

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

## DISTRICT 2450

[Subscribe to the Cyprus Rotary News](#)



# CYPRUS ROTARY NEWS

ISSUE NO 6 / NOVEMBER 2011



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

DEPUTY DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2450

Themis Themistocleous

+357 99221202

[ddg2011-12@rotary-cyprus.org](mailto:ddg2011-12@rotary-cyprus.org)

SECRETARY

Anastasia Orphanou

+357 99557490

[secretary@rotary-cyprus.org](mailto:secretary@rotary-cyprus.org)

DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2450

Usama Barghouthi

[dg.2011.12@gmail.com](mailto:dg.2011.12@gmail.com)

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

Kalyan Banerjee

ROTARY WEBSITES

Cyprus Rotary

[www.rotary-cyprus.org](http://www.rotary-cyprus.org)

District 2450

[www.rotaryd2450.org](http://www.rotaryd2450.org)

Rotary International

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)



## In this issue :

### Messages from the :

- [Deputy District Governor 2011-12, Themis THEMISTOCLEOUS](#)
- [RI President, Kaylan BANERJEE \(December\)](#)
- [District Governor 2011-12, Usama Barghouthi](#)
- [Foundation Trustee chair, Bill Boyd](#)

[Cyprus Rotary News Issue No 1](#)

[Cyprus Rotary News Issue No 2](#)

[Cyprus Rotary News Issue No 3](#)

[Cyprus Rotary News Issue No 4](#)

[Cyprus Rotary News Issue No 5](#)



## Message from the Deputy District Governor 2011-12 Themis Themistocleous

Dear fellow Rotarians,

**December is Family Month** in the Rotary calendar. And how fitting to celebrate family in the festive season! There is something magical about family and the holidays. This month is an opportunity to celebrate the wonder of our own family which, in addition to individual Rotarians, includes all of those who are involved in Rotary's work from Rotary Foundation program alumni to participants in Rotary youth programs in thousands of communities around the world.

Spouses and children of Rotarians play a vital role in Rotary too. Rotary clubs benefit immensely when they strive to achieve a balanced interaction between Rotarians and their families, enhancing home lives and family interactions.

Celebrate Rotary's commitment to family in December. Consider bringing together the mothers, fathers, children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and members of your Rotary family into shared activities.

Participate in a community service project that will help strengthen families in your community. As RI President Kalyan Banerjee says, the family is the starting point for everything we are trying to accomplish and the building block of the community. "If we wish to see a world that is more joyous, we first have to make sure that the families of the world are more joyous, that they have the things they need to be happy, to thrive

and move forward," is his message. I hope the magic of the holidays, the celebration of a New Year, and the blessing we share as being fellow Rotarians, warms your heart as it does mine. From my home to your home, may you and yours have a wonderful holiday season.

**Best Rotarian regards,**

**Themis Themistocleous**

**PP RC Nicosia-Salamis**

**DDG for Cyprus 2011-12, D2450**

Message from  
RI President 2011-12  
KALYAN BANERJEE

December 2011



**“We need to commit ourselves absolutely and fully and say, What I must do shall indeed be done.”**

In late August, Binota and I were in Ghana, where Rotary Foundation Trustee Vice Chair Sam Okudzeto and enthusiastic local Rotarians took us to the ribbon-cutting for a water project in a little village, Abutia Teti, about 60 miles from Accra. We arrived at about 11 a.m., and the whole village seemed to be there. Everyone had been waiting since early morning to welcome us. In the past, the women had to walk over 3 miles to carry pails of water from a river. Now they had a supply of safe, clean water from tube wells in the village itself. It was a simple but effective project in which Rotary and USAID had worked together. But what struck us most that day was family: The men, the women, the children were all there together, dancing, singing, and welcoming us. It made me think about how everywhere around the world, people come together in families, and families join together as communities.

And this made me happy that the first of our emphases in this Rotary year is the family, because the family is where everything begins. It is where life begins, it is where our day begins, and it is where our Rotary service must begin. Because it is the family, and not the individual, that is the building block of the community – and of Rotary.

It is one of my great priorities to encourage the involvement of families in Rotary service. I feel incredibly strongly that Rotary should never, ever come between the Rotarian and the family. Rotary service should be something that brings the family closer together. For myself, if I cannot bring Binota with me to a Rotary event, it's simple – I don't go! Rotary is not just for me; it is for both of us. This is why I encourage districts to welcome families at district conferences, to involve spouses and children in service projects, and to plan meeting times with families in mind. The more that families are involved in Rotary, the more Rotary will thrive – today and tomorrow.

What is Rotary about? It's about so many things, but at its core, Rotary is about these words: *Love your neighbor as yourself*. Rotary is about love, and that love has to start with us – and with those closest to us.

# Message from District Governor 2011-12 USAMA BARGHOUTH

November 2011



What mostly differentiate Rotary from being a charity are our Vocational services and the mission that facilitates our services through The Rotary Foundation. Without the Foundation many Rotary clubs would be working only local projects with modest finances, PolioPlus would not have existed and reaching to remote areas to serve would have been a huge burden. The foundation provided our clubs for many years the opportunities to do large projects through the matching grants (MG) and this year I introduced to our clubs District Simplified Grant (DSG), the young sister of the Matching Grants.

I am pleased to have signed scores of application forms since July for projects, providing clubs with financing from our District Designated Fund (DDF) and enabling them to expand their projects offering many multiples more. Projects cumulative values run in the hundreds of thousands of US dollars.

Although we salute every hour spent and every project that provides service to community, vocational, educational or humanitarian, the limit of any project finances is the local fundraising, while the cumulative size of some projects using a matching grant is easily ten to twenty times. Before the years started, I offered all clubs the opportunity to fund their small projects by applying for DSG, and I am pleased that the few clubs who did apply, received their finances and their projects are underway.

The Foundation gave us this year the opportunity to host a Group Study Exchange team from D5500 (Arizona, USA) who are currently visiting our District countries and at the same time pairing this exchange by sending a team of six young professionals from our district to Arizona. Our team has been selected from over thirty applications, from Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Bahrain and Lebanon and they are exchanging their professional knowledge with their counterparts in Arizona as well as addressing the various clubs on our district and its achievements.

The Foundation gave us this year the opportunity to send a brilliant young lady in Lebanon to study her Master's Degree at a Rotary Peace Center in Bradford University, UK, and another to a young Gentleman in Egypt to get a certificate from Chulalongkorn Rotary Peace Center (Thailand). Each scholar was nominated and sponsored by his or her local Rotary Club.

Talking about the Foundation must lead to the flagship project of Rotary, the PolioPlus campaign with the \$200 Million Challenge to end Polio, and I am proud of the many clubs and individuals who contributed generously to the Polio Fund, and I am equally proud of the Clubs who contributed their EREY commitments and urge those who did not send in their commitments yet to do that during this month of November.

Message from the  
Foundation Trustee chair

Bill Boyd

November 2011



Make giving to our Foundation an annual tradition

As Rotarians, we often reduce our words to initials. We talk of GSEs, VTTs, NIDs, and PHFs. Our district officers are DGs, DGEs, and DGNs, and in Evanston we have a GS. We have plenty of PDGs and an occasional PRIP. I am sure you could add many more.

This month, I would like to focus on another set of initials: EREY. The words are *Every Rotarian, Every Year*, and they encourage every one of us to make an annual contribution to our Foundation. Despite the economic problems and the awful natural disasters, our giving to the Annual Programs Fund last year was the second highest in history. Thank you for your confidence that we are building a Foundation that will be stronger and even more effective in the future.

I read a lot of district and zone newsletters, and I smiled at a quote in a recent newsletter from District 7600, in Virginia, USA. In it, Bill Billings talked about how Rotary became more important to him as he became more involved. He went on to say, "These are my brightest days in Rotary because now I am learning what *I* can do for Rotary. I give to The Rotary Foundation every year because it feels so good." At this point, his sense of humor came through. I am not sure if every country has telemarketing, but if yours does, you will appreciate Bill's next words: "But I also give to the Foundation because it is the best defense against annoying telemarketers. When they call me I simply say, 'I give my money to The Rotary Foundation, but thanks for calling and have a nice day.' Click!"

Bill has made our Rotary Foundation his charity of choice. I hope you will too.



*Seasons Greetings and  
wishes for a happy  
and healthy 2012*