



GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



Hon. MARIA LEONOR G. ROBREDO

Vice President
of the
Republic of the Philippines

KABALITA

As she endeavors to bring the Filipino nation back to the PINK of health in presenting a fresh perspective in inclusive leadership of a country yearning to recover from the onslaught of the global pandemic, Asia's First Rotary Club is privileged to roll out the red carpet for a woman whose simplicity, sincerity and proclivity for charitable causes has brought her to the doorsteps of the highest position in the land.



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

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Zoom Weekly Membership Meeting
Rotary Year 2021-2022
Thursday, October 14, 2021, 12:00 PM

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

11:30 AM Registration and Zoom In
Program Moderator/Facilitator

PT Lito Sibayan

11:55 AM Presentation of Meeting Protocol

Part I

12:00 PM Call to Order
Invocation
Philippine National Anthem
RCM Hymn
The Four (4) Way Test
Acknowledgement of Visiting Rotarians and Guests
Welcome Song
President's Time

Pres. Chito Zaldarriaga

Rtn. Vic Garcia

AVP of RCM Members

AVP of RCM WF Music Chorale

STAR Rtn. Robi Joseph

PT Lito Sibayan

AVP of RCM WF Music Chorale

Pres. Chito Zaldarriaga

Part II

12:30 PM Introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker
Address:

PE/PVP Hermie Esguerra
Programs Committee Chairman

Hon. MARIA LEONOR G. ROBREDO
Vice President
of the
Republic of the Philippines



Zoom Weekly Membership Meeting
Rotary Year 2021-2022
Thursday, October 14, 2021, 12:00 PM

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

Open Forum (to be conducted by a panel of facilitators composed of):

PDG Obet Pagdanganan

Governor, Province of Bulacan (May 1, 1986 - December 1, 1987,
February 2, 1988 - June 30, 1998)
Secretary, Department of Agrarian Reform (January 20, 2003 - January 20, 2004)
Secretary, Department of Tourism (February 26, 2004 - August 31, 2004)
Chairman and President, Philippine International Trading Corporation
(September 2004 - March 2007)
National President, Boy Scouts of the Philippines (July 1, 2019 - July 1, 2021)

DE/PD Raffy Alunan III

Secretary, Department of Tourism (January 9, 1991 - February 16, 1992)
Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government (June 30, 1992 - April 16, 1996)
Director, Pepsi Cola Products Philippines Inc. (January 2008 – present)

DE Tony Lopez

Founder, President, Chairman and CEO, BizNewsAsia

Presentation of Token
(Rotary Club of Manila Centennial Coffee Table Book
and Certificate of Appreciation)

Pres. Chito Zaldarriaga
PE/PVP Hermie Esguerra
Programs Committee Chairman

Attested by:
VPE/Sec. Reggie Yu

1:30 PM Response and Meeting Adjournment

Pres. Chito Zaldarriaga

PROFILE OF GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER

Hon. MARIA LEONOR GERONA ROBREDO

Vice President
of the
Republic of the Philippines



Maria Leonor Gerona Robredo is the 14th Vice President of the Philippines. She was elected as Vice President on May 9, 2016 and was inaugurated on June 30, 2016 in Quezon City.

Leni Robredo, as she is more popularly known, is the widow of *the late Interior Secretary and Naga City Mayor Jesse M. Robredo and a mother of three. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of the Philippines (1986) and obtained her bachelor of laws degree from the University of Nueva Caceres (1992). She passed the bar in 1997.

As a lawyer Leni dedicated her life to public service, representing those who have no means of defending themselves. She initially served in the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) in Naga city defending those who cannot afford the services of a lawyer. After a year in the PAO, she transferred to an alternative lawyers group called Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal (SALIGAN) where she focused on attending to the needs of the marginalized. As a member of SALIGAN, Leni was part of the team that helped farmers from Sumilao, Bukidnon get their own land after more than a decade of waiting.

In 2012, tragedy struck Leni and her family when the airplane of her husband, Jesse, crashed in the province of Masbate. A State Funeral was held in honor of the late Secretary in Malacañan Palace and in Naga City, Camarines Sur. It was during this time that the nation first saw the strength of Leni during difficult and trying times. Leni gave her first national speech when she accepted, on behalf of Sec. Jesse Robredo, the Philippine Legion of Honor, with the rank of Chief Commander, from President Benigno S. Aquino III. In her speech, she remembered the happy times with Jesse and promised him that "we will continue to live because your spirit lives in us. I will make sure that your dreams for our children will be fulfilled. I will not say goodbye because I know that you will never leave us, and will always be in our midst. You are home now. You are back where you truly belong. Rest well. We will love you forever."

PROFILE OF GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER

Hon. MARIA LEONOR GERONA ROBREDO

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Months after the tragedy, the people of the Third District of Camarines Sur called on Leni to vie for the congressional seat in their district. Despite not having any political ambitions, Leni filed her candidacy after throngs of people staged a vigil in front of their home, urging her to run. Leni won by a landslide in the 2013 election, deposing a long entrenched political clan.

As Representative of the Third District of Camarines Sur, Leni continued to fight for her advocacies and continued the legacy of Jesse Robredo on Good Governance. Her first bill as a legislator, the Full Disclosure Bill, centered on transparency and accountability in the transactions of government offices in the national and local stage. Focused on empowering people and transparency, Leni subsequently filed the People Empowerment Bill, the Freedom of Information Bill, and the Bottom up Budgeting Bill. By the end of the 16th Congress, she was able to pass, as author and co-author, a number of laws. These include the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act and the Sagguniang Kabataan Reform Act—a testament to her continued fight for empowerment and transparency.

In 2015, various groups started to call for Leni to run for the second highest position in the land. After much reflection and consideration, Leni accepted the call to run as the running mate of Secretary Mar Roxas on October 5, 2016, in Club Filipino, San Juan. In her acceptance speech, Leni said: “Ibinibigay ko po ang aking sarili ng buong buo sa ating mga kababayan, lalong lalo na sa inyong mga nakatsinelas na nasa labas, nasa ibaba, at nasa laylayan ng lipunan.”

Despite only scoring one percent in surveys, Leni pushed on and let her hard work and determination speak for themselves. She became the only national candidate who was able to visit 87% of the country’s provinces. Toward the end of the campaign, a familiar group of friends returned the kindness Leni once showed them during her SALIGAN day. The Sumilao farmers once again walked from Mindanao to Manila, this time not for land but to campaign for Leni and her running mate. Their march highlighted her main purpose in running—that those who have been forgotten will never be left behind again.

At the end of the election season, the Vice Presidential Candidate who started out with only one percent of the vote ended with 14,023,093 votes or 35.1% of the vote. She bested five sitting Senators and became the first Congresswoman to win the Vice Presidency.

PROFILE OF GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER

Hon. MARIA LEONOR GERONA ROBREDO

Vice President
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Leni Robredo officially became Vice President of the Philippines on June 30, 2016. She immediately went to work saying that she wanted to shift the Office of the Vice President from a political and ceremonial one to an advocacy driven office focused on the needs of the marginalized. In her inaugural address, she said: "Our plan is to create partnerships between the government and the private sector towards real change. Collaboration is today's most important and powerful resource. In our world today, our most important work is the things that we can do together."

As Vice President, Leni launched the Angat Buhay Program centered on nutrition and food security, universal healthcare, education, rural development, women empowerment, and housing. The program was launched through a summit attended by 1,000 participants that served as a development market place.

Currently, Angat Buhay caters to 193 communities through the generosity of partner-organizations and individuals, most of whom are from the private sector.

She also launched Istorya ng Pag-asa, a program that aims to spread hope and positivity by featuring extraordinary stories of ordinary Filipinos, and Ahon Laylayan Koalisyon, a program that aims to unite sectors in different parts of the country, in a bid to promote people participation in governance.

On November 6, 2019, Robredo took on the responsibility of leading government efforts to combat illegal drugs, when she accepted President Rodrigo Duterte's offer to be the co-chairperson of the Inter-agency Committee on Anti-Illegal Drugs (ICAD), defying advice and warnings from well-meaning allies and supporters.

Soon after her appointment as ICAD co-chair, VP Leni set out to work in the bid to harmonize the efforts of the agencies involved in the anti-illegal drug campaign. She has since met with various government agencies, local government units, and private organizations, and visited different communities—several of which are deeply affected by the drug problem. VP Leni hopes to steer the campaign's direction to a more holistic, data-driven, and humane approach, believing that the fight against illegal drugs is not only the fight of government, but of every community and every Filipino.

Believing in the power of collaboration, and a faith in the people, VP Leni vows to keep working to help her fellow Filipinos, especially those in the fringes of society. #

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This is, indeed, a red letter day.

Today, we are joined by many friends and guests from various sectors of diverse representations.

It's uncanny how our theme for this Rotary Year, "SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES", dovetails with the life of our Guest of Honor and Speaker whose destiny is etched with doing just that.

One has merely to look at the events that led to her colorful rise to this position of national import.

Her late husband, the legendary Jessie Robredo, was on the radar to do greater things until his untimely demise several years ago. Vice President Leni's impressive and consistent performance became a catalyst and basis towards her path of destiny.

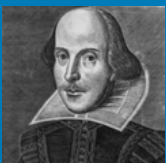
And today, despite her not-so friendly boss that she has to contend with, her track record manifests clearly that she, indeed, has been serving and changing lives.

That is her destiny.

Destiny. So many have attempted to define this aspect of our lives.

Meriam Webster defines "destiny" as "a predetermined course of events often held to be an irresistible power or agency".

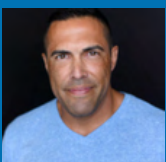
And here are more Quotes on Destiny



"It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves."
— **William Shakespeare**



"One love, one heart, one destiny."
— **Robert Marley**



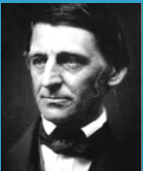
"Letting go means to come to the realization that some people are a part of your history, but not a part of your destiny."
— **Steve Maraboli**



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



"There's nowhere you can be that isn't where you're meant to be..."
— **John Lennon**



"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be."
— **Ralph Waldo Emerson**



"There are no wrong turnings. Only paths we had not known we were meant to walk."
— **Guy Gavriel Kay, Tigana**



"No one saves us but ourselves. No one can and no one may. We ourselves must walk the path."
— **Gautama Buddha, Sayings Of Buddha**

What I noted about these perspectives is that they are all introspect and individualistic.

It, invariably, puts extreme pressure on a person to form his own destiny –
"I did it My Way" as Ol Blue eyes so melodically puts it.

So, in my continued search, I finally came across one narrative of "destiny" which, for me,
matches reality spot on, a definition that personally gave me a good deal of comfort.

The Good Book (the Bible) has this to say:

Ephesians 3:20

"Never doubt God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you."

And this one which is quite apt for our Guest of Honor and Speaker:

Psalms 31:15

"My life, my every moment, my destiny—it's all in Your hands. So I know You can deliver me from those who persecute me relentlessly."

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

There is so much comfort and excitement from these infallible truths!

I believe our Guest of Honor and Speaker for today has her destiny lined up for her according to the Power who has ordained what was, what is, and what is about to come!

I believe we are about to witness a more exciting and life changing chapter in her life.

And should this happen the way it should, the destiny of every Filipino will align itself accordingly, as well.

So my dear RCM brothers, guests and friends, let us draw inspiration from this amazing woman whose destiny has been and will hopefully continue to be one that will "Serve to Change Lives" as we, the Filipino people, will all have our share of changed lives as well.

Mabuhay po Kayo Ma'am Leni!

May God bless you, indeed, and ordain His destiny for you!!!

Thank you everyone here who are joining us in this milestone meeting!

Mabuhay po tayong lahat!!!

Humbly yours in Rotary,

FSZ

Felix Francisco S. Zaldarriaga
President
RY 2021-2022



«« THE WEEK THAT WAS ««



Rtn. Mike Guarin, as Program Moderator/ Facilitator, calls the day's sequential order of activities.



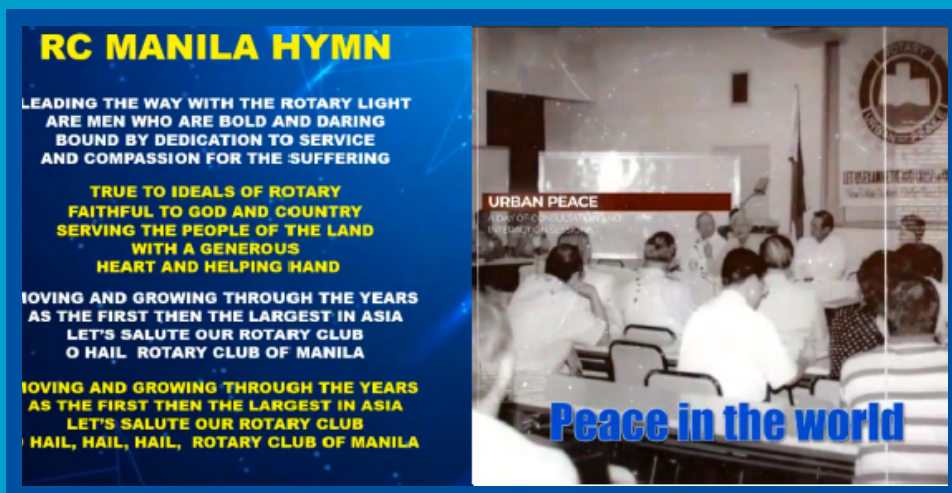
President Chito Zaldarriaga calls the meeting to order.



Rtn. Rick Zalamea delivers an Invocation and Special Prayer.



The **Rotary Club of Manila** Audiovisual Presentation of the **Philippine National Anthem**



The **World Famous Music Chorale** Audiovisual Presentation of the **RCM Hymn** and the singing of the **Philippine Rotary Hymn**

«« THE WEEK THAT WAS ««



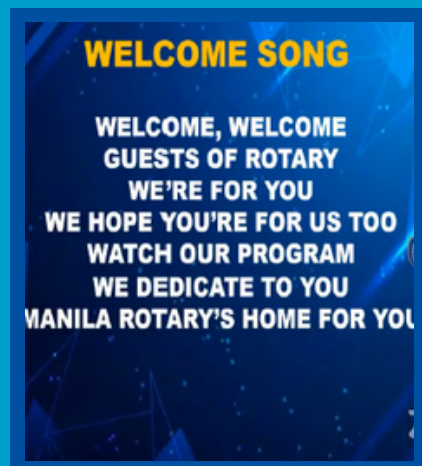
STAR Rtn. Senen Mangalile recites the Rotarian Pledge as a perfect prelude in fostering and strengthening ties amongst fellow Rotarians by way of reinforcing their resolve in furtherance of Service Above Self.



DE/IPD Hans Palacios leads the recitation of the Four (4) Way Test for Manila Rotarians to renew their commitment to the Rotary movement.



Rtn. Mike Guarin, Program Moderator/Facilitator, acknowledges visiting Rotarians and guests.



The **World Famous Music Chorale** singing the Welcome Song



Rtn. Mike Guarin, Program Moderator/Facilitator, acknowledges the week's birthday celebrants, namely, **STAR Rtn. Teddy Kalaw IV**, **PP Francis Juico** and **STAR Rtn. Marius Angara**, which was followed by an audiovisual presentation of the World Famous Music Chorale singing the happy birthday song.

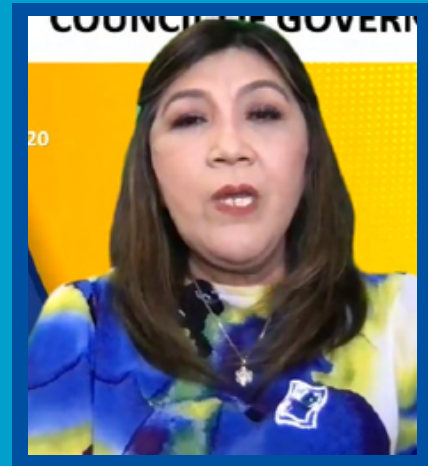
◀◀ THE WEEK THAT WAS ▶▶



President Chito Zaldarriaga delivers his message during his President's Time.



STAR Rtn. Rami Chahwan, as proposer, introduces the inductee, **STAR Rtn. Richard Joseph Li**, as a new member of the Rotary Club of Manila family.



PDG Liza Elorde conducts the charging of the new member.



President Chito Zaldarriaga administers the oath of membership to the new member.

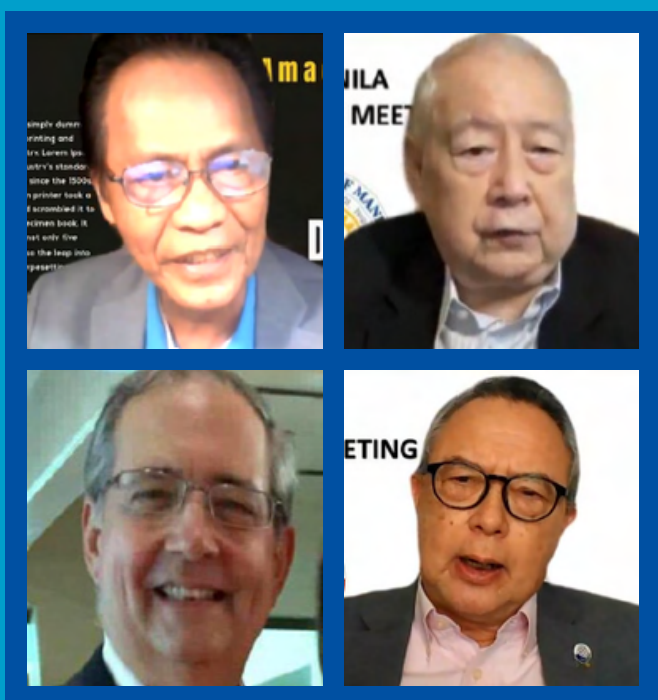
THE WEEK THAT WAS



PDG Obet Pagdanganan introduces **Guest Speaker WCP Majella Tumangan-Villaroman, MBA, President and CEO, my-CORD Corporation, Certified Mental Health, Human Rights and Recovery Trainer, World Health Organization (WHO), Certified Positive Psychology and Life Coach, Yale University, Chairperson, Urban Farming Initiative Program, Rotary International District 3810, RY 2021-2022 and President, Rotary Club of Manila 101, RY 2015-2016.**



Guest Speaker WCP Majella Tumangan-Villaroman, MBA, President and CEO, my-CORD Corporation, Certified Mental Health, Human Rights and Recovery Trainer, World Health Organization (WHO), Certified Positive Psychology and Life Coach, Yale University, Chairperson, Urban Farming Initiative Program, Rotary International District 3810, RY 2021-2022 and President, Rotary Club of Manila 101, RY 2015-2016 delivers her talk.



An open forum immediately followed right after the talk of **Guest Speaker WCP Majella Tumangan-Villaroman, MBA, President and CEO, my-CORD Corporation, Certified Mental Health, Human Rights and Recovery Trainer, World Health Organization (WHO), Certified Positive Psychology and Life Coach, Yale University, Chairperson, Urban Farming Initiative Program, Rotary International District 3810, RY 2021-2022 and President, Rotary Club of Manila 101, RY 2015-2016.** Among those who participated in the open forum were **IPBLA/PD Amading Valdez, DDCC/IPP Bobby Joseph, Dir. John Michael Cutter and President Chito Zaldarriaga.**

THE WEEK THAT WAS



President Chito Zaldariaga and Programs Committee Chairman PE/PVP Hermie Esguerra present the Certificates of Appreciation, attested by VPE/Club Secretary Reggie Yu, to PDG Liza Elorde and WCP Majella Tumangan-Villaroman, MBA, President and CEO, my-CORD Corporation, Certified Mental Health, Human Rights and Recovery Trainer, World Health Organization (WHO), Certified Positive Psychology and Life Coach, Yale University, Chairperson, Urban Farming Initiative Program, Rotary International District 3810, RY 2021-2022 and President, Rotary Club of Manila 101, RY 2015-2016.



President Chito Zaldarriaga delivers his closing remarks and thereafter, adjourns the meeting.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

From the Programs Committee



Dear Fellow Manila Rotarians,

As we SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES for a better nation, we are extremely privileged to welcome the Honorable MARIA LEONOR "LENI" G. ROBREDO, Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines, who will share her valuable insights for a bright future for the Philippines.

In the interest of time, as we expect an influx of questions from our attendees, a distinguished panel composed of PDG Obet Pagdanganan, DE/PD Raffy Alunan and DE Tony Lopez has been created to receive your questions for them to carefully sort out and align questions addressed to the Vice President. Hence, we request you to send your questions in advance for this purpose.

Be heard and be seen, today, 12:00 PM, October 14!

Very truly yours,

PE/PVP HERMINIO "HERMIE" ESGUERRA
Chairman
Programs Committee
RY 2021-2022



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2021-2022

(As of October 13, 2021, 10:00 AM)

	ANNUAL DUES 19-20
174	FULLY PAID
48	UNPAID
3	PARTIALLY PAID
225	TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS

NO.	NAME	OR NUMBER	AMOUNT	REMARKS
1	Abastillas, Celso E.	50579	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
2	Aboy, Valentino "Val" G.	50692	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
3	Abriam, Ariel	50737	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
4	Acosta, Crispiniano "Cris" G.	50719	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
5	Albaña, Michael Jaey "Mike"	50708	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
6	Alcantara, Isidro "Butch"	50745	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
7	Alday, Albert S.	50518	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
8	Alingog, Aldous "Rex" A.	50568	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
9	Alunan, Rafael "Raffy" M.	50690	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
10	Alvarez, Servando, Jr.	50687	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
11	Ampil, Alvin	50557	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
12	Ang, Richard T.	50774	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
13	Angara, Marius	50751	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
14	Aragon, Joshua	50746	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
15	Bartolome, Arsenio III "Archit" M.	50535	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
16	Bautista, John, Jr. I.	50744	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
17	Bediones, Rodolfo "Rudy" P.	50569	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
18	Benedicto, Sixto "Noy" T.	50570	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
19	Blanco, Manuel "Manny" M.	50586	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
20	Bogovich, Jason M.	50583	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
21	Bolton, Wilhelm "Bollie"	50739	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
22	Branellec, Jacques "Jack"	50577	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
23	Camus, Fernando	50552	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
24	Carlos, Vicente "Vince" J.	50723	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
25	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef "Karlo"	50526	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
26	Catalan, Rodillo "Teng"	50666	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
27	Cenica, John T.	50794	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
28	Chahwan, Rami	50539	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
29	Chang Li, Richard Joseph	50775	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
30	Chien, Liang-Ta "Steve"	50531	37,318.00	FULLY PAID
31	Chotrani, Johnny N.	50730	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
32	Cruz, Avelino "Ave" V.	50542	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
33	Cureg, Alexander "Alex" P.	50527	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
34	Cutter, John Michael "Michael"	50538	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
35	Davis, Raymond "Rey" N.	50533	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
36	Dayang, Juan, Jr. "Jed" E.	50523	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
37	De Venecia, Jose "Joe" C.	50555	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
38	Dee, Marcus L.	50758	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
39	Del Rosario, Oscar	50706	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
40	Dela Cruz, Artemio "Art"	50750	25,000.00	FULLY PAID

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2021-2022

(As of October 13, 2021, 10:00 AM)

41	Diokno, Benjamin "Ben" E.	50540	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
42	Dionisio, Rafael Ignacio "Raf"	50716	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
43	Dominguez, III, Carlos "Sonny" G.	50765	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
44	Dy, Manuel "Manny" C.	50520	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
45	Egan, Brendan "Bren" W.L.	50672	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
46	Eldebs, Issam "Sam"	50439	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
47	Engelbrecht, Francois	50679	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
48	Enriquez, Eduardo III "Jujut" V.	50519	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
49	Esguerra, Herminio "Hermie" S.	50547	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
50	Esquivias, Joaquin Pablo "Jop" A.	50678	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
51	Eugenio, John Emyl "Emyl" G.	50697	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
52	Evaristo, Frank A.	50534	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
53	Fajardo, Beda G.	50546	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
54	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V. "JJ"	50654	32,138.00	FULLY PAID
55	Follosco, Ceferino, Jr. "Jun" G.	50729	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
56	Garcia, Herbert Joey "Joey" D.	50741	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
57	Garcia, Paul Joseph "PJ"	50509	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
58	Garcia, Victor	50525	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
59	Gaspar, Fernando "Nando" L.	50733	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
60	Gierran, Dante "Dan"	50521	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
61	Go, Daniel "Danny" C.	50761	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
62	Go, Henry Sy	50686	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
63	Go, Michael	50731	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
64	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy "Mike" H.	50655	24,500.00	FULLY PAID
65	Guevara, Domingo, Jr. "Boy" S.	50572	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
66	Guevara, Ricardo "Ricky" S.	50573	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
67	Hallare, Delfin, Jr. "Jun" T.	50689	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
68	Hallerbach, Mathias	50759	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
69	Harle, Wolfgang Kurt	50563	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
70	Henkelmann, Martin	50599	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
71	Hernandez, Edwin	50551	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
72	Hesse, Uwe	50581	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
73	Jang, Jae "Jay-Jay" J.	50693	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
74	Joseph, Ralph L.	50514	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
75	Joseph, Robert Ian "Robi" M.	50510	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
76	Joseph, Robert, Jr. "Bobby" L.	50512	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
77	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro IV "Teddy"	50700	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
78	Karcher, Henning	50558	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
79	Kunack, Lutz	50668	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
80	Lacambacal, Alvin D.	50734	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
81	La'o, Emilio Gonzalez	50726	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
82	Ledda, Jaime Victor "Jet" B.	50685	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
83	Lee, Richard "Dick" L.	50554	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
84	Leung, Karl A.	50740	12,500.00	PARTIALLY PAID
85	Liamzon, Romeo Thaddeus "Thad" R.	50515	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
86	Lim, David Eduardo Ty	50567	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
87	Lim, Richard	50748	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
88	Locsin, Arsenio "Nick" Z.	50595	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
89	Locsin, Roberto R.	50670	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
90	Lonzaga, Reinerio "Ner" C.	50524	25,000.00	FULLY PAID

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2021-2022

(As of October 13, 2021, 10:00 AM)

91	Lopa, Antonio "Tony" A.	50597	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
92	Lopez, Antonio "Tony"	50703	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
93	Lopez, Arthur "Art" M.	50548	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
94	Macapagal, Michael "Mac"	50541	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
95	Magbanua, Gerry	50562	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
96	Magsaysay, Francisco "Paco" D.	50657/5065	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
97	Manalaysay, Cesar P "Citos"	50664	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
98	Mangalile, Senen	50713	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
99	Martinez, Ronald	50714	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
100	Masters, Lance A.	50530	12,500.00	PARTIALLY PAID
101	Matschuck, Guenter "Gunter" G.	50675	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
102	Mauricio, Antonilo "Anton"	50712	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
103	Meloto, Antonio "Tony"	50511	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
104	Mendoza, Estelito "Titong" P.	50543	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
105	Mendoza, Raymund Joseph Ian "Raji"	50674	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
106	Mommaerts, Steve "Momo"	50718	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
107	Montel, Juan Manuel C.	50665	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
108	Montinola, Antonio "Tony" J.	50596	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
109	Nolido, Ramon Alberto "Ramby" B.	50694	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
110	Nones, Romeo "Romy" C.	50598	25,001.00	FULLY PAID
111	Nunez, Jose, Jr. "Pepo" A.	50722	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
112	Ocampo, Teodoro "Teddy" J.	50683	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
113	Okajima, Hiroyuki	50588	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
114	Ong, Jovee K.	507115	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
115	Ong, Phillip "Phil" L.	50550	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
116	Pagdanganan, Roberto "Obet" M.	50677	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
117	Palacios, Albert "Hans" C.	50709	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
118	Pallasigue, John Brian "JB"	50580	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
119	Pascual, Abraham "Abe" F.	50688	24,500.00	FULLY PAID
120	Pascual, Jose Augusto "Jappy"	50688	24,500.00	FULLY PAID
121	Patterson, Colin David	50536	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
122	Peliño, Wilfredo "Willie" M.	50594	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
123	Pineda, Jr., Jesus "Susing" M.	50545	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
124	Pineda, Jr., Patricio "Bebot" F.	50537	26,200.00	FULLY PAID
125	Pizarra, Jordan M.	50780	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
126	Preysler, Fausto, Jr. R.	50556	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
127	Pujalte, Jose, Jr. "Brix" S.	50754	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
128	Rast, Tobias "Tobi"	50669	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
129	Recto, Philip H.	50691	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
130	Reyes, Crispino "Babes" P.	50681	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
131	Reyes, Edgardo "Ed" P.	50561	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
132	Reynolds, David John "Dave"	50565	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
133	Robertz, Constantin Franz Josef "Con"	50680	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
134	Rodriguez, Gerard Sean "Sean" H.	50752	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
135	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jack" H.	50682	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
136	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jackie" C.	50671	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
137	Romualdez, Ferdinand Martin "Marti"	50747	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
138	Romualdez, Jose Manuel "Babe" G.	50574	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
139	Rono, Marlon	50592	25,000.00	FULLY PAID

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2021-2022

(As of October 13, 2021, 10:00 AM)

140	Sarmiento, Ricardo	50587	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
141	Schmitz, Steffan	50705	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
142	Schneider, Bernd	50673	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
143	Schoucair, Farid Alain	50667	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
144	Serapio, Carlos G. "Caloy"	50717	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
145	Sevilla, Luis Angelo "L.A." L.	50698	15,484.00	FULLY PAID
146	Shigei, Kentaro	50591	24,500.00	FULLY PAID
147	Shimoda, Shigeru	50590	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
148	Sibayan, Joselito "Lito" H.	50564	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
149	So, Warren	50710	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
150	Sobrepeña, Robert John "Bob" L.	50701	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
151	Soler, Jose Antonio Andaya	50724	12,800.00	FULLY PAID
152	Stranathan, Ike	50566	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
153	Syjuco, Jose, Jr. "Joey" A.	50544	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
154	Tagaysay, Hector "Chito"	50732	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
155	Talampas, Jose Angel "Joel"	50651	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
156	Tamayo, Victor "Butch" L.	50797	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
157	Tan, Eusebio "Ebot" V.	50707	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
158	Tan, Lawrence "Lance" L.	50743	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
159	Tanglao, Noel V.	50785	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
160	Taylor-Dormond, Marvin	50549	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
161	Tee, Jr., Teddy B.	50676	15,800.00	FULLY PAID
162	Tejuma, Michael "Mike"	50532/5058	37,138.00	FULLY PAID
163	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael "Hansel"	50695	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
164	Ubaldo, Cesar C.	50704	12,600.00	PARTIALLY PAID
165	Valdes, Joel C.	50727	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
166	Valdez, Amado "Amading" D.	50660	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
167	Valencia, John Nico "Nico" P.	50755	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
168	Valencia, Rodolfo "Rod" G.	50755	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
169	Vea, Reynaldo "Rey" B.	50720	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
170	Villarica, Henry R.	50652	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
171	Yu, Geoffrey "Geof" C.	50635	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
172	Yu, Reginald "Reggie" T.	50662	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
173	Yujuico, Brendon	50571	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
174	Zalamea, Enrique, Jr. "Rick" M.	50753	24,500.00	FULLY PAID
175	Zaldarriaga, Felix Francisco "Chito" S.	50528	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
176	Zeitouni, Nagi	50696	25,000.00	FULLY PAID
177	Zialcita, Xavier "Xavy" Y.	50663	15,800.00	FULLY PAID

TOTAL **4,233,745.00**

Reminder: Please secure OR within 3 days upon payment. Kindly email the copy of deposit at rcmanila@rcmanila.org or send proof of payment in viber. You may also send via fax at #527-1885.

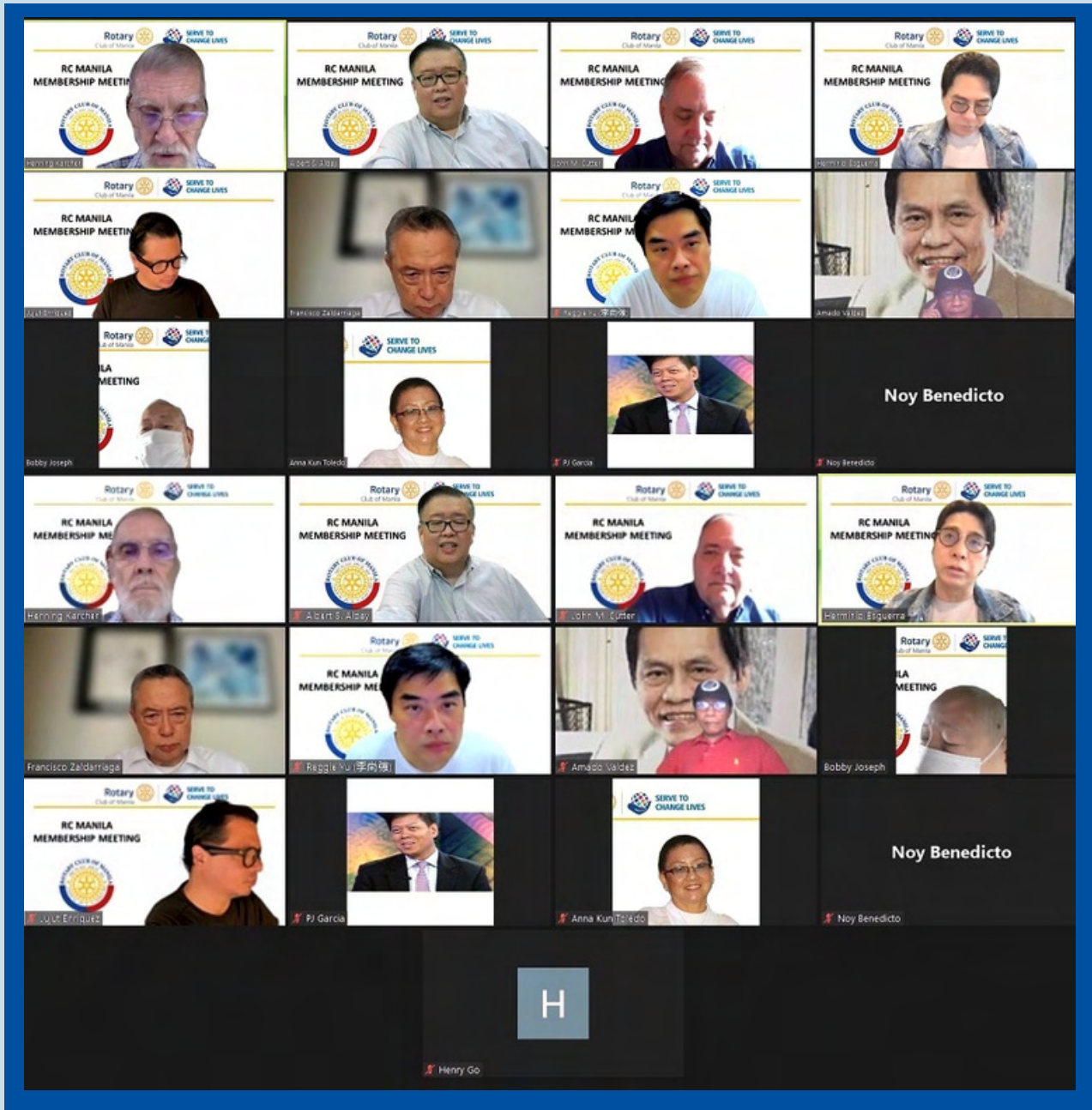
CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2021-2022

October 2021	October 7, 2021 WCP Majella Tumangan- Villaroman
All Members Present	63
Make Up	0
Less: Exempt from Attendance	4
On Leave	0
Total Active Members	59
Total # of Members	225
TOTAL ATTENDANCE %:	28%
<i>Rotaract Club of Manila/Rotaract Club of DLSU-Manila</i>	0
<i>Guests of Guest of Honor and Speaker/Guest Speaker</i>	1
<i>Guest of Honor and Speaker/Guest Speaker</i>	1
<i>Visiting Rotarians</i>	48
<i>Guests of RCM MEMBERS</i>	0
Total Attendees	113

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Manila for RY 2021-2022 Holds Fourth Regular Meeting



The Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Manila for RY 2021-2022 held its Fourth (4th) Regular Meeting last October 12, 2021 via Zoom virtual platform. Present were VP Henning Karcher, DE/Dir. Albert Alday, Dir. John Michael Cutter, PE/PVP Hermie Esguerra, DE/Treasurer Jujut Enriquez, President Chito Zaldarriaga, VPE/Club Secretary Reggie Yu, IPBLA/PP Amading Valdez, DDCC/IPB Bobby Joseph, ES Anna Kun Toledo, AT PJ Garcia, Dir. Noy Benedicto and AS Henry Go.

RCMANILA FOUNDATION, INC.

Board of Trustees of the RCManila Foundation, Inc. for RY 2021-2022 Holds Special Meeting



The Board of Trustees for the RCManila Foundation, Inc. for RY 2021-2022 held a Special Meeting last October 11, 2021 via Zoom virtual platform where the agenda was the Audited Financial Statement for RY 2020-2021. Present were External Auditor Rachel Teodoro-Santamaria, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Secretary/Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila DE/Dir. Albert Alday, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila PD Beda Fajardo, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila IPBLA/PD Amading Valdez, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Chairman, Programs Committee Chairman and Rotary Club of Manila PE/PVP Hermie Esguerra, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Executive Director Nestor Ubalde, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Treasurer/Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila PD Pepo Nuñez, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Assistant Treasurer and Rotary Club of Manila VPE/Club Secretary Reggie Yu, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila IPD Celso Abastillas, RCManila Foundation, Inc. Trustee and Rotary Club of Manila PP Teddy Ocampo, RCManila Foundation, Inc. President and Rotary Club of Manila PP Susing Pineda and Rotary Club of Manila ES Anna Kun Toledo.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Appeal for Paul Harris Fellows



July 1, 2021

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

An Opportunity has now opened doors for our club to be a 100% Paul Harris Club. With only US\$ 500.00 as a beginning contribution, you can now become a Paul Harris Fellow.

We have members who have risen to donor levels that have earned them significant point values. Our fellow members led by IPP Jackie Rodriguez, PDG Alex Cureg, PVP Hermie Esguerra, PDG Rudy Bediones and PDG Obet Pagdanganan have indicated their willingness to share the points they have earned to allow Rotarians to be enrolled in the Roster of Paul Harris Fellows for only an initial contribution of US\$ 500.00 instead of the regular US\$ 1,000.00.

Contributions can easily be made by enrolling in www.rotary.org using your R.I. Identification Number. Once enrolled, you are allowed to learn Rotary, increase your circle of friendship and contribute conveniently using the website.

We, Rotarians, belong to a global family of service-oriented people who believe that our congregation is a means to share our blessings to the less fortunate communities globally. The Rotary Foundation is the funding arm of global humanitarian undertakings of Rotary International. It was formally named in 1917 and the first trustees were appointed after Rotary International President Arch Klumph proposed for the establishment of an endowment for the purpose of doing good in the world. The first grant of US\$ 500 benefitted the International Society for Crippled Children (Easter Seals). History marks the milestone projects of The Rotary Foundation such a scholarship for

international graduate study, the elimination of Polio worldwide, the initiation of a World Peace Forum, among others. Under the Rotary's 7 Areas of Service Focus, namely, Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Water and Sanitation, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Education and Literacy, Economic and Community Development and lastly, Supporting the Environment, Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation have made themselves relevant to developing communities globally.

All these services would not have been made possible if not for the generosity of Rotarians, who voluntarily enlisted themselves to become members of The Rotary Foundation through a minimal contribution of US\$ 1,000.00.

We are currently working on Global Grants and District Grants. Your contribution will significantly improve the community living of our target beneficiaries.

For any assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Yours in the service of Rotary,

ROMEO THADDEUS R. LIAMZON
Chairman, The Rotary Foundation
Director
RY 2021-2022

Noted by:

FELIX FRANCISCO S. ZALDARRIAGA
President
RY 2021-2022

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



Calling for Proposals for Global Grants for RY 2021-2022



Dear Fellow Manila Rotarians,

This is to announce a call for Global Grant Proposals for Rotary Year 2021-2022. See the fruition of your donations to The Rotary Foundation as you witness sustainable service projects unfold that would define the existence of Asia's First Rotary Club.

For queries, please get in touch with the Secretariat and/or the undersigned.

Yours in Rotary service,

ROMEO THADDEUS "THAD" R. LIAMZON
Chairman, The Rotary Foundation Committee
Director
RY 2021-2022

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Cheers for Pediatric Cancer Patients



Rotary
Club of Manila
First in Asia
Charter No. 478 June 1, 1919 RID 3810



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

September 21, 2021

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

RE: CHEERS FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER PATIENTS



it's September, and that means Christmas! RCM is continuing its fundraising efforts to provide medication, supplements, and our annual holiday gifts for the children and families receiving care at the PGH Cancer Institute. While 2021 has been trying for everyone, every day is extremely challenging for these children without our support and caring. Add your name to those below to make your donation the first gift of the holiday season!



DONATIONS MAY BE SENT THRU :

ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA
METROBNK ANDA CIRCLE BRANCH
Account # 151-7-15151486-0

Copy of donation / bank transaction may be sent by email thru rotaryclubofmanila@gmail.com or thru viber blog MEMBERS CONCERNS. Thank you.

Dir. John Cutter

Chairman, Care for PEDIATRIC Cancer

INTERCLUB RELATIONS

Presidents-Elect Rotary Leadership Institute Batch 1

**Rotary**
District 3810

Presidents-Elect RLI Batch 1



October 16, 2021
7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Meeting ID: 814 1523 1622
Passcode: D3810RLI

Session 1
MY ROTARY WORLD
PDG Liza Elorde



Session 2
MY LEADERSHIP IN ROTARY
IDS/PP Mark Eugene Tan



Session 3
ETHICS & VOCATIONAL SERVICE
PP Gen Evangelista



Session 4
ENGAGING MEMBERS
PP Elma Lagamson



Session 5 FOUNDATION 1
OUR FOUNDATION
PDG Oyan Villanueva

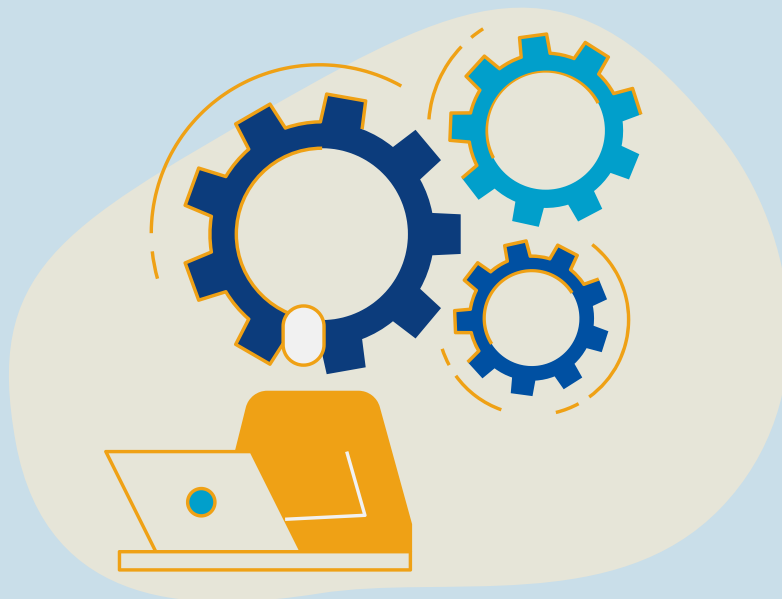


Session 6
CREATIVE SERVICE PROJECTS
PP Relly Fajardo





DGE Joyce Michelle L. Ambray
District Governor, RY 2022-2023



INTERCLUB RELATIONS

Palo para sa mga Dualtech Scholars



Rotary
Club of Calamba

**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

GOLF FUN GAMES

Palo

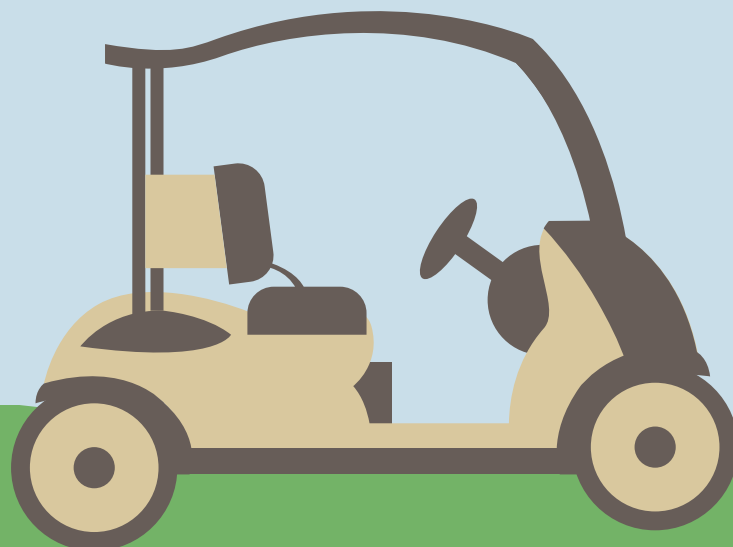
PARA SA MGA

DUALTECH SCHOLARS

October 15 at the Old Course
Tourney Fee Php 2,000

SPONSORSHIPS available at:

- PLATINUM - 20k (with 4 Players)
- GOLD - 15k (with 3 Players)
- SILVER -10k(with 2 Players)
- BRONZE - 5k(with 1Player)



INTERCLUB RELATIONS



Fun-demic D-3810 Masquerade Halloween Night

Rotary District 3810 | SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

FUN-DEMIC D-3810 Masquerade Halloween Night

"BEWARE!
IT'S A GHOSTLY AFFAIR!
ATTEND IF YOU DARE!"

Host Club: Rotary Club of Tondo Manila

ID: 834 9712 3200 October 23, 2021
Pass: d3810 6pm Saturday

You're invited!



INTERCLUB RELATIONS



**ROTARY
AGRI TALK
WEBINAR SERIES**
The Plant Box

**hydroponics
webinar**

**NOV 30 | ZOOM
INVITATION**

CO-HOSTING FEE P500
FOR UP TO 5 ATTENDEES
GCASH 0927-652-4905
C/O VC NITO SIASAT
ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA STA ANA
BPI ACCOUNT # 002341-0346-23

Rotary
Club of Manila Sta Ana

Urban Farming Initiative

**URBAN
FARMING
INITIATIVE**

ROTARY
SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES



MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

By Rhea Vitto Tabora

How many professionals can leave a flourishing career and start building a business from scratch?

STAR Rtn. Emilio “Emil” Gonzalez La’O is this type of person. He took the leap of faith, left his successful career in the US, came back to the Philippines and set up a business here. As President and CEO of Cold Front Technologies Asia, Inc., he did not only pull it off; he and his wife achieved some industry firsts in the Philippines and in Southeast Asia.

Get to know more about STAR Rtn. Emil’s interesting and inspiring journey – how he gave up his well-paying job and shifted from lawyering to entrepreneurship, and, in just a few years, already made a mark in the industry.

In this interview, he also shares some very motivating words to aspiring entrepreneurs.



MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

Rhea Vitto Tabora (RVT): Please share something about yourself that your fellow Rotarians might not readily know.

Emilio Gonzalez La'O (EGL): I enjoy cooking. That's a hobby I picked up in the States while living on my own. In fact, I proposed to my wife, Jennifer, by cooking her an 11-course meal. I even watch a lot of cooking shows and usually have them on the TV as my "background noise".

My favorite cuisine to cook – and eat – is Italian because it could be rustic comfort food or it could be refined haute cuisine. What I like about cooking is that it's not precise and I can be rather spontaneous and experimental. I can make the same dish several times, try different techniques or use different ingredients, and it may not always turn out exactly the same, but it will still taste good. The idea that I need to use whatever ingredients I have, whatever quality they may be, and make it work really appeals to me. And that pretty much aligns with what it's like being an entrepreneur – use what I have, make it work and make the most of it.

RVT: What inspired you to take the leap of faith, leave your flourishing career in the US and set up a business in the Philippines?

EGL: In the States, I had a good career at Intel Corporation. It was a great opportunity, great learning experience but at the same time, because it was a large corporation, it was very structured and regimented. You didn't necessarily have your hands in every piece of the puzzle. That's something I've always wanted to take on. I wanted to build something, to have my hands in all the pieces, trying to make it work, putting the pieces together. Just like in cooking, you have a guide on what you think it will come out to be but you're not entirely sure it will, so you take a leap of faith that the finished product is going to be wonderful or better than the sum of the parts you put in.



STAR Rtn. Emil was invited to talk about the first green water loop system during ATMOsphere in Thailand.

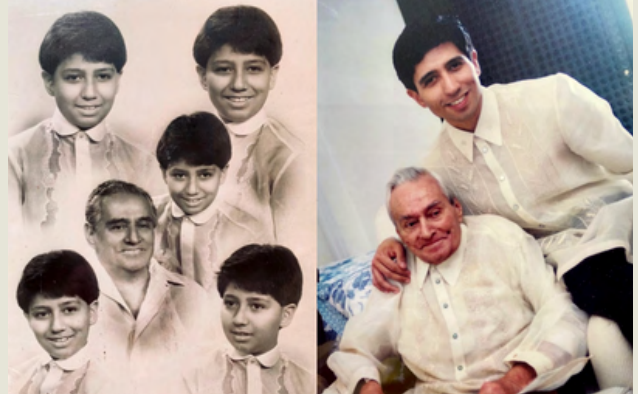


I wanted to build something, to have my hands in all the pieces, trying to make it work, putting the pieces together. Just like in cooking, you have a guide on what you think it will come out to be but you're not entirely sure it will, so you take a leap of faith that the finished product is going to be wonderful or better than the sum of the parts you put in.

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

I believe I learned that from my father, Bololo. By the way, I'm actually named after him, and in the old Spanish tradition of carrying his grandfather's last name (Gonzalez) and his grandmother's last name (La'O). I never got the chance to work with my father, but he was an entrepreneur his whole life. At least, for as long as I can remember, he always had his own companies and did his own thing. I really look up to him, and continue to look up to him, and the example he led. I wanted to follow his footsteps, forge my own path to see what I can accomplish and, hopefully, be able to achieve a fraction of the success he had.



STAR Rtn. Emil and his dad



STAR Rtn. Emil's father at the inauguration of Squires Bingham as one of its founders



Opening of the Goya Chocolate Factory, named after his dad's favorite Spanish painter

Taking a leap of faith to leave the US, coming back here to the Philippines and starting our own business are parts of that journey. Sadly, my wife and I were not blessed with children. But because of that, we figured that we were in a point in our lives where basically it was now or never. If we waited any longer, we would be too old to really do anything significant. We knew there were opportunities here and in Southeast Asia. Majority of the economic growth is here in Asia. More importantly, our families are back home in the Philippines. So, we thought it would be great to be back and be closer to family and friends. We were ready to take the leap of faith and it was the right time for us to do so.

RVT: How did you grow Cold Front to become one of the industry leaders in commercial refrigeration, cold storage and air-conditioning systems in the Philippines?

EGL: When we started the company in 2016, my wife and I knew we wanted to work with products that were not necessarily the cheapest in the market nor did we want to fight in terms of price. I

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

think there's enough competitors in that segment of the market. We wanted to compete by bringing in high quality products at reasonable prices and give the customer the best value for money. Because of that mindset, we don't necessarily win the lion's share of orders, but we would get the higher end of orders from customers who really care about product quality. That doesn't necessarily mean the quality of products we sell, but the quality of their products that they display and store in ours.

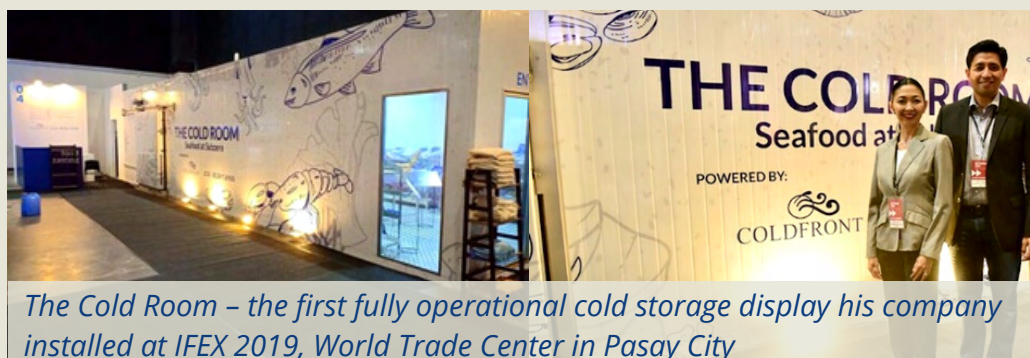
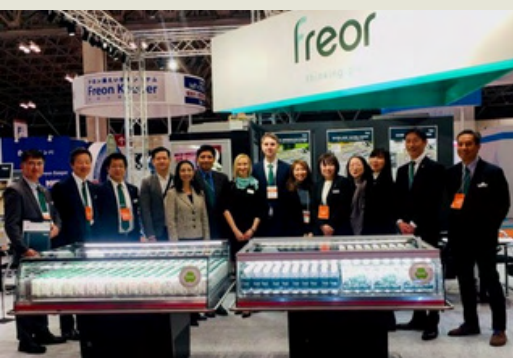
Then, we took that quest for quality one step further. We made the conscious effort to pursue innovation. My background is in Mechanical Engineering, and I come from the high-tech industry. I do not have any experience in refrigeration and air-conditioning, and I think that is a benefit because I'm not necessarily beholden to the traditional ways of doing refrigeration and air-conditioning. I'm open to trying new avenues, trying new things, and really trying to move this industry that's quite traditional, that's been around 180 years, and to explore new technologies.

Cold Front is the exclusive dealer of AHT, which is an Austrian refrigeration brand that is highly regarded as one of the best in the world when it comes to island or bunker freezers. If you go to grocery stores and convenience stores like 7-11 in Europe, all you'll see are AHT products. They own the lion's share of the market segment there. AHT perfected the

island freezer design and AHT was one of the early adopters of water loop refrigeration technology. The traditional refrigeration systems you see in groceries are either plug-in (which has the compressor inside each unit, just like your kitchen refrigerator) or centralized remote (which has the compressors placed in a mechanical room far from the grocery display area, similar to split type aircon). Water loop system combines the benefits of both types without their downsides. So, with AHT, we were the first to bring that technology to the Philippines.

Fortunately for us, AHT was bought by Daikin two years ago. Given our close relationship with AHT, we were then introduced to the whole Daikin family. We looked at the air-conditioning market and, again, tried to determine what our value proposition would be. Daikin already had the quality. So, we decided to carve our niche and build our expertise in the industrial applications – such as package ACUs, ducted AHUs, chilled water systems.

In terms of cold storage systems, we work very closely with some Japanese counterparts of ours who have developed leading edge technology using carbon dioxide (CO2) refrigerant. As a matter of fact, they're growing quite tremendously in Japan. What they do fits very well with our business model and because of our great collaborative relationship, we're working to bring their products here in the Philippines as well.



The Cold Room – the first fully operational cold storage display his company installed at IFEX 2019, World Trade Center in Pasay City

At the national launch of green refrigerant water loop system that Cold Front installed at the Japan Super Market Trade Show in Tokyo

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

RVT: What have you learned during the pandemic that has changed the game for your business?

EGL: The pandemic didn't necessarily change the game for us, but rather, it positively reinforced some of our core beliefs. Being customer-centric, having really good products, and being innovative is tantamount to us growing and becoming more successful. More to the point, the pandemic showed us that we were on the right path in the right industry. Refrigeration, air-conditioning and cold storage are all part of the cold chain that delivers two basic human necessities: food and medicine.

One of the things I'm very proud of was during the lockdown last year, our people were able to go around and continue our operations. Because we acted very quickly, we were able to get IATF clearance whereas a lot of competitors were not able to or had to close down. We knew our work was essential because we installed and serviced systems for groceries, commissaries, and pharmaceutical companies. So, during that time we were called on by our existing customers and by a lot of new customers with refrigeration systems or air-conditioning systems that we did not install but were breaking down. So I think our customers would acknowledge the

fact that even during the height of ECQ, we were able to deploy our employees to our customers' sites, get them to address any service concerns that they have, or get them to install new products or systems; whereas others may not necessarily have had the workforce to be able to do that.

And I believe a lot of our customers realized during the lockdown that because it is much more difficult to get on-time service response, a lot more difficult to get maintenance or repair work done, there is now a greater focus on getting quality product as opposed to just the cheapest product. Of course, there are still customers who only look at capex. But we're seeing a lot more would rather have something that they know is working 24-7 versus something that breaks quickly and be uncertain when a service technician can come out and fix it.

We're also seeing customers realizing that they need new products and leading-edge technologies that provide them with more benefits than what their traditional products may provide them, such as better cooling, better energy efficiency, longer life, less maintenance requirements, more environmentally friendly. So, these are all things that they are now looking at as they embrace innovation for their future growth and expansion plans post-pandemic.



Cold Front technician in front of their installation of industrial air conditioning and ducting system



AHT island freezers and Freor showcases at Royal Duty Free Shops in Subic. It is the first R290 water loop installation in Southeast Asia and still the 'Greenest' operational store in the Philippines.

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

RVT: What experiences do you feel shaped you the most?

EGL: First of all, my multi-disciplinary education. I have an engineering background, an MBA background, and I even have a law degree. I've always been fascinated by how to build things, how to make things function and that led me to pursue my mechanical engineering degree. Now that I am working with refrigeration, air-conditioning, and cold storage, having that degree has certainly come in handy.

Then taking my MBA triggered my entrepreneurial spirit – really wanting to create something on our own as opposed to working for somebody else. While my law degree has enabled me to create partnerships with international companies, such as AHT, such as Freor, through cooperative agreements that are beneficial to everybody and not just to one party.



With his wife, photo taken during graduation from Santa Clara Law School

The second thing that shaped me is the 20-25 years I spent working in Silicon Valley and just being around the high-tech industry. I was there when disruptive technological advancements first evolved from start-ups – Google, eBay, Apple. My last role at Intel was as Director of the Development Team for Internet of Things (IoT) and we would embed everyday objects with programming hardware and software. Most people in Silicon Valley have that “start-up mentality” and know that failure is part of risk taking and that’s okay.

I think that’s part of what helped my wife and I to say, let’s take this leap, let’s go to the Philippines, let’s start a brand-new career, let’s start a company on our own and if it fails, it’s okay. We do everything we can to make sure it’s a success, but at the same time, we aren’t afraid of failure. We’re willing to try new things, try new products, work with different people to really shape the company to be at the leading edge of refrigeration and air-conditioning technology.

RVT: Looking back at your life thus far, what are you most proud of?

EGL: It’s hard to say that there’s one thing I am most proud of. I’m certainly proud of my education because I really worked hard for all those degrees. The time I spent at Intel, being able to work in high-tech is something that I am proud of. Starting Cold Front is another thing I am proud of. With Cold Front itself, I think the things that we have been proud of, my wife and I, is that we have been able to do some of the industry firsts in the Philippines and in Southeast Asia. We installed the first water loop system in the Philippines five years ago. Last year, we installed the very first green refrigerant R290 water loop system in the country and in Southeast Asia. It’s still the only one of its kind in the Philippines and one of the greenest grocery stores in Southeast Asia to this day. So we’re very proud of that and hope that we can continue to grow that.

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

Actually, I really see these Cold Front milestones more as a personal accomplishment. The reason is that the people we have in the company come from traditional refrigeration and air-conditioning background. When we first said that we wanted to do a water loop system, there were a lot of people who were nervous or skeptical about it because they have never tried something like this. Even though we lead the company, we still had to try to get their buy-in to do it. I'm very proud that we were able to nudge them enough forward to get this thing installed, even though it was really outside our comfort zone. And then, once it was finally installed, they all took great pride in their accomplishment as well. So even though it is an accomplishment officially of the company, I'm proud that we really pushed it to fruition.

RVT: Name a business leader whom you look up to, and why.

EGL: The business leader I look up to is Jeff Bezos because he pretty much did the same thing we are trying to do right now. He had a flourishing career in investment banking, and, for all intents and purposes, he basically had his life set. He had a great job, making very good money, led a very, very comfortable life. But he basically gave it up. He went ahead and started a business from scratch, not knowing whether it will succeed or fail. One of his famous quotes is he never feared failure, he feared regret: "I wanted not to have regrets. I knew for a fact, I have this idea, and if I don't try, I'm going to regret having never tried. And I know also, if I try and fail, I'll never regret having tried and failed."

What makes Jeff Bezos one of the great leaders of our time is once he started his business, he continued to push the envelope. Another saying of his I subscribe to is "If the size of your failures isn't growing, you're not

going to be inventing at a size that can actually move the needle." Because that means you, as a company, are not growing and not making a significant mark in your industry. We're not talking about seeking to fail. And failing at something you're normally good at isn't something to embrace either. What I believe is that being afraid to fail should never stop you from trying to achieve your goals. You should be willing to take on more and more calculated risks with the potential of bigger and bigger failures or bigger and bigger rewards. That's the only way you can take that next leap and continue to grow and get to the next stage of your company.

RVT: What advice do you have for aspiring entrepreneurs?

EGL: Just go for it. To echo Jeff Bezos, the bigger regret in your life is to look back and see that you never even tried. It's better to try and fail rather than to never have tried at all.

“

*If it's something you're
thinking of doing, something
you dream of ever doing, do it.
And do it as soon as possible so
that you have time to either fail
and start again or have the
luxury of time to enjoy the
fruits of your labor and
sacrifices.*

”

MANILA ROTARIAN IN FOCUS

STAR Rtn. Emilio Gonzalez La'O: His Journey from Engineering and Lawyering to Entrepreneurship

RVT: What do you enjoy doing most outside of work?

(EGL): Right now, the thing I enjoy doing the most is trying to play the game of golf. During the lockdown itself, it was very difficult to do any of the things we normally like to do – such as socialize with friends, go out to dinner, travel. These all basically stopped when the pandemic occurred. I think one of the few things that we are able to do as a recreational activity is golf. That's why it's exploding in popularity. It's at an all-time high as a sport, not only here, but around the world. Golf enables me to get out of the house, exercise, see my friends with ample social distancing, and be around nature.



Fun activities with friends



Pushing physical limits in the US

RVT: What inspired you to join the Rotary Club of Manila?

I joined the Rotary largely in part because of Rotarian Jason Bogovich, who has a very similar experience as us. He's an American but decided to uproot from the States and move to the Philippines when he met his wife, our dear friend Lora Woellhaf. Jason invited me to Rotary several times and I got to meet a lot of people during those times. I saw that there was a lot of like-minded people – a lot of entrepreneurs, a lot of people who left other countries and came to the Philippines to start anew. I immediately felt very comfortable in the group. So being able to be around these Rotarians who I admire, learning from them, being able to bounce ideas and share experiences with them is something that really appealed to me.

COGS IN THE WHEEL

*DE/Dir. Albert Alday Acknowledged
by Toastmasters International District 75
for Sponsoring 4-5 Members in the “One Member,
One Recruit Membership Campaign”*



DE/Dir. Albert Alday, as Vice President-Membership of the Entrepreneurs Society of the Philippines Toastmasters Club, was acknowledged by Toastmasters International District 75 last October 7, 2021 for sponsoring 4-5 members with respect to the “One Member, One Recruit Membership Campaign” for the period from August to September 2021.

COGS IN THE WHEEL

*STAR Rtn. Jop Esquivias, STAR Rtn. L.A. Sevilla
and STAR Rtn. John Bautista Jr.
are JCI Manila Political Party Founders*



STAR Rtn. Jop Esquivias, the 2018 LO President of JCI Manila, STAR Rtn. L.A. Sevilla, the 2019 LO President of JCI Manila and STAR Rtn. John Bautista Jr., the 2020 LO President of JCI Manila, founded the new JCI Manila political party, "Sinag". Both STAR Rtn. Jop Esquivias and STAR Rtn. John Bautista Jr. are shown in the picture with newly-proclaimed 2022 JCI Manila LO President JCI Mem. Richard "Dods" Lim who happens to be the standard bearer of the party and 2021 JCI Manila LO President JCI Mem. Richard Antonio M. Tamayo, a co-founder. The picture of STAR Rtn. L.A. Sevilla was during the September 19, 2021 JCI Manila Podcast of the political party. The hybrid elections and proclamation of election winners happened last October 12, 2021 at Enderun College in Taguig City and via Zoom virtual platform.

COGS IN THE WHEEL

*STAR Rtn. L.A. Sevilla
is 2021 JCI Manila COMELEC Chairman*



STAR Rtn. L.A. Sevilla was chosen as 2021 JCI Manila COMELEC Chairman. He was the one who led the conduct of the Elections for the 2022 JCI Manila Board of Directors last October 12, 2021 at Enderun College in Taguig City and via Zoom virtual platform where 2022 JCI Manila LO President Richard "Dods" Lim and the 2022 JCI Manila Board of Directors were proclaimed.

COGS IN THE WHEEL

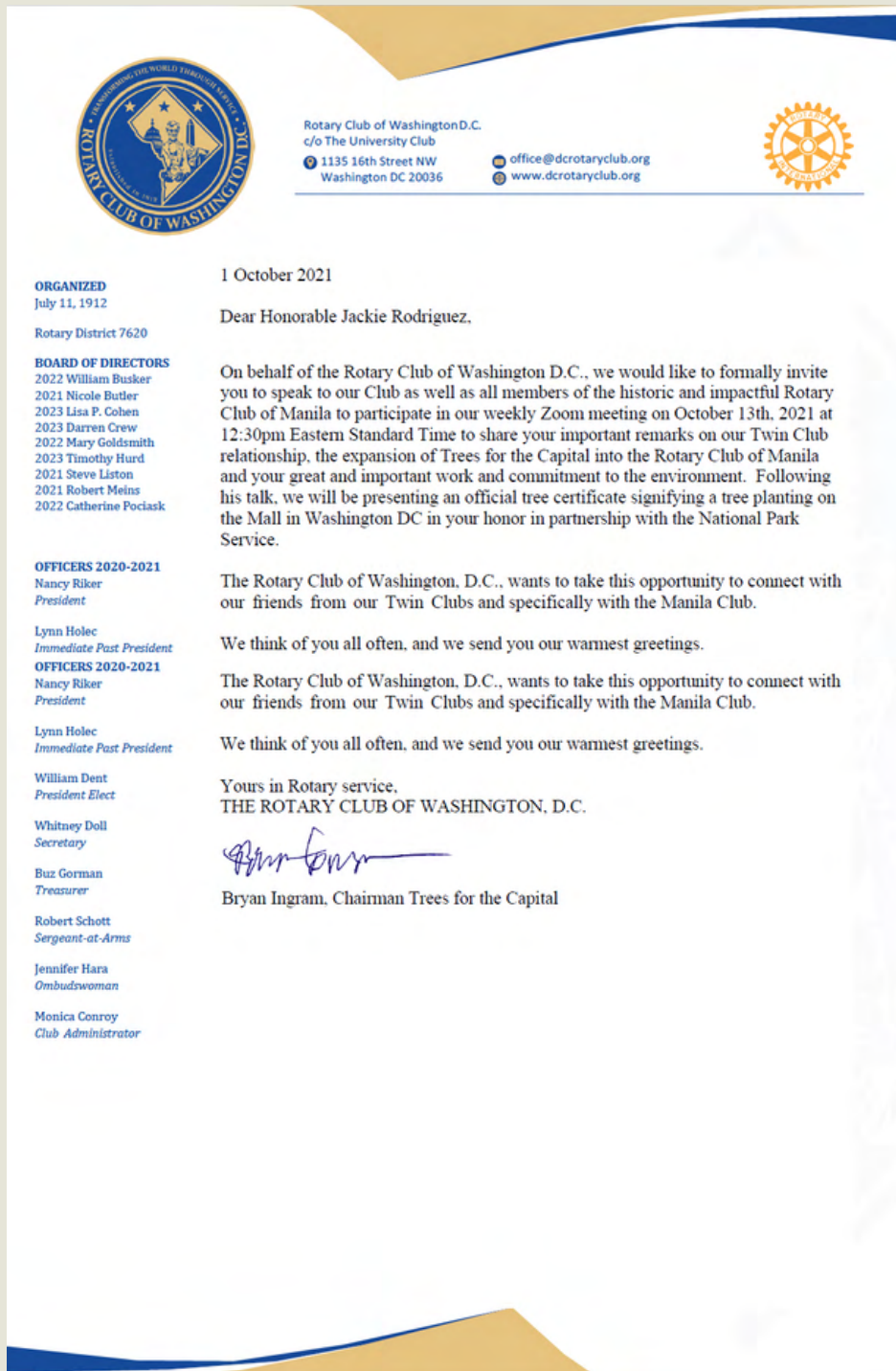
DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez is Guest Speaker at the Brainstorming Meeting for the Presidential Conference Manila Fireside Chat on the Seventh Area of Focus of Focus on Supporting the Environment, Entitled, “The Role of Rotarians in Protecting the Environment”



DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez was the Guest Speaker at the Brainstorming Meeting held last October 12, 2021 via Microsoft Teams virtual platform for the Fireside Chat on the Seventh Area of Focus of Rotary, Supporting the Environment, entitled, “The Role of Rotarians in Protecting the Environment”, on the occasion of the Rotary Presidential Conference to be held on November 26-28, 2021. Likewise present during the brainstorming meeting were DE/IPD Hans Palacios and DE/Dir. Albert Alday. DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez was chosen to be part of a three Rotarian panel for this Fireside Chat together with Rtn. Ambaree of Singapore and Rtn. GJ Van Dommelen of Amsterdam.

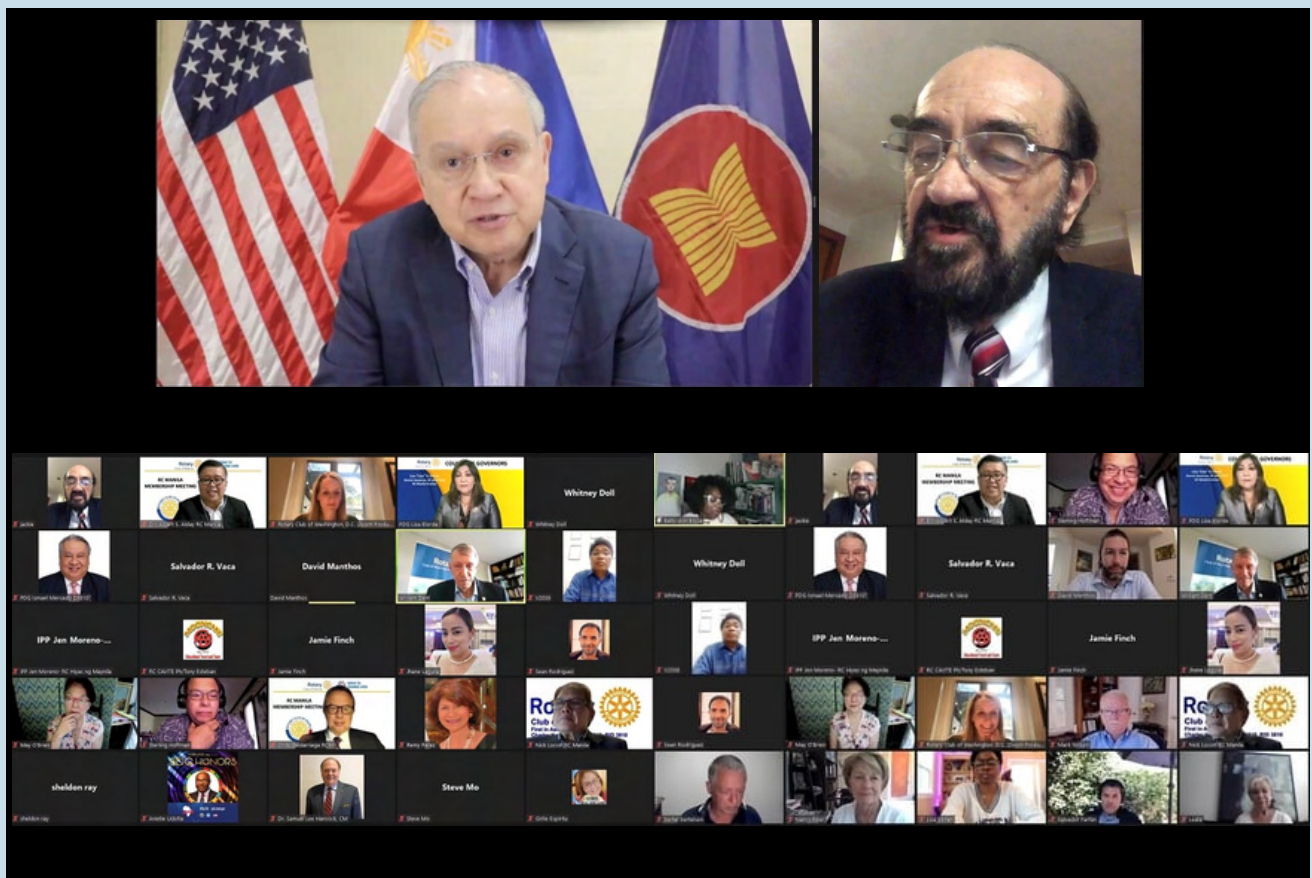
COGS IN THE WHEEL/INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez is Named Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. and is Guest Speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C.



COGS IN THE WHEEL/INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

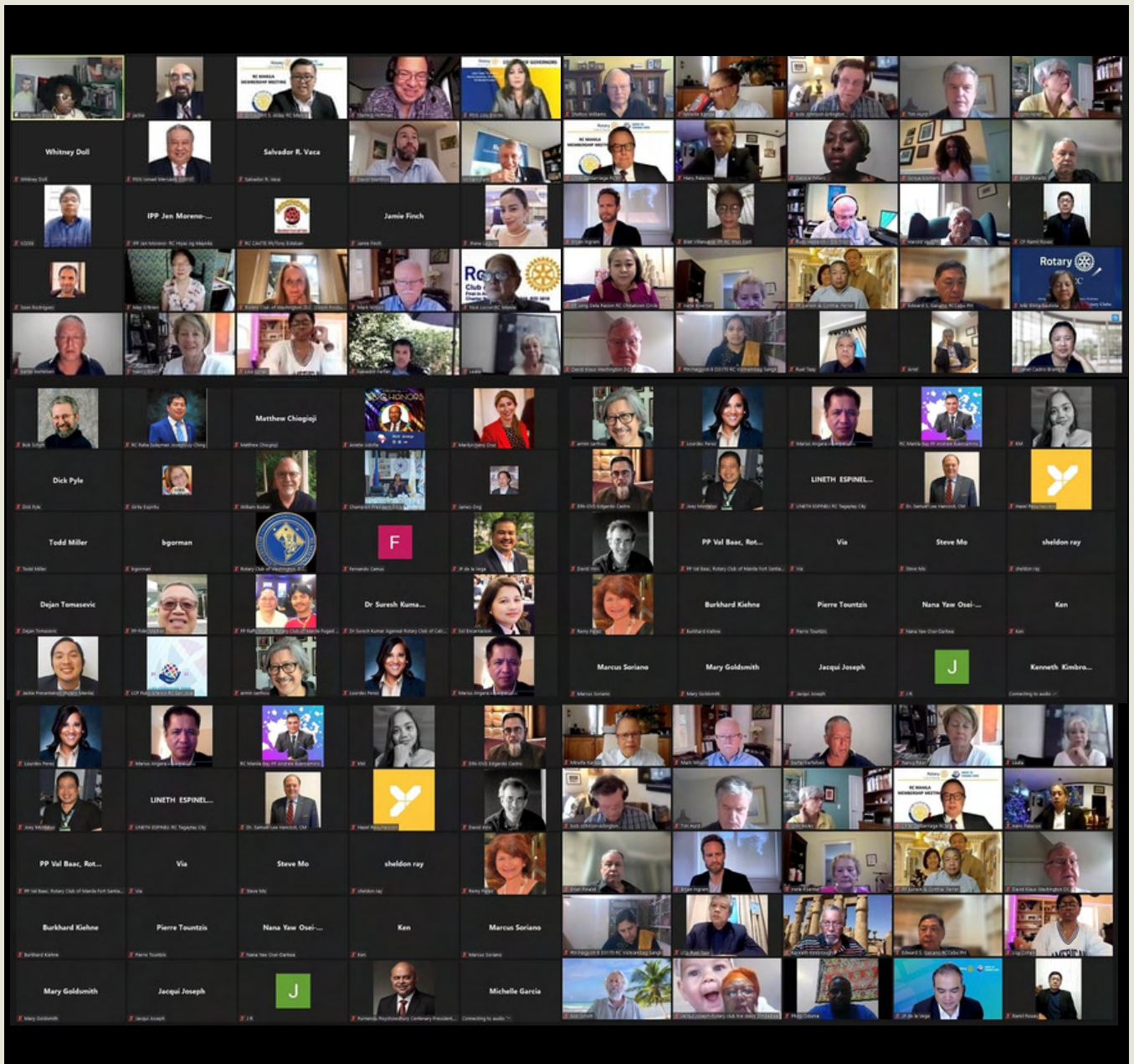
DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez is Named Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. and is Guest Speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C.



DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez was the Guest Speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. last October 13, 2021 (Eastern Standard Time) (October 14, 2021 in Manila) via Zoom virtual platform. He is only the third Manila Rotarian to speak before the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. after PRID Carlos "Romy" P. Romulo and PVP Babe Romualdez. He was introduced by his fellow Manila Rotarian and Past Vice President, His Excellency Jose Manuel "Babe" G. Romualdez, Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the United States of America. It was during this meeting that he was named Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. Many Manila Rotarians and other Rotarians from the different clubs of Rotary International District 3810 were in attendance where he delved on the T.R.E.E.S. Program and he focused on Supporting the Environment.

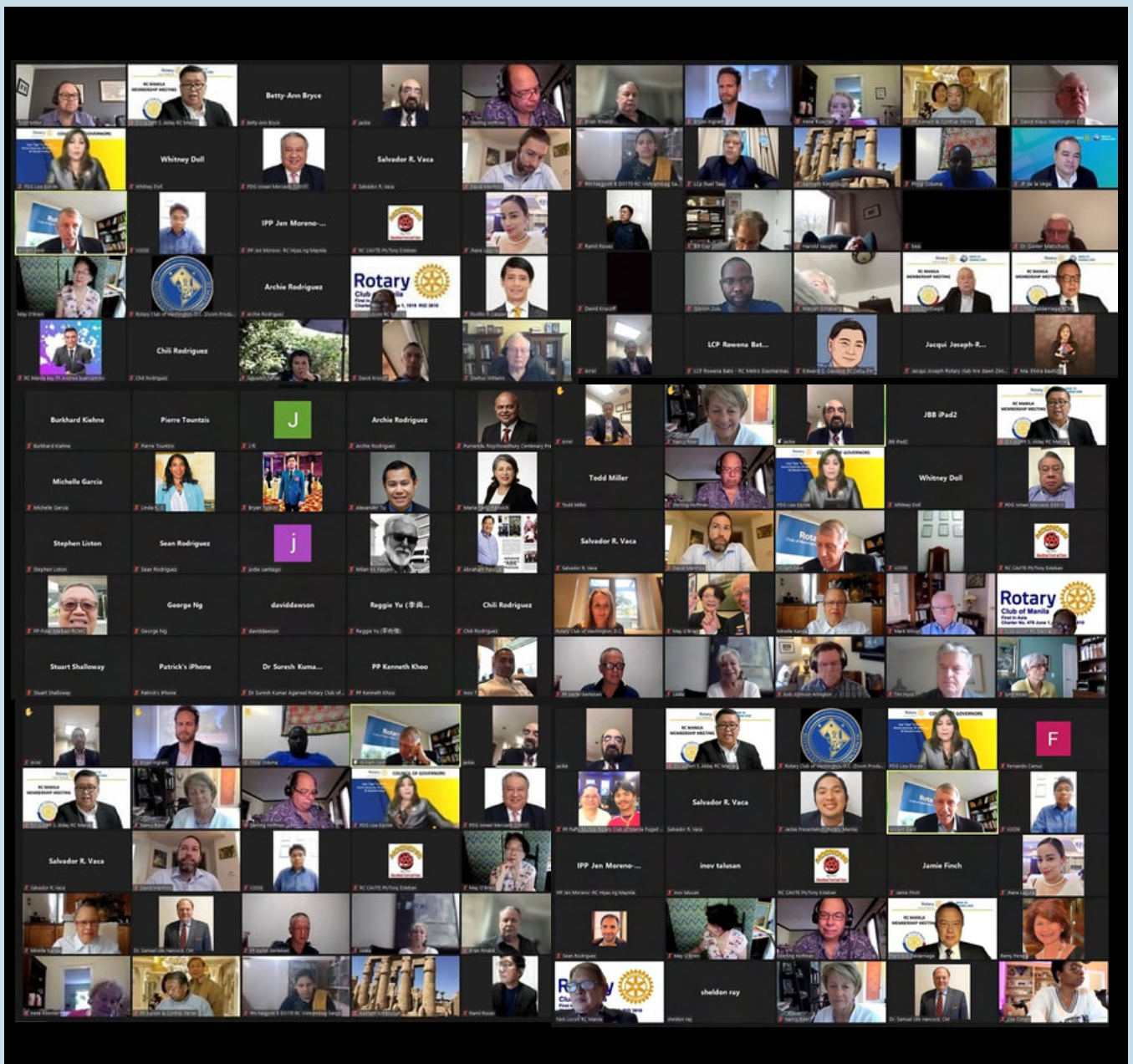
COGS IN THE WHEEL/INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez is Named Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. and is Guest Speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C.



COGS IN THE WHEEL/INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

DDCC/PP Jackie Rodriguez is Named Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C. and is Guest Speaker at the meeting of the Rotary Club of Washington D.C.



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

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GROWING LOCAL ECONOMIES

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- **FREE EQUAL NUMBER OF ITS CLUB ROTARACTOR REGISTRATION. EVERY ROTARIAN, ONE FREE ROTARACTOR!**

****THE TOTAL REGISTERED CLUB ROTARIANS MUST EQUAL TO OR EXCEED THE JULY 1, 2021 CLUB COUNT.

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INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

*Rotary International
Convention 2022
at Houston, Texas, USA*

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AT [CONVENTION.ROTARY.ORG](https://convention.rotary.org)

Houston, Texas, USA
4-8 June 2022



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE/ COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Role of Business and Non-Governmental Organizations in Rebuilding a Post Pandemic Nation



The Role of Business and Non-Governmental Organizations in Rebuilding a Post Pandemic Nation

			
DATO RAMESH KODAMMAL	JCI SEN. CRISPIN C. DY JR.	FELIX FRANCISCO S. ZALDARRIAGA	JCI MEM. JUDE A. ACIDRE
Co-Chair ASEAN - India Business Council AIBC Chair, Malaysia	1997 JCI World President Chairman, JCI Senate Makati Philippines	President Rotary Club of Manila Philippines	2021 National President JCI Philippines

Meeting ID: 815 0323 0774
Passcode: JCI



Saturday
October 23, 2021 | 11:30 am

COMMUNITY SERVICE

*Rotary Club of Manila and JCI Makati
Response Team for the Flood Victims
of Baguio City and the Rest of Benguet*

Rotary
Club of Manila



JCI
Makati



ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA
AND JCI MAKATI

RESPONSE TEAM



BENEFICIARIES:
FLOOD VICTIMS

LOCATION: BAGUIO, BENGUET
URGENTLY NEEDED: CANNED GOODS, HYGIENE KITS,
BOTTLED WATER, CLOTHES, FOOD PACKS.
DONATIONS IN KIND: 525 PADRE FAURA ST ERMITA MANILA



CASH DONATIONS
200038561927
JCI JUNIOR CHAMBER OF MAKATI INC
GCASH
LAWRENCE TAN 09175447088

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

RAC MNL Survey

Type of Participation
Host/ Organizer

Head/ Host
Val John Darilag

Date
09-01-2021 to 09-24-2021

Venue
Facebook

Type of Service
Club Service

Area/s of Focus
N/A

Partner Organization/s
Not applicable

ATTENDANCE

Club Members
N/A

Rotarians
N/A

Guests
N/A

SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives

To gain feedback of the club's performance, insights on activity interest, and invite people to the induction

Target Community

N/A

Outcomes/ Impacts

Next Steps

N/A

EXPENSE

Total Expense
0

Description of Expense

SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1:

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-01-2021 Club Service RAC MNL Survey

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

Joint General Assembly

Type of Participation Host/ Organizer	Head/ Host Kenny Clavero - PE
Date 09-04-2021 to 09-04-2021	Venue Zoom
Type of Service Club Service	Area/s of Focus N/A
Partner Organization/s The Rotary Club of Manila Magic	

ATTENDANCE

Club Members	Rotarians	Guests
10	10	N/A

SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives
To have fellowship with RC Manila magic and collaborate on possible joint projects

Target Community
Club and Sponsoring rotarian club

Outcomes/ Impacts
Strengthened the bond with RCMM and was able to plan future projects together

Next Steps
Execute project plan

EXPENSE

Total Expense	Description of Expense
0	0

SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1: <https://www.facebook.com/racmanila/photos/a.476450026453/10159962321756454/>

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-04-2021 Club Service Joint General Assembly

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

Speechcraft Day

Type of Participation Host/ Organizer	Head/ Host Abbie Sarmiento - LCP
Date 09-18-2021 to 10-30-2021	Venue Zoom
Type of Service Community Service	Area/s of Focus N/A
Partner Organization/s MDIO	

ATTENDANCE

Club Members	Rotarians	Guests
1	N/A	N/A

SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives
to learn about tips and tricks on how to be an effective public speaker

Target Community
Public

Outcomes/ Impacts
Improved public presence and speaking

Next Steps
Practice and get better in communication

EXPENSE

Total Expense	Description of Expense
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SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1: <https://www.facebook.com/racmanila/photos/a.10155511996301454/10159941627826454/>

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-18-2021 Community Service Speechcraft Day

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

2nd District Meeting Kumpas

Type of Participation
Attendee/Participant

Head/ Host
Rotaract 3810

Date
09-18-2021 to 09-18-2021

Venue
Zoom

Type of Service
Professional Service

Area/s of Focus
N/A

Partner Organization/s
Not applicable

ATTENDANCE

Club Members
4

Rotarians
N/A

Guests
N/A

SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives

Learn about Filipino sign language

Target Community

N/A

Outcomes/ Impacts

Learnt the basic knowledge of our baybayin

Next Steps

N/A

EXPENSE

Total Expense
0

Description of Expense
0

SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1: https://www.instagram.com/p/CS0k-cpBG0_/?utm_medium=copy_linkk

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-18-2021 Professional Service 2nd District Meeting Kumpas

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

Kawentong Ka21an

Type of Participation Host/ Organizer	Head/ Host Val John Darilag
Date 09-25-2021 to 09-25-2021	Venue Zoom
Type of Service Club Service	Area/s of Focus N/A
Partner Organization/s Not applicable	

ATTENDANCE

Club Members	Rotarians	Guests
30	20	10

SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives

This is a fund-raising program for the community service projects of the club which aims to celebrate the happy stories of the attendees our induction.

Target Community

Attendees of Solstice: 22nd Induction and 21st Handover ceremonies of the Rotaract Club of Manila

Outcomes/ Impacts

Next Steps

N/A

EXPENSE

Total Expense	Description of Expense
0	

SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1: <https://www.facebook.com/racmanila/posts/10159953182411454>

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-25-2021 Club Service Kawentong Ka21an

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF Sept

Project PAYBAK (Ikatlong Yugto): Para sa mga Bayani ng Kinabukasan

Type of Participation Host/ Organizer	Head/ Host Abbie Sarmiento - LCP
Date 09-27-2021 to 12-27-2021	Venue Facebook
Type of Service Community Service	Area/s of Focus Basic Education and Literacy
Partner Organization/s The Rotary Club of Manila Magic	

ATTENDANCE

Club Members N/A	Rotarians N/A	Guests N/A
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SIGNIFICANCE

Objectives

To collect funds to purchase of hygiene and medical kits for the faculty and staff of A-HA Learning Center Makati, Young focus, and Jose Corazon de Jesus Elementary School, both in Tondo, Manila.

Target Community

A-HA Learning Center Makati, Young focus, and Jose Corazon de Jesus Elementary School

Outcomes/ Impacts

Next Steps

To purchase hygiene and medical kits for the faculty

EXPENSE

Total Expense 0	Description of Expense 0
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SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

URL Address 1: <https://www.facebook.com/MagicalRotary/photos/a.423975824352400/4339827529433857/>

URL Address 2:

URL Address 3:

09-27-2021 Community Service Project PAYBAK (Ikatlong Yugto): Para sa mga Bayani ng Kinabukasan

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE

Monthly Report of Rotaract Club of Manila



SUMMARY OF REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF Sept 2021

CLUB SERVICE

START DATE	PROJECT TITLE	LINK
25/09/2021	Solstice: the 22nd Induction and 21st Handover Ceremonies of the Rotaract Club of Manila	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i_0GV4_Kb3Vt_U_Mpp8QEB0eeqoUA_O_P/view?usp=sharing
25/09/2021	Kawentong Ka21an	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pxU6F9Tra8kneplbJovno_zsbhkgzr3/view?usp=sharing
01/09/2021	RAC MNL Survey	https://drive.google.com/file/d/15Myq1dGmZNS3Nk92DrGSQV6hgzne8P7R/view?usp=sharing
09-04-2021	Joint General Assembly	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dLBX5WV3c2ZQ3nzZO9WoBUEAPWBFW1me/view?usp=sharing

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

START DATE	PROJECT TITLE	LINK
18/09/2021	2nd District Meeting Kumpas	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zKhZdQ6L6LCb0T-3Y4ZFdx_uDvt2Lvo8/view?usp=sharing

COMMUNITY SERVICE

START DATE	PROJECT TITLE	LINK
27/09/2021	Project PAYBAK (Ikatlong Yugto): Para sa mga Bayaning Kinabukasan	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uuL43mwDmWQHfKtTdlwi1eMQxlQxD5et/view?usp=sharing
18/09/2021	Speechcraft Day	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I_siVgScWK_mBBGHb7u-0lo06XrCNG-l/view?usp=sharing

On International Day of the Girl Child; start your Empowering Girls project

By Elizabeth Usovicz, Rotary International director for Zones 30&31, USA



— Elizabeth Usovicz

October 11 is International Day of the Girl Child. Along with the United Nations, today is a day for Rotary members to support and celebrate the girls of our world by participating in Rotary International's Empowering Girls initiative.

As the leader of a Vocational Training Team for a Rotary Foundation grant project, my team and I worked alongside teachers in Malawi to develop and deliver an after-school program in village primary schools. The program empowers children, especially girls, to stay in school.

During that grant project, a girl who was an AIDS orphan asked me what my profession was. I told her I was a businesswoman. Her beautiful smile demonstrated why Malawi is called "the warm heart of Africa." She softly said, "That's what I want to be. A businesswoman." Her response inspired and humbled me.

Why Empower Girls?

Girls face many challenges across the world, including lack of education attainment and lack of sanitary facilities in schools. Barriers such as child marriage, pregnancy, domestic violence and abuse prevent smart, determined girls from staying in school. Educating and supporting the girls of our world can help lift families, communities, and entire countries out of poverty.

Source: www.rotary.org



ROTARY INFORMATION

Rotary's Empowering Girls Initiative

Rotary's Empowering Girls initiative is a club-level service opportunity for Rotary year 2021-2022. The initiative encourages Rotary and Rotaract club members to participate in service projects that focus on the health, education, safety, well-being and economic development of girls worldwide. The project you choose can be a new project for your club, or an existing project that is implemented with a focus on girls.

For example, your club may choose to offer scholarships, financial literacy training or other skills development through a school or not-for-profit organization in your community. Clubs can also choose to partner with other clubs across the world to implement a project, such as providing schools in rural areas with bathroom facilities for girls, or providing books, supplies or technology.

How Can Your Club Participate?

Encourage your club to identify and implement a project that empowers girls. Promote your project in your community, and in the Empowering Girls Campaign on Rotary Showcase. You can also contact your district to connect with the Empowering Girls Ambassadors in your region. The Ambassadors can help you with project ideas, resources, support and promotion for your project.

Together, we can empower girls to create positive and lasting change across the globe, in their communities, and in themselves. The girls of the world are waiting for us, and International Day of the Girl Child is an ideal day to begin.

Empowering Girls Initiative resources are available on the [Presidential Initiatives page](#).

Elizabeth Usovicz is Rotary International Director from Zones 30 and 31, USA. She chairs Rotary International's Empowering Girls Initiative Task Force.

Source: www.rotary.org

OTHER MATTERS

Straight from the Horse's Mouth

by Vice President-Elect/Club Secretary
Reginald "Reggie" T. Yu
Managing Editor, BALITA, RY 2021-2022



OUR FIRST FILIPINA NOBEL LAUREATE. "Without freedom of expression and freedom of the press, it will be difficult to successfully promote fraternity between nations, disarmament and a better world order to succeed in our time." — The Norwegian Nobel Committee

On the morning of October 8, 2021, at 11:00 Central European Summer Time, Norwegian lawyer Berit Reiss-Andersen, Chairperson of the Nobel Committee walked at a press conference amid a throng of international reporters and announced this year's winners for the Nobel Peace Prize for 2021. Two journalists were honored for their "efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace."

One of them is our very own Maria Ressa.

In receiving the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, she became only the 18th woman — and the first Filipino — to be selected for this prestigious award in its 120-year history.



I have known Maria since she was conferred the renowned The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) trophy in 2002 for her work as an international broadcast journalist, as she was then working as CNN's Jakarta Bureau Chief and lead investigative reporter in Asia, specializing in investigating terrorist attacks. As part of the TOYM Committee tasked by JCI Philippines to thoroughly vet nominees back then, I was fascinated with her tenacious approach to ferret out the truth in every news report, often conducting beat checks to ensure the veracity of facts.

Her seminal work, encapsulated in two of her published books, "Seeds of Terror: An Eyewitness Account on Al-Qaeda's Newest Center of Operations in Southeast Asia" (2003) and "10 Days, 10 Years: From Bin Laden to Facebook" (2012), details the riveting account of her indefatigable efforts that soon unearthed the spread of terrorism through a web of social networks which advanced the virulent ideology that powered terrorist attacks in recent years.

Since then, I have had the great honor of inviting her as a resource speaker in a number of occasions where she has illuminated her audience with her passionate clarion calls in the War on Truth. When she co-founded Rappler in 2012 with the simple vision of serving a Filipino population rapidly moving online, the news site quickly turned into a global bellwether for complimentary, largely accurate information at the vortex of two malign forces: one was the angry populism of an elected President with imperious inclinations, and the other, was social media.

OTHER MATTERS

Straight from the Horse's Mouth

by Vice President-Elect/Club Secretary
Reginald "Reggie" T. Yu
Managing Editor, BALITA, RY 2021-2022



In her quest to expose dozens of fake and spam-heavy accounts used to manipulate online discourse that many now mistake for reality, she was summarily subjected to multiple arrests — 10 as of last count — and wave-after-wave of online hate campaigns in a deliberate attempt to discredit her professional and personal integrity.

Maria — The Fulbright Program scholar, who was also named a TIME magazine "Person of the Year" in 2018 for her crusading work against disinformation — has been a constant thorn in the side of the administration for sounding the alarm over what she describes as state-backed disinformation campaigns.

This incredible distinction only serves to reaffirm how the global community honors her work in holding leaders to account, especially in an era of increasing authoritarianism and swirling misinformation.

Her work is far from over, however. With worldwide attention now focused on her, she will find it more challenging to navigate the murk between social media and despotism, calling us to #HoldTheLine at the peril of our freedoms... and even, at the risk of her own life.

Congratulations, Maria!

Let us all pursue the quest to "Fight for Facts!"



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