



balita

No. 3724, December 14, 2017



CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP DINNER 2017 (Is a "Ladies' Day")

KABALITA

Let the joys of the Yuletide season bring us closer through the fellowship that would rekindle Service Above Self in each and every Manila Rotarian as we all strive towards Making A Difference in people's lives while we sharpen our memories with the Mind Experts at Asia's First Rotary Club.

What's Inside

Program	2
Special Message	3
Presidential Timeline	4-5
Profile of the Philippine Memory Team	6-7
The Week that Was	8-12
RCM Weekly Birthday Celebrants	13
Paul Harris Fellows	14-15
Centennial News	16-17
Sagip Kabataan Foundation	18-19
Golf Fellowship	20
District Activities	21-27
Birthday Fellowship	28-29
A Lawyer's Crusade	30-32
Speakers Bureau/ Interclub Relations	32-36
Donors	37-38
Cogs in the Wheel	39
Public Health Nutrition and Child Care	40
Advertisement	41-43

Countdown to Centennial

<http://www.rcmanila.org>



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

JIMMIE POLICARPIO
President

TEDDY OCAMPO
Immediate Past President

CHITO ZALDARRIAGA
Vice President

**BOBBY JOSEPH
ISSAM ELDEBS
LANCE MASTERS
CALOY REYES
SUSING PINEDA
ART LOPEZ**
Directors

ALVIN LACAMBACAL
Secretary

NICKY VILLASEÑOR
Treasurer

DAVE REYNOLDS
Sergeant-At-Arms

AMADING VALDEZ
Board Legal Adviser

RENE POLICARPIO
Assistant Secretary

**NER LONZAGA
JIM CHUA**
Assistant Treasurer

BOLLIE BOLTON
Deputy Sgt-at-Arms

**Secretariat
ANNA KUN TOLEDO**
Executive Secretary

PROGRAM

RCM's 23rd for Rotary Year 2017-2018

December 14, 2017, Thursday, 6:00 PM, New World Makati Hotel Glasshouse

Officer-In-Charge/ Program Moderator Rtn. "Caloy" Buendia

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

Christmas "Ladies Day" Cocktails / Dinner Fellowship

6:00 PM	Registration & Cocktails (WINES courtesy of Dir.-elect/Dir. "Bobby" Joseph)	
7:25 PM	Bell to be Rung: Members and Guests are requested to be seated by OIC/Moderator :	Rtn. "Caloy" Buendia
7:30 PM	Call to Order and Welcome Remarks Singing of the Republic of the Philippines National Anthem Invocation RCM Hymn	Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio RCM WF Music Choral Lady Marites Pineda RCM WF Music Choral
7:35 PM	Buffet Dinner Entertainment song numbers accompanied by a band	Ms. Micah Francisco
7:55 PM	Presentation of RCM Paul Harris Fellow Rtn. Hermie Esguerra (Major Donor Level 2 Plus)	Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio
8:00 PM	Raffle Mechanics / Preliminary draw of Raffle Winners	IPP "Teddy" Ocampo, Dir.-in-Charge, Fellowship Committee; Rtn. "Hermie" Esguerra, Chair., Fellowship Committee Ms. Antonella Berthe Racasa 2-silver medalist; Walking
8:15 PM	The Memory Game performance Blindfold chess exhibition; 3-Gold medalist; human calendar (able to calculate the specific day Asean Master Title, ASEAN Age Group of the week of the entire Gregorian Calendar (1582-9999) International Chess Championships, Kuantan, Malaysia, Nov. 26-Dec. 4, 2017	
8:45 PM	Dance, Dance, Dance accompanied by a band	
9:00 PM	Final draw of Raffle Winners	IPP "Teddy" Ocampo, Dir.-in-Charge, Fellowship Committee; Rtn. "Hermie" Esguerra, Chairman, Fellowship Committee RCM WF Choral Chair. PP "Babes" Reyes; Co-Chairman PP "Benny" Laguesma
	Christmas Carols	
	Dance, Dance, Dance accompanied by a band Response and Adjournment	Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio

SPECIAL MESSAGE



SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 14, 2017

My Fellow Manila Rotarians,

In the spirit and joy of the Holiday Season, I wish to greet each and everyone of you as well as your respective families, a Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with renewed hope for greater things to come in your respective lives. Let the Yuletide Season be a source of inspiration for each one of us as ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE becomes our continuing mantra in eagerly anticipating a 2018 of centenary beginnings for our club as well as the Rotary movement in the Philippines and in Asia.

In the Service of Rotary,

JOSE JAIME "JIMMIE" C. POLICARPIO, JR.

President, RY 2017-2018

PRESIDENTIAL TIMELINE



December 6, 2017 - DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and the District Officers of District 3810 for Rotary Year 2018-2019 hosted a Christmas Party for the District 3810 Presidents-Elect at the Punta Mandala Restaurant, Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City. Others present were PDG Obet Pagdanganan and PE/Dir. Susing Pineda who gamely participated in the activities of the fellowship.

December 7, 2017 - The Rotary Club of Manila Centennial Committee led by Chair PDG Obet Pagdanganan held a meeting at the Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City where updates on the centennial activities as well as the calendar of activities were discussed.

- The Rotary Club of Manila Centennial Golf Subcommittee led by PS Butch Marking, Centennial Golf Subcommittee Chair and PP Archit Bartolome, Centennial Golf Subcommittee Co-Chair, held a meeting at the Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City. Those present were PDG Obet Pagdanganan, Centennial Committee Chair, DGE Rudy Bediones, Mr. Enteng Romano (golf event organizer), PP Boy Ampil, PD Oscar del Rosario, Rtn. Juan Montel and Rotary Club of Makati Lumina PP Martine Kappel.

- The Sagip Kabataan Foundation held a Christmas Gift Giving at the Asilo de San Vicente de Paul in Manila. Marginalized children and youth of the asilo were given Christmas treats from the foundation. Present were Sagip Kabataan President PD Abe Pascual, PP Benny Laguesma and PT Jim Chua.

- PVP Roy Golez delivered a lecture on "Security Challenges Faced By the Philippines in Two Fronts: West Philippine Sea and Benham Rise" during the 24th Executive Course on National Security at the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) in Quezon City. There were more than fifty (50) participants in the course which included local chief executives, government officials, the military and private sector representatives.

December 8, 2017 - PDG Vince Carlos, PDG Obet Pagdanganan and DGE Rudy Bediones attended the Christmas Party of the Philippine College of Rotary Governors and the Philippine Rotary Magazine at the Felicidad Mansion Events Place in Quezon City.

- Rtn. Fumihiko Shinozaki, M.D., D.D.S. of the Rotary Club of Ube Nishi in Japan visited our Rotary Club of Manila Secretariat Office in Manila. He exchanged banners with our Senior Coordinator Emmanuel "Ching" Salazar.

- The Rotary Club of Manila Golf Fellowship Committee Chairman PS Butch Marking led Manila Rotarian golfers in a Golf Fellowship at the East Room of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong City.

- DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and PDG Vince Carlos attended the Rotary International District 3810 Disney Christmas Party hosted by the Rotary Club of San Marcelino Manila at the Ballroom of the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila in Pasay City.

December 9, 2017 - DE Raffy Alunan and DE Jackie Rodriguez attended the Zeta Phi Omega National Conclave with the theme, "Nation Building Conclave of Zetan '75 Family" ZETAN 75 OMNIA VINCIT at the Chali Beach Resort in Zone 3, Cugman, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental where DE Raffy Alunan was Guest Speaker.

December 11, 2017 - DE Raffy Alunan was Guest Speaker on the topic, "Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism Experiences" during the conduct of "Understanding Violent Extremism and Counter-narrative Workshop" at the Brigade Training Center, Headquarters Naval Combat Engineering Brigade, Naval Station Jose Francisco, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

- PDG Obet Pagdanganan attended the Peacebuilder Presidents and Team Christmas Party at the Rothman Hotel in Malate, Manila.

- DGE Rudy Bediones attended the First Class Presidents and Team Christmas Fellowship at the Music Bank along Macapagal Avenue in Pasay City.

December 12, 2017 - DE Raffy Alunan took part in the Tourism Crisis Management Symposium with the theme, "Building the Resiliency of the Philippine Tourism Industry", at the Diamond Ballroom of the Diamond Hotel in Manila. Risks to tourism development and crisis management preparedness were discussed.

- DG Emmanuel "Loy" Cosico dropped by the office of the Rotary Club of Manila along Arquiza corner Grey Streets in Ermita, Manila to turnover his donation of Php 10,000.00 for the Hospicio de San Jose - Special Children Committee Project of Chairman PD Phillip Ong. ES Anna Toledo received the donation in behalf of the said committee of the Rotary Club of Manila. This donation will likewise be turned over by our club to the Hospicio de San Jose on December 15, 2017 during the Annual Christmas Gift Giving for Special Children and Elderlies of Hospicio de San Jose at the Hospicio de San Jose Gym in Manila.

- Manila Rotarians attended the 68th Birthday Celebration of DE/Dir. Bobby Joseph at the Grand Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City.

December 14, 2017 - The Rotary Club of Manila holds Christmas Fellowship Meeting at the Glasshouse of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City where the World Famous Chorale serenades us with Christmas carols, lounge singer Ms. Micah Francisco renders song numbers, the Memory Game Olympic Team performs and lots of prizes will be raffled off.

A PROFILE OF THE PHILIPPINE MEMORY TEAM



Miss Antonella Berthe won 3 Gold, 2 Silver and the Asean Master Title in the recently concluded ASEAN Age Group International Chess Championships in Kuantan Malaysia last November 26- December 4, 2017. She will be doing the demonstration of blindfold chess and Calendrical computation. Give her any dates ranging from year 1582-9999 and she will accurately tell the exact day.

MANILA, Philippines – There is no doubt that Filipinos are among the world's best and brightest. Pinoys continue to shine in the international stage in different areas, including Memory Sports, a sport that requires agility and strength in information retention skills of competitors. Each player is given a series of pictures, words, cards, or numbers which they need to memorize and perfectly recall in a limited amount of time.

Philippine Memory Team has already brought home numerous achievements including winning 10 out of 10 Gold medals in the 2012 Thailand Memory Championships and for bagging 3 Gold, 5 Silver, and 3 Bronze medals at the WMC 2013 held in London. This trip was fervently supported by Sir Hermie Esguerra. This just proves that Filipinos are at par with the giants in Memory Sports such as: America, Germany, United Kingdom, Sweden, Italy, India, China and Japan.

The Masterminds

The sport was introduced to the country by Robert Racasa. Through his gift of teaching and mentoring, many of his students have gone on to become academic achievers and elite memory athletes.

Another is Grand Master Mark Anthony Castaneda, the Philippines' very first Filipino Grand Master of Memory (GMM).



Grand Master Erwin Balines, the second Filipino to get a GMM title.

Philippine Memory Team's youngest player, Jamyla Lambunao smashed three world records at the WMC 2013.

Another one is Axelyancy Cowan Tabernilla, a binary codes specialist.

No matter how great the intellectual capability of a person is, it will always be limited by the extent of information that can be stored and recalled in a person's mind. That's when memory training comes in. In any field of endeavor, may it be in sports, academics, vocation, or in any profession, a trained memory can be a priceless asset

Besides bringing honor to the country, the Philippine Memory Team also aims to empower the youth and promote the importance of memory in learning and information retention through Memory Sports. These days we rely on our phone, tablets and computers to memorize thing, as a result we are not exercising our most important mental muscle — our brains."

The team envisions the Philippines with a new generation who does not just merely rely on electronic gadgets, but enhances the self-esteem and boost the confidence level of Filipinos through having a sharp memory, and to turbo-charge the brain to achieve peak mental performance.

The one who will give demonstration today is Antonella Berthe Racasa:

- National Age group chess champion at the age of 9.
- Triple Gold medallists in the recently concluded ASEAN International Chess Championships
- ASEAN Master title
- Can do blindfold chess exhibition
- Walking human calendar (able to calculate the specific day of the week of the entire Gregorian Calendar (1582-9999))

THE WEEK THAT WAS



RCM Pres. **“Jimmie” Policarpio** and RC Forbes Park Pres. **“Edwin” Salonga** alternately, call the 22nd meeting, being a joint meeting of the **Rotary Club of Manila** and **Rotary Club of Forbes Park**, to order.



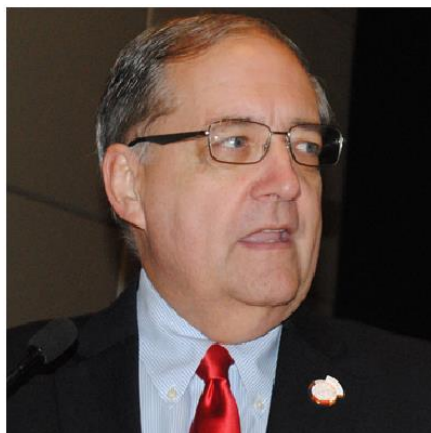
OIC/Moderator RCM PVP **“Roy” Golez** directs the program of activities.



RCFP PE **“Jess” Seden** delivers an ecumenical prayer.



RCFP PN **“Raj” Bhattee** leads fellow Rotarian in renewing its commitment to the Rotary Credo by reciting the Four (4) Way Test.



RCM STAR Rtn. **“Michael” Cutter** introduces the guests, visiting Rotarians and personalities seated at the presidential table.



RCM Pres. "Jimmie" Policarpio and RC Forbes Park Pres. "Edwin" Salonga take turns for the President's Time.



RCM DE "Jackie" Rodriguez, Vice-Chairman, One Rotary, One Philippines, One for Marawi Project, does the honour, pleasure and privilege of introducing (Ret.) Lt. Gen. Cardozo M. Luna, M.A., Undersecretary for National Defense Operations, Department of National Defense, Republic of the Philippines, as guest of honor and speaker.



(Ret.) Lt. Gen. Cardozo Luna, Undersecretary for National Defense Operations of the Department of National Defense, gave Manila Rotarians, Forbes Park Rotarians, Visiting Rotarians and guests, an assessment of the arduous task government is undertaking to restore Marawi to its pristine condition through operations aimed at maintaining security in the area.



A proactive public forum followed suit after the speech of **(Ret.) Lt. Gen. Cardozo M. Luna**, with **RCMers'** raising questions: **VP Chito Zaldarriaga**, **Rtn. Jess Santos** and **Rtn. Ricky Trinidad**.



RCM Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio and RC Forbes Park Pres. “Edwin” Salonga during the response, presentation of tokens of appreciation to (Ret.) Lt. Gen. Cardozo M. Luna, and meeting adjournment.

MEMBERSHIP / CLASSIFICATION REGULAR MEMBER INDUCTION CEREMONY

DE “Jackie” Rodriguez as proposer delivers brief introductory remarks on inductee **Mr. Juan Manuel Montel Castro-Rial** (Spaniard), Executive Director, Sociedad Espanola de Beneficencia. Classification: Foundation – Senior Shelter.





Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio administers the oath of membership pledge to **Mr. Juan Manuel Montel Castro-Rial** as the newest member, a STAR Rotarian in the role of membership of the Rotary Club of Manila. Also in photo are **PE/Dir. “Susing” Pineda**, Director-in-Charge of Membership Affairs, and proposer **DE “Jackie” Rodriguez**.

RCM WEEKLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS



Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio presents the week’s birthday celebrants: Sec. “Alvin” Lacambacal, Rtn. “Manny” Blanco, PDG “Alex” Cureg, AS “Rene” Policarpio, Rtn. “Zdenek” Jankovsky, PP “Frank” Evaristo, Rtn. “Momo” Mommaerts, PSAA “Fred” Lim, PP “Boy” Guevara, Jr., SAA “Dave” Reynolds, PP Beans Gonzalez, Rtn. James Yu, the birthday cake for the traditional blowing of candles amidst the singing by the **RCM World-Famous Chorale** of the Happy Birthday song.



Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio administers the oath of membership pledge to **His Excellency Jaideep Mazumdar**, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary of India to the Philippines, as an **Honorary Member to the Rotary Club of Manila**.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS



Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio, Sec. “Alvin” Lacambacal, Chairmam ,Paul Harris Fellow Committee for the presentation of RCM Paul Harris Fellows, the individual award citations were were read by OIC/Moderator PVP “Roy” Golez. The Paul Harris Fellow Awardees were led by PDG Alex Cureg & Spouse Anna Cureg (Major Donor Level 2 Plus), PD Ed Lee (Multiple PHF+ 2 rubies), PD Abe Pascual (Multiple PHF+3 blue sapphires), PT Jun Follosco (Multiple PHF +2 blue sapphires), DGE Rudy Bediones(multiple PHF+3 blue sapphires)PDSAA Tony Lopa (Multiple PHF + 2 blue sapphires), New Paul Harris Fellows- PD Raoul Villegas, Rtn. Tom Drilon,PS Butch Marking, AS Rene Policarpio, Rtn. Philip Recto, Rtn. Mon Ko and Rtn. Wolfgang Harley.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS



Pres. “Jimmie” Policarpio, Sec. “Alvin” Lacambacal, Chairmam ,Paul Harris Fellow Committee for the presentation of RCM Paul Harris Fellows, the individual award citations were were read by OIC/Moderator **PVP “Roy” Golez**. The Paul Harris Fellow Awardees were led by **PDG Alex Cureg & Spouse Anna Cureg (Major Donor Level 2 Plus)**, **PD Ed Lee (Multiple PHF+ 2 rubies)**, **PD Abe Pascual (Multiple PHF+3 blue sapphires)**, **PT Jun Follosco (Multiple PHF +2 blue sapphires)**, **DGE Rudy Bediones(multiple PHF+3 blue sapphires)****PDSAA Tony Lopa (Multiple PHF + 2 blue sapphires)**, **New Paul Harris Fellows- PD Raoul Villegas, Rtn. Tom Drilon,PS Butch Marking, AS Rene Policarpio, Rtn. Philip Recto, Rtn. Mon Ko and Rtn. Wolfgang Harley.**

CENTENNIAL NEWS

THE ROAD TO 100



The Rotary Club of Manila Centennial Golf Subcommittee led by PS Butch Marking, Centennial Golf Subcommittee Chair and PP Archit Bartolome, Centennial Golf Subcommittee Co-Chair, held a meeting last December 7, 2017 at the Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City. Those present were **PDG Obet Pagdanganan**, Centennial Committee Chair, **DGE Rudy Bediones**, **Mr. Enteng Romano** (golf event organizer), **PP Boy Ampil**, **PD Oscar del Rosario**, **Rtn. Juan Montel** and **Rotary Club of Makati Lumina PP Martine Kappel**.



The Rotary Club of Manila Centennial Committee led by **Chair PDG Obet Pagdanganan** held a meeting last December 7, 2017 at the Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City where updates on the centennial activities as well as the calendar of activities were discussed.

SAGIP KABATAAN FOUNDATION



The **Sagip Kabataan Foundation** held a Christmas Gift Giving last December 7, 2017 at the Asilo de San Vicente de Paul in Manila. Marginalized children and youth of the asilo were given Christmas treats from the foundation. Present were **Sagip Kabataan President PD Abe Pascual**, **PP Benny Laguesma** and **PT Jim Chua**.



The Sagip Kabataan Foundation held a Christmas Gift Giving last December 7, 2017 at the Asilo de San Vicente de Paul in Manila. Marginalized children and youth of the asilo were given Christmas treats from the foundation. Present were **Sagip Kabataan President PD Abe Pascual**, **PP Benny Laguesma** and **PT Jim Chua**.

GOLF FELLOWSHIP



The Rotary Club of Manila **Golf Fellowship Committee Chairman PS Butch Marking** led Manila Rotarian golfers in a Golf Fellowship last December 8, 2017 at the East Room of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club in Mandaluyong City.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES



DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and the District Officers of District 3810 for Rotary Year 2018-2019 hosted a **Christmas Party for the District 3810 Presidents-Elect** last December 6, 2017 at the Punta Mandala Restaurant, Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City. Others present were **PDG Obet Pagdanganan** and **PE/Dir. Susing Pineda** who gamely participated in the activities of the fellowship.



DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and the District Officers of District 3810 for Rotary Year 2018-2019 hosted a Christmas Party for the District 3810 Presidents-Elect last December 6, 2017 at the Punta Mandala Restaurant, Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City. Others present were **PDG Obet Pagdanganan** and **PE/Dir. Susing Pineda** who gamely participated in the activities of the fellowship.



PDG Vince Carlos, PDG Obet Pagdanganan and DGE Rudy Bediones attended the Christmas Party of the Philippine College of Rotary Governors and the Philippine Rotary Magazine last December 8, 2017 at the Felicidad Mansion Events Place in Quezon City.



DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and PDG Vince Carlos attended the Rotary International District 3810 Disney Christmas Party hosted by the Rotary Club of San Marcelino Manila last December 8, 2017 at the Ballroom of the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila in Pasay City.



DGE Rudy Bediones, Lady Sharon Bediones and PDG Vince Carlos attended the Rotary International District 3810 Disney Christmas Party hosted by the Rotary Club of San Marcelino Manila last December 8, 2017 at the Ballroom of the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila in Pasay City.



DGE Rudy Bediones attended the **First Class Presidents and Team Christmas Fellowship** last December 11, 2017 at the Music Bank along Macapagal Avenue in Pasay City.



PDG Obet Pagdanganan attended the **Peacebuilder Presidents and Team Christmas Party** last December 11, 2017 at the Rothman Hotel in Malate, Manila.

SPECIAL CHILDREN PROJECT



DG Emmanuel "Loy" Cosico dropped by the office of the Rotary Club of Manila along Arquiza cor. Grey Streets in Ermita, Manila last Dec. 12, 2017 to turnover his donation of Php 10,000.00 for the Hospicio de San Jose - Special Children Committee Project of Chairman PD Phillip Ong. ES Anna Toledo received the donation in behalf of the said committee of the Rotary Club of Manila. This donation will likewise be turned over by our club to the Hospicio de San Jose on Dec. 15, 2017 during the Annual Christmas Gift Giving for Special Children and Elderlies of Hospicio de San Jose at the Hospicio de San Jose Gym in Manila.

BIRTHDAY FELLOWSHIP



Manila Rotarians attended the 68th Birthday Celebration of **DE/Dir. Bobby Joseph** last December 12, 2017 at the Grand Ballroom of the New World Makati Hotel in Makati City.



With wife and Rotary Ann Ida Manalo-Joseph



With Secretary Wanda Tulfo-Teo of the Department of Tourism

A Lawyer's Crusade

Lawyering for the rich has made the life of Jesus Santos comfortable but, as he says, 'I reach out to the little ones who can't afford my fees. God finds a way. Always.' His lifelong pursuit has been against the denudation of the Angat Watershed

Published December 3, 2017, Philippine Panorama

By Dede M. Siyangco



It's rare these days to meet a group of committed lawyers who cling to a bible verse, "The little things you do to the least of my bretheren, you do it for me."

Many lawyers appear only to bask in their power over clients, their astronomical fees, political influence, and their fame. So when I met a different breed of lawyers, I had to take a long look at who they really were and where they got their convictions. The National Association of Lawyers for Justice and Peace (NALJP) was founded 36 years ago by lawyer Jesus L. Santos from Marilao, Bulacan. He is happy being in the shadows seeing how his law firm, now 47 years old, is firmly established after decades of hard work and commitment to help the marginalized. And the NALJP, still rally to their sworn oath—to help the poor and marginalized find justice, their founder and now chairman's guide in life. Santos is still friends with tycoons like Ricky Razon, whom he helped in his ICTSI but he wants to be remembered more for his grassroots advocacies, as with his lawyer members.

The roll of honor of the Lawyers for Justice and Peace include Charlie Tumaro of Quezon City, Vincent Jariol of Iligan City, Tito Gastardo of Cebu, Camilo Cabero, counsel of the Chinese General Hospital Dennis Timjap of Makat City, Michael Gabriel of Quezon City, and Tricia S. Santos of Jesus I. Santos Law Office, secretary general of the association.

Although he can boast of his long-time acquaintance with big-time prominent business and influential political personalities, Santos does not. He takes more satisfaction from and pride in talking about his pro bono cases, such as the one filed by members of the CoGEO, a confederation of government employees who sued the GSIS management not so long ago for not making public the firm's billion-peso investments. What happened to these funds, he wants to know. They are the hard-earned contributions of the members, he stressed.

Whatever time is left for him in this world, Santos sincerely wants to devote it to helping others who can't help themselves legally. Helping the poor and marginalized find justice may sound trite today when there are many issues dividing society and most every do-gooder wants to be a champion of the oppressed. But Santos is spending every waking hour ("Who can tell how much more time He will give me?" he asks) on a cause he passionately believes in—the preservation of the 62,000 hectares of the Angat Watershed Reservation that spans several provinces, such as Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, and parts of Sierra Madre.

To say he is obsessed with preventing the denudation of the watershed by unscrupulous corporations or individuals who have managed to get “logging clearances” from the DENR, the local government or some political bigwigs is an understatement. To this day, the issue still riles up the soft-spoken Santos because, as he pointed out, the trees being cut in the name of commercialization and greed means less water supply for Metro Manila and more danger to the barangays that will be flooded in the event of strong typhoons. Just one big tree cut and careening down the rushing waters is enough to flood barangays, he notes.

The watershed was once upon a time lush with huge trees, such as narra, apitong, and kamagong. Angat Dam is vital, supplying 90 percent of raw water for Metro Manila through the facilities of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System. A concrete water reservoir embankment, it irrigates more than 28,000 hectares of farmland in Bulacan and Pampanga. The Angat Watershed must be protected and preserved without question, Santos stressed. It’s everybody’s responsibility!

Angat Dam in Barangay San Lorenzo took several years to build at a cost of ₱315.344 million in 1967. The watershed has been eyed by greedy loggers ever since, although cutting trees in the area is strictly prohibited by law. The law has not prevented illegal logging in the watershed, causing disastrous impact on hundreds of families, such as what happened in 1978 during typhoon Kading, when the three gates were opened simultaneously without warning and the rampaging waters flooded the barangays around the dam.

Civil suits were filed against the NAPOCOR in the Regional Trial Court of Malolos. Foremost was the one filed by the NALPJ’s Jesus Santos, a former “aguador,” who rose from poverty to be a leading legal luminary committed to justice for the marginalized.

I found out that his parents did not receive any formal education so their son, prompted by big dreams, struck it out on his own in Manila. He worked his way through school as a bus station “aguador,” cleaning buses and carrying water around. It was while doing this, as a working student, that he finished his law studies. He was soon lawyering for the poor folks. After a few years of pro bono legal work, his breaks came, thanks to lawyer Norie Poblador, who saw something special in the determined young Bulakeño and helped him professionally.

Santos’s most prominent pro bono case was to represent the victims of the Angat Dam flooding, thanks to NAPOCOR’s release of massive amounts of water. After many years, Santos’ pleading in behalf of the victims made it to the Supreme Court, and justices led by Justice Vicente Abad Santos noted that had the opening of all the three spillways been made earlier and gradually, there would have been no need to open all of them without warning: “What made the situation worse was that the spillways were opened at the unholy hours when residents were asleep. The plaintiffs all testified that they were never given any warning.”

The Supreme Court decision on the case became a landmark ruling as it ruled the government could be sued if it engaged in business. The victory was bitter-sweet for the affected families but they are forever grateful to lawyer Jesus Santos and his volunteer lawyers who pursued their case doggedly, free of charge. He attributes his successful career and lifelong advocacies to a “deep faith in God, clean conscience, clear mind, and prayers, prayers, and more prayers.” His law office, Jesus I. Santos Law Offices, is now run by his granddaughter Tricia who shares her grandfather’s passion for helping the poor. Christmas to Santos is special as this is the time he shares his blessings with over a thousand of his poor neighbors in his hometown. It’s a tradition the Santos family has kept, sharing throughout the years, “whether we have excess or just enough. The Lord repays the givers.”

Trust and a good reputation are precious, Santos mused, so he guards the trust given to him by clients, big or poor, with his life. One of the big breaks he got early on in life was winning the trust of an elderly woman in Navotas, who had a very big estate. She needed his legal advice, so he worked for her who turned out to be a generous benefactor to him. Before she died, she made him manager of the entire estate and that brought up his professional standing as a lawyer. He also became the personal lawyer of journalist Teodoro Valencia, the late mayor Nemesio Yabut, and other prominent personalities.

But this crusading lawyer likes to remember a deaf mute victim he once helped. She was a house helper of an engineer who raped her. He refused to recognize the baby that was conceived because of the rape. Santos lawyered for the poor woman pro bono and with the help of DNA test paid for by him, she was able to get financial support from her rapist.

Santos credits former DENR secretaries Sonny Dominguez and Jun Factoran for doing more than their share in trying to preserve the watershed from illegal loggers. What about other secretaries and governors, we asked him, Santos made a face and we understood. Promises, promises, and more promises. Even NAPOCOR at one time tried to cut several thousands of trees for their electric posts but that was also against the law. Santos’s group filed a case and the cutting was stopped.

Many others have tried chopping trees in the Angat watershed over the years. Some succeeded in bringing out prime hardwood, others were stopped by the NPAs and by the filing of injunctions by Santos’s group.

Recently, Bulacan Governor Willie Sy-Alvarado assured Santos that he has asked the DENR provincial director to stop the cutting of trees in the watershed. It's a vindication for Santos's group as the illegal cutting has been going on, despite their any protestations.

Alvarado also promised to summon NAPOCOR, MAYNILAD, MWSS for an explanation why he wasn't consulted on the illegal cutting of the trees in his province. He will ask the IBP Bulacan chapter and NALJP to find out what other legal moves can save the watershed.

The NALJP lawyers are still the voluntary legal watchdogs for the Angat Watershed. Santos does not tire of reminding DENR, the Bulacan officials, and even Malacañang just how important the area is for millions of Filipinos.

Lawyering for the rich has made Santos life comfortable now but, as he says, "I reach out to the little ones who can't afford my fees. God finds a way. Always."

Santos and his volunteer lawyers have shown that the poor and marginalized can have their day in court too!

SPEAKERS BUREAU



PVP ROY GOLEZ SPEAKS AT NDCP

PVP Roy Golez delivered a lecture on "Security Challenges Faced By the Philippines in Two Fronts: West Philippine Sea and Benham Rise" during the 24th Executive Course on National Security last December 7, 2017 at the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) in Quezon City. There were more than fifty (50) participants in the course which included local chief executives, government officials, the military and private sector representatives.



PVP Roy Golez was interviewed by former Senator Orly Mercado over Radio TV5 yesterday, December 13, 2017, regarding the proposed entry and operations of a Chinese telephone company (TELCO) in the Philippines and its implications.



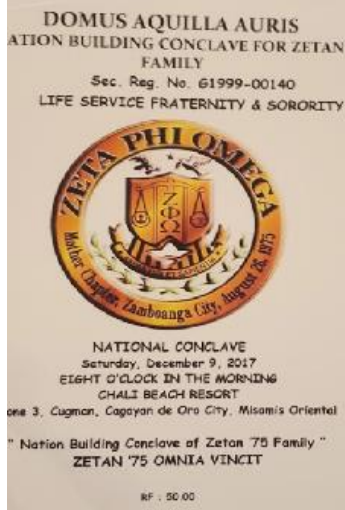


DE Raffy Alunan was Guest Speaker on the topic, "Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism Experiences" during the conduct of "Understanding Violent Extremism and Counter-narrative Workshop" last December 11, 2017 at the Brigade Training Center, Headquarters Naval Combat Engineering Brigade, Naval Station Jose Francisco, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.





DE Raffy Alunan took part in the **Tourism Crisis Management Symposium** with the theme, **"Building the Resiliency of the Philippine Tourism Industry"**, last December 12, 2017 at the Diamond Ballroom of the Diamond Hotel in Manila. Risks to tourism development and crisis management preparedness were discussed.



DE Raffy Alunan and DE Jackie Rodriguez attended the Zeta Phi Omega National Conclave with the theme, "Nation Building Conclave of Zetan '75 Family" ZETAN 75 OMNIA VINCIT last December 9, 2017 at the Chali Beach Resort in Zone 3, Cugman, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental where DE Raffy Alunan was Guest Speaker.

INTERCLUB RELATIONS



Rtn. Fumihiko Shinozaki, M.D., D.D.S. of the Rotary Club of Ube Nishi in Japan visited our Rotary Club of Manila Secretariat Office in Manila last December 8, 2017. He exchanged banners with our **Senior Coordinator Emmanuel "Ching" Salazar**.

DONORS

# of Win ners	Mem ber	QTY	DONOR	ITEM		
1	1	1	PD Jun Hallare	Oppo mobile phone S1		
2	2	1	Rtn Jason Ong	32" television		
3		2	Rtn Jason Ong	Howard's Cleaning Product Set		
4		3				
5		4				
6		5				
7		6				
8		7				
9		8				
10		9				
11		10				
12		11				
13	3	1	Rtn Emyl Eugenio	32" television		
14	4	1	PAT Hermie Esguerra			
15		2	PAT Hermie Esguerra	2 gift certificates overnight stay		
16		3	PAT Hermie Esguerra	for two rooms at Hotel 101		
17		4	PAT Hermie Esguerra			
18	5	1	Dir Art Lopez	GC 3 days two nights for 2 at Bellvue Bohol in a beachfront suite w/ daily compli buffet breakfast and airport transfers		
19	6	1	Rtn Farid Schoucair	1 GC for Superior Room for 2 w/ breakfast at Café 1228		
20				1 GC De Luxe Room for 2 w/ breakfast at Café 1228		
21				1 GC Residence Club for 2 w/ breakfast at the living room		
22	7	1	PE Susing Pineda	air conditioning unit		
23	8	1	Rtn Jacques Branellec	one golden south sea pearl pendant		
24	9	1	IPP Teddy Ocampo	lady's watch		
25		2		XO Imperial Courvossier Cognac		
26	10	1	DGE Rudy Bediones	Gourdo's Yellow Gold Glass Bowl		
27		2		Gourdo's Yellow Gold Glass Bowl		
28	11	1	PDG Vince Carlos	1 smart watch		
29	12	1	Rtn Johnny Chotrani	wrist watch worth Php 9K		
30	13	1	PVP Manny Dy			
31		2	PVP Manny Dy			
32		3	PVP Manny Dy			
33		4	PVP Manny Dy			
34		5	PVP Manny Dy			
35		6	PVP Manny Dy	Ang Pao at Php 1000@		
36		7	PVP Manny Dy			
37		8	PVP Manny Dy			
38		9	PVP Manny Dy			

39		10 PVP Manny Dy					
40	14	1 AT Jim Chua	}	Microwave oven			
41		2 AT Jim Chua					
42	15	1 Dir Caloy Reyes		Blender / Microwave			
43	16	1 Rtn Gani Macatoman		solar cooker			
44	17	1 Rtn Thad Liamzon		Rustan's GC Php 5,000			
45	18	1 Rtn Ricky Yap		Gift Certificate for 2 at Cate Ilang Ilang, Manila Hotel			
46	19	1 Rtn Marcus Dee		Holiday Feast food basket & sunflower bouquet			
47	20	1 PP Frank Evaristo		Big Basket of Christmas Goodies			
48	21	1 Rtn Geof Yu		Johnny Walker Black Label			
49	22	1 Rtn Jason Bogovich		Gift Certificate at Chi Spa Shangrila worth Php 5K			
50	23	1 VP Chito Zaldarriaga		portable bluetooth speaker			
51	24	1 STAR Rtn Naoto Tago	}	basket of Hamper of frozen angus beef sampler			
52	25	1 Rtn Jujut Enriquez		Bottle scotch			
53	26	1 Rtn Roy Zosa		12 year Chivas Regal			
54	27	1 DE Jack Rodriguez		GC overnight stay for 2 at Infinity Towers			
55	28	1 PD John Cenica	}				
56		2 PD John Cenica		Cara Care Gift packs			
57		3 PD John Cenica					
58		4 PD John Cenica					
59		5 PD John Cenica					
60	29	1 Rtn Mon Ko	}	Mason Mugs			
61		2 Rtn Mon Ko					
62	30	1 Rtn Warren So		Desk Fan			
63	31	1 Rtn Jun Alvarez		Php 5K cash			
64	32	1 PP Benny Laguesma	}				
65		2 PP Benny Laguesma					
66	33	1 Rtn Romy Nones		1 bottle scotch			
67	34	1 Sec. Alvin Lacambacal					
68	35	1 PD Eric Severino					
69	36	1 PAS Eloy Adamos		stand fan			
70	37	1 Rtn Celso Abastillas		mobile phone power bank			
71	38	1 PSAA Gunter Matschuck		oven			
72	39	1 PDG Obet Pagdanganan					
73	40	1 PD Rob Sears		1 bottle whiskey			
74	41	1 Rtn. Rosel Doval Santos		1 french wine			
75	42	1 Rtn. Zdenek Jankovsky		1 bottle bourbom			
	43	1 PP Ebot Tan					
	44	1 AS Rene Policarpio		White wine			

COGS IN THE WHEEL



**BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC
MANAGEMENT
EXCELLENCE**



CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ III
*Secretary
Department of Finance*

For using his vast expertise as a hugely successful businessman, his past experience as a public servant helped achieve breakthrough economic growth that will reform taxation, modernize the economy, and rescue six million families from extreme poverty.



BENJAMIN E. DIOKNO
*Secretary
Department of Budget*

Diokno promises a different Duterte administration. "By the time we step down in 2022, we would have ushered in the Golden Age of Infrastructure in the Philippines, an era that Filipinos will look back with affection as one that laid the necessary foundations for robust and equitable growth in the long-term," he projects.

Diokno, 69, finished his Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from the University of the Philippines (1968).

PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION AND CHILD CARE



HAVE YOURSELF A HEALTH MERRY CHRISTMAS

Elias D. Adamos, M.D.

“Lechon” is just one of the many Christmas traditions in the Philippines. Aside from the “simbang gabi” or “misa de gallo,” foods on the table, such as fruit salads, “leche flan,” cakes and pastries, “hamon de bola” and other variants of “hamon,” various local rice cakes, are ever-present on the Filipino family dinner table when the clock strikes for *Noche Buena*. With the numbers of Filipino Christmas family traditions, I wonder if being healthy is one of them. Since Christmas season in the Philippines is the longest – September up to February of the following year, weight gain over Christmas is common. Come January though, losing weight becomes a difficult New Year’s resolution.

How to have a healthy Christmas

1. When going to a party, think of ending those “long time no sees,” and in maintaining family connections, and not just the food. Enjoy the company of friends and family, instead of focusing on foods. Nurture your relationships.
2. Plan your day. Plan for a healthy snack one hour or two before you go so that you are not starved when you arrive.
3. Eat healthy most of the time and organize your portions. This is not the season of the year to begin your diet. For this Holiday season, just pick the foods you like in downsize portions.
4. Swap and substitute. For example, go with non-fat milk instead of whole milk. Try soya milk. To the great fans of meat, try “vegemeat” for a change.
5. Drink more water. Always keep yourself hydrated. You might think you’re hungry when you are just thirsty. Skip soda and juice. Ice tea has more calories than Coke. Fruits and vegetables, along with vegetable-based soups also count toward fluid. Drink a lot of water. It serves as a good, if not an excellent drink. Go easy on alcohol.
6. Spice up your favorite dish. Spices are antioxidants. They have anti-inflammatory and antibacterial properties. Incorporating spices to your favorite dish, tend to let you use less sugar and salt.
7. Include a fruit and a vegetable at each meal. Fruits and vegetables contain lots of fiber. They also contain vitamin A and C, folic acid, and potassium. They are also low in calories.
8. Keep moving! Exercise. Park your car far from the party house and walk. Go for a swim. Take yoga classes. Be mindful of your weight.
9. Be grateful. Life itself is a blessing. Being thankful of the good things that come your way is very important. Christmas is an important time of the year to take time out and have a grateful heart.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ADVERTISEMENT



Panasonic
JAPAN



NO. 1 WIRING DEVICES



JAPAN BEST
VENTILATING
FANS

SINCE 1909
JAPAN



AIPHONE
JAPAN



TOP ENTRY PHONE SYSTEM

EATON
U.K. **COOPER**



FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

SECURE



HIGH RESOLUTION
CCTV CAMERA



RACK / TOWER ONLINE
UNINTERRUPTIBLE
POWER SUPPLY

**Bringing QUALITY products
you can TRUST.**

Cubao 912-8881 ♦ Manila 733-8161 ♦ Frisco 372-3594



Exquisite Wines

Excellent Pleasures

Lasting Experiences

WWW.PWM.COM.PH

2253 Aurora Blvd. Pasay City PH 1300

8322523 / 8537421

philwine@compass.com.ph



FOR MORE PRODUCTIVE MEETINGS

In business, the smallest details make the biggest impact on the bottomline.

Whether you are planning for the rest of the fiscal year, holding a meeting with partners from overseas or a training your team, you will be able to access first-class facilities and the best of Philippine hospitality within our halls.

Hold your next meeting and business conference at The Manila Hotel and seal the deal in five-star luxury. Discuss your requirements with our team by calling 5270011 local 1271 to 1274 or emailing banquet@manila-hotel.com.ph.

M

THE MANILA HOTEL