



BE A GIFT

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3850
GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER
SEPTEMBER 2015



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The Youth Exchange Program of the Rotary is an integral part of District 3850. Featured on the cover are photos of District 3850's Outbounds and Inbound Exchange Students

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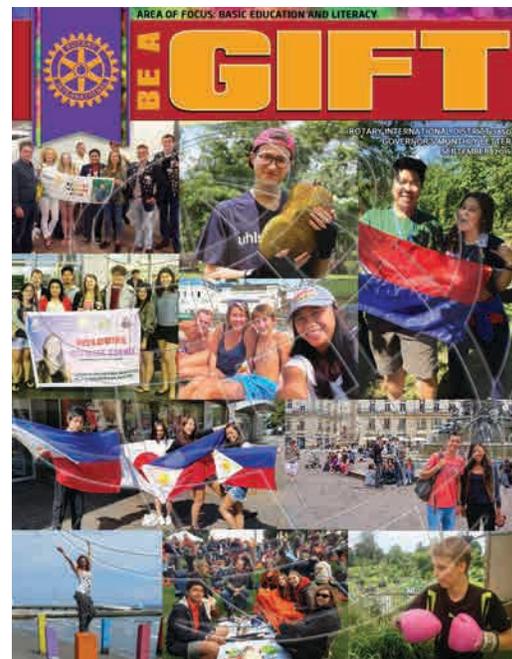
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DISCON 2016



Be a GIFT
is the official Governor's
monthly newsletter
of District 3850

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The Youth Exchange Program of the Rotary, particularly in our District, takes the center focus in this issue. I will not expound on what is the Youth Exchange Program all about. PP Jun-Jun Arceo, our District's Chairman for Youth Exchange Program, is best capable to go into detail about the program. Rotary's Youth Exchange Program, as with any other program of similar nature, is a life-changing experience for the participant-student. It certainly will effect long-lasting changes on the student's attitude and outlook in life. The bulk of experience to be gained affects greatly the exchange student than the host family. It will involve a series of gargantuan yet dynamic adaptations of the accepted and daily norms rooted on culture of the host family. True enough, it is said, "exchange is not a year in your life, but it is a life in a year"— a fitting mindset for future exchange students. It cannot be wholly expected of the host family to revamp its embedded societal norms just to accommodate the whims and caprices of the exchange student. For if such attitudinal shenanigan is allowed, it will singlehandedly defeat the purpose of the program and the learning curve verily suppressed. The program existentially necessitates losing oneself and discovering another self in a completely new environment. In a pep conversation I had with Tita Marites Go, former President of the Lady Anns of the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City, I asked her how she handled the exchange student her family hosted. She gave me succinct answer, "when in Rome, do as the Romans do." Indeed.

My gratitude to PP Jun-Jun Arceo for providing the data on our inbound and outbound exchange students; thru a series of e-mail exchanges between the two of us. In the same manner, I am immensely grateful to Ms. Joy Ardiente, our Rotaract District Representative, for extending the necessary support in providing the materials on Rotaract. It is with deep optimism that the articles included in this issue about Rotaract and Interact will encourage the younger generation to involve themselves in their community.

The September issue of our Governor's Monthly Newsletter (GML) will start focusing on different Club activities around our District 3850. **Thus, I am encouraging everyone in our District to send me— via mail, articles and photos of your Club's activities. Or simply post or share your Club's activities in our District's FB page.** Also, kindly include the name of the owner of the photographs so acknowledgment can be had. That being said, I would like to re-state the email sent by our District Governor Oliver Ong to Assistant Governors, District Team and Club Presidents:

"Please feel free to send in articles and photos of your club projects, undertakings, anniversary celebration and important events for publication in our GML. Please email them to Rtn. Vince Carbon."

My email address is jvincentm3@gmail.com.

RI
**PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE**



There was once a strong young man who was offered a job as a woodcutter. He set about his task with energy: The first week, he turned 18 trees into firewood. The second week, he worked just as hard, but was surprised to find he had chopped only 11 trees. The third week, despite working nonstop from morning till night, the number was six, and he went despairingly to the foreman to offer his resignation. "I am losing my strength. I can no longer cut as many trees as I once could."

The foreman looked at the young man, who seemed to him in fine health. "Have you thought of sharpening your ax?" he asked.

"Sharpen my ax? Who has time to sharpen an ax?" the young man asked indignantly. "I have been too busy chopping wood!"

When we aren't making the kind of progress we feel we should be making, the natural response is...

...to redouble our efforts. Sometimes, though, the better response is not to work harder, but to work smarter. Look at your tools. Analyze your processes. Are you directing your resources in the most effective ways? Or are you pouring all your strength into chopping wood with a dull ax?

For the last 20 years, we have relentlessly beaten the drum of membership in Rotary. We set goals and launch campaigns, all focused on bringing in more and more members. And yet, our overall numbers remain the same.

It is time to sharpen our tools. Instead of focusing on the question, "How can we bring more members into Rotary?" we should be asking ourselves, "How can we add more value to Rotary membership, so that more will join and fewer will leave?"



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K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran
RI President 2015-16
Rotary Club of Colombo
Sri Lanka

One way we are doing that is with the new Rotary Global Rewards program, which launched in July. This innovative program allows Rotarians to connect with, and receive discounts and concessions from, businesses and service providers around the world. Individual Rotarians may submit their own business to be included alongside those with which Rotary has already negotiated relationships; the most appropriate offers will be added to the listings.

We have also created the option of allowing businesses to return a percentage of their profit on each transaction to our Rotary Foundation, and several companies have already been locked into this part of the scheme. Each month we will update the list with additional offers that we may receive. I urge all of you to try it out by signing up on My Rotary at Rotary.org now. The more Rotarians participate, the stronger, and more beneficial, the program will be.

Much more than another loyalty program, Rotary Global Rewards is a new way to benefit from being a Rotarian, and being part of the Rotary network. It is another way to combine business and service. And it is yet another way to add value to Rotary membership. We cannot forget that our potential members will be asking themselves, "What's in it for me?" We need to demonstrate the value of Rotary by showing that becoming a Rotarian will enrich their lives, as it has ours.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oliver Ver Ong'.

Oliver "Ver" Ong, MPHF
District Governor 2015-16
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

September GIFT - Education and Literacy thru IT

(Part I)

If we want to create a lasting Rotary impact in our communities, education is one of the keys to it. If we plant or gift Education and Literacy, we will reap a better future.

For this month of September, our District was tasked to concentrate in one of Rotary focus of Service – Basic Education and Literacy. And we did it thru Information Technology or IT.

IT is the way to the future. And this is the biggest challenge everywhere especially in public schools. Compare to students of private schools, most of our public school students are not exposed to the wonders and convenience of education thru internet technology. There are even public school libraries with no computers.

But I am glad and proud to share the commitment of our District in this area. Our TRF contributions have worked! The power of international partnerships is bear fruits and we are benefitting from it.

For the past 3 years, our District has devoted 50% of its District Designated Fund (DDF) in buying computers for public school libraries. The computers committed in RY 2013-14 have been released while those for RY 2014-15 are being processed now.

IPDG Jude Doctora informed me that our District has just received a Global Grant funding of USD\$50,000 for 32 Rotary Libraries. Each library will receive 2 computers and 500 story books will be distributed to designated public schools through our partner clubs.

What more, IPP Chris Sorongon got the support of RC Makati Olympia in our educational drive. They will send 3 20- foot containers of books for our District. Iloilo for Panay public schools will get 1. The other two will go to Bacolod for Negros area, and to Zamboanga for SouthWest Mindanao area. Thank you, RC Makati Olympia.

RC Roxas has also received a Global Grant funding of USD\$135,000 to help Roxas Public School for Philippine Craftsman in its Vocational Training and Community Development. This will benefit more than 200 students every year.

Not far behind is RC Bacolod. It is working on its Global Grant of \$49,000 to build E-libraries in Bacolod City soon.

Is this all? Nope.

Another Global Grant application of UD\$50,000 for 32 Rotary Libraries in our District has been submitted to The Rotary Foundation for approval.

We are blessed!

MILLENNIAL YOUTH



Ushering the Millennial Youth to Rotary

(Part II)



It will be a great challenge for us as we invite the hyper Millennial Generation or Gen Y (those who are born after 1980 (18 to 35 years by 2015) to support and join Rotary.

Globally, Millennials are described as ambitious, adventurous, carefree, and have a high sense of entitlement. They are technologically savvy, open minded, and more aware of their rights. But I am glad to share too, FEU or Far Eastern University found out in a survey that most Filipino Millennial still have high right values imbedded by our conservative culture despite their modern beliefs. Iba pa rin ang Pinoy!

To usher the Millennial Youth to be Rotarians, we must understand and accept that this new generation is different from us. Let's introduce, guide and mentor them the Rotary Way that they will appreciate and accept.

We can't just pay them lip service, but instead, we should set good examples so they will have good role models, be good leaders, and be our legacies in the future.

I'm glad that Rotary has recognized that responsibility and has put in place programs that give our Youth numerous opportunities and exposures for them to grow. This is what the Millennial Gen are looking for – new ideas, travels and adventures.

I encourage you to talk to your family and friends about the wonderful program of the Rotary Youth Exchange, why it is an opportunity of a lifetime for the students to experience living and studying in a foreign country for a year under strict Rotary

supervision. How it contribute to their personal growth and to peace and goodwill in the world.

Talk more about Interact and Rotaract and encourage your children to join these exciting clubs that will help develop their leadership skills and community involvement. The Millennial are said to be entrepreneurs – they want to stand alone and prove themselves.

Talk more about the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards in schools and invite students to participate in these self-development and leadership training program.

One Youth leader that impressed me with her leadership skills is Miss Joy Ann Ardiente, our Rotaract District Representative. She's focused, organized, enthusiastic and firm. She led her hardworking team to the success of the Joint Rotaract and Interact District Assembly last August 15, 2015 in Bacolod City. They implemented on-time schedule, ordered good meals, planned relevant and interesting programs and the outcome was as expected – happy participants.

And now, they are busy preparing for the **Pilipinas Rotaract Convention (PROCON) on February 19-21, 2016 in Bacolod City**. A big event as Rotaract delegates from all over the Philippines converged in the City of Smiles for a 2-day convention. Let us all help our Rotaractors for a **World Class** hosting of the PROCON in our own District.

Our District has no shortage of dedicated Rotarians and I'm so happy to have PP Louie Gonzaga overseeing the New Generations program, PP Kano Ng as District Rotaract Chair, PP Chris Sorongon as Interact Chair, PP Junjun Arceo as Youth Exchange Chair and PP Robert Cerada in charge of RYLA. We will see more Interact and Rotaract clubs organized this Rotary year. We will see more students participating in the RYE program and more student leaders from the RLYA program.

In my official club visits, I was delighted to learn that clubs in Dipolog, Iloilo, Bacolod, Antique, Roxas and Kalibo are conducting the Boys and Girls Week in collaboration with the City Government, giving students the opportunity to serve as Student City Mayor, Vice Mayor and other public offices for a week.

Was there an impact this program and the other Youth programs have on the students? I was an Interactor and served as Student City Judge during the Boys and Girls Week during my high school days. Rotary has inspired me and helped me believe in myself. When I was invited to join Rotary years later, there was no hesitancy. I'm now on my 26th year as a Rotarian. I guess I was a Baby Millennial then.

Let's usher in the Millennial Youth to Rotary!



Oliver "Ver" Ong, MPH
District Governor 2015-16
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

DISTRICT SECRETARY'S CORNER



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emilio Aquino'.

PP Emilio "Emil" Aquino, MPH
District Secretary 2015-16

Rotary Club of Zamboanga City - West

Education is Still the Great Equalizer

(An Area of Focus of Rotary International)

Instead of the customary New Generations or Youth Service Month, Rotary International has now designated the month of September as the Basic Education and Literacy Month. Either theme is close to my heart, being active in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, the Interact, Rotaract and RYLA programs. On the other hand, I come from a family of educators. My mother was a secondary school teacher while my late father, who was a practicing lawyer, still managed to teach in college for over forty years and was no less than a dean for so many years. I followed their footsteps and have been teaching in the College of Law with some stints in both Graduate and Undergraduate business courses. We are firm believers that education is a great equalizer.

According to Horace Mann (an American Educator who helped reform the US public education system in the early 19th century), he professes that *"Education, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery."*

This has been the long-running mantra of schools and educational institutions all over the world. My own alma mater espouses *Education is Freedom*. And Rotary International agrees with this by identifying Basic Education and Literacy as an area of focus for Rotarians to zero-in in pursuing community, international, youth and vocational service projects. The present leadership of District 3850 has in fact identified Literacy together with Disaster Response and Health as its priority areas to focus on.

Interestingly, with the advent and the succeeding advances in information technology, which grew by leaps and bounds in the last two decades, there are some quarters who now propound the view that it is already the internet which serves as the great equalizer. To some extent, the proposition sounds right as so many computer and internet literates, both young and old, are now able to learn stuff which ordinarily would require enrollment or proper school training. Those students living in the countryside who are lucky to have internet access are able to compete with their rich urban cousins enrolled in established universities whether in the field of science, culture and the arts. From making bombs to public speaking to learning how to play the most complicated musical instruments, the internet offers to IT savvies amazing opportunities for fame and big cash emoluments due to their access to knowledge and the global market reach which the internet provides. The present Aldub craze which is a combined product of television and the tech world is one such inexplicable example. After all, we send our kids to school to ultimately make their own name, mark and wealth when they grow up.

But this notwithstanding, I still adhere to that traditional stance that education is the great equalizer while the internet is just the medium for education and not the be-all-end-all thing to be considered as the ultimate great equalizer.

Anyway, this month saw activities focused on Basic Education and Literacy while by force of habit, some clubs still opted to conduct youth service related projects. One particular project which stands four-square to basic education and literacy is that of a Zone 10 club which put up a computer lab for an elementary school with 33 computers financed thru a matching grant with their Korean sister club. Another club in Zone 11 embarked in a digital literacy for internally displaced persons (IDPs), PWDs and Detainees. The project allows our otherwise deprived brothers and sisters to learn the basics of computers and applications like facebook. In her testimony, an IDP participant who still lives in a resettlement area in the outskirts of the city, brought every one to tears when she shared that she never dreamt to even touch a computer keyboard for fear that she might cause damage to the unit. These poor "Juans" and "Juanas" should be the intended beneficiaries of our worthwhile educational and literacy projects, digital or otherwise, as we seek to become gifts to the world during this Rotary year. While doing so, we can safely claim that education via the internet is the great equalizer.



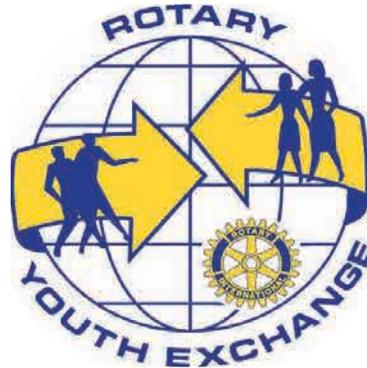
The Youth Exchange Program



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jun-Jun".

PP Alberto "Jun-Jun" Arceo III
District Chair
Rotary Youth Exchange Program
Rotary Club of Bacolod East

Youth Exchange was initiated by Rotary Clubs in Copenhagen, Denmark during the 1920's. These exchanges involved European participants and took place during school holidays for a period of about two weeks. The exchanges continued until World War II and resumed in 1946. In the 1950's, the long-term exchange, which usually lasts 10 to 12 months, grew in popularity and became the primary type of Rotary Youth Exchange. In 1972, the RI Board of Directors agreed to recommend Youth Exchange to clubs worldwide as a worthwhile international activity.



The Rotary Youth Exchange Program has come a long way. Every year, more than 8,000 Youth Exchange students from 80 countries around the world are given the opportunity of a lifetime to travel abroad, live and study, learn a new language, meet new people and assimilate a new culture. Of the 10 districts in the Philippines, our District 3850 is one of only three districts that are certified by RI to participate in the Youth Exchange Program. This Rotary Year 2015-16, our district sent eight outbound students and welcomed to our district seven inbound students.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
MESSAGE

Greetings in Rotarian Service!

According to an unknown writer, “Your presence is a gift to the world. You are unique and one of a kind. Your life can be what you want it to be. Take it one day at a time.” I must say, I truly agree on his/her perspective, but let me tell you my version of this quote:

Your Being as a ROTARACTOR or INTERACTOR or ROTARIAN is a gift to the world. We are unique in the ability of serving others above ourselves. We can make a great difference out of our lives and choices. Let’s live our lives in the name of service and for the Glory of the Lord.

Being a rotaractor or an interactor is a sacrifice, a hard sacrifice. But behind this bitter sweet realization is my challenge for all you to stand up and become what we are expected to be... a beacon of Hope and Difference to this stereotypical overrated world. Truth is my comrades, ourselves are precious gifts we are required to share to the world.

To serve others is to minister to others and help others in various ways, it is not to do it for show or publicity, but simply to enrich and help the lives of others and your own life. I see ourselves as heroes—ordinary people who make themselves extraordinary.

A hero is someone who changes lives in positive way. We Rotaractors/ interactors did that. We changed the perspectives on heroism. Our ability to sacrifice ourselves, our time, our personal relationship for the name of service to others is the modern definition of 21st Century heroism.

So extensive, so crucial, intricate, and momentous describes our duty as Rotaractors/ interactors. We should be aware that we shoulder the most difficult task in making a change in this world. Now let me end by telling you that it is an honor to be working with you. I may not say it often, but I am proud to be a Rotaractor. Always for Service... Always a Rotaractor coz Rotaract keeps me alive.

Thank you very much and God bless. Let us Serve for the glory of our Lord.




Joy Ann Ardenete, RN
District Rotaract Representative
RI District 3850



**NOTICE TO ALL ROTARY CLUBS OF RI DISTRICT 3850
ON THE ELECTION OF OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR RY 2018-19**

30 September 2015

To all Members of the District Nominating Committee, Assistant Governors and Club Presidents;

Our District is mandated to select our District Governor for RY 2018-19 during this RY 2015-16. By virtue of the authority vested in the District Governor per Section 13.020.4 of the RI Bylaws, I am inviting all Clubs in our District to submit your suggestions for nomination for District Governor for RY 2018-19. All suggestions should be submitted to my office on or before **23 January 2016** and should include the following:

- 1) Resolution of the Club naming the suggested candidate adopted at a regular meeting and certified by the Club Secretary;
- 2) Certification of the Club Secretary that the candidate fulfills the following qualifications of a Governor-Nominee as per Section 15.070 and as Governor as per Section 15.080 of the RI By-laws:
 - a) Rotarian in good standing of the Club;
 - b) Rotarian maintains full qualifications of membership;
 - c) Must have served as Club President for a full term or as Charter President of a Club having served its full term from charter date to 30 June for at least 6 months;
 - d) Must demonstrate willingness, commitment and ability to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of Governor as provided in Section 15.090 of the RI Bylaws;
 - e) Must demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of Governor as prescribed in the Bylaws through a signed statement submitted to RI stating clear understanding of such qualifications, duties and responsibilities; and
 - f) Must have been a member of one or more Rotary Clubs for at least 7 years at the time of taking office as District Governor.
- 3) Certification of the Club Treasurer that the Club has no financial obligations to RI as of 1 July 2015.

The District Nominating Committee shall be convened to select the District Governor-Nominee on **30 January 2016, Saturday, 10:00 AM, in Iloilo City**, at a venue to be announced later. As per Section 13.020.5, the District Nominating Committee shall not limit its selection to those names submitted by our Clubs and is mandated to nominate the best qualified Rotarian who is available to serve as Governor.

The timetable shall be covering the selection of our District Governor for RY2018-19 shall be:

- 23 January 2016 (Saturday), 5PM** – Deadline for the Submission of Suggestions from Clubs for District Governor, RY 2018-19;
30 January 2016 (Saturday), 10AM – Meeting of the District Nominating Committee (DNC) for the Selection of the District Governor for RY2018-19 to be held in Iloilo City;
31 January 2016 (Sunday) – Notification of the District Governor by the DNC Chair of its Candidate;
02 February 2016 (Tuesday) – Publication of the Name and Club of the District Governor for RY 2018-19 by the District Governor to all Clubs in our District through a written notice;
16 February 2016 (Tuesday), 5PM – Deadline for Receipt of Club Resolution(s) naming previously suggested Rotarian(s) as challenging candidate(s) by my office; and
18 February 2016 (Thursday) – Proclamation of District Governor for RY2018-19 selected by the DNC as the official nominee if no resolution(s) of challenge is received by the above deadline; Notification of all Club Presidents follows.

In the event of a challenge, I will release the timetable for the challenging nomination(s) and / or ballot-by-mail when the situation arises.

All Clubs and Rotarians of our District are reminded not to exert any effort to influence the selection process in a positive or negative manner by campaigning, canvassing, electioneering or otherwise which is prohibited under the RI Bylaws (Section 10.060). Please be guided accordingly.

Yours in Rotary Service,

OLIVER N. ONG
District Governor, RY 2015-16



Basic Education and Literacy

The Rotary Foundation's six areas of focus reflect the service interests and activities of Rotary clubs worldwide. See how your club or district can get involved.

The challenge

- Worldwide, 75 million children — 41 million of them girls — do not have access to basic education. (*World Bank*)
- Child survival rates jump 40% if girls are educated for five years. (*ONE*)
- Young people who have completed primary education are less than half as likely to contract HIV as those without such an education. Universal primary education would prevent 700,000 cases of HIV each year. (*World Bank*)
- More than 1 in 4 adults cannot read or write, 66% of them women. (*End Poverty 2015 Millennium Campaign*)



What you can do

- Develop an adult literacy program that teaches literacy skills to adults,
- Send a vocational training team to provide training in curriculum development and reducing gender disparity in education to rural communities.
- Consult with education officials to design teacher training and provide the relevant curriculum and supplies for schools.
- Sponsor a scholar studying adult education with an emphasis on literacy

Learn more

Basic Education Coalition
www.basiced.org

Central Asia Institute
www.ikat.org

The Girl Effect
www.girleffect.org

UNESCO's Literacy Initiative (LIFE)
www.unesco.org/en/literacy

UNICEF
www.unicef.org

Goals for Basic Education and Literacy

- Ensuring that children have access to quality basic education
- Reducing gender disparity in education
- Increasing adult literacy
- Strengthening the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy
- Supporting studies related to basic education and literacy



Area of Focus Policy Statement on BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Rotary supports activities and training to improve education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

Area of Focus Statement of Purpose and Goals

TRF enables Rotarians to ensure that all people have sustainable access to basic education and literacy by:

1. Involving the community to support programs that strengthen the capacity of communities to provide basic education and literacy to all;
2. Increasing adult literacy in communities;
3. Working to reduce gender disparity in education;
4. Supporting studies for career-minded professionals related to basic education and literacy.

Parameters for Eligibility

TRF considers activities targeting the following to be within the scope of the basic education and literacy area of focus:

1. Access to quality basic primary and secondary education;
2. Educating adults in literacy;
3. Providing training in teaching literacy, curriculum development and school administration;
4. Strengthening educational experience through improved materials and facilities;
5. Community management of education systems;
6. Vocational training teams supporting the above activities;
7. School desk purchases, when accompanied by a detailed and verifiable plan to improve basic education and literacy;
8. Scholarships for graduate-level study in programs related to basic education and literacy.

TRF considers activities targeting the following to be outside the scope of the basic education and literacy area of focus and as such are not eligible for global

grant funding:

1. Projects that consist exclusively of equipment purchases;
2. Projects that provide tuition or school supplies without the means for the community to provide these in the future.

Elements of Successful Humanitarian Projects and Vocational Training Teams

Global grants are:

1. Sustainable – communities are able to address their basic education and literacy needs after the Rotary club/district has completed its work;
2. Measurable – sponsors can select standard measures for their area of focus from the Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit or use their own measures to show the good results of their work;
3. Community driven – designed by the host community based upon the needs they have identified;
4. Aligned with an area of focus – as defined in the policy documents.

Elements of Successful Scholarships

Global grants support graduate-level scholarships for career-minded professionals. TRF considers the following when evaluating global grant scholarship applications:

1. The applicant's previous work experience in the field of basic education and literacy;
2. Academic program alignment with basic education and literacy. Examples of academic programs include education, literacy, curriculum development, special education, and school administration;
3. The applicant's future career plans as they relate to basic education and literacy.



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

TEACHER TRAINING

1.7 million additional teachers

are needed worldwide to meet the goal of universal primary education.

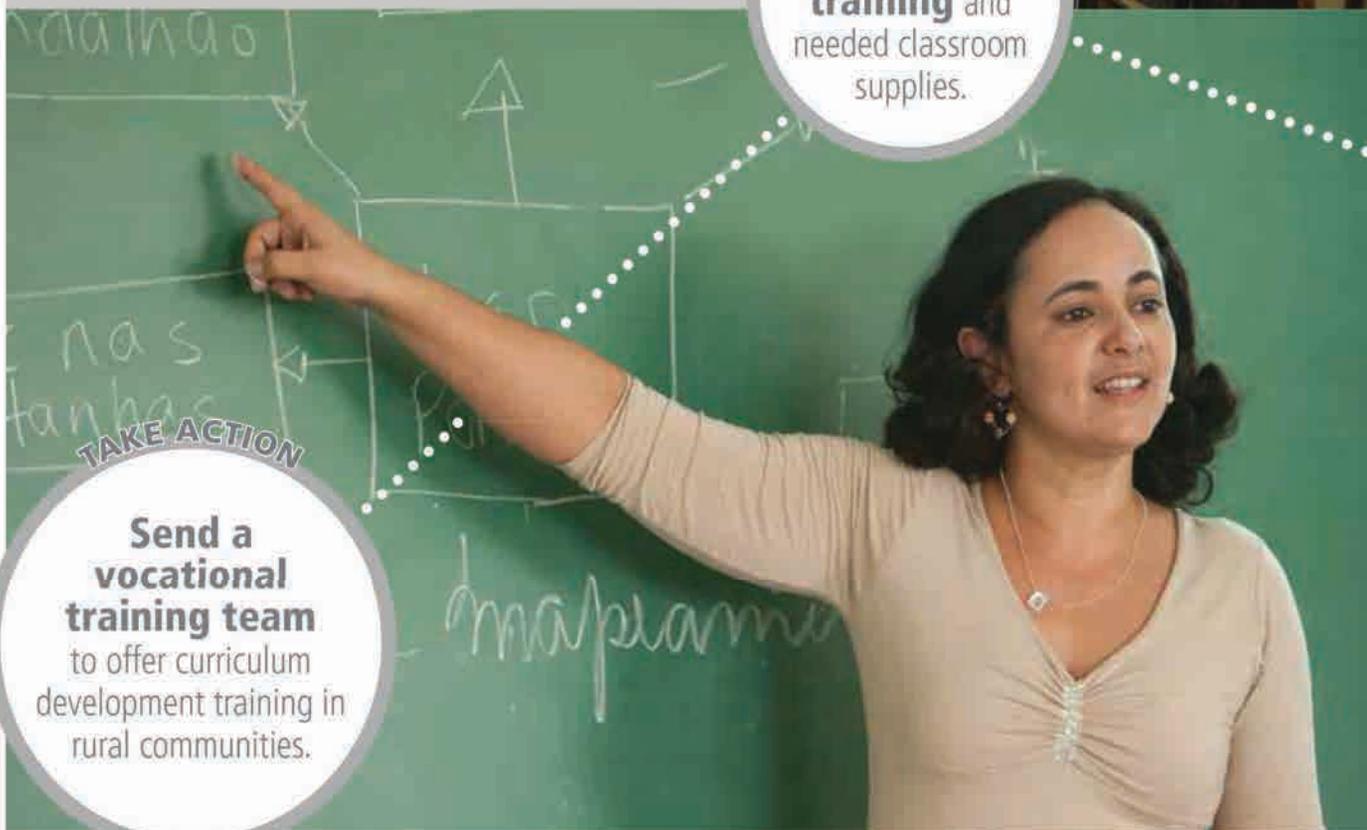
TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- 1 Develop long-term relationships with teachers to ensure that they have access to the latest training and materials.
- 2 Consult with education officials to design teacher training programs and curriculums.



TAKE ACTION

Provide teacher training and needed classroom supplies.



TAKE ACTION

Send a vocational training team to offer curriculum development training in rural communities.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

TAKE ACTION

Volunteer
in a classroom
or after-school
program.



57 million children

worldwide are not in school.

TAKE ACTION

Support concentrated language encounter (CLE) literacy programs. These low-cost text- or activity-based immersion programs can be effective with adults as well as children.

TAKE ACTION

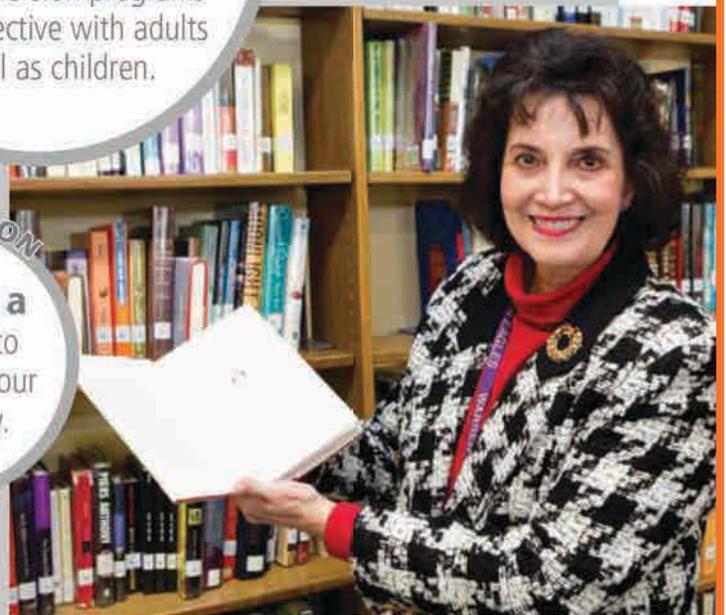
Develop an **adult literacy program.**

781 million people

over the age of 15 —
60 percent of them women —
are illiterate.

TAKE ACTION

Serve as a mentor to students in your community.



TAKE ACTION

Promote student enrollment and prevent health-related absences by sponsoring school meal programs and providing safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- 1 Remove barriers to girls' education caused by cultural attitudes, safety concerns, and the need for girls to contribute to the household economy. Gender equality is vital to sustainable community development.
- 2 Involve students, parents, teachers, and administrators to gain support for your endeavors.
- 3 Partner with local organizations that can offer advice and resources to help you organize a CLE program.



W M E O N



PP GERLIN "KATHY" ESPINOSA, PHF
Rotary Club of Iloilo South

AG Kathy aptly described herself as "a woman full of love and happiness; a friend to all and at times generous and helpful and always willing to serve." She is a teacher by educational profession but a businesswoman in action. AG Kathy graduated With Honors at LaPaz National High School and obtained a degree in Secondary Education major in General Science.

She is the manager of VJS Audio System, a sound and light equipment provider. Her four children help her manage the business: Ghera, married to Melvin Solas; Zyra, a graduate of UP Diliman, is currently the CEO of VJS Audio System; Myra, the finance officer of VJS Audio System; and Ray, an information technology student.

AG Kathy is a proud "Mamita" to her 3 grandchildren.

She joined the Rotary Club in 2010 and from RY 2013-2014, she took the presidency of the Club.

W M E O N



PP VIRGILIO "NONOY" BRAGA, MPH
Rotary Club of Iloilo City

AG Nonoy has a colorful career with the Rotary. He joined the Rotary Club of Quezon City (RCQC) in 1978. Through the years he was with RCQC, he served in various capacities. He became its Club President in and eventually became its President in 1999. However, in 2005, he transferred to the Rotary Club of Iloilo City (RCIC). As it was expected of him, AG Nonoy served RCIC in various capacities. Eventually, he became RCIC President in 2013.

He is a BSC Commerce graduate of De La Salle College. AG Nonoy is a Certified Public Accountant.

AG Nonoy is married to the former Sharon De La Paz. The couple enjoys the company of their four children— Virginia, Virgilio, Vincent and Bettina.

W M E O N



PP ALLAN RYAN TAN, MPH
Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo

He is the youngest among the "Governor's Men." During his reign as Club President, the Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo (RCMI) was honored eight awards for RY 2013-2014; among its awards were Outstanding Club President, Most Outstanding Club, Most Outstanding in International Service, Best Rotary Community Corps and Most Outstanding in Community Service.

AG Allan is a graduate of Central Philippine University (CPU) with a diploma in Marketing. He is currently the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Premier Islands Management Corporation which oversees the operation of Hotel Del Rio, a leading hotel and landmark in Iloilo City. Adding the proverbial feathers to his business hat, AG Allan also sits as Board Director of several corporations.

AG Allan is blissfully married to Maisie C. Tan.

Exchange Ideas | Take Action | Learning & Reference

Learning & Reference | Learn by Role | District Roles | Assistants

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

As assistant governors, you are the connection between your club and your club leaders make Rotary stronger.

WHAT YOU DO

- Visit your clubs regularly. Meet with each club at least once a month. Listening to them enables you to discuss their needs and advice that will allow them to be more successful.
- Keep the governor up to date on each club's progress.
- Help club leaders prepare for the governor's official visit.
- Monitor the progress of your clubs toward their goals through [Rotary Club Central](#). Use this online tool to track achievements in areas such as membership, service projects, and more.

HOW TO PREPARE

• Review your club's needs and assess their

W M E O N



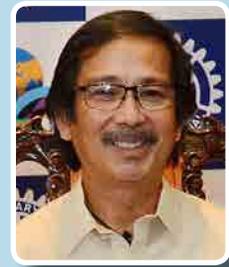
PP LEONARD RAPHAEL "RAPHY" TAYCO, MPH
Rotary Club of Kalibo

AG Raphy is Medical Doctor and a Medical Technologist. He practices Family Medicine. In 2012, he was awarded The Most Outstanding Physician Award of Aklan Medical Society bestowed by the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) during its 105th annual convention.

He is a member of the Rotary Club of Kalibo since 1983 and ably performed various Club functions. He was an Outstanding Club President for RY 2000-2001. This is his second time to be appointed as Assistant Governor for Zone 4.

AG Raphy is a Paul Harris Fellow +6 along with his wife Nikki Rose (PHF +1). Their children Lennard, Nicole, and Marie are likewise Paul Harris Fellows.

W M E O N



PP ROBERTO "BOBBY" TINSAY, MPH
Rotary Club of Bacolod North

AG Bobby has been a Rotarian for 24 years. Taking into account his extensive involvement with Rotary, he had held numerous chairmanship of different projects initiated by his Club. Close to AG Bobby's heart is his Club's focus in developing the potentials of the younger generation. He is a trustee of the Scholarship and Youth Development Foundation (SYDF) of his Club and is involved with the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA).

AG Bobby was elected President of in 2002.

Outside of the Rotary, AG Bobby is into sugar cane farming.

W M 2 0 1 5



PP RAUL CARGANERA, PHF
Rotary Club of Bacolod

AG Raul is currently the Administrator of Negros Occidental-Bacolod City Red Cross Chapter. His invaluable expertise in disaster management, emergency response, community-based disaster risk reduction and volunteer management makes AG Joel a most-sought speaker and trainor in Asia.

He received his marketing degree from the the University of San Agustin in Iloilo City and obtained units leading to a Masters in Public Administration.

He the Immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Bacolod.

AG Joel married the former Ma. Gina Formacion. Their union produced 2 offsprings-- Eul Guillier and Eugin Von.

W M 2 0 1 5



PP JOEL JARANILLA, MPH
Rotary Club of Metro Bacolod

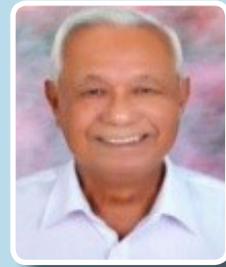
A product of West Negros College with a degree in Industrial Management Engineering, AG Joel is engaged in construction and supply business. He is the President and CEO of JFJ Construction and Supply Inc.

His involvement in Rotary started in 1995 at a young age of 32. Two decades as a Rotarian, AG Joel served his Club with fervor as officer and director of different committees.

The apex of his involvement with RC of Metro Bacolod (RCMB) was capped when he ascended as its President. Under his able leadership, RCMB garnered seven awards during DISCON 2014 in Boracay. Two of the awards received were Most Outstanding Rotary Club President and Most Outstanding Rotary Club.

AG Joel and his wife the former Cheryl Belleza were blessed with three children-- Patricia, Adrian and Roberto III.

W M 2 0 1 5



PP MADRIÑO "MUNI" MUÑOZ, MPH
Rotary Club of Dipolog

After graduating from Philippine Military Academy (PMA), AG Muni built a sterling career in our Armed Forces of the Philippines and retired as Lieutenant-General. He then went into the private sector serving as consultant to various multinational companies. He also served as Chairman of the Regional Disaster Coordinating Council for Region 10.

Together with his wife Lourdes, AG Muni is a Paul Harris Fellow +1.

The couple has five children. Notably, four of their children were Rotary Exchange Students in US between 1981 to 1987. His son and namesake Madriño Jr. is the Past President of Rotary Club of Parañaque Poblacion.

AG Muni served as President of the Rotary Club of Dipolog for Rotary Year 2013-2014.

W M 2 0 1 5



PP JOHN STEVE "JOHN" ALEMAN, MPH
Rotary Club of Pagadian

AG John is a Certified Public Accountant, a personal finance advisor and a stock market savvy. He finished his Bachelor of Science in Accountancy at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City.

He was a former Audit Staff of Sycip, Gorres, Velayo and Company (SGV), one of the biggest accounting firm in the Philippines. At present, AG John is an Agency Leader at Insular Life Assurance Company Ltd.

Aside from being gainfully employed, AG John also has other business undertakings. He operates Infinitea Premier which has branches in Dipolog City and Dumaguete City.

W M 2 0 1 5



PP SIXTO "JUN" KWAN JR., MPH
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

The year 1998 was the running start of AG Jun's deep commitment to Rotary. His inexhaustible energy for backbreaking works inside and outside of Rotary is worthy of emulation. He took the helm of the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City (RCZC) in 2010 and received the RI Presidential Citation with Distinction.

AG Jun is a graduate of Centro Escolar University (CEU). He is a licensed pharmacist. His businesses include a pharmacy, a bakery/restaurant, and a photo and video store. AG Jun is also a serious hobbyist in photography and one of the prime movers of Camera Club of Zamboanga.

He is married to the former Katherine Go and blessed with two children— Samantha and Sigfred.

W M 2 0 1 5



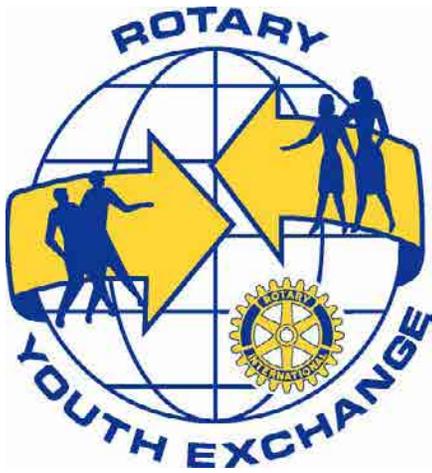
PP RAOUL QUIJANO, PHF
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City West

AG Raoul career's path started in Singapore where he worked as an Architect for six years. Upon his return to the Philippines, he continued his profession career in the private sector. He is active member of the United Architects of the Philippines—Zamboanga City Chapter serving as its President in 2010 and Regional District Director for Western Mindanao.

AG Raoul an alumni of Immaculate Conception High School and Western Mindanao State University's College of Architecture.

He joined the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City West (RCZCW) in 2005. AG Raoul served four Past Presidents of RCZCW before becoming its President in 2014.

AG Raoul married the former Marivic Tayag and blessed with two kids—Mia Marielle and Ryle Renzo. His ultimate priority is his family and sees to it that values are in place and puts God as the center of everything.



Shania Carbon
Outbound to France

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

“ These past few weeks that I spent with friends from around the world were some of the best and unforgettable moments in my life. I’m excited for what lies ahead. I’m grateful for the opportunity to experience another culture, especially one that’s so different from my own.”--*JC Palanca*

“ I have been in Switzerland for almost a month and I can’t believe it-- I have survived! haha!”
--*Marydy Carpio*



Mathilde Dubois
Inbound from Belgium

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Antique



JC Miguel Palanca
Outbound to Switzerland

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East



Emanuel Pestalozzi
Inbound from Switzerland

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East



Zoe Ratcliffe
Outbound to Switzerland

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East

“ Tomorrow makes it three weeks of being here in Switzerland and the past three weeks have been the best weeks of my life. I can’t wait to see what one whole year will bring. It’s an amazing learning, a new culture, a new language and having friends from all over the world. It’s crazy, amazing, and perfect!” --*Zoe Ratcliffe*



Louis Dreano
Inbound from France

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East



Marydy Carpio
Outbound to Switzerland

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Kalibo



Hadrien Cuvalier
Inbound from Belgium

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Kalibo



Lisiane Descloux
Inbound from Switzerland

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East



Louis-Marie Klos
Inbound from France

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City

“The Rotary here in France emphasized understanding of our new environment; adapting the culture of our host country and not the other way around. Honestly, my first month here in France was not the breezy walk-in-the-park. I adjusted my daily routine in order to fit into this ultimate experience of living in another country. Everyday I am learning the abc of French living.” --*Shania Carbon*



Bryan Souribio
Outbound to Belgium

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East



Matt Uy
Outbound to Belgium

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Antique



Mathilde Wiseur
Inbound from Belgium

Hosted by:
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City West



Gideon Caliolio
Outbound to Belgium

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Zamboanga City West



Maia Yusay
Outbound to France

Sponsored by:
Rotary Club of Bacolod East

Shania carbon (6th from the right), from Zamboanga City, together with her high school classmates at Lycee de Jean-Victor Poncelet in Saint-Avold, Lorraine, France.



Mathilde wiseur, from Belgium, frolicking under the sun... enjoying her trip to La Vista del Mar beach resort in Zamboanga City.



Louis-Marie Klos (right), together with Mathilde (middle) and former Rotex student RJ Go (left), enjoying at a party.



Gideon Caliolio
 received a warm
 welcome at the airport
 upon his arrival in
 Belgium.



JC Palanca (left),
Zoe Ratcliffe (middle)
 and **Marydy** Carpio
 (right) proudly displaying
 their Philippine flags in
 Switzerland.



Inbound Rotary Youth
Exchange Students with
 newfound family and friends
 having a blast in Lakawon
 island, located North of
 Bacolod, specifically in Cadiz
 city.





Mathilde Dubois, from Switzerland, is welcomed by her host family and former Rotary Youth Exchange students upon her arrival at the Iloilo City International Airport.

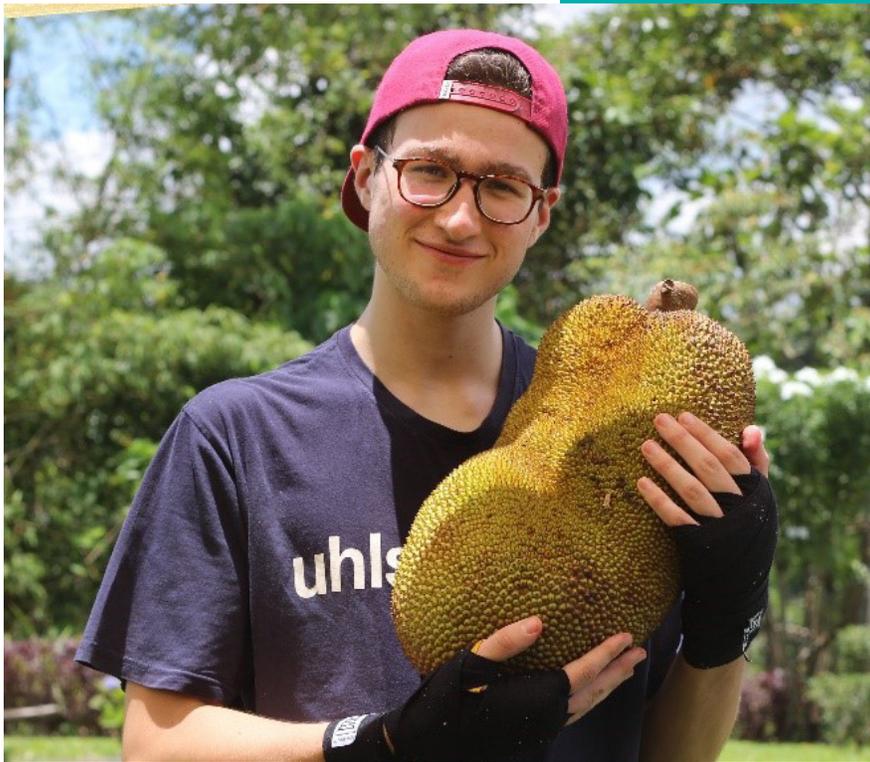


Emanuel Pestalozzi, from Switzerland, gets the opportunity to box for the first time. It's more fun in the Philippines!



Zoe Ratcliffe (left) with friends wearing the traditional Swiss costume, the colourful flowery "Heidi" dress.





Louis Dreano, from France, holding a locally-cultivated fruit not grown in his home country-- the jackfruit or popularly known as "langka".



Jc Palanca (right), from Bacolod, with friends from his language class, waiting to board a train in Zurich, Switzerland.



Maia Yusay (right) together with inbound Thomas Ehanno (left) from France and was hosted by the Rotary Club of Antique last RY 2014-2015, at Centre Ville-- a popular meeting place for teenagers and their friends.



Bryan Souribio (left) at a picnic with the family of Camille Kieckens (2nd from the right), an inbound from Belgium and was hosted by the Rotary Club of Bacolod East last RY 2014-2015.



Hadrien Cuvelier, from Belgium, appreciating with a selfie the beautiful beach in Kalibo, Aklan.



Maia Yusay basking under the warm weather at a beach in France together with her foster family.



Shania carbon
on a group trip to
Zoo D' Amneville in
Lorraine, France, of all
District 1790 exchange
students.



Lisiane Descloux,
from Switzerland,
celebrates her birthday
on the day she arrived in
Bacolod.



Rotary Youth Exchange
Students posed with their flags in
a park in Switzerland after their
German language classes.



IT IS STILL AND IT WILL ALWAYS BE THE BEST

by RJ Go
Rotary Exchange Student 2011-2012

Being a foreign exchange student is not an easy task. You will have to live independently and distant from your family and loved ones. You would have to be an ambassador of your beloved mother country. You have to rightly be a representative of the country that you are from. You will have to adjust and be open to a new culture and a lifestyle quite different from the usual. Yet, with all these challenges ahead of every foreign exchange student, I must say, being a Rotary Exchange Student is the BEST thing that ever happened to me so far. Here's why...

My name is Honroso Jose F. Go, RJ, for short. Son of the late Atty. Jose C. Go, Past President of the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City and Marites Go, a Past President of the Rotary Anns. I can truly say that I grew up being around the Rotary Family. I graduated from St. Joseph High School. Back then, I was very active in my extra-curricular activities. I have not planned for my future yet so I decided to be a Rotary Exchange student. I was an exchange student in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA. Indeed, I was scared and at the same time, excited to travel international all by myself. It was tiring yet fun.

Being a Rotex was a real challenge. I had to adjust to a new world quite apart from what I have grown accustomed to. I had to get used to the culture, food, and the weather.

During my exchange, I lived with four different families. The foster families I stayed with were really nice. They welcomed me and treated me as if I am one of them. They were really good in coping with the anticipated home-sickness that wrapped me. I also learned a lot from my foster families. Foremost, I learned how to become independent. I was part of the chores. No special treatment was given to, which was really helpful to me.

For a school year, I went to Lincoln Christian School (LCS). I participated in a lot of school activities like basketball, choir, band, theatre and more. LCS helped me sharpened my skills and talents. Most of all, people I met along the way had instilled in me how to become a true follower of Christ.

During my exchange, I experienced things which never crossed my mind will happen to me and things that I only saw in television and movies. I travelled a lot during my exchange. I tried new food, which was my favorite part of the exchange! I met more than a hundred exchange students from all over the world; one part of the exchange was a convention of all exchange students in the US which I attended. We have had the opportunity to exchanged cards and pins. Until now, through the magic of social media, we are still in touch with one another.

I have made a lot of friends during the exchange that I will forever cherish. I learned things that I may not have been aware had not been for the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. I experienced and death with things that I may never experience again. These are the reasons why I claim and truly believed that becoming a Rotary Exchange Student was the best thing that ever happened to me yet. To date, it has been four years since I came home. I am done with school. During my exchange, I realized that I love meeting new people. I love talking or communicating with them. Thus, I decided to take up Bachelor of Arts major in Communication.

You see, being a Rotary Youth Exchange student, it helps the youth to decide, to think, and make decisions for himself/herself. In the past few years, I met and dealt with a lot of things but nothing beats the things I have had being a Rotary Exchange Student. IT IS STILL AND IT WILL ALWAYS BE THE BEST!



RotaCart:

Rotaractors' Way of Teaching Young Minds

Dressed in hand-me-downs, Lito, a seven year-old boy grabbed his worn-out slippers, crouched on the sack and laid on the ground beneath a mango tree. He is just one of the many kids who gather in the area upon the call of someone who wore a green/blue shirt curious to find out what was in store for them.

As a kid, Lito was forced to quit school because his



parents' meager income couldn't support their daily needs. His mother strives every morning to do the bulk of laundry in the neighbourhood while his father toils the field of the so called hacenderos. They cannot suffice the six hungry mouths that need to be filled in a day's work. However, Lito has a simple dream --- to go back to school despite the hindrances of poverty.

Everything changed when he saw the lad who called them along with the group of volunteers wearing the same green/blue shirts.

They are the aspiring college students taking various courses. Young leaders and talented professionals who took up the challenge of propagating literacy to young children through a little pushcart called RotaCart, which contains books, papers, coloring materials and other school supplies.

Passing around the corners of the streets, the willing hands exerted effort and time to push the cart, bringing eager children across the city of Silay, providing them

with quality time through playing and learning and at the same time, touching their lives.

This innovative idea was initiated when the volunteers aspire to educate street children extended into a tangible ground of learning; all jam-packed in a cart of ideas which RotaCart offers.

RotaCart has been the legacy of the Rotaract Club of Silay which started from a humble idea derived from the 2009 CNN Hero of the Year - the Pushcart educator Efren Peñaflorida, then transformed into a celebrated continuing community project. The Rotaractors' dream is to build satellite libraries in every community in Silay City and this cart contains books and other learning materials funded by various benefactors is a stepping stone for this dream to be realized.

As long as the wheels turn with the kind hearted people who support this advocacy, more books will be delivered, more children will be nurtured, more stories to be



told, more lives to be inspired and more dreams to be realized - these are gradual ways to change the way we value education and how much effort we give to educate our fellow Filipinos.

We may not give them a formal school to study, a suitable table to write on, a decent chair to sit upon, but we are giving them one of their rights - the right to education.

DISTAS 2015: UNWRAPPING SERVANT LEADERS

by Elyrose S. Naorbe
Rotaract District Committee - Public Image Director

Around 120 young and active leaders from Rotaract and Interact Clubs comprising the Rotaract District 3850 joined the annual Rotaract District Assembly at Palmas Del Mar in Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

This year's theme "Unwrapping Servant Leaders" focused on leadership development as well as showcasing the hidden talents and abilities of the future leaders who can uplift the good morale and standard in the society.

The first day was very interactive as all Rotaractors and

Interactors welcomed each other during the evening's opening program. They also shared some thoughts about their respective club projects and goals while enjoying the sumptuous dinner prepared inside the function room.

Present in the event was District Rotaract Chairman John Michael "Kano" Ng who talked about the Rotaract Basics and District Interact Chairman Doctor Chris Sorongon who profoundly shared the Interact Basics and The Road to Rotary.

Moreover, Past President Louie Gonzaga was in-charge of giving talks regarding the Rotary Protocol and Guidelines while District Governor Oliver Ong personally explained the District Vision and Thrust.

Past District Governor Mark Anthony Ortiz also talked about the Avenues of Service while District Governor Nominee Jundad Legislador explained the



Public Image and how it creates impact in the different issues surrounding within the community.

Past District Rotaract Representative Ace Viñarta who actively inspired all the attendees to create and plan various activities and projects through Activity Planning.

On the latter part of the activity, the participants were divided into three groups – Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers time wherein they were trained on how to focus on their respective tasks within the club. They were also given some exercises to determine their function and purpose so that they can easily work among other members in the club.

The third day of the DISTAS 2015 was the most memorable day for all the participants as they all enjoyed the Hawaiian fellowship night and were delighted by the evening swimming fellowship, karaoke and some

sort of mind-blowing team building activities.

Before the closing program, the District team headed by District Rotaract Representative Joy Ann Ardiente recognized the efforts of all the clubs, Rotarians and other people who gave valuable contributions on the success of the event. They also gave two ‘alkansya cans’ to each Rotaractor and Interactor wherein they will use it in soliciting some amount of money for the Rotary Foundation and the End Polio Now project.

“We are very thankful to all who attended the DISTAS 2015. It was a very successful and momentous event for all of us because most of the clubs were present starting from Western Mindanao, Panay and Negros Occidental. I hope it will start our new fellowship and friendship as we all live the mantra of being gifts to the world through service above self ,” said Ardiente.





THE ROTARY COMMUNITY CORPS

by PP Jerry Olson
Chairman, Rotary Community Corps
RI District 3850

When the only Filipino Rotary International President M.A.T. Caparas initiated the Rotary Community Corps (RCC) way back in 1986, I'll bet he didn't envision the effect RCC would have on the world as it does today. He was a visionary and one that the Philippines can be VERY PROUD OF. His brilliant vision for the RCC was a means of improving the quality of life in villages, neighborhoods and communities all over the world. There are now around 7,000 RCC throughout the world, found in 73 countries.

The RCC are not made up of Rotarians. The prime movers are those people living in their communities-- farmers, tricycle drivers, even retired persons living in the neighborhood, but they hold one thing in common, they each have a desire for a better community to live in. As Rotarians, we are only here to help you form an RCC and teach them how to make it successful and how to help the communities you live in. You want your RCC to be one that will last a lifetime. Certainly, there are ways that each of communities can prosper from having a RCC.

Let me give you an example of a successful RCC.

In 2011, there was a suggestion by one of the members of the Rotary Club of Metro Roxas to look for a way we could help in bringing water into an impoverished island barangay of Ameligan located in Pontevedra, Capiz. So we brainstormed ways on how to do so. Our Club then applied for a Matching Grant, now called a Global Grant. We did our homework on how to make the project a sustainable endeavor and one that would be managed by the residents of Ameligan Island. We asked the local residents if they were interested in forming an RCC in their Barangay; they were excited to be able to do so. As a Club, we

went to Ameligan with professional trainers to teach the residents how to manage their RCC and hopefully the Water Project that we had applied for. In less than one month, we found an international partner for this project-- the Rotary Club of Pomona California. Just a few months later, we had approval for the funding of the water project. Thanks to the partnership



The river crossing to Ameligan being accomplished. This was a major undertaking of the International Matching Grant #74533. A partnership between The Rotary Foundation, Rotary Club of Metro Roxas District 3850 and Rotary Club of Pomona California District 5300 and Genesis Ameligan RCC.

went to Ameligan with professional trainers to teach the residents how to manage their RCC and hopefully the Water Project that we had applied for. In less than one month, we found an international partner for this project-- the Rotary Club of Pomona California. Just a few months later, we had approval for the funding of the water project. Thanks to the partnership

of the Rotary International, RI District 3850, RI District 5300, the Rotary Club of Pomona, the Rotary Club of Metro Roxas and Genesis Ameligan RCC.

Now the fun began. In Jan 2012, we started the project in Ameligan. The RCC provided the much needed labor for for the project and they formed the anchors needed for the very difficult water crossing to the island. One of our Club members designed the anchors. By March 25, 2012, we had laid over 5 kilometers of piping, built 5 water stations and made a very difficult water crossing structure to the island. We had the dedication in accomplishing the project. In due time, the water system was then turned over to the Genesis Ameligan RCC supported by a Memorandum of Agreement on how the system would be handled by the RCC.

Since its turn-over to the Genesis Ameligan

order to generate income, the RCC has been selling the water generated at the stations for P5-peso a can and maintains a saving account. The income derived is then used to maintain the system and make improvements in the lives of the residents of the island barangay. When Typhoon Yolanda unfurled its wrath on the little



Genesis Ameligan RCC Members having lunch after a break from the construction of the river crossing.



Children of island barangay of Ameligan watching the river crossing as it was being constructed.

RCC, the community has been very successful in maintaining and administering the water system of Ameligan. At present, the project has grown into 6 water stations across the island servicing over 50 homes. This project alone changed and impacted the lives of over 1600 residents living on the island. No longer they the residents had to rely on rainwater or bring water into the island barangay via boats. In

island, they were able to rebuild the damaged parts of the water system and built it back bigger and better.

So if you are a concerned citizen, no matter what your income status is, and you want to make a difference in your community, contact your local Rotary Club. Do not hesitate to ask them if they could help you to start a Rotary Community Corp in your area. It is easy to start. Your community deserves to have a better standard of living. If you want more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at our Club's email address: metroroxascentral@gmail.com. As Rotarians, were here in the "Service Above Self" and we want a better place for everyone to live in. We are not just TALKING, we are "WALKING THE TALK".





RC BACOLOD

The Rotary Club of Bacolod held a groundbreaking ceremony to pave way for a construction of a two-classroom edifice at the San Juan Extension Campus of Crossing Magallon Elementary School in Bacolod City. The project is in partnership with the Province of Negros Occidental under Governor Alfredo Marañon Jr.

Club President Bill de la Fuente led the groundbreaking ceremony together with other members of the Club. *(Photos courtesy of RC Bacolod)*

ROTARY CLUB OF BACOLOD EAST, SERVANDO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT HAZING

The Rotary Club of Bacolod East and Aurelio “Taboy” Servando, father of Guillo Cesar who died in hazing 15 months ago have taken steps to help prevent the spread of hazing in the community.

RCBE President Dr. Benjamin Souribio with immediate past President Councilor Sonya Verdeflor, Public Image chairperson Balma Nandwani and her vice chairperson Elsie Jolingon with Mr. Servando conducted a forum at the Bacolod City High School last Friday relative to the ills of hazing and how the young ones can prevent from falling prey to it.

Servando who experienced losing his 18 year old son spoke from his heart about the death of his Guillo Cesar done by Tau **Gamma** fraternity.

He told Grades VI, VII, VIII and IX that hazing is not the way to attain genuine brotherhood.

Fraternities engaged in hazing and so far 34 deaths have been recorded. The recruits were being forced to bad things against their will.

His son was hit for about 120 times and one could imagine the pain that he went through.

“I still suffer the loss of my son of which I don’t want other parents to experience. There is no greater tragedy than the loss of a child. It’s normal if parents would go ahead than their children. The kind of pain that parents could have when they lose their child is very painful,” he said.

His pains were assuaged when he knew that his son joined fraternity because he wanted to work to end hazing. Not just to gain friends. He risked his life by joining the fraternity. My son has a deeper mission to effect a long lasting change in our society. No greater love like this that he did in order to save his friends.

His death and others who also succumbed to hazing is more than enough for the young people to realize and be firm in going against hazing.

“We have no other purpose here but to let you know about this problem on hazing. It become so common now where **36** people died in hazing. But there are more who died unreported. This problem has grown by leaps and bounds. In fact 2 others died, **15** months after my son died.

True Brown Style (TBS) fraternity had their initiation for only 30 seconds for one to become a member wherein people will hit you badly. If your **vital** organs are badly hit, one could immediately succumbed to it.

He also warned the students about Clans which is a new fraternity.

“I want you to avoid fraternities as there is no substitute for family. There is a law R.A. 8549 or the anti Hazing Law which will punish those who engage in hazing. Even if one is just an observer in the hazing, he or she can be liable to crime. Many good things will happen to you if you are out of jail. A mere observer will be considered as principal suspect. And this is non bailable,” he said.

Fraternity is very inconsistent to brotherhood.

Friendship is develop through the years of sharing happy and even sad moments, thus fraternities that engage in hazing should be avoided.

The RCBE had been advocating against hazing to protect every human being from enjoying life in a genuine friendship and brotherhood.

How can they will call each other brothers when they hit each other?

Everything also starts in bullying and this is a reality in every school or community.

But with an organization like RCBE and others which are aggressive in campaigning against hazing and bullying, this can help others find a means to prevent or even report any case that they might encounter. *(Carla N. Canet)*

RC CENTRAL ILOILO CITY

In partnership with the Municipality of Carles, Iloilo, the Rotary Club of Cental Iloilo City initiated a one-week livelihood training. The training ran from August 28 to September 2 in the Barangays of Lantangan and Gabi. A total of 100 beneficiaries received intensive training on commercial cooking (food vending) and bread-making. The training will serve as vehicle for the beneficiaries to start their own bakery cooperative. The trainees were given individual utensils during the training. On the other hand, necessities for their bakery cooperative such as set of industrial oven, dough kneading machine, bread racks were also given to the trainees.

The training was made possible in partnership with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) Sustainable Livelihood Program, and its private partner KRYZ Culinary Arts & Restaurant Service Institute. *(Photos by Alexander Ong)*



RC ILOILO SOUTH

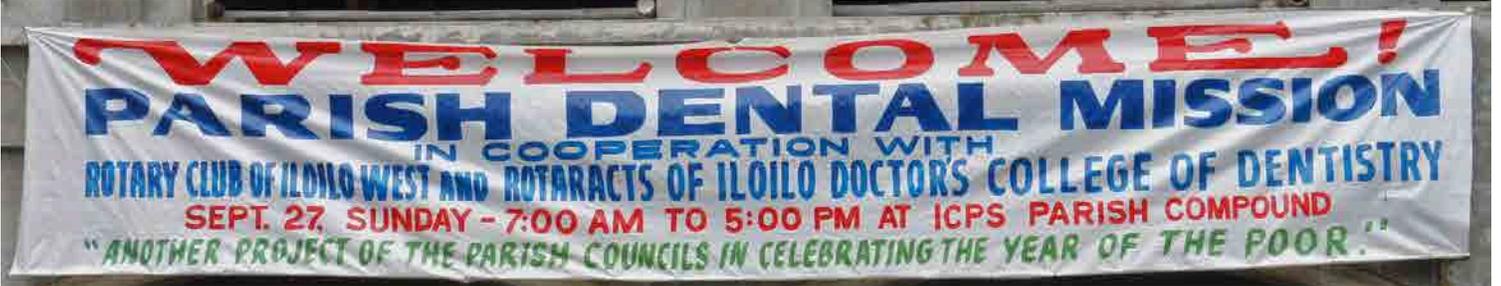
The Rotary Club of Iloilo South (RCIS) turned over cabinets, lockers, coloring books, and dental hygiene kits to students of Brgy. Sua Primary School in the Municipality of San Dionisio, Iloilo. The turnover was spearheaded by Club President Gerry Flores. District Governor Oliver Ong was present during the turnover.

Assisting the RCIS were members of the Rotaract Club of Iloilo South. The Rotaractors demonstrated before the pupils of Sua Primary School the proper way of handwashing and correct manner of toothbrushing. *(Photos by Aldene Jose Lapating Duyag).*



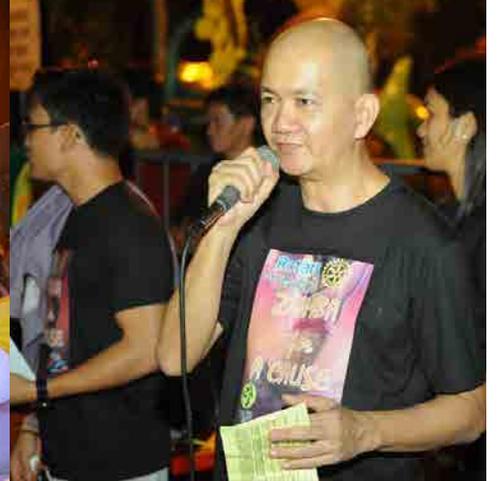
RC ILOILO WEST

A Dental Mission was held last September 27 in Oton, Iloilo. District Gov. Oliver Ong personally witnessed the outreach. The dental mission was a joint project of the Rotary Club of Iloilo West, the Rotaract Club of Iloilo Doctor's College of Dentistry, and the Parish of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. *(Photos by Butz Peñalosa)*



RC JARO ILOILO

A fundraising project sponsored by the Rotary Club of Jaro Iloilo was held at Plazuela de Iloilo last September 23. District Gov. Oliver Ong graced the event and joined the mob dance. It was dubbed as "Zumba for a Cause." The event will finance projects aimed at the hearing-impaired children of Special Education-Integrated School for Exceptional Children (SPED-ISEC). *(Photos courtesy of RC Jaro Iloilo)*



The "Voice of Our Youth" Competition was held last September 15. Ms. Dorothy Marie Gemillan of Iloilo National High School emerged as the winner with her moving written piece.

(Editor's Note: We are reprinting in its original form the handwritten piece).

019 Dorothy Marie P. Gemillan
Iloilo National High School

What does one think of when the word "youth" is mentioned? Is it the trouble we cause when we do something for fun? Is it the joyful activities we plan to do but never get the chance to because our parents would ^{always} say no? Is it the chapter of our lives where we feel that everything is rushed and slowed down at the same time? Youth. What are we to the world?

It's not a secret that a lot of young people ^{had} ~~could~~ freely expressed their emotions nowadays in terms of many aspects. We give ~~away~~ away our thoughts & ideas in hopes that maybe someone in this world would understand. We ~~try~~ ~~to~~ desperately want to prove to ourselves that we truly are not alone, that someone out there has the same mindset as ours. It got me thinking, why do we do this? Why are we searching for another individual to let us know that we are worth something? Because we're scared of the world.

Let's face it. We are terrified of what the world has to offer - thinking that we don't have the enough capacity to accomplish it. So we build up walls with armies of people who have similar perspectives and lock ourselves in our comfort zones - thinking that we are immune to the outside ~~world~~. As a ~~teenager~~ teenager living in this era, I approved of this before, because it made me feel brave. It was an 'us-against-the-world' kind of feeling, which kept me clinging to the norms inside our circle. ~~It was then that I realized~~

Here are the facts: Sooner or later, we are bound to grow up. Call me bitter but I know there's no such thing as "forever" (or at least not in this world) but why not make the most of it while we still have the time? I figured, hiding behind people who "understand" me doesn't make me courageous. And if anything, it made me feel weak. All along, I had this thought echoing in my mind that the world will scar you, it would hurt you, and ~~scary~~ horrify you in ways you can't even imagine - and all along, it was the other way around. We did this ~~to the world~~, we made ^{the earth} look cruel, leaving young people like me scared to take a risk. Will it be always like this?

And so, here we are, back from the first question: What does one think of when the word "youth" is mentioned? Our answer - a gift. If we can do something, it can be undone right? So here I am, calling all my brothers & sisters scattered everywhere. We are young. We have so much to contribute, and we are the hope to replenish the earth. The world loves us, it's time to love it back.

RC METRO KALIBO

Students of Janlud Primary School in the Municipality of Libacao, Aklan were recipients of books and other reading materials under the program Books Across The Seas (BATS). The project was a joint effort together with the Rotary Clubs of Roxas and Makati.

The books were donated by BSTRM IV Class-Batch 2015-2016 of STI College.

The 12TH IB of the Philippine Army based in Camp Libas, Banga, Aklan assisted in the distribution of the books. *(Photos by Megs Lunn)*





RC ZAMBOANGA CITY NORTH

Children of San Jose Gusu Elementary School in San Jose, Zamboanga City were treated to a hot soup, cupcakes and juice drinks. The Feeding Program is a weekly activity of RC Zamboanga City North. *(Photos by Michael Chiong)*



GARDEN ORCHID HOTEL

Gov. Camins Ave., Zamboanga City

PLDT Lines: 062 9910031 to 34
Fax: 062 9910035

www.gardenorchidhotel.com
Email: reservation.gardenorchidhotel@gmail.com

Contact Person: Ms. Angelica Cabilao

ROOM RATES:

Old Wing (Limited Rooms Available)

Standard Php 3500.00

Superior 4000.00

New Wing

Double Deluxe 5500.00

Deluxe King 6000.00

Suite 10000.00

Special Rotarian Discount of 30% on All Room Types
Banco de Oro Card Holders will have a 35% Discount on

Rooms located at the New Wing

*Old Wing has Limited Availability of Rooms

*Inclusive of Breakfast Buffet

Amenities:

- Free Wi-fi. 32" Led Cable TV • Hot & Cold Shower •
- Telephone Services • Airport Transfers •

Description:

- Located Near Zamboanga International Airport and DISCON 2016 Venue •

Functionable Rooms: 205 Rooms

discon

2016

MARCH 3 - 5, 2016
GARDEN ORCHID
CONVENTION CENTER
ZAMBOANGA CITY

PARTNER HOTELS

LANTAKA HOTEL

N.S. Valderosa Street, Zamboanga City

PLDT Line: 062 9912033
Fax: 062 9910035

Email: lantaka.hotel@yahoo.com

Contact Person: Ms. Love Joy Cabato

ROOM RATES:

20 Rooms Allocated on Seaside Wing Php 1690.00

10 Rooms Allocated on Roadside Wing 4000.00

*Above Published Rates are Discounted

*Breakfast Not Included

Amenity:

- Free Airport Transfer •

Descriptions:

- It is near the Shrine of Nuestra Señora dela Virgen del Pilar •
- 100 meters away from Paseo Del Mar • Schedule of going to Sta. Cruz Island can be easily arranged •

DISCON 2016 Room Allocation: 30 Rooms

EVER O BUSINESS HOTEL

La Purisima Street, Zamboanga City

PLDT Lines: 062 9558106 / 062 9558126
Mobile Line: 63 9169834472

Facebook: Ever O Hotel
Email: eobh.reservations@gmail.com

Contact Person: Ms. Jid Morfe

ROOM RATES:

Deluxe Php 1988.00

Deluxe Superior 2388.00

Double Family 2988.00

Suite 3488.00

*Breakfast Not Included

Amenities:

- Free Wi-fi Access. 32" Led Cable TV • Hot & Cold Shower •
- Telephone Services •

Description:

- Located at the Heart of Zamboanga City • It is the Newest Hotel in Town • Adjacent to Mindpro Citimall • A Walking Distance from the Immaculate Conception Cathedral •

Functionable Rooms: 84 Rooms

HAMILTON BUSINESS HOTEL

Gov. Camins Avenue, Zamboanga City

PLDT Line: 062 9913202
Mobile Line: 63 9169834472

Email: Hamiltonbusinessinn@yahoo.com

Contact Person: Ms. Grace Arellano

ROOM RATES:

Singel Php 800.00

Deluxe 1200.00

Superior 1600.00

Suite 2000.00

*Breakfast Not Included

Amenities:

- Free Wi-fi Access • 32" Led Cable TV • Hot & Cold Shower •
- Telephone Services •

Description:

- Located near Zamboanga International Airport and the DISCON 2016 Venue •

Functionable Rooms: 38 Rooms

JARDIN DE LA VIÑA HOTEL

Gov. Alvarez Avenue, Zamboanga City

PLDT Line: 062 9917808

Email: javinahotel@yahoo.com

Contact Person: Ms. Maureen Anos
Mr. Kerwin Baldovino

ROOM RATES:

Supr Php 1100.00

Suite 1400.00

Extra Bed 300.00

*Extra Bed Charge is Based on the Excess of
2 pax per Room

Amenities:

- Wi-fi Access is Available at the Restaurant • Fully Air-conditioned Rooms • Hot & Cold Shower • Telephone Services •

Description:

- Located in the Downtown Area • Walking Distance from the Immaculate Conception Cathedral •

DISCON Room Allocation: 15 Rooms

For those seeking gastronomic discovery, look no further! Zamboanga's offerings are one of a kind!



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Vaya! Zamboanga!



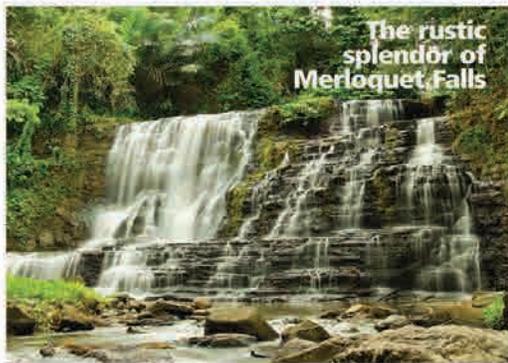
The Inspiring Metro Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception



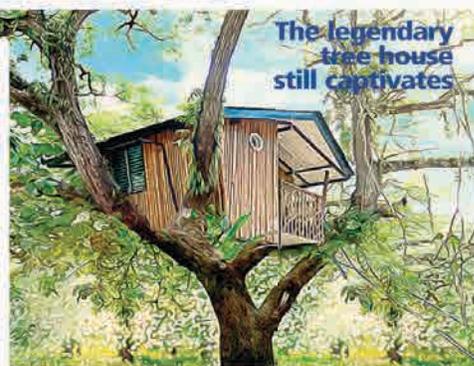
The romance of Paseo del Mar by night



The finger-licking curacha (sea crab) - not to be missed!



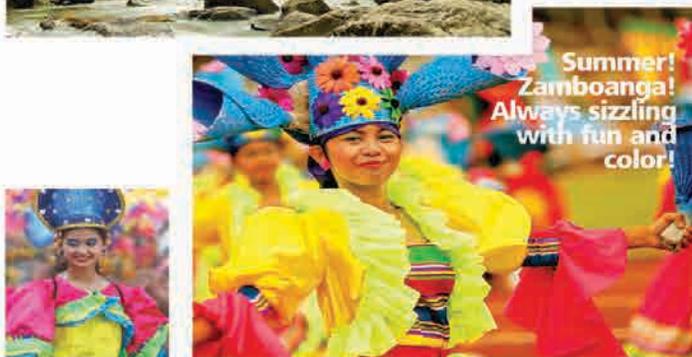
The rustic splendor of Merloquet Falls



The legendary tree house still captivates



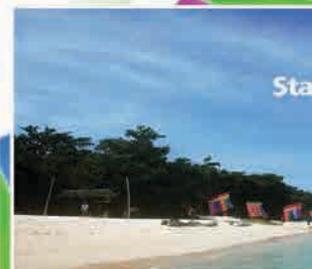
Get away to Sta. Cruz Island and some of the best shores and waters in the archipelago



Summer! Zamboanga! Always sizzling with fun and color!



Scintillating golf with cruising vintas nearby

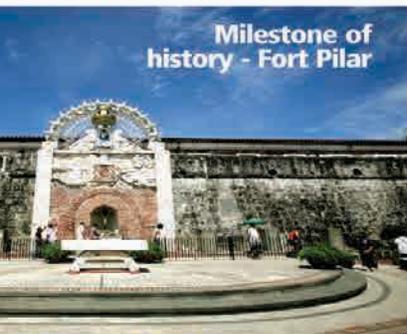


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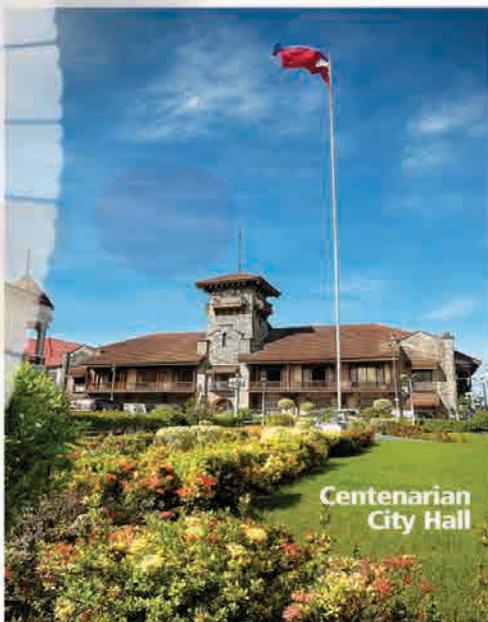
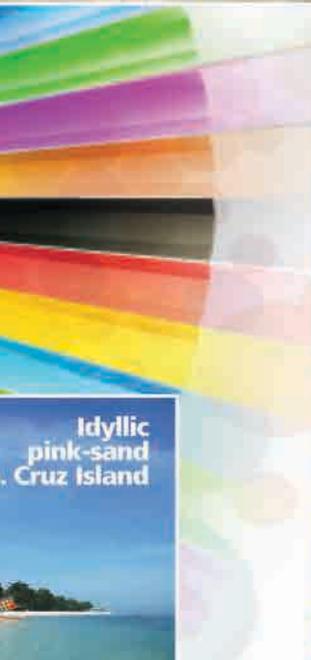
Zamboanga City was, is, and always will be an experience.

No matter time, the years, and events, the city legend and song that has captured the hearts and imaginations endures with a grace and elegance that gilds her strength and fortitude. Timeless. Indomitable.

This is Zamboanga - still that piece of the heart of Spain, still the *hermana of the Ciudad de Zamboanga en Espana*. With her people, the Zamboanguenos, and that lilting tongue of *vacano* unlike any other in the country, to see and feast the eyes, tickle the palate, savor the sun, roam the shores, and caress the night breeze in the city of many delights!



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ZAMBOANGA
ROTARY
EXPERIENCE!



DISCON 2016

March 3, 4 and 5
Garden Orchid Convention Center
Zamboanga City

PAYMENT DETAILS

Early Bird Registration

- **March 1 to October 15, 2015**
Rotarian - **Php2500**
Spouse/Rotex/Rotaract/Interact/Guest
Php2200

Pre-Registered

- **October 16 to December 31, 2015**
Rotarian - **Php2800**
Spouse/Rotex/Rotaract/Interact/Guest
Php2500

Regular

- **Jan 1 to March 5, 2016**
Rotarian - **Php3000**
Spouse/Rotex/Rotaract/Interact/Guest
Php2800

Inclusions:

- Kits for Rotarians
- 2 Buffet Dinners
- 2 Buffet Lunches

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Rotary
District 3850



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