

Midtown General Santos

Rotary
Club



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Volume 1, February 2024

MIDTOWN GAZETTE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF ROTARY
CLUB OF MIDTOWN GENERAL SANTOS



PEDRO ACHARON JR.
ASSITANT GOVERNOR
AREA 3F



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EDITOR'S MESSAGE



Good evening fellow Midtowners,

As we embrace the gentle embrace of February, it's a time not just to mark our founding on the 23rd, but also to celebrate the essence of Rotary Week. This is a time when we amplify the message of service above self and showcase the multitude of projects that are making a tangible difference in our community. In the spirit of unity and collaboration, we invite each and every one of you to join us at Robinsons Mall Gensan, where the various Rotary clubs in our area will be showcasing their activities. It's a chance for us to come together, to learn from one another, and to show our unwavering support for the public image initiatives that shape our organization's identity.

Let's take this opportunity to engage, to connect, and to inspire one another. Together, we can amplify the impact of our collective efforts and continue to be beacons of hope and positivity in our beloved community.

With gratitude and anticipation,

JAN JOSHUA SALAZAR
JAN JOSHUA SALAZAR

Editor and Chief



HISTORY OF OUR CLUB

Founded in 1993, the Rotary Club of Midtown General Santos has been a beacon of service and community engagement for over 30 years. Situated in General Santos City, Philippines, our club is an integral part of District 3860, Zone 3F, contributing to Rotary International's global mission of promoting understanding, goodwill, and world peace. Comprising more than 46 dedicated individuals, our club is committed to the principle of "Service Above Self." Our mission is clear: to change lives both locally and globally through meaningful service projects and financial support. Guided by our vision, we strive to cultivate a dynamic membership that embodies our core values and works tirelessly to bring about systemic and enduring change in our communities.

At the heart of our club are our core values, which define who we are and how we operate. Rotary Belongingness underscores our belief in the strength of unity and collaboration, recognizing that together, we can achieve far more than we could individually. Caring Relationship emphasizes the importance of love, trust, and respect among our members and their families, fostering unbreakable bonds of solidarity. Joyful Service reminds us that service should never be seen as a burden but rather as a source of passion and fulfillment. Finally, Cheerful Giving embodies our selfless dedication to giving back to our communities without expecting anything in return, finding happiness in the act of giving itself.

As we look back on our history, we are proud of the impact we have made and the lives we have touched. Yet, we are also mindful of the work that lies ahead. With unwavering dedication and a steadfast commitment to our values, the Rotary Club of Midtown General Santos will continue to be a force for positive change, both now and in the future.





THE HOPE CREATING OFFICERS

President : RICHARD M. BACQUIANO

Vice President: FR. GERARD ZABALA, O.P

Treasurer : BILLY ALVIN R. LEE

Auditor : RODNEY ACHARON

Protocol Officer : MARK VINCENT T. YAP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. RAYMUNDO SALAZAR

2. ROGER E. RIVERA

3. PEDRO B. ACHARON, JR.

4. IGNACIO DUMARAN

5. JAN JOSHUA RAY D. SALAZAR

6. CHRIS NORWIN NISPEROS

7. JOSE LUCAS

8. PP ROMEO PASTOR



THE HOPE CREATING OFFICERS

COMMITTEE CHAIR

Club Foundation Chair

RAYMUNDO L. SALAZAR

Club Membership Chair

ROGER E. RIVERA

Club Public Image Chair

JAN JOSHUA RAY D. SALAZAR

Club Admin/Fellowship Chair

GEOFFREY DIONISIO

Club Service Project Chair

MARCELO O. YAP

AREAS OF FOCUS UNDER CLUB SERVICE PROJECT CHAIR

1. Peace and Conflict Resolution

BILLY ALVIN LEE

2. Water Sanitation and Hygiene

RODNEY A. ACHARON

3. Community Economic Development

MARK VINCENT T. YAP

4. Disease Prevention and Treatment

MELCHEN MACHAN

5. Environmental Management

CHARLIE A. COLE

6. Maternal and Child Care

DENNIS S. CARIÑO

7. Basic Education and Literacy

LYH BENZYL CAMPOS



ROSTER OF MEMBERS

ACHARON, PAOLO JAY S.

ACHARON, PEDRO JR. B.

ACHARON, RODNEY A.

ALFAFARA, DOMINIC

ALZONA, ALAIN GABRIEL

BACQUIANO, RICHARD

BALLENA, ROBERTO JR.

BENZONAN, SUNNY

BORJA, BENJI E.

CAMPOS, LYH BENZYL

CARIÑO, DENNIS S.

CHUA, NIKKO ROBBIN G.

COLE, CHARLIE A.

CRUZ, LESTER S.

DIONISIO, GEOFFREY

DUMARAN, IGNACIO

GANADOS, CARLOS

LEE, BILLY ALVIN R.

LLIDO, JUGGER C.

LORENZO, JEREMAE CHRISTOPHER

LUCAS, JOSE G.

MACHAN, MELCHEN

MALALUAN, ROY ANGELO

NINTE, NOEL



ROOSTER OF MEMBERS

NISPEROS, CHRIS NORWIN

OGAT, FERNAN ANGELO

OTANES, DALMACIO JR.

OXALES, KENNETH S.

PASTOR, ROMEO D.

RIVERA, ROGER E.

SALANGSANG, RALPH RENZO C.

SALANGSANG, ROB ROUVIN C.

SALAZAR, JAN JOSHUA RAY

SALAZAR, MARK DOMINIC

SALAZAR, RAY ANGELO

SALAZAR, RAYMUNDO L.*

SALAZAR, ROMAN L.

SALINDO, JUN

TAPANG, ENRIQUE

UY, ERIC JR.

YAP, MARCELO O.

YAP, MARK VINCENT T.

YBAÑEZ, NEAL CARL S.

ZABALA, O.P GERARD

HONORARY MEMBER

MORACA, WILLIAM

RIVERA, RITCHE





THE FOUR WAY TEST

OF THE THINGS WE SAY, THINK, OR DO

- 1. IS IT THE TRUTH?**
- 2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?**
- 3. WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL?**

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY IS TO ENCOURAGE AND FOSTER THE IDEAL OF SERVICE AS A BASIS

OF WORTHY ENTERPRISE AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO ENCOURAGE AND FOSTER:
FIRST: THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACQUAINTANCE AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE;

SECOND: HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS IN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS; THE RECOGNITION OF THE WORTHINESS OF ALL USEFUL OCCUPATIONS; AND THE DIGNIFYING OF

EACH ROTARIAN'S OCCUPATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE SOCIETY;

THIRD: THE APPLICATION OF THE IDEAL OF SERVICE IN EACH ROTARIAN'S PERSONAL, BUSINESS, AND COMMUNITY LIFE;

FOURTH: THE ADVANCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, GOODWILL, AND PEACE THROUGH A WORLD FELLOWSHIP OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONS

UNITED IN THE IDEAL OF SERVICE.

ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

THE FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT HAS BEEN ADOPTED FOR THE USE OF ROT



EDITORIAL BOARD



Richard Bacquiano
President



Jan Joshua Salazar
Secretary



Pedro Acharon Jr.
Asst. Governor



Joe Lucas
Creative Team head



MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Rotary Family,

As February unfolded, we embarked on a journey that stirred the very essence of our souls during Rotary Week. It was a time not just for celebration but for transformation — a period where our collective actions spoke volumes about the impact we can create when we unite in service.

Our week commenced with a poignant mass, a moment of solemn reflection where we acknowledged the profound privilege bestowed upon us to be instruments of change in our community. It was a reminder of the profound responsibility we carry, and the immense potential we possess to touch lives and inspire hearts.

With the dawn of each day, we took to the streets with a fervor unmatched, igniting awareness and compassion through a vibrant motorcade. But it wasn't just about the spectacle; it was about the connections we forged, the hands we held, and the hope we shared with those we encountered along the way.

In the midst of our bustling activities, we paused to nourish not just bodies but spirits, as we extended the hand of kindness to those in need through our feeding program. It was a humbling reminder that amidst our busy lives, there are souls yearning for sustenance — both physical and emotional.

Throughout the week, our projects stood as monuments to our dedication and perseverance. Each endeavor was a testament to the transformative power of collective action, demonstrating that even the smallest act of kindness can ripple outward, creating waves of change that touch lives in ways we may never fully comprehend.

And as the curtains drew to a close on our Rotary Week festivities, we gathered as a family — united in purpose, bound by our shared values — to celebrate our achievements with a joyous Rotary family day. Amidst laughter and song, we basked in the warmth of camaraderie, reaffirming our commitment to service above self.

To all who contributed their time, their energy, and their hearts to make Rotary Week a resounding success, I offer my deepest gratitude. It is through your unwavering dedication that we are able to turn moments into movements, and dreams into reality.

RICHARD BACQUIANO
President



PRESIDENT REPORT

Date

Name of Activity

February 19-24

Rotary Week:

- Thanks Giving Mass
- Motorcade
- Feeding Program
- Coastal Clean Up Drive
- Media Guesting ate Brigada
- Family Day at HTC Complex

SERVICE PROJECT

ROTARY KICKED OFF ROTARY WEEK

The highlight of the event was the heartwarming feeding program, where dedicated Rotarians served meals to attendees, exemplifying the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" and ensuring that every individual felt nurtured and valued



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We are very happy to be chosen by the Rotary. On behalf of St. Agnes , Thank you Rotary and We pray for more blessings.

Sister Juliet Priagido

**St. Agnes of Montepulciano
Home for the Children, Inc.**

The Rotary Clubs of Area 3-FG kicked off Rotary Week with a dynamic Thanksgiving mass followed by a spirited motorcade and heartwarming feeding program in General Santos City. Members showcased their commitment to service through engaging activities and a focus on community collaboration.

The festivities commenced with a dynamic motorcade that traversed the city streets, captivating onlookers and raising awareness about Rotary's impactful mission. Members from various Rotary clubs proudly waved banners and flags, symbolizing their collective dedication to service.





This is a time where we are united to our greater causes by showcasing our Signature project to the public.

PEDRO ACHARON JR.
Asst. Governor



As Rotary Week unfolds, a captivating event is set to grace the city of General Santos – the Rotary Week Photo Exhibit. In collaboration with Robinsons Gensan, this exhibition promises to be a visual celebration of Rotary's enduring commitment to service and community.

The exhibit will feature a collection of photographs capturing impactful moments from various humanitarian projects and initiatives undertaken by Rotary clubs under Area 3FG, including the esteemed Rotary Club of Midtown General Santos. From empowering youth through education to providing essential healthcare services, each image tells a story of compassion, dedication, and positive change.

Moreover, the Rotary Week Photo Exhibit provides an opportunity for reflection and appreciation of the collective efforts of Rotary members in Area 3FG.

In the spirit of Rotary Week, all are invited to visit the exhibit, immerse themselves in the stories behind the photographs, and perhaps find inspiration to embark on their own journey of service and philanthropy.

INSPIRING COLLABORATION: ROTARY CLUBS UNITE FOR A CLEANER GENSAN

In a vibrant display of community spirit, several Rotary clubs in General Santos City joined forces on April 3rd for a monumental clean-up drive in celebration of Rotary Week. This collaborative effort, led by the Rotary Club of Tuna Port, brought together members from various clubs including Pearl Shells, Barangay Bula, General Santos City, and Area 3FG.

Rotarians from different clubs, backgrounds, and walks of life came together, driven by a shared vision of making Gensan a cleaner, more vibrant place for all its residents.

In the spirit of Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self," let us continue to collaborate, innovate, and inspire positive change in our communities, one clean-up drive at a time.



SERVICE PROJECT

CELEBRATING ROTARY'S PUBLIC IMAGE: MEDIA GUESTING AT BRIGADA NEWS TV

By leveraging media platforms like Brigada News TV, Rotary continues to amplify its message of goodwill and inspire others to join in its noble cause.

As the celebration of Rotary's 119th Anniversary continues, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to promoting Rotary's public image and sharing the transformative work we do in our communities.



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Through this, we are able to showcase our Rotary causes of the past century. Now, we are celebrating our 119th year in service
JAN JOSHUA SALAZAR
Editor and Chief

On the 4th day of the Rotary Week Celebration, Brigada News TV in celebration of the 119th Anniversary of Rotary International invited a special guest to shed light on the organization's public image initiatives.

Media guru, Maria, graced the airwaves at Brigada News TV in celebration of the 119th Anniversary of Rotary International. Her insightful guesting highlighted Rotary's commitment to promoting its public image and fostering a positive perception in the community.

During her appearance, Pres. Richard and Secretary Jan underscored the importance of Rotary's public image in advancing its mission of service above self.



SERVICE PROJECT

CELEBRATE ROTARY: UNITING FOR 119 YEARS OF SERVICE!

Here's to countless more years of serving humanity and nurturing fellowship within our communities. Let's toast to Rotary's enduring legacy of making a profound difference - today, tomorrow, and for generations to come!



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Today was an amazing day with my fellow Rotarians. We had a family day and, at the same time, enjoyed celebrating our Rotary Week.

Richard BACQUIANO
President

Today marks the pinnacle of Rotary Week as we join hands with our vibrant communities in Area 3FGH - Gensan, Polomolok, and Koronadal - for an exhilarating celebration. It's Family Day, and we're embracing the lively spirit of Rotary Fiesta as we commemorate an incredible 119 years of Rotary International and the extraordinary impact we've collectively achieved.

As we immerse ourselves in this historic moment, let's raise our voices in jubilation and extend heartfelt congratulations to Area 3G, rightfully crowned as the overall Champion. Their victory is a shining testament to the unwavering dedication and indomitable spirit of service that defines our Rotary family.





GET TO KNOW MORE

RICHARD BACQUIANO **PRESIDENT**

The President, with a dynamic background, brings a wealth of experience to the table. Professionally, he holds a license in Radiologic Technology and pursued graduate studies at Cebu Doctors University. With nine years of experience as a CT Scan Technician at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, KSA, he's honed his skills in the medical field.

Beyond his medical career, he's ventured into entrepreneurship, managing a business in sand and gravel/construction supply, with a focus on quarrying. Personally, he cherishes his role as a husband to Jenny Amantillo and a father to two daughters, Zofia Ondrea and Chloe Angelyn.



BRIDGING PROMINENCE AND RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP

Fr. Gerard C. Zabala, OP, a Dominican priest from General Santos City, exemplifies a life of faith and service. Since his religious profession in 1989, Fr. Gerard has devoted himself to serving others through the Roman Catholic Church. With a strong academic background in theology and philosophy, he has demonstrated intellectual rigor and commitment.

Fr. Gerard's extensive work experience highlights his leadership and dedication to diverse communities. From serving as a parish priest in Quezon City to leadership roles in institutions like Caleruega Philippines and St. Bartholomew Parish, he consistently embodies his calling.

In 2022, Fr. Gerard joined the Rotary Club of Midtown General Santos, aligning with its values of compassion and community service. Through Rotary, he extends his ministry and echoes Pope Francis's call for global solidarity.

Fr. Gerard's journey is an inspiring testament to faith-driven service. As he prepares to lead the Filial House of San Martin De Porres at UST Gensan, opening in August 2024, his legacy of compassion and service will continue to impact communities.

TOGETHER, WE

SAVE LIVES

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION



SCAN ME



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