

The officers and members of
SUAF OF SD join
Silliman University
in celebrating 111 years
since its founding.

Silliman University Alumni & Friends @ SD

SD Portal

August 2012

Xtra



American Missionaries
8th in a Series

**Silliman began with Hibbards
as “president and faculty”**

By Ligaya Magbanua Simpkins

“There were fifteen boys that first morning. The equipment consisted of four desks about ten feet long, two tables and two chairs, a few McGuffey’s Readers, a few geographies, Arithmetics and ninth-grade grammars.

I was the President; Mrs. Hibbard was the faculty.”

Thus reported Dr. Hibbard when the Silliman Institute formally opened on August 28, 1901 in rented quarters, eighteen days after they arrived in Dumaguete on August 10, 1901. There was no official course of study for the Philippines, so a “*Cursos de Estudio*” was drafted along the lines of college preparation.

Within one month, enrollment had doubled and the Hibbards soon found themselves handling 10 classes a day, teaching English, Latin, German, geometry, world history and Bible studies. Welcome assistance came from Chaplain **John A. Randolph** of the sixth U.S. infantry stationed in Dumaguete (1900-1902) who volunteered to teach five classes. A Chapel service started each school day and Bible study was conducted on Sundays.

David Sutherland Hibbard, a native of Ohio, was granted his A.B. at College of Emporia in 1893, received theological training from the Princeton Theological Seminary and an N.M.A. degree from Princeton University. He was conferred an honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree by Hanover College in 1904 and a Doctor of Divinity Degree by Emporia College in 1913.

The Hibbards had left a pastorate in Lyndon, Kansas when they accepted the invitation of the Presbyterian Board for service in the Philippines in February 1899. This young couple, with Mr. Hibbard in his mid-thirties and **Laura Hibbard** just in her twenties, first found themselves assigned to the Iloilo station in 1899. The Hibbards and another missionary couple, Dr. **Andrew** and Mrs. **Jean Russell Hall** made significant beginnings in Iloilo and by July 1, 1900, Mrs. Hibbard and Mrs. Hall had opened the first evangelical



**Drs. David S. and Laura Hibbard
1901—1930**

school in the Philippines with an enrolment of 70.

Were it not for a decision by the Board in New York to locate Dr. Silliman’s proposed school in the third Mission station, this Iloilo school could have been the beginning of Silliman Institute, and Silliman University would not have been in Dumaguete. However, the Philippine Presbyterian Mission reassigned them to undertake the task of opening up the Dumaguete Station and to replace Mr. **Leon C. Hills**, a single young American missionary assigned to Dumaguete.

Their friendliness and outgoing nature quickly endeared them to the Dumaguete residents who in turn, rendered support for the school.

Tasked with the development of the Dumaguete station, property matters and laying a foundation for a school campus were of the highest priority. With continuing support from Dr. **Horace B. Silliman** and the Mission, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. **Robert Sammons** (Continued **FOUNDERS** page 2)

American Missionaries

profiles the lives of church workers who served with Silliman University. On this month of Founders Day, we feature the founders. Several missionaries were showcased in previous issues.

January—Rev. Gordon and Helen Mahy

February—Dr. James and Ethel Chapman

March—Drs. George and Janice Beran

April—Dr. Paul and Clara Doltz

May—Drs. Douglas and Bettie Elwood

June—Charles and Henrietta Glunz

July—Helen Mary Strawbridge

**SUAFers gear up for
campus FD festivities**

This year’s edition of FD at Silliman, the 111th since 1901, will have some San Diego representations.

For a variety of reasons, these members “will come” to participate with campus activities.

Tenette Esperat is a recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Sillimanian award, Aug. 28 and will keynote the 2012 nursing Balik-Talent conference coordinated by SUCN, SUCNAA and SUCNAAI Aug. 23—24 and 27.

Dinah Bibaoco Penafloida, 2012—2016 SUCNAAI president, orchestrated the 3-day academic conference, a departure from previous Balik-Talents held exclusively by sponsoring graduating classes. Speakers and workshops highlight the activity on the topic of “Global Health: An Interdisciplinary Action”. The venues are the Clare Isabel McGill Luce auditorium and Roble Hall.

Laarni Gularek and **Ligaya Simpkins**, SUAF president and vice-president, will represent the chapter in campus alumni activities. Both will stand in for Tenette during the OSA ceremonies.

Others expected for FD are: **Susan** and **Bill Soldwisch**, **Prescy** and **Efren Madrid**, **Precy** and **Allen Garrido**, **Gino** and **Chona Maribao**, and **Frances Antonio-Yoakem**, who with husband **Steve** will also be campus visitors. Frances retired as accountant (Continued **FD** page 3)

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FOUNDERS ...

and Mr. Hill wasted no time in planning a new school and a hospital building, both of which were dedicated by 1903. Mr. **Charles Glunz** later took charge of the practical imple-



Bible School: (front row, faculty) Paul Doltz, Frances Rodgers, David Hibbard, Irving Channon, Mary Channon and William Smith; (second row, graduates) Florencio Tubungbanua, Faustino Gicain, Alfonso Quinones, Silvestre Buntuyan, Adriano Santiago, Simeon Emelia and Isidoro Antivo; (back row, first year) Blas Gesulga, Nicomedes Quinones, Honorio Pascua, Donato Caponong, Marcus Lagahit and Fernando Quinones.

mentation of the campus development and by 1905, Silliman Institute was well on its way to becoming a self-contained unit with missionary residences, a windmill, water tower, acetylene lighting system, ice-making machine, a printing press and an industrial building.

Electricity was installed by 1917.

The devastation resulting from pestilence, plagues, and severe drought marked the first four years of the new century. This was further compounded by epidemics of small pox, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, malaria and cholera in the hot tropical climate. Overwork from his teaching and administrative duties made Mr. Hibbard severely ill and in November 1902, he was forced to take a 2-month leave in Japan. Laura Hibbard was left to keep the school operating and she carried out her teaching duties with the help of other



Early Silliman Institute faculty included Dr. and Mrs. Hibbard shown (back row center and front seated 2nd from left)

missionaries and their wives who were borrowed or reassigned from other Stations.

Mrs. Hibbard, also a graduate of the College of Emporia (1896), handled the geography, arithmetic and English classes. She had learned to speak the dialect and while drilling the students in the English grammar, used the dialect to explain matters to those whose English was deficient. Her

knowledge of the vernacular was put into good use when the American Bible Society enlisted her help in the translation of the Old Testament into Cebuano. In 1921, the College of Emporia bestowed an LL.D. degree on Mrs. Hibbard.

Son **Hall Livingston** was born while the Hibbards were on furlough and returned with them to Dumaguete on July 17, 1904. A second son, **Donald Lawrence** soon joined the family.

As early as 1904, Dr. Hibbard elaborated on the relationship between the academic and industrial department so close to the heart of Dr. Silliman and stated that: *"A demand exists in these islands for professional men and clerks on the one hand and mechanics on the other. We must not produce men for whom there is no call. I would make these two lines of equal value... Silliman Institute... should turn out teachers, preachers, clerks, mechanics, civil engineers and farmers... All these pursuits should preserve a unity of discipline, policy and design."*

Under Dr. Hibbard's guidance, Silliman Institute expanded rapidly in student enrollment, student activities, faculty, and course offerings. In 1912, the Trustees voted to accept women to the upper classes. By 1915, A.B. degree programs were added and Calculus, Surveying and Physical Botany were among several added as new courses and in 1919, the Trustees approved the Pre-Theological curriculum.

While athletics, plays, and societies started to flourish, no activity is more fondly recalled than the "**Bingcong** squad". Boys who had missed calisthenics or broken any school regulation were put to work in this squad, cutting grass or cleaning up the campus grounds.

The death of Dr. Horace B. Silliman in 1910 necessitated new thrusts at fund-raising and from 1915 through 1930, campaigns were initiated throughout the islands by faculty members and in the United States by the Mission Board. Among the new buildings constructed during Dr. Hibbard's term were Oriental Hall, a new Science building, Guy Hall, the Library, the Nurses' Home, a



Early days at the Silliman Library with Dr. Hibbard and students, 1914.

new hospital, missionary residences, the campus amphitheater and one-story buildings that served as the Home Economics Center and the Elementary school.

The year 1924 marked the adoption of the inscription "**Via, Veritas, Vita**" in the Silliman Institute seal and its appearance in the School catalogue. Dr. Hibbard borrowed this inscription from his own alma mater and this motto states the tenets that every member of the Silliman family has aspired to live up to.

The contribution and commitment of the Hibbards to Philippine education were recognized in a myriad ways. His service as a spokesman for the Philippines was recorded in a Presbyterian Mission study book, "*Making a Nation*" in 1925. In 1926, the Provincial Board of Negros Oriental passed a resolution declaring him as an "Adopted Son of the Province". *(Continued page 3)*

SUAF marks early FD with annual picnic

On a sunny San Diego Saturday, Aug. 11, members and guests of the San Diego alumni chapter took time for its annual day-long picnic at the San Diego embarcadero.



The picnic was held in advance of Founders Day in order to include the presence of members bound for Dumaguete. Several guests from the sister chapter in Los Angeles also were in attendance.

The picnic formed the backdrop of the first “invitational” competition between SUAFers and guests from SUAASC, consisting of traditional Pinoy games as “takian”, lastiko and hula-hoop contests. The home team took the initial trophy for overall performance. Every year each chapter will have two opportunities to retain or regain the trophy during annual picnics. SUAF won the trophy designed by **John Oliver** as a flame symbolic of the Silliman spirit.

Pictures of good food, great sunshine and great company on page 4.

US Rep guest at book drive culmination

The book drive to collect books and media for the Mira Mesa library ends October 27 when SUAF will present the donation during Filipino American History Month.

US Representative **Robert ‘Bob’ Filner**, (D) 51st Congressional District, California, will be guest speaker. The retiring member of Congress is expected to run for mayor of San Diego.

SUAF has traditionally supported the library with donations to the Filipiniana section of the library. Initiated in 1996 by chapter president **Susan Monte de Ramos**, the book drive has been sustained by campaigns under the leadership of **Fely Tan-Narvaez** and **Nate Tan**.

The book committee is chaired by **Mila Paniamogan**. Donations are acknowledged in labels affixed to the library items.

FD ... recently at the Lawrence Welk Resort in San Diego.

Class reunions are the main reason for the Garridos (SUHS) and the Madrids (SUCN). Susan Soldwisch has arranged for a reunion with her pre-med class.



Frances

Friend’s novel out

Lawyer **Robert Gottlieb**, a ‘Friend’ of SUAF, has a debut novel out: “No Nude Swimming: A Lawyer’s Way Out”.

A retired attorney with 36 years of practice in general law in Los Angeles and San Diego, Robert uses his experience to provide the backdrop for this first novel.

The narratives in the book are recreations of notes he took about situations involving clients, lawyers, courtroom proceedings and humorous and often absurd stories related by other lawyers.



Author Gottlieb

Member update



Pastor Teogenes

Teogenes Tawagon, BS Theology ‘95, has been promoted to assistant senior pastor of the Sun City United Church of Christ.

Readers’ feedback

What readers say about **American Misslonaries**

You’re a good one! Thank you for calling attention to our families! Silliman meant a lot to them!

I am enjoying ALL the articles about the missionaries (not just about Mom and Dad!) Again, thanks to you for pursuing this and doing it so well. You must have lots of energy!

Tressa Mahy Mangum

What a task you are undertaking! Thank you, Ligaya.

George and Jan Beran

FOUNDERS ... Prior to this, the then municipality of Dumaguete also recognized Dr. Hibbard by renaming the northern end of Alfonso XIII Street Hibbard Avenue.

Dr. Hibbard was made President Emeritus upon his retirement from Silliman University in 1930. On March 1937, the University of the Philippines conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws, *Honoris Causa*. Later, on the 50th anniversary of the Philippine public schools system, Dr. Hibbard also received a medal and a diploma of merit “*for a long, untiring, and distinguished service to private education, as president emeritus of Silliman, and for being the oldest living former private school head.*” Trustee action in 1938 brought recognition to Laura Hibbard by honoring her as a Professor Emeritus in English.

Prior to leaving the Philippines, Dr. Hibbard joined the faculty of the Union Theological Seminary and Mrs. Hibbard taught at the Ellinwood Bible School. They retired from active service on October 31, 1938 and made their home in Pasadena, California. Dr. David Sutherland Hibbard was 98 years old when he passed away on Dec. 30, 1966 at Westminster Gardens in Duarte, California.

His students said of Dr. Hibbard: “*Tender, compassionate, sympathetic but ever strong, Dr. Hibbard has given himself completely and unselfishly to Silliman until his spirit is the spirit of the school. We cannot separate the names of Dr. Hibbard and Silliman Institute. Whatever joys we have known have been pleasures to him; whatever sorrows we have felt have entered his soul; whatever fame our school enjoys is his fame. We praise him for the past; we thank him for the present; and we trust him for the future.*”

Reference: *All rights reserved—LMS*
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Sun, San Diego and Silliman AUGUST 11, 2012 PICNIC at the Embarcadero, SD

SUAF and SUAASC picnickers basking in San Diego sun.



Go easy on the tail, folks. Laarni Gularek, Fely Tan-Narvaez, Nate Tan and Sonia Sheeks. Licking their chops in back are Precy Garrido, Grace Tan, Frank Gularek and Teo Tawagon.

Keep it up, guys.



Hula-hoopers: Precy Garrido and Jiji Masangkay battling it out, hip for hip.

Grace Tan and Faith Duran sort out the "lastiko" game rules set up by John Olivar.



Getting their kicks: 'takian' group champions— Lloyd Limpiado, Flor Tenchavez, Laarni Gularek, Fely Tan-Narvaez and Nate Tan.



SUAFers with guests from the Los Angeles chapter headed by past SUACONA president Zenny Duran Bennett (seated 4th from left). The "games" featured competition between SDSUAF and SUAASC, and the visiting team was led by SUAASC vice-president Vic Raval.