



PICE Qatar NEWSLETTER



The Official Publication of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers – Qatar Chapter

www.piceqatar.com

AUGUST 2019 ISSUE



PICE Qatar "Builders" is the Champion of the 2019 PPO Qatar Basketball Tournament with an 11-0 record breaking standing

PICE QATAR BASKETBALL TEAM BAGGED PPO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Russel Flores

Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers - Qatar Chapter Basketball Team continued their mastery over the United Architects of the Philippines – Qatar Chapter in the finals en route to bagging the PPO Basketball Tournament championship.

The team, dubbed as Builders, romped off the elimination round with an unscathed record. They towered over their opponents with a winning percentage of nearly 22 points a game. They managed to score an average of almost 84 points while limiting their opponents to a measly 62 points per outing.

However, the team had a slow start in the tourney and opened their campaign with a

nail-biting two-point win over the nurses (PNA-Q). A glimpse of their potential is showcased in the game against the Electronic Engineers (IECEP-Q) in the second game. Their usual run and gun offensive play matched by an improved stifling defense made them cruised to a 21-point win in their next game.

The match against longtime rivals – PSME and UAP, in the succeeding games were viewed as crucial games as both teams tend to be a hard match-up both in height and depth. An inspired and on fire Builders jump on their guns early in the game against PSME. The team continued to press on their opponent with a barrage of basket whilst clamping the Mechanical Engineers with their

pesky defense. A morale-boosting 69-50 win over PSME proved to be a mental edge in the competition.

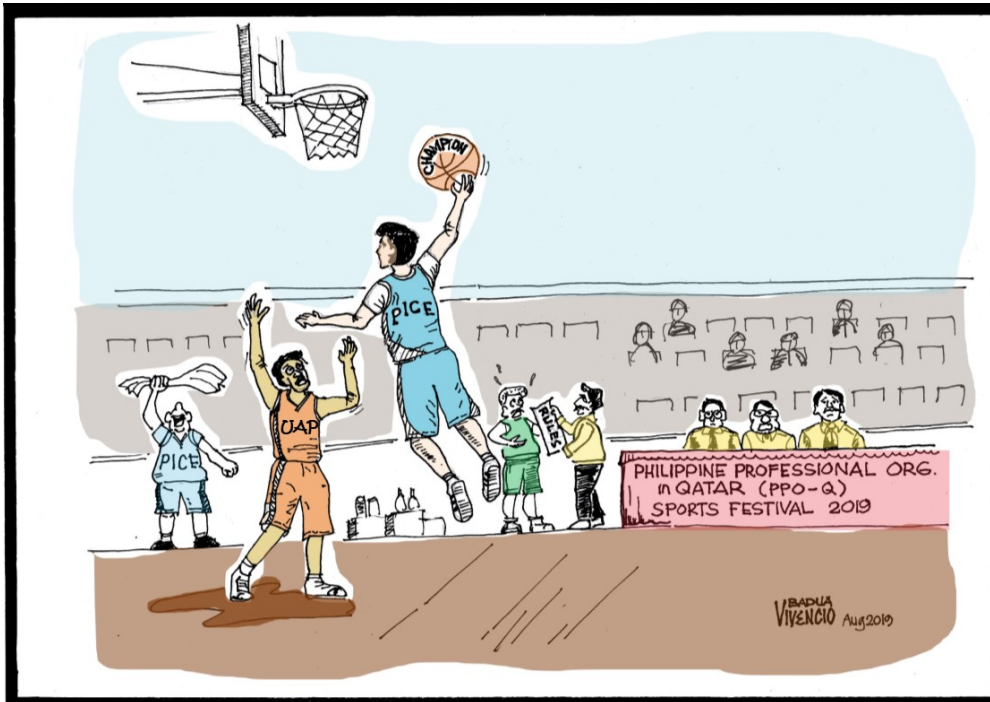
PICE Qatar’s team advantage in height was very crucial in their previous wins and their clean record is put to the test against a team with taller and stronger players – the Architects. It was a hard-fought battle - the big guys battle it out at the rim and the shaded lane is clogged by both teams. The Builders found a chink in UAP-QAC’s armor at the backcourt with the sweet-shooting Paulin firing on all cylinders. The Builders escaped with an 11 point win.

Continue on Page 4.

In this ISSUE

PICE QATAR BASKETBALL TEAM BAGGED PPO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	p1
EDITORIAL: PICE QATAR IN PPO-Q SPORTS	p2
PRESIDENT’S LOUNGE	p3
8th International Technical Conference Held in the State of Kuwait	p4
8th EXECOMM Regular Meeting Held / Membership Dues Amnesty Approved	p6
PICE Qatar Holds Seminar/Workshop on Smarter Ways to Use Microsoft Excel for Engineering - Advanced Level / 6th PICE Qatar President’s Cup: Hoops for Math Wizards	p7
GIVE ME A MOMENT: The Chapter’s CBL Through the Years & Other Interesting Facts (Part 1)	p8
SPORTS CORNER: PICE Qatar Builders Sweeps 2019 PPO Basketball Tournament	p10
PICE Qatar Launches the Feeding Program	p11
WAKE-UP CALL...Without Warning!	p12
POTPOURRI: WORD HUNT / FILL IN THE CODE	p13
NOW PHILIPPINES	p14
OUTSIDE HITTER	p16

OPINION



PICE QATAR IN PPO-Q SPORTS

The PICE Qatar Basketball Squad sweep all its assigned games to become champions of the recently concluded Philippine Professional Organization in Qatar (PPO-Q) Sports Festival. This is the result of the decade-old sports program that the organization has established and pursuit not only to promote well-being, healthy mind, and body but camaraderie and professionalism in the field of sports as well.

Never mind that "sports" especially basketball is already well-entrenched into the mind of each and every Filipinos but to be in the court and be part of competition is not the same as being just in the same court as an audience. To actually play the game and be part of the history of sports is different from just watching and commenting or cheering for your favorite team. PICE Qatar with its 3,000 plus members and an annual Inter-Color Basketball Tournaments and Presidential Cup Basketball Tournament exclusively for the "aging" but active BOD and Committee members just have that "deep" bench that would be difficult to match ever by other existing professional organizations here in Qatar. And who would know for a fact that they are not at all an "all-star" team that some of us are

already thinking? Yes, they are selected from the various teams that are playing in the ICBL tourney, but they are far from being "all-stars" because other "stars" were not selected to the team for a simple reason that they don't have their PRC card yet.

“.....other "stars" were not selected to the team for a simple reason that they don't have their PRC card yet.”

It was unanimously approved and therefore imposed by the PPO-Q tournament organizers that players with valid PRC ID only will be allowed to take part in the certain team regardless of their membership to any professional organizations that make up the PPO-Q. Well, the Integrated Institute of Electrical Engineers (IIEE) basketball game forfeited at least two (2) of their already played games because it was discovered that some of their players do not have PRC IDs / License yet.

Well, if that mentioned rule is being imposed to avoid creating distraction for non-licensed



THE EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-In-Chief
Jerick Lising

Managing Editors
Alden Cayaga
Meliza Ortiguerra

News Editor
Shielu Manantan

Feature Editor
John Cromwell Esclanda

Sports Editor
Russel Flores

Circulation Manager
Christine Diosan

Asst. Circulation Manager
Katrina Magsino

Chief Cartoonist
Vivencio Badua

Cartoonist
John Harold Castro

Chief Photographer
Henrik Gal De Ocampo

Photographers
Johnson Sanchez Edgar Domingcil
Newcesar Templonuevo

Staff Writers/Contributors
Antonio Abenoja II Aurora Asda
Emmanuel Boceta John Mark Bunagan
Luisito Carlos Felipe Catinoy
Danilo Chan Belinda Dela Cruz
Elvin Fajutagana

Advisers
Alfonso Belito Betita Ronaldo Nilo
Roy Baquiran

members who might be gearing to take-up the upcoming professional examination or to create awareness and encourage them to pursue becoming a licensed professional, then it will be understandable to some extent. If however their exclusion from the team is purely base on the fact that they don't have their PRC IDs and therefore are not aligned with that term "professional" despite their being accepted as members of a specific professional organization – member of PPO-Q, then it is ambiguous at all considering that PICE Qatar has what we called associate members as per our Constitution and By-Laws while other professionals such as the Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineers (PSME) and Integrated Institute of Electrical Engineers (IIEE) have what they called Certified Plant Mechanic and Master Electrician as members respectively.

Just a thing or two to ponder on!!!

THE PRESIDENT'S LOUNGE

Message from the President

Helario S. Amoguis

CEng, ASEAN Eng.
The 12th President of PICE Qatar Chapter



It is in August that we are high in spirit. There were significant events that were happening for the chapter. We successfully concluded the month where we ended up being the champion for basketball organized by Philippine Professional Organization-Qatar (PPO-Q). We also participated in the 8th International Technical Conference held in Kuwait where PICE Qatar, as usual, had the most number of delegates outside from the host chapter. We successfully concluded our refresher course for the preparation of Special Licensure Examination (SPLE). Over a hundred members participated in the SPLE program and took the examination that was administered by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) through the assistance of POLO and PPO-Q.

Here are some of the highlight events of the chapter during this month.

- **8th EXECOMM meeting:** Last August 2, 2019, the meeting was successfully held and was attended by 17 officers composed of Board of Directors, Council of Advisers and Adhoc committee chairmen.
- **Training and Seminars:** Writeshop for ASEAN/APEC application was successfully held at Rotana City Center last August 9, 2019. There were at least 43 aspiring Engineers who wish to apply and be included in the register of advance level Engineer. On August 23, 2019, 2nd part of the advanced EXCEL training program was also conducted. There were 25 members availed of the program that further enhanced their capability in using Microsoft EXCEL tools.
- **8th International Technical Conference:** At least 16 members from Qatar have attended the 8th International Technical Conference held in Kuwait last August 12-13, 2019. Thanks to the committee chair Engr Michelle Revillosa for coordinating the participants, including visa, and hotel requirements. The event was attended by our PICE National president Engr. Erdsan Rene S. Suero. It was in the year 2012 that PICE Qatar Chapter's leaders came up with an idea of promoting unity, fellowship and sharing of expertise among Civil Engineers

within the Region. Since then, the International Technical conference became an annual event that is held in different host chapter. An international gathering like this is a realization of the PICE mission and it is with great pride that it is sustained for several years since its inception seven years ago.

- **Special Professional Licensure Examination 2019:** After 10 months of review and refresher program every Friday, our aspirant members have taken their exam last August 12-13, 2019. Congrats SPLE team and PICE Qatar officers for the full support during the examination day. It was a huge success that we concluded our 11th SPLE program without any setback. Thanks SPLE team for your commitment and dedication in supporting the SPLE program.
- **Sports Games:** Last August 23, 2019, Championship games between PICEQ and UAP-Q was held at Al Arabi Sport Club. The games were attended by PPO-Q members and our labor attaché Des Dicang. The sports games were designed to promote unity and camaraderie among PPO-Q members. Congrats to all-star CE team for winning the championship match and without a record of loss. But of course, my special thanks to all members who supported, cheered and watch in all games. Last August 30, 2019. We also started our 6th Presidential cup at Al Arab School academy. This season was designed to financially support the Math-Whiz 2019 program for both Junior and Senior High School of PISQ and PSD. Attended by past president, the opening has been successful and games are scheduled every Friday.
- **#PICE_Serves program of PICE National:** In support of the PICE national weeklong program dubbed as #PICE_Serves! In support of the Celebration of National Heroes day, PICE Qatar organized a feeding program and distribution of school supplies at the Saint Francis House of Orphanage in Zamboanga City last August 31, 2019. The event was initiated and spearheaded by our Immediate Past President Engr. Aileen

Buenaflor, family and friends. It is with high pride that PICE Qatar has been initiating community service for the whole year, and it is part of our yearly program. Our committee on PICE Qatar Affairs (COPA) headed by Engineer Emmanuel Boceta is taking charge of different activities, including outreach program, beach cleanup, tree planting, personal financial assistance campaign. In addition, we are also implementing special community projects in the Philippines such as school buildings and deep well project to different areas independent of the program of PICE National Office.

In addition to the highlight mentioned above, I would like to thanks all other committees who have been continuously performing functions and have shared an excellent contribution to the chapter. Committee on Publication, for continuously producing monthly newsletters without fail. Committee on Membership, for organizing Wednesday meetups and assisting membership needs. Committee on Ways and Means for producing unlimited PICE Qatar souvenir items. Committee on PICE Qatar Affairs for organizing community service programs and all other constitutional committees, standing committees and Adhoc committees who have been fully supportive of the objectives of the Chapter.

Lastly, it is my hope that we keep the faith in all our chapter endeavors, perpetuate the desire and enthusiasm, after all, our professional and social responsibility remain wherever we may go. It is said that *"Everyone has a purpose in life and a unique talent to give to others and when we blend this unique talent with service to others, we experience the ecstasy and exultation of own spirit."*

God Bless PICE Qatar and More Power.

Continued from Page 1.

The next games in the elimination round were mostly blow-out wins with the largest win being against the Respiratory Practitioner with a 63-point margin.

For the semis match, the PSME team was determined to up the ante and turn the table against the Builders. A heated battle and exchanging baskets in the opening salvo kept the game at bay. The Builder led by season MVP Engr. Paulin, stretch guard Engr. Caguioa and the towering Engr. Dela Cruz combined for an onslaught midway through the game to take a comfortable lead. The game was stopped momentarily with an unfortunate incident in one of

the PSME player who left the game with an excruciating foot injury. The Builders kept playing a well-balanced offense and won the game to march into the finals.

The finals between the Civil Engineers and the Architects was a memorable and somewhat emotional game. Both teams' supporters came in troves with cheers and jeers filling the stadium. The Architects started strong and caught the Builders off guard in the opening canto with offense anchored on Lo and Arao. However, the Builders found their footing and were back into the game with the brave final MVP Jad Caguioa attacking the basket and season MVP Gyrrou Paulin

torching from the perimeter. Timely baskets from Engrs Manzano and Jeffrey Pedigloria kept the architects at bay. The Builders big men – Elcano, Bongo, Dela Cruz, Martinez, and Sarmiento stood their ground against the towering architects and protected the basket thereby making the opponents bleed for points. PICE Qatar made a strong end game en route to a title-clinching 74-67 win.

Special awardees in the Builders team: Engr. Vincent Dela Cruz (Mythical Team), Engr. Jad Caguioa (Finals MVP), Engr. Arnold Paradero (Best Coach) and Engr. Gyrrou Paulin (Season MVP).

PICE QATAR UPDATES

8th International Technical Conference Held in the State of Kuwait

Sheila Medel



Photo Courtesy of Engr. Emilio Manalo

It has been 8 years since the first International Technical Conference hosted by PICE Qatar Chapter.

This year, it was hosted by PICE Kuwait Chapter with the theme "Building The Future with Green Design and Technology Impact Environment". The two-day convention was attended by a total of 105 Civil Engineers from different International and Local

Chapters. There were delegates from Bahrain, Oman, UAE, Riyadh, KSA, Western Region Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Brunei, Cavite City, PICE National and of course Qatar who has the highest number of attendees only second to the host chapter.

While Brunei has the sole representative of their chapter, Qatar was represented by 15 delegates of which the Committee on ITC headed by

Engr. Maria Michelle Revillosa commended their participation and presence.

There were 5 speakers who showcased their specialty in the field of Civil Engineering. Dr. Peter M. Ureta, Ph.D., PRC-CPD Council-Member, presented the interesting topics of the amendments to IRR of the CPD Act of 2016 and the hottest Career Progression and Specialization, he was very motivational. Engr. Joe Nino E. Orapa from Riyadh Chapter talked about the mind-boggling case study for "Hypothetical" Hyperloop project and Gearing Up GIS+BIM Sustainability. Engr. Emilio Embile presented the Construction of Widest Underground Road Tunnel Expressway in Singapore and the Innovation Excavation Design of the famous Marina Bay Sand Integrates Resorts. Engr. Jeremiah Lopez presented one topic about Asbestos Management and Health Hazards. And of course our very own Engr. Vanessa Malaluan who presented the topic on the second day was the Preparation of Claims for Extension of Time: A Practical Approach within Construction Contracts.

The first day of the event was welcomed by the PICE International Regional Coordinator, Engr. Christopher Vitug. The occasion as well was graced by the PICE National President, Engr. Erdsan Rene Suero.



Day one was ended by a fun fellowship night with the band, singing and a bit of dancing, not to mention the sumptuous dinner. On the second day, the presentation continued and the program was officially closed at around three o'clock in the afternoon and the rest of the days were "free days".... Wandering around Kuwait City under the scorching sun. The event was held at Crowne Plaza Althuraya City.

Thanks to all who have supported and attended our 8th ITC held in Kuwait last 12-13 August 2019.

It was a monumental success of PICE International Chapters. International Technical Conference like this is a realization of the PICE mission and it is with great pride that it is sustained for several years since its inception seven years ago. PICE Qatar remained strong in numbers attending and committed to pursuing its mission and objective.... **Pres. Helario S. Amoguis, PICEQ**



The 8th International Technical Conference in Kuwait indeed a successful event added to the overwhelming laurels of PICE. We, the PICE Qatar once again is on top of every international chapter garnering more of the attendees as usual. Be proud and let's be involved in the next ITC in the US of A? ...-- **FP Roy L. Baquiran, PICEQ**

Congratulation's PICE Kuwait Chapter and thank you for your warm welcome to us. Also, thanks to all PICE Qatar Delegates for your time and support to our 8th ITC, nice bonding and memorable experiences. Hope to see you all on our 9th ITC. Mabuhay ang PICE Qatar Chapter! ...-- **Ma. Michelle A. Revillosa, PICEQ**

Congratulations to PICE Kuwait Chapter for the successful 8th ITC. The organizers have exhibited extreme grace under pressure from all the challenges and participant's expectations. As a first timer attendee, it has been a memorable event for me and my family, who had joined me in Kuwait, and it

encourages me to attend again in the future conferences. Thank you for the great hospitality and for extending it to my family....-- **Rose Ramos Quibral, PICEQ**

Excellent job Kuwait Chapter for the 8th ITC. You've got the work done in spite of shortages and still everybody enjoyed the seminar. The humors and down-to-earth presentations were awesome. Thank you for your warm hospitality....-- **Marcel Ramos, PICEQ**



Congratulations to PICE Kuwait chapter on your well-deserved success for hosting the 8th ITC 2019. It was a great camaraderie and it has been a great experience for everyone especially it's our first as couple to attend as such prestigious event for our career enhancement. Looking forward for the next ITC....-- **Alnovar & Marlou Abubakar, PICEQ**

Thank you PICE Kuwait Chapter for giving me an opportunity to be one of your Resource Speakers in the 8th International Technical Conference which enable me to share my knowledge and experience to my fellow Filipino Engineers of different background and from various work locations. I am proud of this momentous event and would continue to be throughout my professional career and journey to global competence....-- **Vanessa Malaluan, PICEQ**

I would like to commend Pres. Roy, Ramonito and Jueday for the patience in accommodating all my queries via email and responding them immediately. Also the efforts of the officers to welcome us on our arrival at Kuwait airport. Lastly the assistance given by the officers on our 2 days Kuwait tour. Your hospitality made the 8th ITC memorable and fun! See you all on our next ITC....-- **Elvira De Vera, PICEQ**

It is a great privilege to attend the 8th International Technical Conference held in Kuwait. As a Civil Engineer, an event like



this wouldn't be missed as it is in this occasion that we gained knowledge and learnings about the booming of construction industries. Salute to the PICE Kuwait Chapter for the warm welcome and well-organized event. Until our next International Technical Conference....-- **Marcelino S. Juni, PICEQ**

To share my personal experiences/reasons as to why I attended the PICE's 8th ITC in Kuwait and how it benefits me in this millennial age we live in.

1. Network.

Met like-minded people and industry peers from around the globe who shared a common discipline and meeting new people in engineering field.

2. Knowledge expansion and finding solutions to problems.

Heard a lot about things in the field those are new to me - new technologies and techniques, new types of equipment and unpublished data. A lot of things and information were known from the audience questions and the rationale behind them which I can't acquire only by reading journal articles.

3. Opportunity for everyone to present their ideas and works.

At this PICE's 8th ITC, an opportunity of the presenter to get feedback on his/her own work experience from people who have never seen it before providing him/her new insights.

4. People meet people.

Regardless whether Presidents of PICE or Managers of multinational companies down to a fresh Engineer, meeting someone at a meal or in a Souq trip made me a connection with someone that could dramatically impact my professional career.

5. Learn beyond our field of interest.

In this conference theme, all attendees were united and equipped by a single broad topic but have different sub-fields of study to learn.

Each of us has our own reasons for attending the just concluded PICE's 8th ITC but my personal opinion is that it's not only dramatically enhances both my professional and personal development, but as well as providing me with tools and skills which cannot be taught in-house or online.-- **Emilio Manalo, PICEQ**

Stay tuned in our September 2019 Issue to reveal the host of the most anticipated

9th PICE International Technical Conference!

PICE QATAR UPDATES



8th EXECOMM Regular Meeting Held

PICE Qatar Headquarters, Fereej Bin Omran, Doha, State of Qatar

Alfonso Betita

August 2, 2019: PICE Qatar Executive Committee 2019 hold its 8th Regular Meeting at the PICE Qatar Headquarter at Unit 9, Building 9, Street 854, Zone 37, Bin Omran, Doha, Qatar from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

The meeting was attended by nine (9) Officers, five (5) Committee Chairmen, Five (5) Council of Advisers and 1 guest in the person of CoLSA Chairman.

The 8th meeting was presided by Chapter Pres. Helario S. Amoguis,

that focuses on the issues surrounding the PICE Qatar 2019 memberships list that does not tally with that of the PICE National, the incoming Special Licensure Examinations on August 12, 13 and 14, 2019 as well as the PICE Qatar's participation in the "PICE Serves" drive of the PICE National.

Other important issues discussed is the current status of the PICE Qatar Finances, the SPLE Review, and the Continuing Professional Development program. It can be noticed that only few educational programs including training and

seminars are undertaken for this year due to scarcity of members attending, primarily due to latest development on the implementation of CPD requirements by the Professional Regulation Commission for the Overseas Filipino Workers (Professionals).

PICE Qatar EXECOMM Meeting is a monthly undertaken held at every First Friday of the month in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of PICE Qatar Chapter.

Membership Dues Amnesty Approved

Russel Flores

PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
Qatar Chapter
INTERNATIONAL CHARTER NO. I-02

Fellow Engineers,

Please come and JOIN us for our weekly MEET & GREET at the following locations:

- WEDNESDAYS at FCC Al Thumama (7pm-9pm),
- SUNDAYS at Big Diners, Mansoura (by appointment only) and,
- FRIDAYS at Oryx Rotana Hotel, Old Airport Road (8am-4pm).

Be updated and become a member with good standing.

Engr. Rhoj Banal
COME Chairman

The Committee on Membership (CoME) through Chairman Rogel Banal has announced the implementation of the special amnesty program on membership dues. The amnesty is only for the local dues and shall be in effect for a limited time.

Subsequently, 25 members availed of the amnesty for this month. Furthermore, three (3) new members were accepted and two

(2) other upgraded their status from Associate to Regular members.

As of the end of August 2019, the last membership number issued is 3,434.

The committee continued to call all members to update their dues in addition to encouraging other Filipino Civil Engineers to join the organization.

PICE QATAR UPDATES

PICE Qatar Holds Seminar/Workshop on Smarter Ways to Use Microsoft Excel for Engineering - Advanced Level

Shielu Manantan

Parallel to the advancement of technology is the advancement of the skills required for every job and opportunities. In the field of Engineering, having higher analytical skills is a major advantage and can make one a valuable asset to the company, a way to enhance this skill is by making use of computer programs, among the existing, Microsoft Excel is one of the most used and plays an important role in many sections in the broad field of civil engineering, being not just familiar but having an advanced knowledge with the program makes daily job easier, it could increase work efficiency in reporting and calculation accuracy.

For the first time, the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers organized a modular training session last August 23, 2019 at

Rotana City Centre Hotel, Westbay, Doha, Qatar titled as "Seminar/Workshop on Smarter Ways to use Microsoft Excel for Engineering", the whole day training was attended by 25 active members of the organization trained by MICHELLA CAMILLE S. REYES, a graduate of BS Accountancy, a Certified Public Accountant, a member of the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers, and a Part-Time Trainer at NIIT-Qatar.

The training featured a progressive methodology where respondents learned the immediate to advanced level features of the Microsoft Excel program. Course outline for the seminar/Workshop are as follows:

Module 1 - Working with Formulas & Functions; Working with Charts

Module 2 - Data Validation, Advanced Sorting & Filtering, Conditional Formatting

Module 3 - Lookup, Vlookup, Hlookup, Index & Match Functions, Data Consolidation

Module 4 - Whatif Analysis & Formula Auditing

Module 5 - Protecting Worksheets and workbooks, Managing Worksheets

Module 6 - Working with Pivot tables, and Pivot charts

Module 7 - Macros

The Seminar workshop is not just to help our fellow Civil Engineer advance their skills but the proceeds of the program were also allocated to the PICE Qatar Community Project for the year 2019. (i.e. 6th School Building and Scholarship Program).

6th PICE Qatar President's Cup: Hoops for Math Wizards

Antonio Abenoja II

August 30, 2019 - Team Neon Green Warriors and Team Fuchsia Bully Bulls gathered for the formal tip-off of the 6th Season of the PICE Qatar President's Cup at Arab International Academy. The 6th President's Cup aims to solicit fund for the upcoming 3rd Math Wizard Contest between Philippine School Doha (PSD) and Philippine International School-Qatar (PIS-Q) on October 18, 2019, and November 1, 2019.

An Indoor Parade was held, participated by the Players

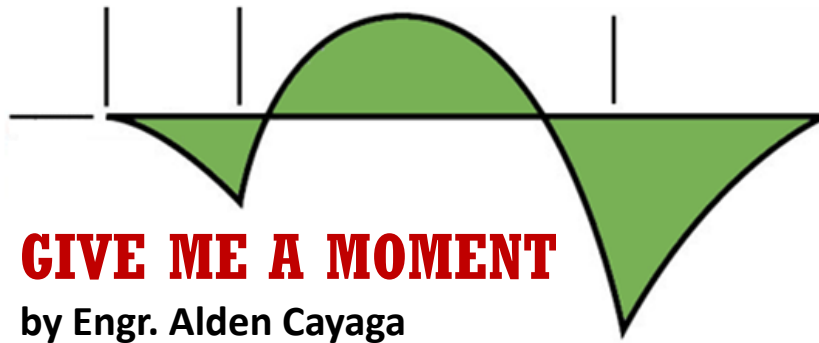
together with their gorgeous Muses, Ms. Christine May Reyes (Neon Green Warriors), and Ms. Cathleen Buenvenida (Fuchsia Bully Bulls). Before the start of the game, a short program was conducted, and awarding of Best Muse, won by Ms. Buenvenida, and Total Team Package Award won by the Neon Green Warriors.

The opening game of the President's Cup didn't disappoint, Neon Green Warriors won a 47-45 overtime thriller that gave them a 2-0 advantage of against Bully

Bulls on a 7-game series. Game 1, won by the Neon Green Warriors, 49-46, prior to the opening of the 6th President's Cup.

Neon Green Warriors: Templonuevo (Coach), Amoguis, Nacario, Dela Rosa, Domingcil, Tejedo, Mendoza, Acera, Paradero, Jayoma, Vicente, Casinsinan, Cortez, Abenoja

Fuchsia Bully Bulls: Fajutagana (Coach), Betita, Nevado, Jumawan, Tolentino, Dalida, Abendan, Concepcion, Burog, Lameg, Macaraig, Noora, Rodriguez



GIVE ME A MOMENT

by Engr. Alden Cayaga

It has been more than 12 years since the PICE Qatar Chapter was established on May 25, 2007. That very same year, the chapter was officially recognized by the Philippine Embassy in Qatar and accredited by the PICE National Board on June 2007 and September 2007 respectively.

Through these years, the PICE Qatar Chapter has promulgated its very own Constitution and By-Laws (CBL) and amended several provisions accordingly to keep up with the times.

Other issuances, such as the NOMELEC Guidelines; Membership Manual; COME Implementing Rules and Guidelines; and other handbooks were arranged as a guide to its officers, committees, and members.

The organization as a recognized international chapter of PICE National, although having its own CBL, is primarily regulated by the Institute's By-Laws. As such, no provision of the Chapter's CBL is contradictory to the provisions of the Institute.

Being an incorporated non-profit professional organization, the PICE National is regulated by the Philippines Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and The Corporation Code of the Philippines.

In this part two of our CBL series, we shall be presenting historical records showing how the Chapter's CBL has evolved throughout these years.

In addition to this, reference shall also be made to the Institute's latest Amended By-Laws (29 May 2018); The Corporation Code of the Philippines; The Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines; and other official issuances released by the chapter.

* * * * *

THE CHAPTER'S CBL THROUGH THE YEARS & OTHER INTERESTING FACTS (Part 1)

OFFICIAL NAME AND SEAL

Currently, the official name of the chapter is PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS QATAR CHAPTER or referred to as "PICE QATAR CHAPTER" or "PICE QATAR" as per the latest CBL (as stated in Article 2 Section 2.1).

Did you know that there was a time that a hyphen was used in the original name and logo of the chapter? Up until the first amendment of the CBL, the official name of the chapter was referred as "PICE-QATAR CHAPTER" or "PICE-QATAR", while the logo was only amended on November 25, 2011 to match with the chapter's official name without the hyphen.

Did you know that the chapter has another name during its Interim Year? As per Article 2 of the Interim CBL, dated June 01, 2007, the chapter was also referred to as "PICE-QATFIL". This name was officially dropped after the First Amendment in 2008.

Did you know that the "PICE Qatar Newsletter" is the only instance where the Chapter's official name was allowed to be used as recorded in the CBL? It was in the 9th Amendment (2016) where the official name of the newsletter was inserted. Other than this, there are no other provisions in the CBL that allows the use of the official name of the chapter.

Did you know that the background color of the Chapter's official seal is specified in the CBL? The official seal of the chapter shall be in white color background as stated in Article 2 Section 2.2 of the latest CBL. It has been the color white since the 4th Amendment dated November 25, 2011. However, the maroon color was mentioned as the official background color up until the year 2010.

Did you know that the use of the official logo of the chapter is specified in the PICE Qatar Membership Manual? Logo patches are embroidered over the left chest of PICE Qatar t-shirts or jackets and vibrantly displayed on all souvenir items. As such, all designs having the official name of the chapter shall have its logo displayed appropriately as per the recommended guidelines.

Did you know that the official logo was designed by a Past President of the chapter? The official logo of Chapter was designed by Engr. Noel Jumawan, one of the founding members of PICE Qatar Chapter and 2014 Chapter President.

FISCAL YEAR

The tenure of the Board, as per the latest CBL, shall commence at 12:01 a.m. of January 1 and end on December 31 at midnight of the same year.

Did you know that originally the Chapter has a different fiscal year? During the interim year in 2007, the term of office shall commence at 12:01 on the last Friday of July and end on the last Thursday of July at midnight.

MEMBERSHIP

Classification of membership of the Chapter consists of the classifications similar with the Institute's By-Laws for Regular Member; Associate Member; Life Member; Honorary Member; and Fellows of the Institute.

Did you know that the Institute has two other membership classification not present in the Chapter's CBL? Under Article II of the Institute's By-Laws, two other classifications are present: the President Emeritus or Member Emeritus; and the Student Membership.

(Continued on page 9)



Alden Cayaga is a civil-structural engineer by profession. He is secretly an introvert, a former real-time strategy games enthusiast, and a graphics designer wannabe.

He would like to make this column a personal notepad for some odds and ends, tutorials and other tips or DIY projects which he hopes others will find interesting and useful.

(Continued from page 8)

Did you know the conferment of Honorary Member by the Chapter must be submitted to the National Board for final approval?

Although the nomination to this classification can be coursed through the Chapter as stated in the latest CBL and the Institute's By-Laws, the final approval still rests on the National Board which requires a unanimous vote of the entire National Board of Directors. Note that such membership shall be effective only upon his acceptance thereof.

Did you know that the only difference between the provisions stated in the Chapter's CBL and the Institute By-Laws regarding classification for Regular, Associate and Life Member is the term "Filipino citizen"? This particular phrase was inserted in 2012 for the 5th Amendment of the Chapter's CBL and has been there ever since.

Did you know that Associate Members in Qatar are allowed to vote as per the Chapter's CBL? Contrary to the Institute By-Laws, Associate members of the chapter here in Qatar are allowed to participate in the elections to vote as long as the member has paid his/her annual dues and other fees for the election year. Note that only in 2018, for the 11th Amendment, was this specifically stated in the Chapter's CBL under Clause 8.3.2. Previous versions of the Chapter's CBL only indicates that - "Each active individual member shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any matter...." However, Associate members cannot hold office and be voted upon as candidate for Board of Director.

OFFICERS

Ever since the founding of the chapter, the organization has always nine (9) officers comprising of the President; 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents; Secretary; Treasurer; Auditor; Public Relations Officer (PRO); Business Manager; and Sergeant-At-Arms.

Did you know that the only difference in the set of officers for the Chapter and the Institute is the Sergeant-At-Arms? There are only eight number of officers for PICE National as compared to the Chapter which is nine in number.

Did you know that the Officers during the Interim Year (2007) of the chapter also chair the different Constitutional Committees? Committees such as Membership is chaired by the 1st Vice President; External Affairs chaired by the President; Education chaired by the 2nd Vice President; Relief and Assistance chaired by the Business Manager; Records and

Documentation chaired by the Secretary; Public Relations and Publication chaired by the PRO; Socials and Reception chaired by the Sgt.-At-Arms; and Treasury co-chaired by the Treasurer and Auditor.

It was then amended in 2008 that the remaining elected 6 Directors shall chair the different Constitutional Committees.

COMMITTEES

The chapter has several committees (constitutional, standing, ad-hoc, executive) which have progressed through the years with regards to composition, types, and membership.

Did you know that the previous versions of the Chapter's CBL have a recommendation with regards to the minimum number of members of each Committees? All versions of the Chapter's CBL amendments has recommended at least five (5) members for each committee regardless of their membership category.

Did you know that the COHOPLE was once called COHO? Originally, under the 1st Amendment in 2008, the COHOPLE was named as COHO or Committee on Honors. The main task of this committee is for recommending candidates for the conferment of awards as Honorary Members and the like. The Professional Licensure Examination part of the committee was only added in 2010 to allow for the conduct of review courses for those who wish to take up the sanctioned Special Professional Licensure Board Examination for Civil Engineering.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BODs)

The number of Board of Directors of the Chapter has progressed since its Interim Year in 2007.

The original founding BODs is only fourteen (14) in number while the succeeding years has maintained a set comprising of fifteen (15) individuals until the 2014 CBL Amendment.

Currently, as per the latest CBL, we have a total of seventeen (17) members of the BOD as per Clause 5.1.1

Did you know that as per The Corporation Code of the Philippines and The Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines, there is a limit to the number of individuals comprising the Board of Directors of an organization? According to RA 11232 of the Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines, the law limits the number of incorporators to a maximum of fifteen (15) individuals under Section 10.

The Institute, being an association

duly recognized by the SEC and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) abides by these rules set under Philippine laws.

Did you know that the term "Board of Directors" has a different use during the Interim Year 2007? As per Article 8 of the Interim CBL, the Board of Directors shall be composed of five (5) duly elected regular members of the Organization. The main function shall be to monitor, oversee the conduct and performance of each Officer and the organization as a whole.

It was during the 1st Amendment (2008) that the role of the Board of Directors and its composition were modified to match with the Institute.

Did you know that the current Board composition of the Institute and the Chapter is different? Currently, the PICE Qatar Chapter has a total of 17 members compared to the Institute's composition which is only 15 individuals.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Originally, the Executive Committee comprised of the set of officers and the Immediate Past President as per the Interim By-Laws (2007).

Succeeding CBL amendments from 2008 until 2014 states that the fifteen (15) members elected annually by the General Membership shall compose the members of the EXECOMM.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Originally, the Past Presidents of the Chapter only acts as Ex-Officio members of the Board of Directors.

They can participate in the deliberations but they do not have any voting power. However, in the 8th Amendment of the CBL (2015), the Immediate Past President became an automatic member of the Board in addition to the Council of Advisers (Council) representative which both have voting rights.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership fees of the chapter have also changed throughout the years since its founding in 2007.

Did you know that the Entrance Fee and the Annual Membership Fee had changed values in three separate occasions? The original Entrance Fee and the Annual Membership Fee are QR 25 and QR 30 respectively up until 2008.

It was then updated for the years 2009, 2011 and 2017. Currently, it still stands at QR 100 for both fees.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Did you know that the conversion rate for the calculation of Membership Fees and other fees (i.e. LM, Specialist Application) is fixed at Php 10 = QR 1? This conversion rate has been implemented since 2007 and applies up to this date even though the actual conversion has significantly increased from approximately Php12.66 to Php14.30 within the 12-year period.

FRATERNALS / AFFILIATES

The mention of the term "Fraternal Organizations" was only included in 2016 for the 9th CBL Amendment. It was specifically mentioned in the latest CBL under Sections 5.3.2(f); and 7.10.6(d) regarding accreditation of fraternal organizations for the conduct of CPD activities.

Did you know that the Institute's By-Laws allows qualified Institute members to join affiliated specialized and/or fraternal civil engineering organizations? This is specifically mentioned under Article II - Membership; Section 1 of the Institute's By-Laws.

Note that only those organizations authorized under Section 4 of Article

VII of the Institute's By-Laws shall membership be allowed without prejudice to their membership in the Institute.

The Institute is actually encouraging the formation of Organizations of Civil Engineering Specializations as per Article VII Section 4 of the Institute By-Laws). This is in line with the different specializations as practiced by the different fields of civil engineering. No provision in the chapter's CBL or any guideline can prevent any member to join such groups for the advancement of any individual and the civil engineering profession. Thus, the formation of other civil engineering groups, other than those specializations and organizations mentioned in the Institute's By-Laws, are not officially promoted or encouraged.

More to come in Part 2 of this article in our next newsletter issue. Additional trivia and other interesting facts will be presented as a way to increase awareness of the Chapter's CBL and its history.

(To Be Continued....)

* * * * *

Sources:

PICE Qatar Chapter Constitution and By-Laws

- by Interim Committee on CBL (01 June 2007)
- First Amendment (25 July 2008)
- Second Amendment (27 Nov 2008)
- Third Amendment (19 Nov 2010)
- Fourth Amendment (25 Nov 2011)
- Fifth Amendment (30 Nov 2012)
- Sixth Amendment (29 Nov 2013)
- Seventh Amendment (28 Nov 2014)
- Eighth Amendment (27 Nov 2015)
- Ninth Amendment (25 Nov 2016)
- Tenth Amendment (24 Nov 2017)
- 11th Amendment (30 Nov 2018)

PICE Qatar Membership Manual; Sixth Edition 31 May 2018

COME Implementing Rules and Guidelines (Effectivity 01 Apr 2018)

PICE, Inc. Amended By-Laws (Approved by SEC on May 29, 2018)

Batas Pambansa Bilang 68: The Corporation Code of the Philippines

Republic Act No. 11232: The Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines

SPORTS CORNER

PICE Qatar Builders Sweeps 2019 PPO Basketball Tournament

Antonio Abenoja II



Dismantling the UAP Qatar Chapter in the Finals, 74-67, the PICE Qatar basketball team dubbed as "Builders" finished the 2019 PPO Basketball Tournament with an 11-0 record to be crowned as Champions last August 23, 2019, at the Al Arabi Indoor Hall.

The Builders controlled the boards and set the tone in the 1st quarter, and established their half-court defense which led to

fastbreak points from speedster Engrs. Caguioa and Paulin. The quarter ended with PICE Qatar leading the score 15-9.

On the 2nd Quarter, the Architects slowly closed the gap trimming the Builders lead to two; 31-29 at the end of the 1st half.

UAP bannered Ar. Lo continued to make a run to open the 2nd half and cutting the Builders lead to within a

point, 33-32. But the Builders tighten their defense which resulted to UAP's miscues and ignited a 17-6 run halfway through the 3rd quarter. This widened the lead to double-digit, 50-38 before the Architects' orchestrated a 5-0 run entering the final canto. The quarter ended with the score of 50-43 in favor of the Builders.

The Builders, led by backcourt duo - Engr. Paulin and Engr. Caguioa showcased their championship-caliber defense and scored

off UAP's turnovers, regaining their double-digit lead, 64-53, early in the 4th Quarter. But the UAP had a 13-6 run to cut the deficit to 4 points, 70-66. But it was too late, as Engr. Paulin and Engr. Dela Cruz both delivered 4 clutch free throws, to seal the game and the title for the PICE-Q, 74-67.

PICE Qatar clinched the 1st seed of the playoffs having 9-0 record after elimination rounds facing the 4th seeded PSME (6-3) in the semi-finals led by Engr. Paulin, Engr. Caguioa, and Engr. Dela Cruz. PICE Qatar dominated the semi-finals game, 80-62, to advance to the finals.

Side Notes:

PICE Qatar Builders and Badminton Players also dominated the special awards at the end of the tournament, namely:

- Engr. Louie Dela Cruz – Mythical Team, Center
- Engr. Arnold Paradero – Best Coach
- Engr. Anthony Jad Caguioa – Final MVP
- Engr. Gyrlou Paulin – Season MVP

- Engr. Roy Baquiran and Engr. Aileen Abejero-Buenafior – Badminton Mixed Doubles Runner-Up
- Engr. Harold Pelle – Badminton Singles Runner-Up

PICE QATAR UPDATES

PICE Qatar Launches the Feeding Program

Elvin Fajutagana



impact on the health and developmental implications of childhood malnutrition, enhancing student concentration and increasing energy levels. It can help to teach the children and contribute to their learning by preventing hunger and improving cognitive skills.



On 31 August 2019, PICE Qatar launches its first feeding program held at St. Francis House and Orphanage in Pasonanca, Zamboanga City, represented by Immediate Past President (IPP) Aileen A. Buenaflor, accompanied by friends and family volunteers; namely Mr. Benjamin A. Buenaflor and family, Liddy Tanedo, Razhima Pavel and Leslie Ann Lao.

the happiness of the children's faces. There were 45 children from the feeding program. After the food distribution, the children also received some school supplies.



A brief program, hosted by Jollibee, was carried out before the feeding proper. There were parlor games, children's dance presentations, and of course, the Jollibee mascot was present and the children were entertained. The feeding program has become joyful and meaningful as you can see in

The feeding program has an

This activity was made possible by the assistance of the Board of Directors, Advisers and PICE Qatar Member in 2019. And was organized to enhance the social responsibility and community involvement of Civil Engineers which is one of the PICE Core Values, and to support PICE National's call for PICE Community Services to intensify its implementation, dubbed as #PICE_SERVES!



PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, INC.

#PICE_Serves!

LIVING HEROES IN OUR OWN SMALL WAY.

FEATURE ARTICLE

WAKE-UP CALL... Without Warning!

Emmanuel Boceta

During the past month of July and earlier this month, we have seen some of PICE Qatar members suffered serious medical conditions without warning.



In the month of July, one of our active committee members, Engr. Edgar M. Crispino, PICE Qatar Member ID No. 2307 suffered a hemorrhage (bleeding) in the brain or in medical terms a hemorrhagic stroke. He underwent life-threatening surgery to remove the blood clot in his brain. Currently, he is in recuperation/rehabilitation from the operation at Qatar Rehabilitation Institute-Hamad Medical Center, Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU).



In the early days of this month, another active committee member, Engr Henrik Gal De Ocampo, PICE Qatar Member ID No.1309 also suffered a mild stroke or Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) in medical terminology and was rushed to the hospital. Luckily, after recuperating from Hamad Medical Center, he was sent home after his condition stabilized.

Another member, Engr. Rico O. Moloboco, PICE Qatar Member ID No. 1243 suffered serious medical complications causing his cardiac arrest. With no pulse and heartbeat, he was rushed to the hospital and was later

revived and stabilized, but due to several complications of his multiple ailments, he remained in a coma at the Male Medical Ward of Hamad Medical Center, Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU).

Of these three PICE Qatar members, the latter suffered the most serious, not only with his health, but also with his family's circumstances here in Qatar, having No Work, expired QID, No Insurance, No Hamad Health Card, Not updated with OWWA Membership and bills and penalties piling up.

With the help of generous donors/ members of PICE Qatar Family thru the initiative of the Committee on PICE Qatar Affairs (CoPA), all three members were visited and given moral/spiritual and financial assistance/support.

These instances may be considered a WAKE-UP CALL for all of us, and the experience can definitely help open our mind and change our outlook on life and health considering that we are working in this foreign land.

Unfortunately, though, we usually forget the things we learn in such situations and soon revert back to our former lifestyle, complete with its old prejudices and whims.

In an article I have read, written by Shenphen Zangpo*, some of which I have re-phrased and re-digested, he mentioned the following:

"Actually, most of us just drift through life thinking only about accumulating material things and having fun. We act as though we will live forever and never consider that one day our bodies will be nothing more than ash, nor do we realize that material goods will fall apart and that the fun times will merely become distant memories.

Instead of chasing rainbows, we are confronted with the truth that everything changes and that nothing lasts forever. Basically, we see life as it really is, and thinking we have a serious illness can be a wakeup call to reality.

Some people will respond to this reality with fear and struggle against change, while others will understand it as a positive lesson and a way to open their minds. It would be helpful if we could all live our lives believing that this is our last year of life. If we can do this, we will not waste our time fighting over property or spending time brooding over small incidents, but instead we can focus

on what is important in life. If we are a Buddhist, we may decide to devote time to practice so that we can achieve enlightenment. Otherwise, we may try to spend peaceful moments with our family and friends. At the very least, we will find inspiration in small things that we never even noticed before.



Next time we are sick, we may again find that our illness is not serious, but one day the doctor is going to call us into his chamber and say, "I'm sorry to inform you but your disease is terminal. You will not recover."

Basically, we need to realize that change is inevitable, and that life and death follow each other like day and night. When we accept this fact, we do not reject life, but appreciate and value it even more. Each moment becomes precious and we are filled with courage and inspiration.

Rather than change, it is permanence that should fill us with fear. Imagine if everything lasted forever. Our present problems would never disappear. Even listening to our favorite piece of music would drive us crazy as it would be played continuously without end.

Basically, for everyone's situation I recommend that when you wake up each morning you reflect on the fact that everything changes and finally disappears. Contemplate this until you recognize impermanence in everything from a mountain to a flower, from a universe to a grain of sand. When you fully accept this reality, you will be mentally prepared for illness and death. Of course, this does not mean that you do not try to recover when you are sick. Definitely, you should visit a doctor and try to regain your strength, but at the same time you recognize that at some point in life, doctors, medicine, plastic surgery or yoga are not going to work and you will die - not only you, but every one of us. If you can think like this, then you will have gained invaluable wisdom from your experience."

* K2 Article by Shenphen Zangpo "A serious illness can be a wakeup call to reality", July 10, 2016 published in <http://www.kuenselonline.com/>

POTPOURRI

FILL IN THE CODE
by Alden P. Cayaga

Unjumble the scrambled compound words to form a set of clues describing our secret word related to the different Civil Engineering Specializations.

<secret word>

ULTRA CRUST : - - - - -

PORTIONS TANTRA : - - - - - - - - - - -

WE ART : - - - - -

LEECHING TACO : - - - - - - - - - -

OVERMANTEL INN : - - - - - - - - - -

MEAN MAGNET : - - - - - - - - - - -

COUNTS CITRON : - - - - - - - - - - -

ERG YEN : - - - - - - -



PPO BASKETBALL TEAMS

by Belinda E. Dela Cruz

"Sports are such a great teacher. I think of everything they've taught me: camaraderie, humility, how to resolve differences"

Kobe Bryant



Y	A	U	G	B	C	I	V	I	L	C	Q	D	C	N	B
R	M	Y	E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R	S	I	A	H	A
E	B	E	L	V	I	X	O	F	X	I	K	F	M	A	G
V	R	M	E	C	H	A	N	I	C	A	L	F	A	C	R
E	L	E	C	T	O	N	I	C	S	T	S	E	R	C	E
A	J	H	T	H	I	N	G	F	L	A	R	R	A	O	A
R	N	U	R	S	E	S	O	S	X	M	E	E	D	U	T
C	R	M	I	T	D	T	X	T	O	X	N	N	E	N	H
H	E	I	C	H	U	H	W	S	F	T	O	C	R	T	E
I	S	L	A	I	C	E	X	I	X	A	I	E	I	A	N
T	O	I	L	N	A	Y	Q	P	Z	U	T	S	E	N	S
E	L	T	G	K	T	V	X	A	X	G	I	L	I	T	T
C	V	Y	E	G	O	E	O	R	B	H	T	R	U	S	S
T	E	D	J	E	R	O	N	E	U	T	C	M	E	L	I
S	P	O	R	T	S	U	C	H	D	X	A	R	E	X	G
P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	T	G	U	R	O	M	Y	O
R	E	S	P	I	R	A	T	O	R	Y	P	H	O	W	L
R	A	D	I	O	L	O	G	I	C	T	E	C	H	N	O

This Potpourri Page, therefore, aims to be a venue for the miscellaneous collection of creative or even flowery inputs from PICE Qatar members. It may be a short verse, a poem, a trivia, a news, a joke, an announcement, a story or just about anything under the sun. Please share your good thoughts and send to:

piceqatarnewsletter@yahoo.com

NOW PHILIPPINES

18th Congress: Senate Bills When Passed Into Law Would Benefit Overseas Professionals and OFWs in General

Luisito Carlos

The Senate 18th Congress had so far introduced a number of bills and when passed into law would benefit not only the overseas professionals but the whole Filipino migrant workers as well.

The most debated and controversial bill affecting professionals not only overseas but locally as well known as the "Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016" which lapsed into law on 21 July 2016.

Notwithstanding the Professional Regulation Commission's issued Resolution No. 1146 temporarily relaxing the requirements found under this law, the Senate has further initiated filing bills repealing RA 10912 under Senate Bills No. 536 & 267 introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri and Senator Ralph G. Recto respectively.

More bills have been filed addressing the welfare and

protecting the rights and interests of Filipino migrant workers and in one way or another lessen the burden of the whole Filipino community both locally and overseas as follows:

1. **Senate Bills No. 92, 202, 461 & 593;** shall be known as the "Department of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) Act of 2019".
2. **Senate Bills No. 91 & 384;** an act repealing the Philippine travel tax imposed to Filipinos departing from all international airports and seaports in the Philippines.
3. **Senate Bills 73 & 149;** shall be known as the "Migrant Workers Hospital Act of 2019" & "Bagong Bayaning Filipino Hospital Act" respectively.
4. **Senate Bill No. 93;** Expanded Balikbayan Program.

5. **Senate Bill No. 150;** An Act Providing Free Insurance For Covered Applicants of Overseas Employment Certificates, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes.

6. **Senate Bill No. 276;** shall be known as the "Free Professional Examinations Act".

7. **Senate Bill No. 566;** shall be known as the "Business Incentives for OFWs Act".

8. **Senate Bill No. 438;** shall be known as the "Remittance Act of 2019".

9. **Senate Bills No. 263 & 600;** shall be known as the "Lifetime Validity of Birth Certificate Act".

10. **Senate Bills No. 25, 109, 236 & 388;** shall be known as the "SIM Card Registration Act".

11. **Senate Bill No. 170;** shall be known as the "Unlock My Mobile Act".

12. **Senate Bill No. 545;** An Act Synchronizing the Opening of All Classes in All Schools in the Philippines.

For further readings and details on the above senate proposed bills, you may visit the Philippine senate website 18th Congress on below source link.

Source/s:

<https://www.senate.gov.ph>



SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES
18th Congress

<https://www.senate.gov.ph>

NOW PHILIPPINES

Senate Bill 317: Credit Assistance for Departing OFWs

Luisito Carlos



More often than not, departing OFWs are facing financial difficulties when leaving their families for work overseas.

They would either borrow money from their relatives or take a loan from a lending company just to support the living expenses of their family at least for the first two months of their absence. Some even become victims of opportunist loan sharks and falling into a trap of more debts.

Hence, Senate Bill No. 317 has been introduced by Senator Grace Poe on 10 July 2019. The bill is titled and will be known as the "Overseas Filipino Workers Credit Assistance Act of 2019".

Under this bill, departing OFWs with a valid employment contract certified by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration may avail of a loan of not more than Fifty

Thousand (50,000) pesos from the Overseas Worker and Welfare Administration (OWWA) to cover the living expenses of the family left behind during the first three (3) months of absence. Provided that the loan co-borrower must be one of the family members not otherwise disqualified by law.

The loan shall be granted and released by the OWWA upon proper submission of the following documents duly

certified in writing by the agency, certified and verified by the POEA:

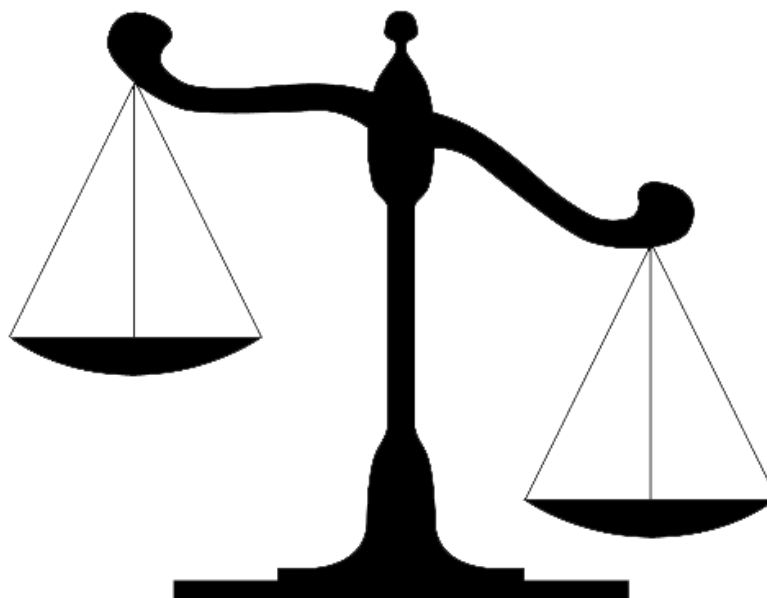
1. Employment Contract
2. Plane Ticket
3. Bank Account

The loan shall be paid in twelve (12) equal monthly installments or more but not exceeding twenty four (24) months at a preferred interest rate not to exceed six (6) percent per annum through the bank account established by the OFW and shall authorize the bank to withhold the monthly amortization from his/her remittances.

The appropriation for this Act shall be out of the Overseas Workers Welfare Fund.

Source/s:

<https://www.senate.gov.ph>



OUTSIDE HITTER

Russel Flores

RECOGNIZED

“DON'T WORK FOR RECOGNITION, BUT DO WORK WORTHY OF RECOGNITION” H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Following from my previous column, may I just take this opportunity to congratulate the PICE Qatar's basketball team for winning the 2019 PPO Basketball Tournament. It's a historic feat – winning all their games and winning in style!

The recently concluded basketball tournament showed the character of a winning team – knowing where to fit in a system and play as one cohesive unit.

Nobody expected the team to win all the games as the other teams, notably UAP, PSME, and PNA showed that they have what it takes to dominate each game. However, what defers the Builders from the rest is the fact that each player recognizes their role in the team. Although it's apparent that

MVP Engr. Gerlou Paulin is the heart and soul of the team, he recognizes the importance of his four other teammates.

Watching the games from the sideline or the coaching bench, I could help but marvel and get awed at how one gets recognition as the leader of a team.

In the world of sports, recognition is always bestowed at the end of a tournament and sometimes greatness is etched in the pantheon of heroes. An MVP award, a gold medal or the championship trophy symbolizes any achievement and raises an athlete on a different level.

How sweet it is to savor a recognition based on a personal achievement; earned through hardship and perseverance. Although some may be recognized through their expertise and respected by their peers, others may be rewarded through sheer luck which somehow takes away the value of such recognition!

Oftentimes, it's dreadful to have any form of recognition. Imagine this, in basketball, the MVP gets clobbered a lot; the cyclist wearing

a yellow jersey will be guarded a lot to prevent any breakaway; a super-GM is expected to win each game with ease....

I can still remember one sportsman in the '90s who was introduced by his patrons as a great athlete with a good potential of bringing home the 1st Gold medal in the summer games. His "resume" includes so many recognitions and awards. However, where it mattered most, he could not back the recognition and never lived up to his billing! Like what they always say: Puro porma wala namang binatbat!

With the way the team is playing at the moment, the chance to finish the elimination with a clean losing slate is highly possible. Who knows, they may roll down the tournament as champions. The only team capable of beating the Builders at this stage are the Builders themselves!

"Don't Worry if you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition" Abraham Lincoln

"As the ball is set, let's hit it but remember – **sports lang dapat!**"

Date	Opponent	Player	Points	Rebounds
AUGUST 1, 2019	FILRAQ	#40 CAGUIOA Anthony Jad	71	89
AUGUST 9, 2019	PICE	#21 ESPINO Raymond	76	58
AUGUST 8, 2019	PICE	#22 MANZANO Dennis	76	47
AUGUST 16, 2019	PSME	#40 CAGUIOA Anthony Jad	62	80



PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS QATAR CHAPTER

International Charter No. I-03
P.O. Box No. 30628 Doha, State of Qatar
Email us at: info@piceqatar.com

Website: www.piceqatar.com
Follow us:

