

SRA-GAD STARTS ACTIVITIES IN LINE WITH WOMEN'S MONTH

THE SRA-GAD sponsored a lecture at the Social Hall on March 4, 2013 right after the flag ceremony. This officially kicked off the group's line-up of activities for the rest of March in observance of Women's Month. The distinguished resource was former Civil Service Commission (CSC) Chairman and Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Secretary Ms. Corazon Alma de Leon.

No less than Adm. Regina Bautista-Martin introduced the accomplished and renowned guest speaker. Prior to this, she rendered an inspiring message to the body about women and governance. According to the amiable lady administrator, women are innately leaders, considering their multi-tasking ability ranging from the diverse roles they play in and outside the confines of the home. The government is like a mother that provides, facilitates, enables and sustains for her children.

In her lecture, Ms. De Leon centered on the theme, "Kababaihan: Gabay sa Pagtahak sa Tuwid na Daan." She tackled on women's leadership roles particularly on their participation in decision-making, political arena, conflict resolution and peace-building.

Her opening statement actually summed up everything: "As women, we must be in the center of things!" She revealed that although she already left government service (she's presently 71 years old), her advocacy remains. She even put a meaning to the SRA acronym: S for Systematic, R for Resurrection and A for Advocacy.

Ms. De Leon encouraged the women to open their hearts and eyes on the effects of poverty on the marginalized sector of the society. She firmly believes that there is still hope for our country. Every thing emanates from a small seed and women play a vital role in making a big difference to change the status quo. They have an important part to help the country trek the road to eventual success.

The former CSC Chair also pointed out the essence of having the "Four (4) Loves" in order to have a meaningful and purposeful existence, namely, love for God, country, fellowmen and work. She said that she's proud possessing said attributes which contributed to her meaningful stay in government service.

Before wrapping up her talk, Ms. De Leon expressed a metaphor for everyone to ponder on. Holding a half-empty bottle of mineral water, she asked the audience, particularly the females what kind of life they lead: is it half-full or half empty? As government employees, she wanted them to assess if they are happy with their lives for work one doesn't enjoy is like prison. She made herself a concrete example by saying there is still life after retirement. She's still on the go, knowing that she still has a lot to offer.

