inked chronicles

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Starting It Right

by Megumi Flores

Little Steps Forward

This first volume ender of the Inked Chronicles is incomplete without making an account of the last three bi-monthly meetings. It will help the members recall the little steps they took moving the association forward.

November 17, 2021. The highlights of this meeting included the testimony of Neslie Taganap. Neslie, a librarian in the government sector, shared how God worked with her, especially during the trying times. She also encouraged fellow Adventist librarians in government institutions to be bold in their faith. Megumi Flores also did a presentation.

She shared her observations on the responses of AAFL member libraries to Covid 19 based on their online presence. Regarding the business items, the group identified the job descriptions of the association's officers and its selection process. The present members also selected approved the nominating committee members: Megumi Flores, Cyrus Bobier, Cathy Magro, Nora Catimbang, Angelyn de Gracia.

January 19, 2022. During this meeting, Hesell Delfin introduced to the group the WebJunction and how this resource became helpful in training new students who work at AlIAS Library. WebJunction can be a helpful resource, especially for one-man librarians.

After that, Megumi highlighted the essential requirements specified in the recent CHED memorandum for higher education libraries. She also facilitated the open forum on how to implement the CHED guidelines. Lastly, Nora Catimbang, the chair of the nominating committee, shared the names of candidates for the AAFL election who are as follows: Megumi Flores (President), Glydel Franche and Neslie Taganap (Secretary), Cyrus Bobier and Chelsea Sarmiento Lyra (Treasurer), and (Newsletter Editor). Nora also shared the approved election period and voting procedures.

March 16, 2022. This meeting became a brainstorming session among members about their dreams, visions, and expectations about the association. They shared practical activities, strategies, and approaches that served as the bases of the association's statements and plans. (continued next page)

Featured chronicles

There was also an update about the official members and the ongoing election process.

Dedication and General Assembly

May 25, 2022, is a memorable moment for AAFL because a special online ceremony was held for its dedication! The event was graced by the participation of the Southern Asia Pacific Division (SSD) Education director and associate director in the persons of Dr. Bienvenido Mergal and Dr. Bryan Sumendap. Dr. Bryan addressed the group through a recorded video message about resilience in leadership. At the same time, Dr. Mergal offered a dedicatory prayer for the officers, members of the group, and the association.

Dr. Bryan challenged AAFL to become resilient leaders – choosing to advance in adversity. He recognized that librarians are leaders in developing libraries despite pressures and challenges. He emphasized that resilience is one character trait that makes a leader effective. They can get up even if they are "knocked down." Librarians can do their best despite unfavorable circumstances like apostle Paul and the early Christian church; they continue to spread the gospel despite persecution and adversities. Quoting from Romans 8:28, he said that we could overcome all sufferings if we do things according to His purpose and recognize His love to strengthen us.

Dr. Bryan also expressed the support of his office for AAFL. He sees that this association will be an effective tool to help Adventist institutions, especially in gaining resources for students and faculty.

After the dedication service, the members held the general assembly, discussing essential items for the association's future. The general assembly will signify the association's start of a new year. The meeting was attended by 75 Adventist librarians from different regions of the country. They reviewed and approved the following business items:

- 1. Member classifications of AAFL are regular membership and associate membership This is to classify the professional librarians as regular and non-professional associates.
- 2. They have selected three area coordinators to identify potential members in their respective areas: Naicy Sanidad for Luzon, Chelsea Sarmiento for the Visayas, and Virgie Reconalla for Mindanao.
- 3. Coordinators for elementary and high school librarians, namely Angeline de Gracia and Jocelyn Romo.
- 4. Study the possibility of having an AAFL website, and the ad-hoc committee is composed of Joshua de Gracia, Lyra Ilagan, Megumi Flores, and Chelsea Sarmiento.

- 5. AAFL Mission Statement: To support Adventist Filipino librarians in their practice of the profession, engaging them in continuous learning, communication, and collaboration.
- 6. AAFL Statement of Goals:
- Continuous Learning Collect and disseminate information on new trends in librarianship; Design programs and encourage involvement in professional growth activities
- Communication Inspire others by sharing success stories and best practices; Share research findings about libraries and librarianship
- Collaboration Engage in collaborative projects and other endeavors
- 7. AAFL Strategic Plan for 2022 2025
- Continuous Learning
- 1. Collect and disseminate information on the new trends in librarianship
 - a. Develop the AAFL website
 - b. Collect resources useful for librarians and users
- 2. Design programs and encourage involvement in professional growth activities
 - 2.a. Conduct quarterly webinar
 - 2.b. Hold an annual seminar or conference
 - 2.c.Hold benchmarking activities
- Communication
- 1. Inspire others by sharing success stories and best practices
 - 1.a. Equip librarians through "how to" dialogue
 - 1.b Continue the publication of the newsletter
 - 1.c Share research findings about libraries and librarianship
- 2. Serve as a platform to share members' research findings about the profession
- Collaboration
- 1. Engage in collaborative projects and other endeavors a. Conduct outreach activities for academic and school libraries

Prayer for AAFL New Year O Lord, we are Your librarians, binding our ourselves in one fold We magnify Your name; Your face we continue to behold We seek Your grace, as goals and plans begin to unfold We ask the Holy Spirit's leading; please be our stronghold And may our service be acceptable; we plead blessings not to withhold. Amen!

AAFL Updates

Membership Update

Here are the official members of AAFL as of July 2022: Alva Albay, Analiza A. Amistoso, Angelica de Gracia, Angelyn Tabianan, April Lady Austria Guardias, Arjhel M. Sayson, Arline Dela Cruz, Artemio Concordia, Catherine C. Arapoc, Catherine de Asis, Cathlyn Magro, Chelsea Jo A. Sarmiento, Cyrus Bobier, Donna Lou A. Aragon, Maria Carina L. Gasang, Genie Rose R. Pesigan, Gladys Joy Guardias Soretes, Glaidel Ross G. Franche, Hesell Fabellon Delfin, Imelda G. Sales, Jelomy Domingo, Jennifer Libalib-Maclan, Jerlheen Rose Horan, Jocelyn Romo, Joey M. Domingo, Johnnie Simyunn Jr., Josephine Capecenio, Joshua de Gracia, Julie Ann G. Soretes, Junita Madrid De Guzman, Luisa Belen G. Abania, Lyra Jazel Ilagan, Margie Sorquia, Maribel Nasis, Maricel Eupalao, Marisol F. Fabrero, Martha Jane Fallaria, Megumi Flores, Michael Jone G. Empinado, Michelle Carbonilla, Myrlie Lim Adil, Naicy D. Sanidad, Neonem Felices, Neslie Taganap, Ninda Amurao, Nora Catimbang, Rowena M. Calvo, Roze Espero, Rubie Jane Lagrada, Sheena Aguino, Tuapin Dionisio Jr, Virgie A. Reconalla, Wiljoy M.



AAFL's First Set of Officers



Megumi Flores, *President*, is currently the library director at Leslie Hardinge Library of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS). She started her library career as a school librarian and transitioned to an academic library doing reference services. She had library education from AIIAS, AUP, and the University of the East in Manila.

Cyrus Bobier, *Treasurer*, is the Creation Science Center, Reference, and Readers Librarian at Adventist University of the Philippines. He is a proud alumnus of the same institution where he finished his Bachelor's degree. Cyrus completed his master's degree from Centro Escolar University (CEU) in Manila. He also serves as a faculty of the AUP's Library and Information Science Department.

Glyde Franche, *Secretary*, is currently serving as the assistant librarian of Naga View Adventist College. She finished her Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS) from Adventist University of the Philippines in 2017. She is now pursuing her masters degree at the University of Nueva Caceres in Naga City.

Lyra Ilagan, *Newsletter Editor*, is the Periodicals Acquisition and Web Services Librarian at Leslie Hardinge Library at AllAS. She's a proud alumna of Adventist University of the Philippines for her Bachelor's and completed her master's degree from Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP). She's also part of the reference service team facilitating library instructions and workshops.

About IC

Inked Chronicles (IC) is the official newsletter of the AAFL. It is a bimonthly newsletter containing news, events, features, and upcoming information by members of AAFL.

IC accepts articles written by any member of the AAFL. It is encouraged for members to participate and engage in this newsletter as it records and keeps track of the history of the association. This newsletter aims to preserve the historical accounts of events happening in AAFL.

Looking for contributors and facilitators!

We want you to be part of the Inked Chronicles! Send an email to Meg at floresmm@aiias.edu or to Lyra at ilaganlj@aiias.edu.

Let's make history with our stories today!