

Official Newsletter of
Rotary Club of Manila

balita

ISSUE NO. 3991 | JANUARY 4, 2024

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



Eli M. Remolona Jr., PhD
Governor
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Kabalita

Supervising and regulating the banking industry is not an easy task. People look to the strength of our banks as a barometer of the economy's health. Over the years, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has played its role as a regulator with avidity and fastidiousness, unflinchingly looking at and pursuing its three pillars: price stability, financial stability, and an efficient and secure payments and settlements system. With its role as an enabler, mobilizer, and doer, the BSP has greatly contributed to the Philippines' current economic standing, which the World Bank projects to post the highest growth among Southeast Asian countries. Indeed, "strong domestic demand, growth in fixed capital investment, and supportive regulatory reforms that underpin the Philippines' unique economic resilience amid the global economic slowdown" are being cited as the reasons for such a rosy outlook.



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PROGRAM TIMETABLE

22nd Weekly Membership Meeting

Rotary Year 2023-2024

with

Rotary Club of Makati, Rotary Club of Makati West, and Rotary Club of Forbes Park

Thursday, January 04, 2023 12:15 PM

MANILA POLO CLUB

Moderator: PT JOSELITO "Lito" H. SIBAYAN

11:00 AM Registration

12:15 PM Call to Order

PRES. RAFAEL "Raffy" M. ALUNAN III

VICE-PRES/DIR. HOWARD "Howie" M. CALLEJA
(Rotary Club of Makati)

VICE-PRES. CHRISTOPHER "Dino" DUMATOL
(Rotary Club of Makati West)

PRES. ANTONIO "Anton" P. JACOMINA III
(Rotary Club of Forbes Park)

Invocation

RTN. FERNANDO "Ferdie" M. ORDOVEZA
(Rotary Club of Makati)

Philippine National Anthem

AVP of RCM Members

Rotary Club of Manila Hymn
Rotary Club of Makati Hymn
Rotary Club of Makati West Hymn
Rotary Club of Forbes Park Hymn

RCM WF Music Choral
RC Makati Choral - AVP
RC Makati West Members
Rotary Club of Forbes Park Choral

The Four (4) Way Test

PP RUBEN L. TORRES
(RC Forbes Park)

Acknowledgement of Guests

PT JOSELITO "Lito" H. SIBAYAN

Welcome Song

RCM WF Music Choral



PROGRAM TIMETABLE

22nd Weekly Membership Meeting

Birthday Celebrants

RC Manila:

Dec. 28	Rtn. Joey Syjuco
	Rtn. Gani Macatoman
Dec. 29	PDSAA Dave Reynolds
Dec. 30	Rtn. Bon Li
	Rtn. Shigeru Shimoda
Jan. 02	Rtn. Juan Dayang
Jan. 03	Rtn. Sinan Batur

RC Makati:

Jan. 05	Rtn. Paquito Dizon
	Dir. Porsche Peña
Jan. 07	Rtn. Shav Halley
	Rtn. Philip Mallari

Wedding Anniversary

Jan. 08	Rtn. Toffy & Marisa Concepcion
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RC Makati West:

Jan. 05	PP Fern Pena
Jan. 10	Rtn. Juni del Rosario

Maligayang Bati / Happy Birthday Song

RCM WF Chorale

12:45 PM Introduction of the Panelists for Q & A

PT JOSELITO "Lito" H. SIBAYAN

- 1.VPE JOEL VALDES – Chair of the Panel
- 2.RTN. ISIDRO "Butch" ALCANTARA - Panelist
- 3.TREAS. PAUL JOSEPH "PJ" GARCIA - Panelist
- 4.PP EDUARD "Eddie" YAP (RC Makati) - Panelist
- 5.PP EDGARDO "Tedjie" HERBOSA (RC Forbes Park) - Panelist

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

22nd Weekly Membership Meeting

12:50 PM	Introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker	RTN. ANTONILO “Anton” DC. MAURICIO
	Guest of Honor and Speaker	
	Address:	
	DR. ELI M. REMOLONA JR. <i>Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas</i>	
1:30 PM	Open Forum / Q.A.	
1:50 PM	Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation	PRES. RAFAEL M. “Raffy” ALUNAN III VICE-PRES. CHRISTOPHER “Dino” DUMATOL <i>(RC Makati West)</i>
2:00 PM	Adjournment	PRES. RAFAEL “Raffy” M. ALUNAN III VICE-PRES/DIR. HOWARD “Howie” M. CALLEJA <i>(Rotary Club of Makati)</i> VICE-PRES. CHRISTOPHER “Dino” DUMATOL <i>(Rotary Club of Makati West)</i> PRES. ANTONIO “Anton” P. JACOMINA III <i>(Rotary Club of Forbes Park)</i>

GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER



Eli M. Remolona Jr., PhD
Governor
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Dr. Eli Remolona is the seventh Governor of the BSP and Chairman of the Monetary Board.

Governor Remolona has extensive policy and operational experience on monetary policy and international finance, having worked for 19 years at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and 14 years for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

From 2019 to 2022, Governor Remolona served as professor of finance and director of central banking at the Asia School of Business in Kuala Lumpur. He also taught at Williams College, Columbia University, New York University, and the University of the Philippines-School of Economics.

Before his appointment to the Monetary Board in 2022, Governor Remolona served as independent director of a Universal Bank and chairman of its risk management committee.

He earned his PhD in Economics with distinction from Stanford University and obtained his bachelor's degree in Economics with honors from the Ateneo de Manila University.

NEW YEAR MESSAGE



Rafael "Raffy" Alunan III
President, Rotary Club of Manila
RY2023-2024

Dear fellow RCMers,

We enter the New Year full of hope, enthusiasm and anticipation of good things to come; and as we always say, hopefully better than the previous year. But hope alone is not enough. We need to convert our hope into action in consonance with our 2023-2024 Rotary theme "Create Hope in the World". Create is the operative word. We must create hope together, not apart.

Last year, your BOD conducted a Club Health Check that led to a General Assembly to address common concerns. It was followed by a special GA on the suggestion of the Ethics Committee and some members. All told, we all recognize that the state of the club could be much better. And the only way for conditions to improve is when every member sincerely works for it.

I congratulate our committees who've been quietly at work, laying the groundwork for lift-off in the second half of RY2023-2024. We have so many good ideas and plans. So, what we need to do is to band together and lift RCM to the next level. Cooperation, not confrontation, should be the way to go. Our focus should be on our stakeholders, those with less in life, than us.

My prayer is for all of us to work in friendship and harmony, in consonance with Rotary's 4-way Test, for causes larger than ourselves; and to help each other attain our declared goals for RCM's greater glory. It requires setting aside any negative attitude and behavior that hinder, rather than enhance, the club's performance and progress.

2024 gives us another fresh opportunity, as in years past, to reboot and start over. Let's allow the purity of good faith steer and propel us towards the right direction in the months to come. RCM needs every one of us to reclaim precious ground and forge ahead. May the Good Lord bless us and our families year-round with inner peace, joy and prosperity.

Happy New Year everyone!

EDITOR'S NOTE

Musings on Well-Being, Humility, and Kindness.

At this day and age, one's well-being must be our priority, as it is only with a healthy mind and body that we are able to function at our optimal best. This means that we need to eradicate anything that brings toxicity in our lives, and devote our time and headspace only for people and advocacies that matter most to us. As we welcome a brand-new year, and as we see the constant changes, as well as all the drama, in the world around us, it is always best to keep calm, listen to and heed our inner voice, dig deep into our hearts, and allow ourselves to be guided by our North Star. 2024 should be a year when we wisely limit and choose those that add, not subtract, meaning to our lives.



Raoul C. Creencia
Editor-in-Chief, balita

* * *

With the woeful passing of PP Frank Evaristo, the Rotary Club of Manila once again lost another genteel individual who graced the Club, and served it well. I have always seen him as an unassuming, humble, and soft-spoken Rotarian. Unlike most members, I did not have the opportunity to closely work with PP Frank. However, I had the chance to sit beside him a couple of times during our weekly membership meetings (the last one was during the June 29, 2023 commencement program of IPP Hermie at Fairmont Hotel). During those occasions, he would share some highlights of his life as a Rotarian, as well as his thoughts and insights, including his experience when he served as President. All I can say is that PP Frank is a devoted Rotarian, and one person who is definitely worth emulating, not just in his outlook, but also in his demeanor and humble ways. I salute you, PP Frank, for your humility and self-effacing service to Rotary and its worthwhile causes.

* * *

Kindness. This is what our parents taught us. This is what was constantly instilled in our minds during our kindergarten year. I think this is what we need to revisit: our kindergarten rules. What are these? Be respectful. Fall in line. Wash your hands. Cut your nails. Be helpful. Clean your desk. Say 'good morning' or 'good afternoon' as the case may be. Throw your trash inside the bin. Wait for your turn. Be kind.

Let us not forget these basic kindergarten learnings, which we ironically sometimes forget to live by as adults.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, my Manila Rotarian brothers!

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023



Rotary Club of Manila
2nd General Assembly
14 December 2023, 12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Manila Polo Club



PROGRAM MODERATOR



Rtn. Francisco "Paco" Magsaysay proficiently served as program moderator of the second General assembly, ably navigating the program sequence. Rtn. Paco began by inviting Manila Rotarians to be seated to allow the meeting to officially commence. During the open forum, he was assisted by **BLA Raoul Creencia** as co-moderator.



CALL TO ORDER

Sounding the bell, **Pres. Rafael "Raffy" M. Alunan III** called the 2nd General Assembly to order.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

INVOCATION



With a beautifully composed prayer, **STAR Rtn. Christian Cesar "Chris" Bello** led the invocation for the membership.

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM / RCM HYMN



Rotary Members and guests took a position of respect as they sang the Philippine National Anthem. This was followed by the singing of the RCM Hymn.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

FOUR-WAY TEST



Rotarians were again reminded of their commitment to live by the Four-Way Test, with the recitation of this mantra led by **VP Reginald "Reggie" Yu**.

PRESIDENT'S TIME



Pres. Raffy gave a brief message to underscore the context and importance of the General Assembly.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

TRANSITION TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY



In his opening statement, **PDG Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan**, the designated Chair/GA Presiding Officer, requested the approval of the formation and organization of the Ad Hoc GA Leadership and management structure, as well as the guidelines in the conduct of the assembly. The proposed Ad Hoc GA structure was approved by everyone in attendance. Notably, a "No quorum" was declared, as well.



Rtn. Paco Magsaysay read the proposed Rules and Procedures of the 2nd Gen. Assembly, which was approved by everyone in attendance.



Rtn. Carlos "Caloy" Serapio read the Report of the Ethics Committee, which articulated its findings and recommendations.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023



PP Archit Bartolome, representing the Council of Past Presidents (COPP), announced the positive outcome of the meeting that was held earlier that morning. This was followed by the encouraging and hope-filled messages of **DGE Jackie Rodriguez** and **IPP Hermie Esguerra**.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

OPEN FORUM



During the open forum, several Manila Rotarians propounded some questions and comments.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

USAGE OF VIBER GROUP NEW RULES



BLA Raoul Creencia read out the guidelines / rules on the usage of the RCM's social media chat groups.

ADJOURNMENT



Pres. Raffy Alunan, with the sound of the bell, coupled with a heartwarming Christmas message of peace for everyone, adjourned the GA.

2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023

MEETING FELLOWSHIP



2nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY: A RECAP

December 14, 2023





CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2023-2024

DECEMBER 2023	December 07, 2023 KAREN DAVILA	December 14, 2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY	December 21, 2023 HOLIDAY BREAK	December 28, 2023 HOLIDAY BREAK
MEMBERS PRESENT	36	56	0	0
MAKE UP ATTENDEES	3	17	0	0
EXEMPTED FROM ATTENDANCE	3	3	0	0
ON LEAVE	0	0	0	0
Total Active Members	36	70	0	0
Total # of Members	241	241	241	241
TOTAL ATTENDANCE %:	15%	29%	0%	0%
ROTARACTORS	0	0	0	0
MEDIA	1	0	0	0
EMBASSIES / DIPLOMATIC CORPS	0	0	0	0
DG, DGE, DGN, PDG	1	4	0	0
GOHS / GS	9	0	0	0
Visiting Rotarians	0	0	0	0
Guests of RCM MEMBERS	2	0	0	0
TOTAL ATTENDEES	47	56	0	0

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

LIST OF ATTENDEES

1	Albaña, Michael Jaey C
2	Alcantara, Isidro C.
3	Alunan III, Rafael M.
4	Andal, Avelino L.
5	Bartolome III, Arsenio M.
6	Bediones, Rodolfo P.
7	Bogovich, Jason M.
8	Carlos, Vicente J.
9	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef M.
10	Cenica, John T.
11	Chotrani, Johnny N.
12	Co, Ferdinand C.
13	Creencia, Raoul C.
14	Cureg, Alexander P.
15	Del Rosario Sr., Oscar A.
16	Enriquez III, Eduardo V.
17	Esguerra, Herminio S.
18	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V.
19	Garcia, Paul Joseph M.
20	Go, Henry S.
21	Koh, Paul Anthony T
22	La'o Emilio, Gonzales
23	Lazaro, Juan Miguel G
24	Locsin, Arsenio Z.
25	Lopez, Antonio S.
26	Lopez, Arthur M.
27	Magpale, Jose Paolo A
28	Magsaysay, Francisco D.

29	Magsaysay, Jesus Vicente E.
30	Martinez, Ronald
31	Matschuck, Guenter Gerhard G.
32	Nolido, Ramon Alberto B.
33	Obrado, Daniel Calzado
34	Ong, Phillip L.
35	Pagdanganan, Roberto M.
36	Palacios, Albert C.
37	Pascual, Abraham F.
38	Peliño, Wilfredo M.
39	Pineda, Jr. Patricio F.
40	Pineda, Jr., Jesus M.
41	Reynolds, David J.
42	Rodriguez Sr., Joaquin C.
43	Rodriguez, Joaquin Anthony H.
44	Serapio, Carlos G.
45	Sibayan, Joselito H.
46	So, Warren S.
47	Stranathan, Ike Edward
48	Talusan, Ferdinand E
49	Valdes, Joel C.
50	Valencia, John Nico P.
51	Yu, Reginald Tieng
52	Zeitouni, Nagi
53	Steley, Colin
54	Simon, Juanito A.
55	Bello, Christian Cesar P.
56	Lorenzana, Delfin



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

LIST OF ABSENTEES

1	Aboy, Valentino G.	47	Dela Cruz, Joseph Emmanuel A.
2	Abriam, Ariel	48	Diokno, Benjamin E.
3	Acosta, Crispiniano G.	49	Dionisio, Rafael Ignacio S.
4	Agnes, Jerry A.	50	Domingo, Rico V.
5	Alberto, Raymund Arnold S.	51	Dominguez III, Carlos G.
6	Alday, Albert Singson	52	Dy, Manuel C.
7	Alingog, Aldous A.	53	Echavez, Antonio V.
8	Ampil, Alvin R.	54	Egan, Brendan W.L.
9	Ang, Richard T.	55	Eldebs, Issam
10	Angara, Marius	56	Engelbrecht, Francois
11	Aragon, Joshua Reuben	57	Esquivias, Joaquin Pablo A.
12	Arguelles, Pablo C.	58	Eugenio, John Emyl G.
13	Aventura Jr. Avenilo L.	59	Evaristo, Frank
14	Balanay, Aries B.	60	Fajardo, Beda G.
15	Batur, Sinan	61	Flameño, Franco Martell Sacramento
16	Bautista, John Jr. I.	62	Follosco, Ceferino Jr. G.
17	Bella Jr. Geronimo P.	63	Garcia, Herbert Joey
18	Benedicto III, Bernardo T.	64	Garcia, Theodore Q
19	Benedicto, Sixto T.	65	Garcia, III Victor G.
20	Bertelsen Bertel, Ingmar	66	Gaspar, Fernando L.
21	Bhalla, Pardeep	67	Gierran, Dante A.
22	Biltz, Olivier	68	Go, Daniel C.
23	Blanco, Manuel M.	69	Go, Michael G.
24	Bolton, Wilhelm	70	Goco, Raoul Roberto P
25	Branellec, Jacques	71	Gonzalez, Michael Raymond L.
26	Buendia, Carlos C.	72	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy H.
27	Caasi, Jr., Urbano S.	73	Guevara, Jr., Domingo S.
28	Cabangon, Edgard A.	74	Guevara, Ricardo S.
29	Cabuñag, Rogelio R.	75	Hallare, Jr., Delfin T.
30	Camat, Nathaniel	76	Hallare, Nicolo S.
31	Campos, Jr., Joselito D.	77	Hallerbach, Mathias
32	Camus, Jose Fernando B	78	Harle, Wolfgang Kurt
33	Canon, Raul Jr. E.	79	Hernandez, Edwin H
34	Carranceja, Arvin Arik B	80	Hesse, Uwe
35	Catalan, Rodillo R.	81	Hortaleza, Rolando B
36	Chahwan, Rami	82	Ibuyan, Benedict Julius F.
37	Chien, Liang-Tah Steve	83	Jang, Jae Jung
38	Coyiuto, Jr., Robert G.	84	Joseph, Ralph Lim
39	Cutter, John Michael	85	Joseph, Robert Ian M
40	David, Virgilio	86	Jucaban, Jeric J.
41	Davis, Raymond N.	87	Juico, Francis E.
42	Dayang, Jr Juan E.	88	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro Y IV
43	De Castro, Juan Arturo Iluminado C.	89	Katigbak, J Alfonso Leonor
44	De Venecia, Jr., Jose C.	90	Klebs, David
45	Del Valle, Randolph T	91	Kunack, Lutz H.
46	Dela Cruz, Artemio F.	92	Lacambacal, Alvin D.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

LIST OF ABSENTEES

93	Lacson, Sebastian Arsenio R.	139	Roño, Marlon R.
94	Laurel, Ricardo P.	140	Roxas, Michael D.
95	Laya, Jaime C.	141	Sarasola II, Jose Ma. I.
96	Ledda, Jaime Victor B.	142	Sarmiento, Ricardo M.
97	Lee, Richard L.	143	Schmitz, Stefan
98	Li, Richard Joseph Chang	144	Schneider, Bernd
99	Liamzon Jr., Romeo Thaddeus R.	145	Schoucair, Farid Alain
100	Lim, David Eduardo T.	146	Sevilla, Luis Angelo L.
101	Lim, Richard	147	Shimoda, Shigeru
102	Locsin, Roberto R	148	Sicat, Michael Allan E.
103	Lonzaga, Reinerio C.	149	Sobrepeña, Robert John L.
104	Lopa, Antonio A.	150	Soler, Jose Antonio A.
105	Macapagal, Michael T	151	Syjuco, Jr., Jose A.
106	Macatoman, Abdulgani M.	152	Tagaysay, Hector O.
107	Magbanua, Gerry P.	153	Talampas, Jose Angel L.
108	Manalaysay, Cesar P.	154	Tamano, Shalimar H.
109	Mangalile, Senen T.	155	Tamayo, Victor L.
110	Mauricio, Antonilo DC	156	Tan, Eusebio V.
111	Meloto Jr., Antonio	157	Tan, John G.
112	Mendoza, Estelito P.	158	Tan, Lawrence Li
113	Mendoza, Miguel	159	Tang, Jimmy T.
114	Mendoza, Raymund Joseph Ian O.	160	Tanglao, Noel V.
115	Mommaerts, Steve	161	Taylor-Dormond, Marvin
116	Montel, Juan Manuel C.	162	Tee, Teddy Jr. B.
117	Mueller, Klaus	163	Tejuma, Sham Michael
118	Nones, Romeo C.	164	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael L.
119	Núñez, Jr., Jose A.	165	Uy, Ivan John Enrile
120	Ocampo, Teodoro J.	166	Valdez, Amado D.
121	Ong, Jovee K.	167	Valdez, Jason Rolando N.
122	Ozaeta, Miguel Antonio L.	168	Valencia, Rodolfo G.
123	Pallasigue, John Brian	169	Vazquez, Evaristo Jr.
124	Pañares, Ben Thomas P.	170	Villarica, Henry R.
125	Patterson, Colin David	171	Villegas, Raoul A.
126	Payumo, Felicito C.	172	Wombwell, Philip B
127	Pizarras, Jordan M.	173	Yap, Enrique Y. Jr.
128	Preysler, Jr., Fausto R.	174	Yu, Geoffrey C.
129	Pujalte, Jr., Jose S.	175	Yujuico, Brendon M.V.
130	Quisumbing, Ramon De Jesus DP	176	Zaldarriaga, Felix Francisco S.
131	Ramos, Claver P.	177	Zheng, Zhi Hao
132	Rast, Tobias	178	Zalcita, Xavier Y.
133	Recto, Philip H.	179	Zimmer, Christopher
134	Reyes, Crispino P.	180	Cortez, Lorenzo
135	Robertz, Constantine Franz Josef	181	Yasushi, Iwata
136	Rodriguez, Gerard Sean	182	Nomura, Kazuhiro
137	Romualdez, Ferdinand Martin G.	183	Almelor, Manuel G. MD
138	Romualdez, Jose Manuel G.	184	Co, Val Constantine L.
		185	Zosa, Rolando M.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

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

(As of January 3, 2024)

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	Ampil, Alvin R.
11	Angara, Marius
12	Aragon, Joshua
13	Arguelles, Pablo
14	Aventura, Avenilo, Jr. "Jun" L.
15	Balanay, Aries
16	Bartolome, Arsenio III "Archit" M.
17	Batur, Sinan
18	Bautista, John
19	Bediones, Rodolfo "Rudy" P.
20	Bella, Geronimo, Jr. "Jun" Dela Paz
21	Bello, Christian Cesar "Chris"
22	Benedicto, Sixto "Noy" T.
23	Bertelsen, Bertel Ingmar
24	Blanco, Manuel "Manny" M.
25	Bogovich, Jason M.
26	Bolton, Wilhelm "Bollie"
27	Branelec, Jacques
28	Cabangon, Edgard
29	Cabuñag, Rogelio R. "Roger"
30	Camat, Nathaniel
31	Campos, Joselito, Jr. "Butch" D.
32	Camus, Fernando "Nando"
33	Canon, Raul Jr. E. "Butch"
34	Carlos, Vicente "Vince" J.
35	Carranceja, Arvin Arik
36	Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef "Karlo"
37	Catalan, Rodillo "Teng"
38	Cenica, John
39	Chahwan, Rami
40	Co, Val Constantine "Val"
41	Cortez, Lorenzo Ruiz
42	Coyuto, Robert, Jr. "Jun" G.
43	Creencia, Raoul
44	Cureg, Alexander "Alex" P.
45	Cutter, John Michael "Michael"
46	Davis, Raymond "Rey" N.
47	Dayang, Juan E. "Jed"
48	De Castro, Juan Arturo Ilumindo C. "Johnny"
49	De Venecia, Jose Jr. "Joe"
50	Del Rosario, Oscar
51	Dionisio, Rafael Ignacio
52	Domingo, Rico V.

53	Dominguez, III, Carlos "Sonny" G.
54	Dy, Manuel "Manny" C.
55	Egan, Brendan "Bren" W.L.
56	Eldebs, Issam "Sam"
57	Enriquez, Eduardo III "Jujut" V.
58	Esguerra, Herminio "Hermie" S.
59	Esquivias, Joaquin Pablo "Jop" A.
60	Eugenio, John Emyl "Emyl" G.
61	Fajardo, Beda G.
62	Fernandez, Antonio Jaime Jose V. "JJ"
63	Flameno, Franco Martell S.
64	Follosco, Ceferino, Jr. "Jun" G.
65	Garcia, Herbert Joey "Joey" D.
66	Garcia, Paul Joseph "PJ"
67	Garcia, Theodore Q. "Teddy"
68	Garcia, Victor III G. "Vic"
69	Go, Daniel "Danny" C.
70	Go, Henry Sy
71	Go, Michael Guy
72	Goco, Raoul
73	Guarin, Michael Arcatomy "Mike" H.
74	Guevara, Domingo, Jr. "Boy" S.
75	Guevara, Ricardo "Ricky" S.
76	Hallare, Delfin, Jr. "Jun" T.
77	Hallare, Nicolo "Nic" S.
78	Hallerbach, Mathias
79	Hernandez, Edwin
80	Hortaleza, Rolando
81	Ibuyan, Benedict Julius "Ben"
82	Iwata, Yasushi
83	Joseph, Ralph L. "Raf"
84	Jucaban, Jeric J.
85	Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro IV "Teddy" A. Y.
86	Katigbak, Alfonso Leonor
87	Klebs, David
88	Koh, Paul Anthony
89	Kunck, Lutz H.
90	Lacambacal, Alvin D.
91	Lacson, Sebastian "Basty"
92	La'o, Emilio Gonzalez
93	Laurel, Ricardo "Ricky" P.
94	Laya, Jaime "Jimmy" C.
95	Lazaro, Juan Miguel "Miguel"
96	Ledda, Jaime Victor "Jet" B.
97	Lee, Richard "Dick" L.
98	Li, Richard Joseph Chang
99	Liamzon, Romeo Thaddeus "Thad" R.
100	Lim, David Eduardo Ty
101	Lim, Richard
102	Locsin, Arsenio "Nick" Z.
103	Locsin, Roberto R. "Boj"
104	Lonzaga, Reinerio "Ner" C.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

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

105	Lopez, Antonio "Tony"
106	Lopez, Arthur "Art" M.
107	Macapagal, Michael "Mac"
108	Macatoman, Abdulgani "Gani"
109	Magbanua, Gerry
110	Magpale, Jose Paolo A.
111	Magsaysay, Francisco "Paco" D.
112	Magsaysay, Jesus Vicente Enciso "JV"
113	Manalaysay, Cesar P "Citos"
114	Mangalile, Senen
115	Martinez, Ronald
116	Matschuck, Guenter "Gunter" G.
117	Mauricio, Antonilo "Anton"
118	Mendoza, Estelito "Titong" P.
119	Mendoza, Miguel "Mico"
120	Mendoza, Raymund Joseph Ian "Raji" O.
121	Mommaerts, Steve "Momo"
122	Montel, Juan Manuel C.
123	Nolido, Ramby
124	Nones, Romeo "Romy" C.
125	Nunez, Jose, Jr. "Pepo" A.
126	Obrado, Daniel C.
127	Ocampo, Teodoro "Teddy" J.
128	Ong, Phillip "Phil" L.
129	Pagdanganan, Roberto "Obet" M.
130	Palacios, Albert "Hans" C.
131	Pallasigue, John Brian "JB"
132	Pañares, Ben Thomas "Toby" P.
133	Pascual, Abraham "Abe" F.
134	Patterson, Colin David
135	Payumo, Felicitio C.
136	Peliño, Wilfredo "Willie" M.
137	Pineda, Jr., Jesus "Susing" M.
138	Pineda, Jr., Patricio "Bebot" F.
139	Pizarra, Jordan M.
140	Preysler, Fausto, Jr. R.
141	Pujalte, Jose Jr. "Brix"
142	Quisumbing, Ramon "Mon" J.
143	Ramos, Claver P.
144	Rast, Tobias "Tobi"
145	Recto, Philip H.
146	Reyes, Crispino P. "Babes"
147	Reynolds, David John "Dave"
148	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jack" H.
149	Rodriguez, Joaquin "Jackie" C.
150	Romualdez, Ferdinand "Martin"
151	Romualdez, Jose Manuel "Babe" G.
152	Roño, Marlon

153	Roxas, Michael D. "Mike"
154	Sarasola, II, Jose Ma. "Joey" I.
155	Sarmiento, Ricardo Manuel M. "Rocco"
156	Schimitz, Stefan
157	Schneider, Bernd
158	Serapio, Carlos G. "Caloy"
159	Sevilla, Luis Angelo "L.A." L.
160	Shimoda, Shigeru
161	Sibayan, Joselito "Lito" H.
162	Simon, Juanito Ayson
163	So, Warren
164	Sobrepeña, Robert John I. "Bob"
165	Soler, Jose Antonio Andaya
166	Souvlakis, Nicolas
167	Steeley, Collin
168	Stranathan, Ike Edward "Ike"
169	Syjuco, Jose, Jr. "Joey" A.
170	Tagaysay, Hector "Chito"
171	Talampas, Jose Angel "Joel"
172	Talusan, Ferdinand "Inov"
173	Tamano, Shalimar "Shah" H.
174	Tamayo, Victor "Butch" L.
175	Tan, Eusebio "Ebot" V.
176	Tan, John G.
177	Tanglao, Noel V.
178	Taylor-Dormond, Marvin
179	Tee, Jr., Teddy B.
180	Tejuma, Michael "Mike"
181	Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael "Hansel"
182	Valdes, Joel C.
183	Valdez, Amado "Amading" D.
184	Valencia, John Nico "Nico" P.
185	Valencia, Rodolfo "Rod" G.
186	Vazquez, Evaristo Jr. "Junjie"
187	Villarica, Henry R.
188	Villegas, Raoul A.
189	Wombwell, Philip Brian
190	Yap, Enrique, Jr. "Rickie" Y.
191	Yu, Geoffrey C. "Geof"
192	Yu, Reginald "Reggie" T.
193	Yujico, Brendon M.V.
194	Zaldarriaga, Felix Francisco "Chito" S.
195	Zeitouni, Nagi
196	Zheng, Zhihao "Jerry"
197	Zialcita, Xavier "Xavy" Y.
198	Zimmer, Christopher "Chris"

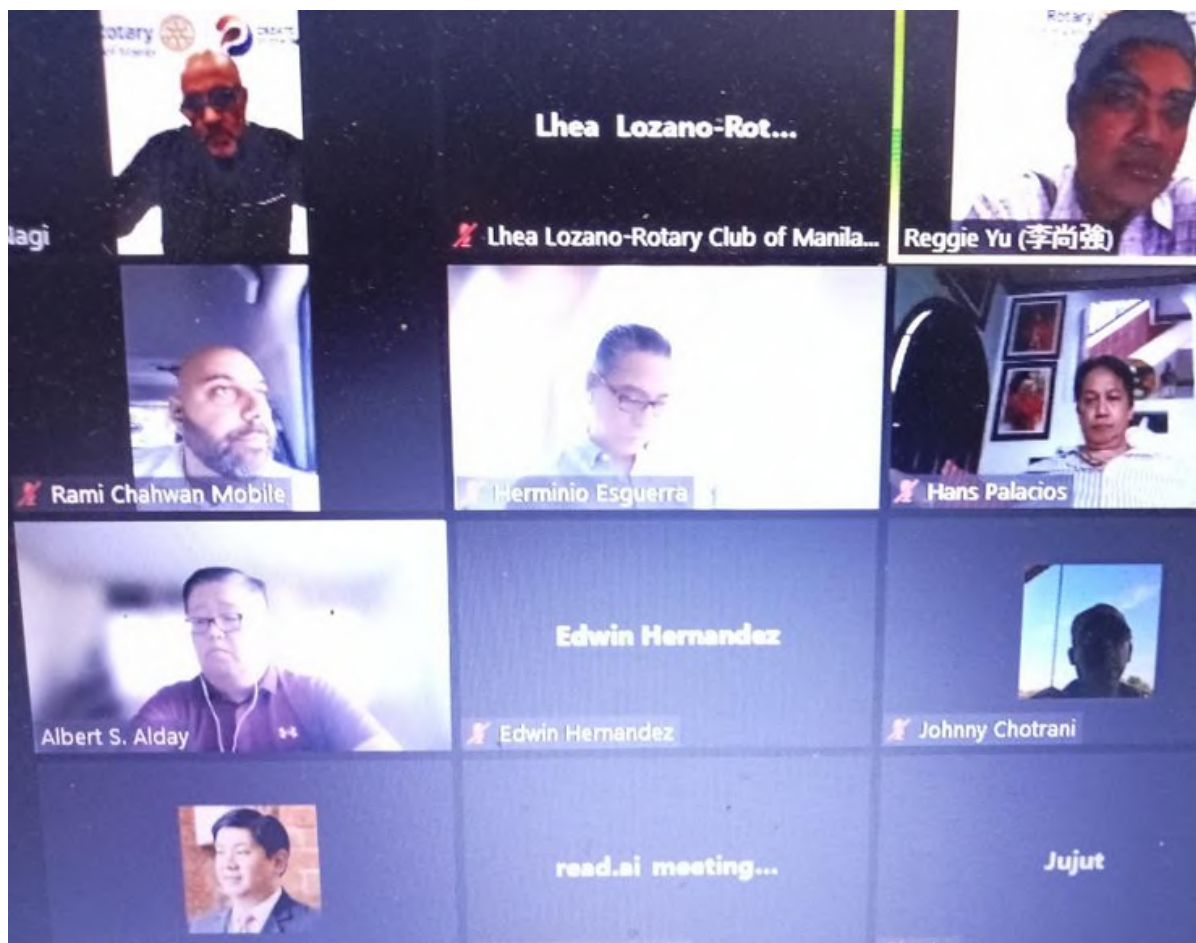
PARTIALLY PAID

1	Agnes, Jerry A.
2	Andal, Avelino L. "Billy"
3	Buendia, Carlos C. "Caloy"
4	Chotrani, Johnny N.

5	Dela Cruz, Artemio F "Art"
6	Dela Cruz, Joseph Emmanuel A. "Emman"
7	Tan, Lawrence Li "Lance"
8	Valdez, Jason Roland N.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

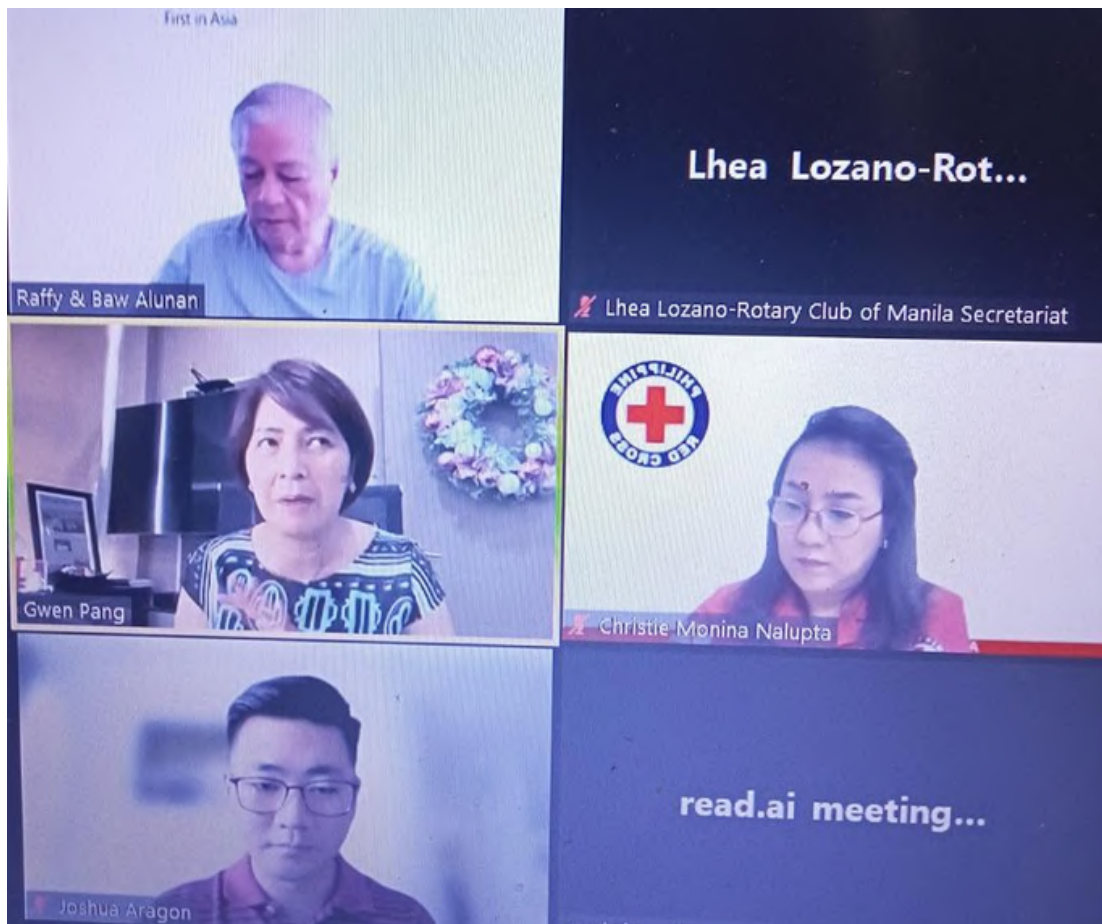
6th Special Board Meeting



On December 21, 2023, the 6th Special Board Meeting took place. Present were VP Reggie Yu, SAA Nagi Zeitouni, AS Rami Chahwan, IPP Hermie Esquerre, Dir. Hans Palacios, Dir. Albert Alday, Sec. Edwin Hernandez, Dir. Johnny Chotrani, DE/ABLA Teddy Kalaw, Dir./PE Jujut Enriquez and Dir. Mike Albana.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER RELIEF COMMITTEE

Meeting with Philippine Red Cross to Discuss Potential Partnership



On December 18, 2023, a meeting was held with the Philippine Red Cross to discuss potential tie-up activities and partnership with the Rotary Club of Manila. Present at the meeting were Ms. Gwen Pang, the Executive Director of the Philippine Red Cross, Dra. Christie Monina Nalupta, the Director of Blood Services, Rtn. Joshua Aragon, the Emergency and Disaster Relief Committee Chair, and Pres. Raffy Alunan.

Medical Mission at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Muntinlupa City



Dr. Chatty Francisco, Head of the Commission on Service to Human Promotion (COSHP) at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Muntinlupa City, delivered a briefing to the volunteer doctors, President Raffy Alunan, and Dr. John Cenica prior to the medical mission on December 15, 2023. The medical mission was a collaborative project between the Rotary Club of Manila and COSHP.

From left: Dr. Robert V. Sevellano, Dr. Mark Rico, Dr. Shinmei Q. Sugawara, Dr. Marie Denise Tan, Dr. Irina Cortez, Rtn. Dr. John Cenica, Pres. Raffy Alunan, Ms. Joan Cenica, Ms. Celyn Sta. Ana (COSHP).



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE



**THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, MEMBERSHIP
AND STAFF OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA**

condole with the family of

Past President FRANK A. EVARISTO

Who Joined our Creator on December 28, 2023



Inducted as member of Rotary Club of Manila 2009

Paul Harris Fellow +1; Leon Lambert Fellow 2019

Rotary Club of Manila President- 2014-2015; Vice President 2010-2011;

Director 2013-2014; PRO 2009-2010

Rotarian of the Year Awardee 2011-2012; Best Attendance Awardee for 5 years

Rotary Club of Raha Sulayman President 1998-2000; Member 1984-2000

Rotary Club of Makati West 2000-2003

President, Alay Lakad Foundation

Wake will be at the Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park (Chapel dela Virgen)

December 29 Friday 4PM to 10PM; December 30 Saturday 10AM to 10PM

December 31 Sunday Mass at 10AM with Cremation at Heritage Park, Taguig City

First in Asia, Club No. 16985, Charter No. 478
R.I. District 3810



RCM Necrological Rites for PP Frank Evaristo

Opening Prayer by PP Boy Guevara

Dear Heavenly Father,

As we gather in this solemn moment to celebrate the life of our dear friend, Frank Evaristo, who has left us to be with you, we turn to You for comfort and strength.

We are grateful for the time we shared with Frank, for the laughter, the love, and the memories that bind us together. Grant us the strength to support one another during this difficult time, and may the sharing of stories and memories bring both tears and smiles as we reflect on the beautiful life we were privileged to share with him.

We also pray for his family, his children and grandchildren that they may feel you so close during this difficult time and may they find peace in your holy presence.

We honor Frank's memory with gratitude for the impact he had on our lives. May this gathering be a testament to a life well-lived.

Lord, be with us in our mourning, and guide us with Your love as we celebrate and commemorate the life of our dear friend. We commend Frank into Your loving hands, trusting in Your mercy and grace. May his soul find eternal rest and peace in Your presence.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen.





Eulogy by Pres. Raffy Alunan

Good evening. First of all, may I convey in behalf of the Rotary Club of Manila our sincerest condolences and deepest sympathies to Marieliese, Carlo, her brother Rolly (who happens to be my cousin-in-law), and the rest of the Evaristo and Saldana families for the sudden passing of Past President Frank the other day. He was 82 years old.

We also would like to thank Marieliese and Rolly for allowing us to hold this service for him on such short notice. We promise to keep it within half an hour to give way to the 7pm mass. Some of us visited yesterday afternoon. Others are abroad or out of town but they too have expressed their profound sadness.

Some of us are here today: Reggie Yu, Ricky Guevara, Albert Alday, Archit Bartolome, Boy Guevara, Abe Pascual, Hans Palacios, Johnny Chotrani, Chito Zaldarriaga, Oscar del Rosario, Philp Recto, Gani Macatoman, Dong Benedicto, Rod Valencia, Obet Pagdaganan, Art Lopez, and Francis Juico.

Frank was talented and dedicated in whatever he set out to do. From what we know of him, he was a successful entrepreneur; a journalist; a true pillar of society, through the associations and clubs in which he was a distinguished member and leader of such as the Jaycees, Rotary and Alay Lakad. Frank was a devoted father and grandfather, and to all the countless lives he touched through his good works.

I met Frank during my stint in government and thereafter. He was then a columnist for the Manila Bulletin lending his voice to worthy causes, and helping the Ramos government public relations. My first and lasting impression of Frank was positive, in that he was good-natured, genteel, congenial and always ready to lend a hand.





Eulogy by Pres. Raffy Alunan

I recall the Annual Alay Lakad events at Rizal Park during President Ramos' term. FVR would egg him to join literally the front line with the composite battalion of soldiers and policemen jogging in unison right behind us. After I left public office, I continued participating in Alay Lakad with the Lopez Group pursuant to corporate wellness objectives and, eventually, after I joined RCM eight years ago.

But let me backtrack a bit. I looked up Frank's file and concluded that he was a man for all reasons and seasons. He was elected as National President of JCI Philippines in 1980; elected President of the Rotary Club of Raha Sulayman from RY1998 to 2000.

He assumed the presidency of the Alay Lakad Foundation in 2001, raising funds for thousands of out-of-school youths in the process. He rose to the presidency of the Rotary Club of Manila in 2014. He was an active member of the Philippine Diplomatic Corps and a lay minister.

He revived or launched groundbreaking initiatives. In media, he revived the Kapihan forum where I guested a few times. His Jaycee projects symbolized his commitment to sustainable development and community empowerment.

Frank he was a candle of light in RCM, a voice of reason and a man of peace. He was a caring friend and Rotarian. I could go on but I'll stop here as other RCMers have many more good things to say about him.

So long Frank, for now. There will be more good times when we all meet again on the other side.



Eulogy by PT Chito Tagaysay

Hi, I'm Chito Tagaysay, and I've known Frank for more than 15 years. But even before that, I have already known Frank by reputation as the President of Jaycees. I've always read and seen his pictures all over the newspapers.

Alam naman natin, kilala naman natin si Frank, gustong gusto niya yung nasa limelight and newspaper. As a matter of fact, one time, he invited me to join him every Tuesday meeting na tinatawag niya lahat panay babae, newspaper personnel, gusto niya sumali ako doon, eh ayaw ko naman, baka mamaya masabi ng iba na hindi ako totoong Rotarian.

Anyway, one of the fun memories I had with Frank was when we went to Negros Occidental to launch the Gawad Kalinga sponsorship of the Club wherein we supervised and talked to the people who were going to occupy the houses. During the trip to Negros, marami siyang sinabi from the heart, kung bakit niya gustong makatulong. Yung Gawad Kalinga Project ay trinabaho ni Frank nang husto.

Frank is more than a friend. He is like a brother to me. Maraming-marami kaming pinagsamahan during the 12 months that we worked together sa Rotary — he as President and I as Treasurer. May mga ups and downs, nung time namin na yun, low budget ang Club nung mga panahon na yun.

Anyway, in closing, to the family of Frank — please accept my deepest sympathy and condolences. I really pray that Frank's guardian angel would continue to accompany him to the loving embrace of the Lord.



PT Chito Tagaysay delivered his eulogy for the late PP Frank Evaristo through a video message during the Necrological Service.

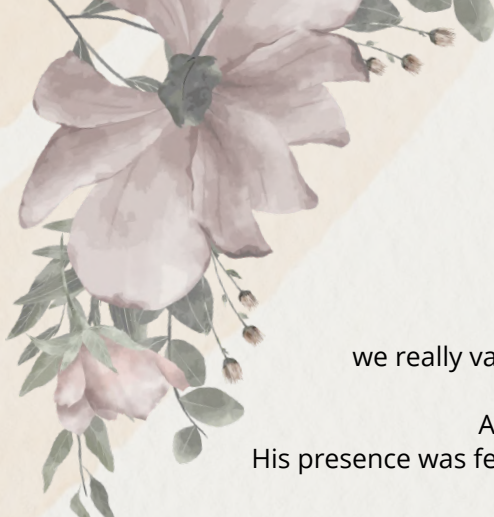
Eulogy by DE/Dir. Albert Alday

December is the last month of every year, the month where we often sing our swan song for the things that were in a year that was, celebrating the gains and forgetting the whimpers. A few weeks back, I remember greeting him with best wishes on his natal day through social media, a habit I have come to embrace as part of my December routine which, for the first time, was met with an odd nil reply, perhaps a premonition of an event that would soon unfold. Franklin Arce Evaristo was a familiar fixture at many a social gathering, the life of every party that was, that is and will always be. A soft spoken guy with a charismatic appeal to many, I would often wonder how a silent and meek person like him could wield his magic wand as a much sought after travel journalist which has endeared him to many.

Frank and I go a long way from his infancy at Asia's First Rotary Club, having been two years ahead of him. When our paths first crossed, he had a firm grasp of our club's BALITA and with conjectures spreading around that I had the knack for written prose, he invited me to be his Associate Editor, not knowing that this would pave the way for my almost decade long stint as its Editor-in-Chief. Learning the ropes from the master himself, he eventually recommended me to be the club's Alay Lakad Chairman in the years to come, graciously mentoring me on how to get that free breakfast from Manila Hotel which, eventually, became the selling point of my appeal to our fellow Manila Rotarians to join that walk for a cause. As fate would have it, I would belatedly join the Jaycees at an advanced age, and having gotten wind of that gossip, he, as a 1980 National President at that, urged me to join JCI Manila as he would sponsor me, which I politely declined because I needed a protracted baby Jaycee stage to become a regular one at no time and JCI Makati offered the best alternative. Indeed, luck was synonymous to Frank. He ascended to the National Presidency of the Philippine Jaycees from a bitter rivalry between two candidates who later became National Presidents themselves. In a rather similar light, despite being a newbie in the club and a silent leader at that, he became a Vice President in less than five years and eventually, became the President in Rotary Year 2014-2015, a feat reserved for those heaven sent. As soon as his victory was sealed, he offered me the Club Secretary post, a job I could not refuse for the years he has mentored me in the craft. Together, I virtually became his strategist for board meetings and by far, he became one of the very few Rotary Club of Manila presidents I know who would visit the office every week which included a meeting with his trusted Club Secretary and the Secretariat at the famed Hizon's, a stone's throw away from the office, which were all on him. Despite his already lofty stature as he rubbed elbows with Manila's who is who, he is one leader who kept his both feet on the ground, a leader well loved by the Rotary Club of Manila staff whom he treated as his next of kin. In the years to come, our friendship would transcend the confines of Rotary as Frank would clandestinely consult me on some of his publication stuff and as a marquee student, I was more than willing to show the master that I have come full circle.

Frank is more than the glamor he has come to be. Behind that mild mannered leader of Asia's First Rotary Club is a man for the masses, one who has unselfishly shared himself to many whose greatest legacy is the smile he has painted on all the faces he has touched throughout the years. Indeed, in journalistic parlance, he has written 30 yet in the hearts of many, he has left a void a hundred fold which no one could replace. Farewell Frank, simply the Best Class President who was always at his best. Rest now in the chapter of the immortals where you have now found your rightful place among Rotary Club of Manila's greatest leaders whose legacies would never be forgotten.





Eulogy by PP Chito Zaldarriaga

I was not prepared to do this tonight. But since Frank was a person who we really valued in RCM, I will take this opportunity to pay tribute to this remarkable man.

As mentioned earlier by my co- Rotarians, Frank was a soft spoken, gentle man. His presence was felt when he would be in the room. He always had an encouraging word for me.

I remember during my term as President of the Club - during a period that we had some wrinkles that had to be ironed out... I felt really low and distraught. Frank approached me and put things in proper perspective and egged me to go on - I felt elated and clung to his words of encouragement. I'll never forget that moment and really appreciated him for that.

There's something that I am positive Frank would have wanted me to share with you all tonight. I've shared these truths during Bobby Joseph's wake and I would like to share this with you folks tonight.

4 basic truths.

One: God loved us so very much!

John 3:16 in the Scripture says: " For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son- that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

Two: We have a problem and it's called SIN. We have ALL sinned! Who of us here have not sinned? Please raise your hand?

Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God"
We have all sinned.

Three: there is a penalty that goes with this problem - and that is DEATH. Not this kind that Frank just had - we're all going to die this physical death sooner or later.

Romans 6:23 " For the wages of sin is death..."
The death that is referred to in the Bible is eternal damnation - or as we commonly know it as HELL. We're all headed there because of our sin problem. However, God in His love for us has offered a solution...

Fourth: in fact God's ONLY solution to this problem is His Son Jesus Christ- whose birth we celebrated a few days ago.

That Christmas story of good news doesn't end in His birth- it goes all the way to His death in the cross and His death defeating resurrection!

It occurred to me the other day that the poinsettia plants turn blood red only during Christmas- Maybe to manifest His blood which was shed in the cross for you and me.

Most of us - if not all here tonight have head knowledge of these realities. But tonight - I firmly believe Frank would want us to commit or recommit our love and surrender to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

There is a short prayer of acceptance which I would like to lead us in - with your permission? Would you like us to pray this?

Ok - it goes like this.

(Make this your personal prayer - this is between you and Jesus.)

"Lord Jesus , I thank You for Your love for me.
Lord I confess that I am a sinner.

I thank You for the Supreme gift of Your death on the cross to save me from the penalty of my sin.

I now accept You in my heart as my personal Lord and Saviour. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.

Thank You Jesus....

And Lord while we're at it please give our dear Frank a big big Abrazo from all of us here tonight!

All this we pray in the powerful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Amen!"

Thank you!





Dir. Hans Palacios delivered his Eulogy for the late PP Frank Evaristo.

PDG Obet Pagdanganan delivered his Eulogy for the late PP Frank Evaristo.



PP Francis Juico delivered his Eulogy for the late PP Frank Evaristo.

Presentation of the Rotary Club of Manila Name Badge of PP Frank A. Evaristo



Presentation of the RCM name badge of PP Frank Evaristo to Mrs. Marieliese Saldaña Evaristo and family



Wake of PP Frank A. Evaristo at Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park
Viewing Chapel: Capilla De la Virgen



Closing Remarks by VP Reggie Yu

A Remembrance of How I Met PP Frank Evaristo

Back in 1990, as a fresh college graduate navigating the uncertainties of post-academic life, I encountered PP Frank Evaristo at the Quezon City Sports Club gym. At that time, he was a flourishing entrepreneur, the owner of Collectiones New York — an upscale store founded with his wife, Tita Mariellese, in the late seventies. In those informal chats in-between sets, PP Frank, with his entrepreneurial spirit, encouraged me to embark on a path to entrepreneurship. Although he was a top executive in Meralco, he emphasized that being an employee of a multinational firm might not be as financially rewarding. "Expand your network," he would say, unaware at that time that he was an active leader in the Jaycees (JCI) and Rotary movements. I eventually followed his footsteps, having joined the same chapter as he did, first in the Manila Jaycees (JCI Manila); and later in the Rotary Club of Manila, both the first organizations of their respective nature established in Asia.

My first exposure to society parties was even orchestrated by PP Frank, who graciously invited me to Tita Mariellese's birthday celebration in Euphoria Makati. Since then, PP Frank became a constant fixture in my life as a volunteer. Although our encounters may not have been frequent, I knew that each meeting would be another enriching experience.

As we remember his colorful life, I am reminded that each story and memory shared tonight underscores the profound impact he had on all our lives. His legacy will live on, not only in the Rotary Club of Manila, but in the hearts of each and every heart he has touched.

Let us then remember and celebrate not just the end of PP Frank's earthly 82-year journey but the legacy he leaves behind — a legacy of service, friendship, and unwavering commitment to the ideals of Rotary. As we say our farewells, let us carry these memories in our hearts and continue to live by the example he set for us all.

May he rest in eternal peace.



At the Wake of PP Frank A. Evaristo



RCM Members who were present at the Necrological Rites for PP Frank A. Evaristo:

Pres. Raffy Alunan
VP. Reggie Yu
Dir./DE Albert Alday
Dir. Hans Palacios
Dir. Johnny Chotrani
Sunshine Com. Chair Ricky Guevara
PP Boy Guevara
PP Archit Bartolome
PP Chito Zaldarriaga

PP Francis Juico
PDG Obet Pagdanganan
PD Abe Pascual
PD Oscar Del Rosario
Rtn. Philip Recto
Rtn. Gani Macatoman
Rtn. Dong Benedicto
PD Art Lopez
DE Rod Valencia

Message from the Rotary Club of Kowloon East



P. O. Box 90794, Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
Meeting : First and Third Tues. each month at 12:45 p.m. at the Peninsula Hotel

九龍東區扶輪社
ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST
全世界第一個百份之一百保羅哈里斯之友扶輪社
全世界第一個百份之一百大額捐獻人扶輪社
THE FIRST 100% PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS ROTARY CLUB IN THE WORLD
THE FIRST 100% MAJOR DONORS ROTARY CLUB IN THE WORLD
DISTRICT 3450 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

31 December 2023.

President Rafael M. Alunan,
Rotary Club of Manila.

Dear President Rafael M. Alunan,

We are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of your beloved Past President Frank Evaristo. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family at this very difficult time. His passing is also a big loss of your Club and we share this sadness with your Club as well.

We remember the hospitality of PP Frank when we visited Manila in 2014 when he was President-Elected of that year, and he welcomed us at the airport. He has been a great friend of our Club for all these years.

May God bless his family with strength to sail through this tough situation.

Yours in Rotary,

Chung Wai Keung,
President, 2023/2024,
Rotary Club of Kowloon East.

President
Chung Wai Keung

Secretary
PP Victor Y. K. Lo
PP Albert S. C. Poon

Sergeant-At-Arms
Johnny P. W. Lui
Kam Tik Wa

Directors
PDG Peter S. H. Wong, PP Edward W. Y. Cheung
PP Leung Hoo Lau, PP David Y. M. Yau
PP Billy C. Y. Lam, PP Bernard K. M. Wong
PP Stephen C. N. Yip, PP Clement C. Y. Tang
PP Jason C. M. Tam, PP Lai Ping Lun
PP Willy C. M. Liu, PP Ip Moon Tong
PP Tung Siu Wing, Charlie K. W. Ip
Andy K. O. Chu, George W. M. Kay Jr
Sunny K. S. Tang

President-Elect
Chan Sing Hung

Ex-Officio
Louis W. K. Mo

Honorary Member
PP Alex S. L. Ho
Mr. Lui Chun Fan
Lock Kwan Bui

Vice-President
PP Yiu Ching On

Treasurer
PP Yiu Ching On
PP Look W. L. Tsang

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RECOGNITION CORNER

SOCIETY SNOOPER



CONSULAR Corps of the Philippines outgoing dean, Spain Consul General Javier Martín-García.



THE 48th Consular Ball chairperson, Monaco Consul General Fortune Ledesma.



CONSULAR Corps of the Philippines incoming dean, Fiji Consul Jesus Pineda Jr.

JESUS PINEDA ASSUMES DEANSHIP OF THE CONSULAR CORPS OF THE PHILIPPINES

BY JOJO G. SILVERSTEIN

The recent 48th Consular Ball, an annual event that Manila's 400, diplomats, business tycoons and devotees of glamourlandia always look forward to, was a sparkling success — thanks to the indefatigable commitment of the three lady consuls, leading lights of the diplomatic circle, namely Monaco Consul General Fortune Ledesma, Zambia Consul Agnes Huihobho, and Ghana Consul Betty Chua, who made sure it would be well-attended, its raffle prizes worthwhile for guests to stay and dance the whole night and the food, delectable and elegantly presented.

The highlight of the evening, though, wasn't the spectacle of beauty and high fashion that the distinguished attendees possessed, but the traditional annual passing on of the torch

of leadership from one dean of the consular corps to the next. It was a most admired speech that the incoming dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Jesus Pineda, Honorary Consul of Fiji, delivered one that underscored his appreciation not just of his new title, but his "commitment to fostering strong diplomatic

ties, promoting international cooperation and serving our respective countries with dedication and integrity."

He talked to the members of the Consular Corps "for entrusting me with this role, as we embark on a journey to strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding

between nations. Our collective efforts will play a pivotal role in addressing shared challenges and promoting mutual prosperity."

Of this noteworthy organization of consuls, he spoke of its "long-standing tradition of excellence" while committing himself to "uphold the values and principles that have guided us throughout the years — integrity, professionalism, transparency, accountability and dedication to service."

Finally, he pointed out, "In our interconnected world, the importance of diplomacy cannot be overstated. It is through dialogue and collaboration that we can address the challenges and opportunities that we face as a global community. Our role as consuls goes beyond simply promoting the interests of our respective nations; it is also about building bridges, fostering understanding and finding common grounds."

On his part, the outgoing dean, Spain Consul General Javier Martín García, underscored the "prominent role of the Consular Corps of the Philippines, an unparalleled one that, since its foundation in 1971, has served as a privileged forum for consultation and exchange of information and ideas between the diplomatic community in Manila, and an exceptional cast of representatives of the Philippine civil society."

He pointed out, "The CCP displays its activities on various fields, all being equally important and useful — sharing experiences and best practices in consular matters, improving the efficiency of consular assistance to our



THE 48th Consular Ball co-chair Gambia Consul Agnes Huihobho, chairperson Monaco Consul General Fortune Ledesma and co-chair Ghana Consul Betty Chua.

respective compatriots and debating current issues on the evolution of the international scene, always with a careful look at the Indo-Pacific region."

Furthermore, he stressed "how useful our meetings are to strengthen professional and personal contacts and to deepen our knowledge of the Philippines reality, an essential task for all diplomats."

Finally, he reiterated "our enduring commitment to supporting the education sector in the Philippines, and we have contributed to starting the construction and development of a special training laboratory for the Parañaque City College student scholars, thus strengthening our long-lasting partnership with this institution."

Throughout the night, a most visible lady on and off the stage was Consul Fortune who, at the outset, shared: "When I look back on this year, I am especially moved by how the Consular Corps of the Philippines has made the

most of every opportunity to animate its vision and mission, culminating in this occasion tonight."

Addressing the distinguished guests, she said, "your presence is an assurance that you are one with us in striving to promote unity and harmony among all."

She concluded her welcome remarks by thanking the indefatigable Ball Committee whose members have given their time and talent to being an unforgettable night, namely her co-chairpersons Gambia Consul Agnes Huihobho and Ghana Consul Betty Chua, and the members of the committee: Belgium Consul Fabio Pompetti, Costa Rica Consul General Fausto Preyler, Czech Republic Consul Jan Krivos, Vice Dean, Fiji Consul Jesus Pineda Jr., Georgia Consul Caroline Loid, Italy Consul Antonio Gallo, Liberia Consul Nina Manglo, Montenegro Consul Vanessa Ledesma, Syria Consul General Issam Eldine and Sri Lanka Consul William Chen.



US Ambassador MaryKay Carlton and Philippine Airlines president Stanley Ng.



NETHERLANDS Ambassador Mariëtte Garretts, New Zealand Ambassador Peter Kell, Riko Kell, Papal Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown, Australian Ambassador HK Yu and Fergus Murphy.



DENISE Brühl of Switzerland, Eva Melbin of Denmark, Marina Pfaffenmoch of Germany, Roswitha Bringer of Austria, Irene Carlos of Ireland, Bethany Hartman of Canada and Catherine Lyster of Norway.

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