

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 18
Saturday, 29 November 2025

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
For Constitutional Amendments



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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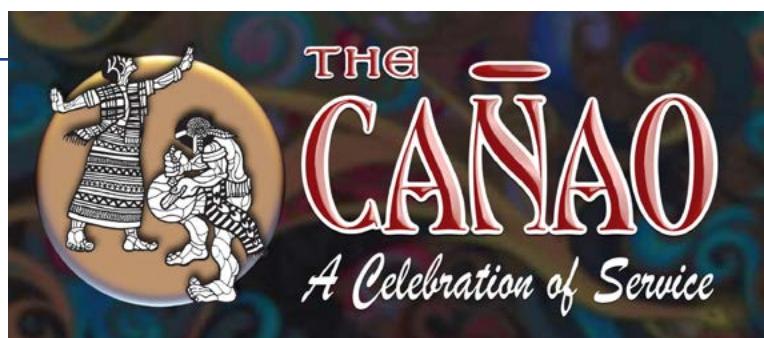
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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

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

THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

Let us take a moment to recognize and celebrate the achievements of our RCB members who were honored during the TRF Banquet held last **22 November 2025** at **Royce Hotel and Casino, Clark Freeport, Pampanga**. It was an evening that showcased the strength of our commitment and the generosity that lives within our members.

Our club received a **Certificate of Recognition as an EREY Club for Rotary Year 2025–2026**, a wonderful testament to our shared spirit of giving and service. Additional individual recognitions were proudly awarded to the following Rotarians who continue to inspire us with their contributions and dedication:

1. PP Elizabeth Fernandez – Paul Harris Society
2. PP Ali Morales – Paul Harris Society, PHF +8
3. PAG Evangeline O. Maranan – PHF +8
4. Rtn. Ruth Molintas Rillera – PHF +5
5. VP Lou Pablo De Guzman – PHF +3
6. PP Anita B. Calabias – PHF +2
7. PP Mia Joy Oallares-Cawed – PHF +2
8. PP Dionisio Ramos Claridad – PHF +1
9. Rtn. Gleniel Flores – PHF +1
10. Pres. Joe Ursua – PHF +1

Congratulations to all! Your generosity reflects the true heart of Rotary. To those who have yet to begin their giving journey, remember — even the smallest first step can make a difference. Who knows? Next year, more of us may become Major Donors.

Rotary is not only about being present in meetings or activities. It is also about sharing our blessings — our time, talents, and hard-earned resources — to bring hope, healing, and change to communities around us. The more we give, the more we are blessed in return.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

1. Livelihood Training Project (Dir. Lorena Cachola)

- Basic Electrical Wiring and Welding Training
- December 1–15, Purok 7, Irisan, Luna Street, Cachola Village Subdivision
- Contact 0920 269 6524 for inquiries and participants.

2. Early Christmas Gift-Giving with RC Circuit Makati

Our recent joint project for the schoolchildren of Don Mariano Marcos Elementary School was a success. May this partnership continue to flourish and grow into more opportunities for service.

3. Sister Club Support from Korea

Through PDG Yu Daibong, our Korean friends donated 10 boxes of goods. Thank you to all who assisted. IPP Susan, PE Reymund, Rtn. Kat, and Sec. PP Cora are requested to assist during their visit on December 11.

4. Nov 29 Meeting – Revision of our Constitution & By-Laws

This Saturday is a milestone as we revise our 87-year-old Constitution and By-Laws. Let us work together to craft a more relevant, future-ready document as we approach our 88th year — guided by unity and shared purpose.

5. Christmas Fellowship

Our Fellowship and Program Committee is preparing this year's celebration. Let us look forward to an evening filled with gratitude and joy as we honor the birth of our Savior.

CLOSING REFLECTIONS

In just over thirty days, we welcome a new year — a new beginning and the second half of our Rotary journey. May we renew our commitment to service, compassion, and fellowship as we move forward. See you in our meetings, fellowships, and projects.

Salamat ed sicayon amin.
God provides — why worry when we can pray?



PRES. JOE URСUA

RCB President
RY 2025-2026



ORIGINAL CAPTION:

From the 1950s. Gene and Vic with old friends in Rotary and Rotary Anns. A happy moment, captured in black and white. Among the Rotarians and Rotary Anns in the picture are Ernesto and Angie Abellera, Ding and Rosing Bautista, Nanding and Solita Manalo, Jose and Mary Ann Rosales, Ikong Reyes, Rotarians Bueno, Contemprate, and Warren.

This treasured photograph of our Rotarians and Rotary Anns from the 1950s beautifully captures the warmth and camaraderie that bonded our early members. It's a glimpse into a time when fellowship was deeply personal and heartfelt—a reflection of the Rotary spirit that continues to inspire us today.

At the **front row, extreme right**, we see **Atty. Francisco "Ikong" Reyes**, his warm smile suggesting the enthusiasm of youth. He later became the second

District Governor from RCBaguio, serving RI District 379 in RY 1960–1961.

Next to him, **front row, second from right**, is **PP Jose "Peping" Warren**, caught in a moment of laughter. Notice the friendly hands placed across his knees—a simple yet touching reminder of the closeness and affection shared among friends.

Beside him, **front row, third from right**, is **Dr. Ernesto "Abe" Abellera**, elegantly dressed in a dark suit. He served as president in RY 1955–1956. On a personal note, I remember him fondly—my parents often called him for home visits whenever I was sick. This was in the mid-fifties during my boyhood years. He would arrive with his familiar black doctor's bag, greet me with a gentle "Hello, sonny..." and, in those days, a quick injection on the backside often worked wonders for recovery!

At the **center of the front row** sits **PP Fernando "Ding" Bautista**, affectionately known to many of us as **Tatay Ding**. We were fortunate to have known him

personally when we joined RCB in the late 1990s. His kindness and quiet dignity left a lasting impression.

At the **rear row, middle**, wearing a dark blouse and elegant necklace, is **Rotary Anns Charter President Virginia "Gene" de Guia**—radiant and graceful. Her husband, PP Victor "Vic" de Guia, who served as club president in RY 1953–1954, is also among the gentlemen in this image.

This truly is a vintage gem—a portrait of fellowship, warmth, and refinement. Notice, too, how the gentlemen are neatly dressed in ties or bowties, a reflection of the formality of that era. The backdrop—with its drapes and wood windows—suggests that the photo was likely taken at the **Casa Vallejo**, a fitting venue for such a distinguished gathering.

Indeed, this image is more than a photograph—it's a cherished reminder of our roots, our shared history, and the enduring spirit of Rotary camaraderie that continues to define us today.

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

MOST RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

21 – ANTI DENGUE SERVICE PROGRAM,
4PM at Happy Hallow High School Baguio
City.

Participants: Dir. Benedict Grajo and team

22 – THE ROTARY FOUNDATION Banquet
2025, 4PM at Royce Hotel and Casino

*Participants: PP Chris F, PP Ali, PP Alfred,
IPP Susan, PP Libby, Rtn. Vangie, Rtn
Bong, PP Anet, Vp Lou, Rtn Eric and Pres
Joe*

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

08 NOVEMBER 2025 ATTENDANCE

06 Dec – RCB election day for RY 2026-
2027

11 Dec – distribution of clothes with RC
Wonju

13 Dec – RCB Christmas Party

22 NOV 25 ATTENDANCE

WE MISSED YOU: : : PP Jun, Rtn. Kat,
PP Arnel, PP Lani, Rtn. Glen, Rtn. Levy,
Rtn. Kacey, Rtn. Jojo, Dir. Arlene, Dir.
Glaiza, Rtn Tonton, Dir. Noel, Rtn Annie,
Rtn Harly

EXCUSED: PP Mia, Rtn. Ike, PP Chris F,
PP Cy, , Rtn. Lily, PP Benny, PP Bert, PDG
Linda

MAKE-UP: Rtn Eric, VP Lou, PP Ali, Rtn.
Bong, Dir. Benedict, Rtn Vangie, PP Anet,
IPP Susan, Dir. Eduard, and Pres Joe

ON-LEAVE: Rtn. Ruth

GUESTS: RAPP Cely Ladilad



PP CORA OCAMPO

RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026

Rotary



AVENUES OF SERVICE

Channel our commitment to service at home and abroad through five Avenues of Service.

CLUB SERVICE

focuses on making clubs strong.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest.

YOUTH SERVICE

recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding.

UNITED IN SERVICE

The Rotary Club of Baguio convened its regular meeting on 22 November 2025 at the Wolfson Room at exactly 12:30 pm, gathering members in an atmosphere of fellowship, reflection, and shared commitment to service. The afternoon began promptly as Director Mariver Agayas called the meeting to order, signaling the start of another meaningful Rotary engagement and another opportunity to strengthen the bonds that unite us.

To center the club in gratitude, RAPP Cely Ladilad led the invocation, a gentle reminder of the core values that bind Rotarians—service, integrity, and compassion. Past President Chris Peralta then warmly introduced the visiting Rotarians and guests, helping set a welcoming and inclusive tone for the afternoon and reinforcing the sense of family that the club has always valued.

Adding vibrance to the gathering, Past President and resident balladeer Diony Claridad offered an entertainment number that brought smiles across the room and reinforced our spirit of camaraderie. This was followed by the raffle administered by Rtn. Nancy Alabanza, which sparked cheerful anticipation among members, while the “Finest” session moderated by Past President Raffy Chan inspired humor, goodwill, and the shared joy found in fellowship. These simple segments reminded us of how Rotary blends purpose with celebration, and how each meeting becomes a refreshing break from our busy lives.

During Members’ Time, several updates highlighted the ongoing work of the club. Director Lorena Cachola announced developments in the livelihood program, and Past President and Treasurer Marilyn Barredo delivered the financial report. These led naturally into President’s Time, where Dir. Mariver, on behalf of President Joe, shared key announcements and plans, reinforcing

the club’s continued momentum and acknowledging the collective effort that fuels each Rotary project.

The centerpiece of the afternoon was the introduction of the Guest of Honor and Speaker. President-Elect Reymund Barrios presented Ms. Jacqueline C. Tupong, whose work and advocacy reflect Rotary’s mission of uplifting communities. Her timely presentation, “*Situationer of Gender-Based Violence in Baguio City*,” was both informative and compelling. She shared data, trends, and local challenges affecting women, children, and vulnerable sectors, emphasizing the need for stronger institutional support, community education, and coordinated responses. Her insights also prompted reflection on how Rotary can contribute further to advocacy and protection, reinforcing our calling to serve those most in need.

Past President Atom Medalla delivered a heartfelt response, expressing the club’s appreciation and reaffirming Rotary’s dedication to promoting dignity, safety, and equality. The engaging Q&A that followed demonstrated the members’ genuine interest and commitment to addressing urgent social issues through service and collaboration.

Behind the smooth flow of the meeting was the careful coordination of Past President Baby Kaur, while Rtn. Peter Wasing served as Imager, capturing the fellowship and formal moments that defined the afternoon.

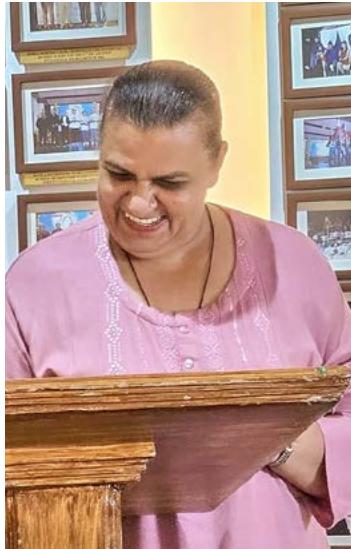
As the meeting drew to a close, members stood to sing the RCB Hymn and *Pilipinas Kong Mahal*, a fitting reminder of our shared duty to nation and community. The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm, concluding a meaningful Saturday that strengthened bonds, deepened awareness, and reaffirmed Rotary’s continuing purpose of serving communities and fostering positive change.



RTN. AILYN KINDIPAN
RCB member since 2022

R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



Retrospect Photos By:
Rtn. Peter Wasing

22 NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING



INTRODUCTION & WHAT IS PROTOCOL?

INTRODUCTION

With this issue, we are pleased to introduce a fresh series in the *RCBaguio Cañao Club Bulletin*: the **Rotary Protocol Guidelines**, presented over ten weekly installments. The foundation of this series draws from the valuable works of PDG Alvin Gonzales (District 3790), PDG Benny Uy (District 3790), and PDG Manuel Tatel (District 3850). These guidelines were first published in Rotary Year 2011–2012 as part of the Fifth Edition of our RCB Member's Handbook, then appearing in concise bullet points spread across eight compact pages.

For Rotary Year 2025–2026, your Editor-in-Chief has taken the opportunity to thoughtfully update and reshape these protocol nuggets into a friendlier, narrative style. While the core principles remain unchanged, the new format has been crafted especially with our newer members in mind—those who joined us after 2012 and may not have encountered these earlier references. By presenting the material in paragraph form, we hope not only to provide clarity but also to offer a more engaging reading experience.

Your EIC sincerely hopes that you will find these weekly installments both useful and delightful, blending instruction with appreciation for the traditions that continue to enrich our shared journey in service.

WHAT IS PROTOCOL?

The word *protocol* traces its origins to the realm of diplomacy. It comes from the **Medieval Latin “protocollum,”** referring to the very first document affixed to a record book, a piece that set the tone and served as the model for everything that followed.

Within the life of Rotary, protocol takes on a particularly meaningful role. It is not merely about sequence, order, or precedence—though it certainly provides us with a framework for how events should be arranged and who should be

recognized. More than that, protocol embodies the spirit of how Rotarians relate to one another. It is the lived expression of **respect: for seniority, for position, for service rendered, and most importantly, for the fellowship that binds us together.** In this light, **protocol is less about rules and more about values.**

When we observe protocol, we are in fact practicing the habits of courtesy and consideration. These are not empty gestures, but reflections of good taste, proper behavior, and an understanding that every member deserves dignity and recognition. **Protocol in Rotary is thus an outward sign of the inner values we hold dear—respect for one another, appreciation for service, and recognition of leadership freely given.**

Moreover, protocol creates a setting in which discipline and harmony can flourish. By providing structure to our meetings, it allows us to focus less on who speaks first or who is acknowledged next, and more on the deeper purpose of our gatherings: fellowship and service. It brings a quiet sense of order that supports, rather than stifles, the joy of being together.

Seen in this way, protocol is not a burden but a gift. It helps us celebrate the best of Rotary traditions, while ensuring that our conduct remains gracious and in good taste. It reminds us that even the smallest gestures of respect—a timely introduction, a word of thanks, a seat offered in recognition—contribute to the dignity of our club and to the enduring spirit of Rotary itself.

As we revisit and reflect upon these guidelines in the weeks ahead, may we remember that protocol is not simply about “rules of order.” It is about **preserving an atmosphere where friendship, respect, and service can shine brightly.** It is a quiet but powerful expression of **what it means to be a Rotarian.**



NIKSEN: THE JOY OF SIMPLY BEING

After five decades of active design practice—sketching plans during my early morning sessions, turning ideas into BIM designs and digital renderings, juggling client meetings, and chasing deadlines—I now find myself in a different kind of space: one without the rush, the ringing phone, or the pressure of deliverables. At first, I must admit, the silence felt unsettling. For someone who had lived a lifetime of structured purpose, retirement seemed like standing in a vast room full of stillness.

Then I stumbled upon a Dutch word that changed my outlook entirely — **Niksen, the art of doing nothing.**

In the Netherlands, *niksen* means **to deliberately take pauses** — to sit quietly, gaze out the window, and let thoughts drift where they may. It's not laziness, nor idleness. It's a conscious act of allowing the mind to breathe — to simply *be*. And for me, a Filipino architect long accustomed to creative tension and problem-solving, this small but profound idea resonated deeply and beautifully.

As architects, we were trained to fill empty spaces — to give form, meaning, and purpose to the void. Yet in my later years, I've come to understand that **emptiness itself also has worth**. Just as a room needs air to breathe, the human spirit likewise needs open space for stillness, reflection, and renewal.

Practicing *Niksen* has become both a challenge and a discipline. In the beginning, it was surprisingly difficult to quiet my mind. Years of habitual motion kept urging me to “do something.” But slowly, I've learned to discipline my thoughts, to simply enjoy the flow of time without obligation.

Some mornings, I sit by the window, enjoy the fresh air, and try to embrace the silence. I watch the sunlight filter through the curtains, listen to the distant hum of life outside, and let my mind wander—sometimes toward old projects, sometimes toward dreams not yet fulfilled. Other times, I let it rest completely. No plan. No output. Just a moment to be still and present, without demand or direction.

In these pauses, clarity often returns—gentle ideas, treasured memories, and long-forgotten realizations that once lay buried beneath the noise of busyness. I've discovered that creativity does not end with retirement; it simply changes rhythm. The sketches now unfold inwardly, shaping gratitude, serenity, and peace.

Niksen also reminds me of something deeply Filipino: the quiet wisdom behind “*walang ginagawa pero may nangyayari*” — *doing nothing, yet something good unfolds*. It's present in the calm afternoons of reflection, in the laughter of old friends, in the joy of watching life move forward without interference.

As Rotarians, we often live by the creed of “*Service Above Self*.” Yet even in service, **there is wisdom in rest**. Pausing to recover, to reflect, and to simply *be* restores the very spirit that sustains our compassion and creativity.

So perhaps the next time you find yourself with nothing to do, resist the urge to fill the gap. Sit with it. Savor the stillness. Let *Niksen* weave its quiet magic.

After all, all Rotarians — deserve the rare peace of simply being.



PP RAFFY CHAN

Cañao Editor-in-Chief

RY 2025-2026

PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Training Center

Saturday, 29 November 2025

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Invocation	Dir. Noel Velasquez
	Pambansang Awit	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test	(Everyone)
12:45	Welcome Remarks	PP Mia Cawed

GENERAL

CLUB

ASSEMBLY

Topic: Constitutional Amendments

2:30	RCB Hymn	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal	(Everyone)
	Adjournment	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator	PP Benny Sunga
	Retrospect	PP Atom Mendalla
	Imager	Rtn. Peter Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Par Seven

Saturday, 06 December 2025

CLUB ELECTIONS: please cast your ballot early
Program Coordinator ----- PP Arnel Cabanisas
Invocation ----- Dir. Benedict Grajo
Introduction of VRG ----- PP Baby Kaur
Entertainment ----- Dir. Mariver Agayas
Raffle ----- Rtn. Arlene Sumalag

Finest Moments	----- PP Chris Peralta
Introduction of CHS	----- PP Atom Mendalla
CHS	----- Rtn. Bong Naguit
Topic: Classification Talk	
Retrospect	----- PP Libby Fernandez
Imager	----- Rtn. Peter Wasing

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH