

THE NEUROSURGERY OUTREACH FOUNDATION

# Brainwaves

*The Benigno S. Aldana, Jr. Educational Award 2013, A Night for the Neurons, Anna's Bandanas Holiday Gift, and Educational Surgical Mission 2014*

Friends of NOF Newsletter

Issue # 3 - Winter 2013/Spring 2014

## The Benigno S. Aldana, Jr. Educational Award 2013

The Armed Forces of the Philippines Medical Center, locally known as the V. Luna General Hospital in Quezon City is a public hospital founded in 1937 that provides

medical care to the members of the Philippine military and their dependents. The awardee of NOF's 2013 Benigno S. Aldana Jr. Educational Award, Dr. Junior U. Borja, is a third year neurosurgical resident at this institution.

Last year's NOF educational awardee, Dr. Millares, was able to

purchase a year's subscription to the Journal of Neurosurgery. Dr. Borja decided to apply for the award, hoping to secure funding to continue this benefit. Needless to say, Dr. Borja was very pleased having received the news that he was selected as the 2013 awardee. He will be able to purchase another

year's subscription for the benefit of his fellow neurosurgical residents.

Congratulations Dr. Borja!

*Thanks to our donors without whom this award would not have been possible and to Dr. Gordon Deen, Dr. Andrew Jea, and Dr. Ricardo Hanel for their time.*



**Dr. Junior U. Borja**

## A Night for the Neurons

*NOF relies heavily on volunteers and the generous support of donors to realize its goals.*

The fundraiser committee had lofty ambitions to surpass monies raised in 2011. With the list of things NOF wanted to accomplish and with the knowledge that the amount raised would need to provide support for two years, they worked hard to ensure an amazing night for the neurons.



**Drs. Ali and Nayla Chahlavi and Dr. Rabih and Mrs. Hauda Tawk**

### A Night for the Neurons raised \$20,000

About 150 people came out to Jacksonville's Main Library to support the efforts of NOF. Under a starry October night, guests were welcomed with a neuro-fini drink to kick off a brain boosting dining experience that included dishes from around the world complete with sweets and finished off with a brain pop! Guests bid on silent auction items that promoted activities for a lifelong healthy brain. The night definitely got everyone's synapses firing in enjoyment as declared by guests.



**Dr. & Mrs. M. Gayle**

That evening also saw the launch of Anna's Bandanas (see next page).

Before introducing Dr. Philipp Aldana, Dr. Ricardo Hanel, kindly requested all to observe a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Benigno S. Aldana, Jr, whom

the educational award is named after, who passed away last summer.

A short presentation told the story of how NOF came to be and what it hopes to achieve when people embark on a journey of giving.

Overall, everyone had a good time while helping NOF come close to accomplishing its Hope List. A toast to the chairs, Ms. Melanie Boree and Ms. Lisa Szymanski and to their committee! A toast to the donors and sponsors! A Night for the Neurons raised \$20,000 because of you. Thank you!



**Juliana Z., Giana M., and Martina H.**

*Please visit [www.neurosurgeryoutreach.org](http://www.neurosurgeryoutreach.org) to see more pictures of the event and to view The Journey of Giving presentation.*

# Anna's Bandanas



**A smile on  
Aaliyah**

Since it was launched last summer, Anna's Bandanas, has almost 100 bandanas ready to be donated to kids around the world. The bright colored tie-dye bandanas are sure to brighten up a child's day after undergoing radiation treatment or brain surgery. As a holiday gift to the Jacksonville community, NOF selected The University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute to receive some of these bandanas. All the kids who came in for treatment on December 24th got their bandana, thanks to Nurse Annie Rini, NOF volunteer, for coordinating and to you, NOF friends, for helping make their day special.

**Buy One, Give One...or Give Two, it's all up to you!**

Bandanas are purchased in multiples of \$15 so you can decide how many you want to keep and donate. The bandanas are 100% cotton and are individually tie-dyed, by hand, by a small family business in Georgia.

Available for purchase online at [www.neurosurgeryoutreach.org](http://www.neurosurgeryoutreach.org).



**Austin and his mom**

## NOF by the Numbers

*since its inception in 2010*

2 Educational Surgical Missions in the Philippines

30 Filipino neurosurgeons trained in neuro-endoscopic surgery techniques to treat hydrocephalus

15 medical personnel trained to prepare operating rooms and assist in neurosurgeries

Over 25 patients have undergone neuro-endoscopic surgeries

3 Benigno S. Aldana, Jr. MD Educational Awards

Over \$7000 worth of surgical equipment donated

## Thank You for taking part in The Journey of Giving

**KLS Martin Group**

**Mr. Pradit Phataraprasit (Thailand)**

**Elwood and Donna Collier**

**Gordon and Ruth Deen**

**Dr. & Mrs. Ricardo Hanel**

**The Kavalieros Family**

**The Toral Family Foundation**

**Wolfson Children's Hospital**

## Forward Thinking



**Educational Surgical Mission 2014** - Scheduled in June this summer, the ESM will be focusing on an advanced neuro-endoscopy seminar. In partnership with Dr. Manuel Mariano at St. Luke's Medical Center Global City in Ft. Bonifacio, Philippines. This seminar will cater to a larger number of participants with more neuro-endoscopic procedures. We are fortunate to have expert endoscopists Drs. Walter Grand and Jodi Leonardo from SUNY Buffalo to lecture. There is much work to be done in preparation for this mission. NOF would like to thank all its donors for their support.

**Educational Award** - Awards for 2014 have been presented early this year to accommodate a pediatric neurosurgery course in Singapore. Details for awards 2014 will be available in the next issue of Brainwaves. Applications for the Benigno S. Aldana, Jr. Award for 2015 will be available at the end of the year. Training Program Directors and Residents are encouraged to send an email to [edu@neurosurgeryoutreach.org](mailto:edu@neurosurgeryoutreach.org) for more information.

**Typhoon Haiyan** - After the November typhoon, the city of Tacloban was left with overwhelming damage. NOF is reaching out to medical professionals to determine the kind of re-building assistance needed.

## Board of Directors and Officers

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**Clarence Nelson Uy, MD**

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**Andrew H. Jea, MD**

## Want to take part in the Journey of Giving?

Inquiries to make a donation, please email us at [info@neurosurgeryoutreach.org](mailto:info@neurosurgeryoutreach.org).