

# PRISM

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3850  
GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER  
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2014

## THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Doing good  
in the world



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[www.rotary3850.org](http://www.rotary3850.org)



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A Christmas tree formed by symbols of Rotarians' efforts to do good in the world by contributing to The Rotary Foundation.

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## A coin each day for someone's life

*By Maté Espina, Rotary Club of Bacolod Central*

For several years now, I have a habit of stashing coins in all the nooks and crannies in my bedroom. At the end of the year, I gather them all up along with those I've stashed neatly in whatever box I chose as my piggy bank for that year, and bring it to the bank to have it changed to new bills for my Christmas gift-giving to nieces and nephews.

That habit also forces me to at least fully clean all my drawers and closets before the New Year.

This year however, because of the Rotary Foundation cans that were earlier distributed to us by DG Jude, none of those coins will go to my nieces and nephews but straight to the Rotary Foundation as part of the commitment I made when I accepted the can.

In fact, that can has become a centerpiece in my bedroom to remind me to empty my wallet each day and has become an enjoyable bonding moment between me and my granddaughter who I give the privilege of dropping the coins into the can just so she can hear the clanking of the coins.

But I'm sure if my nieces and nephews know why this year they are not getting any crisp bills, they will voluntarily give it back for a good cause.

If there is one thing that has been impressed in all of us siblings which we have somehow passed on to our children – most, if not all of our young adults and children at home have a social consciousness and that's thanks to my parents who have shown us that money is not everything. Rather, there is more joy in giving.

We did not grow up rich by any standard. Although our parents were professionals and have created a name for themselves in their career, having 11 children to raise must have cost a lot.

But what we lacked in material things was more than compensated by the good education we got, the endless books we were introduced to and the array of people from all walks of life that passed through our home and the experiences they've brought with them.

In fact, one of the reasons why I joined my club – the Rotary Club of Bacolod Central – was because at that time, our club was involved in implementing a Matching Grant from RI that was intended for the psychological care of sexually abused children under the care of the Capuchin Sisters.

When my mother was still alive, and at the time when very few people know about the existence of the Capuchin home, our family has been a regular fixture there after my mother set up a rotation of medical professionals who will look after the medical and psychological needs of the girls.

At a very young age, we were introduced to social issues and how we should not be indifferent about it, but rather take a strong stand on how best to prevent and fight for those issues.

Some of our family members took it to the extreme, openly fighting for social issues both in the streets and in media.

I took the same route but at a lesser degree. Seeing the need to fight for women's rights, gender issues and reproductive health, I held the helm of a 3-year Ford funded program that helped educate media practitioners all over the Visayas on those very issues.

When I was living in Italy, my parents visited us and we traveled with them to Rome to stay with the Capuchin sisters and although some of those pioneer nuns who worked here along with my mom, have passed on to another life, their works and more importantly the care and love they shared with those children will forever be remembered, not only in my memory but in the minds of those girls who survived the tragedy knowing that there are others who care.

It is this type of programs and more that your contribution to Rotary Foundation funds. Those coins will go a long way to help those in need.

I may not have much in life but with the little I have, I will continue to give to the Rotary Foundation knowing that somehow I've made a difference in someone's life.



## Rotary Friendship

*Gary Huang, Rotary International President 2014-15*

**F**our months into this year of working to Light Up Rotary, I am more excited about Rotary than ever before. I've been to 22 countries, visited dozens of cities, and met thousands of Rotarians. I've seen amazing projects and been inspired over and over again by the terrific work Rotarians do all over the world. And I've been privileged to be part of all kinds of Rotary events, from club meetings to Rotary institutes, from Rotary Days to Foundation dinners.

Every event is memorable. I feel especially honored when I am invited to share in club celebrations. To me, taking part in a Rotary club celebration as Rotary International president is like being invited to a family event as an honored guest. Indeed, Rotary is the biggest family in the world.

You could say that Rotary is built of service: Each project is another brick in the big building that is Rotary. If our service forms the bricks, then there is no question that friendship is the mortar that holds those bricks together. I see this every day, but nowhere more clearly than at some of the most special Rotary club events: their centennial celebrations.

Being president of Rotary International in its 110th year, I've been lucky to take part in a number of these. It is natural, when visiting long-serving clubs, to want to know what their secret is – because I have always noticed that the longest-serving clubs are also some of the most productive. They are large, they are active, and they do great work. Not only that, but they have a great time doing it.

Of course, that is their secret: In Rotary, strong friendships and great service go hand in hand. When we enjoy our work, we want to do it. We want to work harder, and we want to work better. We look forward to Rotary meetings. Even when our lives are busy, we make Rotary a priority – because we want to see our friends, and we want to serve.

That is why Rotary is still here, after more than 109 years. In Chinese, we say:

如果人生没有朋友，就等于没有太阳。

A life without a friend is a life without sun.

Our Rotary friendships give light to our lives, and it is Rotary friendship – as well as service – that lets us Light Up Rotary.



## The Rotary Foundation – Awakening the Hero in Us

*Joe Jay "Jude" Doctora, District Governor 2014-15*

Let me share with you a story that RI President Gary Huang told during the recent Kota Kinabalu Rotary Institute. The story is about a wise man who got tired of seeing and hearing his five sons always arguing and fighting about almost anything. One day, the wise man called his five sons and gave each a chopstick and asked them to break it. True enough, each son broke his chopstick without difficulty. Then he asked each of them to gather 5 chopsticks each and bundle them together. After which he asked them again to break their own bundle of chopsticks. The five sons tried very hard but could not break the bundle of chopsticks. The wise man then explained that for the family to be strong they have to be united, otherwise, divided, they can easily be broken.

The same is true with the family of Rotary. For Rotarians to accomplish our mission of "Service Above Self", we have to work together and be united whether in humanitarian projects or in our thrust to support the Rotary Foundation (TRF). As an individual Rotarian, we can only do so much but when we become united, we harness the "Power of Everyone" and truly amazing things happen.

This idea of the "Power of Everyone" was my inspiration when I started looking beyond the usual contribution of our District to TRF. I reviewed the performances of the other Districts in the past years and I realized that we are always number 9 out of the 10 Districts in contributions. At first, I tried to justify that our District is geographically challenged and constant follow up is difficult; that many of the cities/towns in our District is economically inferior compared to Luzon & Eastern Visayas; and that the other Districts have more wealthy Rotarians than us. To think along this line, I realized, is not fair to our District. To box our District because of the past will definitely not make us move forward. And knowing that TRF is a vital component of Rotary without which we might not be able to dream of eliminating polio; bring water and sanitation to the poorest part of the world; provide education and dream to millions; protect the mother and child; bring back pride by providing economic development where poverty is the norm; and be part of bringing peace and understanding in this world.

This Rotary year and next to come, we aim to harness the

"power of everyone" through our "My Rotary Can program". If only every Rotarian in our District fill up this Can with Php 5 and Php 10 coins, this Can will generate Php 3,000 to 4,000 in individual contribution. No doubt, our goal of US\$ 100,000 to US\$ 150,000 TRF contribution will not be far behind. As of this writing, total Rotary Foundation contribution is already US\$ 40,000 and many more are coming. The District is hopeful that by December 15, 2014, we can approach the US\$ 100,000 already.

My fellow Rotarians, I know that there is a Hero in all of us. This November, let us gift ourselves by awakening the hero in us through our contribution to TRF. Our foundation spends not more than 10% for administration cost with the rest going to various projects that do good in this world. TRF has always received a high rating from Charity Navigator, an organization that evaluates the various Foundations for sound fiscal management.

Since 2013, in response to the new strategic directions of R.I., TRF came up with a new grants model to ensure focus and increase humanitarian projects while simplifying the application process. Today, we only have 2 funding models namely: District Grant & Global Grant.

With the new model, our district has now the flexibility in dispensing our District Designated Fund (DDF), which represents our 50% share to our District's TRF contribution 3 years ago. With this flexibility, we can now design service projects that really answer the needs of the community we serve. The more our contribution, the bigger our DDF share and the more flexibility we have.

Let me change some words and inspire you with lines from the Song "You're My Hero" ....

*...There is so much good you've given the world.  
That you have made us proud,  
You're everything a foundation should be,  
And this is the time to let you know,  
You have made heroes out of us....*

My Fellow Rotarians let us awaken the hero in us by supporting The Rotary Foundation.

# Raising, respecting & valuing children with intellectual challenges

## *A Rotary Club of Bacolod East Advocacy on Literacy*

*By Balma Nandwani - Editor, Sidlangan*

It is interesting to note that challenges can cripple our resolve, until we decide to face a challenge squarely in the eye, and give it all we've got.

This is what a couple, Winston and Alina Maxino, did when they learned that their second daughter, Brina Kei Maxino was born with Down Syndrome.

Notwithstanding this challenge, the Maxino couple, after their initial normal reaction of shock, decided to look things squarely in the eye, and go about accepting, loving and supporting their child, with the far from easy challenge of building her up to all she could be.

Stung by reality, yet energized by faith, Winston and Alina took on the massive challenge, to not only provide Brina with early intervention and therapy, but they also resolved to help Brina become a high-functioning person. Joining this rally later included elder sister Alayne Kyn, and then another sibling, Carlin Ken, a daughter born after Brina.

Amidst the already massive challenge, rose up yet another one. Brina's difference made her subject to bullies, disrupting their goal to position for her a normal life. Many times, parents of these bullies seemed like passive bystanders. That parents could react passively when their children bullied others was offensive to the Maxinos.

One thing led to another, and they took upon themselves to educate a big community of people to know more about Down Syndrome and Autism, and to accept and respect children and people who have intellectual disabilities.

It didn't take long before Brina found her own voice, her own niche, and purpose. Not only did she highly excel in education, but she also found her purpose, located her own massive strength to speak about her and her family's advocacy of respect. Time would later find her being an advocate for the Intellectually Disabled in both local and international avenues, the latest as a guest along with other intellectually Disabled people, in the White House on the invitation of US President Barack Obama. The Maxino family campaign is extensive and exhaustive.



The Rotary Club of Bacolod East found Brina through destiny. In our own fight to build up children with intellectual disabilities, we found Winston, Alina and Brina. And we invited them to help us spread the word in our own city, that children with intellectual disabilities need our support, our help and our respect. That we as a community cannot remain non-participative to the well-being of these children.

For their voice, and for what they stand up for...the Rotary Club of Bacolod East thanks Winston, Alina, and Brina Kei Maxino for taking time from very hectic schedules to speak in behalf of our cause. For those who met Brina in this occasion, they gained the opportunity to see an amazing person. This can happen for other children too, if we do our part to support, help and respect children with intellectual disabilities.



# “One for All, All for One”

## *A Rotary Book Drive Campaign for Daja Norte Elementary School*

by Rotarian Alexys Apolonio

When Typhoon Haiyan hit the province of Aklan many lives, assets and properties were tarnished and destroyed. Of all those affected, the children are the most disturbed. Specifically for barangay Daja Norte in Banga, Aklan, many classrooms were destroyed leaving them with nothing to shelter for studying.

Efforts of the Rotary Club of Kalibo started to assemble as solicitation of assistance was gathered to help rebuild the school. Barangay Daja Norte was a beneficiary of the club for its water program. As soon as the walls and roofs are constructed the club finds it necessary to provide adequate books for the children. As the havoc of typhoon Haiyan took not only the roofs and doors but also the books and reading materials the children use for their school. As one of the main thrust of District 3850 is literacy, RC Kalibo finds it necessary and urgent to focus on giving importance to these children in rural areas affected by typhoon and have less opportunity to buy books for themselves.

RC Kalibo supports the idea that early literacy behaviors which include book handling behaviors, looking and recognizing pictures in books, story comprehension, and story-reading behaviors are essential to language and literacy development. Literacy—the ability to read and write—is essential to fully developing a sense of well-being and citizenship. For the children of Barangay Daja Norte, they need to be supported with improved

literacy so that their children will have better reading performance, have a healthy self-image, and become lifelong learners, adding to their viability in a competitive world.

As a strategy, RC Kalibo tapped the five Interact Clubs in forging an alliance by coming with a book drive campaign to help collect and solicit books for the Daja Norte Elementary School. Each of the five interact schools (Regional Science High School of Aklan, Dela Cruz Institute of Business and Industry, Aklan National School for Arts and Trades, Infant Jesus Academy, and the New Washington National Comprehensive High School) launched the book drive campaign in their respective school.

Their primary mission is to collect books and bring reading motivation to all children, especially those in disadvantaged areas. RC Kalibo and the Interact Clubs hope to achieve this goal by putting new and old books into the hands of children along with fun literacy activities. This project also encourages our different Interact clubs to work as one for one goal and that is to help in achieving improved literacy and help implement the literacy program of RC Kalibo.

The book drive campaign started in September of this year and will culminate in January of 2015. As of now, RC Kalibo has collected around 3,000 books from the 5 different Interact Clubs. Turn-over of these books to Daja Norte will happen on February 2015.



1st Grade students of Daja Norte Elementary, the beneficiary of the book launching campaign, during the turn-over of classrooms funded by RC Kalibo.



The Interact Club of RSHS turn-over the books to RC Kalibo which they have collected from all the class sections of 3rd and 4th year high school. To date, they have the most number of books gathered.



The Interact Club of DIBI launched their book drive campaign last September 2014 by placing a box in the school premises and banner the Rotary Book Launch campaign.

## RCZC East Turn-Over Ceremony of Rotary 3850 Library at Lumbangan Elementary School

The Rotary Club of Zamboanga City-EAST turned-over the newly equipped "Rotary 3850 Library" last October 16, 2014 at the Lumbangan Elementary School, in barangay Lumbangan, Zamboanga City. The Rotarians donated one (1) unit Computer set with table and chair, four (4) bookshelves, two (2) tables, twelve (12) pcs. monobloc chairs, two (2) units stand fan and assorted books for children.



A souvenir pose with the school teachers after the turn-over.



The Rotarians with their goal of extending services to the pupils and teachers of Lumbangan Elementary School.



Assorted books/reading materials for the school children.

## RCJC Distributes Books and Toys to Children at Brgy. Sambag Jaro, Iloilo City

Rotary Club of Jaro Centraline distributed reading books and toys to children at Brgy. Sambag, Jaro, Iloilo City on October 20, 2014. This is part of the commitment of RCJC to help improve the reading skills of kindergarten pupils of Sambag Kinder School. This program was undertaken by the RCJC and Rotaract of Jaro Centraline in partnership with the LGU and the parents.

Before the books and toys distribution, the Rotaract Club offices and members, together with some kinder teachers, helped the kinder pupils read the books. After the reading session, games were



introduced and after which, light snacks were served.

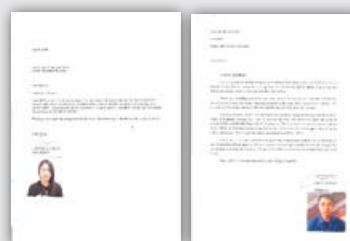
This activity is planned to be held monthly as part of the literacy program of RCJC, aimed toward improving the reading, writing and arithmetic skills of the children at Brgy. Sambag, Jaro, Iloilo City.

## Scholarship Grants of RCJC to Deserving Students of CPU



RCJC gave away Scholarship grants to two (2) deserving students of Central Philippine University (CPU) for this year 2014-2015, in the amount of P5,000.00 each student. This year's recipients are Ledge S. Cabangal and Jeremiah E. Jungco, both of the College of Business and Accountancy. Ledge S. Cabangal is an active and deserving Rotaractor.

RCJC Scholarship grant is an annual program of RCJC aimed



to help deserving students who are members of the Rotaract Club of Jaro Centraline and qualified working students from the Work Study Service Program of the University. The cash grant comes from the RCJC Endowment Fund, in which its interest earning is being used for scholarship assistance. This cash grant is being transferred to the student-recipient's account to cover part of his/her tuition and fees.



# The Rotary Foundation – funding peoples' dreams

By: PP Mate' Espina

Each year, every Rotarian is encouraged to contribute to the Rotary Foundation, the very heart and soul of Rotary International that works towards fulfilling the dreams of people worldwide, be it in health, peace, education and development.

For every penny you share, a baby is born with a chance of being polio-free. A village in a remote area gets a chance to have potable water. A nation is given hope to attain peace. A student can study with a roof over its head. People from diverse cultures and language get to meet and learn about each other.

These and more are some of the stories that were made possible because of our contribution to the Rotary Foundation.

TRF is the charity arm of Rotary International that manages contributions that has impacted millions of lives worldwide.

It was a dream of one man that is now fulfilling dreams of many. In 1917, RI President Arch C. Klumph started an endowment fund for the purpose of “doing good in the world.” He made the first contribution of \$26.50 and almost a century later contributions have reached over \$1 billion and growing.



RI President Arch C. Klumph in 1917 started an endowment fund which later was formalized into the Rotary Foundation

This year, District 3850 Gov. Jude Doctora has adopted the Rotary Foundation cans and a separate one solely intended for polio eradication to encourage Rotarians that it doesn't take much to give. At the end of the day, empty all your coins in the can and by the end of the Rotary year, you will have much to give to the foundation without it making a lot of dent in your pockets.

This is a small return for what the foundation has done for the Philippines which became the first beneficiary of the TRF's global fight against polio.

## Towards a Polio-free world

Polio is caused by a virus that spreads from person to person, through contaminated food and water

and invading the nervous system that can cause paralysis and even death. Most polio survivors can be identified with withered limbs, usually in the lower extremities.

With no cure yet, vaccination is the best preventive means to avoid infection and stopping the spread of the disease.

Polio is said to have existed for centuries and was initially called infantile paralysis since it affects mostly children.



A poster from the Philippines sending our gratitude to RI for the fight against polio.

Polio reached pandemic proportions in the western world in the first half of the 20th century, mostly afflicting children aged 5-9 years old with a higher risk of paralysis.

In 1952, the United States saw its worst cases of polio infecting 58,000 Americans, almost half of which

had mild to disabling paralysis and more than 3,000 deaths. By 1977, the US records 254,000 persons paralyzed by polio.

To date, the World Health Organization estimates about 10 to 20 million people who survived polio worldwide, making them the largest group of persons living with disabilities.

The global drive against polio took off soon after research revealed it is “a virus that likes to travel” and can be transmitted from one country to another, particularly now that global travel has become easy.

In 1979, the foundation launched its fight against polio in the Philippines, immunizing 6 million children. The program continues to this day to ensure that there will be no resurgence of the disease which was last seen in the country in 1993.

Since 2000, the Philippines has been declared polio-free. However, the following year, a mutant strain of the polio virus was detected in Cagayan de Oro, Laguna and Cavite, prompting the national government to order an annual immunization of all children during the first quarter of each year.



Boxing champ Manny Pacquiao joins the advocacy to free the world of polio

The campaign should be pursued since the re-emergence of the polio virus has been noted in some countries which has been declared polio-free like Indonesia which saw 200 cases in 2005, ten years after it was recorded free from polio.

In fact, the World Health Organization issued a declaration recommending travelers, particularly seafarers to have polio vaccination to prevent further transmission at a global level noting 10 countries with continuing “active transmission” and “which could spread to other countries through the movement of people.”

WHO said that in 2013, evidence showed adult travelers contributed to the spread of about 60 percent of polio cases recorded worldwide with Cameroon, Pakistan and Syria posing the greatest risk of exporting the virus this year, prompting our Department of Health to closely monitor overseas Filipino workers commuting and working in the ten remaining high-risk countries with polio cases.



Comelec Commissioner Grace Padaca is a polio survivor

Since launching their polio campaign in the Philippines, the foundation’s program spread like fire in other nations and in 2012, there are just 10 countries with polio cases and three countries with a status of polio-endemic, a huge feat considering that in 1988, there were still 125 countries recorded with polio cases.

We, Filipinos, have a lot to be thankful for this initiative as our country is the first beneficiary of the TRF end-polio campaign and a small expression of our thanks is filling those cans.

### Other TRF programs

Paul Harris once said, Rotary may mean differently to each one of us. To the world however, “it will be known by the results it achieves.”

Eradication of polio is but one among those programs that actually placed the RI alongside state-funded organizations like the WHO, UNICEF and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in the Polio Hall of Fame in 2008.



A TRF sticker spreading the word of Rotary’s work in ending polio

In 1929, the foundation made its first gift of \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. When Harris died in 1947, the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the foundation and contributions began pouring in.

One of TRF’s major donors is Kenyan, Yusuf Kodwawwala, a renowned surgeon and a successful novelist and columnist who contributed more than \$250 million from his royalties to “allow people to fund their dreams.”

Rotary Foundation established its first program in 1947 which we now know as the Ambassadorial Scholarships that provides opportunities for advanced studies to deserving young professionals.



Mass polio vaccination in the Philippines was started by the Rotary Foundation in 1979. By 1993, the country has been declared polio-free but the fight to prevent the disease from re-emerging continues.

Following that, in 1965, the Group Study Exchange, the Matching Grants and Awards for Technical Training was launched,

and our district has been beneficiaries of these.

In 1978, TRF added the 3-H Grants or the Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants which includes the polio immunization program. This was followed by the PolioPlus program in 1985 to combat the disease at the global level.

In 1987, TRF launched the Rotary Peace Fellowships and last year, it added new district levels, global levels and packaged grants to allow Rotarians to respond to immediate needs in their areas.

Past RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe said the foundation remains Rotary’s “most effective vehicle for fighting hunger, poverty, diseases, and illiteracy,” thereby improving the standard of living worldwide.

TRF’s commitment to service is undoubtedly life-changing to nations and communities who may not even have Rotary clubs in their areas but have been served by the foundation through our contributions and that of donors who believe in TRF and RI’s programs.

### Paul Harris Fellows

Our district have contributed much to the foundation and since RY 2004-05, a total of \$776,535.60 has been endorsed to TRF, the highest of which was in RY 2009-10 when contributions reached a high of almost \$93,000.



The Paul Harris Fellow Medallion

District 3850 boasts of a lot of Paul Harris Fellows among which is PDG Edgar Sy who was recently named as Major Donor Level 2 during the Joint Governor's Address at O'Hotel where Rotarians were recognized for their contributions and pledges to TRF for this Rotary year.

A Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) is recognized by RI when a Rotarian contributes at least \$1,000 and as Paul Harris Sustaining Member if one has contributed some amount to TRF towards that goal of becoming a full fellow.

PHFs then received certificates of recognition from RI but in 1969, the foundation issued the first PHF medallion created by Japanese artist, Fiju Tsuda.

Now, PHFs receive both a certificate and a pin and are privileged to purchase a

PHF medallion.

The contribution to TRF or becoming a Fellow however is not limited to Rotarians. The first non-Rotarian who became a Fellow was Ida LeTulle Taylor whose husband, then District Governor Vann Taylor, donated to TRF in his wife's name in honor of their wedding anniversary. Ida became the 25,000th PHF.

Moreover, in 1979, a challenge was issued to Rotarians worldwide to make one non-Rotarian a Fellow and among the first to respond

was a club in Maryland, USA who donated in the name of Mother Teresa making her a Fellow in 1980.

As a Fellow, you are in the ranks of co-Fellows like US President Jimmy Carter, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and scientist Jonas Salk who discovered the vaccine for polio.

The number of Fellows reached the 1 million mark in 2006 and continues to grow.

## TRF—transforming lives

*By: PP Edna "Beng" Capili-Chan, MPHF, Rotary Club of Dipolog, Annual Fund Giving Sub-committee Chair*

Rotary International celebrates November as The Rotary Foundation Month. While this is the time when most people anxiously wait for the "season of giving," Rotarians are reminded that giving to the Rotary Foundation does not wait for any season. Giving has become a habit for most Rotarians and has been an effective drive in realizing humanitarian endeavors. If your gift to a person will mean something to him, a single gift of contribution to The Rotary Foundation will aid relief to a multitude of people in many communities.

Contributions to the Annual Fund are the primary source of funding to carry out Foundation activities.

Through the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative, a contribution of just US\$100 a year or for less than US\$2 a week (Php 88), the Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into projects that can change lives both close to home and around the world. Your contributions can help fight hunger, reduce child mortality, promote peace and conflict resolution, eradicate polio and give hope to the world.

It is worthy to note that more and more people have put their confidence on the Rotary Foundation. Jim Heinrich, an Arch C. Klumph Society member said, "The Rotary Foundation is a good steward of our money. It's well managed.

It's financially accountable. It can work in areas where governments and religious leaders cannot work, and it operates worldwide."

We don't have to wonder how or where we can make the difference; we can make The Rotary Foundation the charity of our choice. And, the time to give is now. There is no need to wait; knowing that our investment of time and money is put into good use.

We are privileged to have something to share. When we give to TRF, we impact the world and when we do it consistently we can live up to TRF's motto: "doing good in the world."

There is still so much work

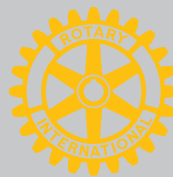
left to do. With our contributions and support to the Foundation, we are set to make a difference. In Rotary, when you give, we can expect something in return – the gift of seeing how Rotary transforms lives.

Our Foundation has been a tool for Rotarians to do good things across the globe. With my faith on the Foundation's programs, I challenge every Rotarian to open their hearts, share and be a part of our cause.

To know more on how to make your contributions, contact your Best Class President, your Club TRF Director or reach the District's Annual Fund Giving Sub-Committee today.



Rotary



Now is our chance to change the world. To make sure no child is disabled by polio ever again.

Join In. Speak out. Donate. Be a part of history.

[endpolionow.org](http://endpolionow.org)

We Are ThisClose to Ending Polio

Cong. Albee Benitez

CONG. ALBEE IN METRO THIRD:

# Leading Change



Cong. Albee at the 1st Indigenous People's Festival in Silay City, assuring residents of upland communities of assistance to improve farm to market roads.



Cong. Albee and Mrs. Nikki Benitez with Silay VM Mark Golez, Vice-Governor Bong Lacson and Victorias officials during the 4th 2014 Brainsbee ni Albee District Championship



Cong. Albee leading the ceremonial toss at the first basketball match to kick off the 2014 Cong. Albee Cup-3rd District Unity Games among elected public officials

Welcome to the Third District of Negros Occidental, home to the province's top tourist attractions – the Mambucal Resort in Murcia, summer capital of the province; the beautiful Ruins of Talisay City; the most popular and exciting new theme park and playground, Talisay's Campuestohan Highland Resort; the scenic and historical attractions of the upland Barangay Patag in Silay City and the cool waterfalls in Gawahon Resort in Victorias City; and the museums of the cities of Talisay – The House of Tana Dicang and Silay – Balay Negrense, Jalandoni Museum and the Ramon Hoflena Ancestral House.

The Third District is now a vital gateway to the province, with the Bacolod-Silay Airport located in Silay City. It is also home of the Victorias Milling



Team Albee. The 3rd District Congressional Staff with DepEd technical consultants, Betty Bantug Benitez representatives and Brainsbee 2014 winner





Livelihood Training Program: Soap Making & Entrepreneurship Seminar in partnership with DOST, DOLE & DTI



Interactive Whiteboard Training For Teachers in the 3rd District

Company and the First Farmers Milling Company, two of the province's most important sugar mills.

The Third District, composed of the municipalities of Murcia and E.B. Magalona and the cities of Talisay, Silay and Victorias is booming and growing steadily as Negros Occidental's 'Metro Third' as its young and dynamic voice in the halls of the House of Representatives, ALFREDO ABELARDO "ALBEE" BANTUG BENITEZ makes his mark in the political landscape of the province.

Congressman Benitez or Cong. Albee to his constituents in the Third District joined politics in 2010 with a new mind-set, hoping to make a difference in a political environment that needed rejuvenation. His advocacy for change was anchored on a simple, straightforward challenge of finding new ways of doing things to transform people's lives for the better.

His development agenda is focused on five areas—Infrastructure, Health, Education, Livelihood and Policy or Legislation or I-HELP, an acronym that captures Cong. Albee's passion for service.

The infrastructure support that he has delivered during his first term of office has been felt in the 115 barangays of the Third District – the road networks, bridges, flood control structures, irrigation systems, multi-purpose buildings, school-buildings, health centers, electrification and water systems.

The implementation of the Negros Occidental Comprehensive Health Program (NOCHP) has been most felt in the Third District as it leads in the serious campaign to reach more indigent families to benefit from free medical services in government hospitals. The Congressional District Office working with both the private sector and other government entities hold year-round free medical and dental clinics most especially in the upland and coastal communities.

Believing that education is the greatest equalizer, Cong. Albee has introduced Cyber-Education, opening the interactive classroom of the 21st century in public schools in the Third District which is a first in the country. The Alternative Learning Boards are now being installed in many public elementary and high schools, making positive impact in the results of





With some Congressmen from the Visayan Bloc and Abang Ligkod representative Stephen Paduano, Cong. Albee joins the consultation–dialogue with residents of Bacolod Barangays Banago and Vista Alegre re port and housing concerns

the National Achievement Test since 2011. He works closely with the Department of Education to ensure that the program is monitored and evaluated and with the private sector for resource mobilization.

Access to education is a priority for Cong. Albee as such his educational assistance for poor but deserving students and providing computer training to as many as possible are year-round projects of his office.

Another first that Cong. Albee launched is the “Brainsbee ni Albee sa District 3,” a community-based academic competition in spelling, math and science open to all elementary pupils and high school students in the District. Started in 2009 even before he joined politics, this program is now on its fourth run this 2014 and has involved more than 16,000 students.

More livelihood projects have been started during the second term of Cong. Albee in coordination with DOST, TESDA and DTI such as soap-making,

detergent and fabric softener making, candle-making, food preparation seminars. Community-based livelihood activities are assisted in close cooperation with local government units and barangays to ensure that these ventures become sustaining and self-supporting.

Cong. Albee now awaits the passing of his Sugarcane Act in the 16th Congress, a bill seeking to enhance and promote the development of the sugar industry through diversification, comprehensive regulation and assured sources of financing.

Among the other major bills and resolutions he has filed in Congress are the Cyber-Education Act, Incentives for Barangay Health Workers and Tanods, Lump Sum Retirement Pay for Barangay Officials, Creation of a Congressional Oversight Committee on Socialized and Low-Cost Housing, and the Creation of the Visayas Oil Price Watchdog.

He is now the Chairperson for the Committee on Housing and Urban Development and the convenor of the Visayan Bloc in the House of Representatives.

Cong. Albee says he has learned invaluable lessons and recognized that so much more needs to be done. His resolve to spread change and transformation becomes stronger as he continues into his second term the role and responsibility of a servant-leader.

In one media interview, Cong. Albee candidly said he is still “short” of his target. And so his focus continues in his “Metro Third”.\*



At the inauguration and blessing of the Multi-Purpose Building of Barangay Dos Hermanas in Talisay City

## Zone 5



**AG Patrick Aguilar**  
*Rotary Club of Silay*

### **Rotary Club of Bacolod North** *Let There Be Light*



The Rotary Club of Bacolod North literally lit up depressed communities in the town of Don Salvador Benedicto (DSB), an upland community in central Negros Occidental.



Considered a 4th class municipality, DSB still has 95 percent of its constituents living below the poverty line, dependent mostly on producing agricultural produce like corn, rice, coffee, pineapple, vegetables and other root crops.

Because of its distance from urban areas, most of the people who live in mountainous

area remain without electricity and still use kerosene, candles, batteries and generators to produce power.

Taking off from this year's Rotary theme – Light up Rotary – RC Bacolod North, together with Japan Airlines and Kopernik, traversed the long, winding, slippery and treacherous roads to reach the poorest communities in DSB for its solar lamp distribution.

Unwavering under the difficult passageway they had to navigate, Northerners, led by its President Robert Cerrada with PP Jun-Jun Jalandoni, PP Louie Gonzaga, PP Bobby Tinsay and Kendal Ang gave out solar lamps to identified families, schools and health centers.

### **Rotary Club of Silay**

RC Silay presently headed by Pres. Reynaldo H. Labayen, was chartered May 7, 1973 with a Parish Priest of Silay City as its Charter President and a roster of mostly government officials as well as sugar industry leaders as charter members.

RC Silay adopted the name of “Ang Karo” as its weekly bulletin, to immortalize the first cottage industry in Silay City that has served the harvesting concerns of sugarcane farmers for several decades.

The Club has stood the test of time by overcoming its challenges in its 41 years of existence and is known locally by its signature projects among which is the Leadership Training of senior high school students, prior to their assumption as Boys and Girls officials of the City of Silay. This is a joint project of the club with the City Government of Silay and participated by private and public high schools within Silay City.

This project has benefitted over a thousand youth leaders for over three decades and has been instrumental in molding the students become responsible professionals and leaders who experienced their “taste of leadership” during the leadership training seminar.

Another flagship program of the club is the Responsible Parenthood Seminar started in 2001 which is a joint undertaking with the Dept. of Education in Silay City and targeting the parents of children in public schools (elementary level) with inordinate level of absenteeism resulting to poor grades and high drop-out rate.

RC Silay developed a seminar created pri-

marily by PP John Etabag, VP for Human Resources of HPCO, in coordination with Guidance Counselors of DepEd Silay which imbued the shared-responsibility of parents and teachers in harnessing poor-performing students and further awakens the parents of their paramount responsibility of educating their children at home.

Since its implementation, DepEd has noted a sharp decline in drop-out rates as well as improvement of academic performance of students formerly classified as “problem child”.



*PP John Etabag as the Resource Speaker of RPS Project*



*Outreach Feeding Program at Sitio Bongol Elem. School, Brgy. Balarang, Silay City led by President Reyboy Labayen*



*42nd Induction and turn-over ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Silay*

### **Rotary Club of Escalante** *Developing the shores*

The Rotary Club of Escalante R.I. District 3850 was chartered on August 27, 1976 with then Dr. Pedro “Pete” Hinolan, Jr. as Charter President and 20 other charter members and presently under the leadership of Virgilio Geroso.



Over the years the club has earned the reputation of being the only service club in Escalante City that has continually served the people especially the less fortunate ones by responding to their immediate needs.

In 38 years of existence the club has remained steadfast in its resolve to carry on the rotary's mantra of "service above self".

In response to the challenge issued by District Governor Jude Doctora, RC Escalante is now maintaining a 3-hactare shoreline in Barangay Cervantes in Escalante for mangrove plantation as its signature project for the next three years. We envision a balanced ecological system in the area and reviving the place as a breeding ground for fish and birds.

Another long term benefit is the possible livelihood project for village folks as we continue to develop the area into an environmental tourism destination.



*Attending mass during our 38th charter anniversary last August 27, 2014,*



*Mangrove planting last August 1, 2014; and*



*Governor's visit last August 9, 2014*

## Rotary Club of Victorias A 1966 Creation

Conceived by the Rotary Club of Bacolod and initiated jointly by Past District Governor Gonzalo "Sailing" Javier, Past President Sergio "Serge" Tan of the Rotary Club of Bacolod and the Bacolod Rotarians living in Victorias, our Club was formally organized on June 18, 1966 and was officially accepted into the mother organization the Rotary International — on October 28, 1966.

Why a Rotary Club at Victorias? On what mission is it dedicated to?

The 24 Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Victorias had joined together and accepted this concept of dedication and ideal of service. They would seek to develop acquaintance; they would foster high ethical standards in business and professions; they would strive to exemplify service above self in their own personal, business and community life; and they would advance individually and collectively, international understanding and goodwill through the world fellowship. Bound by a common faith of friendship and fellowship, the charter members of our Club are intended as nucleus for bigger membership that would ultimately strengthen the moral regeneration of individuals, families, communities and nations.

And so was born the Rotary Club of Victorias, with the best intentions in the world — "Sevice Above Self; He Profits Most Who Serves Best."

In the Rotary year 1991 — 1992 the son of the Charter President became President, Pres. Reynaldo Bantug with the highest distinction of performance. He donated 344 sq.m of land in the name of Rotary Club Victorias. Rotary Year 1992 — 1993 President Romeo Sanchez was very ambitious and positive thinking. He launches series of Fund Raising and Collected more than "Two Hundred Thousand Pesos" and build the Rotary Building with a free assistance of our member Rotarian Architect Jose "Boy" Jongco. The Rotary Club House was realize. Rotary Year 1999 — 2000 Pres. Dominador Bingco put up Rotary Marker at the front of the Rotary Club House and at VMC Crossing Don Miguel Osorio and National Highway, duly turn over to the City Government for protection thru Mayor Severo Palanca and Officers of DPWH. In the following Rotary Years many project happened we adopted 5 barangays put up 2 daycare center of Brgy. 6A and Brgy. 8. Rotary Year 2014 — 2015 se-edatial president Col. Nathaniel Villasoripi received 10 units of

motorize fiber glass banca from Rotary Clubs of district 3800 of Marikina City and distributed to Barangay Tumuntong, Municipality of E.B. Magalona, to Barangay 9 of Victorias City and Barangay 6A of Victorias City, Various Projects Perform up to the present...See attached pictures of some projects.



*The arrival of 8 motorize fiberglass banca in Brgy. 6-A, Victorias City*



*For preparation for the blessing and turn-over to Brgy. 6-A and Brgy. 9 recipient*



*Signing of recipient witnessing as the office of Brgy. 6-A and Brgy. 9 with PE Ben of RI district 3800, Pres. Nathan*



*World Environmental Month the treas. Tampus and Sec. Doming posses with a lady lion who join in the celebration.*



## Zone 6



**AG Roseo Depra**  
*Rotary Club of Bacolod Central*

### **Rotary Club of Bacolod** *77 Years of Community Service and Fellowship*



Rotary Club of Bacolod, better known as the 'Mother Club' of all clubs in Negros Occidental was organized through the sponsorship of RC Iloilo and representation of RC Manila Past President Romulo Carlos who later became 3rd vice president of Rotary International in RY 1937-38.

Charter President Atty. Ricardo Nolan headed twenty one distinguished citizens of Bacolod to become the club's first set of members but it soon became inactive and was disbanded when World War II broke out and the Japanese forces occupied Negros Island. Ten years later though, in April 1947 the club was reorganized and secured a new charter from RI with Atty. Carlos Hilado as its president. It was the fourth Rotary club created in the Philippines after Manila, Cebu and Iloilo.



RC Bacolod has the enviable record of having produced seven (7) District Governors and sponsored the creation of eight clubs in the province namely-RC San Carlos - 1966; RC

Victorias - 1966; RC Bacolod South - 1969; RC Silay - 1973; RC Bacolod North - 1973; RC Bacolod East - 1983; RC Metro Bacolod - 1988 and RC Bacolod Central - 1996.

RC Bacolod is also the proud initiator and supporter of the following signature programs:

Service on Wheels, Boys and Girls Week, RC Bacolod-City Government Most Outstanding Employees Award, RC - ABS CBN Quiz High Competition, RC-Bombo Medico Medical Mission, RC - Dugong Bombo Blood-letting Project, and the Wish Upon a Star Christmas gift-giving project.

As the years go on, the Rotary Club of Bacolod shall continue to soar high in helping the community in realizing its motto of "Service above Self."

### **Rotary Club of Bacolod East**



Three Rotary Clubs in Bacolod - Mother Club, Bacolod-North and Bacolod South - mustered 11 neophytes to organize the Rotary Club of Bacolod-East in October, 1982. The late Monic Monozca was appointed GSR.

The potential members started meeting on a weekly basis at Bascon Hotel II and two months later, a club election was held with PDG Sonny Elegado named as Charter President. It was December 17, 1982 when the then District Governor, Dodong Laya arrived from Iligan to sign the Charter Papers and transmitted the same to Rotary International.



RC Bacolod-East was formally accepted by RI on January 11, 1983 and the Monic Monozca became the club's Godfather.

Through the years, RC Bacolod-East has, among others, earmarked significant service achievements such as the formation of the Rotary Club of Bacolod-West and Rotary Club of Bacolod-Marapara; organized the Bacolod Citizens for Unity and Peace Foundation (BAC-UP); conducted various Eye Missions for cataract and pterygium operations; provided assistance to victims of calamities and actively participated in various support projects for the environment; continuously participated in Polio Plus projects; has hosted and sponsored several Rotary Exchange Students from/to USA, Canada and Europe and has sent overseas members of the Group Study Exchange (GSE) to USA and Canada.



This Rotary year, the club embarked on their annual literacy and support projects like the Kids of Heaven-Communication Project for special children at the Bacolod Special Education Center, through the Training Curriculum Manual on Augmentation & Alternative Communication (AAC) for Teachers with Students affected with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

In the area of Health, the club celebrated Nutrition Week with a Feeding Program for Day Care Pupils of Barangay 27, Bacolod City, together with their siblings, and family members, duly assisted by their teachers and barangay social workers and nutrition scholars.

RCBE also conducted an Eye Mission for Senior Citizens of Brgy. 1, Bacolod City, who availed free eye check-up and cataract operations for those screened to have cataracts through the services of PP Mike Sarabia and Dr. Rolando Lee.

Last October 3, 2014, the club sponsored a Rotary Day Event attended by advocates for children with Downs syndrome, autism and special needs from the government and private sectors, to raise the advocacy of two

major community concerns: The Education and Rearing of Intellectually Challenged Children, as well as Anti-Bullying. The Club invited three Inspirational Speakers: Brina Kei Maxino, a successful teen with Downs syndrome, who shared her life and vision for herself and for other children afflicted with the disease; and her parents Winston and Alina Maxino, who talked on how they raised their daughter Brina, amidst the challenges they faced.



RC Bacolod-East, in the last 32 years, has recruited members from all walks of life and has made significant contributions to make Bacolod and the province of Negros Occidental a better place to live in while consistently complying with Rotary's commitment to service, goodwill, world peace and understanding. Its membership remains committed to the ideals of Rotary while promoting wholesome fellowship among its members, spouses and RotaKids.

## Rotary Club of Bacolod-Marapara *Golf and more*

The Rotary Club of Bacolod-Marapara was chartered on October 22, 1990 through the sponsorship of the Rotary Clubs of Bacolod, Bacolod-North, Bacolod South and Bacolod-East with Francisco "Paquit" Infante as Charter President.

Since then, members have moved on but the club still boasts of two remaining charter members – PP Baby Infante and PP Kokoy Locsin. The club members have two things in common – a passion for golf and a desire to serve the community.

RC Bacolod-Marapara has been a consistent awardee for having the "Best Rotaract Club" for five years and the Most Outstanding Rotaract Club – Category A last year. Despite being a small club, Marapara has received six RI Presidential Citations including one for its Rotaract club last year.



Barangay Bata, the club's very community where the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club is located and the home of Marapara, has been a recipient of their various program including the Medical, Dental and Surgical Missions which they have been doing for the last seven years and a similar mission exclusively for the families of the caddies in the golf club through the help of the Sugar Tee Foundation.

They also have various programs for their adopted Villa Gracia Day Care Center including the "Pamaskua sa mga Bata" this Christmas, and the English Enhancement program which they started four years ago and holding a golf tournament for a cause as part of their fund raising program.



Marapara is also working on the release of two motorized boats as its donation for fisherfolks in Brgy. Dionisio, Iloilo, and the "Aklat Para sa Bata" program that was initiated by the Rotaract and Interact clubs.

## Rotary Club of Bacolod Central *The "Baby" club of Negros*

"We want to form a club composed of young leaders and talented professionals," was the vision of PP Romivil Cayabyab of RC Bacolod when he helped form RC Bacolod Central in 1995.

In that Rotary Year, members of the "Mother" Club scouted for potential members for its "baby" club and among those who had a calling to join Rotary were Marlene Tam, Juliana

Carbon, Jose Alberto Pefiangco, Jr., Lenie Estanol, and Chandru Menghnani.



*RC Bacolod Central's Christmas party.*

By the first quarter of RY 1996 more members were invited and on April 23, 1996, the youngest Rotary Club in Negros Occidental was chartered in a momentous ceremony at Sugarland Hotel in the presence of PDGs Patricio Tan, Sonny Elegado, and then District Governor Ramiro "Chick" Garcia.

Marlene Tam was elected as Charter President and among the charter members was Nanette Garcia, the spouse of DG Chick, and who eventually became the first District Governor the club produced and also holds the distinction of being the first female Governor for District 3850 in RY 2004-2005.

As shown in the club banner, RC Bacolod Central's thrust revolves around family, society and environment and holds its home dear thus the figure of the sugar central mill on its banner.

The club has produced a District Governor, several assistant governors and two GML Editor-in-Chiefs and GML Managing Editors.

Its banner projects were Step Up trainings for out-of-school youth, the Dictionary Drive and Feeding Program at Andres Bonifacio Elementary School III and the Capuchin Project which was supported by a grant and which helped in giving psychological therapy to the sexually abused children under the care of the Capuchin Sisters.

The club also institutionalized the yearly World of Wonders Leadership Training for teenagers and young professionals. Other projects included the Central Tree Park at Handumanan, tree growing activities, medical and dental missions, and soup kitchen. Most projects of the club are geared towards the development of young people.

The club anchored its projects on what former RI President Percy Hodgson said, "If we train our youth properly, we need not have any fear as to the future of the world."



Some club members also became Paul Harris Fellows and almost all members are Paul Harris Sustaining Members.

What is Rotary Club of Bacolod Central known for? It is well known in the District for singing and dancing members. The club has always been a winner in dancing competitions. The members are the life of any district convention or affair. They lead in the singing and dancing. The members just know how to have clean fun.

Today, the committed members come from diverse but notable classifications – development work, media, urban planning, corporate communication, retail business, education, interior design, family and corporate law, insurance and dentistry. Incoming president is young architect Rolem Basiya. Succession planning is not a problem in the club as there are still many presidentiables in the club.

Rotary Club of Bacolod Central shall remain to be a solid and active club in the years to come. It has gained the respect and admiration of other clubs. The baby club is now a mature club responsive to the vision and mission of the Rotary International.

## Zone 7



**AG Myrna Desabelle**  
Rotary Club of Bacolod West

### Rotary Club of Bacolod South *Bigger, better, bolder and stronger*

Rotary Club of Bacolod South was chartered on 15 September 1969 and has since then strengthened their club through membership development and innovative programs throughout the province.

They increased their membership from twenty-seven (27) members at the start of this Rotary year to thirty-nine (39) members to-date, with the induction of eleven (11) new members, resulting to a 44% increase and achieving their end-year membership goal of

thirty-five (35) members.

RC Bacolod South has also six (6) husband-spouse Rotarians in their Club and continues to work for membership retention through their unique fellowship activities and service projects including the “Every Member, 1 Committee, 1 Project” program.

One of their flagship program is the Rotary Academic Excellence Contest, now on its 40th year, which gives recognition to the “best and the brightest” elementary and secondary students in Negros Occidental and Western Visayas through an academic Olympics supported by their institution and parents.

This Rotary year, RC Bacolod South is among the clubs in the district that pledged a 100 percent contribution to the Rotary Foundation, targeting their Annual Fund giving of US\$5,000 and continuing the implementation of Matching Grant No. 79338 – the Busog (Well-Fed) Lusog (Healthy) Talino (Smart) School Feeding Program (BLT\_SFP), which benefits 680 severely-malnourished school-children in 17 elementary schools in Negros Occidental who are being fed lunch for 135 school days.



*Joint BLT (Busog, Lusog, Talino) Launching @ Brgy. Su-ay, Himamaylan City with an expanded Fit for School program (Deworming, Tooth brushing and Handwashing)*

Rotary Club of Bacolod South partnered with the Municipal Health Office of Murcia in the Province-wide Mass Immunization campaign on Polio and Measles. Murcia leads the province of Negros Occidental in the percentage of coverage of children vaccinated with Polio and Measles.

Under the energetic leadership of Pres. Chris Sorongon and his equally active Board, the club has succeeded in making the 45-year old Club younger, reducing the average age of members from 65 to 45 (not bad for a relatively “old” Club!) that will definitely make RCBS bigger, better, bolder and stronger to Light Up Rotary in the District!!!

### Rotary Club of Kabankalan *Changing lives, One family at a time*



The family is the basic component that builds a community. As such, the Rotary Club of Kabankalan has joined efforts with other private and government institutions to help rebuild the lives of one family each year.

With the help of the Kabankalan City Social Welfare office, the club and partner organizations choose an indigent family from various barangays to receive gifts they bring that will bring smiles on their faces and memories to last them a lifetime.



### Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod



The Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod (RCBM) was chartered April 11, 1988 and has since then marked a name for itself in the district through its relevant and sustainable projects that they ensure would impact and empower the community they served.

Buoyed by selfless and dedicated members



and its foreign and local sister-clubs, RCMB has touched and changed numerous lives since its inception.

Flagship projects like the annual shelter and school building, livelihood programs by Rotary Community Corps, water-pumps installation, and support for children with special needs are just some of their life-changing programs.



Aware of the power of the youth to effect social change, their new generation clubs – the Rotaract community-based of the University of St. La Salle, the Interact clubs of Negros Occidental High School, La Consolacion College, Cansilayan and San Enrique National High Schools work hand in hand with RCBM through their various youth-directed programs like the Youth Congress, the Anti-Bullying campaign, Leadership training, Disaster preparedness, Mangrove planting and coastal clean-up.



Health, being one of Rotary International's thrust, has been a major program of RCMB through their annual HIB vaccinations, deworming and medical/dental mission in different communities.

Because of its sustainable and meaningful projects, RCMB has been the recipient of numerous awards from District 3850 for several consecutive years.

The club works under the premise that the whole world will not change on its own, it needs people who have the courage, affection and determination to serve humanity – a challenge that they've fully accepted and been working on.



## Rotary Club of Bacolod West



In July 1, 1989, the Council of Legislation of Rotary International voted to permit Rotary Club membership to women worldwide at the option of the local clubs. Rather than admitting women into its fold, the Rotary Club of Bacolod East (RCBE) initiated the move to organize an all women Rotary Club and with encouragement from then District Governor Albert R.T. Lim, RCBE, with RC Metro-Bacolod went on to form the Rotary Club of Bacolod West.

The initial response to this move was lackluster and only five prospective members attended the first organization meeting held at the office of the Governor's Extension Aide and Charter President of Metro Bacolod, Gil Arisola. Still, the first members persisted with Prosecutor Millie Maglasang volunteering to host a meeting at Bascon Hotel and more prospects attended.



Subsequent meetings saw a growing interest among invited professional women which finally convinced the sponsoring clubs that RC Bacolod West can be sustainable. Declared initially as a provisional club, the women Rotarians had their weekly meeting at Noble's Restaurant until they eventually transferred to the Garden Hotel.

On 10 April 1990, the officers were elected with Dr. Bella Benedicto as the Charter President. Rotary International approved the charter of RCBW on 20 June 1990 with 26 members, four of them men and became the first Rotary Club in Negros Occidental with a female president.



The charter presentation and first Induction Ceremonies held on 29 June 1990 proved to the male Rotarians that women Rotarians are dynamic leaders with two guest speakers in attendance—PP Raymund "Ray" Legal, Manager of South East Asia Business Office (SEABO) and then senator, Joseph Ejercito Estrada.

RCBW has hurdled 2 decades and 4 years since its charter and the roster of members have changed with only 5 charter members remaining. Nevertheless those who have joined have left a mark in the club and despite the highs and lows through the years RCBW continues to meet its commitment to carry out their various programs with flying colors.



## Let Us Support The Rotary Foundation

*PP Alberto "Jun-Jun" Arceo III, RC Bacolod East, District Secretary*

The mission statement of Rotary International states that "We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders." On the other hand, the mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The key difference is the word "enable".

While our mission as Rotarians is to "provide service, etc.", it is The Rotary Foundation that "enables" us to provide such service. Therefore, in order for The Rotary Foundation to be able to continue supporting the services that we provide, we in turn have to continue supporting The Rotary Foundation.

### THE ROTARY FOUNDATION 2013 FACTS

	2012-13	CUMULATIVE
Contributions	\$239.6 million	\$3.2 billion
Annual Fund	\$115.1 million	\$2.0 billion
Endowment Fund	\$20.4 million	\$231.4 million
PolioPlus Fund	\$98.2 million	\$974.7 million
Other	\$5.9 million	\$51.4 million
Program Spending	\$176.5 million	since 1974: \$3.0 billion
Arch C. Klumph Society Members	66	453
Major Donors	1,985	18,359
Bequest Society Members	566	10,035
Benefactors	2,824	90,219
New Paul Harris Fellows	54,595	1.4 million

Source: [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)



District Governor Jude has provided us with some tools that "can" help us support The Rotary Foundation. The first are The Rotary Foundation Cans that were distributed to Rotarians in District 3850 at the beginning of this Rotary Year through our Club Presidents. These cans are meant for all the coins that we have in our pockets at the end of our busy day. The loose change that we have in our pockets may not amount to much at first, but after a few months of habitually putting them inside The Rotary Foundation Cans, you will be pleasantly surprised at how much you have set aside for The Rotary Foundation. As of this writing, My Rotary Foundation Can is now 75% full.

The second are the End Polio Now Cans that were likewise distributed at the beginning of this Rotary Year. These cans are meant to be given to our friends (i.e. Rotarians and Non-Rotarians alike) who own retail outlets such as restaurants, shops, beauty parlors, spas, banks, etc. that are frequented by customers. These cans can be placed near the cashier so that customers can do their share in helping end polio by putting their coins inside the cans.

The Rotary Foundation Cans and the End Polio Now Cans are great ideas that make it easier for us to support The Rotary Foundation. These however will remain as ideas if we do not do our share. Let us make use of these tools and support The Rotary Foundation.



						1 SAT 8TH CHARTER ANNIVERSARY • RC METRO ROXAS					
2	3	4 TUE 40TH CHARTER ANNIVERSARY • RC KABANKALAN				5	6	7	8 SAT ROTARY CARE FOR THE CHILDREN PROGRAM • RC KALIBO		
9 SUN ROTARY RUN FOR RESILIENCY		10	11	12	13 THU ROTARY DISTRICT 3590 KOREANS ARRIVAL IN BACOLOD		14 FRI JOINT TURNOVER CEREMONY OF ROTARY LIBRARIES • RC BACOLOD, BACOLOD WEST, BACOLOD CENTRAL, METRO BACOLOD & BACOLOD MARAPARA  NEGROS CLUBS 1ST ROUND BOWLING TOURNAMENT		15 SAT ROTARY YOUTH CONGRESS • RC KALIBO  ROTARACT CLUB OF SILAY DINNER FOR A CAUSE		
16	17	18	19	20	21 FRI NEGROS CLUBS FINAL ROUND BOWLING TOURNAMENT					22	
19-24 NOVEMBER 2014 ROTARY INSTITUTE KOTA KINABALU											
23 SUN • RC BACOLOD SOUTH BIKE NEGROS 1001		24	25	26	27	28	29 SAT ALL INTERACTORS & ROTARACTORS NEW GENERATION YOUTH CAMP AT CICM TALISAY CITY				

*Let us celebrate Christmas with the thought that for the last six months, we have lighted up the communities we serve. Cherish the feeling that it is not buying gifts that makes Christmas special, but the sharing and being a gift to people in need.*

*In the next six months, let us continue to be a gift to our communities. And as Rotarians, our gift to humanity is Service Above Self.*

*Merry Christmas to all my beloved Rotarians!*

*DG Jude, Lady Jane and Tricia*

