



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs

credibility and honor
defined.

Beyond **NUMBERS**

2024 ISSUE NO. 009

#AOCWinStories:
**Recognizing New Leaders, Driving Digital
Innovation, and Sharing Team Highlights**



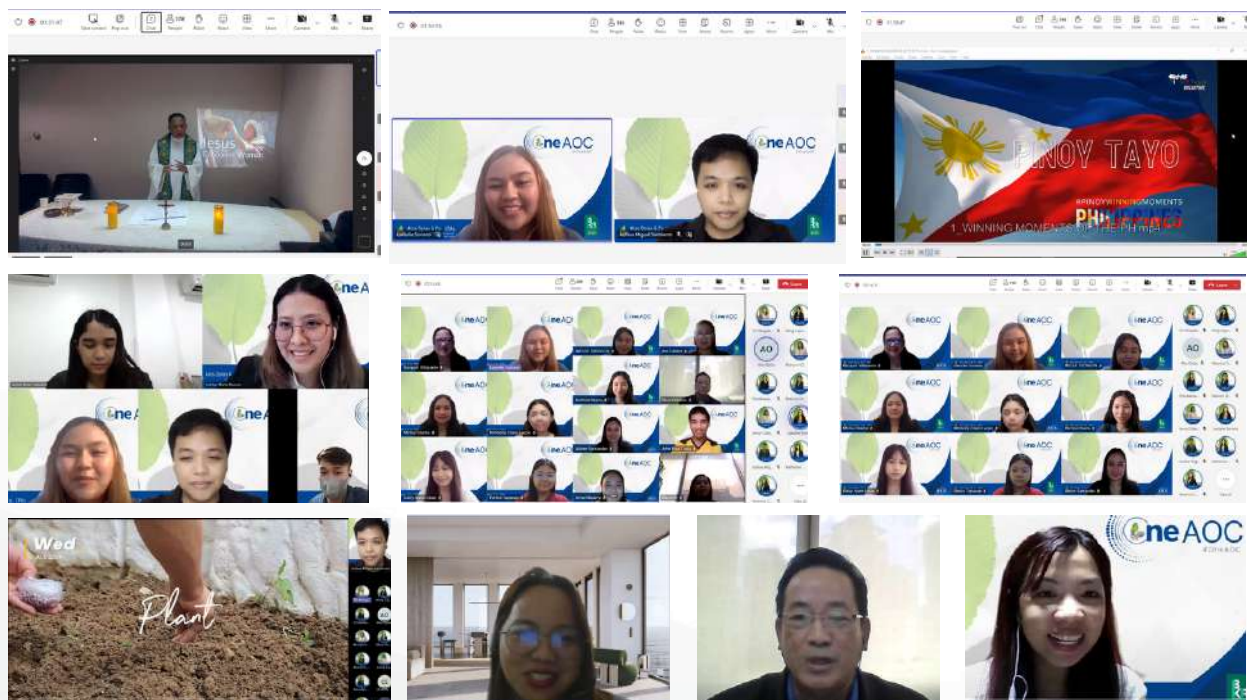
AOC Pinoy Tayo Breaktime – A Celebration of Filipino Language Month

August 7, 2024 – Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs marked Filipino Language Month with a special virtual breaktime event for employees across all 12 offices.

The event began with a heartfelt mass led by Father Ogie Orpiada, who delivered a spiritually uplifting message. Laezelie Soriano and Joshua Sarmiento from the Bulacan team dynamically hosted the event, warmly welcoming all participants. The celebration featured a video presentation showcasing recent 'Pinoy winning moments,' including national pride in Carlos Yulo's achievements as a two-time gold medalist at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The firm also used the occasion to welcome newly hired employees and celebrate birthdays and work anniversaries for August. The AOC Ortigas team presented their ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) practices, highlighting their efforts to address current environmental challenges and integrate sustainability into their daily activities.

The event concluded with Partners Meg Paloyo and Noel Geraldo sharing their experiences as delegates at the recent BKR Asia Pacific Future Leaders Program in Bali, Indonesia. They began by discussing the challenges they faced during their flight due to a typhoon in Manila and how the seminar strengthened their leadership skills. They expressed gratitude to the firm for the opportunity to connect with other delegates from other BKR member firms. To wrap up, the session featured engaging 'bugtong-bugtong' games, led by HR's Rogh Barroga as part of the Buwan ng Wika celebration, adding excitement for all attendees.



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Annual Meeting: Advancing Digitalization and Innovation

August 8-9, 2024 – Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs held its annual meeting for partners, directors, and managers at The City Club, Alphaland, Makati City.

On the first day, Chairman and Founding Partner Donnies T. Alas presented an inspiring vision for the firm's future over the next five years, energizing the top management team.

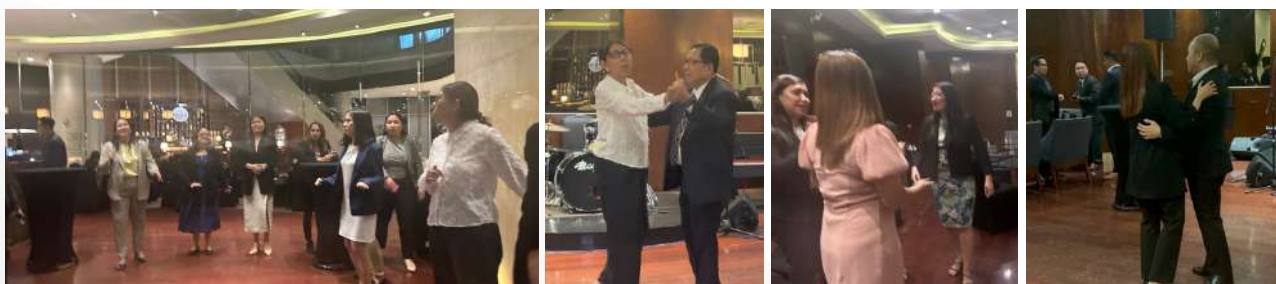


The day featured engaging sessions where managers shared insights and their team's experiences from the recent busy season. A major highlight was the continuation of last year's OneAOC vision, with this year's emphasis on '**Step Two**'—a strategic focus on advancing **digitalization and innovation** initiatives to significantly enhance the firm's technological infrastructure. Additionally, new HR policies were introduced, and CEO and Founding Partner Marycris S. Oplas outlined updated processes for promoting partners and directors, including new qualifications, training requirements, and responsibilities.



Chairman Donnies Alas and CEO Marycris Oplas during the first day discussion.

Following a day of insightful discussions, the evening transitioned into a gala dinner and dance. The event created a lively and elegant atmosphere, allowing attendees to relax, connect, and strengthen bonds, fostering a spirit of camaraderie among colleagues.



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Annual Meeting (Continuation)

On the second day, the focus shifted to critical discussions among partners and directors regarding the firm's financial performance and strategic resolutions for the year. The meeting concluded with the announcement of five new partners joining the firm, marking a significant expansion of the leadership team.



AOC Welcomes Five New Partners



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs (AOC) is pleased to announce the admission of five new partners: Nathalie R. Lupango as Partner in Charge of the Legazpi Office, Christian B. Martinez as Partner in Outsourcing Services, Noel A. Geraldo as Partner in Accounting Services, Eljohn P. Constante as Partner in Tax Advisory Services, and Lilibeth S. Yasay as Partner in Audit and Assurance.

With these additions, AOC's leadership team now includes 23 exceptional partners and directors dedicated to steering the firm's growth and success with over 350 professionals and support staff across twelve offices nationwide. These leaders exemplify AOC's dedication to excellence in client service and the advancement of professional development in the Philippines. Their diverse expertise and visionary leadership are poised to drive the firm's continued success and advance its mission of delivering exceptional services and cutting-edge solutions to clients across various industries.

"The firm is delighted that these remarkable leaders will drive our growth by enhancing our expertise in audit and assurance, tax advisory, outsourced accounting, and deployment services," said the Chairman Donnies Alas.

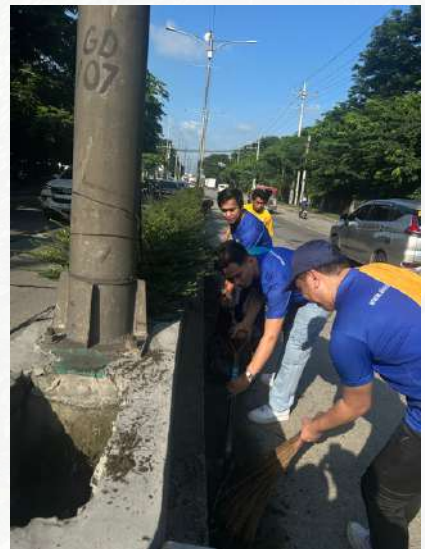
AOC Cavite Team Joined Forces for Community Clean-Up

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs – Cavite team successfully conducted the **"All In, Trash Out"** community clean-up drive on August 17, 2024, at Barangay Hall Langkaan I, Governor's Drive, Dasmariñas City.

The initiative engaged employees in a collective effort to beautify and clean the local environment. The event focused on removing litter, segregating waste, and promoting sustainable waste management practices.

Participants brought their enthusiasm and commitment, making a significant positive impact on the community. This event was part of the firm's ongoing corporate social responsibility initiatives, reflecting its dedication to environmental stewardship.

"Thriving to make our community cleaner, greener, and more beautiful! Together, we're all in for cleaner streets and a brighter future. Let's turn trash into triumph!" – AOC Cavite Team



August in Action: Alas Oplas Cavite Team Energizes with Sports and Camaraderie



August 17, 2024 – Following their community clean-up, the AOC Cavite team energized with a spirited sports event titled “August in Action: Join the Fun and Spread Good Vibes Through Sports,” held at the Orchard Golf & Country Club in Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

This vibrant event brought employees together for a day filled with sportsmanship, team bonding, and shared laughter. The sports event encouraged employees to engage in physical fitness while building stronger connections with their colleagues. It was not just about competition but also about promoting a healthy and active lifestyle within the workplace.

“August in Action” highlighted the team’s commitment to fostering a positive and dynamic work environment, where fun and fitness go hand in hand. The event was filled with energy as team members cheered each other on, celebrated small victories, and enjoyed the scenic venue, which added to the overall experience.

AOC Cavite looks forward to more events that not only inspire teamwork but also emphasize the importance of work-life balance and the joy of shared experiences.

AOC Bulacan Local Team Builds Bonds with Fun Bowling Competition



On August 27, 2024, the Alas Oplas Bulacan local team headed by Partner, Meg Paloyo took part in a lively and friendly bowling competition at SM North EDSA, just before their regular monthly meeting. The event served as an excellent opportunity for team members to bond and collaborate in a relaxed, enjoyable setting. The bowling alley was filled with laughter and camaraderie as colleagues teamed up, showcased their bowling skills, and cheered each other on.

This engaging activity was organized to enhance teamwork and foster stronger interpersonal relationships, contributing to a more cohesive and supportive team environment.

AOC Legazpi Attends EOPT Roadshow

On August 8, 2024, Christina Atrasado from the AOC Legazpi office attended the Ease of Paying Taxes Act Roadshow at the Marison Pavilion Hall in Legazpi City. The event, led by BIR Commissioner Romeo Lumagui Jr., aimed to educate taxpayers about the recent updates to the country's taxation system introduced by the Ease of Paying Taxes (EOPT) Law. As AOC continues to adapt to these new regulations, this roadshow provided crucial insights that will help the firm align its practices with the latest tax compliance requirements.



*Christina Atrasado with
BIR Commissioner
Romeo Lumagui Jr.*

Alas Oplas Legazpi Team at 120th Anniversary of ACCI

The Alas Oplas Legazpi team took part in the 120th Anniversary Albay Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Business Expo, which took place from August 13-15, 2024, at the Legazpi City Convention Center. This three-day event was a hub of activity, featuring a rich program of training sessions and workshops focused on various aspects of business and entrepreneurship. Some topics included digital marketing, the ease of doing business in the Philippines, cybersecurity, and data privacy. Throughout the event, the team engaged with a wide array of business professionals, fostering connections and gaining valuable insights that will benefit their future endeavors.



Nathalie Lupango, Partner in Charge of AOC Legazpi, and Christina Atlasado were present at the 120th Albay Business Expo, engaging with other participants throughout the event.

AOC Makati Tax Team at ACPAPP GMM

August 27, 2024 – The AOC Makati Tax team participated in the ACPAPP General Membership Meeting held at the SGV Building in Makati City. The seminar featured a comprehensive agenda, including sessions on A guide to preparing System of Quality Management (SOQM) manual, understanding Corporate Governance Frameworks in the accounting profession, exploring advancements in solar technology, and navigating VAT taxation. These discussions provided valuable insights relevant to the team's work and industry practices.



(L-R: Eljohn Constante, Fernando Santos, ACPAPP 2024 President Ma. Elma Ame, and Princess Villareal.

AOC Tax Team Conducts Seminars for Valued Clients on Key Tax Topics



August 13, 2024 – Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs hosted a highly informative seminar for EC Pay, Inc., a valued client, at Microtel by Wyndham, Acropolis, Quezon City. The seminar addressed key topics such as BIR Issuances on the Ease of Paying Taxes (EOPT) and taxation on online transactions. Led by Tax Partner Fernando O. Santos and Tax Manager Princess P. Villareal, the session provided deep insights and practical guidance on these complex issues.

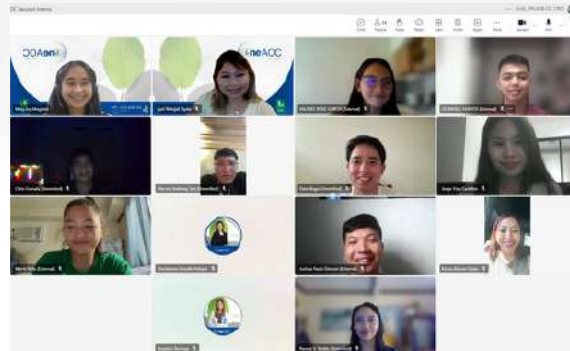


While on August 24, 2024, The AOC Tax team held a specialized seminar on Basic Taxation for Banks for the employees of LOLC Bank Philippines Inc., a valued client. The event, conducted in Tanauan, Batangas, featured an in-depth presentation by Tax Partner Fernando O. Santos. The seminar provided participants with essential insights into tax regulations affecting the banking sector, including practical strategies for compliance and optimization. Through interactive discussions and expert guidance, attendees gained actionable knowledge to better manage their tax obligations and enhance their operational efficiency.

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs is committed to helping clients stay updated with the latest tax regulations. This seminar was a significant step in ensuring that clients' employees are well-informed and equipped to handle current and future tax challenges. The event underscored our dedication to supporting clients by providing essential knowledge and tools to navigate the evolving tax landscape effectively.

Alas Oplas Bacolod Team Welcomes New Interns

On August 9, 2024, the AOC Bacolod team warmly welcomed nine new interns through a virtual onboarding session led by the Human Resource team, along with Bacolod Managing Director Krizza Oplas. This session was designed to introduce the interns to the firm's culture and operations, while clearly outlining their roles and responsibilities for the duration of their internship.



AOC Makati Tax Team Attends Seminar on Accounting Transformation and SME Growth

August 16, 2024 – The AOC Makati Tax Team attended the Beppo Conference 2024 'Transforming Philippine Accounting and Accelerating SME Growth through Digital Innovation' at the Makati Sports Club in Salcedo Village, Makati. This seminar was a key opportunity for the team to engage with cutting-edge strategies and technologies aimed at revolutionizing accounting practices and fostering SME growth. The event highlighted the firm's commitment to staying at the forefront of digital innovation, ensuring that AOC continues to lead in delivering advanced solutions and valuable insights to clients.



In the photo, AOC Makati Tax Team delegates Tax Supervisors Angelo Honor, Pauline Galsa, and Jowin Urriza are pictured with speakers Shary Pineda on the left and Marvin Galang, Founder of JuanTax and Beppo, on the right.

A Fruitful Visit to Australia: AOC Managing Partner Ryan Sabug's Engagements and Collaborations

AOC Managing Partner Ryan Sabug visited Walker Wayland, a BKR member firm in Australia. During his visit, Ryan participated in the WW 2024 Annual Golf Day at Moore Park Golf Club in Sydney on July 26. This event offered a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with the WW team on a sunny winter day, combining both competitive and friendly golf. Ryan also engaged in various sports activities and meetings throughout his stay.

Additionally, Ryan took the opportunity to visit AOC secondees Beth Yasay, Hazel Liban, and Jenalyn Baptista, checking in on their current projects, progress, and overall well-being. This visit strengthened the connection and support between the teams.

Ryan also met with Michael Rhydderch of Burson to discuss ESG assurance and related services, exploring potential future collaborations and partnership opportunities. This meeting highlighted AOC's commitment to advancing its ESG initiatives and exploring new avenues for growth.



Golf



Basketball



Dinner



L-R: WW Audit Partner Edward Chow, AOC Managing Partner Ryan Sabug, AOC Secondees Beth Yasay, Hazel Liban, Jena Baptista, and WW Audit Partner Wali Aziz.



Managing Partner Ryan with Michael Rhydderch

AOC Tax Team Engages with Key Insights at International Tax Summit

August 29, 2024 – Tax Partner Fernando Santos and Tax Manager Princess Villareal attended the International Tax Summit hosted by the Tax Management Association of the Philippines (TMAP) at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

The summit featured discussions on various developments in international taxation and their impact on Philippine tax regulations. Topics included the Philippine Legislative Agenda, BEPS 2.0 (Base Erosion and Profit Shifting) in action, ease of doing business in the ASEAN region, taxation of mergers and acquisitions, ASEAN tax enforcement practices, the impact of the carbon border adjustment mechanism on Philippine industries, and the first global ethics standards on tax planning.

Distinguished guest speakers included Senator Sherwin "Win" Gatchalian, Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Marvic Leonen, and Commissioner Romeo "Jun" Lumagui Jr. of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

This event underscores the firm's proactive approach to staying at the forefront of tax developments and its commitment to engaging with key industry insights and innovations.



AOC Inspires Students at 30th Annual Regional Convention of NFJPIA-Region 3 at PUP Bulacan

July 6, 2024 – The HR team of Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs participated in the 30th Annual Regional Convention, themed “4RWARD: The Trigintennial Conclave of Lustrous Nacre,” and the R3 sports event, “JPIA FIESTA: Festival of Impeccable and Exemplary Skills, Talents, and Artistry,” at PUP Sta. Maria, Bulacan Campus. This year also marks the NFJPIA-R3 Silver Anniversary and the 40th Founding Anniversary of the organization. HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang, along with HR Specialist Rogh Barroga, introduced Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs to the students, together with client Cohnreznick Philippines. They discussed exciting opportunities with the students, who represent the future of the profession. The students were inspired by the talks and expressed their eagerness to work with firms like AOC.

The convention was a vibrant celebration aimed at broadening the knowledge and horizons of JPIAns through invigorating seminars, career fairs, quiz bees, and thrilling sports competitions. Several universities participated in the event, including Central Luzon State University (CLSU), Eduardo L. Josen Memorial College, PUP Sta. Maria, and Wesleyan University, among others.

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs fully supports this event as part of their commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders.





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Beyond Numbers by:

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

We welcome your comments and feedback.

Please email us at aoheadoffice@alaso-plascpas.com

or you may visit our

Website: www.alaso-plascpas.com

Beyond Numbers is a periodic e-newsletter of Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, which underscores its people, its services, and the events, occasions, and activities it conducts and participates in. The e-newsletter aims to reflect the Firm's culture, commitments, values, and practices and is solely directed for communication purposes.

