

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 08
Saturday, 06 September 2025

CLUB ASSEMBLY
First Quarter Birthday Bash



Baguio City, Philippines
R.I. District 3790, Club No. 16863
Chartered on 21 February 1938

The Rotary Club of Baguio
meets every Saturday
at 12:30 to 2:30 pm
at the Baguio Country Club



INTERACTIVE LINKS
<https://rcbaguio.org>
<https://canao.rcbaguio.org>
Email: canao@rcbaguio.org



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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

Symbolizing unity, joy, and gratitude, “Cañao” (pronounced kan-yau) is a traditional dance from the Cordilleras in Northern Luzon of the Philippines, celebrated during feasts and gatherings.

Our new emblem shows a male and female in ritual dance within a native gong—honoring abundance, much like how we celebrate service and fellowship in Rotary. Truly, “A Celebration of Service.”



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

UNITING THROUGH PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION

This coming meeting of the Rotary Club of Baguio will coincide with an important District activity—the **Public Image Seminar**, to be held on 06 September 2025 at the La Union Convention Center, San Fernando, La Union. Allow me to pause and reflect with you on two important questions:

- What is the **public image of Rotary** as you see it from the inside? Is it something exciting, inspiring, or amazing—the way you see yourself as a Rotarian?
- What is your **self-image** as a member of RCB? Do you carry with pride that we belong to one of the finest Rotary clubs in the Philippines?

If our answers reflect positivity, dignity, and pride, then there is great hope. Hope that we can rekindle the camaraderie that once defined our fellowship, and hope that we can rediscover how important each kapwa Rotarian truly is.

At our last meeting, we had only about 17 to 18 members present, plus one guest, Mr. Valentino, who graciously sang for us. But I ask: What message are we sending with this kind of attendance? Attendance, dues, and participation are not mere obligations—they are expressions of our commitment to Rotary's ideals. As PP Raffy, our dedicated Editor-in-Chief, recently reminded us in our Cañao Club Bulletin: ***"Showing up speaks volumes."*** Dear Rotarians, let us please show up.

For my part, I report 100% attendance at all District functions so far, and I have already joined two out of at least twelve Board meetings. I do this not to boast but to set an example. I sincerely implore you—please be

present at our Saturday meetings. Your presence and participation truly matter.

This coming Saturday will be a more relaxed and informal gathering. If you prefer fellowship with less protocol but more warmth and fun, this is the perfect opportunity to attend. Let us laugh, share stories, and strengthen the friendships that keep our club vibrant.

My heartfelt thanks go to those who have registered for the Public Image Seminar—Director Ed, Director Vell, and our advisers PP Alfred and PP Chris. Your commitment is deeply appreciated.

We also have an exciting service project ahead: the **Rainwater Harvesting Tank Installation** in Happy Hollow Barangay, spearheaded by PP Chris and Director Ben Grajo. I invite everyone to take part—even if only as a water boy or water girl, or simply to lend your presence in fellowship through service.

September is also **Basic Education and Literacy Month**. Our Club Administration and Speakers Bureau are preparing a lineup of inspiring and enlightening speakers who will surely enrich our knowledge and renew our enthusiasm.

Remember, sometimes the greatest reflection of love is your **presence**. What are two hours each week compared to the gift that Rotary has already given you? Let us not allow disunity to weaken us. Instead, let us unite, for in our unity lies our strength.

See you all on Saturday, my dear fellow Rotarians!



PRES. JOE URSUA

RCB President
RY 2025-2026



M MEMBERS' ROSTER

ROTARY CLUB OF BAGUIO
CURRENT ACTIVE MEMBERS
President and Past President List - to follow



Dir. Mariver Agayas



Rtn. Nancy Alabanza



Rtn. Mods Bahul



PE Reymund Barrios



Rtn. Kat Bosantog



Rtn. Vangie Cacho



Dir. Lorena Cachola



Dir. Emylou de Guzman



Rtn. Ericson de Guzman



Rtn. Dwight Dulnoan



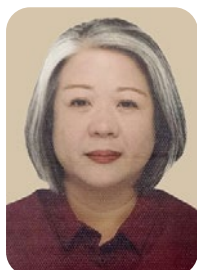
Rtn. Gleniel Flores



Dir. Benedicto Grajo



Rtn. Jeffrey Isip



Rtn. Ailyn Kindipan



Rtn. Lily Landayan



Rtn. Cornelio Naguit Jr.



Rtn. Levy Lloyed Orcalez



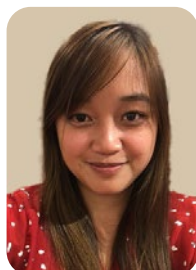
Rtn. Krashemae Padilla



Dir. Eduardo Ramos



Rtn. Ruth Rillera



Rtn. Arlene Joy Sumalag



Dir. Glaizazette Tan



Rtn. Ronald Carlton Tan



Dir. Emmanuel Velasquez



Rtn. Anecita Viernes



Rtn. Harly Wasing



Rtn. Peter Wasing



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

04 – Rtn Eric de Guzman
17 – PP Jun Bondoc
18 – Rtn Nancy Alabanza
26 – Rtn. Bong Nuguit Jr.
27 – PP/EIC Raffy Chan

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY IN RCB:

10 – Rtn Levy Orcales (3 years)
21 – Dir. Glaiza Tan (1 year)
21 – Rtn. Kacey Padilla (1 year)
21 – Dir. Benedict Grajo (1 year)
24 – Rtn Ailyn Kindipan (3 years)
24 – Rtn. Eric de Guzman (3 years)

RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2025:

Throughout August, President Joe Ursua led a four-part weekly series titled *“Rotary Revealed: Inspiring Service Through Conversation.”* Broadcast via: Z RADIO DWUB 98.7 FM radio, each one-hour session invited community members, professionals, and students to explore the heart of Rotary, its mission, values, and pathways to membership. The initiative aimed to demystify Rotary’s global impact and foster a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Rotarian.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2025:

06 – Public Image Seminar that will be held in San Fernando La Union.

30 AUGUST 2025 ATTENDANCE

We missed you last meeting: Rtn. Nancy, Rtn. Modz, PP Jun, Rtn. Kat, PP Arnel, Rtn. Vangie, Rtn. Eric, PP Lani, Rtn Glen, Rtn. Jeff, Rtn. Kacey, Rtn. Jojo, PP Atom, Rtn. Arlene

EXCUSED: Rtn Ike, PP Cy, PP Ben, PP Chris P, PP Benny, PDG Linda

MAKE-UP: Dir. Vell, Dir. Reymund, Dir. Lorena, PP Anet, Dir. Lou, Dir. Benedict, PP Ali, Dir. Eduard, Dir. Glaiza, Dir. Noel, IPP Susan, Rtn. Harley.

ON-LEAVE: Rtn. Ailyn, Rtn. Ruth, PP Baby

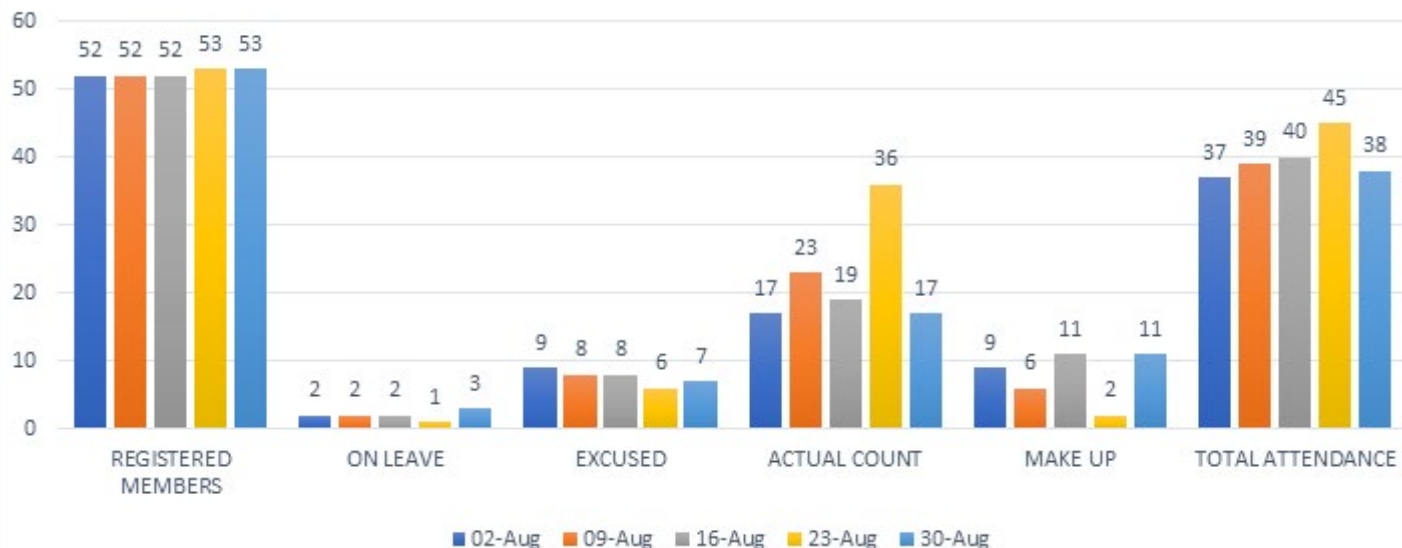
GUEST: Mr. Raymark Valentino (guest of Rtn. Kayce)



PP CORA OCAMPO

RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026

AUGUST ATTENDANCE



SEPTEMBER: THE BEST MONTH TO BE BORN

In the Rotary Club of Baguio, every month offers us a reason to **celebrate the gift of fellowship and service**. Yet September holds a unique distinction—it is often claimed to be the best month to be born. As we turn our gaze toward this special quarter of the year, we recognize both the joy of our members marking their birthdays and the meaningful symbolism this month carries.

September, the ninth month of the year, is a time of transition. It bridges the lingering rains of our monsoon season with the refreshing cool breeze of the months to come, much like how life's milestones guide us from one chapter to another. In our Philippine setting, **September also signals the beginning of the “Ber” months, when the anticipation of Christmas is already in the air**. For those who celebrate their birthdays now, the spirit of festivity comes not only from their personal milestones but also from the collective joy of an entire nation preparing for its longest and happiest season.

Science has a few affirmations to offer as well. **Studies suggest that September-born individuals often enjoy certain advantages in health**, owing to seasonal factors such as stronger exposure to sunlight during pregnancy and infancy. While the timing of the school year in the Philippines does not align with September as it does in other countries, these celebrants are still often noted for their vitality, resilience, and adaptability. Beyond the numbers and statistics, there is something more profound—those born in this month seem to embody the balance that September itself represents. They are practical and grounded, yet joyful and forward-looking. Like September, they bring harmony to their surroundings,

and they quietly inspire others through their steadiness and reliability.

As Rotarians, we see these traits reflected in the lives of our September celebrants. Their presence strengthens our club's legacy of service. Their birthdays remind us not only of their personal journeys but also of the bonds of fellowship that unite us. Just as Rotary thrives through the combined strengths of its members, **September-born Rotarians enrich our community with their unique gifts and perspectives**. They remind us that the celebration of life is not an isolated event but a continuing opportunity to affirm the values of service above self, which define who we are as an organization.

It is also worth noting that many **inspiring figures throughout history were born in this month**—leaders, visionaries, and humanitarians whose lives continue to touch the world. In the same spirit, our own celebrants remind us that every life, when lived in service above self, becomes a beacon of light to others.

And so, as we honor our September birthday celebrants, let us do so with gratitude, joy, and affection. Their lives add color to our fellowship, and their dedication strengthens the very fabric of RCBaguio. May their days be filled with renewed blessings, their years ahead be rich in health and happiness, and their continued journey with Rotary bring greater opportunities to serve humanity.

Indeed, September may well be the best month to be born.



OUR SEPTEMBER-BORN MEMBERS



Rtn. Eric de Guzman
September 04



PP Jun Bondoc
September 17



Rtn. Nancy Alabanza
September 18



Rtn. Bong Naguit
September 26



PP Raffy Chan
September 27



IN RETROSPECT

THE MEETING THAT WAS: 30 AUGUST 2025

The Rotary Club of Baguio (RCB) held its regular club meeting on 30 August 2025 with **PP Veeh Balajo** as the Program Coordinator, at 12:30pm, called to order by Club **President Joe Ursua**. The session opened with an invocation led by **Rotarian (Rtn.) Annie Viernes**, followed by the introduction of visiting Rotarians and guests by **Past President (PP) Marilyn Baredo**.

At the head table, together with **Pres. Joe**, were **PPs Veeh, Chris Faelnar, Raffy Chan, and Bert Talco**. Also welcomed were **Mr. Raymark Valentino of the Department of Education**, guest of Rtn. Kace Padilla, and an events singer, who serenaded the group with “The Way You Look Tonight” and “Fly Me to the Moon”, and **Pres. Raio Bautista** of the Rotary Club of Summer Capital.

The meeting then moved to the **Finest Moment** led by **Rtn. Peter Wasing**, also the Imager, who creatively fined members: P100 who attended the recent Induction Program and P200 for those who did not. The meeting was further enlivened by the **raffle** handled by **Rtn. Levi Orcales**, assisted by **Rtn. Lily Landayan**, which generated P2400 in sales. Multiple winners included Rtns. Bong and Peter; and **PPs Gigi Maranan, Bert, Marilyn, Raffy, Chris F and Alfred Laygo**.

During **Members’ Time**, **PP Marilyn** presented the **Financial Report of the Induction Program**, citing an income of P236,850 against expenses of P244,890, resulting in a modest overspending of P8,040. New Rtn. Bong Naguit highlighted his good impressions of RCB’s service and camaraderie.

PP Mia Cawed informed the members that the **RCB Constitution** and **By-Laws** had been circulated to all members by Sec. Cora de Guzman via email and urged the members to read the same and identify the articles that

they believe need to be amended to be discussed during the 25 October 2025 Constitutional Assembly. **PP Raffy Chan** relayed that **Pres. Eric** of **RC Pasay** appreciated so much RCB’s tradition of singing the Rotary Hymn in a circle while holding hands – a practice now adopted by his own club. **PP Cora**, meanwhile, expressed gratitude to **PP Raffy** for completing the photo list of all past presidents of RCB which was followed by the playing of the RCB History video.

In **President’s Time**, **Pres. Joe** extended appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of the Induction Program and announced the upcoming **Public Image Seminar** in San Fernando, La Union on 06 September 2025.

The highlight of the meeting was the **interactive lecture by PP Chris Faelnar on Membership Engagement**, introduced by **PP Raffy**. **PP Chris** tackled aspects of engagement, including fellowship, meaningful service, networking and education. He emphasized the importance of welcoming new members, providing mentorship, and creating providing professional and personal growth opportunities. He also identified challenges such as poor leadership, inadequate orientation, and lack of recognition, while advocating for innovation and inclusivity.

The lecture underscored that a fulfilling Rotary experience is built on **meeting engagement, strong leadership, personal growth, meaningful service and lasting relationships**. A thoughtful response was delivered by **PP Bert Talco**, who lauded the relevance of the discussion to RCB’s continuing commitment to member development.

After the singing of the **RCB Hymn** and “**Pilipinas Kong Mahal**”, **Pres. Joe** adjourned the meeting at 3:27 pm.



PP MIA CAWED
RCB Member since 2003







RCB HISTORY: GENESIS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BAGUIO

On **27 November 1937**, history unfolded in the cool highlands of Baguio City. In the newly inaugurated social hall of the iconic Pines Hotel, the **Rotary Club of Baguio** was conceived under the guidance of our mother club, **Rotary Club of Manila**. The Manila delegation was headed by none other than RC Manila's President, **Justice George Malcolm**, a towering figure in both law and civic leadership. It was a gathering marked by purpose, vision, and a keen sense of the great possibilities that Rotary could bring to the people of Northern Luzon.

Only three months later, on **21 February 1938**, this vision blossomed into reality. Exactly thirty-three years after the founding of Rotary, Rotary International officially approved the **Charter of the Rotary Club of Baguio**, designating it as the **4,587th club** in the worldwide movement and placing it within the **48th District of RI**. With this, Baguio earned its distinction as the **sixth Rotary Club in the Philippines**—after Manila, Davao, Cebu, Bacolod, and Iloilo—and, importantly, as the **first Rotary Club north of Manila**.

From among the **46 prominent Baguio residents** who had attended the organizational meeting, **35 leaders** were chosen as Charter Members. They represented a remarkable blend of backgrounds—**15 Filipinos, 18 Americans, and 2 Japanese**—mirroring the cosmopolitan character of Baguio itself during those years. This diversity enriched the club's spirit from its very inception, making it truly a community that bridged cultures and united people in service.

The formal presentation of the Charter took place on **18 April 1938**, again at the legendary **Crystal Room of the Pines Hotel**, whose very walls seemed to echo with elegance and history. Presiding over this milestone was **Charter President Col. Louis Van Schaick**, whose leadership steered the fledgling club with steady hands. The event was graced by distinguished members of our mother club, RC Manila, led by President **Justice George Malcolm** and Vice President **Dr. Carlos Romulo**.

More than **150 Rotarians and honored guests** traveled from Manila and beyond, a testament to the

significance of this occasion. Among them were figures whose names would later be etched prominently in Philippine history: **U.S. High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt**, future President **Elpidio Quirino**, and Secretary **Antonio de las Alas**. Their presence underscored the prestige and promise of the new club.

The roster of VIP guests was truly illustrious: **John Haussermann**, **Justice Jose P. Laurel**, **Col. Paul L. Murray**, **Budget Commissioner Serafin Jorge Bacobo**, **Dr. Jose Fabella**, **C.M. Cotterman**, and **Auditor General Jaime Hernandez**, each a leader in their own right. The gathering also welcomed fellow Rotarians from across the Philippines, including **Ramon Lopez of Iloilo**, **Jose Avila of Cebu**, and **Emilio Infante of Bacolod**.

It was more than just a ceremony; it was a celebration of service, fellowship, and the spirit of Rotary taking firm root in the mountains of Benguet. That evening in 1938, amidst the pine-scented air of Baguio, the Rotary Club of Baguio was not only born but was also destined to grow into a beacon of community service, friendship, and leadership in Northern Luzon.



Historic Pines Hotel - circa 1970
the Luneta Hill site is now the compound of SM City Baguio



Historic Charter Photo- 18 April 1938
Presentation of Charter and Installation of Officers



PUNCTUALITY IS THE POLITENESS OF KINGS

One of the proudest traditions of the Rotary Club of Baguio is **our steadfast commitment to punctuality**. Week after week, our Saturday noontime meetings begin on time, reflecting the discipline and respect that has long defined our fellowship. This practice is not just about keeping to a schedule—it is about upholding a culture of reliability, courtesy, and mutual respect that has guided our Club for generations.

This tradition sets us apart, particularly in the local Filipino setting where “Filipino Time” has become a cultural tendency. Many social gatherings often begin late, with delays tolerated as normal. But in our Club, we have chosen a higher path. **We always begin on time**—not out of rigidity, but because we recognize that time is valuable and that respect for it is respect for one another. In doing so, we send a clear message: Rotary is a space where discipline and courtesy prevail.

The famous saying, **“Punctuality is the politeness of kings,”** was attributed to King Louis XVIII of France. At his court, arriving late was considered disrespectful, while promptness was seen as the mark of refinement and courtesy. The idea was simple: **if a king, with all his power, could respect time and keep to it, then how much more should ordinary men and women?** This principle holds true for us in RCBaguio. As leaders in our professions and in our community, punctuality is our way of demonstrating both self-discipline and respect for others.

Being on time is more than convenience—it is **a statement of character**. To arrive promptly is to show reliability and courtesy; it affirms that our commitments matter and that our

word can be trusted. Just as importantly, it acknowledges that every Rotarian’s time is precious. When we start our meetings as scheduled, we say: **“I value your presence, and I will not waste a moment of it.”** In this way, punctuality becomes a visible expression of fellowship itself.

We must also remember that time is a resource unlike any other. Money can be earned again, and possessions replaced. But **once a moment is gone, it is gone forever**. That is why punctuality carries such moral weight: it honors not only our own lives but the lives of those around us. It is the simplest yet strongest way to recognize that our time together is meaningful.

Furthermore, starting promptly reflects Rotary’s culture of excellence. Ours is a Club built on service, fellowship, and high standards. By honoring time, we affirm these ideals in the simplest but most visible way. It sets the tone for all we do—our projects, our commitments, our leadership. **When we respect time, we inspire confidence, strengthen unity, and show the community that we practice the values we uphold.**

As we gather every Saturday noon, let us remember that punctuality is not a small thing. **It is a proud tradition of the Rotary Club of Baguio**, a habit that speaks volumes about our character. Let us resist the lure of “Filipino Time” and instead continue to embody the courtesy of kings: promptness, discipline, and respect.

For in the end, punctuality is not merely about keeping the clock. **It is about keeping faith—with ourselves, our fellow Rotarians, and the community we serve.**



PP RAFFY CHAN
Cañao Editor-in-Chief
RY 2025-2026

PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the Wolfson Room

Saturday, 06 SEPTEMBER 2025

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order-----	VP Lou de Guzman
	Invocation-----	Rtn. Bong Naguit
	Pambansang Awit-----	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn-----	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test-----	(Everyone)
1:20	Introduction of VR&G and Welcome Remarks-----	Rtn. Levy Orcales
	BIRTHDAY SONG & CAKE CEREMONY	
	Toast-----	PP Atom Mendalla
	Singing of "Happy Birthday"	
1:55	Messages from Celebrants	
	JULY-----	Dir. Noel, Rtn. Ike, Rtn. Levy, Rtn. Arlene, Rtn. Ailyn
	AUGUST-----	Dir. Benedict, Rtn. Mods, Rtn. Glen
	SEPTEMBER-----	Rtn. Eric, PP Jun, Rtn. Nancy, Rtn. Bong, PP Raffy
	FELLOWSHIP	
	Raffle-----	Dir. Lorena Cachola)
	Closing Remarks-----	PP Raffy Chan
2:30	RCB Hymn-----	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal-----	(Everyone)
	Adjournment-----	VP Lou de Guzman
	Program Coordinator-----	PP Anet Calabias
	Retrospect-----	PAG Gie Maranan
	Imager-----	Rtn. Peter Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Program Coordinator----- PP Chris Faelnar
 Invocation----- Rtn. Aileen Kindipan
 Introduction of VRG----- Rtn. Lily Landayan
 Entertainment----- Rtn. Harly Wasing
 Raffle----- Rtn. Nancy Alabanza
 Finest Moments----- Rtn. Tonton Tan

Introduction of GHS----- PE Reymund Barrios
 GHS----- Dr. Mary Sito
 Topic: Mental Awareness
 Club Response----- PP Diony Claridad
 Retrospect----- VP Lou de Guzman
 Imager----- Rtn. Peter Wasing

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

