



GUAM WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Hafa Adai!

Welcome to 2019! A year filled with promise and opportunity for the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce and our members.

Our first General Membership meeting couldn't have been planned any better. We welcome our members, old and new. We thank our outgoing Board members, including Past President Vanessa Williams. And we get to be inspired by Meg Tyquiengco. GWCC is off to a great start!

Thank you for joining us.

Save the Date

PENCIL IT IN!



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|--|--|
| <p>March</p> <p>March 8</p> <p>March 13</p> <p>April 4</p> <p>April 12</p> | <p>GWCC Health Insurance Open Enrollment</p> <p>Women's History Month Resolution Presentation</p> <p>International Women's Day</p> <p>Workshop: "How to Avoid Death by PowerPoint"</p> <p>General Membership Meeting</p> <p>GWCC Leadership Summit</p> |
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Agenda

7:30 AM
Breakfast

8:05 AM
Welcoming Remarks
GWCC President
Lina Leon Guerrero

8:15 AM
Introduction of GWCC
Committees

8:30 AM
Knowledge Session

9:00 AM
Networking

9:20 AM
Closing Remarks

#createagreatday!

Agenda

Knowledge Session

As a special presentation, former board member Meg Tyquiengco will be leading a knowledge session titled "Supporting Your Tribe: The Power of Giving Back."

"It's exciting to participate in the restoration of lifestyles. Helping people to progress from hopelessness to confidence and competence is a thrill and a joy." - Alice Raftary

Alice Raftary is my mother and as the old adage says, the apple didn't fall far from the tree.

After having 8 children in 10 years she went back to school and earned her Master of Education Degree specializing

in Blindness and Rehabilitation in 1967. She spent the next 35 years in her career working with the deaf-blind population. In 2002 she was inducted, along with Helen Keller, into the Hall of Fame - Leaders and Legends of the Blindness Field. Her bio is pretty amazing and it humbles me to have her as my mentor.

This kind of outlook, helping others, became part of our family's DNA. Saturdays were spent at the Deaf-Blind Club in Detroit or at the YMCA on the other side of Detroit teaching deaf-blind children how to swim. Sometimes it was hard, sometimes it was uncomfortable and sometimes we hated giving up our

weekends. On the flip side we learned sign language and braille, many life skills she taught to her clients, how to catch a bus and we met a wide diversity of people. Most of all she taught us the importance of volunteering and giving back to others. The benefits hit us later in life.

There are so many ways and organizations in our community to donate our time, energy and skills to. The rewards are definitely a thrill and joy to both you and those you provide service to. We'll take a look at the opportunities and benefits in this short presentation - Supporting Your Tribe.

About Meg



After 35 years with a successful career in leadership, sales and service roles while working for corporations that include Xerox Corporation, Ford Motor Company, Atkins Kroll Inc. and Triple J Enterprises, in 2003 it was time to take a leap and follow a passion of the heart. I embraced my entrepreneurial spirit and the desire to have a positive impact in my community by helping others expand into their highest potential and create and claim success in life.

Between coaching, consulting,

training, speaking, and my community involvement with non-profits that include Junior Achievement of Guam, Guam Women's Chamber and Guam Chamber of Commerce, I get to mix business and workforce development and do my part in improving the talent pool here on Guam and the Pacific region.

How do I define success? Having the freedom to live a life I love and doing this based on my values and beliefs so when I die I have no regrets. Simply put, love and happiness.



Committees

Sign up!

We invite you to participate in a GWCC committee! For members, this is a great way to become engaged with the organization and to share your talents.

Membership

- Develops value-added programs and member benefits, including rewarding membership events and member-only discounts through the Affinity Program, and promotes ways to keep members engaged and connected.
- Maintains organization's reputation and relationship with the public.

Chair: Laura Cepeda | lcepeda@gta.net

Education

- Develops educational workshops and knowledge sessions, including surveying members for possible topics of interest.
- Provides business mentorship opportunities and plans professional development seminars, conferences and training.
- Provides access to information that will help women achieve their business goals.
- Implements outreach programs that support the professional and personal development of women and girls in the community.

Chair: Jennifer McFerran | jenniferm@cpkguam.com

Finance / Fundraising

- Assists in managing organization's finances, such as determining allocation of funds.
- Involved in developing fundraising activities and identifying sources of funding, such as grants and donations.

Chair: Michelle Crisostomo | mcrisostomo710@gmail.com

Government

- Tracks, analyzes, evaluates legislative policies and governmental regulations that impact women in all aspects of their social and economic well-being.
- Informs and educates the membership on public and private policies, laws and regulations that affect the establishment of new businesses, and the expansion and sustainment of businesses.
- Makes recommendations to the Board and general membership for proper courses of action to include lobbying public officials, providing written and oral legislative testimonies, participating in roundtable discussions, and providing arenas for debate and discussions.
- Gathers data and statistics that impact women in social, economic and political environments.

Chair: Jayne Flores | jayneflores59@gmail.com

Hot Topics

Solutions



February 5, 2019

Hon. Joe S. San Agustin
Office of Finance & Budget
35th Guam Legislature
Ran Care Bldg., CBU 203
761 S. Marine Corps Drive
Tamuning, Guam 96931

Hafa Adai, Sen. San Agustin,

The majority of members of the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce (GWCC) surveyed are in support of the concept behind Bill 1-35, which proposes to increase the benefit and gross income threshold of the Dave Santos Act of the Guam Code Annotated in order to spur economic growth by providing tax incentives to small business owners. The bill will allow small businesses to reinvest their tax savings through hiring more employees and improving products and services, which will in turn contribute to Guam's overall economy. GWCC understands that if passed into law, this bill is projected to positively impact more than 600 small businesses on our island. The GWCC represents 262 Guam businesses. Two thirds of our business memberships are either individual/sole proprietors or small businesses, so the positive impact of Bill 1-35 to the GWCC membership is substantial. The GWCC also understands that, according to the Bureau of Budget and Management Research, the projected cost of the exemption is only \$1.3 million annually.

A poll of our membership regarding Bill 1-35 produced the following suggested amendments to the proposed legislation:

- For Real Property, the current proposed exemption of the first \$50,000 in rental income helps small business landlords as the \$50,000 limit amounts to \$4,166.67 in monthly rental income, which is a good upper limit for a small business. However, the \$250,000 income threshold proposed is too high, as it will allow a tax break of \$20,833.33 per month for wealthier landlords. The suggested change is to either allow businesses of any type that earn \$100,000 or less to be exempt from paying gross receipts taxes; or lower the upper limit threshold to \$100,000-\$150,000.
- Include gross income from artists and cultural producers in the language of the bill.
- Clarification is needed as the proposed bill has different income thresholds between professional businesses (\$50,000 exemption) and agricultural/aquacultural businesses (\$40,000 exemption) as stated in Section 2, subsection 26203K, Item 37 Article 2, Chapter 26. The GWCC suggests that the agricultural/aquacultural taxable income exemption be equal to that of other types of income proposed in the bill (provided this was not a typo).

The GWCC is concerned about the testimony provided during the public hearing on Jan. 30, 2019 by Guam Economic Development Authority acting administrator Melanie Mendiola that passage of this bill into law without clarifying language, "could be interpreted as expressly violating the Business Privilege Tax bond indenture" of the government of Guam. Ms. Mendiola noted that her agency looks forward to working with your Committee and Bill 1-35's authors to drafting legislation that will provide tax incentives to small businesses without violating the government's bond covenant. The GWCC is in agreement with this stance and urges the Committee and the bill's authors to work with GEDA and the Department of Revenue and Taxation to clarify the bill's language.

The GWCC is in support of measures that provide growth incentives for small businesses on Guam. We stand ready to work with the members of the 35th Guam Legislature to have such measures passed into law, for the benefit of our members and Guam's entire business community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony with regard to Bill 1-35.

Sincerely,
Jayne Flores
Chair, Government Committee
Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce

Highlights

Celebration



The Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 5th Year at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort on December 6, 2018. The event featured a commemorative speech by Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, GWCC's Founding President, keynote speaker and GWCC Past President Siska Hutapea who gave an economic outlook for 2019, industry expert session, launch of Women's Business Center Phase I, GWCC scholarship presentation, pop-up shops, networking, election for 2019 Board of Directors, and the founders of GWCC were recognized at this momentous event. Members also brought toy donations for Transforming Ourselves through Healing, Growth and Enrichment (TOHGE) Inc., a nonprofit organization providing non-clinical peer support for those in substance abuse recovery.



Highlights

Trending

Agueda Iglesias Johnston. Clotilde Gould. Cecilia Bamba. These are just a few of the women in Guam history featured in a brand new book now being produced by Guampedia. Why a book focused on women? The simple answer is that, until 2012 when Guampedia first undertook this project, there were very few profiles of women written in Guam history books and websites. We recognized the need for a more balanced presentation of people that have helped shape the history of our island and Guam society.

With this body of work, Guampedia now presents stories of some of the interesting and fascinating women who have "made their mark" or had some kind of impact on Guam history. We also want to provide a resource that inspires and motivates people to remember and learn from the past, and to collect stories about the important women - and men - in their lives. The hard cover inaugural edition will feature 28 women profiles, four women-centered CHamoru folktales and a series of critical reflections of the role of women by local scholars and professionals. We will be printing 500 books.



Guampedia.com's

MAGA'HAGA TEES

Order online at the Guampedia.com Gift Shop or pick one up at the Guampedia office.

We have two levels of sponsorship opportunities. As we hope this book will be used in our schools we plan to simply say "Sponsored by" followed by sponsor logos. No advertisements will be included. The first level is for two logos that will appear on the book's back cover for \$1,000 each. The women profiled will be presented throughout Guam's seven historical eras, so there will also be seven section sponsors for \$500 each.

With the proceeds from the sale of the book and our "Maga haga t-shirts" we plan to add more stories of Guam's women and men in our island's history to Guampedia's website and future books. Guampedia, Inc. is an independent nonprofit organization established in 2009. The organization is led by a volunteer Board of Directors and a small

staff that maintains the Guampedia website (www.guampedia.com) and organizes its activities.

Our print date is just weeks away - February 14! We plan to present the book during the month of March for Women's History Month, sell the book in our on-line gift shop and in local book stores, and at the 10th Annual CHamoru Festival in San Diego on March 30, 2019. The book will retail for \$25 each.

Please let us know if you are interested in sponsoring this historic book soon. We'd welcome the opportunity to come by and show you the mock up. Just let us know your earliest availability.

Contact Shannon J. Murphy at shannonjm@gmail.com or Rita P. Nauta at rpnauta@gmail.com.

Notes

Our membership consists of a group of dynamic, talented women who are valuable to our mission. We would like to engage with our membership by giving them opportunities to let their brilliant ideas be heard and help us in our pursuit to create an economy that supports women in their professional endeavors.

If you have any suggestions or comments on the newsletter, please contact:

Gerí Leon Guerrero at geri@adztechguam.com

Laura Nelson Cepeda at Icepeda@gta.net

or contact GWCC at 646-3246 • ed@guamwcc.com

Thank you Adztech & Public Relations, Inc. for the concept, design, layout, delivery and pick up of our 2019 GWCC newsletter!

ADZTECH