

## Cholecystectomy Mission held at PGH

Seventeen patients—five males and twelve females—underwent cholecystectomy on Saturday, 12 Saturday, at the Philippine General Hospital (PGH), our partner for this, our longest-running health project. The Medical Missions committee is chaired by **Boy Hilvano**, who also chairs the Department of Surgery of UP-PGH.

Cholecystectomy is the removal of the gall bladder due to the presence of gallstones. The surgeons performed the operation using two procedures—laparoscopy and the old-fashioned open surgery.

The members of the surgical team: **Dr. Dante Ang** and **Dr.**

**Crisostomo Arcilla Jr.**, consultants; **Dr. Carlo Garcia**, chief resident; **Drs. Reginald Acain, Sherwin Alamo, Russel Alegarbes, Robert Bravo, Ana de Dios, Margarita Elloso, Jeffrey Gonzales, John Paul Gonzalez, Aireen Madrid, Mark Melendrez, and Gilbert Oporto**, residents; **Drs. Arbiso, Co, de la Cruz, Gamad, Franco** and **Dr. Suaco** (chief), anesthesiologists; and **Michelle Allasco, Mier Arnado, Emil Geronimo, Nerissa Noche, Gester**



**Omana, Christine Pasco and Lizette Sabio**, nurses.

## Arceemak donates bikes for AFP car-less days

Last 12 September, after the Arceemak shooting club was done with their regular Saturday shooting exercise at the Security Escort Battalion (SEB) firing range at Fort Bonifacio in Taguig City, the shooters turned to the serious side of Rotary.

**PP Jonny Carlos**, who is also president of Arceemak, led a group of Arceemak'rs in turning over 10 used bicycles to SEB through the battalion

commander, **Lt. Col. Ramiro Manuel Rey**. The bikes are to be used as transportation for the soldiers on car-less days at the camp, a practice designed to save on fuel expenses. This was the second bike donation to the military. The bikes are sourced from donors in Japan through the efforts of **Hiro Oba**.

Also present at the turnover were **PDG Tony Quila, PP Freddie Borromeo, Gani Buenafior and Ed Rojas**. They all proceeded to Italianni's at Bonifacio High Street for their regular-after-shooting-practice fellowship lunch where they caught



up with the other Arceemak'rs who had been at the firing range: **PP Fidel Alfonso, Toffy Concepcion, Wilfred Gui** and **Warren Yu**.

### PROGRAM ADVISORY

#### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 29 September

#### Guest Speaker:

**ATTY. KATRINA LEGARDA**



HON. FRANKLIN DRILON  
Fomer Senate President

HON. RAFAEL BIAZON  
Representative  
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

HON. TEODORO CASIÑO  
Representative  
Bayan Muna (Partylist)

HON. TEODORO LOCSIN  
Representative  
1st District, Makati

FELIX AMPARO  
Club President

The meeting was the stage for the first of a series of forums under the District's voter education advocacy campaign called RVote. And because the panelists who were invited to speak were all prominent political personalities, we had a good turnout at the Conservatory.

In his invocation, **Dir. Eddie Galvez**, calling attention to the political season that is soon to officially kick off, prayed to God "for all those seeking elective office, that they may always strive for the highest ideals, serve as beacons of truth, possess the wisdom to discern, and exercise moral courage and political will. May they always remember that they serve as Your vessels for good governance." He ended with a prayer "especially for all of us, that we may not look to our political leaders but rather within ourselves to effect real change and transformation

and know that here on earth, God's work must truly be our own."

There was only one announcement, but a very significant one. **PDG Tony Quila** shared the good news that despite the fact that The Rotary Foundation (TRF) has run out of funds for matching grant projects, it has approved one of our matching grant applications—Matching Grant No. 71123 for the Teaching the Deaf to Speak Project. The fund came from several sources—US\$4,500 from the DDF of District 3500-Taiwan; \$1,700 from our own District 3830; and a minimal contribution of \$100 from our club, for a total of \$6,300. This was

matched by TRF with \$6,250 to make a grand total of \$12,550, equivalent to Php602,400. Two Baby Rotarians sponsored the project—**Joseph Kuan** and **Felix Ang**, who both signed up as Paul Harris Fellows. **PP Cesar Campos** chairs the Teaching the Deaf to Speak Committee.

**IPP Larry Boyer** came up to say that last year during his term, he recommended to Rotary International a candidate for the RI Four Avenues of Service (FAS) award, and his recommendation was approved. So last week he and **Pres. Felix Amparo** awarded the citation to **PP Pepito Bengzon**, in recognition of

his involvement in and contribution to programs under the four avenues of service—club service, community service, international service, and vocational service. He joins the club's three other FAS awardees: **PP Puno Peña**, **PP Ric Librea** and **PDG Tony Quila**.

Pres. Felix had two news items, one



EDDIE GALVEZ  
Invocator

PP NENETTE ASEÑERO  
Talk on RVote

PP PEPITO BENGZON  
Introducer

HARRY TAMBUATCO  
Moderator, Q&A

RICK MCGONEGAL  
Moderator



PP Pepito Bengzon receives R.I. 4 Avenues of Service Award from Pres. Felix Amparo and IPP Larry Boyer



Photo op with the 4 senatorial candidates

..... To page 4



## Rafael Cojuangco Lopa

### Education

- Bachelor of Arts in Inter-Disciplinary Studies, 1981-1985, Ateneo de Manila University

### Present Involvement

- Executive Director, Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. Foundation  
Serves as General Manager of the Operations of the Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. Foundation. The foundation is primarily focused in promoting the legacies of Senator Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino and of former President Cory Aquino.

The legacy promotion is anchored on the Aquino Center in Tarlac which houses the Aquino Museum that exhibits the memorabilia of both Senator Aquino and President Aquino. Moreover, on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Senator Aquino, the foundation launched the lamNinoy movement: a campaign to bring Ninoy closer to young Filipinos.

The advocacies of President Aquino, on the other hand, are centered on finding ways and means to address the country’s nagging poverty problem. In February 2006, she convened the Philippine Micro-Enterprise (PINOYME) consortium composed of leaders from business, banking and the micro-finance sectors. The consortium is taking the lead in promoting microfinance initiatives in the country to create more livelihood for disadvantaged but enterprising Filipinos.

- Co-Founder and Director, Pulse Asia, Inc.  
Pulse Asia is currently involved in political, social and market research. Periodically it conducts a nationwide survey called “Ulat ng Bayan,” a proactive project which attempts to regularly, quickly and systematically monitor the Filipino citizenry’s socio-economic and political perceptions and to utilize this information in order that the most influential political leaders and policymakers might be guided by it.
- Chairman, MicroVentures, Inc. (MVI)  
MicroVentures, Inc. is a social business enterprise that aspires to be the leading partner of micro-entrepreneurs in the Philippines. The core of MVI’s efforts revolve around developing viable and sustainable business models for micro-entrepreneurs as means to alleviate poverty.
- Trustee, PinoyMe Foundation  
PinoyME Foundation is a foundation organized by a

Tuesday, 22 September 2009  
The Conservatory, The Peninsula Manila

Starts at 12:00 Noon

Adjourns at 2:00 PM

- Call to Order..... **Pres. Felix Amparo**
- Invocation ..... **PP Sonny Tambunting**
- Philippine National Anthem
- RC Makati Hymn
- Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests ... **Dick Funk**
- Greetings to Birthday and Wedding Anniversary Celebrators
- Club Functions & Committee Announcements
- President’s Time ..... **Felix Amparo**
- Fining Session ..... **Tommy de Leon**
- Introduction of the Guest Speaker ..... **VP Francis Macatulad**
- Speech:

**MR. RAFAEL C. LOPA**  
Executive Director  
Benigno S. Aquino Foundation

- Q & A
- Response ..... **Pres. Felix Amparo**
- Adjournment

**Dick Funk**  
Moderator

consortium of stakeholders of Microfinance promotion in the Philippines

- Trustee, PLDT-SMART Foundation (PSF)  
PSF is the foundation of the largest telecommunication company of the Philippines.
- Trustee, ASA Philippines Foundation (APF)  
APF is a microfinance institution that provides loans to micro-entrepreneurs in impoverished communities in the Philippines.
- Trustee, Foundation for Communication Initiatives (FOCI)  
FOCI is a advocacy communication agency that assist NGOs and corporate foundations in the development of communication campaign strategies to promote their various advocacies.



Today: 22 September (Tuesday)

Guest Speaker

**Mr. Rafael 'Rapa' Lopa**

Executive Director

Benigno S. Aquino Jr. Foundation

29 September (Tuesday)

Guest Speaker

**Atty. Katrina Legarda**

7-4 October

**Rotaract & Interact  
National Convention**  
Zamboanga City

24 October

**D-3830 Youth Solo &  
Chorale Singing Contest**  
University of Makati

6 November

**48th Charter Anniversary of  
Rotary Club of Taoyuan**  
In charge: **PP Sonny Tambunting**

8 November (Sunday)

**22nd Christmas Bazaar**  
Grand Ballroom  
Renaissance Hotel  
In charge: **First Ann Tessie Amparo**

22-26 November

**Asia Pacific Regional  
Rotaract Conference (APRRC)**  
Singapore

*Ann's meet ..... from page 6*

**Tambunting**, chairn of the Physical Arrangements committee; and **Caling Young**, chair, White Elephants.

The Anns later moved to the third floor where they met up with their husbands for a fellowship dinner. There to partake of the fun, food and fellowship were Pres. **Felix Amparo**, PDG **Tony Quila**, PP **Joe Alejandro**, PP **Freddie Borromeo & Ann Jojo**, PP **Larry Boyer**, PP **Jonny Carlos**, PP **Robert Kuan**, PP **Ric Librea**, PN **Rene Limjoco**, PP **Conrad Marty**, PE **Jun Rojas**, and PP **Roland Young**.



### BIRTHDAYS

#### ROTARIAN

Bubi Krohn, 23 Sept.

Joe Kuan, 24 Sept.

#### ROTARY ANNS

Marisa Concepcion, 27 Sept.

Jean Jacobi, 27 Sept.

*Recap ..... from page 2*

“extremely good,” the other, one of pleasure.

The first: that **Dir. Frank Chavez** had sent three checks of P80K each, representing donations to our housing program by People’s Air Cargo & Warehouse, care of **Jefferson Cheng**. Dir. Frank was supposed to have been back from his leave last week but, heeding his doctor’s advice, decided to postpone his return. He gave notice, though, that upon return, he will be handing to Pres. Felix two more checks for P80K each, one from him and one from his **Ann Jean**, also for the housing program. The other matter was “An Enchanting Evening of Music,” a fundraiser for the district, to be staged at the Manila Polo Club on 20<sup>th</sup> October. Produced by **Eddie Yap**, the show features **Joy Abalon Tamayo**, **Lemuel de la Cruz** and **Sherwin Sozon** with pianist **Jude Areopagita** and violinist **Ramon Torres**. Tickets are at P1,500 and P2,000 and are available at the secretariat.

**PP Nenette Aseniero** of RC Makati Bel-Air introduced the club of RVote, the district’s voter education advocacy campaign (turn to p.5 for RVote story), the first salvo of which was last week’s Senators’ Forum.

The panelists, who were all introduced by **PP Pepito Bengzon**, were: **Hon. Franklin Drilon**, former Senate President; **Hon. Ruffy Biazon**, representative from the lone district of Muntinlupa, now on his 3<sup>rd</sup> term; **Hon. Teddy Casiño**, Party list representative for Bayan Muna, 2<sup>nd</sup> term; and **Hon. Teddy Boy Locsin**, representative of Makati’s first district, 3<sup>rd</sup> term. They were asked to speak on the thrusts of Rotary—water, sanitation and the



8 September 2009

RC Makati Rotarians .....	58
Honorary and Exempt Members /	
Visiting Rotarians and Guests .....	49
Total Attendance .....	107
Make-Ups .....	17
Total Attendance Credit .....	74
Total Attendance Base .....	141
Exempted Members .....	41
Total Membership to date .....	182
Attendance Percentage .....	53.19%

#### Make Ups:

1. PP Pepito Bengzon
2. Gani Buenaflor
3. PP Jonny Carlos
4. Frank Chavez
5. Javier Fernandez de Castro
6. Mon Diokno
7. DG Sid Garcia
8. Ramon Garcia
9. George Inocencio
10. Vic Ong
11. Ferdie Ordoveza
12. Fred Pascual
13. Migs Puyat
14. Johnny Rocha
15. PE Jun Rojas
16. George Temblique
17. Eddie Yap

environment; health and hunger; education and literacy; and youth. All four used the forum to declare their intention to run for the senate.

Sen. Drilon, a former member of this club, begged to stray from the given subjects, confessing to being unprepared as he had not been briefed about the forum. He spoke, instead, about the Liberal Party, which he chairs, and of their Aquino-Roxas tandem, which had scored an eye-popping 51% in the latest SWS survey. The party, he said, will run on a platform of good governance and clean government and stand on the principles of honesty, integrity and transparency. He himself will push for reforms in both our legal and social justice systems. He emphasized that the Rotary credo had guided him in all his dealings as a public servant and had indeed served him well.

*..... To page 5*

# District 3830 launch RVote voter education campaign



District 3830, under the leadership of **Gov. Sid Garcia**, ventured into a field hitherto untouched by and considered *verboten* to Rotary—politics. But not to worry, the no-politics rule still stands in the district. As their spokesperson, **PP Nenette Aseniero** of RCM Bel-Air said in her spiel last week, what they are getting into is “politics of the moral kind and of the highest order, politics that empowers, liberates and ennobles.”

On 9<sup>th</sup> September, the district made history with the launch of RVote, a political advocacy for voter education that promotes a “vision of good governance and a humane society” and “a mission of citizen empowerment.” The goal is to help build a well-informed electorate that is vigilant enough to frustrate would-be cheaters and thwart their dishonest designs. The hope is to effect good governance and ethical public service.

The campaign, which is non-partisan, is designed to carry out a two-pronged program of activities for 8 months, from September 2009 through May 2010, when the next

national elections are to be held. The program:

- To involve the youth and Rotary communities to consciously and collectively help chart the future of our country through the ballot. There will be a campaign for registration. Through assemblies in Rotary communities, Rotary clubs will roll out voter education modules, with a curriculum prepared by Rotary in cooperation with the COMELEC, that will include lectures on voters’ rights and the electoral process, and an actual demonstration of the new automation process. This program will also include activities to promote electorate consciousness.
- Through televised Rotary Club meetings the district and clubs under it will help inform audiences of the state of our communities through the eyes of Rotarians involved in community work and bring current Rotary issues to men and women seeking public office. These issues relate to RI and district thrusts—water, sanitation

and the environment; health and hunger; education and literacy; and youth.

The first RVote forum took place, fittingly, in a meeting at Gov. Sid’s home club, RC Makati, last Tuesday, 15 September. It was in that meeting that PP Nenette introduced the project to RCMakati Rotarians. The forum speakers were four candidates vying for a seat in the senate—former Senate President **Franklin Drilon**, Congressman **Ruffy Biazon**, Party List Representative **Teddy Casiño**, and Congressman **Teddy Boy Locsin** who had been requested to speak on their past projects and future plans on the RI/district thrusts, should they be elected.

To affirm the project’s non-partisan stand, PP Nenette assured: “We will remain true to Rotary’s motto, Service Above Self. We will adhere to the Four-Way Test. We will be Rotarians in the service of our country.”

For further information, please log on to [rvote2010.wordpress.com](http://rvote2010.wordpress.com) or send an email to [rvote2010@gmail.com](mailto:rvote2010@gmail.com).

*Recap ..... from page 5*

Cong. Biazon centered his talk on literacy—financial literacy, including the concept of savings and the use of money as well as of financial management; political literacy, including something as basic as the difference between the functions of the executive and legislative branches of government; and nutritional literacy that tells parents what to feed their children. He said that he would also push for the adoption of alternative learning systems and special education for the masses.

Cong. Casiño painted Bayan Muna as the voice of truth, change, good governance, human rights, social equity and reform. If elected, he said, he would bring to the senate: his personal integrity (he is on record

to be the second poorest member of the House); the Makabayan Coalition’s 10-point program to empower people, fight for good governance, develop a pro-Filipino economy, uplift the poor, save the environment, defend national sovereignty and pursue an independent foreign policy, uphold people’s rights, promote Philippine culture, uphold women’s rights and gender equality, and advance the peace process; and his personal advocacies including clean government, education and the economy.

For his part, Cong. Locsin said two of the Rotary thrusts jibe with his own—literacy and sanitation. Literacy, he propounded, to be of any use should push for writing, for putting down in words and on paper (or on an electronic file) one’s thoughts, the easier to make sense of it. He dwelt on the issue of

sanitation, a major environmental and health concern for all countries, including major economies like the USA. Putting a twist to it, he mentioned the critical need to “sanitize the political process,” zeroing in on the Supreme Court’s approval of party lists for an entire range of sectors, including, of all things, fertilizers. He revealed that prior to the week before, no one had offered him a place in any slate. Then former President Erap called to offer him a slot in his ticket. He ended with the observation that money does not dictate the outcome of an election: “The 50% rating of Noyonoy Aquino in the recent survey shows that people think about issues.” Which means, he concluded, that “there is a real chance for reform.”

The Q & A was moderated by Harry Tambuatco.

# Anns meet to tighten plans for Christmas Bazaar

With less than two months to go before we stage our Christmas Bazaar, the Rotary Anns, with **First Ann Tessie Amparo** in the lead, met at 5PM at the MRCFI Building last Wednesday, 16 September, to assess the progress of their plans, discuss the work ahead and tie whatever loose ends there might be.

This year's bazaar, our 22<sup>nd</sup>, will take place at the grand ballroom of Renaissance Hotel on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

One of the items they focused on was the publicity campaign, which is being handled by **Milette Carlos**. A publicity shoot has been scheduled for Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, at the Bel-Air Village residence of the Amparos, which has been dressed up for an early Christmas. Aside from the usual flyers, posters and press releases, they plan to resort to emails and texting to spread the word about the bazaar.

**Mimi Valerio**, who chairs the Concessionaires Committee, reported that 50 of the 110 approved vendors have paid the fee. Past experience tells them that the other concessionaires usually wait 'til October to settle their accounts. The Last Angel Project, which is being handled by **Tere Boyer**, has tagged the wards of Asilo de San Vicente de Paul, Bahay Maria, and Bantay Bata, as well as the kids enrolled in on-going TB eradication and supplemental feeding programs, as beneficiaries of the gift-giving

activity.

The other Anns who were at the meeting were: **Marilou Alejandro**, chair of the Marshals Committee; **Yvonne Kuan**, member, Day Ticket Sales; **Et Librea**, chair, Finance; **Lu**

**Limjoco**, chair, Day Ticket Sales; **Chit Marty**, member, Publicity; **Angela Quila**, co-chair, Last Angel; **Pina Rojas**, chair, Advance Ticket Sales; **Terry**

..... To page 4

