

2021 Annual Report

We hit our goals this year:

1. "Raffle with a smile" in honor of Aida Short.
2. Donation drive for the homeless : Summer/Fall
3. Annual Appeal Sustaining Gift Donation
4. Created a Financial Oversight Committee and a Strategic Planning Committee
5. Hired a CPA to look at our financial record
6. Donation in honor of birthdays
7. Nomination/Election
8. Thanksgiving meal to a family in need by an anonymous donor
9. Christmas Journal, souvenir with greetings/ads and Newsletter
10. Helped Filipino teachers
11. Criteria: Educational Assistance

*Top goals to recruit and retain membership:
Attract them, Keep them close, Grow them.*

Welcome new members: Troy Taduran, Zechs Taduran, Diana Calva, Mafel & Tim Ryan, Annie & Bimal Tudu, Rondel Jay Flores and Eugene de Leon Terre, our newest FASCOT member!

FASCOT, the first Filipino organization in Tucson is a welcoming group. Visit us at www.fascot.org



Maligayang Pasko



Merry Christmas



**A FASCOT Christmas 2021 Greetings Souvenir
and Newsletter**



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SUCCESSFULLY SERVING THE TUCSON COMMUNITY SINCE 1978



Acknowledgements

- ❖ Anonymous donor of \$50 for a family's Thanksgiving dinner
- ❖ Donors to FASCOT's General, Specific, Annual Appeal Sustaining Funds; Raffle door prizes
- ❖ Donors and dispatchers of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items to Sister Jose Women's Center
- ❖ Sponsors of Newsletter/Souvenir ads/greetings
- ❖ Adopt-A-Roadway volunteers and Coordinator, Terry Milligan
- ❖ FASCOT treasury and donors for "abuloy" to Filipino families who lost their loved ones
- ❖ Manol Oswald for creating the Newsletter/Ads Greetings Souvenir, 2020-2021 Issue
- ❖ Nori Riechers, outstanding Treasurer , 2020-2021
- ❖ Eric Riechers for helping Nori deliver things
- ❖ Carmen Norsworthy, effective "Point Person" 2020-2021 FASCOT Team
- ❖ Ed and Rebecca Diaz , for keeping FASCOT storage in their property
- ❖ Phil Harms for filing FASCOT's Annual Report
- ❖ Robert Hamburger, Zoom Meeting moderator, coordinator
- ❖ Gorgie Hamburger for providing homemade masks to newly-arrived Filipino teachers
- ❖ Editorial Staff members: Manol Oswald, Carmen Norsworthy, Eileen Godollie
- ❖ Special thanks to 2021 Officers, Board of Directors and Advisors for their voluntary service, love and team spirit, supporting the goals of the club during these difficult times

Our apologies, if we inadvertently failed to mention some names

Giving a piece of good deed, time, effort or money is really an act of gratitude for blessings received. An offering to others is really an offering to oneself.

Neneng Espiritu Babanto-Fassler

Reflections

The angel in my journey

By Neneng Espiritu Babanto-Fassler



Life during the pandemic can be a lonely journey especially to those elders who live alone. I'm one of them. Not a day goes by without hearing a loss of loved ones. We even lost a few of our members. I, myself was monitoring my brother, 83 who was admitted to the hospital in January. It was a miracle that he overcame pneumonia. I now provide my brother a full time helper. I became a distant caregiver. Life can be tough. I was sick, too. Recently, my nephew died. The sad thing was that his daughter Chenevieve, 39 was admitted to the hospital for leukemia. She died three weeks after her father passed away. Sometime in November 2020, Pax, our lovely and huge Tuxedo cat died. We grieved deeply for losing our pet. We planted a desert plant, an Ocotillo, in memory of him. I remember, at dawn, he would come to my bed and pat my cheeks to wake me up asking for food. After Pax was gone, something happened in our backyard. It was a cat. He was friendly so I started feeding him. He now visits me in the carport. After eating, I follow him to the alley. He would stop and rub his body against my legs or lie down by my foot. Then he would find a place where he can roll over. I don't know what his message is, but I only know his ritual gives healing of my heart. I think I have found an angel. There are different species on earth who can be a companion. You just have to notice them.

The above narrative is the other side of my life while serving as your club president. I'm human and have blind spots. As much as I tried to embrace all members, some still chose to stay away. There are three styles of leadership: Trailblazer, Ferryman, Shepherd. I like the style of the "Ferryman" who accompanies those under his care and shapes the ups and downs of the crossing.



LYDIA -YASMEEN GECOBPE PEERA SCHOLARSHIP

I am pleased to inform the future leaders of our community that a Scholarship in Honour of former President of FASCOT and American-Asian Faculty Staff Alumni Association(AAFSAA) Lydia-Yasmeen Gecobe Peera has been Established at the U of A.

The scholarship was established in 2009 to memorialize LYDIA for her services to the community and placing the importance in the field of Education. As an Education Scholarship, it allows Lydia to remain effective as she was in life as an Educator. The scholarship is valued at \$1000 for the academic year. This is a need based award, offered to students of ASIAN DESCENT.

For further details on how to apply annually, please contact :
Directeur Tana Jones at 520-621-5590- AAFASAA c/o UA
Alumni Association.



HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE INCOMING OFFICERS AND PRESIDENT NORI RIECHERS

AND KUDOS TO THE OUTGOING ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT NENENG B. FASSLER FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

SHIRAZ ALI PEERA, CRS, CIPS, MBA



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SUCCESSFULLY SERVING THE TUCSON COMMUNITY
SINCE 1978

2021 FASCOT Presidential Award recognizes Marie Lankford, President of the Pan Asian Community Alliance!

We sometimes take for granted our very own people when they show exemplary work or service to the community.



Last year, Marie Lankford invited me and Arneil Aro to perform a folk dance during the 25th Annual Asian Lunar New Year celebration. "There are a few performers from different Asian-Pacific countries. It's important we have a Philippine representation," Lankford expressed. The party was held at Tucson Marriott University Park on February 29, 2020. As soon as we came in, the usherette greeted us. The room was beautifully set up. Our very own Filipina PACA President, Marie Lankford was on stage, doing some finishing touches. It dawned on me, "How proud I was to witness a leader who looked just like me."

~ Neneng B. Fassler, FASCOT President ~

Induction of FASCOT 2022 Officers

Thanks to all the attendees.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Inducted by Neneng Fassler were: (L-R) Nori Riechers, Mark Norris, Eileen Godollei, Norie Mayo, Carmen Norsworthy, Arneil Aro

Outstanding Treasurer
Nori Riechers



Ed



Emelyn



Eileen

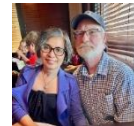


Mark



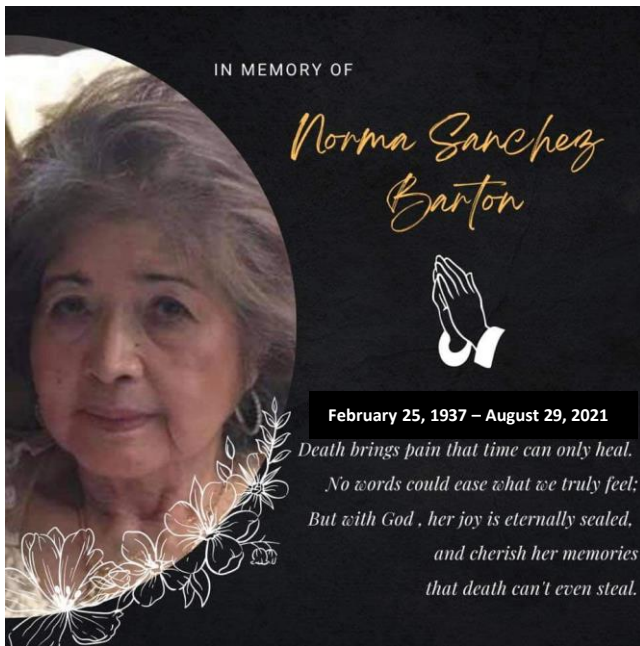
Herminia

Marie Lankford (center) received a plaque recognizing her community leadership and service to our country.



Certificate of Appreciation recipients were: Susan Liang, Eileen Godollei, Manol Oswald, Carmen Norsworthy, Ed Diaz, Robert Hamburger, Mark Norris, Herminia Maxon, Emelyn Eubanks.





Leading people requires a very different skill set than those needed for managing the work of others. A leader is someone who brings people together and guides them toward a common goal. They set the target, the pace, and the culture within an organization. This is an example of Nana Alice. She served and gave unconditionally. She served her church, her family and her friends and FASCOT as her organization. We will miss you Nana Alice Polintan May you rest in Peace!

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." 1 Corinthians 10:31



Our beloved Nana Alice was remembered at a memorial mass on November 6 at Our Mother of Sorrows church. Officiating were Msgr. Thomas Cahalane and Fr. Arnold. It was sponsored by Nana Alice's children and attended by good friends.

~ Lita Doss ~



May your Christmas and New Year be blessed with the joy of togetherness and the warmth of God's love.

Lita Doss

**Merry Christmas
"Kababayan!"**

From the Estipona Family



*Best wishes
for the Holidays
and for Health and Happiness
throughout the Year.*

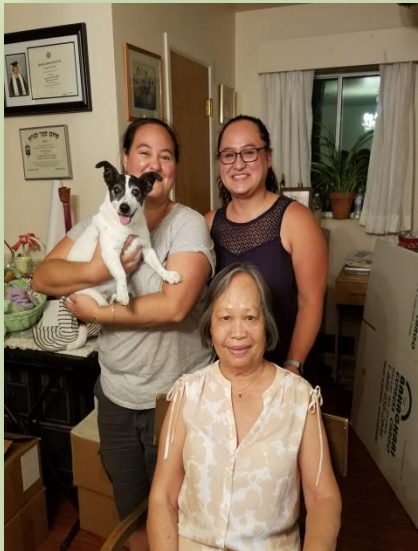
From Josie Alexander



**Peace and goodwill to all
mankind!
From the Fassler Family**



**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas 2021
and a healthy Happy New Year 2022.
From Carmencita B. Norsworthy**





*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

From Phil and Marylou Harms



Aida Short

I hope you all are smiling like my mom. She wants your continuation, providing cultural celebrations and keeping our Filipino heritage alive. Although my mother, Aida M. Short is not with you, she is urging you to smile and enjoy every moment in your life no matter how great or small you are. You are valued, seen and heard and very much loved. I know you miss her and we do, too. However, she would want you to continue living in joy and celebration. Salamat Po!

May all the blessings of Christmas fill your heart and home with joy and peace.



Donna Short Peera

Wishing everyone
a Merry Christmas
and a Healthy New year!



To Auntie Neneng,
Our best wishes
for the Holidays.



Marina & Marielle Wolfgang
New Jersey



From Amelita
and Allan Filam Harlow Jr.

In this *loveliest of seasons*
may you find many reasons
for *happiness*.

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Special Memories

B i r t h d a y s



Congratulations Priscilla Hunt! This photo was the Tucson Meet Yourself 2021 flyer cover.

~ Neneng Babanto-Fassler ~



Greg, 99



Emelyn



Carmen, Eric, Nori



Memorial mass and reception for dear Aida Short and Louie Munoz Thanks to Fr. Ricky Ordonez



Donation dispatchers to Sister Jose Women's Center



Sending you Christmas blessings and wishing you a joyous New Year.

~ Greg, Manol and Ava ~



Hermie Maxon, one of the winners



"Raffle with a Smile" A fundraiser inspired by Aida Short. The drawing was held at Joe and Mariles Abong's residence.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October Celebrants

10/4 Jimmy Salapantan
 10/07 Arneil Aro
 10/11 Paul Maxon
 10/12 Priscilla Hunt
 10/13 Eileen Godollei
 10/14 Greg Lankford
 10/21 Anching Gutang
 10/23 Lita Doss
 10/25 Shiraz Ali Peera
 10/27 Susan Liang

November Celebrants

11/08 Liglig Brennan
 11/29 Rene Contaoi



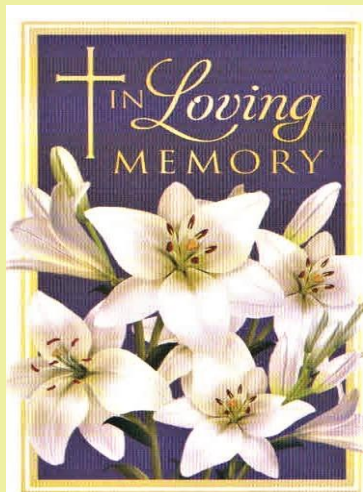
December Celebrants

12/13 Gorgie Hamburger
 12/16 Marie Lankford
 12/21 Doug Schultz
 12/22 Jeffrey Severage
 12/28 Gigie de Guzman
 12/30 Estrella Villanueva



Happy Holidays!!!

From Norie Mayo



**Joyce Ann Foutch
 1942-2021**



Christmas Blessings to ALL!

♥ Joe and Mariles

IN *Loving Memory*

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love and support you have extended to our family during this time of loss.

The Junio Family



LOLITA SUGAY JUNIO
JUN. 14, 1938 • OCT 30, 2021

Our loyal member, Susan Liang, 1987 FASCOT President



“FASCOT became my family when we first moved here,” Susan recalled. Born in Jaro, Leyte, but grew up in Tacloban city, Susan was the oldest of 13 siblings. Her parents were teachers. Though of modest means, they wanted their children to be better educated. Being the oldest who first came to the U.S., she tried hard to help her family. She came to the U.S. as an Exchange Student nurse. Susan met her late husband, Robert in one of the Nurses Association parties. They have three grown sons. It was during Susan’s term that the UP Concert Chorus performed in Tucson. With the help and cooperation of members, Susan had a successful year.

Susan has many attractive and admirable traits. She can make you laugh. She can assert her views without offending others. She is compassionate and caring to those who need help. She makes herself available for FASCOT.

She reflects life as a widow, “You think you have put your affairs in order, but nothing prepares you for widowhood. You have to learn to make decisions, learn from mistakes and get things done.”



Remembering Daniel Joaquin this Holiday Season!

A tribute to Daniel who immersed himself into the Philippine culture and loved to join caroling in the past.

The Joaquin Brothers had promoted the Tohono O’odham Waila music and even took it to Carnegie Hall.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas filled with optimism and good health!

Pat Chan Joaquin



New crop of smart, talented people

It is noticeable that in the past two years, we have quite a few people who are considered new crop in the mix of officers and board of directors. They got talents!

Robert Hamburger works with the INTUIT Company. He is the “IT” guy. He is the moderator of FASCOT Zoom meetings. He speaks his own mind.

Eileen Godollei is an addition to Sampaguita E-News Editorial Staff. She has an MFA from the U of A in creative writing, a church secretary for 25 years.

Mark Norris is highly engaged in administrative planning. He thinks if FASCOT wants a building, we can start small. He is a retired engineer.

Lady Dorothy Elli: Associated Student of the University of Arizona, Undergraduate Student Senator, major in Public Health, Dance Group member

Herminia Maxon was a teacher in the Philippines. She is now devoting her time in social work and humanitarian service.

Ed Diaz is a retired Marine, a teacher, Dance Group member.

Emelyn Eubanks thinks what we do in FASCOT is for a good cause. She is an experienced Club treasurer, a team player.

Glenda Tan Colley is an ESL teacher, videographer, a Dance Group member.

Biography: Marie Aliwalas Lankford



Born in the Philippines on December 16, 1953, she immigrated to the United States in 1977. In 1978, she enlisted in the US Air Force and served in various career field and special duty in the US Air Force. She became a US citizen when she was assigned at Pope AFB NC. Her assignments consisted of Lackland AFB, TX, Chanute AFB, IL, Pope AFB, NC, Andersen AFB Guam, Clark AB Philippines and Davis-Monthan AFB AZ where she served until 1995 when she took the early retirement. After her retirement from the Air Force, she was a contract counselor with the Base Education Center at DM AFB. She was the Site Director for Troy University and in November of 1997 was hired as a Federal Service counselor with the Base Education Center. To broaden her knowledge, she worked with the 355th Services Squadron as their Training Manager from 1999 to 2000. In 2001, she was asked to come back to Base Education Center to stand up the new Most Efficient Organization (MEO) Base Training and Education Services. She was promoted to the Education Services Officer, the inherently governmental position in the Education Services at DM AFB, Arizona in 2003. In 2008, with the Mission Support Squadron and Services Squadron's merger, she was assigned as the departmental head of the Force Development Flight, which consisted of the Base Education Center, Military Testing, Military and Civilian training, Professional Military Education, First Term Airmen Course, and the Base Library. She retired from Federal Service in December 2015.

She is currently the Oasis Church Point Person for Careportal, (a non-profit organization partnering with the Dept. of Child Safety, providing items to maintain family stability) She also teaches Polynesian dancing, Hot Hula Fitness classes and manages Siva Maia Polynesian Dancers, LLC.

She currently serves in several non-profit organization and advisory committees:

President: Pan Asian Community Alliance, Tucson, AZ

Treasurer: Air Force Association Chapter 105

Secretary: Tucson Community Cares Foundation

Volunteer: 4Tucson(Organization uniting and mobilizing Christians, empowering them to put biblical principles into action and engaging our city's most systemic problems).

Some of her accolades include:

Southern AZ YWCA Women of the Move Award, 2007

Asian Pacific Federal Employee of the year Award Air Combat Command Level, 2005

University of Arizona's Asian American Faculty Staff and Alumni Community Award, 2002

Civilian Employee of the Year (2001) for Davis-Monthan AFB

Nathan Altschuler Award Excellence in Education Air Force Level, 2001

She is married to Gregory Lankford and she has one son, Christopher Meek.

EDUCATION:

M.A. Counseling, Chapman University - 1996

B.S. Psychology, University of Maryland - 1987

A.A. Education and Training Management, Community College of the Air Force - 1986

Sampaguita Dance Group



May your holidays sparkle



with moments



of laughter and joy.





Sampaguita E-News

ISSUE IV OCT. NOV. DEC. 2021 FOURTH QUARTER

EDITORIAL STAFF

NENENG B. FASSLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MANOL OS. WALD -
COPY EDITOR

CARMEN NORSWORTHY-
PHOTOGRAPHER

EILEEN GODOLLEI
CONTRIBUTOR

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President's Message



This message is dedicated to a dear friend, late Aida Short. She was at our table during the Mabuhay Cultural Show held at U of A Banquet Room sometime in 2019. She whispered to me, "Neneng, you run as FASCOT president. You can do it." The rest is history!

The time has come. I thank you my FASCOT family for your part during my term as

president. The incoming leadership is going to be awesome but they need support.

Manol also sent some inspiring words, "Your term as president will end soon, but you have an impressive record to speak of. We are blessed to be led by you at such a time we never experienced before. You were not sitting down just waiting for the pandemic to go away. Bravo to you and God bless you!" In our journey together I've noticed

Neneng Babanto Fassler someone among us who does an exemplary job and does not care if she gets the credit. That special member is Mariles Abong. Then there's Bing and Rene Contaoi who gave me their full support. I served as board of director during Bing's term in 1996. I thought the way she ran her administration was exemplary.

Kudos to our goal-oriented officers, board of directors, advisors, and to Terry Milligan, AAR Coordinator! We score a home run as a team!

Speaking of Nobel Prize by Shiraz Ali Peera

As we celebrated the Nobel Peace Prize winner of Maria Reesa from the Philippines in Journalism, I was caught off guard but, elated and euphoric to hear that another Nobel Prize Winner in Literature also

hailed from the developing world—Tanzania, my former hometown. Author Abdulrazak Gurnah, 73 was born and raised in Zanzibar, Tanzania but based in England. His first

language was Swahili but his literary language became English. Part of what the Nobel Committee said was, "Gurnah's dedication to truth, his aversion to simplification is striking."

2022 FASCOT Executive Board



President: Nori Riechers
Vice-President: Mark Norris
Secretary: Eileen Godollie
Asst. Secretary: Norie Mayo
Treasurer: Arneil Aro
Asst. Treasurer: Carmen Norsworthy

2021 FASCOT Executive Board

Pres. Neneng B. Fassler



Pres. Elect Robert Hamburger

1st VP Eileen Godollei



2nd VP Mark Norris

Asst. Secretary Susan Liang



Secretary Lady Dorothy Elli



Treasurer Nori Riechers

Board of Directors

Ed Diaz



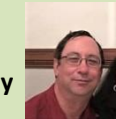
Emelyn Eubanks



Shiraz Ali Peera



Carmen Norsworthy



Phil Harms

Advisors

Angelita Doss



Marylou Natividad Harms



Manol Oswald

