



DIR. DE JESU TAKES OVER PHILRECA CHAIRMANSHIP

The present ISELCO-I Board President and also the Northeast Luzon Electric Cooperatives Association (NELECA) President Dir. Presley C. De Jesus has made another feat in the history of Rural Electrification after having been elected as the newly President of the Philippine Rural Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (PHILRECA) on August 30, 2017 during the PHILRECA 38th Annual General Membership Meeting held at SMX Convention, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental. After the declaration of his victory, Pres. De Jesus thought it's only a dream. "Who would ever thought a Director from ISELCO-I would become a PHILRECA President one

day?" he said with astonishment. The President associates his success to the trust offered by the NEA Administrator Mr. Edgardo R. Masongsong, ECs Board of

Directors and General Managers as well as his ISELCO-I and NELECA family. Further, he did assure that PHILRECA will be made stronger under his tutelage. turn to page 4



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EPITOME OF **TRUE LEADERSHIP** and **P E R S E V E R A N C E**

65 barangays, more than 68, 546 people and 537. 14 square miles mostly of agricultural land, lush trees, river and well-endowed with natural resources compose Jones & San Agustin area. And this is served by one ISELCO-I Director, Brendon R. Lazaro.

If you live in Jones, Isabela, you probably know Brendon R. Lazaro, and chances are he might know you too. His rapport, charisma and friendly nature is so agreeable that it expanded and continues to expand his social network. In fact, if you spend an amount of time with him, whether he's just running errands or taking a stroll, hardly a person can walk by without recognizing him and greeting him by his name.

Considered as the "President's right hand", Dir. Lazaro is next to the youngest of the present set of Board of Directors. Moreover, one of the youngest in the history of ISELCO-I's Board of Directors, bringing fresh leadership and perspective to the plate.

An eligible bachelor with promising career, Dir Brendon belongs to a family with deep Ilocano roots. He was born and raised in Jones, Isabela which he still calls home. Dir. Lazaro started his education at La Salette of Jones, Isabela until High School. After finishing High School, he was then sent to Manila and was admitted by Central Colleges of the Philippines, Quezon City where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. Thereafter, he started as an instructor at Isabela State University Jones Campus. His father served as the Municipal Engineer of Jones and former director of ISELCO-I while his mother used to be a school teacher. When his dad passed away, it caught everyone in grief and by surprise. As the eldest of the three brothers, this left Dir. Lazaro with responsibility of managing some of the family businesses and farm. "Growing up, my parents have always been very supportive. However, I don't want to live in the shadows of my parents forever". Based on his current profile he has yet to further prove himself and gradually starts to create a reputation and name himself.

Given everything that's in his plate and how heavy the world weighs on his shoulders, Dir Lazaro might seem to have barely enough time to maintain his own rigorous schedule. However, when he is not working, he makes sure he maintains fit by playing basketball and biking. "I always make sure I find time to enjoy. I owe it to myself for working hard". Also, a car enthusiast, he had won numerous awards during car shows. Who knew you can get awarded doing the things you love?

In 2015, he assumed his first term after being elected as the Board of Director of District IX (Jones/San Agustin). His commitment to the member-consumers especially in his district paved his way to be elected as ISELCO-I Board of Director for another term.

"The moment I took an oath in front of the member-consumers who are depending on me for leadership, I knew it will not always be smooth sailing, I knew I had to work harder and do my best possible."

And even though he is young, one thing is for sure, he will do great things. A plain spoken man with a heart of gold and pure intentions. Therein lies his greatness. The embodiment of selfless public service.

"Some succeed because they are destined, while some succeed because they are determined"

Ref. Col. Eduardo S. Bayani was an ambitious young boy, the eldest son of Domingo Bayani and Adelaida Serrano-Bayani. At a young age he is used to all kinds of farm works - from land cultivation to growing crops. He has to herd cattle in the nearby mountain as early as dawn and endure a long walk on a grassy and scrubby road every day before going to school. He was determined to finish his studies to better himself with the hope that through education, he and his family could have a better life.

But life is full of uncertainties; at fifth grade, life challenged him even more as his father died making him the breadwinner of the family, pursuing his education has taken a backseat. He finished his high school and stopped there. He was filled with despair and became hopeless but seeing his poor old mother working in the field under the blazing sun gave him the courage and strength to continue dreaming. His determination has become even stronger, stronger that he's too determined to be defeated.

The year 1975 opened doors of opportunity when, at the age of 20, he joined the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) where the government enforced conscription during the Moro Secessionist Movement in Mindanao. After a short period of training, he chose to serve under the Philippine Constabulary (PC), one of the major service commands of the AFP. He was assigned in the battlefield of Zamboanga Del Norte and then moved to Basilanto back-up the military forces after the 1977 Patikul Massacre.

He was given an opportunity to continue his dream, thus, he took up AB English at Cagayan Teachers College and cross-enrolled at St. Paul University where he took up Advance ROTC during Saturdays and Sundays so he could apply for officership. He was able to pass Civil Service Professional Examination and Police Officer Class (3rd & 2nd) Examinations even before finishing college. His attitude and dedication earned the trust and confidence of the regional commander, promoting him as the youngest Master Sergeant in the region at the age of 30.

He joined the military operation in Kalinga to neutralize the enemy during the Marag Valley ravaging war between the New Peoples' Army (NPA) and the authority.

Aside from his previous feats, he's also a recipient of multiple Medalya ng Kadakilaan, Medalya ng Kagalingan, Medalya ng Kasanayan, Medalya ng Papuri, commendations and many more.

He became well-known as this man has cultivated legends of aggressive exploits like making someone swallow their playing cards after doing illegal gambling, and an anti-drug crusader who considers no one, not even relatives. He is known for his iron-fisted approach against criminals and in implementing ordinances.

After his retirement, the desire to help and serve people fueled him to run as Board of Director of ISELCO-I. His leadership brought forth the construction of 10MVA substation at Garit Sur, Echague that will further improve the electric service in the area. His dream to have 100% electrification pushed him to remote areas of Echague through Sitio Electrification Program (SEP) and Nationwide Intensification of Household Electrification (NIHE).

His devotion to work made him rise from the ranks, Dir. Eduardo S. Bayani, the man of integrity who leads by example have built his life out of nothing but a dream and hard-work.

13,000 MCOS flood ISELCO-I 41st A.G.M.A.



NEA Administrator Edgardo R. Masongsong leads the Mass Oath of Membership during the cooperative's 41st Annual General Membership Assembly

It was another story for ISELCO-I as 13,000 Member-Consumer-Owners (MCOs) gathered in ISELCO-I Multi-Purpose Building, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela on September 23, 2017 for its 41st Annual General Membership Assembly (AGMA).

By far, the 2017 AGMA holds the highest total number of MCO in attendance in the entire history of the cooperative which translates to 6.17% of its total membership.

Gracing the occasion as Guest of Honor and Speaker was the NEA Administrator, Mr. Edgardo R. Masongsong, who commended ISELCO-I for organizing MCOs in its coverage areas and for continuing to be a strategic partner in delivering total rural electrification in the province. The Administrator likewise administered the mass oath-taking of the organized MCOs.

With the theme "Pursuing Collective Development Through a Visionary

Electric Cooperative and Empowered Member-Consumer-Owners (MCOs)", this annual gathering of the cooperative highlights the oath-taking ceremony of the newly elected Board of Directors namely Dir. Nelson P. Mañalac of Angadanan, Dir. Conchita M. Palencia of Cauayan City, Dir. Brendon R. Lazaro of Jones, Dir. Presley C. De Jesus of Santiago City, and Dir. Jaime V. Cadeliña of Luna/ Cabatuan which was administered by Atty. Nicasio B. Bautista III, the ISELCO-I's Legal Counsel.



Mr. Edgardo R. Masongsong discusses the administration's agenda for 100% electrification

Engr. Virgilio Montano & Dir. Presley De Jesus award the Plaque of Appreciation to the AGMA Guest of Honor and Resource Speaker, Mr. Edgardo R. Masongsong

DIR. DE JESUS TAKES OVER...

Below is the written message of the President circulated to ECs few weeks after the pronouncement of his term.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is my first message to you since the day you have elected me as President of PHILRECA. Allow me then to express my earnest thanks to the Board Presidents and General Managers who have put their trust in me. I hope I can fill the shoes of our former President, Jose Raul A. Sanial. The present success of PHILRECA would not have been possible without him and his team. Let me then honor them for their sacrifices offered for the betterment of this association as well as thank them for a job well done. It would be difficult to match their achievement over the years, nonetheless, we will constantly challenge ourselves to always offer what is best for PHILRECA.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a truly exciting season in our field and a challenging time for PHILRECA. With the very strong support of my team members in this association, I would like to inform you about our plan. As one association, I believe that we should be entitled of

updates of the different cooperatives if we want well-founded and closer ties amongst us. Therefore, in this new leadership, we will keep each coop posted through a monthly publication that will feature news updates from the whole PHILRECA. This will be a great avenue for an easier information access, exchange of ideas, transparency as well as innovation. I am very positive that through this publication, all of us will be empowered and all the more understand the relevance of our role in this challenging and fast changing times. In this administration, we will bring PHILRECA to the electric cooperatives and not the other way around. It is my goal to hear updates concerning each cooperative, pay you a visit so I could personally get connected with the building blocks of this association.

As we look to the future, as your new President I am envisioning a stronger, braver and more relevant PHILRECA. With the phenomenal leadership of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) Administrator, Mr. Edgardo Rama Masongsong, I believe that this vision is never far from our reach because NEA and PHILRECA are of the same heartbeat – that is to empower the ECs like never before.

I am looking forward to each member maintaining their support to PHILRECA and to the wise men advising and when necessary directing this association to good path.

I welcome your ideas and would appreciate any help from you for the improvement of our association. As my personal commitment to you, I am giving my mobile number so you can reach me any time of the day.

Let me end this by sharing a very meaningful quote from Henry Ford, “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Thank you and God Bless PHILRECA!


PRESLEY C. DE JESUS
PHILRECA President



Snapshot taken during PHILRECA's 38th AGMM held at the SMX Convention, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental



ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFIT RELEASE

by: Elenita V. Medrano, MBA
Energy Trading Services Department Manager

The Isabela 1 Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ISELCO-I) released accident insurance benefits to the immediate family of the deceased member-consumer-owners of the cooperative last July 17, 2017 in fulfillment of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

During its initial release, beneficiaries in the person of Mr. Benjamin Saclayan, Mr. Oscar Domingo and Ms. Charing Gagelonia each received their check from the ISELCO-I General Manager & CEO, Engr. Virgilio L. Montano. Member-Consumer-Owners who died due to accident were extended an insurance benefit check amounting to P5,000.00. The beneficiaries greatly appreciated the assistance extended to their families.

Months prior, all residential consumers were issued with consumer's identification card to make it easy for them to pay their power bills in any of our collection offices and Bayad Centers. In the said ID cards, a rider of accident insurance was included with no cost on the part of the consumers.

These identification cards can also be used by our consumers to register for the Annual General Membership Assembly of the cooperative and during the election of the Board of Directors in their respective districts.

To facilitate payment of insurance claims to beneficiaries, consumer's identification card of the deceased member-consumer-owner together with the death certificate and police report should be submitted at ISELCO-I's Headquarters, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela.



ISELCO-1, IKAW ANG IDOL KO!

by Christine M. Sinagose, ISELCO-I Intern
(Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology)

*Sa ISELCO-1, doon mo matatagpuan
Ang mga bagay na gusto mong tignan,
Sa mga empleyado na naggagandahan at naggwa-
gwapuhan,
Tiyak na ika'y mapapahinto sa daan.*

*Gawain ng ISELCO-1, mga tao ay paglingkuran
Sa hirap man o ginhawa hindi kayo iiwan,
Dahil konsyumer ang prioridad sa lipunan;
Marapat lang na sa inyo nakatutok ang aming isipan.*

*Lingkod ng kooperatibang ito ay di magbabago,
Patuloy ang magandang trabaho
tungo sa pag-asenso,
Hindi magsasawalang bahala sa inyo
Dahil ang ISELCO-1 ay laging TAPAT maglingkod sa
bawat tao.*

*Libreng ilaw sa mga sitio,
Hatid ng serbisyong lingkod ng ISELCO Uno
Pagkamit ng kaunlaran ng sambayanang Pilipino,
Siyang pangarap ng kooperatibang ito.*

*ISELCO-1 ay laging numero uno sa bayan,
Lingkod ay di matatapatan ninoman,
Dahil ang IDOL ng BAYAN
Ay laging HINDI KAYO PAPABAYAAN.*

*Konsumo niyo'y limitahan sa mga bagay na di naman
kailangan,
Upang kuryente ay mabilis mabayaran
Walang sakit ng ulo at pamilya niyo'y di
magkakabangayan;
Sa mga bagay na ito ay dapat IWASAN.*

*Payo namin sa inyo ay wag kalimutan
Dahil hangad namin ang inyong kalagayan,
Ang ISELCO-1 ay hindi dapat sinisigawan
Kung ang brown-out ay nangyari man sa inyong
bayan.*

*Ang KOOPERATIBA na ito ay kakaiba sa lahat,
Dahil sa mga empleyadong disiplinado at tapat,
IDOL ng MASA ang naturingan ay syang nararapat
Sa ISELCO-1, IKAW ang NUMBER ONE 'yun ang
mas SAPAT.*

ISELCO-I Hosts REGIONAL SEMINAR ON WORK ORDER PROCEDURES & WAREHOUSING

by Kathleen S. Sicam & Bonalet F. Soliman, CPA, CTT

The seminar-workshop which was participated by 9 ECs from Region II and Cordillera Administrative Region (BENECO, CAGELCO-I, CAGELCO-II, ISELCO-I, ISELCO-II, Kaelco, MOPRECO, QUIRELCO and IFELCO) aims to ensure that the proper good work order procedures are being followed and maintained particularly the Sitio Electrification Projects likewise to address queries of the Electric Cooperatives for a more effective procedure both in technical and financial side of the work order.

In addition, Inventory and Warehousing Procedures was highlighted including updates in the procedures were also discussed as well.

Through this seminar, the strengthened partnership of NEA and the electric cooperatives, are one step ahead in bringing accessible, quality and reliable services to their respective member-consumers.



As NEA and ISELCO-I believes that employees' continuous training correlates to guaranteed quality service, a regional seminar-workshop organized by the National Electrification Administration (NEA) was held at the ISELCO-I Multi-Purpose Hall, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela

last September 19-22, 2017.

Ms. Bienvenida M. Tonggol, Engr. Felicisimo U. Pula and Engr. Eleno M. Desuyo served as the resource speakers during the four-day event with Ms. Andrei Camille C. Alberto facilitating.

Isabela I Electric Cooperative, Inc. successfully conducted two batches of Seminar on Grievance Machinery Handling among its employees last 24 and 25 October 2017 at the ISELCO-I Multi-Purpose Hall in partnership with the National Conciliation and Mediation Board-Regional Branch No. II.

Topics included in the seminar were Concepts of Grievance, Grievance Process and Handling, Role of Supervisors and Stewards and the Role of Management.

The resource speaker Mr. Olisen L. Dizon, Senior Labor and Employment Officer, discussed grievance, personnel policies, interpretation and implementation as well as the grounds and usual sources of grievances.

The discussion focused further on the importance of grievance handling, steps in effective grievance handling, composition and responsibilities of Committee on Investigation and Discipline (CID) and Grievance Machinery, and the appropriate attitudes of supervisors, stewards and management in minimizing grievances.

ISELCO-1, NCMB-RB2 CONDUCTS SEMINAR-WORKSHOP ON GRIEVANCE MACHINERY HANDLING

by Charmain R. Respicio, CPA

He stressed out that "The parties' attitude in handling grievances is more than in any other aspect of labor management relationship. Nowhere in that relationship is mutual good faith. Moreover, a desire to settle grievances rather than to win them, is essential." He explained that communication

lines should always be open between employees and the management to prevent or avoid misunderstanding and conflicts.

To further understand the grievance handling process, a workshop playing session was also given to each group.



Mr. Olisen L. Dizon, DOLE-NCMB Senior Labor and Employment Officer, during his lecture.

ISELCO-I holds NELECA Christmas Program

For the first time in history, the 9 member electric cooperatives of the Northeast Luzon Electric Cooperatives Association, Inc. (NELECA) were complete during the NELECA Christmas program held at Arthur's Hall, ISELCO-I Compound, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela on December 19, 2017.

The historical event was attended by nearly 180 individuals chiefly Board of Directors, General Managers and Department Heads from the different electric cooperatives who showcased various talents through group presentations.

On his message, NELECA & PHILRECA President Dir. Presley C. De Jesus expressed his utmost appreciation and gratitude to the whole NELECA family especially to the Board of Directors and General Managers whose

support to the thrust of the association never ends. Meanwhile, NELECA Vice President Dir. Lorenzo L. Trinidad, Jr. ignited the atmosphere of celebration

as he led the family into vibrant group singing and dancing. Also, prizes were given away to lucky winners during raffle draw.



Brgy. Sta Rosa receives holiday treats on Christmas

Paying back to community is an indispensable duty of the cooperative as inspired by one of its core values – **Generosity**. On December 21, 2017, the ISELCO-I Labor Management Council (LMC) together with some members of the Board of Directors have generously handed gifts at Barangay Sta. Rosa, Santiago City.

Sta. Rosa is the smallest barangay sited

in the city of Santiago having a total population of nearly 814 including adult and children. A total beneficiary of fifty (50) families gratefully received their Christmas presents in the form of groceries for their noche buena. The crowd gets even more excited when the generous General Manager & CEO, Engr. Virgilio L. Montano, unbundled and openhandedly distributed money bills as token in dancing to young and old alike and

to individuals who ruled the dance floor.

On behalf of the Barangay Captain, Kgd. Apolonio Valdez, extended his heartfelt thanks to ISELCO-I family for choosing their barangay as recipient of the coop's CSR activity. Dir. Nelson V. Agruda and Dir. Jaime V. Cadeliña were also present that day.



The LMC pose for a photo after the Outreach Program
 Children showing-off their money bills as token for dancing

Christmas Program & Family Day



The Institutional Services Department proudly pose for their win on the Modern-Cultural Dance Competition.

December

TO

Remember..

The Cluster Department (ETSD, IAD, OGM) accepts their award for winning the Competition on Food Presentation



THEME:

*Pusong busilak
at bukas na mga
palad, ngayong
Pasko'y higit na
maglilivanag*

elucidates the cooperative's spirit during its Christmas Celebration and Family Day on December 16, 2017 held at the APEC Multi-Purpose Building, ISELCO-I Headquarters, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela which was attended by the Board of Directors, Management and employees.

As a symbolic gesture of the relentless service delivered by the cooperative to its member-consumer-owners for the whole 365 days, a toast for success, commitment & unity was led by the General Manager & CEO, Engr. Virgilio L. Montano.

Hosted by DJ Toni Patani of YES FM, this most awaited annual celebration wouldn't be complete without contested activities, thus, the competition on Food Presentation and Modern-Cultural Dance. After the interdepartmental battle, the Cluster Department, comprised of the Energy Trading Services Department, Internal Audit Department and Office of the General Manager, dominated all other departments in the Food Presentation competition. On the other fence, the Institutional Services Department triumphantly received their award after bagging the title as champion for the Modern-Cultural Dance Competition.



Meanwhile, employees' children who graduated with honors or passed licensure examinations for the year were given certificates in recognition to their milestone. Since Christmas is the season for sharing, gifts and prizes were as well given away to employees during raffle draws.



B A BRENT C. AMBROSIO
Optometrist Licensure Exam

HYACINTH V. RESPICIO
Pharmacist Licensure Exam

SHARMAINE C. PASCUA
Medical Technologist Licensure Exam

CRISTEL JOICE C. GERVACIO
Nurse Licensure Exam

VILMAR C. REYES
Agriculturist Licensure Exam

SHARON LEI B. MARIO
Agriculturist Licensure Exam

ALLEN MARK R. BALINGUE
Electrical Engineer Licensure Exam
Registered Master Electrician Licensure Exam



mco

ISELCO-I *Supports*

ORGANIZATION

With a firm intention to upkeep the existing programs of NEA's new administration, the Isabela Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ISELCO-I) did its fair share in organizing the Member-Consumer-Owners (MCOs) in its area of coverage starting July 4 last year.



Dir. Nelson V. Agruda orients the Liga ng mga Barangay (LMB) officers regarding the role of MCOs in rural electrification. Organized MCOs from the different barangays of San Isidro, Isabela (District IV) with Dir. Sharon S. Gervacio

The said organization is one of the 7 Points Agenda of Mr. Edgardo Rama Masongsong, NEA Administrator, which aims to "Prioritize the Empowerment Program for the Electric Consumers" (3rd point). In a nutshell, MCO organization entails the active participation of the member-consumers-owners by acting as partners in completing the coop's programs, advocacies and ensuring the continuing viability and sustainability of the EC. Also, part of the program includes MCOs being educated, organized and prepared to be involved in all EC affairs likewise uplift their life, thus, the provision of livelihood projects and activities.

"Ang ganda ng bagong programang ito ng NEA na inihalal sa tin ng mga taga-ISELCO sapagkat mas madali na nating ma-i-report ang ating mga problema na may kinalaman sa kuryente at mas madali na din nilang maakapayan. Ang ating ipinagtataka ay bakit ngayon lang natin ito ginagawa? Dapat noon pa sama", said one of the elected MCO officers.

With their appreciation of the program, it is understood that MCOs are made aware of their duties and responsibilities likewise their obligations not just as member-consumers but owners of the electric cooperative.

To date, ISELCO-I has organized 2 cities (Santiago City & Cauayan City) & 7 municipalities (Angadanan, San Guillermo,

Candon, San Mateo, San Isidro, Reina Mercedes and Jones), 117 barangays, and 2 special sectors namely Isabela Green Ladies and Indigenous Peoples (IPs). It is imperative to say that the success of the organization phase was the fruit of the collaborative efforts of both employees and Board of Directors. To fulfill the 7 points Agenda of AERM, ISELCO-I will continue to organize the remaining barangays and municipalities for its second wave which will commence first quarter this year.



Organized MCO Officers of the Isabela Green Ladies Organization (IGLO) Cauayan Chapter with Dir. Chit Palencia (front, centermost, in green)



Organized MCO Officers of the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) Sector with Dir. Eduardo S. Bayani (standing, 2nd from the right, in green)

ISELCO-I extends hand to 3 barangays and 1 school

We rise by lifting others, a message that Isabela 1 Electric Cooperative, Inc. lives by. The upliftment of its member-consumers is one of the priorities of ISELCO-I, it is because of them that the ISELCO-I remains to exist.

On its latest effort to embody this mission, the Labor-Management Committee (LMC) of ISELCO-I conducted an outreach program last June 8, 2017 where students from Villa Beltran Elementary School, Brgy. Villa Beltran, Ramon, Isabela received bags and school supplies from the ISELCO-I employees. The grade school pupils also received umbrellas for girls and raincoats for boys.

Indigent member-consumers from Brgy. Dammang East, Dammang West and Malitao also benefitted from the

LMC Outreach Program held at Brgy. Dammang West last August 23, 2017 where the beneficiaries received grocery items and clothes from the management headed by General

Manager & CEO, Engr. Virgilio L. Montano with the assistance of the Director of Echague, Dir. Eduardo S. Bayani and the barangay captains of the 3 barangays.



NGCP CONDUCTS TECHNICAL AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY SEMINAR

by Engr. Rochelle V. Gumpal

The National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) conducted a two-day technical seminar focused on Technical and Electrical Safety in the Working place held at ISELCO-I Multipurpose Hall, Victoria, Alicia, Isabela last June 28-29, 2017.

Participated by 50 individuals mainly electrical engineers, line foremen, linemen and Power Use Coordinators (PUCs), the seminar intends to provide the participants with information about the principles of electricity, its associated hazards while performing daily allied tasks, as well as the recommended safety related work

practices necessary to prevent the occurrence of electrical accidents.

Engr. Oscar B. Mina and Engr. Rey R. Barrientos, the NGCP's Chief Engineer and Safety Engineer, respectively, discussed the importance of occupational safety & health, unsafe acts and unsafe conditions, electrical safety, safety in grounding, electrical hazards identification & control, safety related work practices. They also demonstrated the proper way of using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); the Lock-Out & Tag-Out (LoTo) and the importance of the Toolbox Meeting. The NGCP team initiated a workshop wherein the participants identified unsafe conditions within the perimeter of ISELCO-I which could help improve the cooperative's working place and prevent any future accidents.



NELECA-2017 SPORTSFEST

“NELECA Sportsfest: Strengthening the Spirit of Camaraderie and Sportsmanship towards a more empowered Member-Consumer-Owners” was the theme of the Northeast Luzon Electric Cooperatives Association’s (NELECA) Sportsfest 2017 where 7 EC members namely: Cagayan I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CAGELCO-I); Cagayan II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CAGELCO-II); Ifugao Electric Cooperative, Inc. (IFELCO); Isabela I Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ISELCO-I), Isabela II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ISELCO-II); Kalinga Electric Cooperative, Inc. (KAELCO); and Quirino Electric Cooperative, Inc. (QUIRELCO) participated last June 22-24, 2017 held at the Ilagan City Sports Complex and Ilagan City Community Center throughout the 3-day athletic meet.

On the first night of the Sportsfest, the NELECA Officers together with the EC management had a Fellowship Night at Piazza Zicarrel Hotel and Restaurant, Gamu, Isabela.

The second night encompassed the social gathering held at the Ilagan City Community Center where each

participating coop were given the chance to showcase their creativity and best talents.

Rain or shine, the athletes gave their utmost. NELECA President, Dir. Presley C. De Jesus and other members of the board, general managers and department heads actively participated by joining the exhibition games for seniors.

In the end, the ISELCO-I delegation garnered the following:

Gold *Silver*

Women’s Chess
Women’s 4 by 4 Relay
Badminton - Men’s Double

Women’s 200 Meter Dash
Table Tennis - Men’s Double
Men’s Scrabble

Bronze

Women’s Scrabble
Dart - Women’s Singles
Dart - Women’s Doubles

Men’s Volleyball
Dart - Men’s Singles
Dart - Men’s Doubles

Table Tennis - Women’s Singles
Badminton - Women’s Doubles
Badminton - Men’s Singles

ISELCO-I and CAGELCO-I both garnered 2nd Runner-up with a grand total score of 415; preceded by CAGELCO-II landing as the 1st Runner-up at 440; and the host coop, ISELCO-II, winning the coveted Over-all Champion with a total of 460.



ISELCO-I and CAGELCO-I pose together during the Awarding & Closing Ceremony of the NELECA Sportsfest 2017



A VISIT AT CALATAGAN SOLAR FARM

by Precious Charlotte L. Labuguen

In view of ISELCO-I's continuous effort to discover and provide affordable and effective energy to its member-consumers, the Board of Directors together with the General Manager, Department Managers and selected staff travelled to Calatagan, Batangas to look over the Calatagan Solar Farm on April 6-7, 2017.

The Calatagan Solar Farm is a 63.3 MW solar power plant owned by Solar Philippines – a renewable energy firm led by 22-year-old entrepreneur Leandro Legarda Leviste. It is currently the largest solar company in the Philippines with about 300 employees. A sea of 200,000 glistening blue panels aligned harmoniously enveloped

by lush mountains in the vast 160 hectares of land is truly breathtaking to witness. This eye-candy is powerful enough to provide energy to the entire western Batangas. The P5.7 billion worth facility is considered the largest solar plant in the entire Luzon. They also constructed the very first solar panel factory made by a Philippine company. The panels manufactured are in turn used for the company's own projects.

“This is the key step towards lowering solar costs, enabling us to produce electricity cheaper than coal”

-Leandro Legarda Leviste

With the onslaught of global warming and climate change, everyone is entitled to give their fair share to saving Mother Nature. ISELCO-I as a dynamic distribution utility is constantly looking for innovative ways to deliver excellent service without compromising the environment, one way of doing so is through the use of renewable energy. Thus, extracting energy from the sun will create a lot of benefits and will result to lesser brownouts, lesser Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission, lesser health risk, lower electricity prices and will create more jobs. Isabela, being the second largest province in the entire country is a promising platform for solar plants bearing little to no side effects than that of coal.



ISELCO-I, Union sign new 3-year CBA

by Norina B. Mangalindan, MBA

10 November 2017 marked another milestone towards the betterment of the cooperative's industrial democracy and relation as the ISELCO-I Labor-Management Committee (LMC), composed of the board of directors, management and the union represented by the *Samahang Manggagawa sa Kooperatiba* (SAMAKO) Officers, signed it's new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) at Canyon Cove, Nasugbu, Batangas City.

Collective bargaining is an essential element in making the relationship between the management and the workforce as smooth as possible. A strong bond between the two entities effectively contributes to the success of a company.

As such, it has been the primary duty of the SAMAKO Officers to negotiate and review the content embedded on the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the management panel every three (3) years of its implementation.

Negotiating and coming to a mutually beneficial compromise for the welfare of the union members,

however, is not a one-day task. It takes multiple in-depth deliberation considering limitations like the capacity of the cooperative to grant such benefits.

In the end, the employer-employee's harmonious relationship combined with the great leadership and support of the Board President, Dir. Presley C. De Jesus and General Manager & CEO, Engr. Virgilio L. Montano, stood tall and firm, an undeniable contributing factor in making the Isabela 1 Electric Cooperative, Inc. #1 in the region in terms of operations and service towards its valued member-consumer-owners.



The Labor-Management Committee (LMC) pose for a photo after having signed the new collective bargaining agreement.

ISELCO-I RECEIVES AWARDS FROM NEA

ISELCO-I bagged five (5) new awards during the two-day NEA-EC Consultative Conference and Recognition of Outstanding ECs on April 27-28, 2017 held at Big 8 Corporate Hotel, Tagum City, Davao del Norte.

Attended by various ECs in the country, the said conference transpired with different highlights; Unveiling of the New Signage of the NEA and ECs, Recognition of the National Center of Electric Cooperative Consumers, Inc. (NCECCO) and the Tagum Declaration & Signing of Commitments.

Relative to this, prior to said event, 5,000 consumers all over the Philippines gathered in Tagum City Hall Atrium on April 26, 2017 for the First National Summit of Electric Consumers. Organized by the National Center of Electric Cooperative Consumers, Inc. (NCECCO), this historic event was held to showcase NCECCO as platform for consumer empowerment movement. Board of Directors, Management and Staff of ISELCO-I attended the event.

Having the theme, "NEA-ECs-MCOs (Member-Consumer-Owners): Forging Change Towards Nation Building", NEA recognized all outstanding Electric Cooperatives during the Lumens Awards. ISELCO-I Board of Directors and Management received the following awards:

AAA Electric Cooperative – for garnering the highest rating given by NEA on the recently concluded 2016 EC Overall Performance Assessment and Size Classification.

Model Headquarters Facilities Award – in appreciation to ISELCO-I's state-of-the-art headquarters facilities with well-maintained workplace and surroundings, thereby promoting high level of productivity towards service excellence.

3 Certificates of Appreciation – for EC which have participated in Task Force Kapatid on the aftermath of Typhoons Ferdie, Lawin and Nina.



LOVE in action

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."
Philippians 2:3

"Do you have a few items you'd like me to wash?" I asked a visitor to our home in London. His face lit up, and as his daughter walked by, he said, "Get your dirty clothes—Amy's doing our laundry!" I smiled, realizing that my offer had been extended from a few items to a few loads.

Later as I hung clothes outside on the line, a phrase from my morning's Bible reading floated through my mind:

"In humility value others above yourselves" (Phil. 2:3).

I had been reading Paul's letter to the people of Philippi, in which he exhorts them to live worthy of Christ's calling through serving and being united with others. They were facing persecution, but Paul wanted them to be of one mind. He knew that their unity, birthed through their union

with Christ and expressed through serving each other, would enable them to keep strong in their faith.

We might claim to love others without selfish ambition or vain conceit, but the true state of our hearts isn't revealed until we put our love into action. Though I felt tempted to grumble, I knew that as a follower of Christ, my call was to put my love for my friends into practice—with a clean heart.

May we find ways to serve our family, friends, and neighbors for God's glory.

THE GIFT OF UNITY CAN RESULT FROM SERVING

neighbors for God's glory.

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Because ISELCO-I is committed to your convenience, you can now pay your electric bills to the following Bayad Centers:

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Rural Bank of Alicia
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You can also pay your electric bills at any of our Drive-Thru Collection Offices:

Batal Drive-Thru Collection Office, Santiago City
San Fermín Drive-Thru Collection Office, Cauayan City

SILAW ti ISABELA

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FOR MORE UPDATES, LISTEN TO "ISELCO-I HOUR"

- 1st Saturday of the month (11:45-12:00nn) @ Bombo Radyo
- 2nd Friday of the month (3:30-4:00pm) @ DWDY
- 3rd Friday of the month (3:30-4:00pm) @ DWSI - Sonshine Radio
- Last Friday of the month (3:30-4:00pm) @ DWMX

***You may submit your articles in the ISD Office for a chance to be published on the next issue of Silaw ti Isabela.