

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
Volume LXXVIII - Issue 23
Saturday, 31 January 2026

CLUB ASSEMBLY



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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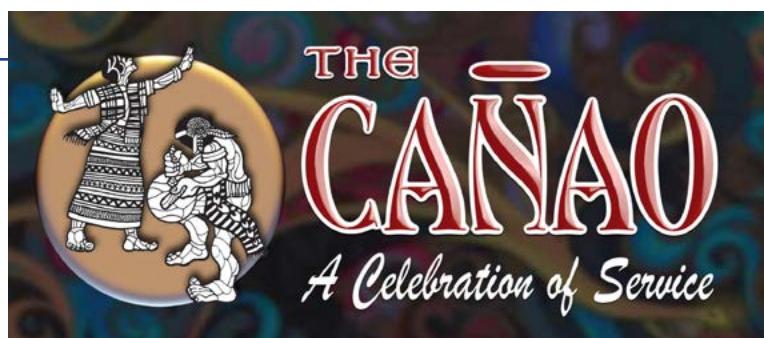
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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

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

REFLECTING, RENEWING, MOVING FORWARD

This coming Saturday's **Club Assembly** gives us a timely and meaningful opportunity to pause, reflect, and take stock. Seven months have now passed in our Rotary Year, and it is fitting that we look back—not to congratulate ourselves—but to honestly assess what we have done, guided always by **Service Above Self** and our shared commitment to **Unite to Do Good**.

Allow me to briefly recount what our club has accomplished so far, aligned with **Rotary International's Seven Areas of Focus**, and to ask ourselves the most important question of all: *Was it enough?* More importantly, what lessons can we carry forward as we continue our journey together?

In **Promoting Peace and Preventing Conflict**, we partnered with **POGS-NWL** and the **Women and Children Protection Unit of BGH**, through the invitation of Dr. Batino, to walk the streets of Baguio and raise awareness that violence against women and children must stop. We also addressed the needs of our **Persons Deprived of Liberty** by providing medical consultations and diagnostic support through the service of **Rtn. Bong Naguit** at the BJMP—affirming that Rotary cares, even for those often forgotten. Still, we must ask: can peace education and values formation begin more intentionally within ourselves and ripple outward into our communities?

In **Fighting Disease**, we joined our Rotaractors in medical missions in Irisan and during the Baguio Day celebration at Abanao Square, offering bone scans and distributing multivitamins to seniors and children. We implemented **anti-dengue projects** in our Child Development Centers and promoted health through **WASH initiatives**, including our **Rainwater Harvesting Project**. We also raised awareness on respiratory illnesses and distributed masks to health workers, vendors, market-goers, and street sweepers—small acts that collectively protect lives.

Our Rainwater Harvesting Project also

advances **Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**, responsibly harnessing rainwater as a natural resource while promoting sustainability, cleanliness, and better health through access and education.

In **Saving Mothers and Children**, we provided clothing and masks for newborns, distributed multivitamins for children, and offered health education to mothers. These simple yet meaningful efforts help protect lives and nurture healthier futures for families.

Under **Supporting Education**, we adopted and supported **14 Child Development Centers**, helping teachers, parents, and children move toward sustainability. Through art activities, family participation, school bags, disaster-mitigation tools, and books from our partner and sister clubs, we strengthened learning environments. We were especially moved when our scholars returned as newly licensed professionals—clear proof that Rotary changes not only individual lives, but entire communities.

In **Growing Local Economies**, we supported vocational training in Irisan through welding and electrical skills programs for 15 students, opening doors to livelihood opportunities, self-reliance, and dignity for their families.

Finally, in **Supporting the Environment**, we demonstrated our commitment through tree and bamboo planting at the Kennon Road viewpoint and our **Adopt-a-Park** project at M. Roxas. Our environmental efforts, coupled with sustainable water initiatives, help protect the resources entrusted to us.

Fellow Rotarians, as we reflect on the past seven months, we recognize that while much has been accomplished, Rotary constantly challenges us to ask: *Can we do more? Can we do better?* Let this Club Assembly be not only a report of accomplishments, but a renewal of purpose. Despite our different vocations and backgrounds, we remain one in service, one in mission, and united in doing good—today and in the months ahead



PRES. JOE URСUA

RCB President
RY 2025-2026



MEMBERS' ROSTER

rotary club of Baguio

HONORARY MEMBERS

PP Angelina Palma
PP Loreto Panglinan
PDG Seiichi Morita
PDG Dai Bong Yu
PDG Teo Kwan Swee
PDG Chul Min Choi

NAME	CLASSIFICATION
Dir. Mariver Agayas -----	COMMUNCTN/MEDIA- Correspondent
Rtn. Nancy Alabanza-----	FOOD INDUSTRY- Meat Processing
PP Vicenia Balajo -----	HEALTH CARE- Obstetrics & Gynecology
PP Marilyn Barredo -----	BANKING/MONEY- Information Technology
PE/Dir. Reymund Barrios -----	MKTG/SALES- Animal Feeds
PP Ricardo Bondoc Jr.-----	SOCIAL SERVICE- Entrepreneurship Dev
Rtn. Katrina Bosantog -----	LEGAL- Public Defence
PP Arnel Cabanisas-----	MGMT/ADMIN- Executive Mgmt
Rtn. Evangeline Cacho-----	FOOD INDUSTRY- Catering
Dir. Lorena Cachola -----	SERVICES- Personal Care
PP Anita Calabias -----	INSURANCE- Entrepreneurship
PP Mia Joy Cawed -----	LEGAL – Judiciary
PP/EIC Rafael Chan-----	ARCHITECTURE- Green Building
PP Dionisio Claridad -----	HEALTH CARE- Administration
Dir. Benedicto Grajo -----	SERVICES- Incognito Pest Control
Dir. Emelyou De Guzman-----	FOOD INDUSTRY- Finance Manager
Rtn. Ericson De Guzman -----	PUBLIC RELATIONS- Consumer Welfare
Rtn. Dwight Dulnoan -----	MINING- Exploration
PP Mary Leilani Fabi -----	COMMUNCTN/MEDIA- Telecom
PP Chris Fernando Faelnar -----	ENGINEERING- Electrical Engineering
PP Cyrus Fagar-----	ENGINEERING- Civil Engineering
PP Elizabeth Fernandez -----	LEGAL- Criminal Law
Rtn. Gleniel Flores -----	CONSTRUCTION- Comm'l/Resid'l Contracting
Rtn. Jeffrey Isip-----	INSURANCE- Risk Management
PP Gormito Kaur -----	MARKETING/SALES- Retail Sales
Rtn. Ailyn Kindipan-----	EDUCATION-Art
PP Ben Ladilad-----	AGRI/FORESTRY- Research & Development
Rtn. Estela Landayan-----	EDUCATION- Secondary
PP Alfredo Laygo-----	EDUCATION- Medical
PP Evangeline Maranan-----	MGMT/ADMIN- Special Events
PP/Aud. Alma Teresa Mendalla	BANKING/MONEY- Regional Operations
PP Ali Morales-----	BANKING/MONEY- Bank Manager
Rtn. Cornelio Naguit Jr. -----	HEALTH CARE- Geriatrics
PP/Sec. Ma. Corazon Ocampo-----	EDUCATION- Consultancy/Entrepreneurship
Rtn. Levy Lloyd Orcales -----	GOVERNMENT- City Legislation
Rtn. Krashemae Padilla -----	COMMUNCTN/MEDIA- Videography
PP Christopher Peralta -----	HEALTH CARE- Diabetology
Dir. Eduardo Ramos -----	SERVICES- Memorial Admin
Rtn. Ruth Rillera -----	HEALTH CARE- Nurse
Dir. Arlene Joy Sumalag-----	ART & DESIGN- Handicrafts
PP Benito Sunga-----	HEALTH CARE- Urologyw
PP Alberto Talco -----	ENGINEERING- Civil Engineering
Dir. Glaizazette Tan -----	SERVICES- Dorm Administration
Rtn. Ronald Carlton Tan-----	REAL ESTATE- General Practice
Pres. Jose Ursua-----	SCIENCE/TECH- OBGyne Sonology
Dir. Emmanuel Velasquez -----	MKTG/SALES- Management
Rtn. Anecita Viernes -----	FOOD INDUSTRY- Preserved Items
IPP Jesusa Villanueva -----	GOVERNMENT- Deeds Examination
Rtn. Harly Wasing -----	ENTERTAINMENT- Announcer
Rtn. Peter Wasing -----	ENTERTAINMENT- Journalist
PDG/PP Linda Winter-----	HEALTH CARE- Dentistry

SECRETARY'S UPDATE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

03 – PP Libby Fernandez
05 – Rtn. Lily Landayan
08 – Rtn. Ruth Rillera
12 – PP Mia Cawed
14 – Rtn. Annie Viernes
20 – Rtn. Peter Wasing
23 – Rtn. Harly Wasing

MOST RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Weekly – Mental Health Help Desk in Baguio City Jail (male and female dorms)
Participants: Rtn Bong (lead)

24 – RYLA in Calasiao Sports Complex Pangasinan, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Participants: Sec Cora with the RCB Rotaract Club (RotPres. Andrea Manongdo, Rumell Gaoaen, Brix Tobias, Kerick Tuvera and Amidala Anonog)

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

ATTENDANCE

24 JANUARY 2026

WE MISSED YOU LAST MEETING: Dir. PP Jun, Rtn. Kat, PP Arnel, Rtn Vangie, PP Anet, Rtn Eric, PN Lou, PP Lani, Rtn. Glenn, Rtn. Jeff, PP Baby, PP Atom, PP Ali, Rtn. Levy, Rtn Kacey, Rtn Jojo, Rtn. Annie, IPP Susan, Rtn Harly, Rtn. Peter

EXCUSED: PPP Raffy, Rtn. Ike, PP Libby, PP Cy, PP Ben, Rtn. Lily, PP Benny, PDG Linda, PP Gigi, PP Bert

MAKE-UP: Rtn. Bong, Sec Cora, Dir. Noel, Dir. Arlene, Dir. Glaiza, PE Reymund, Dir. Vell, Dir. Lorena

ON-LEAVE: Rtn. Ruth and Rtn Ailyn

VOCATIONAL AWARDEES: Vence Benedict Quinto, Micahel Tapat, Richard Lumiwan Wailan, Julius Bumacas



PP CORA OCAMPO

RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026

NAMES IN CONTEXT

Fellow Rotarians, when we talk about “the Republic of the Philippines” during our gatherings, we speak a name with a long and contested journey. It is a name born from empire, reshaped by revolution, and carried today with new meaning and pride.

The YouTube video “*The REAL Origin of the Name ‘Philippines’ (And Why It Almost Didn’t Happen)*” reminds us that our country’s name was never inevitable. It could have been something else — or might not have survived at all.

Historically, the name began not with the whole archipelago, but with just two islands. In 1543, Spanish explorer Ruy López de Villalobos sailed into the Visayas and named the islands of Leyte and Samar *Las Islas Felipinas* in honor of Prince Philip of Asturias, who would later become King Philip II of Spain. Mindanao, which they first thought larger, was called *Caesarea Karoli* for Emperor Charles V, showing how names followed royal ambitions rather than local realities.

For decades, “Felipinas” referred only to part of the archipelago. Other European maps and chronicles used labels like *Islas del Poniente* (Islands of the West) or *San Lázaro*, Magellan’s name for the islands he sighted in 1521. Only later, as Spain gradually tightened control over Luzon, Visayas, and parts of Mindanao, did *Las Islas Filipinas* expand to mean nearly all of Spain’s island possessions in this corner of the Pacific.

From a historian’s standpoint, the video’s key claims hold up: Villalobos (or possibly one of his captains) did introduce the name; it first applied to a limited area; and only over time did the term cover the whole archipelago. Where historians add nuance is in reminding us that naming was a political act. To call islands “Felipinas” was to

mark them as under Habsburg influence in the ongoing rivalry with Portugal for the Spice Islands.

Fast-forward to the American period: “*Las Islas Filipinas*” became the “Philippine Islands” in English. Only after independence did we eventually settle on the shorter “Philippines,” while “Filipino,” once reserved for Spaniards born here, evolved into the proud name of the archipelago’s native and diverse peoples.

Why might this matter to a Rotary club in Baguio? Because names are about identity and service. Rotary, too, carries a “borrowed” name from its early meeting style — members rotating among offices — yet the word now stands for global fellowship and service above self. In the same way, a once-colonial geographic label, “Philippines,” has been filled over centuries with new content: Cordilleran rituals like the Cañao, lowland fiestas, Muslim sultanates in Mindanao, and the shared aspirations of over a hundred ethnolinguistic groups.

Our task as Rotarians is not to rewrite the name, but to dignify it. Each literacy project, medical mission, environmental initiative, or peacebuilding effort we undertake quietly redefines what “Philippines” means in our time. We inherit a name given from afar; we give it new meaning from within.

So next time we introduce ourselves as members of the Rotary Club of Baguio, in the Republic of the Philippines, we may hear the echo of Villalobos and Philip II — but also of Rizal, our own elders, and the communities we serve today. In that rich chorus of voices, the true owners of the name finally speak for themselves.

Re-thinking our
Historical Past

by your Cañao Editor-in-Chief



R IN RETROSPECT

HONORING VOCATION AND SERVICE

Last Saturday's meeting of the Rotary Club of Baguio was a meaningful and inspiring gathering, highlighted by the presentation of **Vocational Awards** to four outstanding individuals whose dedication to their craft exemplifies excellence, integrity, and service. More than a regular weekly meeting, it was an afternoon that reminded everyone present of the dignity of work and the true meaning of vocation.

The Vocational Awards were given to **Vence Benedict Quinto, Michael Tapat, Richard Luailan, and Julius Bumacas**, all respected foremen or leadmen in their respective fields. This recognition was initiated by Director Lorena, in her capacity as Director of Livelihood. She carefully explained the thoughtful process undertaken in selecting the awardees, emphasizing that the honors were not merely based on technical skills, but on character, reliability, and positive influence in the workplace. Each awardee received a certificate and a cash incentive, simple tokens that carried deep appreciation and respect from the Club.

Following the awarding ceremony, PP Chris Faelnar shared a brief yet meaningful reflection with the awardees. He explained how the **Four-Way Test**—a principle that guides Rotarians in both personal and professional life—can also serve as a compass in their daily work and future decisions. His message resonated strongly, reinforcing the idea that ethical leadership and integrity are universal values, regardless of one's profession.

The meeting was smoothly hosted by PP Chris Peralta, who guided the program with ease and warmth. To formally open the gathering, PP Diony led the prayer, setting a reflective tone for the afternoon. Rtn. Nancy then facilitated the raffle, an always-anticipated segment that added lighthearted excitement to the meeting—leaving some members feeling victorious, others playfully resigned, but all smiling.

Entertainment took on a slightly more "serious" turn when Dir. Benedict, representing IPP Susan, facilitated a guessing game based on a series of pictures. While challenging, the activity proved to be both engaging and amusing. As many members would agree, it was one of those moments that truly required being there to fully appreciate the fun and laughter it generated.

During Members' Time, PP Chris Faelnar shared good news regarding the completion of the **Water Harvesting Project**, marking another successful initiative of the Club that contributes to sustainable and practical community support. This announcement was met with appreciation, as it reflected the collective effort and commitment of the members.

President's Time followed, with Pres. Joe offering thoughtful reflections on what it truly means to be a Rotarian. He reminded everyone that Rotary membership is not simply an affiliation, but a **vocation and a way of life**—one rooted in service, ethical conduct, and compassion. He also outlined upcoming Club activities and warmly invited all members to take part, reinforcing the importance of shared involvement and collective action.

As the meeting drew to a close, there was a strong sense of fulfillment among those present. The afternoon successfully blended recognition, fellowship, reflection, and service—hallmarks of a Rotary gathering done well.

Indeed, last Saturday's meeting was a fitting reminder that Rotary continues to honor not only projects and programs, but people—those who quietly and faithfully contribute to their professions and communities, living out the values that Rotary holds dear.



DIR. ARLENE SUMALAG

RCB Member since 2023

R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



24 JANUARY 2026 MEETING



FINEST MOMENTS & GUEST OF HONOR

FINEST MOMENTS

Among the traditions that bring color and vibrancy to Rotary meetings is the segment often referred to as “Finest Moments.” Far from being a punitive exercise, this practice is designed to highlight the positive contributions of members and to celebrate their accomplishments in a lighthearted yet meaningful way.

At its core, fining should always be about recognition. A Rotarian may be “fined” for a noteworthy professional achievement, an act of community service, or even a personal milestone such as a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. The fine, therefore, is not a penalty but rather a symbolic acknowledgment of success or service, transforming individual accomplishments into moments of shared joy for the entire club.

Equally important is the principle that fines must never be imposed for errors, or omissions, or missteps. To do so would risk embarrassment and diminish the camaraderie that Rotary seeks to foster. Instead, the spirit of “Finest Moments” should always be uplifting, reinforcing a culture of encouragement.

Another rule of courtesy is that visiting Rotarians should never be fined. Guests are to be welcomed with the full warmth of our fellowship, and their presence should be honored, not burdened. Any practice to the contrary would run counter to the values of hospitality that define Rotary.

Finally, for more substantial fines—perhaps in recognition of a particularly significant accomplishment—it is best to secure prior permission from the member concerned. This ensures both appropriateness and goodwill, allowing the gesture to remain positive and respectful.

When thoughtfully observed, “Finest Moments” transforms a simple meeting practice into a cherished tradition, one that honors achievements while strengthening the bonds of Rotary fellowship.

GUEST SPEAKER DECORUM

One of the highlights of every Rotary gathering is the presentation of a Guest Speaker. Whether the topic is light and entertaining or deeply inspiring, the presence of an invited speaker enriches the program and provides members with new insights. Because of the value placed on this tradition, a few courtesies must always be observed to uphold both the dignity of the speaker and the reputation of the club.

First, no other speech should be delivered after the Guest Speaker has concluded, except for the formal Club Response or very brief announcements that may be necessary. This ensures that the speaker’s message remains the centerpiece of the program, unclouded by competing words or distractions. The attention and respect given to the speaker reflects directly on our club courtesy.

Equally important is the gesture of gratitude. Regardless of how the talk was received—whether it was deeply moving or perhaps more modest in impact—the Guest Speaker must always be thanked in front of the membership. This public acknowledgment demonstrates the club’s appreciation for the time, effort, and goodwill extended by the speaker.

When a plaque or token of appreciation is presented, the audience should rise and applaud. Standing together in unison not only honors the speaker but also conveys the collective respect and gratitude of the club. Such a moment elevates the ceremony, making the appreciation both visible and heartfelt.

Finally, during a Governor’s Visit, it must be remembered that the District Governor is both the Guest of Honor and the Speaker for the event. A common mistake is inviting another Guest Speaker on such occasions, which may unintentionally overshadow the Governor’s role. Proper observance of this protocol affirms respect for Rotary leadership.



THE LIFE WE BUILD THROUGH SERVICE

We often speak of service as something we *give*—our time, our skills, our presence, or our resources. Yet, as the years unfold, we begin to notice something more subtle happening within us. Service does not simply flow outward. It also shapes us inwardly, sometimes more deeply than we expect. Every small effort, every moment of stepping forward instead of stepping aside, becomes part of the quiet architecture of our lives, forming a personal foundation built with intention and care.

There is a beautiful irony in Rotary service: the more we extend ourselves toward others, the more clearly we begin to see who we are. Not the titles we carry or the labels we've earned, but the steady character formed from showing up, helping out, and caring sincerely. These are not the things that appear on plaques or certificates. They are built quietly, brick by brick, in the unglamorous but deeply meaningful work we do together as Rotarians.

When I think of the Rotarians I have known—young and senior alike—I realize that the people who seem most grounded are not necessarily the most accomplished in the conventional sense. Rather, they are those who have found a rhythm in service, who understand that fulfillment grows from consistency, sincerity, and compassion. They radiate a gentleness that comes from living a life that matters—a life shaped not by circumstance, but by choices made deliberately and wholeheartedly.

Service has a way of teaching us what truly counts. It helps us recognize the difference between

being busy and being useful, between chasing recognition and choosing relevance. We learn that the most important moments are often the simplest: visiting a community in need, showing kindness to a fellow Rotarian, supporting a project quietly even when no one notices. These moments become the unseen beams that strengthen the structure of who we are.

Rotary gives us a clear path to build such a life. Each meeting, each project, each interaction becomes an invitation to be a little more generous, a little more attentive, a little more human. We discover that the life worth remembering is crafted not in great leaps, but in small steps taken with intention. And when these steps are shared with friends who walk the same path, the journey becomes lighter, warmer, and far more meaningful.

As seniors, many of us look back and wonder whether we made the right choices or left the right legacy. The beauty of service is that it constantly reassures us: ***yes, we did.*** Every act of kindness, every joyful moment spent in fellowship, every hour devoted to helping—these have not vanished. They have become part of the life we have built, a life with meaning reflected in the faces we've helped, the friendships we've nurtured, and the communities we've strengthened over the decades.

So let us continue building—not hurriedly, but with steady hands and open hearts. For in the end, the life shaped through service is the life that stands strongest, and the one that shines longest in the memories of others.



PP RAFFY CHAN

Cañao Editor-in-Chief
RY 2025-2026

PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Pine Room (Training Center)

Saturday, 31 January 2026

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)
1:20	Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests (VRG)	PP Vicenia Balajo
	Entertainment	Dir. Mariver Agayas
	Finest Moments	PP Arnel Cabanisas
	Raffle	Rtn. Annie Viernes
1:40	Members' Time	(Anyone)
1:50	President's Time	Pres. Joe Ursua
1:55	CLUB ASSEMBLY	
	FELLOWSHIP	
2:30	RCB Hymn	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal	(Everyone)
	Adjournment	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator	PP Benny Sunga
	Retrospect	Rtn. Levy Orcales
	Imager	Rtn. Peter Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Pine Room (Training Center)

Saturday, 07 February 2026

Program Coordinator	PP Lani Fabi
Invocation	Rtn. Bong Naguit
Introduction of VRG	Rtn. Vangie Cacho
Entertainment	Rtn. Harly Wasing
Raffle	
Finest Moments	PP Chris Faelnar

Introduction of CHS	PN Reymund Barrios
CHS	Rtn. Annie Viernes
Topic: Classification Talk	
Club Response	
Retrospect	PP Libby Fernandez
Imager	Rtn. Peter Wasing

JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH