

Helping Others to Progress and Excel



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PICPA Dubai shares HOPE



PICPA Dubai President, Christine Filomeno, during the H.O.P.E. activity

PICPA HOPE project has been running successfully for three consecutive years as part of PICPA's community and social initiative. With the main goal to help others to progress and excel, the project has given Filipino women in unfavourable situation second chances and meaningful optimism in life. This year, 150 distressed overseas Filipinos attended the event at Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) last February 21, 2020 in Muhaisnah 4, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

PICPA Dubai Chairman Lyndon Magsino kicked off the program with a financial talk which focused on imparting HOPE by changing old habits, finding simple opportunities in life, having a positive outlook and getting educated or continue learning new things. Magsino reminded our kababayans that their current situation is only temporary and they are momentarily 'under process' now as things will get better.

In her inspirational message, PICPA Dubai Chapter President Christine M. Filomeno asked our attendees to share their positive and motivating experiences. A lady from Quezon province was very appreciative that she was brought unscathed to POLO-Dubai during a ninety-minute journey from Ras Al-Khaimah despite having no money on hand in paying the taxi driver she just met that eventful day. She added "The driver was kind, he helped me and the POLO OWWA is a big help! (Mabait po ung driver, tinulongan nya ako at ang laking bagay po ng Polo Owwa)".

Another overseas Filipino shared that she preferred being here at Polo Owwa as she felt safe in the company of fellow Filipinos unlike in her employer's house. She said "I feel more okay here because I might lose my sanity there (employer's house) thinking about things (mas okay na ako dito kasi doon baka mabaliw pa ako doon kakaisip)".

One woman from Cotabato city is thankful that she will finally return home to her loved ones in the Philippines after working for nine months without pay while others are grateful that their cases will be eventually heard at Dubai courts with the help of POLO-Owva (Overseas Workers Welfare Administration) officers.

Labor Attaché Felicitas Q. Bay recognized the efforts of PICPA Dubai in sharing their blessings to our less fortunate kababayans through this initiative which has impacted around 700 Filipinos since inception. Games, dance & song presentation and raffle draws brought laughter and smile among the women. Personal gifts were given to each attendee together with some groceries and prepaid cards to communicate with their families back home.

PICPA's community and social responsibility (CSR) is headed by Ms. Ernielyn Amorganda and Ms. Jorylin Virayo. In 2017, the HOPE project was able to repatriate 3 overseas Filipinos back home. Currently, PICPA has three scholars in the Philippines under its CSR initiative.

By: Rayhanah Natangcop-Guinomla, CPA, MBA



Philippine Professional Organization United Arab Emirates (PPO-UAE) Oathtaking Ceremony

By Lemuel Dave Narciso, CPA. PICPA Dubai - PPO Representative

The landscape of Filipino expatriates in the UAE has drastically changed, as more professional workers are coming in as compared to previous generations leaning towards low-skilled workforce. It cannot be denied that Filipino professionals have been paving the way towards excellence within the country.

PPO-UAE, an umbrella organization of 20 professional organizations with various disciplines such as engineers, architects, teachers, medical professionals, veterinarians, and accountants – just recently held their induction of officers and representatives last February 21, 2020 at Marriott Downtown Hotel, Abu Dhabi.

PPO-UAE is famously known as the facilitator of the Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE) for qualified Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) in cooperation with the Philippine Embassy/Consulate, Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO), and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

The current executive committee of this fiscal year (FY) 2020 is led by Chairman Mr. Ramel C. Cenil from Filipino Radiographers (FILRAD) - Abu Dhabi, while PICPA Dubai's Ms. Catherine R. Hermosa will still hold the position as the organization's Auditor, for the successive year.

During the event, the officers were blessed to hear an inspirational speech from our own Consul Maria Cynthia Pelayo from the Philippine Embassy in UAE. Speaking from her experiences as being assigned to different countries, she has highlighted the standards and ethics that Filipino professionals should strive to uphold. Filipinos - as flexible as we are, should absorb the positive attributes from other cultures to complement with our brand of hospitality and diligence.

It should be noted that 1,241 OFWs from all the different disciplines took the SPLE last year. As to the CPA licensure exam, 2 out of 164 (1.22%) takers passed the exams. As an update, SPLE for this year 2020 is tentatively scheduled on either the last week of July or first week of August. We shall be awaiting further updates from PRC for further information, especially as to the deadline on submission of documents.

To end, we as Filipino professionals should not forget the importance of our roles - when it comes to the UAE and Philippine economy. We should aim to be globally competent when it comes to essential and technical skills – making a mark in our respective industries.





Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants - Dubai
In Partnership with Philippine Business School



3 in 1 Seminar : Emerging Leaders in Digital Age and VAT Compliance and Beyond

with special topic due to public demand

Passive Income from Stock Ownership

A full-packed learning experience entitled 3 in 1 Seminar: Emerging Leaders in the Digital Age, VAT Compliance & Beyond and Passive Income from Stocks Ownership has been conducted last November 8, 2019 at Ibis One Central Hotel, Dubai World Trade Center. PICPA Dubai invited international resource speakers Mr. Ron Thomas to tackle digital age leadership, Mr. Hemant Mundhra on pre- (past) & post-implementation (present) and future of VAT in the UAE, and Mr. Lyndon Magsino about stock market investments – concepts and strategies. The room was filled with the presence of audience full of enthusiasm about their professional and financial well-being.

PICPA Dubai Chapter Chairman Lyndon Magsino formally opened the event by instilling to the participants to excel in everything that they do. As he quoted, *"Average is just not good enough. Average is a failing formula."* Moreover, he left a brave challenge to everyone to find their purpose.

As one of the Top 5 HR Thinkers in the MENA region - Mr. Thomas' keynote message to all PICPAns is to continuously improve, develop and adopt themselves in a very dynamic environment. He cited that according to Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, 46% of all jobs have at least a 50% chance of being lost or greatly changed. Leaders should have a right mindset and be equipped with skills to handle all that may lie ahead. He emphasized that leadership is driven with continuous improvement, connection with people, and openness to criticism.

During lunch, PICPA Dubai President Christine Filomeno acknowledged Francis Miguel Sales, one of the 2 passers of the CPA Licensure Examination held here in the Middle East. PICPAns showed a warm welcome to the newly-passed CPA in PICPA Dubai community.

After a heavy lunch was followed by a much heavier topic – VAT Compliance and Beyond. Tax expert and experienced in the VAT implementation, Mr. Mundhra, sliced the topics on several subjects for everyone to digest lightly. He started with an appetizer of establishing the basic VAT concepts. He then served the main dish of understanding the challenges and issues encountered in the VAT compliance and explaining the role of accountants in the record keeping and VAT reconciliation. He added a dessert with cherry on top by discussing the essence of Economic Substance Regulations (ESR) which is a recent requirement to ensure that the businesses in the UAE are conducting within their relevant activity. After a very comprehensive discussion, the audience tipped Mr. Mundhra with an interactive Q&A portion.

PISO Master, Mr. Magsino gave an insight on how to be an "emvestor" – being an employee and investor at the same time. PICPAns were reminded to take out the accountant mindset, and rather wear the hat of an investor throughout the discussion. Mr. Magsino taught the attendees with one strategy – Cost Averaging. This is an investment strategy in which an investor divides up the total amount to be invested across periodic purchases of a target asset in an effort to reduce the impact of volatility on the overall purchase. The purchases occur regardless of the asset's price and at regular intervals; in effect, this strategy removes much of the detailed work of attempting to time the market in order to make purchases of equities at the best prices.

The whole day event enhanced and sharpened everyone's soft skills as a leader, technical skills as an accountant and financial skills as an investor.



As the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Dubai (PICPA-Dubai) cultivate the culture of healthy mind and body, the inaugural sports festival dubbed as PICPALaro was an overwhelming success with around hundred participants under three different sports events of basketball, volleyball and badminton. PICPALaro kicked off last August 16, 2019 at Dubai Sports World and culminated on a two-action-filled weekends last 23rd and 30th of November, 2019 at Al Nasr Sports Club, Oud Metha, Dubai.

Basketball being one of the all-time favourite sports of Filipinos started early in the morning with four teams buying for the championships to be held the following week. In a series of round-robin elimination, the Amazon team prevailed over Team Elite in a showdown of agility and precision while Mapua garnered the third place over Deloitte. Simultaneously, volleyball enthusiasts started with a single knock-down elimination round as five teams namely The Hive, PNPL, Team Barbie, Team Brivin and Sugar & Spike compete for the title. Team Brivin eventually rose as the champions against The Hive the following week in an exciting game of teamwork and spike attacks while Team Barbie secured the third place.

In the afternoon, badminton fanatics commenced initial bouts as players vie for the title in three categories of Mixed Doubles (MXD), Men's Doubles (MD) and Women's Doubles (WD). After a gripping back to back elimination rounds Iran Villarin Erzando and Joan Barrientos Viajedor emerged as champions against Virgilio Acaylar and Emelyne de Vega in the Mixed Doubles division while the unstoppable De Vega and her teammate Maricar Ribo triumphed over the tandem of Rose Marie Pedros and Maricel Teron Braganza in the Women's Doubles division. In a continuous winning streak, Erzando with his partner Joel Mariano Gauang surfaced as champions in the Men's Doubles against Franz Suarez and Vincent Paul Duller.

PICPA continue to connect its members not only intellectually through its trainings and seminars but also physically as PICPA believes a successful professional should not only be mentally engaged but also physically active. Senior VP Catherine Hermosa together with her team Erwin Keith Alipio and Virgilio Acaylar heads the PICPALaro 2019. Rest assured, another exciting series of PICPALaro awaits us next year.

PICPALaro WINNERS

Badminton

	Champion	1st Runner Up
Mixed Doubles	Iran Villarin Erzando Joan Barrientos Viajedor	Virgilio Acaylar Emelyne de Vega
Men's Doubles	Champion Iran Villarin Erzando Joel Mariano Gauang	1st Runner Up Vincent Paul Dauler Joseph Franz Suarez
Women's Doubles	Champion Emelyne de Vega Maricar Ribo	1st Runner Up Rose Marie Juntilla Pedros Maricel Teron Braganza
	Volleyball	Basketball
Champion:	Team Brivin	Amazon
1st Runner Up:	The Hive	Team Elite
2nd Runner Up:	Team Barbie	Mapua
Other teams:	PNPL Team Sugar & Spike	Deloitte

The Gallery

Connect. Pursue. Achieve.

June - July 2019 Event

3rd Annual General Assembly

See more of the photos by following our Facebook Page [@MyPICPADubai](https://www.facebook.com/MyPICPADubai)



Left to right : PICPA Dubai Chairman Lyndon Magsino, PICPA Dubai President Christine Filomeno, with H.E. Consul General Paul Raymond Cortes and PICPA CEO Nathan McFarlane



PICPA Dubai Officers, Members and Guests during the PICPA Dubai 3rd Annual General Assembly



Oath taking of PICPA Dubai Officers for the fiscal year 2019-2020.



PICPA Dubai members during the Connect, Pursue, Achieve activity.



PICPA Dubai members pledge their membership for the fiscal year 2019-2020.



Winners of fun activity "Hashtag Connect, Pursue, Achieve" receives their prizes courtesy of LBC.



PICPA Dubai officers (L-R) : Rochelle Gacula, Jors Virayo, Erns Amorganda, Cat Carino, Erwin Allipio, Hannie Jimenez and Micah



Winners of "Gentleman and Lady of the Night", Rafael Pacatang and Jonnah Cardenas. Prizes courtesy of PBS.



PICPA Dubai President Christine Filomeno awards PICPA Dubai Chairman Plaque of Appreciation in line with the "Overview of Strategic Finance".

The Gallery

Connect. Pursue. Achieve.

August 2019 Event

PICPALaro Kick Off



The Gallery

Connect. Pursue. Achieve.

September 2019 Event Essential Skills for Global Finance Professionals





The Gallery

Connect. Pursue. Achieve.

PICPAIaro Annual Sportsfest
October – November 2019





Message from the Founder & Chairman of PICPA Dubai

Invitation to join the PICPA Dubai Leadership Team



Dear Fellow CPAs,

As we are planning for the current year's activities, we are inviting those who are willing to be part of the PICPA Dubai Leadership Team to join us.

Instead of nominating and electing somebody, it would be more effective if we can voluntarily step up and join the leadership team. We need more volunteers who has a "servant-leadership" heart and a spare time to commit.

Indeed, it is a great privilege to serve our fellows and lead this amazing institute.

Please contact me at Chairman@PICPAUAE.com if you want to volunteer.

In behalf of the leadership team, I am looking forward to your positive response.

Regards,

Lyndon Magsino, CPA
PICPA Dubai Chairman



WATCH OUT

FOR OUR

NEXT

EPISODE FOR

FY2020-2021



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