

ROTARY CLUB NICOSIA - ASPELIA

ΡΟΤΑΡΙΑΝΟΣ ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ - ΑΣΠΕΛΙΑ District 2450 Club 31029 www.rotary-cyprus.org/nic-aspelia/



P.O.Box 16240, CY 2087, Acropolis, Cyprus Rotary Club Nicosia-Aspelia Scholarship Fund Registered Charity no: 13.36.002.04

CLUB BULLETIN No. 19 – Friday 13 January, 2012

'Peace Through Service' is 2012-13 RI theme

RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka unveiled the 2012-13 RI theme, *Peace Through Service*, during the opening plenary session of the 2012 International Assembly, a training event for incoming Rotary district governors. *Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*

RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka will ask Rotarians to build *Peace Through Service* in 2012-13.

"Peace, in all of the ways that we can understand it, is a real goal and a realistic goal for Rotary," he said. "Peace is not something that can only be achieved through agreements, by governments, or through heroic struggles. It is something that we can find and that we can achieve, every day and in many simple ways."

"Peace has different meanings for different people; no definition is right, and no definition is wrong," Tanaka said. "However we use the word, this is what peace means for us. No matter how we use, or understand the word, Rotary can help us to achieve it," he added.

Tanaka, a businessman from the greater Tokyo metropolitan area, shared how becoming a Rotarian broadened his understanding of the world. After joining the Rotary Club of Yashio, in 1975, he said, he began to realize that his life's purpose was not to make more money, but to be useful to other people.

"I realized that by helping others, even in the simplest of ways, I could help to build peace," Tanaka said.

He noted that the Japanese tradition of putting the needs of society above the needs of the individual helped his country rebuild after the tsunami and earthquake in March.

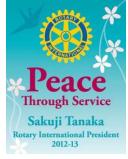
President 2011-2012: Katerina Nicolaides, <u>evnicor@cytanet.com.cy</u> Secretary: Loucas Vrionides, <u>lvrionides@hotmail.com</u> Treasurer: Walter Bopp, <u>walter.bopp@cytanet.com.cy</u> President-Elect: Eleni Zapiti: <u>eleni.za@hotmail.com</u> 1

"This is a lesson that I think the whole world can learn from, in a positive way. When we see the needs of others as more important than our own needs -- when we focus our energies on a shared goal that is for the good of all -- this changes everything," he said. "It changes our priorities in a completely fundamental way. And it changes how we understand the idea of peace."

Tanaka will ask Rotarians to focus their energy on supporting the three priorities of the <u>RI Strategic Plan</u>, he said. He added that he will ask the incoming leaders to promote three Rotary peace forums, to be held in Hiroshima, Japan; Berlin; and Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.

"In Rotary, our business is not profit. Our business is peace," he said. "Our reward is not financial, but the happiness and satisfaction of seeing a better, more peaceful world, one that we have achieved through our own efforts."

- Watch a video excerpt of the theme speech
- Send a <u>theme e-card</u>
- Get <u>Rotary graphics</u>
- Download the <u>theme speech</u> (PDF)
- Learn more about <u>Rotary Peace Centers</u>
- Order <u>RI Theme materials</u>



AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING - 20 January, 2012

- 13.15 Arrivals
- 13.30 Grace and Lunch
 - Apologies for absence
 - Introduction of visitors
 - President's announcements
 - 14.00 Dessert and coffee
- 14.05 Presentation: A Three Year Strategic Planning For Rotary Clubs Speaker: DDG Themis Themistocleous
- 14.25 Raffle
- 14.30 Close

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – 13 January, 2012

Acting Sergeant at Arms: Nazo Davidian.

Grace: The grace was read by Rtn Marina Theodotou.

Apologies: DGE Kevork Mahdessian (attending the 2012 International Assembly, a training event for incoming Rotary district governors in San Diego, California), PP Marianna Trokoudes, PP Elena Tanou, Farid Eghtesadi, Pia Ceder, Amal el Choury, Manfred Lange and Vasilis Skronias.

Rotarian Visitors: George Fellas – Perugia Est., George Moshonas - Kifissia.

Guests: Farid Mirbagheri.

<u>Communication of apologies</u>: You may forward your apologies at the e-mail address or mobile phone of Sec Loucas Vrionides or Sgt at Arms Patrick Elston. <u>Communication of make ups</u>: You may forward your make ups at the e-mail address of Rtn Pia Ceder.

President's Announcements

DDG Themis Themistocleous will be our speaker next week so all the members should make an extra effort to attend.

Flight details of the trip to Acaba will be distributed by e-mail. Larnaca – Amman and return with Royal Jordanian Airlines is 360 Euros incl. taxes, plus 20 Euros for entry visa payable at Amman airport. A deposit of 150 Euros is payable now to Top Kinisis, the travel agents responsible for the trip.

Rtn Nazo Davidian said that at the end of February we will have our Photography Exhibition. It will be a fund raising event in which members, family members and friends will participate by contributing some of their best pictures. Then, the organizing committee will choose the ones that will be printed and exhibited for sale. The venue will be either the foyer of Strovolos Municipal Theatre or the Municipal Cultural Centre at Pallouriotissa. All net proceeds will be contributed to the Rotary Foundation (Polio Plus etc.).

Five of our members visited fellow Rotarians Sotos Demetriou and Haig Petrossian who were unable to join us at our Christmas celebrations due to their bad health condition. P Katerina extended her thanks and appreciation to fellow Rotarians who visited them.

Rtn Rena Papaioannou has become a grandmother for a second time. Her daughter in law delivered a baby girl.

Other Announcements

PP Nina Sadek, who this year is, the chairwoman of all Cyprus' Inner wheel clubs, said that on 9th February 2012 the Inner wheel club is organizing a lunch at Hilton Hotel, with guest speaker Mrs. Marietta Yiannakou, a member of the European Parliament. Tickets of the event are on sale for €40 each. Anyone interested to buy tickets must contact PP Nina Sadek.

Rtn George Fellas announced that a group of members of Rotary Club Perugia Est will visit Cyprus for a long weekend early next June. Consequently, they will attend our Friday lunch meeting and we may have the opportunity to go ahead and proceed with the long waited twinning of the two clubs.

Cutting of Vassilopitta

Rtn Alessio Mugnai was the lucky winner who found the coin and got the present.



Birthdays and raffle winner

There were no birthdays Rtn visitor George Fellas won the

raffle and he insisted to draw it again. Rtn Rena Papaioannou was the new winner.

Meeting concluded at 2.30 pm.

Loucas Vrionides Secretary Rotary Club Nicosia -Aspelia