

Official Newsletter of
Rotary Club of Manila

balita

ISSUE NO. 3981 | SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



HON. AQUILINO D. "Koko" PIMENTEL III
Senate Minority Floor Leader

Kabalita

A mature and vibrant democracy gives premium to and duly acknowledges the role of a real and responsible opposition, especially in both houses of Congress. Having a voice that critiques and fiscalizes should be welcomed by the majority, as a divergent view and different perspective will surely engender better and healthier debates and discussion. This, in turn, will result to better-crafted laws and resolutions. The minority, therefore, must not be embroiled in a pointless cacophony of ideas; but instead endeavor to steer the discussion and mold each legislation to benefit the greater and more vulnerable segment of our country's population.



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PROGRAM TIMETABLE

13th Weekly Membership Meeting Rotary Year 2023-2024

Thursday, September 28, 2023 12:30PM
MANILA POLO CLUB

Moderator: RTN. WARREN SO

12:00 PM	Registration	
12:30 PM	Call to Order	VICE PRES. REGINALD T. "Reggie" YU
	Invocation	RTN. RAYMOND N. "Ray" DAVIS <i>Chairman of Person with Disabilities)</i>
	Philippine National Anthem	AVP of RCM Members
	Rotary Club of Manila Hymn	RCM WF Music Chorale
	The Four (4) Way Test	SDG ANDREW M. BUENCAMINO <i>Rotary Club of Manila Bay)</i>
	Acknowledgment of Guests	
	Welcome Song	RCM WF Music Chorale
	<i>RC Manila Birthday Celebrants</i>	
	Sept. 23	Rtn. Inov Talusan
	Sept. 24	Rtn. Nico Valencia
	Sept. 27	Rtn. Ralph Joseph Rtn. Ronald Martinez
	Sept. 28	Rtn. Jovee Ong
	<i>Maligayang Bati / Happy Birthday Song</i>	RCM WF Music Chorale

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

12:45 PM	President's Time	PRES. RAFAEL M. "Raffy" ALUNAN III
	<i>(A video message from Pres. Rafael Alunan III)</i>	
	<i>The Week's Club Activity Update</i>	VICE PRES REGINALD T. "Reggie" YU
12:50 PM	Induction of New Member	
	<i>Introduction of New Member by Proposer</i>	RTN. WARREN SO
	YASUSHI IWATA (Japanese) Classification: Banking Bank Branch Office - Japan Proposer: Rtn. Kentaro Shigei	
	<i>Charging of New Member</i>	PDG ALEXANDER P. "Alex" CUREG
	<i>Oath of Membership</i>	VICE PRES REGINALD T. "Reggie" YU
1:00 PM	Introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker	HCP JONATHAN JUAN "JJ" MORENO <i>(Rotary Club of Manila Bay)</i>
	Guest of Honor and Speaker	
	Address HON. AQUILINO D. "Koko" PIMENTEL III <i>Senate Minority Leader</i>	
1:30 PM	Open Forum / Q&A	
1:50 PM	Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation	VICE-PRES. REGINALD T. "Reggie" YU
2:00 PM	Adjournment	VICE-PRES. REGINALD T. "Reggie" YU

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



SENATE MINORITY LEADER AQUILINO "KOKO" DE LA LLANA PIMENTEL III

Senator Aquilino "Koko" de la Llana Pimentel III traces his family roots to Region 1 - Ilocos Norte, Region 3 - Zambales, and of course Mindanao.

Senator Koko is married to Ma. Anna Kathryn de Guzman Yu-Pimentel of Marikina City and Bulan, Sorsogon in Bicol; and has three children: Aquilino Martin Emmanuel VI, Aquilino Justo VII and Ma. Kathryn Helena.

Senator Koko is currently the Senate Minority Leader in the 19th Congress. He is former Senate President, just like his father Senate President Nene Pimentel.

Born on January 20, 1964 in Cagayan de Oro City, Senator Koko received his Law degree from the University of the Philippines and topped the Bar Examinations in 1990 with a grade of 89.85%. He earlier graduated with a degree in B. S. Mathematics from the Ateneo de Manila as an NSDB scholar. He was awarded Doctor of Humanities, Honoris Causa by the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in 2012, and Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa by the University of the Philippines in 2017 and the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila in 2023.

Senator Koko Pimentel believes that "Creativity is the next big thing." He proposes a formula, very simple to remember, for the rapid, sustained, and fair progress and development of our beloved country the Philippines: "CREATIVITY, CONNECTIVITY, COMMUNITY."

Sabi ni Senator Koko – "Ang dunong, itulong. Kaya use your KOKOte for your country."

EDITOR'S NOTE

Why do we still need a weekly newsletter?

This was first discussed in the October 6, 2022 issue of BALITA, or almost one year ago. But writing more about it today is still very relevant.

We all know that Manila Rotarians (almost all, if not all) are already part of the Club's various social media chat groups. In these social platforms, announcements and photos of events and meetings are posted in real time. With this, do we still need a weekly newsletter?

Everyone may have noticed that, since the start of Rotary year 2023-24, BALITA has been issued exclusively in digital format. No

printed copies are distributed during each meeting, and the members are assumed to have gotten the soft copy featured in the viber group chat and the Facebook page.

Indeed, and as expressed last year, we now live in a digital age where reliance on social media is rapidly growing, where online posts of on-going events are instantly available, where chat groups enable one and all to get quick updates of the events and news of the day, and where there is growing preference for bite-sized messages rather than long and kilometeric articles. With this, it may be timely to ask anew: is a newsletter publication still in vogue?

Every Thursday, in time for the weekly regular meeting, the Rotary Club of Manila publishes a newsletter that seeks, among others, to update members about all the exciting things that are going on in RCM and with its members. It features the program set out for the meeting, the profile of the guest speaker, as well as the highlights of the past week's activities. This is a product of the Editorial Board's weekly labor of love – a team effort.

BALITA, first published regularly 103 years ago in the form of a bulletin consisting of a few pages, was and continues to be passionately nurtured and developed. At one point, Balita was hailed as the most complete club newsletter in the Rotary world. Thus, the first Rotary Club in Asia takes pride not only in its being a centennial club, but also because of many other feats, among them the sustained weekly publication over all these years (except during the Second World War) of its weekly club newsletter.



Raoul C. Creencia
Editor-in-Chief, balita

EDITOR'S NOTE

Today, after more than 100 years of regular publication, BALITA continues to serve as the Rotary Club of Manila's diary and chronicler of activities, programs, institutional events, and various milestones. If one wishes to know the RCM's mood and activities in, say, December 1966, he can be assured that the pages of BALITA published during that time will provide such information.

True. We now live in a different world, an era that is vastly different 103 years ago. But the values and virtues that Rotary represents remain the same. Chronicling the Club's activities as a service and humanitarian organization indubitably remains important to celebrate each act of service. Celebrating each Manila Rotarian's devotion to the mantra – service above self -- is still very much worth the pages or the digital space on which they are featured. Surely, it is a worthwhile task to publish a weekly newsletter that assiduously collates, records, features, and acknowledges what RCMers do today, not only because of the impact on the beneficiaries, but also because of the inspiration it will bring to future Manila Rotarians who will hopefully read about and appreciate these service-above-self activities many years from now.

This is why the message is worth reiterating: The Rotary Club of Manila, through the Editorial Board, must and will dedicatedly continue and self-effacingly pursue the weekly publication of BALITA.



12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023



Program participants at the Presidential Table. From Left: **PD Beda Fajardo**, **Atty. Antonio Oposa** (Guest Speaker), **President Raffy Alunan**, **PD John Cutter**, and **Rtn. Butch Alcantara**.

PROGRAM MODERATOR



Director Hans Palacios served as the moderator and invited **Pres. Raffy Alunan** to call the meeting to order.

INVOCATION



PD John Cutter led the saying of a special prayer, setting the tone of the meeting.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM / RCM HYMN



Rotary Members and guests took a position of respect as they sang the Philippine National Anthem and the RCM Hymn.

PRESIDENT'S TIME

During the President's Time, **Pres. Raffy Alunan** encouraged members to stay committed to their pledge to Rotary Club of Manila by being engaged in weekly and various project activities. Additionally, Pres Alunan informed the membership of a proposed joint undertaking with the Management Association of the Philippine on Project Malnutrition, that is causing stunted development of children. He exhorted everyone to live by Rotary's spirit of fellowship and leave personal drudges outside of the door of Rotary when serving the Club activities. Lastly, Pres Alunan informed the membership of the retirement of **Executive Secretary Anna Kun Toledo**.



The Program Moderator called on **PP Chito Zaldarriaga**, to introduce **Executive Secretary Anna Kun Toledo**, to deliver her Valedictory Message.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023

DGE Jackie Rodriguez presented to **ES Anna** a pearl necklace and a pair of pearl earrings as gifts (from him and **spouse Sonja Rodriguez**).



Pres. Raffy Alunan presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **ES Anna Kun Toledo**.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER

GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER



PD Beda Fajardo introduced the guest speaker, **Atty. Antonio "Tony" Oposa Jr.**



Atty. Antonio "Tony" Oposa Jr. actively engaged the members and guests in his advocacy on the preservation of the environment.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023



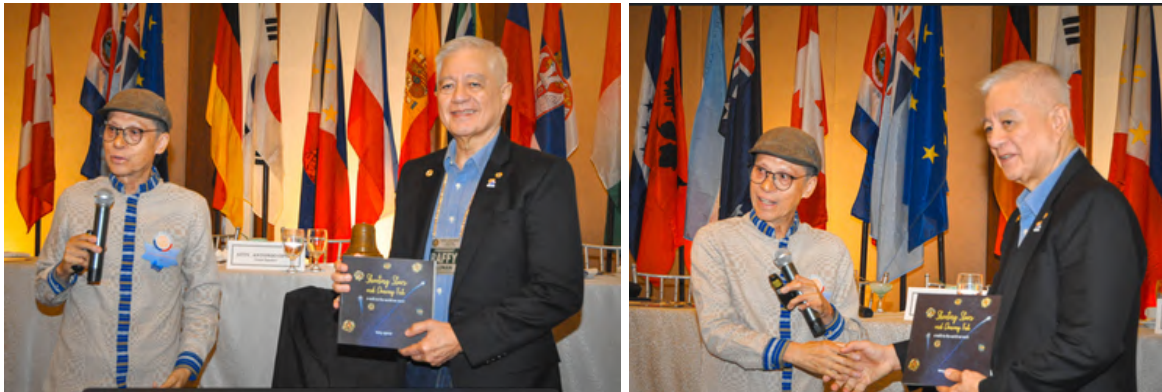
Atty. Oposa made sure that there was an interactive participation of members and guests. They were taught how to engage the government in the preservation of the environment.



The members and guests listened intently to the engaging talk of **Atty. Oposa**.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023



Atty. Tony Oposa presented a book and a painting to **Pres. Raffy Alunan**.



The RCM Certificate of Appreciation was presented by **Pres. Raffy Alunan** to **Atty. Tony Oposa**, witnessed by **DGE Jackie Rodriguez** (Chairman, Program Committee) and **PD Beda Fajardo**.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023

MEMBERSHIP CONCERNS: INDUCTION

Introduction of the inductees:



DGE Jackie Rodriguez and **Rtn. Warren So** introduced their respective nominees – **Mr. Lorenzo “Toti” Cortez** and **Mr. Colin Steley**.



PDG Obet Pagdanganan, as Charging Officer, articulately reminded the inductees about the obligation of being a Rotarian.



Pres. Raffy Alunan inducted **Mr. Lorenzo “Toti” Cortez** (Managing Partner, Guided Construction & Trading Inc.), proposed by **Rtn John Tan**, and **Mr. Colin Steley** (Director & Chief Sustainability Officer, Stratcon Asia, and Stratcon PH), proposed by **DGE Jackie Rodriguez**.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023

Presentation of RCM Name Badge and Rotary Pin to Inductees:



STAR Rtn. Colin Steley received the Rotary Club of Manila name badge and the Rotary pin from proposer **DGE Jackie Rodriguez**.



STAR Rtn. Lorenzo "Toti" Cortez received his Rotary Club of Manila name badge and Rotary pin from co-proposer **Rtn. Warren So**.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023



The newly minted Manila Rotarians were warmly welcomed by the membership with a WELCOME BABY ROTARIAN song led by the **RCM WF Music Chorale**.



The Inductees with the delegation of Justices of Supreme Court of Indonesia-Honorables GAMBANG HERY MULYONO, JUPRIADA, ARMANSHYA, guests and members of RCM.

12th WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING: A RECAP

September 21, 2023

MEETING FELLOWSHIP





CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2023-2024

SEPTEMBER 2023	September 07, 2023 PP ALBERTO "BERT" ROMULO/ELECTION OF THE BOARD	September 14, 2023 HON. ERNESTO V. PEREZ	September 21, 2023 ATTY. ANTONIO "TONY" OPOSA JR.
MEMBERS PRESENT	65	43	31
MAKE UP ATTENDIES	2	12	2
EXEMPTED FROM ATTENDANCE	4	2	2
ON LEAVE	0	0	0
Total Active Members	63	53	31
Total # of Members	242	237	238
TOTAL ATTENDANCE %:	26%	22%	13%
ROTARACTORS	3	2	2
MEDIA	9	4	3
EMBASSIES / DIPLOMATIC CORPS	0	0	0
DG, DGE, DGN, PDG	4	0	2
GOHS / GS	3	2	11
Visiting Rotarians	0	0	0
Guests of RCM MEMBERS	16	1	4
TOTAL ATTENDIES	87	48	48

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

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

(As of September 27, 2023, 4:00 PM)

FULLY PAID

1	Aboy, Valentino "Val" G.
2	Abriam, Ariel
3	Acosta, Crispiniano "Cris" G.
4	Albaña, Michael Jaey "Mike"
5	Alberto, Raymund Arnold S.
6	Alcantara, Isidro "Butch"
7	Alday, Albert S.
8	Alingog, Aldous "Rex" A.
9	Alunan, Rafael "Raffy" M.
10	Aragon, Joshua
11	Arguelles, Pablo
12	Aventura, Avenilo, Jr. "Jun" L.
13	Balanay, Aries
14	Bartolome, Arsenio III "Archit" M.
15	Batur, Sinan
16	Bautista, John
17	Bediones, Rodolfo "Rudy" P.
18	Bella, Geronimo, Jr. "Jun" Dela Paz
19	Benedicto, Sixto "Noy" T.
20	Bertelsen, Bertel Ingmar
21	Blanco, Manuel "Manny" M.
22	Bogovich, Jason M.
23	Bolton, Wilhelm "Bollie"
24	Cabangon, Edgard
25	Camat, Nathaniel
26	Campos, Joselito, Jr. "Butch" D.
27	Camus, Fernando "Nando"
28	Canon, Raul
29	Carlos, Vicente "Vince" J.
30	Carranceja, Arvin Arik
31	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef "Karlo"
32	Catalan, Rodillo "Teng"
33	Chahwan, Rami
34	Cortez, Lorenzo
35	Coyiuto, Robert, Jr. "Jun" G.
36	Creencia, Raoul
37	Cureg, Alexander "Alex" P.
38	Cutter, John Michael "Michael"
39	Davis, Raymond "Rey" N.
40	De Castro, Johnny
41	Del Rosario, Oscar
42	Dominguez, III, Carlos "Sonny" G.
43	Dy, Manuel "Manny" C.
44	Egan, Brendan "Bren" W.L.
45	Eldebs, Issam "Sam"

46	Enriquez, Eduardo III "Jujut" V.
47	Esguerra, Herminio "Hermie" S.
48	Esquivias, Joaquin Pablo "Jop" A.
49	Eugenio, John Emyl "Emyl" G.
50	Fajardo, Beda G.
51	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V. "JJ"
52	Flameno, Franco Martell S.
53	Follosco, Ceferino, Jr. "Jun" G.
54	Garcia, Herbert Joey "Joey" D.
55	Garcia, Paul Joseph "PJ"
56	Garcia, Theodore
57	Garcia, Victor
58	Go, Daniel "Danny" C.
59	Go, Henry Sy
60	Goco, Raoul
61	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy "Mike" H.
62	Guevara, Domingo, Jr. "Boy" S.
63	Guevara, Ricardo "Ricky" S.
64	Hallare, Delfin, Jr. "Jun" T.
65	Hallare, Nicolo "Nic" S.
66	Hallerbach, Mathias
67	Hernandez, Edwin
68	Hortaleza, Rolando
69	Ibuyan, Benedict Julius "Ben"
70	Jucaban, Jeric J.
71	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro IV "Teddy" A. Y.
72	Katigbak, Alfonso Leonor
73	Klebs, David
74	Koh, Paul Anthony
75	Lacambacal, Alvin D.
76	Lacson, Sebastian "Basty"
77	La'o, Emilio Gonzalez
78	Laurel, Ricardo "Ricky" P.
79	Laya, Jaime "Jimmy" C.
80	Ledda, Jaime Victor "Jet" B.
81	Lazaro, Juan Miguel "Miguel"
82	Lee, Richard "Dick" L.
83	Liamzon, Romeo Thaddeus "Thad" R.
84	Lim, David Eduardo Ty
85	Lim, Richard
86	Locsin, Arsenio "Nick" Z.
87	Locsin, Roberto R.
88	Lonzaga, Reinerio "Ner" C.
89	Lopez, Antonio "Tony"
90	Lopez, Arthur "Art" M.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

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

91	Magbanua, Gerry
92	Macapagal, Michael "Mac"
93	Macatoman, Abdulgani "Gani"
94	Magsaysay, Francisco "Paco" D.
95	Manalaysay, Cesar P "Citos"
96	Mangalile, Senen
97	Martinez, Ronald
98	Mauricio, Antonilo "Anton"
99	Matschuck, Guenter "Gunter" G.
100	Mendoza, Estelito "Titong" P.
101	Mendoza, Miguel
102	Mendoza, Raymund Joseph Ian "Raji" O.
103	Montel, Juan Manuel C.
104	Nones, Romeo "Romy" C.
105	Nolido, Ramby
106	Nunez, Jose, Jr. "Pepo" A.
107	Obrado, Daniel C.
108	Ocampo, Teodoro "Teddy" J.
109	Ong, Phillip "Phil" L.
110	Pagdanganan, Roberto "Obet" M.
111	Pallasigue, John Brian "JB"
112	Palacios, Albert "Hans" C.
113	Pañares, Ben Thomas "Toby" P.
114	Pascual, Abraham "Abe" F.
115	Patterson, Colin David
116	Peliño, Wilfredo "Willie" M.
117	Pineda, Jr., Patricio "Bebot" F.
118	Pineda, Jr., Jesus "Susing" M.
119	Pizarra, Jordan M.
120	Preysler, Fausto, Jr. R.
121	Quisumbing, Ramon "Mon" J.
122	Ramos, Claver P.
123	Rast, Tobias "Tobi"
124	Recto, Philip H.
125	Reynolds, David John "Dave"
126	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jack" H.
127	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jackie" C.
128	Romualdez, Jose Manuel "Babe" G.

129	Romualdez, Ferdinand "Martin"
130	Rono, Marlon
131	Roxas, Michael
132	Sarasola, II, Jose Ma. "Joey" I.
133	Schneider, Bernd
134	Schimitz, Stefan
135	Sevilla, Luis Angelo "L.A." L.
136	Shimoda, Shigeru
137	Sibayan, Joselito "Lito" H.
138	So, Warren
139	Soler, Jose Antonio Andaya
140	Souvlakis, Nicolas
141	Steley, Collin
142	Stranathan, Ike
143	Syjuco, Jose, Jr. "Joey" A.
144	Tagaysay, Hector "Chito"
145	Talampas, Jose Angel "Joel"
146	Talusan, Ferdinand "Inov"
147	Tamano, Shalimar "Shah" H.
148	Tamayo, Victor "Butch" L.
149	Tan, Eusebio "Ebot" V.
150	Tan, John
151	Tanglao, Noel V.
152	Tee, Jr., Teddy B.
153	Tejuma, Michael "Mike"
154	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael "Hansel"
155	Valdes, Joel C.
156	Valdez, Amado "Amading" D.
157	Valencia, John Nico "Nico" P.
158	Valencia, Rodolfo "Rod" G.
159	Vasquez, Evaristo "Junjie"
160	Villarica, Henry R.
161	Yap, Enrique, Jr. "Rickie" Y.
162	Yu, Reginald "Reggie" T.
163	Zaldarriaga, Felix Francisco "Chito" S.
164	Zeitouni, Naji
165	Zheng, Zhihao "Jerry"
166	Zialcita, Xavier "Xavy" Y.

PARTIALLY PAID

1	Serapio, Carlos G. "Caloy"
2	Dayang, Juan, Jr. "Jed" E.
3	Andal, Avelino "Billy"
4	Dela Cruz, Emmanuel
5	Tan, Lawrence "Lance" L.

6	Valdez, Jason
7	Dela Cruz, Artemio "Art"
8	Chotrani, Johnny N.
9	Agnes, Jerry A.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Inducted Members - September 2023



CORTEZ, LORENZO "TOTI" L.

SPONSOR: RTN JOHN TAN
2023 September 21, FILIPINO
CONSTRUCTION - HOUSE BUILDER
General Manager / Owner, GUIDED CONSTRUCTION & TRADING, INC.
191 SALCEDO ST. LEGASPI VILLAGE, MAKATI
Email: toticortez@gmail.com



FLAMEÑO, FRANCO MARTELL "KIX" S.

SPONSOR: RTN REX ALINGOG
2023 August 10, FILIPINO
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - PC DISTRIBUTION
Country Manager for Consumer and Small Business, Philippines and Indonesia,
DELL TECHNOLOGIES PHILIPPINES, INC.
18TH FLOOR WORD PLAZA
Email: frankix15@gmail.com



GOCO, RAOUL ROBERTO "ROBBY" P.

SPONSOR: DGE JACKIE RODRIGUEZ
2023 August 10, FILIPINO
RESTAURANTS - RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT
Executive Chef, DEGUSTATION CORPORATION
G/F ARDAN BLDG. NO.2 MERALCO AVE. COR. GENERAL ARANETA ST.,
BRGY. SAN ANTONIO, PASIG CITY
Email: robbygoco@cymarestaurants.com



KATIGBAK, J. ALFONSO "AL" L.

SPONSOR: PDG RUDY BEDIONES
2023 August 10, FILIPINO
BUILDING MATERIALS/PRODUCT - METAL ROOFING
Chairman of the Board, DECRA ROOFING SYSTEMS.
Stall no. 230, G/F, MC HOME DEPOT, 32ND ST. cor. BONIFACIO BLVD., BGC,
TAGUIG CITY
Email: al_katigbak@hotmail.com
Website: KatigbakRoofing.com



MENDOZA, MIGUEL "MICO"

SPONSOR: VP REGGIE YU / RTN EMMAN DELA CRUZ / RTN JOP ESQUIVIAS
2023 August 10, FILIPINO
COMMUNICATIONS - VOIP ALTERNATIVES
President and CEO, TELNOVO COMMUNICATIONS INC. PH & US
LEVEL 10-I FORT LEGEND TOWER 31ST & 3RD AVE., BGC, TAGUIG CITY
Email: miguel.mendoza@telново.net



STELEY, COLIN IV

SPONSOR: DGE JACKIE RODRIGUEZ
2023 September 21, AUSTRALIAN
BUSINESS SERVICES - ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONSULTANCY
Director and Chief Sustainability Officer, STRATCON ASIA & PH
27B KALIPAYAN HOMES, DON JESUS BLVD., CUPANG, MUNTINLUPA
Email: colin.steley@stratcon.asia

COMMUNITY SERVICE

RC Manila and RC Calumpit Unite for Typhoon Egay Relief Operations in Calumpit, Bulacan



On September 23, 2023, the Rotary Club of Manila and the Rotary Club of Calumpit joined forces in Relief Operations Part 2 to provide further assistance to the victims of Typhoon Egay.

RC Manila and RC Calumpit distributed approximately 400 packs of relief goods across five barangays in Calumpit, Bulacan: Sapang Bayan, Iba, Gugo, Calizon, and Frances.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

RC Manila and RC Calumpit Unite for Typhoon Egay Relief Operations in Calumpit, Bulacan



Barangay Iba



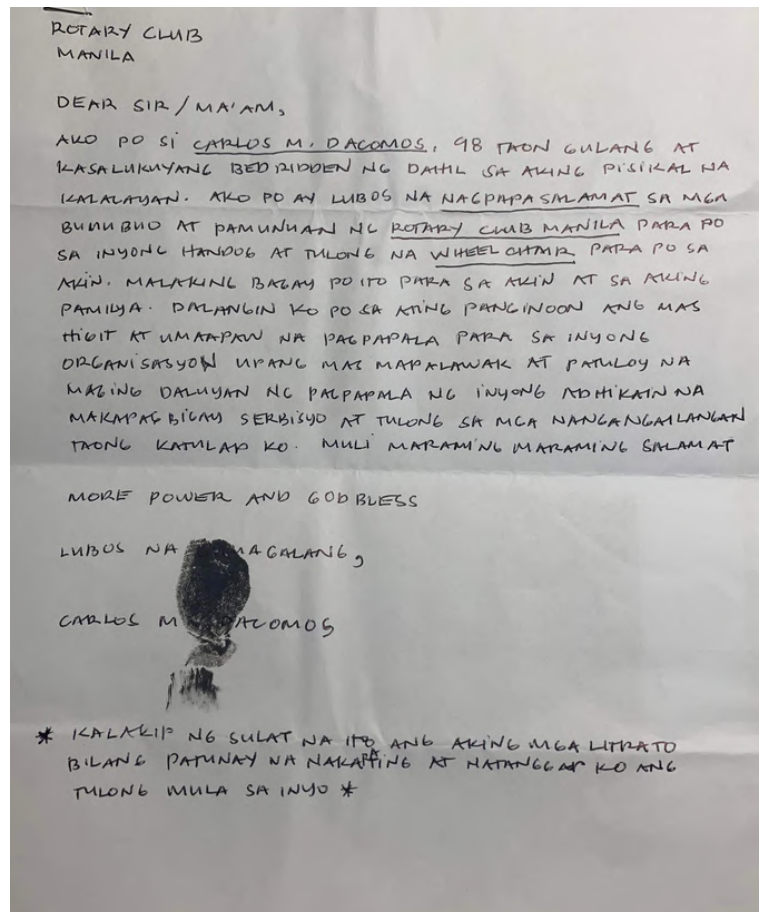
Barangay Sapang Bayan



Barangay Frances

ROTARY IN ACTION

Grateful 98-Year-Old Patient Thanks RC Manila for Wheelchair Donation



A 98-year-old bedridden patient, one of the recipients of our wheelchair donation in Olongapo City, expressed gratitude to RC Manila.

EVENTS

Alay Lakad



Manila Rotarians participated in the Alay Lakad held on September 24, 2023.



District Governor Lai De la Cruz walking alongside the Rotary Club of Manila members, led by PE/Dir Jujut Enriquez, Alay Lakad Committee Chair/DE/SAA Nagi Zeitouni, RCMFI Chair Lito Sibayan and his daughter Mica, and PD Oscar del Rosario.



Breakfast at the Tap Room of Manila Hotel for RAC Manila, co-hosted by Alay Lakad Chair / SAA Nagi Zeitouni, PE/ Dir Jujut Enriquez, RCMFI Chair Lito Sibayan and Music Chair PD Oscar del Rosario Sr.



EVENTS

2023 Asian Games in Huangzhou, China



Pres. Raffy Alunan with Patrick Perez who bagged the first medal for the Philippine team - a bronze medal - in the first day of competitions.

COMIC RELIEF



Source: Rotary Club of Brandon Global Eco

PUBLIC IMAGE

B4 | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

Nickie Wang, Editor
Angelica Villanueva, Writer
E-mail: Wangnickie@manilastandard.net

LIFE

Manila
Standard



Spencer Ozo works with the members of the Angels of Rindu Art Club (ARAC) of Hospicio de San Jose

Spencer Ozo participates in Rotary Club of Manila's Expanding Horizons exhibit

'Expanding Horizons'

Spencer Ozo, other artists unite to spread hope and charity



GLAZING LIFE
BY GLAZIZA LEE

FIRST met artist **Spencer Ozo** during the opening of his solo exhibit, titled *positive | negative*, at Connd Manila's Gallery C.

I remember being touched by his story of how his artistic journey began, how he channeled his pain of losing loved ones into the canvases.

And when someone survives that unbearable pain, it becomes his emphatic tool to become an emotional support for others.

This is perhaps one of the many reasons the artist participated in the fundraising

exhibit organized by the Rotary Club of Manila, the *Expanding Horizons*.

Ozo spent weeks with the members of Angels of Rindu Art Club (ARAC), the young artists living at Hospicio de San Jose in Manila City.

The artist created two artworks for the exhibit, together with the children. He did the initial sketches, and let the young artists paint the rest.

"I had so much fun working with the children. I would go here on weekends to paint with them. They have the talents, you just need to guide them and refine their technique," said Ozo.

What struck him during his visits was how much love and kindness these children have in their hearts even if they have nothing.

"There was one time when someone delivered food. They made sure that everyone had food. One of them was not in the room, but they saved food for him. It's easy for some of us to forget to be kind, but these children, it seems innate to them," shared Ozo.

Being generous even when you have nothing is simply love.

Generosity seems to be the theme of the exhibit. Other artists **Soleen Hensuaft**, **Melissa Yeung Yap**, **Kate Bautista**, **Jean Uy Yam**, and **Phillip Ong** also

shared their talents and materials with the kids. RCM also tapped these

artists to join the art exhibit for the benefit of Hospicio de San Jose Rindu Ward.

Aside from showcasing the artistic abilities and unique perspectives of the young artists, *Expanding Horizons* aims to raise funds for the completion of the Rindu ward, which will serve as the abode of kids with special needs staying inside the welfare institution.

True to its mission of making a positive difference in the community and creating hope in the world, the Rotary Club of Manila (RCM) has been supporting the hospicio for years.

Built in 1810, Hospicio de San Jose has been taking care of vulnerable children, and elderly, and people with special needs.

Hospicio de San Jose has taken many of them under its protection, providing them with a nurturing and supportive environment where medical and rehabilitative care, spiritual enrichment, psycho-social support, and companionship are available to them.

"I was looking for an opportunity where my talent will be an instrument to help others. I am so glad that two of my collaborative artworks were sold and will benefit the kids of Hospicio. The exhibit is still open and all are encouraged to get a piece of artwork in order to help," Ozo said.

Expanding Horizons Art Exhibit is on view until October 1, at LRI Design Plaza in Makati City.

With every painting, you get a feel of these children's love and more.



While working with the young artists, Spencer takes part in doing the initial sketches while the rest of the painting is done by the young artists



Actress Soleen Hensuaft (middle) together with Mike Albano (left) and Spencer Ozo (right), attend the launching of the Expanding Horizons art exhibit

INTERCLUB ACTIVITY

STAR Rtn. Al Katigbak Attends the Rotary Club of Lipa Induction Meeting



J Alfonso L Katigbak is at Aquamarine Recreational Center.

14m · 🌐

Congratulations to the [Rotary Club of Lipa - 1954!](#)

- 1) HCP Rosalino "Jun" Sanchez
RC Lipa President, RY 2023 to 2024
- 2) William P. Delloro
District Governor, RI District 3820, RY 2023 to 2024... See more



STAR Rtn. Al Katigbak attended the induction meeting of the Rotary Club of Lipa, a make-up attendance in lieu of attending the RC Manila meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2023.

FELLOWSHIP

Farewell Dinner Honoring ES Anna Kun Toledo's Dedication and Service



RCMFI hosted a farewell dinner for ES Anna Kun Toledo at Mazu, Seascap Village.

Thank you, RCMFI Chairman Lito Sibayan for hosting the dinner, and to IPC Pepo Nunez, Trustee/RCM PE Jujut, and IA Nick Locsin for the retirement gift. - Anna Kun Toledo

RECOGNITION CORNER



Congratulations, Treas. PJ Garcia, for finishing the Berlin full marathon! *Mabuhay!*

RECOGNITION CORNER



'Open a savings account in the Philippines': NDC head encourages Filipinos in Australia to invest

Published 25 September 2023 12:51pm

By TJ Correa



National Development Company of the Philippines General Manager Anton Mauricio is in Australia for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Melbourne and is holding meetings with entrepreneurs and the private sector regarding investments.

KEY POINTS

- The National Development Company is the official government investment arm and is one of the oldest Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) in the Philippines.
- General Manager Anton Mauricio visited Melbourne for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress but also had meetings with several entrepreneurs and investors in Australia.
- GM Mauricio encourages fellow Filipinos in Australia to invest in the Philippines, even through simple actions like opening a savings account or engaging in money market placements, especially in the digital age of transactions.

RECOGNITION CORNER

E28 PORTRAITS

Monday, 25 September 2023
Daily Tribune

PACO MAGSAYSAY

Keeping true to the legacy of his forebears while trailblazing on his own

"Although I come from a prominent political family, I am thankful that I grew up in a non-political household and was never forced into doing something that most people basically expected or assumed me to do as a Magsaysay."

BY 2020 G. SILVESTRE

The mere mention of Francisco "Paco" Magsaysay's family summons images of public service and commitment to the good of the common man.

His grandfather, known as the Gog, was the president who welcomed the Filipino people to Malacanan Palace. Led by the people, Ramon Magsaysay Sr. was easily the most popular president of the Philippines in the 20th century. It is a distinction that has yet to be — equally — surpassed.

On the other hand, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Paco's father, is a man after his father's heart — just as humble, upright and, well, firm, where defendant or his sense of humor is concerned. Jun Magsaysay, as a legislator, was known for sticking by his guns and not one to sacrifice principle all because of friendship or the personal interests of his friends or supporters.

Paco, at first glance, is just as friendly as his grandfather and as unassuming as his father, but certain traits of Paco may well be his unique contribution to his family's mystique. For one, he is very friendly and one who easily laughs and smiles. One would assume he is a man easy to deal with and, being a creature of his generation, very cool, a word that has never been used to refer to his forebears. Media has also described him as "a down-to-earth, amiable family man."

Ice cream lover from his youth

In the new millennium's popular culture, though, Paco will foremost be known as the young entrepreneur who gave us Carmen's Best, the ice cream brand that the Philippine Airlines serves on its international flights and one that people look forward to enjoying in parties, reunions and special or rare occasions that call for something different and extra special on the dining or coffee table. It is this singular achievement that has inspired many to regard him as a "visionary."

In an interview with Paco, who guested on *DAILY TRIBUNE* lifestyle online show, *Playoff*, hosted by Dinah Solad Ventura and Aps G. Silvestre, he related the beginnings of his masterpiece of an ice cream brand and how it rocketed to the top of the ice cream totem pole.

Paco had been focused on the trailblazing television cable business that his father, Jun Magsaysay, founded in the early 1970s, when the senator

asked his son to look into the dairy farm that he and his friends

established in Ilog, Laguna.

"Their intention was to produce 80 percent fresh milk. It meant that the milk was pasteurized at the right temperature of 26.5 degrees, which is not the case with most milk in the market. While it was good, being pure, it did not last as long as the other commercial brands because it did not contain preservatives. That was when my father asked me to help sell the milk so it doesn't get spoiled in the supermarket shelf."

In October 2009, Carmen's Best Dairy Products was registered, "but we were not thinking of making ice cream," recalled Paco. "Instead, we worked around flavored milk, cheese, pastillas and other milk-related products. Yet, our products did not reach their full potential."

"We offer high quality, locally made ice cream to the market. I think that's what makes it stand out. Consumers realize that upon first taste, 'Pure Indulgence,' our tagline, 'Pure Indulgence,' says everything about our product."

It would take some time before Paco would realize there was one dairy product that he loved as a young man — ice cream, which he had enjoyed in the United States where he grew up. "I tasted all kinds of Western flavors, and when I was traveling, I became enamored with the almond ice cream, I, in Spain and, then, the *Haley Poley* in New Zealand. 'I was fascinated because they weren't just ice cream that you ate. They had their stories, how they were conceived, what inspired their creation and which celebrity loved them."

"So, when we began making Carmen's Best, we had the common favorites or the basics — chocolate, strawberry and vanilla. Then, we moved to Salted Caramel, Double Chocolate, Butter Pecan and Malted Milk, which continue to be our bestsellers. What kept coming to my mind was I felt good eating them just as I did as a young traveler. It occurred to me that our ice cream was a lot different, something that I would be proud to share and sell to my countrymen."

Honoring Carmen

The brand name Carmen originated from his only daughter, Carmen. Jokingly, he said, "It sounded a lot better than Paco's Best." The name

Carmen, to him, epitomized top choice, one of superior quality. "It is my daughter's name, so I would not sacrifice quality. After all, we want the best for our children. The ingredients had to be of the highest quality and never mind if they were expensive. If we scrapped, that would not do justice to my daughter's name. We might just as well name it as something else."

Given his set ideal of a good ice cream tasted after his daughter, the beginning had not been easy for Paco. He related, "I began as a one-man team operation — from sourcing to purchasing ingredients, churning and mixing, product development and testing, marketing and sales. I had to do it all, and I did all of this from my own kitchen until the wee hours of the morning."

His education in ice cream began in "YouTube, a fact I am not ashamed to admit. Besides providing entertainment, YouTube is a treasure trove of information and learning."

But to learn more about ice cream — the history and science behind it, the latest technology, best practices and market trends — "and further improve my brand, I took up an ice cream short course at the Pinu State's famed Berber Creamery in 2011."

Beyond the initial stage, Paco had it all figured out, "because I was offering something that I enjoyed for myself, one that I was proud to serve and he knows he," he said. And, of course, his bottom line is always about "the use of fresh milk and cream to the point of my something like a broken record, but that's it. We do not add water, powdered milk and artificial flavorings. We use only premium ingredients."

Pure Indulgence

"We offer high quality, locally made ice cream to the market. I think that's what makes it stand out. Consumers realize that upon first taste, 'Pure Indulgence,' our tagline, 'Pure Indulgence,' says everything about our product."

The awards were forthcoming — the *Agrera Awards* in 2015, the *Maammoth* Innovation Award in 2022 and then, he was chosen as the *Italian Chamber of Commerce's* Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year and the *Ernst & Young* SGV Entrepreneur of the Year. The last specifically as the *Small Business Entrepreneur of the Year*.

Carmen's Best became a successful brand ("much to my shock and pleasant surprise) that we caught the attention and interest of a huge conglomerate. I cannot wait to see how far they will take Carmen's Best."

Of this recent development, he explained, "The Metro Pacific Agro Ventures Group of Many Pangilinan now owns 10 percent of Carmen's Best, which means it has full management of the company. As a minority stakeholder, I remain on the Board of Directors. I continue to promote it because people ask me to talk about Carmen's Best so that's what I do."

Exposed to grandparents

Paco and Cita Delgado

That he should succeed in the world of enterprise was always expected by those who knew Paco, a graduate of a *Master's in Entrepreneurship* degree from the Asian Institute of Management, from his youth. It was as though becoming a businessman and executive was his manifest destiny.

Paco recalled, "My interest in business probably stems from my early exposure to it. In 1985, at 12 years old, I worked at my Lolo Paco's gas station called *Motobike Haven*. I saw how the business was run. Since then, I dreamt of having my own business someday. I started small by selling sandwiches in school. I brought this entrepreneurial mindset until I was

ready to venture on my own."

Another inspiration was his maternal grandmother, Carmelita "Cita" Christian Delgado, who had an outstanding public relations acumen. "She was the kind of lady who made sure to bring home *pusadology* to the family's business associates and partners. I learned that thoughtfulness from her, her dealing with clients and people she transacted business on a personal and warm level. It is a style that I have internalized and has served me well. I always come home from abroad with some *pusadology*, just small things or delicacies that would show I value my friends and associates."

But the one role that he plays to the full and with greater pleasure is being a father.

Of the way he has raised his sons, Jaime and Miguel, he said, "As a father, I could be strict, but within reason. In that sense, I am more like a disciplinarian. I strive to be a good example for them so they grow up having the same ideals and principles as mine."

Jaime now is involved in the *Broadband Internet* business, while Miguel is with the *Global Corporate Group*.

Of his daughter, Carmen, on the other hand, he said, "Of course I am very protective of her, being my only girl. No matter how old she gets, she will always be my baby, and she knows that." Carmen works for *Curology*, a start-up cosmetics company in the US.

Fila Mita as surrogate mom

With his mom, Isabel Delgado long passed on, the other significant woman in his life is his paternal aunt, Mita, who is now the great dame of the Magsaysay family. "Since my mom Isabel died six years ago, Fila Mita has assumed the role of surrogate mom to me. I now having talks with my mom, listening to her stories and admonishing me (only sometimes), but I am grateful that I still get to experience that with my Fila Mita."

Moving Asian Vision Cable forward

Today, Paco continues to strengthen his father's visionary legacy as the *Father of Cable Television* in the Philippines. The top honcho of *Asian Vision Cable Holdings*, he related, "My father founded the company in 1972, so we have been around for more than 50 years."

Living up to the Magsaysay name outside of politics

Interestingly, entering politics — in which he has had more than ample exposure, having campaigned for his father Jun from north to south — has not occurred to him. "Although I come from a prominent political family, I am thankful that I grew up in a non-political household and was never forced into doing something that most people basically expected or assumed me to do as a Magsaysay."

What continues to run in his blood, though, are the Magsaysay virtues of honesty, integrity, hard work and enthusiasm in one's vocation, compassion and generous heart.

"I never got to meet my grandfather personally. What I know about him, I only learned through the stories and memories of my dad and Fila Mita. But from what I can tell, he was a man of action. Even as a young man, way before he became president, he was always doing something. Perhaps that restless spirit is something I share with him."

Paco, in keeping with the family tradition of public service, supports organizations that help the disadvantaged like the *Philippine General Hospital* and the *Rotary Club*. It is to Paco's credit that he has more than lived up to the expectations that come with bearing his illustrious family name. He has, on his own, shown how a Magsaysay could be distinct in his life's choices and still contribute to the well-being of his fellow Filipinos.



PHOTOGRAPH BY APUS VENTURA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE
PACO Magsaysay



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