



Ambassador Jose L. Cuisia Jr., front row, 4th from left, with Consul General Marciano Paynor, Jr., (San Francisco), Consul General Mary Jo Aragon (Los Angeles), Consul General Mario de Leon, Jr. (New York), Consul General Bayani Mercado (Guam), Consul General Leo Herrera Lim (Chicago), Consul General Leoncio Cardenas, Jr. (Honolulu), Consul General Medardo Macaraig (Saipan), Consul General Domingo Nolasco (Washington, D.C.), Trade Representative Glenn Penaranda (Chicago), Trade Representative Archimedes Gomez (Los Angeles), Trade Representative Eugenio Elevado (New York), Senior Trade Representative Romulo Manlapig (Washington, D.C.) and Tourism Representative Emma Ruth Yulo (New York). (Photo by Bing Cardenas Branigin)



“The principle of give and take is the principle of diplomacy — give one and take ten.”

— Mark Twain□

THE new Philippine ambassador to the United States **Jose Lampe Cuisia, Jr.** arrived in Washington, D.C. on April 2 and he presented his credentials to the Assistant Secretary of State on April 7.

No date yet when he will present his official credentials to President **Barack Obama** at the White House.

Meanwhile on April 6, Amb. Cuisia held a dialogue with all the Consul Generals, Tourism and Trade Representatives at the Philippine Embassy.

This newsbit was relayed to this newspaper by Washington-based **Bing Branigin**.

Welcome, Amb. Cuisia!

A big congrats and a ton of good wishes to **Michael Sicat** and **Rosario “Cheryl” Alejandro** who were married at

St

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Peter the Apostle Church

in New Brunswick, N.J.

Reception followed at The Palace at Somerset Park, New Jersey, an opulent venue with its magnificent Versailles interior décor, further enhanced with huge crystal chandeliers, amber lighting and exquisite centerpieces.

About 300 guests came to wish the bride and groom, profound happiness and sincere best wishes as they begin their life together.

Cheryl, 25, is rich media manager at Google.

She previously worked as account manager at Microsoft.

She is a graduate of New York University’s Stern School of Business, double majored in finance and marketing.

She graduated cum laude from Albertus Magnus High School and valedictorian at St. Anthony’s School.

The bride is a former Seventeen magazine model, NYU’s champion debater and world traveller.

Michael, 26, finished pre-med, dean’s list at New York University, and is currently finishing up his physician assistant studies at Long Island University.

He graduated high school, cum laude, from Don Bosco.

He previously worked as research technologist at Columbia University Medical Center.

After their honeymoon in Australia, they now live in Jersey City, N.J. where they own a luxury condo.



Happy duo: Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sicat (nee Cheryl Alejandro).



The bride's parents Lou and Gayle Alejandro leaving the church after the nuptials of daughter Cheryl and Michael Sicat.

Boyohboy, there's a veritable gridlock of events here, there and everywhere, but especially in New York/New Jersey.

Our new Consul General **Mario Lopez de Leon, Jr.** is, for sure, swamped with invitations.

Ditto with Deputy Consul General **Millie Sta. Maria-Thomeczek.**

But, they are up to the task being seasoned diplomats.

Banga, Aklan expats from all over the world will be converging to their hometown for a grand reunion starting on April 26.

The one-week celebration which culminates on the town fiesta honoring **St. Joseph**, Spouse of the Blessed **Virgin Mary** will be a back-to-back, everyday happy happenings among **Bañahons** and guests.

No doubt, this is going to be a festive reunion.

We pray for good weather, lots of stamina and good health.

For the “young-once,” *hinay-hinay lang!*

Oh Lord, I'm rich!

Silver in the Hair

Gold in the Teeth

Crystals in the Kidneys

Sugar in the Blood

Lead in the Ass

Iron in the Arteries

And an inexhaustible supply of Natural Gas.

I never thought I'd accumulate such wealth!

Ha ha ha --- thanks **Mary O'Mahony** through **Angie Cruz**.



At the surprise 70th birthday for Vic Roldan at Russo's On The Bay in Howard Beach, N.Y. The event was thrown by his beautiful wife Lita Sulit Roldan.



Richard (left), Jimmie (middle), Nicholas (right), Michelle (far right), and the ambassador's wife (far left) with the ambassador's children.



Richard (left), David (far left), Steve (middle), and the ambassador's staff (right) receiving certificates.



Barbara (left), Rita (far left), and the ambassador's staff (right) participating in the "Missie Spent the Day" pageant.