



PICE Qatar NEWSLETTER

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

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JULY 2018 ISSUE



Blood donation campaign volunteers, blood donors and fellow organizers strike for a pose in front of HMC Blood Donor Center.

PICE QATAR Joins the Blood Donation Campaign Month

Elenie Nicomedes

The Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers – Qatar Chapter (PICE-Q) initiated a blood donation campaign which was held at the HMC Blood Donor Center, Doha, Qatar last July 13, 2018, from 8 am until 12 noon. This activity was made possible with cooperation from Hamad Medical Corporation, the Philippine Nurses Association, and the Filipino Medical Association-Qatar. This event was participated-in by PICE Qatar members, family, and friends as well as members of the different associations mentioned.

There are a total of 23 donors who successfully donated blood from the original 40

individuals that registered online. In relation to this, volunteer doctors from FMAQ and volunteer nurses from PNAQ conducted free consultations, blood pressure and sugar monitoring, respectively to those who are in need.

This event was spearheaded by the Committee on PICE Qatar Affairs (CoPA) under Engr. Emmanuel Boceta with the full support of PICE Qatar EXECOMM 2018.

In closing the event, Hamad Medical Center (HMC) awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to PICE Qatar Chapter for this humanitarian activity.

Blood donation is a noble lifesaving activity that PICE Qatar traditionally undertakes annually.

Volunteering for blood donation as often as possible, may be therapeutically beneficial to the donors in terms of efficient blood circulation and is encouraged by medical practitioners all over the world. Blood donation may not only save lives of other person but maybe our own and our families' lives too. For PICE Qatar, it is to so noble that we "Give blood and save lives".



PICE Qatar Chapter receives certificate of appreciation from HMC.

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OPINION



Gift of Life – Nothing Is More Precious

PICE Qatar collaborated with Hamad Medical Corporation, the Philippine Nurses Association and the Philippine Medical Association – Qatar in successfully concluding its blood donation campaign last July 13, 2018.

This annual undertaking by the organization is so noble and priceless that hundreds of people from different walks of life and different nationalities that needs blood may have benefitted from this program. This is the kind of gift that no amount of money can buy nor machine can ever produce – not today, not tomorrow and maybe not in so many years to come. It is priceless and indeed the most beautiful gift that any person in need can ever receive yet wrapped in “ugly” medical plastic bag that preserves its “health” but bereft of beauty that will reveal the true value of its content.

“This is the kind of gift that no amount of money can buy nor machine can ever produce – not today, not tomorrow and maybe not in so many years to come.”

To entice potential donors, slogans and medical explanations on the advantages of donating blood can be seen on flyers and posters provided at the time of the

campaign. Foods, t-shirts, and certificates were provided to potential and successful donors to convey thanks and appreciations – things that give proof to one’s effort but does not replace the individual’s feeling of fulfillment knowing that someone’s life was saved because of his/her blood. And who would need to know the benefits of giving one’s blood when you already know the benefit it will give to your fellowmen?

PICE-Qatar is only one of the few organizations that give concern, promotes concern and addresses concerns of its members and the whole community to the best of its ability and capacity. The recent showing in the previous undertaking with 23 successful donors, is not absolutely the level of success we are looking for. We are an organization of more than 3,000 members thus by simple mathematics,

the organization knows that there is a need to do a lot more by the organization and members alike – simply, we need more responses in the future. Members need not be enticed with material things



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and promises of health benefits, rather, the promise of prolonging ones’ life and giving fellowmen a new lease of life should be enough for the members to heed our call. The organization needs to do more in raising awareness to its members knowing that there is nothing more important and noble than saving a human life.

Nevertheless, all the people behind this program should be given a standing ovation and a well-deserved congratulations.

THE PRESIDENT'S LOUNGE

Message from the President

Aileen Abejero-Buenafior

CEng, ASEAN Eng.
1st Female President of PICE Qatar Chapter



The first semester has been a challenging time for PICE Qatar. Challenging not because of the many tasks we need to do but due to the resignation of some of the members of the Board of Directors (BOD) brought about by the Qatar embargo. Nonetheless, PICE Qatar, with the unwavering support of its members and officers, withstood this time of difficulty. We are now in the second semester of the year, and once again I am here to report to you PICE Qatar Chapter's accomplishments for the month of July 2018, to wit:

- A. July 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2018 – We conducted these regular Wednesday Meet-Ups to accommodate and process the application of new members. At the same time the Meet-Ups presented an opportunity for members to update their organization dues. Moreover, we also accepted and reviewed the documents submitted by our members for their application to the ACPE, ASEAN and AER. The Wednesday Meet-Ups is spearheaded by our energetic Chairmen Engr. Rolan Nevado for COME and Engr. Emmanuel German Boceta for COLSA under the supervision of 1st VP Engr. Sheila Medel.
- B. July 4, 2018 - A special BOD meeting was held to fill up the vacancy for a member of the BOD due to the resignation of the 1st Vice President, Engr. Luisito Carlos. Engr. Elenie Nicomedes was endorsed and confirmed by the BOD as its new member, in accordance with Section 5.5 of PICE Qatar Chapter's Constitution and By-Laws (CBL). Immediately after, the BOD, confirmed the ascension to 1st VP position of
- then 2nd VP Engr. Shiela Medel as per CBL rules, and elected Engr. Alfonso Belito Betita as the new 2nd Vice President. Engr. Elenie, meanwhile, was appointed to be the new COPI Chairman
- The NOMELEC, led by its 2018 Chairman IPP Engr. Allen Nacario, supervised the nomination and election proceedings.
- C. July 6 and 13, 2018 - The COCPA Team led by Engr. Loraine Radan under the supervision of 2nd VP Engr. Alfonso Belito Betita conducted the Advance Primavera Seminar. The said seminar is part of our continuing learning program for those who have already attended the Basic Primavera Seminar that was held last month. Engr. Arnold Puy is the resource person for this seminar with 25 participants in attendance.
- D. July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2018 – The COHOPLE Team led by Engr. Bernard De Vera conducted a refresher course for those taking the Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE). With only three (3) Fridays left in the preparation of the SPLE scheduled on August 24 to 25, 2018, one hundred twelve (112) examinees were verified by PRC last July 24. In behalf of PICE Qatar, we extend our wishes of good lucks to all the examinees. God bless you during the examinations.
- E. July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2018 - The Ad-Hoc Committee on Professional Education (CPE) Team continued the conduct of the refresher course for those who plan to take the MME Examination. The refresher course was completed last July

27, 2018 under the stewardship of CPE Chairman, Engr. Thom De Guzman and ably supervised by 1st VP Engr. Sheila Medel. An average of thirty-nine (39) PICE members aspiring to be registered with MME attended the said review classes. We are proud to announce that one of those who attended the review course had already passed the MME Examination even before the refresher course was concluded.

- F. July 13, 2018 - We conducted a Blood Donation Campaign in coordination with Hamad Medical Corporation, Philippine Nurse Association Qatar (PNAQ) and Filipino Medical Association Qatar (FMAQ). There were Forty (40) PICE members and friends who would eagerly have wanted to donate blood.

However, much as everybody wanted to fulfill their social obligation, only twenty-three (23) of the registrants qualified as donors after the rigid medical screening that was done by HMC to ensure that there are no risk factors that could affect the safety of both the blood donors and recipients.

Aside from the blood-letting activity, those in attendance also had the opportunity to avail of free blood sugar test and blood pressure monitoring, courtesy of PNAQ. A Free Consultation was likewise conducted by members of the FMAQ.

This project was spearheaded by the COPA Team of Chairman Engr. Emmanuel German Boceta under the supervision of 1st VP Engr. Sheila Medel.

(Continued on page 5)

PICE QATAR UPDATES

Construction is underway for the 5th Green School Building Project

Alfonso Belito Betita

Construction of PICE Qatar's 5th Green School Building (GSB) Project located at San Isidro National High School, Barangay San Isidro, Sogod, Leyte is in progress since the groundbreaking on July 7, 2018. Based on Engr. Helario Amoguis' report dated July 31, 2018, the current construction progress is estimated at 20 percent. Engr. Helario Amoguis is the Project Coordinator for the 5th GSB.

As of this writing, the cost of the project is pegged at P112,182.00 covering materials and labor. The total cost of the project is expected to rise to P 450,000.00 or more due to price escalation on labor and materials brought about by the new taxation law known as TRAIN that is being implemented by the government. It is projected that roofing works alone could shoot up to P 100,000. The PICE-Q Project Coordinator in the same report pointed out the necessity of re-evaluating the cost of the project followed by a meeting within the committee level. Additional funding shall be sourced out otherwise deletion of some features of the structure may be taken to facilitate project completion.

Engr. Amoguis added that about 50 percent of the coarse and fine aggregates needed by the project has already been delivered to the construction site.

The construction schedule is very much affected by bad weather that continuously hounds the project site.



5th Green School Building Project Ground Breaking Ceremony.



Progress of Green School Building Project as of July 31, 2018

Engr. Medel is the new PICE-Q 1st Vice President, Engr. Betita, 2nd

Alden Cayaga

Engr. Sheila L. Medel took over the 1st Vice Presidency of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers – Qatar Chapter last July 4, 2018, by virtue of Section 5, Clause 5.2.6 of the PICE-Q Constitution and By-Laws after the position was declared vacant due to the resignation of the then 1st Vice President Luisito S. Carlos last month.

Since that the 2nd Vice President position was vacated by Engr. Medel, an election for the same

position was held on July 4, 2018, during the caucus where Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita prevailed over Engr. Newcesar Templonuevo by a close 8-7 votes. The new 2nd Vice President in his acceptance speech that follows his election, pledges his support to the organization and to the programs of the current leadership which will be for the betterment of the members.

Meanwhile, the chairmanship of the Committee on Publication and

Information (COPI) which was vacated by Engr. Betita was taken over by Engr. Elenie E. Nicomedes.

Engr. Medel, Engr. Betita and Engr. Nicomedes will serve for the remainder of the 2017-2018 terms which ends on midnight of December 31, 2018. Election, however, is scheduled during the General Assembly traditionally held every last Friday of November month.

PICE QATAR UPDATES

4th Batch of MME Hopefuls Completed Review

Alfonso Belito Betita

This year's second batch of MME hopefuls numbering 39, has completed the PICE Qatar-conducted review program last July 27, 2018, Friday.

They are the ones left from the initial enrollees numbering 45 who initially participated in the beginning of this program.

The MME review program was initiated by PICE Qatar with the idea of assisting active members to hurdle the qualifying professional examination given by the Qatari Government through the Ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME). This was formerly known as the Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning (MMUP) examinations.

MME review classes were handled by lecturers Engr. Jeffrey Cimagala, Engr. Helario Amoguis and Engr. Nasser Sanoh.

Engr. Sheila L. Medel, 1st Vice President of PICE Qatar, informed that the schedule for the next batch of MME Review is still on the table for discussion as of this writing.

Message... (Continued from page 3)

G. July 20, 2018 – PICE Qatar conducted the First Financial Literacy Seminar in collaboration with PINOY WISE. The Financial Literacy Seminar which focused on Family and Income Management was held to educate OFWs in Qatar on the importance of financial independence. One valuable lesson that was imparted to the seminar participants is about understanding the six (6) important steps in financial wealth creation, management and preservation. The seminar gives the participants a knowledge on the skills required to allow them to manage their money wisely. PICE Business Manager Engr. Felipe Catinoy, was responsible for organizing this event, in coordination with COCPA Team.

H. July 21, 2018- The PICE Qatar Ad-Hoc Employment Assistance Committee (EAC) was launched to help fellow members who were laid off from their jobs, those who are currently in the process of seeking re-employment, or those having difficulties in finding jobs brought about by the Qatar-Gulf blockade crisis. The EAC's main function will focus on providing assistance to active members who are currently looking for a job thru the provision of an employment facility (Job Seeker Facility) that is aimed at fast-tracking the meeting of jobseekers and employers. This project was initiated by yours truly with the help of

EAC Chairman Engr. Arman Tolentino and PP Engr. Delfino De Leon.

I. July 21, 2018 – The COPI Team released PICE Qatar Newsletter, June 2018 issue. We would like to commend Engr. Alfonso Belito Betita who readily accepted the challenge of being retained as Editor-in-Chief (aside from his daunting tasks as the new 2nd VP) and the rest of the Editorial Board members led by new Chair Engr. Elenie Nicomedes. Thru the efforts and initiative of the COPI Team, the articles in the Newsletter are both informative and beneficial to our members. Likewise, our PRO Engr. Russel Flores also initiated a weekly Q&A contest, which hopes to encourage the members to read the Newsletter from which clues to the Q&A can be found. The PICE Qatar members who will answer the questions correctly will win exciting prizes. The mechanics of the Q and A are regularly posted in all social media accounts of PICE Qatar.

J. July 24, 2018- The key players of the Major Events Committee held a kick-off meeting in preparation for the 1st Construction Project Management Symposium scheduled on October 12 and 19, 2018. There will be twelve (12) topics that will cover topics about the each phase of the entire construction management - from the initial stage of project conceptualization, planning and tender preparation, project execution,

and project-close out activities and procedures. These will be tackled by resource persons coming from PICE Qatar as well as from its Affiliate/fraternal organizations such as the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines (ASEP), Filipino Planning Engineers Association (FPEA), Filipino Association of Materials Engineers (FAME), and the Philippine Institute Quantity Surveyors (PIQS). On the second day of the Symposium, AER Conferment will be held and this will be followed by the 1st Fellowship Night open to the members of the participating professional groups. This will be one of the major events identified by PICE Qatar for CY 2018.

The second half of CY 2018 will definitely be a busy semester for PICE Qatar. As gleaned from above, PICE Qatar will not rest on its laurels but will continue to serve its members and community here in Qatar thru the conduct of more activities that will benefit the members and the Filipino community in Qatar as well as the families of the OFWs in the Philippines.

Definitely, the second semester of CY 2018 will sustain the activities that were already started during the first half of the year.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for a job well done during the past months.

Let us continue our active participation in all the activities of PICE Qatar.

STAFF... Look and Listen

Belinda dela Cruz

KATRINA

A lovely & shy lady with a pure heart that makes true to her name.

An outstanding graduate of BS Civil Engineering- Batch 2013 in Batangas State University.

Now, she works as a Quantity Surveyor of Turner & Townsend since 2015, her first job as an OFW. Being the eldest of two siblings with 7 years gap made her independent and loving

She is very much into photography and loves traveling to beautiful places with love ones. Moreover, she loves eating and at times goes for culinary trips.

Despite her busy schedule, she still finds time to update her legal documents, including insurance, and investments.

In the future, she wants a contented and happy life with her own family.

And she has to say "Appreciate all the little things, look at life positively and thank God for each day".



*Featured PICE-Q Newsletter Staffers
Katrina Magsino & John Cromwell Esclanda*

JOHN CROMWELL

JC is a young talented journalist at heart from the land of the Mangyans - Oriental Mindoro. His interest in journalism started when he became the editorial and sports writer when he was in grade 6. He continued being a sports and news writer in his high school days. He also participated in different press conferences from division, regional and the national secondary school press conference. During his college days, he is one of the news writers in their school paper "Civil Engineering Today".

After his graduation from college, he worked as Field Quality Engineer at the Makati Development Corp. for one and a half year before deciding to try his luck overseas.

He works at Turner & Townsend Qatar as Jr. Quantity Surveyor together with his longtime girlfriend, Katrina.

He spends some of his free time on learning how to code and develop a website. He also loves to travel especially with "his better-half". He is an active member of San Lorenzo Ruiz choir, PICQS and PICE Qatar.

Being optimistic, jolly and risk-taker, he dreams of finally proposing to the love of his life, Katrina

In the future, he sees himself having a stable family business in the Philippines.

He believes that God's plan is always better than ours.

Seminar for Advanced Project Management Held

Alfonso Belito Betita

A two-day Seminar for Advance Project Management using Primavera P6 Professional software was successfully held on July 6 and 13, 2018 at the City Centre Rotana Doha, West Bay, Qatar by the PICE-Q Committee on Continuing Professional Advancement (COCPA) under the chairmanship of Engr. Loraine Radan and with Engr. Arnold Medalle Puy, as Resource Speaker.

This seminar was attended by 25 active members of the chapter who each earned a total of 4 CPD credit units – a requirement for the renewal of their respective PRC IDs.

Meanwhile, COCPA also announces the postponement of the scheduled "Seminar for Construction Delay Claims from the Owner's and Contractor's Perspectives - Extension of Time"

which was supposed to take place on August 10 and 17, 2018. This will be moved to later dates which will be announced once the speaker confirms his availability.

COCPA wishes to express sincere apologies for this changes due to unavoidable circumstances.



Advanced Project Management Seminar at City Centre Rotana Doha

KNOW THE BOARD

Alden Cayaga

This is the seventh part of the series "Know the Board" wherein we feature the who's and who of the current Board of Directors of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers, Qatar Chapter (PICE-Q).

Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita or "Tholits" to his friends was the COPI Chairman before he became the 2nd Vice President through a hotly contested election for the mentioned position early this month of July 2018. He also currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the PICE Qatar Newsletter. This man who once dreamt of becoming a naval aviator but lands in Civil Engineering field completed his bachelor's degree in 1991 from the Technological Institute of the Philippines (TIP) – Manila. He came from a poor family but managed to complete his studies through determination and luck by passing the Pres. Elpidio Quirino Scholarship Examination placing 24th out of 1,500 examinees. He also served as a member of the Editorial Staff (later on as Managing Editor) of the TIP Voice, the Official School and Student Publication of TIP from 1986 to 1991.

His experience as of this writing extends to 27 years that includes Quality Assurance / Quality Control in heavy infrastructure construction including roads, airport drainages and aprons, land development, viaducts, steel bridge, tunnels, shafts, dams, and powerhouse. He also ventured in precast, materials laboratory, concrete batching plant management, medium rise building construction, manufacturing plants, cross-

country piping works, structural steel construction and pipe jacking works.

His involvement includes a stint as QC Manager in a local company in the Philippines from 1992 to 2001. In 2001, he moves to Taiwan and become part of Hyundai Engineering and Development Company as QA/QC Engineer – Lead Inspector for the Taiwan High Speed Rail Project. In the year 2006, he joined the Malaysia-China Hydro Joint Venture as QC Engineer for the construction of the 2400 MW Bakun Hydropower Project. He moved to the Federal Republic of Ethiopia in 2008 and join ELC-Electroconsult as Technical Head – Employer Representative for the Construction of the 460 MW Beles Multi-Purpose (Hydropower) Project until 2011. He currently works for Galfar Al Misnad Engineering and Contracting Company, WLL. as Deputy QA/QC Manager since the year 2012.

Engr. Betita is a licensed Civil Engineer and is passionate in sharing his knowledge in

construction to his fellow engineers and for that reason, he served as resource speakers of both PICE Qatar and the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines – Regional Coordinating Committee Qatar in their CPD accredited seminars.

Tholits is a regular member of PICE, ASEP, American Society for Quality (ASQ), Chartered Quality Institute (CQI) and Toastmasters International. He is a P.E. member of the American Society of Civil Engineers / Structural Engineering Institute; a Provisional Auditor to International Registry of Certified Auditors (IRCA) and Professional Evaluation and Accreditation Board (PECB) and a recognized Practitioner – Chartered Quality Institute.

Engr. Betita is happily married with three kids who are all residing here in Qatar. He is an original Batangueño but now resides in the beautiful Island of Palawan.



The 2nd Vice

Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita
M.ASEP, P.E. M.ASCE

The COPI Chairman

Engr. Elenie E. Nicomedes



Engr. Elenie E. Nicomedes had taken the reins of the Committee on Publications and Information (COPI) after the recent reorganization of the PICE Qatar Board of Directors. Miss "Beautify", as she was often called because of her campaign speech during the 2017 PICE Qatar General Assembly, considers herself to be kind, flexible and passionate. She took inspiration from her brother, who is also a civil engineer, and finished her bachelor's degree at Andres Bonifacio College in 1993.

Her professional career started in 1994 at the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) as a Resident Inspector at Zamboanga del Norte. In 1995 she worked for DMI Consultants, Inc. as Project Inspector before leaving for Cebu later that year to work for Metal Forming Corporation until the year 2000. She rose from the ranks during his stay at Metal Forming Corporation which she started as Product Marketing Representative; was promoted as

(Continued on page 10)

PICE-QATAR EVENTS & FACES



Blood Donation Activity



7th PICE-Q BOD Meeting

Photos taken by:



- * Alfonso Belito Betita
- * Henrik Gal De Ocampo
- * Newcesar Templonuevo



PICE-QATAR EVENTS & FACES



Advanced Project Management Seminar



Financial Literacy



SPLE Refresher and MME Exam Review





SIDELINES

Engr. Alfonso Belito C. Betita, PE M.ASCE
2018 PICE Qatar Newsletter Editor-In-Chief

The Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE) Review for Civil Engineers comes to an end on August 17, 2018. We have nothing but appreciation to those who dedicated their time and effort to help our associate members in getting chances of securing their professional licenses. These includes the review instructors and the COHOPLE headed by its energetic Chairman, Engr. Bernard De Vera.

August 24 and 25 are the scheduled dates of the Civil Engineering Special Professional Licensure Examination in the whole Middle East Region. In Qatar, 112 associate members of PICE Qatar will try their "luck" in securing their professional licenses. In trying their "luck", they will do their best and perform better in the examination as they are equipped with far-better knowledge they gained during the nine months of review.

Wishing you examinees all the best in the upcoming exams. Go on and fill our professional rosters!!!

Last July 13, 2018, PICE Qatar executed another humanitarian and community service in the form of blood donation in cooperation with Hamad Medical Corporation, Philippine Nurses Association and Filipino Medical Association – Qatar. There were 23 successful donors out of the 40 interested registrants on that day.

Truly, the spirit of humanity is well and alive in PICE-Q family.

Meanwhile, construction of PICE Qatar's 5th Green School Building in Barangay San Isidro, Sogod, Leyte is in full swing after its inauguration early this month. An amount of around 500,000.00 pesos is pegged for this project as it is currently affected by the current TRAIN law being implemented by the government.

Truly, a law is a law. Nothing is exempted even if it comes in the form of a donation to a Philippine community.

Preparation for the first post-summer sporting season is in full swing this month. Our able Sergeant-At-Arms, Engr. Belinda dela Cruz with several sports enthusiasts has lined-up the Third Basketball Conference of the PICE Qatar President's Cup and Badminton Competition for the BODs and Committee Members in the next months to come.

Lawn tennis competition – an outdoor event is also being planned for the winter season so watch out people and start honing your skills!!!

Last July 4, 2018, yours truly was elected the 2nd Vice President of our beloved organization, PICE-Qatar by a narrow 8-7 votes of the Board of

Directors. This was a close fight for the remainder of the 2018 term which will end on December 31, 2018, at midnight.

My heartfelt thanks to all my supporters and non-supporters alike. And to my worthy opponent too.... Surely, your time will come.

A personal note.....

While I was writing this column in the early hours of the morning, I came to a fruitful discussion with a former classmate of mine in high school, Dr. Nelson Caliwag thru facebook. Our friendly discussion actually started on a post by "Silent No More" which lists the countries having a federal and non-federal form of governments all over the world. While countries like Japan, Singapore, France and other rich countries are listed as non-federals, those that are listed as federals are noticeably from the opposite which is composed of mostly poor and war-torn countries. Countries like the US, Australia, Canada, Germany, etc. are purposely omitted from the list of federals.

Anyway, thanks to my good friend Dr. Caliwag for that friendly, professional and healthy discussions. Truly we can make political issues a lighter and less complicated subject.

Know... (Continued from page 7)

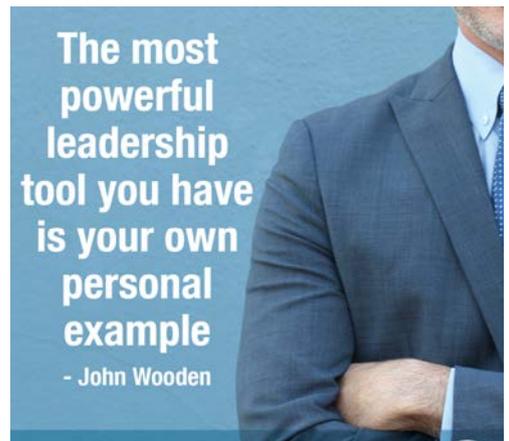
Installation Engineer, and eventually elevated as Engineering Supervisor.

She ventured in Manila on January 2001 at Rigid Building System (NG Dumlao Enterprise) and worked there for five years as Structural Steel Designer/Estimator.

Engr. Nicomedes came to work in Doha, Qatar in 2006 for Sorensen

Qatar WLL, which is a subsidiary of Sorensen Gross Company in Michigan USA, as Technical Office Engineer / QA-QC Engineer for more than 9 years. At present, she is a QA/QC Engineer at Sia & Moore Decoration (a Subsidiary of Sia & Moore Architecture Turkey) and assigned to a hotel project in West Bay Lagoon area.

During her spare time, she just enjoys listening to good music and dreams of traveling to distant places and meet new people.



The most powerful leadership tool you have is your own personal example

- John Wooden

PPO-Q Corner

Elvin Fajutagana

The Philippine Professional Organization (PPO) Qatar had a meeting in the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO-OWWA) at Diplomat Area, West Bay, Doha, Qatar on July 23, 2018, regarding the forthcoming Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE). There were 14 professional organizations present during the meeting and the concerns that were discussed are as follows:

1. **SPLE Updates** – Labor Attaché David Des Dicang confirmed that the venue of the SPLE will be in PISQ as agreed by a majority vote of the PPO members. He also informed that the delegates from PRC will arrive on August 20, 2018, and will stay until August 29, 2018.

PICE Qatar received the updated SPLE List of Examinees provided by PRC consisting of 112 confirmed Civil Engineering examinees.

2. **SPLE Budget** – The budget for 2018 SPLE was discussed in length and agreed that the contribution of each organization will be based on numbers of examinees. The budget covers incidental expenses i.e. aide, security guards, and transportation. The budget was based on the 2017 SPLE expenses.

3. **Itinerary and Dates** – Labor Attaché Des Dicang emphasized that it is important to learn from the past and advised that PPO to request an orientation from PRC in order to know what to expect from them and what they would expect from PPO. It was agreed by PPO members.

PPO Chairman distributed the duties and responsibilities of each organization leaders from the arrival of the PRC delegates, to validations,

examination until the departure of PRC delegates.

4. **Other Concerns** – PPO members agreed to have PPO uniform during the SPLE and PICE Qatar volunteered to secure from its current sources.

PICE Qatar was represented by Pres. Aileen Buenaflor, 1st VP Sheila Medel, 2nd VP Alfonso Belito Betita, Sec. Elvin Fajutagana and Chairman Bernard De Vera.



PICE Qatar Chapter representatives to the PPO-Q Meeting.

112 Examinees Posed to Take SPLE for Civil Engineering

Alfonso Belito Betita

A total of 112 PICE Qatar Associate Members pose to take the Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE) for Civil Engineering on August 24 and 25, 2018 at the Philippine International School Qatar (PISQ). This was announced by Engr. Bernard De Vera, Chairman - Committee on Honors and Special Licensure Examination (COHOPLE) which oversee their preparation.

Schedule for the final validation process by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Examination Team will be finalized upon their arrival on August 20,

2018, which will be announced through the Viber group and Yahoo Group e-mails. Examinees are reminded to prepare the Original Copy of Transcript of Records and PSA Birth Certificate / Valid Passport which are to be presented to the PRC Examination Team.

In this connection, COHOPLE announced that the last SPLE review class will be on August 17, 2018, Friday at the Oryx-Rotana Hotel in Doha, Qatar. Currently, there are 45 regular reviewees attending the review classes every Friday.

PICE Qatar Chapter represented by its Board of Directors headed by Engr. Aileen Buenaflor wishes the aspiring Civil Engineers and all the examinees "Good Luck" in the upcoming Special Professional Licensure Examination.



FEATURE

Letter to the Layout Editor

John Cromwell Esclanda

When we met in 2014, there's no love at first, at second, or even at the third sight. Then I realized that love is blind, and maybe that's the reason why. Yes, it sounds corny, but this is a proof that I'm a victim of what we called "love".

I can't remember exactly how we started as friends and as lovers. But one of the things that I can't forget is our first bonding moment. There's a report to be submitted which required us to work overnight. You were so busy doing reports while I was busy watching "Frozen". I'm not really a fan of Elsa but I just want to spend some time knowing a girl named Katrina.

Little by little, we became close friends. After some months of going out and getting to know each other, we became officially in a relationship. We had difficulties at the start and adjustment is not our forte. As time goes by, I figured out that most of the fights happened when you were hungry. Just a piece of advice for all men, hungry is synonymous with angry in a woman's vocabulary.

Looking back when we were still dating, eating at luxurious restaurants and dancing as the romantic songs play, those were the things which never happened. A newbie engineer like me can only bring you to the nearest SM or to a Lomi house. Lomi in Batangas played an important role in building our relationship.

Year 2015, we decided to work abroad. It was planned that you will go first and I will follow a few months after. Luckily, with the help of family and relatives, everything worked as planned. Leaving the Philippines to work abroad is one of the biggest decisions we made as a couple.

October of the same year I arrived at Doha. It was very hard for an engineer having less than two years of experience in the Philippines to secure a job abroad. But here you are to the rescue, I landed a job in the same company where you are working.

Undoubtedly, you are one of the best gifts that I received from above. I think most of us already experienced heartaches in the past and what you can usually hear is an expression "there are plenty of fish in the sea". I am very thankful that this time I have a good catch.

Meeting your expectation in many things is one of the challenges of being your partner. That's why for me, hearing your "pwede na" or "okay naman" is better than hearing my boss saying "good man".

After four years of being in a relationship, I witnessed how much you cherish every moment you spent with your loved ones. You are the daughter that every parent would wish they have. I've been welcomed at your home and you always make me feel that I'm part of a new family from another clan.

Remembering the challenges that we went through, life would be different without you. No matter how far the distance we travel, I have no worries when we are together. You will be my travel buddy forever.

Relationship is not only for those who are perfect together. We are working on our imperfections and there is still an ongoing construction. Just like other couples, there are times we have arguments. As per my record, you still remain undefeated in this tournament.

You are beautiful, inside and out. I am very lucky that I have you and I can't afford to lose you. I think it is the right time to say this, but I don't know how to say it.

Many ideas came into my mind on how to ask a question which you don't usually hear. Thanks to COPI on giving a space in our newsletter. I only have a few hours left to submit my article and if you are reading this, yes I met the deadline.

Every first letter of each paragraph, from the start up to this part, represents that question I want to ask. Please let me know when you already figured it out.



Perfect Pair: The Layout Editor and the Feature Editor

POTPOURRI

Danny Chan



learn when parents are not right next to them or guiding each step. As explained by Deborah Gilboa, M.D., founder of AskDoctorG.com, "Failure and challenges teach kids new skills, and, most important, teach kids that they can handle failure and challenges." The lack of it leads to the children's decreased confidence and self-esteem, undeveloped coping skills, increased anxiety, a false sense of entitlement and undeveloped life skills.

As parents, we should, therefore, let our children experience how to struggle, allow them to be disappointed, and when failure occurs, help them to work through it. It means letting our children do tasks that they are physically and mentally capable of doing. As Dr. Gilboa says, "Remembering to look for

Then there was a storm one night. Rain beat down upon the earth with a vengeance, and the gusty winds tore at it. It was a night of terror.

The next morning, both neighbors emerged gingerly out of their havens to inspect the damage outside, and tend to the cleaning and repairs. To the youngster's surprise, all her plants lay uprooted, while all her neighbor's stood unharmed.

"Amazing!" She blurted out to the elderly lady. "The fate my plants have suffered despite such good care! Yours have all survived even though they were hardly cared for."

The elderly woman's answer was very insightful.

"Failure and challenges teach kids new skills, and, most important, teach kids that they can handle failure and challenges."

"Look, young lady," the retired woman replied. "You supplied your plants everything they needed. You were so generous, they did not have to go out in search of anything. So, their roots never went deep."

"I supplied my plants just enough to keep them alive. For the rest, their roots had to go deep down into the bowels of the earth to fulfill their needs."

"Since your plants' roots were superficial, the storm felled them easily. Since my plants' roots were deeply grounded, they withstood the onslaught."

"Just because I did not do what you did for your plants, doesn't make me uncaring, or less caring than you. Sometimes, less is more!"

"The same applies to our children," she whispered again. "Give them time. Let them grow roots. They will grow tall and strong."

Are You a Helicopter Parent?

The term "helicopter parent" was first used in Dr. Haim Ginott's 1969 book *Parents & Teenagers* by teens who said their parents would hover over them like a helicopter. A helicopter parent pays extremely close attention to a child's or children's experiences and problems. Like helicopters, they fly overhead, overseeing every aspect of their child's life constantly. Carolyn Daitch, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Treatment of Anxiety Disorders, defined it as "a style of parents who are over-focused on their children".

In our attempt to ensure that our children are on a path to success by paving it for them, we typically take too much responsibility for our children's experiences and, specifically, their successes or failures. We tend to overcontrol, overprotect, and over perfect their life in a way that is in excess of responsible parenting or overparenting as called by Ann Dunnewold, Ph. D., a licensed psychologist and author of "Even June Cleaver Would Forget the Juice Box".

Though helicopter parenting may have many benefits for a child such as increasing feelings of love and acceptance, building self-confidence, and providing guidance and opportunities to grow, the problem is that, once parenting becomes governed by fear and decisions based on what might happen, it is hard to keep in mind all the things the children

opportunities to take one step back from solving our child's problems will help us build the reliant, self-confident children we need.

I want to share this wonderful story with a profound insight on parenting.

Let Them Grow Roots

There is a story about a couple of people who lived across from each other, their units separated by a compound. It so happened, that they planted identical tree saplings on their sides in this compound. The younger of the two neighbors gave her saplings lots of water and manure. The elderly neighbor gave hers just a little.

Soon, the youngster's saplings grew into leafy, lush green, robust plants. The elderly's plants were normal too, but much less luxuriant than her neighbor's.



FINANCIAL LITERACY

Felipe Catinoy

INVESTING ON COOPERATIVES

I grew up with a family wherein farming and cooperatives are the source of income. Every weekend, we spent our time helping out our farmland - rice field rather than going out with friends and classmates for excursion or "group study".

On the other hand, the cooperative that they are involved-in was a sari-sari store for the farmers in our barangay which was very active at the start.

Unfortunately, only the farming business succeeded and continue along the way.

I heard from my parents that other coop members started their own business, so, the group decided to divide the assets of the cooperative equally to themselves.

Now, it's my turn. I have started a cooperative that is currently for government agencies approvals.

The primary purpose/objective of our cooperative is to operate hospitals and diagnostic centers for the maintenance of optimum health of cooperative members, their families, relatives, and the public in general as well.

Likewise, it seek to promote the cooperative as a way of life for improving the social and economic well-being of the people.

UNDERSTANDING COOPERATIVE

A cooperative is a duly registered association of persons with a common bond of interest, who have voluntarily joined together to achieve a lawful common social or economic end, making equitable to contribution to the capital required and accepting a fair share of the risks and benefits of the undertaking in accordance with universally accepted cooperative principle.



The declared purpose of the law governing cooperatives (Republic Act 6938, also known as the Cooperative Code of the Philippines) is to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice. The law provides important benefits to the cooperative and its empowered members, based on our experience in handling client-cooperatives.

KINDS OF COOPERATIVES IN THE PHILIPPINES

(1) Credit Cooperative, which promotes thrift and savings among its members and creates funds in order to grant loans for productivity;

(2) Consumer Cooperative, the primary purpose of which is to procure and distribute commodities to member and non-members;

(3) Producers Cooperative, which undertakes joint production whether agricultural or industrial;

(4) Service Cooperative, which engages in medical, and dental care, hospitalization, transportation, insurance, housing, labor, electric light and power, communication and other services; and

(5) Multi-Purpose Cooperative, which combines two or more of the business activities of these different types of cooperatives. In terms of membership, cooperatives are classified as follows: (a) Primary, wherein the members are natural persons of legal age; (2) Secondary, the members of which are primaries; and (3) Tertiary, the member of which are secondaries upward to one or more apex organizations. Cooperatives whose members are cooperatives are called federations or unions.

Source:

<https://jlp-law.com/blog/cooperatives-in-the-philippines-an-introduction/>

PICE Qatar Financial Literacy Held With Pinoy Wise Qatar

Felipe Catinoy

Pinoy Wise Qatar together with Overseas Filipino Investors & Entrepreneurs Movement (OFIE-M), extend their arms to PICE Qatar Chapter members to further educate them on how to manage their personal income more productively and wisely. It was held on July 20, 2018, at Holiday Inn Hotel, Doha.

Twenty-five excited PICE Qatar members and their families

attended the said financial education workshop.

The workshop was controlled by Pinoy Wise moderator, Mark Santos while Atty. Daisy Garcia-Tingzon was the team leader of the event. At the Registration Officers were Gidget Gultiano and PICE Qatar Members, Henrik Gal De Ocampo, Medel Dalida (Chapter Past BOD) Felipe Catinoy (Chapter Business Manager),

Alfredo Pagulayan and Loraine Radan (Chapter COCPA Chairman). The speakers of the event were Ed Alcantara, Marie Ann Anduyon, Bernard Anduyon, Ellen Labastida, Juluis Labastida, Rey Balita and Mishrym Maulion.

Family and Income Management Course was the name of the workshop which tackled the

(Continued on page 16)

PICE QATAR UPDATES

PICE Qatar Newsletter Q&A Contest by COPI

Elenie Nicomedes

The Committee on Publications and Information (COPI) team organized a Q&A contest covering articles published in the PICE-Qatar Newsletter for 2017. This is also to increase awareness about current events within PICE-Qatar and to further increase the number of members patronizing our newsletter. Questions were taken from the published articles and pages of the different issues of the newsletters released for this year.

Entries of each participant must send their answers to the PICE-Q website. A winner will be selected each week from a raffle draw that will be witnessed by the organizing committee and will receive a PICE-Q souvenir item and/or a special prize from our generous sponsors.

The contest is on-going thus we would like to thank our current sponsors for the weekly raffle draws, namely the PICE Qatar COWME for the souvenir items; CCL for the USBs; and Big Diners for the Dinner-For-Two package.

We encourage every active member of the chapter to participate and win. Who knows, you might be the next winner.

Our sponsor - Big Diners Restaurant is located at Al Mansoura Doha, Qatar.

Week 1 winner—Engr. Lilibeth Tolentino with COPI Chair Elenie Nicomedes (left); Engr. Lito Betita (2nd from right); and Engr. Roy Baquiran (right)



Week 2 winner with our sponsor—BIG DINERS and our PICE-Q Newsletter Staffers

PICE Qatar's 2nd Math Whiz Contest Planned

Alfonso Belito Betita

PICE Qatar, during a special meeting on July 27, 2018 attended by its President Aileen Buenaflor, 1st Vice President Sheila Medel, 2nd Vice President Alfonso Betita, FP Roy Baquiran and Support Program and Events Committee for Students (SPECS) headed by Chairman Helario

Amoguis, discussed the hosting of the 2nd Math Whiz Contest this year.

The said event is designed to promote and hone the mathematical skills and analytical capacity of the Filipino Senior High School Students here in Qatar.

The targets are once again the grades 11 and 12 students of both Philippine School Doha (PSD) and Philippine International School Qatar (PISQ).

The 2nd Math Whiz Contest is scheduled to take place on November 9, 2018, at a venue which is yet to be announced. PICE Qatar is currently seeking sponsors that will contribute to the success of the mentioned undertaking.

It will be recalled that during the 1st Math Whiz Contest last year, a team from PISQ was declared Champion after besting other competitors.

MATH WHIZ
Contest 2018

SPORTS

X-Box (Russel Flores)

** Unboxed **

In the previous month, I bid farewell to my old tool – GAMEBOY for various reasons, among them – the sporting season is over for PICE Qatar 2018 (that’s what I thought - RF). However, as an episode closes so does a new one starts. Thus, X-box is finally “unboxed”.

For my first take on things, I will have an inner look at the basketball tournament exclusive for PICE Qatar’s EXECOMM and committee members dubbed – the President’s Cup.

This tournament started at the last quarter of last year as an icebreaker for BODs. Participants are group into two (2) – the Blue and Red (for unknown reasons). Past Presidents have been evenly distributed among the teams as well as the players. Hence, in its first season the Blue Team

bannered by Engr. Nong Verano, Engr. Nevado and PP Noel; and the Red Team Bannered by Engr. Porral, Engr. Sanchez and PP Gilbert played seven (7) equally exciting games. Most of the games are decided by who capitalizes on the breaks of the game. The memorable winner-takes-all Game 7 of season 1 saw lady luck smiled on the Red team as they capitalized on each miscue (read that as bad luck!) of the Blue team albeit the chilly December evening.

Season 2 was a whole different story as the Blue was decimated by the departure of key players – Engr. Verano and Coach Russel. It was all uphill battle for the Blue team against a very confident Red team now bannered by their import – the athletic Allan Nacario. However, the will to even things up plus the return of their coach turned a lost cause for the Blue into exciting games by initiating tooth for a tooth battle. With superior reinforcement, the Blue evened the series and took the second season.

Season 3 is a new look tournament with the addition of new recruits and reshuffled members. Moreover, gone are the battle-tested colors of yore and now dons the Dark Gray and Golden Yellow jerseys. It is interesting to watch old allies like Engr. Bong Nevado testing the defense of PP Noel Jumawan or Engr. Emil receiving a pass from Engr. Betita for uncontested set shots. This season will also feature towering big men and new players that will liven up the tournament. Who will lift this year’s crown – that will be uncertain. However, one thing is for sure, the Dark Gray will pulverize the Golden Yellow in social media because this early, the former is shaping a moniker – ALASKADORS!

By the way, for the information of everyone, this tournament is fully funded by the players themselves. All in the spirit of getting fit and breaking the monotony of life.

I love this game.

Flick, Drop and Rally

Russel Flores

It all began with a thought of having physical fitness activities for the BODs and Committee – the men had the Basketball tournament dubbed as President’s Cup, for the women, what do we have?

This question was finally answered on July 12, 2018, at the English Modern School in the form of badminton games. There are around 15 players from PICE Qatar’s BOD and Committee members who tagged along with their respective spouses for fun games and sweat it out.

The idea is not only for creating camaraderie but to get acquainted with the sport and hone the skills for a future tournament in case there will be a clamor for it.

So far the group plays every Thursday night when the schedule and conditions permit.

Financial... (Continued from page 14)

following topics:

Module 1: Financial Literacy

1. Duality of Migration
2. Identify Prevailing Filipino Beliefs Towards Money
3. Understand the OFIE Mindset
4. The 6 steps in Personal Finance Breakthrough
 - Cash flow Generation
 - Income Protection
 - Debt Management
 - Emergency Fund
 - Growth thru Investments
 - Estate Preservation
5. Achieving Goals of Migration
6. Workshop: Dream Map
7. Concepts on Saving, Investing & Retirement

8. Workshops on: Budgeting & Tracking Expenses
 - Saving for Investment
 - Saving for Retirement

9. Borrowing & Getting Out of Debt

Module 2: Issues Confronting Overseas Filipinos and Addressing Barriers to Migration

1. Issues Confronting OF’s and their Families & Addressing Barriers to Reintegration
2. Group Sharing
3. Response

Engr. Aileen Abejero-Buenaflor, PICE Qatar Chapter President, delivered the closing remarks and express her grateful appreciation to Pinoy Wise Qatar for selflessly imparting their knowledge to the chapter members.

