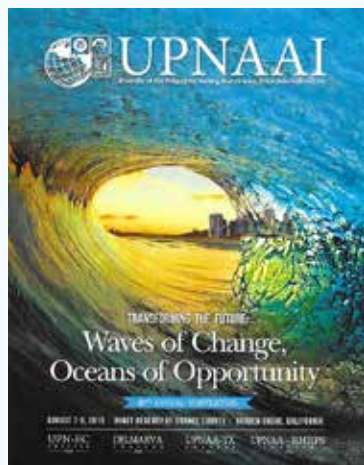


## Our Cover



UPNAAI YEARBOOK

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## Editorial Message



Welcome back to Orange County, California and enjoy the company of your classmates, family, and friends at UPNAAI's 36th Convention.

The Yearbook cover page reflects this year's theme, "Transforming the Future: Waves of Change, Oceans of Opportunity." The ocean is so vast and infinite in its panorama. The water could be tranquil but at times the waves could be challenging. We can all relate to the changing waves as we experience different opportunities in our lives. Like the surfer, we all experience the thrill of seeking new ways to circumvent another pathway when a strong surge of waves seem to overcome us. Whatever we do now and wherever we are, could be the outcome of actions we did in the past. Right now, the present, is a gift we have to cherish. We only live once and we might as well live to the fullest. Today is yesterday's future and we can all transform our lives into the shape we desire. However, the Favors are in the hands of God.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate the education committee for an excellent job in the line-up of speakers who will inspire you in their expert knowledge on the current healthcare delivery systems and its changes. You will hear the different views from the perspectives of an educator, administrator, clinical staff, and entrepreneur.

The most awaited highlight of today's event is the presentation of Edmund J.Y. Pajarillo, PhD, RN BC, CPHQ, NEA BC, the recipient of the 2015 JVSotoejo Medallion of Honor, the highest and most coveted recognition of a U.P. Nurse who made breakthroughs in the nursing field and rendered service to country and humanity.

This year marks UPNAAI's inaugural gift to the Gold, Emerald, and Diamond Jubilarians (the GEDI's, pronounced JEDI's), the UPNAAI Legacy Medallion, a GIFT of LOVE—a legacy of their careers and life experiences, a treasure for their family's keepsake.

To culminate the event, during the Gala Night, the newly formed UPNAA-Rocky Mountain Region Pacific States Chapter led by Ida Robillon-Santos, GN'68, BSN, RN, LNHA, at its helm, will be installed at a candle light ceremony.

I am in awe of the greatness of people with personal challenges like Jim Stovall, who became totally blind in his adult life. In spite of his blindness, he became very successful—a national champion Olympic weightlifter, an Emmy Award-winner, the National Entrepreneur of the Year, one of the Ten Outstanding Young Americans, a highly sought-after motivational speaker, and a successful author of the novel turned movie, *The Ultimate Gift*. He was inspired by a totally blind four-year-old boy who taught him the 'pure, unadulterated wisdom of the ages which is, quite simply, no matter what your goal or the obstacle you're facing, the answer is always, "Yes you can!" The dream would not have been put inside you if you did not have the capacity to achieve it.'

### YES, WE CAN!

Let us all rise to the occasion and celebrate all the things accomplished by UPNAAI through the legacy of the membership who are alumni of the UP-PGHSN and the UPCN—together as one.

Mabuhay ang UPNAAI, its membership, and all the Jubilarians!

**Lyvia M. Villegas**, GN'68, BSN'71, MA, RN, FNP  
Chairman, Editorial Board, 2015 UPNAAI Yearbook  
Chairman, Awards and Citations Committee  
UPNAAI President, 1998-1999