

# Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN  
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 17  
Saturday, 22 November 2025

MS. JACQUELINE TUPONG  
Guest of Honor & 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](mailto:canao@rcbaguio.org)

# CONTENTS AT A GLANCE

---

## COVER

01



PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE

03



FEATURE  
PAGE

04



SECRETARY'S  
UPDATE

05



GUEST OF HONOR  
& SPEAKER

06



IN  
RETROSPECT

07



RETROSPECT  
SCENES

08-09



HISTORY  
PAGE

10



EIC  
MEDITATIONS

11

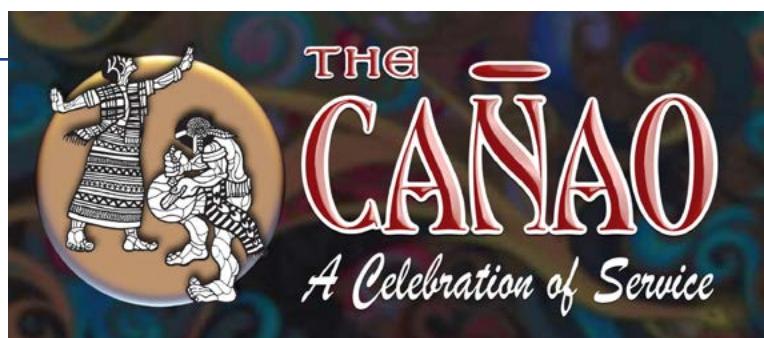
PROGRAM FOR TODAY  
PARTICIPANTS NEXT MEETING

12

## THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

**S**ymbolizing 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

## LIVING BEYOND OURSELVES

One of our important yet long-overdue tasks is the review and updating of our **Club Constitution and By-Laws**. If we wish to remain relevant, resilient, and well-adapted to a changing world, we must listen to the sincere voices of our younger Rotarians. They bring fresh ideas and new perspectives that deserve expression through thoughtful reforms.

You belong to this club — and because of that, *makialam at sumabay sa pagbabago*. This process needs everyone's participation.

In recent days, our country has witnessed events that may become catalysts for change. Let us hope such change leads toward the greater good. If only our leaders lived by the **Four-Way Test**, we might not face the same disappointments brought about by corruption.

The truth is simple: our greatest challenge is ourselves. The problem is not external — not America, not outsiders — but within. And this is precisely why Rotary reminds us to live by **Service Above Self**.

When I first heard that phrase 18 years ago, I realized that Rotary is not about personal gain, but about **paying forward** the blessings we've received. I still recall someone saying, "Rotarians must have resources to share," and another warning, "Don't join Rotary—it will take your time, money, and your life."

After nearly two decades, I can say: yes, Rotary asks much. We give until it hurts. Every peso we donate is hard-earned—blood, sweat, and tears.

And yet... the reward is priceless: a quiet joy, a sense of meaning, a life lived beyond oneself. **That is Rotary. That is us.**

Thank you for allowing me to speak from the heart, and for the lessons

and inspiration we share as we journey through Rotary Year 2025–2026.

### Our Week in Review

Last **November 17 and 18**, we began a meaningful collaboration with the **Rotary Club of Circuit Makati**, led by AG Irene, President Ashley Valera, and PE Billy Perez.

Thank you to those who joined the fellowship dinner at Camp John Hay Golf Club: IPP Susan, VP Lou, Treasurer PP Marilyn, Secretary PP Cora, and Rtn. Eric de Guzman.

The next day, we moved from fellowship to action by delivering school supplies and gifts to the pupils of **Don Mariano Marcos Elementary School, Upper Brookside**.

Special thanks to Directors Ed and Ben, VP Lou, PP Anette, IPP Susan, and Adviser PP Chris Faelnar for helping distribute gifts to the delighted children.

That evening, we shared dinner at **Zongke Bole Hotel**—thank you VP Lou, Rtn. Eric, PP Ali, IPP Susan, and Sec. PP Cora for joining, and to AG Irene and RCCM for their warm hospitality.

### Upcoming Event: TRF Banquet

Today, **November 22**, we gather for the **TRF Banquet at Royce Hotel in Clark**—a time to celebrate, fellowship, and renew our promise of support to **The Rotary Foundation**.

Let us come together with grateful hearts and generous spirits.

### A Season of Hope and Love

As Christmas draws near, let us remember this simple message: *"Spread hope and love... so that we can all find joy."*

**Ciao, and thank you always.**



**PRES. JOE URСUA**

RCB President  
RY 2025-2026

## ROTARY CODE OF CONDUCT

**As a Rotarian, I will:**

- 1. Exemplify the core value of integrity in all behaviors and activities.**
- 2. Use my vocational experience and talents to serve in Rotary.**
- 3. Conduct all of my personal, business, and professional affairs ethically, encouraging and fostering high ethical standards as an example to others.**
- 4. Be fair in all dealings with others and treat them with the respect due to them as fellow human beings.**
- 5. Promote recognition and respect for all occupations which are useful to society.**
- 6. Offer my vocational talents: to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community.**
- 7. Honor the trust that Rotary and fellow Rotarians provide and not do anything that will bring disfavor or reflect adversely on Rotary or fellow Rotarians.**
- 8. Not seek from a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship.**

### Rotary's Commitment to a Harassment-Free Environment

Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary International meetings, events, and activities; report any suspected harassment; and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment.

This provision underscores Rotary's commitment to creating inclusive, respectful, and safe settings for all members, guests, and participants in its meetings, events, and activities. It expects each Rotarian to be alert to behavior that might be harassing or discriminatory—whether verbal, physical, or visual—and to take action by reporting any suspected harassment.

Equally important is the duty to protect those who come forward: the Code mandates that no one who reports harassment in good faith should suffer retaliation or adverse consequences. This clause is drawn from Article 26.120 of the Rotary Code of Policies, titled "*Harassment-Free Environment at Meetings, Events, or Activities*," which was published in its current form in **June 2022**.

By embedding this expectation, Rotary ensures that its service-oriented mission is carried out in a climate of dignity, fairness, and mutual respect.

Sourced from [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org)

# SECRETARY'S UPDATE

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

05 – Dir. Vell Agayas  
10 – PP Ali Morales  
11 – PP Baby Kaur  
15 – PP Bert Talco  
30 – PAG/PP Gigi Maranan

### UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

**21** – ANTI DENGUE SERVICE PROGRAM,  
4pm at Happy Hallow High School Baguio  
City  
**22** – THE ROTARY FOUNDATION Banquet  
2025, 4 pm at Royce Hotel and Casino

### MOST RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

**15** – RCSFLU GALA NIGHT, 6pm at the  
Grand Ballroom, Awesome Hotel, San  
Juan, La Union

*Participants: PP Chris F, PP Ali and PP/Sec  
Cora*

**16** – MEDICAL MISION at the Sacred Heart  
High School, Itogon Benguet with Rotary  
Club of SLU School of Medicine led by  
Pres Andrea Manongdo.

*Participants: PP Alfred, PP Chirs P,  
Rotaract Club SLU-SOM led by Pres Andrea  
Manongdo, School Alumni Atty Rey Diwas,  
Dr. Juliet Diwas.*

**17** – Dinner Meeting with partners in  
Service (MHS Foundation) and RCMM, at  
the Camp John Hay Golf Club

**18** – Distribution of EARLY CHRISTMAS  
SCHOOL SUPPLIES in partnership with  
MHS and RCCM (Don Mariano Marcos  
Elementaryt School)

*Participants: Pres Joe, Rtn. Eric, PP/Treas  
Marilyn, PP/Sec Cora, IPP Susan, VP Lou,  
Pres. Ashley Valera, Rtn. Cora Shang,  
Jaime Zhu, PE Billy Perez, PP Irene Hong*

18 – Dinner Fellowship with sister club  
Rotary Club of Circuit Makati

*Participants: Pres Joe, Rtn. Eric, PP/Sec  
Cora, IPP Susan, VP Lou, Pres. Ashley  
Valera, Rtn. Cora Shang, Jaime Zhu, PP  
Irene Hong*



**PP CORA OCAMPO**

RCB Secretary  
RY 2025-2026



# GUEST OF HONOR & SPEAKER

## MS. JACQUELINE C. TUPONG

Jacqueline C. Tupong is a dynamic and compassionate public servant whose life's work is rooted in service, advocacy, and the empowerment of others. Known to her peers for her sincerity and leadership, Jackie embodies the ideals of social work through her dedication to gender sensitivity, family welfare, and community empowerment.

A proud alumnus of **Saint Louis University**, Jackie earned her **Bachelor of Science in Social Work** and went on to pursue **Master's studies in Social Work** at the University of Northern Philippines in Vigan, Ilocos Sur. Her solid academic foundation has guided her through a fulfilling professional journey that continues to touch countless lives.

Jackie's professional philosophy centers on a holistic and collaborative approach to service. She sees herself as a "catalyst connector"—linking individuals, families, and institutions in ways that build stronger, more compassionate communities. Her work bridges government agencies, civic groups, and grassroots organizations, ensuring that every intervention reflects both competence and care.

As an accredited **Social Worker** and **Pre-Marriage Counselor**, Jackie has been entrusted with sensitive responsibilities that require both technical expertise and emotional intelligence. She manages court-related cases with professionalism and empathy, providing insight that supports justice and human dignity. Her accreditation as a **court social worker (2022–2025)** and as a **pre-marriage counselor (2023–2026)** is a testament to her credibility and trusted reputation.

Over the years, Jackie has lent her expertise as a **Resource Speaker and Facilitator** in numerous programs and training workshops. Among her many

engagements are gender-sensitivity orientations for employees of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas; counseling training for service providers dealing with domestic violence; and forums on gender-based violence for City Hall employees and community members. She has also spoken passionately on the rights and welfare of the elderly and solo parents, particularly highlighting the salient provisions of **RA 9994** (the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010) and **RA 11861** (the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act).

Her involvement in **capacity-building programs** is equally extensive—helping barangay officials, community leaders, and volunteers strengthen their capacities in handling **VAW (Violence Against Women)** and **GBV (Gender-Based Violence)** cases. Jackie's work has reached diverse audiences, from teachers and barangay councils to persons deprived of liberty at the Baguio City Jail. Her belief in education and awareness as tools for transformation continues to guide her mission as a public servant.

Jackie is also an active member of several professional and civic organizations, including the **Philippine Association of Social Workers, Inc. (PASWI)** – Baguio-Benguet Chapter, the **Association of Local Social Welfare and Development Officers of the Philippines, Inc. (ALSWDOPI)**, and the **Good Shepherd Alumni Association**.

Through her work and affiliations, **Jacqueline C. Tupong** exemplifies the heart of social work—serving with compassion, leading with integrity, and empowering others to live with dignity. Her tireless efforts remind us that public service, at its best, is both a calling and a lifelong commitment to humanity.



**JACQUELINE TUPONG**

Social Worker, Advocate,  
Empowering Public Servant

# R IN RETROSPECT

## THE MEETING THAT WAS: 15 NOV 25

The meeting opened smoothly under the guidance of Program Coordinator **PP Alfred**, followed by a solemn prayer led by **Rtn. Bong. PP Atom** then warmly introduced the visiting Rotarians and guests, giving a special welcome to the returning **PP Ben and Rotary Ann Cely Ladilad**. To lighten the atmosphere, **IPP Susan** prepared an entertaining guessing game that brought laughter across the room, complete with snacks and sweets for the winners. This cheerful energy carried into the *Finest Moments*, where **PP Anet** recognized the commendable accomplishments of several members from the past week, fining ₱100 for notable achievements and ₱50 for everyone else. The raffle segment, handled by **PE Reymund** with assistance from PP Atom, followed with prizes generously purchased at BCC through the help of **PP Diony**.

During Members' Time, several important announcements were made. **PP/Sec. Cora** shared details of the club's travel engagement to attend the induction program of our sister club, Rotary San Fernando, La Union, later that same day. She also mentioned the upcoming distribution of school supplies and slippers for the students of Don Mariano Marcos Elementary School on 18 November, an activity to be led by IPP Susan.

In President's Time, **Pres. Joe** extended warm greetings and expressed sincere appreciation for those present despite the lower-than-usual attendance. He encouraged everyone to read the latest issue of ***The Cañao*** and proceeded to share several updates. The Sisterhood Signing Ceremony with **RC Circuit Makati** is scheduled for 17 November, at the John Hay Golf Clubhouse, with VP Lou arranging the food. He also proudly announced that over ₱10,000 was raised during the "pass the hat" initiative under

Project 1 for disaster relief support to the students of DMMES. Pres. Joe confirmed the continuation of his radio show, invited members to tune in, and reminded everyone to take precautions due to a rising influenza strain. He also noted that the TRF Banquet is set for 22 November at Royce Hotel, with all attendees registered, and that the regular weekly meeting will proceed as usual.

Further updates included the participation of PP Alfred and PP Chris Peralta, along with the Rotaractors and the Provincial Government of Benguet, in an engagement with Sacred Heart High School in Itogon. Members were also reminded of the Rotaract Club's invitation to a Medical Mission in Itogon on 16 November, with another activity scheduled for the following Sunday. Pres. Joe closed with birthday greetings to upcoming celebrants and expressed how proud he is to be serving the club.

The meeting then transitioned to the Introduction of the Guest Speaker by **Dir. Glaiza Tan**. The session featured presentations by **Precy Dumiwal** on the programs of the OCSWDO and **Dianne Puruganan** on the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP). A productive Q&A followed, with insightful questions from PP Libby, PP Atom, PP/Sec. Cora, PP Diony, PP Ben, and RAPP Cely. PP Atom delivered the response, emphasizing the importance of building sustainable livelihoods and closing with a thoughtful reminder of how empowering communities opens the path to development.

The meeting ended with Pres. Joe presenting the Certificate of Appreciation to the speakers, concluding another meaningful Saturday of fellowship and service.



**RTN. LEVY ORCALES**

RCB member since 2021

# R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



## 15 NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING



## RCB HISTORY: NINTH DECADE (2018-2028)

The 81st year of the club, RY 2018-2019, was led by **Pres. Mary Leilani "Lani" Fabi**. Her term focused on community service and educational support, especially through scholarships. The RI theme was: "Be the Inspiration." She fostered unity and fellowship within the club, ensuring that projects were implemented with enthusiasm and purpose. Her leadership brought stability and strengthened camaraderie among Rotarians during a time of steady progress.

In RY 2019-2020: **Pres. Gormito "Baby" Kaur**, a dedicated Rotarian of Indian heritage, carried the RI theme "*Rotary Connects the World*." Scholarship and youth programs took center stage during her leadership. However, midway through her term, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide lockdown tested the club's ability to adapt, forcing service and fellowship to evolve into new forms of virtual connection.

**RY 2020-2021: Pres. Alma Teresa "Atom" Mendalla**'s year will long be remembered as the "COVID Year," under the theme "*Rotary Opens Opportunities*," when meetings were held entirely online through Zoom. Despite physical distance, the spirit of fellowship remained strong, as members continued to meet weekly through virtual club assemblies—proving that even isolation could not silence Rotary service.

The second pandemic year RY 2021-2022 unfolded under the theme "Serve to Change Lives." **President Arnel "Arnel" Cabanisas** led the transition from online to Blended Meetings, using the Abong workplace as a venue where members could attend either in person or via Zoom. These gatherings symbolized hope and gradual healing as Rotarians began to reconnect face-to-face while still observing safety measures.

**Banker Francis "Ali" Morales** became RCB President in RY 2022-2023, when the RI theme was "Imagine Rotary." This year ushered in the return to full normalcy.

Meetings once again found their home at the **Baguio Country Club**, and service projects regained full momentum. The club's efforts were rewarded with prestigious District honors: Most Outstanding Club and Most Outstanding President—a proud recognition of resilience after challenging years.

**Engineer Maria Corazon "Coro" Ocampo** took the reigns as RCB president in RY 2023-2024. Under the theme "Create Hope in the World." This year introduced a creative grouping system where teams of members coordinated monthly meetings. RCB's performance was exceptional, garnering awards for Outstanding Club, Outstanding Club President, and high distinction for the Cañao Club Bulletin, which placed prominently in the District competition.

**RY 2024-2025: Pres. Jesusa "Susan" Villanueva**, under the theme "The magic of Rotary," saw our hallmark project—the Rainwater Harvesting Initiative for six schools across Baguio and Benguet—brought sustainable water solutions to hundreds of students. The club earned multiple awards from District 3790, including Most Outstanding Club and Most Outstanding President.

**Doctor Jose "Joe" Ursua** leads the club in RY 2025-2026, when the RI theme is "Unite For Good." The current year looks bright with the active involvement and dedication of our members.

The Ninth Decade of our RCB stands as a remarkable chapter of endurance, innovation, and renewal. Tested by a global pandemic and strengthened by the power of fellowship, RCB rose to every challenge with grace and determination. Through changing times and evolving technologies, the club never wavered in its purpose—to serve, to connect, and to inspire. As we now stand at the threshold of our Tenth Decade, we look forward with pride and gratitude—honoring the past, celebrating the present, and embracing the future.



Mary Leilani Fabi  
2018-2019



Gormito Kaur  
2019-2020



Alma Teresa Mendalla  
2020-2021



Arnel Cabanisas  
2021-2022



Francis Morales  
2022-2023



Maria Corazon Ocampo  
2023-2024



Jesusa Villanueva  
2024-2025



Jose Ursua  
2025-2026

## THOUGHTS BEFORE THE DEADLINE

There is something strangely reassuring about the quiet tension that accompanies every approaching deadline. Those last few moments before we finally submit our work—before the presses roll, or in our case, before the digital “send” button is clicked—carry a curious blend of pressure, relief, and reflection. For the Cañao editor, it becomes not only a time to polish words and images but also an opportunity to look inward and ask: *Have we captured the heartbeat of our Club in this issue?*

Each deadline becomes, in its own subtle way, a **mirror**. It reflects how we have managed our hours, our teamwork, and our patience. It reminds us that behind every page of our Cañao Club Bulletin stand real people—the President and Secretary who faithfully submit their weekly article/report, the Retrospector who distills each meeting’s moments, the imager who contributes photos, and the many readers who find a few quiet minutes to connect with what we publish.

In those moments just before submission, I often find myself re-reading a paragraph or reshaping a phrase—not merely for grammar, but for **tone**. Does it sound kind? Does it uplift? Does it echo the spirit of friendship that binds our Club together? As editors, our task goes beyond transmitting information. We strive to express warmth, to convey sincerity, and to weave a sense of community through the texture of our words.

Yet “thoughts before the deadline” are not only about editing a publication—they are, in many ways,

about editing *life*. Each of us faces personal deadlines, not always written on a calendar but quietly marked by moments that call for closure, courage, or compassion. There are deadlines to forgive, to reach out, to express gratitude, to begin again. And like an editor racing against time, we eventually realize that the truest meaning of our work lies not in perfection, but in **authenticity**—in the heartfelt intent behind what we do.

As we prepare every issue of *The Cañao*, I am reminded that this Bulletin is more than a record of Rotary projects or photos—it is a **living chronicle of our fellowship**. It preserves laughter shared at meetings, the generosity of service, the perseverance that binds us through challenges. These pages, though born under pressure, endure as quiet tributes to time well given and purpose well shared.

As this issue reaches your inbox or screen, let me pause in **gratitude**—to our contributors, for their enthusiasm; to you, our readers, for your loyalty; and to every Rotarian, whose involvement transforms each deadline into an act of shared devotion.

Perhaps, in the end, these reflections before the deadline remind us that while time rushes forward, **meaning stays behind**. The pages may close, the emails and FaceBook messages may be sent, but what remains is the sincerity of our purpose. As long as we meet our deadlines with hearts aligned toward service and friendship, each issue of *The Cañao* becomes not merely a publication—but a **portrait** of who we are, and why we continue to serve.



**PP RAFFY CHAN**

Cañao Editor-in-Chief

RY 2025-2026

# PROGRAM FOR TODAY

## REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

### Saturday, 22 November 2025

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Invocation	Dir. Benedict Grajo
	Pambansang Awit	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test	(Everyone)
1:20	Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests (VRG)	PP Chris Peralta
	Entertainment	PP Diony Claridad
	Raffle	Rtn. Nancy Alabanza
	Finest Moments	PP Raffy Chan
1:40	Members' Time	(Anyone)
1:50	President's Time	Pres. Joe Ursua
1:55	Introduction of Guest of Honor & Speaker	PE Reymund Barrios
	Guest of Honor & Speaker (GHS)	Ms. Jacqueline C. Tupong
	Topic: Situationer on Gender-based Violence in Baguio City	
	Open Forum	
	Club Response	Dir. Mariver Agayas
2:30	RCB Hymn	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal	(Everyone)
	Adjournment	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator	PP Baby Kaur
	Retrospect	Rtn. Ailyn Kindipan
	Imager	Rtn. Peter Wasing

## PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

### GENERAL CLUB ASSEMBLY at the BCC Training Center

### Saturday, 29 November 2025

Call to Order ----- Pres. Joe Ursua  
Invocation ----- Rtn. Harly Wasing  
Welcome Remarks ----- PP Mia Cawed  
For this day: No Entertainment, Raffle, etc.  
to allow more time to fully discuss  
the proposed amendments

GENERAL CLUB ASSEMBLY  
Topic: Constitutional Amendments  
Program Coordinator ----- PP Benny Sunga  
Retrospect ----- PP Atom Mendalla  
Imager ----- Rtn. Peter Wasing

## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH