



# balita

No. 3708, August 17, 2017

## GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



### **HON. BAYANI "BF" F. FERNANDO**

Representative, First District, Marikina City  
Former Secretary, Department of Public Works and Highways  
Former Chairman, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority  
Former Mayor, Marikina City

### **KABALITA**

The Marikina Engineer, whose sweeping reforms as Metro Czar and King of the Roads back in the day where everything he did was a lasting legacy, weaves his old magic in the halls of legislature as he makes his bright ideas to battle the bane of flooding his continuing mission to the Filipino people. Find this out at Asia's First Rotary Club.

#### What's Inside

|                                             |       |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| Program                                     | 2     |
| Presidential Timeline                       | 3     |
| Guest of Honor and Speaker's Profile        | 4-5   |
| The Week That Was                           | 6-11  |
| Membership/Classification Committee         | 12    |
| RCM Weekly Birthday Celebrants/Post Meeting | 13-14 |
| Special Board Meeting                       | 15    |
| Election Committee                          | 16    |
| Sunshine Visit/ Interclub Fora & Activities | 17-20 |
| Basic Education & Literacy                  | 21-22 |
| Save the Little Hearts                      | 23-24 |
| Rotary News/                                | 25    |
| News Release                                | 26    |
| Public Health Nutrition and Child Care      | 27    |
| Advertisement                               | 28-30 |

## THE ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA BOARD OF DIRECTORS and Executive Officers 2017-2018

**JIMMIE POLICARPIO**  
*President*

**TEDDY OCAMPO**  
*Immediate Past President*

**BABE ROMUALDEZ**  
**CHITO ZALDARRIAGA**  
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**BOBBY JOSEPH**  
**ISSAM ELDEBS**  
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**CALOY REYES**  
**SUSING PINEDA**  
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**ALVIN LACAMBACAL**  
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**AMADING VALDEZ**  
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*Assistant Secretary*

**NER LONZAGA**  
*Assistant Treasurer*

**Secretariat**  
**ANNA KUN TOLEDO**

# PROGRAM

## RCM's 7<sup>th</sup> for Rotary Year 2017-2018

August 17, 2017, Thursday, 12Noon,

New World Makati Hotel Ballroom

**OIC/Moderator: PD "Rod" Valencia**

### PROGRAM TIMETABLE

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:30 AM | Registration & Cocktails                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12:25 PM | Bell to be Rung:<br>Members and Guests are<br>requested to be seated by                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>PD Rod Valencia</b><br>OIC/Moderator                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 12:30 PM | Call to Order<br>Singing of Republic of the Philippines<br>National Anthem<br>Invocation<br>RCM Hymn<br>The 4-Way Test Credo                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Pres. Jimmie Policarpio</b><br><br><b>RCM WF Music Chorale</b><br><b>PVP "Roy" Golez</b><br><b>RCM WF Music Chorale</b><br><b>All Rotarians led by</b><br><b>Rtn. "Jun" Bella</b><br><b>Rtn. "Jeric" Jucaban</b> |
| 12:35 PM | Introduction of -<br>-Guests, Visiting Rotarians &<br>Personalities at the Head Table<br>Welcome Song                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>RCM WF Music Chorale</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 12:40 PM | Happy Birthday (RCM Birthday Celebrants)<br>Aug. 17.....PDSAA "Val" Aboy;<br>Aug. 22.....Rtn. "Deo" Villacorta<br>Happy Birthday Song                                                                                                                                               | <b>RCM WF Music Chorale</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 12:45 PM | Formal signing of certificate for the chartering of <b>RCM-sponsored</b><br><b>Rotaract Club of Dela Salle College</b><br><b>of St. Benilde</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>Pres. Jimmie Policarpio;</b><br><b>Dir.-in-charge Caloy Reyes,</b><br>Community Service B;<br><b>RAC Dela Salle St. Benilde</b><br><b>Charter Members</b><br><b>Pres. Jimmie Policarpio</b>                      |
| 12:50 PM | President's Time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12:55 PM | Introduction of the Guest of<br>Honor & Speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>PAT Hermie Esguerra</b>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|          | Address: <b>Hon. Bayani F. Fernando</b><br>District Representative, Marikina City<br>1st District, Congress of the Philippines;<br>Former Secretary, Department of Public Works & Highways;<br>Former Chairman, Metropolitan Manila Devt. Authority;<br>Former Mayor, Marikina City |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|          | Public Forum<br>Response, Presentation of bell and gavel as token<br>of appreciation to<br><b>Rep. Bayani F. Fernando</b>                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Pres. Jimmie Policarpio</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2:00 PM  | Adjournment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE



August 9, 2017 - DGE Rudy Bediones attended the Monthly Meeting of the Asia Pacific Regional Rotaract Conference (APRRC) 2018 at the Hongkong Chef Restaurant in Pasay City.

August 10, 2017 - DGE Rudy Bediones attended the Joint Meeting of the Rotary Club of Bagumbayan Manila with other Rotary clubs where the Guest of Honor was Former Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. at the AG New World Manila Bay Hotel in Manila.

August 11, 2017 - DGE Rudy Bediones attended the 14th Handover and Induction Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Ramon Magsaysay Manila at the Waterfront Manila Pavillion Hotel and Casino in Manila where my classmate, Great President Diwata Gabat, was inducted.

- The Student Involvement Office (SIO) of the De La Salle-College of St. Benilde granted accreditation to the Rotaract Club of De La Salle-College of St. Benilde as a preliminary to our chartering.

August 12, 2017 - DGE Rudy Bediones, PP Archibart Bartolome, PP Ebot Tan and Rtn. Tong Payumo attended the 7th Handover and 8th Induction Ceremonies of the Association of Visionary Presidents at the Hongkong Chef Restaurant in Pasay City.

August 15, 2017 - IPSDG/IPDCoS/IPD Albert Alday attended the orientation towards the chartering of the Rotaract Club of De La Salle-College of St. Benilde at the college premises.

August 16, 2017 - Rotary Club of Manila paid the chartering fee of US\$50.00 for the Rotaract Club of De La Salle-College of St. Benilde.

August 17, 2017 - Welcomes Rep. Bayani "BF" Fernando of the First District of Marikina City, Former Marikina City Mayor, Former MMDA Chair and Former Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways to talk about his advocacies regarding the flood problems in Marikina City

- Signing of the Official Chartering Papers of the Rotaract Club of De La Salle-College of St. Benilde

## GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER'S PROFILE



**PROFILE:** Hon. Bayani "BF" Flores Fernando  
Representative,  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Marikina City  
Congress of the Philippines

**Date of Birth:** July 25, 1946

**Place of Birth:** San Juan, Metro Manila

**Civil Status:** Married Ma. Lourdes Fernando, the former mayor of Marikina City

**Children:** Tala Fernando

### **SUMMARY:**

The former administrator of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) first caught the public eye as the mayor who cleared Marikina's sidewalks during his term.

During his term, Marikina's status was elevated from a 4th class municipality to a model Philippine city accorded with 55 citations and distinctions.

Fernando also applied his no-nonsense approach when he assumed leadership of the MMDA. Apart from his sidewalk clearing operations, Fernando also initiated such controversial projects as the "wet rag" scheme where MMDA personnel are supposed to throw wet rags at jaywalkers.

He was re-elected mayor twice, serving until 2001. He was succeeded by his wife, Ma. Lourdes C. Fernando.

**On Dick Gordon:** "In spite of his visage, he's very humble. You know, I've heard him say, 'I learned this from Dick Gordon.'

**On bolting out of Lakas-Kampi-CMD:** He believes that if Lakas remained solid, they would have chosen him as the standard bearer of the party.

"I was more loyal, like no one can dispute that I was more loyal than the other [standard bearer Gilbert Teodoro]. But we have set aside loyalty. As far as I know, Lakas is practically done."

**On his political will:** "OUR LAWS ARE THE SOLUTION TO ALL THE PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE." " WE NEED LEADERS WITH POLITICAL WILL TO IMPLEMENT THE LAWS THAT WOULD ELEVATE OUR COMPETITIVENESS GLOBALLY."

On MMDA's alleged violation of vendors' rights: "Yan ay batas (That is a law)."

### **Educational Attainment**

Fernando earned a Mechanical Engineering degree from the Mapua Institute of Technology in 1967. He pursued graduate studies in the same institution in 1983.

### ***Career Timeline***

**1992-2001:** He won as mayor of Marikina City and served for 3 terms. Under his leadership, Marikina City garnered numerous awards for having efficient and clean schools and public markets. It became the best NCR local government unit in the NCR in 1994 and was declared most outstanding city in the Philippines in 1997

**2000-2001:** President, Metro Manila Mayor's League

**2002:** After his term as the Marikina Mayor ended in 2001, Fernando was placed as Chairman of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

**2003:** Fernando became secretary for Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) under the Arroyo administration.

**2009:** He agreed to run for vice-president with Richard Gordon under the newly-formed Bagumbayan party.

### ***Awards***

- Philippine Quality Award 1999, Silver Award – Proficiency Level for Organizational Excellence awarded by Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- Philippine Quality Award 1999, Bronze Award – Commitment Level for Organizational Excellence awarded by DAP / DTI
- Galing Pook Hall of Fame Award Five Winning Program

### ***Business Affiliations***

- Founder, BF Group of Companies: construction, steel, manufacturing and real estate

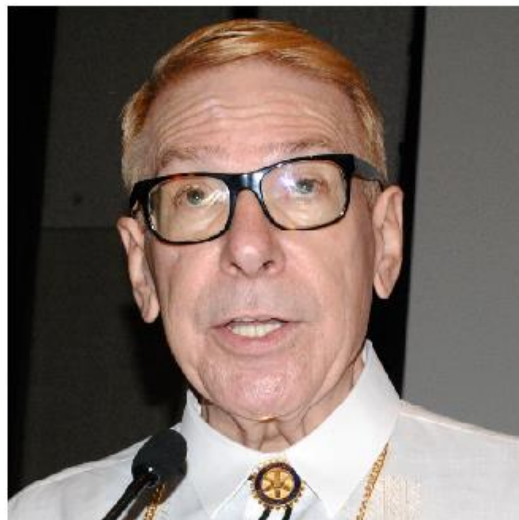
## THE WEEK THAT WAS..



**Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio** calls the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **Rotary Club of Manila** to order.



**Rtn. "Manny" Blanco** as OIC/ Moderator directs the program of activities.



**Dir. "Lance" Masters** delivers an ecumenical prayer.



**Rtn. "Jing" Lapus** leads fellow Rotarians in renewing its commitment to the Rotary credo by reciting the four (4) way test.



**Rtn. "Jun" Aventura** introduces the guests, visiting Rotarians and personalities seated at the presidential table.



**Pres. "Jimmie" Polcarpio** during the "President's Time."



IPP **"Teddy" Ocampo**, Chairman, Committee on Election, conducts/ opens the RCM Nomination of the Board of Directors for the Rotary Centennial Year 2018-2019.



PP **"Boy" Guevara, Jr.** does the honour, pleasure and privilege of introducing **Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC**, President, De La Salle University Science Foundation, President, Philippine Business for Social Progress, Former Secretary, Department of Education, Former President, De La Salle University Manila, as guest of honor and speaker.



De La Salle Philippines and Philippine Business for Social Progress President **Bro. Armin Luistro, FSC**, Former DepEd Secretary, laid down his advocacies on education and business investments before Manila Rotarians, Visiting Rotarians and guests.





A proactive public forum followed suit after the speech of **Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC**. Rtn. **“Jackie” Rodriguez**, Chairman, Program Committee, post his question, raising a proposal to **Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC** to join the Rotary Club of Manila Membership with PP **“Boy” Guevara, Jr.**, as principal proposer, which was accepted in principle by the guest of honor and speaker. Among other **RCMers’** who participated in the public forum were: **PDG Vince Carlos**, Rtn. **Nilo Aventura**, Rtn. **Emyl Eugenio**, PP **Benny Laguesma**, **PDG Alex Cureg**, Rtn. **Hermie Esguerra**, VP **Chito Zaldarriaga**, PP **Frank Evaristo**, PD **Beda Fajardo**, PP **Archit Bartolome** and Rtn. **Henning Karcher**.



**Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio** presents to **Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC** the clubs' glass plaque of appreciation for being guest of honor and speaker.



**Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio** delivers response and meeting adjournment.

## MEMBERSHIP/ CLASSIFICATIONS COMMITTEE



RCM Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio administers the oath of membership pledge to **Mr. Hiroki Nakatsuka** with PP "Ebot" Tan, proposer, STAR Rtn. "Hiroki" as the newest member to join the **Rotary Club of Manila**.

## RCM WEEKLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS



Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio presents the week’s birthday celebrants PDSAA “Ike” Stranathan and Rtn. “Farid” Schoucair for the traditional blowing of candles on the birthday cake amidst the singing by the RCM World-Famous Chorale of the Happy Birthday song and presentation of personalized bed pillows courtesy of PAT Muhammad Aslam.

## POST MEETING FELLOWSHIP



RC MANILA ROTARIANS in a posterity photo with Guest of Honor and Speaker Bro. Armin Luistro. From L-R: Rtn. Jun Bella, IPSDG/PDCos/ IPD ALBERT ALDAY, Rtn. Manny Blanco, Bro. Armin Luistro, PD Nick Locsin, DGE Rudy Bediones, VP Chito Zaldarriaga, IPP Teddy Ocampo, Rtn. Hiroki Nakatsuka, PP Ebot Tan, PVP Fausto Preysler and Rtn. Emyl Eugenio.



**Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC** in a posterity photo after the luncheon meeting with **Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio**, **IPP “Teddy” Ocampo**, **PP “Boy” Guevara**, **Rtn. “Manny” Blanco** and **STAR Rtn. “Hiroki” Nakatsuka**.



**Bro. Armin A. Luistro, FSC** (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), in another posterity photo with from left: **PP “Archit” Bartolome**, **IPD “Albert” Alday**, **Rtn. “Manny” Blanco**, **IPP “Teddy” Ocampo**, **PP “Frank” Evaristo** and **IPS “Ning” Lopez**.

## **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**



**Special Board meeting held last Thursday Aug 10,2017 2;15pm at the Gallery 3 (lobby) at New World Makati Hotel. Present were: Pres. Jimmie Policarpio, Dir. Susing Pineda, Dir. Issam Eldebs, Sec. Alvin Lacambacal, Dir. Lance Masters, IPP Teddy Ocampo, AS Rene Policarpio, Treas. Nicky Villasenor, VP Chito Zaldarriaga and ES Anna Kun Toledo(not seen in photo).**

# ELECTION COMMITTEE

## NOMINATION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR RY 2018-2019

Thursday August 10, 2017

IPP Teddy Ocampo opened the nomination for Board of Directors of RY 2018-2019:

### NOMINATOR

- 1 Rtn Jackie Rodriguez
- 2 PP Frank Evaristo
- 3 PP Benny Laguesma
- 4 Pres. Jimmie Policarpio
- 5 PVP Fausto Preysler
- 6 PDG Alex Cureg
- 7 PDG Vince Carlos
- 8 PP Archit Bartolome
- 9 PD Rob Sears
- 10 Rtn Mon Ko
- 11 PP Francis Juico
- 12 Pres. Jimmie Policarpio
- 13 PD Abe Pascual

- 14 Sec. Alvin Lacambacal
- 15 Treas. Nicky Villaseñor
- 16 SAA Dave Reynolds
- 17 Asst. Sec Rene Policarpio
- 18 DSAA Bollie Bolton
- 19 PD Art Lopez
- 20 PVP Fausto Preysler
- 21 Rtn Bren Egan
- 22 PS Butch Marking
- 23 Rtn Emyl Eugenio
- 24 PD Ning Lopez
- 25 Rtn Jack Bautista
- 26 Rtn Jun Aventura
- 27 PAS Eloy Adamos
- 28 PD Rob Sears
- 29 PD Phillip Ong
- 30 Rtn Gani Macatoman

### NOMINEE

- 1 PAT Hermie Esguerra
- 2 PD Albert Alday
- 3 PD Beda Fajardo
- 4 Dir. Lance Masters
- 5 PT Lito Sibayan
- 6 PDSAA Alfredo Lim
- 7 AT Ner Lonzaga
- 8 Dir. Susing Pineda
- 9 VP Chito Zaldarriaga
- 10 Rtn. Jack Rodriguez
- 11 VP Babe Romualdez
- 12 Dir. Bobby Joseph
- 13 Dir Sam Eldebs

- 31 PD Ed
- 32 Rtn Deo Villacorta
- 33 Rtn Thad Liamzon
- 34 Rtn Ricky Guevara
- 35 PD Jess Santos
- 36 Rtn Joe Assad
- 37 PD Abe Pascual
- 38 PVP Roy Golez
- 39 Rtn Raffy Alunan
- All members of the Board and  
Chair of Committee Lee

There being no further nominations made, upon motion made and seconded, the nomination for Board of Directors of Rotary Year 2018-2019 was closed.

**IPP Teodoro J. Ocampo**  
Chairman, Election Committee

## SUNSHINE VISIT



Director Issam Eldebs and Rtn. Farid Schoucair visited Dir. Bobby Joseph at Cardinal Santos Hospital last Saturday 12 August.

## INTERCLUB FORA AND ACTIVITIES



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## BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



### Project Site Visit: Guinhalaran Integrated Secondary School, Silay City, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

By Dir Lance Masters

Remember when I posted a request on our Viber “Fellowship” feed from the Silay City schoolteacher mother of one of our Little Hearts patients? She was about to start the school year with a classroom with no furniture, and the students were going to have to sit on the floor. When the teacher, Kristabel Alpire, asked me, I told her to go looking for options to solve the problem, and advise me of the costs. Being shy to ask for any more than the minimum, she found stools and sent pictures. She also costed lumber and labor costs for the maintenance crew and parents to work after school to make some tables.



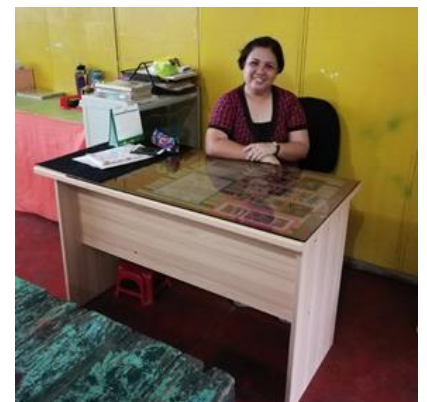
Then I posted the request on our Viber “Fellowship” feed. PP Romy Nones

immediately called up PP Alvin Lacambacal and asked about it. Within forty-five minutes, they said, “Yes, they would support the request.” I contacted the teacher and sent the requested money by Cebuana, adding a little extra for unanticipated expenses. Romy and Alvin reimbursed me the amount the teacher requested at our next meeting. I shared pictures of the classroom with stools in a short PowerPoint show at one of our meetings. A few of our members thought that stools were insufficient for the needs, and that the classroom should have proper chairs and tables.



Again, I asked the teacher to shop and advise me of her findings. She found chairs for about P700 each

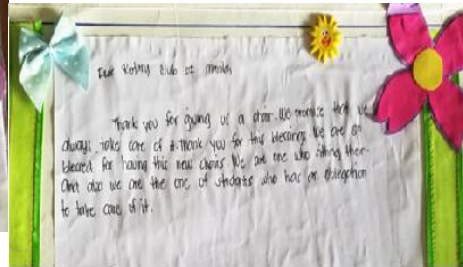
and got a bid to construct the five needed sturdier tables for about P2,200 each, or P11,000. A proper teacher’s desk and chair with wheels was about P5000. PP Benny Laguesma gave me P5000 on the spot. Again, our most generous PD Jun Hallare donated the requested P51,150, and I added a small amount for transaction costs and flexibility.



Since I was going to Bacolod to bring together the three heart surgery patients one year out to celebrate their recoveries, I decided to go the extra hour to Silay to see the classroom, meet the teacher and students and take pictures for you.

In the first picture, you will see how they welcomed me at the entrance to the school. In every classroom that I visited, the students all stood and recited, "Good afternoon, Dr. Lance. Welcome and thank you!" In the second picture, you will see how they used the new chairs in Mrs. Alpire's classroom. Three of the classes that meet there wrote thank you cards, including the one in these pictures.

In the last picture, you will see me with the school principal, the new school building, which they were supposed to



will see me with the standing in front of building, over, due to leaks,

start of school. Sadly, the building has not yet been turned incomplete construction and so forth. The rooms are nicer and larger than the old school, and each has its own c.r. They do not know when it might really be available. I have referred them to the local Rotary Clubs for assistance in furnishing the remaining classroom. They are all very grateful for our support. Even the stools that we bought earlier are being used in most classroom to replace broken and unusable old desks. They are very happy that our gifts, along with their hard work for Brigada Eskwela helped them win the regional competition



## SAVE THE LITTLE HEARTS

### A Little Hearts One year Post-surgery

#### Site Visit

By Dir Lance Masters



You all know the story of the first Little Heart patient, Joneil, whom I brought to our club a little more than a year ago to celebrate his surgery in India, and challenge our members to help support more patients to save their lives. Joneil has nearly doubled his body weight in these fifteen months and is doing extremely well physically and in school: he is first in his class! Last August, we sent two more patients and some of you met them when Dir Bobby Joseph hosted a little dinner for them at the Wine Museum before their travel. I reported on them in a previous article. We were all frustrated that we had a very, very difficult time talking any more families into going to India, coupled with the fact that Dr. Moopen's foundation people wanted the surgical candidates to be not only certified indigent, but truly among the poorest of the poor. That meant that only about one in a hundred thousand babies would qualify. We had twenty-five on our list, but none of them was poor enough, so we began a long search for alternatives. We counseled several families in to qualifying for the PhilHealth Zero-balance Billing program. We referred one to a Rotary Club in Texas who helped them, and another by our daughter club, RC Cebu, through their "Save-a-Life" program.

The local Aster Country Manager negotiated a new Memorandum of Agreement with the new Medical Director at Philippine Heart Center, and I agreed that instead of paying for transportation to India, we could split the expected contribution with Aster's Philippine Charity. They would fund the cash required and we would pay for equipment or supplies not covered by PhilHealth, such as catheters. PHC was undergoing expansion and renovation, particularly for the catheter lab, and the lead pediatric cardiologist was on a mission and for continuing education, all contributing to considerable delays. Since PHC only accommodates two charity cases a week, based on medical urgency, we had an even longer wait under the new agreement.



Finally, we supported the baby needing the very expensive ( $\pm$  150,000) special Medtronic Contegra valved pulmonary conduit catheter, and I shared that info with you all not long ago. The good news moving forward is that PHC is expanding its capacity to serve nationwide, with centers in all provinces within the next couple of years. Second, while Dr Moopen's Foundation is not supporting more surgeries in India, based on our earlier successes, we have a new partner in India that is willing to do one case a month. And, third, I am now starting to put together a consortium of Philippine Rotary Clubs to collaborate in qualifying and supporting congenital heart disease patients of indigent families was very keen to bring the three children from Negros together in a one-year post-surgery "Heart-versary." I wanted to see them, have them meet each other, and celebrate the new lease on

life that we gave them. I flew to Dumaguete and checked in to my hotel, where I was happy to enjoy great towels labeled “Trendsetter,” obviously purchased from our PAS Muhammad Aslam. I rented a big van and took far more members of Joneil’s extended family than intended on a road trip to Bacolod. There, I met Baby Abigael Vito, her shop clerk mother Johanna and jeep driver dad. Aby is also doing great, sings and dances, runs and plays, all normal. Aby’s uncle made the great Mascara Mask as a gift for me. The family is still “dirt poor,” but rich in love and joy with their delightful daughter.

Aby and her family joined the van for the outing to Silay City to meet baby “Eli” and his family. We enjoyed an outing to at the Guinhalaran Integrated



Secondary School, reported on separately here. Unfortunately, Eli’s father was unable to join us, because he is a PNP-2, on duty now in Marawi area. We all crammed in to the 15-passenger van I had rented, and drove back to Bacolod. Here is a picture of Eli enjoying a little car in the mall! Since the stars of the day were children, instead of a famous seafood house, we settled on family-style feasting at Shakey’s, with four big pizzas, four platters of pasta, twenty-three pieces of chicken plus “Mojo” potatoes, and seven pitchers of assorted beverages. It is not the great food that Bacolod is famous for, but the kids loved it and nobody went away hungry.



What does not show in the pictures were the many tears of joy, every adult expressing their tearful gratitude to the “Good men of Rotary Club of Manila,” for “Saving their babies’ lives.” I wish that I had a better way to share that joyful blessing with you. What I can say is that our lives in “Service Above Self” is what we are about as Rotarians. I thank you for your support of this project and I promise to continue and expand it, with your help.



## ROTARY NEWS



### Barry Rassin selected to be 2018-19 RI president

Barry Rassin, of the Rotary Club of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2018-19. He will be declared the president-elect on 1 September if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

As president, Rassin aims to strengthen our public image and our use of digital tools to maximize Rotary's reach.

"Those who know what good Rotary clubs do will want to be a part of it, and we must find new models for membership that allow all interested in our mission to participate," he says. "With Rotary more in the public eye, we will attract more individuals who want to be part of and support a membership organization that accomplishes so much good around the world."

Rassin earned an MBA in health and hospital administration from the University of Florida and is the first fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives in the Bahamas. He recently retired after 37 years as president of Doctors Hospital Health System, where he continues to serve as an adviser. He is a lifetime member of the American Hospital Association and has served on several boards, including the Quality Council of the Bahamas, Health Education Council, and Employer's Confederation.

A Rotarian since 1980, Rassin has served Rotary as director and is vice chair of The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees. He was an RI training leader and the aide to 2015-16 RI President K.R. Ravindran.

Rassin received Rotary's highest honor, the Service Above Self Award, as well as other humanitarian awards for his work leading Rotary's relief efforts in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake there. He and his wife, Esther, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation.

Rassin's nomination follows **Sam F. Owori's death** in July, just two weeks into his term as Rotary International president-elect.

*Source: Rotary International*

## NEWS RELEASE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017



PLDT-Smart Chairman and CEO Manuel V. Pangilinan turns over the symbolic key of the MVP Technology and Innovation Center to Manila City Mayor Joseph Ejercito Estrada and Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila President Leonora De Jesus. With them are, from left: Meralco President and CEO Oscar Reyes, PLDT Group Chief Revenue Officer Eric Alberto, PLDT-Smart Foundation President Esther Santos, Former Senator Teresa Aquino-Oreta, and Board of Regents Member Atty. Bienvenido E. Laguesma.

### NEWS RELEASE



### NEW DTI ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

President Rodrigo Duterte appointed Rotarian Abdulgani Macatoman (photo) as assistant secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry. A Manila Rotarian, he was also recently named Asian Humanitarian Businessman of the Year during the 5th Annual Global Officials of Dignitary Awards.



### NBI DIRECTOR GIERRAN SPEAKS AT ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA:

The Philippine Star 13 Aug 2017

National Bureau of Investigation Director Dante Gierran was guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Manila, First in Asia, recently held at the New World Makati Hotel. Gierran gave Manila Rotarians, visiting Rotarians and guests a sneak peek into the functions of his office and his take on the different high profile cases under his watch. Photo shows (from left) DTI Assistant Secretary Rotarian Gani Macatoman, past president Frank Evaristo, SSS Chairman Amading Valdez, Philippine Ambassador to the United States vice president Babe Romualdez, Director Gierran, Rotarian Jackie Rodriguez, chairman, program committee and district governor elect of R.I. District 3810 Rudy Bediones.

## PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION AND CHILD CARE

### BRACE YOURSELF AGAINST BIRD FLU

Elias D. Adamos, M.D.



The August 11, 2017 *YAHOO! News* reads: “The Philippines declared its first ever outbreak of the H5 strain of bird flu on Friday, but said there had been no cases of humans infected. An immediate cull was ordered for all chicken, ducks and quail within a kilometer (0.6 miles) of the infected poultry in San Luis town, north of Manila, said Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol.”

#### What is Bird Flu?

Bird Flu is a virus infection. The virus transmission is bird-to-bird (including ducks, chicken, quail, fowl, and other feathery animals). Bird to other animal (e.g. pigs, goats, cows, donkeys) transmission has been reported. **Bird-to-human**

**transmission and other animal-to-human transmission are possible.**

#### How do humans get bird flu?

People who get close contact with birds and poultry animals can get bird flu. Those who swim and bathe in waters or river contaminated with bird droppings can also contract the disease. People who handle fighting cocks are not exempted from having bird flu.

#### Can bird flu transfer from one person to another?

Bird flu virus is a fast-mutating virus. In other words, when it infects a person, it genetically changes to human virus form. This is the reason why **human-to-human transmission of bird flu is possible.**

#### Signs and symptoms of bird flu

Bird flu symptoms can vary. Bird flu can present itself as the usual flu-like symptoms of fever and body malaise. The respiratory tract can be affected and thus cough and pneumonia-like symptoms can be present. Bird flu affecting the digestive tract resulting to abdominal symptoms of diarrhea and tummy pain is possible.

#### Diagnosis and treatment

Definitive diagnosis is made through the laboratory identification of the virus. Medical history of exposure to birds is important in the process of diagnosis. Treatment is instituted with the use of antiviral drugs, such as *oseltamivir*, *zanamivir*, or *peramivir*.

#### Prevention

Anti-bird flu vaccine is available in the United States. **Wash hands carefully.** Be sure to wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, especially before preparing food and eating. **Disinfect common areas.** Get in the habit of cleaning high-traffic areas and surfaces. **Teach good hygiene.** Show your children how to practice good hygiene and how to keep themselves clean. Explain to them why it's best not to put their fingers, hands or any other objects in their mouths. **Isolate people with fever.** If you have fever, stay at home.

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