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Message from the President

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I hope my email finds you well in health. I also hope you had a pleasant summer break with your family and friends and charged your batteries.

August, being the month of vacation, has been relatively relaxed. We reconvened as a Club on 24th August in a pleasant fellowship evening and utilized the next week for internal preparatory work for the Committees.

The Rotarian year for our Club continues with a full calendar of activities and events in a mission to meet the objectives of our Strategic plan for the year. The Annual Program of events is being finalized and will reach you soon. The majority of the events will be physical, COVID-19 permitting. As a Board, we strongly encourage your active participation in all the initiatives, as this will give us the strength to continue. September continues with three interesting activities mentioned further in our Newsletter. We hope to see you all!

At the same time, we continue the effort in specifying the hero service project for the year as a Club. We aim to have soon the respective announcements. Our effort will be supported by fund raising activities.

In this issue we share some good news on the Cyprus Rotary Fire Relief Project and the new project Cyprus Rotary is undertaking: The "Beehive project".

Last but not least, August is the month of Membership. Please help in spreading the word about Rotary and invite friends in joining our family.

With Warm Rotarian Regards,



Yiannis Tomasides
President 2021-2022

2. Fellowship at Hugo Bar - 24 August 2021

On the 24th of August 2021 the first fellowship event for the Rotarian Year 2021-22 took place at the Hugo Bar in Engomi, Nicosia. A significant number of our club members were present and enjoyed the company of fellow Rotarians, in a relaxed atmosphere. President Yiannis Tomasides welcomed everyone and announced the events planned for the month of September.

As it can be seen from the pictures that follow, fellow Rotarians enjoyed a pleasant evening with good finger food and spirits and had the opportunity to catch-up with long-time friends.







3. Upcoming events (September 2021)

A full schedule of activities has been planned for September:

| | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| Tue | 07 | <p>A Board meeting with a full Agenda. Online via ZOOM. Time: 6:30 PM.</p> <p><i>Note: The first Tuesday of each month is dedicated to Board</i></p> |
| Tue | 14 | <p>Fellowship at Spileo tavern in Deftera village. A farewell to the summer period through a nice outing with grilled meze & cypriot spirits. Spouses/ partners are welcome! Time: 8:00 PM. Fee: 22 Euros.</p> |
| Tue | 21 | <p>An online ZOOM event with Mrs. Anna Koukkides-Procopiou, Senior Fellow, Member of Advisory Board Center for European and International Affairs-University of Nicosia, as a guest speaker on the Afghanistan political issues. Time: 6:30 PM.</p> |
| Tue | 28 | <p>A physical meeting with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Constantinos Petrides, as a guest speaker on the Cyprus' Recovery and Resilience Plan on 28/09/202. Venue & time: Semeli hotel, 1 PM. Fee: 25 Euros with lunch meal.</p> |

4. Month of August: Membership and New Club Development Month



Membership Minute

August 2021

Ideas for strengthening membership



Membership and New Club Development Month

August is Membership and New Club Development Month, a time to recognize our members and the incredible work they do locally and globally. In 2021, many Rotarians around the world are working together to curb the pandemic through vaccination drives. After a long year of uncertainty, hope is on the horizon.

Membership Month is a great time to introduce friends and colleagues to the family of Rotary. Here are just a few ideas on how to attract new members and keep them engaged:

Learn about [strategies for attracting new members](#) in this online course in the Learning Center. (A My Rotary account is required.) The course highlights ways to interest prospective members and showcase your club's strengths.

Because of the pandemic, many clubs have started meeting exclusively online. The [Engaging Online Meetings page](#) has many useful tips and stories on virtual engagement. Take the [Best Practices for Engaging Members](#) online course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.

Is your club healthy? Find out by taking this [online course](#), which will help your club improve its member experience, service and social events, public image, and club operations. And don't forget to address your club's challenges! Answer a few questions in the [Club Planning Assistant](#) to get solutions that are tailored to the issues you are facing.

Find more [membership resources](#) in My Rotary.

Introducing the Membership Society for New Member Sponsors

Rotary recently announced a new recognition program called the Membership Society for New Member Sponsors, to recognize members who demonstrate extraordinary commitment to sharing the gift of Rotary with others.

A new [virtual gallery](#) on My Rotary honors members who have sponsored a total of 25 or more new members.

Rotary adopts new diversity, equity, and inclusion statement

To ensure that our organization values and lives the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), the RI Board of Directors, with guidance from the DEI Task Force, strengthened the organization's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement. Read the [updated commitment](#) and learn more about our efforts to ingrain diversity, equity, and inclusion into our culture to improve the membership experience for current and future Rotarians, Rotaractors, and the family of Rotary.

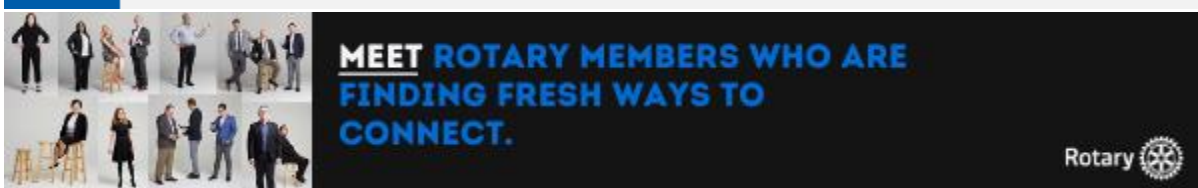
Engaging your club's newest members

At the beginning of each Rotary year, many clubs welcome new members. Because members are most likely to leave Rotary in their first few years of membership, it's important to engage them right away. Pair them with a Rotary mentor, learn about their interests, and involve them in club activities. To complement your efforts, Rotary will send a series of email messages to

members in their first year to tell them about opportunities to get involved in Rotary beyond their clubs. The messages will mention resources such as Rotary Basics and include information about Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Action Groups, and The Rotary Foundation. Together, let's make sure members have a fulfilling Rotary experience!

2020-21 in review

Though the last Rotary year had its challenges, we have many achievements to be proud of. Take a look at what we did during 2020-21 in General Secretary John Hewko's [report to the convention](#).



Each One Be a Role Model

Each of us was given an extraordinary gift when we were proposed for membership in Rotary. Consider extending the same gift to other qualified people who could benefit from Rotary and help Rotary increase its impact. [Find out](#) how a chance encounter between a Rotarian and prospective member inspired RI Director Elizabeth Usovicz to share the gift of Rotary.

Growing Rotary through membership leads

As an assistant governor, K.R. Parthasarathy managed to help establish four Rotaract clubs and one Rotary club while following up on membership leads assigned to District 3150. These efforts brought more than 400 members to Rotary. [Read about](#) how he achieved this.

More inspiring and enlightening stories

- [New style clubs for a new Rotary future](#)
- [How we grew our club by saying no to domestic violence](#)
- [Why DEI is the right thing for Rotary](#)

Learn about the 2021-2022 Presidential Initiatives



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Membership Minute is a bimonthly newsletter that provides the latest membership trends, strategies, best practices, and resources to help strengthen membership in your clubs. The newsletter is sent to Rotary coordinators, district governors, district membership chairs, club membership chairs, club presidents and subscribers. Please forward this to anyone who may be interested.

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5. Update on the Cyprus Rotary Fire Relief Project

On August 26th, 2021, our Deputy District Governor (DDG) Peter Ashdjan informed our Club via email about the success of the efforts of Cyprus Rotary to secure approval from the Rotary Foundation for a Disaster Response Grant to implement the irrigation infrastructure project of Ora and other nearby villages for the amount \$25.000. This money will suffice to fund the entire project.

As result, Cyprus Rotary and its Rotary Clubs are now turning into a related project: The **“Beehive project”**. About this project: In collaboration with the Odou community, Cyprus Rotary will create the first Bee Artificial Insemination laboratory Centre in Cyprus which will be able to cover the beehive losses from the deadly fires in July. From the area's 2.000 beehives, 1.350 were destroyed and more that 100 million bees died. This center will be able to produce high quality bees and analyze the honey to maintain and produce better qualities. The budget of the project is estimated to be between EUR 30-50K. More information will follow soon.

Below is the respective email received by our DDG:

Subject: Disaster Response Grant Approval from the Rotary Foundation.

Date: 26 August 2021

Dear PDGs, PDDGs, AGs, Country Officers, Presidents fellow Rotarians,

I am overwhelmed with pride and joy because our efforts as Cyprus Rotary, to secure approval from the Rotary Foundation for a Disaster Response Grant to implement the irrigation infrastructure project of Ora and other nearby villages has been approved and we have been allocated \$25.000. This money will suffice to fund the entire project.

The project primarily entails the restoration and where necessary the replacement of damaged or destroyed by the fire, hosing and piping that takes water from nearby springs to a water reservoir and from the reservoir to the villages. The total piping is approximately 2 km long. Additional repairs to the reservoir and the purchase of tools and equipment are also included.

My team and I are ready to give any information concerning the operations that will be undertaken in the upcoming days.

I need from the outset to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of RRFC Z21B PDG Christina who has been instrumental in making and processing the relevant application and using her persuasive attributes to secure the approval.

Cyprus Rotary would also like to extend their appreciation and thanks to DG Ashot Karapetyan and DFC Michel Jazzar for their support to the application and of course to the Rotary Foundation for its approval, through Amal Qureshi, the Disaster Response Grants Coordinator.

Also, our appreciation is extended to PAG and Head of the Country Environmental Committee Nicos Nicolaou, PP Yioula Michaelidou and the Community Leader of Platers Panagiotis Papadopoulos for their support during our visits to the communities.

This achievement is what demonstrates that Rotarians are People of Action, and we should take full advantage of the project implementation to publicise our work.

In this respect, your cooperation through your club's website and social media will be required, when the time comes and under the guidance of our Public Image Director Demetris Pantazis, and we shall appreciate a concerted effort by all clubs.

By way of information/reminder you are all aware of the unprecedented huge and deadly fire at the foothills of Troodos Mountains which affected 10 villages in the Limassol and Larnaca Districts.

The fire left behind 4 people dead, destroyed homes, plantations, vegetation and caused infrastructure damage to all 10 villages. Another consequence of the fire is the destruction of beehives and killing of 50-70 million bees. The beehives were a significant source of income and an industry that attracted the resettlement of many young people back to their villages. The very positive effects of bees to the environment are also very well known.

We are currently studying and interacting with the communities, to determine the best way to help the inhabitants of the affected villages to re-establish the beehives through modern scientific methods. We shall revert when we finalise our proposals and we have a plan in place.

Finally, I would like to thank all the clubs that have pledged financial help towards the overall project of providing assistance to the affected areas by the fires.

We shall revert with specific proposals, particularly the Beehive project for your consideration

Yours in Rotary

**Peter Ashdjian
DDG Cyprus
2021-22**