

EST SIDE STORY



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ROTARY CLUB OF MAKATI WEST

Vol. 25 RY 2024-2025 | 2,454th Meeting (since 1969) | March 27, 2025



RCMW wins 1st place in the **Best Online Media Award category** during the prestigious Zone 10A Public Image Awards; IPDG Jay Tambunting and PRID Guiller Tumangan awards the plaque to IPP Dax Carlos





Today's Guest Speaker:

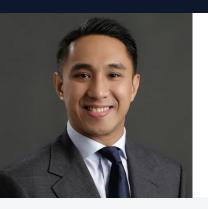
RTN. ROBIN MICHAEL U. GARCIA, PhD PRESIDENT & CEO WR ADVISORY GROUP

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MONTHLY ACTIVITIES



LUNCH MEETING

Rtn. Robin Garcia, PhD President & CEO WR Advisory Group Date: March 27, 2025/ Thursday

Venue: Dusit Thani Hotel

Time: 12nn-2pm



District Conference DISCON 2025

SMX Convention Center, Pasay City April 4-5, 2025



ROTARY, FIGHTING CANCER, SAVING LIVES!



Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening

In Partnership with

Regnum Christi Medical Mission

Our Lady of Mt. Montessori School
in Camdas Subdivision Baguio City

April 5, 2025/Saturday

8:00am-2:00pm



LUNCH MEETING

PDG Virgilio "Jun" G. Farcon Past District Governor, D3800 Rotary Club of Marikina Date: April 10, 2025/ Thursday Venue: Dusit Thani Hotel

Time: 12nn-2pm

Grant Management Seminar RY. 2025-2026
Please RSVP to the Secretariat

RC Makati Building MRCFI Building, 8001 Camia St. Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City, April 12, 2025/ Saturday 1pm-5pm



TODAY'S PROGRAM

12:15 PM Call to Order PRES. GERRY LAPERAL

Invocation RTN. RON CANG

Philippine National Anthem (video)

12:30 PMRC Makati West Hymn

Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guest:

Introduction of Personalities at the Presidential Table;

Committee announcement

12:45 PM President's Time PRES. GERRY LAPERAL

Introduction of Guest Speaker PP FERN PEÑA

1:00 PM Speech
RTN. ROBIN MICHAEL U. GARCIA,PhD
President & CEO
WR Advisory Group

Token of Appreciation

Moderator
PP DENNIS DECENA

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRANTS



March 29 SPS. CARLA TABUENA Birthday



March 30 RTN. BOK MALANTIO Birthday



March 30 RTN. BERN REYES Birthday



March 31 SPS. MARYASIA RECT



March 25 RTN. MIGUEL PERTIERRA & SPS. TRISHA Wedding Anniversary



March 26 IPDG JAY TAMBUNTING & SPS. BAMBEE Wedding Anniversary



March 27 RTN. CHRIS MORIARTY & SPS. JENNIFER Wedding Anniversary





GUEST SPEAKER RTN. ROBIN MICHAEL U. GARCIA, PhD PRESIDENT & CEO, WR ADVISORY GROUP

Dr. Robin Michael U. Garcia is a political scientist, academic, and public affairs adviser who has advised companies, electoral aspirants, governments, and international organizations. He is a sought-after speaker and analyst here and abroad. His views have appeared in top media organizations such as CNN, Aljazeera, Channel News Asia, Rappler, ANC, GMA News, and BusinessWorld among others. He frequently speaks in conferences and forums organized by think tanks, governments, and universities, most recently at the Fredrick Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and the University of Pennsylvania.

He is the President and CEO of WR Advisory Group, a public affairs firm specializing in data, strategy, and communications. Concurrently he is the Founder and Chairman of its opinion research arm, WR Numero Research. He is a 2023-24 Visiting Scholar at the Perry World House at the University of Pennsylvania where he did research on the international politics of

China, Taiwan, US and the Philippines. He was named an Eisenhower Global Fellow in 2023. In 2025 he joined the faculty of the Ateneo School of Government. He served as Assistant Professor at the Political Economy Program of the University of Asia & the Pacific (UA&P) in Manila. In 2023 he was appointed to the 24-person policy research group convened by Speaker Martin Romualdez at the House of Representatives of the Philippines where he advises on foreign policy.

He holds a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in International Politics from Fudan University in Shanghai where he was distinguished with the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence. He obtained a Master of Public Administration from the University of the Philippines' National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG), as well as a BA in Development Studies from De La Salle University where he was awarded the Gawad Magaaral Award (Distinguished Student Award).





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HIV Caravan

Dear Zesters,

The Department of Health (DOH) and PhilHealth have recently enhanced cardiovascular care support, with PhilHealth's Z Benefits Package for open-heart surgeries increasing coverage effective March 1, 2025, for procedures such as Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) and Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD) repair (PhilHealth expands coverage for heart surgeries up to P1M). This national initiative aligns closely with our club's commitment to maternal and child health through the Gift of Life program, underscoring our shared goal of improving lives across the Philippines.

Gift of Life Program: Reaching 301 Cases

We are proud to report that our flagship Gift of Life program has achieved a milestone of 301 cases, a testament to the transformative power of our collective efforts. In the coming days, we are supporting several children with critical surgeries:



March 27, 2025: A five-year-old from Negros Occidental, endorsed by Dr. Jun Peralta, is scheduled for urgent openheart surgery at National Children's Hospital.

March 17-19, 2025: At De Los Santos Medical Center, surgeries include:

March 17: A four-month-old from Muntinlupa City and an eleven-year-old from Benguet.

March 18: A five-year-old from Mountain Province.

March 19: A thirteen-year-old from Bohol

These procedures are made possible through the DOH's Medical Assistance for Indigent Patients (MAIP) program, with funding from senators and Congressmen.

We extend our appreciation to all partners for their role in these life-saving efforts.

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendars for the following opportunities:

1. District 3830 Conference: Scheduled for April 4, 2025, at SMX Convention Center, Manila, this event offers valuable networking and educational opportunities. Further details on speakers and sessions will follow.

2. Golf Tournament: Hosted by the Rotary Club of Makati Premier District on March 28, 2025, at Canlubang South Course, this event provides a chance to relax and support a worthy cause. Registration is urged by this Friday, March 28.

HIV Testing Caravan Update

On Friday, we joined a productive meeting with Ben of TRW and student representatives from Pamantasang Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) to finalize the plans for the upcoming HIV testing caravan, set for April 23-25, 2025, in celebration of the school's Pride Week.

The event will occur on the PLM campus at General Luna corner Muralla Streets, Intramuros, Manila. Unlike previous caravans, the forum will be held via Zoom on April 11, 2025, targeting student leader organizations, allowing more time for on-site testing during the event dates.

The budget request of P299,820 has been submitted, and we have emphasized the need for proper sales invoices and receipts, as an audit will be conducted to ensure accountability. Separately, I revisited the Rotary International (RI) budget and noted an approved line item of P71,398 for two laptops. I propose allocating these for office use by Jameson and Michael, whose current laptops—over 13 years old and generously donated—are in need of replacement.



After a change in RI's contact person, I emailed RI in January 2025 for confirmation and received approval to proceed. This upgrade will enhance our operational efficiency, and I seek your endorsement to finalize the purchase.

Rtn. Robin Garcia

We are honored to host Rotarian Robin Garcia, President and CEO of WR Advisory Group, who will deliver a presentation titled Global Changes and Their Impact on the Mid-Term National Elections in May 2025. Mr. Garcia will explore the Philippines' economic resilience, geopolitical tensions, human rights concerns, and the youth's growing influence on issues such as climate change and education.

Gerardo Oliverio "Gerry" V. Laperal President, RY 2024-2025 Rotary Club of Makati West



Featured Guest of Honor and Speaker on April 10, 2025 PDG Jun Farcon invited by PRID Guiller Tumangan

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: VIRGILIO G. FARCON, JR.

Address: 40 Peter St., Filinvest East, Cainta, Rizal

Date of Birth: September 8, 1959

Age: 65 years old Occupation: CPA-Lawyer

Civil Status: Married

Name of Spouse: ZENAIDA Y. FARCON

Occupation: Certified Public Accountant

Children: Virgilio Y. Farcon III - Certified Public Accountant

Lawyer (38) JD, Jose Florinio Farcon - Lawyer (36) JD

Zarah Julia Farcon – Lawyer (33) JD

Religion: Roman Catholic

Height: 5'9" Weight: 195 lbs.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

School Degree

Elementary - Roosevelt College High School - Roosevelt College

College - University of the Philippines LB B.S. Mathematics (2 years)

College - San Sebastian College - BSC, Major in Accounting

Ateneo de Manila - Bachelor of Laws, Graduate

With Honors

BOARD/BAR EXAMINATION TAKEN:

Year Rating

CPA Board Exam. 1981 85.71

Bar Exam. 1987 85.55 (13th Place)

HONORS RECEIVED:

Consistent honor student in Elementary, Graduated 1st Honorable Mention (1972)

Team Captain - Debating Team, Fourth Year Roosevelt College (1976)

Silver Medal for Academic Excellence, Ateneo de Manila University

(Ranked No. 8 Class 1987)

Member - Ateneo Debating Team against University of San Carlos (1986)

Thirteenth Placer 1987 Bar Examinations

Praeses Award Aquila Legis Fraternity (1989, 1990, 1991 to 1994, 2015)

Plague of Merit - Philippine Hospital Association (1993, 1994, 2000, 2001)



Merit Award - Rotary Club of Marikina - (1994, 1995)

Most Outstanding Rotarian of the Year - (1995-96)

Most Outstanding Rotary Club President District 3800 (1996-97)

Leadership Award, RC Marikina (1997)

Competent Toastmaster, Certificate from Toastmasters International (1994)

Paul Harris Fellow (1996)

Rotary International, District Governor's Award (1997)

Major Donor, Level 1, The Rotary Foundation (2010)

Major Donor, Level 2, The Rotary Foundation (2017)

Major Donor, Level 3, TRF (2019)

Rotary International Service Above Self Awardee (2020)

Citation for Meritorious Service TRF (2021)

Benefactor (2023)

Created Endowment Fund Share Virgilio Farcon Jr and Zenaida Farcon (2022)

Created Endowment Fund Share PP Ver Farcon+ and PP Lourdes Farcon+ (2024)

Bequest Society Level 2 (2023)

Polio Plus Society Since 2023 to present

Paul Harris Society since 2008 to present

Major Donor, Level 4, TRF (2024)

CLUB AFFILIATIONS & CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS:

Name Position

Interact Club of Marikina Member (1975)

Rotaract Club of Marikina North Charter President (1976)

District Rotaract Rep. (1982-83)

Rotary Club of Marikina Central Charter Member and Director (1985)

Rotary Club of Marikina Member since 1988 up to present with

the classification of Taxation

President (1996-97)

Rotary International District 3800 District Governor (2010–11)

Marikina Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees (Since 2002)

Toastmasters Club of Marikina Treasurer (1994)

Alpha Phi Omega Prime Chancellor (1980)

Aguila Legis Fraternity Most Honorable Praeses (1986)

United NGO Leaders Against

Drug Abuse (UNLAD)

Marikina CITYHOOD

Marikina Marathon, Inc.

Chairman (1996)

President (1997)



Marikina Golfers Association President (2005)

KC St. Paul of the Cross Parish Lifetime Member, 4th Degree Founding Member (1998) Lawyers for Christ

Couples for Christ Mission Support Group East B Sector

Integrated Bar of the Philippines Member, Since 1988 Director (1997-1999) Rizal Chapter Member, Since 2014

Philippine Bar Association

Phil. Institute of Certified Public

Accountants Member, Since 1981 Member, Since 1997 Forrest Hills Golf & Country Club Celebrity Sports & Country Club Member, Since 2008

Royal Northwoods Golf &

Country Club Member Since 2002

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Year	Company	Position and Work Assignments
1981-1983	Sycip, Gorres, Velayo & Co.	Staff Auditor
1983-1988	V.S. Farcon & Associates, CPAs	Managing Partner
1988-1991	Tanjuatco, Oreta, Tanjuatco	
	Berenguer & Corpus Law Firm	Senior Associate Attorney
1999 to 2014	Farcon Yungco Raz & Associates CPA	s Partner
1991 to Present	Farcon, Baggayan, Farcon Law Firm	Managing Partner

COMPANY AFFILIATIONS:

OUTH ANT TELEMONS.			
Year	Company	Position	
Since 1997	INC Navigation Co., Inc.	Corporate Secretary	
Since 2002	REBAP Corporation	Corporate Secretary	
Since 2008	Carrascal Nickel Corporation	Corporate Secretary	
Since 2013	Giant Stone Mining Corporation	Asst. Corporate Secretary	
Since 2013	CPO Mine Unlimited Inc.	Asst. Corporate Secretary	
Since 2006	Jayjoza Trading Corporation	President	
Since 2019	Philippine First Insurance, Inc.	Independent Director	
		Chairman – Audit Committee	
Since 2023	Shinagawa Lasik and Aesthetics Corp.	Independent Director	
		Chairman – Audit Committee	

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

March 20, 2025



Rtn. Patrick Dionisio as Moderator



Our Invocator



Pres. Gerry Laperal in his President's Time



PP Mon Guerrero introduces the guest of honor



Mr. Nicholas Dritsas in his speech

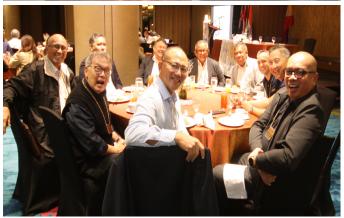


Mr. Nicholas Dritsas received a Gift of Life Certificate from the Club























































SAVE THE DATE!!!

DISTRICT LEARNING ASSEMBLY

MAY 24, 2025 9 am - 6pm

Details to follow!











March 3, 2025

Gerardo Oliverio V. Laperal

President
Rotary Club Makati West
Unit 1903 Cityland Herrera Tower,
V.A. Rufino cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village,
1227 Makati City, Philippines

Subject: Request for Sponsorship and Funding Support for Timoteo Paez Integrated School

Dear Mr. Laperal,

Greetings of peace and love from <u>CORA (Communities Organized for Resource Allocation)</u>, a nonprofit organization that fosters sustainable development through inclusive programs led by women, youth, local communities, and volunteers to help build a more just and resilient future for people and the planet.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Rotary Club of Makati West for warmly accommodating us last Thursday and for your invaluable support of our initiatives. We truly appreciate the opportunity to present our advocacy and are deeply grateful for your commitment to advancing sustainable and impactful solutions for communities in need.

Following our discussion, we would like to formally request funding support for **Timoteo Paez Integrated School**, the winning school in Manila under our **Eco-Champs initiative**. We are seeking a donation of **PHP 700,000.00** to CORA, which will oversee the overall **implementation**, **management**, **and completion** of the sustainable classroom construction. The scope of support includes:

- The use of sustainable materials for the structure
- Fixtures such as upcycled armchairs, tables, shelves to enhance the learning environment
- ICT equipment to support digital learning and educational access
- Branding and recognition that will prominently feature the Rotary Club of Makati West logo in appreciation of your generosity and commitment to education and sustainability

With your support, we aim to begin construction in April and complete it by June 2025, ensuring the facility is ready for the next school year. This initiative aligns with our shared mission of promoting education, sustainability, and youth empowerment by creating an innovative and eco-friendly learning space for future generations.

We sincerely appreciate your generosity and continued support of **CORA** and the **Eco-lkot Center**. We look forward to collaborating with the **Rotary Club of Makati West** to create a meaningful and lasting impact on the students and their community. For any further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me or our Program Manager, Ms. Aiyan Montoya, at aiyan@wearecora.org or +63 919 002 8548.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our shared mission for people and the planet.

Always grateful,

ANTOINETTE TAUS
CORA Nonprofit Philippines
Founder and Executive Director



Please contact Treas. Judd Balayan as the delegation head or the Secretariat for the RC Honolulu West visit.



January 21, 2025

Dear President Gerry Laperal and the Rotary Club of Makati West,

On behalf of our President Elect Cleigh Pang and 75th Anniversary Celebration Chair Derek Tenn, ALOHA from Hawaii!

We are currently planning to celebrate our Club's 75th Anniversary and are considering different venues to hold our events. It will be of much help with our planning if you can provide a rough estimate of how many people plan on attending our 75th Anniversary Celebration from your club. At this time, we are only asking for an estimated head count.

An Official Invitation and Sign-Up sheet will be sent to your club in the next few months.

Here are the dates of our 75th Anniversary. We will greatly appreciate it if you can provide us with your estimate by February 12, 2025.

75th Anniversary Celebration: October 16, 17, 18, 2025

October 16, 2025: Golf at Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course. Optional day for those wanting to play golf. Limited to 30 spots.

October 17, 2025: Welcome Reception Dinner at Honolulu Elks Lodge 616

October 18, 2025: 75th Anniversary Banquet Dinner at Prince Waikiki

Sincerely, Cleigh Pang, President Elect 2025-26 Derek Tenn, Past President and 75th Anniversary Chair





ANNIVERSARY

This tallation of

President Kong Chee Hoh & Board of Directors RY25/26

2 JULY

Welcome Dinner

Grand Ballroom
Singapore Island Country Club (Island Location)
Attire: Smart Casual / Rotary Attire

3 JULY 65th Anniversary & Installation Dinner

Carlton Hall York Hotel Singapore Attire: Formal

R.S.V.P.

Recommended Hotel: York Hotel Singapore



Dear President Gerry Laperal Rotary Club of Makati West

We are excited to announce that the Rotary Club of Singapore West (RCSW) will be celebrating a major milestone - our 65th Anniversary - in 2025!

This momentous occasion will be celebrated with the Installation of our 67th President.

Save the date: Thursday, 3rd July 2025!

We want to give you a heads up, so you can keep this date in mind when planning your own Club activities.

A formal invitation with more details will follow in due time.

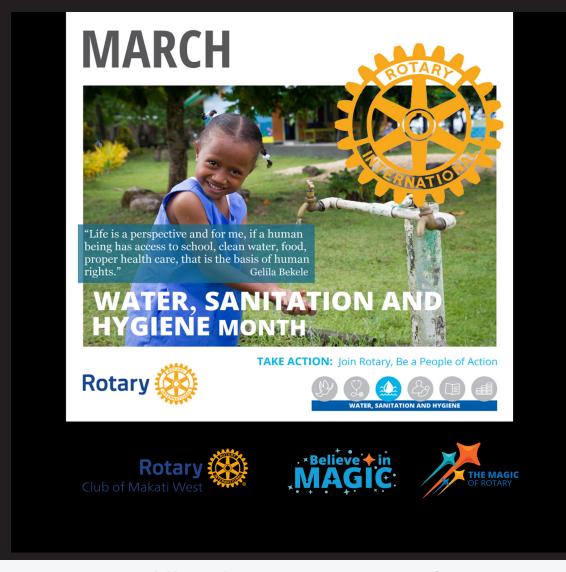
We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you in Singapore.

Best regards,

Dr Libin Ma President, RY 2024-2025

Kong Chee Hoh President Elect, RY 2024-2025 President, RY 2025-2026

Rotary Club of Singapore West



Missed out on past events?

We've got them in archives you can access in just a few clicks.



55th Induction & Handover Ceremony
Click to explore >

WEST SIDE STORY

Click to explore >



Project Photos



RY 2024-2025 Officers, Directors & Club Advisers

Lauro S. Leviste II

President Vice President

Secretary/PE Christopher Dino C. Dumatol Judd B. Balayan

Treasurer Director

Epifanio V. Delos Santos

Gerardo Oliverio V. Laperal

Director Director Wilson Goh Davy Lim

Director Director Director Director

Lemarc B. Limosnero Jose Conrado Poblete Charlie S. Rufino Lars Wittig

Sqt.-At-Arms

Monsour del Rosario

Mark Sambar

Ex-Officio Dir. Juan Antonio T. Carlos

Club Adviser Club Adviser PRID Guiller E. Tumangan

IPDG Antonio Juan C. Tambunting III PP Carmelino P. Alvendia. Jr.

Club Adviser Club Adviser PP Dennis D. Decena Club Adviser PP Noel A. Laman

PP Jose Teodoro K. Limcaoco Club Adviser Club Adviser PP Amando Jesulito V. Jimenez

Club Adviser PP Lorenzo T. Ocampo Club Adviser PP Roque S. Tordesillas Club Adviser PP Fernando Martin O. Peña

Club Adviser PP Enrico V. Angeles

Club Adviser PP Ramon Jose F.L. Guerrero

Club Adviser PP Edgardo G. Balois

Club Adviser PP Aurelio Paulo R. Bartolome

PP Victor L. Vital Club Adviser Club Adviser PP Ruy Y. Moreno Club Adviser PP David R. Caldwell Club Adviser PP Enrico B. Tensuan Club Adviser PP Alasdair J.W. Thomson

Club Adviser PP Gil G. Chua

Honorary Members

Hon. Secretary Albert del Rosario (+), Dr. Sol Alvarez Mr. Rob Raylman, PDG Joey Benedicto and PDG Leo de Guzman

THE WEST SIDE STORY STAFF

Secretariat: Shekinah Yarra

Jameson Manlangit



Thank you for your continuous service. Click here to see the list of payees.

Remain part of our cause by sending your dues & donation to:

> **ROTARY FOUNDATION** OF MAKATI WEST, INC.

ACCOUNT NO: 001680053572 **BRANCH: AIA TOWER VALERO** BANK NAME: BANCO DE ORO (BDO)

ACCOUNT NO: 0011192572 **BRANCH: MAKATI-MAIN BRANCH** BANK NAME: BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES ISLANDS (BPI)

If you have paid but don't see your name on the list of payees, please send proof of deposit to the Secretariat:

> jamesonrcmw@gmail.com kai.rcmw2@gmail.com

Stay up to date with club happenings via

http://rcmakatiwest.ph www.fb.com/RCMWD3830 rcmakatiwest2020@gmail.com (63-2) 7753 3098

Unit 1903 Cityland Herrera Tower, V.A. Rufino cor. Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City, 1227