

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 11
Saturday, 27 September 2025

MR. ALEJANDRO PABLICO
Guest of Honor and Speaker



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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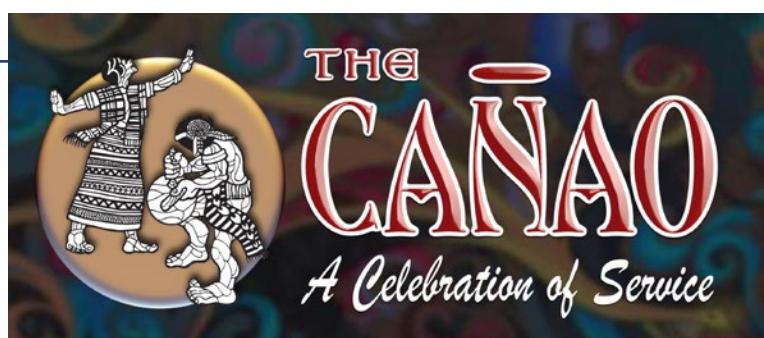
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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

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

TOGETHER IN SERVICE

As we close the month of September, let us take a moment to look back with gratitude at the meaningful activities we have shared together under the banner of Education and Literacy Month. Truly, this has been a season of learning, fellowship, and service, reminding us of how powerful we can be when united for a common cause.

One highlight was our very successful Project 1, held last September 18 at the Beneco Building. The creativity of our mother-and-child tandems shone brightly through art and painting, a celebration of expression and unity. My heartfelt thanks go to VP Lou de Guzman for leading this project, and to those who joined—PPs Libby, Chris F., and Ali; Rtn. Ailyn, and RAs Yolly and Glo. Your presence affirmed our continuing dedication to our adopted CDCs.

Our regular meeting last week was equally enriching, featuring Dr. Ronald Cabral, a devoted pediatrician, who delivered a talk on *The Roots of Learning*. His message reminded us that listening—beginning from the womb and into early childhood—is the foundation of true learning. We are also grateful to our guests from other clubs: from RC La Trinidad, Pres. Myrna and Sec. PN Cherrie, and from RC Baguio North, our daughter club, led by Sec. Virgil Garcia. Your participation strengthened the spirit of Rotary fellowship.

I also extend my appreciation to our Board members for their comprehensive reports during our September 20 meeting at BCC. These presentations reflected not only dedication but also our shared commitment to participative governance. Thank you for your diligence and teamwork in keeping our beloved Rotary Club of Baguio strong and well-guided.

This Saturday, we anticipate yet another engaging lecture, this time by Mr. Pablico, as we continue to reflect on the gift of education and its enduring role in shaping lives and communities.

We also take pride in celebrating with our sister club, the Rotary Club of Bukit Bintang, during their 2025–2026 President and Board Installation. Representing us were VP Lou de Guzman, PP Anette Calabias, and Rtn. Eric de Guzman. Our heartfelt thanks as well to the generous donors who supported the delegation. This enduring bond with our sister club in Malaysia continues to inspire and enrich our Rotary journey.

Special recognition goes to PDG Linda Winter for her steadfast commitment to our Adopt-a-Park Program at M. Roxas. Your quiet dedication ensures that our community continues to grow greener, cleaner, and more beautiful with each passing year.

Finally, we look forward to another meaningful activity this Sunday, September 28, as we “touch the earth” together by planting bamboo at our adopted View Deck Park along Camp 7 in Kennon Road. Assembly is at 8:00 am—please bring your tools, your energy, and your enthusiasm. Special thanks to Dir. PE Reymund and PP Arnel for organizing this environmental project that will leave a lasting mark on our city.

Dear friends, may we never tire of reading *The Cañao* and staying connected through our group chat. Let us continue to Unite For Good, carrying the flame of Service Above Self into the months ahead with joy, purpose, and pride.

Ciao, and see you all in fellowship and service!



PRES. JOE URСUA

RCB President
RY 2025-2026

THE RCB LOGO

The newly created RCB logo was formally introduced in the 02 July 2005 issue of **The Cañao:XLIX-01** (Number 5801), as then President Mike Pearson assumed the presidency for RY 2005-2006. The design was the brainchild of Rtn. Raffy Chan, the Cañao EIC during that year.

Logo Explanation: Our oversimplified club logo (in red) is a **composite of the letters r, c, and B joined into a continuous ring**. This symbolizes our members' willingness to join hands in community service. The **overall heart-like shape, known as a cardioid**, conveys that our members serve with compassion and from the heart. The **four quadrants within the emblem** represent Rotary's Four-Way Test and our shared commitment to uphold its guiding principles.

Relative to this design, three aspects deserve further explanation:

First, why two lowercase letters (*r* and *c*) alongside an uppercase *B*? The choice was intentional. It is the only way the initials of our club could be artistically linked into a seamless ring. Beyond aesthetics, the *B*—standing for “Baguio”—is the most important letter in our initials, and it is fittingly emphasized as the central element of our emblem.

Second, the combination of *r*, *c*, and *B* naturally forms four quadrants. This echoes the Rotary Four-Way Test and visually strengthens our members' pledge to live by it. One may even see a resemblance to the Cartesian coordinate system, which divides a plane into four parts from a single origin—much like our logo radiates meaning from its center. More: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartesian_coordinate_system.

Third, the overall cardioid or heart shape reminds us that Rotary service is always anchored in sincerity and love. While mathematicians may recognize its geometric origins, for us in RCB it is a simple but powerful symbol: we serve with heart. More: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardioid>.

As the years passed, the logo evolved. Our **charter year of 1938 was later positioned as the mid-focal point**, anchoring our legacy within the design. In RY 2007-2008, during the presidency of PP Raffy Chan, a **3-D bevel was added, symbolizing depth, renewal, and forward momentum**. Through this gradual refinement, the logo we know today reached its full transformation—a product of thoughtful design and meaningful evolution.

Looking back, our emblem is more than just a graphic. It is a visual representation of our history, our identity, and our values as Rotarians of Baguio. **Every line and curve speaks of fellowship, integrity, and heartfelt service**. It reminds us that we belong to a community bound not only by tradition but also by purpose.

Whenever we see the RCB logo displayed—whether on our banner, bulletin, or lapel—we are reminded of **who we are, the ideals we stand for, and the enduring bond we share**. Truly, it is not only a logo, but a living symbol of our continuing Rotary journey.



Early 2005 version



Updated 2007 version



SECRETARY'S UPDATE

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:

Bukit Bintang Anniversary in Malaysia
PARTICIPANTS: VP Lou, Rtn, Eric and PP Anet

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST 2025:

28 SEPTEMBER – Pole BAMBOO Planting, 07:30 am, View Deck, Kennon Road

05 OCTOBER – Unity in Service: Medical Mission, 10:00 am – 03:00 pm, Abanao Square Roof Deck

18 OCTOBER – GARAGE SALE and TRADE FAIR (fund raising activity), 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Barangay M.Roxas Covered Court

20 SEPTEMBER 2025 ATTENDANCE

We missed you last meeting: Rtn. Modz, PP Jun, Rtn. Vangie, , PP Lani, Rtn. Glen, Rtn. Jeff, Rtn. Bong, Rtn. Kacey, Dir. Eduard, Rtn. Jojo, Rtn. Arlene, Rtn. Ton, IPP Susan, Rtn.Peter, Rtn. Harly

EXCUSED: PP Raffy, PP Diony, Rtn. Ike, PP Chris F, PP Cy Fagar, Rtn. Lily, PAG/PP Gigi, PP Chris P, PP Ben, PP Benny, PP Alfred, PDG Linda

MAKE-UP: Rtn. Eric, PP Anet, VP Lou

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

GUEST: GHS Dr. Ronald Cabral, Rotary Spouse Jonathan Bosantog and RotaKids: Francis Ursua, Elise Bosantog Visiting Rotarians: RCLT: Pres. Myrna Kaiper, Sec. Cherrie Zarate, RCBN: PP Virgil Garcia, Rtn. Jonathan Mariano, Rtn. Nic Satur Jr.



PP CORA OCAMPO
RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026



GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER

MR. ALEJANDRO P. PABLICO

Our speaker, a proud son of Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, has dedicated more than three decades of his life to the field of education.

He completed his Bachelor of Elementary Education at the University of Northern Philippines and began his teaching journey in 1992 as an emergency substitute teacher at the Saint Louis University Laboratory Elementary School. From there, he steadily rose through the ranks—serving as a classroom teacher, grade-level adviser, and learning area coordinator across various subjects.

His pursuit of excellence led him to earn a Master's Degree in Educational Management (magna cum laude) from SLU, which paved the way for his appointment as Assistant Principal for a decade. In 2016, he became the Principal of SLU LES, a post he held until 2022. Following the pandemic, he was entrusted with a broader leadership role as Principal of the SLU Basic Education School, overseeing its Elementary, Junior High, and Senior High departments.

Alongside his administrative duties, he shares his expertise as a professor of Professional Education subjects at the SLU School of Advanced Studies, while simultaneously pursuing his Doctorate in Educational Management. He also serves as President of the Baguio City Association of Private School Administrators (BCAPSA) and is widely sought after as a speaker on curriculum, management, parenting, and school leadership across Baguio, Benguet, and beyond.

Since 2006, he has been an accreditor for the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities (PAASCU), evaluating numerous schools nationwide. His leadership and credibility earned him a seat in the PAASCU Commission on Elementary Education.

His international exposure includes study tours and benchmarking in Los Angeles, Virginia, and Taiwan, as well as training on Professional Learning Communities in Seattle and Florida, USA.

Under his stewardship, the SLU Laboratory Elementary School was recognized as the Best Performing Private Elementary School in Baguio and CAR, a testament to his commitment to quality education and effective school management. More recently, he successfully led the SLU Basic Education School in its pursuit of quality assurance, achieving Level III PAASCU accreditation for the Elementary Department and Level II for the Junior High School Department.

Truly, his life and work embody the mission of Saint Louis University—to nurture competent, creative, and compassionate leaders of society.



MR. ALEJANDRO P. PABLICO
Principal: Basic Education School
Saint Louis University

R IN RETROSPECT

HEARTWARMING GATHERING: 20 SEPTEMBER 2025

The meeting commenced promptly at 12:30 p.m., with Program Coordinator PP Arnel warmly welcoming everyone present. Director Glaiza Tan then led the heartfelt invocation, after which President Joe Ursua officially called the meeting to order. The National Anthem and Rotary Hymn were sung with spirit, members holding hands in unity. This was followed by the singing of the Four-Way Test, grounding the day's fellowship in our shared values.

PP Atom Mendalla then took the floor to introduce our distinguished guests, beginning with those at the head table and extending to fellow Rotarians and friends who joined us. His words of recognition set a gracious and cordial tone for the rest of the afternoon.

A delightful interlude of entertainment followed. Director Noel charmed everyone with a heartfelt rendition of *Kumusta Ka*. Soon, PP Atom and PE Reymund joined in, and before long, the entire audience was singing along. Laughter and music filled the room, capturing the spirit of Rotary fellowship. Not yet finished, Dir. Noel returned with another moving number, *I'll Never Ever Say Goodbye*, which earned him enthusiastic applause.

The raffle came next, led by Dir. Vell and assisted by Rtn. Annie from SNR. It proved once again to be a highlight of the program, drawing cheerful anticipation from all.

During the ever-anticipated "Finest Moment," Dir. Noel humorously fined himself ₱100 for what he called an "excellent" Board meeting and extended the fine to all Board members present. He also recounted a heartwarming Rotary event held the previous Thursday, where CDC children and their parents joyfully joined in a collaborative painting activity under Project 1 spearheaded by VP Lou. To mark their participation, attendees were fined ₱100 each, while Pres. Joe—was playfully levied a ₱200 fine.

In Members' Time, PP Marilyn presented the financial report for August, while PP Cora delivered the Secretary's report on attendance. PE Reymund announced a tree-planting activity scheduled for September 28, inviting members to bring their garden tools and lend a hand. Dir. Lorena highlighted upcoming livelihood training on soap-making and basic electrical skills, to be held in Happy Hollow or Irisan.

PP Mia inquired about the forthcoming garage sale, noting that unsold items would be stored at PE Reymund's residence. PP Arnel provided updates on the scholarship program, stressing the importance of refining the screening process. The fund now stands at ₱528,086.40, supporting one active scholar, while many former beneficiaries have already graduated—proof of the program's lasting impact.

During President's Time, Pres. Joe expressed heartfelt gratitude to members for their active participation in recent service projects. A warm greeting was also extended to Rtn. Nancy in celebration of her birthday.

PP Alfred then introduced our Guest of Honor and Speaker, Dr. Ronald Cabral, who gave an insightful talk on the *Roots of Learning*. His engaging message drew keen interest and was followed by an interactive Open Forum. PP Libby, delivering the Club Response, eloquently conveyed our appreciation to Dr. Cabral for his time and wisdom.

The afternoon concluded on a high note, as members rose to sing the RCB Hymn and *Pilipinas Kong Mahal*. With hearts full and spirits uplifted, Pres. Joe adjourned the meeting, leaving everyone with renewed energy to carry on the work of Rotary.

Indeed, it was a gathering that reminded us of the joy of fellowship, the strength of service, and the enduring friendships that bind us as one Rotary family.



RTN. LEVY ORCALES
RCB Member since 2020

R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



20 SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING

Retrospect Photos By:
PE Reymund Barrios



RCB HISTORY: THIRD DECADE (1958-1968)

For our RY 1958-1959, Dr. Fernando "Ding" Bautista, founder of the University of Baguio, led with distinction. The club acquired a collection of flags from many Rotary nations, symbols of worldwide fellowship. Baguio hosted the District Conference, where the club secured the District Governorship for the second time through PP Ikong Reyes, later Governor in RY 1960-61. Members valued his calm, steady guidance.

RY 1959-1960 saw Jose "Peping" Warren Jr. as president. He led the first formal celebration of our Charter Anniversary Day, establishing a tradition that binds us. The club purchased new amplifiers and microphones, improving meetings and participation. Pres. Peping's year blended fellowship with practical progress and cheerful camaraderie.

Marcelino "Mars" Contemprate served in 1960-1961. The club donated umbrella-type streetlights on Session Road, brightening the city's main thoroughfare. We also sponsored a scholar under the American Field Service Program, encouraging international understanding. A highlight was the homecoming of Justice Malcolm, our 1938 charter presenter, who returned with his Ann for a heartfelt visit. The gesture strengthened ties across generations.

Honorio "Honor" Estepa served in 1961-1962, guiding the club with energy. His term included a Four-Way Test concrete marker at Governor Pack Road corner, a lasting symbol of Rotary principles. The District recognized him as Best Club President, bringing pride to the membership and inspiring steady service.

During RY 1962-1963, Dr. Hector "Hec" Lopez, a surgeon, took the helm. His year was marked by a significant civic project, with the club donating funds for a police substation at Naguilian Road. This strengthened safety and showed Rotary's concern for community welfare and neighborly cooperation across the city.

Neighbors appreciated the improvement and voiced warm thanks.

For 1963-1964, Dr. Carlos "Carling" Santiago Jr., another surgeon, became president. He led the donation of funds for a kitchen annex at Good Shepherd Convent, supporting the sisters in their service. He later became our club's third District Governor, bringing further honor and demonstrating readiness for greater responsibilities.

RY 1964-1965 soon followed with, Dr. Ireneo "Ges" Geslani, an anesthesiologist, offered thoughtful leadership. His term established a scholarship grant at the University of the Philippines College Baguio, investing in young scholars and demonstrating Rotary's commitment to education and opportunity for deserving students.

The year 1965-1966 was shared by Jose "Pepe" del Rosario, who began the term but was reassigned to Iligan City, and Arturo "AC" Plata, his vice-president, who smoothly stepped in. Their combined service ensured continuity, and projects carried forward with steady purpose, teamwork, and gracious flexibility during the transition.

In 1966-1967, Alfredo "Fred" Benson warmly presided over another successful District Conference hosted by the club. The gathering reinforced fellowship, built new friendships, and brought honor to Baguio as a gracious host city that welcomed visitors warmly while celebrating shared goals.

Finally, in 1967-1968, Carlos "Carl" Paulino became president. He faithfully carried on the club's programs and maintained the momentum of service established by his predecessors, closing the decade on a note of strength, unity, and gratitude for the many hands that made service possible. The spirit of fellowship remained lively and inclusive.



Fernando Bautista
1958-1959



Jose Warren Jr.
1959-1960



Marcelino Contemprate
1960-1961



Honorio Estepa
1961-1962



Hector Lopez
1962-1963



Carlos Santiago
1963-1964



Ireneo Geslani
1964-1965



Arturo Plata
1965-1966



Alfredo Benson
1966-1967



Carlos Paulino
1967-1968

REMEMBERING: RCBAGUIO RY 2007-2008

Today happens to be my natal day, so I trust you will forgive your EIC for indulging in a little reminiscing. Allow me to take you back to my term as President of the Rotary Club of Baguio in Rotary Year 2007–2008—a chapter in my life I fondly remember as my very own “Appointment With Destiny.”

My induction into office was held on the very first Saturday of that Rotary year. This was no accident but the fruit of foresight. One year earlier, I had respectfully requested our incoming District Governor, Owens Torres, to schedule my induction on that specific date. Gracious as always, Gov. Owens accepted, leaving me with the impression that he held a warm regard for the “mother club” of our district.

As we say in Filipino, “*Daig ng maagap ang masipag*,” which roughly translates to, “Foresight beats even diligence.” In many ways, that proverb captured the spirit of the year ahead. The invitation design (see top-most image at right) for that memorable occasion carried a unique motif that emphasized the number seven—a playful yet symbolic nod to the year 2007.

It was my honor to be the sixty-fifth president of RCB during a truly historic period. That year marked the initial implementation of the Rotary International Club Leadership Plan (CLP), and the world-wide theme was “**Rotary Shares**.” It was a time of both innovation and tradition, and I am proud to say that our club rose to the challenge with creativity and vigor.

There were many firsts during that Rotary year. For example, the RCB logo—originally (flat) designed in RY 2005–2006—was given a new 3-D beveled look, symbolizing depth and renewal. Our beloved *Cañao* was transformed as well, given in hard copy form – every Saturday in full color for its covers, with

the inner pages printed in quarterly hues that lent variety and freshness.

We institutionalized Best Practice Procedures for club operations, produced new recruitment and educational paraphernalia, and launched the **Quarterly RCB Grand Fellowships** that became milestones of camaraderie. Among the highlights was the introduction of the **RCB Ten Outstanding Young Athletes (TOYA) Awards**, celebrating youth excellence in sports and strengthening our link with the community. My hope is that this project can be repeated in RCB soon.

Other noteworthy achievements included several international “Salutes” of fellowship with sister clubs, the publication of the Fourth Edition of the **RCB Member’s Handbook**, and the distribution of more than a thousand complimentary city maps bearing both our club history and the timeless Four-Way Test—an inspired form of public outreach.

The collective efforts of our members did not go unnoticed. That year, RCB received over twenty accolades from District 3790 and RI, including the **Most Outstanding Club Award, Outstanding Club President Award, Top Awards in all Avenues of Service, and the Outstanding Club Bulletin Award**.

Looking back, I now recall how completely I devoted myself to Rotary. I often told clients that I was “practically on leave” from my architectural profession, so focused was I on the work for the club. And yet, it was a sacrifice that I embraced with joy.

As I now reminisce those days, my heart is full. May RY 2007–2008 always be remembered not only for its achievements but as “**The Classical Year**” of our Rotary Club of Baguio—a time when service, fellowship, and innovation came together in harmony.

PP RAFFY CHAN

Cañao Editor-in-Chief

RY 2025-2026



PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 27 September 2025

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Invocation	Rtn. Nancy Alabanza
	Pambansang Awit	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test	(Everyone)
1:20	Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests (VRG)	PP Gigi Maranan
	Entertainment	Rtn. Peter Wasing
	Finest Moments	PP Ali Morales
	Raffle	Rtn. Annie Viernes
1:40	Members' Time	(Anyone)
1:50	President's Time	Pres. Joe Ursua
	SISTERHOOD SIGNING with RC HEALTH KEEPERS	
1:55	Introduction of Guest of Honor & Speaker	Rtn. Kat Bosantog
	Guest of Honor & Speaker (GHS)	Mr. Alejandro P. Publico
	Topic: Parenting and Leadership	
	Open Forum	
	Club Response	PP Bert Talco
2:30	RCB Hymn	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal	(Everyone)
	Adjournment	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator	Dir. Benedict Grajo
	Retrospect	Rtn. Arlene Sumalag
	Imager	Rtn. Harly Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 04 October 2025

Program Coordinator -----	PP Benny Sunga	Introduction of CHS -----	PP Chris Faelnar
Invocation -----	PP Veeh Balajo	CHS -----	Dir. Glaiza Tan
Introduction of VRG-----	PP Mia Cawed	Topic: Classification Talk	
Entertainment-----	Dir. Noel Velasquez	Club Response-----	PE Reymund Barrios
Raffle-----	Rtn. Kaycee Padilla	Retrospect-----	Rtn. Harly Wasing
Finest Moments-----	PP Anet Calabias	Imager -----	Rtn. Peter Wasing

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH