because they doubled my salary from ... a little over P1,000. That was a lot of money at that time." Josie talked briefly about how ADB grew quickly, and added "I am so happy that at the time I retired, Vanbreda came in.... a God-sent institution..., especially for those who are very sickly. I think it is quite a triumph to be here at this age and celebrating with you the ... 45th anniversary of ADB."

AFE-ADB Committees

Pension Council

Ivan Zimonyi—Chair
Randy Earman
Jan van Heeswijk
Rene Limjoco
Filologo Pante
David Parker

Brahm Prakash
Antonio Quila
Hans-Juergen Springer
Jill Gale de Villa
Graham Walter

Health Committee

Jill Gale de Villa—Head
Lourdes de Belen
Edward Breckner
Evelyn Go

Dang Fook Lee
Ferdinand Mesch
Axel Weber

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Amading Astudillo
Lourdes de Belen
Robin Boumphrey
Edward Breckner
Jacques Ferreira
Jan van Heeswijk
Julia Holz

Louis de Jonghe
David Parker
Albertine Santi
Hans-Juergen Springer
Ricardo Tan
Victor The
Jill Gale de Villa
Graham Walter

Chapter News

Australia: A Wiseman's Retreat

Peter N. Carroll (ADB 1982–1999)



Twenty four "wisemen" (and their partners) of the Australian Chapter retreated to the beautiful river land of Wiseman's Ferry, 40 km northwest of Sydney, New South Wales (NSW) on 10–13 October 2011, for the Chapter's 6th Annual Reunion and Annual General Meeting

(AGM). The scenery was stunning, as the Australis Resort overlooks a golf course nestled between two arms of the Hawkesbury River, with towering sandstone cliffs on the opposite banks. Reunion participants were Con, Helen, and Sophie Pappas; Alex Gordevich; Andrew and Ann

Proctor; Joe and Margaret Rajaratnam; Neil Collier and partner Indrani Doloswala; Sin Yan and Louine Tay; John and Pat Yee; Robert Byrnes; John Ling; Phillips and Sue Young; Roger and Margaret Weir; John and Beth Thorp; and Peter and Chên Carroll.

Guests began arriving at about 4 pm on the first day, from Sydney, the airport, or more far-flung locations. Welcome cocktails and much friendly chatter were followed by a generous buffet dinner in the resort's Riverbend Restaurant.

The following morning, after a large buffet breakfast, we embarked by bus for an interesting tour of this historic region, the scene of the earliest farming in Australia and once the food bowl of Sydney. Our first visit was to the Tizzana Winery (established in 1887) near Sackville on the banks of the Hawkesbury. The Tizzana is both a museum and an active winery, and we spent some time looking at the exhibits after a very interesting talk on the history of the winery and tasting some of its produce. Its founder, Dr. Thomas Fiaschi, an Italian immigrant, distinguished himself in the military and was a much sought after doctor and surgeon in the early days of the colony.



(L–R): John Ling, Indrani Doloswala, Neil Collier, John Yee, Pat Yee, John Thorp, Helen Pappas, Ann Proctor, Andrew Proctor, Sophie Pappas, Beth Thorp, Louine Tay, Margaret Rajaratnam, Robert Byrnes, Con Pappas, Sue Young, Joe Rajaratnam, Chên Carroll, Phillips Young, Margaret Weir, Roger Weir and Peter Carroll.



Top (L-R): Phillips Young, Andrew Proctor, Roger Weir, Robert Byrnes, Sin Yan Tay, Neil Collier, John Thorp, Joe Rajaratnam, Alex Gordevich, John Ling, Peter Carroll, Con Pappas. Right, a partial list (L-R): John Ling, Margaret Weir, Helen Pappas (mostly hidden), Joe Rajaratnam, Margaret Rajaratnam, John Yee, Indrani Dolswala, Andrew Proctor, Neil Collier, Ann Proctor, Phillips Young, Robert Byrnes, Pat Yee, John Thorp, and Beth Hilton-Thorp.

Next was historic Windsor, where we boarded the iconic Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler for a 2-hr seafood luncheon cruise along the picturesque Hawkesbury River. The return trip included a visit to the Jubilee Winery, where we were given an excellent introduction to the art of wine making, followed by instructed tasting of the delights of the winery's fine products, served with an assortment of delicious cheeses. Following a much needed rest back at our resort, the group reassembled in the nearby Hidden Valley Restaurant (which we booked exclusively) for a night of reminiscing and joke telling, with the accompaniment of good food, fine wine, and much laughter.

Bright and early on the second day, and after another large breakfast, the ex-staff members attended the Chapter AGM in a well-appointed conference room of the resort. As coordinator, I chaired the meeting; welcomed all the participants;



Ann Proctor, Peter Carroll, and Phillips Young.



and spoke of sad losses during the year, for which all stood for a minute's silence in remembrance. I gave the formal report for the year including a summary of last year's most successful combined reunion in Queenstown, New Zealand; the AFE-ADB Coordinator's meeting and AGM and ADB's 44th Annual Meeting, in Ha Noi; and the wonderful 25th Anniversary Celebrations of AFE-ADB that followed in Manila. I thanked all who had contributed to another successful year of the Australia Chapter, especially Con and Helen Pappas for organizing the reunion, and then requested John Ling to assume the chair and conduct the election of office bearers for the coming year. The following were duly elected: Australian Chapter Coordinator—Peter Carroll; Secretary-Treasurer—Con Pappas; Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Representative—John Ling; NSW Representatives—Con Pappas and Alex Gordevich; Queensland Representatives—Neil Collier and Phillips Young; and Victoria and the rest of Australia—John Thorp. The rest of the meeting included the business session with updates on important AFE-ADB issues, questions and answers, and issues raised by the members.

Happily, volunteers came forward to organize our reunions for the next 3 years: John and Beth Thorp will organize the 2012 reunion in Victoria in the first 2 weeks of October; Phil and Sue Young, the reunion in Queensland in 2013; and Andrew and Ann Proctor, the 2014 reunion in the ACT.

After a quick lunch, seven intrepid golfers met at the Wiseman's Ferry Golf Club at 2 pm for this year's Peter Pattison Memorial Trophy. In spite of some impressive golf by others, including John Thorpe's incredible (read "fluke") sinking of the ball from a shot off the fairway, Ann Proctor and Phillips Young garnered the trophy in another display of intense concentration and cool headedness under fire. While the golfers fought their way around the course, the rest of the group took a leisurely bus tour of

the surrounding area, including visits to historic St. Albans, sections of the convict-built Great North Road, museums, and tourist shops. All had a great time!

The annual dinner, in the elegant Riverbend Restaurant, commenced with cocktails and canapés and was followed by a delicious a la carte dinner with wine and all the trimmings. I announced the outcomes of the AGM and presented the winners of the Peter Pattison Memorial Golf Trophy with their certificates before introducing the theme for our traditional after-dinner anecdotes. Many rose to speak of their exciting life since retirement from ADB.

The following morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we said our goodbyes for another year, ending another very enjoyable reunion of the Australia Chapter!

Ottawa

John Rive (ADB 1978–2002)



AFE's Ottawa area group arranged its almost-annual get together in October 2011 at the Coconut Lagoon, a Kerala restaurant in Ottawa, in the spirit of our tradition of meeting at Asian restaurants. All members from the

area who were not traveling outside Canada came. Joining us were Kathy Hewlett-Jobes and Klaus Jobes, who are familiar to many who were at the ADB in the early 1980s, when Kathy was ADB Liaison Officer at the Canadian Embassy, and two members Jean-Marc and Jennifer Lafrenière, who joined the group for the first time.



Back (L-R): Alan Gill, Jean-Marc Lafrenière, Klaus Jobes, Ken McNeely, Rita Kapadia, Vernon Jorssen, Sharon Henry, Farrokh Kapadia, Emile Gauvreau, Nihal Kappagoda. Front: Jennifer Lafrenière, Kathy Hewlett-Jobes, Helen McNeely, Jeanette Rive, Audrey Jorssen, Sevilla Gill, Subadra Kappagoda, John Rive.

Toronto: Still Hopping

Nida Rodrigo (ADB 1976–1996)



Bernadette Sta Maria and family hosted a potluck on 10 September 2011 for the Toronto group—the lunch date that ended almost at midnight for some. Food, laughter, and take outs were abundant...and we were blowing September birthday cakes and looking forward to the Toronto Harbour Dinner Cruise in 2 weeks. Attendees were Leo and Celine Abada; Guia Estabillo; Dette, Ernie, and Leah Flores; Nida and Tito Jugo; Emma Marcelino; Ollie Nogard; Carmen Perez; Paz and Ed Ravadilla; Lindy Trabulsi; and Lounggay and Jun Trasporto.

Then, on September 24, the boat sailed and we rocked and danced the night away ! We had F.U.N. and they turned off the lights to stop me from dancing. The Crew: Helen and Rolly Duenas, Guia Estabillo, Nida and Tito Jugo, Dette Sta. Maria, Paz and Ed Ravadilla, Linda and Mike Trabulsi, Malou and Jun Trasporto, and Ollie and Lucien Nogard (who drove all the way from Hamilton).

Even before the boat docked at Pier 27, the next get-together had been planned for Saturday, 3 December. *Wala ng atrasan* (no going back)... the dance floor is ready; D.I. appointment had been scheduled at Dette Sta. Maria's dance floor ... no kidding ...there is really a dance studio in her beautiful Woodbridge home.

The December 3 get-together was another hit—a good mix of people, food, and fun. Two dance instructors



Back (L-R): Ollie and Lucien Nogard, Jun Trasporto, Mike Trabulsi, Helen Duenas, Ed Ravadilla, Tito Jugo. Front: Malou Trasporto, Linda Trabulsi, Paz Ravadilla, Guia Estabillo, Rolly Duenas, Bernadette Sta. Maria, Nida Rodrigo.

were present. One was a young professional (competes internationally), who may have been frustrated with our lack of “amazing grace and litness”—can’t blame him, we all have left feet. But he must have given us a star for the enthusiasm to dance until 1 am. The happy party-goers were Leo and Celine Abada, Rey and Ellen Ballares, Helen and Rolly Duenas, Guia Estabillo, Elmer and Lynda Fernandez, Ernie and Leah Flores, Nida and Tito Jugo, Ollie and Lucien Nogard, Paz and Ed Ravadilla, Dette Sta. Maria, and Malou and Jun Trasporto.



Back (L-R): Ed Ravadilla, Tito Jugo. Front: Nida Rodrigo Jugo, Ernie Flores, Linda Trabulsi, Leah Flores, Bernadette Sta. Maria, Ollie Nogard, Guia Estabillo, Malou Trasporto, Carmen Perez, Paz Ravadilla, Leo and Celine Abada, Jun Trasporto.

Europe: Reunion in Vienna

Günter Hecker (ADB 1979–2002)



The 14th Reunion of the Europe Chapter was superbly organized by Friederike Kantner, the wife of our late colleague and former Alternate Director Gerhard Kantner. The reunion was held in Vienna, Austria during 23–26 September. Like last year in Dresden, the weather cooperated and stayed warm and

sunny throughout our reunion.

Most of the participants stayed at the Kremselehner Royal, very near St. Stephen's Cathedral (the Stephansdom) in the city center, with the fashionable Kärtnerstrasse right around the corner. This year, we had a record number of 64 participants and we were again happy to welcome guests from faraway chapters: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States. The AFE-Executive Office was represented by Hans-Juergen Springer and for the first time and therefore very much welcome, the Deputy Executive Secretary Jill de Villa. We were particularly happy that ADB's new Resident Director General of our Frankfurt Office, Naomi Chakwin, joined the Gala Dinner and our subsequent activities.

On Friday afternoon (the 23rd) we met at the Stephansdom, where our pleasure and business tour started. The stone pulpit of the Stephansdom was carved by Anton Pilgram between 1510 and 1550 and is famous for its decorative features. The five figures carved around the outside of the pulpit represent four important church fathers. As we strolled through the aisles, our guides told us that many notable events occurred here, including Mozart's marriage in 1782 and his funeral in December 1791. Nearly every corner of the Stephansdom has something to savor:



Pulpit of the Stephansdom.

the Marienchor (Virgin's Choir) has the Tomb of Rudolph IV, the Earl of Austria. In 1365 he founded the University of Vienna, which is still called Alma Mater Rudolphina and is one of the oldest German speaking universities. The Stephansdom also has the Wiener Neustadt Altar, a masterpiece of woodcarving; and catacombs, where the internal organs of the Habsburgs rest.

After the tour of the Stephansdom, we enjoyed our welcome buffet dinner

at the traditional Vienna Stadtheurigen (wine restaurant featuring mainly this year's wine). Friederike chose the Zwölf Apostelkeller, a well-known cellar full of nooks and crannies on three floors below ground, built in 1339. While climbing down 18 meters to the 3rd floor, we were already worried about climb back up after enjoying the wine.



In front of the Stephansdom: Paul and Gertrud Koehling, Mi-Sook and Peter Brinkman, Lilo Kahl.



(L-R) Paul Köhling, Wolf Preuss, Corinne and David Fraser, Rodney and Barbara Addison, and Peter and Marilies von Brevern 3 floors below street level at Apostelkeller 18.

Saturday included a city bus tour of Vienna in the morning and a walking tour in the afternoon. Although the bus drove slowly, the guide was hard put to point out all of Vienna's sightseeing treasures. The drive on the Ring Road around the the city center allowed us views of many impressive buildings such as the Opera; Burgtheater; Parliament; Hofburg; Prater; and the Hundertwasser-Haus, with its undulating floors, grass-covered roof, and large trees growing from inside the rooms with limbs extending through windows. We then traveled up to the Kahlenberg,



At the business meeting: (L-R) Peter Bodora, Werner Schelzig, Gerhard Kahl, Naomi Chakwin, Arun Adarkar, Günther Schulz, Friederike Kantner, Ulf Freiwald, Jill de Villa.

the highest elevation of the Wienerwald, offering a scenic view over Vienna. During the afternoon walkabout, we spent time on the details, appreciating even more all that Vienna has to offer.

Saturday evening was reserved for the traditional Gala Dinner, which was held at the Krenlehner Royal's in-house Restaurant Settimo Cielo (Seventh Heaven) on the 7th floor with a view of the rooftop of the Stephansdom. This provided a stylish setting in which to catch up on events since we last met. As an add-on to our post-retirement education and to show that not all is over after ADB, our colleague Uwe Henrich gave a short presentation of his recently published book, *Wie aus Visionen Zukunft Wuchs* (How the Future Developed from Visions). The premise of the book is that providing a basic income without conditions would change our society's Leitmotif from "furthering and demanding" to "enabling and liberating." This is a timely issue, given the boiling unrest among today's youth, facing low paying jobs or unemployment, despite all the efforts of higher education.

Sunday morning was reserved for the Business Meeting. Under the chairmanship of former Vice-President Günther Schulz, the topics covered included the reporting on the Ha Noi Annual General Meeting, the 25th AFE-ADB Anniversary celebrations held in Manila right after the

Annual Meeting, pension, health insurance issues, and lifetime membership.

After a quick snack we left for the excursion to Stift Melk, an Austrian Benedictine abbey, and one of the world's most famous monastic sites. The abbey is above the town of Melk, on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Danube River in Lower Austria, adjoining the Wachau valley. In Umberto Eco's well-known novel, *The Name of the Rose*, one of the protagonists is named Adson von Melk as a tribute to the abbey and its famous library. To fully appreciate all the treasures, which include a splinter of the cross in which Jesus Christ was crucified and the baroque nave of the abbey's church, a longer visit is merited.

We then rushed off for the Danube River steamship, which brought us through the breathtaking area of the Wachau with its vineyards on the sunny north side of the valley. We disembarked at Spitz to catch the bus to Dürnstein, where Friederike had organized a cocktail reception on the lawns of the Restaurant Richard the Lionheart. From here, while sipping sparkling wine and peach juice, we could look down at the Danube and up at the remnants of Dürnstein Castle, where King Richard was kept prisoner in 1192 on his way home from the crusade. Richard was incarcerated by Duke Leopold of Austria because of the alleged murder of the Duke's cousin and for casting down Duke Leopold's standard from the walls of Acre.

The dinner in the Refektorium of the Restaurant was excellent and the wine too—indeed, we felt very much as if we were part of a special formal medieval repast.

The bus then brought us back to our hotels late at



David Fraser on the Danube boat.

Stift Melk.



night. Only a few of us still had the energy for a late night stroll along Kärtnerstrasse or to sit in an open air cafe for a last coffee with the obligatory glass of water from the best tap water of the world (as we were told), and I could relish a nice cigar before bedtime.

Monday's program started with a visit to the Austrian Money Museum. Despite the bank holiday the museum was opened solely for our group, thanks to Friederike's excellent network—her husband had worked for the Austrian Treasury. Here we learned about the messages delivered by the designs on coins and notes. A most impressive experience was the opportunity to hold gold bullion valued at about €1 million—much too heavy to sneak out !! In the afternoon we went to Schloss Schönbrunn, the main residence of the Austrian Emperors. Participants in our past reunions could now compare the levels of luxury of the castles we had seen—Muskau Castle (Lübbenau Reunion in 2003), Schloss Sanssouci (Potsdam in 2008), and Schloss Pillnitz (Dresden in 2010).

The highlight of the Vienna Reunion for many was attending a performance at the Vienna Opera House. We had had to book long in advance, without knowing the program. The program, however, turned out to be a real bonus. Our evening featured four music pieces from Glass, Chopin, Stravinsky, and Tchaikowski, translated in to movement (ballet) by world famous choreographers Balanchine and Robbins.

The farewell nightcap took place in another famous Viennese locality, the Augustinerkeller, right behind the Opera. Everyone was full of praise for the excellent program and organization by our hostess, Friederike



Günter helps Jill lift a gold bar at the Austrian Treasury.

Kantner. The next day many of us departed, and some took advantage of the still beautiful weather for interesting side trips such as to the 1.5m deep Neusiedler See, Lake Balaton, Budapest, and Bratislava.

Sylvia and Alain Dick have accepted the role of host and organizer for the 2012 reunion, which will take place in Alsace. Planning has started and the program most likely will include a tour of the Alsace Wine Route (with ample tasting of wine) and Alsatian cuisine (the cradle of sauerkraut); a tour of Strasbourg, with its gothic cathedral and Grand Island, a UNESCO heritage site since 1988; a visit to the European Parliament; and much more. More information will be emailed as the program develops.



At the Hofburg courtyard: front, L-R: Gerhard Kahl, Zuzu Bodora, Elizabeth Janssens; middle, L-R: Eric van der Elst, Thomas Eggenberger, Hans-Juergen Springer, Peter Maertens, Helga Schulz, Gudrun Varwig, Angela Preuss, Pilar Zimonyi, Ivan Zimonyi, Aafje Schmid, Peter Brinkmann, Lilo Kahl, Günter Hecker, Erika Henrich, Gertrud Köhling, Paul Köhling, Wolf Preuss, Hans-Martin Schmid, Jan Wijenberg, Elizabeth Reyes, Günther Schulz, Jenny Lintjer, Eva van der Elst, Ross Clendon, Barbara Addison, Marianne Wijenberg, Peter von Brevren, Rodney Addison. top, L-R: David and Corinne Fraser; Richard and Sue Vokes, Jill de Villa, Emma and Bruce Murray, Enrie Hecker, Mi-Sook Brinkmann, Friederike Kantner, Uwe Henrich, John Lintjer, Gisela and Enno Carstensen. Not in picture: Arun Adarkar, Peter Bodora, Akiko and Dieter Bucher, Agathe und Heinz Bühler, Naomi Chakwin, Sylvia and Alain Dick, Monique and Ulf Freiwald, Ingrid Holfelt, Rosemary and Daud Ilyas, Angela Preuss, Anne and Werner Schelzig, Marilies von Brevren.

India

Barin Ganguli (ADB 1979–1995)



The India Chapter held its 2011 Annual Meeting on Saturday, 10 December, in the India International Center, New Delhi. It was one of the best-attended annual meetings in recent times, with Shyam and Rajni Bajpai, Debabrata and Krishna Bandyopadhyay, Barin and Shipra Ganguli, Prodipto and Meenakshi Ghosh, Rakesh and Asha Gupta, Indra Jerath, Satish and Kalyani

Jha, Ramdass and Indra Keswani, Prateep and Ratna Lahiri, Virendra and Vimla Mehta, Manoshi Mitra, Sudipto Mundle, Barun and Deepti Roy, Vaskar and Supra Saha, Lata Singh, and R and Krishna Venkatnaryanan participating. Hun Kim, Country Director of the ADB India Resident Office, and his wife were special invitees. Chapter officers are Ramdass Keswani, president; myself, chapter coordinator; Satish Jha, vice president; and Shyam Bajpai, Prodipto Ghosh, S.V.S. Juneja, P.K. Lahiri, Jayanta Madhab, and V.R. Mehta as Executive Committee members.

President Keswani welcomed the members. He reported the demise of K.L. Luthra in the United States, and members observed a minute's silence in his memory. Ramdass then welcomed Debabrata and Krishna Bandyopadhyay and Barun and Deepti Roy, who had traveled from Kolkata to attend the meeting. He noted Debabrata Bandyopadhyay's induction as a Member of the Parliament (Rajya Shabha) and the participants congratulated him on his achievement. Ramdass acquainted the participants with Barun Roy's accomplishment as a painter and announced his exhibit at Lalit Kala Academy on 18–28 December. Barun gave an account of his journey as a painter and invited all members to the exhibit opening on 14 December.. Ramdass encouraged the members to contribute articles for publication in *AFE-ADB News*.

Vice President Jha welcomed Country Director Hun Kim and Mrs Kim. Hun Kim gave an update on ADB's involvement in sector-specific areas. He informed us about the growth path of ADB's involvement in India in the future, and that ADB's Annual Meeting will be held in New Delhi in 2013. He said that he and his wife were both very pleased to be with the AFE India Chapter members and would like to be associated with the chapter's meetings and events in the future.

I then provided an update on the membership. The chapter has over 60 members. Two new members, Shyam Bajpai and Baskar Saha, have paid their life membership fees. Ajit Jain also has paid his membership dues. Two new members (Shyam Bajpai and Prodipto Ghosh) have joined

the chapter's Executive Committee, while Devinder Singh had resigned from the committee for personal reasons. The Annual Account Statement was presented. AFE had fully reimbursed the subsidy for the expenses incurred during the chapter's 2010 Annual Meeting.

I informed the meeting of the following developments related to AFE matters: (1) the India chapter's subsidy from ADB had increased from \$400 to \$600; (2) the retirees' medical insurance premium had increased by 10% effective July 2011; (3) 12 more currencies, including the Indian rupee, had been added for reimbursing medical expenses; (4) the average life expectancy of ADB pensioners had increased from 80 to 83.5 years; and (5) AFE is promoting formation of additional chapters. The participants were further informed that, per the recent circular on "Guiding Principles on the Use of Allocation of Bank Subsidy to Chapters," although social activities may be a main attraction of the annual meetings, this must be combined with a formal meeting where various AFE- and ADB-related matters of interest should be discussed; and the subsidy is provided to reduce the cost only to chapter members. The participants were informed that ADB's and AFE's annual meetings will be in Manila in 2012.

A suggestion to hold a joint meeting of the AFE-ADB India Chapter with the Sri Lankan Chapter was very well received by the members. Members present requested me to contact Ranjith Wirasinha of the Sri Lanka Chapter to explore the possibility of holding a joint meeting some time next year in Colombo.

Indonesia

Dimiyati Nangju (ADB 1978–2001)



During 2008–2011, I have been chapter coordinator, Roslaini Rasuman has been the deputy coordinator, and Sonya Pamoedjo has been the treasurer.

Chapter Activities. The chapter's first business-cum-social meeting was held on 20 March 2011 at Nini and Abdul Rasuman's new house, with modern architecture and a striking view of Mount Salak. The house was designed by architect Azhari, the Rasumans' only son, and has been selected several times by film producers as a site for making movies and advertisements. The meeting discussed the planned attendance of Indonesian Chapter members at the ADB Annual Meeting to be held in Ha Noi in May 2011, and the social activities to be supported by the Indonesian Chapter.

The second business-cum-social meeting was held at the new Talaga Sampireun Restaurant on 3 July 2011, hosted by my wife and me. The restaurant has become very popular because of its breathtaking location, surrounded by a small lake and beautiful park in Bintaro Jaya, a new subdivision south of Jakarta. In the meeting, members discussed the progress of the social activities funded by the Indonesian Chapter and the results of the AFE Coordinators' Meeting, Annual General Meeting, and 25th Anniversary in May 2011.

The Annual General Meeting of the Indonesian Chapter was held on 17 December in Paregu Restaurant in Jakarta. The meeting discussed the Annual Report for 2011 (including the chapter's financial report), preparation of the program for 2012, social activities to be undertaken in 2012, and the proposed attendance of the Indonesian Chapter representatives in AFE-ADB Annual General Meeting and Coordinators' Meeting in Manila in early May 2012. Jon Lindborg, the newly arrived country director for ADB's Indonesia Resident Mission, briefed participants on the resident mission's activities during recent years, and ADB's lending strategy in Indonesia for the coming years.

Membership Status. During the previous 12 months, the chapter lost one member, Dr. Soeksmono B. Martokoesoemo, who passed away on 28 December 2010. He was one of the most active and longest serving members in our chapter.

The chapter gained one new member, Zsizi Rachman. Several Indonesian professional staff members who left ADB during 2011, including Kus Hardiyanti, Ronny Budiman, Alexander Ugut, and Edi Brotoisworo, stayed abroad to

join their spouses or to be with their children who are still studying in Manila or other countries.

Support for Poor Students. At the luncheon meeting on 20 March 2011, members decided that the chapter should donate Rp2 million to support 30 poor orphan students in Bandung through Keluarga Pensiunan Arcamani Endah (Retired Family of Arcamanik Endah, KPAE), and another Rp 2 million to support 160 poor orphan students who study in SMP Sabiluna School. The two contributions, channelled through Soerakoesoemah and Edy Kaswadi, provided the students with textbooks, writing books, and equipment. It is hoped that the Indonesia Chapter will continue its social activities in 2012.

Finances. The chapter's total income in 2011 amounted to Rp6.84 million comprising dues collection of Rp3.9 million and an ADB subsidy of \$325 (equivalent to Rp2.94 million). During same period, the total expenditure was Rp9.201 million, comprising the costs of fruit baskets or flowers sent to sick members in hospitals, financial contributions to poor orphan students, and the chapter's annual general meeting. The balance of our fund as of 16 December 2011 was Rp4,893,066, a decline of Rp1,202,472 from December 2010.

Future Plans. The Indonesia Chapter will continue the same program in 2012 as in the past years by holding social-cum-business meetings in March, June, and September 2012, and an annual general meeting in December 2012. A new committee for 2012-2014 will assume its tasks in January 2012.



Front (L-R): Abdullah and Nini Rasuman, Nora Nangju. Tuti Kaswadi, Ida de Ponteves, Anna Soerakoesoemah (with granddaughter), Ratna Halimoen, Sonya Rahardjo, Chaya Soeksmono, Margono Halimoen. Back (L-R) Zsizi Rachman, Michel de Ponteves, Edi Kaswadi, Normin Pakpahan, M. Soerakoesoemah, John Lindborg, Pamoedjo Rahardjo, Dimiyati Nangju.

Philippines

Gam de Armas (ADB 1981–2000)



The Philippine Chapter had another well-attended and exciting Annual Get-together on 17 November 2011 at the Executive Dining Room (EDR) at ADB headquarters. A record number of 185 members and spouses and some guests, mostly in their Filipiniana attire, joined for an enjoyable evening. Members came as early as 4:00 pm to register, chat, and avail of the free picture taking at the photo booth, courtesy of Jess Arnuco. Thus, many of us went home with a memento of the 25th anniversary of the Philippine Chapter.

As Chapter Coordinator, I called the business meeting to order at 5:35 pm. After Leonie Francisco delivered the invocation, I welcomed everyone and introduced the new members who had joined the chapter during December 2010 to November 2011.

During the business meeting, Hans-Juergen Springer and Jill Gale de Villa apprised us of the status of pension and health benefits. Everybody clapped when Hans reiterated that the 3% minimum floor on the annual increase in pension to take care of inflation was to stay. AFE played a major role in convincing ADB to retain this crucial benefit. I reported on the AFE–ADB Coordinators Meeting and Annual General Meeting at Ha Noi and the 3-day AFE–ADB 25th Founding Anniversary celebration, aided by pictures projected on two big screens. Other matters that were discussed included the suggestion to create low-cost group life insurance coverage to take care of funeral arrangements for those without coverage and a continuing request for an ADB ID for retirees' spouses.

A highlight was the tightly contested dance competition among the three participating area groups, featuring native dances. The dancers swayed with precision and confidence, much like the famed Bayanihan troupe. First to take the floor was the South Group which gave a synchronized and captivating interpretation of the "Pandango sa Ilaw." This dance, which originated in the fishing town of Lingayen, Pangasinan, involves the dancers manipulating lights or oil lamps, celebrating a good fish catch. "Barangay" East Group



was next, filling the dance floor with 27 dancers, clappers/cheerers, the “hermana mayor,” and props for an intriguing barrio setting for their “Sakuting” skit and dance. The North Group performed last, staging “Itik-Itik” with a modern twist.



Pandango sa Ilaw by the South Group.

Itik-Itik originates from Surigao, and is a dance mimicking the fluttering wings and playfulness of the itik, the Philippine duck that is used for making salted eggs and balut.

After picture taking, we enjoyed the buffet dinner—a mix of Filipino and Japanese cuisine, including lechon.

Co-emcees for the evening were Manny Faelnar and Cynthia Kaufman. Current ADB staff member Warren Kirk Ty performed a special song, and then the dance competition winners were awarded prizes. For the second year in a row,

the South Group won first place, with dancers Tek Ablaza, Yoly Asuncion, Lou de Belen, Connie Baylon, Carmen Bontia, Lina Cadorniga, Nieves Callanta, Baby Girl Cruz, Lita Gamboa, Lea Gojo, Raquel de Leon, Rosie Luistro, Lilia Malaqui, and Liza Vitangcol. The North Group came next, with “Itik-Itik” dancers Peter Aguilar, Daisy de Chavez, Marie Galura, Penny Laquindanum, Vangie Mendoza, Pines Ngini, Oskee Nunez, Thessie Redito, Odette Reyes, and Edna Ronas. The East Group, which had the most participants, was 2nd runner-up, led by “Sakuting” dancers Noli Alimon, Marissa Espiritu, Ding Gonzaga, Ben Hombre, Arnold Jalandoni, Beth del Mundo, Kenneth Ratin (guest from Montalban), Linda Santos, Fe Sebastian, and Bing Vigo. Raquel Cabiles acted as town mayor and our most senior member, Josie Ramirez (92), was the governor.

The much-awaited line dancing came next, spiced up with games and the announcement of winners of more than 20 raffle prizes donated by generous members. With energy and enthusiasm, members took to the floor and danced the night away. Hans selected and gave the best dressed award to Anching Martinez. Rene Limjoco was recognized for making the first payment to the event. Chit Salvador won the grand raffle prize—a 3-day stay at a nice resort in Boracay.



This year’s celebrations were hosted by the North Group, headed by Carmen Dimayuga and Glo Ferry—about 4 months of preparation for the 1-day event. Other members of the organizing committee were Olga Agbayani, Peter Aguilar, Jun Bautista, Daisy de Chavez, Leonie Francisco, Marie Galura, Sonia Ganal, Shawn Gochangco, Cesar Juan, Cynthia Kaufman, Vangie Lapid, Penny Laquindanum, Vangie Mendoza, Pines Ngini, Oskee Nuñez, Thessie Redito, Odette Reyes, Edna Ronas, and Chit Salvador. A beautiful giant banner with a photo montage of members, provided by Malu Silverman, was a superb backdrop for the celebrations. A fitting way to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Philippine Chapter!

Next year’s hosts will be the West Group headed by Julie Guevarra, Maridel Capulong, and Eva Barcelona.

The Philippine Chapter’s East Group: Doing it the *Bayanihan* Way

Raquel Cabiles (ADB 1971–1997)



Bayanihan, a Filipino word, is derived from bayan meaning town, nation, or community. “Bayanihan” literally means, “being a bayan,” and thus refers to a spirit of communal unity and cooperation. The bayanihan spirit is probably most clearly and impressively displayed in the old tradition of neighbors helping

relocate a family home by carrying it on bamboo poles to a new site. Bayanihan includes all kinds of assistance given free.

Typhoon Ondoy and the Bayanihan Spirit. Perhaps there is no better example of the bayanihan spirit among the Philippine Chapter’s East Group than our response to typhoon Ondoy. Many of the East Group’s members were badly affected by massive flooding, especially residents in Cainta, Marikina, Pasig, and some in Antipolo, Taytay, and San Mateo. Water in my Cainta house was waist deep.

Through the AFE Philippine Chapter, led by Gam de Armas, help came in the form of rescue operations, efficient communication, material, and financial donations. Sagip

Ondoy donations in kind and cash came through AFE member Ethel Luzario from Phoenix, Arizona, US, and AFE chapters. The Bayanihan spirit came to life. Words are not really enough to convey our sincere appreciation for all the help received by the typhoon victims. And the typhoon drew the members of the East Group closer.

Organizing the Philippine Chapter. In 2008, the Philippine Chapter approved the formation of Metro Manila area groups—South, East, North, West, and Central. I was assigned as lead coordinator for the East Group and, inspired by the camaraderie displayed by the South Group led by Lita Gamboa, Rosie Luistro, and Ophie Sta. Ana, I thought of forming a strong group of members living in Cainta. When I proposed the idea to Gam de Armas, he assigned to me nine other municipalities and cities in Rizal Province. The East Group now comprises Antipolo, Binangonan, Cainta, Marikina, Montalban, Pasig, Pateros, San Mateo, Taguig, and Taytay.

The East Group. The Philippine Chapter’s new groups were represented and officially recognized at a meeting of area group principal coordinators on 12 August 2009. At that meeting, the East Group was represented by Susan Padolina, Connie Sayon, and myself, as lead coordinator. In 2010, our group was nominated to organize the 2010 Philippine Chapter year-end get-together. As lead coordinator, my task was difficult, but it was made easier by the wholehearted volunteerism of my alternate coordinators, Cecile Montino and Susan Padolina, and by the committee heads and members. The ever-open helping hands of fellow members from the South, North, West, and Central groups, the AFE office, and ADB’s Office of Administrative Services, facilitated the preparations and arrangements during the get-together.



The performers (L–R): First row: Ding Gonzaga, Kenneth Ratin, Ben Hombre, Arnold Jalandoni, and Noli Alimon. Second row: Fe Sebastian, Linda Santos, Raquel Cabiles, Josefina Ramirez, Bing Grande, Edith Okada, Bing Vigo, Beth del Mundo, and Marissa Espiritu.

The East Group faced another challenge when it had to present a Filipino folk dance in a competition during the 2011 Philippine Chapter get-together. Despite being greenhorns at folk dancing and very limited time, we formed a group to present Sakuting. The volunteer dancers were Noli Alimon, Beth del Mundo, Marissa Espiritu, Ding Gonzaga, Ben Hombre, Arnold Jalandoni, Linda Santos, Fe Sebastian, Bing Vigo, and a guest from Montalban, Kenneth Ratin. The dancers looked forward to Saturday afternoon rehearsals, when we shared snacks and exchanged chitchat. During the presentation, Bing Grande delivered the introduction. The cheerers were Edna Austria, Vicky Desiderio, Yoly Leones, Aida Lizarondo, Nanette Medina, Edith Okada, Gener Pagkanlungan, Eva Perez, Ada Santos, and Eufie Vical. The arch-bearers were Florence Galang and Robert Monroy. Josefina Ramirez graciously accepted to be impromptu governor in the skit, which was a part of the presentation.

Currently, the East Group has about 150 members, half of whom participate actively. The area coordinators continue to reach out to fellow AFE members, encouraging them to participate in social and charitable activities. The East Group held its first Christmas get-together on 8 December 2011, with about 30 members attending.



The East Group's First Christmas Party, 8 Dec 2011. This is only a part of the group. First row (L-R): Lina Ledesma, Vicky Desiderio, Mido Kawashima, Arnold Jalandoni. Second row: Ben Hombre, Cecile Montino, Eufie Vical, Beth del Mundo, Marie Tordecillas, Marissa Espiritu. Third row: Randie Marquez, Susan Francisco, Ada Santos, Yoly Leones, and Raquel Cabiles.

Future Activities. The East Group's four main areas (each with a coordinator) are (1) Antipolo, Binangonan, Montalban, and San Mateo; (2) Cainta; (3) Marikina, Pateros, Taguig, and Taytay; and (4) Pasig. Activities lined up are

- a medical mission by the Lions Club of New Jersey, to be held in Antipolo and headed by its president, Emma Dumalag, who herself hails from Antipolo;
- a visit to Bahay Kanlungan, a home for the aged in Cainta (planned by Tessie Salazar, area coordinator for Cainta); and

- a trip to the Batanes Islands in April.

Various groups may be formed by members whose interests are cooking, gardening, travel, sports, and dancing, all in the spirit of *bayanihan*. May this inspire other AFE members to organize their own AFE-ADB chapters in their areas!

Singapore: Our Newest Chapter

Willie Lim (ADB 1981–2004)



The thought of forming a Singapore-Malaysia AFE-ADB chapter was floated among Singaporean and Malaysian ex-ADB employees 4 years back. Although interest was expressed by some, no initiative or follow-up action took place subsequently.

In 2010, a gathering among the Singaporean ex-ADB employees was called at Amarjit Wasan's residence to discuss the formation of an AFE Singapore chapter. Three people attended the gathering, and Cheng Huat Sim agreed to stand for the Chapter Coordinator when the chapter is formed.

During a lunch gathering in Singapore on 20 November 2011, the AFE-Singapore Chapter was finally formed, with Cheng Huat Sim and Suay Bah Chua being elected as the Chapter Coordinator and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. Those present at the gathering were, in addition to Cheng Huat Sim and Suay Bah Chua, Mr and Mrs George C.J. Chou, Mr and Mrs Kok Heng Phua, Mr and Mrs Anthony Song Chuan Tan, and myself. Members who were unable to attend the gathering are Chui Khen Lo, Doreen Pereira, and Amarjit Wasan.



(L-R): Terissa Tan, Chong Chit Phua, Kok Heng Phua, Willy Lim, Anthony Song Chuan Tan, Cheng Huat Sim, Suay Bah Chua, George CJ and Mrs Chou.

Southern California

Yolanda Laurel Houtby (ADB 1979–1989)



3 December 2011 marked another merry year-end celebration for the AFE–ADB West Coast Chapter in Southern California. After five July and December gatherings, our members have become one big happy family. This year we went back to the Swiss Banquet in the City of Whittier for a sumptuous dinner.

The function room was hired exclusively for us—no shame even if a few goofed around the dance floor. Who cares if we missed the rhythm? “It’s all about attitude!” says Geny Funtanilla. I felt I was losing the beat, but when I caught Vhee Martin’s coaching glance, I took the cue to shimmy and exchanged places with her. How did Bing Bagaioisan, Letty Gomez, May Seron-Tigas, Geny Funtanilla, and Nini Lacanlale perform? Art Aquino, Manny Gomez, and Jim Houtby critiqued the ladies’ overall performance as needing “more practice!”

“Entertainers of the Night”—Ben Bagaioisan, William Tamidles, and Orlie Lacanlale—were voluptuous hula dancers who swayed gracefully to Pearly Shells and Tiny Bubbles. Oh, what fun!

There had to be ballroom and line dancing led by professional dance instructors, or the festivity would not have been complete. The dance floor was open to the gutsy swingers and to anyone who wanted to burn some extra calories from the full dinner. And how could we skip Christmas carols this time of the year? Not a chance! Art Aquino, Romy Domingo, Bert Gesmundo, Manny Gomez, Vhee Martin, and our DJ Jimmy led the singing.

We missed July Aban, Yoly Bravo, Pura Gutierrez, Agnes Medina-Basco, Aida Minguez, Alice Olson, Norman Pamintuan, and King Vergara, but enjoyed the company of spouses, children, and friends of those present, and special guests Bella Infante from the AFE–ADB New Jersey–New York Chapter and May Batac-Lao.

The AFE–ADB West Coast Chapter was founded in 2007 with Letty Gomez as coordinator under the guidance of the late Ikramullah Khan. Later, coordinating responsibility has been passed on, one year after another, to Ben Bagaioisan, Pura Gutierrez, Nel Kalagayan, Orlie Lacanlale, and Vhee Martin. Our group’s success lies in the reality that appointing a new coordinator does not mean leaving one person to do all the work. Past coordinators remain actively involved in all the group’s activities. Supportive spouses provide help, especially in food preparation during our summer outings. Our 2012 coordinator, Vhee Martin, will be assisted by singing buddy, Bert Gesmundo—and, of course, by all coordinators from before her time.



Hula Dancers: Benjamin Bagaioisan, William Tamidles, and Orlie Lacanlale.



Sitting (L-R): Polly Deomampo, Luz Añonuevo, May Seron-Tigas, Delilah Bagaioisan, Yollie Laurel, Bella Infante, Nel Kalagayan and Vhee Martin. Standing (L-R): Art & Tessie Aquino, Jim Houtby, Letty & Manny Gomez, Lorna Domingo & Romy Domingo, Bert Gesmundo, William & Nory Tamidles, Norma Lao, Orlie Lacanlale, and Ben Bagaioisan.

New York–New Jersey: Hats On

Irmina (Mia) Jose (ADB 1987–1989)



On Saturday, 22 October 2011, the New York-New Jersey Chapter held its annual reunion, this year at the Royal Regency Hotel in Yonkers, New York. The members and guests from nearby New Jersey to far away Washington, DC; Chicago; Hawaii; and the Philippines had booked rooms in advance to stay at the hotel for the weekend. The cold weather in New York did not dampen our spirits—which were genuinely warm.

As is tradition, guests started to arrive at 6:30 in the evening. The approximately 80 participants, some of whom had read the information memo, came with fancy hats and costumes, including Carmen Miranda with her fruit hat; witch Brenda in her big, black hat; and farmer Pete in his large straw hat. At the reception table were lovely ladies: Margie Baccay, Ruth Esmilio, and 2011 Chairperson Emma Dumalag. Helen Veloso, Juan Cruz-Koda, Winnie Francisco, Hans-Juergen Springer, and his wife Elizabeth Reyes were the early birds.

Former ADBians, many of whom came with their partners and families, were Nannette Amorado, Evelyn Alvir, Tina Aquino, Cel Argayoso, Margie Baccay, Annie Butial, Angel Calilap, Malu Chua, Oscar Colmenar, Chat Cortes, Juana Cruz-Koda, Elvira Doyle, Emma Dumalag, Ruth Esmilio, Winnie Francisco, Mia Jose, Chato Ledonio-O'Buckley, Precy Lizarondo, Elenita Mignini, Annie Romero,

Mila Simolde, Hans-Juergen Springer, Helen Veloso, Dina Villaluz, Vivian Villanueva, and Nena Villena-Tanedo. It was a night of chatting, dancing, drinking, and catching up with each other's lives. Frank and Delia Berena, Juliet and Alfonso Capati, Lazaro dela Cruz, Sofia Marquez, Lorna del Rosario, Ogino Yuichiro, Florence Rafulowitz, and Louie Wong, who had supported the group, were not able to come—they were certainly missed.

Once the festivities started, Chato, the emcee for the evening, welcomed Tina, who opened with a short prayer. Emma gave a short but heartfelt speech and then introduced Hans Springer, AFE's Executive Secretary. The keynote speaker, Philippine Consul General of New York, His Excellency Mario Lopez de Leon, waxed nostalgic and spoke of the need for all Filipinos to help their less fortunate countrymen who live in the Philippines.

The audience was serenaded with rousing performances by Helen and Krissie. A fashion show showcased the participants in lovely hats and costumes, with the three major winners. Prizes and awards were handed to participants who came from far away to attend the event. Our ever-energetic group then danced the night away with line dancing, under the skilful leadership of the DJ, Ging Velasco.

The closing remarks included announcing the co-chairs for the 2012 annual reunion—Mia Jose and Oscar Colmenar.



Emma Dumalag and Mia Jose.



Washington DC

Clay Wescott (ADB 1998–2006)



The AFE–ADB Chapter met at Clay and Alison Wescott’s home on 28 October 2011. Executive Director Hans-Juergen Springer led the formal session, with an update on ADB and activities of AFE members. Deputy Director Jill de Villa also attended from Manila.

Previously, on 26 October, Hans, Jill, Clay, Bernard Donge, and Annie Romero attended the 3rd Workshops of Associations of Retirees/Alumni of International Organizations, bringing together United Nations and Washington DC-based groups of former employees (see pp. 4–5). The workshops, which were hosted by the the IMF retirees association, covered two main topics: (1) Evolving Nature of Retiree Organizations—How to adapt to the changing nature of our membership; and (2) Health Insurance. I organized and facilitated the latter, and we all learned a lot about this crucial topic.

Sadly, former Washington, DC Chapter Coordinator Gene Owens passed away on Christmas day. He was instrumental in keeping the chapter going through the years and providing advice and guidance to former ADB staff, especially regarding health insurance matters. He also regularly joined a group of former ADB staff members for tennis Saturday mornings. Gene will be very much missed by all who knew him.



Ken King and Gene Owens.



Elizabeth Reyes, Ann Mesmer, and Ellery Owens.



Thelma Diaz, a guest, and Ellery Owens.



Hans-Juergen Springer and Ted Mesmer.



Ed Chobanian, Clay Wescott, Ted Mesmer, and Ellery Owens listen to Hans-Juergen Springer discuss AFE affairs.

People, Places, and Passages

Friendship and Adventure in Kenya

Myrna Bolay (ADB 1970–1974) and Albertine Santi (ADB 1970–1997)



Albertine Santi (L) and Myrna Bolay (R).

Myrna's Nairobi. The Maasai people refer to the vibrant city of Nairobi, which is perched like a bird on a plateau adjacent to the East African Rift Valley, as the place where cold waters flow. It is Kenya's capital and a modern cosmopolitan city. Kenya remains green in the midst of rapid modernization. History will continue to include biases about Africa, and the contemporary press will highlight the crises of our time, but our family's favorite nest will remain a secret garden a few steps from the riverbank. It takes just a tap of a finger to google "African Safari," but it takes a heart to experience and love Africa. My friend Albertine tells her story.

Albertine's Visit. I arrived in Nairobi with Myrna in the wee hours of the morning at a most difficult time. The newspaper headlines were all featuring bombing and Al Shahab, but I felt safe in my friend's private Shangri-la. In that perfect little world, everything was OK. In the morning, we had breakfast on a lovely veranda overlooking her garden and pristine pool. The garden had avocado trees lush with fruit; jackfruit, mango, and mulberry trees; lots of bananas; and vegetable plots as well. What a joy it was to pick mulberries and see them in my yoghurt later!

So this is Kenya, land of blue skies, fertile soil, and lush vegetation. It was a breath of fresh air to be in a country so beautiful and with people so warm. The first day we drove to town. I couldn't believe the number of tall jacaranda trees bursting with deep purple flowers. African lilies were everywhere. Many corners had little flower stalls. Nairobi is fresh and green. The air is crisp. It is chilly in the morning, warm at noon, and pleasantly cold at night. The ibises, black birds, made so much noise in the morning that we knew it was time to get up. Myrna and I were up around 4 am, duvets in tow, snuggling on the veranda and talking and laughing until breakfast time. We were noisier than the birds.

Because of Al Shahab, we planned our trips well, shopping before noon and going out at night only for dinner invitations along the "embassy row." We went to the Karen Blixen Museum (where *Out of Africa* was filmed); we saw coffee plantations; we had lunch at the very exclusive colonial-era Muthaige Club and Windsor Country Club, and we made a courtesy visit to the friendly staff at the Philippine embassy. At Ruth Ndesandjo's Madari Kindergarten school, we listened to children sing



A lion pads by the safari jeep.



Albertine with Masai people.

beautiful songs as she played the piano. For lunches and high teas, Myrna's kitchen was always busy serving her wide international circle of friends. We went to the Maasai Village Market for souvenirs and the Kazuri Bead factory for necklaces, earrings, and other items. We visited the United Nations and talked with very interesting staff at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Habitat—Filipinos, of course. It was heartwarming to see Filipinos abroad with decent, high paying, and fulfilling jobs.

The Nairobi of 40 years ago must have been more beautiful than the Nairobi of today. Most of its colonial homes have given way to high-rise buildings. Condominiums are sprouting up. Coffee plantations are being pushed aside for new roads. I am all for moving with the times, but I long for old world charm.

Masai Mara and the Game Drives. My safari journey began as I boarded a 6-seater plane. I was alone, as Myrna had been there many times in her 31 years in Africa. I stayed at The Intrepids, a luxurious camp by the Talek River. My tent had two 4-poster beds with ruffled lace curtains—used one for preparing my clothes. I slept really well in spite of the noisy hippos. Our beds were provided with hot water bags wrapped in cotton pouches, good to hug on cold nights. Wake-up call was at 5:30 am, with hot tea and cookies. Then we were off to the Kenyan wilderness, a natural world unchanged by time. I felt safe in the open 4x4 Land Rover, despite the lack of windows. The driver-guide was well trained, and warned us "Remember, no noise, and don't step out of the jeep." As the lions came near, I kept clicking, aiming for good shots. Lions eating wildebeests, oh, gosh!

My package included six game drives, but our group opted to do a Masai Village tour instead of one drive. The Masai live in kraals, traditional villages with houses made of cow dung. They are fenced with acacia thorns to deter

lion attacks. Masai men and women are tall, and some speak good English. (Education in Kenya is very good, and most Kenyans speak with a British accent.) The women make necklaces from colorful beads; the men carve wooden souvenirs. A group of Masai men visited our camp most nights to perform—their dancing and chanting, plus the roaring of the Talek River, enlivened the woods.

Flying back to Nairobi on the tiny plane, I enjoyed a most spectacular view of Kenya. I should spend more time with Myrna in her private Shangri-la. The days went by so fast; I hate goodbyes, but had to say *kwaheri*, my friend. Thanks for the memories, and see you in Manila.

Vienna with George

Anne Schelzig
(Werner Schelzig was at ADB 1985–2000)



There was more than one reason for my going to Vienna in late September 2011. The AFE–ADB European group gathering there would attract more than 60 of our old Manila friends from as far away as New Zealand. The program of activities organized by Friederike Kantner included a wonderful mix of sights and culinary delights, and was sure to be fun. But I had someone else to visit in Vienna, and you could say he was also an old friend. George Lord, my great grandfather. OK, he wasn't still studying medicine there after first completing his degree at Boston University. And admittedly he wasn't even still alive. But when I walked along the street where he lived and gazed at the city hall and the parliament building he saw inaugurated in 1883, I felt like we were having a conversation, 128 years later. And I wasn't even high on *apfelstrudel*. Vienna, with its many levels of history can do that to you.

After reading and rereading the letters George wrote to his fiancée Jennie, my great grandmother, I felt I knew him. He grew up on the coast of Maine, his father a sea captain. As a young man George went along on several voyages to the Caribbean and to Europe before deciding to become a surgeon. After he got his medical degree he wanted to study under the renowned German surgeon Theodore Billroth, then at the University of Vienna. Billroth had performed the first successful internal operations, and patients came to him from all over Europe. His operating room was like a large lecture hall, with hundreds of students looking on. George would get up very early to

stand in line to get the best seat (not unlike getting good tickets to the opera). "I spent this forenoon watching one of those new operations where the intestines are cut open. It was supposed up to a year or two ago it couldn't be done."

One morning when our Manila friends headed off around Stephan's Cathedral, I set out to find Alserstrasse 18, the house where George rented a room from Frau Sommers for \$9 a month. He got meals at a café nearby but complained, "There isn't a restaurant in Vienna no matter how near where I can get the 20 cent Boston dinner for less than 50 cents."

After a few subway stops and a short walk, I stood in front of the five-story building at #18, half expecting George to emerge from the front door in his gold rimmed glasses and newly sprouted mustache. He would have been all of 26. The building's façade, with its bowed windows and ornate decorations, probably hadn't changed since the 1880s and before. A woman carrying groceries was going inside, and I asked if I might look around the place. She took me to her floor, up a wide staircase with splendid art nouveau railings. George had explained how he lived off one of the inner courtyards. I walked up and down the halls, found apartment #24 which may have been George's, and rang the doorbell. I am a shy kid, especially when I have to speak German. So maybe it's a good thing no one answered the door, because I really didn't know what I was going to say. Unless of course it was a young studious looking foreigner with a Maine accent. Back on Alserstrasse, people must have wondered why I was taking so many photos of a rather ordinary building when Vienna's grander edifices were just around the corner.

In George's footsteps my husband and I wandered through the university and ended up at the strangely round former psychiatric hospital built in 1783. Surely George had also stood before this rather mysterious looking place and perhaps even seen patients inside it.



Facade of Alserstrasse 18.

In 1883, there were no women physicians in all of Austria. Of the 100 American students at the medical school in Vienna, about 10 were women. They confided in George that the professors treated them with skepticism and that they were barred from some classes.

As a strict Methodist, George abstained from drinking any alcohol. "I will not drink the accursed



George Lord.

stuff," he railed, because he was expected to accompany all his meals with a beer. "And," he added, "in speaking to an educated woman I said I never drank beer. With genuine astonishment she said, 'And yet you look healthy.' "

Our stay in Vienna was pure enjoyment, whether watching the young, lithe ballet dancers at the opera; trying to lift a 12-kilogram gold bar with one hand at the National Bank; gazing at Hundertwasser's quirky, colorful apartment building; or making a toast to old friends 18 meters underground in the Zwölf Apostelkeller's vaulted ceiling restaurant. But don't tell my great grandfather about that part, OK?



Following George's footsteps: the stairs to his room in Alserstrasse.

Nihal and International Financial Institutions in Asia

Jill Gale de Villa



Nihal Amerasinghe

On 2 December 2011 at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), Nihal Amerasinghe (ADB 1979–2002) launched *International Financial Institutions and Development in Asia*. The book is a culmination of Nihal’s 40 years of experience, including 10 years of teaching at AIM synthesized with his extensive

previous experience at ADB and in academia. His book is the first brings together the development experience of the three international financial institutions (IFIs) working in Asia—ADB, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank—and discusses their work and challenges.

The launch included talks by ADB’s Managing Director Rajat Nag, AIM’s President and former Philippine Secretary of Education Edilberto de Jesus, former Philippine Finance Secretary Roberto de Ocampo, and AIM’s Dean Ricardo Lim.

Edilberto de Jesus noted that Nihal started AIM’s IFI and Development Program, and that, prior to ADB, he had been at Australian National University and the University of Sri Lanka. Officially, Nihal had retired from AIM last

(L-R) Roberto de Ocampo, Edilberto de Jesus, Rajat Nag, and author Nihal Amerasinghe addressing the launch.



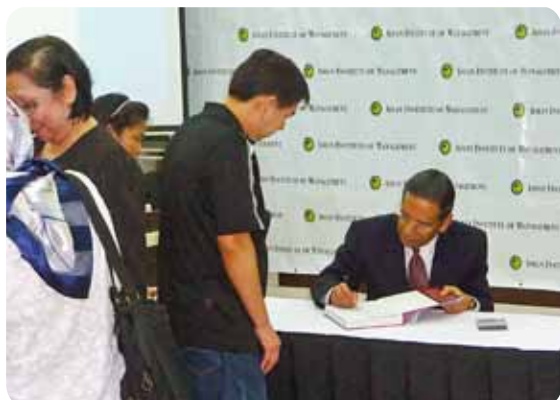
Some of the AFE members at the launch: (L-R) Rick Tan, David Green, and Brahm Prakash.

year, but he is still active with the school and is working on a second book.

Nihal described his book, which deals with development finance in Asia, the role of ADB, IMF, and the World Bank; and the development challenge.

Rajat Nag mentioned Asia’s recent achievements and the great distance yet to be traveled. He noted rising inequalities, the “middle income trap,” climate change and environmental sustainability, urbanization and the quality of life, and governance, all of which drive Asia’s ability to meet its goals. He noted that the IFIs’ financing role has decreased as Asia has moved from a position of capital deficit to one of capital surplus, and that the IFIs need to do what Nihal is doing: sharing experience and knowledge.

Bobby de Ocampo, who had headed AIM at the time Nihal joined, welcomed Nihal’s synthesis of the roles of the private sector, public sector, and IFIs. He noted that, during the Asian financial crisis, IFIs, and especially ADB, led the efforts of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)



Signing the new book.

to find solutions. Responding to the question of whether IFIs were working themselves out of business, the speakers noted that poverty is unlikely to disappear in the near future, countries progress at different rates, needs continue to vary, and an honest broker is going to be needed for some time.

After the speeches, Nihal autographed books for long lines of students, colleagues (current and former), and friends.

For a copy, contact AIM, 123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1260, Metro Manila, Philippines (632-892-4011 to 25 or e-mail mquinones@aim.edu).

Developing Cities: Hans-On

Jill Gale de Villa



Hans-Juergen Springer

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in its State of the World Population 1996, noted that Asia then had about 1.2 billion urban residents, and that this number was expected to balloon to 2.7 billion by 2025. And in 2011, energybulletin.net noted that urban areas of the People's Republic of China (PRC) already held 40% of its population. This presents huge challenges for cities

to provide the vast amount of resources its current and projected residents need for roads, housing, water,



Manila (Pasig): housing is urgently needed for poor residents and new comers.



Among cities' pressing needs: proper waste disposal.

sewerage, health care, communications, government, and the entire vast network of interrelated functions and functioning needed for cities to expand rapidly and "liveably."

In response, in 2007, ADB launched the Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA), aimed at assisting the smaller cities that are often left out of the assistance to urbanization, because such aid is often targeted at the larger and better known cities. Initially, CDIA was funded by ADB and the German government. Then other donors joined—Sweden, Austria, and the PRC. The donors met yearly, but soon decided a more formal and stable structure would be preferred, and started the process of forming a regional, international organization to be named Cities Development Institute for Asia (also CDIA), and to be based in the Philippines. As a first step, a corporation is being formed (starting in 2009) called CDIA, Inc. The process to establish a regional institute is still ongoing, as it requires ratification by the Philippine congress. It also requires a Board of Trustees. All involved preferred that the board be headed by someone familiar with ADB, but not working there. An obvious choice: Hans-Juergen Springer. CDIA also has an office and staff.

Hans accepted the post because it is the sort of work he has done in the past and likes doing. He notes that

urban development affects us all, as we are impacted by insufficiencies in water, traffic management, and the like. And these issues affect the poor more severely than the rest of us. He notes that smaller cities get even less attention, their poor are worse off than the poor in larger cities, and they often have a tremendous problem with garbage disposal. He remembers an ADB project he worked on in Shanghai that the locals dubbed the “Black and Stink Project.” It involved cleaning up a canal that was so foul that at the point it joined the Huang Pu, Shanghai’s major river, it comprised a black flow of very smelly fluid.

While the official formation of the regional institute is continuing, CDIA projects continue in parallel, with funding from ADB and other sources. CDIA bridges a gap between the national planning and project feasibility studies by supporting prefeasibility work that helps to provide the studies donors need in order to support urban planning and improvement projects. CDIA also helps enhance the knowledge base for urban planning and work by bringing together young professionals from

urban sector institutions for training and networking. This also facilitates CDIA’s role. The participants benefit from a 6-month training program involving on-the-job experience, mentoring by international experts, and participating in projects. After their training, they return to their original employment, where they can provide enhanced support to their own governments in bridging the planning-to-infrastructure gaps and making significant contributions to their cities’ development. They also become focal points for cooperation and collaboration with CDIA in knowledge sharing, capacity development, and various events.

Hans’ work includes running board meetings and approving the budget and work plan of CDIA, Inc. on its way to being officially “born.” He also runs the annual shareholders’ meeting—the third one will be held soon. Hans also attends as an observer the yearly meetings of the CDIA donors (ADB is represented by the director general of the Regional and Sustainable Development Department).



Many populations have inadequate access to clean water.



Cities need adequate transport and road systems for growing populations, to accommodate many more motor vehicles and provide better mass transit.



Banking On: Dang Fook Lee

Dang Fook Lee, former Secretary of ADB and Director General of BPMSD, took early retirement in 1994 and joined the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (Malaysia) Ltd. in Kuala Lumpur as an independent director. At the same time, he served as an independent director on some government-linked companies, from which he retired at the end of 2010. He remained with Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Malaysia) and was appointed Independent Chairman of the Board in April 2011, when, in furtherance of good governance, the Malaysian regulatory authorities required boards of foreign banks in Malaysia to have independent instead of executive directors as chairs of financial institutions. Noritada Morita took this image of Lee in his Kuala Lumpur office.



Dang Fook Lee in his Kuala Lumpur office.

Moving Up: Bobbie and Cathy

Jill Gale de Villa

While in Washington, DC, I had the great pleasure of being treated to lunch by Bobbie Montesa and Cathy Reyes-Angus. Both have been national officers at ADB and are currently professional staff at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Bobbie has been an AFE member since 2007, and Cathy is a “pending member”—as she is still on leave from ADB.

The topic of the lunch: The Transition. Bobbie (when I asked for Bobbie Montesa—the guard at the front desk informed me “You mean Teresa...we call people by their correct names here”) had made the change 4 years earlier, and Cathy was a real newcomer—only about 3 months on the job at the time. Bobbie, who has been promoted once and will soon be promoted again, had originally been hired at IMF’s equivalent of ADB’s level 4, her interviewers being impressed with her skills as an archivist. Both Bobbie and Cathy noted that they feel very much appreciated in their jobs, for their competencies and professionalism. And of course the added income is most welcome.

Bobbie noted that her first assignment was to put in place customized file plans and retention schedules. This required extensive liaison with all departments to get their buy-in for moving to electronic filing, which was the next step. She is currently managing a large project involving rationalizing the filing space and system and managing eight vendors and six IMF staff to clean up file rooms and advocate digital filing using a new system that she and her team rolled out IMF-wide last year.

On 3 July, serendipitously, Cathy and Bobbie passed in Dulles airport, as Cathy arrived for her new work and Bobbie went to the Philippines for her home leave. Waving through the glass was all they could do to communicate as Cathy and her family disembarked from their Korean Air flight while Bobbie and her husband sat in the waiting room before boarding the same plane.

Like Bobbie, Cathy had been hired for the skills she had demonstrated well at ADB—Cathy’s job is communications officer, and she said there hasn’t been a dull moment since her arrival. For one thing, you have to be more self-sufficient in the US—there are fewer supporting staff. Plus, almost on landing, she had to



Bobbie Montesa and Cathy Reyes-Angus in the IMF lobby.

handle communications pertaining to a security issue and then to the earthquake (an unusual event in DC). Cathy noted she has had good mentoring from her supervisors. She said she was looking forward to her first snowfall (the weather obliged—it came just a few days later) and putting her children into school. She misses her helpers in Manila, and is getting used to the commuting. Like ADB, IMF is a huge institution, and work can be very demanding, but Cathy noted she “is enjoying every opportunity to gain knowledge and learn heaps.”

Parliamentarian Debabrata Bandyopadhyay

Debabrata Bandyopadhyay, former ADB Executive Director for India, has been elected an Honourable Member of the Upper House (Rajya Sabha) of the Indian Parliament. He is also considered to be India’s leading land expert. While attending the 2011 India Chapter’s annual meeting, he spoke of his time in Manila and said he had gained insight into development perspectives as an Executive Director at ADB and that he was very pleased to participate in the India Chapter’s Annual Meeting.



Debabrata Bandyopadhyay

There’s A Beautiful Life after ADB

Leo Saet (ADB 1978–2005)



After 27 years with ADB, I opted for early retirement in 2005. That same year (using ADB discretionary benefits) I went on a seven-country tour, starting in France and ending in Italy. Participants came from all over the Philippines, and all enjoyed it very much. Since then, I have been on various trips to the United States, including Honolulu where my brother and his family are based. I also visited Australia when my only daughter got married in Melbourne, and I made a side trip to New Zealand where I met some colleagues. Consulting contracts with ADB helped pay for the travel.

The first ADB Annual Meeting I attended was in Kyoto, followed by Bali, Tashkent, and Ha Noi. I was not able attend the one in Madrid (I had a contract), but have promised myself to be at every future annual meeting, health and finances permitting. I learn a lot at the meetings, and it is a joy to see different people and places and to meet people from all walks of life. At one of the meetings, I shook hands with President and Mrs Kuroda. At another, I went on a tour with Mrs Kuroda, who mingled and talked with everyone, and we enjoyed the VIP escorts too.

For colleagues still at ADB, my advice is “enjoy life while you can” right after ADB. Traveling is in my blood, as I journeyed 2–3 times a year for over 20 years with project administration units. Thanks to ADB for giving me the opportunity to serve and the chance to travel and meet people from all walks of life. Such experiences were not even in my wildest dreams in my younger years.



Leo in Waikiki.



Mrs Haruhiko Kuroda and Leo during an ADB annual meeting.

I am now enjoying the fruits of what I sowed in my early days. My four children are married, and I have four grandchildren. I will continue to enjoy life, including traveling, while I can. All our four children are now married. The last one to marry did so in December 2011, which means that the number of my grandchildren will be increasing!

Sharing Laughter at St. James Academy

Elvie Punzalan-Estavillo (ADB 1969–1973)



When I arrived at St. James Academy in Malabon on 21 October 2011, it was already full with 370 students, teachers, and school officials, including a few bishops and nuns. The Academy, founded by the Maryknoll Sisters, was celebrating its highly successful 85th Foundation Year. The sight of

the excited participants instantly inspired me. I had been invited to the celebrations because some of the organizers are regular readers of my column, had received positive feedback from others who had experienced Laughter Yoga, and wanted to try it themselves.

Since the Laughter Yoga session was scheduled at 2:30 pm, I had not been able to take my usual afternoon nap and felt sleepy. To perk me up, I did Laughter Yoga clapping in the car. Voila! Like magic, I was energized!

To ensure that all participants could see me demonstrate the different kinds of laughter, I joined some

of them on the stage. Right at the very start, I could feel the participants' high energy, raring for action. Young and old alike leaped, swayed, clapped, and danced as they did the positive chanting and the different kinds of laughter I demonstrated. They were so stimulated they initiated positive chanting in between practicing the different kinds of laughter. "Ha ha ha!" I just followed their rhythm and momentum. It was thrilling to see older members of the religious order do the laughter exercises and positive chanting just like the young ones!

As many participants, were wearing spectacles, I shared with them some eyesight exercises. We did a palming exercise for a few minutes combined with proper breathing, and, after taking their hands off they said "wow," because they saw things more clearly. They roared and clapped approvingly when I mentioned that 8 years ago I had been freed from wearing two pairs of eyeglasses!

The participants who could not contain their excitement, every now and then jumped with joy. Even the technicians manning the sound system were participating delightedly. Laughter is indeed contagious! The participants were amazed to find out about the many health benefits of Laughter Yoga—including lifting depression, boosting the immune system, clearing the air passages, helping to lower cholesterol levels, helping to reduce stress levels, cultivating positivism, and enhancing optimism. I also shared how to use the fingers to help cure some ailments, repeating the exercises to make sure they would remember them.

The participants also enjoyed Laughter Yoga trivia, such as

- 1 minute of mirthful laughter is like 10 minutes of cardio workout on a rowing machine; and
- one Laughter Yoga session can burn as much as 300 calories!

And I was happy to receive very inspiring and motivating feedback from the participants:

- Sr. Jo Dumapias said "Super enjoyable! I felt great and relaxed."





- Rosalinda Cupuyan said “This is the only seminar where we did not feel sleepy. Everybody was alive, alert, and enthusiastic. There was joy and laughter in everyone. We really enjoyed every minute of our Laughter Yoga seminar and ... we will benefit a lot.”
- Renante Cealleres summed it up as “Laughter Yoga is good for the health, physical exercise and generates good feelings!”

A 2nd LYoga Leadership Seminar will be held on 14–15 April 2012 in Tagaytay City. For more information on this life-changing experience, visit: www.laughteryogaphils.com, e-mail me at: laughteryogaclub.phils@gmail.com, and on YouTube see lycphohohahaha!

Sixth Annual Reading Competition in Banna

Sawai Boonma (ADB 1975–1978)



On 11–12 November 2011, thirty-three elementary schools in Banna District, Nakhon Nayok Province, Thailand, staged their sixth reading competition. This annual event is the culmination of the reading-cum-education promotion activities sponsored by the Banna Reading Promotion Foundation—

Banna being the rural area where I grew up. The foundation’s endowment and operating budget come largely from the proceeds of my postretirement writings, including books as well as articles for magazines and newspapers, such as the *Bangkok Post*, on development, economic and social issues, and the environment.

For this annual event, each participating school sends its best reader, selected through an internal competition. Each representative is then given 10 minutes, on stage and in front of a judging committee, to summarize

The ten semifinalists, all female. The girl wearing glasses is the winner; the shortest—a 4th grader—won third prize, and the hearts and minds of all attending the event.

and comment on designated reading material. For 2011, the designated reading material was *The Happiness of Kati*. The book won the 2006 Southeast Asian Writers Award, and was written by Ngarmpun Vejajjiva, sister of the former Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejajjiva.

On the second day of competition, 10 semifinalists are chosen and individually interviewed by another committee, to test the breadth and depth of their understanding of the reading material. The best reader and runners-up are chosen. All students who participate are awarded scholarships, in descending order of their performance.

On each of the two days, a prominent person usually gives a brief keynote remark. The hosting school sets up an exhibition of its leading extracurricular activities; provides



entertainment; and serves lunch to all participants, teachers, and guests.



Unicycle riders in action.

Besides promoting reading, the foundation has started sponsoring a pilot program to revive unicycle riding, once a well-known school sport

in Banna district. During the second day of the event, the two schools in the pilot program showcased their students' riding skills. Starting in 2012, the foundation, with the cooperation of another education-promoting nongovernment organization, will start sponsoring another pilot program on the Rubik's cube. The unicycle riding and Rubik's cube competitions will be part of an event scheduled for 16–17 November 2012.

In 2011, quite a few guests, some from as far as the United States, attended the 2-day event, although the severe flood in Thailand forced many others to abort their planned travel to Banna. A larger crowd is expected in 2012 and, as usual, all are welcome.

Grandpa Cole



John Cole has turned over the reins of the Canada Chapter to Bruce Murray, so he has more time for his acting and his growing family—here he is with four grandchildren: Emilia, Rafael, Xoana, and Zelene. John stewarded the chapter from 2007 until 2011.

On Two Continents

Bruce and Emma Murray (ADB 1991–2001), and Günter Hecker



Bruce and Emma Murray and Günter and Enrie Hecker.

After Bruce's intensive consulting work for the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank from September 2010 to the end of June 2011, we spent time reaping the benefits of retirement. In July and August we enjoyed the natural beauty and majestic mountains of British Columbia, including two camping expeditions to the Rocky Mountains with family and friends, two visits to Vancouver Island, a trip to interior British Columbia, and a visit to our daughter Jill and her husband Kenny for the 4th of July holiday in Seattle.



Emma, Bruce, and Lynne (Bruce's sister) at Port Royal.

In early September we flew to New York to take in 2 days of the US Tennis Open, where we saw most of the major stars. After New York, it was on to New Brunswick for 10 days with Bruce's sister and her husband, and to see friends and relatives. We then drove to Nova Scotia to visit our two



Bruce and Günter celebrating Oktoberfest appropriately.

nephews and friends in Halifax.

Emma learned something about Canadian history from that part of the trip. We visited the church and statue of Evangeline, a fictional character

made famous in an epic poem published in 1847 by the American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The poem follows an Acadian girl named Evangeline and her search for her lost love, Gabriel, set during the time of the Expulsion of the Acadians (1755–1763), when families were separated. Today it would probably be called ethnic cleansing, but in the Canadian history books that Bruce read in school those words were not used! Two of the places we visited in Nova Scotia are Port Royal, a reconstruction of one of the first French settlements in North America, and the historic waterfront of Halifax.

From Halifax it was off to Vienna for the AFE Europe Chapter meeting (see the article in this issue). But before and after the meeting, we toured in Europe. First we spent a very pleasant day walking and seeing the many sites in

Munich. The next day we ran into Günter and Enrie Hecker at the Oktoberfest. This fantastic event features lots of people dressed in Bavarian costumes, music, food, huge tents sponsored by the major brewers, and, of course, gallons of beer.

The next day we departed by train for Salzburg, where we spent a very peasant day exploring the cobbled streets in the beautifully kept, picturesque old town. Overlooking the city is Festung Hohensalzburg, the mightiest fortress in central Europe, built between the 11th and 13th centuries. The view from there overlooking Salzburg and the Salzach River Valley is breathtaking.

Günter and Enrie rejoined us in Salzburg, and we drove through the gorgeous Austrian countryside to Vienna. The mountains, valleys, lakes, villages, and farms truly appear idyllic. Along the way we stopped for coffee and cakes at St. Gilgen am Wolfgangsee, a beautiful lakeside village where Helmut Kohl regularly spent his annual holidays.

After the wonderful AFE reunion in Vienna, we drove from Vienna to Budapest with Günter and Enrie. En route, we stopped for coffee and cakes on the Neusiedlersee, the second largest steppe lake in Central Europe. It covers 315 km², but is less than 1.8 m deep. We then proceeded to the border crossing near Mörbisch am Neusiedlersee (Austria) and Fertőrákos (Hungary), where, on 2 May 1989, the then new Hungarian government organized a Pan-European picnic with a symbolic border opening for a few



Bruce and Günter at the Pan-European Picnic Site on the border of Austria and Hungary.

hours. Many East Germans who were holidaying in Hungary made a quick escape—they tore down the barbed wire and crossed the border into Austria. The Hungarian border guards did not shoot, thus opening a floodgate in the then iron curtain through which about 15,000 East-German refugees fled. This place, now known as the Pan-European Picnic Site and recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, is known as "...the place where the first brick was knocked out of the Berlin Wall," triggering the collapse of the Eastern bloc.

We then drove to Lake Balaton, a famous Hungarian vacation area, and stayed overnight at a pleasant and extremely low-priced bed and breakfast. The next morning we took a small ferry across Lake Balaton and drove on to Budapest. We spent the afternoon on a hop-on hop-off bus tour and water taxi trip along the Danube. The day was capped with a good gulyash dinner and a very nice stroll back to our hotel, before returning home.



Günter, Enrie, and Emma on a cruise on the Danube in Budapest.

Tunisia Now

Susan D. Tamondong (ADB 2000–2006)



How does it feel to live in post-revolution Tunisia? I am happy to be here.

With all the "teething problems" of a new and interim government after the revolution, Tunisia still held its first democratic elections on October 26. Despite 164 political parties participating, the elections were conducted peacefully. People are optimistic and proud to be free, although challenges lie ahead. Tourism, Tunisia's main industry, has suffered from the political turmoil, and the country needs to attract visitors back. During the

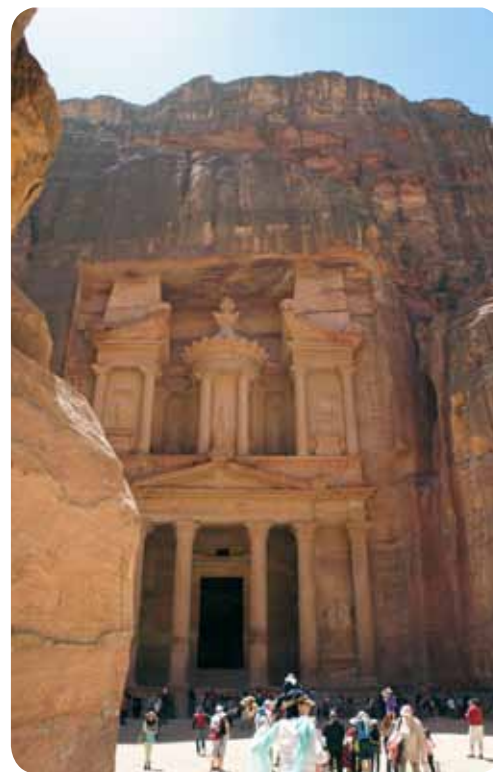


Preparing to tour the Dead Sea.

revolution, expats were particularly vulnerable, and caution is still advised. Yet I feel privileged to have experienced historic changes in Tunisia. And now that Tunisia is promoting tourism again, it's a good time to visit!

Living in this part of the world is very interesting, as it offers not only beautiful beaches and scenery, but also rich cultures, good museums, and wonderful people to experience. Historic Carthage, site of ancient civilization, is a source of inspiration—especially as it was led by a woman!

From Tunis, access is easy to other interesting cities nearby. In April, I attended an evaluation IDEAS conference in Jordan, then visited Petra (the famous archaeological site often referred to as the "Pink City"); the Dead Sea; and the site of Jesus Christ's baptism in the Jordan River. Living in Tunisia also allows easy weekend travel to Italy, Paris, and London, which are only 1–3 hours away by plane.



The entrance to Petra's treasury.

Barun: The Calcutta Painter



Barun Roy

During the India chapter meeting, Barin Ganguli mentioned Barun Roy's achievement as a painter and announced the exhibition of his works as part of a group show at Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi, on 14–28 December 2011. Barun, a member of a group of 28 artists termed the "Calcutta Painters," is quoted

in The Times of India (16 December 2011) as noting that the group "is an offshoot of the Society of Contemporary Artists of Kolkata that brought together leading contemporary Bengali painters to script a freewheeling artistic language in 1960. Four years later, some members quit the society to form the Calcutta Painters."



Dreamtime 1.



An autumn medley.



Dreamtime 2.

After the Tsunami

Eiji Kobayashi (ADB 1968–1994)



A strong earthquake hit vast areas of northern Japan on 11 March 2011, and televised scenes of the tragic onslaught of the massive ensuing tsunami elicited a terrible shock among the people around the world. The following relief activities were organized in a very orderly manner, with domestic and international efforts. Here is a brief account of my visit to one of the affected areas in Miyagi Prefecture in September 2011, 6 months after the tsunami.

Towns Hit by the Tsunami. Taking a Tohoku Shinkansen train, I first went to Sendai, a major metropolis in the Tohoku (Northeast) region, and then visited a series of towns in Miyagi Prefecture (see the map) hit by the tsunami. Sendai airport, on the coastal area, was submerged and had to be closed for 5 weeks. Sendai port area also incurred heavy damage, as tsunami waves washed away a large complex of warehouses and factories; I was told that thousands of automobiles that had been awaiting shipment on the plant site were totally damaged.

I then proceeded to Matsushima town, which is famous for the beautiful scenery of its scattered islands in the bay, similar to the Hundred Islands in the Philippines. Luckily, damage to the town was relatively minor, as it was largely protected by the islands in

Map drawn by the author showing the towns hit by the tsunami.

the bay, though some houses, shops, and hotels had been flooded. However, the next town, Higashi-Matsushima, incurred serious damage, resulting in about 1,800 people dead or missing (see the table). A large area of ricefields was inundated, making cultivation impossible because of salt deposits from the waves.

Town	Dead	Missing	Houses Destroyed
Sendai	704	26	68,920
Matsushima	14	0	216
Higashi-Matsushima	1,029	740	4,743
Ishinomaki	2,933	2,770	28,000
Onagawa	466	690	3,021

Sources: Miyagi Prefecture, National Police Agency.

Major Impacts on Towns Visited. The next two towns were likewise seriously damaged. In Ishinomaki, I saw houses and buildings completely destroyed, with only either their foundations or skeleton structures remaining in the vast devastated area. A resident pointed out the marks left on the wall, saying “The water came up to here.” The water mark was about 6 meters high and the house was about 1.5 kilometers from the bay. I asked “Were you all





Ishinomaki after the tsunami, September 2011.

safe then?"
 "Yes, we were able to evacuate immediately after the earthquake." This place had been a major fishing port and center of fishing industries in the region. But now the port complex

is unable to function, as the large fish market and the several fish processing plants are all gone.

As my bus approached Onagawa, the next town on the coastal belt, I held my breath. What I saw was complete ruins of the entire town area. Only a couple of destroyed hotels and

buildings remain on the cleared grounds, clearly exhibiting the massive destructive power of the tsunami! I was told that only the townsfolk who had promptly evacuated to the surrounding hills were saved; many others were instantly engulfed by massive waves. A temporary town hall and a refugee center had been built on a hill away from the bay, and volunteers were busy assisting those affected.

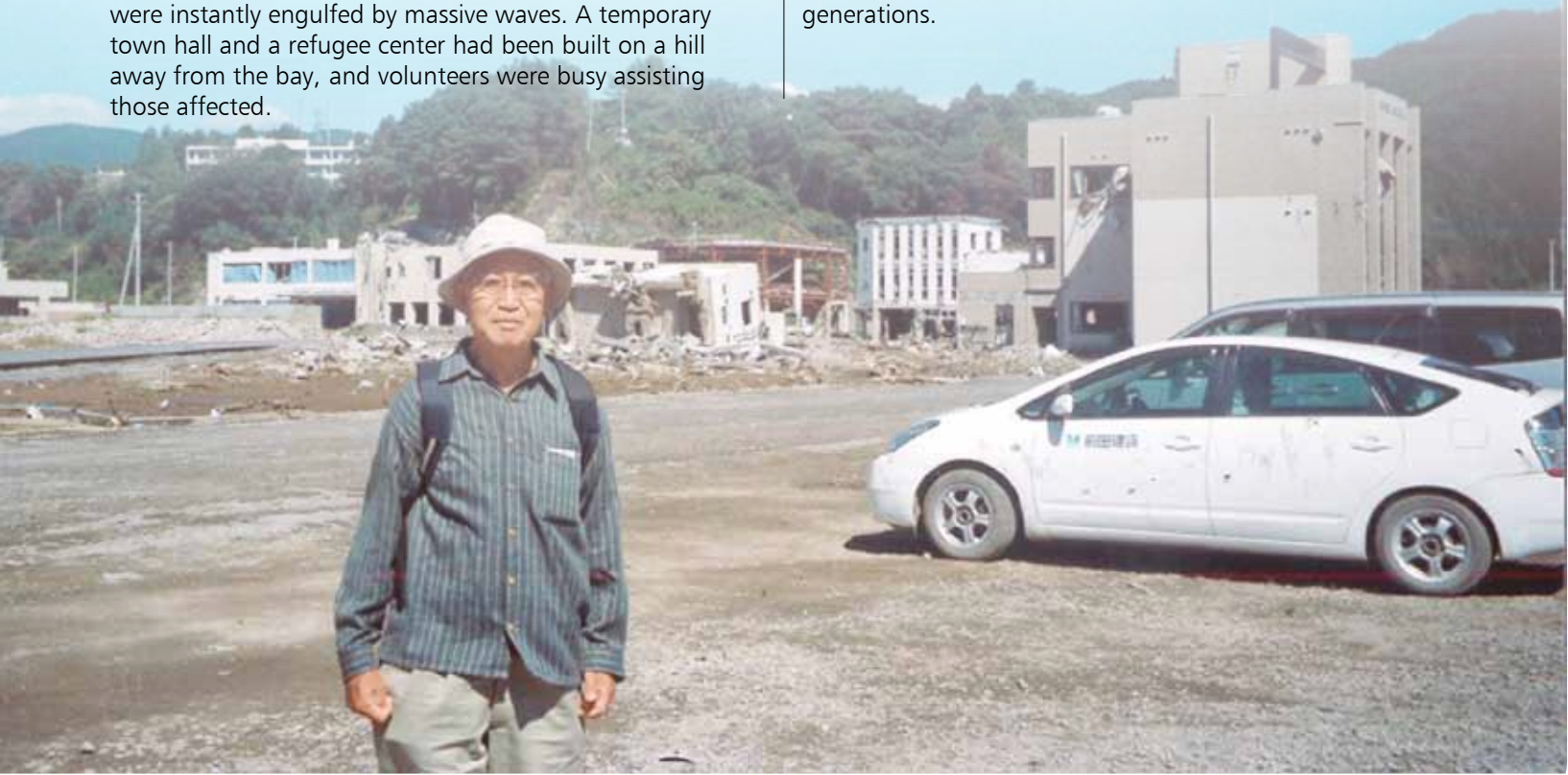


Onagawa after the tsunami, September 2011.

Reconstruction Efforts. In this deserted town, however, I was delighted to see a small light at the fishing port. Some debris had been cleared, and the port was partly operating, handling fresh fish. Mr. Hisayuki Aoki, fish dealer, explained that aquaculture facilities for seaweed (wakame) and red salmon had been destroyed as well as the processing plants. "But the local fishermen have to live," he said "therefore some of them have begun catching fish anew by fixed nets." While we were talking, a small fishing boat landed fish at a temporary berth. I was glad to see the catch, such as mackerel, yellowtail, and squid, traded among fish dealers. The fresh fish are then shipped to local markets and even to Yokohama, my town. Luckily, ice-making plants have been restored to provide limited amounts of ice.

Mr. Aoki further explained that major tasks ahead are clearing the port by removing a massive amount of debris sunk in the port area so that larger fishing vessels can have access to the berth. The Tohoku seacoast provides one of the richest fishing grounds in Japan, because the Kurile current (Oyashio) brings nutrition and plankton. Also, demersal fish are found abundantly around a number of reefs.

On the farmlands, the harvest of rice and other crops was substantially lost for the season of 2011, but the farmers are attempting to restore their lands for the next crop season. Fear of radiation from Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant remains a problem for the surrounding area. Major tasks ahead, therefore, are disposal of a great amount of debris and removal of radiation-contaminated soil. This may take many more years to accomplish, but we are determined to complete the task for our future generations.



New Members

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

September 2011

Tsuda, Aki (Japan)
 Kondo, Tadashi (Philippines)
 Tang, Luisa H. (Philippines)
 Whittle, John F. (Australia)
 Jacinto, Wilhelmina M. (Philippines)
 Palacios, Barbara E. (Philippines)
 Lapuz, Nieves (Philippines)
 Ruiz Brunshwig, Sonia (Philippines)
 Lardizabal, Cresente M. (Philippines)

October

Schaefer-Preuss, Ursula (Germany)
 Leones, Yolanda Dizon (Philippines)
 Valbuena, Cesar (Philippines)
 Sanchez, Wivina T. (Philippines)
 Roche, Frederick C. (US)
 Abada, Leo (Canada)

November

Lanzador, Carmen (Canada)
 Chin-Yee, Merrell I. (Canada)
 Pampolina, Mila O. (Philippines)
 Groff, Stephen Paul (Philippines)

Cruz, Ma. Roanna S. (Philippines)
 Abanil, Carlito D. (Philippines)
 Guño, Violeta M. (Philippines)
 Domingo, Marietta S. (Philippines)
 Alindahao, Rosalisa (Philippines)
 Kandiah, Thevakumar (Malaysia)
 Monari, Antonio A. (Italy)
 Smith, Ainslie C. (Australia)

December

Telan, Dolores (Canada)
 Peng, Xiaohua (Philippines)
 Francois, Ausseil (Philippines)
 Settle, William G. (US)
 Chua, Marilou O. (US)
 Castro, Reynaldo F. (Canada)
 Dobias, Robert John (Thailand)
 Tiamson, Eulogio Jr. G. (Philippines)

January 2012

De Castro-Tuason, Cecilia M. (Philippines)
 De Guzman, Monina T. (Philippines)
 Yu, Anna-Lyza G. (Philippines)
 Khpalwan, Bashirullah (Afghanistan)
 Marcelino, Emma R. (Canada)
 Chowdhury, Abul Haban (Bangladesh)
 Bereslawski, Etel Patricia (Spain)
 Knoll, Nicholas Peter (US)
 Pho, Quan B. (US)
 Abad, Mary Elizabeth V. (US)
 Muñoz, Nenita B. (Philippines)

Senior Appointments in ADB

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

Vicky C.L. Tan—Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), effective 11 September 2011.

Cyn-Young Park—Assistant Chief Economist, Economic Analysis and Operations Support Division, Economics and Research Department, effective 24 September 2011.

Radhakrishnan Srinivasan—Director (Technology), Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST), effective 24 September 2011.

Lope Auxillos—Advisor and Head, Infrastructure Support Unit, OIST, effective 24 September 2011.

Takeo Konishi—Advisor, Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department (BPMSD) and Head, Unit for Institutional Coordination, effective 24 September 2011.

Shireen Lateef—Senior Advisor (Gender), Office of the Vice-President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development (VPKM), effective 1 October 2011.

Walter Kolkma—Director, Independent Evaluation Division 1, Independent Evaluation Department, effective 3 November 2011.

Anand Chiplunkar—Lead Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist, Sustainable Infrastructure Division, Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD), effective 14 October 2011.

Brajesh Panth—Lead Education Specialist, Human and Social Development Division, South Asia Department (SARD), effective 14 October 2011.

Chatiya Nantham—Lead Facilities Planning and Management Specialist, Facilities Planning and Management Unit, Office of Administrative Services, effective 14 October 2011.

Cheolsu Kim—Lead Finance Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division, SARD, effective 14 October 2011.

Farzana Ahmed—Lead Results Management Specialist (Public Sector Management), Results Management Unit, Strategy and Policy Department, effective 14 October 2011.

Jayant Menon—Lead Economist (Trade and Regional Cooperation), Office of Regional Economic Integration (OREI), effective 14 October 2011.

Karin Oswald—Lead Facilitation Specialist, Office of the Special Project Facilitator, effective 14 October 2011.

Peter Robertson—Lead Portfolio Management Specialist, Office of the Principal Director, Central Operations Services Office, effective 14 October 2011.

Qingfeng Zhang—Lead Water Resources Specialist, Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division (EAER), East Asia Department (EARD), effective 14 October 2011.

Rudolf Frauendorfer—Lead Urban Development Specialist, Urban Development and Water Division, Southeast Asia Department (SERD), effective 14 October 2011.

Jon Lindborg—Country Director, Indonesia Resident Mission, SERD, effective 10 October 2011.

Shakeel Ahmad Khan—Lead Portfolio Management Specialist, Transport and Communications Division, CWRD, effective 14 October 2011.

Susan Kerr—Lead Institutional Gender Specialist, Human Resources Division, BPMSD, effective 14 October 2011.

Xiaohong Yang—Lead Transport Specialist, Transport and Communications Division, EARD, effective 14 October 2011.

Kathie Julian—Resident Representative, Georgia Resident Mission, concurrently Lead Urban Development Specialist (Public-Private Partnerships), CWRD, effective 17 October 2011.

Ramesh Subramaniam—Senior Director, OREI, effective 10 November 2011.

Lourdes Adriano—Advisor, concurrently Practice Leader (Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security), Agriculture, Rural Development and Food Security Unit, RSDD, effective 20 November 2011.

Yue-Lang Feng—Director, EAER, EARD, effective 15 December 2011.

Ying Qian—Director, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Regional Cooperation Division, EARD, effective 15 December 2011.

David McCauley—Advisor, Climate Change Program Coordination Unit, RSDD, effective 3 January 2012.

Cecile Gregory—Head, Office of Cofinancing Operations (OCO), effective 30 November 2011.

Anand Chiplunkar—Director, Urban Development and Water Division, CWRD, effective 30 November 2011.

Riccardo Loi—Director, OCO, effective 19 December 2011.

Chin Choon Fong—Senior Advisor (Public-Private Partnerships), Office of the Director General, CWRD, effective 6 January 2012.

Christopher MacCormac—Senior Advisor (Knowledge Enterprise), VPKM, effective on 3 January 2012.

Barry Hitchcock—Advisor, Office of the Director General, SARD, effective 5 January 2012.

Anuradha Rao—Ombudsperson, effective 9 January 2012.

Marie-Anne Birken—Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, effective 9 January 2012.

Eugene Zhukov—Director, Budget and Management Services Division, BPMSD, effective upon assumption of office.

Diwesh Sharan—Director, Urban and Social Sectors Division, EARD, effective upon assumption of office.

Plamen Bozakov—Resident Representative, Turkmenistan Resident Mission, CWRD, effective assumption of office.

David Dole—Resident Representative, Armenia Resident Mission, CWRD, effective upon assumption of office.

Obituaries

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



Gene and Ellery Owens.

Former Washington, DC Chapter Coordinator **Gene Owens** passed away on Christmas day at the age of 69. Gene was chapter coordinator during 2002–2004 and 2008–2011, and assisted many AFE retirees with their health insurance and other matters.

During his lifelong learning quest, Gene earned many degrees and worked in many countries and environments. He was a cadet/midshipman at the US Merchant Marine Academy and attended Tulane University, where he met his wife Ellery. He received an MA in Development Economics and studied in Buenos Aires as a Ford Foundation Fellow. He was a teaching fellow at Georgetown University's School of Government and Foreign Affairs, graduating with distinction with a PhD in Political Science. After a brief consultancy in the Republic of Korea, the Owens moved to Malaysia, where Gene worked with Nathan Associates and the UN Office of Technical

Cooperation. He returned to Washington for 2 years at Development Alternatives Inc. before joining ADB in 1982. In 1991, while at ADB, he obtained a Masters in Environmental Economics from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Gene took early retirement from ADB in late 1997 to join the Harvard Institute for International Development as Environmental Policy Advisor in Cairo, Egypt, and then set up his consulting firm, EcoShare Group. He served as Adjunct Professor at John Hopkins University and took additional classes there. In 2002, at the age of 60, he received his fifth degree, an MS in Environmental Sciences and Policy. During the last several years, he worked in Afghanistan, Armenia, the People's Republic of China, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, and Zambia.

Gene is survived by his wife Ellery and son Andrew. Condolences may be sent to Ellery at ellerymail@aol.com, or at 8501 River Rock Terrace, Bethesda, MD 20817, USA.

Eun Jin Lim, former Manager in the Irrigation and Rural Development Department, Division III, passed away on 20 September 2011 at the age of 83. Condolences may be sent to his wife Hi Yeon Lim at 29 Grant St., Long Branch, NJ 07740, United States of America.

Ana Maria Lerma Fernandez-Canale, former secretary in the Office of the Treasurer, passed away on 21 October 2011 at the age of 70. Condolences may be sent to her daughter Ma. Soledad F. Lusung at 1408 - 2250 Kennedy Rd. Scarborough ON M1T 3G7 Canada.

Kasturi L. Luthra, former Director in the Infrastructure Department, passed away on 25 October 2011 at the age of 90. Condolences may be extended to his wife Sukrita Luthra at telephone no. 734-658-0688 .

Keon-Woo Lee, former Resident Director General in the European Representative Office, passed away on 19 November 2011 at the age of 67. Condolences may be sent to his wife and daughter at Bangbaedong 732, Bangbae Villa 102, Seocho, Seoul, Republic of Korea. E-mail: jeesoofl@hotmail.com.

Napoleon Belmonte, former Senior General Services Staff in the Office of Administrative Services - Travel Section, passed away on 19 November 2011 at the age of 73. Condolences may be sent to his wife Luthgarda Belmonte at San Vicente, Baa Zone 2, Camarines Sur 4432, Philippines.

Jesus Zarandin, former Financial Analyst in the former Transportation Department, passed away on 6 December 2011 at the age of 77. Condolences may be sent to his wife Norma Zarandin at npz.zarandin@gmail.com.

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

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- (2) Articles that are accepted will be edited for language, content, and length that the Editorial Board deems appropriate for the readership. Images must be of print quality (at least 280kb or 600dpi 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 Jacinto-Aquino, AFE-ADB's able former assistant, provided invaluable help, including typesetting and layout. Malou Magalued proofread and, with Ma. Victoria Celzo, Andy Carlos, and Cesar Juan, prepared the magazine for mailing. AFE-ADB sincerely appreciates ADB's assistance with publishing the magazine, especially Wyn Lauzon, and Judy Yniguez of the printing unit.

Announcements

2012 Annual Meeting of the ADB Board of Governors

The Forty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank will be held on 2-5 May 2012 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Manila, Philippines.

Chapter Events

The **Ottawa Group** is planning a dinner in October.

The **Canada West** is planning a get-together in September (likely) on Vancouver Island, hosted by Dick Gold, and a dinner (also likely) in November in Vancouver. Details to follow later from Bruce Murray—check the AFE-ADB.org website.

The **Europe Chapter** will hold its annual meeting during the last half of September (dates to be announced later), and welcomes all AFE participants.

The **Philippine Chapter** will hold its annual meeting in November (dates to be announced later), and welcomes all AFE participants.

The **Washington DC Chapter** will have its next get-together in June. Contact Clay Wescott for details.

AFE-ADB News No. 41 (September 2012)

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

Annual Association Dues

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

Keep Your Address Updated with AFE-ADB

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

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