

Rotary Club of Baguio



OFFICIAL CLUB BULLETIN
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Saturday, 16 May 2026

PLANNING WORKSHOP ONE
FOR RY 2026-2027



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

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



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



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THE CAÑAO & NEW EMBLEM

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

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



P PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TOGETHER IN SERVICE

It has been some time since we last gathered together, and surely we have all missed the warmth of one another's presence during our Rotary meetings. Fellowship is truly one of Rotary's greatest treasures, and every absence reminds us how much stronger we become when we meet, share, and serve together.

We are now entering the final two months of this Rotary year, which will formally conclude on 27 June 2026, when we pass the baton—and the gavel—to our next President, **PE Reymund Barrios**, who will lead our club for Rotary Year 2026–2027. As of this writing, the incoming administration has already completed much of its preparation and training in readiness to continue creating a **Lasting Impact** through Rotary service.

Our Rotary theme this year, **Unite for Good**, is slowly drawing to a close. Looking back, what a meaningful journey it has been for all of us. This theme challenged us to come together as one Rotary family, united not only in purpose but also in compassion and action. As the year nears its end, perhaps the most important question we can ask ourselves is simple: *Did we do good for the world?*

If the answer is yes, then we truly fulfilled our calling as Rotarians. We became instruments of hope, kindness, and meaningful service to others. Despite challenges and limitations, we persevered together and continued moving forward. For this, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member who supported our club throughout this Rotary year.

Today, several of our RCB members attended the **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Levels I and II**. My sincere thanks to Incoming President Reymund Barrios, PN Lou, Director Glaiza, Director Ben, Director Noel, Director Arlene, Incoming Secretary Levy, IPP Susan, PP Cora, and PP Ali. We spent the entire day at 456 Hotel

and proudly received our graduation certificates.

RLI plays an important role in developing ethical and effective Rotary leaders. It strengthens our understanding of **Service Above Self**, deepens our appreciation of **The Rotary Foundation**, and reminds us of the importance of Rotary's **Seven Areas of Focus**.

This coming May 16, you will see our Incoming President leading his planning sessions for the next Rotary year. I regret that I will be unable to preside over the meeting, as I will be participating in a medical outreach mission in San Carlos City through the hospital where I serve.

Please take note of these important upcoming dates:

May 16 & 23- Planning Sessions RY 2026-2027, for PE Reymund

June 06- Constitutional Amendments

June 27- District 3790 Year-End Celebration at Royce Hotel, Clark, Pampanga

As I slowly begin to sign off as your President for Rotary Year 2025–2026, I do so with deep gratitude and humility. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Baguio during our 88th year.

Thank you for the trust, support, and friendship you have generously shared with me. To my Board of Directors, our Vice President, Secretary, committee chairs, advisers, and every member who stood with us through both triumphs and challenges—my sincerest appreciation.

This Rotary year became meaningful because of all of you. I can never thank you enough.

Agyamanak apo.



PRES. JOE URSUA

RCB President
RY 2025-2026



MAY: ABUNDANCE AND GRATITUDE MONTH

The fifth month of the year, is another opportunity to reflect on the blessings of life and fellowship. May, is a season of abundance and gratitude. It carries with it the fullness of summer, the promise of harvest, and the anticipation of new beginnings. For our May birthday celebrants, this month reflects the richness of their own lives—filled with energy, generosity, and a spirit that inspires those around them.

In the Philippines, May is one of the most colorful months of the year. Festivities such as Flores de Mayo and Santacruzán bring communities together in celebration of faith and tradition. Families and friends gather for vacations, reunions, and celebrations under the bright summer sun. It is also the month when flowers bloom most beautifully, decorating towns and villages with natural color and life. To be born in May is to share a birthday with a season of beauty and joy, when nature itself seems to echo the spirit of festivity.

Science and tradition alike offer observations about those born in this month. Some studies suggest that May-born individuals often enjoy positive outlooks and strong energy, shaped by the season of their birth. They are seen as people of warmth, enthusiasm, and resilience. These qualities align perfectly with the season itself: May is lively, hopeful, and full of abundance. Within our fellowship, these traits are reflected in our May celebrants, who often bring enthusiasm to projects, laughter to gatherings, and strength to friendships.

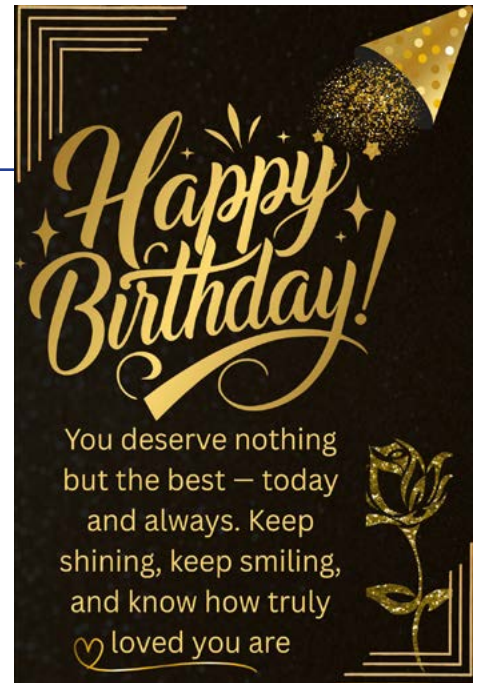
In Rotary, such qualities are invaluable. May celebrants remind us

that service is most powerful when shared with gratitude and joy. Their energy breathes life into initiatives, their generosity enriches our bonds, and their optimism inspires others to give more of themselves. Their birthdays are not only personal milestones but also communal celebrations—moments for us to honor the spirit of abundance they bring into our fellowship. They remind us that life itself is a gift, and service becomes a way of expressing thanks for that gift.

History also honors many great figures born in May—leaders, artists, and visionaries whose lives reflect the richness of this month. In much the same way, our May celebrants make their mark within our circle. Whether in leadership, in service, or in everyday acts of kindness, they embody the values of Rotary and add meaning to the lives of others. Their presence is proof that abundance is not measured only in material blessings but in generosity of heart.

As we celebrate our May-born members, let us do so with deep gratitude. May their lives continue to be blessed with health, happiness, and fulfillment. May they find joy in their families, strength in their friendships, and pride in their service to others.

Indeed, May is a month of abundance and gratitude—and our celebrants reflect the season's spirit in the way they live, serve, and share their blessings with all.



OUR MAY-BORN MEMBERS



PP Ben Ladilad
May 03



PP Alfred Laygo
May 16



PE Reymund Barrios
May 26





SECRETARY'S UPDATE

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR MAY

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

- 03 – PP Ben Ladilad
- 16 – PP Alfred Laygo
- 26 – PE Reymund Barrios

MOST RECENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Weekly – Mental Health Help Desk in Baguio City Jail (male and female dorms)

Participants: Rtn Bong (lead)

10-11 April – District Conference (DISCON 2026), Hotel Supreme Convention Plaza, Magsaysay Avenue, Baguio City

02 May – President Elect and Secretary Elect Learning Seminar (PESELS), 9:00 AM at Aureo Hotel and Resort, San Fernando La Union

Participants: Incoming AG Chris Faelnar, PE Reymund Barrios and incoming VP-SEC Levy Orcales

10 May – Rotary Leadership Institute 1 and 2, 456 Hotel; Legarda Baguio City (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Participants: RLI 1 – Dir. Lou, Dir. Glaiza, PE Reymund, Rtn. Levy, Dir. Benedict, Dir. Noel, Dir. Arlene

Participants: RLI 2 – Sec Cora, Pres Joe and IPP Susan

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

29-30 May – Club Leadership Learning Seminar (CLLS), Chavit Coliseum, Tamag Vigan City, Ilocos Sur (1:00 PM and 9:00 AM respectively).

ATTENDANCE

18 APRIL 26

WE MISSED YOU: Dir. Vel, PP Jun, Dir. Kat, Rtn Eric, PP Lani, Rtn. Jeff, PP Ali, Rtn. Kacey, Dir. Ed, Rtn Harley, Rtn Peter, PP Baby, Dir Eduard

EXCUSED: PP Chris F, PP Cy, PP Ben, PDG Linda, PP Lily, PP Benny, PP Raffy, PP Lily, PP Chris F, PP Raffy, PP Mia, PP Veeh

Make-Up: Rtn. Bong, Dir Lou, PE Reymund, Rtn. Levy, Dir. Benedict, Dir. Noel, Dir. Arlene and IPP Susan

ON-LEAVE: Rtn. Ruth



PP CORA OCAMPO
RCB Secretary
RY 2025-2026





REFLECTION, LEARNING & FELLOWSHIP

The Rotary Club of Baguio gathered on 18 April 2026, at the Wolfson Room in observance of Environment Month, opening the meeting with purpose and quiet anticipation. President Jose Ursua called the assembly to order, setting a tone aligned with reflection, responsibility, and service.

Rtn. Evangeline Cacho led the invocation, guiding members into a moment of prayer. This was followed by the singing of the Pambansang Awit, the Rotary Hymn, and the Four-Way Test—reaffirming the values that continue to guide the Club’s mission.

PP Atom Mendalla then introduced the visiting Rotarians and guests. The Club warmly acknowledged the presence of PP Carlos “Caloy” Mendoza and Rtn. Dwight “Ike” Dulnuan, whose attendance added to the fellowship of the gathering.

The raffle segment, facilitated by PP Arnel Cabanisas, brought lighthearted excitement, with Dubai chocolates delighting the lucky winners. This was followed by the Finest Moments, led by PP Anet Calabias, who highlighted key insights and memorable points, reminding members of both their shared experiences and responsibilities.

During Members’ Time and President’s Time, updates and reflections were shared, strengthening the bonds within the Club. A cheerful moment followed as members sang a birthday greeting for PP Atom Mendalla, adding warmth and camaraderie to the afternoon.

A meaningful segment featured Rotary Scholar Engr. Emilio Steven Navarro, who shared his academic and professional journey. A Chemical and Environmental Engineer, educator, and water practitioner, he spoke of his experience as an Assistant Professor and former Distribution Planning Manager at

Manila Water. He highlighted his work in mentoring students on WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) challenges, conducting research on wastewater treatment and low-cost technologies, and managing a 340 MLD water system in Quezon City—reducing water loss and improving efficiency during critical periods such as El Niño 2024.

Engr. Navarro also shared his pursuit of an MSc in Water and Sustainable Development in the Netherlands, with the goal of bridging engineering and public health for the benefit of Baguio and Northern Luzon. While he humbly sought support, President Joe informed the Club that Rotary International scholarship grants are currently suspended until July 2027.

The program then transitioned to the Guest Speaker, Ms. Melanie “Melan” Ku Marquez, introduced by Dir. Glaiza Tan. In her engaging lecture-workshop based on Mindful Lines, Mindful Lives, she explored stress, neuroarts, and resilience. She explained how creative expression can influence brain function and emotional well-being, highlighting neuroplasticity—the brain’s capacity to adapt and grow. Through mindful drawing, she demonstrated how simple artistic practices can support clarity, healing, and emotional balance.

PP Libby Fernandez delivered a thoughtful response, emphasizing the importance of self-care, faith, and resilience. She reminded members that caring for oneself enables service to others, that blessings often come in unexpected forms, and that trust in God provides strength in times of uncertainty.

The meeting concluded with the singing of the RCB Hymn and Pilipinas Kong Mahal. At exactly 3:52 pm, President Ursua adjourned the session, closing an afternoon marked by learning, reflection, and renewed fellowship—true to the enduring spirit of Rotary.



RTN. AILYN KINDIPAN
RCB Member since 2024



R RETROSPECT SCENES

SCENES WE LIKE TO SEE :



18 APRIL 2026 MEETING

Retrospect Photos By:
PP Anet, PP Cora,
and PP Libby



THE FIRST FOUR ROTARIANS

Every enduring movement begins with individuals whose vision quietly reshapes the world. For Rotary, that beginning can be traced to four men who gathered in Chicago in 1905, each bringing not only a profession, but a perspective on life, work, and community. Together, they formed the nucleus of what would become a global fellowship rooted in service and trust.

At the center of this beginning was Paul Harris, a young lawyer in Chicago who longed for something deeper than the anonymity of a growing city. Having moved frequently in his early years, Harris carried with him a desire for stability and genuine friendship. He envisioned a circle of professionals who would meet regularly, not just for business advantage, but for camaraderie and mutual support. It was this simple yet profound idea that led him to invite three acquaintances to join him in what would become Rotary's first meeting.

The second of the four was Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer whose warmth and practicality complemented Harris's vision. It was in Schiele's office that the

first meeting took place. Known for his generosity and approachable nature, Schiele embodied the spirit of fellowship that would become central to Rotary. His workplace became the first setting where the idea of rotating meeting places—giving Rotary its name—was put into practice.

Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer, was the third member of this founding group. His office was, in fact, the location of that very first gathering. Loehr was methodical and thoughtful, bringing a sense of structure and organization to the early meetings. Though perhaps less publicly celebrated, his role was essential in giving form to what might otherwise have remained an informal gathering of friends.

The fourth Rotarian was Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor whose keen business sense and engaging personality rounded out the group. Shorey represented the everyday professional—practical, hardworking, and deeply connected to his community. His presence helped ensure that Rotary would not remain an exclusive circle, but rather a diverse

fellowship open to individuals from various trades and professions.

What united these four men was not similarity, but complementarity. Each brought something different: vision, hospitality, structure, and practicality. Together, they created a space where trust could grow, and where relationships could extend beyond transactions into genuine care for one another. In time, this foundation would evolve into a commitment not only to fellowship, but to service.

As their meetings continued, the idea of extending goodwill beyond their circle naturally emerged. What began as a gathering of professionals soon transformed into a movement dedicated to improving lives. The principle of "Service Above Self" was not declared at the outset, but it grew organically from the character and interactions of these four individuals.

Today, Rotary spans continents, cultures, and communities. Yet at its heart, it still reflects the spirit of those first four Rotarians. Their example reminds us that meaningful change often begins with simple intentions—friendship, trust, and a willingness to come together.

In Baguio and in Rotary clubs around the world, we continue what they started. We meet, we share, and we serve. And in doing so, we honor not only their legacy, but the enduring idea that from four individuals gathered in goodwill, a movement for global good can emerge and flourish across generations.



The first Rotarians, from Left: Silvester Schiele, Paul Harris (pointing to book), Hiram E. Shorey, and Gustavus H. Loehr



BELONGING TO SOMETHING BIGGER

There is a quiet moment in every Rotary gathering — perhaps during the invocation, or while singing the Four-Way Test — when we are reminded that we are part of something far greater than the room we sit in. Within the fellowship of the Rotary Club of Baguio, we experience warmth, familiarity, and shared purpose. Yet beyond our meetings lies a vast and vibrant network that stretches across continents.

To be a Rotarian is to belong not only to a local club, but to a global movement.

Founded in 1905 and now present in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, Rotary International unites professionals, leaders, and community builders under one enduring ideal: Service Above Self. This shared commitment forms an invisible yet powerful thread — connecting Baguio to Bangkok, Manila to Melbourne, the Cordilleras to communities halfway across the world.

What does it mean, then, to belong to something bigger?

First, it means that our local actions ripple outward. When we conduct a literacy program, support environmental initiatives, or mentor young leaders, we are participating in a global tapestry of service. Somewhere, at the same hour, another Rotary club is organizing a medical mission, planting trees, or sponsoring scholarships. Though separated by distance and culture, we are united in intention.

Second, belonging to a global network broadens our perspective. Rotary invites us to think beyond our immediate surroundings. Issues such as peacebuilding, disease prevention, maternal health, and clean water are not abstract global concerns; they are shared human realities. When we engage in Rotary's areas of focus, we align our efforts with a coordinated international vision — one that seeks sustainable

solutions rather than temporary relief.

For us in Baguio, this global connection carries both privilege and responsibility. We enjoy the fellowship of a close-knit club, yet we are called to think expansively. We are beneficiaries of Rotary's reputation for integrity and service. That reputation has been built over decades by millions of Rotarians who came before us. In our conduct, in our projects, and in our leadership, we safeguard that trust.

There is also a deeply personal dimension to this global belonging.

When a Rotarian travels abroad and visits another club, there is an immediate sense of familiarity. The meeting format may vary. The language may differ. But the values resonate. The same Four-Way Test. The same emphasis on ethical leadership. The same commitment to community upliftment. Rotary becomes a bridge — transcending nationality and culture.

In a world often divided by politics, ideology, and misunderstanding, this global fellowship is quietly radical. It reminds us that cooperation is possible. That service unites where debate divides. That goodwill can cross borders without passports.

Yet belonging to something bigger does not diminish our local identity. On the contrary, it enriches it. The unique character of the Rotary Club of Baguio — shaped by our city's heritage, diversity, and resilience — becomes our distinctive contribution to the global Rotary family.

As we gather week after week, let us remember: we are not an isolated club striving alone. We are threads woven into a worldwide fabric of service.

And in faithfully serving our beloved City of Pines, we strengthen the very global thread that joins us all.



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

PROGRAM FOR TODAY

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 16 May 2026

TIME	PORTION	IN CHARGE
12:00 nn	Fellowship	
12:30 pm	Call to Order	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Invocation	Dir. Glaiza Tan
	Pambansang Awit	(Everyone)
	Rotary Hymn	(Everyone)
	Four-Way-Test	(Everyone)
1:20 pm	Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests (VRG)	Rtn. Lily Landayan
	Entertainment	Dir. Mariver Agayas
	Raffle	Dir. Benedict Grajo
	Finest Moments	Rtn. Tonton Tan
1:40 pm	Members' Time	(Anyone)
1:50 pm	President's Time	Pres. Joe Ursua
1:55 pm	Turnover of Proceedings to	PE Reymund Barrios
	Introduction of Planning Mechanics	
	PLANNING PROPER	
2:30 pm	RCB Hymn	(Everyone)
	Pilipinas Kong Mahal	(Everyone)
	Adjournment	Pres. Joe Ursua
	Program Coordinator	VP Lou De Guzman
	Retrospect	Dir. Arlene Sumalag
	Imager	Rtn. Peter Wasing

PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT MEETING

REGULAR MEETING at the BCC Wolfson Room

Saturday, 23 May 2026

Program Coordinator ----- PP Benny Sunga
 Invocation ----- PP Ben Ladilad
 Introduction of VRG ----- PP Bert Talco
 Entertainment ----- Dir. Noel Velasquez
 Raffle ----- Rtn. Annie Viernes
 Finest Moments ----- PP Mia Cawed

Proceedings Turnover ---- PE Reymund Barrios
 Introduction of Planning Mechanics
 PLANNING PROPER
 Adjournment ----- Pres. Joe Ursua
 Retrospect ----- Sec. Levy Orcales
 Imager ----- Rtn. Peter Wasing

MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

