

Written by Bobby M. Reyes  
Thursday, 24 June 2010 14:56 -

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A "Conference of Overseas Filipinos for Good Governance" will be held at the Sofitel Hotel on July 1 and 2, 2010, in Metro Manila, Philippines. Gregorio Macabenta, the chairman of the National Federation of Filipino-American Associations (NaFFAA), is one of the conference's moderators. The NaFFAA is said to be one of the primary sponsors of the conference, if not its prime mover.

The NaFFAA's move in calling for the conference is like sending Scrooge to teach Filipinos how to embellish the celebration of Christmas. It is akin to sending a NaFFAA wolf pack to guard a flock of sheep in the Philippines.

{xtypo\_quote} Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. (16) You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? (17) So, every sound tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears evil fruit. (18)—Matthew 7:15-18 {/xtypo\_quote}

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Romeo P. Marquez will probably roll in laughter on hearing that the NaFFAA national-executive officers (NEOs) will teach Filipino leaders the tenets of good governance. Mr. Marquez will laugh harder if gets to know that the NaFFAA NEOs will also teach Filipinos and their associations how to achieve economic independence. Why would Mr. Marquez, now a Toronto

Canada-based investigative reporter, almost die laughing? Because the NaFFAA is financially-and-morally bankrupt. Three of the founding NEOs have declared personal bankruptcies. Please read one of Mr. Marquez's articles in the

[naffagate](#)

section of this website,

[NaFFAA Now "Homeless" in DC, As Its Top Officials Resign as Organization Teeters on Insolvency](#)

. The article was published on

April 29, 2010

Here is another of Mr. Marquez's reports on the NaFFAA, [Is NaFFAA a Spent "Milking Cow" and/or the "Fil-Am Version of the SS Titanic?"](#)

It was published on Sept. 1, 2009.

Now, the NaFFAA NEOs want to be appointed the head honchos of the Presidential Commission for Good Government (PCGG). They are also lobbying for a NaFFAA NEO to be appointed the new Philippine ambassador to the United States. Yes, the NaFFAA NEOs helped Noyonoy Aquino become the President-elect by garnering for him 7,232 votes out of 11,892 ballots among Filipino-American voters and contributing \$100,000 to his campaign funds. But the NaFFAA NEOs promised to raise \$2-million for the Aquino-Roxas slate per this article written by Chicago-based Joseph G. Lariosa:

[OFWs Cannot Run But Can Raise Funds](#)

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But there are doubts if the Commission on Appointments of the Philippine Congress will confirm the presidential nominees from among the NaFFAA NEOs if its members will be able to read this Feb. 15, 2008, damning report:

[The NaFFAA \(a Corrupt Organization\) Cannot Wage an Anti-Corruption Campaign in the Philippines](#)

{xtypo\_quote} And yes, it also needs new leadership ... and perhaps, even a new name. Because, it now appears to many Fil-Ams that the acronym, NaFFAA, connotes 'NaKAWAN-AH'—Jesse Jose {/xtypo\_quote}

Seattle, Washington-based columnist, Jesse Jose, will also end up in guffaws until his stomach hurts once he reads this report. Probably, Mr. Jose will ask if the Filipino people and their leaders are that dumb if they want the NaFFAA NEOs to teach them honesty in governance and show them how not to run an organization?

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There are almost 100 articles and commentaries in this website that discuss the various scandals in the NaFFAA: from the [naffaagate](#) (49 stories and counting) to the Menorgate and the Ballygate.

Mr. Marquez has written other articles found in his "San Diego Happenings) such as, [Will the NaFFAA Survive to Be the 'Voice' For Filipinos in America?](#)

Now, it is up to the Filipino public-and-private-sector leaders and policy-and-decision makers to ask the NaFFAA NEOs if our articles about them and the NaFFAA are true. **We have been daring the NaFFAA NEOs since May 2000 – when we called them a bunch of crooks – to sue us for libel. To date, we have not received even a demand letter for retraction.** We stand by our reports. To the Filipino leaders and the Filipino people, we say finally, “*Caveat emptor*”

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**H ere are details of the “CONFERENCE OF OVERSEAS FILIPINOS FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE:”**

## **SCHEDULE and AGENDA**

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## **Sunday, June 27, 2010**

Evening: Leave SFO/LAX/Las Vegas for Manila

## **Tuesday, June 29, 2010:**

4:00 AM Arrival of OFGG Delegates in Manila

6:00 AM Check-in at Sofitel Hotel (Sulo Room)

Free time from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM

(Filipiniana Bazaar open at Convention Foyer)

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6:00 PM Departure from Hotel to Ted and Josie Laguatan's Penthouse

144 Avignon Tower at H.V. De La Costa St., Salcedo Vill. Makati

Buffet Dinner

Welcome Remarks - Ted Laguatan

Special Dinner Guests: Juana Change by Mae Paner/ Leah Navarro /Jim Paredes

Celebration 50th Wedding Anniversary of Romy and Charito Benipayo

*Attire: Elegant Casual*

**Wednesday, June 30, 2010:**

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7:30 AM Assembly at Hotel Lobby for bus trip to Inauguration Venue

8:00 - 10:00 AM Tour Buses depart for Inauguration Venue

12:00 NN Inauguration Ceremonies *Attire: Filipiniana*

7:00 PM Inaugural Ball (Sofitel Ballroom) sponsored by Rockwell Land

EMCEE: Marlon Tecson (Chicago)

Special performances: Liz Casasola and Kirby Asunto

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Documentary- Ninoy Aquino & the Rise of People Power by Tom Coffman

***Dancing***

*Attire: Semi-Formal*

**Thursday, July 1, 2010:**

Start of Convention with the theme: **HARNESSING OVERSEAS PINOY  
POWER FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE!**

Moderator: Wally Reyes

Moderator introduces delegates/provides ground rules



10:00 AM- 10:05AM: National anthem by Liz Casasola;

Invocation by Fr. Rodel Balagtas- IHMC Parish Priest

10:06 AM- 10:15 AM: Mayor Fred Lim of Manila. Welcome to Manila

10:15 AM- 10:30 AM: Invited Guest Speaker: Sen. Mar Roxas

10:30 AM- 10:45 AM: First Speaker: Loida Nicolas Lewis

*Harnessing the Overseas Pinoy Power for Good Governance,*□

*Announcement of the worldwide umbrella Organization-Overseas Filipinos  
for Good Governance,*□

*Its organizational structure, its vision and its goals;*

10:45 AM- 11:00 AM: Second Speaker: Rodel Rodis

*Presentation of Conference Objectives. Formation of US Pinoys for Good Governance and its Mission and Goals*

11:00 AM- 11:15 AM: Third Speaker: Vicky Garchitorea

*Engaging the Filipino Diaspora for Development*

11:15 AM- 12:00 NN: Open Forum

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Floor Moderators: Art Leoncio (SoCAL); Jet Pizarro (Oregon) Jun Rasul (Washington

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DC  
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12:00 NN- 2:00 PM : Lunch/open dialogue with Comelec to discuss  
Overseas Voting and Automation

(Comelec Chairman Jose Melo & OAV Chair Armando Velasco to be  
invited with Gus Lagman as panel member)

Moderator: Atty. Jonathan Navarro

2:00 PM- 3:00 PM : FSGO Presentation on Good Governance Initiatives

Narz Lim to introduce speakers & act as Moderator

Good Governance Outlook and the Strengthening of Institutions

Speakers: Dr. Jesus Estanislao and Ms. Karina  
David

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3:00 PM. to 4:00 P.M: Working for a Peaceful Mindanao Speakers: Ms. Amina Rasul/ Abdulah Mamao

4:00 PM- 5:30 PM: Philippine Medical Tourism efforts and benefits to Overseas Filipinos;

Speaker: Dr. Alran Bengzon of Medical City

Panel Member: Dr. Jessy Ang (Las Vegas) & Eric Lachica (DC)

Segment Moderator: Dr. Philip S. Chua, MD, FACS, FPCS

7:00 PM- 11:00 PM: Dinner at Blue Leaf Restaurant at Global City sponsored by XanGo

Power Point Presentation by XanGo CEO Bryan Davis

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EMCEE: Mike Macapagal

Speakers: Justice Conchita Carpio Morales of the Supreme Court  
and blogger Lila Shahani

*Attire: Smart Casual*

**Friday, July 2, 2010:**

Moderator: Angie Cruz (New York)

9:00 AM- 10:30 AM: Town Hall Panel Discussion with media/opinion  
makers

Moderator: Greg Macabenta

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Panelists  
Topic

Amy Pamintuan/ Maria Ressa: Facts or Fictions: How Overseas Filipinos can discern the real stories from news

Cheche Lazaro/Mike Enriquez: Effective Media to reach Overseas Filipinos.

10:30 AM- 1:00 PM: Dialogue with Lawmakers: how and what laws can be filed to enable Overseas Filipinos to assist in Good Governance. (Invited: Sen. Frank Drilon, Sen. Serge Osmeña, Sen. Chiz Escudero, Rep. Sonny Belmonte)

Moderator: Atty. Ted Laguatan (NorCAL)

1:00 PM- 2:30 PM: Lunch and Presentation of Greg Macabenta and Gil Ramos on initiatives for first 100 days of presidency

## Former Chief Justice Reynato Puno on Saving our Environment

Moderators: Joey Golez and Gus Mercado (Texas)

2:30 PM- 4:00 PM: Break-out session amongst chapters to discuss their good governance initiatives; Each chapter should come up with plans on how to best achieve the goal of the organization.

4:00 PM: Assemble at Hotel Lobby for trip to Malacanang

4:45 PM: Audience with the President Noynoy Aquino

6:30 PM- 10:00 PM: Closing Dinner at Barbara's in Intramuros, hosted by the Department of Tourism

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Special entertainment: Bayanihan Dance Company

Emcee: Janelle So (Los Angeles TV host)

*Attire: Elegant Casual*

**Saturday, July 3, 2010:**

10:00 AM- 12:00 NN : Ocular Inspection at Rockwell Land

5:00 PM- 11:00 PM : Ocular Inspection at Megaworld Properties

**Sunday, July 4, 2010:**



Check out of hotel by 12 noon.

***Special Note: Mass officiated by Fr. Rodel Balagtas as follows:***

June 30 and July 1 – Sulo Function Room (7:00am-8:00am)

July 2 – Samar Function Room (7:00am-8:00am)

July 3-4 – Romblon & Mindanao (7:00am-8:00am) # # #