



Metro Infanta Foundation, Inc. / 303.423.8688

## Gabaldon Project in blueprint

### Special Interest Articles:

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- \* Infantahins matched Weckbaugh Foundation's \$5,000
- \* Arizala diplomacy Scholarship



### Obituary 2004

Father Dominic Scheerer,  
OCD (Feb. 14, 2004)

Mr. Guillermo Ravago  
(date not available)



More than a year after meeting with school and government officials in Infanta (Jan. 10, 2003), Metro Infanta Foundation (MIF) finally received the blueprint of plans to restore the remnants of the "Gabaldon-type building" in Infanta Central School.

Deacon Mario Van Loon, MIF grants distributor who sent the plans by DHL, assured the foundation that the cost estimate too is forthcoming. Father Mario Establecida is working with the school officials, on behalf of Metro Infanta Foundation, on getting the cost estimate.



The plan, as conceived by architect Eclipse A. Tena of Infanta and signed by Principal III Josefina C. Lorca and Engr. Mamerto Poblete, is the first sign of life for this project since the Infanta Central teachers, and the municipal and national officials approved the restoration project on January 10, 2003.

Metro Infanta Foundation has spearheaded this restoration which won the approval of Mayor Filipina Grace America and her Sangguniang Bayan as well as Rep. Rafael Nantes and Governor Willi Enverga.

In fact, at the January 2003 meeting Ari Flores, representing Congressman Raffy Nantes, offered to provide the initial study and cost estimate of the project. Gov. Enverga, on the other hand, has appointed Rolly de Castro as his representative to this project. Metro Infanta Foundation is awaiting an official statement from the governor if his office can find some funding to proceed with the restoration. Nonetheless, Metro Infanta Foundation is committed to aid in any way, whether it's for fundraising or other support to make sure that the Gabaldon will rise again.

Mila Glodava will meet with school officials in July to keep the momentum of this project.

To date a few Infantahins have made some financial support for a total of \$1,145. We hope that as more information on the cost of the building is available, Metro Infanta Foundation will also receive more financial commitment from

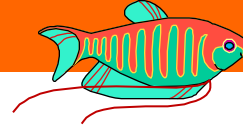
others.

The Gabaldon building, housed the classrooms in which many Infantahins first learned their ABCs. The building was completely destroyed by a typhoon in the early '90s, leaving only the front steps and posts standing (see below).



Architect Tena's plan for the u-shaped building will include 10 20x28' classrooms which will hold 50 students each, and two 22x28' classrooms which will hold 60 students each. The plan also shows restrooms each for boys and girls. The corridors that connect the classrooms are open towards the courtyard, which can be used for general assemblies. The classroom floors will be of red cement finish, while the bathrooms will have ceramic floor tiles.





## Foundation's Impact on Education

Almost every time I visit Europe one or the other person asks me what I do with the money that I am given for my mission. I tell them without hesitation the following:

I can tell you exactly what will happen to the money. The money goes to education, with one exception — extreme emergencies — to save a person's life.

In every family there should be at least one

child that can finish college. I have seen families come out of the squatter area because one child earned a degree.

A basic Christian principle that, thank God, still exists in the Philippine culture is the care of the family members for each other, often with great sacrifice to help their younger brothers and sisters. On this principle we can build the process of change: One child in each family

can make a decisive impact.

Therefore, one of the projects of Metro Infanta Foundation that makes an impact is the Scholarship Program. Imagine all those lives being transformed for good, for the good of the person, for the good of the community and ultimately for the good of the nation and the world.

— Deacon Mario van Loon, ACT



Mt. Carmel Students in the Prelature of Infanta benefit from Metro Infanta Foundation's designated donors.

**HAPPY EASTER  
TO ALL!**

**"GIVE A MAN A FISH  
AND YOU FEED HIM  
FOR A DAY. TEACH A  
MAN TO FISH AND  
YOU FEED HIM FOR A  
LIFETIME.."**

—Chinese proverb



## Father Joel Borreo, OCD, offers website reflections on Sunday Gospel

Father Joel Borreo, an Infantahin and Carmelite provincial, is now a regular website contributor with his reflections on the Sunday gospel. "I am a recipient of the good things the Carmelites did for the faith in the Prelature," he said. It so happens that

my way of showing of gratitude to the Lord includes my joining them and becoming a Carmelite myself. But even my being a Carmelite now, I see it as a fruit of the seeds of faith the Carmelites have planted. I am grateful. And I am happy and proud to see

fellow Infantahin like you, who do all they can to help spread the faith and alleviate the lives of people in the Prelature.

In addition to Father Joel, Gene Pallugna, a businessman in Texas, USA, has provided us with a daily reflection on the Scriptures.

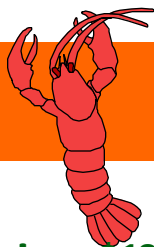
## Infantahins match Weckbaugh Foundation's \$5,000

Aided by a \$5,000 matching grant from the E.M. Weckbaugh, Metro Infanta Foundation collected \$23,214.12 in 2003. The Weckbaugh Foundation grant will be used to assist the Bishop Labayen scholars in school year 2004-2005.

Meanwhile, Cavan Corporation in Kansas, MO provided most of the funds (\$1,500) for the MIF Arizala Diplomacy Scholarship at the Lyceum of the Philippines.

The MIF Garcia

Opportunity Scholarship will begin in 2004-2005 with two collegiate students from the Quezon and Aurora regions of the Prelature of Infanta. Father Edwin Agapay, superintendent of Catholics Schools in the prelature will coordinate all CASPI scholarships.



## SPI receives \$10,000

Socio Pastoral Institute's (SPI) work on spreading stewardship as a way of life in the Philippines will continue thanks to the \$10,000 donation from St. Thomas More Parish and Father Andrew Kemberling of Centennial, Colorado.

SPI is headed by Bishop Julio X. Labayen, OCD and assisted by Father Nonong Pili and Deacon Mario Van Loon and other staff. The Stewardship Program is coordinated by Sr. Angie Donado, O.Carm. with the assistance of Mitch Keller, a missionary from Colorado and now in

diaconate formation under Deacon Mario van Loon.

Last year, at the invitation of Cardinal Ricardo Vidal and Bishop Labayen, Father Andrew and Mila Glodava presented a workshop on stewardship in Cebu, with several dioceses and a number of religious congregations in attendance. Sr. Angie and the SPI staff have been documenting the progress of dioceses and parishes in their implementation of the program.

As a follow-up, Mila will visit the Cebu participants in July 2004, when she will also speak at the CASPI convocation in

San Luis, Aurora.

SPI reports a growing interest in stewardship and has put together a task force to help spread this new way of life.

In March this year, Archbishop Capalla, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines extended an invitation to Father Andrew and Mila to address the bishops' general assembly in July. Regrettably, Father Andrew declined due to previous commitments, but he agreed to return in January 2005 with Mila, to do another stewardship conference.

## MIF BISHOP LABAYEN SELF-INTEGRITY SCHOLARSHIP

Bishop Labayen scholars of Metro Infanta Foundation beginning school year 2003-2004.

Raymond Paul Coralde, MCHS-Polillo

Abigail N. Hernandez, MCHS-Burdeos

Mary Grace Balico, SPA-Dingalan

Renee Rose Cabasag, MCHS-Casiguran

Noemie M. Pujeda, MCHS-Infanta

Jocelyn Villmar, FJKMHS-Dipaculao

Mary Jane Talento, MCHS-Maria Aurora

Charito Bargues, MCC-Baler

Mark Kristian Espinosa, MCHS-San Luis

Each of the above received anywhere from 30,000 pesos to 40,000 depending on their choice of school and field of studies. They will receive funds each year until they graduate.

All scholars submit to the CASPI office, their grades and certificates of community projects—a requirement of Metro Infanta Foundation to continue funding their scholarships.

The Foundation is still waiting, however, for a copy of said reports of community projects.

— submitted by Fr. Edwin Agapay, CASPI superintendent

## Reunions Planned

Class of '57: 2007  
This is the Infanta Central Class of 1957.

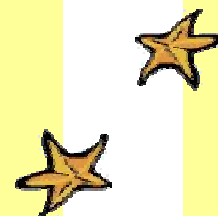
Please start gathering the names of those in this class so we will have as many participants as possible.

Metro Infanta Foundation  
10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary:  
2006

Please let us know if you wish to help plan this event in the Philippines.

Please email us at [editor@infanta.org](mailto:editor@infanta.org)

Or contact us at  
303-423-8688



## Donors provide scholarships

The following donors will fund scholars in schools indicated below. Those with an asterisk have committed to fund the scholarships until their scholars have complete their studies.

Joni Sanderson\*: NQCC

Colleen Smith\*: MCHS, Burdeos

Billy and Mita Recio Pasia: IPHS (2 students)

Joe and Lonching Pujeda: MCHS, Infanta



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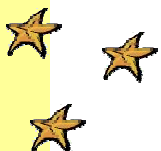
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Loon

This publication is  
written and edited by  
Mil a Gl odava unless  
otherwise indicated.



## Early 2004 donors bring in 18% of goal

The following have contributed to date \$3,540.40, or 18% of the 2004 goal of \$19,980.86. We have a long way to go, but we trust that our *kababayans* will respond positively again this year so we can continue to address the many needs in our hometown and beyond.

Donors have responded to calls for more scholarship funds as well as building funds for the Carmelite Seminary and the Gabaldon Project.

To make a tax-deductible donation, please make your checks payable to Metro Infanta

Foundation and mail it to:

Metro Infanta Foundation, Inc.  
7350 Braun Way  
Arvada, CO 80005  
U.S.A.

### Donors

Erlinda Icasiano Alo

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Cely Reyes\*

Letty Rutaquio

St. Thomas More Parish

Colleen Smith\*



\*Not from Metro Infanta

## SCHOLAR TO CREATE SAVINGS AND LOAN COOPERATIVE

Fredrick A. Rili, Metro Infanta Foundation's first Rodolfo A. Arizala Diplomacy scholar, has proposed to create of a saving and loan cooperative as a partial requirement of Metro Infanta Foundation's his scholarship grant at the Lyceum of the Philippines in the Claro M. Recto of Academy of Advanced Studies for a master of arts degree in foreign services.

The savings and loan cooperative, tentatively named Ginatoda, will be registered in the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The cooperative aims at helping the residents of Fortune St., Zone 5, Brgy. Rizal, "to help themselves in lessening the financial difficulties" by implementing methods of thrift, and educating members on effective financial

management.

According to Frederick, members will generate capital through a "systematic and continuous savings program in order to grant loans to members at reasonable interest rates.

The Screening Committee headed by the Lyceum's Vice President for Academic Affairs Leonida T. Africa include Amb. Dolores Benavides-Sale, the Secretary of the C.M. Recto Academy of Advanced Studies, and Engr. Edgardo Arizala, representing Metro Infanta Foundation.

Amb. Rudy Arizala (see photo), now retired and residing with his wife Neneto de Melo in Chile, remarked when the Metro Infanta Foundation named a scholarship in his honor, "...the "Ambassador Arizala

Scholarship on Diplomacy" is the highest honor I ever received. Why? Because it helps educate poor but deserving students in taking up post graduate studies in diplomacy. I remember, to enable me to study law, I had to work during the day and study in the evening. I was a working student. My poor parents paid for my tuition fees and books. But for daily expenses in Manila including payment for my monthly board and lodging, I had to be on my own."

