

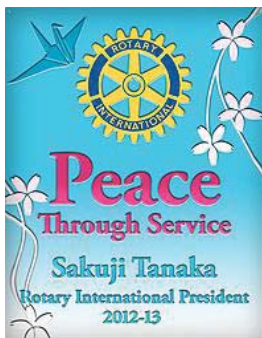


# Rotary International

## Governor's Newsletter

ISSUE 8 / FEBRUARY 2013

CYPRUS      ARMENIA      BAHRAIN      LEBANON      PALESTINE  
**D I S T R I C T 2 4 5 0**  
 JORDAN      EGYPT      GEORGIA      SUDAN      UAE



**DISTRICT  
GOVERNOR  
2012-13**

**Kevork Mahdessian**

**RI PRESIDENT  
2012-13**

**Sakuji Tanaka**



### GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians in our great District 2450,

February is a truly special month in the Rotary calendar, as we proudly celebrate the anniversary of Rotary on 23 February, also designated as World Understanding and Peace Day.



On that day, in 1905, Chicago attorney Paul P. Harris convened the first Rotary meeting in Room 711 of the Unity Building in Chicago. Harris envisioned a professional club that would bring together men from a variety of vocations. Gustavus Loehr, Hiram Shorey, and Silvester Schiele attended that historic meeting, which set the groundwork for the world's first service club: the Rotary Club of Chicago, the "Number One" club.

In the years that followed, and as Rotary spread worldwide into a truly international service organization, the advancement of international understanding and peace became an important focus of Rotarian service and was embodied in the Object of

Rotary.

International understanding and peace is the impetus for numerous service efforts and other cooperative ventures among Rotarians from different parts of the world. It is the reason Rotary International has a long-standing, close collaboration with the United Nations and many of its member agencies.

Appropriately, every year the anniversary of the founding of Rotary, 23 February, is celebrated as World Understanding and Peace Day.

However we define peace, whatever peace means to us, we can bring it closer through service, RIP Sakuji Tanaka declared, as he unveiled the theme "Peace through Service" for Rotary in his term. "Rotary helps us to build peace in its most traditional sense, by reducing the causes of conflict. It builds bridges of friendship and tolerance among people and nations. It helps us understand each other," he said.

Through our Rotary service, we know that cooperation is more productive than conflict. We learn to value each other, as human beings with human strengths and weaknesses. We know that every one of us has something to give, and everyone has something to teach.

I urge you to celebrate the anniversary of Rotary by taking pride in our history and at the same time by promoting the message of President Tanaka. There are many activities that clubs may undertake locally to promote "Peace through Service" and you may also consider making a donation to the Rotary Foundation on this special occasion.

Yours in Rotary

Kevork Mahdessian

District 2450 Governor 2012-13

Message from  
RI President 2012-13  
Sakuji Tanaka  
February 2013



## Dear fellow Rotarians,

In December, I spoke at the first of the three Rotary Global Peace Forums we have planned for this Rotary year. This first event, with the theme "Peace Without Borders," was held in Berlin, the home of the Berlin Peace Clock. The clock, intended as a piece of art, is 3 meters high and weighs over 2 tons. On its side are inscribed the words, *Time bursts all walls asunder*.

The clock was unveiled on 9 November 1989. That was the day the Berlin Wall fell. It was a wonderful coincidence that the moment the hands on the clock began to move, the orders were given to open the border to West Berlin. The words written on the side of the clock had come true.

In Rotary, we do not divide our work by nation, culture, or language. It does not matter what is printed in your passport. What matters is that you believe in Service Above Self. But even in Rotary, it is easy to think in terms of countries or communities. This project may help someone in my own community, or that project may help someone from Germany, or Kenya, or South Africa. Sometimes we think of different types of borders. This project, we think, helps the young. This helps the elderly. This helps people who are hungry, poor, or sick, or who have disabilities.

The truth is that Service Above Self does not know such borders. When we serve, the impact is not limited to our community, or the community we are helping. We are not only helping the young, or the elderly, or this school, or that orphanage. When we serve, we are helping all of humanity. The effects of what we do go on and on.

When we put Service Above Self, we are making a choice. We are choosing to put other people's needs ahead of our own desires. We are saying, "Your problems are my problems, and I care enough to help you."

Rotary brings peace by addressing the needs that cause conflict: the need for clean water, for nutrition, sanitation, and health care. When these needs are met, there is opportunity. And there is hope. Hope has no borders. It is the garden from which peace can grow.

*Peace Through Service* brings out the best in us. It makes us aware of the borders we set up around ourselves – and it helps us tear them down.

Message from  
Foundation Trustee Chair 2012-13  
Wilfrid J. Wilkinson  
February 2013

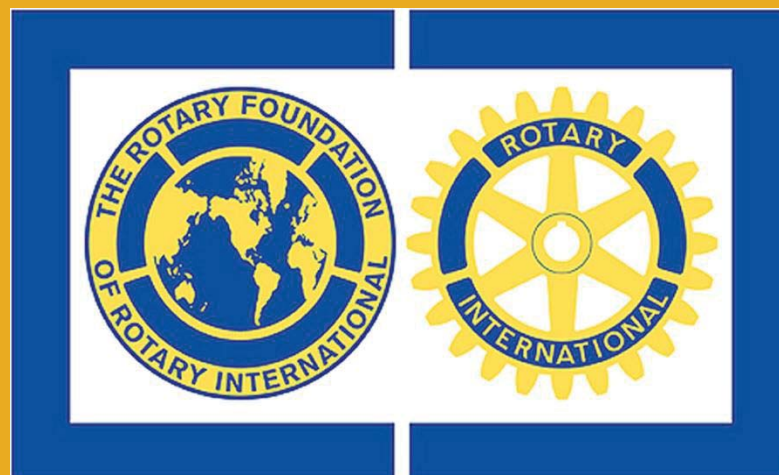


## Help build peace in our world

Rotary was built upon the idea of advancing goodwill and understanding – it's in our mission, and part of everything we do. The Rotary Foundation has six areas of focus, each of which is important. But every one of them depends on peace in the world. We can't celebrate the World Day of Social Justice on 20 February unless we have peace. We can't really celebrate World Understanding and Peace Day on 23 February, which also marks Rotary's 108th year of existence, unless we can say that we are working for peace.

There are endless ways to help build peace in our world, through our clubs and through our Foundation. The polio eradication initiative, as the largest global public health initiative in history, is doing a tremendous amount to promote peace – by building partnerships between the public and private sectors, by improving health infrastructure and monitoring the poorest areas, and by making it clear to all that we cannot have a healthy world if even one child is forgotten.

Peace comes from sharing, and as many of you know, *Rotary Shares* is my personal answer to what each Rotarian should be doing. This month, which we celebrate in Rotary as World Understanding Month, the efforts of every district, club, and Rotarian should be directed toward doing something for peace.



## 'Engage Rotary, Change Lives' is 2013-14 RI theme

RI President-elect Ron Burton will ask Rotarians to *Engage Rotary, Change Lives* in 2013-14.

He unveiled the RI theme during the opening plenary session of the 2013 International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, the annual training event for incoming district governors.

"If we really want to take Rotary service forward, then we must make sure that every single Rotarian has the same feeling about Rotary that each one of us here has today," Burton said. "We need to make sure that every Rotarian has a meaningful role to play, that they're all making a contribution, and that their contribution is valued."

Burton said the July launch of [The Rotary Foundation's new grant model](#), Future Vision, makes it an exciting time to be a Rotarian. He said the new grant model, which has been used by about 100 pilot districts since 2010, represents a new era for the Foundation, and will help Rotarians get excited about Rotary's ability to change lives.

"It takes everything that is wonderful about Rotary and raises it to a new level — by encouraging bigger, more sustainable projects while providing increased flexibility for local projects, both of which address the needs of the community being served," he said.

Burton asked the incoming district governors to take the lead in helping their clubs through the transition, with the assistance of their district Rotary Foundation chairs, who also attended the assembly this year. The training sessions are focusing heavily on equipping these leaders to go back to their districts as experts on the new grant model.

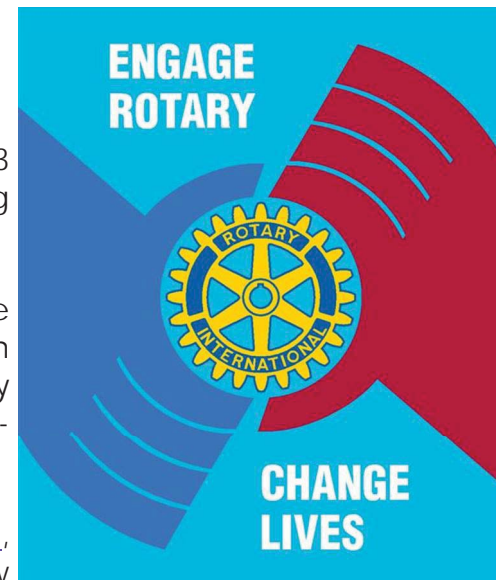
Before the assembly, Burton asked each of the incoming governors to make a donation in their name to The Rotary Foundation in order to demonstrate leadership by example. At the assembly, he announced that all 537 governors-elect had complied; along with donations from all RI Board members and Foundation Trustees, the contributions totaled US\$675,412.

"Now, I have to believe that some of this is money that The Rotary Foundation probably would not have received had I not asked. And I think that this is an important lesson" he said. "If you want somebody else to do something, you can just sit around and wait for them to get the idea, or you can ask."

Burton applied that lesson also to membership development, which he insisted is the responsibility of every Rotarian. He told the audience that although he had been an active member of the Key Club, a youth program of Kiwanis International, he went on to join Rotary simply because the Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, invited him to.

"You have to ask," he said.

But Burton emphasized that the job doesn't end when a new member joins: "It's not done until that new member is engaged in Rotary, inspired by Rotary, and uses the power of Rotary service to change lives."





# Rotary International Coordinator

## ZONE 20B 2013-2016

I am pleased to inform all Rotarians in our District that the next R.I. Coordinator for Zone 20B for the period 2013-2016 will also be from our District, to continue the good work of the outgoing Coordinator PDG Farid Gebran. The appointment has been made by the President Elect of Rotary International Ron Burton.

As you know our Zone 20B apart from our District to be 2452 also includes District 2451 (Egypt) and Serbia, Bulgaria, the Turkish Districts, the Greek Districts and North Africa.

The R.I. Coordinator is a member of 41 selected Rotarians worldwide, who receive training in Evans-ton and who will be important resources in their areas of service.

They are dedicated to assist Governors and Clubs with important issues such as the proper implemen-tation of the Club Leadership Plan, Membership, Strategic planning and anything that may be needed to enhance Rotary. They will participate in training and other seminars and in short they will be available always to be of service to all. Together with the Foundation Coordinators and the Public Image Coordinators they have an overall overview of Rotary in their area of service and each one in his own field and the three of them together, I repeat, are dedicated to serve.

Our new R.I. Coordinator is PDG Doros Jeropoulos, who I am sure will do his best, in fact he is doing it already. I congratulate him for being selected to this prestigious Rotary position by R.I President Elect Ron Burton, and wish him success, which at the end of the day will be to the benefit of all of us.



PDG Doros with President Elect Ron Burton back in 2005 at the International Assembly in Anaheim

District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

Rotaract Club of R.C. Dubai



Rotaract Clubs of R.C. Dubai & RC Jumeirah



R.C. Cairo Cosmopolitan –Donation of modern and sophisticated equipment to Demerdash hospital



R.C. Heliopolis - DG speaking about Polio Plus



R.C. Heliopolis - Meeting





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Heliopolis El Golf - DG presenting PHF Certificate to the President Magda El Sabbahy



R.C. Heliopolis El Golf - Group Photo with Rotaractors



R.C. Heliopolis El Golf - Dinner with Rotaractors



R.C. Heliopolis El Nozha



DG exchanges banners with the President of R.C. Heliopolis El Nozha



R.C. Heliopolis Sporting - Members & Rotaractors





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Heliopolis Sporting - DG was presented with the plaque in appreciation for his services



R.C. Alexandria Marine - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Marine - Project Inaugurating of the orphanage



R.C. Alexandria Marine - Project / Orphanage Vocational training of females



R.C. Alexandria Marine - Project / DG with orphans



R.C. Alexandria Marine / DG presenting sewing machines to orphans





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

Rotaractors of R.C. Alexandria Marine



R.C. Alexandria Cosmopolitan - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Cosmopolitan - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria Cosmopolitan 17th Anniversary Party



R.C. Alexandria - Project  
Donation of a modern dental equipment



R.C. Alexandria - Project /  
Karmouz home for children with cancer





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Alexandria - Project Ahmos house for senior citizens



R.C. Alexandria - Project Ahmos house for senior citizens



R.C. Alexandria Pharos - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Pharos - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria Metropolitan - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Metropolitan - Exchanging banners





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

Syrian Club - Dinner hosted by DGN and Mrs Ahmed Saada



R.C. Alexandria San Stefano - Exchanging banners



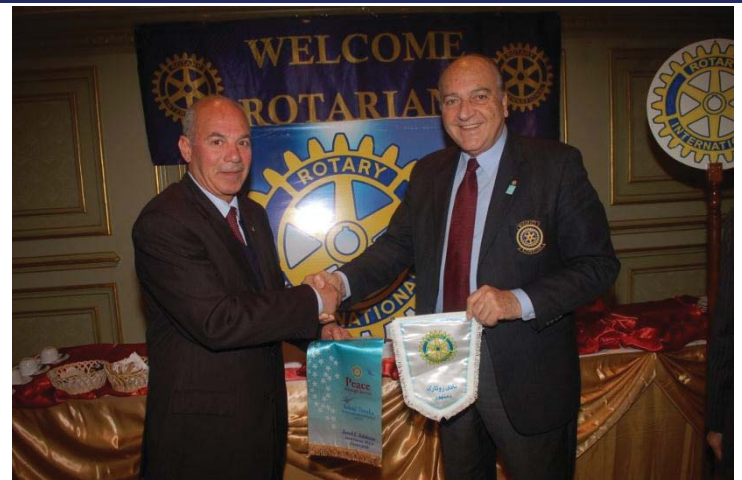
R.C. Alexandria San Stefano - Meeting



RCs Damanhour & Tanta - Meeting



RCs Damanhour & Tanta - Exchanging banners and Present





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Alexandria Sporting - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Sporting - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria Sunrise - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Sunrise - Exchanging banners



Dinner hosted at Four Seasons by AG and Mrs Ossama El Ahmar



Dinner hosted by PDG Hassan Abbas at Zephyr sea food restaurant





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Alexandria Mariout - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Mariout - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria West - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria West - Exchanging banners



Dinner hosted by PDDG Hamada Zahran at Layla Restaurant



Dinner hosted by PDG & Mrs Assem Abdel Razek at San Giovanni Restaurant





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Alexandria Al Montazah - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Al Montazah - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria El Nozha - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria El Nozha - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria El Ramleh - Meeting



DG presented with the plaque in appreciation for his services by the President of R.C. Alexandria El Ramleh





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

R.C. Alexandria East - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria East - Exchanging banners



R.C. Alexandria Rakouda - Meeting



R.C. Alexandria Rakouda - Exchanging banners



Rotaractors of Alexandria





District Governor's Official Visits

January/February 2013

Gala Dinner hosted by Rotary Clubs of Alexandria



DG's official speech during the Gala Dinner



Thank You

I would like to express my sincerest words of gratitude to all the PDG's, DGN's, PDDG's, AG's, Presidents and all Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors for their excellent hospitality and kind attention during my visits to Cairo and Alexandria.

The degree of love and attention expressed towards my person was absolutely remarkable and never to be forgotten.

Words of appreciation are in order and I thank them all warmly.

Thank you and God Bless you all.

DG Kevork Mahdessian

77th DISTRICT 2450  
CONFERENCE  
4-7 APRIL 2013, LIMASSOL-CYPRUS



*The Last of the Best*  
*Together we'll make it*  
*The Best of the Last*



## District 2450 News



**Rotary Club of Nicosia  
&**

**Rotaract Club of Nicosia**

cordially invite you to an

**Islandwide Peace Event  
&**

**Screening of the film  
'Sharing an island'**

**27th February 2013  
19.00**

**at the European University Cyprus**

**Free Entrance**



**European  
University Cyprus**

LAUREATE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES



**Sharing  
an Island**  
**Το νησί που μοιραζόμαστε**

Featuring music by local artists • Ακούγονται μουσικές Κυπρίων καλλιτεχνών

Directed/Produced By:  
Danae Stylianou  
Εκνοήτρια/Παραγωγή:  
Δανάη Στυλιανού

Cinematography: Stephen Nugent  
Editing: Danae Stylianou & Efi Modestou  
Sound: Markos Pappageorgiou

Sociologist: Rahme Veziroglu  
Music Co-ordination: Stella Voskaridou & Sertunc Akdogru  
Content Supervisor: Alexandros Loidos

Διεύθυνση Φωτογραφίας: Stephen Nugent  
Μοντάζ: Δανάη Στυλιανού & Εφί Μοδέστου  
Ήχος: Μάρκος Παπαγεωργίου  
Κοινωνιολόγος: Ράχη Βεζιρογλου  
Μουσική Επιμέλεια: Στέλλα Βοσκαρίδου & Σέρτυντ Ακδογρου  
Συμβούλος Περιεχομένου: Αλέξανδρος Λόιδος

URL/Ιστοσελίδα: www.sharinganisland.com  
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With the support of/Με την αρωγή των:



## ROTARY CLUB OF NICOSIA SUPPORTS YOUTH

One of Rotary's fundamentals is the support of Youth, the Future of the World.

The Rotary Club of Nicosia, has awarded eleven students with Scholarships for the academic year 2012-13, during a simple and moving ceremony which took place at the District Governor's office on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February.

The criteria of the Scholarships were based on the high academic performance of the students as well as the financial position of the family.

In times of global recession and economic crisis, the need of a proper education is even more essential as Education is a passport for professional and personal development.

**DG Kevork Mahdessian congratulated all the scholars as well as the President and the Committee of Rotary Club Nicosia**

