

The
HERMA
Group

The Official News Organ of
The Rotary Club of Manila



balita

ISSUE NO. 4020 • AUGUST 15, 2024



RAFAEL M. GARCIA III

The Aborted (?) Philippine Hosting
of the 2028 RI Convention and
Other Related Concerns

1st WMM Recap:
Redefining Boundaries:
Justice Carpio's Insight on
Philippine Sovereignty and
the West Philippine Sea

The Magic of
Rotary Fellowship

RC Manila
Receives Award
from RI District 3810



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PROGRAM

4th Weekly Membership Meeting Rotary Year 2024-2025 Thursday, 15 August 2024, 12:30 PM MANILA POLO CLUB

Moderator: PDG ALEXANDER "Alex" P. CUREG

12:00 PM	Registration
12:30 PM	Call to Order PRES. JUJUT ENRIQUEZ
	Invocation PP FELIX FRANCISCO "Chito" S. ZALDARRIAGA
	Philippine National Anthem AVP of RCM Members
	Rotary Club of Manila Hymn RCM WF Music Chorale
	The Four (4) Way Test SEC. ARIES B. BALANAY
	Acknowledgement of Guests PDG ALEXANDER "Alex" P. CUREG
	Welcome Song RCM WF Music Chorale
	<u>Birthday Celebrants</u>
	Aug 9 Rtn. Romy Nones
	Aug 10 Rtn. Jappy Pascual
	Dir. Nagi Zeitouni
	Rtn. L.A. Sevilla
	Aug 11 PVP Farid Shoucair
	Aug 12 PDSAA Ike Stranathan
	Rtn. Mathias Hallerback
	Aug 13 Rtn. Marvin Taylor-Dormond
	Rtn. Mike Guarin
	<i>Maligayang Bati / Happy Birthday Song</i> RCM WF Chorale
12:50 PM	President's Time PRES. JUJUT ENRIQUEZ
1:05 PM	Introduction of the Guest of Honor & Speaker PDG VICENTE "Vince" J. CARLOS Guest of Honor and Speaker <i>Address:</i> RAFAEL "Raffy" GARCIA III <i>Past Rotary International Director</i>
1:30 PM	Open Forum / Q.A.
1:50 PM	Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation PRES. JUJUT ENRIQUEZ
2:00 PM	Adjournment PRES. JUJUT ENRIQUEZ



Rafael M. GARCIA III

High Technology Entrepreneur

ROTARY RESUME

- Rotary International Director, RY 2018-2020
- Member, Elevate Rotaract Task Force, RY 2018-2019
- Member, International Polio Plus Committee, RY 2018-2019
- Member, Rotary International Operations Committee, RY 2019-2020
- Member, Rotary International Administrations Committee, RY 2019-2020
- Member, Basic Education & Literacy, Major Gift Initiative, RY 2017-2018
- Coordinator, Cadre of Technical Advisers, RY 2016-2019
- Chairman, Philippine Rotary Magazine Foundation RY 2016-2017
- Chairman, Philippine College of Rotary Governors, RY 2015-2016
- Endowment & Major Gifts Adviser, Zone 7a RY 2013-2017
- Arch C. Klumph Society
 - Foundation Circle 2018 \$1,000,000
 - Chair's Circle 2013 \$500,000
 - Trustee's Circle 2012 \$250,000

- Training Leader, 2014 International Assembly
- Photography Co-Chair, 2014 International Assembly
- Convener, 2018 Yogyakarta Institute
- Convener, 2019 Manila Rotary Institute
- Training Leader GNTS, 2017 Taipei Rotary Institute
- Training Leader (DTTS/GETS/GNTS), 2015 Manila Rotary Institute
- General Program Trainer, 2014 Kota Kinabalu Rotary Institute
- Vice-Chair, 2013 Taipei Rotary Institute
- District Governor, D3800 RY2011-2012
- Club President, RC Pasig, RY2006-2007
- Rotarian, RC Pasig, RY 1971

YPO (YOUNG PRESIDENTS ORGANIZATION)

In 1979 at the age of 35, when he was the President of Summa Computer Services Corporation, he was elected to the Young Presidents Organization, a world-wide organization of the leading businessmen and professionals in over 160 countries, who have become CEO/President/Managing Director of a significant corporation before the age of 40.

He graduated to the World Presidents Organization (now known as YPO Gold) in 1994 at the age of 50, where he is a life member and a member of the Global Couples Forum 10, and the Regional Forum 3.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

After founding Summa Computer Services Corporation for the Herdis Group in 1974, and building it into a 44 company international conglomerate called the Mega Group of Computer Companies which he set up in 1983, Raffy retired from active management in 2009 and has concentrated on his philanthropic activities through Rotary as well as those of the YPO (Young Presidents Organization) where he is a life member.

PRESENT POSITION

Chairman Emeritus/CEO of the Mega Group of Computer Companies, a multinational conglomerate of 44 companies specializing in gaming and other high technology systems based in the Philippines, with offices in the Buenos Aires, Singapore, Germany, Argentina, Romania, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon, and Nigeria, active in the Middle East, South America and in the former Eastern Bloc countries, either through wholly owned companies or through joint ventures

PAST POSITIONS

SGV & Co – Management Services Division
Supervising Consultant

Asia Computer Services Corporation – Vice President for Operations

Meralco Securities & Investment Corporation
Vice President, General Manager - Computer Services

The Online Corporation – Executive Vice President

Herdis Management & Investment Corporation
Summa Computer Services Corporation – President
Herdis-Jardine Davies Inc. – President
Unphil Computer Corporation – President

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Raffy has always been an athlete all his life and holds gold and silver Philippine NCAA medals in 100m and 200m as well as two US Big Six (the predecessor of PAC12) silver medals in wrestling. He was captain of the soccer teams of Ateneo de Manila University and Washington State University in the 60's. He used to be a single handicap golfer with three hole-in-one's and over 250 amateur trophies to his name. In 1977, he won the Pro-Am tournament of the World Cup of Golf which was held at the Wackwack Golf & Country Club in the Philippines with Italian Pro Delio Lovato.

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Raffy is married to Minda Acacio Garcia, former club president of the Founding Manila Chapter of Soroptimists International. She is a past Regional Governor for the Philippine Region of Soroptimists International and a member of the Fund Development Board of Soroptimists International of the Americas. She was elected and completed her term to the board of directors of Soroptimists International in Philadelphia, PA for 2017-2019. She runs her own cut-flower farm in Canlubang, Laguna. They have four children and eight grandchildren.

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EDITORIAL

Reginald T. Yu
Editor-in-Chief



THE decision by Rotary International (RI) to withdraw Manila's hosting rights for the 2028 Rotary International Convention has ignited a firestorm of controversy and disappointment across the Philippines. This development has not only affected the Rotary community but has also stirred national discourse on the principles of fairness, transparency, and governance within the organization.

The withdrawal, announced last month by then-RI President Gordon McNally and upheld by current President Stephanie Urchick, came with significant accusations against the host committee, including inflated attendance estimates, financial mismanagement, and reports of intimidation tactics. The decision, deemed final by Urchick, has been met with an uproar from Filipino Rotarians who feel that their right to a fair review process has been denied.

The reasons cited by RI for this abrupt decision are serious. Financial concerns about overbooking venues, reputational risks from alleged inaccuracies, and

political factionalism were presented as justification for the withdrawal. However, the lack of prior notice and an opportunity for the Host Organizing Committee (HOC) to address these concerns has fueled accusations of procedural unfairness.

The protest letter issued by the Rotary Club of Manila, supported by various districts, reflects deep dissatisfaction with RI's handling of the situation. They argue that the decision was based on unverified allegations and was made without the due process of hearing the HOC's side. This, they claim, contradicts Rotary's core values of integrity and transparency.

Adding to the complexity, Past Rotary International Director Raffy Garcia's insight into the matter has underscored a broader issue: the need for introspection and reform within Filipino Rotary clubs. Garcia acknowledges the disappointment but also suggests that internal issues within some Filipino Rotary districts may have contributed to the situation. His view highlights a dual responsibility: to address RI's procedural shortcomings and to improve local practices to align better with Rotary's principles.

The situation demands a thorough and impartial investigation into the allegations against the HOC. An independent committee should be convened to ensure that all sides are heard and that any necessary reforms are identified and implemented. This approach will not only address the immediate concerns but also reinforce the credibility of Rotary's decision-making processes.

The withdrawal of the 2028 convention is not just a setback for Manila but a call to action for all members of the Rotary community. It is an opportunity to reaffirm commitment to the values that underpin the organization—fairness, transparency, and service above self. Only by addressing both the internal and external issues can Rotary hope to rebuild trust and ensure that future opportunities are met with the integrity that has historically characterized its global mission.



**Philippine
Airlines**

The Heart of the Filipino

cover story

Redefining Boundaries: Justice Carpio's Insight on Philippine Sovereignty and the West Philippine Sea

by PVP Reginald T. Yu

ON the crisp afternoon of August 8, 2024, the hallowed halls of the Manila Polo Club bore witness to an event brimming with gravitas and intellectual fervor. The Rotary Club of Manila, a beacon of civic engagement and communal spirit, convened for its third weekly membership meeting of the Rotary Year 2024-2025. The gathering, deftly moderated by Past Director **Atty. Beda Fajardo**, was set to unfold as a rich tapestry of ceremonial observances and erudite discourse.





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

As the clock struck 12:30 PM, President **Jujut Enriquez**, with the authority and poise characteristic of his role, called the assembly to order. The initial solemnity of the invocation led by Rotarian **Cris Acosta** wove a thread of spirituality through the proceedings, setting a reflective tone. The resounding notes of the Philippine National Anthem, followed by an evocative audio-visual presentation, and the stirring strains of the Rotary Club of Manila Hymn performed by the World Famous Music Chorale, enveloped the room in a sense of unity and pride.



Rtn. Crispiniano "Cris" G. Acosta led the invocation for the membership.

A hallmark of Rotary's self-reflective ethos, the Four-Way Test was succinctly articulated by past Board Legal Adviser **Atty. Raoul Creencia**. This moment was not just a ritualistic recitation but a reaffirmation of the club's commitment to ethical standards and integrity.



PD Bida G. Fajardo was the week's Program Moderator.



Board Legal Adviser Atty. Raoul Creencia succinctly articulated the Four-Way Test.



Pres. Jujut Enriquez called the weekly membership meeting to order.

Following the formalities, Past Director **Atty. Beda Fajardo** took to the podium to acknowledge the esteemed guests present, setting a tone of appreciation and recognition. The celebratory mood continued with the RCM World Famous Music Chorale's rendition of the Welcome Song, a harmonious prelude to the personal milestones being honored — Rotarian **Ray Davis** and Past Executive Secretary **Anna Kun Toledo** — whose birthdays were celebrated with an enthusiastic *Maligayang Bati*.

The subsequent segment of the meeting brought a blend of institutional vision and practical action to the forefront. President **Jujut Enriquez**, relinquishing the floor to Past Director **Phillip Ong**, unveiled an ambitious initiative: the September 10 Art Exhibit at the LRI Design Institute in Makati City. The exhibit, aimed at generating Endowment Funds for the RCManila Foundation, Inc., was presented as a strategic effort to bolster the foundation's sustainability. Immediate Past Chairman **Lito Sibayan**'s appeal for art donations underscored the collective responsibility of members in supporting Hospicio projects, reflecting the club's proactive stance on community engagement.



The afternoon's intellectual centerpiece was the introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker, Past President **Atty. Ebot Tan**. His address, delivered by the distinguished **Hon. Antonio T. Carpio**, a retired Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, was an exploration into the intricate web of Philippine sovereignty and territorial claims in the West Philippine Sea. Carpio's exposition was not merely a legal discourse but a clarion call to reexamine and reaffirm the nation's territorial identity.



Past President Atty. Ebot Tan introduced the Guest of Honor and Speaker.

With meticulous detail, **Justice Carpio** dismantled misconceptions about the scope of Philippine territory, tracing the boundaries established by historical treaties. He illuminated the misinterpretations of the 1898 Treaty of Paris and clarified the implications of subsequent treaties — the 1900 Treaty of Washington and the 1930 Treaty with the United Kingdom. The discussion veered into the contemporary realm of maritime and territorial disputes, highlighting the complexities of international law and the nuanced challenges faced by the Philippines.



Justice Antonio T. Carpio delivered his talk.

The discourse traversed beyond historical treaties to the practicalities of the South China Sea disputes, addressing the unresolved territorial conflicts and the implications of the 2016 arbitral award. Carpio's insights on the *Uti Possidetis Juris* principle and its role in respecting colonial boundaries further enriched the dialogue, emphasizing the legal continuity from the era of decolonization to modern geopolitical realities.

The meeting's conclusion saw a dynamic exchange of queries from distinguished members, including Past Director **Atty. Beda Fajardo**, Past Director **Fausto Preysler**, Past President **Hermie Esguerra**, Vice-President **Joel Valdes**, and District Governor **Jackie Rodriguez**. This open forum underscored the spirit of intellectual curiosity and collaborative inquiry that defines the Rotary ethos.



Open Forum. Justice Antonio T. Carpio engaged in an interactive conversation with PP Archit Bartolome, PVP Fausto Preysler, PD Beda Fajardo, PP Hermie Esguerra, PD Hans Palacios, Ms. Vicky Viray Mendoza (Chief Editor, Maritime Review), VP Joel Valdes, and DG Jackie Rodriguez.

As the session drew to a close, President **Jujut Enriquez** presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **Justice Carpio**, a gesture that encapsulated the Rotary Club's appreciation for his profound contribution. The meeting adjourned with a sense of fulfillment, having navigated through both ceremonial traditions and substantive discourse, reaffirming the Rotary Club of Manila's role as a crucible of civic engagement and intellectual leadership.



Justice Antonio T. Carpio received RCM's Plaque of Appreciation, witnessed by PP Eusebio "Ebot" V. Tan, Pres. Jujut Enriquez, PBLA Raoul C. Creencia and Rtn. Crispiniano "Cris" G. Acosta.

In essence, the 3rd Weekly Membership Meeting was a testament to the Rotary Club's enduring commitment to ethical leadership, community service, and the pursuit of knowledge. It was a convergence of tradition and contemporary relevance, a moment where ceremonial grace and intellectual rigor intersected, leaving an indelible mark on the attendees and the broader community they serve.



PRESS COVERAGE

BusinessMirror

BusinessMirror
2nd Front Page

4th Edition, August 10, 2020

www.businessmirror.com.ph



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ROTARY CLUB TALKS SOVEREIGNTY

Retired Supreme Court Justice Antonio Carpio took center stage during the Rotary Club of Manila's 3rd regular meeting at the Manila Polo Club in Makati City.

During his presentation, Carpio explained the earliest Philippine maps and treaties that support the country's claim over the Scarborough and Spratly Islands.

The discussion was attended by key members including President Jujut Enriquez, Raoul Creencia, Crispiniano Acosta, PD Beda Fajardo, and PP Eusebio Tan.

Image credits: Nonoy Lacza

by PBLA Raoul Creencia



STRIKE, BUT HEAR ME FIRST!"

PRID Rafael "Raffy" Garcia III is the Club's invited guest of honor and speaker in this week's regular membership meeting. He will talk about the country's hosting of the 2028 RI Convention, which was suddenly and unexpectedly withdrawn by the RI Board headed by President Stephanie Urchick. Philippine Rotarians were excitedly looking forward to this rare opportunity to organize and host the 2028 gathering. But with this recent development, the 2028 hosting will not be happening after all. As the first country in Asia to have a Rotary Club in 1919, the holding of an International Rotary Convention in Manila is long overdue. To realize this long desire to showcase the unique Philippine hospitality and ability to organize a massive gathering, so much preparation was made by our hardworking Host Organizing Committee, and after going through a bidding process, the Philippines finally clinched the honor of hosting the annual event. But it was not meant to be.

The Host Organizing Committee (HOC) sought the reconsideration of the RI Board's decision. But in her letter dated 26 July 2024, RI President Urchick relayed the Board's denial of such appeal. In her letter, she underscored, among others, the HOC's supposed "non-compliance with its stated role by working outside its authority and naming chairs for roles that explicitly fall under the

general secretary's responsibility x x x." She also said that the HOC was guilty of "misrepresenting expected event attendance to government partners whose support was being sought." With this, a couple of questions come to mind: a) were these facts actually verified to be true? If so, would this automatically merit the withdrawal of Manila's hosting of the event? b) Was there a meeting held where the HOC was given opportunity to explain and clarify? Was it fair that no good faith discussion was held to clarify or confirm RI's supposed negative findings? Was due process observed?

"Strike, but hear me first!" This immortal cry of Themistocles to Eurybiades sums up what constitutes due process. Notably, the choice for the 2028 host went through a selection process, and the Philippines participated in the bidding in good faith. In the end, after successfully presenting its capability to host, Manila was chosen as the winning bidder, which was later announced to the whole Rotary world. It is submitted that, at that point, the Philippines acquired a vested right to host the convention. This right cannot be whimsically withdrawn. If at all, the bid award can only be taken back or withdrawn upon showing, through due process and with clear and convincing evidence, that the chosen host violated and continues to violate established rules and guidelines. Is it the case here? It is hoped that PRID Raffy Garcia will help clarify the hounding and burning questions related to RI's withdrawal of Manila's hosting of the 2028 international convention.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

RCM Members' Attendance Report RY 2024-2025

July 2024

JULY 2024	July 04, 2024	July 11, 2024 INSTALLATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR AND OFFICERS - RY 2024-2025	July 18, 2024 DBM USEC. MARGAUX SALCEDO
	X		
MEMBERS PRESENT	0	68	54
MEMBERS PRESENT %	0%	29%	23%
MAKE UP ATTENDEES	0	21	17
EXEMPTED	0	3	6
ON LEAVE	0	0	0
Total Active Members	0	86	65
Total # of Members	234	234	234
TOTAL %:	0%	37%	28%
ROTARACTORS	0	3	4
MEDIA	0	9	2
EMBASSIES / DIPLOMATIC CORPS	0	0	0
DG, DGE, DGN, PDG	0	17	2
GOHS / GS	0	0	1
VISITING ROTARIAN	0	26	0
Guests of RCM MEMBERS	0	55	8
TOTAL ATTENDEES	0	152	67

LIST OF ATTENDEES

1 Acosta, Crispiniano G.	29 Koh, Paul Anthony T
2 Alcantara, Isidro C.	30 Lonzaga, Reinerio C.
3 Alday, Albert Singson	31 Macatoman, Abdulgani M.
4 Andal, Avelino L.	32 Matschuck, Guenter Gerhard G.
5 Balanay, Aries B.	33 Mauricio, Antonio DC
6 Bediones, Rodolfo P.	34 Montel, Juan Manuel C.
7 Bello, Christian Cesar P.	35 Nolido, Ramon Alberto B.
8 Benedicto III, Bernardo T.	36 Nomura, Kazuhiro
9 Benedicto, Sixto T.	37 Ong, Phillip L.
10 Bogovich, Jason M.	38 Pagdanganan, Roberto M.
11 Carlos, Vicente J.	39 Palacios, Albert C.
12 Castro, Karlo Eugene Josef M.	40 Pascual, Abraham F.
13 Chotrani, Johnny N.	41 Patterson, Colin David
14 Creencia, Raoul C.	42 Payumo, Felicitio C.
15 Cureg, Alexander P.	43 Preysler, Jr., Fausto R.
16 Davis, Raymond N.	44 Recto, Philip H.
17 Egan, Brendan W.L.	45 Rodriguez Sr., Joaquin C.
18 Eldebs, Issam	46 Roxas, Michael D.
19 Enriquez III, Eduardo V.	47 Serapio, Carlos G.
20 Esguerra, Herminio S.	48 Sibayan, Joseito H.
21 Fajardo, Beda G.	49 Tagaysay, Hector O.
22 Garcia, Paul Joseph M.	50 Tan, Eusebio V.
23 Go, Henry S.	51 Tillmann, Hansel Joseph Michael L.
24 Guevara, Ricardo S.	52 Valdes, Joel C.
25 Hortaieza, Rolando B.	53 Valencia, Rodolfo G.
26 Ibuyan, Benedict Julius F.	54 Yu, Reginald Tieng
27 Kalaw, Teodoro Alejandro Y IV	55 Zaldarriaga, Felix Francisco S.
28 Katigbak, J Alfonso L.	56 Zeitouni, Nagi

List of Members Who Have Paid Their Annual Dues for RY 2024-2025

As of August 13, 2024

1 ACOSTA, CRISPINIANO G.	36 MACATOMAN, ABDULGANI
2 ALDAY, ALBERT	37 MAGSAYSAY, FRANCISCO
3 ALINGOG, ALDOUS A	38 MANALAYSAY, CESAR
4 BARTOLOME, ARSENIO III M	39 MATSCHUCK, GUENTER GERHARD G
5 BEDIONES, RODOLFO P.	40 MAURICIO, ANTONIO DC
6 BELLA, GERONIMO JR. D	41 NOLIDO, RAMON ALBERTO B
7 BENEDICTO, SIXTO T	42 NONES, ROMEO C.
8 BLANCO, MANUEL M	43 ONG, PHILLIP
9 CAMAT, NATHANIEL	44 PALLASIGUE, JOHN BRIAN
10 CANON, RAUL JR C	45 PASCUAL, ABRAHAM F
11 CASTRO, KARLO EUGENE JOSEF M	46 PATTERSON, COLIN DAVID
12 COYIUTO, ROBERT JR. G	47 PINEDA, PATRICIO JR.
13 CREENCIA, RAOUL C.	48 PREYSLER, FAUSTO JR. D R
14 CUREG, ALEXANDER P	49 REYNOLDS, DAVID J.
15 DAYANG, JUAN E	50 RODRIGUEZ, JOAQUIN SR. C
16 DOMINGUEZ, CARLOS III G.	51 ROXAS, MICHAEL D
17 DY, MANUEL C.	52 SCHNEIDER, BERND
18 ELDEBS, ISSAM	53 SERAPIO, CARLOS C
19 ENRIQUEZ, EDUARDO III V.	54 SEVILLA, LUIS ANGELO L
20 ESGUERRA, HERMINIO S.	55 SHIMODA, SHIGERU
21 FERNANDEZ, ANTONIO JAIME JOSE V.	56 SIBAYAN, JOSELITO H
22 FOLLOSCO, CEFERINO JR G	57 SOBREPENA, ROBERT JOHN L.
23 GARCIA, THEODORE Q	58 SYJUCO, JOSE, JR. A.
24 GARCIA, VICTOR III G.	59 TAGAYSAY, HECTOR O
25 GUEVARA, DOMINGO JR.	60 TAMANO, SHAUMAR HOFER
26 GUEVARA, RICARDO S.B	61 TAMAYO, VICTOR L.
27 IBUYAN, BENEDICT JULIUS F	62 TAN, EUSEBIO V.
28 IWATA, YASUSHI	63 TILLMAN, HANSEL JOSEPH MICHAEL
29 JUCABAN, JERIC	64 VALDES, JOEL C.
30 KALAW, TEODORO	65 VALENCIA, JOHN NICO P.
31 KATIGBAK J ALFONSO L	66 YU, REGINALD T.
32 KLEBS, DAVID	67 ZALDARRIAGA, FELIX FRANCISCO S
33 LIM, DAVID EDUARDO T	68 ZEITOURI, NAGI
34 LONZAGA, REINERIO	69 ZIALCITA, XAVIER Y.

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Membership Committee Meeting *with Mr. Ingill Ra*



The Membership Committee met with invitee Mr. Ingill Ra last Thursday, August 8, 2024 at the Sports Cafe, Manila Polo Club. The meeting was hosted by Chairman/PVP Fausto Preysler.

Present from the Membership Committee were Chairman/PVP Fausto Preysler, Co-Chair/PT Lito Sibayan, PDG Vince Carlos, Innovation and Sustainability Officer Rtn. Anton Mauricio, Pres. Jujut Enriquez (ex-officio) and Dir. Teddy Kalaw (ex-officio).



Rotary Club of Manila Receives Achievement Award from RI District 3810 as Top 1 in TRF's Annual Fund Program for July 2024

Rotary



THE FOUR-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do

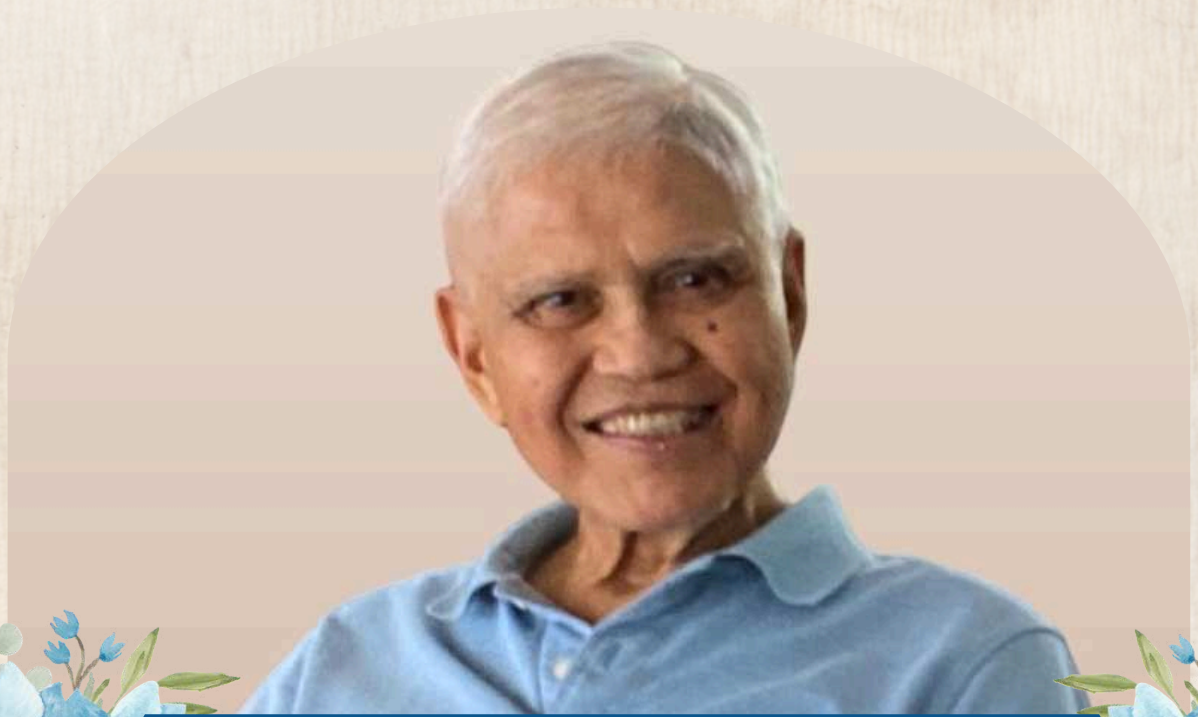
- I. Is it the TRUTH?
- II. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- III. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- IV. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Dir. Mike Albaña received the recognition on behalf of the Rotary Club of Manila during the first monthly meeting held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024.

He, serving as a senior deputy governor, also presented an update on the Philippine Rotary Magazine subscription.





IN LOVING MEMORY

FORMER MEMBER AND PAST PRESIDENT

Ben Santos

Aleco honored and paid tribute to PP Ben Santos



Aleco honored and paid tribute to PP Ben Santos at a heartfelt breakfast on August 12, 2024, hosted by PD Ner Lonzaga. Among the esteemed guests were Sevie Santos and their son, Jopet.

Eulogies were delivered by PP Francis Juico, PP Ebot Tan, DG Jackie Rodriguez, JJ Berenguer-Testa, PD Jun Hallare, RCMFI Immediate Past President Willie Peliño, PD Abe Pascual, Rtn. Dave Reynolds, PD Ner Lonzaga, Eric Severino, PD Beda Fajardo, Rtn. Cris Acosta, Jorge Salazar, and PP Archit Bartolome. It was a moving and memorable tribute.

Rest in peace, PP Ben.



PRAYER BY PD NER LONZAGA

LET US PRAY;

Almighty and eternal God, hear our prayers for your son BEN SANTOS, whom you have called from this life to yourself.

Grant him light, happiness, and peace.

Let him pass in safety through the gates of death and live forever with all your saints in the light you promised to Abraham and to all his descendants faith.

Guard him from all harm and on that great day of resurrection and reward him up with all you saints.

Pardon his sins and give him eternal life in your kingdom.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

Our Father...

Hail Mary...

Glory be to the Father...

Eternal rest on to BEN SANTOS
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace.

RTN. TONG PAYUMO'S EULOGY

Ben and I go a long way. We both worked for Proctor and Gamble (P&G PMC). He a year ahead of me in the Finance Department while I worked in the operations, buying dept. As a buyer for a big firm, we were in charge of making sure we did not run out of chemicals, fats and oils, and packaging materials. Our bosses were expats from P&G Cincinnati. We followed their ways and procedures in our plant in Tondo Manila, where we produced Tide powder detergent, Gleem Toothpastes, Camay beauty soap, and a host of other coconut oil and extracts for frying and cooking.

The finance dept where Ben worked consolidated all the costs to make sure our products were competitive. A friend, Fred Parungao, worked with him. Later, the office and plant were transferred to Laguna. But that was after we already retired or transferred to other companies.



RCMFI IMMEDIATE PAST PRES. WILLIE PELINO'S EULOGY

We All know the contentious side of Ben, so allow me to share the other side of Ben that exemplifies his managerial and leadership skills.

When Ben was President of RCM he appointed me to be Chairman of the Education Committee.

We came out with a Comprehensive Learning Experience (CLE) Trainer Course for Public school Elementary Teachers adopted from the Australian Education System: Training Trainer to improve the comprehension skills of Elementary Students. This project was done in Masbate and Pasig Schools Division. A Total of more than a hundred DepEd Elementary Teachers were trained. Ben Made sure that this project be a success for the project run for 3 consecutive years. We invited Officers of Rotary Club of Osaka and Seoul Muak on the first Year to go to Masbate together with Rtn. Ner and Lady Femy Lonzaga to observed How CLE is conducted. The project received a donation of \$2,000 from RC Osaka and was awarded as an Outstanding Project by District 3810.

The CLE project was initiated by PP Ben Santos and was implemented for a total of 3 years. The first Year was done in Masbate Schools Division with 70 Trainer's being trained. The second Year was held at Pasig Schools Division with 40 Trainer's Trained. The third Year was a continuing program held at Masbate Schools Division and PP Teddy Ocampo visited Masbate to observed the conduct of the project.

CLE Trainer's Training project was designed to train public school teachers from grade 1-6 and evaluate the learning comprehension of the student on a yearly basis. Unfortunately the CLE was discontinued by DepEd when the K-12 program was initiated and the teachers had to undergo a different training under the k-12 curriculum.

There were many projects undertaken during the Presidency of Ben Santos. Despite his being contentious he was very organized, focused and made sure All the goals were achieved. That was the kind of Leader Ben was.

Rest in Peace, Ben Santos.

PP EBOT TAN'S EULOGY

Benjamin S. Santos, or who is better known as Past President or "PP" Ben among the members of the Rotary Club of Manila (the "RCM"), is a jolly fellow who loves to tell and share jokes. He has a very big, kind, and generous heart. He is, however, often misunderstood and, sometimes, misappreciated.

He was President of the RCM during Rotary Year 2009-2010, a member of the Management Association of the Philippines for 16 years, a proud Lasallian, and a past Insurance Commissioner. More importantly, he was a very good friend to many.

During his term, PP Ben sponsored workshops for skills development and productivity enhancement at the Hospicio de San Jose from October to November 2009. The topics of the workshop included soap-making candle-making, sardines-making, t-shirt and fan-printing, and vegetable farming. This was financed by a matching grant amounting to US\$15,000.00.

Also during PP Ben's term, the RCM launched Operation Restore Hope on its third and final year. Eighty to ninety indigent patients underwent cleft surgery from April 11-16, 2009. Volunteer medical specialists came all the way from Australia, New Zealand, and the United Arab Emirates to operate on indigent patients, most of whom were children.

The total project cost amounted to about US\$76,600.00. RCM's partner clubs for this project were RC Stadskanaal of the Netherlands and RC Diepholz-Vechta of

Germany. The Rotary Foundation gave a matching grant for this project as well.

Our Club shouldered the repair of medical and laboratory equipment for the benefit of indigent patients at the Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center from December 26, 2009 to January 15, 2010. The project was completed in cooperation with the University of Perpetual Help System and the Lorma Colleges.

Through the efforts of Past RCM Director Dave Reynolds and PP Ben, the RCM donated P400,000 to the Propeller Club as a cash award to the top 3 performing scholars of each batch of the Propeller Club Seamanship Training Program for four years.

The RCM also donated P50,000 to the Makati Foundation for Education to support its program for dependents of enlisted members of the Philippine Army.

In cooperation with the Rotary Clubs of Naga, Iloilo, and Cayman Brac in the Barbados, our Club donated 5 shallow water wells (at a total cost of P150,000) for the BayaniJuan-Calauan Project, which was initiated by the ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc. (the "AFI"). Through networking with Scotland Country RC of Memphis, Missouri, our Club also facilitated the donation of 5 water purifiers from the Hays Pure Water for All Foundation to the project. These had a commercial value of US\$500 each, or a total value of US\$2,500. The RCM paid for all relevant duties and taxes amounting to P9,000.



Our Club sponsored 100 runners in the Run for the Pasig project in November 2009 by contributing P25,000 to the Kapit Bisig para sa Ilog Pasig Project of AFI.

The RCM donated P200,000 to AFI's Typhoon Ondoy relief operations.

Our Club, likewise, donated P25,000 for the employees of the Manila Polo Club who were victims of Typhoon Ondoy. Moreover, our Club donated P25,000 to one of RCM's own employees whose house was badly damaged by Typhoon Ondoy.

Our Club presented a stage play entitled "Journey to Rotary-Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: the Paul Harris Story", which was held at the Greenbelt Onstage Theater.

Our Club's unused unrestricted funds in the amount of Php2.38 million, which had been raised from RCM's discontinued projects, were used to purchase necessary office and meeting equipment, as well as a club vehicle. During his term as President of the RCM, an APV Suzuki van was purchased to service RCM's weekly meeting requirements, including the pre-meeting cocktails where beer, wine, and nuts were served. The van was also used to ferry the Secretariat staff to and from the Manila Polo Club for our Club's weekly meetings, thus optimizing transportation costs. Also, a publication machine, used to print our Club's weekly Balita magazine, was acquired.

Our Club also embarked on the CONCENTRATED LANGUAGE ENCOUNTER ("CLE") project, which provided teachers a new teaching technique.

This project was co-sponsored by a sister club – The Rotary Club of Osaka East.

PP Ben responded to an urgent email appeal of the mother of the American national, who had a son with a Filipina. With the assistance of the AmCham Foundation, PP Ben looked for the American national and moved the American national from Puerto Galera, where he owned a beach resort, to Manila to prepare him for repatriation. The distressed American national was initially sheltered at the condominium unit of PP Ben until his documentation for repatriation was completed by the AmCham Foundation.

PP Ben had members of the RCM Secretariat undergo upskill training, including enrollment for driving lessons in order for them to be able to obtain driver's licenses. Those who benefited from this project included: Amiel Hernandez, Anna K. Toledo, and May Ponce Patajo.

PP Ben increased the salaries of the staff members of the RCM Secretariat above the minimum limits prescribed by the DOLE.

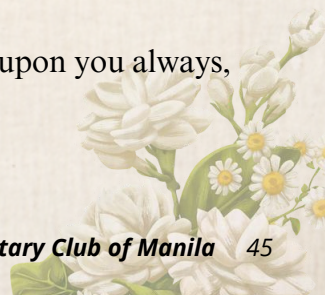
As you can see, PP Ben did a lot of good things during his life.

All of us, specially those of us who are members of the RCM Aleco Breakfast Group, will surely miss PP Ben.

We are sure that he is now with his Creator enjoying eternal rest.

May everlasting light shine upon you always, PP Ben.

Animo!



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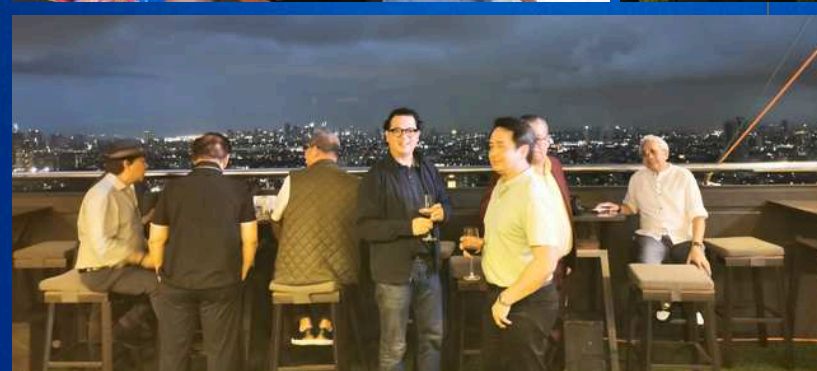
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