

AUG 2025
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Rotary
District 3800

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

gml

GOVERNOR'S
MONTHLY
LETTER



from Hellos to

HEROES:

Rotary's Growth Story

Empowering Members, Inspiring New Clubs

Rotary
District 3800

Featured Article

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WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

OUR MISSION

To inspire, inform, and connect our community through insightful stories, thoughtful leadership, and a shared commitment to progress, cultivating a sense of unity and empowerment for all.

WHAT WE ASPIRE TO BE

OUR VISION

To inform, inspire, and unite Rotarians across the district by showcasing meaningful stories, impactful projects, and shared achievements. Through purposeful communication, the Governor's Monthly Letter strengthens connections, promotes Rotary values, and drives collective action toward lasting change.



Message from

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
GINA T. SANCHEZ
ROTARY YEAR 2025-2026

My dear fellow Rotarians,

August in Rotary is a month full of possibilities, a time to focus on what makes our organization thrive: our members. Rotary's impact isn't measured by the number of projects we launch, but by the people who make them happen. Strong clubs, vibrant leadership, and a growing fellowship, these are the roots from which our service truly blossoms.

Membership goes beyond simply growing our numbers; it's about welcoming people who are passionate about service. Each new member brings new perspectives, energy, and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact, for others and for themselves. Equally important is supporting our existing members, appreciating their contributions, and helping them experience purpose and satisfaction in Rotary.

This month also highlights new club development, planting seeds in communities where Rotary hasn't yet reached. New clubs help us respond more closely to the needs of the people we serve, adapt to changing lifestyles, and offer flexible ways for individuals to get involved. Whether it's a traditional club, a satellite club, a passport club, or a cause-based club, there's a place in Rotary for every passionate servant leader.

I encourage every club in our district to embrace three simple actions this month:

1. Invite someone who inspires you to a Rotary event.
2. Engage your current members by giving them meaningful roles and celebrating their contributions.
3. Explore opportunities to charter a new club or support one in its early years.

Every Rotarian was once someone considering their first step. It only took one invitation to change their journey, and the journey of those they serve. Let's keep that tradition alive. Growing Rotary isn't just about numbers; it's about increasing our ability to make a lasting difference in people's lives.

Let's make August a month of connection, growth, and passionate service.

In Rotary Service,

Gina T. Sanchez

District Governor, RY 2025–2026
Rotary International District 3800



Editor's Letter

From Hellos to Heroes:

Rotary's Growth Story

Empowering Members, Inspiring New Clubs

To Every Handshake That Started It All,

August marks Membership and New Club Development Month — a time to celebrate the heart of Rotary: **our people**. Every handshake, every smile, every “hello” carries the potential to transform into lifelong friendship, collaboration, and service. This month, we spotlight the journeys that begin with a simple greeting and grow into acts of leadership, service, and impact.

Across District 3800, clubs are welcoming new members with open arms and open minds. Each addition brings fresh perspectives, renewed energy, and new opportunities to serve. Just as important, we are seeing the rise of new clubs — vibrant communities of service that reflect the diversity, creativity, and compassion of Rotary.

In this issue, we share stories of Rotarians who have turned connections into commitments, and commitments into change. You'll read about the clubs expanding their reach, the members stepping into leadership roles, and the initiatives that prove our growth is not just in numbers, but in purpose and action.

As we continue this Rotary year, let us remember that every hero's journey begins with a hello. Let's keep extending our hands, opening our doors, and building the kind of Rotary that inspires service today and for generations to come.

Happy reading — and happy growing!

Capturing your goodness in GML pages,

PP Dee B. Antang

Editor-in-Chief, GML, RY 2025–2026



WHY IT FEELS LIKE HOME?



Where warmth, laughter, and service live together.



For many Filipinos, Rotary is more than just a global service organization. It is a community, a family, and a meaningful outlet for their natural generosity of spirit. In a country where “bayanihan” — the spirit of communal unity and cooperation — is deeply embedded in culture, Rotary finds fertile ground to thrive.

Warm Welcome, Strong Bonds

When new members join Rotary in the Philippines, they are often surprised at how quickly the fellowship feels natural. Filipinos are known for being warm, welcoming, and relational. Rotary meetings become more than official gatherings; they are opportunities to strengthen bonds, share meals, laugh together, and celebrate milestones. These genuine connections create a sense of belonging that keeps members engaged.

Service That Resonates

Service projects in the Philippines touch on issues that are very close to the heart: maternal and child health, education, livelihood, and community resilience. Filipinos see firsthand how Rotary projects make a difference, whether it's providing clean water to a barangay, supporting local schools, or mobilizing during times of disaster. Because the needs are real and the impact is visible, members feel a strong sense of purpose. It is not just service for the sake of service—it is service with immediate meaning.

Shared Joy in Giving

One of the things that distinguishes Filipino Rotarians is their joy in giving. Even in challenging times, members find ways to contribute, whether through time, talent, or treasure. This attitude reflects a uniquely Filipino perspective: that **helping others is not a burden but a blessing**. The sense of fulfillment from seeing a smile on a child's face or hearing a thank-you from a family in need keeps the passion alive.



Celebrating Fellowship

What also keeps Filipinos engaged is the balance between service and fellowship. Rotary in the Philippines is not all work; it is also about fun and camaraderie. Club fellowships, cultural nights, and shared celebrations remind members that service can be joyful. Filipinos love to celebrate victories—no matter how small—and Rotary provides plenty of opportunities to do so together.

Growth Through Rotary

Filipino members also recognize that Rotary enriches their personal and professional lives. Leadership skills are honed, networks are expanded, and perspectives are broadened. Being part of Rotary opens doors to connect not just locally but globally. For many, the chance to learn from diverse leaders and share the Filipino brand of service to the world is both an honor and a motivator.

Why It Endures

In the end, the Rotary experience in the Philippines endures because it aligns with Filipino values: faith, family, community, and resilience. It allows members to serve while also forming friendships that often last a lifetime. The mix of meaningful service, heartfelt fellowship, and shared joy makes Rotary not just an organization to join, but a movement to belong to.

“**In the Philippines, Rotary does not just live in meetings or projects—it lives in the everyday spirit of bayanihan. And that is why, year after year, more Filipinos find themselves not just joining Rotary, but staying, serving, and smiling through the journey.**”

BEYOND TRADITION: ROTARY'S **NEW** **CLUB** MODELS

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DESK



Growing our membership means expanding our impact—more hands, more hearts, and more opportunities to create lasting change in our communities and beyond.



**PP JENG
IGNACIO LIBAN**
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR



Did You **Know?**

As of August 31, 2025, Rotary District 3800 proudly stands with 109 Rotary clubs and 3,192 members—comprising 2,936 Rotarians and 256 Honorary Rotarians—united in fellowship and service across Metro Manila and Rizal.

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Did you know that Rotary has created new club models to embrace flexibility, inclusivity, and relevance in today's ever-changing world?

Beyond the traditional Rotary format, these innovative models open doors to a more diverse community of individuals—especially those who may not have found a place in conventional clubs. Though these models have existed for some time, their growth gained remarkable momentum after the 2016 Council on Legislation empowered clubs to embrace flexibility and innovation.

These fresh approaches ensure that Rotary remains vibrant and welcoming, allowing service-minded people from all walks of life to engage, contribute, and lead in ways that fit their passions and lifestyles.

As Rotary continues to evolve, it now recognizes nine different types of clubs:

- **Traditional Clubs** – at the heart of Rotary: a group of professionals and aspiring leaders who meet regularly for service, connections and personal growth.
- **Alumni-based Clubs** – composed of members who were previously involved in Rotary scholarships or programs.
- **Satellite Clubs** – sponsored by a traditional club, but with their own meetings, projects, bylaws and board; may also be an impact club that creates significant high impact projects.
- **E-Clubs** – a club with members that meet exclusively online.
- **Passport Clubs** – a club that allow members to attend other Rotary club meetings and service projects, so long as they attend a specified number of meetings in their own club.
- **Corporate Clubs** – whose members are employed by the same employer, but who have different roles in their workplace.
- **Cause-Based Clubs** – whose members share a passion for a particular cause and whose service projects and activities center around that cause.
- **Interest-based Clubs** – a club with members who share the same interest or hobby and implements service projects benefitting communities impacted by their interest.
- **Rotaract Clubs** – sponsored by Rotary clubs, whose members are aged between 18 and above and who meet together for service, friendship, and connections.



Amid this landscape there are also hybrids of these types – adding further to the diversity of Rotary. RI District 3800 has two Satellite clubs – Waling Waling and Cainta Royale, and a Satellite Impact International Club based in North America. This year, two more satellite clubs are being organized in Zone 1 and Zone 5.

The Rotary Clubs of Valenzuela and Malabon are organizing the first interest-based club: The Rotary Club of Iron Wheels, composed of motorcycle enthusiasts who share a common passion for riding and community service. We will see more of these new Rotarians around – get the drift?

These innovative models reflect Rotary's strategic priorities: increasing impact, widening reach, boosting engagement and improving adaptability.

**Sparked your interest?
Tap into the District
Membership Committee's
support—we're here to make
your membership journey
inspiring and easy!**



ROTARY CLUB PASSPORT ONE

AV FISTULA CREATION

Medical Mission

Rotary brings life-saving dialysis care.



When the world froze in 2020, a quiet crisis hit kidney patients. Dialysis, already demanding, became dangerous without access to AV fistula creation — a procedure requiring specialized surgeons and resources. In response, Rotary Club Passport One launched a mission with a simple premise: unite medical skill, hospital space, and patient support to provide a reliable lifeline for the indigent — one fistula at a time.

From a spark of collaboration, the operation became a high-impact project. Rotary Club Passport One partnered with PATACSI (Philippine Association of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons, Incorporated), whose surgeons volunteered their expertise, and Taytay Doctors Multispecialty Hospital, which provided operating rooms. Serving as the logistics backbone, the club covered medicines, equipment, and costs — creating a sustainable model where no patient is denied care, regardless of ability to pay.

The cost of a single AV fistula surgery ranges from Php 35,000 to Php 65,000, a wide band that reflects the variety of access types and the resources required for each individual case. For many indigent patients, this amount would have been impossible without the mission's subsidized framework. The beneficiaries come from Rizal Provincial Hospital Systems in Taytay, Binangonan, and Rodriguez – communities where dialysis patients have long faced barriers to timely, life-sustaining interventions.



The mission follows a patient-centered process: pre-surgery exams and consultations assess health and suitability, followed by vein mapping to identify the best vessels. PATACSI surgeons then perform the fistula procedure at Taytay Doctors Multispecialty Hospital. Post-surgery, patients undergo follow-up checks to monitor healing, confirm fistula maturity, and ensure safety.



40 LIVES, 40 LIFELINES: GIVEN HOPE

***40 Dialysis Patients Benefited from Rizal Hospitals
(RPHS Taytay & MADMH Binangonan)***

Preparation is substantial yet essential. About two weeks are devoted to optimization—nutritional support, management of diabetes or hypertension, correction of anemia, and education for patients and families on fistula care and signs of complications. This window of preparation helps ensure that patients enter surgery as stable as possible and leave with a clearer path toward a productive, dialysis-ready life.

The impact of the AV fistula creation mission extends beyond the operating room. It has already saved the lives of over 500 dialysis patients who continue to lead healthier, more productive lives. For families, the benefits are measured in steadier routines, reduced medical anxiety, and the ability to plan for schooling, work, and long-term stability. The project embodies a powerful truth: when clinicians donate their expertise, hospitals provide critical facilities, and donors fund essential care, the result is not just a procedure but a renewed future for entire households.





Rotary Club Passport One maintains an unwavering commitment to sustain and expand this lifeline. As more individual and corporate donors express interest, the program has the potential to reach additional indigent patients across Rizal's hospital systems and beyond. The appeal is simple and urgent: help more dialysis patients access life-saving AV fistula creation. Every contribution—whether financial support, volunteer time, or advocacy—drives a future where no patient's survival hinges on their ability to pay.

In a world that often feels fragmented, this mission stands as a testament to what happens when communities unite for life. It is a call to action to donors, clinicians, and neighbors alike: join the effort to save lives, restore livelihoods, and ensure that every heartbeat has a chance to keep going. Unite with Rotary Passport One. Support the AV fistula mission. Because every fistula opened is a doorway to a healthier, more hopeful life.

Partners:

- Rotary Club Passport One BODs & members
- PATACSI headed by Rotary Passport One Service Project Director Dr. Jay Alejandro
- Taytay Doctors Multispecialty Hospital
- One Gallery
- Marriott Worldwide Business Councils (Philippines)

MASTERING PUBLIC IMAGE

DISTRICT 3800 BAGS MULTIPLE AWARDS

When clubs are led well, recognition shines.



Rotary International District 3800 emerged triumphant at the Regional Public Image Awards Night 2025, held on August 23 at the historic Manila Hotel. The District, led by a powerhouse of past district governors including PDG Roberto “Bobby” Zamora, PDG Ronald “Pope” Solis, and PDG Anthony “Tonipi” Parungao, celebrated the evening in high spirits alongside ARPIC Jerry Ang, who graced the occasion.

The prestigious event brought together Rotary leaders and champions of storytelling from across the Philippines for an evening of celebration, recognition, and fellowship. Highlighting the best public image initiatives under Zone 10A—a region covering all 10 Rotary districts in the Philippines—the awards underscored the importance of creativity and innovation in amplifying Rotary’s mission of service.

Spearheaded by Past District Governors Ernesto Choi and Mildred Vitangcol, who serve as past and current Regional Public Image Coordinators for Zone 10A, the program emphasized the vital role of public image in strengthening Rotary’s presence and impact in communities.

The awards honored exemplary projects and campaigns from Rotary Clubs across the country during Rotary Year 2024–2025, celebrating initiatives that not only showcased creativity and excellence but also demonstrated measurable impact in advancing Rotary’s mission. Recognized as the highest distinction for public image excellence in the country, these accolades reflected the commitment of Rotary Clubs to inspire, engage, and inform communities about the goodness of Rotary.



These awards represent the highest recognition for excellence in promoting Rotary's values and presence across the Philippines. Below are the distinguished winners in each category:

Best People of Action Photo

1st: RC Mariveles (RD 3790)

2nd: RC San Mateo Highlands (RD 3800),
RC San Juan Del Monte (RD 3800)

3rd: RC Manila 101 (RD 3810), RC Tacloban (RD 3860)

Best Rotary Marker

1st: RC Vigan (RD 3790)

2nd: RC Upper East Side Antipolo (RD 3800), RC
Batangas Midwest (RD 3820)

3rd: RC Bauan (RD 3820), RC Pili Centro (RD 3820)

Best Broadcast Media

1st: RC Taytay Renaissance (RD 3800)

2nd: RC Tacloban (RD 3860)

3rd: RC Malvar (RD 3820)

Best Rotary Story Video

1st: RC Baguio South (RD 3790)

2nd: RC Ormoc (RD 3860)

3rd: RC Makati (RD 3830)

Best Facebook Page

1st: RC New Manila East (RD 3780),
RC Metro San Fernando La Union (RD 3790)

2nd: RC Marikina West (RD 3800),
RC Cebu Port Centre (RD 3860)

3rd: RC Marikina North (RD 3800),
RC Marbel-Koronadal (RD 3860)





Best Print Media

- 1st:** RC San Juan Del Monte (RD 3800)
- 2nd:** RC Bacolod Central (RD 3850)
- 3rd:** RC Angono (RD 3800)

Best Outdoor Media

- 1st:** RC Upper East Side Antipolo (RD 3800)
- 2nd:** RC Taytay Renaissance (RD 3800)
- 3rd:** RC Metro San Fernando La Union (RD 3790)

Best Online Media

- 1st:** RC Marikina West (RD 3800)
- 2nd:** RC New Manila East (RD 3780)
- 3rd:** RC San Juan Del Monte (RD 3800)

Best Public Image Campaign

- 1st:** RC Marikina West (RD 3800)
- 2nd:** RC San Mateo Highlands (RD 3800)
- 3rd:** KatoTalk (RD 3820)

Recognition is meaningful, but what truly matters is spreading the goodness of Rotary to every corner of our community. Each award shines brighter when it inspires others to serve alongside us. For District 3800, the real victory is welcoming more volunteers, multiplying the helping hands that bring hope and change.



With PP Elsie Ang's dynamic leadership as District Public Image Chair in RY 2024–2025, District 3800 proudly brought home **14 out of 27 awards**, excelling in **8 out of 10 categories**. Through her passion and guidance to the clubs, simple tasks were transformed into showcases of creativity and excellence—proving that inspired leadership delivers remarkable results.

PP ELSIE ANG

"It's wonderful for my club to win, but even greater to share victories with the district. True joy comes from shared success—that's my kind of leadership."



Rotary Club of Mandaluyong HOSTS MALAYSIAN ROTARY FRIENDS



Contributor
PP Roger Cruz
RC Mandaluyong

An afternoon of play, laughter, and connection.



Rotary friendship extends beyond borders, and the Rotary Club of Mandaluyong (RCM) has long embraced the spirit of international camaraderie. This was evident when Past President Alex Chang and Immediate Past President Benjamin Chong of Rotary Club of Pudu, Malaysia, one of RCM's sister clubs, visited Manila for a day of fellowship.

To showcase Filipino Rotary hospitality, the Travel Brigade of RCM brought the visitors to Intramuros, Manila's historic Walled City. They began with lunch at Café Ilustrado, sharing stories over Filipino dishes and ending with sampaguita ice cream—a unique treat made from the national flower, rarely served elsewhere in the world.



In the afternoon, the group strolled through the centuries-old streets of Intramuros—visiting San Agustin Church, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, admiring views from the old walls, and enjoying a calesa ride through its historic streets. They also stopped at a new museum to appreciate the district's latest cultural offerings.

RCM Rotarians IPP Apollo Tan and Sp. Aileen, DDS John Lam, PP Bill Daland, PP Ernie Lim, PE Mao Kwan and Dir. Stephen Gobaco accompanied the visitors throughout the day. The fellowship was lively and meaningful, with shared stories and memories that reflected the close ties between the two clubs. Despite being from neighboring countries separated by an ocean, the camaraderie reflected how Rotary transcends borders and creates bonds of friendship that last a lifetime.

As the day drew to a close, the group made one last stop before heading to the airport. They shared a farewell dinner at Bo Song, an Asian restaurant conveniently located near NAIA. Seafood and other flavorful dishes filled the table, giving everyone one more opportunity to enjoy food and fellowship together. The atmosphere was light and cheerful, with everyone savoring the final moments of the visit.



INTRAMUROS

WALLS OF TIME, VIEWS TO REMEMBER



Intramuros, Manila's historic walled city, beautifully preserves culture, heritage, and timeless charm within its walls.

With their suitcases filled with souvenirs and their hearts full of warm memories, PP Alex and IPP Benjamin were brought to NAIA Terminal 3 in time for their flight home. The send-off was done with care, ensuring that the Malaysian Rotarians left not only with peace of mind but also with a lasting impression of Filipino Rotary hospitality.

The visit also underscored the reciprocal nature of Rotary friendship. Just as RCM hosted its Malaysian brothers with warmth and enthusiasm, RCM members receive the same generosity and hospitality whenever they visit Kuala Lumpur. These exchanges strengthen ties between clubs and highlight one of Rotary's greatest strengths—building friendships while serving others.

The day's activities may have been brief, but the fellowship and memories created will last far longer. Indeed, Rotary connects people across cultures, turning simple visits into meaningful experiences rooted in friendship, service and joy.



THE VOICE

OF SERVICE AND MUSIC

THE BOBBY TANYAG SINGERS (BTS)

In Rotary, service may be our common language—but music has always been a universal voice that brings people closer together. True to this spirit, a group of Rotarians with a shared passion for singing came together in the Imagine Rotary year (RY 2022–2023) to form a unique ensemble: the Bobby Tanyag Singers (BTS)—a name playfully inspired by the world-famous Korean group, yet carrying a special twist as a tribute to the district governor at that time, PDG Bobby Tanyag.

What started as casual bonding among Rotarians soon blossomed into a vibrant fellowship built on melody and camaraderie. BTS was created not only to showcase musical talent but also to remind fellow Rotarians that Rotary is more than just meetings and service projects. It is also about nurturing joy, celebrating creativity, and strengthening meaningful connections through shared interests.



Beyond serving the community, BTS offers Rotarians a stage to express themselves, uplift others, and foster stronger bonds within the district. Each performance is more than music—it is an offering of fellowship, passion, and the true spirit of Rotary.

Because in Rotary, when voices join together—whether in service or in song—the impact always resonates far beyond the stage.



THE VOICE

OF SERVICE AND MUSIC

SMASHING BONDS OF FELLOWSHIP AT VALLE VERDE 5

An afternoon of play, laughter, and connection.



*Contributed by
Rtn. Shirley Panganiban
RC Wack Wack*



In the afternoon of August 21 at around 4 PM, members of the Rotary Club of Wack Wack gathered once again at the Valle Verde 5 Country Club courts for what has become a bonding tradition — a different kind of meeting played with rackets, shuttlecocks, and plenty of laughter.

The games were less about winning and more about sharing moments together. Rally after rally, smiles spread across the court, and even the missed shots became reasons to laugh. For newer members, it was an easy way to feel right at home.



SMASHES HIT FRIENDSHIPS HARD

For longtime friends, it was another chance to strengthen the bonds that keep them coming back.

Between matches, conversations flowed as freely as the serves. Stories were exchanged on the sidelines, cheers rang out for every good shot, and the spirit of fellowship was everywhere — both on and off the court.



Members of the Rotary Club of Wack Wack share smiles and camaraderie after fun afternoon of badminton fellowship at Valle Verde 5.

By the time the sun dipped lower, it was clear that the true highlight of the day wasn't the badminton itself but the connections built through it. And in those connections lies the very spirit of Rotary — where friendships grow, members feel they belong, and the club finds new strength to welcome even more hands and hearts into its fold.

*“Not just teammates
on the court - friends beyond it.”*



The Journey of the Rotary Club of Taytay Renaissance



A New Club on the Rise

The Rotary Club of Taytay Renaissance (RCTR) was born on January 23, 2025, through the vision of Charter President Liza Santiago and the leadership of District Governor Bobby Zamora. With 53 charter members, the club embraced the spirit of “Renaissance”—a rebirth of service, unity, and hope for the community.

In just months, RCTR made a mark in District 3800. It earned multiple awards, including Outstanding Club, Outstanding Club President, and recognition for its livelihood project in Tanay, Rizal. Its first service mission, Pag-ibig at Pasasalamat, reached the remote Dumagat tribe, setting the tone for impactful initiatives.

The club expanded through the CARE (Creating Access to Resources for Empowerment) program, offering skills training in bayong making, rag making, and banana chips production, empowering women and solo parents with sustainable income opportunities.



RCTR also proudly showcased its community products at the District 3800 Service Project Expo, while gaining recognition in Zone 10A Public Image Awards for its storytelling and visibility efforts.

Leadership continues to flourish, with CP Liza now serving as Assistant Governor and GP Marijo Fabre guiding the club under the theme Unite for Good. More than awards, however, RCTR has become an “irresistible club,” attracting members with its authenticity, fellowship, and genuine service.

Today, the Rotary Club of Taytay Renaissance stands as a testament that when people unite with love, purpose, and humility, they create extraordinary change. Guided by the Rotary motto Service Above Self, RCTR continues to uplift lives, inspire hope, and build a brighter future—one project, one fellowship, and one smile at a time.



**“ONE PROJECT, ONE FELLOWSHIP, ONE SMILE AT A TIME
— THE ROTARY CLUB OF TAYTAY RENAISSANCE
UPLIFTS LIVES, INSPIRES HOPE, AND BUILDS A
BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER.”**

In just a short span of time, the Rotary Club of Taytay Renaissance has already made an extraordinary impact in District 3800, becoming a one of the handful of clubs in the district to earn multiple distinctions within only two and a half months.



Honored for both excellence in leadership and service, the club's early achievements stand as proof of its strong commitment to making a meaningful difference.





**SERVE WITH SINCERITY
& TO CREATE LASTING
CHANGE.**

The story of the Rotary Club of Taytay Renaissance is not about titles or awards, but about ordinary people coming together to do extraordinary things. Guided by the theme Unite for Good, it has become a home where sincerity, fellowship, and service inspire both purpose and belonging.





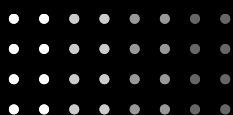
A MILESTONE FOR RI DISTRICT 3800

THE FIRST DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT EXPO

In every booth and every story, District 3800 showed that in a spirit of unity, clubs, partners, and friends can truly Unite for Good — weaving service into one powerful masterpiece of hope.

BREAKING NEW GROUND:

DG Gina T. Sanchez has done it once again. With Chair Noel Cuico at the helm as District Service Project Chair, innovation in service came alive at its very core. Who would have imagined that, whether on a national or local stage, a district could pull off such a bold and ambitious project? It takes leaders with vision, trust, and unwavering belief in their people to take such a risk — and the result was nothing short of groundbreaking.





1ST
**THE DISTRICT
SERVICE
EXPO**

On August 24, 2025, Rotary District (RD) 3800 etched a new milestone in its history with the triumphant launch of its inaugural Service Project Expo at Mega Trade Hall 2, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. This groundbreaking event, championed by District Governor (DG) Gina T. Sanchez and District Service Projects Chair (DSPC) Noel Cuico, became a spectacular platform to highlight the district's unified commitment and transformative efforts across Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus.





THE **1ST** DISTRICT SERVICE EXPO

The Expo brought together an estimated 1,350 registered Rotarians and guests, marking it as one of the most remarkable gatherings in the district's history — a true celebration of service and fellowship. The event showcased 127 creatively designed booths representing 85 participating clubs, each presenting innovative and impactful projects aligned with Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus. Every booth stood as a powerful testament to the unwavering commitment of Rotarians to address society's most urgent needs and create lasting change.

The event opened with a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony at 10:30 AM, led by DG Sanchez and TRF Trustee Dennis Shore, joined by other distinguished dignitaries. Following the ceremony, guests were welcomed into a vibrant exhibition hall brimming with creative, interactive booths that brought to life the diverse service initiatives of Rotary clubs across RD 3800. Each display embodied Rotary's enduring commitment to its guiding principle of "Service Above Self."

*by CP Prisco S. Rivera, Jr.
RC San Mateo Highlands
GML Adviser, RY 2025-2026*





FIND YOUR PROJECT PARTNER

CONNECT / COLLABORATE.

Perfect

At 11:00 AM, the program proper commenced in the main hall. Following the call to order, District Governor Nominee Sherrylou Khosiking led a heartfelt invocation, setting a solemn and reflective tone for the celebration of service. This was followed by the singing of the Australian and Philippine National Anthems and a spirited rendition of the Rotary Hymn, filling the hall with unity and pride.

Subsequently, District Secretary Rita Carla Dejerres warmly acknowledged the distinguished guests, including End Polio Now Coordinator (EPNC) Marilou Co, Regional Membership Coordinator (RMC) Anna Louisa Bumagat, Regional Public Image Coordinator (RPIC) Mildred Vitangcol, Assistant RPICs Rhodora Gonzalez and Jerry Ang, RD 3780 Governor Veronica Yu and Spouse Johnny Gaw Yu, Past District Governor (PDG) Florian Enriquez, PDG Milo Lucenario, District Governor-Elect (DGE) Rhian Virrey, District Governor Nominee (DGN) Lotlot Alvarez, along with several past and future District Governors and their lovely spouses, district officers, and local government officials.





Perfect
FIND YOUR
PROJECT PARTNER
CONNECT / COLLABORATE.





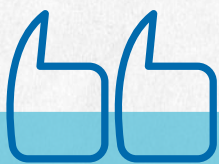


DSPC Cuico welcomed all guests with gratitude, stressing that the Expo was more than a showcase — it was a celebration of the unifying spirit of service. He highlighted that each booth reflected impactful projects transforming communities and stood as proof of Rotarians' commitment to 'Service Above Self,' while also serving as an opportunity to share these inspiring stories with the public.

ADVANCING ROTARY'S MISSION

The program continued with inspiring congratulatory messages from EPNC Co, RMC Bumagat, and RPIC Vitangcol, each commending RD 3800 for its unwavering dedication to advancing Rotary's mission through the Service Project Expo. Their words filled the hall with joy, pride, and inspiration, drawing enthusiastic applause from the audience.

TRF Trustee Shore delivered an inspirational message, reminding everyone of Rotary's power to transform lives. He admired the variety of booths and the dedication of clubs, reflecting strength, unity, and innovation.



In her heartfelt message, DG Sanchez emphasized the historic nature of the event underscoring that the heart of the Expo is not just about displaying projects, but honoring the beneficiaries and communities at the center of Rotary's mission. ***"When people with good hearts come together, amazing things happen. This Expo stands as proof of that truth. It is more than an exhibition of projects; it is a celebration of compassion, of collaboration, and of what it truly means to unite for good!"***, she stated. DG Sanchez reminded everyone that behind every booth are stories of children gaining education, families finding hope, and communities becoming healthier and stronger because Rotarians acted. Looking forward, she called on all attendees to draw inspiration, build partnerships, and plant new seeds of service. Echoing this year's theme "Unite for Good", she concluded: ***"Rotary shows us that unity is powerful. When clubs work together, when we join hands with partners and communities, our reach extends far beyond what any of us could achieve alone."***



Over lunch, fellowship flourished at the VIP Lounge before the program resumed with Club and Exhibitor Demonstrations. RC Pasig showcased its Emergency Hotline Response Program, RC Upper East Side Antipolo presented the “Roots to Riches” Grape Growing Workshop, and RC Rizal Premier highlighted their Water Filtration System Project — best practices that inspired other clubs to replicate and amplify Rotary’s impact.

The highlight of the afternoon was the much-awaited announcement of winners for the Best Booth Awards, recognizing creativity, impact, and presentation: The following were adjudged winners:

CATEGORY	WINNERS	PRIZE
Single Booth	RC Rizal Mideast	Php 10,000.00
	RC Suburban East Rizal	Php 10,000.00
	RC Passport One Marikina	Php 10,000.00
Medium Booth	RC San Juan Del Monte	Php 10,000.00
	RC Antipolo East	Php 10,000.00
	RC San Mateo	Php 10,000.00
Large Booth	4 th Place – RC Malabon	Php 10,000.00
	3 rd Place – RC Upper Eastside Antipolo	Php 10,000.00
	2 nd Place – RC Pasig South	Php 15,000.00
	1 st Place – RC San Juan Supreme	Php 25,000.00

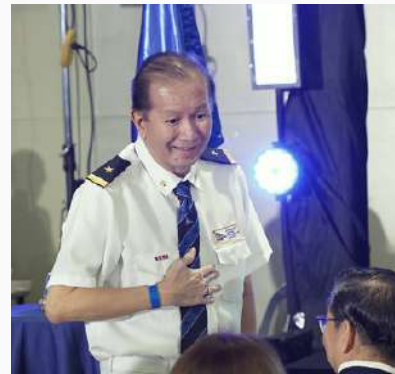




The program drew to a close with heartfelt Closing Remarks from DG Sanchez who reaffirmed the district's thrust that no club - big or small - will be left behind. Then, the atmosphere transformed into one of pure celebration. The hall became livelier with the beats of a live band and vibrant dancing, infusing the event with energy, joy, and camaraderie. Adding to the success of the day, PP Ophel Bello and SAG Roland Cardinoza skillfully hosted the program, their dynamic presence ensured that every moment remain engaging and lively from start to finish.



The unprecedented success of RD 3800's inaugural Service Project Expo stands as a shining testament to the power of vision, leadership, and collective action. This landmark event was brought to life through the inspiring leadership of DG Sanchez, the steadfast commitment of the District Service Projects Committee led by DSPC Cuico, and the relentless support of district officers, club presidents, and volunteers who worked with passion and purpose. More than an exhibition, it was a living showcase of Rotary's promise to create lasting, meaningful change.



By celebrating innovation, sharing best practices, and strengthening bonds of collaboration, this historic Expo sent a clear and powerful message: when Rotarians unite, we do not just imagine a better world —we build it, together.



ROTARY AT THE FRONTLINES

CRISIS

CHRONICLES

Answering the call where it matters
most—bringing hope, help, and
healing in times of crisis

THE PHILIPPINES:

A DISASTER HOTSPOT AND ROTARY'S BEACON OF HOPE

High Risk, Harrowing Reality

In 2022, the Philippines ranked highest globally in disaster risk according to the World Risk Index, reflecting its significant vulnerability to earthquakes, cyclones, floods, droughts, and sea-level rise. This ranking hasn't changed—by 2024, with an index score reaching 46.91, the country remained the most at-risk nation for the 16th consecutive year.

Storms of July and August 2025

This summer, the Philippines was pounded by multiple tropical cyclones:

- **Typhoon Danas (Bising)** – in early July, it exacerbated the southwest monsoon and affected over **13,000 Filipinos**, damaged homes, and tragically claimed a child's life in Las Piñas.
- **Typhoon Co-may (Emong)** – struck in late July, intensified monsoon rains, caused widespread flooding in Luzon, and displaced thousands.
- **Typhoon Podul (Gorio)** – formed in early August; while it affected areas beyond Metro Manila, it contributed to stormy weather conditions.
- PAGASA forecasted **up to three cyclones** entering the Philippine Area of Responsibility in August.





These storms brought heavy rains and flooding to Metro Manila. Agencies like the DOT and DSWD reported that by late July, around 4,800 tourism workers were affected by the combined impact of cyclones and monsoon floods.

The Rotary Response: Service Amid Crisis

At the heart of these disasters are communities struggling with loss and upheaval. Rotary has stepped in decisively—providing relief, building resilience, and rebuilding hope. Rotary clubs are delivering critical support and comfort.

Full Source Citations to Include:

World Risk Index 2022 and 2024 findings from Philippine Star, BusinessWorld, and GMA News reports

Typhoon activity (July–August 2025) and PAGASA cyclone forecasts from Philippine Star and Manila Standard

Flooding, displacement, and livelihood impact updates from Philippine Star (tourism and labor reports)

Typhoon-specific details (Danas, Co-may, Podul) from Wikipedia storm archives



ROTARY CLUB OF VALENZUELA

OPLAN BAYANIHAN

Rotary Relief for Flood Victims

In the spirit of compassion and bayanihan, the Rotary Club of Valenzuela, headed by Good President Jennelyn Candido, once again proved that unity and service can shine even through the darkest storms. Amid the recent flooding that swept through various barangays in Valenzuela City, the club mobilized quickly under the project Oplan Bayanihan, a community-centered relief initiative that brought urgent assistance to hundreds of affected families and individuals.



As heavy rains submerged streets and left many residents stranded in their homes, the Rotary Club of Valenzuela sprang into action. Volunteers braved waist-deep waters, navigating flooded communities with the help of local responders to deliver essential relief goods. These deliveries provided not just nourishment but hope and a sense of solidarity to families trapped in uncertainty.

Rotarians waded through floodwaters delivering the much-needed relief packs at the residents' doorsteps, exchanging smiles despite the hardship. Each frame tells a story of resilience, compassion, and unity –embodying the true meaning of bayanihan.



But the efforts didn't stop there. Recognizing the urgent needs of those who had been evacuated, the Rotary Club extended its reach to various evacuation centers throughout Valenzuela City. Warm, ready-to-eat meals were prepared and distributed to evacuees—many of whom had left their homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs. With the help of generous sponsors and community volunteers, hundreds of meal packs were served, ensuring that no one was left hungry during the height of the calamity.

This project is a testament to the Rotary Club of Valenzuela's unwavering commitment to "Service Above Self." In every bag of goods handed out and every meal served, the values of empathy, volunteerism, and civic responsibility shine brightly. Indeed, when people Unite for Good, no storm is too strong, and no burden too heavy. The Rotary Club of Valenzuela remains steadfast in this mission, proving that through unity, kindness, and action, lasting change is always possible.



ROTARY CLUB OF SAMPAGUITA GRACE PARK

FOOTPRINTS OF HOPE: TSINELAS PARA SA BINAHA



PROJECT PARTNER:

Heart of Gold Alumni Association Inc.

Distribution Sites

Paranaque National High School

Paranaque Elementary School Central

Contributor

GP Evangeline Abanes

RC Sampaguita Grace Park



The “Footprints of Hope: Tsinelas para sa Binaha” project was a heartfelt community outreach initiative of the Rotary Club of Sampaguita Grace Park, under its Alagang Sampaguita program and the theme Unite for Good, in partnership with the Heart of Gold Alumni Association Inc.

Held last August 13, 2025, the project brought what we lovingly called “pangarap slippers” to 500 flood-affected students of Parañaque National High School and Parañaque Elementary School Central.

More than just a footwear donation, it was a gesture of care, dignity, and hope—ensuring that children can walk to school safely and comfortably after enduring the hardships of flooding. Each pair of slippers became a symbol of resilience, a reminder that their community stands with them, and that even small acts of kindness can leave lasting footprints toward a brighter future.

It was service with empathy—meeting a practical need while sending a powerful message:

“You are seen, you are valued, and we’re walking this journey with you.”





A quick, candid pulse check from across Rotary District 3800!

Each month, the GML tosses out one playful question and gathers real, insightful—and sometimes unexpected—answers on how the “Unite for Good” journey is unfolding.

For this August issue, the GML checks in with our dynamic seasoned Rotarian leaders with one lively question:

"What drew you to Rotary, and how has that inspiration kept you going all these years?"

7,000 MILES AWAY, YET ALWAYS HOME IN ROTARY!

Long before I became a Rotarian, giving back was already part of my life. Every year, my high school friends and I would pool resources for small charitable projects. Then one day, I met PP Mel Ilagan, who introduced me to Rotary. He told me that the same amount I spent on small-scale efforts could reach more people if channeled through Rotary. He was right—and joining Rotary turned out to be one of the best decisions of my life.

My most memorable Rotary experience actually happened before I even became a member. I was invited by Rotary Club of Mandaluyong Uptown to read to children in a sponsored community in Tanay, Rizal. To my surprise, PDG Mickey and Lady Marinette Ortigas were there—in clown costumes—dancing to “Pinoy Ako” just to bring joy to the kids. At that moment, I realized: if people of such stature could dedicate their time and energy to serve, who was I to say I was too busy? That sealed my intent—I wanted to become a Rotarian.

**PP THESS RONQUILLO
LINDBLOM**

Rotary Club of Mandaluyong Uptown

In 2006, my Rotary journey officially began. Years later, I was given the privilege of becoming RCMU's first female president in its 25th year. It was never a challenge to say yes; it was an honor. With the full support of past presidents, we worked to recognize the role of women in Rotary, growing our female membership and shining more light on projects for women and children.

Being president was transformative. You can never be truly "Rotarized" until you serve as one. My passion and dedication grew deeper, but I also realized that no president stands alone—every project and every award is always a product of teamwork. That's why I continue to help and support every president who comes after me, just as my predecessors helped me.

To our young Rotarians, my only advice is this: put your heart into service. If you're forced into Rotary, it will never last. But if you serve wholeheartedly—joining projects, building friendships, and making a difference—you'll discover the true beauty of Rotary. God gives us talents and resources not only for ourselves but to share with others.

Nineteen years later, even from 7,000 miles away in Perpignan, France, my heart remains deeply anchored in Rotary. Distance has never been a barrier—I actively communicate, participate, and contribute to the club, because service and fellowship know no borders. I will always be a loud and proud Uptown Girl—and a Rotarian for life.



21 YEARS OF DANCING THE ROTARY WAY

My Rotary journey started in 2004. I was a Centennial Member when CP Ed Morada recruited me to become a member of RC Caloocan Silangan, under PP Lilybeth Tanchoco in RY 2004–2005. I was the youngest member in the club. At first, I was shy because most of them were already successful in their own profession.

I joined Rotary in 2004 to share my talents and give back, having been a scholar from elementary to college. I stayed for the camaraderie, fellowship, and service—and because the Four-Way Test continues to inspire me to uphold the truth. Rotary also gave me lifelong friends, who stood by me when I battled stage 2C colon cancer in 2017. To me, Rotary is family, a bond nurtured by our Global Daddy Gov. Jun Farcon and Mommy Zen.

For 20 years, I poured my heart into Talent Night, showcasing my love for dance and theater, and I've cherished travels with my Rotary best friends across Asia—treasured memories of fellowship and joy.

PP ROLLZ ELAN MANINGAS

Rotary Club of Marikina Heights



The joy of giving multiplies a thousandfold. As a Paul Harris Fellow +6, I celebrate how The Rotary Foundation turns generosity into impact through its seven Areas of Focus and global grants. During my presidency, I was blessed to lead Matching Grant, WCS, and Global Grant projects that truly made service exponential.

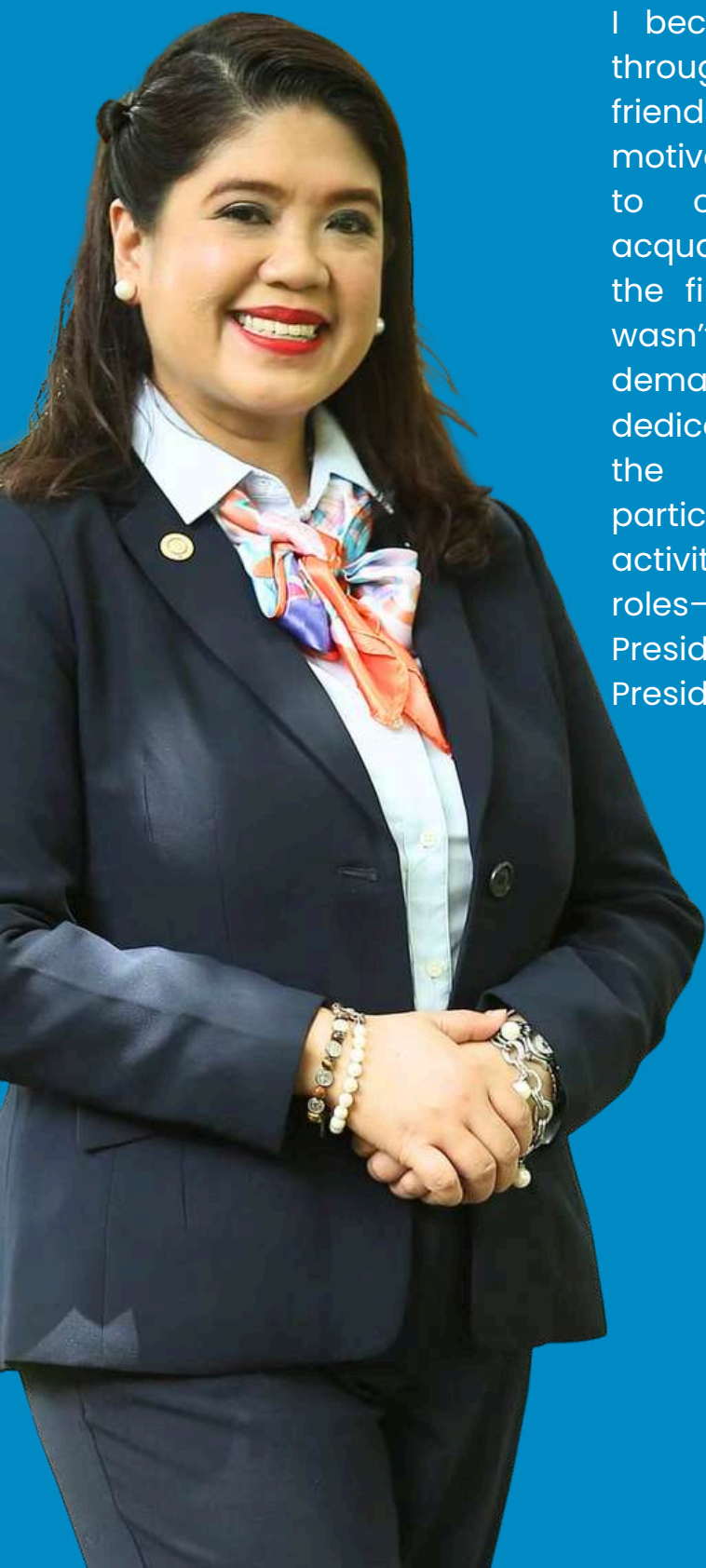
I am a seasoned Rotarian who has served in various district positions, received Exemplary and Meritorious Awards, and actively engaged in fellowships such as ROTI, ICUFR, IYFR, Rotary LGBT, and the Photography Club. I represented Asia-Pacific as ICUFR Board Director (2012–2014) and now serve as IYFR Regional Secretary (2025–2027). I remain active in Rotary LGBT and led the RI D3800 Photography Club as President, where I proudly recruited PRID Jessie Harman. On a lighter note, I was once named Best Male Bollywood Dancer (Malaysia, 2015) and joined Ripley's "Biggest Human Smile" (Bangkok, 2012).

I belong to two leagues: the League of Global Presidents Inc., where I served as Past Prime Minister, and the Society of Imaginative Amazing Treasure Presidents, where I was both a Bobby Tanyag Dancer and an officer. Under PDG Virgilio Farcon, I was honored as Most Outstanding President, and during my second presidency under PDG Bobby Tayag in RY 2022–2023, I received 38 awards, including the coveted President of the Year. Those moments left me elated and in awe, as they recognized the hard work and sacrifices poured into service.

"In Rotary, I have learned the value of surrounding myself with loyal and trustworthy friends who share the same passion for service. I am blessed with Rotary companions who stand with me through challenges and triumphs. True friends are those who support, encourage, and uplift you—and I treasure them deeply."



THE RIGHT HEART IN SERVING, LIVING, AND LOVING



I became a member of Rotary in 2014 through the invitation of one of my closest friends, Jocelyn Tan Gatue. My primary motivation was to serve the community and to connect with new friends and acquaintances, and finding Mr. Right. During the first four years of my membership, I wasn't as active as I had hoped due to the demands of my work. However, my dedication to service and commitment to the Club deepened when I began participating in service projects and district activities and eventually took on leadership roles—first as President Nominee, then President-Elect, and ultimately as Club President in 2019.

Serving as a Rotary Club President brought numerous benefits, including personal and professional growth, enhanced leadership capabilities, and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the community.

IPP JOAN TEJADA

Rotary Club of Tiger Mandaluyong

The role provided hands-on experience in leadership, strategic planning, and team motivation. While it came with its challenges, it also sharpened my decision-making skills as I navigated various club matters, from financial management to project execution.

Effectively managing club activities, meetings, and events required strong organizational and time management skills. I had the privilege of engaging with a diverse range of individuals—from fellow club members to district officials and community leaders—expanding my network and building valuable relationships. It was also a platform to raise awareness about Rotary's mission and its positive impact.

I have had the honor of serving twice as Club President: first for the Rotary Club of Greater Mandaluyong (RY 2019–2020), and for the Rotary Club of Tiger Mandaluyong (RY 2024–2025). Though we may belong to different clubs, I stayed on because we share a common goal—to serve.

As we make a tangible difference in the lives of others, this is the ultimate reason for staying on in Rotary.





BE PART OF THE STORY THAT INSPIRES

An Invitation to Rotarians and Project Partners

The Governor's Monthly Letter (GML) is more than a publication—it's a celebration of service, leadership, and impact. This Rotary Year, we invite YOU to help us bring its pages to life.

Whether you're a passionate Rotarian or a proud Project Partner, your story matters—and the district wants to hear it.

SHARE YOUR ROTARY JOURNEY

Tell us what moved you to serve. What project changed your perspective? What keeps your Rotary heart beating?

GET FEATURED IN THE GML

This is your platform. Showcase your business, organization, or advocacy—especially if it aligns with Rotary's causes and values. Let others know how you're making a difference in your own way.

BUILD NEW CONNECTIONS

Through the GML, your voice reaches over a thousand leaders, change-makers, and future collaborators in District 3800 and beyond. It's the perfect space to grow your network and strengthen your impact.

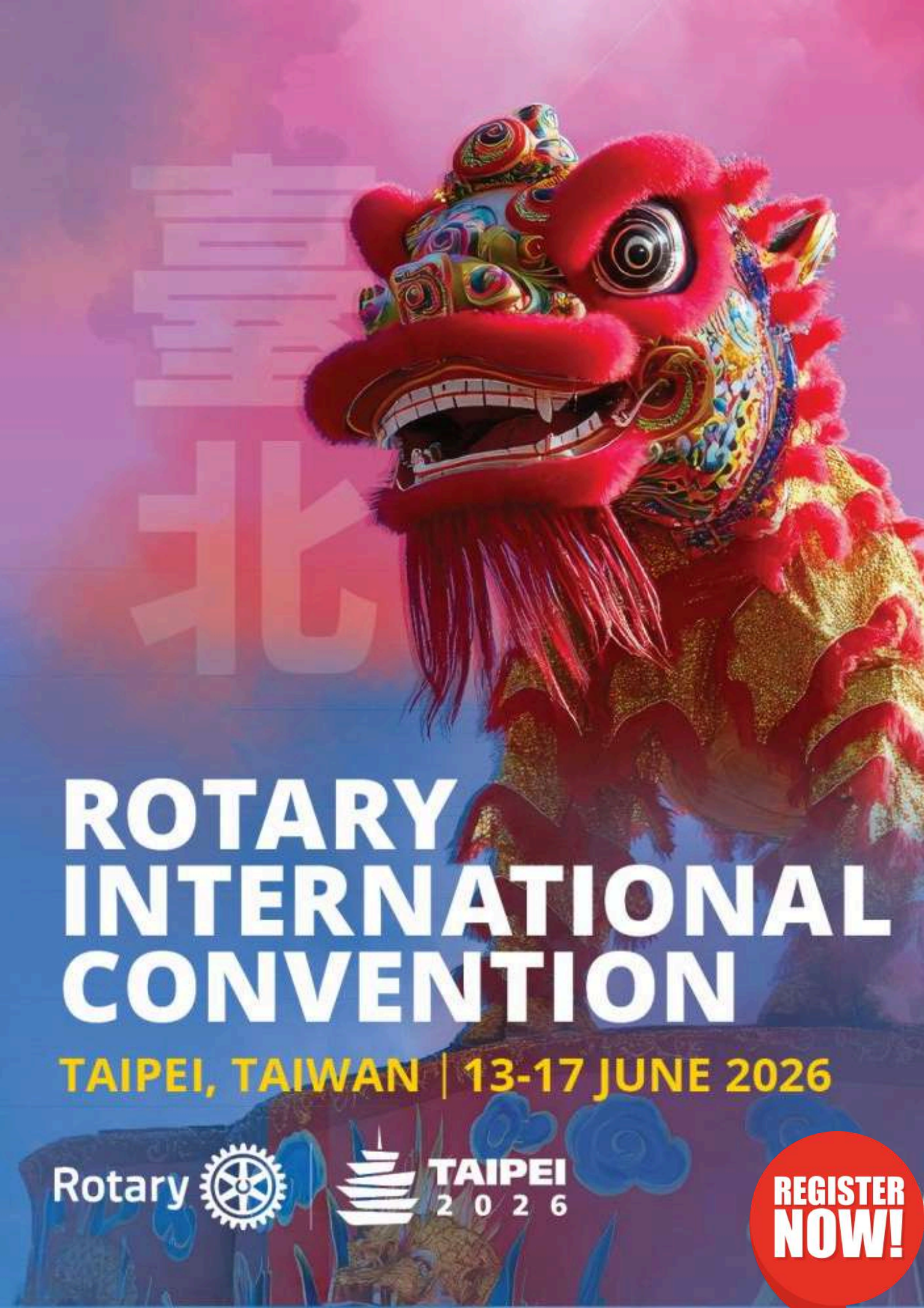


Let's unite for good—one story, one partnership, one issue at a time.

Connect with us at **3800gml@gmail.com**.

We'd love to feature your Rotary story, your business, or your community impact.

BE PART OF THE GML MOVEMENT—WHERE SERVICE MEETS CREATIVITY.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026

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GOVERNOR'S
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AUGUST 2025 ISSUE