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The Governor's Monthly Letter (GML) is the official publication of the District Governor, District 3850 Philippines published every month by the District Governor's Office and distributed to all Zones and Clubs under District 3850.

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All articles and photos from the different Rotary Clubs in District 3850 may be accommodated through email or by sending materials on CD format and mailed to above editorial office.

Materials sent to the Editorial Office shall be subjected to review for photo quality and clarity. The Editorial Board reserves the right to the publication of any material contributed.

<u>Editor's Note</u>



September is New Generations Month.

I came across an article written by Past District Governor Patrick Coleman of District 9210. He said that the "New Generation" for Rotary is the "Now Generation". The New Generation does not refer to the Interact clubs, who are composed of children. The New Generation refers to the young lawyers, doctors, media personalities, accountants, chemists, engineers, architects, teachers, public servants, nurses, professionals and all those who are ready to embrace the rotary world and share more hands, more bodies, more ideas, more time and more money for projects and fellowship.

PDG Patrick is right. We must look for the young "with the wings" and "good roots" to keep the rotary wheels going and shape the future of rotary. We need infusion of young blood in our clubs. Let us look around us. These young talented adults are just waiting to be invited to be rotarians. They are ready! They have the drive and energy to fill the "spot" left by Rotarian lawyers, doctors, businessmen and professionals when they retire as non active seniors. Take a pen and paper and make a list of contacts now.

I have in mind my dear friend Kermith. He is a young entrepreneur, a leader, a civic minded person. He is God fearing and has a pleasing personality. I am inviting him to join Rotary Club of Bacolod Central. What about you? Who do you want to invite to join your club?.

Always in Rotary service, PP Jules Carbon

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RI President's Message



My fellow Rotarians:

Lord Byron wrote, "The days of our youth are the days of our glory." For me, that is the line that springs to mind whenever Rotary's youth programs are mentioned. In Rotary, September is New Generations Month – a time to focus our attention on our programs for youth and the role they play in shaping the Rotarians of tomorrow.

Our youth programs – Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange – are some of the most important programs of Rotary. I say this because of the unparalleled potential they have to influence young minds and souls toward peace, goodwill, and harmony. That potential is the greatest in youth because the experiences of our early years never leave us; they shape who we later become. In the words often attributed to St. Francis Xavier, "Give me a boy until he is seven, and I will give you the man." For myself, I would give it a bit longer than that – but there is no doubt that the experiences of our youth have a greater formative power, and a greater ability to shape character, than any we may have in our adulthood.

"The impressions of youth are strong, and they are lasting."

When a teenager from the United States has the chance to travel to India to participate in a National Immunization Day, or when a student from Brazil spends a year studying in Japan, that person will be forever changed. These young people will have formed connections and affections that will endure. They will never think about their own country, or the woarld, in the same way again. Their perspective, their priorities, and their values will have been permanently shaped by that experience in a way that no later experiences will have the power to do. Your hard work ensures that these experiences continue to be possible – that these programs continue to be available, to be well run, and to earn the trust of the participants and their families.

The impressions of youth are strong, and they are lasting. There is never a second chance at them. We may grow and change as we get older, and we are surely changed by all of our experiences. But there is never another chance to build who we are. That happens only once: in our youth.

The days of our youth truly are the days of our glory – but through Rotary's youth programs, those days become the glory of all of Rotary.

John Kenny

President, Rotary International

Governor's Message



or our national hero, Rizal, Youth is the hope of the Fatherland; for poet George Barnard Shaw, Youth is wasted on the young. Even the forthcoming 2010 polls are banking on Youth votes as seen in strategies employed by politicians, television ads and various mobile phone gimmicks.

And indeed, we cannot discount the contribution of youth. Reason why Rotary International reserves the month of September each year as the New Generations Month. It is at this time that I appeal to fellow Rotarians in D3850 to focus on the youth on whom our worthy organization has seen fit to invest in.

RI has a four-tier structured program aimed at training the youth and introducing the ideals of Rotary to them. These are Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, and Youth Exchange.

Interact is a club for high school students, aged 14- 18. They must accomplish at least two community service projects, that would further international understanding and goodwill. They interact with close to a quarter million Interactors in 10,700 Interact clubs in 109 countries and territories. On the other hand, Rotaract is a service club of collegians and young professionals, aged 18 to 30. It may be either campus or community-based. Interactors and Rotaractors are our "Partners in Service," as they do civic and community projects while fostering international understanding and peace with their fellow Rotaractors around the world. There are now more than 7,000 Rotaract clubs in 163 countries and territories.Both Interact and Rotaract clubs are self-supporting/ self-governing even as they are trained, and guided by their sponsoring Rotary clubs.

RYLA stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. RYLA usually is a training camp sponsored by one or multiple Rotary clubs for aged 14-30 participants. Most RYLAs, however, set a narrower age range from 14 to 18. A RYLA includes citizenship and leadership seminars, workshops, and recreational activities.

Youth Exchange allows children of Rotarians and non-Rotarians, aged 15-19, to study a year in high school abroad with a host family. Known more popularly as Rotary Exchange (Rotex), the program immerses a participant in a new environment, language, school system, culture and traditions, and even new currency. The Rotex serves as an ambassador of friendship and goodwill of the Rotary District and the country he or she represents.

In view of the great opportunity among the Youth Sector, I enjoin all Rotary clubs in D3850 to mobilize their Interact and Rotaract clubs and build new ones. As well, active participation in our RYLA and Youth Exchange is our way of investing time for the future Rotarians.

The possibilities are endless if we keep our eyes open to the New Generations in your areas.

Edgar T. Sy DG, RY 2009-2010 D-3850, Philippines

"Interactors and Rotaractors are our Partners in Service"

Membership Update

"MEMBERSHIP IS EVERY ROTARIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY"

PDG DAVE M. VILLANUEVA District Chair, Membership Development Committee, RY 2009-10 Regional RI Membership Coordinator (RRIMC), Zone 7B, RY 2006-09 dmv1952@gmail.com; dmv1952@yahoo.com.ph

RETENTION IN MEMBERSHIP *Knowledge through Education: A Key Component*



o me, an educated Rotarian is a happy Rotarian. If a Rotarian is happy, they are going to stay in our organization and contribute much. They are going to feel good about themselves and the good deeds they accomplish for others in need.

There is a proverb that says: "Give a man a fish and he eats for a day. Teach him how to fish and he eats for a lifetime."

This has a lot to do with Membership Retention. Do we actually TEACH our Rotary Club members what Rotary is all about, or do we keep it to ourselves? There is so much to learn about this great organization called Rotary. What is lacking is the time to teach and share knowledge about Rotary at our weekly Club meetings. A person who is interested in Rotary can almost become a student of Rotary. I know I learn something new about Rotary everyday!

I am always amazed at how many Rotarians tell me that they do not need to go to PETS, the District Assembly, the Membership Seminar or the Foundation Seminar. Most times they tell me that; I have been in Rotary for many years and there are nothing new I can learn about Rotary!? As a Past District Governor who has attended much training for my positions in Rotary, I still do not know everything there is to know about Rotary, as it is such a diverse organization in its many programs and projects.

Back in 1991, a District Governor from New Jersey named David Linett noticed during his official visits that his Clubs were lacking something. That something was a lack of Rotary knowledge, and a lack of leadership skills. David thought that this also had a drastic impact on Membership Retention. He thought that it would be his mission to initiate a training program, for Club Rotarians that would focus on both Rotary knowledge and Leadership training. This would allow for more informed and engaged leaders of our Clubs and prove to increase retention of members in our Clubs.

In 1992, David Linett started

the first Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) in District 7510. A 3-part program designed to provide an educational opportunity for Rotarians identified as potential leaders by their Cub Presidents. Course methods reflect the most innovative and participatory methods possible. Methods include discussion groups, no lectures, role playing, problem solving workshops and group planning exercises.

Since 1992 from the one District in New Jersey, the Rotary Leadership Institute has grown to 208 member – Districts, in 51 Divisions and in 96 countries. Thousands of Rotarians have been educated and participated in the RLI. Many members did not even know anything about Rotary beyond the walls of their Club meeting place. Many who have participated pointed out that the fellowship alone and the interaction with Rotarians from other Clubs were reasons enough to participate in the RLI.

Many senior Rotary leaders believe in the mission of the RLI, even though it is not a RI Program. RI Past President Bill Boyd said, "Poor Club leadership is a major cause of membership losses." The Rotary Leadership Institute aims to close that gap. RI Past Director and RLI International Chair David Linett said, "Strong Rotary Clubs invariably have strong leadership and weak Rotary Clubs invariably have weak leadership." The RLI has a standard of excellence in building strong future leaders for our Rotary Clubs and our Districts.

Two topics in the curriculum deal with Membership Retention and Membership Recruitment. The RLI Curriculum Committee views Membership issues as a very important connector to building the future of Rotary. Many members in Clubs do not realize that Membership Recruitment and Retention is every Rotarian's obligation and responsibility.

The 20th President of the United States, James A. Garfield, (1831-1881) said, "In order to have any success in life, or any worthy success, you must resolve to carry into your work a FULLNESS of KNOWLEDGE not merely a sufficiency, but more than a sufficiency. Be fit for more than the thing you are now doing. Let everyone know that you have a reserve in yourself; that you have more POWER than you are now using. If you are not too large for the place you occupy, you are too small for it."

The more power we give our Rotarians, the more engaged they will be, and the longer they will stay. The more knowledge our Rotarians gain about Rotary, the more they will love Rotary and what Rotary stands for. Happy Rotarians have a reason to retain their membership, and they also will feel compelled to tell others that we are a worthwhile organization to join.

For more information in the Rotary Leadership Institute and to include it in your Membership Retention Toolbox, please visit <u>www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.com</u>.

(Credits: PDG Dan Spencer, RRIMC, Zone 32, USA/Canada)

WHAT IS RLI?

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district, grassroots leadership development program of member – Districts organized into regional divisions in various parts of the world. It is not an official program of Rotary International and is not under its control. The RLI seeks to have Rotary Clubs in member – Districts identify those Rotarians who seem to have the POTENTIAL for future Club leadership (not necessarily as Club Presidents) and provide those so identified with a quality education in Rotary knowledge and leadership skills for voluntary organizations

The RLI Philosophy: "Having leadership skills does not alone assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is now going and a vision of what Rotary can be."

RLI in the Philippines and District 3850: RLI was initiated in the Philippines by PDG Rodolfo "Rudy" Estrellado (D-3810), with the 1st Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Faculty Orientation course in the Philippines conducted on 5-6 February 2008 at the Asian Institute of Management. The 2day program was designed for the Faculty members who will lead the discussion groups at future courses. Through the initiative of Dist. Gov. Renier "Prince" Gerochi, our District sent our 1st batch of RLI-accredited Faculty to attend this course, composed of Dist. Gov. Edgar "Diotay" Sy (Bacolod), PDG Ma. Victoria "Nanette" Garcia (Bacolod Central), PP Rafael "Biboy" Jocson (Bacolod North) and PP Raphael "Raphy" Tayco (Kalibo). Last 10-11 September 2009, our District, through the initiative of Dist. Gov. Edgar "Diotay" Sy, sent four (4) delegates to attend the same course, namely: PP Jude Doctora (Metro Bacolod), PP Joel Jaranilla (Metro Bacolod), PP Winston Santos (Iloilo City) and PP Gabriel "Gabby" Timbol (Victorias). As we welcome the new members to our pool of RLI-accredited faculty in our District, we look forward to the holding of the 1st RLI Training Seminar for the Club leaders in our District soon.

RI PRES. KENNY ESTABLISHES MEMBERSHIP GOALS

lubs can earn a certificate signed by RI Pres. John Kenny by meeting his membership goals for RY 2009-10. The top 10 Clubs and top 10 Districts, as determined by RI, will also be acknowledged onstage at the 2010 convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

To meet Pres. Kenny's membership goals, Clubs need to achieve the following:

- A minimum net increase of one member
- A minimum retention rate of 80% and two of the items below:
- · Increased percentage of qualified women
- Increased percentage of qualified younger professionals (under age 50)
- Induction of at least one RI or Rotary Foundation program alumna/alumnus
- Increased diversity of membership (e.g., classification, gender , age, ethnicity)

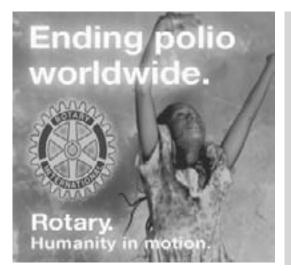
Achievement of Club goals will be certified by the District Governor.

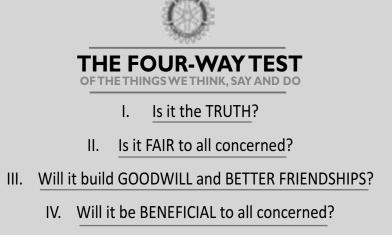
Kenny's goals for Districts are:

- · A minimum net increase of one member in each existing Club
- · A minimum retention rate of 80 percent in each existing Club
- · A minimum of one or two new Clubs organized

Clubs should submit their results to Dist. Gov. Edgar by 15 May. Districts should certify the results and submit them to RI, along with their District results, by 22 May. Certification forms will be available on www.rotary.org at a later date. All Clubs and Districts that reach these membership goals will receive a certificate signed by Pres. Kenny. From this pool, RI will determine the top 10 Cubs and top 10 Districts (not more than one Club or one District per Zone) showing the highest percentage net increase in membership, to be acknowledged onstage at the Montréal Convention.

("MEMBERSHIP IS EVERY ROTARIAN'S RESPONSIBILITY" serves as the monthly corner on Membership Development in our Governor's Monthly Letter for RY 2009-10. Any article, inquiry or feedback concerning Membership Development is welcome in our GML.)





Reading, writing...the keys to tomorrow







Cover Story | RTN. ANTONIETA LOPEZ



Gov. Edgar with sons Master Matthew and Oliver







New Generations

When we talk about new generations, we often refer to the youth. Even Rotary International President John Kenny discussed the importance of today's youth involvement to the future of Rotary in his message.

But in this month's issue of the GML, the editorial board takes a different perspective on "new generations."

By new generations, we refer to a breed of future Rotarians who embody the values of "service above self." This issue carries personalities who are distinguished in their chosen professions and are the very crop of people Rotary wants to be in its fold.

Featured here are Mary Joy Canonero, a marketing management officer of the Bacolod City Water District; couple Dr. Ric Deloso, an anesthesiologist, and Joyce Deloso, the provincial librarian of the Province of Negros Occidental; Nelson Bradas, electrical engineer of Baciwa; real estate practitioner Ricky Monfort of the Monfort Development Center;

Christian Tingson of Gendiesel Philippines; accountant Camille Limbaga of St. Joseph High School-La Salle; accounts manager Kermith Uberas of JVKM Consultants Pte. Ltd.; fire chief Pamela Candido of the Bacolod Fire Department and brothers John Oliver and Master Matthew Sy, sons of Governor Edgar Sy who are into hotel management and finance.

These people represent the kind of personalities needed to be tapped by Rotary for its humanitarian work. These are the Rotary's new generations.



Rotary Images

District 3850 Activities



Rotary Images



Secretary's Corner



PP Ma. Christine "Tin" Toledo *District Secretary* Rotary Club of Bacolod West

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

- The Membership/TRF Seminar for Zone 10 will be on September 19, 2009 to be hosted by the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City.
- As of September 1, 2009, Rotary Club of Dipolog and Rotary Club of Kalibo have so far the clubs that applied for the Partnership in Club Project (PCP), a matching grant funded by DG Edgar T. Sy.
- •

Announcing the VOICE FOR PEACE – An Impromptu Speaking Competition – for all students within the District 3850- ages 14 to 18 years old.

Schedule of competition:

- Club level competition-Zone level competition-District level competition-
- On or before September 26, 2009 On or before October 24, 2009 November 28, 2009 (to be held at the St. John Institute, Bacolod City

Email Add: emasigon@yahoo.com

Host club : Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod For more information contact : Pres. Emil Masigon (RC Metro Bcd) Cell No. 09189013709

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Calling all Current Officers, DGE, DGN, all Senior Rotary Leaders and their spouses :

The 2009 Rotary Institute for Zones 6B, 7A and 10B will be held in Dusit Thani Hotel in Makati, Metro Manila from Nov. 27-29, 2009. Deadline for registration will be on September 30, 2009. No on-site egistration.

For more information : Contact PDG Nanette Garcia – 09173003343 E-mail add: ntg@mozcom.com or Go to www.rotaryinstitutemanila2009.0rg

You may email your registration form to :rotaryinstitutemanila@yahoo.com Or Fax to 632-5361765 – PDG Edgardo Tumangan





Monthly Attendance Report

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE REPORT – AUGUST, 2009

ZONE	NO.	CLUB NAME		CHARTER YEAR	MEMBERS TO DATE	NO. OF MTGS.	AUGUST ATTENDANCE	AUGUST RANKING	JULY ATTENDANCE	JULY RANKING
I	1	Antique	17015	1933	20	4	84%	16	78%	28
	2	lloilo	17045	1945	43	3	50 %	38	61.58%	34
	3	Iloilo South	17047	1971	23	3	99%	2	DNR	DNR
	4	Iloilo West	28828	1992	17	3	56%	36	75.50%	29
	5	Miag-ao	58693	2002	13	4	69.25%	29	71%	32
П	1	Iloilo City	17046	1975	25	4	89.05%	10	84.10%	16
	2	Jaro Iloilo City	25131	1988	21	2	100%	1	100%	1
	3	Central Iloilo City	27338	1990 1993	14 DNR	4 DND	91.61%	8	90%	8
	4 5	Jaro Centraline Jaro South	29746 31664	1993	10	DNR 3	DNR 70%	DNR 28	86.66% 75%	11 30
	J	Jaro South	51004	1990	10	5	7078	20	1370	30
	1	Metro Iloilo	17066	1979	59	4	66.95%	31	93.36%	3
	2	Midtown Iloilo	24342	1987	24	5	78%	24 27	78.66%	27 36
	3 4	Guimaras Molo	27277 27939	1990 1991	20 DNR	4 DNR	73.61% DNR	DNR	58.25% DNR	DNR
	5	Lapaz	30821	1991	17	5	76.4%	25	60%	35
	6	Dumangas	31821	1996	25	5	82.9%	18	84.70%	15
	7	Metro Passi	76428	2007	22	4	56%	36	65%	33
IV	1	Roxas	17080	1964	34	4	92%	6	90%	8
I V	2	Kalibo	17053	1967	47	4	81.58%	19	85.96%	13
	3	Metro Roxas	22518	1982	83	4	74%	26	84%	17
	4	Boracay	50661	1997	20	4	70%	28	81.67%	23
	5	Metro Kalibo	54828	2001	22	4	80%	23	80%	26
	6	Metro Roxas Central	74422	2006	27	4	90.91%	7	91%	7
V	1	Silay	17084	1973	17	3	80.1%	22	80.98%	25
	2	Bacolod North	17091	1973	39	3	80.64%	21	83.57%	18
	3	Escalante	17037	1976	13	5	84%	16	86%	12
	4	Victorias	17091	1966	15	4	86.66%	13	91.66%	6
VI	1	Bacolod	17016	1937	37	4	84%	16	82%	22
	2	Bacolod East	17017	1983	25	4	58%	34	72%	31
	3	Bacolod West	27374	1990	20	4	87.5%	11	85%	14
	4		29076	1992	35	4	88.23%	12	87.12%	10
	5	Bacolod Central	31518	1996	11	4	61.11%	32	83.33%	19
VII	1	Bacolod South	17019	1969	21	4	85%	14	83%	20
	2		17052	1974	30	4	53%	37	53.10%	36
	3	Metro Bacolod	25280	1988	20	4	84.30%	15	81.20%	24
VIII	1	Dipolog	21409	1950	28	4	81.25%	20	80%	26
	2	Jimenez	17050	1975	18	4	84%	16	85%	14
	3	Dapitan City	25485	1986	DNR	DNR	DNR	-	DNR	DNR
	4	Oroquieta Centennial	69314	2005	28	4	95%	5	DNR	DNR
IX	1		17073	1974	21	4	96%	3	100%	1
	2	Pagadian	17074	1975	23	4	30.3%	40	49.09%	37
	3	Pagadian West	17075	1977	28	3	45.24%	39	42%	38
Х	1	Zamboanga City	17094	1948	37	5	83%	17	82.5%	21
	2	Basilan City	17022	1960	26	4	85%	14	91.67%	5
	3	Zamboanga City West		1971	42	3	90.47%	9	94.43%	2
	4	Metro Zamboanga		1974 1074	22	3	80%	23	78% 85%	28
	5 6	Zamboanga City East Zamboanga City North		1974 1980	17 20	4 3	58.5% 95.83%	33 4	85% 88%	9
	7	Zamboanga City Central		1980	25	4	57%	35	75%	30
	8	Ipil Sibugay	59175	2002	22	4	67.05%	30	68.18%	30
	9	Bonga, Tawi Tawi	69302	2005	DNR	DNR	DNR		93.33%	4
		<i>, , , , , , , , , ,</i>								

Leadership 101 – Chapter 3

"How Can I Capture The World's Imagination?"

Great leaders must answer Tom Peter's great question: "How can I capture the world's imagination?"







Mohandas Gandhi

ohandas Gandhi was India 's political and spiritual leader who was the pioneer in the practice of resistance to tyranny through mass civil disobedience firmly founded on total non-violence. He was jailed in India and South Africa but ultimately, the British had to quit India . His movement lead India to independence and has inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. Mohandas Gandhi has captured the world's imagination.

John Gokongwei in his speech during the 2007 Ad

John Gokongwei

Congress said: "Today, we are all over Asia . We have the number-one-potato- chips brand in Malaysia and Singapore. We are the leading biscuit manufacturer in Thailand , and a significant player in the candy market in Indonesia . Our Aces cereal brand is a market leader in many parts of China . C2 is now doing very well in Vietnam , selling over 3 million bottles a month there, after only 6 months in the market. Soon, we will launch C2 in other South East Asian markets." John Gokongwei has indeed captured the world's imagination.

Ninoy Aquino spoke that the Filipino was worth dying for and his assassination brought about the downfall of a despotic ruler and the eventual restoration of democracy in the Philippines . Cory Aquino was declared as Icon of Democracy, Woman of the Year, and the Woman Who Changed Asia. The clamour for Senator Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III to run for president in next year's elections grows louder with the launching of the Senator Benigno Aquino III for President Movement." Question: Will Noynoy capture the imagination of the Filipino people as his father and

Ninoy and Cory

mother did?

Cory Aquino, John Gokongwei, Mohandas Gandhi, Jose Rizal, Abraham Lincoln. They were people of great courage. They were committed to a cause of great significance. They had clarity of purpose. Their minds were focused on the idea and its execution. All of them were criticized. Some were even killed.

We must keep the question ringing in our ears and let us keep asking our leaders and would-be leaders the great question: "How can you capture the world's imagination?"

Rotary News

10TH ROTARACT – INTERACT DISTRICT ASSEMBLY



istrict 3850 is uniquely mapped. It is compose of the clubs in Panay, Negros Occidental and jumped over to Western Mindanao, particularly reaching the island of Basilan. In spite of proximity, District 3850 has always been active. Notwithstanding the distance from each other, the passion to serve and the bond of friendship have kept it connected and alive.

Last August 14 – 16, 2009, the District 3850 held its 10th Rotaract and Interact District Assembly at Don Bosco Retreat House in Minoyan Murcia, Negros Occidental. It was organized by Rotaract Club of Bacolod Marapara, Rotaract Club of Metro Bacolod – UNO-R Chapter, Rotaract Club of Bacolod West – CSAB Chapter, Rotaract Club of Bacolod East and Rotaract Club of Bacolod North.

It was an activity that had given opportunity to the participants, especially the new ones, to get to know well the

Rotaract, Interact and Rotary as well. The three – day DistAss was fun – filled, overloaded with ideas and surprising discoveries.

One thing that was made sure by the organizers is that when DistAss ends, everyone will know each other and that friendship will blossom. Ice breaker games helped a lot in achieving this goal. Indeed the bon – bon activity in day one surely got the ball rolling. It brought out personalities and at the end of the game, everyone knew each other, though not totally, but at least each other's name.

The DistAss was about teambuilding. Rotaractors and

Interactors should be united and work as a team for the success of their respective club and to meet Rotary's challenge. In line with this, the second day was for leadership, teambuilding and fellowship activities. Mr. Vlad Gonzalez, the invited speaker, generously shared his experience and gave insights on leaderships. It was reinforced by a teambuilding activity, and DRR Midnight Quingco together with Past DRRs presented the Rotary and Rotaract structure. Second day was concluded with a fellowship night. The participants gave out their best in body painting. It was a night of discovery and breakthrough,

everyone shined in their own way in showcasing their talents. Ending the night with a bonfire and roasted marshmallows, truly, it was a celebration of individual's uniqueness and of the new and rekindled friendships.

The 10th Rotaract and Interact District Assembly was a unique experience even to the older Rotaractors. It was well attended and it was simply a great time for everyone.





SAVING MOTHER EARTH. The Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod, led by president Emil Masigon, recently held its Save Planet Earth Project in Barangay Balaring in Silay City, Negros Occidental in coordination with Ikaw- Ako Foundation, a Japanese foundation which is involved on re-planting, care and protect mangrove in the Philippines, and Rotaractors from the University of St. La Salle - Bacolod and the University of Negros Occidental – Recolectors as well as Interactors from La Consolacion College and Neg. Occ. National High School.*

Rotary News

RCB-West spearheads Entrepreneurship Appreciation Seminar, Skills Training

he Rotary Club of Bacolod-West, in cooperation with the Department of Trade and Industry recently conducted a "Seminar on Entrepreneurship" to 35 parents of Grade I pupils of Graciano Lopez Jaena Elementary School in Bacolod City.

The seminar, with DTI's Floresse May Castro as resource speaker, was held to help participants appreciate entrepreneurship and to awaken their desire to become an effective entrepreneur.

The school is the club's beneficiary of the "Adopt a School Project."

The seminar was followed by a three-day skill training on meat processing in four modules which was designed not only to provide participants with business opportunity but also to enable them to



Family planning forum held

ver population has become a major problem of the world famous Boracay Island in Malay, Aklan over the past decade. Together with the unstoppable commercialization of the country's premier destination, thousands have flocked to the island, making the basic unit of society's status a far cry from its ideals.

In an effort to help increase the awareness on this situation, The Rotary Club of Boracay, together with the Foundation for the Fullness and Integrity of Creation (FFIC), a Manila-based non-government organization, recently conducted a Family Planning Forum at Willy's Resort.



The group, headed by Jonathan Celebra, presented ideas on how to protect the offspring, its conceiving stage, and its impact to everyone's families.

Natural Contraception methods through Heart Warming Film Videos, Group Dynamics and Exercises were performed during the half day discussion.

About 15 couples and 5 individuals were treated to this rare and worthwhile gathering.

Rotary News

Fun as an Exchange Student

By: Mylene Bernante













otary Youth Exchange Student aims to promote international peace and understanding among other nations. To be a part of this program was a dream come true for me...

August 15, 2009 I leave our country to be a Rotary Youth Exchange Student in USA. Despite of my 15 hours layover in Hong Kong I arrived in Chicago O'Hare Airport with enthusiasm and energy to face the challenge waiting for me. My host family meets me at the airport and they are glad that I'm finally here and survived my starving layover.

Without rest I still manage to get up early the next day to go to Chicago Downtown and watch the famous Chicago Air and Water Show. I walk all over the Millennium Park, Navy Pier, and many interesting sites that I saw before in books and magazines. It was a memorable day for me.

August 23- We had a Welcome to America Picnic!! All the inbounds, outbound, and rebounds gathered together with our host family, YEOs, YECs, D6450 Governor Jim, Czerwionka, his wife, Rotarians, and Central

> States Youth Exchange Committee. I get to know the 15 other inbounds from different country and established a good relationship with them.

Recently, August 28-30 we had an inbound orientation at Eagle Lake, Michigan where we spend a great weekend and get to know each other deeply. We had barbecues, bon fire, and lots of delicious food. The cold weather didn't stop us from going out and have fun at the lake!!

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orientation at Eagle Lake, Michigan where we spend a great weekend and get to know each other deeply. We had barbecues, bon fire, and lots of delicious food. The cold weather didn't stop us from going out and have fun at the lake!!

Being an exchange student I learn many things to improve my personality and communication I gain friends

and experience other cultures. Although at first I was afraid for the challenges that I will encounter in this foreign country I have survived and having fun now!!

My advice to the next generation of exchange student just be yourself and don't be afraid to say "I don't know" in your host country because everything is totally different from ours. Always say "thank you" and don't be shy in having friends not only with the inbounds but with your neighbors and schoolmates. Show them your good side, bear in mind that you are special, and rotary



From Left, David (France), Maki (Japan), Daniela (Mexico), Bridget (Australia), me and Kristel(France). *

always take care of you!

Rotary ensures you that you will be in good hands, good host family, and having a great year as an exchange student!! Be strong and don't spend too much inside your room. Like me, I am enjoying my stay here in the Land of Lincoln and the Birth Place of Rotary!! And now, I'm getting ready for our next event Yachting with the Sailing Rotarians on Lake Michigan.

SOMEDAY NO CHILD WILL NEED A POLIO VACCINE.

SOMEDAY POLIO WILL BE GONE FOREVER.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN MAKE SOMEDAY



INTO SOMEDAY SOON.

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