



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs

credibility and honor
defined.

Beyond **NUMBERS**

2024 ISSUE NO. 010

#AOCWinStories:
**Celebrating Family Day, Empowering
Knowledge Through Seminars, and
Fostering Global and Local Collaborations**



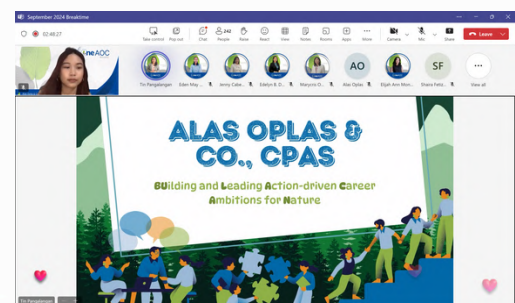
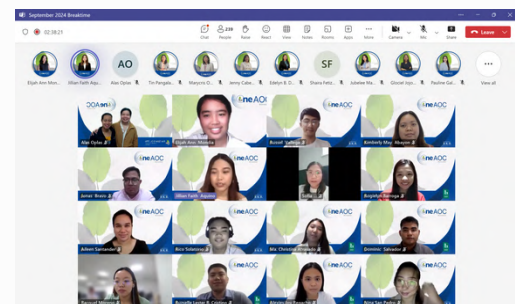
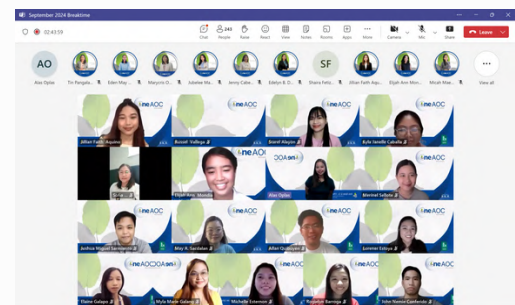
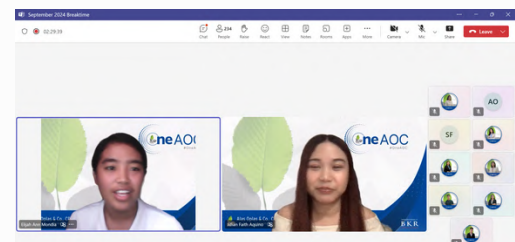
September Breaktime: AOC celebrated Family Day

September 4, 2024 – Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs celebrated their monthly breaktime for September with a heartwarming theme: "Family Day Breaktime." This virtual event, thoughtfully organized by the Human Resources team, brought together employees from all 12 offices to foster a sense of community.

The event kicked off with a meaningful mass led by Father Ogie Orpiada, who delivered an inspirational message that resonated deeply with attendees, enriching their spiritual lives. Elijah Ann Mondia and Jillian Faith Aquino from the Cavite Team hosted the event, warmly welcoming everyone with enthusiasm. This gathering also served as a platform to introduce newly hired employees and celebrate September birthdays and work anniversaries, infusing the atmosphere with joy and camaraderie.

The firm announced the promotion of several employees through a video presentation, recognizing their hard work and dedication. Five new partners: Nathalie R. Lupango (Partner In Charge, Legazpi Office), Christian B. Martinez (Partner, Outsourcing Services), Lilibeth S. Yasay (Partner, Audit and Assurance), Noel A. Geraldo (Partner, Outsourcing Services), and Eljohn P. Constante (Partner, Tax Advisory Services). Additionally, Judy Ann E. Eala from the Bulacan office was promoted to Director, and Princess Villareal, Manager of Tax Advisory Services. This segment not only celebrated these accomplishments but also underscored the firm's commitment to recognizing dedication and fostering growth.

Following the video presentation, attendees were treated to a captivating video showcasing the Bulacan Office's Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) initiatives, themed "Building and Leading Action-Driven Career Ambition for Nature." The presentation was both informative and engaging, inspiring attendees to contribute to a sustainable world. One standout initiative was the team's participation in tree planting through GForest, available on GCash, demonstrating their commitment to environmental stewardship and aligning with the firm's sustainability goals.



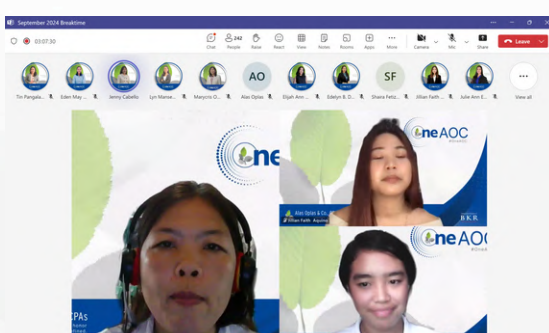
September Breaktime: AOC celebrated Family Day (Continuation)

The event also included a discussion about the firm's Performance Management System (PMS), a user-friendly data portal on AOC's Microsoft portal that empowers employees to request performance evaluations. This tool enables self-reflection, allowing team members to assess their contributions and identify opportunities for professional growth.

Further enriching the event, Ms. Loraine San Pedro-Sotto, Partner, Audit and Assurance, shared her personal journey as a working mother. Her heartfelt story offered valuable insights on achieving work-life balance, detailing how she navigated challenges in her career while being a devoted mother. Her message resonated with many, emphasizing the significance of time management in balancing work, family, and personal aspirations. She concluded with a powerful reminder for everyone to discover their "Ikigai," a Japanese term that means "a reason for being".

The virtual gathering concluded with an interactive icebreaker game, expertly moderated by Rogielyn Barroga, which encouraged enthusiastic participation from all employees, fostering a sense of togetherness.

In conclusion, the "Family Day Breaktime" event was a meaningful celebration of achievements and community at Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs. Through inspiring messages and engaging activities, it underscored the firm's commitment to nurturing a supportive workplace culture and promoting work-life balance. This event not only strengthened bonds among employees but also reinforced AOC's dedication to personal and professional growth.



AOC Team Engages in Peer Review Audit with BKR Member Firm in Indonesia

August 27 to September 7, 2024 – The Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs team, led by Senior Partner Glesie Martinez, along with Senior Manager Maricar Austria and Managers Lian Santos and Jonas Bravo, embarked on a significant collaborative effort in Jakarta, Indonesia, with Doli, Bambang, Sulistyanto, Dadang & Ali, a BKR member firm under the leadership of Managing Partner Triyanto.

This initiative focused on conducting a peer review audit aimed at evaluating compliance with ISQC1 standards and the firm’s quality manual. Throughout the visit, the AOC team engaged in a comprehensive inspection of the firm’s practices, emphasizing the importance of adhering to best practices in auditing.

The inspection process included a two-level review: a thorough firm-level assessment and an engagement-level review, where three completed audit engagements were selected for in-depth evaluation. This structured approach not only reinforced the commitment to maintaining high-quality standards but also facilitated valuable knowledge exchange between the teams.

This collaboration highlights the importance of continuous improvement within the BKR International network, dedicated to driving growth, fostering collaboration, and enabling members to thrive both professionally and personally.



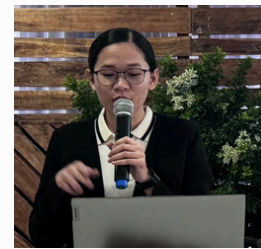
AOC Holds Two-Day Seminar on Taxation for Banks and EOPT Act in Iloilo

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs successfully conducted a two-day seminar in Iloilo, providing valuable insights on essential tax regulations. Held on August 20-21, 2024, at the 2nd Floor, Joethess Building, Lopez Jaena St., Purok 3, Pavia, Iloilo City, the event was attended by various participants from the banking and financial sector in the region.

On Day 1, Tax Partner Fernando Santos led a session on **Basic Taxation for Banks**, offering an in-depth overview of the latest tax regulations relevant to the industry. Participants gained a clearer understanding of their tax obligations, ensuring better compliance and preparedness for regulatory requirements.



On Day 2, Senior Tax Associate Shantha Guia led an engaging seminar on the **Ease of Paying Taxes (EOPT) Act**, highlighting key updates and practical implications for businesses. Tax Partner Fernando Santos further contributed by addressing participants' questions, fostering a highly interactive and informative session.



The two-day seminar not only equipped participants with essential tax knowledge but also facilitated meaningful interactions with industry professionals. This reinforced AOC ongoing commitment to delivering up-to-date, actionable insights and fostering a deeper understanding of taxation in an ever-evolving financial landscape.



September 20, 2024 -
Basic Taxation for Banks

September 21, 2024 -
Ease of Paying Taxes
(EOPT) Act Update



AOC Participates in the 24th Annual National Convention of ACPAPP

September 25-27, 2024 – The scenic Baguio Country Club in Baguio City hosted significant events for the Association of Certified Public Accountants in Public Practice (ACPAPP).

On September 25, the ACPAPP 2024 Presidents Cup took place, with Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs serving as one of the Silver sponsors. The tournament highlighted an inspiring display of camaraderie and healthy competition among ACPAPP members. AOC Chairman Donnies Alas, a past president of ACPAPP, and Managing Partner Ryan Sabug participated in the golf tournament, showcasing their skills and sportsmanship. Ryan's outstanding performance culminated in a well-deserved victory, earning him the title of champion of the event.

In the following days, September 26-27, 2024, the AOC Team participated in the 24th Annual National Convention of ACPAPP, engaging with fellow members and industry leaders. The Cavite Audit Team, along with Chairman Donnies Alas, Managing Partner Ryan Sabug, and Tax Partner Fernando Santos, attended in person, while the Makati Audit Team, led by Partner Loraine San Pedro, joined the event virtually. The two-day convention offered insightful discussions, valuable learning opportunities, and updates on the latest developments in the accounting profession. Attendees connected with key speakers and participated in collaborative discussions, underscoring the firm's commitment to professional growth and industry engagement.



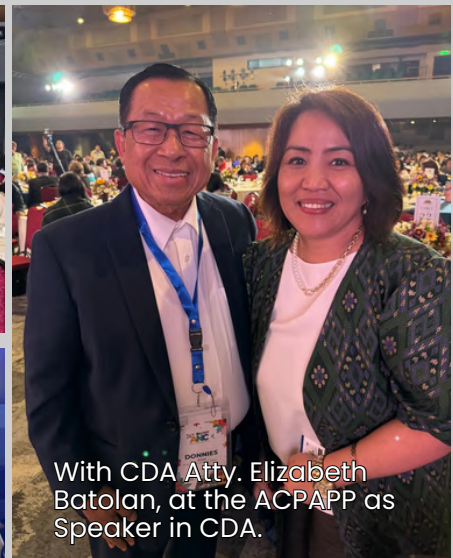
ACPAPP 2024 Presidents Cup Awarding: Managing Partner Ryan Sabug Receives Champion's Plaque.



AOC Cavite Team Group Photo with Managing Partner Ryan Sabug, Chairman Donnies Alas, and Tax Partner Fernando Santos.

AOC Participates in the 24th Annual National Convention of ACPAPP (Continuation)

These events not only fostered stronger relationships within the accounting community but also underscored AOC's dedication to supporting professional development and excellence in the field. After the convention, the AOC Cavite Team took the opportunity to tour Baguio for some relaxation and unwinding.



With Dr. Noe Quiñanola, Chairman, Board of Accountancy



With CDA Atty. Elizabeth Batolan, at the ACPAPP as Speaker in CDA.



With with Hon. Tess Dimaculangan of BOA and other ACPAPP Members



With with Atty. Emmanuel Artiza, Office of the General Accountant, SEC



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Firm-Wide Webinar Series on Audit for Banks

On September 27, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs proudly kicked off Day 1 of its exclusive Audit for Banks webinar series, tailored specifically for the Firm’s auditors. Led by Audit Manager Denver A. Tabubuca from the Ortigas Branch, the session delved into the topics of Planning and Risk Assessment for Banks. This interactive session equipped participants with valuable insights and practical tools to navigate the complexities of bank audits effectively.

The series continued on September 28, 2024, with Day 2, expertly facilitated by Audit Supervisor Allan R. Quibuyen. This session focused on Audit for Banks: Cash and Cash Equivalents, allowing auditors to deepen their understanding of essential auditing practices specific to cash management in banking. Participants engaged actively, enhancing their skills and reinforcing the Firm’s commitment to delivering exceptional service in the banking sector.

This ongoing webinar series underscores Alas Oplas & Co.'s dedication to professional development, ensuring that auditors are equipped with the latest knowledge and techniques to excel in their roles. With more sessions planned, the Firm is committed to fostering continuous learning and excellence within its audit team. Stay tuned for future webinars as we further explore critical topics in the auditing landscape!



HR/Payroll Team Celebrates their first ever Payroll Week

On September 19, 2024, the AOC Human Resources/Payroll Team came together for a simple yet exciting Payroll Week and Family Day Celebration at the AOC Talent Hub in Parañaque City. The event provided an opportunity to review each team member's progress on their deliverables while also fostering camaraderie in a lively, festive atmosphere. This marked the first-ever celebration of both Payroll Week and Family Day for the team of payroll masters.

Adding to the regular monthly celebrations, they also gave a warm and heartfelt welcome to a new hire, showcasing the genuine hospitality that defines the HR/Payroll team. These moments of celebration and welcome added a vibrant energy to the office environment.

After lunch, the team dived into icebreaker games, thoughtfully organized by Ms. Rogielyn Barroga, the AOC Game Master and HR Specialist. Laughter filled the room as the team enthusiastically participated, spurred on by the excitement of prizes that awaited the winners.

After the fun games, Ms. Jenny Cabello Catapang, HR Managing Director, led the official meeting. She facilitated discussions on team members' deliverables and introduced several strategic plans and agendas aimed at driving both individual and organizational growth in the coming months.

The HR/Payroll Team's September meeting was more than just a productive session; it was a celebration of unity, collaboration, and shared purpose. By blending essential business discussions with moments of joy and camaraderie, the team strengthened their bond and laid a solid foundation for future success. With clear goals in sight and a renewed sense of togetherness, they are well-positioned to continue making meaningful contributions to the organization's growth and success.



Strategic Meeting Between AOC and Freeport Area of Bataan

September 17, 2024 – The Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Team, led by Chairman Donnies Alas, convened at the Authority Freeport Area of Bataan office for an important meeting. They were graciously invited by Mr. Bing Kimpo, Chief of Staff of Bataan Freeports, to engage in discussions aimed at exploring future collaborations.

The meeting provided a platform for meaningful dialogue focused on potential partnerships between AOC and the Authority Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB). Ideas were exchanged regarding innovative strategies and initiatives that could benefit both organizations, emphasizing the firm's commitment to fostering strong relationships within the industry.

The AOC Team looks forward to building on the discussions and exploring opportunities for collaboration that will drive growth and success for both parties.



In photo from left to right: Tax Partner Fernando Santos, Chairman Donnies Alas, AFAB Chief of Staff Bing Kimpo, AFAB Krizzia Katrina Ocampo, AFAB Enterprise Department – Registration Division Jennifer Blanco, AOC Managing Director for BSU Racquel Villarante, HR Managing Director Jenny Catapang and AOC Partner for Outsourcing Services Noel Geraldo.

AOC Joins Trends Multicloud Innovation Event



On September 25, 2024, Mary Ann Duguran, Director for Corporate Communications, and Dette Follero, IT Administrator at Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, attended the **“Unlock Multicloud Innovation: Extend the Microsoft Azure Experience Everywhere”** event hosted by Trends & Technology Inc. at the Makati Diamond Residences in Makati City. The event provided insights into the latest IT advancements and multicloud solutions for businesses. Attendees enjoyed engaging sessions and interactive games with exciting prizes.

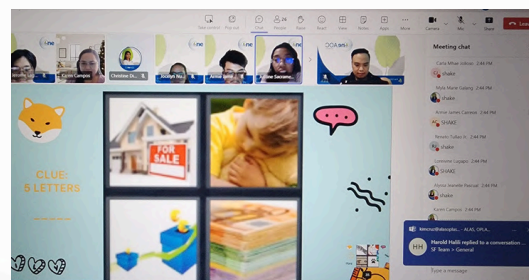
This collaboration highlights AOC’s commitment to innovation and technology leadership, reinforcing the firm’s valued partnership with Trends that encourages continuous updates and collaborative opportunities.

AOC SF Audit Team’s Monthly Breaktime Meeting

On September 6, 2024, the SF Audit Team, led by Director Kim Adrian Cruz, held its monthly virtual breaktime meeting via Microsoft Teams. Team members presented their reports and celebrated key accomplishments in an atmosphere filled with enthusiasm and engaging discussions.



The session concluded with fun games that encouraged laughter and friendly competition, strengthening team bonds and fostering unity. This mix of professional sharing and enjoyable activities highlighted the team’s commitment to collaboration and morale-boosting in the workplace.



AOC Legazpi Branch: Engaging Meetings to Enhance Regional Partnerships

The Legazpi office, under the leadership of Partner in Charge Nathalie Lupango, is committed to fostering strong relationships with local businesses through a series of strategic meetings. During these engagements, Nathalie provides valuable updates on the firm's initiatives while actively seeking potential avenues for collaboration. By promoting open communication and gaining a deep understanding of each company's unique needs, she aims to cultivate mutually beneficial partnerships that not only enhance the firm's service offerings but also support the growth of the regional business community. This proactive approach highlights the firm's dedication to building robust connections and driving success for all stakeholders involved.

Below are photos of Partner Nathalie Lupango during the meetings:



GSAC Executive Asst to the OIC CEO, Allan Jude M. Teston



Rural Bank of Irosin (Sorsogon), Inc. OIC Compliance Officer Arvin F. Fortuno



SORECO I FSD Manager Manuel Tejada



SORECO II OIC FSD Manager Leila D. Perez



Albay Electric Cooperative (ALECO) FSD Manager Belinda Pempeña



Tyche Boutique Hotel Operations Manager Joel Balete



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs
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Beyond Numbers by:

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

We welcome your comments and feedback.

Please email us at aocheadoffice@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.

