What a remarkable year for the PATA Micronesia Chapter! As 2018 comes to a close, I reflect back on the many milestones the Chapter has accomplished to date. From the growth of our membership to the tri-annual meetings and educational training workshops to our Chapter website and to the many international awards we have received among many others, we should all be very proud of how far we’ve come.

The successes of the Chapter and the region would not be at all possible without the members that make up the organization and the countless contributions each and every one of you have made and continue to make.

"The Chapter's work does not stop here..."

We will forge ahead and accomplish more of our goals as I pass the torch onto new leadership for 2019 to 2020.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your PATA Micronesia Chapter Chairwoman for the past four years. I hold each and every one of you near and dear to my heart. In closing, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May 2019 continue to bring us all success, happiness and blessings. From the bottom of my heart, Un Dangkalu na Si Yu'os Ma'åse!
Guam Visitors Bureau & Marianas Visitors Authority Win 2018 PATA Gold Awards

- GVB won for their Social Media Marketing Campaign, #instaGuam
- MVA won for their Education & Training Tour Guide Certification Program, "The Official Marianas Guide"

Educational Trainings

In collaboration with the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN) and United Airlines, the Chapter held the following trainings:
- Readiness Training and Export Training 101 by the Pacific Islands Export University based out of Hawaii - location: GUAM
- Hospitality Industry Customer Service Training by Mr. Roy Abraham, former General Manager of the Pacific Star Resort & Spa Guam - location: CHUUK

UPCOMING TRAINING

Mrs. Tes Reyes-Burrier of the Lotte Hotel on Guam will be conducting a Hospitality Customer Service Training while her husband, Assistant Fire Chief, Mr. Daren Burrier of the Guam Fire Department, will be holding a First Aid, CPR and AED training.

See page 3 for more information
Chapter Membership has grown and continues to grow!
Free Training
by PATA Micronesia

First Aid, CPR, and AED
Presented by Daren D. Burrier

Customer Service
Presented by Tes Reyes-Burrier

WHERE:
Palau Community College Training Rooms
Ibokill & Continuing Ed.

Click Here to register!
For more information, contact Sharrise Ngiraked at
PVA @ 488-1930/2793 or Palau SBDC @ 587-6004
or visit our website at pacificsbd.com

Free Training
Registration Required

WHEN:
Thursday,
December 27, 2018

Morning Sessions
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Afternoon Sessions
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Disclaimer: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Alfia Alfoeso, P.O. Box 816, Ngeltik, Airai 96940 Tel: (680) 587-6004, or Email palausbdc@pacificsbdc.com. Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.
Formerly known as the New Tourism Frontiers Forum, the PATA Destination Marketing Forum gathers the top minds in destination travel for inspiring and insightful discussions on some of the major issues in marketing and managing tourism growth to lesser-known destinations.

The PATA ATRTCM is Asia Pacific’s leading travel trade event dedicated to the adventure travel industry. At this three-day event, you will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with adventure buyers and sellers, discuss travel industry issues and opportunities and so much more!

The PATA Annual Summit brings together international thought leaders, industry shapers and senior decision-makers who are professionally engaged with the Asia Pacific region. The Summit embraces a global forum for enhancing the sustainable growth, value and quality of tourism.

The PATA Travel Mart is Asia-Pacific’s worldwide travel trade exhibition featuring unparalleled networking and contracting opportunities to help travel and tourism organizations access decision makers, meet new clients, expand their networks, establish new relationships and consolidate existing business partnerships.

### PATA REGIONAL EVENTS

**GUAM**

- **Shop Guam**
  March 1 - December 31, 2019
- **7th Annual United Guam Marathon**
  April 14, 2019
- **Guam Micronesia Island Fair**
  May 1-5, 2019
- **Guam BBQ Block Party**
  July 6, 2019

**PALAU**

- **Airai Bai Launch**
  April 2019
- **Night Market**
  Monthly - 2019
- **KONQER Sports**
  November 2019

**POHNEPI**

- **Pohnpei FSM Cultural Day**
  March 2019
- **Pohnpei Women International Day**
  March 8, 2019
- **World Food Day**
  Date: TBD

**CHUUK**

- **Northern Nomoneas Region Games**
  Ongoing
- **75th Anniversary of Operation Hailstone**
  February 2019

**RMI**

- **One Island One Project**
  Picnic Flights Re-launch
- **Tourism Hospitality Training**
  Dates: TBD
The chart shows the breakdown of the top 10 pages that were visited on the MicronesiaTour.com website from January 1 - November 30, 2018.

As you can see, there is significant interest in how to get to Micronesia and the Visa requirements in order to visit Micronesia.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

We need more information about your island destinations. Help us help you by sharing as much information as you can as often as you can.

UPDATES@GUAMWEBZ.COM

THE 2019 EDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME IS NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

The Executive Development Institute for Tourism (EDIT) programme will take place at the School of Travel Industry Management (TIM), University of Hawaii at Manoa, in Honolulu, Hawaii on April 22 - May 3, 2019.

The PATA Foundation is currently seeking applications for the 2019 PATA Foundation EDIT Scholarship. This coming year, the PATA Foundation will award two scholarships - one full scholarship valued at US$3,395, and one partial scholarship valued at US$1,605 for two worthy participants. This scholarship covers tuition fees only.

To be eligible to apply for either of the above mentioned scholarships, the requesting organisation must be a PATA International member in good standing, and the proposed candidate should hold an executive position.

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates must submit the following:
1. A brief essay of 250 words on why you wish to attend the programme, and a brief overview of your future career plans
2. An updated curriculum vitae
3. An official sponsor recommendation letter from your organisation guaranteeing the remainder of the programme costs
4. A completed EDIT application form
5. Completed applications should be sent via email to the PATA Foundation at info@PATAFoundation.org

ENTRY DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2019
Mr. Hirobo Obeketang named Exequatur to the Honorary
Consul of the Republic of Palau to the Republic of the Marshall
Islands

On December 5, 2018 President Dr. Hilda C. Heine presented a Letter of Exequatur to the Honorary Consul of the
Republic of Palau to the RMI, Hirobo Obeketang at the Cabinet Conference Room. The Letter of Exequatur, signifies
the authority for Mr. Obeketang to exercise his functions and carry out the duties of his office.

President Dr. Hilda C. Heine wished success to Honorary Consul Obeketang. She noted that he is the third Honorary
Consul for Palau. She is confident that the appointment will deepen the bilateral relations between the RMI and
Palau.

Witnessing the occasion were President Heine, members of Cabinet, officials from President’s Office and Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, staff of Marshall Islands Resort, and family and close friends.

Visitor Arrival Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Calendar Year To Date (CYTD) Jan. 1, 2018 - Nov. 30, 2018</th>
<th>Calendar Year To Date (CYTD) Jan. 1, 2018 - Nov. 30, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GUAM</strong></td>
<td>1,367,240</td>
<td>1,528,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PALAU</strong></td>
<td>93,421</td>
<td>115,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POHNPETI</strong></td>
<td>6,094</td>
<td>8,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHUUK</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td>5,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RMI</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td>8,675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GREAT NEWS!
The FSM has implemented a new database system to track visitor arrivals. Counting for CYTD and FYTD is still ongoing for many of the islands including Chuuk, Kosrae, Yap and RMI.
Meet your new Board of Directors!

Stephanie Nakamura  
Chairwoman

Pilar Laguña  
Immediate Past Chairwoman

Paula Monk  
Vice Chairwoman

Mark Manglona  
Treasurer

Marstella Jack  
Secretary

Perdus Ehsa Jr.  
Alternate Board Member
Meet your new Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs!

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Lori DeBrum
Chairwoman

Luciano Abrabam
Vice Chairman

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Lou Aguon-Schulte
Chairwoman

Victoria Blas-Toves
Vice Chairwoman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Denise Mendiola
Chairwoman

Don Evans
Vice Chairman

CULTURAL, HERITAGE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Rita Nauta
Chairwoman

Sandra Okada
Vice Chairwoman

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Judy Torres
Chairwoman

Catherine Perry
Vice Chairwoman
The PATA Micronesia Chapter Board of Directors would like to wish you all a very **Merry Christmas** and a prosperous **New Year**!

Happy holidays!