Friends, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Guam, welcome to our 75th Charter Night.

We are especially honored that Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang and his wife Corinna Yao are lighting up our celebration. We are also warmed by the presence of Governor Sakamoto and all those who join us from Tokyo, Karuizawa, Manila, Shanghai, and throughout Micronesia.

Over the years, projects big and small, public or private, come and go. What we shall have with us always are the privilege and pleasure of your goodwill and friendship, with which we aspire to greater service to come. Thank you. Enjoy your fellowship.

Gerald Woo
2014-15 President, Rotary Club of Guam

To the members of the Rotary Club of Guam, It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Rotary Club of Guam on its 75th anniversary.

For 75 years, your community has been able to count on Rotary. Each Rotary club that is chartered is a beacon of hope and help; a beacon I know will continue to shine for many years to come. There is no one model of what a Rotary club should be, and every club finds its own way to enrich its community and the lives of its members. Our strength as an organization lies in our adaptability. In Rotary we find solutions, not excuses. Successful clubs, like yours, have found a model that works for them. They have kept their members engaged by tailoring their practices to the strengths, needs, and passions of their membership.

This milestone represents your commitment and the commitment of the Rotarians before you, a commitment to Service Above Self. By gathering each week to work together, you make your community stronger, and you make Rotary stronger. And you are given a gift in return: a feeling of pride and responsibility that will deepen your connection to your community and to your fellow citizens.

Congratulations on 75 years, and best wishes for many years of joyful service to come. I know the Rotary Club of Guam will continue to flourish, as we work together to Light Up Rotary.

Gary C.K. Huang
2014-15 President, Rotary International
Adkins, James L
Adkins, James W.
Armour, Tim
Berg, Nathaniel
Black, Frederick
Bliss, Brian
Borja, Victoria
Brady, Beverly
Bullock, Robert
Calori, Will
Cassidy, David
Cassidy, West
Chiang, Elvin
Cook, Joaquin
Crouthamel, Leslie
Davis, Donald
Dennett, John
Endo, Kaz
Fish, Mark
Flores, Philip
Foth, Daniel
Garrido, Erika
Gayle, Andrew
Gill, Peter
Gonzales, Ron
Guerrero, Francisco
Hagen, Bill
Hofer, Wolf
Hsieh, Mae
Johnson, Mars
John, David
Jones, Robert
Kasperbauer, Larry
Kasperbauer, Steven
Keller, Diane
Kelly, Bob
Kernaghan, Timothy
Kloppenburg Brad
Kriegel, Jonathan
Kraus, Jason
LeRoux, Emile
Lutcher, Michael
Maratita, Maureen
McCully, Duncan
Moore, John
Nui, Steffen
Oh, Tae-Suk
Paskbier, Paul
Perez, Lin
Perron, Robert
Peterson, Carl
Poole, Thomas
Romias, Paul
Sadhwani, Ashok
Schindler, Jeffrey
Shedd, Jay
Shelly, Van
Silva, David
Smith, Anthony
Stoll, Robert
Susuiico, Aurielle
Sykes, David
Taittingfong, Arlene
Tam, Tiffany
Tanaka, Michelle
Teehan, Tom
Valencia, Bernadette
Wilkinson, Peter
Wilson, Barry
Woo, Gerald
Young, Ron
Yudin, Lee
onto the glass and run down into a collector. On a good day each still could produce more than one gallon of safe drinking water and the byproduct from this process is sea salt which remains on the bottom of the solar still and can be collected and used in the preservation of certain food.

The first delivery, in 2009, covered about 15 remote islands within Chuuk State with Rotarians from Tokyo, Guam and Pohnpei participating in the delivery process. The voyage took almost two weeks to complete. The second 500 units were delivered in 2011 and took an additional two weeks of ocean travel. From 2007 to 2011 a total of 1,060 solar stills were built and delivered to about 43 remote islands giving the people of these islands access to safe drinking water during times of drought. This project improved the living conditions of thousands of islanders living in some of the world’s most remote locations.
Hafa Adai and welcome to the Rotary Club of Guam’s 75th Anniversary Celebration. As we honor this historic milestone, we can never forget that this achievement is the result of the vision, sacrifice, dedication and hard work of countless Guam Rotarians.

The journey began pre-WWII with the vision and foresight of the Rotary Club of Manila, most especially with Rotary Club of Manila President Carlos Romulo. Sacrifices, virtually unimaginable to us today, kept the spirit of Rotary alive through the horrors of a world war.

Following the war, efforts to rebuild Guam’s economy forged ahead, requiring supreme dedication and work. The Chamorro and local business leaders who led this endeavor were by and large members of the Rotary Club of Guam.

With the passage of time and the lifting of security restrictions under President Kennedy, new businesses and businessmen began to arrive from off island. A great majority of these leaders found their way to the Rotary Club of Guam. In fact, the development of Guam’s modern economy and The Rotary Club of Guam are linked to the extent that the history of one cannot be understood without reference to the other.

We would like to thank all who have served on the 75th Anniversary Committee: Michelle Tanaka, Tim Armour, Maureen Maratita, Elvin Chiang, Jay Shedd, David Sykes, Roland Quituqua, Olympia Terral.

Now, come and celebrate with us.

Biba Guam! Biba the Rotary Club of Guam!

Tim Kernaghan and Lee Yudin, Co-chairs, 75th Anniversary Committee
In the Beginning. . .

There is a new Rotary Club in the mid-Pacific. It is the Rotary Club of Guam admitted as a member of Rotary International on August 30, 1939.

As such it is club No. 5105. Officers are: C.C. Butler, president; Mr. McDurmit, vice-president; F. W. Fall, treasurer; V. Rosario, secretary.


The Guam Rotary Club was organized by the past vice-president of Rotary International, Carlos P. Romulo, on his way back to the Philippines from the Rotary International Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

On October 21, 1939, Justice George Malcolm, then District Governor, presented its charter to Rotary Club of Guam’s first president, C. C. Butler.

And the rest is history. . .

Women Join the Club

On May 4, 1987, the US Supreme Court ruled that Rotary clubs may not exclude women on the basis of gender. Rotary International issued a statement that US Rotary Clubs can admit qualified women into membership.

Women were welcomed into Rotary clubs around the world in 1989, when the Council on Legislation voted to eliminate the requirement in the Rotary International Constitution that membership in Rotary clubs be limited to men.

Pioneering women Rotarians on Guam were Dorothy Horn, Madeline Ronni Connelly and Tessie Marcos.

The first woman to join the Rotary Club of Guam was Sherry Dickens (Chappel) inducted in 1989 and the first woman to hold the office of president of the Rotary Club of Guam was Leilani Kirkes serving from 2000-2001.
The Bench Project

The Guam Contractors Association (GCA) Trades Academy students helped install Rotary Club of Guam benches in June of 2013. Benches were installed at Harmon Drugs, ITC and Paul’s Plaza as part of a community project coordinated by the Rotary Club of Guam.

Twenty benches have been installed around the island so that people will have a place to sit while waiting for public transportation. RIM Architects designed the benches, Rocky Mountain Precast created the mold, Hawaiian Service Above Self Rock Products donated the concrete and Pacific Pest Control donated the transportation of the concrete pieces to the locations.

In the photograph above, GCA Trades Academy students Mark Vergara and Juniver Rosario install the last piece on a bench.
Karuizawa Student Exchange

The idea for the student exchange program began in 1969, when a charter member of the Rotary Club of Karuizawa, David Hoshino visited Guam to evaluate it as a destination for large-scale tourism. After meeting with three RCOG members the groups decided to start a sister-club relationship.

In 1972, the first ten-day student exchange took place. Steven Kasperbauer visited Karuizawa in 1980 as part of the exchange program and was inspired to enter the tourism industry. He founded Alupang Beach Club (ABC) and became a valued member of RCOG. Kasperbauer continues his involvement with the program by hosting the exchange students for a day of fun in the sun at ABC. “Steven’s story brings this program full circle,” said former RCOG president Mark Fish. “It’s one of many positive outcomes of the program we intend to continue for many years to come!”

Annual Christmas Drop

For decades the Rotary Club of Guam has assisted in preparing boxes filled with food, clothing, fishing supplies and other goods to be dropped over more than 50 islands throughout Micronesia. Airmen from Yokota Air Base in Japan take off from Guam to spread Christmas cheer and parachute the boxes to the islanders of Micronesia.

Other clubs in the region also play a part. In the past, the Rotary Club of Tachikawa has provided funding for the parachutes used on the boxes.


The Rotary Club of Guam has co-sponsored the annual Spelling Bee with the Pacific Daily News since 1981. They are very proud of the students who have participated in past events and successfully represented Guam and the region at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Spelling Bee photographs courtesy of the Pacific Daily News.

The Annual Turkey Drive is a signature event that the Rotary Club of Guam has organized every Thanksgiving since the 1990's. It is a two-day project that provides families in need with Thanksgiving meals.

Members of the Rotary Club of Guam, Rotaract Club of the Marianas and other civic-minded volunteers assemble and deliver delicious holiday meals to people throughout the island. They spread holiday cheer village by village every year.
As part of the 75th anniversary celebrations, Rotary Club of Guam, in collaboration with Rotaract, the University of Guam, Guam Department of Agriculture, and other community volunteers are planting 75 trees from Gun Beach along the shore to Ypao Park.

Native trees of Guam including the banalo tree, Thespesia populnea pictured at left, and ifit tree, Intsia bijuga pictured below, will be planted throughout Tumon to enhance the beauty of the bay, provide shoreline resiliency and biodiversity.

The Rotary International District 2750 started in 1980 as District 275. The first Governor was Mr. Reijiro Hattori (Rotary Club of the Tokyo Ginza). The District consisted of half of Tokyo and the Pacific Basin Group, including Guam, Saipan and Micronesia.

In 1991, the District became 2750. As of the end of October 2014, the clubs in the district numbered 98 (89 in Japan and nine in the Pacific Basin Group.)
The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon has been working with Rotary Clubs in Japan on a project to bring digital education to the twelve elementary schools in Faichuk, which is made up of four islands located within lagoon of Chuuk State.

This first phase of this project was the delivery of stand-alone photovoltaic systems. Matson Navigation donated the container and the shipping to Weno. The solar panels were off-loaded onto boats and delivered to the Faichuk group. Completely assembled, the photovoltaics systems will have the capacity to produce about 60 Kilowatt hours per day. Pacific Solar & Photovoltaics of Guam supplied the solar modules, batteries, charge controllers, and inverters with all the necessary mounting equipment and wiring. Education on Truk just got a powerful boost.

Rotary extended to Saipan during Jim Alger’s administration as president of the Rotary Club of Guam. The extension survey made by Bob Barry and Bill Gibson shows that Dave Sablan and John Trace, two former members of the Rotary Club of Guam, and Jim Hawkins, a former member of the Rotary Club of Juneau, Alaska were residing in Saipan.

As a result of the efforts of these dedicated men, an organizational meeting was held on 27 January 1968 at the Royal Taga Hotel on Saipan, with 32 Charter members of the provisional club and 25 visiting Rotarians from Guam in attendance.

The photographs on this page and the following description are from former Saipan resident and RCS member Angelo Villagomez. “The Division of Parks and Recreation hooked me up with three trees for our Earth Day tree planting. Two of the trees were da’ok trees, Calophyllum inophyllum. “The tree planting took place with the Rotary Club of Saipan and the ISK8 Society, a local club for skateboarders. The best events are always the ones we do with kids. They always seem the most receptive to our message.”

Light up Rotary

Guam

Service Above Self
Pohnpei Rotary club has had many accomplishments in their 25 year history including donations of books, community clean up projects, medical missions to the FSM, PATS fundraisers, facilitation of the donation of over $90,000 to the COM Endowment Fund.

In addition, medical and dental equipment, supplies, a new ambulance and VHF radio equipment donations have gone to the Pohnpei State Hospital. The donation of solar powered water purification equipment to five schools in Mand and a school bus to Pohnpei's Early Childhood Education program strengthen their educational system.

Many students, like those in the above photograph, have benefitted from scholarships awarded by the club.

Donations such as handheld stop signs, reflective vests, and the delivery of a fire truck to the Pohnpei Fire Station contribute to ensuring the safety of all members of the community.

Also, four Low Vision projects to provide vision correction for achromatopsia patients, and the donation of 400 water stills for Chuuk outer islands have kept the club busy.

Rotary International District 2750 directed the Rotary Club of Saipan to survey and start the Rotary Club of Palau. Past Presidents Elias Okamura and Dennis Yoshimoto were designated by District Governor Hiroshi Maruyama as his special representatives for the establishment of the Rotary Club of Palau.

The Rotary Club of Palau was formally admitted to Rotary International on October 16, 1995. The club regularly participates in contributing to international relief programs for victims of natural catastrophes and epidemic disease such as polio.
In 2007 Rotary International District 2750, headquartered in Tokyo, wanted to make a contribution to the welfare of the people living in the Pacific Basin, specifically the small outer-islands. After much discussion it was felt that the greatest need would be providing drinking water. Most of the islands under consideration are atolls with no fresh water lens and all potable water comes from rain catchment. This works well until there is a drought and the catchments run dry. The Rotary Club of Guam took the lead on the project coordinating the efforts of the various clubs within District 2750 and after researching a number of possible solutions it was decided to focus on solar stills.

Solar still technology has been around for centuries so the challenge was how to make them portable and cost effective and get them to multiple islands spread across thousands of square miles of ocean. A pilot program of 60 solar stills were handmade on Guam by Rotarians from the four Guam clubs and delivered in 2008 to the islands north of Chuuk, the Nanouloes, the Halls and the Murillos. The first batch of stills made and delivered provided guidance for an expansion of the project and efforts were made to redesign and locate economic manufacturing.

Employing design and manufacturing resources available within the District’s membership, a simple design was developed which could be manufactured in China and shipped to the Rotary Club of Pohnpei in a 20 foot container. The first shipment was 500 complete solar stills. Each solar still was about seven square feet in size and covered with safety glass. Sea water was placed inside the still, which would evaporate and condense onto the glass and run down into a collector. On a good day each still could produce more than one gallon of safe drinking water and the byproduct from this process is sea salt which remains on the bottom of the solar still and can be collected and used in the preservation of certain food.

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