

Issue 19 Special Edition

Rotary Year 2013-2014

Nicosia Hilton Hotel
Mondays 13:15 – 14:30



POLIO FUNDRAISING DINNER 19 JANUARY 2014

Presidential Palace Nicosia, Cyprus

PP/PAG Iacovos Constantinides
Director Rotary Foundation Committee



ROTARY CLUB OF NICOSIA-LEFKOTHEA
DISTRICT 2452 - CLUB 25065

Weekly Bulletin

CYPRUS ROTARY GIVES HOPE FOR A POLIO FREE LIFE TO 60 THOUSAND CHILDREN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION
2. THE EVENT
3. REVENUE
4. PUBLICITY
5. ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES AND LOGISTICS
6. CONCLUSIONS

LIST OF APPENDICES

- APPENDIX 1: Speech by Stavros Agrotis President R.C Nicosia Lefkothea
APPENDIX 2: Message from Ron Burton President of Rotary International
APPENDIX 3: Key note Speech by DG Jamil Mouawad
APPENDIX 4: Address by H.E. the President of the Republic of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiades
APPENDIX 5: Video 1
APPENDIX 6: Video 2
APPENDIX 7: Video 3
APPENDIX 8: Slide Show
APPENDIX 9: Program and Menu
APPENDIX 10: Invitation
APPENDIX 11: Video Ceremonial Part
APPENDIX 12: Total Income and Donation by Club
APPENDIX 13: TV News Coverage Antena
APPENDIX 14: TV News Coverage RIK 1
APPENDIX 15: TV Coverage Mega
APPENDIX 16: TC Interview Ant1
APPENDIX 17: Pictures from the event
APPENDIX 18: Sitting Arrangement
APPENDIX 19: Master of Ceremonies Script
APPENDIX 20: Visuals for M. of S. Script
APPENDIX 21: Interview Governor Politis
APPENDIX 22: Sample Press Clippings
APPENDIX 23: Rotaract Nicosia “this close” project
APPENDIX 24: Contribution of Cyprus Rotary for Polio to date
APPENDIX 25: Polio Presentation Cyprus Assembly November 2013

CYPRUS ROTARY GIVES HOPE FOR A POLIO FREE LIFE TO 60 THOUSAND CHILDREN

1. INTROCUCTION

The fundraising dinner organized by the Rotary Club Nicosia Lefkothea in cooperation with all 19 Cyprus Rotary Clubs in support of the efforts of the Rotary Foundation to eradicate Polio, was a great success.

The event, which took place on the 19th of January 2014 at the Presidential Palace, was under the auspices of his Excellency the President of Republic of Cyprus Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, who honoured the event with his presence, accompanied by the First Lady Mrs. Andri Anastasiades. The event was also attended by H.E. the Ambassador of Lebanon to Cyprus Dr. Youssef Sadaka, the Governor of District 2452 Jamil Mouawad and his wife Patricia, R.I Zone Coordinator PDG Doros Jeropoulos and his wife Elise, DDG Christina Covotsou and her spouse P.P. Patroclos Patroclou, as well as all Cypriot PDG and the Cyprus Rotary Leadership. In total 299 Rotarians, Rotaractors, spouses and guests attended the dinner.

The main objectives of the event were:

- To create awareness and enhance Rotary's image by publicizing the great achievements of the Rotary Foundation and its partners in the effort to completely eradicate Polio from the face of the earth
- To educate Rotarians about the activities and achievements of the Rotary Foundation
- To strengthen the fellowship among Cypriot Rotarians coming from different clubs, who through their cooperation for for the success of the event would realize that cooperation leads to bigger and better projects.
- To support the efforts of the Rotary Foundation to eradicate Polio by donating the net proceeds of the event for this noble cause.

2. THE EVENT

The event opened with a welcoming address on behalf of the organizers, by the President of the Nicosia Lefkothea Rotary Club Mr. Stavros Agrotis (**Appendix 1**).

Rotary International Zone 20B Coordinator and Past District Governor Doros Ieropoulos read the message specially sent for the event by the President of Rotary International Mr. Ron Burton (**Appendix 2**). President Burton addressing Cypriot Rotarians stressed:

“Not only are you helping to eradicate Polio through your fundraising, you are enhancing Rotary's image in Cyprus through this event”.

The Trustee of the Rotary Foundation Sam Owori also sent a special message to the event.

The significant contribution over the past three decades of Rotary International in the global crusade to eradicate Polio was eloquently covered in the key note speech delivered by Governor Jamil Mouawad of District 2452 (**Appendix 3**).

In summary DG Mouawad explained that:

Polio is a crippling and paralyzing disease which attacks the nervous system and leads to paralysis or even death. It may infect persons of any age but children under the age of five are more vulnerable. There is no cure for Polio but it can be eradicated by mass immunization of children until transmission stops.

The first systematic efforts to eradicate Polio started in 1985, when Rotary launched “Polio Plus,” the first and largest internationally coordinated private-sector support of a public health initiative, with an initial pledge of \$120 million. Within three years, Rotarians had raised more than double their goal. More than 125 countries were at that time polio-endemic. The disease crippled an estimated 350,000 children every year.

Meeting the challenge, the UN-hosted World Health Assembly in 1988 passed a resolution to eradicate polio, setting up the launch of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The fight to end polio brought together Rotary International, UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and governments of the world, with the support of many other philanthropists around the globe.

Since then, polio has been reduced by 99 percent. Millions of people are now walking who would have been paralyzed. The disease remains endemic in only three countries - Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria - and fewer than 250 children were paralyzed last year. The investment of \$9 billion has been critical to this success.

The Governor underlined that the re-emergence of Polio incidents in Syria last year, a country so close to our District (in fact a country that used to be in the past in our District) is a clear warning that we should not decrease our efforts until the complete eradication of Polio.

To date, Rotary has contributed more than one billion dollars and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. The finish line is in sight. But it is one thing to see it; it is another to cross it. Rotarians are determined to do whatever it takes to eradicate polio once and for all. Rotary and its Partners have recently announced the End Game Strategic plan aiming to totally eradicate Polio by 2018 with an estimated budget of 5.5 billion US dollars.

The ceremonial part of the event climaxed with the pinning twice of President Anastasiades as a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Clubs of Limassol and Nicosia Lefkothea. The Paul Harris Fellowship award which bears the name of the founder of Rotary, is the highest recognition awarded to Non Rotarians. It is designated as a tribute to a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives of Rotary and its Foundation.

In his acceptance speech President Anastasiades praised the Rotarians for their achievements in the campaign to eradicate Polio but also for their humanitarian work in Cyprus. Addressing the audience the President of the Republic stated:

“You should all feel proud of being Rotarians and belong to an organization that aims to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty. I fully and wholeheartedly share your mission,”

and committed himself to convey the message for the eradication of Polio to world leaders. Moreover President Anastasiades praised the Cyprus Rotary movement for its achievement to unite Greek and Turkish Cypriot Rotarians under the same roof. The full text of H.E. President Anastasiades speech is presented in **Appendix 4**.

END POLIO NOW

The ceremonial part of the event was enriched with the airing of three Rotary International Promotional Videos which were displayed on a large screen (**Appendices 5-7**) as well as a specially prepared slide show containing pictures from International and Cypriot celebrities doing the “this close” sign as well as, pictures from the “illuminate a building campaign” (**Appendix 8**).

End Polio Now pins as well as Rotary International Brochures on Polio were distributed to all participants.

Space was allocated at the entrance hall of the function room to the Nicosia Rotaract club to display posters of their Cyprus Celebrities “this close” campaign. The Rotaractors also took advantage of the presence of Rotarians and guests and made their own fundraising activity by inviting everybody to take their own “this close” picture in front of a specially prepared background.

After the completion of the ceremonial part, the event continued with a formal 5 course meal which all participants thoroughly enjoyed. The programme and menu of the event are attached in **Appendix 9** and the special invitation for the event in **Appendix 10**. According to Rotary Protocol toasts were made to the health of:

- The President of the Republic of Cyprus
- The President of the Republic of Lebanon
- The President of Rotary International
- The District Governor of District 2452

Maestro and Pianist Yiannis Hadjiloizou entertained the participants with instrumental music at the piano.

A video of the ceremonial part is hereby attached as **Appendix 11**.

1. REVENUE

The total income from the event was €15,925 and expenses were €9,925 Euros. Most of the income came from the sale of tickets for the event which amounted to €14,620 and the remaining €1,305 from donations and sponsorships. The largest sponsorship was received from the Axia Venture Capital Ltd. Additional Sponsorships or Donations were received from the Rotary Clubs of Nicosia Lefkothea and Limassol Berengaria as well as from the Cyprus Rotary Fund. The organizers would like to thank maestro and pianist Yiannis Hadjiloizou, Photos Photiades Distributors, Cassoulides Printers and Cleopatra Hotel for offering their products and/or services either free, or at a discounted price. The Net Income from the event which amounts to €6,000 will be donated to Rotary International to support its campaign to eradicate Polio. This symbolic donation will be made in the name of each participating club according to its share of contribution towards the income of the event. For further analysis of income and expenses as well as the breakdown of the amount to be donated in the name of each participating club please see **Appendix 12**.

2. PUBLICITY

The event attracted unprecedented publicity for Rotary and was covered by mass media both printed and electronic. Press Releases were circulated prior to the event and immediately after the event. The event was covered by 3 national TV Stations in their prime time news coverage (see **Appendices 13-15**). President Stavros Agrotis and Chairman of the Foundation Committee PP/PAG Jacovos Constantinides of the Nicosia Lefkothea Rotary Club, gave a 15 minute TV interview in one of

END POLIO NOW

the national TV stations (**Appendix 16**). District Governor Jamil Mouawad gave interviews to national newspapers and English Language TV stations (**Appendix 21**). Most newspapers and electronic media covered the event with articles both prior and after the event (**Appendix 22**). Moreover the event generated significant interest in the Social Media. Many Rotarians and Rotaractors posted on their Facebook timeline relevant articles and pictures from the event. The full set of pictures from the event is attached in **Appendix 17**.

1. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES AND LOGISTICS

The idea to organize a high profile event on Polio was born back in July 2013 following a presentation given at a club meeting which was subsequently repeated at the Cyprus National Assembly in October, in the presence of the Cyprus Rotary Leadership and representatives from all Cyprus Rotary Clubs.

Our primary objective was to design an event, preferably to be implemented in November (which is Rotary Foundation month according to the Rotary Calendar) which would give us the opportunity to enhance the image of the Rotary Foundation in Cyprus by presenting one of its greatest achievements, the campaign to eradicate Polio. We immediately realized that for such an event to be successful we had to put it under the auspices of H.E. the President of the Republic, locate it at the Presidential Palace and secure the presence of a celebrity speaker either the District Governor or a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation.

Unfortunately the President could not commit for a date in November but despite his busy schedule we managed to obtain a date in January to coincide with the planned visit of the District Governor in Cyprus for his meetings with the Nicosia Clubs.

As soon as we had the final confirmation of the date from the President of the Republic we started the planning of the event utilizing Rotarians not only from our club but from as many clubs as possible.

We immediately formed an executive organizing committee which was comprised by:

President Stavros Agrotis (R.C. Nicosia Lefkothea)
DDG Christina Covotsou (R.C Limassol Berengaria)
PP/PAG Iacovos Constantinides (R.C. Nicosia Lefkothea)
Rot Petros Petrides (Treasurer R.C Nicosia Lefkothea)

The executive committee had the primary responsibility to design and coordinate all aspects of the event, utilizing resources of the host club but has but has also drawn resources from many other clubs as follows:

Public Relations/Entertainment: PAG Elena Tannou (R.C Nicosia Aspelia)
IT and Technical Support: AG Evagoras Phylactou R.C. (Limassol Kourion)
Master of Ceremonies: PDDG Themis Themistocleous (R.C. Nicosia Salamis)
Catering: Inner Wheeler Christiana Iacovidou Constantinidou
Rotary Protocol: PDG Doros Jeropoulos (R.C. Limassol Amathusia)
Support: AG Litsa Aresti (R.C. Nicosia Salamis)
AG Maria Christopoullou (R.C. Nicosia)
In. P. Emilios Tannousis (R.C Nicosia Lefkothea)
Sec. Charalambos Kouzalis (R.C. Nicosia Lefkothea)
P. Niovi Georgiade (Rotaract Club Nicosia)

END POLIO NOW

The organizing committee must acknowledge the contribution of all Assistant Governors who undertook to promote the event in their respective clubs and distribute and monitor the sale of tickets. Of course the event would not have been successful without the enthusiastic support by all club presidents. As a result we had participation at the event from 299 Rotarians, Rotaractors and guests coming from 16 out of the 19 Cyprus Rotary Clubs.

A special acknowledgement is due to DDG Christina Covotsou Patroclou who has embraced the project from its infancy and backed it up all the way to completion. Her involvement was instrumental in promoting the project to all Cyprus Clubs and in securing the participation of the DG as well as during the design, coordination and implementation stages of the project.

1. CONCLUSIONS

The event was a great success. All objectives set at the planning stages of the event were accomplished:

- The image of the Rotary International has been greatly enhanced due to the publicity generated from the event. Locating the event at the Presidential Palace, securing the presence of H.E. the President of the Republic at the event and inviting the District Governor to deliver the Key note speech automatically made the event media worthy.
- The publicity generated by the event increased public awareness about the leading role of Rotary in the global crusade to eradicate polio.
- The cooperation of Rotarians coming from different clubs in the organization and implementation of the project has demonstrated that by cooperating together Rotarians can achieve more and that therefore they must strive for more projects jointly organized at a national or even district level with the participation of all Cyprus Rotary Clubs. The assignment by the organizing committee of duties and responsibilities to expert Rotarians irrespective of club origination and the decision to share the revenues according to the contribution of each club was instrumental in creating a sense of common purpose and common ownership of the event by all clubs.
- The accomplishment of bringing together 299 Rotarians, spouses and guests was fundamental in promoting fellowship among Cypriot Rotarians who rarely have the opportunity to participate in a Cyprus National Rotary event.
- Despite the fact that the primary objective of the event was Rotary Awareness and not Fundraising, an amount of €6,000 (or US (\$) 8,200) was raised which will be donated to the Rotary Foundation in support of its efforts to eradicate polio. Even though this amount is a drop in the ocean when compared to the total needs of the End Polio Now campaign, it is noticeable for a small country like Cyprus especially when one considers that the total contribution of Cyprus Rotary for Polio to date has been US (\$) 54,500 and that this donation was accomplished by a single event despite the consequences of the financial crisis Cyprus is currently experiencing.

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An overview of the event



President R.C Limassol Thasos Kyriakides, HE President of the Republic Nicos Anastasiades and President R.C Nicosia Lefkothea Stavros Agrotis following the double Paul Harris Pinning of President Anastasiades

END POLIO NOW



H.E President Anastasiades with DG Jamil Mouawad, DDG Christina Covotsou Patroclou and the four Cypriot PDGs.



Private Meeting H.E. the President of the Republic Nicos Anastasiades with District Governor Jamil Mouawad and the organisers of the event

END POLIO NOW



Master of Ceremonies T. Themisticleous



P. Stavros Agrotis



PDG Doros Jeropoulos



DG Jamil Mouawad



H.E. President Nicos Anastasiades



We are "this close"!



Overview of the event



Overview of the event

Cyprus Rotary/District 2452



END POLIO NOW



INDIA MARKS THREE YEARS WITHOUT A CASE OF POLIO.



TAKE ACTION: endpolionow.org

175

MILLION CHILDREN IMMUNIZED IN EVERY NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAY CAMPAIGN IN INDIA.



TAKE ACTION: endpolionow.org

Παρουσίες Μελών Ομίλου

Ιανουαρίου/14		ATTENDANCE					Meetings: 3		
MEMBERS		6/1av	13/1av	19/1av	27/1av	CARD	TOTAL	Monthly %	YTD %
1	Achilleoudis Christodoulos			1	1	1	3	100,0%	100,0%
2	Agrotis Stavros		1	1	1		3	100,0%	100,0%
3	Andreou Peter						0	0,0%	6,7%
4	Christou Mylona Avgi						0	0,0%	0,0%
5	Constantinides Iacovos		1	1	1		3	100,0%	100,0%
6	Constantinou Paris			1	1	1	3	100,0%	70,0%
7	Costa Mikis					1	1	33,3%	6,7%
8	Costeas Theodoros			1		2	3	100,0%	36,7%
9	Georgiou Glafkos		1	1	1		3	100,0%	95,0%
10	Ierodionou Kyriacos						0	0,0%	0,0%
11	Epaminonda Chrysanthi			1		2	3	100,0%	43,3%
12	Jacovides Sotos			1		2	3	100,0%	51,7%
13	Kallis Christos		1	1		1	3	100,0%	25,0%
14	Kanari Popi (Ms)			1		2	3	100,0%	48,3%
15	Karis Phidias		1	1	1		3	100,0%	68,3%
16	Kittis Stathis						0	0,0%	0,0%
17	Klerides Takis		1		1	1	3	100,0%	66,7%
18	Koufaris George			1		1	2	66,7%	45,0%
19	Koumenides Andreas			1		1	2	66,7%	45,0%
20	Koutselini - Ioannidou Mary (Ms)				1		1	33,3%	16,7%
21	Kouzalis Charalambos		1	1		1	3	100,0%	93,3%
22	Michaelides Christos			1		1	2	66,7%	13,3%
23	Michaelides Nicos		1	1		1	3	100,0%	78,3%
24	Michaelides Polis		1	1	1		3	100,0%	68,3%
25	Mouskis Titos			1		1	2	66,7%	13,3%
26	Natar Victoria (Ms)		1	1	1		3	100,0%	61,7%
27	Nicolaidis Panicos		1	1		1	3	100,0%	88,3%
28	Papanicolaou Katerina			1		2	3	100,0%	25,0%
29	Pattihis Loukis						0	0,0%	0,0%
30	Petrides Costas						0	0,0%	0,0%
31	Petrides Petros		1	1		1	3	100,0%	75,0%
32	Philippou Christos		1	1		1	3	100,0%	35,0%
33	Poullou Kyriaki (Rica)						0	0,0%	5,0%
34	Psimolophitis George		1	1		1	3	100,0%	93,3%
35	Roussias George						0	0,0%	0,0%
36	Savvides Savvas		1	1		1	3	100,0%	80,0%
37	Siman Paul		1			1	2	66,7%	55,0%
38	Stylianou Th. Petros					1	1	33,3%	6,7%
39	Stylianou N. Petros			1		2	3	100,0%	83,3%
40	Tanousis Emilios		1	1		1	3	100,0%	100,0%
41	Taoushanis Takis			1		1	2	66,7%	43,3%
		0	17	28	10	32	87	70,7%	47,4%

Club Committee Plan 2013-2014

