

# KAFCE NEWS

HO,HO,HO!! T'is the season to be Jolly. I would like to say a big Mahalo to all of you. Your dedication, presence and enthusiasm continues to inspire me. Being my first year, I have learned so much and want to help inspire more in getting involved. Knowing our daily schedules can be busy, but KAFCE is and has been part of your life for several years if not half a life time. Please share with family and friend about what is KAFCE. "Sharing the Aloha Spirit through Education, Leadership & Community Action" (ELCA).

I'm looking forward to my last year as your President and my first year as the State Vice-President.

## **Year of the Pig 2019 : a year of fortune and luck!**

2019 is a great year to make money, and a good year to invest! 2019 is going to be full of joy, a year of friendship and love for all the Chinese zodiac signs; an auspicious year because the Pig attracts success in all the spheres of life.

With that said, let's roll in the good fortune and luck. Let's not all book to Vegas at the same time. If you are a PIG, try your luck and send KAFCE some of your good fortune.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday. See you all at Achievement Day, January 13, 2019.

## **KAFCE ACHIEVEMENT DAY 2019**

**WHEN: SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019    WHERE: KAUAI MARRIOTT COURTYARD CHART ROOM**  
**TIME: 8:00 AM SET UP                      8:30: DOORS OPEN                      8:45 AM BEGIN CHINESE AUCTION**

**Tables: Musubi - 4                      Hui Holomua - 2                      Trimble - 1**

**COST: LUNCH-ANINI BUFFET-~~40.33~~, FREE FOR MEMBERS; GUESTS: ~~40.33~~ (Payable by credit card one week before event.)**

### **EACH CLUB BRINGS:**

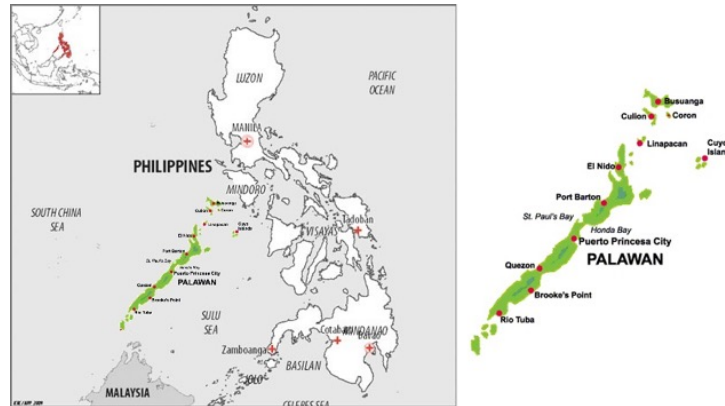
**3 WRAPPED QUALITY GIFT - MINIMUM \$10 VALUE**  
**3 CHINESE AUCTION ITEMS FOR TRIMBLE TABLE**  
**PODIUM AND MICROPHONE PROVIDED BY KAUAI MARRIOTT**

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**RSVP: BY December 17, 2018**

# KAFCE INTERNATIONAL DAY - PHILIPPINES

By Frances Dinnan



I traveled at the beginning of 2018 to the Philippines (PI) with a coworker from Kaua'i Community College. We served as advisors to a Filipino student organization known as the Pamantasan (higher education) Club. The club's purpose was to recruit and retain Filipino students in higher ed while promoting Philippine culture and history. My coworker grew up in the Philippines and was familiar with the country's nuisances such as getting around, tipping, shopping, and foods. Just crossing their streets, to me, was an adventure. There are three seasons in the PI: the hot dry season or summer from March to May; the rainy season from June to November; and the cool dry season from December to February. We left for the PI with a stop over in Guam in the month of February. One noticeable weather difference between Hawaii and the PI was the lack of trade winds. I was both excited and nervous as this was my very first trip to the PI.

Of the 7,000+ islands in the PI archipelago we decided to visit the Palawan Islands. Palawan is located southwest of Manila and it's capital city is Puerta Princesa (PP). I was particularly attracted to visiting PP's Underground River Cave. This cave has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and identified as 1 of the 7 Wonders of Nature. It means that this cave has significant educational, scientific, and cultural value to mankind. Palawan has also been named as the world's most beautiful island on more than one occasion based on votes cast by readers of Travel & Leisure and Conde Nast Traveller magazines.

My friend was attracted to Palawan's coral reefs, beaches, and snorkeling. Our itinerary included two other Palawan cities. From PP we traveled north towards El Nido which means "the nest" in Spanish. El Nido is the gateway to the Bacuit archipelago at the northernmost extremity of the island. This is the home of some truly spectacular scenery both above and below the sea. It forms the El Nido Marine Reserve Park with such endangered species as the giant clam. A very large pearl known as "The Pearl of Lao Tzu" or "The Pearl of Allah" was discovered in Palawan in 1934. This pearl measured 9.4 inches, weighed 14 lbs, and was valued at \$40 million. Ten years ago a Filipino fisherman found the world's largest clam pearl and kept it under his bed for good luck. He brought it out on moving day and it measured 26 inches, weighed 75 lbs, and is valued at \$100 million.

From El Nido we caught a ferry to Coron. There are seven lakes in Coron, famous of which is the nationally-acclaimed cleanest lake in the Philippines, the Kayangan Lake. There are a number of islands with white beaches and clear blue waters perfect for snorkeling, deep sea fishing, and shipwreck diving. We even got to swim in a natural hot spring after a full day of snorkeling! Some coastal areas are covered with mangrove forests. Mangrove forests are protected by the government and one could get fined or jailed for chopping them down. These forests help protect the islands from tsunamis while serving as sanctuaries and nesting areas for many wildlife.

Palawan, PI is involved in the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI). Launched in 2007 CTI is a multilateral partnership between six countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Timor-Leste. These countries work together to sustain marine and coastal resources by addressing crucial issues such as food security, climate change, and marine biodiversity. CTI is even considered as one of the 3 mega ecological complexes on Earth, together with the Congo Basin and the Amazon Rainforest.

Covering less than 2% of the ocean's surface CTI contains 76% of all known coral species, 37% of all known coral reef fish species, and 53% of the world's coral reefs. CTI produces 1/3 of the global tuna catch. These unparalleled marine and coastal living resources provide profound benefits to the 363 million people who reside within the six countries that compose the Coral Triangle, along with benefits to many millions more outside the region.

Coastal and marine ecosystems in the Coral Triangle are under significant and increasing threat by the warming, acidifying, and rising seas. Coral reefs have experienced mass bleaching, which threaten to degrade the important ecosystems. Over half the coral reefs are at high risk primarily from coastal development, overfishing, and unsustainable fishing practices. Since the marine resources are a principal source of income for the population, the downstream effects of losing these critical coastal ecosystems are enormous. Hawaii's reefs are also threatened by similar issues. We can learn from other countries and develop our own best practices to help preserve our own reefs for future generations.

## **INTERNATIONAL DAY - COSTA RICA**

**By Hui Holomua**

**Hui Holomua** selected Costa Rica as the country to study and present as very fortuitously, Frank and Laura had just traveled to Costa Rica in March, so it was only logical that Frank present his slide show and do a talk about the country which proved very interesting and enlightening.

“Located in Central America it is known for its long-standing and stable democracy, and for its highly educated workforce, most of whom speak English. In 1948 the military was renounced and done away with altogether. That year also saw the drafting of a new constitution by a democratically elected assembly. With uninterrupted democracy dating back to at least 1948, the country is the region’s most stable. High quality health care is provided by the government at low cost to the users, Housing is also very affordable Costa Rica is recognized in Latin America for the quality of its educational system, Costa Rica has one of the highest literacy rates in Latin America, 97%.” (It sounds like a very nice place to visit, with its year-round tropical climate, quiet rural area, hillside villages, modern cities, Caribbean beaches, Pacific coastline, rain forest, lush valleys, and mountains. Reminds one of Hawaii, doesn’t it)

Frank also shared that the tour by [caravan.com](http://caravan.com) was very reasonable. Bernie also did some research which she shared with the group. For more information about Costa Rica, go to International Living Postcards, a daily e-letter that explores the ins and outs of living, traveling, investing and retiring to Costa Rica.

Gladys, Sanae and Margo made dishes Costa Rica - variations of Gallo Pinto, a beans and rice dish which is normally served at breakfast. Frank brought back a salsa which complemented the dish quite well. Margo made Coconut-Peanut Cookies: Galletas Maria.

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## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The other part of the program was filled with fun and laughter as the members played Christmas games and opened grab bag gifts brought by members. Queenie and committee did a fine job planning a fun filled program.

The members also enjoyed the variety of Filipino dishes and being educated about marungay: the miracle tree. Locals often jokingly say that if you see a marungay tree in someone’s yard, it’s guaranteed they’re Filipino. The leaves are very nutritious. Pearl shared a mochi dish called “tugiman”. Queenie, Annie, Terry and Carolyn also shared some onolicious Filipino foods.

**CLUB MUSUBI CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS AND WELCOMES NEW MEMBER, CHRISTINE WONG.**



**KAUAI'S DELEGATION AT FCE CONVENTION ON MAUI**



## FCL TRAINING AND ALOHA JOAN

FCL leaders from HAFCE descended on Kauai to inspire and train our membership for a stronger and more effective organization. Mixed into the serious business was a lot of jovial laughter and camaraderie. Also present was Dee Morikawa, a House Representative and also sister of Queenie. Sanae Morita was also presented with the quilt that was made by Denise Smith in honor of Martha.



Carolyn Lum, Pat Kubo, Martha Yamada, 'Bernie, Sanae, Queenie,' Joan, Martha; Joan and Rep. Dee Morikawa

Some serious discussion going on: Maurina Borgatti, Carolyn Lum, JoAnn Shimamoto and Pearl Shimizu



**Left to right:**  
**Bernie Tangalin,**  
**Pat Kubo,**  
**Ruth Haitzuka,**  
**Queenie Daligdig,**  
**Martha Yamada and**  
**seated center:**  
**JOAN CHONG**