

BULALAKAW

★ The Official Newsletter of Filipino American Association of Wisconsin ★ Spring 2021 ★



Dear FAAWIS Members:

Happy Spring! I am writing this letter to you to update you on some wonderful and promising new changes within FAAWIS.

Like so many community organizations, FAAWIS became less active since last year due to the unexpected impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. We ceased being able to have our traditional gatherings and the simple pleasure of just seeing one another. However, in spite of this, we adapted and managed to hold a few highly successful events like the Holiday Folk Fair. Under the leadership of Dr. Nela Mendoza-Lemes, we served food and participated in the arts and crafts demonstrations. We were also able to coordinate and have in person and virtual masses via Facebook LIVE and GotoMeeting for Simbang Gabi. For those who braved the cold and conditions to attend in person each night, FAAWIS sent them home with delicious prepacked dinners. My gratitude to the many members who lent their time and talent to make all of this possible!

This inspired the Executive Board to identified solutions to the challenges that the pandemic has shown a light on as we enter this new year. It is our hope that by taking a more proactive, culturally inclusive approach, FAAWIS will be stronger and better equipped to support its members, create new opportunities to grow our organization, and expand to support and serve the community with which we all live.

It is my hope that the changes outline in this letter will help provide a clear vision for FAAWIS that will enable us to reinvigorate it as a vital social resource for its members, prospective members, and sister organizations within our community. I thank you in advance for your support and look forward to seeing and working with each of you this year.

With Best regards,

Angelica Varona Camara
Executive Director/ President



2021 FAAWIS STRATEGIC CHANGES

Updated **Bylaws** to reflect organizational changes.

- Affirm FAAWIS’ mission and purpose by acknowledging changes in the cultural landscape in order to engage old and new members with more culturally diverse programs and activities
- Outlined methods of succession management and membership growth through cultural inclusion of all current and future members who have Filipino heritage.
- Redefined the role and duties of each board member and committee

Executive Board

President: Angelica Varona Camara
 Vice President: OPEN
 Secretary: Maureen Uy
 Treasurer: Cely Delica – assisted by Joe Valdehuesa

Committee Chairpersons

Dr. Nela Mendoza-Lemes – Holiday Folk Fair and International Institute of Wisconsin partnership
 Thelma Klingseisen- Scholarship and Membership program
 Patrick Maloney- FAAWIS Picnic and sports outings
 Margarita Bruce- Virtual programs and Education
 Tom Hey- Financial Literacy and personal finance programs
 Kaylb Berkshire- Community Events/ fundraising
 Community Partners and Initiatives
 Miriam Santos Amador- History and Education
 TBA- Dance instruction

Advisors to the Board

Isabel Piana
 P. Emraida Kiram
 Jaime Soriano

NEW LOOK - MARKETING

Mark & Maureen Uy have given FAAWIS a new look as seen here in the Bulalakaw, and are in the process of updating our Website, Social Media Channels and providing a sustainable communications plan to improve member communications.



Memories from 2019 FAAWIS Dinner Dance

2021 SCHEDULE

Below are the 2021-2022 initiatives, programs and events* that will support the social welfare and engagement of FAAWIS members by fostering community outreach, education, culture, wellness and organizational partnerships and the community.

MARCH

International Women Day
 International Women’s History Month
 Collaborators: EEOC, WWOCN, MILAWA, Life after Hate, Homan Grown LC3, N’Jameh Camara, VS Pandanggo Enterprise, LLC, among others

APRIL

FAAWIS Scholarship - Applications due by May 1, 2021
 Spring/Summer Membership Drive

MAY

Asian Heritage Month
 Milwaukee Repertory Theater

JUNE

FAAWIS Picnic - June 12 at Menomonee Falls Village Park
 FAWWIS Scholarship Winners Announced

OCTOBER

Filipino American History Month of October with the Filipino American National Historical Society*

NOVEMBER

Holiday Folk Fair- International Institute of WI

DECEMBER

Family Christmas
 Simbang Gabi with the Intercultural Ministries of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee/ Filipino Catholic Ministry**

*Virtual and in person event

ANNUAL INITIATIVES

Membership drives

Fish Consumption Study- International Institute of WI (2021 -2023)

Community Event Collaboration with:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| • PCCCF | • UST-AA |
| • PAMANA | • PNAWI |
| • FANHS | • UPAA |
| • Akbayan | • PMA |
| • FANEW | • WWOCN |
| • Bayanihan Student Organization at Marquette University | • UW Filipino American Student Associations |