

Dear Past District Governor John Strongylos, District Officials, fellow Rotarians, Rotaracts and distinguished friends.

The Rotary year 2013-14 is nearing to its end. During this year, I realized that when you are president, you enjoy Rotary more. And, moreover, now I see that there are still more things to explore within this worldwide organization.

Taking over the presidency of our club I felt from the very beginning that I would not be alone. The Board of Directors was one power that made everything work well and the advices of the past presidents were really invaluable.

It has been a difficult year for many of our fellow citizens. Having in mind how nearly everyone has been affected by the economic crisis in our country, a year ago the Board of Directors and I had set as a service goal to concentrate on alleviating those in need.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The budget of the year was approved by the board at the beginning of this Rotary year. It has been decided to decrease the high amount of balance carried forward. Therefore, the balance forward on July 1st, 2013 was € 3,699.00, and now it will be around € 3,000.00.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The RC Nicosia Aspelia charity registered Scholarship Fund established in 1998 constantly, every year, provides financial aid to needy and academically strong university students. The Trustees as in every year had excellent cooperation with Dr Emilios Solomou, Executive VP for Administration of the University of Nicosia who takes part as an advisor in the preliminary meeting for choosing beneficiaries. Unfortunately, Emilios, due to another commitment already undertaken, could not attend and has asked me to convey his thanks to all the members of the club. And he wishes Louisa as the new President every success in her duties. He said that he is ready and willing, as always, to offer any assistance that the Club may require regarding the Scholarship Fund.

As more and more students and their families encounter the lack of resources, and some have no other option but quit their studies, we have decided this year as mentioned earlier to focus our force into supporting as many students as we can.

The total amount of € 13.000 was distributed to 9 scholars for the academic year 2013-14 at a joint meeting with our Rotaract Club. Drinks and finger food were offered to scholars and their families.

COMMITTEES

Membership

This year we have inducted four new members reaching the goal set at the beginning of the year.

Ioannis Christofides is a chemical engineer and an environmental engineer. For the first time we have new members from our Rotaract club, Margarita Paraskevaïdou, Artist & Art Critic, and Adonis Panagidis, Dentist-Oral Surgeon. Last, Past President (PP) Shireen Akl, Project Manageress, with extensive Rotary background has been transferred from the Limassol-Berengaria Rotary Club.

Four new members with four new classifications.

Administration

Diversified, interesting and informational speeches were the aim apart from the many organizational requirements of this chair:

Charalambos Petrides, President of the Cyprus Property Valuers Association;
Alexandra Attalides, Press Attaché for the European Office in Cyprus;
Yiannis Yiannakis, Commissioner of the Volunteers' Association;
Christodoulos Angastiniotis, Chairman of the Cyprus Promotion Investment Agency;
George Papanastasiou, CEO of VTT Vasiliko;
Carlos Jimenez, Marine Biologist;
George Christofides, Rector at the University of Cyprus; and others.

A number of our members gave speeches either relating to their profession or presenting Rotary subjects. These were Ioanna Kyprianidou, Vasilis Skronias, Friedrich Vogel, Nazo Davidian, Farid Mirbagheri and Vartan Tashdjian.

Fellowship events and joint meetings and events with other Clubs were organized aiming to enhance good fellowship with all Rotarians and strengthen the Rotary spirit:

18 September, Visit to an exhibition at Leventis museum, followed by fellowship lunch at Karvounomageiremata;

26 September, President's party, a fundraising event at Sawa Syrian Restaurant,

11 October, Alzheimer's dinner, a fundraising event, jointly with Rotary Club of Nicosia and Rotaract Clubs of Nicosia-Aspelia and of Nicosia;

7 November, Club's birthday party at Mercedes Club;

14 December, Christmas party, a fundraising event, at Cleopatra Hotel;

9 January, cutting of vassilopitta;

14 February, Disco night, a fundraising event, at Chateau Status;

13 March, Geology tour at the BOC Cultural Centre and fellowship dinner at Kathodon,

15 May, fellowship dinner at Chronoperpatimata.

Our **Xmas party** was attended by 71 members and friends and has contributed € 1978 with the sales raffle tickets, used books and Christmas cakes and sweets. I would like to thank Greg Elston for his music over the years, Gayanee der Avedissian for supplying presents for the raffle and the carpet for the auction, PP Marianna Trokoudes for arranging the air ticket, Mrs. Stella Kattirtzi and British Airways for offering the air ticket, Joseph Badaoui and Hania & Rotarian (Rtn) Farid Egtesadi for the donation of the auction items this year as well, Rtn Walter Bopp for his kind donation of € 150 and Rtn Nazo Davidian of € 60, Lambis Constantinides for table chocolates, Rtn Ioanna Kyprianidou, Rtn Louisa Coudounaris, Santa Claus Rtn Ioannis Christofides and the auctioneer Rtn Patrick Elston.

The Rotary Foundation

The club is a sustaining member of TRF by contributing this year € 50 per member. The total Contribution was € 2.470 to Polio Plus.

This year Rtn Nazo Davidian followed up on the completion of the **Matching Grant SOTK Water Project** in Armenia.

Rtn Friedrich Vogel gave a speech at a club's meeting on "TRF: Future Vision Plan"

Rtns Farid Mirbagheri and George Pavlou received the Paul Harris Fellow pin.

Service Projects

The **Alzheimer Dinner** and Music Night at the Occhio on the 10th of October was a success with 142 persons attending making net proceeds of € 1,832 that went to the support of the two Alzheimer Day Care Centres we support every year at Kaimakli and Lythrodontas.

I would like to thank very much the following members and friends, who helped in any way so that the event ran perfectly, from:

- RC Nicosia-Aspelia: PP Caterina Kalavas, who was the overall coordinator, Nairy Merheje, who found all the wine sponsors, PP Era Michaelides, Ioanna Kyprianidou, Louisa Coudounaris, Walter Bopp, Carol Xenophontos and Haro Kouyoumdjian.
- RC Nicosia: President (P) Anthony Ashiotis and Past Assistant Governor (PAG) Maria Christopoulou.
- Rotaract Club (Rct C) Nicosia-Aspelia: P Charis Michael, Katerina Menelaou and Margarita Paraskevoidou.
- Rct C Nicosia: P Niovi Georgiades and Evie Christodoulou.
- The sponsors of auction items Hania and Rtn Farid Eghtesadi and Tina Savvides.
- The performer Marina Purita, the Occhio and the companies and individuals who offered beverage and food.

The Kindermusik community project took part this year, as well, from the 13th of January to 3rd of February at Aglantzia Municipality Kindergarten.

This Music education program is for children from 3 months to 6 years old.

It, also, educates the parents about their child's development.

I would like to thank the moderator Rtn Ioanna Kyprianidou for her excellent work.

Our club allocated and delivered a cheque of € 4.000 to the Cyprus **Red Cross** which is the cost of 82 large food boxes on the 18th of December 2013.

Our club, also, delivered € 2.000 in vouchers to help other 20 families.

The above two sums plus another € 6.000 were donated to our club by a member's client.

The **Secret Santa Project** was carried out this year as well. Club members and friends donated money. Members of our club, in a week before Xmas, visited three Youth Hostels in the Nicosia area at Latsia, Aglantzia and Archangelos distributing 25 vouchers of € 50 each as a Xmas present to all on behalf of our club. I would like to thank all Club members and friends who donated money. I would like to thank Rtn Friedrich Vogel for the coordination and collection of money, and PP Caterina Kalavas, Rtns Amal el Khoury and Nazo Davidian who joined me at the visits to the hostels.

The Club organized environmental awareness activities in the Club and the community to promote environmental issues and create awareness.

- On September 17, 2013, our member Manfred Lange made a presentation of the **“Scarcity of Water and How to Deal with it”** to our Rotaract Club during their bimonthly meeting at Cleopatra Hotel.
- On February 6, 2014, Manfred delivered the presentation in front of 140 students at the Grammar School in Nicosia.

I would like to thank Manfred for his time, dedication and valuable information he conveyed to our youth.

- On January 13, 2013 at 16.00 o'clock our Youth Director, members of the Interact committee and Nadina Andreou from the AKTI NGO presented the **“Tiganokinisis”** used oil project to our **Interact Club of the American International School in Cyprus**. The project was adopted immediately and with great excitement from our Interactors that undertook to promote it to the other students of their school. The used harmful to the environment cooking oil is collected at the school and sold to a private company to be used as biodiesel.

The **Karagiozis Shadow Theatre** project that took place on Saturday 31st of May attracted many kids with their parents. It was a very nice event, starting with the workshop with 30 kids creating original Karagiozis figures. In parallel, there was a short documentary. Then, a bar, offering sandwiches, biscuits, and refreshments

opened outdoors, serving all performance participants. Last, a joyful performance followed attended by 80 kids and their parents.

A big thank you goes to all sponsors of tickets for needy children.

Many thanks to: PP Eleni Zapiti who made all arrangements with the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation, arranged the set-up of the performance and run behind all the details on Saturday, as well as, offering her homemade sandwiches, PP Caterina Kalavas for initiating the project and for her coordination, Rtn Adonis Panagidis , Rtn Margarita Paraskevoudou and the Rotaractors who helped.

Also, special thanks to Rtn Petros Petrou for offering all the juices, water, and cold coffee. Net proceeds of €280 were transferred to our scholarship account.

Public Relations

PP Youth Director Caterina Kalavas appeared with Cyprus VDRR Kyriacos Christofides on CYBC 1 TV on the **“Image of Rotary, Rotaract and Polio”** on the 18th of December 2013.

The club has very good website and a Facebook page.

Rotaract

Our Rotaract club, established in March 2010, is a very active club that carried out many successful projects. We like to say that we support them but as this club grows up the support becomes more and more bidirectional.

This year their Rock concert has brought to our Scholarship Fund € 2300. More on our Rotaract Club follow in a while.

DISTRICT AWARDS

We have applied for three District awards and we got them. These are ‘Club Administration’, ‘Community Service’, and ‘Environmental Projects and Youth’ Award.

Thanks go to PP Caterina Kalavas, Rtns Manfred Lange and Ioanna Kyprianidou who helped in making the applications for the awards.

Last, I would like to thank:

Immediate Past President	Eleni Zapiti for her support and constant advice,
Secretary	Nazo Davidian for spending many hours fighting with his lap top and for acting as a photographer,
Treasurer	Walter Bopp
Membership Director	PAG Elena Tanou
Service Projects Director	Nairy Merheje
Rotary Foundation Director	Manfred Lange
Club Administration Director	Ioanna Kyprianidou
Youth Director	PP Caterina Kalavas and
Assistant Governor	PP Dervish Baha

All the Aspelians and our Rotaractors.

Last, I would like to thank my beloved Gabriella for all her forbearance.