Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce, Washington D.C.



Summer 2022 Quarterly Newsletter



FROM THE EDITOR

Yes, yes, we missed running the 2022 Fall edition. Sorry about that. There's just too much going on, what with the organization elections, the change of officers and board of directors, the in-person events starting up again, and all the other excuses you could think of, lol. But the Summer edition is here, so help us bring more sunshine in and... SMILE!

Yes, it's getting mighty warm out there, folks! Time to make those summer vacation plans and I'm doing a happy dance right now because travel restrictions have just loosened up some more. Yay!! By the way, I hope you were all able to tune in to our travel webinar just a few days ago. If not, you can view the video posted on our FB page as the webinar was livestreamed. With travel and summer vacation in mind, we've asked some of our new(ish) members to tell us what their summer plans are and to share a little about themselves in this edition, so we can get to know them better.

Speaking of new officers, our new Director of Membership, Mickey Pilar, has a few words to say about the PACC-DC membership. We're also starting a new column where we will ask two or more members to share with us some helpful tips or hacks related to their business or work. For this first venture, we've asked Dr. ThoaiLan Tran of Precision Orthodontics & Pediatric Dentistry for some dental hacks and The Spa Clinic for some skincare tips. Nothing like bright smiles and clear skins for the summer days ahead!

As a gentle reminder, we must continue to watch out for our health and wellness within and beyond covid-19. Please continue to follow any recommended health and safety protocols and for many of us who still feel a bit paranoid, go ahead, practice whatever makes you feel comfortable to go out in public - I do!

Have a great summer and safe travels!

Olma Inocentes

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July M&G:
 Pandemonium Pachanga
 Pogiboy DC
 July 14, 6pm ET
- August M&G: Gate Crash at The Game The Game Sports Pub August 11, 6pm ET
- Webinar TBA August 25, 6pm ET
- September M&G: September Blowout Balangay DC September 15, 6pm ET
- Business & Health Summit
 October 14, 8:30am-5:30pm ET
- November M&G: Spooky Socials Lapu-Lapu Restaurant November 10, 6pm ET
- Webinar TBA November 24, 6pm ET

NEW MEMBERS

NORY DIANNE R. MIANO

Joined Nov 6, 2021



Dianne is a multi-jurisdictional lawyer, admitted to practice law both in the Philippines and the United States. Currently, she is an International Tax Consultant of the World Bank Group's International Finance Corporation in Washington, D.C. Dianne is originally from the Philippines and became a U.S. permanent resident in 2017. Before moving to the US, she practiced tax law for seven years in an accounting firm in the Philippines, Reyes Tacandong & Co. In 2020, she had experience working at the General Legal Division, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Dianne has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Sciences, Major in Behavioral Studies from the University of the Philippines Manila, a Juris Doctor degree from the Ateneo de Manila University – School of Law, and a Master of Laws in Taxation with Certificate in International Taxation from

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C..

Summer plans: Nothing definite yet, so I am open to all possibilities!

ALEXANDER BAQUILOD

Joined March 15, 2022

My name is Alex Baquilod. I joined PACC back in March 2022. I am in the marketing industry providing integrated digital marketing services (social media management, Email & SMS marketing, consulting, data analytics, etc.) to small-medium sized businesses. My favorite food is lechon and kakanin. During my free time, I like to cook Filipino food, practice mixed martial arts, and play chess.

Summer plans: This summer, I will be relaxing and eating lots of food in Greece!



LOUIE ANNE BATAC-NGUYEN

Joined May 18, 2022



Louie Anne Batac-Nguyen, aka The Sake Mom, is a Certified Sake Sommelier for premium Japanese sake. Originally from Olongapo City, she immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 4 and due to her military family lifestyle (Navy daughter, now Marine Corps spouse) has lived in many places, including Japan, which she calls her second home. Louie Anne has a very diverse background; she's worked in philanthropy, higher education, government contracting and hospitality to name a few, but in the past 5 years, she has focused on consulting and writing for Japanese food and beverage retailers. She is the current treasurer for NaFFAA Capital, loves to collaborate, and enjoys hosting sake parties. You'll find her sipping and sharing sake love between playdates and family time.

Summer plans: My summer calendar is quickly filling up with events and

activities that I'm really looking forward to! Special occasions with friends, hosting my father on his visit, and several tastings and pairing events. It's such a lively time! We'll hit the road in August for our end-of-summer getaway.

REBECCA KERSCH

Joined April 12, 2022



"Hi! I'm Rebecca Kersch, founder and CEO of TANGapp (tangapp.org), which is a new mobile remittance app (think international Filipino 'Venmo'). I actually started TANGapp because of my Tita Baby --- she is an OFW and would have to go through a complicated remittance process with high fees when trying to send money home to the Philippines, similar to what millions of other OFWs face. I've always been passionate about financial inclusion, and I believe sending money to the Philippines should be as easy as sending a text message regardless of your location, income level, or currency. And so, I founded TANGapp to help people like my Tita Baby. The TANGapp team is very excited to be a member of PACC-DC and meet other Filipino businesses!

Summer plans: This summer, I will be traveling a ton, as we will be opening our investor seed round soon!"

MICKEY PILAR

Joined March 16, 2022

I've been self-employed most of my working life and I've mostly worked alone. Started my career in the IT industry and slowly transitioned to Real Estate back in 2002. When 2008 happened, I vowed to diversify in different industries. Since then, I have been a part of different companies in the construction, fin-tech, and aviation industries, both here in the DMV and in the Philippines. My heart, however, is still in real estate with now focusing more as a Mortgage Lender. My vast experience in real estate throughout the years allows me to have an edge originating loans and truly serving borrowers in providing them the best loan program for their specific needs and situation.



I strive to provide the absolute best service possible to every client, as I built my real estate business through referrals. In addition to the conventional and FHA, VA loans, our company has special (Non-QM) programs for self-employed, business owners, and investors alike for both primary residence and investment properties. I joined the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce (PACC-DC) a few months ago and it's probably the best thing that happened to me this decade, as I've already gained a lot since I joined. Not only that I have received business referrals, I've also gained professional relationships, partners, resources, and most of all I've gained life-long friendships. Being part of PACC-DC has been truly a blessing to me and without a doubt whoever joins PACC-DC will experience the same.

Summer plans: I am excited for what's to come the rest of the year, but first I will enjoy this summer by trying to spend as much time possible with my beautiful kids, while still serving the community and my clients.

Follow and Like: "Mickey Pilar Home Loans" on Facebook.

TIPS & HACKS WHY YOUR DENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Dr. ThoaiLan Tran, Board Certified Orthodontist

If our eyes are thought to be the window to our soul, then our mouth can serve as the barometer of our internal health. A check up at the dentist has now become more than catching cavities – it can save a life. New technologies are constantly being brought from the medical world into the dental world, and those technologies are showing us how everything is interconnected in our body. Having healthy teeth, gums, and bones can go a long way in saving us thousands of dollars in other medical costs. With rising inflation, there is no more important time than now to take care of our dental needs before they become more costly.

Since most people are working remotely, now is the best time to take advantage not only of less traffic but extra time during the day to make your dental appointments – especially if you had put off going to the dentist because of COVID-19 the last two years. Concerned about that crooked smile? Better get your teeth straight since masks are now required less



and less in most public places. The longer we neglect our teeth, the more it will cost us in Time, Money, and Emotional Well-Being. It's as simple as that.

Waking up a lot in the night and tossing and turning? Studies are showing that not having the proper airway and breathing ducts can lead to body weight issues, facial esthetics, and sleep debt. Dentists and orthodontists are now being trained to offer solutions to help you improve your sleep, your breathing and your quality of life.

Having neck pain and headaches in the morning? Your teeth alignment may be causing your muscles to work harder than they're supposed to, leading to tension and headaches that affect your day-to-day function.

Not confident in that job interview or that first date because of your smile? Digital technologies are being used to reduce treatment time and offer more cosmetic options to improve our smiles and psychological confidence with the visibility of old traditional metal braces.

Hopefully, these 5 minutes spent reading this article has made you aware of how your dental health is now more than just detecting cavities. In parting, here are some quick dental hacks for your teeth:

- 1. Water flossers bring the experience of the dental cleaning right into your house. Dilute a 30z cup of mouth wash with water and put it into your water flosser for a great cleaning experience.
- 2. Most people neglect cleaning their tongue, and that's where more severe oral cancers can form! The Breath Rx tongue scrapper is great to use because it is flexible and easily to hold to clean your tongue.
- 3. Sugarless gum is great to use when you're out of the house with no toothbrush. The more you chew, the more saliva you produce to help rinse out more bacteria in your mouth.
- 4. If you're in braces, ask your orthodontist for a Harp Flosser they are designed to be able to floss your teeth even under the wire.
- 5. Kids are more motivated to brush their teeth when brushing with others and/or with music. So put a blue tooth speaker in the bathroom and encourage siblings to brush together when possible or brush to the length of their favorite song!

Dr. ThoaiLan Tran is a Board Certified Orthodontist working in both Tysons Corner and Reston, VA. He has gone to the Philippines 6 times to volunteer and provide free dental work as part of Medical Mission of Mercy USA (MMOMUSA). His orthodontic practice offers free consultations, and anyone who brings this newsletter to their consultation will be entitled to either a free kid's electric toothbrush or take-home whitening. His office incorporates new digital technology as part of his treatment modality, and he is one of the first and biggest user of Lightforce Custom 3D braces and Brava lingual orthodontics. His goal is to reduce your treatment time and provide better quality than old traditional metal braces with this new cosmetic and fast technology. He looks forward to working with the Filipino community!



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1. Protect

Use sunscreen daily.

2. Wash, Tone, Moisturize, and Repeat

Good skin is born from daily habits. The simple acts of creating a healthy skin care routine for morning and evening can improve your skin's health. A good skincare routine such as cleansing, toning, moisturizing, and protecting your skin daily can create healthier skin. We know how hard it can be to find the right products for your skin. At The Spa Clinic, we can customize an effective skin care routine for your skincare needs.

Hydrate 3.

Hydration promotes beautiful skin. Water is also very crucial to flush the toxins out from the skin through sweat and urine.

Exfoliate Dead Skin 4.

Exfoliation is the key to brighter and smoother skin. It removes dulling skin debris and piles up dead skin cells.

Come See Us and Get A Facial Every 4-6 Weeks 5.

Maintaining your skin is easier than trying to restore it. Come in regularly for a Facial and a personalized professional skin treatment. We can customize a skin care plan for your skin care needs.

At The Spa Clinic, we offer a variety of surgical and non-invasive cosmetic procedures as well as result-oriented skin care treatments by our team of skin care professionals. Founder and Medical Director, Joseph M. Arzadon, MD, DDS is a Diplomate with the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Fellow with the American Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons and a Fellow with the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery. By bringing together a friendly and professional team who are experts in their field, The Spa Clinic can provide you with the finest treatments and services available to make you look and feel better than ever.



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NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

During these trying times with all the uncertainties going on in the world today, there is no better time to unite and come as one with the business community, especially within the Filipino-American business community. Wouldn't it be better to have a team of professionals and business leaders at your disposal who will come together and provide a solution to your specific needs or problems? This is what being part of a community is all about. This is what the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce (PACC-DC) represent. It embodies a sense of community with focus on empowering and lifting each other up whether through business referrals, and sharing resources and information.



PACC-DC is the only organization in the Washington, D.C. area dedicated to connecting Filipino American business owners in various industries and professions. All our events and activities are geared towards helping you gain information, sharing resources, and connections to grow and improve each other's businesses. There are monthly meet and greet networking events, webinars with resource speakers on various topics, exclusive sponsored events, networking and advocacy opportunities with leading federal, state, and local officials, just to name a few.

Frankly, this is my first time to join any chamber of commerce or any networking group. Since I joined the PACC-DC a few months ago, so far it has been nothing less than amazing. Speaking from personal experience, I have gained so much already in the few months being part of the chamber. Not only that I received client referrals, I also gained professional connections and resources, mentors, but what I cherish the most is that I've also gained life-long friendships. I have been self-employed majority of my working life, and I've mostly worked alone. How I wish I've known to join the PACC-DC before, it would definitely have been so much easier and beneficial to be part of such a great organization that fosters the sense of family, togetherness, community, and success. I guess, like the old saying goes it's better late than never.

Now that I am here, and as the newly appointed Director of Membership, I am asking and encouraging everyone to support each other, let's join forces to promote the PACC-DC. Whether you are a sole proprietor or a Fortune 500 business, the benefits of being a member of the chamber will only help you and your business in a very positive way. If I was to describe the PACC-DC in a few words, first thing that comes to mind is family, then unity, hospitality, positive, industrious, respect and most of all, success and fun.

I am truly grateful to be given an opportunity to serve the Filipino-American business community and will try my best to support, promote, and enhance as many Filipino-American businesses in the Washington, DC metro area and beyond. Together we will all rise.

Mickey Pilar

Director of Membership, PACC-DC

MEMBERS BULLETIN BOARD

Help Wanted!

1) Looking for a Filipino/Fil-AM temp help to clean a 3-bedroom flat in D.C. starting this July (work period: approx. 3 months). If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Dita & Jim directly at jiidii@aol.com.

2) Looking for live-in Filipino/Fila-Am nanny to look after 2 kids for a couple based in NYC. Please contact Yue Wang directly at wangyue9919@gmail.com.

Join the PACC-DC!

PACC-DC

Our Vision

To expand and strengthen Filipino-American entrepreneurship and business development activities in the greater Washington, D.C. area, and to become a meaningful force in the growth and development of communities within the region.

Our Mission

To develop programs, seminars, and events that have a positive and lasting impact on the business community; to connect and foster open and consistent communications across all our communities; to support and augment all our members; and to organize and foster community outreach initiatives that benefit the entire region.

Membership Benefits

Business Development Connections

- Calendar of events & meetings offering networking and business development opportunities
- Priority registration and discounted event ticket pricing for members
- Sponsorship opportunities at networking events as well as e-newsletter, social media, and website
- Listing in and access to PACC-DC business directory and members-only resources
- Post job and partnership opportunities on the PACC-DC website and Newsletter
- Creating collaboration and business opportunities with fellow members
- Connections to local businesses, other Chambers of Commerce, and to SBA and Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) as well as other business organizations

Learning & Support

- Access to recognized industry experts, speakers, and thought leaders
- Mentorship opportunities with key business leaders
- Webinars on topics of interest

Savings

• Exclusive PACC-DC Membership Savings Card - discounts offered to member firms

Advocacy

Networking and advocacy opportunities with leading federal, state, and local officials

Reminder: Kindly pay your 2022 dues

Pay Online: https://www.pacc-dc.org/membership-renewal Pay with Venmo: @PACC-DC

Contact Treasurer: Thrina Lim at thrina.paccdc@gmail.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Member Name	Business/Employer
Montaign Gamino	Capital One
Marcus Soriano	Maridian, LLC
Scott Rabe	Northwestern Mutual
Alexander Baquilod	GoodConversion Marketing
Ma. Rebecca Hirsch	Tangapp
Richard & Emily Noserale	Noserale Home Improvement
Sheila Zelghi	Sheila & Company/Samson Properties
Henry Chan	PREDIQT
Monica Murdoch	Tangapp
Louie Anne Batac-Nguyen	The Sake Mom, LLC
Christine Pabico	Philippine Nurses Association of Metro DC
Angela Lacerna	EAB
Grace Villanueva	Philippine American Foundation for Charities

Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Washington D.C.

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