

Official Newsletter of
Rotary Club of Manila

balita

ISSUE NO. 3975 | AUGUST 17, 2023

GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER



HONORABLE JAIME J. BAUTISTA
Secretary, Department of Transportation

Kabalita

The ease of moving people and transporting goods play a huge, if not pivotal, role in a nation's economic growth. It is imperative that transport infrastructure development is pursued to seamlessly, efficiently, and conveniently transport the great mass of commuters and bring goods and supplies to wherever they are needed. Elevating rail, air, maritime, and road travel to global standards (including the intermodal transfer) must be relentlessly pushed; and this requires skillful planning and spot-on (and no let-up) implementation by our national leaders.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

03

Program Timetable

06

Guest of Honor and Speaker's Profile

07

6th Weekly Membership Meeting: A Recap

18

RCM Elections

22

Club Administration

25

Community Service

28

RCManila Foundation, Inc.

29

Public Image

37

Comic Relief

38

Recognition Corner

41

Board of Directors and Executive Officers for
RY 2023-2024 | Editorial Board for RY 2023-2024



PROGRAM TIMETABLE

7th Weekly Membership Meeting Rotary Year 2023-2024 and Joint Meeting with the Rotary Club of Makati West

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 12:00 PM
MANILA POLO CLUB

MODERATOR: RTN. JOEL TALAMPAS

PART I

12:00 PM	Registration	
12:15 PM	Call to Order	PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III PRESIDENT JUAN ANTONIO T. CARLOS
	Invocation	PP ARCHIT BARTOLOME RCMFI PRESIDENT WILLIE PELINO PD ABE PASCUAL -and - PP ROQUE S. TORDESILLAS Rotary Club of Makati West
	Philippine National Anthem	AVP of RCM Members
	The Four (4) Way Test	STAR RTN. ZHIHAO ZHENG
	RC Manila Rotary Hymn	RCM WF Music Chorale
	RC Makati West Hymn	RC Makati West Music Chorale
	Acknowledgment of Guests	
	Welcome Song	RCM WF Music Chorale
	<u>RC Manila Birthday Celebrants for the week</u>	
	August 11	PVP Farid Schoucair
	August 12	PDSAA Ike Stranathan
	August 12	Rtn. Mathias Hallerbach
	August 13	Rtn. Marvin Taylor-Dormond
	August 13	Rtn. Michael Guarin
	August 17	PDSAA Val Aboy
	August 17	Rtn. Joey Garcia



PROGRAM TIMETABLE

Rotary Club of Makati West (Spouses & Members)

August 14 Sps. Letty Tumangan
August 14 Sps. Gladys Vito
August 15 Rtn. Rany Roño
August 17 Sps. Geeta Dargani
August 17 Sps. Michelle Francisco
August 17 Sps. Crystle Libiran
August 17 Sps. Cristine Roño

Maligayang Bati/Happy Birthday Song

RCM WF Music Chorale

12:30 PM **FINING SESSION**

STAR RTN. BENEDICT JULIUS IBUYAN
Rotary Club of Manila

Fine Master Dir./Congressman
PAUL R. DAZA
Rotary Club of Makati West

12:35 PM **PRESIDENT'S TIME**

PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III
Rotary Club of Manila

PRESIDENT JUAN ANTONIO "Dax"
T. CARLOS
Rotary Club of Makati West

PART II **PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBER**
12:45 PM **BY SPONSOR**

VICE PRESIDENT REGINALD YU

MR. MIGUEL MENDOZA
President and CEO, TELNOVO Communications Inc.
PH & US)
Classification: Communications -VOIP
Alternatives

CHARGING OF NEW MEMBER

PDG ALEX CUREG

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III



PROGRAM TIMETABLE

PART III **INDUCTION OF THE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD
OF DIRECTOR**

12:55 PM

DIRECTOR ANTONIO “Tony” S. LOPEZ
Rotary Year 2023-2024

CHARGING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTOR

PDG ALEX CUREG

INDUCTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTOR

PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III

PART IV **INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST OF HONOR
AND SPEAKER**

1:00 PM

PRID GUILLER E. TUMANGAN
Rotary Club of Makati West

Address

HONORABLE JAIME J. BAUTISTA
Secretary, Department of Transportation (DOTr)

1:30 PM **OPEN FORUM**

**Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation
of RC Manila**

PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III
PP & DGE JOAQUIN C. RODRIGUEZ, SR.
Programs Committee Chairman

**Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation
of RC Makati West**

PRESIDENT JUAN ANTONIO T. CARLOS
GOL CHAIRMAN LEMARC L. LIMOSNERO

2:00 PM **Closing Remarks and Meeting Adjournment**

PRESIDENT RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III
Rotary Club of Manila

PRESIDENT JUAN ANTONIO T. CARLOS
Rotary Club of Makati West

GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER



HONORABLE JAIME J. BAUTISTA
Secretary, Department of Transportation

The Secretary of Transportation has a solid grounding in transportation having spent more than three decades in the aviation sector, culminating in being president of Philippine Airlines.

He has a strong financial management background, allowing him to steer PAL through its most turbulent times.

He took on various posts at different companies. He succeeded at turning the University of the East financially stable when he sat at the UE Board of Directors for more than two decades.

He is more of a professional manager rather than a technocrat.

He dislikes to be praised. He endears himself to anyone at any time. He is known for his humility and disarming smile. He is soft-spoken with a fantastic memory.

The Secretary of Transportation – JAIME J. BAUTISTA

6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP



The membership meeting had as its moderator, **Rtn. Emilio La'O**.



President Rafael M. Alunan III called the meeting to order.



PD John Cenica led the invocation and special prayers.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

Honoring flag and country,
RCM Rotarians sang the
Philippine National Anthem.



STAR Rtn. Nataniel Camat led the recitation of The Four Way Test.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

RCM World Famous Music Chorale led the singing of the **Manila Rotary Hymn**, as well as the **Welcome Song** to happily welcome the guests and visiting Rotarians in attendance.



RCM WF Music Chorale led the members in singing the unique and jolly RCM birthday song for this week's birthday celebrants. **Rtn. Ray Davis** and **Club Secretary Edwin Hernandez** were present to enjoy the greetings and the cheerful song.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

RECOGNITION TIME

Rtn. Warren So, STAR Rtn. Paul Koh, Rtn. Teddy Tee, Rtn. Paco Magsaysay, Rtn. Arik Carranceja and Sec. Edwin Hernandez were recognized in a fun and creative manner, while at the same time honoring them for their personal achievements.



Rtn. Warren So



STAR Rtn. Paul Koh



Rtn. Teddy Tee



Rtn. Paco Magsaysay



Rtn. Arik Carranceja



Sec. Edwin Hernandez



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

MEMBERSHIP CONCERNS



DGE Jackie Rodriguez introduced his proposed new member, **Mr. Raoul Roberto P. Goco**, Executive Chef, Degustation Corporation.

PDG Rudy Bediones introduced his proposed new member, **Mr. J. Alfonso L. Katigbak**, Chairman of the Board, DECRA Roofing Systems.



Rtn. Ben Ibuyan, on his behalf and representing his co-proposer **Rtn. Rex Alingog**, presented **Mr. Franco Marcell Sacramento Flameño**, Chief Growth Officer, WordText Systems, Inc.

6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

CHARGING OF NEW MEMBERS

DGE Jackie Rodriguez shared inspiring thoughts and reminders during the charging of new members, underscoring the importance of becoming committed Rotarians, and living Rotary's ethical ways.



INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

President Rafael Alunan led the induction of the new Manila Rotarians. He encouraged their involvement and presence in supporting committee projects.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP



DGE Jackie Rodriguez, as proposer, officially presented the name badge of **STAR Rtn. Raoul Goco**.



Rtn. Ben Ibuyan warmly welcomed **STAR Rtn. Franco Flameño**.



A posterity photo after induction: **STAR Rtn Al Katigbak** (second from left) with **Pres. Raffy Alunan**, **PDG Rudy Bediones** and **IPP Hermie Esguerra**.



Members warmly welcomed **STAR Rtns. Raoul Gocco, Franco Flameño and Al Katigbak**.

6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

PRESIDENT'S TIME



Pres. Raffy Alunana gave all members important updates about the club.

CLASSIFICATION TALK



STAR Rtn. David Klebs, Economic Counsellor of the Embassy of Germany to the Philippines

During his classification talk, Dr. David Klebs informed the members that he was born and raised in Berlin, and that he was soon interested in international exchange. He spent a year during high school in Oregon, USA. Being a scholarship holder of Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, he studied law at Humboldt University Berlin and King's College in London where he also met his wife Farah Hasan, an award-winning sociologist for intercultural questions, focusing on Islam in Western societies.

David has always been fascinated with Germany in particular, and Europe in general; and as lover of nature, he likes exploring the outdoors – the meadows and forests of Germany, the Alps, historic UNESCO towns like Goslar, and post-modern cities like Berlin. His first contact with Asia was during a Moot Court in Hong Kong. He also spent time in Tokyo and Hokkaido Universities, funded by the Robert-Bosch-Foundation, which became the basis of his PhD in comparative law.

He started his professional career as a judge at the local court of Munich in civil matters. Later, he was sent to represent the Federal Government of Germany at the European Court of Justice, having jurisdiction over 450 million EU citizens, for almost six years. Since August 2022, he has been serving as the Economic Counsellor of the German Embassy in Manila. As such, he is particularly thrilled that the EU has decided to relaunch the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with the Philippines. He envisions the Philippines to play a larger role in the economic exchange, given the latter's positive economic outlook.

As a former member of a choir himself, David gamely agreed to join the world-famous music chorale, as well as other Rotary activities.

6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP



Joey in a Glimpse!

- Started to work in our company as Graphic artist
- Started the marketing department at age 18
- Rebranded Rairaiken in age 22, and grew the business from 5 branches to 80 branches, developed other 7 brands in 5 years.
- Father of 4 Kids, Janella, Kirsten, Benjo and EJ
- Currently the COO/EVP of Rairaiken GROUP
- Brand and marketing consultant
- Active member of the INC



Work for a cause, not for applause. Live life to express not to impress. Don't strive to make your presence noticed, just make your absence felt.



facebook.com/Joey Garcia

itsjoey.garcia

kuyajoevg



Rtn. Herbert Joey Garcia, EVP & COO, RAIKAIKEN RESTAURANT GROUP, gave an inspiring though humor-laden talk.



President Rafael Alunan and **DGE Joaquin Rodriguez** led the presentation of the Certificate of Appreciation to **STAR Rtn Dr. David Klebs** and **Rtn. Herbert Joey Garcia**, who both exceptionally gave a talk on their respective classifications.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

FELLOWSHIP EVENT

The Fellowship Committee announced the holding of "Welcome the Star," a fellowship activity on August 24, 2023, at the O2 Rooftop Bar.



CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Rafael Alunan gave his closing remarks and thereafter adjourned to the meeting. He thanked everyone – the Classification Speakers, the new inductees, and all the members who attended the meeting.



6th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

PRE-FELLOWSHIP MEETING AMONG MEMBERS AND GUESTS



RCM ELECTIONS:

A TIME FOR DISCERNMENT FOR NOMINATORS, NOMINEES, AND VOTERS

During last week's membership meeting in the fully packed Turf Room of the Manila Polo Club, Manila Rotarians nominated the candidates from where the 8 members of next year's Board of Directors will be chosen. Pursuant to our By-Laws, the elections that will be held on September 7.

The nominators have surely carefully considered and underwent a process of discernment before naming their nominees, because, as everyone knows, choosing the men who will compose the governing body of the club is a serious matter.

More importantly, the nominees should likewise go through a careful process of consideration and discernment themselves. Indeed, while being nominated is an honor, the acceptance of such nomination in itself carries a huge responsibility. A nomination cannot be taken lightly, and each nominee has to think whether he can actually commit to make time to dutifully serve the Club. Saying 'yes' to a nomination should, therefore, include an acceptance of the real possibility of being actually elected. This is the reason why each nominee, as an act of accepting his nomination, is required to make a written commitment, as follows:

I am aware that if elected, I will have to assume the following commitments and responsibilities:

- *To oversee and constantly follow up the planning and implementation of all activities by a set of committees under a service group to be placed under my supervision;*
- *To report on all my committees during the Board Meetings held at a regular date each month;*
- *To have a working knowledge of the RCM Constitution and By-Laws, the RI Manual of Procedure and general Rotary information;*
- *To attend most, if not all, Board, Club and my committee meetings;*

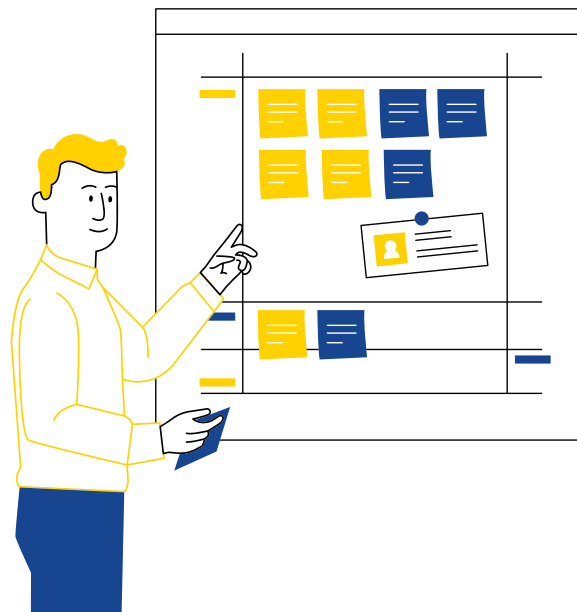
RCM ELECTIONS:

A TIME FOR DISCERNMENT FOR NOMINATORS, NOMINEES, AND VOTERS

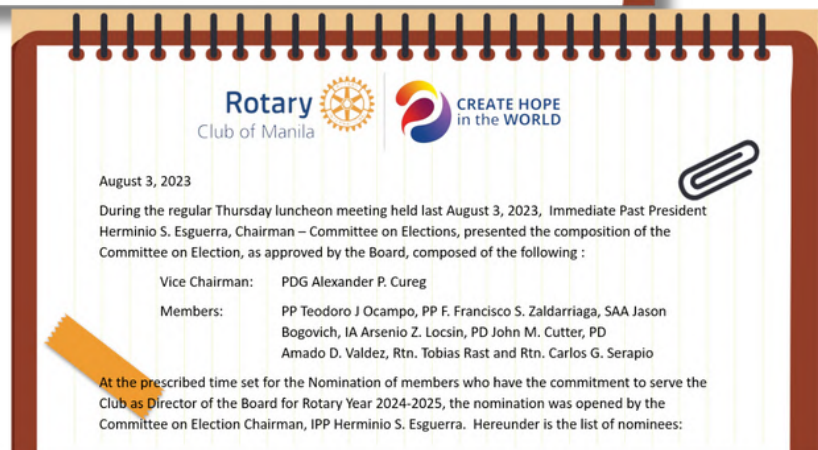
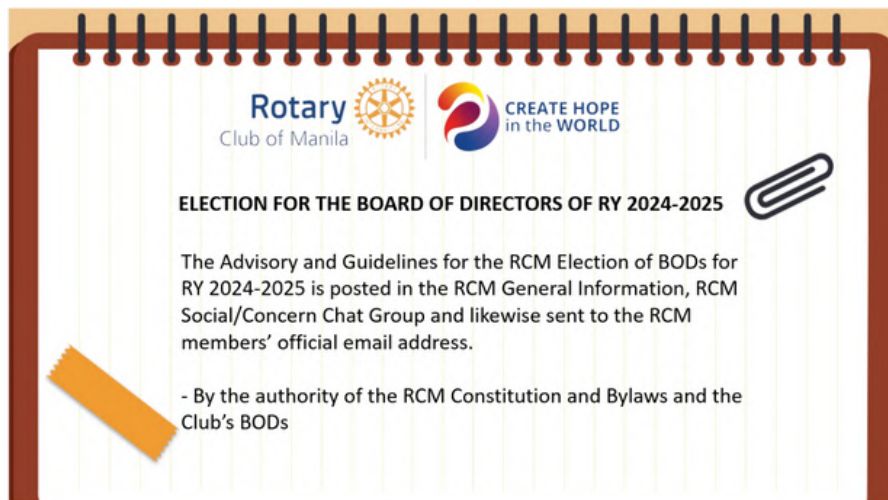
- *To attend the District Conference, the District Assembly and, if elected President, the President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS), which will be scheduled within the first semester of 2024;*
- *To attend the DIRECTORS' ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR, to be organized by the President-Elect, as a prerequisite prior to sitting in office as Director of the Board; and,*
- *To be prepared to give the time and effort necessary to carry on my other tasks as a Board member.*

The foregoing are not empty words. This written commitment is actually a prelude to the oath that each duly elected director will take in July next year.

As this election is of utmost importance, it behooves all Manila Rotarians to do their part by carefully considering the nominees' qualifications and track record, and by judiciously voting on September 7 with the welfare of the Club in mind.



ELECTION FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RY 2024-2025





ELECTION FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RY 2024-2025

Rotary Club of Manila

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

NOMINATOR		NOMINEES	
1	PD Issam Eldebs	1	VP Reginald "Reggie" T. Yu
		2	Rtn. Ingmar "Inggy" Bertelsen
		3	AS Rami Chahwan
2	Dir. Hans Palacios	4	PAS Henry Sy Go
		5	Sec. Edwin H. Hernandez
		6	BLA Raoul C. Creencia
		7	PD Rodolfo G Valencia
3	PAS Henry Go	8	Dir. Albert C. Palacios
		9	Rtn. Joshua Aragon
		10	PAS Joel Valdes
		11	Rtn. Antonilo "Anton" DC Mauricio

Rotary Club of Manila

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

NOMINATOR		NOMINEES	
4	PP Archib Bartolome	12	PT Joselito "Lito" H. Sibayan
		13	Rtn. Wilfredo "Willie" Pelino
		14	Dir. Albert Alday
5	AS Rami Chahwan	15	PD Jose "Pepo" A. Nufez, Jr.
		16	Rtn. Ferdinand "Inov" Talusan
		17	Dir. Michael Jaey "Mike" Albaña
		18	SAA Nagi Zeitouni
		19	PD Issam Eldebs
6	Dir. Johnny Chotrani	20	AT Karlo Eugene Josef M. Castro
		21	Treas. Paul Joseph "PJ" M. Garcia

Rotary Club of Manila

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

NOMINATOR		NOMINEES	
7	AT Karlo Castro	22	Dir. Johnny N. Chotrani
8	Treas. PJ Garcia	23	PD Oscar A. del Rosario, Sr.
9	Dir. Albert Alday	24	ABLA Teodoro Alejandro Y. Kalaw IV
10	Pres. Raffy Alunan	25	Rtn. Jordan Pizarra
11	Rtn. Inov Talusan	26	Dir. Eduardo "Jujut" Enriquez III
12	Rtn. Caloy Serapio	27	Rtn. Abdulgani "Gani" Macatoman

Rotary Club of Manila

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Upon motion made and seconded, the nomination for Directors of the Board for Rotary Year 2024-2025 was officially closed.

Rtn. CARLOS G. SERAPIO
Secretary, Committee on Election



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2023-2024

AUGUST 2023	<u>AUG. 3, 2023</u> DR. BERNARDO M. VILLEGAS, PHD	<u>AUG. 10, 2023</u> STAR RTN. DR DAVID KLEBS/ RTN. HERBERT JOEY GARCIA
All Members Present	70	53
Make Up	8	2
Less: Exempt from Attendance	7	2
On Leave	0	0
Total Active Members	71	53
Total # of Members	238	241
TOTAL ATTENDANCE %:	30%	22%
ROTARACTORS	15	1
MEDIA	0	0
EMBASSIES / DIPLOMATIC CORPS	7	0
DG, DGE, DGN, PDG	27	0
GOHS / GS	1	0
Visiting Rotarians	83	0
Guests of RCM MEMBERS	66	0
Total Attendees	269	54

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2023-2024

(As of August 16, 2023, 5:00 PM)

FULLY PAID

1	Aboy, Valentino "Val" G.
2	Alberto, Raymund Arnold S.
3	Acosta, Crispiniano "Cris" G.
4	Alday, Albert S.
5	Alingog, Aldous "Rex" A.
6	Alunan, Rafael "Raffy" M.
7	Arguelles, Pablo
8	Balanay, Aries
9	Bediones, Rodolfo "Rudy" P.
10	Bella, Geronimo, Jr. "Jun" Dela Paz
11	Benedicto, Sixto "Noy" T.
12	Bertelsen, Bertel Ingmar
13	Blanco, Manuel "Manny" M.
14	Bogovich, Jason M.
15	Camat, Nathaniel
16	Campos, Joselito, Jr. "Butch" D.
17	Camus, Fernando "Nando"
18	Canon, Raul
19	Carranceja, Arvin Arik
20	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef "Karlo"
21	Catalan, Rodillo "Teng"
22	Coyiuto, Robert, Jr. "Jun" G.
23	Creencia, Raoul
24	Cureg, Alexander "Alex" P.
25	Davis, Raymond "Rey" N.
26	De Castro, Johnny
27	Del Rosario, Oscar
28	Dominguez, III, Carlos "Sonny" G.
29	Dy, Manuel "Manny" C.
30	Egan, Brendan "Bren" W.L.

31	Eldebs, Issam "Sam"
32	Enriquez, Eduardo III "Jujut" V.
33	Esguerra, Herminio "Hermie" S.
34	Eugenio, John Emyl "Emyl" G.
35	Fajardo, Beda G.
36	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V. "JJ"
37	Flameno, Franco Martell S.
38	Follosco, Ceferino, Jr. "Jun" G.
39	Garcia, Paul Joseph "PJ"
40	Garcia, Theodore
41	Garcia, Victor
42	Go, Daniel "Danny" C.
43	Go, Henry Sy
44	Goco, Raoul
45	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy "Mike" H.
46	Guevara, Domingo, Jr. "Boy" S.
47	Guevara, Ricardo "Ricky" S.
48	Hallerbach, Mathias
49	Hernandez, Edwin
50	Hortaleza, Rolando
51	Ibuyan, Benedict Julius "Ben"
52	Jucaban, Jeric J.
53	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro IV "Teddy" A. Y.
54	Katigbak, Alfonso Leonor
55	Klebs, David
56	Koh, Paul Anthony
57	Lacson, Sebastian "Basty"
58	Laya, Jaime "Jimmy" C.
59	Lazaro, Juan Miguel "Miguel"
60	Lee, Richard "Dick" L.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2023-2024

(As of August 16, 2023, 5:00 PM)

61	Liamzon, Romeo Thaddeus "Thad" R.
62	Lim, David Eduardo Ty
63	Locsin, Arsenio "Nick" Z.
64	Lonzaga, Reinerio "Ner" C.
65	Lopez, Arthur "Art" M.
66	Macapagal, Michael "Mac"
67	Magsaysay, Francisco "Paco" D.
68	Manalaysay, Cesar P "Citos"
69	Mangalile, Senen
70	Mauricio, Antonilo "Anton"
71	Matschuck, Guenter "Gunter" G.
72	Mendoza, Estelito "Titong" P.
73	Mendoza, Raymund Joseph Ian "Raji" O.
74	Montel, Juan Manuel C.
75	Nones, Romeo "Romy" C.
76	Ocampo, Teodoro "Teddy" J.
77	Pagdanganan, Roberto "Obet" M.
78	Pañares, Ben Thomas "Toby" P.
79	Patterson, Colin David
80	Peliño, Wilfredo "Willie" M.
81	Pineda, Jr., Patricio "Bebot" F.
82	Pineda, Jr., Jesus "Susing" M.
83	Preysler, Fausto, Jr. R.
84	Ramos, Claver P.
85	Rast, Tobias "Tobi"
86	Reynolds, David John "Dave"
87	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jack" H.
88	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jackie" C.

89	Romualdez, Jose Manuel "Babe" G.
90	Rono, Marlon
91	Roxas, Michael
92	Schneider, Bernd
93	Shimoda, Shigeru
94	Sibayan, Joselito "Lito" H.
95	So, Warren
96	Soler, Jose Antonio Andaya
97	Souvlakis, Nicolas
98	Stranathan, Ike
99	Syjuco, Jose, Jr. "Joey" A.
100	Tagaysay, Hector "Chito"
101	Talampas, Jose Angel "Joel"
102	Talusan, Ferdinand "Inov"
103	Tamayo, Victor "Butch" L.
104	Tan, John
105	Tee, Jr., Teddy B.
106	Tejuma, Michael "Mike"
107	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael "Hansel"
108	Valdes, Joel C.
109	Valencia, Rodolfo "Rod" G.
110	Vasquez, Evaristo "Junjie"
111	Villarica, Henry R.
112	Yap, Enrique, Jr. "Rickie" Y.
113	Yu, Reginald "Reggie" T.
114	Zeitouni, Nagi
115	Zialcita, Xavier "Xavy" Y.

PARTIALLY PAID

1	Serapio, Carlos G. "Caloy"
2	Dayang, Juan, Jr. "Jed" E.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

RCM & RCMFI Turn Over P300k Worth of Donations to Typhoon Egay-Devastated Communities in Calumpit, Bulacan



On August 12, 2024, the Rotary Club of Manila (RCM) and Rotary Club of Manila Foundation, Inc. (RCMFI) turned over P300k worth of donations to RC Calumpit for the communities affected by Typhoon Egay. The initiative was led by Director Hans Palacios and Disaster Response Chairman Joshua Aragon, with PD Oscar del Rosario providing major hosting and contributions. Additionally, Mr. & Mrs. Rami Chahwan made significant donations towards the cause. PDG Obet Pagdanganan, founder of RC Calumpit, attended the event alongside Rotarians Ramby Nolido and Anton Mauricio, and STAR Rotarian Jerry Zheng.

Thank you to all RCMers who generously donated their time and funds for this effort.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

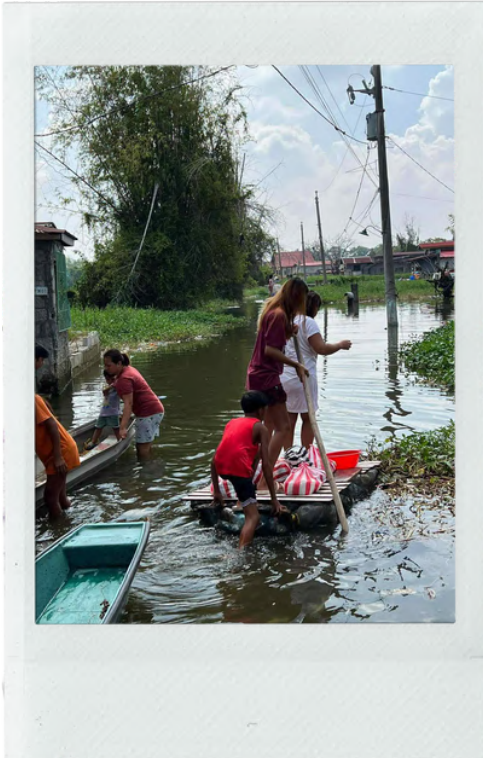


RC Calumpit repacked a total of 688 relief packs to be distributed among 7 barangays.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

On Tuesday morning, August 15, 2023, relief goods were distributed in three barangays: San Miguel, Meysulao, and Sto. Nino, barangay of PDG Obet Pagdanganan.



In the afternoon of the same day, additional packages were distributed in Brgy. Corazon.

From Wednesday, August 16 to Friday, August 18, 2023, three more barangays are scheduled to receive the relief packages.



RCMANILA FOUNDATION, INC.

RCManila Foundation Holds Organizational Briefing



RCManila Foundation President Willie Peliño with incoming Executive Assistant Melody David Olleres leading the briefing on the structure and functions of the Rotary Club of Manila and RCManila Foundation, Inc. The discussion also highlighted the roles of the team supporting both the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors. The orientation took place on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at the RCM/RCMFI office.

PUBLIC IMAGE

Rotary Club of Manila Receives Multiple Honors at the Zone 10A Public Image Awards

Rotary Club of Manila won Third Place in the Best Broadcast Media Category, Third Place in the Best Online Media Category and First Place in the Best Facebook Page Category of the Rotary Zone 10A Public Image Awards for the Imagine Rotary Year 2022-2023.



The awarding was held on the occasion of the Zone 10A Public Image Congress 2023 with the theme, "Unveiling, Undaunting Hope", hosted by the Rotary Club of San Juan Supreme of Rotary District 3800 last August 12, 2023 at the Ballroom of the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel in Mandaluyong City. IPP Hermie Esguerra led the Rotary Club of Manila delegation present at the said event.

PUBLIC IMAGE

Rotary Club of Manila Receives Multiple Honors at the Zone 10A Public Image Awards



PUBLIC IMAGE

Tuesday, 15 August 2023
Today's Newspaper

Daily
Tribune
Without Fear · Without Favor

THE CIRCUIT

Japanese philanthropist conferred honorary RC Manila membership

In his desire to promote peace between Muslims and Christians, Kenji Mori has brought with him books, school supplies and equipment to Marawi.



The Rotary Club of Manila bestows honorary RC Manila membership on Japanese philanthropist Kenji Mori during a recent RC Manila meeting at the Manila Polo Club. Cited for the generosity of his donations to Filipinos, Mori, a member of the Kuzuha Rotary Club in Japan, holds his certificate of honorary membership in RC Manila. With him in the photo are RC Manila president Rafael M. Alunan III to his right, and Past Rotary District Governor Rudy Bediones. | Photographs by Dianne Bacelonia for The Daily Tribune.



By **TDI**
2 days ago

The Rotary Club of Manila has bestowed on Kenji Mori honorary membership in the Club in recognition of the Japanese philanthropist's love for the Philippines as manifested in his numerous acts of generosity to Filipinos and support for local causes.

Mori, who is a member of the Kuzuha Rotary Club in Japan, has been a consistent donor to Filipinos and the country. His initial donation, given through the Rotary Club of Manila in 2016, was a first edition of *Noli Me Tangere* which he turned over the National Library along with some 60 other volumes of Filipiniana.

PUBLIC IMAGE



A member of the Kuzuha Rotary Club in Japan, Kenji Mori has been a consistent donor to Filipinos and the Philippines. His initial donation, given through the Rotary Club of Manila in 2016, was a first-edition of *Noli Me Tangere* which he turned over to the National Library along with some 60 other volumes of Filipiniana.

That rare first edition of *Noli Me Tangere*, printed in the late 1800s, was worth around P6 million, and could even be more valuable now.

That initial gift to the Philippines by Mori has since been followed by others, including donations of drum and lyre musical instruments, TV sets, audio equipment, and school supplies to various Philippine public schools.

Mori also sponsored, in cooperation with the Department of Education, a painting contest among Filipino school children, forking P500,000 for the first prize winner.

At one time, he also underwrote a pyro-musical fireworks display worth over P5 million in Bataan, at the site of the Mount Samat National Shrine which commemorates the gallantry of Filipino and American soldiers who fought against the Japanese in World War II. The fireworks display was witnessed by RC Manila members and diplomats from the US and Japanese embassies.

In his desire to promote peace among Muslim and Christian Filipinos, Mori brought with him school supplies and other materials and equipment to Marawi where he is also set to soon stage a fireworks display for the locals.

Those present at last Thursday's RCM meeting at the Manila Polo Club took their feet and warmly applauded as Mori received his certificate of honorary membership in RC Manila from RC Manila president Rafael Alunan III and Past Rotary District Governor Rudy Bediones.

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Bulletin Board

Rotary Club of Manila Pays Courtesy Call on CJ Gesmundo, Justice Marquez

BMPPlus · August 15, 2023 · 29 views · 2 minute read



Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo (third from right in main photo) receives a Plaque of Appreciation for his participation at the 104th Rotary Club of Manila Induction and Handover Ceremony of Officers and Directors from Rotary Club of Manila President and former Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary Rafael M. Alunan III on Monday, August 14, 2023, at the Dignitaries Lounge of the Supreme Court of the Philippines. Joining them are (from left) Associate Justice Jose Midas P. Marquez; Rotary Club of Manila Foundation President Wilfredo M. Peliño; District Governor-Elect RI District 3810 Joaquin “Jackie” C. Rodriguez; and Rotary Club of Manila Foundation Trustee Francisco “Paco” Magsaysay.

PUBLIC IMAGE



Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo and Rotary Club of Manila President Rafael M. Alunan III engage in a discussion during the Rotary Club of Manila's courtesy call on Monday, August 14, 2023. With them are (from left) Associate Justice Jose Midas P. Marquez; Rotary Club of Manila Foundation President Wilfredo M. Peliño; District Governor-Elect RI District 3810 Joaquin "Jackie" C. Rodriguez; and Rotary Club of Manila Foundation Trustee Francisco "Paco" Magsaysay.

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Associate Justice Jose Midas P. Marquez (third from left) shows the Plaque of Appreciation given him by the Rotary Club of Manila on August 14, 2023 in recognition of his esteemed presence during the 104th Rotary Club of Manila Induction and Handover Ceremony of Officers and Directors held on July 6, 2023 at the City of Dreams.

Justice Marquez administered the oath of office to Rafael M. Alunan III as President of the Rotary Club of Manila and graced the induction into office of other Rotary officers and Board members, for which he was given another Plaque of Appreciation by the Rotary Club of Manila "(I)n recognition of his distinguished service and invaluable contribution as the Inducting Officer of the Rotary Club of Manila's Board of Directors and Officers for Rotary Year 2023-2024."

The Rotary Club of Manila also recognized Justice Marquez's "unwavering commitment to the principles of justice, integrity, and service has been an inspiration to us all. As the Inducting Officer of the Rotary Club of Manila's Board of Directors and Officers, he has exemplified the ideals of Rotary and enriched our organization with his profound wisdom and distinguished presence."

In photo are (from left) Rotary Club of Manila Foundation President Wilfredo M. Peliño; Rotary Club of Manila President Alunan; Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo; District Governor-Elect RI District 3810 Joaquin "Jackie" C. Rodriguez; and Rotary Club of Manila Foundation Trustee Francisco "Paco" Magsaysay.

(All photos and captions courtesy of the Supreme Court Public Information Office)

PUBLIC IMAGE

Daily Tribune
Without Fear • Without Favor

THE CIRCUIT

The Rotary Club's raison d'être: To work for a better world

By Vangie Baga-Reyes
15 hours ago

The Club is a platform to deliver the love you have in your heart to others. It's a way to get others to help you to help others. It's a way to meet people and make friends. It's a way to demonstrate kindness and compassion to those who need those the most.

If your intention is to give glory to yourself and make more money by connections, then Rotary is not the right place for you. But if you're here to help to make this place a better world, if you're here to make friends, if you're here to give of

you yourself for the benefit of others, then you are where you ought to be and every good thing will come to you," says Joaquin 'Jackie' Rodriguez, former Rotary Club of Manila president and incoming district governor. | Photograph by Vangie Baga Reyes for The Daily Tribune.

To most people, Rotary is an exclusive club among decision-makers in society and business. It is exclusive in the sense that the Club has been very successful in keeping under wraps the efforts it does to help improve other people's lives.

"You only have to have good intentions and no personal agenda," states Joaquin "Jackie" Rodriguez, Rotary Club of Manila's former president and incoming district governor, of becoming a member of the elite club.

Indeed, Rotary is much, much more than its ubiquitous four-way test billboards we see along the road.

"If your intention is to give glory to yourself and to make more money by connections, then you are mistaken. Rotary is not the right place for you. But, if you're here to help to make this place a better world, if you're here to make friends, if you're here to give yourself up for the benefit of others, then you are where you ought to be and every good thing will come," he said.

Rodriguez became a member of the prestigious group only in 2015. Now, at 82, he often wonders why he didn't join the club earlier.

"Nobody invited me," he claims. "The door wasn't there for me yet. Maybe it's God's way of telling me your time will come."

The right time

But when the right time came, it didn't take long for the club to see his potentials, his passion and his dedication. He immediately was awarded the STAR Rotarian of the Year in 2015-2016. Soon after, because of his exemplary performance, Rodriguez became president of the RC Manila in 2019-2020 — quite a record for Rodriguez in the Club's history of long, meticulous and tedious process of selecting its president that usually takes many years.

Only two years after his presidency, Rodriguez was then elected district governor — another feather in his cap.

"When God put me in the club, He didn't give me much time to think about anything else. He made me the club president in so short a time. He didn't even waste much time when after I finished my term, I was elected governor of District 3810," shares Rodriguez, adding that "there are 35,000-plus Rotarians in the Philippines and who would really take notice of an old man like me?"

A District Governor takes care of the 130 Rotary clubs in Manila. The real focus now is not just on one club, but the citizens of his country that need help and not just Rotarians.

As an incoming District Governor, explains Rodriguez, it gives him a great vantage point of succeeding in his objectives because the whole 130 clubs will be there to help and back him up and all projects to be undertaken.

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First in Asia

Rotary Club of Manila is the first and largest in Asia.

"When we do something in the club, many clubs are watching us," says Rodriguez, who's also consul general of the Republic of Serbia. "Japan, China and India, for instance, look at us as the oldest and the best. And we have always tried to stay the oldest and the best."

He adds: "Rotary is a platform to deliver the love you have in your heart to others. It's a way to get others to help you to help others. It's a way to deliver your kindness to those who need it."

Furthermore, it's also a way to learn from others in a different approach.

In business, he says, people are quite leery of each other. They are scared to make friends "but not in Rotary. We meet once a week and we feel we are a family of the same intentions," said Rodriguez.

"There are 1,000-plus clubs nationwide and in any town, city or province I go to, I don't feel lost. I just look for the Rotarians and they are there for you right away. There's a connection right away," he added.

Under the Rotary Club of Manila, Rodriguez has set up his legacy projects, such as the Ambassadorial Society, wherein they appoint ambassadors of different clubs to establish ties with Rotary Clubs from other countries. They have, so far, appointed 48 ambassadors who represent the country overseas. These ambassadors are important links to various joint projects.

"About four years ago, Nick Locsin and I had the idea of creating the Circle of Centennial Rotary Clubs. We envisioned a group of Rotary

Clubs all over the world that were over 100 years old. At that time, we just celebrated our centennial at the Rotary Club of Manila. Today the Circle of Centennial Rotary Clubs as members include London, Seattle, Washington DC, Madrid, Calcutta, Shanghai and many, many more," Rodriguez says.

"For instance, Joel Valdez, who represents our club as an ambassador to San Francisco Bay Area, California. Because of his efforts there, he was able to bring in a medical team to treat children with cleft lip and cleft palate," he adds.

In the local scene, the late Bobby Joseph of Philippine Wine Merchants who was RC Manila ambassador to Cebu was also able to create various programs to alleviate the lives of the poor in select areas.

"The programs are still ongoing and I hope, that even when I am not here anymore, it stays and more people will be aided," Rodriguez notes.

Mr. Ecology

Rodriguez has been dubbed as Mr. Ecology for his efforts in environment enhancement, particularly his passion for preserving and planting trees.

His farms in Davao City (Pangyan, Catigan, Tugbok and Marilog) have cultivated more than 8,000-plus trees and various crops like avocado, mango, durian and coconut to name a few, including the biggest bamboos in the country.

Through constant experimentation in his laboratory supervised by German scientist Burkhardt Krone, Rodriguez is able to produce eight varieties of thick, hard and sturdy bamboos with carbon-capture capabilities. Carbon makes wood hard and it cleans the air.

His efforts to solve environmental problems is also part of the club's ecology campaign called

The Rotary Environmental and Ecological Stratagems or TREES.

Rodriguez once spoke on ecology and tree-planting before the Rotary Clubs of Africa (numbering a total of 36) via Zoom. Subsequently, he received another invite to talk about environment from the Rotary Club of Washington D.C., wherein, in honor of his environment-related work and campaign, a Cherry Blossom Tree was planted under his name by the National Parks Service of the United States in partnership with the Washington D.C. Rotary Club.

"Because of that talk I met many people I didn't know and are now friends of mine in Washington, DC," says Rodriguez, who is married to Sonja, with four sons, 12 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

RCM projects

The RC Manila has been a major factor in the country's growth because of the many significant contributions it has made to various causes over the years.

Its flagship project is the Pasig River clean up and rehabilitation in partnership with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Pasig River Coordinating Management Office.

RC Manila's efforts in this project serve as an inspiration for other organizations and entitle to come together and help in the preservation the environment.

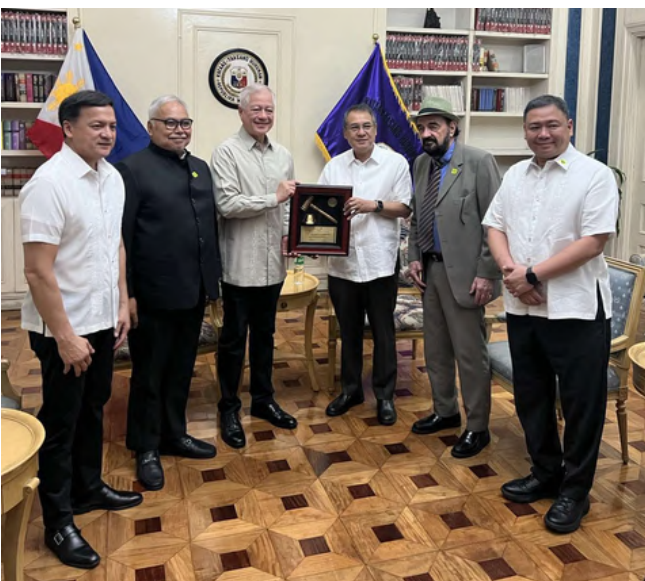
COMIC RELIEF



Source: Rotary Club of Moe

RECOGNITION CORNER

RC Manila Honors Philippine Supreme Court Chief Justice and Associate Justice with Appreciation Plaques



Chief Justice Hon. Alexander Gesmundo and Associate Justice Jose Midas Pascual Marquez of the Supreme Court of the Philippines were each bestowed a Plaque of Appreciation. The accolades were presented by Pres. Rafael M. Alunan III and RCManila Foundation Pres. Wifredo Peliño. The ceremony was graced by RI District 3810 District Governor Elect Joaquin C. Rodriguez, Sr., and RCManila Foundation Trustee/Sec. Francisco "Paco" Magsaysay. This significant event took place in the Dignitaries Lounge of the Supreme Court on Monday, August 14, 2023.

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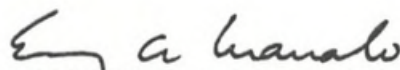
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