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## Upcoming Events

PMM 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Raffle - Aug. 5, 2006

Prizes: \$500 (cash), \$300, \$200, IPOD, and gift certificates from neighboring restaurants and stores )

Happy Hour - September

## Message from Fr. Gerry Creedon

Dear SCBPMM Supporters,

I do not know if you are like me, but I tend to personalize projects. So when I think of PMM I still think of Celia Coronado. The positive side is that St. Charles Borromeo Philippine Medical Mission or SCBPMM continues to keep her spirit alive among us. The negative side is that she is not physically present to prod and prod us into action like no one I ever knew could. So, we have to motivate one another in her name and in the name of all the sick and abandoned people we are called to serve.

So let us keep on reaching out through SCBPMM.

Salamat Po,



Gerry Creedon

## SCBPMM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The first Board meeting of SCBPMM was held on April 22, 2006 at the Library of St. Charles. The Board members of SCBPMM are :

Fr. Gerry Creedon, Atty. Litong Roa, Ms. Cecile Motus, Mr. Fernando Manibog, Ms. Juliet Teodosio, Mr. Colin Buntua, and Mrs. Maricel Bretault.

The Board appointed the following officers: Nick Tongson - President, Peter Villareal - Vice President, Nancy Russo - Secretary, and Peggy Carrington - Treasurer. Initial operating procedures were discussed and some rules were approved. Further policies will be discussed in the next meeting, which is scheduled to take place on September 2006.

## Volunteers' Corner

Currently, St. Charles Borromeo Philippine Medical Mission (SCBPMM) is looking for people interested in helping with the following projects:

- Foundations search
- Grant proposal writing
- Marketing strategy development
- PMM brochure planning
- Fundraiser planning

## Send your donations

In order to continue providing these services to the poor, SCBPMM must continue to raise funds and seek donations. If you are interested in making a donation, please mail a check or money order to: St. Charles Borromeo Philippine Medical Mission or SCBPMM  
2914 Adams Place  
Falls Church, VA  
22042

Include your name and address if you would like to receive a receipt for tax purposes.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED TWO PROPOSALS: JUNIOR HEALTH WORKERS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND ORGANIC FARMING CARETAKERS

On April 15, 2006, the SCBPMM Board approved funds to provide three-year educational assistance to approximately twenty (20) girls working on the streets whose families are not able to afford school-related expenses. The street girls have been trained as Junior Health Workers (JHWs) of Child Hope Asia Philippines. The JHWs continue to be trained to provide first aid to other street children and their families, make referrals to district health centers, and assist in the understaffed health centers. They receive training on the prevention of diseases such as rabies, dengue, and malaria.

Some of the insights from four JHWs and a photo of a JHW assisting a medical physician are shown below:

- *"I learned to be more helpful and responsible because of the JHW Project."*
- *"Thank you very much for your help. I hope that you will continue to help the street children."*
- *"Thank you very much for helping me go to school. I am now a Grade 6 student. In order to pay you back for helping me go to school, I promise to study well. I hope that you will not tire of helping poor children like me."*
- *"The other children in my area want to be like me. They see me perform my role as a JHW in our area-giving first aid treatment and referring sick children to the health center. I gained their respect because of what I do as a JHW. Now, they want to help other children as well."*



Another approved proposal will provide salaries to two fulltime caretakers for one year for the "Organic and Greenhouse-grown Vegetable Project" of the Foundation of Our Lady of Peace Mission (FOLPMI). This project aims to increase awareness of the health benefits of eating and/or serving organic vegetables in the diet of the Filipinos. The project grows spinach, sweet peas, eggplant, and other local leafy vegetables like Chinese kangkong, pechay and mustasa.

## Useful links:

Foundation of Our Lady  
of Peace Mission  
<http://www.folpmi.org/>

Religious of Notre Dame  
Missions  
<http://rndm.tripod.com>

Childhope Asia  
Philippines  
<http://www.childhope.org.ph/>

Comments and  
suggestions, please  
contact at:  
stcharles-  
pmm@earthlink.net



There are two sites in which the project is located: one at the Aeta Resettlement and Rehabilitation Area in Sitio Gala, Subic, Zambales and one at the Hospital Site at the Coastal Road in Brgy. San Dionisio, Paranaque City (left picture).

## SCBPMM Volunteer's Visit to the Hospital for the Poor

Ms. Grace Holden, a long time SCBPMM volunteer had an opportunity to visit the Philippines. Below is an account of her trip.

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I had the good fortune to be able to spend five days in the Philippines in October 2005 when I joined Celia Coronado on her trip home. I was eager to see some of SCBPMM's projects, but was finding it hard to get in touch with Sr. Eva Maamo to arrange a visit to the Hospital for the Poor. On my last day there, Celia insisted that I call Sr. Eva at 6:00 a.m. --something I was extremely reluctant to do (especially on a Sunday morning- probably her one day to rest) but did nonetheless. Sr. Eva quickly arranged for a driver to bring me to the hospital later that morning. Being a Sunday, it was an ideal, quiet time to visit since no surgeries were scheduled. I was met by a couple of staff members and an 8 year-old girl who had been adopted by one of the staff after running away from an abusive relative and living on her own for 3 weeks. Sr. Eva then showed me the hospital facilities--the pediatric ward, the emergency room, operating rooms, lab, etc. I was impressed with the hospital's immaculate cleanliness and the orderliness of all its rooms and supplies. We walked by the greenhouses of organic produce and had a simple lunch in the sisters' living quarters. The previous day they held a graduation ceremony for a group of rural healthcare workers--one of the many programs Sr. Eva began as an effective way to reach and empower more people in the countryside.



I felt blessed to be able to see some of the fruits of Sr. Eva's work, as supported by SCBPMM, and to spend some time with this remarkable woman.

## REPORT FROM RNDM

The Sisters of the Religious of Notre Dame of the Missions (RNDM) in Cotabato, Philippines thanked SCBPMM on the receipt of \$2,606 wired in October 2005. The funds were used to buy medicines and to provide food for 10 women and their families (poor widows, neglected elderly and one physically challenged). In addition, the fund was used to finance the health training for the tribe, to cover some hospitalization costs and to buy a water tank. SCBPMM also provides a scholarship for a nursing student, the tribe's first college level student.

"There is a terrible hunger for love. We all experience that in our lives - the pain, the loneliness. We must have the courage to recognize it. The poor you may have right in your own family. Find them. Love them. Put your love for them in living action. For in loving them, you are loving God Himself."

--- Mother Teresa

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### CELIA CORONADO ENDOWMENT FUND

The Celia Coronado Endowment Fund was created in memory of SCBPMM co-founder, Celia Coronado. The Endowment Fund is envisioned to establish sufficient capital to sustain the financial needs of SCBPMM. This Fund is expected to enable PMM to continue assisting the primary health care programs of its partners in the Philippines. If you are interested to support this Fund, please send your donations to the St. Charles Borromeo Philippine Medical Mission indicating on the Memo line "Celia Coronado Endowment Fund" at 2914 Adams Place, Falls Church, VA 22042. If you would like to receive updates about SCBPMM's activities, please send your email address to us at [pmm@stcharleschurch.org](mailto:pmm@stcharleschurch.org).

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### SR. EVA (FOLPMI) AND STAFF HELPED EVACUEES OF LEYTE MUDSLIDE

On February 16, 2006, one of the southern provinces of the Philippines (Leyte) was hit by a series of mudslide. Sr. Eva Maamo and her staff requested SCBPMM for assistance. SCBPMM provided \$1,000 to help the victims of the mudslide. On March 6 -9, FOLPMI went to Leyte to provide medical mission and distribute relief goods to the evacuees.

