



## **NEWSBITSNEWSBITSNEWSBITSNEWSBITSNEWSBITSNEWS**

**TENTH ANNIVERSARY FETE.** The community's consensus on the 10<sup>th</sup> foundation anniversary celebration is to have the Music Ministry spearhead it by having a musical concert. The affair, however, will be kept as simple as possible and will focus only on the fun-raising aspect. The celebration, will serve also as the community's annual family day.

**BCGG MOVEMENTS.** Regie and Daisy de Guzman of Corinthians BCGG have been requested to temporarily take over the Anastasis BCGG effective mid-April due to the leave of absence filed by Roger and Ella Olaguer. The latter have left for a six-month evangelical mission in the Mt. Province. Meantime, Ralphy and Susan Resurreccion of then AMDG and later, the Wisdom BCGGs have joined the ACTS BCGG.

**PRAYER BRIGADE.** Prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Pedro Pestano (Egay Pestano's father), and Ester Santos (Claro Santos's mother), Sevelita Panlilio (Philip Panlilio's mother) and for the ailing mother of Bob Veloso.

**MAY INTERFACE SKED.** John with Luke; Philipians with Romans X; Revelations with Searchers; and, Thessalonians with Wisdom.

**FORMATION PROGRAM.** The CPPJ will be held on May 1 and 2 at the Ayala Alabang Center on a live-out basis; First Friday will be on May 8 (instead of May 1) at the Santuario de San Antonio; SDR II for Council members and BCGG / Ministry Heads on May 15 -17 at Betania, Tagaytay; and, Family Encounter on May 29 - 31.

**FELLOWSHIP.** The South Sector BCGGs will hold their fellowship activity on May 24 at the Multinational Village in Paranaque where George and Beng Pascual reside. The activity which is being coordinated by Arnel and Bernie Isip, will be participated in by eight BCGGs.

**TITHING RESULTS.** Only seven BCGGs have reportedly remitted their monthly tithing collections for January-March. These are: Archangel Gabriel, Gentiles, Corinthians/Sothel, John, Romans X, Revelations/Ephesians/Lambs, & Anastasis.

**MAY 8 FELLOWSHIP.** The First Friday assembly has been reset from May 01 to May 08 at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park. A Mass will be said by Fr. Ruben Tanseco for the intention of a peaceful and honest election, as well as thanksgiving, especially for all the female members (May 10 be-

ing Mothers' day). The Archangel Gabriel BCGG headed by Bobby and Marcia Balderas is the host BCGG. Instead of the usual teaching after Mass, the attending members will have fellowship exercises.

**ELECTORAL THOUGHTS**  
Fr. Ruben Tanseco spoke recently of his dual feelings relative to the forthcoming elections. The first was that of sadness & the second, of hope. Sadness principally because of the unusual number of presidentiables, indicating disunity among politicians; & hope for a better life for Filipinos. He enjoined members to do two things relative to the elections: first, get as much objective info about the candidates to serve as solid basis for voting (like accessing the Chapelnet from the Internet); and second, get involved thru participation in the electoral activities of Namfrel, PPCRV & the like.

**SDR II PARTICIPANTS.** The confirmed participants to SDR II set for May 15-17 at Betania, Tagaytag City are: Tony & Bambi Narciso; Tony & Lynne Arevalo; Bobby & Marcia Balderas; Boy & Yoling Sevilla; Monchito & Tina Mossesgeld; Nina Yuson; Malou Panlilio; Ike & Josie Llamas, Tony & Aida del Rosario, and, Vic & Ning Reyes. Fr. Tanseco will conduct this seminar.

**(This is a reprint of the letter from the Youth Summer Campers to their parents - - - Ed.)**

*First of all we would like to thank God that we are still alive after the torture that we somehow enjoyed. We also thank our parents who forced us to join this occasion. We'd also like to thank the staff of Beyond Limits Asia, namely: Zeena our warrior princess, Angelo, our customs inspector, Ate Mimi, mother of Baby Kadudut, and Ate Charette the baby-sitter. And most of all, the M.E. staff, namely: Mr. Nelson Lomod, our candid photographer, Mr. and Mrs. Punzalan, our extra food directors, and to all Magis Deo Youth members for their participation in the event We learned more about cooperation, sharing, trust, teamwork and patience through exercises like the trust walk, the web and the vertical pole. We also met new friends.*

*Thank you dear parents for your continuing support in believing in us as children of God.*

**From the Group 2 Members:**

**Mara Narciso, Paolo Narciso, Patrick Jason Lomod, Eivind Prieto, Eugene Florendo, Evan Prieto, Tara Plaza, Carissa Castro, Zyra Mella, Richard Brillantes, Genina Espiritu, Charlene Morada and Chesca de Jesus**

**Camp... (from page 1)**


**Lesley and Levs Espiritu; Eugene and Evicka Florendo; Allen, Arwin and Ruby Go; Karen Gonda; Daniel and David Labao; Rowell Laksamana; Katrina and Leslie Llamas; Patrick Lomod; Charisse, John and Joven Mateo; Stephanie Melicor; Frances Mella; Joyce and Marina Morada; Enrique Mossesgeld; Mara-Angela and Paolo Narciso; Jessica and Marc Orbiana; Samantha and Tara Plaza;**

**Eivind, Eloise and Evan Prieto; Juan and Miguel Resurrecion; Anton and Federico Sevilla; Julianne Syjuco; John Umali; Lisa Yap; Zacharry Yuson.**

A Mass was said by Fr. Greg Gaston of the Archdiocese of Manila on Sunday afternoon prior to the camp's graduation rites and short program presented by the participants before their parents. The youth camp was sponsored by the Youth Ministry headed by Levy and


Roxanne Espiritu with members of the Romans X BCGG assisting. Among the parents who chaperoned the youngsters during the entire weekend were Bong and Emma Punzalan, and Nestor Lomod.

**FOR THE MAY 11 ELECTIONS, DISCERN SERIOUSLY AND VOTE WISELY!**



**Pete A. Nabong**  
President

**MYREX ETHICA LABORATORIES, INC.**  
140 Pancho Villa St., San Juan, Metro Manila, Phils.  
Tel.No. 723-8305 \* 725-0410 FAX No. (632) 724-0845



**Ma. Linda T. Arevalo** Antonio R. Arevalo, Jr.  
Head Directress Administrator

## **RANDOM THOUGHTS**

By A.R. Arevalo, Jr.

We share Fr. Tanseco's sentiments relative to the forthcoming national elections, particularly his sadness over the unusual (usual perhaps is better) proliferation of candidates, especially for the two highest posts. What's more is that we have a Comelec that has been rather lax and desensitized in allowing candidates of proven questionable background to run for such positions. Admittedly, offices (including public) fare better with their more strict and rigid hiring practices even for positions belonging only to the rank and file.

-o0o-

The Council (and I guess many of the reflective old-timers) is faced with the nagging questions: Why are we not able to get a lot of lambs into our fold? And, why are not able to retain all those whom we have attracted to our fold?

There are definitely answers and answers. Like it depends on when, how frequent, and where meetings are done; who is the shepherd or the BCGG head handling these members. Or, it depends on how innovative and varied our activities are (others seem to be unpleasable with the usual rites/rituals like the weekly sharings we have). Or, it depends on our culture or modus operandi/vivendi: are we too unstructured and loose an organization? Can certain members (including BCGG/ministry heads or even council members perhaps) do something seemingly out of bounds and get away with it to the consternation and frustration perhaps of those who come to know about these?

I wish to venture a simple answer. It depends largely, if not entirely, on how committed (addicted could also be apropos) we are to our mission or cause in Magis Deo. It's as if we are the modern Moses coming out from the Burning Bush experience, or Paul perhaps being thrown off our horse, or the

Prodigal Son humbly returning to his father. And no matter how good the shepherds are, how enjoyable the programs and activities are, if the members lack the commitment (in its truest sense), or simply addicted to mundane matters (or Mammon?), then we will continue to experience a situation what many feel we might already be in.

-o0o-

I wonder what you'd answer to the oft-repeated comment that the same people frequent the first Friday Mass-teaching, and that we do not see a lot of different faces all the time. Mine is, it's just like part of breathing in and breathing out. I do not so much care whether there is going to be a good teaching from Fr. Tanseco or whomever the organizers are able to tap (even sometimes at the last minute), or whether my friends (current and would-be) are there or not, or whether the venue is very accessible to public transpo or not, or whether there will be adequate food, ventilation, parking or not. It is just my being part of an important community, partaking of an important community ritual. It is thus doing this routinary act for such a simple but noble reason that my spouse (who now is a denizen also of Sta. Rosa, Laguna), would even come over to attend this monthly gathering (and even weekly prayer meetings) and I continue to be among those who grace the first Friday, with very few absences. Others may have their reasons for doing so, but I guess they are also inspired and motivated by something. Hence, if those who do not regularly attend are bereft of such an inspiration to follow suit and participate in community building efforts, then I don't really know what else will. A matter of priorities? A matter of values? "As good as it gets?"

*NEWSLETTER ADS. Only a handful have taken advantage of the very reasonable ad rates offered. This is your newsletter. Help it survive by putting in your ads. For inquiries, contact Grace del Rosario of our Secretariat.*

**PRAYER MEETING DAYS***ACTS - Friday**AGNUS DEI\* - Thursday**ANASTASIS\* - Sat. or Sun.**ARCH. GABRIEL\* - Friday**CORINTHIANS\* - Thursday**GENESIS - Wed. or Sat.**GENTILES - Monday**IGNATIANS\* - Tuesday**JOHN - Friday**LUKE - Mon. or Tues.**PHILIPPIANS - Thursday**ROMANS X - Friday**REVELATIONS - Saturday**SEARCHERS - Friday**THESSALONIANS\* - Thursday**WISDOM/AMDG\* - Mon. or Tues**\* Part of the North Sector; and the rest, (w/o \*) with the South Sector***Formation...** (from page 1)

and Aida del Rosario, Councilmembers, gave the admin welcome talk.

The new class, Magis 49, will be shepherded by Art and Grace Santos, councilmembers and concurrently chaircouple of the

Thessalonians BCGG. The three coordinators designated were Mannie and Pam Castillo, Francis and Mary Ann Lumen, and, Joe and Tess Magajes. The first reunion meeting of the class is set for Sunday, May 3, 6:30 pm at Dencio's Bar Grill restaurant, owned by Dennis and Doris Nakpil of Magis 47, and managed by Garry Garcia of Magis 49.

Comprising Magis 49 are:

Antonio and Gina Araneta; Romano and Pamela Castillo; Johannes and Melalaine Cobico; Camilo Jr. and Paula Macatangay; Garry and Yvette Garcia; Francis and Mary Ann Lumen; Jose and Ma. Theresa Magajes; Jesus Allen and Lilia Maliwat; Rafael and Jocelyn Santos; and Max and Rohini Telreja.

Meantime, 21 couples and one single (Grace del Rosario, the community's secretary) are expected to attend the LSS weekend to be held at La Salle Greenhills grade school chapel on April 24-26. Ogie Reyes will facilitate the entire weekend with Fr. Orly de Guzman and the following sharers: Fr. Orly de Guzman, Monchet and Marilou Albert, Manny and Leslie Gatchalian, and Noel and Gigi Resurreccion.

In the meantime, the shepherds who volunteered for this LSS weekend were: Egay and Dyarn Pestano; Vic and Amarie Cabrera; Clyde and Patchot Abapo; Ike and Josie Llamas; Ed and Josephine Guzman; Dick and Rowena Yulo; Pocholo and Merle Cea; Cathy Rafael; Paul and Mel Policarpio; Frank and Fe Reyes; July and Norma Salazar; Willy and Nora Melaya; Ely and Edith Prieto; Bong and Emma Punzalan; Wing and Tina Alejandrino; Mon and Alice Go; and, Ferdie and Lyn Cruz.

The LSS sub-ministry is currently headed by Cesar and Noemi Baltazar with

**Shepherds...** (from page 1)

nounced by Noel and Gigi Resurreccion, sub-ministry chaircouple.

The training, an integral part of every BCGG member's spiritual development program, is intended also for all BCGG/Ministry heads who have not taken it yet, or those who may have it as a refresher course, especially if they have been tapped regularly for shepherding in the ME, post-LSS classes, or even Suyuan weekends.

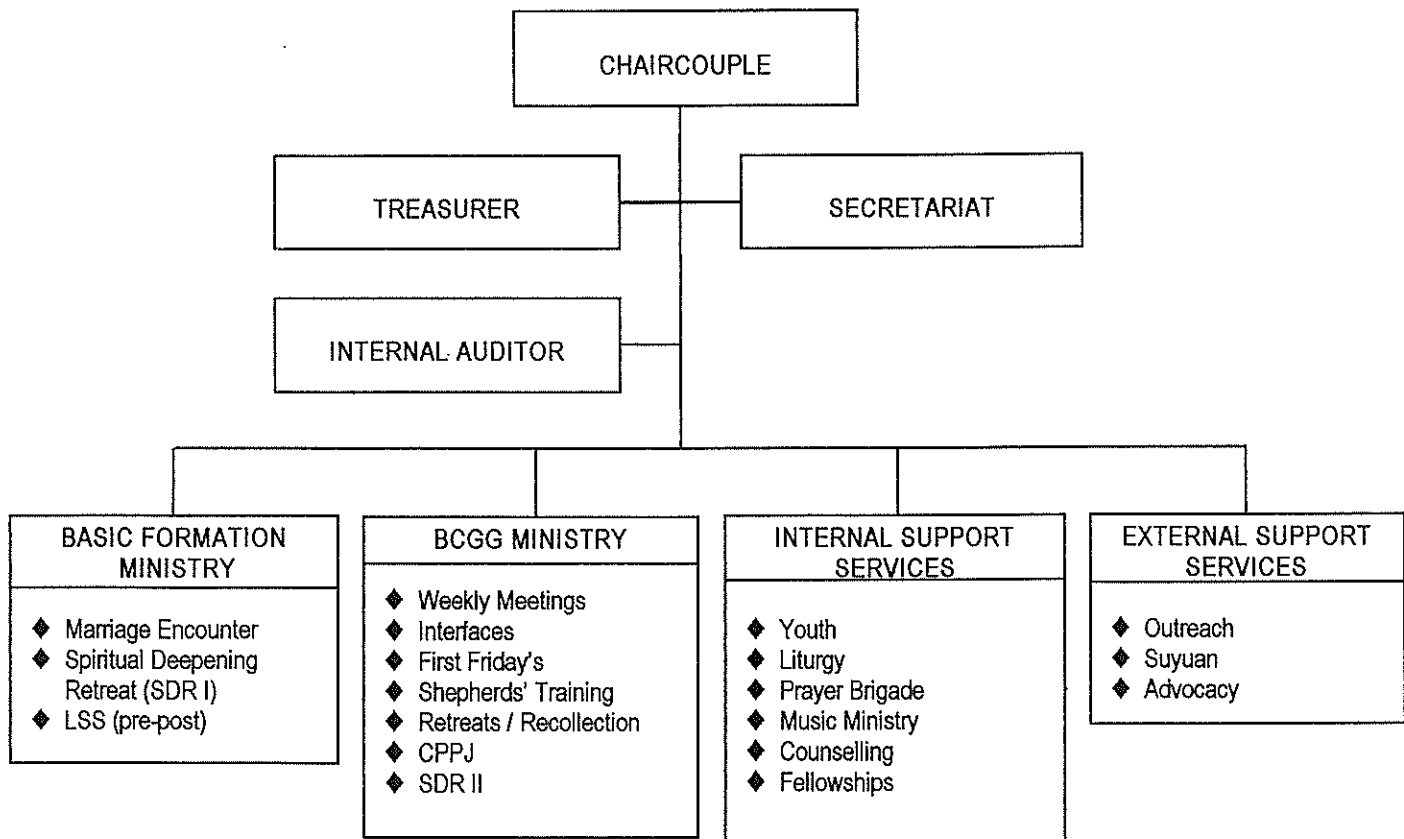
A shepherds' training (part II) which focuses on counselling will also be offered by late July.

Aside from the Resurreccions, the committee includes Cesar Baltazar and Tony Arevalo Jr.

Philip and Malou Panlilio as main coordinators. The assistant coordinators are: Dennis and Joy Rago for the lambs; and, John and Glo Boren for the shepherds.

The Baltazars also disclosed that Ogee Reyes will schedule a training for LSS sharers right after the post-LSS reunion meetings.

**THE MAGIS DEO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONAL SET-UP**  
(As approved by the MDC Council last April 13, 1998 and as presented to the BCGG and Ministry Heads last April 20, 1998)



*Note: The tracking / monitoring of recruitment and retention of members in both the Basic Formation Ministry and BCGG Ministry is inherent in both ministries and done in coordination with the Secretariat.*

### ORG'L CHART... (from Page 1)

First Fridays, Boy and Yoling Sevilla; Interfaces, Benjie and Fely Santiago; Shepherds' Training, Noel and Gigi Resurreccion; CPPJ, Chito and Nadeia Sarte. (No one yet has been named for the Weekly Meetings and Retreats/Recollections sub-ministries).

For the Internal Support Services Committee: Youth, Levy and Roxanne Espiritu; Liturgy and Prayer Brigade, Monchet and Marilou Albert; Music Ministry, Tony and Aida del Rosario; Crisis Intervention (renamed as Counselling), Vic and Ning Reyes ; and, Rex and Armi Aguila, Fellowships.

Finally, for the External Support Services Committee: Outreach, Boy and Yoling Sevilla; Suyuan, Cathy Rafael; and, Advocacy, Joy Uy-tioco.

With regard to the Council itself, the key posts and their corresponding heads are: Chaircouple, Tony and Bambi Narciso; Treasurer, Jun and Mila Sison; Secretariat, Tony and Lynne Arevalo;

Councilmembers: Tony and Aida del Rosario, Monchito and Tina Mossesgeld, Art and Grace Santos, Boy and Yoling Sevilla, and, Nina Yuson. Lito Gonzales remains as the community's internal auditor.

### CHRISTIAN LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Twenty (20) couples and (1) single attended the CFLSS last April 24 - 26, 1998 at La Salle, Greenhills, namely: Vic & Rose Arnaiz; Tabs & Karen Barretto; Marlon & Maggie Calabria; Paul & Jessie Chang; Andy & Joyce Colloquio; Jojo & Lin Cruz; Henry & Gay Cruz; Bobbie & Susan de Lumen; Grace del Rosario; Emil & Mila Dy; Rey & Nitz Eslava; Sonny & Mary Anne Flores; Chuck & Lota Leung; Ely & Carol Lim; Dennis & Doris Nakpil; Lito & Anne Naldo; Allan & Edna Pestano; Rainier & Pie Porras; Sol & Teng Puno; Ramie & Mimi Santos; Ronnie & Debbie Verano.

---

### REFLECTION ON A CFLSS

By: Ike & Josie Llamas

As I write my reflection of Today, I Seek the help of the Holy Spirit to help me surrender and to offer my whole being to JESUS. At this moment, I am aware how powerless I am without God's grace. I request Jesus to release to me the Holy Spirit, to teach me how to pray openly, with sincerely. As I cry out "Lord change me," TRANSFORM me!. I want to be aware of your plans in my life and the importance of prayer in my daily life. Stop me momentarily so that I may re-evaluate my priorities immediately.

Life is too short and precious to waste on empty things. Right now I am thinking of my beloved brother (Tony who died of a stroke in New Jersey). He had barely a minute to tell his wife "I Love You" and most of all to get his life right with God before he gave up his last breath.

So, I take advantage of each precious moments and offer myself and my wife to the Lord.

Today, I feel so privileged to be among our brothers and sisters of CFLSS#11 who have received the Holy Spirit. They are the Lord's New Disciples - New Servants of Magis Deo.

If the Good Lord should call me, I'm not afraid, for I have my Josie who prays for me each day. I have my brothers and sisters of Magis Deo who lift me up to the Lord for my conversion and salvation of my soul. Amen.

---

### JOB / EMPLOYMENT / BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

(This set of paid ad notices is a new service feature of our newsletter intended to assist our members who may have need for a new or better job., or who may be looking for certain talents or prospective business associates who can be part of their organization.--  
-Ed.)

1. Management training and consultancy related to business and/or human resource management, strategic / corporate training, organizational development, newsletter editing / preparation — interested parties may contact Tony Arevalo Jr. Telefax; 521-9146 or pager: 1277-34323.
- 

### ADDENDUM;

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Miguela Santos, mother of Rene Santos.

24 April 1998

## INTERFACE JOURNEY

BY: CHARY CALVENTO

ACTS BCGG (headed by Rene & Chary Calvento) had their first interface for the year with the AGNUS DEI (headed by Tia Cathy Rafael and Lito Gonzales.) Venue was set at Lito's house in Ayala Alabang which was scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. Everyone had a feast with the dinner (Kare-kare, mixed adobo fried bangus, mangoes and bagoong) not to mention the medication that had to be taken after the meal.

The prayer meeting started at 8:15 in the garden with the dim lights hanging in the trees all around. It was a cool evening, with its breeze soothing our tired mind and bodies. Claro starting playing the guitar and the voices of the members put us in the right mood to invite and accept the Lord into our hearts. While Jay was reading the opening prayer, the breeze got stronger and we felt that his presence was in our midst.

The reading (2<sup>nd</sup> week Easter-Thursday). *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not have life. John 3:36*

The reading inspired the members to share on their groping efforts to strengthen their new found faith in the Lord, and knowing that the LORD is alive in their lives which enables them to continue their journey towards a life full of HIS love and peace.

It is in these moments that I recall how I learned to surrender and entrust everything to HIM and how Rene and myself valued the little and minute things in our lives that was never given much importance before. After Rene's second bypass operation, we have learned to live each day at the fullest, thanking the Lord for a new day, to give him strength to cope up with the pressures at work and still be able to be receptive to the kids when he gets home. You get to be more appreciative of the little efforts, a phone call, little notes and messages in our beepers that you are "thinking about him and miss him terribly". Rene has learned to value our times together, a short drive to San

Pedro, during our walking exercise, to do grocery or simply exchanging our thoughts and aspirations with each other. Seeing Rene preparing himself for office has often times appalled me with his perseverance and determination to give his family only the best. His strong faith in the Lord has given him that WILL to go on and continue living his life to the fullest. We cannot thank the Lord enough for touching our lives and being present in each one of us.

I take this opportunity to thank the Lord for the following:

- *touching Monchet & Marilyn to serve in your vineyard as presenting couples. May they continue to shine and touch more couples with their sincerity and dedication.*
- *for enlightening Claro and learning to accept the demise of his mother with a joyful heart.*
- *for your continued guidance and presence in the life of Pocholo to reinforce his new-found faith.*
- *for Pheri's recent transformation of accepting You in his life. May he continue to feel Your loving presence in his heart not only during trying and difficult times but also in times of joy and happiness.*
- *for Ana's honesty. May You continue to strengthen her faith in You and accept the trials in her life as opportunities to serve and trust in You. May You touch Eloy to have the acceptance and love despite human frailties.*
- *for Ralph and Susan's honesty and simplicity.*
- *for the continued strength of Tia Cathy and Lito. YOU have surely filled up their emptiness with your loving warmth and presence in their lives.*

Lastly, to the members of Agnus Dei, it was a privilege to have interacted with warm and sensitive couples like you and we look forward to meeting with you again in the future.



## A REPORT ON THE MAGIS YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

By : Lesley Ardelle P. Espiritu (daughter of  
Levy & Roxanne Espiritu)

In the late afternoon of April 17, 1998, Fifty Three (53) youth candidates with ages ranging from 7 to 17 years old, gathered at the Alpadi compound in Antipolo for the Magis Deo Youth Summer Camp. Alpadi was a very ideal place for the camp because it was close to nature, and away from city distractions. After the registration, the group settled down. Awkwardness and shyness were overcome only when the youth gathered and mingled among others of the same age group.

Friday's activities centered mainly on the "getting-to-know-each-other" stage, and the orientation. The group was divided into 3 sub-groups: ranging from 7 - 10 years old, 11 - 13 years old, and 14 - 17 years old. Once this was done, we became more comfortable with our age group, and we instantly gained new friends.

Saturday was jampacked with the formal camp activities. We woke up bright and early, eager to tackle the activities awaiting us (yeah right...but in truth, we were all still groggy from staying up late the other night...an overdose of the "getting-to-know-each-other" stage, I might say). The facilitators of the camp, people from *Beyond Limits Asia*, guided us through the various activities and games. Examples of the "challenges" we had to go through were the Vertical Pole and Tire and the Spider Web. Sounds weird, huh? Well, let me explain...the Vertical Pole and Tire consisted mainly of those 2 elements...with the manpower, of course. We had to remove

and replace the tire through the pole, without it's rim touching it. Sounds easy...but wait till you see how high that bamboo pole is! The Spider Web...ooh...sounds scary, noh? Well, it was. Ok...so there was this spider web...and we had to go to the other side of it. Easy enough? Not with *Baby Kadudut* hanging on one of it's strings!!! Once *Baby Kadudut* falls, we all die like cockroaches!!! Eeep. So we had to be careful in carrying our team members (yup...carrying them...4 feet off the ground too, I might add). These activities helped us work as a team, and helped us develop strategy-making, skillfulness, and leadership. It was really a tiring day for all of us...but it was worth all the skills we have acquired!

But it's not all-work-and-no-play for us. We ended the day with a splash! - Literally! As I said, Alpadi really is a perfect place for the camp...even equipped with it's very own swimming pool! Yeah! Now THIS is summer fun! So another tiring day has ended...but something seems to be missing. Of course! What would a camp be without a bonfire? What other perfect way to end a very tiring and stressful day than with sitting around a bonfire, bonding with friends, overlooking the view (which was spectacular!). It was an opportunity for all of us to get to know each other, and to relax. Our group (which we fondly call the "Oldies") had a special bonding session that night. Teenagers as we were, we stayed up till the wee hours of the morning, sharing personal experiences, problems...and even some questions we long-wanted to ask each other. It was such a perfect opportunity...with the lights of Manila shining below us, and the lights of the

galaxies shining above (whoops, how mushy), it made it a whole lot easier to share.

As the camp's activities drew to a close on Sunday, the excitement among the youth never faltered. It was nearing graduation time! The time when we can boast to our parents that we HAVE learned something from the past 3 days that we were apart from them. So there we were, marching to the theme of *Indiana Jones*...one big mass of rowdy kids wearing white shirts...proud of what we achieved! And then, there were our parents...they didn't know what was going on - or should I say, what went on. They just don't know what hit them or *hit us*? And they really seemed so proud of us when we received our certificates and cool *Magis* buttons. It was as if they were saying, "At last, my child did something useful this summer besides sitting in front of the television!" And we learned so much more...much more.

#### LOST & FOUND CORNER :

We have gathered some things that were left by the children during the camp. To claim, please call up Levy/Roxanne Espiritu at Tel. No. 645-60-13

## A MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE MAGIS YOUTH MINISTRY

By : Levy/Roxanne Espiritu

The Summer Youth Fun Camp has been well attended by 53 of the children from the Magis Community, coming from 36 families, representing 12 BCGGs and 3 Magis Class.

The success of this undertaking would not have been made possible without the generous support and continuous encouragement from different groups and individuals.

In behalf of the Youth Ministry, we would like to thank *Beyond Limits Asia* (through Gene/Evita Florendo), for giving our children a wonderful learning experience throughout the week-end

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors (inside and outside of the community), who have generously supported the project, to the BCGGs and Magis Classes, who have entrusted their children to our care for a week-end of fun and friendship.

And special thanks to our Magis Youth, our children, for whom this project was meant to share with you, to appreciate and carry out the values we are continuously learning from being part of the Magis Deo Community.

We cannot thank you all enough for allowing us to successfully undertake this special project but we will always have you in our hearts and in our prayers.