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## Message from the President

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

The year has started very actively with various activities and events taking place in September. These are presented in the current issue in chronological order. We try to maintain a variety in activities, cover different current topics and also have good time through our fellowships, as Rotary is, above all, friendship. The upcoming months are also looking very promising, so stay tuned; your presence gives us the strength to continue strong!

Rotarians are people of action and our Club has always proved this. Responding immediately to the needs of the Lebanese people for medicines after a fuel tanker's explosion in August, **PP Mrs. Popi Kanari** obtained a donation of medicines of a substantial value by Medochemie Ltd. Through an orchestrated effort of Rotarians in Cyprus and Lebanon, and with the help of Airtrans and Cyprus Airways, the shipment was sent to its destination. Initiatives like this makes all of us, Rotarians, very proud!

October is the month of Community Economic Development. The assessment of the potential Community Service Projects for the Rotarian year 2021-22 is near completion and through the work of the Community Service Committee, our Board will be soon deciding on the hero project for the year. At the same time, our Club is preparing for a major fund-raising event in 2022 so as to support this Service Project.

We also make efforts to grow our Rotary Club's family. Three new members, all young persons and esteemed professionals, have joined our Club in September: **Ms. Tania Eojourian**, Advocate & Legal Consultant, **Mr. George Georgiou**, Business Journalist, Editor, Columnist, TV, radio and Podcast Producer and **Mr. Yiannis Seitanides**, Reporter- Editor-In-Chief of Financial Reporting. I am sure that we will all extend a warm welcome to all three as they get introduced to the Rotary world.

See you all soon in our upcoming functions. Until then, stay healthy and safe.

With Warm Rotarian Regards,

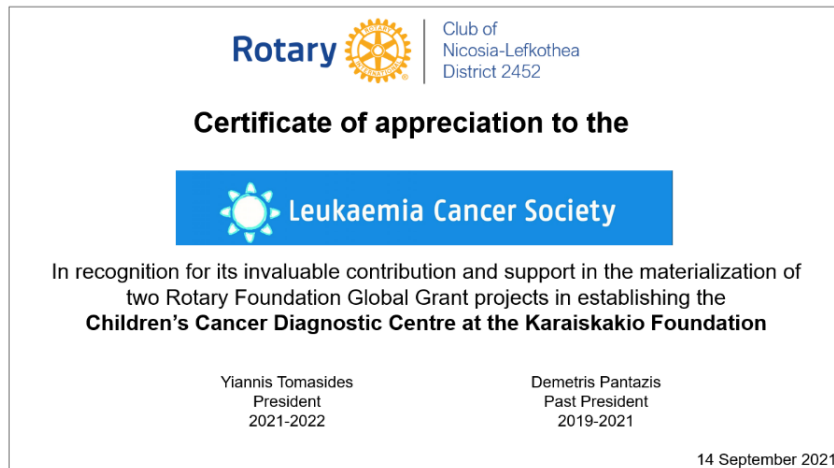


Yiannis Tomasides  
President 2021-2022

## 2. Fellowship at Taverna “Spilaio” -14 September 2021

### Rotary Club Nicosia-Lefkothea pays tribute to UK Leukemia Cancer Society

On the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the Rotary Club Nicosia-Lefkothea awarded a Certification of appreciation the UK Leukemia Cancer Society for its invaluable contribution and support in the materialization of the two Rotary Foundation Global Grant projects at the Karaiskakio Foundation. The delegation the UK Leukemia Cancer Society which received the certification, consisted of **Mr. Harry Christoforou, Vice-Chairman of the Board, Mrs. Androulla Stylianou, Member of the Board and her husband Mr. Rodis Stylianou.**



On behalf of the Rotary Club Nicosia-Lefkothea, the President Yiannis Tomasides and the Past President Demetris Pantazis hand over the certificate to Mr. Harry Christoforou, Vice-Chairman of the Board of the UK Leukemia Cancer Society.



A group picture of the Rotary Club Nicosia-Lefkothea (RCNL) and UK Leukemia Cancer Society (LCS) representatives: From left to right, Dr. Popi Kanari, Youth Director RCNL, Mr. Rodis Stylianou, Mrs. Androulla Stylianou, Member of the Board LCS, Mr. Harry Christoforou, Vice-Chairman of the Board LCS, Past President RCNL Demetris Pantazis, PDG Rotary Foundation Chair & Executive Secretary RCNL Iacovos Constantinides and President RCNL Yiannis Tomasides. Harry Christoforou, Vice-Chairman of the Board of the UK Leukemia Cancer Society.

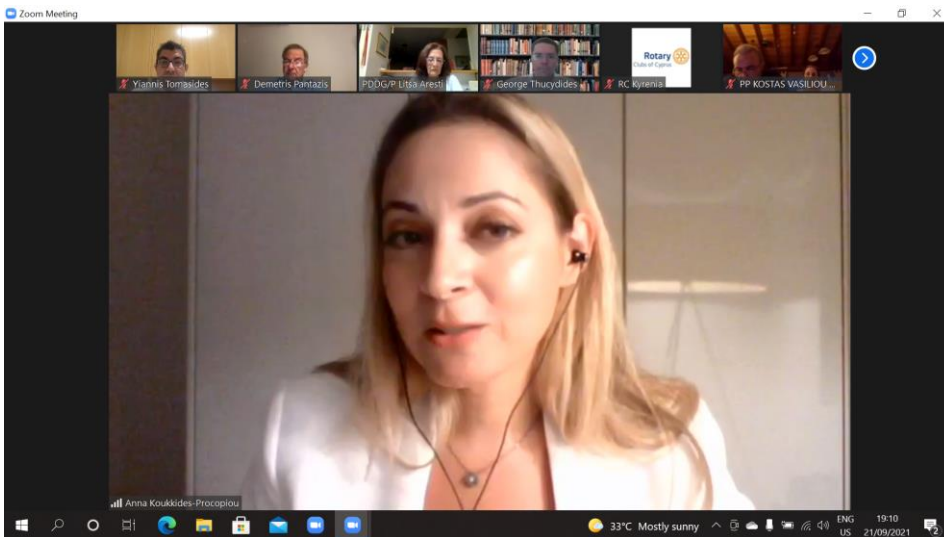
The ceremony took part during the Fellowship of the Rotary Club Nicosia-Lefkothea at Taverna Spilaio in the hushed and serene village of Deftera. The guests had the opportunity to mingle in a secluded place, enjoying the company of fellow Rotarians. The guests enjoyed delicious traditional Cyprus cuisine, which combined with the live music offered by our Club gave the opportunity to fellow Rotarians to enjoy a pleasant and festive evening, as it is evidenced from the pictures:



### 3. Event on the “Afghanistan political issues” - 21 September 2021

A very interesting event was organized by our Club on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2021: Mrs Anna Koukkides-Procopiou, Senior Fellow, Member of Advisory Board Center for European and International Affairs at the University of Nicosia, presented in an eloquent way the impact of the Afghanistan political developments on the shaping of a new world, as it arises following the retreat of the US forces from the area. Concise explanation of the reasons that led to the failure of the US operations was provided. A vivid discussion and Q&A session followed the presentation.

The event was supported by the Rotary Clubs of Nicosia-Ledra, Nicosia-Salamis and Kyrenia and was well attended by over 40 Rotarians.



Mrs Anna Koukkides-Procopiou during her presentation.

### 3. Delivery of Medicines to Lebanon - 23 September 2021

Responding to the dire need of the Lebanese people for medicines followed a fuel tanker's explosion in August, our RRFC Z21B PDG **Christina Covotsou-Patroclou** contacted the Past President of Club **Dr. Popi Kanari** for assistance. Dr. Kanari's response was imminent: Through Dr. Andreas Pittas, the Chairman of Medochemie Ltd she managed to secure a donation of a significant volume of medicines of high value by the pharmaceutical company.

The supplies, **weighing 340 kgs and of substantial value**, were gathered at Karaiskakion Foundation. The transportation of the supplies was undertaken by the Past President of RC Nicosia **Andreas Charalambous** owner of Airtrans Ltd and handling agent of Cyprus Airways which offered to transport the shipment at no cost. The Rotary Clubs of Lebanon through the Past President of RC Tripoli **Maarad Ahmad Hussein** arranged for the import and the delivery of the medicines to the hospitals in need. The assistance of our Immediate Past President **Demetris Pantazis** in the coordination process was invaluable.

Through the orchestrated efforts of Rotarians in Cyprus and Lebanon and with the generosity of our donors, this humanitarian project was planned and executed successfully in a very short period of time, proving in action that **Rotary is all about "Service Above Self"** and that **Rotarians are people of action. These qualities make us all proud to be Rotarians!**



From left to right: President Yiannis Tomasides, Past President Dr. Popi Kanari, Mrs. Dina Charalambidou, Manager at Airtrans representing Airtrans & Cyprus Airways and Immediate Past President Demetris Pantazis, at Karaiskakio Foundation, proudly standing in front of the shipment just before its departure to Lebanon.

## 4. Lunch with the Minister of Finance - 29 September 2021

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 our Rotary Club hosted in Semeli Hotel a well-attended business lunch of more than 50 Rotarians with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Constantinos Petrides, who presented aspects of the Recovery and Resilience Fund (“RRF”) for Cyprus and its benefits to the Cyprus economy.

The event was supported by the Rotary Clubs of Nicosia, Nicosia-Salamis and Kyrenia and was attended by the Deputy District Governor Peter Ashdjian. The venue room got packed from early on and attendees had the opportunity to hold individual discussions with the Minister of Finance, as well as with his companions who were experts on the subject of the RRF.

In his speech, Mr. Petrides emphasized on the necessary structural reforms that need to be adopted in order to meet the Fund’s criteria. A vivid discussion followed the Minister’s speech, during which, more ample light was shed on the details of the RRF.



The President of the Club addressing the event



The Minister of Finance, Mr. Constantinos Petrides delivering his speech.



A partial view of the event's attendees.



The Minister of Finance Mr. Constantinos Petrides and the Master of the Ceremony, PP Panicos Nicolaides.



The Minister of Finance, Mr. Constantinos Petrides, along with the Deputy District Governor Peter Ashdjian, Presidents and the Presidents of the Rotary Clubs which participated in the event.

From left to right the President of RC Kyrenia Kypros Zantis, the President of RC Nicosia-Ledra, Antonis Ioannou, the President of RC Nicosia-Lefkothea Yiannis Tomasides, the Minister of Finance, the President of RC Nicosia, Raluca-Ioana Man and the Deputy District Governor.

## Pinning of New members

At the beginning of the event with the Minister of Finance, our Club had the honor to pin three new members:

- **Ms. Tania Eojourian**, Advocate & Legal Consultant at EOJOURIAN & GEORGIUO LLC, *introduced by Rotarian Panayiota Georgiou*
- **Mr. George Georgiou**, Business Journalist, Editor, Columnist, TV, radio and Podcast Producer at BLOOMBERG & POLITIS GROUP, *introduced by our Vice-President Vasilis Polemitis*, and
- **Mr. Yiannis Seitanides**, Reporter- Editor-In-Chief of Financial Reporting at POLITIS GROUP, *also introduced by our Vice-President Vasilis Polemitis*.



Deputy District Governor Peter Ashdjian welcoming the new members.

From left to right: ROT Panayiota Georgiou, VP Vasilis Polemitis, ROT George Georgiou, ROT Tania Eojourian, ROT Yiannis Seitanides and President Yiannis Tomasides.



A group photo of the new members with their introducers and the Club President.



## 5. From our Board Meetings

In this new section launched in this issue, we will present the most important matters discussed and decided at our monthly Board meetings.

During September our Board met twice, on 7<sup>th</sup> of September and on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2021, with the following outcome:

### CLUB BOARD MEETING DATED 07 SEPTEMBER 2021

MATTER DISCUSSED	OUTCOME
Dispatch of medicines to Lebanon	PP Popi Kanari briefed the Board members for the new initiative of our Club regarding a dispatch of medicines to Lebanon. This was a request by PDG Christina Covotsou-Patrlou followed an explosion of a fuel tank in Lebanon in 15/08/2021. For this initiative, PK approached Medochemie which gladly accepted to support the initiative with two batches of medicine, the first one planned to be delivered on 10/09/2021 and the second one three weeks later. The shipment will be received by Rotarians in Lebanon and be delivered in two hospitals in Tripoli. The logistics for the dispatch (transportation to the airport by handling agent, required documentation) will be arranged by our Club. On behalf of the Board, YT warmly thanked Mrs. Popi Kanari for the initiative and all her actions in making this humanitarian project a reality.
Cyprus Fire Relief Project- update	<p>The President briefed the Board 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.</p> <p>As result, Cyprus Rotary and its Rotary Clubs are now turning into a related project: The “Beehive project”. IPP Demetris Pantazis, part of the Cyprus Rotary Team for the project, provided a full update: 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. PDDG Iacovos Constantinides suggested involving 2-3 international fellowships specializing in apiculture.</p> <p><b>Our Club decided that the pledge of EUR 2.000 for the irrigation infrastructure project decided in the Board meeting dated 13/07/2021 is placed on the Beehive project.</b></p>
Annual Plan of Club's Events & Activities	<p>The Board approved the proposed Annual Plan of Club's Events &amp; Activities distributed with the Agenda of the meeting, with the following remarks:</p> <p>a) The Christmas Gala dinner should be moved at the beginning of December.</p> <p>b) There should be an event celebrating the World Polio Day (24 October).</p> <p>PDDG Iacovos Constantinides proposed illumination of a landmark building in Nicosia for the day. The event will be enriched with a speech and the invitation of distinguished guests e.g. ambassadors. An organizing committee consisting of IC (coordinator), DP and YT, will look into the event and brief the Board accordingly.</p>

**CLUB BOARD MEETING DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 2021**

MATTER DISCUSSED	OUTCOME
Discussion and approval on proposed Cyprus Rotary Budget for 2021-22	The proposed Cyprus Rotary Budget was presented and discussed during the meeting. The participants welcomed the discount offered to Clubs regarding the Cyprus Rotary dues, in order to alleviate the financial hardships occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. RCNL's President was authorised to make improvement suggestions.
Pinning of new members	It was decided that the pinning of our new members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs Tania Eojourian, lawyer, proposed by Rot. Panayiota Georgiou</li> <li>• Mr. George Georgiou, journalist, proposed by Rot. Vasilis Polemitis</li> <li>• Mr. Giannis Seitanides, journalist, proposed by Rot. Vasilis Polemitis</li> </ul> ...will be made during the event of the lunch with the Minister of Finance on 28th September 2021. Due to time restriction, the official presentation of the new members will be made during an upcoming fellowship.
District Awards	Our Club's participation in the District Awards was decided and for this purpose the requirements for each award will be sent to the respective Director of Avenue of Service, so that they examine the requirements and plan their actions during the year accordingly. The administration and monitoring of the procedure of completing the requirements and reaching the specified milestones will be assigned to our Vice-President Vasilis Polemitis.
Eurotary 87 meeting	The President briefed the Board about his participation in the Eurotary 87 teleconference coordination meeting. Eurorotary 87 is an informal group of European Rotarian Clubs that were founded around 1987 that meets annually, mostly for fellowship. It was suggested to invite the European clubs constituting the Eurotary 87 to Cyprus in one of their upcoming annual gatherings so as to create ties for future Global Grant initiatives April, May or November 2023 could serve suitable months.

A Club Assembly took place after the Club Board meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

## 5. Upcoming events: October & November 2021

A full schedule of activities has been planned for October & November, as follows:

### October 2021

<b>Tue</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>Board meeting.</b> Online via ZOOM. Time: 6:30 PM.
<b>Sat</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Fund-raising kebab fellowship evening</b> at our President's house Time: 7:00 PM. Fee: 20 Euros.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>World Polio Day-Illumination of the Nicosia Municipal Theater</b> Time: 7:00 PM.

### November 2021

<b>Tue</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Board meeting.</b> Online via ZOOM. Time: 6:30 PM.
<b>Tue</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>Dinner of Rotary Clubs of Nicosia with the District Governor</b> Time: 8:00 PM. Venue: Prosilion restaurant
<b>Wed</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Tour at the A.G. Leventis Art Gallery (followed by dinner)</b> Time: 6:30 PM. Followed by dinner.
<b>Tue</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Event with the Motivational speaker Mr. Constantinos Christou</b> Time: 7:30 PM. Venue: Semeli hotel