

PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC CLUB

APRIL 11, 1944

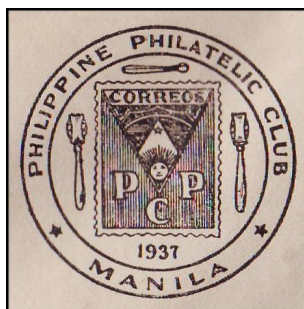


The origin of the Philippine Philatelic Club (PPC) goes back to November 7, 1937 when Severino N Luna in company with Pablo M Esperidion, Clara Pagel and Patrocino Yapchinko organised the Philippines Amateur Stamp Collectors' Club in conjunction with a boy's club which they were running at the Manila YMCA. The circumstances are described in a personal letter from Severino Luna to Eugene Garrett dated June 10, 1944:

"April 11, 1944 is the day when the Philippine Amateur Stamp Collectors' Club which I organised in the YMCA in 1937 officially became the PPC. A lot of the old guard of the Asociacion Filatelica de Filipinas (AFF) became disgruntled with the alleged dictatorial administration of the AFF led by Don Jesus Cacho. I saw the possibility of getting together with the disgruntled fellows, led by Goldenberg, Calero, Amonoy, La Guardia, Arias and Esperidion and proposed that we convert the Philippine Amateur Stamp Collectors' Club into the PPC - and I succeeded. Hence the PPC was born. I remained in the background as Auction Chairman, and we put up our own auction. Goldenberg offered his big department store as a temporary headquarters of the PPC, but I think it was turned down because of extreme jealousy, so we rented a PO Box but kept my store at 120 San Marcelino as unofficial headquarters. So actually the PPC was born in 1937 and renamed in 1944."

The PPC expanded and created two separate Chapters, as follows:

- Chapter No. 1 - Junior Chapter. Formation was originally announced on August 2, 1944 and ratified at the organizational meeting on August 8th. Created to promote philately to young collectors.
- Chapter No. 2 - Society of Philatelic Rizalists. Formed on August 26, 1944 by the indefatigable Pablo M Esperidion. It was dedicated to the study and collection of stamps, covers and memorabilia of all kinds honouring the Philippine National Hero, Dr Jose Rizal.



The PPC became the most active philatelic organisation during the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines. A careful reading of some of the AFF announcements reveals the rivalry which existed between the two organisations. Thanks primarily to the efforts of Pablo M Esperidion, where he used Postal Cards as the primary contact method to members. The pages which follow constitute virtually the entire body of philatelic literature written during the Japanese Occupation. After the War, the PPC continued to operate and remained a very active club for a number of years. The PPC remained active up to the mid to late 1980s, after which it went through a relatively dormant period. However, more recently, the PPC was resurrected by its members and a new board. The PPC is a non-governmental, non-stock and non-political organization which mainly focuses on the promotion of stamp, coin and ephemera collecting among its members. It continues to hold public auctions at the Philippine Post Office in Manila.
