



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3800

Governor's Monthly Letter



Rotary International District 3800 DISCON 2011 hits big time on DISCON attendance with more than 1,000 delegates

My Dear Global Family of Rotary

As we celebrate DISCON 2011, we scored another achievement in terms of DISCON attendance. We broke the highest attendance record of DISCON in the history of our District where the attendance was 920 and at the time that I wrote this letter, we are approaching already the 1,000 mark. I am proud to say that RI District 3800 really hit big time in terms of attendance for DISCON 2011.



In our DISCON, we will also celebrate all of our accomplishments for the first eight (8) months of the year. I am very pleased to report that we performed very well on Membership where our District was consistently honored from July to present as the number one for both in terms of number with a net growth of 151 members and in terms of percentage, we already have a net growth at 9% as of February 28, 2011. With four months left in our term, we can already say that we can achieve our membership goal. Please note that we did not include the three (3) provisional clubs where we expect at least 25 members per club.

On The Rotary Foundation, we also scored a major major victory when the biggest TRF record of our District in the amount of \$249,660 was broken as early as February 22, 2011. As of today, we have around \$275,000 total contributions to our Foundation. This reinforces our position as number one in the Region, a position we occupied since July of last year up to present. We managed to have additional two (2) new Major Donors in the persons of Pres. Teddy Boy Zamora of RC Caloocan and PP Jose Castro of RC San Juan.

Now we are really going Global.

For these achievements I salute all of the members of the Global Team and the global Rotarians and spouses of RI District 3800.

Global Governor Virgilio "Jun" Farcon, Jr.

DISCON 2011

BUILDING COMMUNITIES
BRIDGING CONTINENTS

BIGGER,
BETTER
and
BOLDER

THAN EVER...

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 3800

MARCH 11-12, 2011
EDSA SHANGRI-LA MANILA
HOST: Rotary Clubs of Marikina Zone



The District Valentine's Party

Rotarians love fun and fellowship. That was again proven at the District's Valentine's Party held at the Main Ballroom of the Valle Verde Country Club in the evening of Saturday, February 12. The event was hosted by the Rotary Club of Marikina Heights.

Among the first to arrive were the Global Presidents who had prepared a special dance number and had agreed on a last rehearsal. At 6 pm, the Ballroom tastefully decorated for the occasion was still sparsely filled; but at 8 pm additional tables and chairs had to be carried in to accommodate the more than 300 Rotarians and guests prepared for a fun-filled evening. And what an evening it was! The early arrivals had beefed up their appetite with fresh tuna and lechon. Obviously, everyone was happy when PP Jess Domingo announced that dinner was about to be served. The waiters had their hands full, literally, to make sure that everyone got served without much delay. The Global Presidents danced to the delight of the audience while enjoying or waiting for their dinner. PP Jess introduced two young and new Rotarians, Sugar Reyes and JR Andrade, to moderate a short program. As usual, Governor Jun Farcon expressed his delight about the excellent attendance at this nearly last District Fellowship. He had brought in the Noah's Ark Band to make sure that the evening would not be short of appropriate dance music. The Chairperson of the event, PP Josephine Bernabe, expressed her gratitude to the many sponsors who had generously contributed to assure a delightful evening. She also thanked her Club Team for their time and effort to make sure

that the evening would run smoothly. With the more formal part done with, the Noah's Ark Band let the audience know what they came to Valle Verde for two days before Valentine's Day. A complete metamorphosis took place. The spacious dance floor was soon filled with fun-loving Rotarians, young and not-so-young (including Governor Jun and Lady Zeny) who danced the evening away watching the DIs in front mindless of the body moist that soon discolored the special attire they had carefully chosen for the night. But who cared? Meanwhile the tables and chairs in the ballroom were nearly empty except for a few that were occupied by those whose bodies were more beholden to the spirits that enliven the internals.

Of course both the dancers and the band would occasionally rest. The moderators were instantly ready with some parlor games and later in the evening also the raffle prizes. The partying came into conclusion when Gov. Jun banged the gavel to announce the adjournment of the successful District Valentine's Party 2011. Then, clubs and batches gathered their members together to pose for posterity with Gov. Jun and Lady Zeny. It was late in the evening or rather early morning when the by now tired couples and singles slowly moved to the exit drove their way home for a good night's rest. It had been a great party. As Governor Jun said in his thank you note the next day: Many he had talked to had expressed in so many ways how this Valentine's Party was one of the most enjoyable ever. **PP Jo Bernabe, Valentine's Party Chair**





DL Verano wins 2011 District Active Chess Tournament

GM Eugene Torre, Asia's first Grandmaster, spoke from the heart of his love for the game and his passion for it as he addressed hundreds of promising chess players from Rotary International District 3800 at the Marikina Rotary Youth Center in Marikina. This district-wide chess tournament, hosted by RC Marikina, was held last February 19, 2011, from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm. It involved more than 100 participants including Rotarians and their immediate families and Rotaractors and Interactors from RI District 3800. DG Jun Farcon is very proud of this Family of Rotary district project, using chess as a sporting activity, to promote a healthy body and a sound mind for the entire Rotary family. He faced GM Eugenio Torre in the ceremonial first move on the chess board before fellow Rotarians led by LtG Fabi Cadiz, DS Tom Rocamora, DDS Joey Sy, Chair of the District Sports & Fellowship committee and District Chess Chair PP Dante Verano.

Project Chairman PP Dante Verano envisioned the participation of many talented Rotarian chess players and their families to join this district project, including his own 14-year old son DL, who is a top player from Marist School. The format of this active chess tournament was the Swiss system involving 5 rounds. Ties were broken using the computerized M-Bucholz system. Chief Arbiter NM Rudy Ibanez drafted the tournament rules to ensure a fair and exciting competition. DDT Hermie R. de la Paz assisted PP Dante Verano in the various aspects of the tournament including the participation of Rotarians in the district.

At the end of the Chessfest, with a perfect score of 5 points, Dante Leonardo "DL" Verano (RC Marikina), emerged as the undefeated champion of this district event winning the grand trophy. Other trophy winners, who scored 4 points include GP Emil Aco (RC Metro Valenzuela), PP Joe Judan (RC Marikina) and PP Bong Tebelin (RC Pasig Sunrise). The rest of the top 10 winners, who scored 3 points and received medals, include PP Mario Bandelaria (RC Pasig Sunrise), Joseph Aco (RC Metro Valenzuela), PP Nanding Paunil (RC Caloocan Silangan), Elwin de Jesus (RC Pasig Sunrise), Hermie R. de la Paz (RC Marikina) and PE Alfie Dimanlig (RC Pasig Sunrise).

This tournament also coincided with the 1st RC Marikina Active Chess Tournament for the best chess playing high school and elementary students from both public and private schools in Marikina City. GP Ronie Masangkay is pleased that many talented Marikina student chess players have registered and are given this big opportunity to showcase their skills against their peers in other schools in one of the biggest chess tournament in the city of Marikina. Julius from Parang Elementary School emerged as the undefeated champion of this event winning the grand trophy and cash prize. 1st Runner-up with 4.5 points is Haince de Leon from Marist School. Other trophy winners, who scored 4 points include Jhun Langote (MHS) and Christeo Bermido (NHS). The other top 10 winners received medals and cash. The rest of the players who did not win in the tournament went home with various raffle prizes. **DDT Hermie de la Paz, RC Marikina**





Ang Aming Pagmamahal Kay Lolo at Lola

Last February 19, 2011, more than two hundred eighty elderly men and women of *Lualhati ng Maynila* were treated to a program of music and games by the Global Rotarians of District 3800. These elderlies who are at the sunset of their days have been forgotten and abandoned by the young people who are either too busy making a living or just plain ungrateful. They each have a story to tell. *Lualhati ng Maynila*, located inside the Manila Boys Town Complex, was initiated by Mayor Alfredo Lim as a refuge for these elderlies where they are taken cared of by volunteer caregivers, social workers and paid orderlies.

Balloons decorated Lualhati with red tarpaulins echoing the theme of the event “ANG AMING PAGMAMAHAL KAY LOLO AT LOLA”.

The program, emceed by PP Glo Cotoco of RC of Ortigas Center and Social Worker, Amy, started with a prayer led by Lolo Emilio. A showdown of songs and dances followed with the lolos and lolas and the Global Rotarians, led by Gov. Jun and Lady Zeny, alternating and trying to outdo each other with their singing and dancing talent. After the Rotarians danced a modern dance, the residents led everyone to dance the “chicken dance”. As the residents sang “*Tatanda Rin Kayo*”, we were reminded of the inevitability of our aging and our hope that we are not abandoned by our families. Exciting games of “shooting the poker chips”, “statue dance” and “passing of gifts” led by PP

Joy were played and winners were awarded prizes of chocolates and biscuits.

Packed lunch of pancit and meat was served after which gift packs were given each one containing T-shirts, used clothes, towels, plastic glass, toothbrush, biscuits and chocolates. Bath soap, cologne, mouth wash, toothpaste, deodorant, blankets and comforters, used clothes, cleaning materials, disinfectants, powdered laundry soap, dishwashing liquids, toasties were donated for use by residents. A digital camera was also given to the Admin Office c/o Ms. Leonila Borja for their record keeping requirements.

We are thankful that we were given the chance to make the *lolos* and *lolas* realize that while we may be strangers, we can share with them some love and care that they no longer receive from their families. With the cash donations, the committee bought rechargeable batteries and charger for the digital camera, shampoo, plastic glasses, disposable clear glasses for drinking water, biscuits, chocolates, candies, plastic bags. It was an unforgettable and joyful experience to be able to extend assistance to the residents and witness the happiness and the smiles in their faces. We can see in their faces their wish that we be with them longer. -

Thank you all for sharing your blessings with our *lolos* and *lolas*! **PP Glo Cotoco, Concern for the Elderly Chair**





“OPERATION WE CARE” - A Joint Project with RI Districts 6690 and 7630, USA

“Operation We Care” is an annual free surgical mission of volunteer Rotarians from Districts 6690 and 7630, USA. Indigents who could not avail of major and minor operations due to financial constraints were the beneficiaries of this endeavor. Some of the cases being addressed by this program are the following: major operations of the ovary, uterus, cervix, gall bladder, kidney, hemorrhoids, prostate, goiter, hernia, etc. and minor operations include removal of “cysts” in the breasts and other external parts of the body. Every year, Districts 6690 and 7630, in partnership with their counterpart districts work together to carry out projects of this nature.

This year’s mission was done again in our district as a result of the invitation by IPDG Rudy San Felipe. On December 29, 2010, IPDG Rudy together with PP Alfred Lo of RC Marikina Hilltop and PP Tony Mateo of RC Lakeshore Rizal formed the working committees that would undertake the project composed mostly of Rotarians from RCs Lakeshore Rizal as the lead club, Teresa, Morong, Cardona, Pililla Central, Tanay, Binangonan and Angono. They partnered with the Rizal Provincial Government, Tomas Claudio Memorial College, Rizal Medical Society, Eastern Rizal Medical Society and Philippine Dental Association-Rizal Chapter.

After a series of meetings, preparation and coordination with “Operation We Care” team and co-team leaders PDG Mel Simon and PP Ralph Zaragoza of D-6690, the project was formally started with a welcome dinner on February 13, 2011 hosted by Tomas Claudio Memorial College.

After the welcome dinner, the days from February 14 to 18, 2011 were so hectic for the volunteers who started their operations as early as 7 am until late in the evening. PP Tony Mateo did what we call “free medical mission” by himself two weeks prior and another week after the scheduled dates of the mission. Free screening including chest x-ray, urinalysis, CBC and ECG conducted by Rizal Provincial Hospital. This pre-operation requirement, courtesy of the Rizal Provincial government, cleared the way for every surgery - 114 major and 206 minor cases.

A Continuing Medical Education called “6th Annual Dr. Neopito C. Robles Memorial Lecture: State of the Art in Surgery, Clinical and Dental” was also held at the Tomas Claudio Memorial College auditorium on February 16, 2011. This was attended by doctors from the Rizal Medical Society, Eastern Rizal Medical Society and Philippine Dental Association-Rizal Chapter and the Nursing students and faculty of Tomas Claudio Memorial College.

The mission was capped by a farewell and recognition party hosted by RC Cardona. In recognition of their efforts, awards were given by PDG Mel Simon in behalf of The Rotary Foundation and Operation We Care Group from USA, Canada and Germany. Similarly, Rizal Governor Jun Ynares awarded certificates of appreciation to members of the Team while the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Rizal extended a Resolution of Thanks.

It was indeed an affair to remember. **PP Boboy Campos, GML Assistant Editor-In-Chief**





END POLIO NOW Beaming at the Mall of Asia on Rotary's 106th Anniversary

The 10 Philippine Rotary Districts join the other Districts and Rotary clubs around the world by illuminating iconic landmarks with the END POLIO NOW message to raise awareness of Rotary's pledge to free the world of the dreaded crippling disease, on February 23, 2011 in celebration of Rotary's 106th Anniversary. The event was spearheaded by RI District 3830 and RC Makati San Lorenzo.



Global Rotarians of District 3800 started with a motorcade from Greenhills, San Juan in going to the Mall of Asia in Pasay City. The "beaming" activity of the Rotary seal and the END POLIO NOW campaign logo was at the globe structure fronting the Mall of Asia using the state of the art globe led. PRID Paing Hechanova delivered the keynote message. It was very appropriate since he was the District Governor of RI District 3820 when Rotary International thru a 3-H Grant initiated the Polio Immunization project in the Philippines 33 years ago.



After the ceremony, our Rotarians proceeded to the Hong Kong Chef Seafood Restaurant for dinner and fellowship to celebrate Rotary's 106th birthday.



RC Caloocan Silangan together with Zone 7 Rotary clubs and Red Cross build 22 houses in Sitio Sumilang, Brgy, San Jose, Antipolo City.



RC Rizal Centro donates a Solar Power System to Antipolo National High School thru a Matching Grant from RC South Everett/Mukilteo and RI District 5050.

Spouse Blog

by DGL Zeny Farcon



4TH SPOUSES BREAKFAST MEETING

The 4th Spouses Breakfast Meeting held last February 5, 2011 at Club Filipino proved once and for all the spouses' unity and camaraderie, as manifested by an impressive number of contented and happy attendees. The occasion was hosted by the energetic Global Spouses of Zone 5.

The meeting was called to order by District Governor Lady Zeny Farcon followed by a sumptuous meal. Adolfo Bellosillo, MD, FACC, FPCC, FPCP, FPCCP; a renowned cardiologist, whose advocacy is to educate individuals on the proper way of handling and treatment of hypertension and other coronary diseases, was the spouses' invited guest speaker. Speaking eloquently on the topic "Take Good Care of Your Heart, It's the Only One You've Got", the specialist Dr. Bellosillo, awed and enlightened the listeners on the right way and proper time of taking their medication as well as stressed the conducive time to indulge into an exercise. He discussed deeper on the kinds of hypertension, its clinical implications, the index of

a heart attack and the factors to take into consideration that could trigger it. Once again, to the spouses amazement, the musically inclined doctor shared his unique compositions exclusively about coronary diseases which were interpreted by Jai Sabas Aracama of the University of the Philippines Conservatory of Music. Later on, he entertained some inquiries which were answered excellently and disseminated informative pamphlets on facts about coronary diseases before bidding us adieu.

But the fun and excitement did not end from there. Immediately thereafter, interesting games followed suit such as "Nuts a Lot a Nonsense" and "Dance to Kung Hei Fat Choi" which was led by Spouse Eyra Umali delighted the spouses. And of course, the meeting will not end without raffles, prizes and give-aways for everybody. The meeting adjourned at the specified time. **Spouse Len Timbol, RC Suburban East Rizal**

District 3800 Outbound Group Study Exchange Team to District 2680, Japan



Secretary's Reminder

by DS Tom Rocamora, Jr.

MARCH is LITERACY MONTH for Rotary.

In 1985, Rotary declared basic literacy to be a pre-condition to the development of peace. Through this organizational emphasis, more than half of world's 33,000 Rotary clubs address the full range of literacy and mathematical challenges for primary, vocational and adult learners as well as teacher training. Many Rotary club members promote what is termed as "lighthouse" literacy projects - those that can be replicated easily, thereby increasing the scope of their impact.

Lighthouse literacy projects have been created for formal schooling, older children who are not in school, functionally illiterate adults (particularly women), special groups, and teacher's training. The purpose of these projects is to inspire, guide and support national authorities towards alleviating mass illiteracy in developing countries. In some countries, for example, the lighthouse literacy effort has been so successful that the government adopted it as a national program. Similar literacy initiatives have been sponsored in Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil and South Africa.

I. CLUB REMINDERS

1. Ensure timely submission of your duly accomplished SAR and remittance of payments for the second semester Semi Annual dues - US\$ 25.50 per member.
2. Remit payment for the second semester subscription to the Philippine Rotary Magazine - Php 270.00 per member. Rotary Clubs without any subscription to the PRM or the Rotarian maybe terminated.
3. Monthly club attendance report should be submitted to the District not later than 15 days from the last club meeting day for the month. The District Attendance Chair is IPP Paola Acebedo of RC Sampaguita Grace Park.
4. The March exchange rate for all transactions with Rotary International is still at Php 44.00 to 1 US\$.
5. President's Monthly Report (PMR) is to be submitted not later than the 15th of the following month to your respective Assistant Governors. They should review the report and affix their signatures. Also, submit two copies/issues of your weekly bulletin together with your PMR.
6. All Global Presidents should ensure that all the new members inducted during the past months should be reported to RI using the member access so that they can be included in the roster of club membership.
7. All payments to The Rotary Foundation, either online or direct payment to the Philippine Consulting Office, should be reported to PDG Efren de Guzman to ensure updated information.
8. The deadline for the submission of the accomplished form of the Presidential Citation for Rotary Clubs is on **15**

March 2011. Please ensure that this document has been reviewed and signed by your Assistant Governor and Senior Assistant Governor before submission. **PLEASE FOLLOW STRICTLY THE DEADLINE.**

9. The format for the submission of the annual report will be released immediately after the Discon. This report will be the basis for the Awards Night on June 25, 2011.

II. DISTRICT EVENTS / ACTIVITIES - MARCH to APRIL 2011

Event / Activity, Date / Time, Venue

1. **District Conference**
March 11 & 12, 2011, EDSA Shangri-La Hotel
Hosted by the Marikina Zone Rotary Clubs
Lead Club: Rotary Club of Marikina
2. **2nd Leg Badminton Tournament**
March 26, 2011, Saturday, 1:00 PM
Chaired by SAG Bobby Zamora
Details to be announced later
3. **Presidents-Elect Training Seminar**
March 19-20, 2011
Holiday Inn, Minosa, Clark, Pampanga
Hosted by the Rotary Club of San Juan Gems
4. **District Assembly**
April 30, 2011, Saturday
EDSA Shangri-La Hotel
Hosted by the Rotary Club of Wack Wack