

The Igorot Quarterly

The Igorot Quarterly began in March 1992, as a “folksy” quarterly newsletter for Igorots around the world, with Rex Botengan as editor. Published under the original auspices of BIBAK Los Angeles, its general purpose, as stated in its masthead is:

“To share with the human community the story of the Igorots – their culture, arts, and letters, their history, and their struggles to rise above themselves; and to be a medium of communication of Igorots around the world.”

This experimental folksy newsletter began with 28 subscribers, which gradually increased through the years when subscription peaked to about 800. For several years, the IQ followed a format with the following department headings:

- BIBAKs Around the World
- Newsbriefs
- News from the Cordillera
- The Igorot Youth; The Seniors, The Igorot Professionals
- Igorots in the Military
- Igorot Culture and Rituals:
- Obituaries; A Social Register
- Letters to the Editor
- Miscellaneous

In later years, IQ content included news items on the Igorot International Consultations, debates on the word “Igorot”, formation of an Igorot Global Organization, Profiles of Prominent Igorots, and serious articles, such as on the following topics:

- Profile of the Igorot Today in America, by Albert Bacdayan, Ph.D.
- On the Igorot Exhibit at the 1904 St. Louis Expo,
 - o by Patricia Afable, Ph.D.;
 - o by Virgilio Pilapil, M.D.,
 - o by Eng. Arthur Butic,
 - o by Martha R. Clevenger, Director at the St. Louis Museum and Library
- Reflections of an Igorot Economist (A Series), by Andrew Bacdayan, Ph.D.
- Legal Updates (A Series), by Mandares Dornagon, Esq.
- The Igorot as a Gift from God, by Artemio Zabala, Dr. Of Theology
- On the preservation of the environment, by Michael Bengwayan, Environmentalist
- Culture and the Igorot, by Gerard Finin, Ph.D., and by Gary Pekas
- On William Henry Scott, by Harold C. Conklin, Ph.D., and by Andrew Tauli, MD

With a very small staff of volunteers, giving of their time and sometimes treasure, and at times suffering from “burn-out”, the campaign for new subscribers and renewal of existing subscriptions has suffered greatly. It has now become necessary to deliver IQ mails to Philippine subscribers via chance travelers to the Philippines to a distributing center in Baguio City.

In March 2002, the aging editor of the IQ, after ten years with this “folksy” newsletter, has stepped down as editor. In his place have been named two young interim Editors, Michael Wandag and Rex Botengan, Jr., until IGO, that has taken over publication of the IQ from the Center for Igorot Studies, names a regular editor, or editors. (Volunteers are welcome to apply as editor, circulation manager/coordinator, advertising manager, or as correspondent.)