[8:00 am, 28/07/2022] Eduardo Silva T. da Silva:

My Rotary experience started in 1970 when old Acconci invited me to a few Rotary dinners and proposed me as a member, and I started learning to follow the motto “Service above Self “and pay attention to the “4 Way Test“ in my daily life.

The club at that time was mostly Past Presidents, old Macau China hands with very interesting backgrounds and famous local families. Some of them were very wealthy but shy as the club, already 25 years old, didn’t have a Paul Harris Fellow. So in '74 as the Club President, I decided to break the ‘shyness’ mould and became a Paul Harris Fellow with the club now entitled to the Rotary Foundation’s support.

Our old friend Alfredo Ritchie became an exchange student in Australia and graduated as a specialist doctor, later on, he joined the Paul Harris Fellows together with his wife Anabela.

Our Rotarian Ade’ Santos Ferreira and his patois poetry also gave good fun to the Club and helped keep the patois alive as a Macau heritage.

During my tenure as President 74-75, the Club survived gracefully the Carnation Revolution going on in Portugal even with diverse political colours among our Rotarians.

At the time I also started visiting many overseas clubs. First in HK then in Scotland, England, Portugal, Japan, France, Botswana etc. learning and living the world solidarity the Rotary promotes.

At the Edinburgh Rotary Clubs during the Fringe Festivals in August and over the years I have also developed good friendships in the local Art field. I am very close with the Rotary Club of Chiang Mai North in Thailand, who have also visited us in Macau.

The Macau Rotary Club, we must note that in the old days, participated with good support to China, building schools and other projects in need.

 I believe world peace greatly benefits from Rotary and similar organisations, that promote the values and good positive action around all nations of the planet.

Through the Cambridge Rotary clubs, I became acquainted with Rotarians dealing with the science parks and technology centres in the UK. That, later on, helped Macau and HK develop the local technology field including the MUST-Macau University of science and technology, HK technology centre and science park etc.

The Westin/ Coloane Grand resort was started as a joint venture put together between a Rotarian friend from HK and Dr Stanley Ho.

The Macau Business Center 1975- 2000 was based on Service above self as a tool for Macau Development, a concept until then not existing in the world.

Past President Eduardo Silva T. da Silva