



LET'S UNITE THE COMMUNITY
AND GO FORWARD

The Filipino Mirror

The Migrants' Newsletter

Vol. 7 No. 4

The official quarterly organ of the
Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants - Denmark®

December 2003



There's Hope in Prayer
A three-generation Christmas message for world peace

This
Christmas,
discover
the
world
of



CASUAL WEAR
FORMAL WEAR
SEMI-FORMAL WEAR
JEWELRIES
BAGS
and
ACCESSORIES

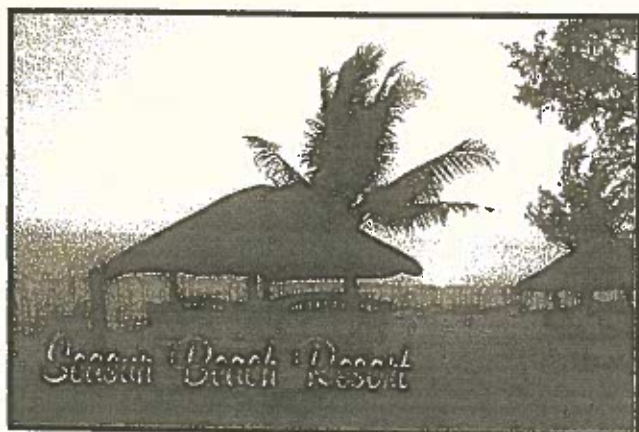
ROSTAN'S
Quality ✕ Value ✕ Service

Amagerbrogade 96-E, 2300 Copenhagen S Telephone 32 59 68 00 Proprietress: Rosemarie Magno

**Need a rest? Some days of vacation? A week-end stay?
Or some nice days at the sea?
Try something new! Try our new place called
SeaSun Beach Resort**

An ideal place for backpack tourists, for people fond of picnics and for special celebrations.

SeaSun Beach Resort is the newest resort you can find at the mountainous province of Zambales. Located at Barangay Sabang, Santa Cruz, it is about 200 kilometers north of Manila.



For reservations and other particulars, please call

in Denmark
Michael Nielsen: 98 44 26 73 ✕ 20 33 55 34

in Manila
Nelly: 0063 919 685 5624

or visit our Website: www.seasun.org/
E-mail: seasun@stofanet.dk

The Filipino Mirror

the official organ of the
BAYANIHAN CENTER
FOR FILIPINO MIGRANTS-DENMARK®

EDITORIAL BOARD

Abby C. Acuña
Editor-in-Chief

Cezar B. Palad
Associate Editor

Oscar B. Navarro
Dr. Arlene Torres-D'Mello
Pat D. Valenzuela
Columnists

Fr. Carroll Parker, OMI
Fr. Patrick J. Sheils, CSSR
Paulle Christiansen ✕ Dulce C. Dolor
Nanette San Juan ✕ Cecil C. Schondel
Contributors

Cho T. Baldon
Circulation Manager

Marc. R. Dicap
Managing Editor

The Filipino Mirror, registered and authorized a second class mail by Copenhagen Post Office, is distributed four-times a year by the Bayanihan Center for Filipino Migrants-Denmark. Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and persons interviewed and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Bayanihan Center.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Marc. R. Dicap
President

Cezar B. Palad
Vice President

Cho T. Baldon
Secretary

Leonor V. Kristensen
Treasurer

Cora T. Magpantay
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Alena Muga-Uvero
Public Relations Officer

Elena B. Olsen ✕ Pat D. Valenzuela
Project Coordinators

Isabel M. Malacas
Auditor

Bong D. Roque
Liaison Officer

Einer Lyduch
Adviser

Business Address: Valdemarsgade 69
DK 1665 Copenhagen V, Denmark
Phone: +45 33 21 99 26
Fax: +45 33 25 86 26
Giro 1-659-9476
e-mail: bayanihan@get2net.dk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 EDITORIAL
From the Editor
Christmas as an Albatross
The Why of the Cover

5 INS AND OUTS
BCFM Arsfest & Julefrokost 2003
De Venecia visits Copenhagen
Absentee Voting Registration
Lyduch to run for EU Parliament

8 UN-TONGUE-TIED
Eating our Words
Just Wondering
I am not so sure... and so I could be wrong. But I doubt it!

10 PHILIPPINE ROUND UP
Migrants News
Current Events

12 FOOD FOR THOUGHT
Sharing From Across The Miles
The Envelope
From the Chaplains
Christmas: All that matters
A Child

14 HEALTH & HOME
Do you have the stomach for the holidays?

16 FEATURE
Danish Immigration Law
Country Groups with Visa Requirement
Avenues for Appeal

18 FIL-O-FUN
Little Johnny
Desi-delata ✕ Traffic Carol

20 TRAVEL & TOURS
Turtle Islands
Special Wildlife Sanctuary of the Sulu Archipelago

22 A PEEK INTO THE PAST
Christmas Trivia
Authors behind world's popular Christmas songs
Gift wrapping rituals from around the world

24 ARTS N CULTURE
Christmas in our Isles
A long enduring feast

26 DIWA AT PANITIK
Samu't Sari ni Diko
Overseas Absentee Voting

30 CHRISTMAS MESSAGES/GREETINGS
ADVERTISEMENTS



BCFM Arsfest & Julefrokost 2003



De Venecia visits Copenhagen



Turtle Islands

As a rule, a residence permit must be received prior to a foreigner's entry into Denmark. An application for a residence and work permit must therefore be submitted to a Danish representative office, (embassy/general consulate) in the applicant's country of origin. The consular office will then forward it for assessment to the Danish Immigration Service in Denmark.

Documents to be enclosed with the application:

1. A valid passport or other legitimate travel document issued to the applicant; and,
2. A 35 x 45 lifelike passport photo of the applicant.

Additional documents required with the application for:

Salaried Work. 1. An employment contract which contains the conditions of employment; and, 2. An elaborate job description including the applicant's professional qualifications.

Self-Employment. 1. An annual statement of accounts and/or a budget, signed by an accountant; 2. Detailed documentation of any shared ownership; 3. A business plan including an anticipated number of workplaces and bookkeeping structure; 4. Professional endorsement by any possible cooperative ventures with Danish businesses; 5. Detailed documentation of any partnership already entered into; and, 6. Detailed documentation of the applicant's education and work experience, personal capital and language skills.

Study. 1. Documentation of the applicant's admittance to an educational institution; and, 2. Documentation of the applicant's ability to support him/herself during the stay in Denmark (a minimum of DKr. 50,000).

Interns. 1. An information form filled out by both the applicant and the management at the internship site; 2. Endorsement

DANISH Immigration Law

from management of the internship site; and, 3. Documentation of the applicant's educational background.

Trainees. 1. The applicant's training program in Denmark; 2. Information on what function the trainee will later serve in the country of origin; 3. The project's expected financial, labour-related or professional impact on the company in Denmark; and, 4. The salaries and condition of employment.

THE EC/EEA CITIZENS

Citizens of EC/EEA member states, as well as citizens of Switzerland, can live in Denmark according to special rules which are incorporated in Denmark's immigration legislation. They are governed by the rules on free movement of people and services.

EC citizens are the citizens of Belgium, Finland, France, Holland, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, Great Britain, Sweden, Germany and Austria. EEA citizens are the citi-

zens of Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland.

An EC/EEA citizen who wishes to enter Denmark must bring his/her passport to be able to prove his/her own identity and citizenship if requested to do so by the Danish authorities.

An EC/EEA citizen can reside freely in Denmark for up to 3 months. If the EC/EEA citizen is seeking employment or is actively employed during the stay, he/she may be permitted to remain in Denmark up to 6 months.

EC/EEA Residence Certificate

A stay exceeding the 3 or 6-month limit requires an EC/EEA residence certificate. An EC/EEA citizen is eligible for a residence certificate if he/she:

- Has a paid job;
- Is running an independent business;
- Is offering services of an industrial, commercial, or craftsman-like nature; and services within the liberal professions;
- Is supported by pension

revenues/compensation as a result of a labour-related accident or illness. The income at the applicant's disposal must at least equal the amount paid out under the current cash welfare assistance in Denmark; and,

□ Is a student enrolled in a job-preparatory educational program. The applicant must be self-supporting during his/her stay in Denmark.

An EC/EEA citizen can apply for a residence certificate in the local county authority (*statsamt*) where he/she lives. The application form must be delivered personally to the *statsamt*.

Can the applicant bring family?

A spouse or companion, as well as children under 21 years of age, of an EC/EEA citizen has the right to stay in Denmark for 3-6 months if the purpose of the stay is work-related. The spouse, companion or children must have a visa, however, if they come from a country with a visa requirement for Denmark.

VISA

Anyone from a country with a visa requirement for visiting Denmark for a short period of time must obtain a visa before coming here. A visa normally grants the holder a right to stay in the entire Schengen region: France, Belgium, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Portugal, Germany, Spain, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, but it does not grant the holder the right to work in Denmark.



The Schengen countries normally decide cooperatively what nationalities will be included under the visa requirement. The countries are selected with consideration to immigration and security issues, as well as political concerns. A visa may grant the holder a right to stay in the Schengen countries for a maximum of 90 days.

In certain countries where there is no consular office, Denmark has signed an agreement with a Schengen representative office to examine visa applications for Denmark. If there is neither a Danish nor a Schengen consular office, then the application may be submitted in another country where Denmark is officially represented.

An applicant, who wishes to visit several Schengen countries, but who plans to spend most time in Denmark, must submit his/her application to a Danish representative office. If the applicant plans to stay in an equal amount of time in several countries, he/she must submit the visa application at the Schengen representative office of the country where his/her travels will begin.

Four (4) Country Groups with a Visa Requirement

The Ministry of Integration, Refugee and Immigration Affairs has four country groups whose citizens require a visa:

Group 1 is the so-called asylum group, which presently consists of citizens from Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Iran, Iraq, Gambia, Ghana, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda and Yemen as well as stateless Palestinians. As a rule, visas are only granted to spouses, underage children and parents.

Group 2 is the so-called immigration group, which presently consists of citizens from Albania,

Bangladesh, Benin, the Ivory Coast, India, Jordan, Kenya, China, Macedonia, Morocco, Nigeria, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Togo and Vietnam. As a rule, visas are only granted to spouses, children, siblings and parents.

Group 3 consists of citizens from Azerbaijan, Burundi, Congo, Georgia, Belarus, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Thailand and Ukraine. As a rule, citizens of these countries are eligible for a visa after demonstrating a connection to an individual living in Denmark. Tourist visas can not be granted to them.

Group 4 consists of citizens from all other visa-requisite countries. Citizens from these countries are generally eligible to receive a visa for any variety of reasons: tours, major family event (birth, baptism, wedding), visit a Denmark resident suffering from a life-threatening illness, business trips, conference or sports events.

The applicant must present any written invitation with the host's name, address, and foreign national registration numbers, and purpose of the visit clearly indicated.

When the consular office abroad and the Danish Immigration Service examine a visa application, two of the things they assess are whether there may be reason to believe that the applicant intends to seek permanent or long-term residence in Denmark, and if the applicant will pose a security risk for the country. Moreover the following conditions must be fulfilled:

- The applicant must have the necessary means to pay for the stay and the journey home.
- There is no alert in the Schengen Information System (SIS) issued for the purpose of refusing entry of the applicant.

Processing Time. The majority of all visa applications are examined and decided by the Danish



representatives abroad. In these cases, a decision is normally made within a few days.

The more complicated visa cases handled by the Danish Immigration Service presently have an average processing time of four-six weeks. The average processing time for business visas is fourteen (14) days.

Extension. A Schengen visa, can under special circumstances be extended to a stay totalling to 90 days. Among other things, an application for extension requires that:

- Humanitarian considerations, vital business or personal reasons warrant the extension.
- The purpose of the stay remains unchanged.
- The applicant must be able to document the grounds for a possible extension of his/her visa.
- The extension is warranted by some extraordinary circumstances such as serious illness or death in the family.

Documents to be presented:

- Passport
- Documentation illustrating how the applicant is being supported during his or her stay in Denmark.
- An invitation, or similar document, from the person residing in Denmark, with the individual's name and address clearly printed.

□ Documentation of any extenuating circumstances: a statement (medical certificate) from a doctor or hospital; or if the applicant, or the person residing in Denmark whom the applicant is visiting, is ill.

AVENUES FOR APPEAL

EC/EEA Residence Certificates. If an applicant is dissatisfied with the decision of the local county authority, he/she can appeal the decision in writing to the Danish Immigration Service (Ryesgade 53, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark).

The applicant has the right to remain in Denmark until the Danish Immigration Service has finished processing the appeal.

Residence permits issued under the Danish Aliens Act. An applicant who is dissatisfied with the Danish Immigration Service's decision can appeal in writing to the Ministry of Immigration, Refugee and Integration Affairs (Holbergsgade 6, 1057 Copenhagen K, Denmark).

The applicant is given the right to remain in Denmark during the examination of his/her appeal. However, the applicant must note that should he/she chooses to leave the country during that period, he/she will automatically lose the right to re-entry. ❀

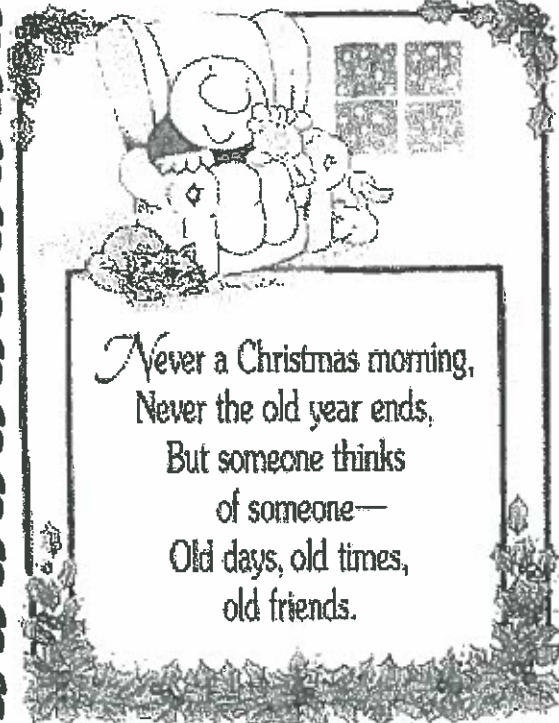
3535 6085

Season's Greetings



May you have
your happiest holiday
ever!

From
Norma and Jorgen
Andersen



Never a Christmas morning,
Never the old year ends,
But someone thinks
of someone—
Old days, old times,
old friends.

Season's Greetings from
Jeanna and Dennis
Altamirano

32 58 5115 012

Season's Greetings

and
warmest wishes
for the holiday
and
the coming year!

From
Rainier & Tessie, Kathleen & Brandon Simon
Danny, Dulce & Gustav
Sime & Precy

POBLETE



32 50 86 94

Greetings!

May your heart be touched with the gentle
joys that can only come at Christmas.



Merry
Christmas

DELY CANTOR
LOLITA SAGUIBO
LISA & FRED ACASIO
JUANITO & LILLY VARGAS
CRESTITA CALUZA AND FAMILY
CARLITO AND VICTORIA MAGPANTAY
NENETTE MAGPANTAY-FERNANDO
WITH ANDREW, ARCHIE, NINA AND NICOLE
ROGER & ESTRELLA HACINAS AND FAMILY
ELENA & CAMILO ESCANDOR
WITH HEIDI AND LENNART
MARIO DENNIS
MARIO ALLAN
ROWENA
CORA AND MARIO MAGPANTAY

From all of us!

The Filipinos and our families in

Radiometer Medical A/S
Copenhagen