

GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER

Rotary International District 3800 | Issue No. 9, March 2023





ON THE COVER:

DG Bobby Tanyag opened the 2day festivities of the RI D3800 District Conference (DISCON 2023) held last March 10-11, 2023 at the Grand Ballroom of Okada Manila.

INSET:

DG Bobby Tanyag poses with RIPR Jessie Harman during the opening ceremonies of DISCON 2023.

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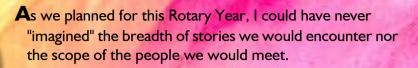
IATP Glenda C. Belandres

The Governor's Monthly Letter is a monthly publication by the District Governor of Rotary International District 3800. Please send letters, photos and other related materials to the District Editorial Board or email to:



RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2023



I find oxygen in sharing time with our members — hearing their truths and learning about their personal journeys and their deepest desires for goodness.

And so it was that I encountered two very different men with very similar stories.

One-hundred-year-old Genshitsu Sen is a remarkable human being and a joyful soul. We greeted each other in Kyoto, during my trip to Japan in November, with a hug and an instant connection.

Not only is Sen a former grand master of the Urasenke tea tradition but he is also an active member of the Rotary Club of Kyoto, where he has served as club president. He assisted in the charter of the Rotary Club of Kyoto-South. And he has also served as governor of District 2650 and held leadership roles in Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

During that same week, I had the great pleasure to record a birthday video for a 100-year-old World War II naval hero who is an exemplary leader and who served two terms as governor of District 5810 in Texas.

Both men are decorated World War II heroes in their respective countries and share unthinkable history. And although they served on opposing sides of the war, their stories are remarkably similar — and they are both honorable men who chose Rotary to carry on lives of peacemaking.

I have been reflecting so much lately that we are all on this planet simply trying to do our best, and we are much more similar than we are different.

I feel incredibly fortunate to share in these stories and to meet such incredible people.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

March 2023



A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING OUR IMAGINE ROTARY YEAR!

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to our Imaginative Amazing Treasures Presidents (IATPs), our Imaginative Amazing Treasures District Team, and the Host Club, my home Club, the Rotary Club of Pasig South, and the Spouses Executive Committee for the very successful District Conference (DISCON) 2023!

DISCONs are wonderful events. Our DISCON 2023 was a perfect opportunity to recognize the impact of Rotary programs and projects and to celebrate the people who implemented them across our District 3800.

My Mail Inbox has been swamped with congratulatory messages with superlative accolades, branding our DISCON 2023 as "Most memorable", "Most Inspiring", "Most Empowering", "Most Dignified", "Most efficiently managed", "Most Informative", "Most gracious, "Most dignified", "World class", "Dazzling", "Friendliest", "Most Elegant", and a host of other heartwarming messages with the most generous compliment coming from our Rotary International President's Representative (RIPR) RI Director Jessie

Harman whose very positive commendation of our DISCON 2023 hinted a five-star rating in her very candid closing speech high-lighting the report she would be presenting to our Rotary International President (RIP) Jennifer Jones.

Our RIPR, expressed her admiration with the distinct honor and recognition given our District 3800 with the presence of the Chief Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court as our Keynote Speaker, and our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with our dedicated commitment to integrate our indigenous people with mainstream society, and our emphasis on Peace and Conflict Resolution.

The presence of a very eloquent and inspiring RIPR specially assigned to our District by RIP Jennifer Jones has greatly contributed to totally inspiring all Rotarians in our District to redefine our commitment to be part of something larger than ourselves, taking our passion for humanitarian service to the next level, to bring our service to greater heights. Rotary International (RI) Director Dr. Jessie Harman communicated the RIP's wishes very effectively in a manner approximating the excellently crafted journalism of Jennifer Jones' style. Our DISCON 2023 has the distinction of having been honoured with the designation of a current RI Director assigned to our Zone as our RIPR, which sends a symbolic message of the highest accord of RI to RID 3800!



I have decided to break away from traditional State of the District Addresses remotely delivered from the speaker's podium doing a more intimate delivery by joining my IATPs on the floor presenting the significant achievements of their very unimaginable and Imaginative Journey for the first eight (8) months of Rotary Year (RY) 2022-2023.

Significant achievements of our IATPs in the implementation of their Strategic Plans and Goals were highlighted with ninety-five percent (95%) of our Rotary Clubs having surpassed the targets they have set at the start of the RY. As of DISCON 2023 time, a record number of 3,520 Service Projects have been reported by all Clubs in Rotary Club Central with record numbers of participative engagement and contributions by their members. Presidential Citation Goals, and our set District Thrust and Goals for this Rotary Year have likewise been satisfactorily attained by 95% of the one hundred-six (106) Clubs in our District!

Our District's Membership Growth has registered approximately a ten percent (10%) level and will further be increased as four (4) new Rotary Clubs are planned to be chartered this RY. Our Annual Fund Contributions to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) have reached a record high level of USD 860,000 for the first eight (8) months and more Rotarians are expected to contribute wholeheartedly to TRF as they have been more inspired with Foundation District Grants benefiting eighty percent (80%) of our Rotary Clubs, the highest amount and number of beneficiary clubs thereby giving rise to more high-impact projects for the communities we serve. The emphasis on full commitment of our IATPs to more significant Days of Service covering all the Areas of Focus simultaneously has contributed to an epic outburst of unimaginable breakthroughs that are all Clubs driven with Zonal involvement as well. It has always been the encompassing strategy of my governorship to make all Clubs thriving with full dynamism with the wholistic involvement of Rotarians in all their Club-Driven Projects led by their IATPs!

For this RY, a main highlight is the significant reduction of District-Wide Activities to give more time for all the Presidents and their Clubs to fully dedicate and commit themselves to create lasting change in the communities served with more substantive legacy projects.

Another game changer in DISCON 2023 is the breaking away from the very ostentatious traditional Governor's Ball to a more casual and less costly Governor's Dinner Dance that is more attuned to the current profile of all our Clubs and the flavor of the present generation.

The Grand Talent Night performances have significantly leveled up to fabulous and legendary proportions highlighting the talents of our Rotarians and spouses to another stratospheric level that has blown the minds of everyone and finding inspiration in each other's innovative Disney interpretations, getting so engrossed in surpassing themselves, unmindful of competition, with all performances so perfectly executed and everyone to my mind emerging as winners, with very minute variance in fascination and audience impact. I doff my hats off to such a quantum leap of quality performances by all the exhilarating overflow of talent in a most enjoyable and most empowering Talent Night!

My heartfelt gratitude to all my beloved Rotarians of RID 3800 for unleashing all your energies during our Imaginative Rotary Journey, and for the opportunity offered by DISCON 2023 to celebrate all our successes, expanding our horizons across borders, and fully empowering each other with all the superlatively outstanding achievements that has totally inspired us all to achieve great things as we together Imagine Rotary!

Thank you for the most empowering, and most inspiring celebration of our DISCON 2023! I express my love and share my joy with all of you!



DISTRICT SECRETARY for OPERATION NOEL L. CUICO

In my hap 20 C

In my GML February message, I excitedly envisioned of a grand spectacle happening in March as I invited everyone to attend the District Conference 2023 which went live last March 10-11, 2023 at the Grand Ballroom of

Okada Manila. And true enough, DISCON 2023 was a major hit --- it was an amazing experience for everyone who attended the big event of the Imaginative Amazing Treasure journey.

First of all, let me congratulate DG Bobby Tanyag for successfully hosting two Welcome Dinners at the same time --- one was for our RIPR, Dr. Jessie Harman and husband, Andrew; and the other was for the 14 Rotary clubs from RI District 3750, South Korea, in which we also had a formal signing ceremony for a sisterhood agreement.

Let us also congratulate and give a big pat on the shoulders of the following: DG Bobby Tanyag, DISCON Chair, PP Raymond Samson; to the host club, RC Pasig South led by IATP Rodel Enriquez; and to all the members of the different DISCON committees, for an amazing and excellent job.

Congrats to the Spouses' Committee, headed by LCP Kristine Tanyag and Chairs, Yolly Supetran, Lin Liboro and Liny Sy for the excellent handling of the Governor's Ball and Talent Night competition.

Thank you very much, District Officers and IATPs for your graceful and wonderful performances during the Governor's Ball.

Congrats to all the 8 zones for your amazing theatrical presentations during the Talent Night. You are all winners but let me also congratulate the outstanding performances as follows:

First Place – Encanto (Zone 5) Second Place – Trolls (Zone 7) Third Place – Coco (Zone 4)

We really had a wonderful and amazing experience during our 2-day festivities --- our Korean Rotarian brothers and sisters and RIPR, DR. Jessie Harman were all praises that they proclaimed that our district might have the Best District Conference in Zone 10A and probably in the world and we are still improving every year. Congratulations Rotarians of District 3800! Mabuhay! It's really an overwhelming experience for me and I do believe for everybody as well!

Let me close this message by again reminding the IATPs, the AGs and SAGs not to forget about your deadlines in submitting requirements especially for the District awards.

NOEL L. CUICO
District Secretary for Operation
RY 2022-2023









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ACCOMMODATIONS:

Get the best value in Melbourne by booking your hotel through Maritz Global Events, Rotary's official housing partner. <u>See</u> a full list of hotels and check current availability.

Rotary negotiates with hotels for the guaranteed lowest nightly rates during the dates of the convention to make sure you're getting the best deal possible. Should you find a lower rate for those dates at one of the properties listed on our website, please contact us at rotary@maritz.com.

Other benefits of booking through our housing partner include:

- One low rate, including taxes and fees
- Rotary will provide all registered attendees with complimentary 5-day <u>Public Transportation Victoria (PTV)</u> access; this includes buses, trams, and trains between hotels and venues.
- Amenities including free Wi-Fi
- Discounted hotel breakfast (this varies by hotel, so please review the hotel description)
- Options to fit every budget
- Flexible payment options
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Remember that if you book a room at a hotel not endorsed by Rotary, we can't help with issues regarding your reservation or the hotel.

Individual rooms

To reserve your hotel online, visit Rotary's <u>official hotel reservation site</u> by 3 May 2023 (availability is limited after this date). To reserve your hotel by phone, call +1-864-699-5084. Reservations are not accepted by email.

Group housing

You can book 15 or more rooms online. Requests will be processed on a space-available basis. See contact information below.

Group housing deadlines

- 14 September 2022: Group housing requests due date.
- 19 October 2022: Last day to reduce or adjust your room block without penalty.
- **2 November 2022:** A two night room & tax deposit will be required for each of the held rooms within the block. Maritz Global Events will send an invoice for the amount due by 27 October 2022. If no payment is received within 5 days of the issued invoice, group room block will be canceled and released.
- 22 February 2023: Last day to provide names on reserved rooms.
- 3 May 2023: Last day to change names on reserved rooms.

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DISTRICT SECRETARY for ADMINISTRATION SHERRYLOU O. KHOSIKING

District Conference (DISCON) is said to be a perfect opportunity to recognize the impact of Rotary programs and projects and to celebrate the people who implemented them across our District 3800. It is one of the mandated meetings in a Rotary District convened by the current District Governor.

The 2023 DISCON of Rotary International District (RID) 3800 was a wonderful experience. Held at Okada Manila last March 10-11, 2023, and ably hosted by the Rotary Club of Pasig South, the event was a rousing success judging from the number of attendees and the feedbacks gathered, among other factors.

Pointedly, the number of registrants rose to around 700 which made it as one of the well-attended district event in recent history. This shows that Rotarians, Spouses and even Rotaractors from RID 3800 were actually looking forward to such an exciting moment of learning and friendship. Not only that, we were honored by the presence of a number of foreign Rotarians who came to visit us



all the way from South Korea, forged sisterhood agreements with some of our clubs, conducted service projects in the country and, most importantly, enjoyed our 2023 DISCON!

Of course, RID 3800 is deeply honored by the grace and presence of Dr. Jessie Harman as Rotary International President's Representative (RIPR), together with her spouse. She is currently a Rotary International (RI) Director. I had the privilege of knowing her in person. She is a very good person, eloquent and inspiring RIPR specially assigned to RID 3800 by RI President Jennifer Jones. Hearing from the RIPR's speeches, she effectively conveyed the key messages of the RI President - the need to redefine our commitment to be part of something larger than ourselves, taking our passion for humanitarian service to the next level, and bringing our service to greater heights. Thank you Dr. Jessie for the opportunity to know you, for being part of our 2023 DISCON and for imparting good words and fine memories with us!

What is also notable is that we were able to invite the Chief Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court as our Keynote Speaker. Our other speakers also discussed key messages that show RID 3800's commitment to promote the concepts of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the integration of our indigenous people into the mainstream of society, and emphasis on Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Of course, the substantive aspect of the program was balanced by fellowship, light and fun events like the House of Friendship, Governor's Dinner Dance and the Grand Talent Night. During the House of Friendship, everybody, including the visiting Rotarians, had fun singing, dancing and partying. The traditional Governor's Ball was redefined in the 2023 DISCON with a more casual and less costly Governor's Dinner Dance that is more attuned to the current profile of all Rotary Clubs in RID 3800 and the flavor of the present generation. The Grand Talent Night was likewise awesome and spectacular, significantly levelling up to fabulous and legendary heights as participants showcased their talents to another level.

A number of congratulatory messages with superlative accolades branded the 2023 DISCON 2023 of RID 3800. Based on the email messages gathered by Governor Bobby, the following were some of the comments: "Most memorable", "Most Inspiring", "Most Empowering", "Most Dignified", "Most efficiently managed", "Most Informative", "Most gracious, "Most dignified", "World class", "Dazzling", "Friendliest", "Most Elegant".

Thank you Governor Bobby for successfully leading us in the conduct of this big event! Thank you also to RIPR Jessie and her Spouse, the Governors and their lovely spouses (past, current and future), the Executive Committee, the Spouses Committee, the Imaginative Amazing Treasures Presidents, the District Officers, PP Raymond Samson, Chair of event, the host club, and those who in one way or another have contributed to the success of the 2023 DISCON.

Maraming maraming salamat po!

Spouses' Execom Hosted DISCON 2023 Governor's Ball & Talent Night

by **IPP KRISTINE MARIE G. TANYAG**HONORARY CHAIR OF THE SPOUSES' ASSOCIATION
RI DISTRICT 3800, RY 2022-2023

What an amazing District Conference it was! Congratulations to the hosts, Rotary Club of Pasig South for a job well done and special mention to Chairman PP Raymond Samson for a very successful event. It was indeed a memorable one for everybody!



For the first day, the Governor's Ball was fantastic! Thank you again to Ms. Dalah and Sir Ato, our choreographers, for teaching us the steps to a medley of pop songs that surely entertained everybody that night. Congratulations to all the participants of the dance, the Imaginative Amazing Treasure Presidents and the District Officers and their spouses for pulling off a great show that's one for the books. The success of the Governor's Ball won't be possible without the guidance and support of the Chairman of the ball, Spouse Tess Sese and Vice Chairman Spouse Ging Santos. Thank you so much for all your efforts in making this a fantastic Governor's Ball!





We started our second day with our Spouse's Workshop in the morning held at the Glass Ballroom of Okada. We were joined by RIPR Spouse Andrew which we were all grateful for. The spouses enjoyed listening to our very informative and engaging speaker, Dra. Joan Mae Rifareal as she discussed Marriage and Family Relationships of Today. Our workshop ended with the spouses taking home prizes they won in the raffle. Surely, it was a fun morning for the spouses!



To cap off the District Conference, we had the much awaited Talent Night showcasing the different talents that District 3800 has to offer. Thank you to our Chairman Spouse Lin Liboro and Vice Chairman Spouse Liny Sy for the wonderful show that they have organized. The theme was Children's Favorite Animated Musical and Zone 5 bagged Ist place for Encanto, next is Zone 7 in 2nd place for Trolls, and for 3rd place we have Zone 4 for Coco. Congratulations to all the winners and participants of Talent Night 2023. All of you are winners as you all were able to produce amazing entertainment for everybody that night! Thank you for making this a successful event for District 3800!





The 2023 District Conference (2023 DISCON) of Rotary International District 3800 was conducted last March 10-11, 2023 at the Okada Manila Hotel in Pasay City led by District Governor (DG) Arturo "Bobby" C. Tanyag and District Governor Lady (DGL) Kristine Tanyag. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Pasig South, it was a very successful event graced by approximately 700 participants composed of Rotarians, Spouses, Rotaractors, Interactors and guests with Dr. Jessie Harman, Director of Rotary International (RI) serving as RI President's Representative (RIPR), accompanied by her husband, Spouse Andrew Harman.

According to DG Bobby: "My Mail Inbox has been swamped with congratulatory messages superlative accolades, branding our DISCON 2023 as Memorable", "Most Inspiring", "Most "Most efficiently Empowering", "Most Dignified", managed", "Most Informative", "Most gracious, "World class", "Dazzling", "Friendliest", "Most Elegant", and a host of other heartwarming messages with the most generous compliment coming from our RIPR, Dr. Jessie Harman whose very positive commendation of our DISCON 2023 hinted a five-star rating in her very candid closing speech highlighting the report she would be presenting to our Rotary International President (RIP) Jennifer Jones."

Let us recount what happened during that special 2-day event:

Day I: March 10, 2023

The special event started as early as 8 a.m. with the Registration at the Foyer Area followed by the Opening of the Photo Exhibit wherein PP Elsie Y. Ang, Photo Exhibit Chair, welcomed the guests and participants followed by a Short Message delivered by DG Bobby. The ceremonial ribbon was cut by the RIPR and her Spouse. Then, the Photo Exhibit was made open for public viewing.

DISTRICT 3800'S DISCON 2023 A HUGE SUCCESS

by **CP Prisco S. Rivera, Jr.**Rotary Club of San Mateo Highlands

Photo Session of the Imaginative Amazing Treasures Presidents (IATPs) ensued. At around noontime, the Opening Ceremonies of the 2023 DISCON commenced with the Processional participated in by the IATPs, District Executive Committee, District Governors (past, current and future) and their lovely Spouses, and the RIPR and her Spouse. Then, the Ist Plenary Session formally started as DG Bobby called the confab to order. IATP/Fr. Rodel Enriquez led the Doxology, followed by the Ceremonial Entrance of Colors splendidly performed by the Color Guards of the Asian Institute of Maritime Studies. Subsequently, the National Anthems of The Commonwealth of Australia and the Republic of the Philippines ensued through AVPs.

District Secretary (DS) for Operation Noel Cuico then introduced the dignitaries and guests followed by the Welcome Remarks delivered by PP Raymond Samson, Chair of the 2023 DISCON.



After being introduced by PRID/PDG Rafael Garcia III, the RIPR delivered her first address which was one of the highlights of the session. Dr. Harman greeted the audience in Filipino language and expressed her pleasure and excitement to be part of the momentous gathering in RID 3800. She eloquently stressed the importance of the End Polio Campaign and The Rotary

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Foundation (TRF) in bringing the greatest gift that Rotary could share to humankind. She thanked RID 3800 for working so hard to help the beneficiaries, for making dreams of people come into reality and in bringing lasting change to communities. She encouraged Rotarians to take their passions for humanitarian service to the next level and to bring their services to greater heights.

Then came another highlight of the plenary, the traditional State of the District Address (SODA) of the current DG who was formally introduced by DS for Administration Sherryl Khosiking.

Veering away from the traditional SODA remotely delivered from the speaker's podium and for a more intimate delivery with the IATPs on the floor, DG Bobby proudly presented the significant achievements of the IATPs and their very unimaginable and imaginative journeys in the first eight (8) months of Rotary Year (RY) 2022-2023 in the areas of Increasing our Impact, Expanding our Reach, **Enhancing** Participants Engagement; and Increasing our Ability to Adopt. According to DG Bobby: "Significant achievements of the IATPs in the implementation of their Strategic Plans and Goals were highlighted with ninety-five percent (95%) of Rotary Clubs in the district having surpassed the targets they have set at the start of the RY." He proudly reported that as of 2023 DISCON time, a record number of 3,520 Service Projects have been reported by all Clubs in Rotary Club Central with record numbers of participative engagement and contributions by their members. Presidential Citation Goals, and the set District Thrust and Goals for this Rotary Year have likewise been satisfactorily attained by 95% of the one hundred-six (106) Clubs in RID 3800! DG Bobby added: "Our District's Membership Growth has registered approximately a ten percent (10%) level and will further be increased as four (4) new Rotary Clubs are planned to be chartered this RY. Our Annual Fund Contributions to the TRF have reached a record high level of USD 860,000 for the first eight (8) months and more Rotarians are expected to contribute wholeheartedly to TRF as they have been more inspired with Foundation District Grants benefiting eighty percent (80%) of our Rotary Clubs, the highest amount and number of beneficiary clubs thereby giving a rise to more high-impact projects for the communities we

serve. The emphasis on full commitment of our IATPs to more significant Days of Service covering all the Areas of Focus simultaneously has contributed to an epic outburst of unimaginable breakthroughs that are all Clubs driven with Zonal involvement as well. It has always been the encompassing strategy of my governorship to make all Clubs thriving with full dynamism with the holistic involvement of Rotarians in all their Club-Driven Projects led by their IATPs! For this RY a main highlight is the significant reduction of District-Wide Activities to give more time for all the President's and their Clubs to fully dedicate and commit themselves to create lasting change in the communities served with more substantive legacy projects." DG Bobby thanked the IATPs and the District Officers for their hard work, dedication and commitment and for leading the clubs and the district to greater heights.

After the break, the Keynote Speech was delivered by Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo, Supreme Court of the Philippines. His message centered on the role of Rotary Clubs in promoting peace and justice, in eliminating the culture of conflict, in addressing social injustice and issues and in promoting a just and equitable society for a better world for all. He discussed the Strategic Plan for Judicial Innovations (SPJI) which is the High Court's plan of action to address institutional challenges using the four (4) guiding principles of efficient delivery of justice, to wit: 1) timely and fair; 2) transparent and accountable; 3) equal and inclusive; and 4) technologically adaptive.



Then, a Life Sharing Resource Session was conducted in plenary with Teacher Diday, a Dumagat Tribe Educator and "The One Philippines" Runner-up Awardee. It was a very empowering talk of the first licensed woman-teacher of an indigenous tribe who

chose to return and serve in her community and build a public school for their children amidst the challenges and inadequacies in order to bring hope and inspiration to and make a difference in the lives of their fellow IPs through education. With her wit and gab, Teacher Diday effortlessly grabbed the audience's attention in delivering her own tale of personal journey of sacrifice, perseverance and hard work that drew inspiration and accolades and which continuously bring gifts not only for herself but to her tribe as well. She appealed to Rotary Clubs to continuously support the IPs who inspiration. As token support and appreciation, Teacher Diday received a cash gift of twenty five thousand pesos (Php 25,000) from DG Bobby and DGL Kristine in support to her advocacies and initiatives.



After Plenary Session 2, the House of Friendship ensued at the Glass Ballroom hosted by The Society of All-Star Presidents. Those who joined the event, especially some Rotarians from South Korea, enjoyed as they lively danced, and partied with gusto. Party foods and drinks, including *lechon*, were served to the delight of the partygoers. The hall was filled with friendly chats, dancing and laughter.

Day I was capped by the Governor's Dinner Dance. It was another game changer in DISCON history that broke away from the very formal and traditional Governor's Ball to a more casual and less costly Governor's Dinner Dance that is more attuned to the current profile of all our Rotary Clubs and the flavor of the present generation. (Please see separate article.)

Day 2: March 11, 2023

Day 2 started with the Joint Breakfast Meeting of the current and the incoming Club Presidents at the Golden Ballroom by invitation. Messages from the DG,

District Governor-Elect (DGE) and RIPR were delivered during said event. Rotary Clubs which conducted notable service projects in the third quarter of RY 2022-2023 were recognized in that event.

Back into the main hall, the 3rd Plenary Session ensued highlighting the presentation of Partners in Service, as follows: 1) Interact Clubs - by PP Sheila Marie de Borja, District Interact Chair; 2) Rotaract Clubs – by PP lack Bryan Lua, District Rotaract Chair; and 3) Rotary Community Corps (RCC) - by PP Paolo Rivera, District RCC Chair. Significant accomplishments on Membership Growth were proudly reported by the Membership Committee led by PDG Anthony "Tonipi" Parungao, PP Pamela Baluyo and PP Joan Marie Tejada. Among those reported were a 6.74% (206) increase in the number of Rotarians in the district, high retention rates, presence of a century club (RC Wack Wack) with 103 strong members, lesser number of clubs below charter strength, and a total of 5 new Rotary Clubs organized during the current RY, four (4) of which organized through nontraditional modes.

The Second Life Sharing Session followed also at the Grand Ballroom. PP Jill Javiniar of RC San Juan Supreme, introduced the speaker, Ms. Bai Rohaniza Sumndal-Uswan, who shared her personal journey in living a life of peace amidst conflict and discrimination. Through poetry, she shared her narratives as a Muslim woman who felt instability and fear due to armed conflicts in their area, experienced stereotyping and other forms of undue discrimination or biases on account of differences in religion, ideology and ethnicity, and on how she made herself a peace mediator trying to build bridges of peace.

She emphasized the virtue of respect amid diversity and allow such differences in religion, origin or ideology turn into a bridge of peace.

"We have to teach peace to build a culture of peace because in building a culture of peace, we can create different generations of peace builders", she stressed. Ms. Bai also presented her Peace Heroes Formation Programme, a peace education program, which she spearheads and supports. She ended her talk with a video inviting everyone to join her in her continuing mission on peace education.

Simultaneously, the Spouses Breakout Session was

held at the Glass Ballroom spearheaded by the Spouses Committee. In that session, DGL Kristine Tanyag delivered a message. She then formally introduced RIPR Spouse Ardrew Harman who also delivered an inspirational message to the spouses. A discussion on the topic "Marriage and Family Relationships of Today" was tackled by Dr. Joan Mae Perez-Rifareal, a licensed psychiatrist. Open forum ensued. Lots of raffle items were given out to lucky attendees.



Together, during the Rotary Foundation Luncheon held at the Grand Ballroom, new guests were introduced by DS Noel. On the other hand, PP Pilar Lee, District Grants Chair, introduced the visiting District Governors from South Korea, namely,: I) DG Oh Jae Dae- RID 3610; 2) DG Ji-Hwan Jung - RID 3630; and DG Jeongdo Hwang Chang Heum- RID 3750. On behalf of the visiting Rotarians, DG Chang Heum, who was joined by an interpreter who translated his Korean message into English language, delivered a message of gratitude to RID 3800 for their warm welcome and friendship and expressed excitement to working with sister clubs from RID 3800 in some service projects in the coming days. He invited RID 3800 to visit them also in South Korea.

Then came the much—awaited TRF-related recognitions of clubs (e.g., New Major Donors, EREY, Sustaining Members, All PHF) and individuals (e.g., New Benefactors, New PHFs, Multiple PHFs) presented by PDG Nelson Aspe and DGND Gina Sanchez, respectively. The Recognition to End Polio Now Countdown to History was presented by PP Rafael Garcia IV of the Rotary Club of Pasig. Then, RIPR Harman delivered her Luncheon Address which pivoted on the cause of TRF and how each and every Rotarian could continually support its cause and

aspirations to make this world a better place.

After a break, the 4th Plenary Session followed with the presentation of District Governor-Elect (DGE) Ronald O. Solis and family by incoming District Secretary Joshua Johun Santos. The DGE eloquently delivered an acceptance speech. PDG Anthony Parungao, RY 2021-2022 DNC Chair, announced the District Governor Nominee (DGN) in the person of PP Roberto B. Zamora who was presented with his spouse. Finally, PDG Augusto Soliman, RY 2022-2023 DNC Chair, announced the District Governor Nominee Designate (DGND) in the person of PP Gina T. Sanchez of RC San Juan. Other matters tackled in that session were some Conference Resolutions presided over by PP Ricardo Angeles, "On to Melbourne" Campaign by DGN Bobby Zamora, and the announcement of Photo Exhibit winners by PP Elsie Ang (Please see separate article about the winners).

During the 5th Plenary Session (Closing Ceremony), and after the RIPR was formally introduced anew by PDG Raffy, Dr. Harman expressed her gratitude and appreciation to RID 3800 for the distinct honor and warm reception accorded to her as RIPR and to her Spouse. She recounted the presence of the Chief Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court as Keynote Speaker of the 2023 DISCON, and RID 3800's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with dedicated commitment to integrate indigenous peoples with the mainstream society, and its emphasis on Peace and Conflict Resolution. Gifts were presented to the RIPR and her Spouse. DS Noel gave some announcements before the confab was formally adjourned by DG Bobby.

Capping the 2-day event was the staging of the traditional Talent Night which performances have significantly leveled up to fabulous and legendary heights showcasing the grand talents of RID 3800 Rotarians and spouses to another level. It was another spectacular presentation managed by the Spouses Committee. (*Please see separate article*)



















GOVERNOR'S BALL 2023

By SPOUSE TESS SESE

Chair, Governor's Ball 2023

The Governor's Ball is a traditional annual event held during the District Conference (DISCON) of Rotary International District (RID) 3800. As they say, it is the graduation of this year's Imaginative Amazing Treasures Presidents (IATPs).

Thinking on what type of dance we will perform, Governor Arturo "Bobby" Tanyag requested for a little fast beat music and modern dance.

Planning and working with the Spouses Executive Committee headed by District Spouses Honorary Chair, Kristine Tanyag, Adviser PDGL Myrna Enriquez and PDGL Cely Hermoso. Spouses Overall Chair Yoly Supetran and my GB Assistant Ging Santos had been engaging. Choreographer, Dalah Pia, helped us with the concept and we came up with the theme "Dance Party".

There were nine (9) Sunday rehearsals, which started on January 8, 2023 up to March 5, 2023, all held at the Buting Elementary School in Pasig City. One (1) day was devoted to blocking at the event's venue in Okada Hotel.

The foods and refreshments were sponsored by Zones I to 8, with the first Sunday rehearsal by Zone I and the last one by Zone 8. Since we only have 8 Zones, the food and refreshment for our 9th day practice were sponsored by our generous District Secretary Noel Cuico. IPP Kristine Tanyag sponsored the lunch for the EXECOM during our blocking day at the Okada Hotel.

For the performances, we divided the IATPs into 2 groups: Group I - with partners portion, having a little bit of upbeat modern, a hint of swing, 70's mala Penthouse 7-inspired; and Group 2 - an all-girls dance portion, having a little bit of cha cha with an upbeat modern touch. The District Officers' dance had a Boogie jive mood and we inserted a Tiktok dance move for a change.

A total of thirty four (34) District Officers and Spouses plus 34 IATPs participated in the dance!



Indeed, it was an amazing experience working in this year's DISCON 2023 Governor's Ball!



18 GML MARCH 2023 WATER & SANITATION MONTH

















TALENT NIGHT 2023

By SPOUSE LUISA "LIN" LIBORO

Chair, Talent Night 2023

Talent Night, as the name indicates, is the one chance in the year to showcase the hidden talents of our Rotarians and their Spouses.

This year's Rotary Theme is "Imagine Rotary". And who in the world has more imagination than children? So, during the Talent Night this year held at the Okada Hotel last March 11, 2023, 7 p.m., we were all children, enjoying "imagination in animation"!

And oh! What a wonderful evening we had! We were highly entertained by the eight (8) performances presented by the eight (8) Zones of RI District 3800, namely: Anastasia, Mary Poppins Returns, Vivo, Coco, Encanto, Little Mermaid, Trolls and Hercules. The audience was captivated and enthralled by the energy and the enthusiasm of the performers, as they sang and twirled their way across the stage! Had there been talent scouts in the audience, I am sure that some of our Rotarians would have been recruited!

While the scores were being tallied, we were entertained by District Governor Bobby Tanyag and the Bobby Tanyag Singers or BTS, who splendidly gave us three (3) surprise numbers.

Our three (3) judges admitted to having a difficult time, as all the performances were great! But in the end, they came up with official winners, as follows:

- I. First Place "Encanto" of Zone 5;
- 2. Second Place "Trolls" of Zone 7; and
- 3. Third Place "Coco" of Zone 4.

And so ended our Talent Night 2023, amidst the applause and shouts of joy of everyone!



















THE 2023 DISCON PHOTO EXHIBIT STORY

By **PP ELSIE Y. ANG**Chair, 2023 DISCON Photo Exhibit

The most awaited day has arrived! Our Imaginative Amazing Treasures Presidents (IATPs) came as early as 5:50 a.m. on March 10, 2023 in order to install their fabulous photo entries in their respective panels, to make sure that they would make it before the cut-off time for the opening of the Photo Exhibit.

The Ribbon Cutting was done by RIPR/Dr. Jessie Harman and Spouse Andrew, DG Bobby Tanyag and IPP/Honorary Spouse Chair Kristine Tanyag.

The entries were judged by five (5) specially chosen Rotarians headed by RIPR Dr. Jessie Harman, PRID Raffy Garcia, District Governor Bobby Tanyag, DGE Pope Solis, and DGN Bobby Zamora, right after the Opening Ceremony. The photo entries best describe the phrase "Together we _____" and with the People of Action verb - Connect, Empower, End Polio, Fight Hunger, Inspire, Learn, Mentor, Promote Peace, Save Lives, and Transform.

Led by the Photography Club, the Photo Exhibit aims to showcase what Rotary is all about through action pictures. This is also a way to freeze the momentous event in our lives as Rotarians, especially on the part of the IATPs who contributed much for a successful term of service above self.

Just a brief history of the Photography Club for the knowledge of everyone: It is a brainchild of EMGA PDG Jun Farcon who appointed PP Ricky Villareal to lead and establish a Photography Club during the term of PP Ric Yu who was then the Prime Minister of the League of Global Presidents. It was supposed to be exclusive for the Global Presidents only but it was eventually opened to other Rotarians under the motto: "Serve Beyond Images."

The Photography Club has been conducting Photo Contests for years during District Conferences. For this Rotary Year, I could say that the entries are all superb. Indeed, we saw how the IATPs expressed themselves during their term through action pictures. By having this Photo Contest, we believe that we have

inspired most of them to show us their best Rotary moments.

Truly, this year's Photo Contest will not be possible without the help of PP Raymond Samson, Chair of the 2023 DISCON, for the close coordination and planning, and IATP/Father Rodel Enriquez, for the posters. Also, appreciation is extended to my fellow Photography Club Members, namely, PP Elda who is the current President of the Photography Club; PP Joel; PP Marilyn Tan; PP Rollz Maningas; PP Jacil Maris Luma-as; and the other club members who woke up early just to cover the opening and judging of the photos. Special thanks also to PP Lulu Sotto of RC Sampaguita Grace Park for the beautiful flowers which brightened up the foyer entrance foliage, to AG Ophel Batalon for printing the labels and the leis; and to PP Nante Santos for the trophies.

Indeed, it was not an easy task for our judges to pick a few photos from the entries! But as they say, there should only be one winner and one that stands out. The winners of the Photo Contest are:

Champion (P8,000.00 + Trophy) Rotary Club of San Juan del Monte

 2^{nd} Place (P5,000.00 + Trophy) Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise

3rd Place (P3,000.00 + Trophy) Rotary Club of Malabon East

People's Choice, Ist Place (P1,500 + Trophy) Rotary Club of Marikina Hilltop

People's Choice, 2^{nd} Place (P1,500 + Trophy) Rotary Club of Marikina Valley



THE 2023 DISCON PHOTO EXHIBIT WINNERS



Champion - Rotary Club of San Juan Del Monte



People's Choice, 1st Place – Rotary Club of Marikina Hilltop



2nd Place – Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise



People's Choice, 2nd Place – Rotary Club of Marikina Valley



3rd Place – Rotary Club of Malabon East



AN AMAZING PARTNERSHIP WITH SOUTH KOREA'S DISTRICT 3750

By **JOANNE VERA CRUZ FELIX**

Rotary Club of Metro Marikina

It all began in July 2022 at the Governor's Visit of the Rotary Club of Marikina where AG Bong Sik Lee expressed his intent to establish sisterhood relation with District 3800, which was followed through by the visit to the Philippines by their delegation, led by DG Chang Heung Hwang, in August 2022, together with their other District Leaders.

The months that followed paved way to over 25 Rotary Clubs of D3800 expressing their desire to forge sister club arrangements with D3750's Rotary Clubs, through the District Sisterhood umbrella. By January 2023, 14 Rotary Clubs of both Districts have exchanged and finalized plans to be Sister Clubs.

A momentous event was held on March 9, 2023, 6 pm at the Valle Verde Country Club's Ballroom in Pasig City where these 14 Rotary Clubs inked their Sisterhood Agreements with over 200 delegates comprising of 82 D3750 Rotarians and 127 Rotarians from D3800.

DGE Pope Solis took the lead in hosting this momentous event, on behalf of IATG Bobby Tanyag (who had to be at RIPR Jessie Harman's Welcome Dinner at Okada Hotel which was held at that same time), together with DGN Bobby Zamora and DGND Gina Sanchez, PP Luz Cotoco, Execom PP Dan Santos, and our Grant Chair PP Pilar Lee, who ably hosted the program.

Aside from the Official Signing of Agreements of both District and all of their 14 Rotary Clubs, highlights of the event included the exchange of gifts from each of the Rotary Club, the Plaque of Appreciation to D3750 Governor Chang Heung Hwang, and the man of the hour who made this partnership possible - AG Bong Sik Lee. The Inspirational Messages of DGE Pope Solis and DG Chang –Heum Hwang were replete with gratitude for such rare opportunity to finalize a district sisterhood agreement resulting to having 14 Rotary Clubs from both district forming a bond of friendship and service to humanity. They were both ecstatic and



looking forward to future plans not just for the next 3 to 5 years but to lasting relationships to serve above self. Sealing further the partnership was a toast led by D3800's DGND Gina Sanchez and D3750's DGND Kang Moon Ok for a grand, great future of sisterhood relation.

As a show of hospitality and welcome, D3800 Rotarians showcased theirs talent to D3750 with a 5-minute AVP of the historical journey to this sisterhood agreement from the onset and the dynamic dance production of the Bobby Tanyag Dancers to the mix tune of "Grease".

The night was stirred with a lot of fun, with dancing and singing culminating the event. Each and every one present enjoyed the abundant food and drink, no one was left idle at all. A promise to rev it up some more on the next day's D3800 District Convention was their farewell bid to each other.

Congratulations once again to the following Rotary Clubs which signed sisterhood agreements:

- 1. RC Marikina Valley & RC Osan Baekhap;
- 2. RC Metro Marikina & RC NamAnsan;
- 3. RC Teresa & RC Suwon Seobu;
- 4. RC Pasig Sunrise & RC Ansan Gwangduck;
- 5. RC Pasig South & RC Osan-Segyo;
- 6. RC Greenhills & RC Ansan Jang Mi;
- 7. RC San Juan Neopolitan & RC Suwon Nambu;
- 8. RC San Juan & RC Suwon Pigeon;
- 9. RC Marikina Hilltop & RC Seo Pyeongtaek;
- 10. RC Antipolo East & RC Suwon Jongro;
- 11. RC Kalookan North & RC Anyan East;
- 12. RC Wack Wack & RC Suwon Jangan;
- 13. RC Marikina North & RC Suwon Hehhyon; and
- 14. RC Marikina East & RC Suwon Cheongsong.

SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN RI DISTRICTS 3800 & 3750



SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN RI DISTRICTS 3800 & 3750

















RID 3750 BROUGHT LAUGHTER, JOY TO KIDS OF MARCELA AGONCILLO ELEM. SCHOOL

by **JOANNE VERA CRUZ FELIX**

Rotary Club of Metro Marikina

In the early morning of March 10, 2023, despite the school holiday announced by the Department of Education (DepEd) in anticipation of a possible transport strike, 300 students from Kinder to Grade 6 trooped to the Marcela Agoncillo Elementary School Covered Court to welcome eighty-five (85) Rotarians from Rotary International District (RID) 3750, South Korea.

The youth being the hope of the future was the key inspirational message of RID 3750 Governor Hwang Chang-Heum (as translated from Korean to English). Heartfelt gratitude was the response of Ms. Elena Mercado, the school principal, along with Manila's Congressman Joel Raspell Chua. The short program was followed by the gift-giving of school supplies such as work text books, crayons, pencils with pencil case, erasers, pad papers, back packs, coloring books, flash cards and meal packs. Hot meals were also served, not just to the children, but to the parents, guardians and other guests as well, who graced the occasion.

Planning and preparation were handled by the Manila Chinatown Barangay Organization led by Brgy. 296 Barangay Captain/PP Rolando Wong, supported by his Barangay Kapitan League Melchor Garin (284), Jasmin Escoto (291), Jerwin Priwandos (268) & Marissa Sabado (294) with the fund support from RID 3750.





THE GENEALOGY OF ZONE 6, PASIG ZONE

by **PP RAUL GAT. AGUSTIN**Senior Assistant Governor, Zone 6
Rotary Club of

On January 18, 1971, the Rotary Club of Pasig was chartered by the Rotary Club of Mandaluyong. And so, the Pasig Zone of R.I District 3800 was born.

The Rotary Club of Pasig then chartered the Rotary Club of Pasig South, the Rotary Club of Pasig East, the Rotary Club of Valle Verde and the Rotary Club of Pasig Premier.

The Rotary Club of Pasig South chartered the Rotary Club of Ortigas Center, the Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise (together with the Rotary Club of Monumento) and the Rotary Club of Pasig West (together with the Rotary Club of Pasig North). The Rotary Club of Valle Verde chartered the Rotary Club of Pasig North (together with the Rotary Club of Marikina Central). The Rotary Club of Pasig North chartered the Rotary Club of Metro Pasig. The Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise chartered the Rotary Club of Mutya Ng Pasig and the Rotary Club of Dela Paz Marcos High. The Rotary Club of Pasig Central was chartered by the Rotary Club of Wack Wack.

Forty-seven (47) years separate the age of the Rotary Club of Pasig and the youngest club, the Rotary Club of Pasig Premier.

Thirteen (13) Rotary Clubs make up Zone 6 or the Pasig Zone of Rotary International District 3800.

Senior Assistant Governor Raul "Raul" G. Agustin is the overall head of Pasig Zone. He oversees the performances and functions of these clubs through four (4) hardworking Assistant Governors, namely:

- 1. Sarah "Sarah" J. Canlas of RC Pasig Central,
- 2. Nonilon "Nitrie" C. Espiritu III of RC Pasig East,
- 3. Maria Teresa Jeannette "Jeannette" M. Ortega of RC Pasig Premier, and
- 4. Nancy "Nancy" M. Quizon of RC Valle Verde.



SAG RAUL G. AGUSTIN



AG SARAH J. CANLAS



AG NONILON C. ESPIRITU III



AG JEANNETTE M. ORTEGA



AG NANCY M. QUIZON

Rotary Clubs operate with their own respective Service Projects. However, in the spirit of unity and camaraderie, the following zonal projects and activities were done collectively by these clubs:

Led by the Rotary Club of Pasig South:

Fiestang Rotaryo – 14-in-1 project led by Zone
 and participated in by 38 clubs from the different zone (Marikina);

- 2. Pintakasi sa KKKK or Kalusugan, Kabataan, Kapaligiran, at Kaligtasan - a 4-in-l service project in San Policarpio, Calbayog, W Samar
- Tabang sa Tribong Kalimonang Mandaya a 7-in-I service project (Rotary Areas of Focus) conducted in San Isidro, Mati, Davao Oriental.

Led by Rotary Club of Ortigas Center:

- I. Rotary Day of Service 4 in I;
- 2. Care to Share your Hair for Cancer;
- 3. Trash for Cash;
- 4. Business Opportunity through Meat Processing;
- 5. Legal Advice.

Led by Rotary Club of Pasig West:

I. Healthy Teeth for a Healthy Heart

Led by Rotary Club of Pasig North,

No Tribe Left Behind

At age 52, the Pasig Zone has produced six (6) District Governors, as follows:

- Four (4) from the Rotary Club of Pasig South: PDG and CP Benigno "Benny" N. Ricafort; PDG Paulo "Paul" D. Honorio; PDG Ferdinand "Ferdi" V. Fuentes; and the incumbent District Governor Arturo "Bobby" C. Tanyag.
- One (I) from the Rotary Club of Pasig North PDG Fabio "Fabie" J. Enriquez
- 3. And two (2) from the Rotary Club of Pasig: PDG Miguel "Mike " V. Ampil; and PDG and PRID Rafael "Raffy" M. Garcia III who has reached the echelon of royalty in Rotary International and who is leading this Zone and the district in selfless service and leadership par excellence.

We are proud of this Zone 6!





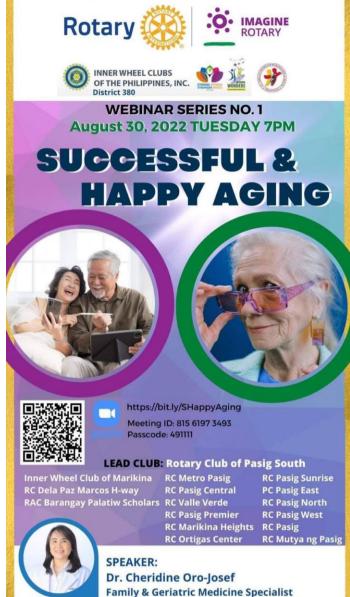
RC Pasig Premier
 UNILAB

Episcopal Commission on

· RC Pasig













The Rotary Club of Pasig Sponsors a Reading and Learning Comprehension Program

by IATP JOSEFINO M. PALOMA

Rotary Club of Pasig

According to a World Bank study, as of June 2022, 9 out 10 students in the late primary age today are not proficient in reading. The study states that the learning poverty in the Philippines is 90.9 %. Learning poverty is the percentage of children aged ten who cannot read or understand a simple story. This study is very alarming considering that reading is a gateway for learning as the child progresses through school, its inability to read also constrains opportunities for future learning.

Upon learning of such a crisis during one of the talks at RC Pasig's Luncheon meeting, IATP Bong M. Paloma and its board immediately acted on the problem and commissioned the Alpabasa reading program in one of the schools in Pasig, the Sto. Nino Elementary School. The Alpabasa reading program trains the teachers and provides materials to enable teachers to teach reading comprehension elementary to students effectively. The principal and the teachers were very thankful to RC Pasig for such an intervention considering that the Department of Education (DepEd) is struggling to address such a poverty learning crisis holistically. They lack training and instructional materials. The pandemic is one of the contributing factors that created this learning poverty situation because the students were deprived of faceto-face classes, and the Hybrid setup was not helping enough due to several challenges (from computers, tablets, broadband connection, distraction etc..).

The project is a trial project of RC Pasig, and the intention is to extend the project to as many elementary schools in Pasig once proven successful and effective. The project launch was well attended and caught the attention of the DepEd Regional Office. During the launching and training, Mayor Vico Sotto and Congressman Roman Romulo graced the occasion

and encouraged teachers to do their best to improve the learning poverty situation in our country. Vice Mayor Dodot Jaworski also visited the teachers during their training days and echoed the same message.

RC Pasig is hopeful that such intervention will contribute to curbing such a crisis. We call it a crisis because it threatens our country's efforts to build human capital. If we do not address such a crisis today, this human capital could become a ticking time bomb.



Regalong Bagong Buhay sa Tinapay

by IATP REINIER F. LACSAMANA
Rotary Club of Pasig East

The Rotary Club of Pasig East (RCPE), in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the Damayan ng Maralita sa Pamayanan (DAMPA), conducted a service project dubbed as "Regalong Bagong Buhay sa Tinapay". This is an alternative livelihood service project for the benefit of 60 Families of the Bocaue Fireworks Displaced Workers who lost their main source of income in Sitio Bihunan, Bocaue, Bulacan.

This Community Economic Development Service Project is a Pastry and Meat Processing Livelihood Program meant to help 60 families to rebuild their socio-economic status and provide them with a new source of income for their living. It also aims to help these people avoid accidents and disasters from the danger of making fireworks and to raise their economic level. Indeed, this is a Gift that will give a happy and secured lives the families despite of their situation!

Led by the Rotary Club of Pasig East President, Mr. Reinier Lacsamana, and DAMPA President, Mr. Michael Angelo, this new livelihood project was kicked off at the Sitio Bihunan Multi-Purpose Hall where the head of the families concerned started to bake breads and made some Gyoza to share to everybody.

It was indeed a new start to look forward to in 2023!

The Rotary Club of Pasig East extends its acknowledgement to The Rotary Club of Bulacan, Bulacan, Rotary International District 3770, for allowing our club to conduct the service project within their area.







Glow Today, Everyday

by PE EMMANUEL DAMIAN

Rotary Club of Valle Verde

Glow Today, Everyday is a livelihood training project of the Rotary Club of Valle Verde for the women of MS12 Lancaster New City, General Trias, Cavite City. It was conducted last February 5, 2023. The project comprised of a demo and a seminar on basic make-ups and application. The instructor answered difficult questions from women about how to effectively and efficiently apply make-up to their potential clients.

The goal of this project was to empower the women of that place to start their own Hair & Make Up start-up business. The Rotary Club of Valle Verde provided starter kits which included make-ups, blushes, concealers, brushes, lipsticks and powder, to name a few. This will serve as their capital in putting up their own make-up services. The other goal of this project was to break the stigma of women working for their own families. Traditionally, women are housewives and do not work for their family. This project enabled them to help their families with alternative source of financial income.







Sewing Machines for the Mothers of Marawi

by IATP RICHARD L. PINEDA

Rotary Club of Ortigas Center

It's been four (4) years since the Marawi siege, which resulted in the destruction of the entire city and left many people displaced and homeless. In times like this, women are directly vulnerable, left without any livelihood or source of income to sustain the need for their respective families. To help the affected mothers of Marawi, livelihood programs were introduced to help them improve their economic and social conditions. A livelihood center was also put up by a religious group, and this is where the Marawi mothers were trained to become experienced sewers. They were initially taught how to sew uniforms, face masks during the pandemic, bags, and similar products.

The Rotary Club of Ortigas Center (RCOC) turned over 4 high speed sewing machines and two (2) edging machines on 28 February 2023. To ensure the sustainability of the project, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with the stakeholders at Angoyao Central Elementary School, Brgy Paridi, Marawi City.

A. Who benefitted from this project and how did it benefit the community/individual?

Angoyao Mothers Association for Livelihood (AMAL)

The donations of machines will make AMAL's sewing livelihood more productive and efficient.

- B. How many people benefited from this project? Directly, 26 active officers and members with at least 5 (average of family members) will give us a total of about 130 individuals
- C. What humanitarian need was met through this project?

The project addresses the following:
Rotary's Areas of Focus –
Peace and conflict prevention / resolution
Economic and Community Development
Maternal and Child Care

Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations

SDG #I – Poverty Alleviation

SDG # 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG #10 – Reduced Inequalities

SDG #11 – Sustainable Communities























RCPN's Healing Hands, Caring Heart

by IATP VITALIANO R. MAGUIKAY
Rotary Club of Pasig North

The Rotary Club of Pasig North (RCPN) launched a service project dubbed as "Healing Hands, Caring Heart". This is a gift-giving project for the community of people with intellectual disabilities. It was held at Ang Arko ng Pilipinas, Inc., Cainta, Rizal. The project focuses on Economic and Community Development, Basic Education, and Literacy.











BOOKLAT: Pagmulat sa Kabataan sa Kahalagahan ng Pagbabasa

by IATP JANA AILEEN B. SANTIAGO

Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise

Manila, 2022, after the pandemic, the Department of Education identified Reading and Comprehension as the No. I negative effect of the two-year pandemic lockdown to students in all levels. Indeed, Reading and Comprehension is key to education as all efforts to education boils down to understanding where the primary years play a crucial role.

President Jana Aileen Santiago of the Rotary Club of Pasig Sunrise (RCPS) is privy to this as she serves as a Board Member of the Philippine Educational Publishers Association, representing Anvil Publication, Inc., the publishing company of the nation's biggest bookstore chain - National Bookstore.

Thinking what and how to contribute to this nationwide problem, the RCPS gathered interesting story books to introduce the love of reading among students. Anvil Publishing President, Ms. Xandra Ramos-Padilla, agreed to donate several boxes of books written by bestselling authors, one of which is Mr. Severino Reyes, writer of "Mga Kwento ni Lola Basyang."

President Jana went around the country to distribute books to small day care centers and elementary schools. The first set of kids-recipients were from Barangay Day-as Day Care Center in Cebu City who not only received the story books but enjoyed reading as well with President Jana.

Continuing on, President Jana went to her home town in Bohol to leverage her efforts with preschool teachers. She believes that the key to helping more people to share the opportunity of doing good is with other equally capable people who may share the same passion, purpose and reason. Several teachers from different towns of Calape also joined the cause and started their own reading classes in their respective classrooms using the story books.

In our hometown of Pasig, the Eusebio High School used the books in their "Brigada Pagbasa" and filled a portion of the Kalawaan Elementary School's Unique Reading Hub situated under a main building's stairs with reading materials.



















The Highlights of RC Mutya's Existence

by IATP JAY PAUL D. AGONOY

Rotary Club of Mutya ng Pasig

Giving emphasis on Rotary Year (RY) 2022-2023 with the first female Rotary International (RI) President Jennifer E. Jones leading the worldwide service organization, the Rotary Club of Mutya ng Pasig (RC MUTYA) stands as an example of women power, with most of its Charter Members being female. Here are some of the important highlights in more than two (2) decades of the club's existence:

- 1998 (May 21) RC MUTYA joined the world of Rotary with 21 charter members during its induction program at the Richmonde Hotel in Pasig City led by the club Charter President (CP), the late Pasig City Vice Mayor Lorna A. Bernardo.
- 1999 (April 28) RC MUTYA was chartered with the sponsorship of RC Pasig Sunrise seven months after it started as a provisionary club under the tutelage of RC Pasig Sunrise Past President Dan Santos and District Governor's Special Representative Boyette Coronel.
- 2011 RC MUTYA's participation in The Rotary Foundation (TRF) perked up with 12 Paul Harris Fellows and 7 Sustaining Members. The club is a consistent Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) Club.
- 2013 RC MUTYA engaged in various service projects such as distribution of mosquito nets in line with the anti-Dengue campaign and outreach services for the abandoned community at Anawin, San Mateo, Rizal.
- 2014 RC MUTYA received a Leadership Award recognizing its efforts in organizing its partner Rotary Community Corps, Rotaract and Interact Clubs.
- **2016** RC MUTYA received the Gold Presidential Citation/Awards.

- 2017 RC MUTYA launched the Unlad Kaakbay SME Promotion Project which has been awarded 1st Runner-up for the Starfish Thrower Awards.
- RC MUTYA spearheaded the Paskotitap project, the biggest Christmas celebration in the City of Pasig.
- 2018 RC MUTYA, through Great President Mary Ann "Meann" Santiago, was awarded "Very Outstanding Club President Award with Distinction" for her efforts in the Charity Ball and Tulong Caravan. (February 17) GP Meann being bestowed the title of "Queen of Humanity."
- 2019 RC MUTYA adopted the Caniogan Elementary School in Pasig as part of a District Grant. The Club also hosted the District's Valentines' Party.
- 2020 RC MUTYA and JA Philippines teamed up for the Business Skills Pass Program for select students at Pasig City Science High School.
- 2022 RC MUTYA rolled out a Global Grant Project "A Second Chance," a livelihood project benefitting Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs), initiated by Past President Marivic R. Leaño, with the support of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology-National Capital Region.

On top of these achievements, the club has sister partnerships with the Rotary Clubs of Manila San Miguel (District 3810) and South San Francisco (District 5150). As part of its activities within the Pasig area, the club also participated in the Rotary Youth and Friendship Exchange which saw delegates from Districts 7010 and 4905 participating in service projects and fellowships.

The Rotary Club of Mutya ng Pasig continues to Imagine great possibilities and create hope to its communities one collaboration at a time!



Brigada Eskwela: Tugon sa Hamon ng Ligtas na Balik-Aral

by IATP JED ROMWELL C. PERALTA

Rotary Club of Metro Pasig

On August 13, 2023, in line with the then upcoming face -to-face classes, the Rotary Club of Metro Pasig donated paint and painting materials, helped in the repair of school chairs, distributed 200 hygiene kits, and conducted a Feeding Program for the benefit of the students of Sta. Elena Elementary School in Orion, Bataan. This was conducted in partnership with the Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary 106th Squadron, International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR), and the Rotary Club of Greater Mandaluyong.













Empowering Youth through "MAGBASA TAYO" Program

by IATP RODEL E. ENRIQUEZ

Rotary Club of Pasig South

Reading is the foundation of most of the learnings that happen inside the classroom, hence, it is vital to build this foundation early on, so as not to have children left behind in their education. This is why for the past 10 years, the Rotary Club of Pasig South (RCPS) has been conducting literacy programs for the children of Buting Elementary School, Pasig City.

In the past, the RCPS has served to empower more than 1,000 students through this literacy program. Club members have also fielded various resource speakers to provide values education seminars to their parents. Dedicated volunteer teachers have also been trained and supported to provide reading intervention to their students. This year, the RCPS graduated 92 students from Grades 2 and 3 in the "MAGBASA TAYO" Program. This is a hybrid reading program which includes video instruction, teacher monitoring, skills assessment, and modular learning. This ensures that whatever happens, their learning will continue and will not be interrupted. With the educational challenges faced during the past two years of the pandemic, educational intervention programs need to be not just effective, but also flexible and responsive to the changing landscape.

Results from the reading assessment showed that more than 90% of the students in the program significantly improved in their reading skills. More importantly, by the end of the program, there were NO MORE NON-READERS. Their shining achievement clearly showed in the confident smiles of the students, together with their proud parents and teachers. Through "Magbasa Tayo," we have witnessed how a community working together can build a nation, one child a time.

One of the things which keep us motivated and inspired to continue this work is the many stories we hear of past student beneficiaries. One such story was

of Chloe, who was a beneficiary of our LETS Read Program some years ago when she was in the second grade. When she reached sixth grade, her Class Adviser shared that "Chloe is very fluent in English that is why I am very surprised to know that she had to take remedial classes before," he says. He revealed that she became a member of the journalism group and competed at the district level and won 2nd place in the English column writing contest. Chloe is only one of our many stories of hope and triumph that make this program worthwhile.

We extend our appreciation to PP Raymond Samson, Basic Education & Literacy Chairman; IATP Rodel Enriquez, President, RY 2022-2023, Imagine Rotary; the. Corazon Atayde Sanchez Memorial Foundation, our Partner in Service; and Buting Elementary School Pasig City, our Project Location.



Magbasa Tayo launching



DG Bobby Tanyag as Guest Speaker



Magbasa Tayo Launching



Magbasa Tayo Class



Magbasa Tayo Class



Magbasa Tayo photo



Magbasa Tayo Kit



Magbasa Tayo Story Telling



The Beginnings of the Rotary Club of Pasig West

Rotary Club of Pasig West

by IATP MARK LAWRENCE M. TIGLAO



The Rotary Club of Pasig West was a club waiting to be organized even before it came into being. There was a renewed campaign at that time to address the unsettling concern on diminishing membership growth and retention. This campaign was stirred by a worldwide movement that rippled down to the districts of Rotary. But it took that fateful encounter or meeting between then DGGR-DGSR/PP Felicito "Fil" O. Guba of the Rotary Club of Pasig South and then DG Antonio "Tony" B. Co on August 27, 1998 to set into motion the organization of the club.

Digging deep and wide in his circle of friends and associates, CP Den worked on recruiting prospective charter members. He invited friends, neighbors, colleagues and even casual acquaintances but known by their professional and/or business reputations. The Rotary Clubs of Pasig South and Pasig North sponsored the club's application for membership with the Rotary International. On February 24, 1999, the Rotary Club of Pasig West was approved to the rolls of membership with Rotary International as Club No. 51757. Thus, as it happened, the Rotary Club of Pasig West was born out of the challenge to grow Rotary in RY 1998 to 1999, fittingly under the RI theme to "Follow Your Rotary Dream."

SERVICE PROJECTS:

President Mely of "Mankind is our Business" and her "Newborn Screening" signature project



...The club was one of the first to support this program way back in 1999 which became a mandatory public health delivery system through RA 9288, otherwise known as the "Newborn Screening Act of 23004"

SERVICE PROJECTS:

Current RY Project: OPLAN KATUTUBig What: Safe & potable clean water provision Who: Aeta Community (38 families / 150 pax) Where: Brgy. Payangan, Dinalupihan Bataan





Ibalik sa Uso ang Pagpapasuso

by IATP JOSIE V. CAMPO

Rotary Club of Pasig Central

On August I, 2022, to celebrate the National Breastfeeding Month, the Rotary Club of Pasig Central (RCPC) and its Rotaractors invited 50 mothers and 50 babies of Brgy. Sto Tomas, Pasig City, to a talk on breastfeeding and provided them with health kits and food items.

Ms. Melinda of the Pasig City Health Office discussed the many benefits of, and the best practices in breastfeeding. This was followed by the distribution to each mother of breastfeeding cover, dental supplies, toiletries, 2 kgs of rice, Gardenia loaves, and vegetables known to induce lactation. The beneficiaries and local barangay officials were one in expressing their deep appreciation for RCPC's service project aimed at promoting maternal and child health.













RCPP's Service Project for the Abandoned Elderly

by IATP GLENDA C. BELANDRES

Rotary Club of Pasig Premier

Spending time with elderly individuals is always a rewarding experience, but what if the individuals you are spending time with are forgotten and abandoned by their own families and relatives? This is the reality that the members of the Rotary Club of Pasig Premier (RCPP) encountered when they visited Kanlungan ni Maria, a home for the aged and abandoned elders in Antipolo City, for a service project.

The Antipolo-based center is a non-profit, non-stock, and non-government organization that has continuously been providing geriatric care for destitute senior citizens since 2002 under the guidance of the Diocese of Antipolo.

The members of RCPP, together with their families, spent a holiday conducting a service project in Kanlungan ni Maria. They brought Christmas gifts for the elderly residents, provided yearlong supply of water filters, new beddings, cleaning materials, medical check-up, reading glasses, and spent time feeding and singing for them. The experience was heartwarming but, at the same time, heartbreaking.

Serenading the elderly residents, the RCPP members felt emotional knowing that these individuals were abandoned and forgotten by their own families. Many of them have no one to turn to and rely on the support of the staff and volunteers of Kanlungan ni Maria. The RCPP members hope their visit and singing could bring some happiness to the elderly residents and help ease their pain and sadness.

The RCPP members also hope that their efforts and the gifts they brought could provide the love and care that the elderly residents long for. Many of these individuals have spent their lives caring for their families and loved ones, and it is only fitting that they receive the same care and love in their twilight years.

Service projects like the one conducted by RCPP are essential in providing assistance and support to



communities in need. These projects benefit not only those who receive assistance but also those who participate in them. Members of the RCPP were able to share their time, talents and treasures while also learning more about the elderly residents and the challenges they face.

The RCPP is a service organization that aims to make a difference in the lives of others. Their visit to the Kanlungan ni Maria is a testament to their commitment to serving the community and making a positive impact on the lives of those who need it most. By spending time with the elderly residents, they were able to show that they care, and that is a gift that will undoubtedly be remembered for a long time.

The RCPP members hope that their visit to Kanlungan ni Maria will inspire others to do the same and contribute to the well-being of the elderly and neglected members of the community. With the hashtag #rcppcares, the RCPP hopes to spread awareness about the plight of the elderly residents in Kanlungan ni Maria and encourage others to take action and make a difference.



















IMAGINE TOMORROW

Intro:

Imagine tomorrow (4x)

Verse 1

Imagine all possibilities Imagine our world transformed Imagine a world that deserves our best we can make a change through service above self Imagine our role in Rotary with meaningful responsibilities Imagine the power of Rotary We can turn those dreams into reality.

Pre-Chorus

We can make a difference be brave and dream big We got that certain magic That Rotary magic

Chorus

Imagine tomorrow (4x) We don't imagine yesterday we're here for tomorrow Let everyone have a part and say we're here for tomorrow

Imagine tomorrow (4x)

Verse 2

Imagine we're very near So close to end all fears of sickness that's our advocacy We join the fight. Eradicate what might harm humankind We do our best to save all the rest Imagine the power of Rotary We can turn those dreams into reality (Repeat Pre-Chorus & Chorus)





