

GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3850



NOVEMBER 2011

Celebrating ROTARY FOUNDATION Month

We Are ThisClose to Ending Polio.

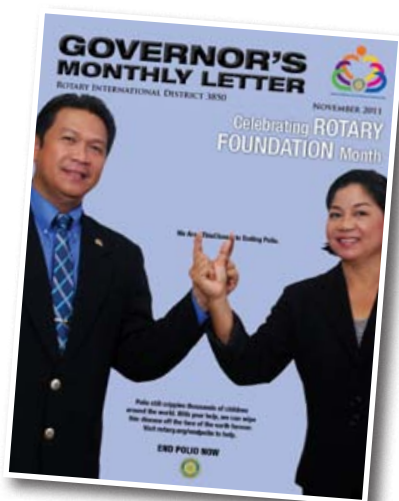
Polio still cripples thousands of children
around the world. With your help, we can wipe
this disease off the face of the earth forever.
Visit rotary.org/endpolio to help.

END POLIO NOW



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ABOUT THE COVER

For The Rotary Foundation Month, our cover shows the first couple of the district reminding all the Rotarians that we are so close in eradicating polio. With the concerted efforts of all volunteers in the world of Rotary, the crippling disease will soon get erased just like its first counterpart, smallpox. The contribution you gave to the world's biggest foundation has also kept Rotary going with its many programs.

ABOUT THE GML

This Governor's Monthly Letter (GML) is the official monthly publication of RI District 3850.

Website: <http://www.rotary3850.org> Online version: <http://www.rotary3850.org/gml3850online.htm>

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EDITOR'S NOTES

End Polio Now

Governor Melvin has always given special importance to RI's *End Polio Now* campaign. This can be seen in his monthly letters, in the district goals and awards that he has set, and in his proactive campaign for Rotary Foundation contributions to PolioPlus.

This November, the Rotary Foundation Month in the RI calendar, our governor has found the perfect opportunity to showcase his advocacy by featuring his own version of the "This Close" ad in the GML's cover.

You, too, can put your face and name to create your virtual pledge on the internet and support the "ThisClose" campaign by visiting <http://www.thisclose.net>, and join other people and Rotarians, including celebrities like Bill Gates, Jordan's Queen Noor, Jackie Chan, and many others.

After 20 years of trying to eradicate the polio menace, Rotary is now on the brink of eliminating it with a strong final push.

Perhaps, it more than just a coincidence that our district has a polio victim as governor, especially in these times, when ending polio is one of RI's priority concerns.

Rotary emphasizes that, "Your contribution will help Rotary raise \$200 million to match \$355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The resulting \$555 million will directly support immunization campaigns in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyze children, robbing them of their futures and compounding the hardships faced by their families."

We hope you enjoy this November GML issue as much as we enjoyed creating it.



PP Chris

Sept. 26, 2011

Dear District 3850 Rotarians,



As one of the most visited places on the earth, Bali has many fascinating attractions, spectacular beaches, a mystical volcano, talented and charming people, unique traditions, and accommodations that will cater to your particular need or fancy.

Bali is extraordinarily blessed by nature. With stays on the island, one will be greatly impressed by the exquisite cultural and spiritual life that are performed as daily life attractions. This local practice has instilled true philosophical value: "*Tri Hita Karana*"—"that is inspiring people to achieve Harmony and Balance in their lives." The Balinese people play a great role to preserve the environment, maintain good relationship with others and revere God as our Creator. Having strong values passed on and held sacred through generations, the local people have splendidly managed to preserve their nature and traditions.

Recently, the Bali government has launched the brand, "*Bali-Shanti, Shanti, Shanti*" as a commitment to preserve all things that have made Bali as uniquely incredible. Shanti means "peace." For Balinese people, Shanti is said three times while adding the Om (sacred script "*Ida Hyang Widhi Wasa*", the one and only God) at the beginning and the end.

"*Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti, Om*," which means peace be upon your heart, universe and the afterlife. This also represents peace upon "*Bhuwana alit and agung*" (yourself and the world). In so doing, one delivers a sacred and holy vibe that awakens a deep aura that balances and makes peace to all living creatures.

For me and my spouse Emily, this will be a homecoming of sorts to our beginning. Having our honeymoon in Bali in 2001 was a revelation that has forged our partnership and our love. We admit that we really let our wild sides loose during those memorable times—white water rafting in class 3 to 4 rapids, doing the elephant safari, and holding snakes and iguanas at Turtle Island. But it was the local traditions, the exquisite food, the unique arts and theater that have endeared us with the people and the island.

Come and join us at the forthcoming Bali Rotary Zone Institute Dec. 2 to 4, 2011. Enjoy the fellowship with other Rotarians and indulge in an experience that you can't forget.

DGE Biboy Jocson
Chair, 2011 Bali Rotary Institute



Bali's aerial view



DGE Biboy and Spouse Emily with RIPE Sakuji Tanaka and Spouse Kyoko

October 5, 2011

Dear DG Melvin,

In behalf of the Rotary Club of Metro Roxas, I would like to thank you for your meaningful visit, as you have witnessed and experienced our project in Ameligan Island, in the Pontevedra town of Capiz.



The proposed library of Ameligan School.

As we celebrate The Rotary Foundation this November, we are reminded that there are over ONE MILLION PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS in the world! Contributing to the world's biggest foundation is a great way to show that we support the cause of Rotary. I am happy to know that you're a person that "Walks the Talk," and not one just sitting on the sidelines.

In the Rotary Club of Metro Roxas this Rotary year, we are also getting first-hand knowledge and experience with the magic of Matching Grant Programs. We are right now into our P1,000,000.00 Matching Grant Project with our International partner, the Rotary Club of Pomona California of District 5300. Each time we come to our project site at Ameligan Island, we are greeted by the residents, and they make us feel so important as a club! We are giving them the precious gift of Water through a Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation. And they are so happy and excited that this is the year that someone cared enough to reach out, just like our RI Theme this year to "Reach Within to Embrace Humanity." Having a Matching Grant Project this year has energized our club; we are working as a team getting the project to go from the planning stage to actually being a fully functional water system. The members are taking pride in becoming part of this valuable project. So, a Matching Grant Project is not only for helping others have a better life but giving life to a club and making Rotarians proud in "Service Above Self"

More power.

Jerry R. Olson, Sr.
President, Rotary Club of Metro Roxas



Rotaractors of RC Metro Roxas



Ground breaking for the water project

My dear brothers and sisters in Rotary,

The marvelous city of Bangkok, Thailand will play host to our 2012 Rotary International Convention. Please consider this my personal invitation to join me, my family, and our fellow Rotarians at what promises to be an incredible event in one of the world's most fascinating locations.

Thailand is a spectacular destination, truly the Land of a Thousand Smiles. I would particularly urge Rotarians who have never visited Thailand before to consider this as your chance. You'll be surrounded by gracious Rotarian hosts and friends, old and new, from around the world. Bangkok is a fantastic gateway for those wishing to explore Southeast Asia, and a wonderful experience on its own. For those who hail from countries closer by, take the opportunity to visit a major cultural capital, with all it has to offer – including shopping, dining, and sightseeing. Indeed, Bangkok will give you a wonderful value for your time and money.

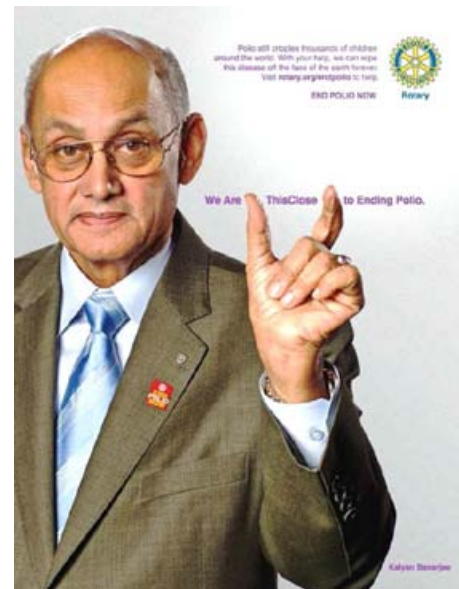
But the very best reason to visit Bangkok, of course, will be the 2012 RI Convention itself, 6-9 May – the

highlight of the Rotary calendar.

All through the year, we reach out to Rotary communities around the globe. At the convention, we have the chance to see all those communities represented in one place – to hear all the languages, see all the people, and learn about all the projects of the past year. Nothing brings home the internationality of Rotary like a Rotary convention – and nothing else has the same power to inspire.

I firmly believe that every Rotary event should be a family event, and this is why Binota and I plan to bring our children and our grandchildren. Why not do the same, and make the Rotary convention part of your family's vacation next year? With so many wonderful events and activities to choose from, there is something for everyone, and plenty of opportunity to draw our families closer to our Rotary service.

Every year, I go to the convention excited to see old friends and make new ones, to celebrate our successes and learn from our experiences. And every year, I leave with a sense of pride in Rotary, eager to begin another year



of service.

Bangkok promises to be the best convention yet. I urge you to register now at www.rotary.org/convention, and to begin planning your trip to our 103rd international convention!

Sincerely,

Kalyan Banerjee

Kalyan Banerjee
President, Rotary International



Volunteers, such as these in India, are helping Rotary to **End Polio Now** in that country.

Walking Tall, Walking Straight

Definitely, soon, when we erase polio from the face of the earth.

For me, the noblest thing Rotary has done to mankind is the elimination of the crippling disease which led to death and disability of millions. I count myself in, being a polio victim at age 11 months. My mother, who was a nurse, would always recount to me that the hospital was so full of very sick polio-stricken kids, and I myself almost died twice. I was able to walk at the age of 3 with a limp and an atrophied flaccid right leg.

Ever since, I have always reached within me when I realize that I am different from the rest, and I can do a lot of things and have my place in the sun. I would do everything to excel to be an inspiration to others, but only to realize that it's also a mechanism to comfort and say to myself that everything is well. When I started to volunteer my services to PWDs, I learned to laugh and accept myself, and the more I look at the bright side of life. I never blamed anyone for my fate because I believe I am responsible for my life. I just can't move on by attributing God's plan for my dysfunction as somebody's mistake.

When I hosted GSE Team Member Laurie Butts, she said it's the very

first time she saw a polio survivor. From her, my question was answered. I complained before when I attended an International Convention that some delegates would stare at me like I came from another planet. Indeed, with the advent of polio vaccines in developed countries, we became the hard-to-find endangered species. It's now very close to ending polio. And men will now walk tall and straight, free from the scourge of such illness.

The Rotary Foundation does so much in helping this most ambitious humanitarian project come to reality. The biggest foundation exists because of the generosity of Rotarian volunteers who do things without being paid. As I said, Rotarians are unsung heroes who make change in the world.

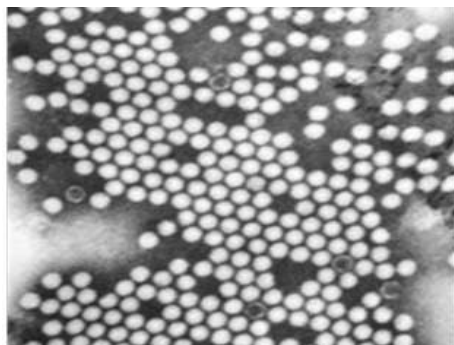
For this Rotary Foundation Month, I would like to appeal, therefore, to all Rotarians in the district to contribute. It's very discouraging to note our very small attendance in the Seamless Seminar and the Asia-Pacific Regional Rotary Seminar, and so too with our poor take off in the list of district contributors. I don't want to hear things from a team member who would describe some Rotary years as disastrous, much of this term when we sacrificed a lot to embrace humanity.



It's quite funny for a physician like me who would check the limbs every time my child is born, knowing fully well that polio is not congenital. It could be because I don't want them to experience the difficult and different journey I have been through. The choreography only my wife learns to love. It's the only thing a father wishes for his children, to walk tall and straight—whatever that may mean.

Melvin

Melvin de la Serna
District Governor



The polio virus.



Childhood with my sister.



Prosthesis-fitting with Physicians For Peace.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

RC Silay: Mangrove planting with Rotaractors and Rotary Youth Exchange.



RC Bacolod North: Feeding activity at Mandalagan Elem. School.

ROTARY CLUB OF METRO ROXAS
R.I. DISTRICT 1950
RY 2011-2012

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS
ROXAS CITY

"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

POLICE : 166 / 6210 - 222
FIRE : 6210221

HOSPITALS

END POLIO NOW

ROXAS MEMORIAL : 6210823 / 6210030
CAPIZ EMMANUEL : 6210443
CAPIZ DOCTORS : 6215675
ST. ANTHONY : 6210431

STOP TB NOW

Celebrating 30 years Of Service To Capiz

RC Metro Roxas: PR-Community Service Emergency Tarps Project.

RC Zamboanga City: Power tools donation to Brgy. Layag Layag.



RC Oroquieta Centennial: Medical, Surgical & Dental Outreach with PAMA and RAWCS.



RC Metro Roxas Central: Rags to Riches recycling project.

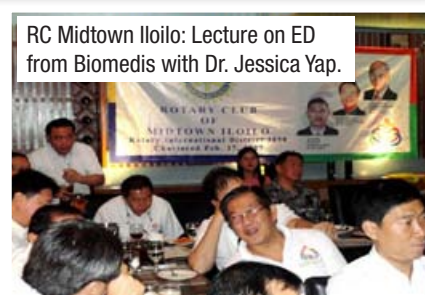
RC Roxas: Visit of Boy & Girl officials to City Health Office, DSWD and Fire Station.



RC Central Iloilo City: Eye Care For Life with RC Antique.



RC Midtown Iloilo: Lecture on ED from Biomedis with Dr. Jessica Yap.



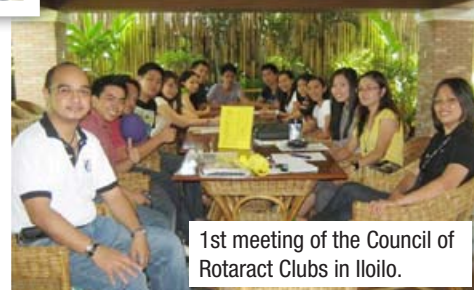
Rotakids and Rotary Youth Exchange students at The Ruins in Negros Occ.



RC Basilan: Children's party at Central Elementary School.



1st meeting of the Council of Rotaract Clubs in Iloilo.



RC Kalibo: Care for Children -Deworming Day.



RC Boracay: Planting of fruit bearing trees.



Canon
Believing You Mean

Yuu Chu Zamboanga

Let's Go Fly A Kite!
A Children with Disabilities Party

PWD
Partnership With and Without Disabilities

ZAMBOANGA
A project initiated by Junior Clubs

also brought to you by: Globe, JALMA, NEXACT, SAMSUNG, SAMSUNG

8:00 a.m. September 25, 2011, Fort Pilar Museum & Paseo del Mar, Zamboanga City, Philippines

RC Zamboanga City: Creating awareness for children with disabilities through photography.



RC Silay: Welcoming RYE Julyano Luis Spohr.



RC Bacolod North: Pneumococcal vaccination.



RC Metro Roxas: Beach Party fellowship for Boys & Girls Week officials.



RC Central Iloilo City: Eye & Ear Check up for 22nd Anniversary of ADPI.



RC Metro Iloilo: HIV Awareness Forum.



RC Jaro Centraline: Induction of new members by PDG Toto Cua Locsin.



RC Bacolod City West: Guest speaker on Road Safety.



RC Bacolod North: Youth Retreat on Family Values.



RC Metro Roxas Central: Wheelchair distribution.



RC Kalibo: Meeting with Interact leaders for the New Generation Congress.



RC Kalibo: New Generation Congress with 153 Interactor participants.



RC Iloilo South: Blood donation project as part of Peoples' Day in Brgy. Ma. Cristina in Jaro, Iloilo City.



Orientation of Panay RYEs with Dist. Chair PP Oliver Ong.



RC Zamboanga City: Interact Club of Zamboanga City on Rated K.



RC Silay: Patag Strategic Planning and Team Planning with PP Louie Gonzaga.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



RC Metro Iloilo: Induction of the Rotaract Club of West Visayas State University.



RC Metro Roxas: RCC Ameligan Genesis induction.



RC Metro Roxas Central: Skimboarding competition.



RC Dipolog: Public Image display.



RC Antique: Former Governor Grace Padaca as Guest Speaker.



RC Basilan: Meeting for Adopt a Barangay Health Station.



RC Zamboanga City West: Kid's Day.



RC Kabankalan: Medical Outreach.



RC Metro Iloilo: Breaking Barriers-chefs with disabilities.



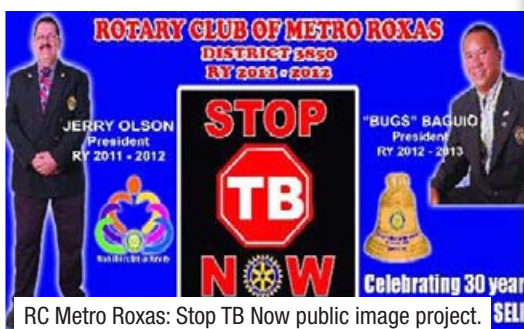
RC Iloilo West: Visit of sister club, RC of Ulsan Nambo.



RC Boracay: Eye Care for Life project with RC Antique.



RC Roxas: PP Megs Lunn receiving recognition from Uplift Internationale.



RC Metro Roxas: Stop TB Now public image project.



RC Kalibo: Book and magazine donation to New Washington Comprehensive High School.



RC Zamboanga City West: SCC Rotaract Coastal Clean-Up.



RC Silay: Responsible parenthood Seminar in Bongol Elementary School.



RC Metro Iloilo: Story book donation.



RC Metro Roxas: Donation of used clothing.



RC Zamboanga City West Spouse Organization: Pink October Walk for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



RC Kabankalan: Boys and Girls Week celebration.



Zones 5-7: Public image in Masskara Festival.



RC Boracay: Observing World Anti-rabies Day.



RC Jaro Iloilo City: Search for Outstanding City Traffic Aides.



RC Basilan: Clean-Up Drive of Interact Club of National HS Lamitan City.



RC Metro Roxas: Beach clean-up by interactors.



RC Iloilo West: Turn over of desks with Korean sis club.



RC Midtown Iloilo: Halloween Party.



RC Metro Iloilo: Meeting with RCC.



RC Kabankalan: Slippers and textbooks distribution to preschoolers.



RC Zamboanga City Central: Pink parade for breast cancer awareness.

CLUB VISITS



RC Roxas.



RC Metro Roxas.



RC Metro Roxas Central.



RC Metro Kalibo.



RC Kalibo.



RC Bacolod West.



RC Bacolod North.



RC Silay.



RC Boracay.

AWARDS



RC Roxas: Forum on PWDs Seminar Host Rotary Club Award of Recognition.



RC Roxas: PP Ciriaco Abella Vito, and children Pres. Mariz A. Gepilano and PP Sanny.



Charter Pres. Ging Oquendo (RC Metro Roxas Central) and son PP Junjun (RC Metro Roxas)



RC Metro Roxas Central: Pres. Nena Molino and husband PP Fred (RC Roxas).



RC Kalibo: Pres. Bing Santamaria and husband PP Vic.



RC Roxas: DGN Mark Ortiz and father PP Antonio.



RC Bacolod North: DGE Biboy Jocson and father PDG Rodolfo.



RC Silay: 3 generations of Rotarian leaders—PDG Benjamin Gaston, son PP Bobby Jison and grandson AG Chai.

Pres. Val Bachita Rotary Club of Kabankalan

As president, I don't promise much. I only want to have jobs well done. Let us enjoy this Rotary year by being simple but achieving successful programs—projects within our reach.

Aside from continuing our projects, I would like to aim for a Rotary park with drinking fountain to be installed in our adopted school. Let us focus also our care and concern for children who are less privileged. Let us give them the chance to enjoy childhood life. The Children's Party we gave to the hearing-impaired and the mentally-challenged pupils of Erasm West was one of them.

I also believe that everyone has equal opportunity. I would like to refer to the PWDs by making them part of our community. And in serving, let us do things with new ideas as we hold our weekly meetings and fellowship time.

I know that I can't do it alone. The RCK members' untiring support will make our club turn another page of service history.



With family and DG Mel (right).

Pres. Apolonio "Apol" J. Zaraspe III Rotary Club of Metro Kalibo

I know that being the lead-man of the club does not confer authority to command, but rather, it imposes a duty—a duty of service above self. In keeping with this Rotary year's theme, our club joins hands to support the vision of R.I. President Kalyan.

The members and spouses will once again renew our commitment to our club's objectives and the noble global mission of service to humanity as we undertake the identified projects and activities this year.

With our strategic planning worksheet for effective clubs, we will prioritize our projects; and though we may not be able to do many, we can do something so that the incumbency of our District Governor of R.I. District 3850 will be crowned with success.

Given our modest resources, we will have high resolve to come up with the expectations of the community. We will meet the challenge to bring a brighter future for our club and for the people we serve. This is a chance for us to make a difference, therefore let's do our share.



Welcoming the DG for his Visit.

Pres. Adonis "Don" R. Barbaso Rotary Club of Dapitan

For this Rotary year, the club hopes to accomplish some targets in every component of the Strategic Plan. For membership, we plan that every Rotarian recruits or sponsors one member before the end of the year. We should consistently communicate to all members utilizing e-communication and personalized letters. And we will encourage members to bring potential recruits to monthly fellowship meetings.

Under club administration, every meeting should be interesting with a club bulletin. We should develop an incentive program to generate consistent attendance and funds, and involve family members and friends to participate in service-oriented projects. Billboards should be installed in strategic places to enhance our club image.

We list nutrition, medical mission, literacy, leadership development and water for all under service projects.

For The Rotary Foundation, we aim to have an orientation, contribute to the TRF and encourage members to be Paul Harris Fellows and Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members.



With AG Lina Pacio, Spouse Fe and DG Mel.

Pres. Cecilia "Cecil" D. Del Castillo Rotary Club of Bacolod West

I know that the members of my club are looking forward to and gearing up for an activity-filled year. We started right with our Children's party at the Bacolod Girls' Home, which everybody found very meaningful. Coming will be a 40-ft container van that the Canadian Rotary Clubs of Richmond Sunrise and Sechelt shipped earlier this year.

We are also looking for our activity with Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation, where we will be busy again distributing the donated goods to various beneficiaries we have previously identified, such as the Boys' and Girls' Homes, municipal and district hospitals, and many others.

There are also projects we want to accomplish this year like conducting computer literacy trainings for public school children in the rural areas, and medical and dental missions. I believe that as a team, our club will accomplish so much.



During the Turn Over Ceremony with DG Mel and IPP Dina Serfino



PP Dialita "Dial" Perez-Jardeleza

Zone 1: RCs of Antique, Iloilo, Iloilo South, Iloilo West, Miagao

AG Dial is a nurse by profession and has worked as Operating Nurse and Clinical Instructress at Iloilo Doctors' Hospital. In 1989-1991, she was employed as a Chemotherapy-Radiation Nurse in Kuwait Cancer Control Center. Presently, she is the manager of Square Gold Marketing.

This sweet lady is the Immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Iloilo South and has brought her club the following awards: Outstanding Club President, Outstanding Club, Best in Environmental Project, Best Rotaract Club, Best Club Bulletin and the R.I. Presidential Citation Award with Distinction. She was an active Rotary Spouse before she was inducted to the club

in 2006. She is also a member of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

She is married to Engr. Nilo Jardeleza, from the same club, and an R.I. Service Above Self awardee in RY 2010. For this RY, the couple is one of the Rotary Family awardees. They are blessed with 3 children: Joyce, 22; Jean Meir, 19; and Jasmine Garett, 15.



PP Efrain Francis "Em" G. Encanto

Zone 2: RCs of Central Iloilo City, Iloilo City, Jaro Centraline, Jaro Iloilo City, Jaro South

AG Em Encanto is a Business Management Educator. Four years after he was inducted to the Rotary Club of Jaro Iloilo City, he became President in RY 2005-06.

He has been a district officer for Scholarship Subcommittee in 2006-07 and 2007-08. He again served as president of the club, and the Council President, Zones of 1, 2, and 3 in RY 2009-10. The Rotary Club of Jaro Iloilo City was a recipient of the "Presidential Citation" during his presidency for two Rotary years.

PP Em holds a degree of BS in Commerce from the University of San Agustin. Immediately after graduation he was invited to join the human resource of his Alma Mater for three years. He joined the "facilitator of knowledge" in business management with the University of the East, Siena College, La Concordia College, San Beda College, San Sebastian College, and the University of San Agustin where he retired last June 2010. PP Em obtained

a degree of Masters in Business Administration and Doctor of Education from the University of the East- Manila. Currently he is the Managing Director of Perpetual Succor Realty Corporation and was invited by the University of Iloilo-Phinma as Business Management Professor.

He is a recipient of "Exemplary Performance Service Award" from the College of Business Administration, University of East-Manila; "Outstanding Educator" from Council of Management Educators and Practitioners in the Philippines (COMEPP) and "Outstanding Business Educator in Management" by the Philippine Council of Dean and Educator in Business (PCDEB).



PP Aquiles "Boboy" Hortillosa

Zone 3: RCs of Dumangas, Guimaras, La Paz, Metro Passi, Metro Iloilo, Midtown Iloilo, Molo

The Rotary Club of La Paz is very proud to have district officers this Rotary year. One is Assistant Governor Aquiles Hortillosa, who hails from Calumpang, Iloilo City.

He finished Doctor of Medicine from Iloilo Doctors' Hospital, Iloilo City and had residency training in Surgery. Presently, he does private practice for General Surgery at Iloilo Doctors' Hospital. He is also a professor in Anatomy in IDH College of Medicine.

This 48 year old surgeon has been with the Rotary Club of La Paz for 10 years. He was elected as president of the club in Rotary year 2009-2010. He will serve as one of the members of the Sports Committee for DISCON 2012, taking charge of

the Bowling Tournament, which along with Badminton, will be introduced this RY.

PP Boboy is an active member of the Iloilo Medical Society, and has served as member of the Board of Directors in 2011-2012. Being a service-minded person, he holds free clinics at Calumpang Parish Church every fourth Sunday of the month. This, he has been doing since 1992 up to present.





PP Morris Gilford "More" Morier

Zone 4: RCs of Boracay, Kalibo, Metro Kalibo, Metro Roxas, Metro Roxas Central, Roxas

AG Morris was born in Singapore and is of English and Chinese descend. He immigrated to Kalibo, Aklan and has been a permanent resident since 1994.

He was educated in Christian Brothers Schools and completed the University of Cambridge "O" Levels and "A" Level from 1962-1967. He served the Singapore Ministry of Defence for 27 years. While in service, he was a volunteer with the Singapore Cheshire Home, an institution for physically and mentally disabled children.

He joined the Rotary Club of Kalibo in 2004, and was president in RY 2007-2008. During his term, RC Kalibo was

awarded for the second highest contribution to TRF in the district. He has successfully completed three Matching Grants for the club and is holding a second term as club secretary. He had held an appointment in the District for Water Management.

He is married to former Rebecca Z. Sison and is blessed with three children with professions of a Corporate Trainer, a Doctor and a Chemical Engineer who manages her English Language School in South Korea.



PP Charles Philip "Chai" G. Jison

Zone 5: RCs of Bacolod North, Escalante, Silay, Victorias

AG Chai is a third generation Rotarian who was born in Silay City. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the University of the Philippines at Los Banos, Laguna. After graduation, he went to work as Assistant Operations Manager in First Farmer's Food Corporation based in Talisay City, Negros Occidental for several months before moving on to work as General manager of their family corporation, which was into sugarcane production. A few years later, he decided to go into commercial broiler contract growing with several integrators—a business he is involved with up to the present.

On October 27, 2004, he was inducted to Rotary Club of Silay with the classification of Poultry Production. He was the club's Vice President the following year, and became President in

Rotary Year 2006-2007 under the theme "Lead the Way." Since then, he has held the position of Club Secretary twice, in Rotary year 2008-09 and 2010-11; was Director for Club Administration for RY 2009-10; and is currently an Assistant Governor.

Through the years, he has also been active in the UPLB Alumni Association Negros Chapter, serving as Director for six years before becoming President in 2007-2009. He is also chairman of the organizing committee of St. John's Institute Class of 1986, which is celebrating their silver jubilee this year.

He is happily married to Aileen Pia Lacson Jison, who is a nurse by profession.



PP Leilani "Lei" Salem Alba

Zone 6: RCs of Bacolod, Bacolod Central, Bacolod East, Marapara

AG Lei was born in Kabankalan, and is the youngest among four siblings. She graduated cum laude with a degree in A.B. Mass Communications from the University of St. La Salle in 1988. She trained in news gathering and news reporting, both in print and broadcast, for the past 23 years.

She entered ABS-CBN Bacolod at age 20, as a cub reporter and researcher. She was promoted as RNG News Director to head the entire News Organization of the 21 provincial stations of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation all over the country in 2005. From March 2006 up to present, she is the Station Manager of ABS-CBN Bacolod, and was recently promoted as Area Manager of ABS-CBN for Western Visayas covering Iloilo, Bacolod and Panay.

PP Lei was chosen as a member of the Group Study Exchange in 1999 to Texas, USA. She is one of the pioneer members of the only women Lion's Club in the Philippines—the

Sampaguita Lions Club. She was elected as the first ever woman president of the fourth oldest Club in the country, the Rotary Club of Bacolod, after 71 years. She received the Outstanding President Award and 11 others during the District Conference in 2008. The Soroptimist International recognized her with "Making a Difference for Women Award" last April 8, 2005 in Bacolod City.

AG Lei is happily married to police Colonel Roderick Alba who is himself a well-respected officer and was adjudged 4th in the Metrobank-Jaycees' Search for Outstanding Policemen in the Philippines. She is a doting mother of two daughters: Abigail, 14 and Angel Ann, 9.





PP Florita "Flor" S. Moya

Zone 7: RCs of Bacolod South, Bacolod West, Metro Bacolod, Kabankalan

AG Flor was inducted to Rotary Club of Kabankalan in September 1992 and became the club's first female President in 1996-97. She was Club Secretary in 1994-95, 1995-96, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2009-2010. As Chair for RYLA in 2005-2006, she is involved in the district. She has attendance in the Rotary International Convention in Glasgow, Scotland in 1997 and in Chicago, Illinois in 2005.

Presently, AG Flor is working as a fulltime volunteer as the Nursing Director and Nursing Coordinator in Southeast Asia for the International Children's Surgical Foundation, an Ameri-

can Organization based in Boise, Idaho, USA that provides free surgery to children with facial deformities around the Philippines, Africa, Vietnam, China and in Latin America.

The humble and unassuming Assistant Governor finished her nursing course at Riverside Medical Center, and for a while worked as a nurse until her stint with the ICSF. She lists diversified farming as her vocation.



PP Lina K. Pacio

Zone 8: RCs Dapitan, Dipolog, Jimenez, Oroquieta Centennial

AG Lina joined Rotary in May, 2005 as a charter member of the Rotary Club of Oroquieta Centennial. She became Club President in 2007, and was awarded as the Most Outstanding New Club President. It was also during that Rotary year that the club received a Presidential Citation from R.I. and various District awards: Most Outstanding Club, Highest Percentage Growth and Highest Membership Number Growth award. She also served the District as Co-Chair of the Annual Giving Fund for two consecutive years in RY 2007-09, Literacy Group Coordinator and member of the District Nominating Committee in 2010-11. She also joined the roll of Paul Harris Fellows.

She has been active in community service, with advocacies centered on women, youth and child welfare, and has been running programs in partnership with NGOs, government service and welfare agencies and Rotary, such as her 3K Literacy annual program on "Kabataang, Kapakanan sa Kinabukasan"- Integral

Values Formation and "Kaalaman, Kalinga at Kaayusan" – Community Awareness/Wellness Program.

PP Lina graduated from Silliman University with a degree in Bachelor of Business Administration, major in Management. Subsequently, she earned a degree in Bachelor of Laws and finished her postgraduate studies in Master of Business Administration. At present, she works as Manager of Land Bank of the Philippines-Ozamiz City Branch, a government financial institution where she is a recipient of a "Gawad Punla" award for her 23 years of dedication, loyalty and trustworthiness in service.

She resides in Ozamiz City, married to Rodolfo J. Pacio, with two children, Eric John, 21 and Maria Iola, 26, married and of whom she has twin grandchildren; a boy and a girl.



PP Edilberto "Ed" Endrina Yorong

Zone 9: RCs of Ozamiz North, Padaian, Pagadian West

One of the awardees of this year's Commitment Award from DG Melvin is AG Ed Yorong. The recognition cites Rotarians with disabilities who have rendered commitment to service despite their physical shortcomings, and who will serve as inspiration to others.

PP Ed, a Civil Engineer, was an employee of the Development Bank of the Philippines, Pagadian Branch. In 1988, he transferred to Pagadian City Water District as General Manager. The following year, he was inducted to membership in the Rotary Club of Pagadian. He received from the club many awards, one of which was the "Outstanding Rotarian of the Year." In 1996, he sustained a stroke and got paralyzed. He was

inactive from club activities, but many Rotarians encouraged him to return in spite of his physical disability. He did, and eventually, became club president during the governorship of DG Boloy Mendoza in RY 2002-03. Being a PWD did not deter him to initiate more activities, including projects on environmental protection, special children, PWDs, water supply to waterless puroks and barangays and many more.

This RY, AG Ed is a member of the District Nominating Committee.





PP Josue "Boy" R. Lee

Zone 10: RCs of Basilan, Zamboanga City, Zamboanga City Central, Zamboanga City East, Zamboanga City North

Helpfulness, humility, and dedication best describe AG Boy Lee. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City East since 1988, and has served as club secretary, treasurer and director. He was president in RY 2008-09.

Past President Boy is a contributor to the Rotary Foundation as a Paul Harris Fellow. His district involvement includes being the Chairman of Vocational Service in RY 2010-2011. He is also the Chair of the Rotary Disaster Management Team, which is extended by DG Melvin de la Serna, along with the position as Assistant Governor.

AG Boy is a member of the Philippine Coast Guard Aux-

iliary with the rank of Commodore, and the District Director of Coast Guard Auxiliary of South Western Mindanao. He is instrumental in bringing in rubber boats, complete with emergency gadgets, from a Matching Grant. He is also a member of the Phil. Military Academy "Sandigan" Class 1982, as an Honorary Member.



PP Antonio Fernando "Butch" M. Blanco

Zone 11: RCs of Bongao Tawi Tawi, Ipil Sibugay, Metro Zamboanga, Zamboanga City West

AG Butch believes that strength lies primarily on the hands-on capacity to undertake the operational aspects of an entity. And that's what this service-oriented person and assertive manager did—the belief in the planning and setting up of objectives before proceeding in running the entities affairs.

He finished Bachelor of Arts Major in English from the Ateneo de Zamboanga University in 1973, and was active in the alumni association as member of the Board of Directors. In RY 2008-2009, he was elected President of the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City West, and became District Secretary in RY 2010-2011. He was also the president of Zamboanga Golf and Country Club in 2007. Listed among his professional achievements are: Director of the Zamboanga City Special Economic

Zone and Freeport Authority in 2002-2007; Regional Operations Manager for Mindanao, Philippine Tourism Authority in 1991-1992; Regional Operations Manager for Metro Manila and Southern Luzon, Philippine Tourism Authority in 1989 – 1991; and Complex Manager, Zamboanga Golf and Sports Complex in 1987-1989.

He is married to Ivy Emerald dela Cruz Blanco, RC Zamboanga City West Spouse Organization president; and they are blessed with four children: Lance Howell, Justin Rey, Abbie Lucille and Fern Anthony.



PDGs in the DISTRICT TEAM



IPDG James Cesar "James" L. Makasiar
Immediate Past District Governor
RC Zamboanga City West



PDG David "Dave" M. Villanueva
District Trainer
RC Bacolod South



PDG Ramon "Toto" Cua Locsin
Rotary Foundation Committee Chair
Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo



PDG Ramiro "Chick" Garcia, Jr.
District Resolution Committee Chair
RC Bacolod North



PDG Renier "Prince" Gerochi
Credentials Committee Chair
RC Bacolod South



PDG Emma "Ems" M. Nava
District Nominating Committee Chair
District Governor's Representative to PRM
RC Central Iloilo City



PDG Ildefonso "Sonny" Elegado
District Protocol Officer
RC Bacolod East



Rotarians conquer nature to bring water, development to mountain villages in Zanorte

By PP Edna "Beng" Capili-Chan, MPHF; RC Dipolog; District Chair, World Community Service

Travelling through the mountainous terrain on a vehicle along rugged roads amid lush vegetation to Panampalay in Manuel A. Roxas and San Antonio in Sergio Osmena, Sr., all of Zamboanga del Norte, only confirmed what many service agencies said of the places—a "logistical nightmare."

Situated 78 kilometers northwest of Dipolog City with a population of less than a thousand (2007 Census), barangay San Antonio is accessible by land through rugged and unpaved mountain roads crossing at least 17 rivers and streams that easily swell up even with slight downpour of rain.

The situation was even more challenging in barangay Panampalay, which is situated 55 kilometers northwest of Dipolog City. Considered as the watershed area of the town nestled atop a mountain 600 meters above sea level, access to the village of more than 1,000 people (2007 Census) is marked by deep ravines, narrow, muddy and crater-laden rugged roads. Landslides often occur due to incessant rains that render the road passable only by habal-habal (improvised motorcycle transport).

Both communities are battered helplessly by monsoon rains, which are almost a daily occurrence. Heavy rains pour down to dangerous levels, prompting anyone who travels to these places, to pray as hard as he can for good weather, in order to safely make it to

these communities and back.

But even this so-called "logistical nightmare" factor failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the members and officers of the Rotary Club of Dipolog, led by its Project Chairman PP Lindon See Diet, to implement the water system project in Barangays San Antonio and Panampalay.

These two communities were without access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and proper hygiene for as long a time the residents can remember. Most of the people in these communities, they claimed, are accustomed to their deplorable situations with mixed feelings of "desperation and resignation."

Today, the landscape of these two communities is dramatically transformed into vibrant, healthy, and productive villages. The people are now enjoying clean, safe, and accessible water as communal water faucets or tap stands were installed near their homes.

Significant reduction of water-borne diseases in the area, where previously the incidence was high, has been noted. The residents look happier and practiced proper hygiene. They are more helpful and cooperative. Collective responsibility has started to manifest in them. And children regularly attend school.

In San Antonio, schoolchildren are being observed to practice proper hygiene as la-

trines, urinals, shower areas and wash stations had been constructed in the school.

For the people of San Antonio and Panampalay, what was once just a dream, is now a reality. They did not only get the water system they wished for; they are also reaping the benefits of development.

The project, however, does not only give the people access to safe drinking water. It also offers them a renewed hope that it is possible to bring development and better their lives.

At present, the organization of the Rotary Community Corps has been completed, while the community Waterworks and Sanitation Associations were also organized in both barangays. A series of capacity-building trainings like simple operation and maintenance and basic project monitoring were conducted for the officers and members.

This Rotary Club of Dipolog-initiated project is funded from the Hunger, Health and Humanity (3H) Grant of The Rotary Foundation in the amount of \$100,000. It is implemented in partnership with the United States Aid for International Development (USAID), under the International Water Collaboration program.

The Rotarians share the people's dreams, animated by their passion to serve, and living The Rotary Foundation's motto: "Doing good in the world."



Crossing one of the 17 rivers.



Water reservoir at the top of the hill.



PP Lindon Siediet braving the deep rivers.

Empowering the Differently-Abled

By PP Victor Federico "Pip" Acepcion, Chair, Assistance to Persons with Disabilities Special Committee



The Rotary Club of Roxas and the Special Committee on Persons with Disabilities recently conducted a Forum on Persons With Disabilities for Panay Island Rotary Clubs of Zones 1 to 4 last October 1, 2011. It was able to gather 80 participants from various Rotary Clubs, particularly the Rotary Clubs of Antique, Guimaras, Boracay, Iloilo South, Miagao, Metro Roxas, and Metro Roxas Central, as well as organizations of PWDs from Antique, Iloilo and Capiz, local media, and concerned private individuals.

It was a lively exchange of ideas and opinions that were enthused from the discussions of the three panelists: Ms Visitation Apostol, the National Chair of Breaking Barriers for Children and Youth With Disabilities (BBCY), Mr. Peter Mallonga, Founder of Eucharistiana Center for Disabled Children, and Rep. Teddy Casino of Bayan Muna, the author of house bill 3665.

House Bill 3665, also known as the Children and Youth with Disabilities Empowerment Act of 2010, seeks for the establishment of a stimulation and activity center (STAC) in every city and municipality in the Philippines. This will seek to empower the almost one million Filipinos

with disabilities, their families and the community that they belong.

This initiative of the District to take care of the needs of persons with disabilities is indeed a noble act of service. Primed by the recently held Forum, the wheels of Rotary will be working for the success of this effort not just in Panay Island but the rest of District 3850, Negros and Western Mindanao Clubs, if not the whole Philippines and Internationally.

As DG Melvin puts it, "every disabled person matters..."

** PP Pip joined the Rotary Club of Roxas in 2006, and is an Immediate Past AG. His classification is Medicine, Urology.*



THE 8TH ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL ROTARACT CONFERENCE was held last Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 2011 at Subic Bay, Zambales. District 3850 was represented by DRRE Ruvinier Ace D. Viñarta of Rotaract Club of Bacolod North, President Aldimin Kalli of Rotaract Club of Zamboanga West, and PP Isabel Moreno of Rotaract Club of Ateneo de Zamboanga University.





Register for the DisCon, Give to The Rotary Foundation

District Secretary Melchor "Cho" Ramos

Governor's Visits for November

| NOV | ROTARY CLUB | TIME |
|-----|---------------------------|------|
| 7 | RC Basilan | 12nn |
| | RC Zamboanga City North | 7pm |
| 8 | RC Ipil Sibugay | 12nn |
| | RC Zamboanga City West | 7pm |
| 9 | RC Zamboanga City Central | 12nn |
| | RC Metro Zamboanga | 7pm |
| 10 | RC Zamboanga City | 12nn |
| | RC Zamboanga City East | 7pm |
| 11 | RC BongaoTawi-Tawi | 12nn |
| 12 | Joint Governor's Address | 7pm |

Fellow Rotarians, November is The Rotary Foundation Month. The District is once again asking for your contributions to make change in the world. As Gov. Melvin says, "Let's all give and receive from The Foundation." PP Kano Ng of RC Metro Iloilo is our Annual Giving Subcommittee Chair and PP Mel Deslate is our PolioPlus Subcommittee Chair.

Our district convention is fast approaching. On 12-14 April 2012, the Rotarians of District 3850 will converge in Iloilo City for the annual event. I hope you have marked your calendars for this very important reunion of Rotarians in the whole district. With more than 220 who have pre-registered, your excitement is a doorstep away since you have made the right move, coupled with some perks like discount and T-shirt. For those who have not registered, it's not yet too late to decide. The DISCON Committee has its way to make this affair worth attending. We promise an experience worth your remembering. Many surprises are at stake. Don't forget to register and make your club a 100% attendee in this special event.

Go, fellow Rotarians! Grab the opportunity to make it to our Fiesta!

Reminder: Please report your MAR on or before every 5th of the month thru text: DS Cho Ramos, # 09187988680.



DisCon 2012 Updates

By PP Tres Arandela
DisCon 2012 Chair



mous of. During the Plenary Sessions on April 13 and half day of April 14, dress code is your CLUB UNIFORM or smart casual wear. The Governor's Ball will see you in your most dapper BUSINESS SUITS or Barong Tagalog for men, and elegant GOWNS or cocktail dresses for the ladies. Please do, because for all you know, you might be chosen as the Star of the Night, or the Best Club Uniform awardees.

In our venue, you are also most welcome to showcase your club in terms of best practices and even the uniqueness of your respective provinces, in a DISPLAY BOOTH. Please signify your intention because the area is limited. There will also be a BANNER EXCHANGE AREA. So have your bannerettes ready and take the opportunity to increase your collection from the 51 clubs in the district.

There will be Sergeants-at-Arms who will assist you during the affair, and Information Officers to help you and answer your queries.

Come to our fiesta, come to DISCON 2012!



Committee meeting on November 5, 2012

The REGISTRATION FEE of P3,000 will be effective 1 January 2011 up to DISCON on 12-14 April 2012. It will be P2,800 for Spouses and P2,600 for guests. There will be a special SPOUSE PROGRAM on April 13, 2011, which is specially designed for our dear partners in service. Please don't forget that we will award the Most Outstanding Rotary Spouse Organization this Rotary year, and so too, with Spouse Attendance Award.

You don't have to bring your club banners during the Opening Program. To those clubs that didn't submit their CLUB LOGOS, please do in order to add drama to your entrance. Please come in the most colorful and unique FESTIVAL COSTUMES your province or municipality is known for, as we will showcase the colorful festivals our district is fa-

Monthly Attendance Report

September 2011

| Zone | Rotary Club | Club No. | Chartered | Members | Meetings | Att % | Rank |
|------|------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|--------|------|
| I | Iloilo | 17045 | 1933 | 45 | 4 | 39.00 | 47 |
| | Iloilo South | 17047 | 1971 | 23 | 5 | 82.89 | 21 |
| | Antique | 17015 | 1971 | 25 | 4 | 83.00 | 20 |
| | Iloilo West | 28828 | 1992 | 19 | 4 | 71.00 | 33 |
| | Miag-ao | 58693 | 2002 | 13 | 4 | 84.61 | 17 |
| II | Iloilo City | 17046 | 1975 | 28 | 5 | 80.20 | 24 |
| | Jaro-Iloilo City | 25131 | 1988 | 19 | 4 | 82.00 | 22 |
| | Central Iloilo City | 27338 | 1990 | 17 | 4 | 88.70 | 10 |
| | Jaro Centraline | 29746 | 1993 | 14 | 4 | 100.00 | 1 |
| | Jaro South | 31664 | 1996 | 10 | DNR | DNR | |
| III | Metro Iloilo | 17066 | 1979 | 60 | 4 | 66.37 | 36 |
| | Midtown Iloilo | 24342 | 1987 | 31 | 4 | 92.50 | 3 |
| | Guimaras | 27277 | 1990 | 22 | 4 | 60.00 | 41 |
| | Molo | 27939 | 1991 | DNR | DNR | DNR | |
| | La Paz | 30821 | 1995 | 17 | 4 | 60.21 | 40 |
| IV | Dumangas | 31821 | 1996 | 23 | 4 | 80.60 | 23 |
| | Metro Passi | 76428 | 2007 | 18 | 4 | 78.00 | 28 |
| | Roxas | 17080 | 1964 | 18 | 5 | 80.00 | 25 |
| | Kalibo | 17053 | 1967 | 46 | 4 | 89.50 | 8 |
| | Metro Roxas | 22518 | 1982 | 40 | 4 | 90.62 | 6 |
| V | Boracay | 50661 | 1997 | 18 | 4 | 98.00 | 2 |
| | Metro Kalibo | 54828 | 2001 | 18 | 4 | 88.03 | 11 |
| | Metro Roxas Central | 74422 | 2006 | 28 | 4 | 90.00 | 7 |
| | Bacolod North | 17018 | 1973 | 55 | 3 | 86.81 | 13 |
| | Silay | 17084 | 1973 | 18 | 3 | 85.00 | 15 |
| VI | Escalante | 17037 | 1976 | 14 | 4 | 62.40 | 38 |
| | Victorias | 17091 | 1966 | 15 | 5 | 71.22 | 32 |
| | Bacolod | 17016 | 1937 | 32 | 5 | 84.00 | 18 |
| | Bacolod East | 17017 | 1983 | 33 | 4 | 76.61 | 29 |
| | Bacolod Marapara | 29076 | 1992 | 23 | 4 | 67.00 | 35 |
| VII | Bacolod Central | 31518 | 1996 | 23 | 3 | 34.83 | 48 |
| | Bacolod South | 17019 | 1969 | 21 | 5 | 89.00 | 9 |
| | Kabankalan City | 17052 | 1974 | 26 | 5 | 58.00 | 42 |
| | Metro Bacolod | 25280 | 1988 | 20 | 4 | 86.25 | 14 |
| | Bacolod West | 27374 | 1990 | 23 | 4 | 91.00 | 4 |
| VIII | Dipolog | 21409 | 1950 | 26 | 3 | 46.15 | 46 |
| | Jimenez | 17050 | 1975 | 19 | 4 | 62.40 | 39 |
| | Dapitan City | 25485 | 1986 | 16 | 4 | 47.00 | 45 |
| | Oroquieta Centennial | 69314 | 2005 | 16 | 4 | 56.00 | 43 |
| | Ozamiz North | 17073 | 1974 | 25 | 5 | 87.00 | 12 |
| IX | Pagadian | 17074 | 1975 | 25 | 5 | 53.00 | 44 |
| | Pagadian West | 17075 | 1977 | 38 | 4 | 83.33 | 19 |
| | Zamboanga City | 17094 | 1948 | 45 | 5 | 91.00 | 5 |
| | Basilan City | 17022 | 1960 | 29 | 4 | 63.05 | 37 |
| | Zamboanga City East | 17095 | 1974 | 23 | 5 | 70.00 | 34 |
| X | Zamboanga City North | 17096 | 1980 | 20 | 5 | 78.82 | 27 |
| | Zamboanga City Central | 26956 | 1990 | 27 | 4 | 75.00 | 30 |
| | Zamboanga City West | 17097 | 1971 | 54 | 4 | 75.00 | 31 |
| | Metro Zamboanga | 22275 | 1974 | 21 | 4 | 85.00 | 16 |
| | Ipil Sibugay | 59175 | 2002 | DNR | DNR | DNR | |
| XI | Bangao, Tawi-Tawi | 69302 | 2005 | 21 | 5 | 79.60 | 26 |

Top 10 Clubs in Attendance %

| | | |
|-----|---------------------|--------|
| 1 | Jaro Centraline | 100.00 |
| 2 | Boracay | 98.00 |
| 3 | Midtown Iloilo | 92.50 |
| 4-5 | Bacolod West | 91.00 |
| 4-5 | Zamboanga City | 91.00 |
| 6 | Metro Roxas | 90.62 |
| 7 | Metro Roxas Central | 90.00 |
| 8 | Kalibo | 89.50 |
| 9 | Bacolod South | 89.00 |
| 10 | Central Iloilo City | 88.70 |

Top 10 Clubs in Membership

| | | |
|-----|---------------------|----|
| 1 | Metro Iloilo | 60 |
| 2 | Bacolod North | 55 |
| 3 | Zamboanga City West | 54 |
| 4 | Kalibo | 46 |
| 5-6 | Zamboanga City | 45 |
| 5-6 | Iloilo | 45 |
| 7 | Metro Roxas | 40 |
| 8 | Pagadian West | 38 |
| 9 | Bacolod East | 33 |
| 10 | Bacolod | 32 |

Clubs that Did Not Report (DNR)

| | |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | Molo |
| 2 | Ipil Sibugay |
| 3 | Jaro South |

Facts about District 3850

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| # of Clubs** | 51 |
| # of Active Rotarians* | 1,288 |
| Average Attendance %** | 75.62 |
| Average Membership** | 25.71 |

* As of 30 June 2011

** For September 2011



DISTRICT 3850 PHILIPPINES *Festival District*

CAPIZ & ROXAS CITY

Sinadaya sa Halaran

The Sinadya sa Halaran Festival is celebrated the first week of every December in commemoration of the founding of the city, followed by the Diwal Festival, signifying the city's importance as the country's "Seafood Capital." There used to be two separate and distinct festivals, the Halaran ("Offering") and the Sinadya ("Celebration"); the former is celebrated by the Province of Capiz and the latter by the City of Roxas. The Sinadya was formerly held at the same time as the Feast of

the Immaculate Conception, which was celebrated by the Immaculate Conception Metropolitan Cathedral. The Halaran was usually held by the last week of October each year (A prelude to All Souls Day and All Saints Day festivals). However, because of the costs of holding two separate festivals a year, the two festivals were merged, with both the Province of Capiz and the City of Roxas contributing to the expenses.

Sinadya sa Halaran boasts of colorful

activities like the grand parade of festivals, the fluvial parade, "Higantes", the lighted river floaters, Mutya sa Halaran beauty pageant, Coronation of the Fiesta Queen, and Agri-Aqua Trade Fair.

There is also the traditional seafood festival and the grand pyrotechnics display.

The fusion of two festivals literally means joy in sharing and thanksgiving. It is to commemorate the religious activities that embody the true Capiceño spirit.



OROQUIETA CITY

Inug-og Festival

The island of Mindanao is a melting pot of diverse cultures. Muslims have congregated predominantly in Southern Mindanao, while the Suban-on natives have colonized in the Northern region, such as in the mountains around the Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental and Zamboanga provinces. In Oroquieta City, the Suban-on natives are pretty much a part of the Oroquieta culture. For this reason, Oroquieta City pays tribute to this cultural group, by celebrating their existence

through "life re-enactment" during special occasions, such as fiesta celebration.

Inug-og is an ethnic festival of the Suban-on culture that is celebrated on the 14th of October, in conjunction with the week-long Fiesta celebration. This festival showcases tribal performance of street dancing in tribute to Oroquieta City's patron saint, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. Performers are dressed up in ethnic costumes while performing rituals in the street and danc-



ing to the rhythm of the parade.

During each year's Fiesta celebration, the City of Oroquieta works endlessly and tirelessly to ensure that its citizens and friends around the globe witness the dedicated stamina towards our undying culture.

VICTORIAS CITY

Kadalag-an Festival

In March, the Kadalag-an Festival in the city of Victorias is held. Victorias is a small city in the north of Bacolod. It is celebrated together with the city's Charter Day to commemorate how the town struggled to achieve its status from being a municipality to being a city. Kadalag-an, or "triumph", depicts the hardships and the victory of the local people in facing the challenges of life. It also symbolizes the victories achieved by the local people

against adversities in life.

Every dance step and move tells a story about their harvests, and what they do for their daily living.

The city coincides the festivity with the Annual Charter Anniversary every 21st day of March, and Annual Fiesta every 26th day of April. On this occasion, the search for Lin-ay sang Victorias, street dancing and other cultural activities are



presented. Visitors from neighboring towns and cities, as well as from other provinces, come to Victorias to see the beauty and culture of Victorihanons.