



Bayanihan Spirit Lives on . . .

The Task Force Kapatid Program of NEA and the electric cooperatives (ECs) has been raised to a higher level with Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo administering the oaths of office of the officers of the Task Force Kapatid, Inc. at the Heroes Hall of Malacañang Palace last April 2, 2007.

Initiated by Presidential Adviser on Rural Electrification, Secretary Francisco G. Silva when he was NEA Administrator, the Task Force Kapatid Program was launched in 2002 as the electrification's answer to quick response in crisis within the energy industry. The program pools together volunteers from different electric cooperatives (ECs) to render free service to other ECs which need technical help. The first beneficiary was the Lanao del Sur Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LASURECO) which in 2002 was aided to electrify 22 lakeshore barangays of Lake Lanao and re-energize 8 municipalities within its coverage area. LASURECO had the lowest energization rate nationwide. Since then, 12 various task forces have been successfully conducted to either restore power lines after devastation of typhoons, extension of distribution lines in the far-flung barangays and sitios, rehabilitation/upgrading of distribution lines.

"The institutionalization of the Task Force Kapatid Program is a sunshine news in these trying and competitive



President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo (3rd from left) administers the oath of office of Mr. Tereso Lebumfacil, President of Task Force Kapatid, Inc. and GM Rex Coronel, President of NAGMEC while Secretary Silva (2nd from left), PMS Secretary Remonde (4th from left) and Administrator Bueno (2nd from right) witness the ceremony at the Malacañang Palace on April 2, 2007.

times. It is a manifestation that the bayanihan spirit lives on in the electrification sector and this is good for the electricity

page 8

Top Performing ECs Bag 1st LUMENS Awards

The top performing electric cooperatives for 2006 received the 1st EC LUMENS Awards during the NEA-EC National Conference and Recognition at the Legenda Hotel in Subic, Zambales on April 27, 2007. As the Anvil is for publications, the ECs now have the EC LUMENS Awards, signifying their distinctive place among the roster of local and international awards.

The award captures the peak performance of the recipient EC. Anchored on the word "lumen" which is an internationally accepted unit of measurement in science and technology, or to be definite, a unit of luminous flux (a measure of the perceived power of light and the flux being the rate of flow of energy across a given area), the award is a recognition of excellence in the industry, manifesting the dynamism that radiates from the center or the core services that the ECs project.

It is a fact that it is illumination that brings vibrancy to the unlit communities and that brightness, as perceived by various beneficiaries and stakeholders, is a prism of varying wavelengths in colors representing the combined aspirations

in one harmonized environment.

LUMENS elevate the regular awards to a higher level and shall be given to those who are and which are luminaries in the field of rural electrification ... those who and which continue to inspire and make a difference. The Performance Measures are benchmarked against the standards in the industry, such as the Distribution Code, and shall focus on five distinct areas namely, Service Excellence; Operational Performance; Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability; and Best Practices.

Public image and customer satisfaction are key factors in mobilizing business performance. Thus, the grant

page 4

Operation “Bantay Kuryente”: Steady Power Supply during National Elections Assured

As in the previous years, an adequate and reliable power supply is the country’s concern during the conduct of national elections. This is to ensure that the canvassing of votes will not be deterred by the absence of electricity, which can delay or cause any untoward incident to affect the result of the elections.

To this end, NEA created the Power Reliability Task Force: Operation Bantay Kuryente. The Task Force strengthens vigilance and ensures responsive monitoring of power services of the 119 Electric Cooperatives (ECs) during the conduct of the national elections. The Task Force renders 24-hour round the clock operations to maintain a close watch on the continuous power supply of the ECs and submits accurate periodic reports to the Administrator and DOE Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla. It also coordinates with the Energy Sector’s Task Force Halalan Command Center. This year’s Task Force Halalan, headed by the DOE, was comprised of the National Power Corporation (NPC), National Transmission Corporation (TransCo), Philippine National Oil Company – Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC), Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM), Manila Electric Company (MERALCO), the Philippine Electric Power Plant Operators Association (PEPOA), and the NEA.

NEA’s Task Force Bantay Kuryente has monitored the power services of the ECs in the recently concluded 2007 national elections. With the Task Force’s operations, power



NEA’s Operation Bantay Kuryente synchronizing its operation with the Energy Family’s Task Force Halalan 2007. Command/monitoring posts include the TransCo (above) and the NEA (below) offices.

interruption has been minimal in said elections and quick response dispatch teams were created by the ECs to readily address power interruptions in their respective coverage areas. Secretary Lotilla used the RQIM network of NEA to call on the ECs to coordinate with the Task Force Bantay Kuryente in order to ensure power interruption-free elections.

There were no major power-related incidents that would have hampered or affected the conduct of an orderly and peaceful election. The power interruptions monitored and reported were isolated ones and at worst were force majeure situations, and none of which were election-related that could have caused a failure of elections in the ECs’ coverage areas.

Cultural Affairs Room (C.A.R.) - Showcase of R.E. Heritage

NEA recently installed a Cultural Affairs Room (C.A.R.) located at the 2nd Floor, HESA.

The C.A.R. serves as a venue for the creative expressions of employees through music, dance, paintings, drama and other forms of performing, literary and visual arts to capture the R.E. culture. Likewise, it showcases the individual and shared performances of employees and other friends of the rural electrification program. It is one way of giving tribute to those who, in one way or another, advocate the rural electrification cause.

Last April 2, 2007, Secretary Francisco G. Silva, together with Administrator Edita S. Bueno, formally launched the C.A.R. Some 300 NEA & EC employees, RE supporters from the Rural Electrification Advocates of the Philippines (REAP) and the Rural Electrification Financing Corporation (REFC) witnessed this momentous event which coincided with Secretary Silva’s natal day.

To date, some 75 artifacts, musical instruments, photo posters/exhibits, costumes are displayed inside the C.A.R.



Secretary Silva and Administrator Bueno cut the ceremonial ribbon during the opening of the Cultural Affairs Room at the 2/F of the NEA Bldg. last April 2, 2007.

which reflect the rich heritage as well as pervading culture within NEA and the ECs.

NEA and ADB Ink MoU on Project Preparatory Technical Assistance for ECs

Administrator Edita S. Bueno and Mr. Yongping Zhai, Team Leader and Principal Specialist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (TA) for Rural Electric Cooperatives Development Project last June 22, 2007. The Signing of the MoU is the culmination of a series of meetings and consultations since March 2007, as NEA will be the Executing Agency for the TA and will work in close collaboration with ECs and other relevant government agencies.

The MoU aims to give assistance in the power sector to ensure a sustainable, efficient and secure power supply in the country. It will study the feasibility and determine the ECs' investment requirements and institutional strengthening in (1) upgrading of distribution system/improvement of energy efficiency; (2) acquisition of TransCo's sub-transmission assets; (3) ECs' readiness in the wholesale electricity market; (4) options for aggregation of ECs' power purchases and provision of training for the WESM trading. The ADB will use the final TA outputs in considering the provision of a loan to NEA to meet the ECs' investment requirements. The outcome of the TA is the agreed design, mitigation measures on environmental and social impacts, and financing and implementation arrangements of the resulting project.

The TA, estimated to cost \$786,000, will be implemented over 8 months, starting January 2008. It will be financed, on a grant basis, by ADB's TA funding program in the amount of \$550,000 equivalent, which will include the entire foreign currency cost and \$175,000 equivalent in local



Administrator Bueno signs the Memorandum of Understanding between NEA and ADB, represented by Mr. Yongping Zhai. Deputy Administrator Mariano T. Cuenco witnesses the MoU signing held at the Queenie Room last June 22, 2007.

currency costs. NEA will contribute the remaining \$236,000 as local counterpart, including office and staff support.

The technology transfer, such as all computer models, databases and training materials, among others will be transferred at NEA's disposal upon completion of the TA. ■

Introducing RELEASERS PASS, an Enhanced Lending Program for the ECs

In order to better serve its clients, the electric cooperatives (ECs), NEA introduced an enhanced lending program known as **RELEASERS PASS**. The acronym stands for the following: **REG**ular and Calamity Loan; **LOG**istical Loan; **EQU**ity Financing Scheme for the ECs; **ACQ**uisition of 69 KV Lines from TransCo; **SIG**le-Digit System Loss; **ENH**ancement of ECs Capital Resources (Collateral Sharing); **RES**tructuring of Loan; **SUB**sidy ; **POW**er Account Settlement; **ADD**-ons; **SEC**urity Deposit and **SPE**cial Retirement Package.

Through NEA's Accounts Management and Guarantee Department (AMGD), this has improved NEA's existing loan program called SPORTSFEST. With RELEASERS PASS, new and responsive loan windows are opened that address ECs' loan requirements. Some of which are:

- 1) Logistical Loan – for the occasional replenishment of support equipment such as radios, audio-visual equipment, computers, vehicles, testing equipment, safety gear, linemen tools and other logistical equipment.
- 2) Add-ons – for the housewiring and kilowatt-hour meters of newly connected consumers
- 3) Security Deposit – for the security deposit requirement of GENCOs, TRANSCO and WESM
- 4) Special Retirement Package – for the retirement of employees affected by the reorganization

These windows are in addition to the regular loan packages being offered by NEA as enumerated above. As of June 30, 2007, some Six Hundred Thirty Nine Million (P 639 M) had been released to 10 ECs. ■



Lumens Awards from page 1

of these awards intends to include a board of evaluators, consisting of representations from clients, and a cross section of the business community and local leaders, before NEA inputs its imprimatur.

The **EC LUMENS Awards** shall be given every April of the calendar year starting this year.

The top EC luminaries for 2006 include **CEBECO III** and **BOHECO I**. **CEBECO III** garnered 6 awards, including the Grand Hall of Fame Award and 6 Citations. **BOHECO I**, on the other hand, reaped 5 awards, including the Hall of Fame Award and 2 Citations. **BOHECO I** also led the EC Official Awardees. Its General Manager, Engr. Carlos B. Itable, received the Pedro G. Dumol Award for Best General Manager of the Year for the 3rd consecutive time thus earning him the Hall of Fame Award in this category. Likewise, its Assistant General Manager, Mr. Virgilio C. Fortich, is one of the recipients of the Secretary Francisco G. Silva Leadership (SFGS) Award.

Other EC luminaries for 2006 include **TARELCO I**,

BATELEC I and **ANECO** (Mega Large) and **TARELCO II**, **NEECO II-Area 2**, **MORESCO I**, **LANECO**, and **DORECO** (Extra Large) which got the EC of the Year

Award (Based on EC Classification).

PENELCO, **BATELEC I**, **CEBECO III**, and **MORESCO I**, likewise, collected the Administrator's Award. General Managers (GMs) Wilfred L. Billena of **ILECO I** and Jesus P. Dela Victoria of **DASURECO** both received the PGD Award for Best General

Manager of the Year. Other GMs who bagged the General Manager of the Year (Based on EC Classification) include Engr. Resurreccion R. Coronel of **TARELCO I** and Architect Horacio T. Santos of **ANECO** for Mega Large; and Engr. Julie B. Real of **MORESCO I** for Extra Large.

The SFGS Leadership Award for General Managers went to GM Coronel and Acting GM Marilyn M. Caguimbal of **BATELEC II** for Luzon; GM Gil A. Altamira of **ILECO III** for Visayas; and GM Dela Victoria



(Clockwise) **CEBECO III** and **BOHECO I** officials receive the Grand Hall of Fame Award and the Hall of Fame Award, respectively, from the NEA Board of Administrators during the Lumens Awards at the Hotel Legenda in Subic, Zambales last April 25, 2007; NEA Officials and associates involved in the event; and the Lumens Award trophy.

page 8

NEA's Move for 100% Barangay Energization: Now at 95%

The country's Rural Electrification Program is on track of its goal to attain 100% barangay energization by 2009. As of the end of first quarter 2007, barangay energization level has hit 95% with 39,955 of the potential 41,945 barangays having access to electricity services.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo led the symbolic ceremonial switch-on to mark the electrification of the said barangays in Malacañang last May 4, 2007. Energy Secretary Lotilla, NEA Administrator Bueno and National Power Corporation (NPC) President Cyril C. Del Callar witnessed the occasion.

Rural Electrification has been one of the priority concerns of the Arroyo Administration as it is included in the 10-point agenda of the President. NEA, together with the 119 ECs nationwide, remains the prime mover in the electrification sector energizing 34,106 or 85% of the total 39,955 electrified barangays today. With the implementation of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (EPIRA), collaborative efforts from the private sector and the multilateral and bilateral agencies have helped accelerate the energization of the remaining 1,924

unenergized barangays in the country.

Administrator Bueno also witnessed the signing of the Power Supply Agreement for the supply of 13 megawatt of dependable capacity to the Masbate Electric Cooperative, Inc. (MASELCO) using hybrid technology and to the launching of the Philippine Rural Electrification Services (PRES) Project being implemented through the Filipino-French Protocol financing amounting to P17.5 million. The Supply Agreement, which will be implemented with private sector participation particularly the D/M. Consunji, Inc. (DMCI) Holdings will reduce the existing generating cost of the NPC from P12.00/kWh to P7.07/kWh for the consumers of MASELCO. The PRES Project, meanwhile, is expected to support the provision of adequate and reliable electricity to benefit 18,000 households in 128 barangays in Masbate and Ticao Island. ■

NEWS Around the ECs

DORECO and Big Rivers Electric: Making a Difference in the Philippine Countryside

The Davao Oriental Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DORECO) collaborated with the Big Rivers Electric Corporation of Kentucky, U.S.A. in bringing not only light but livelihood for the rural folks in the far flung areas under DORECO's coverage area in the province of Davao Oriental.

DORECO General Manager Greg Dukil and the EC employees welcomed their partner, Mr. Travis Housely, Vice President of Special Projects at Big Rivers Electric Corporation, in his 14th visit to the country to assess five prospective new missionary villages and the development of their sponsored special projects with DORECO.

"Our project works like this. We request the host cooperative to select some villages it recommends to be our target villages. They are called missionary villages because these villages do not meet the normal criteria for energization, and would not be energized quickly without outside help," said Mr. Travis Housely.

They develop a profile of the residents, such as their source of income, average income level, and how they would use electricity to determine if these rural folks would be benefited by electricity. In 2006, they energized another 5 villages bringing to a total of 29 villages energized to date, representing a positive impact in the lives of at least 7,250 individuals.

The housewiring loan program which costs about \$50, for instance, has proven to be popular since most families earn a meager income of \$40-\$100 a month. The money placed into this program only revolves back into a new loan after repayment. Some ladies-sewing cooperatives have also been set up; a furniture building enterprise, animal disbursement projects, an ice maker project in a fishing village, and the motorized fishing boat business is gaining ground.

Funds for these special projects are derived from cash donations and donation of used electrical equipment being shipped to the Philippines. They work with Philippine electric cooperatives to help electrify poor areas, develop livelihood projects, and assist in developing other projects to benefit the villagers of the Philippine countryside. *(Article courtesy of DORECO).* ■

14 ECs Reinforce Selves thru Linemen Training

In response to the challenges brought about by cut-throat competition in the environment of the deregulated electricity industry, 14 ECs have undergone Basic Linemen Training Course and Linemen Upgrading Course being conducted by NEA through the Management Assistance Group – Supervisory and Assessment Office [MAG-SAO] during the 1st semester of 2007 benefiting 404 linemen.



(Clockwise) Engr. Romulo Garduque (2nd from right) and Greg Arquero (in striped shirt) instruct trainees from ROMELCO on safety techniques during the Basic Linemen Training Course in Romblon from May 22-June 16, 2007. Bottom picture shows ROMELCO trainees during the Pole Climbing Exercise.

These ECs include SOLECO, ANTECO, SURSECO II, ROMELCO, CASURECO II, NEECO II-Area II, SORECO I, and the members of the North Eastern Luzon Electric Cooperatives Association [NELECA] namely CAGELCO II, ISELCO I, ISELCO II, QUIRELCO, NUVELCO, KAELCO, and IFELCO.

The course is composed of the following modules, specifically designed and developed for the ECs: Module I – Proper and In-house Training; Module II – Pole Climbing and Dummy Assembly Exercise; and Module III – Practicum on Actual Construction of Distribution Line.

Since the first Basic Linemen Training Course was carried out in June 2005 in SOCOTECO II, 12 other schools in 12 different ECs followed. Likewise, 11 schools for the Linemen Upgrading Course [Linemen II] had been accomplished.

The MAG-SAO Team is led by Dr. Adolben Flores with Engrs. Romulo Garduque and Nelson Lalas, Gregorio Arquero, Rosario B. Garcia, Paul Dindo dela Cruz, and Jesus Obidos, Jr., as trainers. ■

Teambuilding Re-energizes EDUs Sector, HRAD Personnel

A 3-day Teambuilding Program was held at the Boy Scouts of the Philippines Compound in Makiling, Laguna on May 23-25, 2007 for the more than 100 employees of the NEA-Electric Distribution Utilities [EDUs] Sector headed by Deputy Administrator Pablo M. Pan III. The sector is composed 3 departments namely Institutional Development, Electric Cooperatives' Audit and Engineering.

Deputy Pan had wittingly said, "we will have a teambuilding seminar as to what we had in our Boy Scout and Girl Scout days. We will rediscover the lost exuberance of youth". And they did.

Prior to departure, the whole entourage had been divided into 6 teams of mixed groupings allowing each to develop new friendships and renew old ones. The excitement had not simmered for weeks at the 6th floor of the NEA building as recounts seemed unrelenting.

Conducted by Mentor Group of Mr. Noel Resurreccion, the program started with the usual ice breaking exercises, allowing everyone to mingle. A combination of individual and group activities had secretly

been prepared. Both physical and mental exercises were required of group members with no exception as they competed for the highest team score.

Processing after each exercise was done emphasizing the "self", the group to which it belongs to and the interrelation of the two. At the end of the 3-day program, the leaders of the EDUs expressed hope that as the sector goes back to its office routine, lessons learned as team members, are effectively applied in doing individual tasks.

At the same time, 27 employees of the Human Resources and Administration Department [HRAD] undertook a Seminar on Work Performance Improvement thru Team Building in Los Baños, Laguna on May 24-25, 2007. Facilitated by Nestor Z. Flores, it was aimed for the participants to have the opportunity to build synergy among team members; enhance the team's creativity; discover new ways of working together; and actively carry these new ways of working back to the workplace.

Follow-thru activities were also undertaken at the HRAD workplace, NEA Office. ■

"Lakbay Aral" Boosts NEA and EC Relations

As part of NEA's corporate culture development and to further improve relations with the ECs, 3 departments embarked on "Lakbay-Aral" to 3 different ECs.

Thirty [30] officials and employees of the Engineering Department were the first to have a Lakbay-Aral at the Peninsula Electric Cooperative, Inc. (PENELCO) in Balanga, Bataan on April 12-13, 2007. They did site inspection of PENELCO physical facilities such as the Automated Substations and well-constructed sub-offices that are both operationally cost-effective and aesthetically valuable. An orientation on the EC's systems reliability status was also imparted by the PENELCO management led by GM Loreto Marcelino.

On May 17-19, 2007, 22 officials and employees of the Accounts Management and Guarantee Department and Office of the Deputy Administrator for Corporate Resources and Financial Services (AMGD/ODACRFS) followed suit, this time to the La Union Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LUELCO) in Aringay, La Union. The group undertook the Lakbay-Aral in order to primarily learn the corporate culture of LUELCO and witness its headquarters, a Lumens Awardee for Model Headquarters Facilities during the 2007 EC Awards and Recognition and to promote NEA's enhanced lending program and new guidelines on subsidy releases. They were warmly received by GM Ramon Posadas, the Board of Directors and LUELCO Employees.

Likewise, 12 officers and support staff of the Public Affairs Office visited the Central Pangasinan Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENPELCO) in San Carlos City, Pangasinan, including parts of its coverage area and to the Mirant Sual Power Station in Sual, Pangasinan on June 7-8, 2007 for their own Lakbay-Aral. As the frontline department



(L-R) PAO Staff with Executive Officer Edgardo Piamonte during their Lakbay Aral to CENPELCO and Mirant Sual Power Station, June 7-8, 2007, and the AMGD Group with General Manager Ramon Posadas and the LUELCO Staff at the LUELCO headquarters in Aringay, La Union last May 18, 2007.

in communicating with the ECs as well as with the different energy agencies and government corporations, PAO took on this activity to gather information/materials and to enhance the skills and knowledge of its personnel on the issues affecting the ECs in particular, and the power industry in general.

CENPELCO management led by Executive Officer (EO) Edgardo R. Piamonte briefed the PAO group on status of the EC operation, which has vastly improved with EO Piamonte at the helm; from Category E to Category B status. Meanwhile, officers of Mirant Philippines conducted an orientation on how the coal thermal power plant works and a tour around the plant. These activities gave the group a concrete and deeper understanding on the interlink between power generation and power distribution. ■

"NEA is an Epicenter of Positive Energy" - Vince Perez

"NEA is certainly an epicenter of positive energy. I hope it will continuously build and spread this energy to the ECs and be a leader among the GOCCs as far as governance is concerned", said former Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary and NEA Board Chair Vince S. Perez, Jr. during an interview at his present office, Merritt Energy Partners, in Makati City last May 10, 2007.

NEA thanked the former Energy Chief for his valuable contribution in the approval of Executive Order Nos. 622 and 623 by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo last May 9, 2007. Secretary Perez was assigned by the President as convenor in resolving pressing issues affecting the ECs during the ceremony institutionalizing the NEA-ECs Task Force Kapatid in Malacañang last April 2. Executive Order No. 622 repeals E.O. No. 460 dated September 2, 2005, entitled, "Amending Executive Order No. 119 (S. 2002) and for other purposes", while E.O. No. 623 affirms the continuing regulatory and supervisory authority of the National Electrification Administration, under Republic Act No. 9136 and Presidential Decree No. 269 (as amended by Presidential Decrees No. 1645), over all electric cooperatives including those registered with the Cooperative Development Authority or the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Also, Secretary Perez happily noted that barangay energization level has now reached 95% nationwide and congratulated NEA and the ECs for their significant contribution in this achievement, and consequently to nation building. Asked on what aspect does NEA need to improve to better serve its client ECs, he opined that NEA needs to help the ECs deal with the deregulated industry, especially on their readiness for the operation of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market. "NEA has to find a way in making the ECs be comfortable with WESM, designing their new power supply agreement, providing technical assistance, getting involved in training system of WESM, which are new to us. ECs have a variety of readiness, and for those which are reluctant, that's where I think NEA can assist these ECs", he concluded.

Secretary Perez, who has embraced the Rural Electrification Program (REP) during his stint at the helm of DOE, is still championing the Program even in his capacity as private citizen. After leaving government service in March 2005, he retained REP as one of his advocacies. In fact when he was accepted at the Yale University in the United States for a course for young leaders of the world (where he landed as Valedictorian of the class), his thesis was about Rural Electrification. Since then, "I have been finding ways and means to promote concrete rural electrification in the provinces, specifically on small scale electrification, preferably on renewables like micro-hydro or mini-hydro or solar to make electricity available to all Filipinos", he said. ■

Government Corporate Counsel for Energy Sector briefed on R.E.

Justice Alberto C. Agra, the newly-appointed Government Corporate Counsel, visited NEA on June 22, 2007 as part of his fast learning and interactive strategy to get acquainted with the Energy Sector Offices which his Office has to represent in any legal forum.



Administrator Edita Bueno and Justice Alberto Agra during the visit.

Administrator Edita Bueno, the NEA Assembly of Leaders and selected associates welcomed him. Thereafter, in the Pelaez Room, he was briefed on the status of the Rural Electrification Program, NEA functions and core competencies and the nature of the electric cooperatives.

"I am overwhelmed with NEA's outpouring show of support for the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC)", stated Justice Agra. Administrator Bueno, likewise, expressed her appreciation for the strong legal support that NEA gets from the OGCC, especially from the Legal Team III headed by AGCC Bel D. Derayunan, and added that "NEA looks forward to further fruitful work with your office and legal team". ■

A Toast to NEA Moms and Dads

In line with its Gender Advocacy and Development (GAD) Program, NEA paid homage to moms and dads in a simple but meaningful ceremonies at the H.E.S. Auditorium last May 15 and June 25, 2007, respectively.

During the Mothers' Day celebration, billed as "Parents' Love: Power behind Children's Success", a special tribute was given to parents who have successfully guided their children through tertiary, secondary and primary education. "I am happy that NEA parents are striking a good balance between a career in public service and a family life. I hope to see in your children the future leaders of this country", Administrator Bueno said as she congratulated them.

Meanwhile, as captured in their individual Fieldwork Diary, NEA dads shared their experiences, trials and successes in rearing their children and raising their families.

On both occasions, the Lights and Sounds Chorale provided musical numbers while homegrown poems by Director Judith Alferes entitled, "A Mom Like Mine", was dedicated to all mothers and "Moments with Dad" was read to honor all the fathers.

These celebrations affirm NEA's strong sense of value of maintaining a happy family in order to have happy and motivated employees. ■



REAP Renews Support to Rural Electrification

Administrator Bueno and Former Administrator, Ret. General Pedro G. Dumol, were the Guests of Honor during the 1st Annual General Membership Meeting of the Rural Electrification Advocates of the Philippines [REAP] at the PGD Library and Museum last June 4, 2007.



Members of the REAP pose with Administrator Bueno (4th from left) and Gen. Pedro Dumol (5th from left) after their 1st Annual Membership Meeting last June 4, 2007 at the PGD Library and Museum.

REAP is a non-government organization composed of former officers and employees of NEA and the ECs. On its first year, REAP in cooperation with NEA, was able to publish a Coffee Table Book on Rural Electrification entitled, "Light this Beloved Land" chronicling the significant achievements of NEA and the 119 ECs nationwide which, to date, has brought light to 7.5 million households representing 44 million Filipinos throughout the archipelago. It has also conducted 2 schools of training on corporate communication in partnership with NEA and PENELCO.

"Welcome back to NEA! I would like to thank you for your support to NEA and to your committed involvement in the Rural Electrification Program. Rest assured that we will continue to assist REAP in its future projects especially for the ECs. I hope that you will carry on to have the kind of dedication to the program which we, in one way or another, have learned from General Dumol", Administrator Bueno said to the members of REAP during her keynote speech.

General Dumol, who acts as Adviser for REAP, likewise expressed his gratitude to NEA and the Administrator for supporting REAP in all its undertakings.

REAP President, Mr. Francis Nacienceno, presided over the Business Meeting where the accomplishments and future projects were presented and an election of Board of Directors was held. A fellowship followed at the Training Room B where the Advocates were joined by the Assembly of Leaders and serenaded by the Lights and Sounds Chorale. ■

Bayanihan Spirit from page 1

consumers in the rural areas. NEA is doubly glad that it contributes to support the Arroyo Presidency in its thrust to provide efficient, reliable and affordable electricity service in the countryside", Administrator Edita S. Bueno said.

The first set of officers of Task Force Kapatid, Inc. include Mr. Tereso Lebumfacil of CEBECO III - President; Ms. Lilibeth Fuster of PENELCO - Vice President; Mr. Jeremias Boligao of BOHECO I - Secretary; Mr. Rodolfo Reyes of BATELEC I - Treasurer; Mr. Pedrito Bacullo of MORESCO I - Auditor; Mr. Lyndon Abucay of LANECO, Mr. Rogelio Gomez of ZAMSURECO II and Mr. Francisco Diza of TARELCO I - Directors.

The ceremony coincided with the oath taking of the new officers of the National Association of General Managers of Electric Cooperatives (NAGMEC) with GM Resurreccion Coronel of TARELCO I as President and the National Solidarity of Unions and National Solidarity of Associations of ECs headed by Mr. Leonardo Belingon of BENECON and Mr. Ferdinand Canastra of DASURECO, respectively, which President Arroyo also administered.

On hand to support NEA and the ECs for the occasion were Secretary Cerge Remonde, Director General of the Presidential Management Staff (PMS), Department of Energy (DOE) Undersecretary Melinda Ocampo, and former Energy Chief Vince Perez, who incidentally was the DOE Secretary and Chair of the NEA Board of Administrators when the Task Force Kapatid Program commenced. ■

Lumens Awards from page 4

for Mindanao. Aside from AGM Fortich, Mr. Leonardo G. Belingon (BENECON) of the National Solidarity of Union (NSU) and Mr. Ferdinand D. Canastra (DASURECO) of the National Solidarity of Associations (NSA) Presidents and the Central Pangasinan Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CENPELCO) Board of Directors also received the award. ■

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