



PCS *Newsletter*

News and Views for the Philippine College of Surgeons

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PCS at 75 years:

Beyond Surgical Excellence

PCS Newsletter

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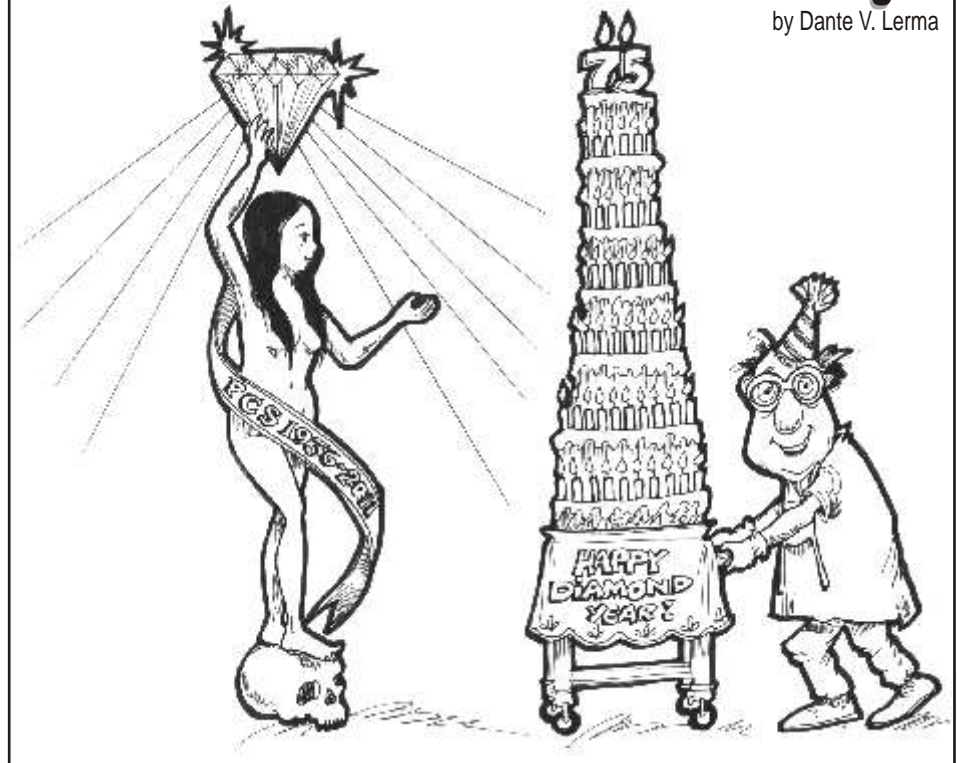
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Life's Surges

by Dante V. Lerma



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Commitment



Ma. Concepcion C. Vesagas, MD, FPCS

Seventy-five years ago, surgery in the Philippines was changed forever. At a historic meeting at San Juan De Dios Hospital on September 12, 1936, 34 physicians dared to dream and establish an organization of surgeons. Individually, they were accomplished in their own fields. Together, they launched an undertaking that has exceeded their individual visions. Three quarters of a century later, the PCS preserves their ambition. The past and present members have nurtured the PCS into what it is today – an organization moving beyond the confines of surgery and contributing to nation building.

We honor the 34 charter fellows. They are not merely names on documents. After inking their signatures on the PCS Charter and Constitution, they went on and contributed to the development of surgery and the college. Quite a number became presidents, pursuing the goals and aspirations that the organization had set itself to. Others put their mark in their own institutions and did their share in the training and development of young surgeons and promoted the advancement of surgery in our country. A few returned to the countryside and became the leaders of health care in their communities.

An organization is just as good as its leaders, so they say. True, leaders possess the vision, grasp the opportunities and embrace the possibilities. The presidents of the PCS had their own platforms, programs and, before their terms were over, a swan song to remember them by. Personal ambitions have been cast aside and agendas formulated with the goal of advancing the college to the next

level. It is to the President and his Board of Regents we credit the direction that the PCS commits itself. Seven and half decades later, we have evolved into an organization that not only advances the art and the science of surgery but also deals with social and community issues.

A skillful leader is only as good as his followers. Battles are never won by officers alone; the battalion can never be separate from its commanders. For leaders to become effective, there must be individuals who share and believe the vision. Fellows must be willing to commit themselves to the pursuit of the mutual goal. The PCS cannot exist without the collaboration of leaders and constituents.

In the end, it is all about commitment.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead.

President's Report 2011



The President's Corner
Josefina R. Almonte, MD, FPCS

The Board of Regents identified several priority projects for 2011 following the different key result areas of the College. Aside from the regular activities of the different activities, it also focused on these activities.

I. GOVERNANCE

A. Board of Regents

- BOR has passed a resolution to change the PCS organizational structure by calling for a constitutional convention next year.
- The College successfully celebrated the Jubilee Year by conducting surgical missions nationwide, torch relay around the different chapters with the final turnover on September 4 at the San Juan de Dios Hospital which was the birth place of PCS followed by a motorcade which passed through PGH and UST culminated by dinner held last Sept. 10.
- It submitted the amendments to the By-laws to the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC). This has been approved by the commission.
- To enhance the management skills of the BOR, a session on Organizational Diagnosis was held last Sept. 17, 2011 before conducting the Planning Workshop for 2012.
- To align the budget with the programs of the College, the BOR scheduled the Planning Workshop early instead of at the start of the year.

B. Chapters

- The Chapter Manual has been started by the Committee on By-Laws and Amendments. Contents have been identified by the Committee.
- The Leadership Seminar for Incoming Chapter Presidents & Specialty Society

- Presidents will resume on December 6.
- The Leadership Manual has been revised.

C. Secretariat

- Updating of the Employees Manual

D. Communication

- The Board of Regents and the Board of Governors were oriented on how to do teleconferencing in order to improve communication among the Chapter Officers and Fellows. This was conducted by Dr. Alvin and Portia Marcelo respectively.

II. FELLOWS

- The MOA and IRR with AHMOPI was signed last September 17, 2011. The new rate will be implemented this month. Fellows can signify if they want to participate in the program.
- With regard to the Membership Development Program, related topics have been included in the annual convention program. A more definite plan will be done in 2012.

III. RESOURCES

- The fourth floor has been cleaned and renovated. The College Secretariat is now located at the 4th floor of the PCS Building. In this way the rooms at the third floor will be rented out to increase the income of the College.
- The Building Committee has prepared a 5-

year Building Maintenance Plan.

- 81% of our funds has been invested in long term investments.

IV. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

A. CSE

- The Speaker's Bureau is undergoing updating of the list.
- The Primary Care Surgery Manual has been revised and will be launched during the annual convention.
- 67th Annual Clinical Congress with the theme on "Managing Complex Problems in Surgery" December 4-7, 2011; EDSA Shangri-La Hotel
- 38th Midyear Convention with the theme "Towards Optimum Surgical Care" – May 11-12, 2012, L'Fisher Hotel, Bacolod City
- 68th Annual Clinical Congress – December 2-5, 2012; EDSA Shangri-La Hotel

B. Trauma

- A MOA was signed with the Philippine College of Emergency Medicine for the conduct of the BETTER program.
- A McDonalds Traymat is being developed together with the Philippine Society for the Surgery of Trauma featuring accident prevention among children. After approval by the central office of McDonalds it will be piloted in Vigan.
- Consultation with the PCS Chapters has been conducted to help in the classification of hospitals as to their trauma capability.
- The Trauma Manual is being revised in cooperation with PSST as a complement to the BEST Manual.
- Three B.E.S.T. courses & 1 course on B.E.T.T.E.R were conducted.
- A Video on Motorcycle Accidents is being developed using the PCS Northern Mindanao Chapter video.

C. Research

- Conduct of the 19th Champion of Champions Contest
- Workshop on Making a Research Proposal

last July 1, 2011 at the Region I Medical Center, Dagupan City

- Workshop on Oral Presentation of a scientific paper last August 20, 2011, Aesculap Academy, B. Braun office

D. Surgical Training

- Launching of the Poster on Attributes of the Professional Surgeon during the 67th Annual Clinical Congress
- Inclusion of the 5 attributes in the 2012 Calendar, namely: Altruism, Compassion, Humility, Ethical and Commitment to Excellence

E. Quality Assurance & Patient Safety

- Actively participated during the launching of the Patient Safety Curriculum last October 19, 2011 at the Marriott Hotel, Pasay City

F. Cancer

- Activities to be conducted during the 67th Annual Clinical Congress:
 1. Lay Forum
 2. Community Based Cancer Control Program
 3. Tumor Board
 4. Presentation of PCS Cancer Pain Management Guidelines

G. Inventions & Innovations

- Conducted the 1st Annual Inventions Competition with 20 entries during the 67th Annual Clinical Congress

H. Surgical Infections

- a. Surgical Infection notebook
- b. ORNAP Manual

V. POLITICAL FUNCTIONS

A. Membership

- Induction of 90 candidates for Fellowship, with the following breakdown:
 - 65 GS

- 5 Urology
- 4 Transplantation Surgery & TCVS
- 3 each for Pediatric Surgery and Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
- 2 ENT Surgery
- 1 each for Ophthalmology, Neurosurgery and Vascular Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery
- Refinements in the contents and process of application for fellowship were introduced effective 2012.
- The Committee will embark on the adoption of the RFID to document the activities of individual Fellows for PCS-PMA certification and CSE credits for PRC purposes.

B. Joint Coordinating Council for Certification and Accreditation

- A workshop was conducted that included the Chairs of the accrediting bodies and certifying bodies of the different surgical specialties to discuss the core criteria for accreditation and certification. This was presented during the summit of all the specialty divisions under PMA with PRC.

VI. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- A copy of the Legarda Bill and Physicians Act were obtained; the PCS is ready with its position paper. This was sent to all the surgical specialties for information.
- A MOA signing with the Provincial Government of Palawan, DOH, Municipal Government of Coron, World Surgical Foundation, Inc., Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists, ORNAP and Palawan Medical Society regarding the “Adopt Coron District Hospital Project”.
- The College successfully conducted the activities of the 75th Diamond Jubilee Year as follows:
 1. 10th PCS Foundation Day Cup: An Inter-surgical Specialty and Chapter Golf Challenge
 2. Torch Relay in the different Chapters with simultaneous scientific and other activities held while the torch is in the chapter.

3. Simultaneous Blood-letting in 14 hospitals in Metro Manila
4. Holy Mass at San Juan de Hospital followed by the Turn –over of the PCS Jubilee Torch by the Southern Tagalog Chapter to the PCS-MMC
5. Motorcade
6. Lay Fora and Operation “Bukol”
7. Medical Mission in Camarin
8. Foundation Day Dinner

A. Publications

- Newspaper Supplements published (Midyear Convention, PCS Foundation and Annual Clinical Congress)
- 2012 MYC poster design finalized

1. Documentation

- Photo Exhibit on the theme “Motions”, winners of which will be in the 2013 calendar
- The GT Singian book will be launched during the Annual Clinical Congress (this is the compilation of GT Singian lectures and a short write up from the President regarding his reason/s for choosing their GT Singian lecturer during his incumbency).
- 2012 Calendar for distribution during the Annual Clinical Congress
- PCS Diamond Video and PCS Hymn – for distribution during the Annual Clinical Congress

2. Newsletter published this year with the themes:

- 1st and 2nd issue – A Surgery Across Asia and Passions of Surgeons
- 3rd issue – Come and Visit Our Philippines
- 4th issue – PCS 75th Jubilee Year Commemorative Issue

Messages

The Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand highly values the relationship and friendship it has enjoyed with the Philippine College of Surgeons over the years. In addition, we are very impressed and appreciate the College's interest in the patient safety programme. We believe that with the College's support and close collaboration we will successfully develop our patient safety programme and trust that both of our Colleges will be able to bring the training system up to international standards in the near future.

I truly wish the Philippine College of Surgeons continued growth and success in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Soottiporn Chittmittrapap
President, Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand

* * * * *

***I** t is a matter of great pleasure and honor for me to write the message of felicitation at the auspicious occasion of the platinum jubilee celebrations of the Philippine College of Surgeons, which has traversed a long journey since its establishment in 1936. It really makes us happy and proud for having such an experienced and prestigious institution in the region contributing towards high quality of surgical care. I take this opportunity to congratulate you and other members of the Board of Regents and extend our best wishes for the progress of your College.*

Best wishes for the Philippine College of Surgeons in its efforts for providing quality surgical care in Philippine and towards the cause of postgraduate medical education in the region.

Prof. Zafar Ullah Chaudhry
College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan

***T**he Royal Australasian College of Surgeons wishes the Philippine College of Surgeons every success in their 75th Jubilee year. The Philippine College of Surgeons is a strong contributor towards surgical training and surgical advocacy in the Asia-Pacific region, and the RACS looks forward to an ongoing constructive relationship with the PCS in the years ahead.*

Ian Civil
President, The Royal Australasian
College of Surgeons

* * * * *

My warmest congratulations to the Philippine College of Surgeons on the auspicious occasion of the 75th Jubilee.

Over the past 75 years, the Philippine College of Surgeons has gone from strength to strength and has developed into an internationally well-acclaimed institution. It is committed to upholding high standards of practice for the profession and has made valuable contributions for the training of qualified Surgeons in the provision of medical services. My predecessors, fellow colleagues and I have visited Philippine on numerous occasions, we were all impressed by the remarkable achievements of the Philippine College of Surgeons in the professional development of surgery and the staunch effort in bolstering health of the community.

I extend my best wishes to the Philippine College of Surgeons for its continued success in the years ahead.

Dr. Hung-to LUK
President, The College of Surgeons of Hong Kong

Congratulations and best wishes for your 75th Jubilee!

I sincerely wish the celebration a complete success, and wish the College more success in its future endeavors.

Prof. Yu-Pei Zhao, MD, FACS, hFRCS, hFACPE, hFCSHK

President, Peking Union Medical College Hospital
 President, Chinese Society of Surgery (CSS)
 President, Asian Surgical Association (ASA)(2007-2009)
 Governor, China Chapter, American College of Surgeons

* * * * *

I would like to congratulate the Philippine College of Surgeons (PCS) on their 75th jubilee. At 75 years old, the PCS is one of the oldest society of surgeons in South-East Asia. In contrast, the College of Surgeons of Malaysia was only founded in 1972, ie, it is 39 years old. Both colleges have similar objectives of maintaining and promoting the highest standard of surgical practice in our respective countries. The link between our two colleges have been strengthened especially over the past few year and it is hoped that in the future, our two colleges would continue to work together with the rest of the South East Asian surgical societies to standardise and improve surgical training in the region.

Professor Cheng-Har Yip

President, College of Surgeons
 Academy of Medicine, Malaysia

* * * * *

On the occasion of the 75th founding anniversary of The Philippine College of Surgeons (1936- 2011), on behalf of Viet Nam Society of Surgery, I would like to send the Philippine Colleges of Surgeons and Philippine colleagues, my best compliments and wishes for this event important.

May I take this opportunity to wish the existing excellent relations and cooperation between two countries Vietnam and

Philippines as well as Vietnam and Philippine Surgeons, will be further developed and strengthened in the years to come.

For and on behalf of VSS.

Prof. Do Kim Son, MD, PhD.

Digestive and Hepatic Surgery
 President of Vietnam Society of Surgery
 National Representative of International Society of Surgery for VN (ISS/SIC)

* * * * *

I am pleased to send official greetings to our surgical colleagues in the Philippines on the occasion of the 75th Jubilee of the Philippine College of Surgeons. Like your College, the American College of Surgeons will celebrate a monumental anniversary when we begin our Centennial (100th) Anniversary celebration at the October 2012 Clinical Congress in Chicago and through the end of 2013 marking our 100th year.

Our College's initiative "Inspiring Quality: Highest Standards, Better Outcomes" is a worldwide endeavor since the one common denominator all over the surgical globe is the safe and ethical care of our patients. This credo knows no boundaries, and it is what binds us together as surgeons no matter where we practice the art and science of our chosen profession.

I hope that we will be able to conduct as many year-round activities as you have planned in medical and surgical education, socioeconomic and public health issues, and community outreach through your Chapters. Please extend my personal best wishes and those of our Fellows, Regents and Officers for a most memorable event and Jubilee year.

Sincerely,

L. D. Britt, MD, MPH, FACS, FCCM, FRCS (Eng, Ed) (Hon), FWACS (Hon)

President, American College of Surgeons
 Brickhouse Professor and Chairman
 Eastern Virginia Medical School
 Department of Surgery
 Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A.

HONORING THE THIRTY FOUR

The Philippine College of Surgeons was established on September 12, 1936 by Dr. Gregorio T. Singian and 33 others. With the exception of Dr. Singian and perhaps of Dr. Basilio Valdes and Dr. Honoria Acostasison, not much is known about the 31 others except that their names are etched in stone as the founders of PCS. Some became PCS Presidents, some founded hospitals, some were friends of Philippine presidents. Seventy-five years hence, we honor their memory by preserving what was found and known about them. We salute them for their vision.

(This article is a product of many people, from the relatives of the charter members, and from members of the committees of Documentation and Publication. As much as the search for all the 34 was ardent, still, we failed to complete the list. However, with what we know, we wish to impart. - editor)

RUFINO ABRIOLO

Dr. Rufino Abriol of Arayat, Pampanga garnered the highest rating for the Medical Board Examination in 1913. Dr. Abriol went to Johns Hopkins University for further studies in Public Health. He became the president of the Philippine Islands Medical Association and a chairman of the Board of Medical Examiners in the early 1930s. He also published a book: *Correlation of death rates from certain diseases with certain economic and housing factors in the Philippine Islands*, published by the Bureau of Science of the Philippine Government, 1922.





HONORIA ACOSTA-SISON

*by Dr. Antonio C. Sison,
Grandson of Dr. Honoria Acosta-Sison*

*(Dr. Sison fondly called his grandmother
“Mama Home”)*

My Mama Home was born on December 30, 1888 in Calasiao, Pangasinan and was the only child of a prosperous entrepreneur who would rent out “banca” (fishing vessels). She had finished Grade School and High School in the province. Her mother had died at an early age and she was raised by her paternal grandparents. During the American occupation my mama home would teach English and was proud of the shiny gold coin that she was paid by the Americans.

The Pensionado scholarship

The Pensionado was a scholarship granted to bright and promising Filipino students to

study in the United States during the Commonwealth period. My grandmother applied and later asked permission from her father. Against his wishes, she went and studied medicine at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. While studying Medicine she was informed that her father had passed away. She grieved intensely but did not return to Pangasinan.

My grandmother specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology because during that era, female patients refused to be seen by male doctors which resulted in numerous deaths during childbirth. Upon finishing training she returned to the country and joined the faculty of the UP-PGH Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. As a perceptive clinician she had published several research papers. My mother would recount that American doctors were surprised to find out that the author of the research papers was a female-- obviously expecting to meet a male physician.

My Mama Home's picture was etched in a stamp and was officially appointed as the first Filipino female physician. Furthermore the Philippine Historical Institute had posted a Historical Marker in front of our house recognizing her as the First Woman Doctor of the Philippines.

I find it ironic that the country which she had returned to and served thousands of indigent patients and published numerous scientific papers in her lifetime did not bother to acknowledge her accomplishments and deeds. She had always kept her silence. She was never boastful and continued to be humble and frugal all through



Dr. Honoria Acosta-Sison upon graduation from Medicine

the years. In the end what was more important was that she had safely delivered thousands of lives which included me and my siblings and saved countless mothers.

I had witnessed my mama's failing health. She was fiercely independent and wanted to walk unassisted as much as possible. She articulated that she did not want to be useless and dependent on other people.

She passed away on January 19, 1970 at home at the age of 82.

One question that I had always wondered was why she never returned to Pangasinan? Now after all these years I think the answer is quite simple— her happiness was with her family and with the clinical and scientific pursuit of Obstetrics and Gynecology for Filipino women—that was her life and legacy.

Nothing more needed to be said.

CONRADO D. AYUYAO

*by Dr. Lorina Koh-Cabaluna,
Granddaughter*

Dr. Conrado D. Ayuyao (November 26, 1898 - August 18, 1944) was born and raised in Magalang, Pampanga to Isidro Ayuyao and Ana David. He graduated as Doctor of Medicine at The University of The Philippines in 1923 and took further training in the field of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. He served as a government physician in the pre-war and post-war eras of the Philippine General Hospital. His interest involved studies in the use of silver nitrate for cauterization of throat diseases.



He married an equally dedicated government doctor, Dr. Josefina Rodrigo-Ayuyao, who followed his interest in EENT and later became the director of the UP Infirmary in Diliman, Quezon City. Their marriage bore 4 children, Conrado Jr (lawyer), Josefina Ayuyao-Koh (psychologist), Jose Ayuyao and Marcelita Ayuyao-Vergel-de Dios. His untimely death due to gastric cancer came during the peak of his career.

VALENTINE AFABLE

Dr. Valentine Afable hailed from Zambales and graduated from the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery in 1933. In government service in his province, Dr. Afable was a candidate for governor of Zambales vice Ramon Magsaysay who won that election. He established the Afable College of Medicine and Surgery which became the beginnings of the Manila Central University College of Medicine. He founded the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners and was president of the Manila Medical Society in 1934.



Valentin Afable of Zambales is well known because he runs a school of medicine. Dr. Afable was graduated from the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, has served the local health service for nine years. In 1933 he founded the Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners, was president of Manila Medical Society in 1934.

MIGUEL CANIZARES

Dr. Miguel Canizares was one of those who established the International College of Surgeons Philippine Chapter in 1948. He is also credited as one of the founders of the Philippine Hospital Association.



ALFREDO BAENS

Dr. Alfredo Baens became the president of the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society in 1956.



GERVACIO SANTOS-CUYUGAN

Dr. Gervacio Santos-Cuyugan was the first Filipino scholar of the Pensionado program sent by the government to study in the United States of America. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Illinois in 1910. A personal physician and surgeon of President Quezon, Dr. Cuyugan was from San Fernando, Pampanga. He is credited as the first Filipino doctor to perform the first pneumonectomy for a large tuberculoma in a 9 year old boy in 1949. He became an assistant professor of surgery. He married Jacinta Belza and unknown to many, his daughter is Fides Santos-Cuyugan Asensio, an accomplished artist.

AURELIO LIMJUCO DAYRIT

From San Fernando, Pampanga, Dr. Aurelio L. Dayrit is known among his kababayans as a goiter physician and surgeon, and director of the Dayrit Clinic. He married Imelda Roxas Katigbak of Lipa, Batangas.

FACUNDO FRIAS ESQUIVEL

by Maria Teresa Esquivel (1993+), Ma. Socorro Esquivel- Honorio, and Ma. Angelina Germana Esquivel, daughters

Dr. Facundo Frias Esquivel was born on November 27, 1891 as the third of eleven children of Hilario Esquivel and Leoncia Frias from Jaen, Nueva Ecija. Secretly her favorite, his fair mother described him as “walang maipipintas”. He was sent off to San Isidro, Nueva Ecija for his elementary and high school education before going to the University of the Philippines where he graduated as Doctor of Medicine in 1917. He specialized in Surgery at the Philippine General Hospital. After graduation, he entered the U.S. Public Health Service as Medical Officer for Quarantine Service and at the Veteran’s Bureau. From 1925-1929, he served at the Philippine General Hospital as Resident in Surgery.

In Manila, he met Dean Amanda Morente of Philippine Women’s University, the administrator, pianist and teacher of an exclusive institution for Patrician Ladies. They married on March 30, 1928, in a wedding feast that was to be the talk of the town for many years. A year later, their first child Maria Teresa “Nena”, was born. Shortly after her birth, Dr. Esquivel was transferred to Pangasinan as Senior Surgeon and Assistant Director of the Pangasinan Provincial Hospital from 1929-1930. In 1930, he was blessed with a second child, Maria Candida Socorro de la Concepcion. In the same year, he was Director of the Nueva Ecija Provincial Hospital 1930-1936. He founded the Nueva Ecija Medical Society and was the president from 1931-1934. In 1934, his

last child was born in October 23, 1934 and christened Maria Germana Angelina.

Dr. Facundo F. Esquivel was very proud of having initiated, completing the construction and furnishing of Baguio General Hospital. He was the Director of Baguio General Hospital from 1936-1946. When World War II broke out, he joined the 4th Infantry Regiment of the Folsom Fil-American Guerillas with a rank of Major and secretly supported the guerilla forces in Baguio and other Mountain Province areas. He was found out in late 1944, was arrested, beaten up and jailed for almost two weeks by the Kem-pe-tai or Japanese Military Police. He was released through the intercession of then Baguio City Mayor Ramon Mitra. After Liberation, he returned to his post and helped to re-establish hospital operations in Baguio. He received a Certificate of Honor (Post-Humous Award) and a Certificate of Appreciation on the 40th anniversary Foundation of the Baguio General Hospital, School of Nursing in April 1963 for his historic contribution.

In 1946, he was transferred by the Department of Health to Manila as Consulting Surgeon of the North General Hospital (now Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center). Between 1949-1952, he was published in the Philippine Journal of Surgery and the Philippine Journal of Medicine. He was also Professor of Medicine at the Manila Central University’s College of Medicine.

In 1952 after a whirlwind of activities, he was stricken by a stroke. He retired in 1956 at the age of 65. He died five days short of his 66th birthday due to long standing diabetes coupled with a second stroke.

His children, Maria Teresa, Ma. Socorro, and Maria Angelina lovingly remember him. “Our father was a very good surgeon, and that may have been his greatest satisfaction. We would fetch him for lunch after school and he would still be in the operating room. He performed many operations during operating days aside from emergencies. We would be allowed to watch him from the mezzanine

observation room in the operating room when we were still in Baguio. A non-routine operation, which his operating nurse liked to remember, was one he did to save the life of a PMA lieutenant whose head was hacked by a deranged Igorot. His patients saw him as a very good doctor and surgeon. His quiet love and self-sacrificing strength of character made us feel secure. We smile when we remember how strict his ideas of women's behavior were. For example, women should not laugh out loud. He believed that honesty, integrity and, for women, modesty, were virtues to live by. Also to humbly do one's best in all endeavors. He was primarily a humanitarian, and had an innate desire to cure the sick. He did not promote himself. He attended to the poor and the deprived, and would even bring cured tribesmen and harelip patients to recuperate in our house."

There are several memorable anecdotes that make his children admire him and remember him fondly. "So as not to worry us, he never told mama what his real illnesses were, except the diabetes which he could not hide from her because of the insulin injections. When we were still children, he loved for us to search his head for white hairs. We usually found none or just one or two, because the Esquivels' hairs were known for not turning grey as they aged. Just before our mother's birthdays, he would secretly get one of us to accompany him to Escolta to buy

her perfume, which he knew she liked very much and collected. He was a very self-sacrificing person, and would insist on driving his children to work in our Chevrolet even if he was not in such good health."

Recalling his favorite pastimes, "our father relished the visits of his cousin, Dr. Herminio Velarde, who lived nearby in Malate and they would dissect the news of the day. He enjoyed playing checkers with his favorite daughter, our eldest sister, Ma. Teresa "Nena". He enjoyed a Sunday game of mahjong, also at home. To him, "tapang usa" was a special delicacy, and he also enjoyed "papaet", a recipe using goat meat. He taught us to darken our rice with the ink from the eyes of the "dalag." He enjoyed "fritong hito" and of course lechon."

"Our father was the first doctor in the family. Our eldest sister wanted to be a doctor like him, but he discouraged her saying that a doctor's life was too hard for a woman. She took up pharmacy/chemistry in the U.S. Instead.

If there is anything at all telling about the man that he was, it is this quote from a lost letter he wrote to "Bica", his youngest daughter, "... if I could leave a legacy for you, it is never to forget our less favored brethren of whom there are plenty wherever you go".



Dr. Januario Estrada Sr.
(center) with sons Januario,
Jr. (left) and Fidel (right)



JANUARIO ESTRADA, SR.

You could say that Dr. Januario R. Estrada, Sr. arrived in Manila with literally just the clothes on his back. A son of a tailor from Zamboanga, Estrada was an industrious and hard-working young man who did errands and janitorial services while studying in public school. An uncle brought him to work in Manila and JR Estrada traveled to Manila by ship which sank as it docked at the port. Thus, he arrived on the grounds of Manila with just his clothes on his back, and wet at that.

Estrada studied at the Manila High School under the patronage of Dr. N. M Saleeby, Superintendent of Schools for Department of Mindanao and Sulu under the administration of Leonard Wood. One night, Dr. Saleeby came by his clinic late at night and saw the light shining in his office. The doctor fearing a break-in went inside to investigate. He found Estrada reading his medical books. Dr. Saleeby saw the passion for higher learning in JR Estrada and sponsored his medical studies.

Estrada entered the UP College of Medicine while at the same time worked as a helper at the

Operating Room of the St. Luke's Hospital and other private clinics. He graduated in April 1918 and was assigned as intern at the Philippine General Hospital and subsequently entered the Department of Surgery. He has the distinction of being the first locally trained surgeon to head the Department of Surgery of PGH and the personal surgeon of four Presidents of the Republic (Quezon, Osmeña, Roxas and Magsaysay).

Dr. Estrada was the personal physician of President Manuel L. Quezon, accompanying the president in numerous trips all over the world. Though thoroughly trained locally, he astounded foreign surgeons with his skill, dexterity and fastidiousness in surgery. This was further seen in his patients who had faster and smoother convalescence and less morbidity as compared to his contemporaries at that time. Together with other doctors, Dr. Estrada established the Manila Doctors' Hospital.

He has served as president of various medical associations, among which were the Philippine College of Surgeons (1948-1949), Manila Medical Society, Philippine Medical Association, International College of Surgeons (Phil. Chapter). He was honored with several awards from various institutions: Golden Jubilee Award from the Manila Medical Society (1952); Most Distinguished Alumnus from his alma mater the UP College of Medicine and conferred as Professor Emeritus in 1955; Gregorio Singian Award from the Philippine College of Surgeons (1962); Diploma of Merit from the University of the Philippines (1962); Diploma of Honor from the Philippine Medical Association (1963); Most Distinguished Service Award by the Philippine General Hospital for his service to the institution and Most Distinguished Alumnus by the University of the Philippines in 1966.

He was married to Paz Yuvienco of the UP College of Nursing and together they had 5 children, Encarnacion, Januario Jr., Fidel, Lourdes and Remedios. His two sons, Januario Jr and Fidel, pursued Surgery as their profession. Dr. Januario R. Estrada, Sr. passed

away in 1969 at the age of 78 after a chronic illness.

-From clippings and notes from the Estrada family



GUMERSINDO B. GARCIA, SR.

Dr. Gumerindo B. Garcia, Sr. was born in Kabankalan, Negros Occidental on July 16, 1895 to Domingo Garcia and Eulogia Besas. He finished medicine at the University of the Philippines. Dr. Garcia served as director of the Mary Chiles Hospital in 1924. In 1927, he was appointed a member of the Board of Medical Examiners, becoming the chairman of the Medical Board from 1932 to 1935. He also served as President of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 1953. In 1957, he was conferred an honorary doctorate in humanities by Silliman University.

He served as director of Mary Johnston Hospital later on and saw to the medical needs of the people of Tondo. He endeared himself to the poor of this district by championing their causes, soliciting funds from the public and friends. Through him, Senators Jose P. Laurel and Claro M. Recto wrote the the Noli-Fili law, making

Rizal's novels required readings in the public as well as private schools and colleges. A Filipino in heart and deed, he wrote articles for newspapers on subjects such as public service, nationalism, law and justice, community development, civic liberties, and human rights.

He died of cardiac arrest on April 8, 1964 at the age of 69.

RUDOLFO GONZALES

Dr. Rudolfo Gonzales was an Orthopedic surgeon and a product of the University of Santo Tomas. He was the first secretary-treasurer of the Philippine Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology which was formally organized in December 11, 1949.

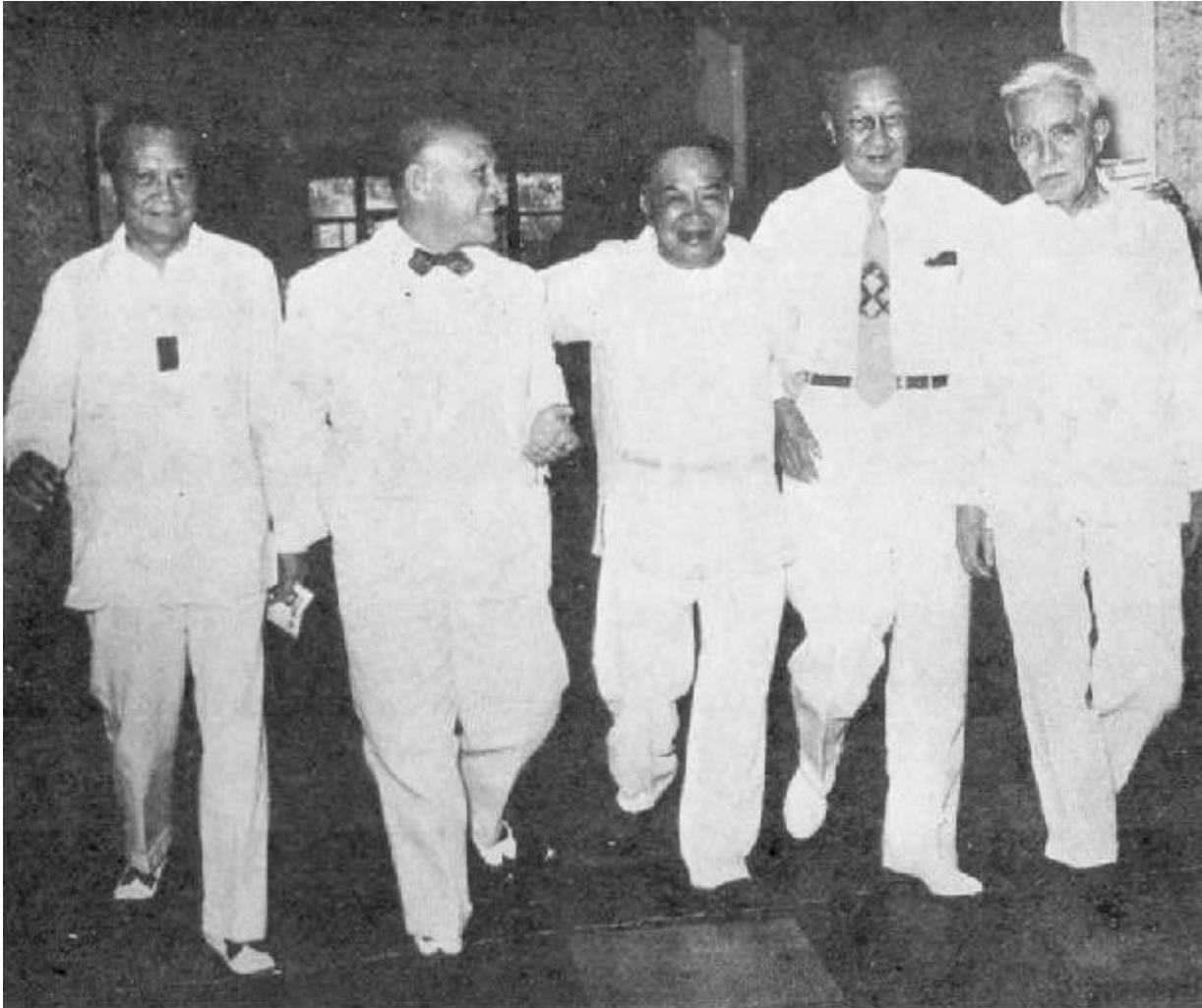


FORTUNATO GUERRERO

Dr. Fortunato Guerrero served as the medical director and concurrently as the first chairperson of the Department of Surgery of the Manila General Hospital in 1947. He occupied

this position till 1953. This is now known as the MCU Hospital. Dr. Guerrero later on became president of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 1954-1955. He was one of the surgeons who

operated on the then Cabinet Secretary Jose P. Laurel after an assassination attempt. Laurel became president of the Philippines during the Japanese Occupation.



WITH FORMER PRESIDENT LAUREL- Don Nicanor Jacinto, (second from right) is shown in photo with former President Jose P. Laurel during the Quezon Day celebration in 1955. With them are three ranking government officials. Don Nicanor and Dr. Laurel were intimate friends until the latter's death in 1959.

Newspaper clipping of Dr. Nicanor Jacinto with President Jose P. Laurel.

NICANOR JACINTO

Dr. Nicanor Jacinto became the first medical director of the UST Hospital and at the same time was professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery (1937-1961). He was also one of the surgeons who established the International College of Surgeons Philippine

Chapter. Together with the Rufinos and the Cojuangcos, he established the first Filipino-owned commercial bank before the war, the Philippine Bank of Commerce. He also had other business interests in the steel and corrugated GI sheet manufacturing industry, state bonding and insurance.

Dr. Jacinto was a close friend of Dr. Jose P. Laurel and was said to be in the same flight in a round of golf at the Wack Wack Golf club when the attempted assassination on the president took place.

Dr. Jacinto was President of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 1945-1947.

RICARDO JARA

No data nor pictures were found about Dr. Ricardo Jara.

ALFREDO JOCSON

No data nor pictures were found about Dr. Alfredo Jocson.

ENRIQUE LOPEZ

Dr. Enrique Lopez was appointed the first Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the UST.

RAFAEL MA. MORETA

Dr. Rafael Moreta was a doctor at the Philippine General Hospital. Little is known about him except for a footnote in history when Japanese marines mercilessly massacred civilians at his house at Isaac Peral Street (now UN Avenue) on February 16, 1945, a day before the liberation.

PAUL PALENCIA

Dr. Paul Palencia was director of the Vigan Christian Hospital then relocated to the Bicol region. He became the medical director of Paracale Mining Hospital in the gold mines of Camarines Norte.



ROSENDO LLAMAS

Dr. Rosendo Llamas was a native of Pagsanjan, Laguna. He and his wife Doña Guida Hocson donated money to rebuild the town church and town plaza after World War II. Dr. Llamas donated all his surgical instruments to the Pagsanjan Puericulture Center. Before his death in 1974, he donated P400,000 for the construction of a building for the U.P. College of Medicine (his Alma Mater) and P200,000 as scholarship fund for indigent but bright medical students which exists up to today.

CARMELO MALABANAN REYES

Dr. Carmelo M. Reyes was one of the true medio-legal experts of the country, having graduated from the UP College of Medicine, and later from the UP College of Law. He was the first editor of the Philippine Journal of Surgery and founded the International College of Surgeons Philippine Chapter. He was known to be a strict disciplinarian and was Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the PGH in 1931. He was the Chief of Clinics in



CARMELO MALABANAN REYES, M. D.
Instructor in Surgery



1945 and remained in the PGH during the Battle of Manila. Tragically, his family perished when a bomb fell on his house during the fight for the city versus the Japanese. Dr. Reyes also helped establish the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society. Dr. Reyes has the distinction of being the first GT Singian Memorial Lecturer of the PCS.

BALDOMERO L. ROXAS

Dr. Baldomero Roxas was a close friend of Dr. Jose P. Rizal. Through his accounts published in newspapers in the 1930's, little known facts about Rizal and his friends were known. A member of the *Indios Bravos*, it was from Dr. Roxas' account that we now know that the seven original members headed by Rizal, intended to transform the derogatory term "indios" to an object of high regard as the French regarded the Indians in Buffalo Bills stories as Brave Indians.

Dr. Roxas succeeded Dr. Singian as President of the Philippine College of Surgeon after the latter died a few months after assuming office. He held this position from 1937-1944. He was further distinguished as the first Filipino recipient of the PCS Honorary Fellow Award. During the

ceremony, he was described as "The Man Who Walked with Our Heroes".

Dr. Roxas is said to have served during the Philippine Revolution, Philippine American War and the Second World War. There is no doubt that he was also a Hero on his own.

GUILLERMO RUSTIA

Dr. Guillermo Rustia was appointed by President Manuel Roxas via Executive Order No. 24, dated November 12, 1946, as part of the



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THE SUNDAY TRIBUNE MAGAZINE

By Dr. BALDOMERO ROXAS
As Told To RUBEN P. MACAPINLAC

IT WAS in July, 1889, when I first met Rizal abroad. I was then twenty years old. Back in the Philippines a year before then, his sister, Narciso, introduced me to him during the performance of a Tagalog play by Francisco Beagles in Tanauan, Batangas. His family and mine knew each other quite intimately.

We were living in an apartment in the Rue Chateaudun in Paris. Having learned of our presence in the French capital, Rizal sought us out one day and invited us to live in another hotel. In deference to Rizal's wish, we moved the next day to the Hotel du Restaurant de Rome, which is centrally located on the Place du Havre, behind the Parisian opera house.

Rizal did not live with us at the time; he boarded temporarily with Valentin Ventura at No. 45 Rue Maubeuge.

In Paris, the Filipino colony would gather in the studio of Juan Luna



RIZAL'S "INDIOS BRAVOS" in Juan Luna's studio in Paris. Rizal is seated with a child on the floor. Dr. Baldomero Roxas sits with Mrs. Luna behind him.



JOSE RIZAL, as he looked then. Photo was taken in Spain shortly after he had moved from Paris.

Intimate Moments with RIZAL in Paris

IN THE GAY PAREE NOW RESISTING NAZI SHELLING, RIZAL'S "INDIOS BRAVOS" HAD SPENT INTIMATE MOMENTS OF FINE COMPANIONSHIP... INCLUDING ONE DURING WHICH A BEVY OF TEN BEAUTIFUL PARISIAN GIRLS TRIED TO DETAIN RIZAL FROM GOING HOME EARLY TO DO SOME IMPORTANT WORK.



DR. BALDOMERO ROXAS, above.

where Rizal told us stories, anecdotes, and interesting experiences. Most of the time we accompanied him in his visits at museums, theaters, expositions, and places of cultural interest in Paris. While most of us found the ramblings of cultural spots merely "entertaining," Rizal found the process stimulating and educational. He was peculiarly curious. New ideas always fascinated him. As a matter of fact, the organization of our nationalist society, "Indios Bravos," was the product of Rizal's curiosity.

The society was conceived after Rizal, Gregorio Aguilera, Laura Dimayuga, and I witnessed Buffalo Bill's wild west show which was then touring Europe. Rizal found that the French spoke highly of the ability of the "Indios" (Indians) in the troupe.

On our way home after the performance, Rizal told us: "How silly. In the Philippines, to call one an 'Indio' is to despise him; here in Paris they laud to the skies the ability of the 'Indios Bravos.' Why don't we form an association of 'Indios Bravos'?"

Not long afterwards, Rizal gathered us together and founded the society



LEFT—Manuscript of the "Noli" which was entrusted to Dr. Maxime Ysido for delivery to the printer, after Rizal had thought of burning it.

thing it was as good as done. He had a very strong will.

On one occasion the Filipino colony in Paris was invited to a party. Rizal went along with us but told us beforehand that he would not stay beyond ten o'clock in the evening as he had something important to do.

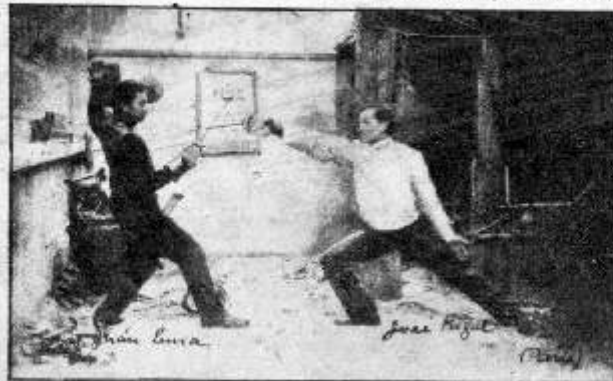
At about ten o'clock, having Rizal in mind, one of our companions approached the hostess and said: "Rizal is leaving at ten o'clock. Could you make him stay until the party is over?"

"Sure," the pretty hostess replied with much confidence, "I can."

Some ten or twelve beautiful girls, summoned by the hostess, formed a circle around Rizal, cooing and wheedling him to stay. But the hero could not be detained. He excused himself politely, saying: "I am sorry, but I have to go. I have something to do tonight." With these words he left quietly.

My stay with Rizal in Paris lasted only three months. I went to Spain to pursue my studies in medicine at the Universidad Central de Madrid.

Turn to page 45

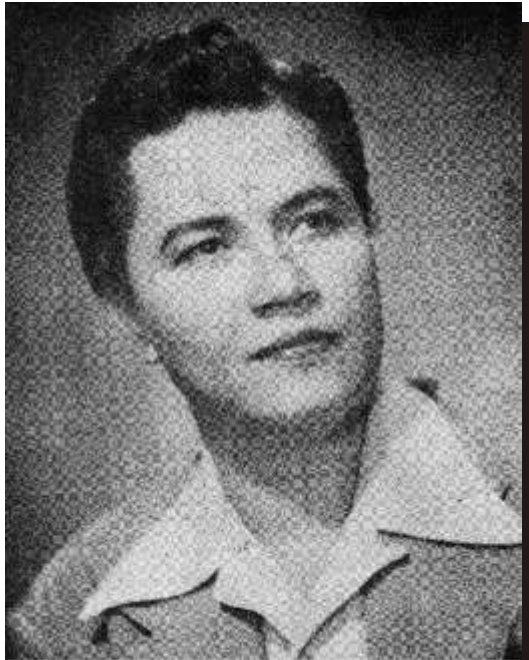


RIZAL spent most of his free hours fencing with Luna in Paris.

National Advisory Health Council. He also became president of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 1952.

LUIS SANTOS

Dr. Luis Santos was an ophthalmologist and a native of Malolos, Bulacan.



VICTOR (BANAHAW) SEVILLA

VICTOR SEVILLA

Dr. Victor Sevilla was an EENT specialist.

GREGORIO T. SINGIAN

Dr. Gregorio T. Singian was born in San Fernando, Pampanga on May 9, 1872 to Cristino Singian and Angela Torres, descendents of prominent families in the province. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1889 at the San Juan de Letran College in Manila. He took up medicine at the University of Santo Tomas, graduating in March 1896 with the highest honors. By the time the Philippine Revolution broke out in 1896, he was a practicing surgeon.

Dr. Singian served as physician of the Filipino forces in Pampanga, first in San Fernando, under the leadership of General Maximino Hizon and later, in Bacolor, under General Tomas Mascardo during the Filipino American War in 1899. One of the revolutionary leaders who became his patient was Manuel L. Quezon who contracted malaria while serving as a field officer of the revolutionary army. Quezon was nursed and taken cared of by Dr. Singian until the former recovered completely.

He was known as “El Mago de Bisturi” (The Wizard of the Scalpel) due to his surgical prowess in treating cancer patients in his clinic in Sampaloc. He was married to Asuncion Arellano whom he outlived. He was Chief of Hospital at San Juan de Dios, a position he held from 1920 till his death in 1937. In 1936 he was elected the first president of the Philippine College of Surgeons, a position he held just for a few months. He died in his Hong Kong residence due to heart failure and was buried in his hometown with honors. He had no children.

CASTOR SURLA

Dr. Castor Surla was Chief of Abdominal Surgery from 1961-1966 at the University of Santo Tomas Hospital. He was also the first chief of the public dispensary also in the same hospital. In his honor the Carlo Surla Memorial Lecture has been delivered since 1977.

MANUEL TUAZON

Dr. Manuel Tuazon was a well known surgeon who had come from a rich and landed family. He had various business interests among which was an advanced ceramic factory in Barangay Portrero, Tinejeros, Malabon. It was valued at a million pesos in 1939.



later, the American Red Cross. He became Commissioner of the Red Cross and was assigned to various countries but was forced to return to the Philippines due to illness.

He went into private practice but later joined the government and rose through the ranks till he became Major General and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army in 1936. He became the PC Chief in 1938 when the Constabulary separated from the Army in 1938. He was re-appointed as Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army in 1939. He was also appointed as Secretary of National Defense in 1941 and was forced to go into exile as a member of Quezon's Cabinet.

In February 1945, President Osmeña appointed Gen. Valdes as Secretary of Health, in addition to his duties as Secretary of Defense and Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army. He relinquished his post as Defense Secretary in April 1945. He retired from government service as Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army July 4, 1946 when President Roxas took his oath of office. He went back to teaching and private practice and helped establish the Lourdes Hospital in 1950. He was President of the Philippine College of Surgeons in 1950-1951. He was married to Rosario "Bombona" Legarda.

BASILIO J. VALDES

Dr. Basilio Valdes was born in San Miguel, Manila to Benito Valdes, a classmate of Rizal, and Filomena Pica in 1892. He was a product of the University of Santo Tomas, having graduated in 1916. He became a military surgeon and joined the French Red Cross and



Dr. Valdes is at the left most, behind President Quezon.



AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL SPLURGE

Looking at the boyish beam in their faces, you'd imagine these seven bathers could beat the Germans and the Japanese swimmers at the International Olympiad in Berlin next August. But even if they couldn't, the water must have been fine or President Quezon wouldn't look victorious and ready for the Davao question and other problems of government. Fresh from the ol' swimmin' hole are, from the left: Dr. Antonio Vasquez, Dr. Herminio Velarde, a son of Dr. Antonio G. Sison, Dr. Sison, the President himself, Dr. Victor Buencamino and Manuel Nieto. Dr. Sison is head of the Philippine Olympic delegation to Berlin, and this bathing party was given in his honour last Thursday by President Quezon at Malacañang.

ANTONIO VASQUEZ

Dr. Antonio Vasquez was a surgeon who served the University of the Philippines College of Medicine. It is in his honor that the Wright Street in Ermita was renamed to A. Vasquez Street.

GERARDO VASQUEZ

Dr. Gerardo Vasquez became the head of the Urology after it was established as a separate department from Surgery in 1949 at the University of Santo Tomas.

HERMINIO VELARDE, SR.

Dr. Herminio Velarde became the Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at the UP PGH from 1955-1956. He was a first cousin of Dr. Facundo Esquivel.

AUGUSTO VILLARAMA

There are no records nor pictures of Dr. Augusto Villarama.

FRANCISO VILLAROMAN

Dr. Francisco Villaroman was from the University of Santo Tomas and became head of the Section of Abdominal Surgery.

THE SUNDAY TRIBUNE MAGAZINE

The PRESIDENT is Fast RECOVERING



CHEER ALL AROUND—The smile on President Quezon's face, on that of his distinguished visitor U. S. High Commissioner McNutt, and on Mrs. Quezon's, reflect the state of recovery the President is in...



AN INTIMATE gathering, one of the first pictures allowed to be taken of the President since his operation for appendicitis on November 22...



FIRST PATERNAL CLASS... and the joy of knowing that father has been definitely saved... Sonang Quezon finds his father strong enough and in the advantage of the fact, while Nini is generous enough to just look contentedly on...



Here they all are: Mrs. Quezon, Nani and Nini Quezon and Sonang, whose kind flesh warmth is the President's gentle presence; then Drs. Antonio Sison, Antonio Vasquez, Miguel Calixto and Juanario Estrella...

DUTY ABOVE ALL—In his wheel-chair (left) President Quezon signs important bills, including one appropriating P1,000,000 for school buildings. Around him are Secretary Vargas, Dr. Rotonda and Major Nieto, presidential aide-de-camp...



THE FIRST PROMENADE... and the big turn-out when the President had his morning sitting in a wheel-chair in the P. G. H. corridors... Among the entourage: Judge Zulueta, Mayor Nieto, Assemblyman Doctor Villacena, Mayor Proelito, Drs. Asocio Sison, Dr. Vasquez, Mrs. Tugue...



GENERALLY GRATIFIED at the service given him by the hospital staff, the President asked the doctors and nurses to pose with him... At the rate the hospital's Patient No. 1 is recovering, he may be allowed to leave the hospital today or tomorrow... (Photos by M. Falcenstein & J. E. Claudio)

Pres. Manuel Quezon after his appendectomy in the Philippine General Hospital.

PAST AND PRESENT

The Secretariat



From left to right: Cora P. Ribao, Dely Joaquin, Marife Baldovino, and Annette G. Tolentino in the late 80's

(from Philippine College of Surgeons. *PCS: Tracing its Roots, Sustaining a Legacy*. Manila: Philippine College of Surgeons, 2003.

January 2008

Standing (from left):
 Angelita T. Fampulme, Eduardo Cincua - *Messenger*,
 Thelma U. Infante - *Secretary*,
 Edgardo Balseta - *Messenger*,
 Eden Grace A. Paule - *Secretary*

Seated (from left):
 Olivia Palma Manzano - *Secretary*,
 Ma. Corazon P. Ribao - *Assistant*

Executive Secretary, Annette D. Tolentino - *Executive Secretary*, Corazon G. Coronel - *Secretary*



The Present Secretariat

Standing (from left): Angelita T. Fampulme - *Secretary*, Eden Grace A. Paule - *Secretary*, Eduardo Cincua - *Messenger*, Concepcion P. David - *Secretary/Bookkeeper*, Michelle C. Cusi - *Secretary*

Seated (from left): Corazon G. Coronel - *Secretary*, Ma. Corazon P. Ribao - *Assistant Executive Secretary*, Annette D. Tolentino - *Executive Secretary*, Thelma U. Infante - *Secretary*

The PCS Building



Cornerstone Laying Ceremony
June 13, 1980 at the PCS lot along EDSA, Quezon City



The PCS Building under construction in 1980



The PCS Building today

PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION

10th PCS Foundation Day Cup:
An Inter-surgical Specialty and
Chapter Golf Challenge
September 5, 2011 (Monday)
Sun Valley Golf and Country Club,
Antipolo City



Dennis H. Littaua, MD, FPCS



Dr. Gabriel L. Martinez did the ceremonial tee off at exactly 7:00 am. Teams with a minimum of 5 players were eligible to join and 4 groups made it. At the end of the 18th hole, a sumptuous lunch was served and a raffle was held simultaneously. After moments of anticipation, the results were finally

The 10th inter-specialty golf tournament held at Sun Valley Golf and Country Club last September 5, 2011 (Monday) was a huge success. With mother nature cooperating, a total of 46 individual golf players joined the tournament under blue sunny skies. A total of 9 groups registered for the event. Dr. Alex A. Erasmo and

announced and the winners were: Class B champion - Cordillera Chapter; Class A champion - PSGS and Over-all champion - PALES group 1, composed of Drs. Alex A. Erasmo, Noel C. Evangelista, Virgilio Sioson, Dennis H. Littaua and Albert M. Alegre. Kudos to PALES for being the first hall of famers of this inter-specialty golf.



PCS Blood Letting

September 7, 2011 (Wednesday)

The PCS did its share in augmenting the reserves of blood banks by holding a voluntary blood donation in various hospitals on September 7, 2011. The 14 hospitals that were blood collection points were: Chinese General Hospital and Medical Center, East Avenue Medical Center, FEU-NRMF Hospital, Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center,

Makati Medical Center, MCU-FDTMF Hospital, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Quezon City General Hospital, Rizal Medical Center, Santo Tomas University Hospital, St. Luke's Medical Center, The Medical City, UP-Philippine General Hospital, Veterans Memorial Medical Center.

PCS Motorcade: Tracing the Birth and Roots of the PCS

It was an early Thursday morning when the officers of the Philippine College of Surgeons and the other personalities involved in the organization of the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the PCS assembled at the PCS grounds to begin the motorcade tracing the birth of PCS. With the able handling by the Committee on External Affairs and Ms. Corazon Coronel, the motorcade left the PCS building early morning of September 8, 2011, Thursday. Going through EDSA without a hitch, the motorcade with the PCS vice president Dr. Maximo H. Simbulan arrived at San Juan De Dios Hospital by 7:00 AM.

The San Juan de Dios Hospital was the birthplace of the PCS, were 34 visionaries laid the foundation for the college in a historic meeting on September 12, 1936. The lobby of the hospital had an exhibit showing very significant events and people in the history of the PCS. The Southern Tagalog Chapter of the PCS arrived with their own motorcade to join the other officers of the PCS for a solemn mass concelebrated by Fr. Serafin Peralta and Fr.



Rhoderick M. Casis, MD, FPCS

Fernando Carpio. Sis. Josefina Quiachon, President of SJD Education Foundation, Inc., Mirla M. Severino, M.D., Medical Director of SJDH, Edgar Mendiola, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Ms. Gemma Patricia Tacaca were present for the event and were instrumental in the preparation for this event.

Marcus Jose B. Brillantes, M.D., the President of the Southern Tagalog PCS Chapter spoke to commemorate the event and turned over the symbolic PCS torch to the Metro Manila PCS Chapter represented by their President, Jose A. Solomon, M.D. Dr. Solomon accepted the torch with a short but equally meaningful response. The event ended with the President of the PCS, Josefina R. Almonte giving brief remarks, impressed by the overwhelming preparation of the hospital and their staff. A simple but delicious breakfast was served in front of the hospital grounds where the officers and members of the PCS socialized with the hospital staff. A few planned photographs



At the entrance of San Juan De Dios Hospital

were taken before the entire group traveled by car to the Philippine General Hospital.

The Philippine General Hospital was the site of many meetings of the PCS in its early years, particularly at the Guazon Hall. Upon arrival at PGH, the group was greeted by Dr. Jose C. Gonzales, the Medical Director of PGH. The coordination was very well done with the help of Dr. Felixberto Lukban. Several pictures were taken in front of the hospital with the officers of the PCS, Southern Tagalog Chapter, Metro Manila Chapter and the staff of the PGH. After several minutes, the entire group, which now mushroomed to 22 vehicles in the motorcade, traveled to the University of Santo Tomas Hospital.

The University of Santo Tomas Hospital, like the PGH, witnessed numerous meetings of the PCS. The motorcade was welcomed by

Eduardo Vicente S. Caguioa, MD, the Medical Director of UST Hospital. The entire department of surgery including residents and interns were there to be part of the event recognizing the special role of UST in the history of the PCS.

From the UST Hospital, the group proceeded to the Philippine College of Surgeons building on EDSA. The PCS building is the home of the college, having been in this location since the 1980's. The newly renovated offices on the 4th floor where the Secretariat was relocated were also blessed. The day finished on a high note with praises by the guests from the different chapters with regards to the handling of the entire event by the PCS staff led by Ms. Annette Tolentino, Ms. Corazon Ribao, Ms. Corazon Coronel, Ms. Thelma Infante, Ms. Eden Grace Paule, Ms. Angelita Fampulme, Ms. Concepcion David and Mr. Eduardo Cincua.



Exhibit at the lobby of the SJDDH



The PCS 75th Torch Turnover Ceremonies by the Southern Tagalog Chapter to the Metro Manila Chapter at the SJDDH Chapel



At the UST Grounds with PCS President Josefina Almonte, Board of Regents and Officers of the Southern Tagalog and Metro Manila Chapters



Breakfast at the SJDDH Grounds with the Metro Manila Chapter



PGH Director Dr. Jose Gonzales with PCS President Dr. Josefina Almonte, members of the Board of Regents, Southern Tagalog and Metro Manila Chapters and PCS Executive Secretary Annette Tolentino



Blessing of the newly renovated offices at the PCS



The Memorabilia Room at the PCS Building

Acknowledgements: Photos courtesy of Dr. Marcus Brilliantes



Operation “BUKOL” and Lay Fora

An Operation Bukol was held at the Philippine Medical Association premises as part of the 75th Jubilee Year celebration of the PCS on September 8, 2011 in cooperation with the Philippine Medical Association and the Quezon City Medical Society. Patients were screened starting at 9:00 am and a total of 47 physicians and volunteer nurses participated. A total of 129 patients underwent minor surgical procedures and

another 117 patients were referred to different hospitals for their surgical treatment which could not be performed safely that day. This was followed by a Lay Forum on Breast Cancer at 2:00 pm at the PMA Auditorium with Dr. Edgardo F. Fernandez, PCS-MMC Director, as the resource speaker. A total of 70 participants listened intently to Dr. Fernandez’s lively lecture.

Medical Mission

A medical mission was conducted at the PCS Klinika ng Bayan in Kamarin, Caloocan City on September 9, 2011 as part of the activities in celebrating the 75th Jubilee Year of the PCS. This was in cooperation with UNILAB which provided a Mobile Clinic with facilities for x-ray, ECG, CBC and urinalysis examinations. Participating in the activity was the

Department of Community and Family Medicine of FEU-NRMF Medical Center. A total of 26 physicians joined the activity where a total of 52 patients availed of the services e.g. ECG - 22; CXR - 30, CBC - 16 and Urinalysis - 17. It started at 9:30 in the morning and ended at 1:30 in the afternoon. It was another successful activity during the Foundation week.



THE JUBILEE TORCH: ITS JOURNEY THROUGH THE COUNTRY

Maria Concepcion C. Vesagas, MD, FPCS

The 75th Jubilee Torch, in wood and brass, was designed by Dr. Abdulmari Asia Imao, 2006 National Artist for Sculpture, in collaboration with his son, Toym de Leon Imao. The torch's base is a hardwood core, representing the institution of the PCS. At the base is the 75th Jubilee logo, as designed by Dr. Ferdinand Florendo. The numbers "75" (in brass, on both sides of the base) serve as the cauldron from which the flames arise, symbolizing the wings of the staff of Aesculapius. The brass "flames" that arise are the letters "PCS" which end in stars. A mechanism is in place that allows the torch to be lit.



Specially commissioned by the PCS on the occasion of the diamond jubilee year, the torch was symbolically transferred from one PCS chapter to the other. Thus, its journey was not just a mere transfer of an object to another; it signified the movement of what the PCS stood for, the passing and sharing of ideas, ideals and knowledge among surgeons.

It is but fitting that the jubilee's torch started with the Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter; it is, after all, the oldest chapter of the PCS. The CEVC was founded in 1948, the very first chapter of the PCS. In its 63 years of existence, it has endeavored to make the chapter patient-oriented and of service to the community. The CEVC brilliantly hosted the 2011 37th PCS Midyear Convention and 18th Asian Congress

of Surgery at the Waterfront Cebu Casino & Hotel last May 12-14, 2011. It was during the closing ceremonies of the PCS Midyear Convention that the PCS Jubilee Torch was lit for the first time and handed to the Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter for safe-keeping prior to its travel all over the country.

A week later, the torch was received by the Negros Oriental Chapter at the L'Fisher Hotel in Bacolod City, site of the 2012 PCS midyear Convention.

The Negros Oriental Chapter was founded in 1979, born out of a need to divide the Western Visayas Chapter then due to the number of members. The chapter has seen to the needs of its fellows, particularly in continuing surgical



The Jubilee Torch begins its travels via the Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter

education. The Negros Oriental Chapter has also participated in numerous surgical missions and lay forums.

the Iloilo Business Hotel Smallville Complex, Iloilo City on May 28, 2011. Regent Maximo Nadala took part in the ceremonies.

From Negros Oriental, the Jubilee Torch traveled to its sister chapter, Panay. The Panay Chapter, founded in 1979, is comprised of the provinces of Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental and Guimaras. The torch was handed to them by the Negros Oriental Chapter at





Cagayan de Oro City on June 4, 2011. The Northern Mindanao Chapter, founded in 1975, has been 3 times most outstanding chapter of the PCS, and back-to-back at that for the years 2008-2009. They have been very active in helping remote communities secure surgical services and help in outreach and in times of disaster, as well.

From the northern part of Mindanao, the torch went on its way through the island to Fat Bobby's in Davao City for its turn-over to the Davao-

From the islands of Visayas, the torch traveled to the Northern Mindanao Chapter in ceremonies at the Kagay-anon Restaurant,



The Northern Mindanao Chapter receives the torch from the Panay Chapter



Southern Mindanao Chapter on June 18, 2011. Established in 1994, the existing PCS Davao Chapter was expanded to include other areas such as Cotabato, Zamboanga and General Santos. The DSMC has been very active in the local community. They hold small missions year round but goes full blast every October with their Breast Cancer Awareness program which is held in malls all over the region. Other projects in surgical education and socio-civic projects has earned them the most outstanding chapter award twice (2002 and 2007).

The torch left the island of Mindanao and hopped to the Bicol Peninsula on July 9, 2011. In festivities at Avenue Plaza Hotel in Naga City, the torch was handed over to the Bicol Chapter. The fellows from Bicol used to be part of the



PCS Southern Luzon Chapter but were given their own chapter in 1963. Twice the chapter has garnered the outstanding chapter award, in 1991 and 1996. The Bicol Chapter looks forward to hosting the 2013 PCS Midyear Convention in Naga.



Torch lighting ceremonies with the Bicol chapter



Cordillera Chapter officers light the Jubilee Torch

From the southern tip of Luzon island, the torch flew to the mountains of the Cordillera Chapter for turnover ceremonies at the Heritage Mansion in Baguio City on July 23, 2011. The youngest chapter of the PCS, the Cordillera Chapter was officially chartered as the 11th chapter of the PCS in 1998. The chapter's main mission is to improve the health conditions of its citizenry and provide excellent surgical service which is accessible to all. Fellows are encouraged to practice in underserved areas, particularly Apayao. The chapter may be a fledgling as compared to the others in PCS but they stand tall in the mission that they have set themselves to do.



Across mountain ranges, the PCS torch traveled to the Northern Luzon Chapter in ceremonies at the Heliport Conference Room of the Lorma Medical Center in San Fernando, La Union on July 31, 2011. Established in 1958, the NLC is one of the older PCS chapters and has currently more than 80 active fellows. The chapter is proud of the fact that there are 2 training programs in their region. They look forward to the continuous influx of “home-grown” surgeons in their locality.

About two weeks later, the torch was on its way to the Central Luzon Chapter at the Bale Capampangan Restaurant in San Fernando, Pampanga on August 13, 2011. The Central Luzon Chapter was organized in 1977. The Chapter has balanced its scientific affairs with social ones, particularly athletic competitions and gatherings. They garnered the outstanding chapter award in 1992.

The Southern Tagalog Chapter received the torch on August 17, 2011 at the University of Perpetual Help – Dr. Jose G. Tamayo Medical Center in Binan, Laguna. The PCS STC has, as recent as 2010, hosted the PCS Midyear Convention at the Taal Vista Hotel. It has



PCS STC President Dr. Marcus Brilliantes hands over the torch to PCS MMC President Jose Solomon

continued to showcase itself as one of the vibrant chapters of the PCS.

The PCS STC motored to the San Juan de Dios Hospital to hand over the torch to the PCS Metro Manila Chapter on September 8, 2011 during the PCS Foundation Week Motorcade. One of the youngest chapters of the PCS, the





The Metro Manila Chapter receives the torch from the Southern Tagalog Chapter

Metro Manila Chapter has the largest membership among the chapters. It has continued to honor its senior fellows with the “Legend of the Knife” award, given to those who have contributed to the growth of PCS and training of future surgeons.

After making the rounds of the different chapters of the PCS, the Jubilee Torch was finally turned over to the Board of Regents on September 10, 2011 during the 75th Foundation Dinner at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel.

It was literally passing the torch, so to speak. More than a trophy, more than an



award, it symbolized the collective effort and product of so many surgeons in the country over decades who have laid the foundations of what the Philippine College of Surgeons is and will be. With the torch goes the fulfillment of a promise made long ago by 34 distinguished men and woman who yearned a unifying body for surgeons of the Philippines. And for the men and women who accepted and then shared the torch with others, it is a symbol of dedication of guardianship, of nurturing, of commitment to surgery and of looking forward to the future.



Dr. Jose P. Solomon, President of the PCS Metro Manila Chapter, during the acceptance ceremony of the Jubilee Torch by the PCS Metro Manila Chapter from the PCS Southern Tagalog Chapter



PCS President Josefina Almonte receives the Jubilee Torch from PCS MMC President Jose Solomon

75TH FOUNDATION DAY DINNER: THE NIGHT OF THE PRESIDENTS

Maria Concepcion C. Vesagas, MD, FPCS



The Philippine College of Surgeons held its 75th Jubilee Foundation Day Dinner on September 10, 2011, Saturday at the Garden Ballroom of the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel. Nearly forty presidents living and deceased were honored in a memorable night for the PCS.

Dr. Gabriel Martinez, Secretary of the PCS, master of ceremonies for the evening, introduced Dr. Josefina Almonte, the 2011 PCS President who welcomed everyone. In her opening statements, she likened the PCS going into four seasons: the first 20 years was like spring, a time for growth. The second 20 years was summer into adulthood, followed by autumn which was a time of nurturing. On its 75th year, the PCS was into its winter, not a time for dearth but a time for new beginnings.

Guests present were introduced and a short video of the journey of the Jubilee torch was

presented. The torch was designed by 2006 National Artist for Sculpture Dr. Abdulmari Asia Imao. Made of brass and wood, the jubilee torch was commissioned by the PCS specifically for the Diamond Jubilee Year. (*Editor's note: Please see related article on the Jubilee Torch Relay.*)

The Jubilee torch relay started last May in the Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter, the oldest chapter of the PCS, at the closing ceremonies for the PCS Midyear Convention. From there, it went around the Visayas, then to Mindanao, to Bicol, to the chapters of Northern Luzon, then to the Southern Tagalog Chapter. The STC handed

the torch to the Metro Manila Chapter at the San Juan de Dios Hospital Chapel during the PCS motorcade on September 8. After the video, the Metro Manila Chapter President Dr. Jose Solomon handed the torch to Dr. Josefina Almonte and the Board of Regents.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of replica torches to the past presidents of the PCS, starting with the Dr. Gregorio T. Singian (1936) received by Mr. Gregorio Singian, his nephew. Dr. Ramon Estrada, FPCS received on behalf of his grandfather, Dr. Januario R. Estrada, Sr. (1948-



1949). Dr. Luis F. Torres, Jr (1961-1962) was represented by Dr. Carlos Ramon Torres, grandson and Javier A. Torres, his great grandson. A grandson of Dr. Enrique Garcia (1963-1964), Jaime Enrique Garcia received his trophy. Dr. Ambrosio F. Tangco (1965) was represented by Nicole Tangco, granddaughter. Dr. Fernando Lopez accepted the trophy for his mentor, Dr. Clemente Calma (1967).

Mrs. Letty Aquino, wife and Jimmy Aquino, son, respectively of Dr. Jaime M. Aquino (1968) received on his behalf. Dr. Simeon Recio,

FPCS, son of Dr. Porfirio Recio (1971) accepted his trophy. Mr. Rene Palma, and Dr. Ma.



Immaculada Palma Romero, son and granddaughter, respectively of Dr. Irineo M. Palma (1972) were on hand. Mr. Carmelo Filart Medalla received on behalf of his grandfather, Dr. Enrique S. Filart (1974). Dr. Fidel Z. Cuajunco, Jr. (1976) was represented by son, Dr. Delfin Cuajunco, FPCS. Doctors Juanita Arcilla and Crisostomo Arcilla, Jr., FPCS received on behalf of Dr. Crisostomo A. Arcilla, Sr. (1978).



Mrs. Bella Ramirez and son Clark accepted the trophy for Dr. Alfredo T. Ramirez (1981). Mrs. Irene Sibayan and son Dr. Santiago Sibayan received Dr. Renato Q. Sibayan's (1992) trophy. Mrs. Lily Cipriano and daughter received on behalf of Dr. Merlin Cipriano (1995).

On hand to receive their awards personally were Doctors Cresencio R. Abes (1979), Jose M. Pujalte (1980), Avenilo P. Aventura (1982),



Teodoro P. Nuguid (1983), George G. Eufemio (1984), Vicente Q. Arguelles (1985), Antonio A. Limson (1986), Faustino T. Domingo, Jr. (1988), Leonardo A. Ona, Jr. (1989).

Likewise present were Doctors Roman L. Belmonte (1996), Florentino C. Doble (1997), Antonio B. Sison (1998), Francisco Y. Arcellana, Jr. (1999), Alberto B. Roxas (2001), Ernesto C. Tan (2002), Fernando L. Lopez (2003), Eduardo D. Gatchalian (2006), Rey Melchor F. Santos (2007), Armando C. Crisostomo (2008), Alex A. Erasmo (2009), Stephen S. Siguan (2010). Dr. Josefina R. Almonte, the incumbent PCS President, received the jubilee trophy as well.



The oldest living PCS President Dr. Antonio C. Oposa (1973) had the honor of the response. It was a nostalgic presentation full of meaning, with old pictures of PCS activities and personalities. He started with lines from poems such as "One Little Rose" (*I would rather have a loving smile; From friends I know are true, Than tears shed round my casket When this world I've bid adieu.*) He admonished those present that PCS Fellows should leave a life and a legacy with footprints and in keeping with the Hippocratic oath, "should keep an attitude of gratitude". In closing he quoted "A Bag of Tools" by R. L. Sharpe

*Isn't it strange
That princes and kings,
And clowns that caper
In sawdust rings,
And common people
Like you and me
Are builders for eternity?*



The 75th Jubilee Torch and certificate is being handed to Dr. Antonio Oposa, PCS President 1973.

*Each is given a bag of tools,
A shapeless mass,
A book of rules;
And each must make
- Ere life is flown -
A stumbling block
Or a stepping stone.*

After Dr. Oposa's presentation, certificates were handed to 5 fellows who were born in 1936, the same year as the PCS: Doctors Estrella B. Espino, Teodoro P. Llamanzares, Angelina A. Marcelo, Naomi E. Salang, and Vivencio C. Villaflor, Jr. A plaque of appreciation was given to Dr. Flor Enriquez of the Enriquez Dental Clinic who has been a tenant of the PCS for the past 20 years. Service awards were given to Ms. Eden Grace Paule and Ms. Cora Ribao for 10 and 30 years service to the PCS Secretariat,



respectively. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the PCS and the AHMOPI, with signatories Doctors George Lim (PCS), Josefina Almonte (PCS), Rey Melchor Santos (PMA) and Carlos D. Da Silva (AHMOPI).



The program was capped with a toast led by Dr. Josefina Almonte, a toast for more seeds to plant and nurture. Dr. Alfred Belmonte, Treasurer of the PCS gave the closing remarks. After the program, dancing and singing followed.

Indeed, it was a night to remember, when we were among presidents of the Philippine College of Surgeons.





Presidents of the PCS (from left to right) standing: Doctors Eduardo R. Gatchalian (2006), Ernesto C. Tan (2002), Stephen Sixto Siguan (2010), Antonio B. Sison(1998), Florentino C. Doble (1997), Fernando L. Lopez (2003), Rey Melchor F. Santos (2007), Armando C. Crisostomo (2008);

Seated (from left to right): Francisco Y. Arcellana, Jr, (1999), Roman L. Belmonte, Jr. (1996), Teodoro P. Nuguid (1983), Vicente Q. Arguelles (1985), Antonio C. Oposa (1973), Leonardo A. Ona, Jr. (1989), Josefina R. Almonte (2011), Faustino T. Domingo, Jr. (1988)

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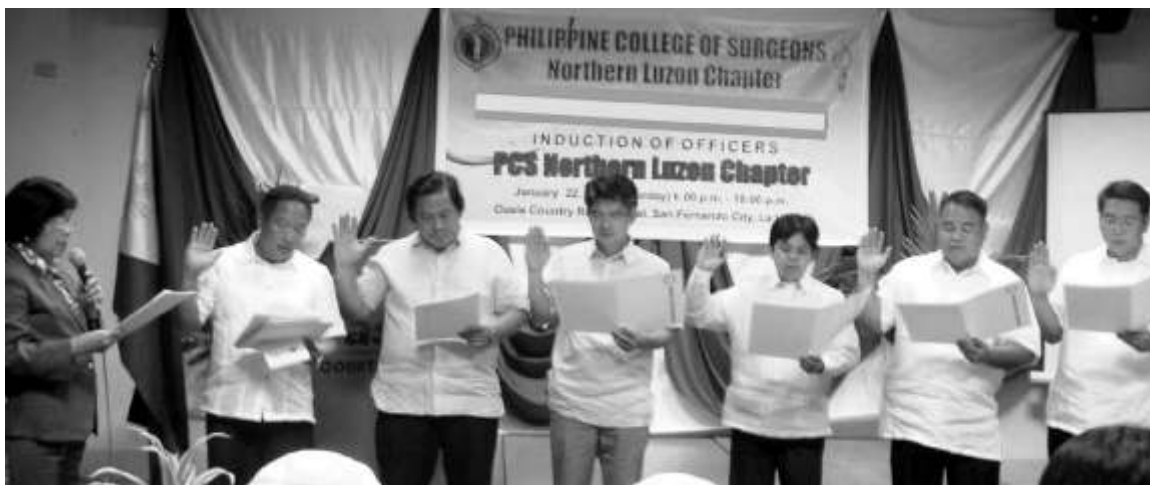
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OF THE PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

1936	Gregorio T. Singian [†]	1981	Alfredo T. Ramirez [†]
1937-1944	Baldomero L. Roxas [†]	1982	Avenilo P. Aventura
1945-1947	Nicanor Jacinto [†]	1983	Teodoro P. Nigid
1948-1949	Januario R. Estrada, Sr. [†]	1984	George G. Eufemio
1950-1951	Basilio J. Valdes [†]	1985	Vicente Q. Arguelles
1952	Guillermo Rustia [†]	1986	Antonio A. Limson
1953	Gumersindo S. Garcia, Sr. [†]	1987	Glicerio M. Bustamante [†]
1954-1955	Fortunato S. Guerrero [†]	1988	Faustino T. Domingo, Jr.
1956-1957	Jose Y. Fores [†]	1989	Leonardo A. Ona, Jr.
1958-1959	Francisco C. De Guzman [†]	1990	Enrique T. Ona
1960	Jaime E. Laico [†]	1991	Willie N. Lagdamaeo
1961-1962	Luis F. Torres, Jr. [†]	1992	Renato Q. Sibayan [†]
1962-1963	Ricardo L. Alfonso [†]	1993	Adriano V. Laudico
1964	Domingo T. Antonio, Jr. [†]	1994	Modesto O. Llamas
1965	Ambosio F. Tangco [†]	1995	Merlin C. Cipriano [†]
1966	Romeo H. Gustilo [†]	1996	Roman L. Belmonte, Jr.
1967	Clemente R. Calma [†]	1997	Florentino C. Doble
1968	Jaime M. Aquino [†]	1998	Antonio B. Sison
1969	Emilio C. Horilleno [†]	1999	Francisco Y. Arcellana, Jr.
1970	Pacifico C. Yap [†]	2000	Narcisco S. Navarro, Jr.
1971	Porfirio M. Recio [†]	2001	Alberto B. Roxas
1972	Irineo M. Palma [†]	2002	Ernesto C. Tan
1973	Antonio C. Oposa	2003	Fernando L. Lopez
1974	Enrique S. Filart [†]	2004	Edgardo R. Cortez
1975	Augusto P. Sarmiento	2005	Arturo S. Dela Peña
1976	Fidel Z. Cuajunco, Jr. [†]	2006	Eduardo R. Gatchalian
1977	Felipe B. Constantino [†]	2007	Rey Melchor F. Santos
1978	Crisostomo A. Arcilla, Sr.	2008	Armando C. Crisostomo
1979	Cresencio R. Abes	2009	Alex A. Erasmo
1980	Jose M. Pujalte	2010	Stephen S. Siguan
		2011	Josefina R. Almonte