

THE CREATION OF PAMET-NEVADA

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IN THE BEGINNING.....1992, Romy Guiding and his wife Joy attended a PAMET-USA national convention in Santa Clara, California. Being the only Nevadan with Northern California Chapter affiliation, he was encouraged by the national leaders to organize a chapter in his home state. Overwhelmed with excitement from his experience at the convention, he went home with a dream and the hope of forming a PAMET-NEVADA chapter.

With enthusiasm, he mentioned the idea to Filipino med techs he worked with and med tech friends from other laboratories especially to Cleofita Lim, whom he knew was a member of PAMET-PI before she came to the United States. In separate occasions, Romy and Fita each approached Evelyn Sayre, who has a lot of knowledge and experience in management. They knew Evelyn has the brain, ability, the influence and charm to make things happen. But for numerous reasons, their effort did not materialize. The idea sat idle.

Five years later: Nellie Almoina, member of California Chapter, relocated to Las Vegas to work for American Pathologists Laboratories. There she met Ellie Garcia and her sister Becky, both previous members of California chapter. The three-some talked about forming a chapter but somehow their work demands had overcome the plan.

In the late summer of 1998, Virginia Gambon-Quintin, coming from Indianapolis where she was a secretary of PAMET-Indiana, the newest PAMET chapter at that time, started a job at APL. There she met Nellie and Ellie, who were very seriously contemplating on the idea of a Nevada chapter. Together they discussed about the idea and they became elated about it. With their constant discussions and serious planning, the idea actually became rosy. They felt they were on cloud nine, but then, the plan slowly drifted back to a dream as the idea became idle once again.

In the early summer of 1999, Liz Dequinia, then PAMET-USA President and Trini Miller, came to Las Vegas for two reasons: To scout for a venue for the PAMET-USA 7th National Board Meeting which was scheduled to be in Las Vegas at the end of August that year. They contacted Nellie on the possibility of a Nevada Chapter formation. Liz offered a very enticing proposal which Nellie could not resist. So she called people that she knew were interested to meet with them. Tina del Castillo (also from APL), Nellie, and Ellie were the only ones on hand. The scheme was to install interim officers in the presence of the national officers and the promise of full support from the mother chapter, PAMET-USA. So, the three waited no time to put on their shoes, rolled up their sleeves and went to work contacting people more seriously than ever. The dream was about to become a reality.

Before the national convention that was to be held on August 27, 28,29,1999, the key people who met with Liz and Trini called for an emergency meeting. Nellie Almoina, Aquilles Anquillano, Tina Del Castillo, Becky Garcia, Romy Guideng, and Virginia Gambon-Quintin met to ardently discuss how this could be done in just few days away from the said dates. They enthusiastically volunteered for office, fervently recruited for the other positions and unanimously appointed (with their fingers crossed that she would agree) Evelyn Sayre to be the President. The 7th Biennial National Board Meeting took place and the first interim officers of PAMET-NEVADA were installed on August 28, 1999 at the Boardwalk Hotel and Casinos at the heart of Las Vegas Strip. Thus the NEVADA CHAPTER of PAMET-USA was created!

(Article by V.Gambon-Quintin posted in pametnevada.org website on September 2002)