



## VCF 10th Anniversary and Annual General Assembly Conducted with Success

Members approve strategic plan, elect new set of officers; PWDE Program launched

On May 3, 2008, 144 cooperative leaders and representatives participated the 10th Anniversary and Annual General Assembly of VCF. Dubbed as “VCF 10!”, 60 VCF primary member-organizations, partner organizations and government agencies attended the affair.

Guests included Ms. Iris vander Velden, the Program Officer for Southeast Asia of the Rabobank Foundation, Ms. Emma Lim-Sandrino, Executive Director of the Foundation for a Sustainable Society, Inc. (FSSI), Mr. Bobby Salera, Marketing Manager of the Coop Life Insurance and Mutual Benefit Services (CLIMBS), Mr. Audie Joseph Samson, VICTO-National CEO, Ms. Elisa Conoso of CDA R-VII and Lapulapu City Vice-Mayor Dr. Amores, who welcomed the delegates to the city.

In her welcome message to the delegates,

VCF Chairperson Evelyn Clarin cited the growth that VCF has attained in its ten years after spinning-off from VICTO. In the last three year alone, assets grew on the average by 49% and profitability was sustained. Clarin also thanked the pioneering cooperatives of VCF which began the inter-coop finance servicing some 30 years ago.

Keynote message from HE President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was read by the Director General of the Presidential Management Staff Sec. Cerge Remonde.

A MOA-signing on the partnership of Rabobank Foundation for the Persons with Disabilities in Entrepreneurship (PWDE) Program signaled the launch of the latest VCF program for the PWD sector.



“A decade  
of service,  
trust and  
cooperation”

Rewards and acknowledgments were also given out to new VCF members and to coop-clients under the VCF 10 Rewards promotion. Prizes given ranged from cordless phones to laptop computers. Delegates also approved the 2008-2010 VCF Strategic Plan and elected the new set of officers who will take lead in steering VCF for the coming year.

The 10th VCF Annual General Assembly carried the theme ‘A decade of service, trust and cooperation’. The event was held at the posh Plantation Bay Resort and Spa on Mactan Island, Cebu.



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Speech of President  
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**June 10-11**  
FSSI General Assembly  
Antipolo City  
Attendance: VCF Chairperson Evelyn D. Clarin, Manager BS Salera

**June 30-July 1**  
Coop Network Integration Conference with  
NORLUCEDEC, MASS-SPECC, VICTO  
and VCF  
Cagayan de Oro City  
Attendance: VCF Vice-Chairperson Zenaida N. Novabos, Manager BS Salera, Treasury Head AL Gonzales

**July 9-11**  
VCF Roadshow in Southern Leyte, Coops in  
Maasin City and the towns of Padre Burgos,  
Malitbog, San Juan, Libagon, Bontoc, So-  
god, Hinundayan, Hinunangan & Silago and  
in Abuyog and Carigara in Leyte Province

Staff: BSSalera, RGADEL Jr., JJEscanuela, ZTTagnipez

**July 12**  
Enhancement Course on Credit  
Management  
Cebu City  
Attendance: Staff Zenlyn T. Tagnipez  
Insights: "There are no bad borrowers, only bad  
loans," according to Tagnipez.

**July 21-22**  
MF Forum on Disaster Response  
Panglao, Bohol  
Attendance: Staff Rodolfo G. Adel, Jr.  
Insights: "In my years of implementing MF, listening to the  
MF Forum on Disaster Response presentation was impres-  
sive. There were breakthroughs for VCF to learn, best mea-  
sures to take and be more productive," echoed by Adel."

**July 21-25**  
FSSI Training on Environmental Man-  
agement Accounting  
Cebu City.  
Attendance: Staff Joji J. Escanuela, Dir. Lydia P. Canalija  
Insights: "Let every VCF members-investors and other coopera-  
tives now think and act as a responsible trustee of the Earth,  
seeking choices in ecology, economics and ethics that will provide  
a sustainable future, eliminate pollution, poverty and violence  
awaken the wonder of life and foster a peaceful progress in the  
human adventure. As people organizations, cooperatives value  
the community development and the environment" shared by  
Escanuela.

"We shall have a VCF Environmental Management Policy." Dir. Canalija

**July 24**  
PWDE Program Orientation (in partnership  
with the Liliame Foundation Philippines, Inc.)  
Iloilo City  
Attendance: LFP Mediators and VCF Affiliate-coops from Region 6

**August 23**  
Blessing of VCF Manila Office,  
GA Tower 1, EDSA  
Mandaluyong City  
Hosts: VCF EXECOM: Chairperson Evelyn D. Clarin, Vice-  
chairperson Zenaida N. Novabos and Dir. Lydia P. Canalija; and  
VCF ManCom Manager BS Salera, Operations Head DG Casuno  
and Treasury Head AL Gonzales

**August 25**  
Tax Updating on New Withholding  
Tax Calculation  
Cebu City

Attendance: Staff Daisy S. Luna

# 12 Questions, 1 Step Closer

SPOTTED: VCF CHAIR EVELYN D. CLARIN

*Like other successful individual,  
there's no doubt that Evelyn  
Clarin built her career through  
hard work, grit and determina-  
tion.*



### Acquaint us about yourself

I am a career officer employed with the Presidential Management Staff. In the VCF Board, I represent the Perpetual Help Credit Cooperative Tacloban where I am a member of the Board. I was first elected to the VCF Board in 2005 and VCF Chairperson in 2006 and now serving on my 3rd and last term in office as Chairperson. If you ask me how it is serving the cooperative, I find it both enjoyable and challenging. Enjoyable because I get to meet

and connect with a lot of people. The challenges are valuable learning experiences. These experiences enhance my persona particularly developing leadership skills, business management know-how and improving human relations.

I was born under the zodiac sign of Scorpio. Yes, I have the passion in everything I do which is typical of a Scorpion. I am not a quiet type of person because I speak what is in my mind but I am observant and listen to every word one utters, I am outwardly stern but actually I am considerate. Unlike other Scorpions, I am not vindictive but am forgiving. My plus is that am not put off by hard work. I am the 2nd child among my siblings. I am a product of public schools and finished my under graduate studies at the UP Visayas. I took my Masters in Management also from UP Visayas (Public Management) and from Leyte Normal University. I am happily married to Mr. Jose Clarin, with three children, a boy and two girls. My family resides at Brgy. Utap, Tacloban City.

### How has the cooperative marked in your life?

My brother introduced me to the cooperative. He was one of the leaders of PHCCI

Tacloban. I came in when he was no longer active and preoccupied with his work at the DOJ. I was hesitant at first because I thought I would not have enough time to do volunteer work. I came to love it though because not only did I develop new friends and acquaintances, it has broadened my knowledge in cooperativism, test my limits on what I can do and developed skills which I thought I did not possess. Because I love what I do for the cooperative, I always find time to serve the Coop and see to it that I am able to deliver what is expected of me as PHCCI Board member and as VCF Chairperson.

### What are your strengths and weaknesses?

I can easily deal with different kinds of people. Also my real strength is my attention to detail. I pride myself on my reputation for following through and meeting deadlines. When I commit to doing something, I make sure it gets done, and on time. I'm diligent with the work that I do.

I can easily trust people and quickly forgives those who are at fault with me. The latter I guess is my weakness.

### What are your long term goals?

I want to see my children succeed in life. I want them to be happy in the careers they choose. I want them to have beautiful families of their own. In 15 years, I see myself retiring from my present job and enjoying the comforts of our home. I also wish to be able to visit places me and my husband have never been to and just enjoy life.

### What accomplishments are you most proud of?

My greatest accomplishments are my children. For my self, I am proud that I am able to provide time for my job, my volunteer work and personal growth. Balancing time and efforts as a career woman, a mother and a wife is not very easy but I am proud that going the extra mile I am able to do it. Thanks to my very supportive husband.

### Describe how you handle criticism?

I view criticism as a way of a learning process and self-improving. Its like a feed backing mechanism which I think should be put to good use such as to "right my wrongs" and "better my best". I do not let criticism poison me. But... yes I do make efforts to triangulate just to be able to know if the criticism is justified.

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## 2008 1H Performance

	June 2008	December 2007	June 2007
1. Net Income	Php 1.111m	Php 2.203m	Php 0.730m
2. Total Assets	Php 186m	Php 180.8m	Php 163.6m
3. Outstanding Loan Portfolio	Php 142.9m	Php 137 m	Php 119.4m
4. Share Capital	Php 23.18m	Php 20.66m	Php 19.46m
5. Deposit Liabilities	Php 117.5m	Php 121.97m	Php 111.27m
6. Loans Released	Php 46.3m	Php 101m	Php 35.5m
7. VCF Member-Investors	197	190	
8. Loan to Assets Ratio	75%	73%	70%
9. Operating Cost Ratio	4%	3%	4%



## VCF Road Show : Synergy!

"A road show is another way of increasing our business volume while partnering with other networks and fulfilling VCF VMGO's", thus said VCF V-Chair Zenaida Novabos who also chairs the Membership Development and Expansion Committee.

The first of three planned VCF road shows for the year covered the Southern Leyte Province. Aside from the VCF Forum held at Maasin City, the VCF team composed of the VCF Manager BS Salera and staff June Adel, Joji Escanuela and Zetlyn Tagnipez also visited cooperatives in the towns of Padre Burgos, Malitbog, Libagon, Bontoc, Sogod, San Juan, St. Bernard, Hinundayan, Hinunangan and Silago.

A visit was also made with Abuyog and Carigara in Leyte Province.

The road show made the team discover differences and nuances among coops. This enabled sharing of strategic and operational perspective from the collective experiences of the VCF team with the coop officers in a learning interaction and the VCF programs, products and services.

A total of 17 coops were covered during the road show, which translated to three prospective VCF affiliates and client servicing with a projected business volume of Php10million.

Next stop: Manila and Palawan!

## SPEECH OF PRESIDENT GLO- RIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO 10TH ANNUAL GENERAL AS- SEMBLY OF THE VISAYAS CO- OPERATIVE CENTRAL FUND FEDERATION



President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo cannot join us personally today but she was here in Cebu a few days ago. She has asked me to convey this message to you, and so, it is my pleasure to read the following:

• Gi-paabot ko ang akong pahalipay sa inyong pag-saulog sa 10th Annual General Assembly sa Visayas Cooperative Central Fund Federation.

• Salamat sa tanan ninyong nahimo aron molambo ang mga kooperatiba sa Visayas. Salamat sab sa Rabobank Foundation sa iyang kanunay nga pagtabang kaninyo.

• We – you and us in government – believe in the power of the cooperative movement to encourage enterprise that creates jobs and spurs more trade. Through the Cooperative Development Authority, government continues to push for the growth of cooperatives to fight poverty as we affirm the cooperative movement's valuable role as spark plug of voluntarism, self-reliance and self-confidence in the individual.

• Your theme "A Decade of Service, Trust and Cooperation" aptly describes the strong spirit of voluntarism and cohesion among your members. These have enabled this federation to make significant contributions to the movement and our country.

• In just a decade, the VCF has provided a total of P526.9 million loans to over 150 cooperatives, benefiting 300,000 members and around 1 million individual borrowers.

• Noteworthy are your innovative programs like the coop ATM, the linkages with the Philippine Development Assistance Program (PDAP) which facilitated your entry into organic farming and marketing, and the connection you established with the OFW community in Singapore that resulted in cementing ties with two of the biggest cooperatives there. This last one shows great promise in gaining OFW support for cooperatives. If you have convinced Singapore's overseas workers, you can do the same in other countries where OFW's are found. Congratulations!

• Your new program called PWDE! for "Persons With Disabilities in Entrepreneurship" shows another direction which Philippine coops ought to explore. It supports national efforts to provide our PWD's with better opportunities to increase their self-worth and improve their incomes.

• Microfinance is a cornerstone of our fight against poverty, and this is the main line of the

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12 Questions, 1 Step Closer...  
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### What is your management style?

Leadership is not a monopoly of ideas of the leader. I listen to everyone in the Board and management. I do not steal the entire show. I allow others to give their views, deliver their opinions and make their points. The key to doing right is to truly understand. I only decide after knowing all sides of a coin.

### What does success mean to you? How do you judge it?

Success is being able to attain all the goals you have set in life. As the saying goes corny it may seem, "Success is a journey, not a destination". It's not just the accomplishment of a single goal. It is a continuous process of accomplishments that collectively amount to a major achievement in life. I am blessed with a good family, a fine career and a time for serving the cooperative. Satisfied with my life at the moment? Yes, I am. But I do not stop. I always seek improvement.

What kind of things do you feel most confident doing? How do you put forth your best? I am confident doing things I am used to doing. For example in my present job, I can more or less approximate my output because past experiences taught me how to do things better each time. But I do not run away from tough tasks. I want to build confidence that is why I persevere to win games or challenging assignments.

### Speech of president gloria macapagal arroyo...

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VCF. Microenterprise has the greatest potential to create new jobs, especially for those who have few skills for office or industrial work, and microlending strengthens the capacity of marginalized groups to engage in productive enterprises.

- The development of micro, small and medium scale enterprises has been rising steadily in the Visayas. Microenterprise is showing the biggest growth. Within 2004 to 2007, almost 380,000 new jobs were generated in this region by microenterprises. From January to February of this year, P2.56 billion was released to 114,896 active microfinance clients in Central Visayas, creating close to 56,000 new jobs. A major part of this achievement came from the microlending activities of the VCF and member cooperatives.

- Government, the biggest provider of microfinancing, has pumped in huge amounts to accredited microfinance conduits including banks, NGOs and cooperatives through government financial institutions. From 2004 to 2007, government released P86.89 billion to 3.59 million microfinance clients and in the process, created 1.56 million jobs for individuals belonging to the various marginalized sectors. Just for last year, P50 Billion was lent to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises all over the country, and the bulk of this went to microfinancing. We are working at increasing the funds to be released

### What type of things makes you angry? How do you react?

Do not make a promise that you cannot keep because that will make me angry. Do not tell a lie to me because that will make me angry. How I react? Expect a dress down. But there is no need to worry though because I easily forgive especially if the reasons are valid.

### How do you live up with expectations from others?

I do what I think is right. But I do not let intelligence become a barrier. This means that I may have all the answers to the questions and solutions to all the issues, but I do listen a lot and see to it that I look at the other side of the fence. There are always rooms for improvement. My passion for improvement is constant.

### What is your life philosophy?

My philosophy in life is to always keep moving forward. I believe that one should not stop getting better, never stop improving, never stop investing, and never stop trying something new. It is a dynamic world and one should always be ready to cope and adopt with change otherwise we will be left behind and find ourselves in "fossilized" state. Likewise, the cooperatives should constantly update to be able to respond and satisfy emerging needs of its members and prospective members.

by GFI's to MSME's fro this year. I am sure that VCF can tap into these fresh funds to accelerate its microfinancing program.

- A separate program run by the DSWD has P43 million for this year's microlending, to be released directly to the clients or through NGO's and cooperatives.

- Reducing poverty remains the central mission of my administration. Jobs, food on the table, education for the children and basic health services are our topmost priorities. We regard the cooperatives as major players in organizing the marginalized into strong groups that can have better access to these basic services. We also look to the coops as invaluable delivery systems of funds that create more opportunities for the poor to participate in creating national wealth and in improving their economic life.

- Our country has achieved successive growth in the last seven years. This growth is being given back to the people through a three-pronged program that aims to increase investments in the people and in infrastructure, accelerate the campaign against graft; and deliver targeted relief to the poor who are most vulnerable to the impact of global changes on our own economy.

## VCF Manila Office Launched

### Bringing VCF services to NCR

Manila, here we come!

The Manila office of VCF was inaugurated in simple ceremonies on August 23, 2008.



Guests who came to witness the event included the Chairperson of Metro South Cooperative Bank Dr. Angelito Bagui, who is also the Chairperson of the Sorosoro Ibaba Development Coop based in Batangas, Ms. Elvira Dandan, Chairperson of San Dionisio Credit Cooperative, CLIMBS Manila, National Livelihood Development Corporation (NLDC) and other cooperators. Fr. Jose Alofa, a

In her welcome words, VCF Chairperson Evelyn D. Clarin expressed her joy in finally realizing the plans for VCF to go nationwide, a step towards the goal of becoming the biggest coop finance intermediary.



The new VCF Manila Office is located at Unit 2E, GA Tower 1 Condominium, EDSA, Mandaluyong City, just across the Boni MRT Station.

VICTO-National also holds office with VCF at the new Manila address.

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## VCF 10 COOP EXCLUSIVE REWARDS

EXTENDED

Transact with VCF and your coop will earn point. Earn at least **10 points** and **get a surprise from VCF!**

Open to all members !

Full Story visit <http://www.vcfph.net>