



WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE MONTH



Clean water, sanitation and good hygiene is a human right. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, they lead healthier and more successful lives. We don't just build wells and walk away. Rotary members integrate water, sanitation, and hygiene into education projects. When children learn about disease transmission and practice good hygiene, they miss less school. And they can take those lessons home to their families, expanding our impact.

WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE MONTH

March, recognized as **Water Sanitation & Hygiene Month**, serves as a vital reminder of the importance of clean water, proper sanitation, and good hygiene practices around the world. The month is also a time for organizations, communities, and individuals to unite in raising awareness and taking action to ensure that safe water and sanitation are available for everyone, everywhere. One of the most prominent global organizations championing this cause is **Rotary International**, with its decades-long commitment to solving water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) issues in underserved communities.

Rotary's Role in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene - Rotary International is a global network of community leaders dedicated to making a lasting difference through service projects that address some of the world's most pressing challenges. Rotary's focus on WASH is one of the cornerstones of its global mission, which aims to improve the lives of individuals and communities by addressing the root causes of poverty, illness, and inequality.

Rotary's **WASH in Schools** program, for example, is a powerful initiative that brings clean water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene education to schools, particularly in developing countries. This program improves children's health, reduces absenteeism, and empowers young people with the knowledge and tools to improve their communities. Furthermore, **Rotary's Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Programs** work with local governments, communities, and partner organizations to design and implement sustainable solutions that meet the needs of specific regions.

Key Projects and Initiatives in March

Throughout Water Sanitation & Hygiene Month, Rotary clubs across the globe intensify their efforts to raise awareness, fund projects, and provide hands-on service in local communities. In March, the focus is placed on key activities such as:

- 1. Fundraising for Clean Water Projects:** Many Rotary clubs launch fundraising campaigns in March to support clean water initiatives. These funds go toward building wells, water filtration systems, and sanitation facilities in areas that lack basic water infrastructure.
- 2. Education and Awareness Campaigns:** Rotary members frequently organize workshops and seminars on water sanitation and hygiene, targeting schools, community leaders, and local governments. The goal is to educate individuals about the importance of maintaining clean water sources and practicing good hygiene to prevent disease.
- 3. Local Clean-Up and Hygiene Drives:** Rotary clubs often engage in grassroots activities such as local clean-up initiatives, distributing soap and hygiene kits to underserved populations, and promoting handwashing and sanitation education.
- 4. Advocacy for Policy Change:** In addition to on-the-ground work, Rotary also advocates for stronger national and international policies that prioritize water, sanitation, and hygiene, especially in developing countries where resources are limited.

ROTARY : POWER OF GOODNESS
ZONE 21 & 22 VIDEO COMPETITION

Rotary 
Zone 21&22

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Video Competition

OPEN TO ALL ROTARACT & ROTARY CLUBS OF ZONE 21 & 22
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ROTARY : POWER OF GOODNESS
ZONE 21 & 22 VIDEO COMPETITION



Power of Goodness
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GET YOUR VIDEO READY!

Website opens for **PARTICIPATION**
Sunday 23rd February 2025

Deadline for **SUBMISSION**
Wednesday 23rd April 2025

*For any inquiries, please contact your
RPIC, ARPIC, or DPIC.*

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

March is here, and for Rotary International, that means celebrating Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month — a time to shine a spotlight on one of the most transformative areas of our work.

This month is an opportunity to reflect on The Magic of Rotary and the profound impact we create when we come together with determination and purpose.

Years ago, I experienced this magic firsthand in the Dominican Republic. When a group of members helped people install water filters, three children watched with amazement as dirty water entered one end of a filter and clean water emerged from the other. When we paused the demonstration, one child tugged at my sleeve and pleaded, “Show me the magic again.”

To them, it felt magical. It was also the result of countless hours of effort — planning, transporting, and installing the filters — alongside local partners who were dedicated to making clean water accessible. In that moment, I realized that what seemed like a small act could change residents’ lives. That is The Magic of Rotary.

This story is a testament to the incredible potential of our global family to create change. Water projects exemplify our reach, our partnerships, and our unwavering commitment to improving lives. Consider Rotary’s work with USAID. That partnership has enabled us to work with communities and governments to improve access to sustainable water and sanitation services for thousands of people in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, the Philippines, and Uganda.


Partnerships remind us that Rotary’s impact is amplified when we work together. Through our strategic alliance with the United Nations Environment Programme, we’re advancing the Community Action for Fresh Water initiative. This program equips Rotary members with the tools and resources to protect, restore, and sustain freshwater ecosystems.

When we make use of Rotary grants and advocate for clean water in our communities, we create a ripple effect that extends far beyond individual projects.

As we embrace the spirit of the month, I encourage every Rotary member to seek out new partnerships. Collaboration multiplies our efforts and helps us reach more people in need.

Whether it’s joining forces with local organizations, forming alliances with international agencies, or mobilizing your community, every step we take together brings us closer to a world where everyone has access to clean water and safe sanitation.

The Magic of Rotary shines brightest when we work in harmony with others to create lasting good. Together, we can turn dreams into realities that transform lives and communities. The result may feel like magic at times, but we know it’s from the power of our collective commitment and compassion. Let’s harness this magic to make a difference this month and beyond.



STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
PRESIDENT
RY 2024-2025



N. ALTAN ARSLAN

PP 2005-2006 RC ANKARA KIZILAY

PDG 2018-2019 D2430

RPIC 2023-2026 ZONE 21B

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ROTARY: TIME TO FOCUS ON SOLUTIONS

As you read these lines, we are in April—a time when we, as Rotarians, focus on solving environmental problems and protecting our planet. Rotary addresses environmental protection and improvement efforts under its 7th Area of Focus: Supporting the Environment.

Industrial development, driven by human needs, and the transportation of industrial products across countries and even continents have led to increased carbon dioxide emissions, creating serious environmental issues that pose a growing threat to human life.

As we all know, Rotary's fundamental mission is to act with the future in mind, not just the present. Every investment in the environment is an important step toward a healthier and more sustainable world.

The connection between Rotary and the environment is strong, aligned with sustainable development and social well-being goals.

For this reason, Rotary clubs and districts carry out various projects to promote environmental sustainability. These include tree-planting campaigns, water and sanitation projects, biodiversity conservation efforts, ocean, river, and lake cleanups, and educational programs to spread environmental awareness.

However, with the rapid growth of the world's population, problems such as increasing industrial waste and the carbon emissions caused by the transportation of industrial products between countries have made renewable energy, carbon footprint reduction, and recycling projects a key focus for us as Rotarians in the fight against climate change.

Climate change is not just an environmental threat—it is also a major crisis that endangers global peace and stability. The effects of climate change, such as droughts, floods, wildfires, and rising sea levels, lead to the depletion of natural resources and force millions of people to migrate, resulting in social unrest and conflicts. Fighting climate change is one of the most crucial elements of ensuring sustainable peace.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ROTARY: TIME TO FOCUS ON SOLUTIONS

If we fail to organize and take action, the problems that will arise include:

- Scarcity of essential resources like water, food, and energy,
- The displacement of millions of people, leading to increased social and economic pressures,
- Governments having to implement stricter security and military measures in response to escalating environmental crises.

As Rotarians, we have a responsibility to act. Supporting renewable energy, reducing our carbon footprint, and promoting recycling projects are essential steps in this fight. Through Global Grants and the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG), we can implement impactful projects that contribute to the solution.

Every investment in the environment is an investment in a healthier and more peaceful world!

See you next month
DO GOOD IN THE WORLD

Rtn. N.Altan Arslan
PP 05-06 Ankara Kızılay RC
PDG 18-19 D.2430
RPIC 23-26 Region 25

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF



ARPIC ALAEDDIN DEMIRCIOĞLU
DISTRICT 2420/2430/2440

**Bahçeşehir University (BAU) Rotary Peace Scholars in
Ordu (District 2430):
Meaningful Visit on Sustainable Agriculture and Local
Economy**

Meaningful Visit on Sustainable Agriculture and Local Economy
BAU Rotary Peace Center Peace Scholars made a series of important contacts in Ordu and Giresun as part of their field visits. 13 Peace Scholars from 12 different countries met with Ordu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OTSO) President and OBB ORTAR A.Ş. Board of Directors President at BAU Farm Giresun.

The scholars received detailed information about the studies carried out on the development of local agriculture and trade.

As part of the program, the delegation also visited Kybele Chocolate Park. During the visit, Bord of Directors informed the guests about both Kybele's production processes and OBB's studies in the field of sustainable agriculture in Ordu.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Atlas of Turkey and Regions project for visually impaired children

With the Turkey Visually Handicapped Library (TÜRGÖK) project of Izmir Sahilevleri Rotary Club, embossed maps of Turkey and Regions were made for our visually impaired children and delivered to TÜRGÖK Chairman Tülay Yazgan and her team.

The finance required for the printing and design of the embossed maps was provided by the efforts of dear Zehra Soydan and our club members by organizing a Pumpkin Food Workshop in Urla. Since the production of the maps requires special competence, they were produced under difficult conditions with the joint work of the printing house and the graphic design company. The printing house, which cooperated for these processes, worked devotedly and realized the printing.

With the embossed maps of Turkey and Regions, our blind children will be able to recognize our country and regions and shed a new light on their dark world.

Our project will continue in order to reach more visually impaired children.





ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ
DISTRICT 2452

Rotary Clubs of Bahrain jointly prepare for the upcoming Gergaon festival

Members from the Rotary Clubs of Manama, Salmaniya, Seef Bahrain, and the Rotaract Club of Bahrain prepared gifts for the upcoming annual Rotary Gergaon Festival next week at Nakheel Centre. Each gift bag contains sweets, games, toys, and nuts. The gifts will be distributed to the attendees who are beneficiaries of several local charity societies.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Clubs of Bahrain organize Gergaon Festival for Community

The Rotary Clubs of Bahrain (RC Manama, Salmaniya, Seef Bahrain, Rotaract Club of Bahrain and Muharraq) jointly organised the yearly Gergaon festival at Nakheel Centre. The master of ceremonies Ali Yaseen created a fun night with a local band playing traditional music and competitions with prizes. Gergaon is a traditional festival celebrated half way through the holy month of Ramadan where children sing traditional songs and go door to door collecting sweets from neighbors



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Britus Bahrain Interact Club organize a donation drive for Orphans

The Britus Bahrain Interact club members visit a local orphanage to donate clothes, food, and other essentials to support the orphans. The donations will be distributed during the holy month of Ramadan.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

In support for the EDUCATION of the deaf children at Friends in Need Association for Deaf D2452 Lebanon

Rotary Club Tripoli - Maarad in collaboration with Friends in Need Association organized the traditional S7OUR at Baytouna restaurant during the holy month of Ramadan to support the EDUCATION of the Deaf children at Friends in Need Association for Deaf.

The tuition fees of 5 deaf children for a full year school program will be covered with the funds raised.

Thank you for all who attended the event and who were behind its success of this very meaningful event.

FISTA, RESTART, ROTARY and dear GUESTS !!!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

ROTARY BASIC INFORMATION TRAINING - D 2452 CYPRUS

On Saturday, March 22, the Rotary training took place at Ramadan Cemil Enterprises. This training was in Turkish and it was mainly organised for those members whose English was not sufficient to follow training in English or those members who can not travel to South Cyprus but was open to an Rotary members.

Trainer was PDG Mr. Malik Aviral from District 2430 and delivered the session with a soft tone and in a humorous approach, making the training highly enjoyable and dynamic.

While learning about the structure, principles, values and goals of a Rotary Club, he highlighted the positive qualities and privileges that come with being a Rotarian, emphasizing their importance in terms of socialization.

During the training, there was also a bingo-like game that not only helped maintain the participants' focus but also offered a prize at the end, which we found very clever. Congratulations to the winner who was Rtn. Ayşe Aslım.

After the training, on behalf of the four Rotary Clubs in N. Cyprus, a certificate of appreciation was presented to the valuable trainer PDG Malik Aviral.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Seminar on Women and Psychological Strength in Celebration of International Women's Day D2452 Cyprus

On 10th March 2025, in celebration of International Women's Day, Rotary Club of Kyrenia Cosmopolitan partnered with their twin club, Rotary Club of Eskişehir Yazılıkaya, to organize an online seminar on Women and Psychological Strength.

The presentation was prepared and delivered by psychologists Gözde Yazıcı and Pelin Bayın. It provided valuable insights into human psychology, personal growth, external influences, and self-awareness processes.

Rotary
2430 Bölge





ROTARY
SİHRİ

PSİKOLOJİK SAĞLAMLIK VE KADIN

10.03.2025 - 21:00



PSK. GÖZDE YAZICI



PSK. PELİN BAYIN

Eskişehir Yazılıkaya
Rotary
Kulübü



Rotary



Club of
Kyrenia
Cosmopolitan

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotarian Fellowship at RC Nicosia Sarayönü Hummus Soup and Pastırma Event - D2452 Cyprus

On Sunday 16th of March 2025, fifty-two Rotarians came together to enjoy hummus soup, pastırma

and Rotarian fellowship at the traditional event organised by RC Nicosia Sarayönü.

There were Rotarians from RC Kyrenia Liman, RC Kyrenia St. Hilarion, RC Nicosia Aspelia, RC Nicosia Lefkothea, RC

Limassol Berengaria Cosmopolitan, and RC Kyrenia Cosmopolitan brought members of their twin club RC İzmir Varyant, who were on a visit to Cyprus.

We were honoured by the attendance of two past District Governors, Kevork Mahdessian and Christina Covotsou-Patroclou, who were both accompanied by their spouses. Also in attendance was the Deputy District Governor for Cyprus 2024-2025, Demetris Pantazis.

It was an unusually hot day for the middle of March and the tables were laid outside in the shade.

A

very good time was enjoyed together. The event raised some funds for the service projects of RC Nicosia Sarayönü.

As a gesture of hospitality, Greek Cypriot Rotarians presented members of RC Varyant with token gifts of small bottles of Zivania, a traditional Cypriot drink. The highlight of the day was a ceremonial flag exchange between the presidents of RC Sarayonu and RC Izmir Varyant.

This fellowship gathering was a true example of the Rotarian spirit of peace and unity.



ARPIC SERTAÇ GÜMÜŞ ON.....

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotarian Fellowship at RC Nicosia Sarayönü Hummus Soup and Pastırma Event - D2452 Cyprus



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Visit of Old People's Home (Lapta Huzurevi) in honor of Elderly Week and the upcoming Eid holiday. -Cyprus D2452

Rotary & Rotaract Club of Kyrenia Cosmopolitan of Cyprus Rotary D2452 organised a very meaningful joint event. In honor of Elderly Week and the upcoming Eid holiday, they visited Old People's Home (Lapta Huzurevi) to spend time with our esteemed elders.

Listening to their stories, learning from their experiences and simply sharing a smile made the visitors' time together truly special. Sometimes, a heartfelt conversation or a warm smile can make a world of difference in their lives.

Our elders are the witnesses of the past and the carriers of our culture. They are the most valuable treasures, passing down a lifetime of wisdom, love and experience to us.

Showing them respect should not be limited to special occasions; it is a lifelong responsibility. There is always an opportunity to visit, remind them that they are not alone, and show our love.

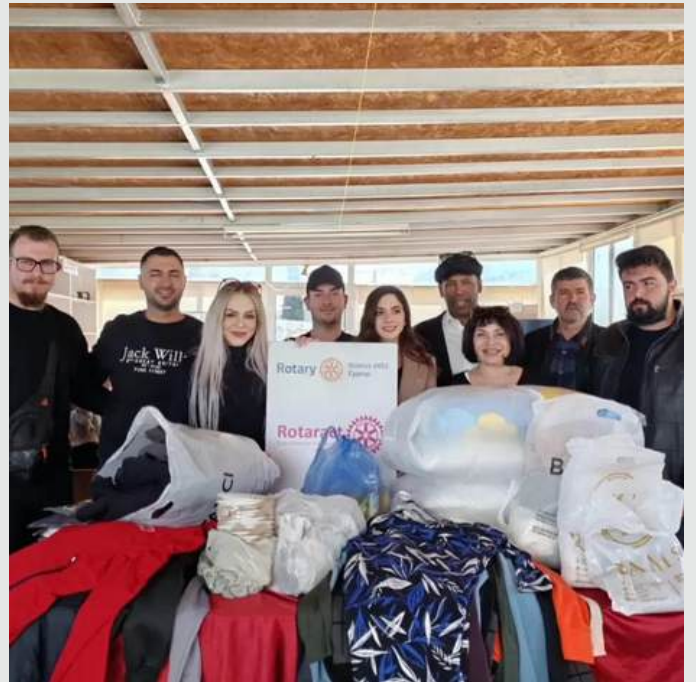
✨ If we managed to bring a smile to their faces, then our mission is accomplished! ✨

We extend our gratitude to Derya Butik, Bostancı Butik & China Bazaar (Ortaköy) for their generous contributions.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Visit of Old People's Home (Lapta Huzurevi) in honor of Elderly Week and the upcoming Eid holiday. -Cyprus D2452



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

District 2452 - Bahrain: Rotary Seef Bahrain Club Launches Ramadan Initiatives to Support Needy Families

Manama, Bahrain – Embodying the spirit of giving and social solidarity during the holy month of Ramadan, the Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain, in collaboration with the Capital Governorate, has launched a series of humanitarian initiatives aimed at supporting underprivileged families and bringing joy to orphaned children.

As part of these efforts, the club organized a Ramadan food basket distribution campaign and group Iftar meals in the Hooraa area. The donations, which included essential food items, were distributed to alleviate financial burdens on needy families. Beneficiaries warmly welcomed the initiative, expressing their deep gratitude for the generous support.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RC Nicosia Salamis organised an instructive educational and valuable conference with Cyprus Biobank -Cyprus D2452

Rotary Club of Nicosia Salamis, successfully arranged an instructive educational conference on 11 March 2025, in collaboration with Biobank.cy (Cyprus Biobank) and University of Cyprus in support of the research that Biobank.cy is currently conducting on "Cyprus Biobank & the Cypriot DNA".

DNA tests are done free of charge through blood tests to identify any hereditary disease that has been carried down to the children from the parents' genes.

Dr. Constantinos Deltas, Professor of Medicine and Molecular Genetics was the distinguished guest speaker.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Meeting with the Hon Consulate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Cyprus - "Promoting cooperation between Cyprus & Vietnam" -Cyprus D2452

Rotarian and President of CCCI Cyprus Stavros Stavrou, DDG Demetris Pantazis, AG Anna Hadjimarcou, and PP Ioannis Tomasides had the opportunity by invitation from the Ambassador of Vietnam H.E. Duong Hai Hung in Cyprus to attend a meeting in Nicosia on 27th of March 2025 "Promoting cooperation between Cyprus & Vietnam - The role of the Honorary Consulate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Cyprus - Hon Consul Mr. George Christophides"



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Helping needy families during Ramadan - Cyprus D2452

As the Rotary Club of Kyrenia St. Hilarion, we continued our traditional club service project again this year and we donated 40 food supplement bags during Ramadan for the needy families. We thank everyone who have helped with their kind donations which includes our club members, our twin club members of Adana Güney Rotary Kulübü D2430 , other Rotarian friends and friends of Rotary. Our special thanks goes to Zeytin Ağacı Eğitim ve Yardımlaşma Derneği (ZAYDER) who distributed the 40 food supplement bags together with some clothing. We will continue to support our community.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

District 2452 - Bahrain: Rotary Seef Bahrain Club Organize Shopping trip for Orphaned Children

The Rotary Club of Seef Bahrain partnered with the ISACA Bahrain Chapter and the Al Sanabel Society to organize a shopping trip for orphaned children at City Centre Bahrain. The children joyfully selected new Eid clothes, ensuring they could fully experience the happiness of the festive season. Organizers made sure to cater to their individual preferences, providing clothing, shoes, and essential Eid items in an atmosphere filled with warmth and care.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club of Kyrenia's 55th Anniversary Dinner - "Night of Remembrance, Recognition and Celebration" -Cyprus D2452

On March 19, 2025, the Rotary Club of Kyrenia held its 55th Anniversary Dinner, titled "Night of Remembrance, Recognition and Celebration," at the Cleopatra Hotel in Nicosia, Cyprus. The event brought together current and former members, Rotarians from across the island, dignitaries, prospective members, and friends to honor the club's remarkable legacy. Founded in Kyrenia in 1970, the club has operated in exile in Nicosia since 1974 after forced displacement and remains one of only two in the world granted special permission by Rotary International to function outside its original geographic territory.

In her opening remarks, Club President Marina Gavriel reflected on the club's deep roots in service and community care. She recounted early initiatives such as establishing a blood bank and donating to local hospitals and shared how members planned to build a nursing home in Kyrenia—an effort supported by generous land donations from Rotarians but interrupted by the events of 1974. After displacement, the club refocused its efforts on supporting Kyrenian refugees, funding playgrounds in refugee areas, donating medical equipment, and upholding Rotary values with quiet determination and heartfelt commitment.

The evening featured moving tributes to three long-serving members:

The late Agathoclis Agathocleous was a devoted member whose legacy continues to inspire the Rotary Club of Kyrenia. A native of Kontemenos in the Kyrenia district, he combined professional success with an unwavering commitment to community service. He joined the club in 1992 and quickly became a trusted Treasurer—a role he held from 1995 until his untimely passing—and a cherished friend to many. Already recognized during his lifetime as a Paul Harris Fellow, he served with generosity, optimism, and deep commitment, particularly through his leadership in the club's annual "Kyrenia Day" events, where he played a key role in securing support for local institutions. Agathoclis was a beacon of humility, warmth, and steadfast service, and his memory remains a guiding light for the club's ongoing work.

Doros Moutzis, who joined the Rotary Club of Kyrenia in 1979, was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow at the event in recognition of his decades of faithful service and quiet leadership. A two-term president and longtime board member, Doros contributed to countless initiatives that highlighted both Rotary values and the cultural heritage of Kyrenia. He participated in international Rotary conferences and worked closely with local and regional Rotary leaders, always known for his kindness, humility, and generous spirit. Even today, he remains a vital presence, most visibly during the club's visits to the Makarios Hospital, where he helps bring joy to children with the same heartfelt dedication he has shown for over four decades.

Yiannis Papaioannou, who served as club president in 2005–2006 and now as vice president, was also recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow at the event. A civil engineer and former mayor of Karavas, Yiannis brought both professional expertise and deep civic commitment to his Rotary work. During his presidency, he focused on strengthening the club's ties with community organizations from the Kyrenia district, organizing fundraising events and securing sponsorships for local athletic clubs, cultural associations, and even the publication of a book preserving the educational history of Kyrenia. He also played a key role in the club's "Kyrenia Day" initiative. Known for his methodical thinking, generosity, and ever-positive spirit, he continues to offer invaluable guidance and support to the club. His dedication to public service—both within and beyond Rotary—embodies the values the club seeks to uphold.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club of Kyrenia's 55th Anniversary Dinner - "Night of Remembrance, Recognition and Celebration" -Cyprus D2452

The event balanced remembrance with renewal—honoring past contributions while calling new generations to carry the torch. As President Marina concluded:

"Today, our club may be small in number, but it is great in thirst and dedication to continue the work of our predecessors. With full awareness of our historical responsibility, we continue to serve Rotary ideals, support the vulnerable, and actively contribute to civil society, both in Cyprus and abroad. Together, let us write the next chapter of our history."



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Breakout Session on Cyprus at the 2025 Presidential Peace Conference in İstanbul Cyprus D2452

On Friday 21st February between 13:45 and 15:00 there was a breakout session on Cyprus, titled “Integrating Unofficial Diplomacy and Civil Society Engagement in Cyprus Peacebuilding”.

The moderators were Christina Covotsou-Patroclou, a Past District Governor and member of the Rotary Club of Limassol-Berengaria Cosmopolitan, Cyprus and Sertaç Gümüş, a Past Assistant Governor and member of the Rotary Club of Kyrenia St.Hilarion, Cyprus.

The panelists were Maria Hadjipavlou, an associate professor in the department of social and political science at the University of Cyprus and Sertaç Sonan, head of the political science and international relations department of Cyprus International University and director of the Centre for Cyprus and Mediterranean Studies

The Cyprus breakout session was very well attended with around 350 persons in the audience, where the maximum capacity of the room was 384. Elizabeth Spehar, Assistant Secretary-General for peacebuilding support, UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs was among the audience, which included many RI directors and dignitaries.

After half a century of intermittent negotiations in Cyprus, official talks have stagnated because of polarized positions. The panel described how Rotary members in Cyprus are setting an example by working together to develop programs and projects that benefit both societies and building strong friendships among members of the Rotary community. Integrating civil society expertise in the diplomatic process increases citizen support for reaching and implementing an agreement. The panelists discussed the challenges Cypriot civil society faces to promote an approach that emphasizes relationships and dialogue in both official and unofficial diplomatic efforts.

At one point Tashtan Altuner, a Past Deputy District Governor and member of the Rotary Club of Nicosia Sarayönü from Cyprus, participant in the Peacebuilding workshop held at the Carter School for Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding in November 2024, was called to the stage to talk about the workshop and the Rotary Clubs of Cyprus commitment to working together.

The session ended with questions from the floor to the panelists. Elizabeth Spehar made a short speech, in which she stated that Cyprus was always in her mind and she commended the good work done by Rotarians in Cyprus.

At the very end, PDG Christina called all the Cypriots in the hall to come to the stage. Quite a crowd gathered on stage, with many expat Cypriots joining the group that had travelled from Cyprus. Photos were taken and pleasantries exchanged.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Breakout Session on Cyprus at the 2025 Presidential Peace Conference in İstanbul Cyprus D2452

Elizabeth Spehar was the keynote speaker at the conference and she chose to attend our breakout session as well as having coffee with all the Cypriots before the Gala Dinner. We had several positive feedback both verbal and written from different valuable people regarding the success of our breakout session and on the closing day of the conference, in his conclusive comments Past Rotary International President 2019-20 and current Chair of Rotary Foundation Mark Maloney referred to Cyprus Rotary and Carter School collaboration peace building and conflict prevention project. A stage photo of the breakout session was used as the landing page / front cover photo by [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org) website (Rotary peace conference seeks to heal in a divided world) which made us all very proud.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RI President Stephanie Urchick's visit to Cyprus -D2452

27th February to 2nd March 2025 we were honoured with Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick's and Aide to RI President 2024-25 RIDN Tom Gump's visit to Cyprus.

Upon their arrival RI President Stephanie Urchick and RIDN Tom Gump were greeted by PDG Christina Covotsou-Patroclou, DGN Peter Ashdjian, DDG Demetris Pantazis and had a seaside lunch in Larnaca with fellow Rotarians.

Later, in the early evening, on the same day around 60 Rotarians from Cyprus gathered at the Ledra Palace Hotel, located in the buffer zone of Nicosia, in the presence of Rotary International President Stephanie R. Urchick, who joined us at the meeting organized by PDDG Tashtan Altuner.

President Urchick was invited to visit Cyprus by PDG Christina Covotsou Patroclou last year, to witness the co-operation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Rotarians, just after the Presidential Peace Conference held in Istanbul Turkey from 20th to 22nd February 2025. At this conference there was a breakout session on the role of civil society in peacebuilding in Cyprus, with especial emphasis on the work of the Rotary Clubs of Cyprus.

The meeting at Ledra Palace Hotel provided an opportunity for the participants of our Peace Building workshop to share their experiences. The workshop served as a platform to identify actionable projects that bring our communities together—with the goal of building peace on the island from the ground up.

Our Peace Building workshop, held in November 2024 at the Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution Building near Washington, D.C., brought together around 20 Rotarian and non-Rotarian members from across Cyprus. Authentic perspectives and emotional experiences were shared, paving the way for practical, collaborative initiatives.

After the seminar, all attendees enjoyed a fellowship meal at the renowned restaurant Niazi's hosted by the Turkish Cypriot Rotary Clubs, reflecting true Rotarian comradeship and a steadfast commitment to Rotary's vision of promoting peace.

On Friday 28 Feb, RI President Stephanie Urchick and RIDN Tom Gump travelled with a group of fellow Rotarians via tour bus to the Cyprus mountains to visit the traditional village of Omodos, Troodos Mountains and various UNESCO Heritage/church sites. That night major donors recognition dinner was held in the superb Aliada Restaurant in Limassol.

On Saturday 1 March we had a day long District Membership Seminar. RIDN Tom Gump, PDG Christina and PDG Jamil Mouawad spoke at the morning's plenary session and RI President Stephanie Urchick addressed the fellow Rotarians with her inspiring and motivating speech. Then PDG Christina and RIDN Tom Gump each facilitated interactive breakout sessions using mock membership scenarios. In the afternoon PDG Bashar Haddad spoke in the second plenary session analysing the state of our district in terms of membership. PP / New Club Development Chair Ahmad Hussein gave a speech with examples on a number of various alternative new club formats. In the evening a very enjoyable Gala Dinner with a festive Carnival theme was held which included an international food buffet, music played by a disk jockey, dancing and plenty of masks, hats, ties, sunglasses, necklaces and other carnival trinkets. PDG Christina's birthday was celebrated with a surprise birthday cake and celebrations.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RI President Stephanie Urchick's visit to Cyprus -D2452





NIKOS MARGAROPOULOS
DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2024-25
RID 2475 / GREECE

MONTHLY LETTER MARCH 2025

ARPIC MARIA MASTORA
DISTRICT 2475

March is dedicated by Rotary International to Water and Sanitation.

It gives us the opportunity to reflect on one of the greatest challenges that faces humanity today. More than 2 billion people on the planet lack access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, a reality that causes disease, undermines education and is a barrier to economic development in many communities.

As Rotarians, we are proud of our contribution to this area of focus through projects that provide clean water, sanitation facilities and promote cleanliness in schools, rural communities and urban centers around the world. Rotary Foundation's projects in these areas of focus are put into practice. Rotary's values and vision of a world where all people can live in peace and prosperity and have access to these fundamental goods.

From February 24-27 we had the great pleasure and honour of welcoming to our District RI President Stephanie Urchick. Her visit started in Thessaloniki, continued in Meteora and Volos and concluded in Athens. The President had the opportunity to get acquainted with the cultural heritage of our country, visited structures where projects have been implemented by the Rotary Clubs and our District, and to meet with many Rotarians.

In her post after the visit, she spoke highly of her experience in Greece.

Follows an extensive report on all the details of this important visit.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

NIKOS MARGAROPOULOS, DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2024-25 MONTHLY LETTER MARCH 2025

Continuing the successful organization of the Institutes of Entrepreneurship (IPEN), I am pleased to inform you that three IPEIs are taking place this year, in Kifissia (already held with great success), in Thessaloniki and Heraklion, Crete. This year's IPENs have a different content from the previous ones, with emphasis on advising start-ups through private meetings, and focus on the development of new businesses, best practices and finding of funds.

The preparation of the Officers for the next Rotary Year begins with the Assistant Governor Training Seminars, PELS, Secretaries and Treasurers training and Rotary Foundation Programs Seminar by Governor-Elect Stefanos Anastasopoulos.

The continuous learning and training of our officers is a basic prerequisite for the progress and development of Rotary in our District. Through these events, knowledge is passed on, bonds are developed among members of the Clubs

and the effective operation of the Clubs and of the District's activities is ensured.

I would like to remind you that the most important event of our District, , the Convention, will take place from 25 to 27 April in Ioannina. The participation is already very high. Let us all be there. for celebrating together what we have accomplished this year, to share our experience and strengthen even more the bonds of our Rotary family.

The Rotarians of our District are constantly proving that we are not only united by the desire to offer but also by the determination of continuous improvement and development.

We continue with undiminished zeal the committed to our vision of a stronger, giving and inspiring Rotary.

Together, with love and dedication, let us all continue to live and transmit the Magic of Rotary_



Nikos Margaropoulos
District Governor 2024-25
RID 2475 / GREECE

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece

From 24/2/2025 to 26/2/2025 the President of Rotary International Stephanie Urchick visited Greece! The President and her Aide Tom Gump were welcomed in Thessaloniki by RID 2475 Governor Nikos Margaropoulos, PDG Dora Kemou and the presidents of the clubs of Thessaloniki.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece

On Monday February 24th, RID 2475 - Greece held an exceptional gala dinner in honour of Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick. The ceremony included the induction of new members, the presentation of Paul Harris Recognitions, and further awards from Rotary International and Rotary Foundation.

At the same time, the 120th anniversary of the foundation of Rotary was celebrated. The event was attended by 160 rotarians of all Rotary Clubs of Thessaloniki, Alexandroupolis, Corfu, Heraklion, Heraklion, Ioannina, Kozani "Elimea", Kalamaria, Preveza, Volos "Argo", Kifissia - Politia, Chrysoupolis "Nestos", as well as by friends of Rotary.



RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece

On Tuesday, February 25, the President of Rotary International, Stephanie Urchick, visited the Holy Monastery of St. Stephen in Meteora for a pilgrimage and then, together with Board Member Elect Tom Gump, DG Nikos Margaropoulos and PDG Dora Kemou, visited Volos, where the Clubs of Thessaly - Volos, Trikala, Larissa Anatoli, Volos Argo, Larissa Pinios Potamos, hosted a traditional Greek lunch in her honor. RI President had the opportunity to be informed about the rich service activities of the Clubs of Thessaly and to meet Rotarians. In her speech she referred to the Magic of Rotary and the great Rotary family.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece

On Wednesday 26 February, RI President Stephanie Urchick visit to Athens began with the planting of an Olive Tree, the tree of Peace under the Acropolis with the contribution of Rotarians from RC Marathon-Nea Makri. Followed an amazing tour of the Acropolis Museum by Rotarian Dora Spahi. Next stop was the National Archaeological Museum of Athens with the delivery of the wheelchairs, the program "Give the Gift of Access 1.0" designed by the Rotary E-Club of Greece with the participation of the Rotary Clubs of Preveza, Halandri and Psychiko.

The day continued with the visit of Children's Hospital of Penteli, the section that RID 2475 had designed and renovated for children deprived of a family environment by public prosecutor's order until they are taken over by a foster family or a juvenile hostel. There RI President was also interviewed by ta national television station.

The morning was ended by a visit to the Ministry of State and RI President had the opportunity to talk with Minister Makis Voridis about international issues.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

**RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece
Wednesday 26 February**



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

**RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick un Greece
Wednesday 26 February**



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece Wednesday 26 February

On February 26th the galal dinner of RID2475 was held under the leadership of DG Nikos Margaropoulos, with the presence of more than 300 Rotarians and friends, at Intercontinental Hotel. The event was dedicated to RI President, Stephanie Urchick, and the anniversary of 120 years of Rotary.

President Stephanie presented the charter to the new Clubs Athinai Parthenon and Athinai Kolonaki as well as badges to new Rotarians, recognition of Paul Harris Fellow, Benefactor and Major Donor and other Rotary awards.

The evening ended in a festive atmosphere, with discussions and exchange of ideas between members and guests.



Rotary
District 2475

**RI PRESIDENT
STEPHANIE URCHICK'S VISIT**

Gala dinner

In honour of our R.I. President, the event will feature the induction of new members, the awarding of Paul Harris Fellow awards, as well as other awards from Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation

LOCATION:
Athens- Intercontinental Hotel

DATE: Wednesday 26 February

TIME: 19:30

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece

Wednesday 26 February

The speech of DG Nikos Margaropoulos



My dear Rotarian family,
ladies and gentlemen,

Since I was elected as Governor Elect, I have been addressing you as my beloved Rotarian family, an address used by Past District Governor Heinz Kounio in the late 90's and, since then, adopted by my club.

It is with great pleasure that I heard President Stephanie addressing Rotarians in the same manner. This small detail highlights how our Rotarian values transcend borders and connect us as one global family.

Our District stands proud with its rich 100 years of history. Throughout these years, Greek Rotarians have embodied «Service Above Self» not as an occasional activity but as a daily commitment that transforms lives.

We had the opportunity to celebrate this legacy with the Clubs of Thessaloniki and Northern Greece, as well as with those in Thessaly, during our visit to

Volos. Each celebration has reinforced the strength and dedication of our Rotarian community.

President Stephanie, your visit to District 2475 is not merely an official occasion —it is a momentous celebration of our global Rotarian family's commitment to service, sharing the ideals that Paul Harris envisioned 120 years ago when he started this remarkable journey.

The Greek word «φιλοξενία» (philoxenia) means more than just hospitality; it represents our sacred duty to honor guests. Tonight, in this spirit, we honor you, President Stephanie, as you carry forward the torch of Rotary leadership with wisdom and grace.

You chose «The Magic of Rotary» as this year's theme - a theme that resonates deeply with all of us here in District 2475. We have witnessed this magic

firsthand in the eyes of children benefiting from the equipment we provide to schools and educational materials for students in need, in communities accessing vital healthcare through our medical initiatives and score of communities recovering from natural disasters, and in the bright futures of young people supported by our scholarships.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece

Wednesday 26 February

The speech of DG Nikos Margaropoulos

This magic flows through our district's close to 100- year history of service. From mainland Greece to our beautiful islands, Rotarians have worked tirelessly to improve lives and build stronger communities.

Throughout these years, Greek Rotarians have embodied «Service Above Self» not as an occasional activity but as a daily commitment that defines who we are.

Dear fellow Rotarians and friends, the wheel of Rotary that began turning 120 years ago continues its purposeful rotation, driven by dedicated Rotarians like each of you in this room. Together, we are writing new chapters in Rotary's history of service above self—chapters filled with compassion, innovation, and lasting impact.

As we enjoy this evening's fellowship, let us reaffirm our commitment to being people of action. Let us continue to experience the magic of service together— that indescribable feeling when we witness the transformation our efforts bring to lives and communities.

Rotary knows how to serve, but it also knows how to celebrate. And in doing so this evening, let us raise our glasses for the dual privilege we have: to celebrate both the 120th anniversary of our organization and the distinguished visit of Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick to our District.

To President Stephanie, to the continued magic of Rotary, and to the next century of service! Είς υγείαν! (To your health!)

I would like to warmly thank our sponsors: Rotarian Adriana Chatzilazarou of H Hotels Collection, Rotarian Athanasios Athanasiadis of Adelco, Rotarian Anastasios Ballas of Ballas Promotion, Rotarian Xenia Perroti Kantouna and her husband from Kabo Natura, Rotarian Miltiadis Zymaridis for two sponsorships, Rotarian Thomas Tassios and Mr. Panagiotis Kyriakopoulos of DIS SA. Each contributed to the financial goals and programs of our District with 2.000 Euros. After the completion of our programs, before the end of June, each will receive a report on where these donations were allocated. I would also like to thank Past District Governor Dora Kemou and her husband, Rotarian Nikos Kemos, for covering the cost of the President's van transportation in Athens.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

**RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece
Wednesday 26 February**



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - Visit of RI President Stephanie Urchick in Greece

As President Stephanie mentioned in her profile in Facebook:

A POSTCARD FROM GREECE

Wow..What a great way to continue the celebration of Rotary's 120th anniversary! Our final days in Greece were highlighted by fellowship, leadership, integrity, diversity, and service as we met with various Rotary Clubs of Thessaly, helped to protect the planet and promote peace by planting an olive tree, dedicated wheelchairs for one of the 14 museums receiving these special gifts for visitors to use, promoted Rotary with the Minister of State, and ended the stay with a huge Rotary gala honoring new clubs, new members, and new donors while enjoying traditional folk dancing. OPA!

GREECE



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - DTLS & PELS

Training Seminars for Assistant Governors, the elected Club Presidents and the Leadership Team of RID - 2475 , with the participation of 140 Rotarians from 65 clubs. Warm thanks to the chairman of the Learning Committee Kostas Kotsis, to the organizing team Rachel Topalidou , Christina Kartsiotou, Panagiotis Kanellos , Dimitrios Karpouzou, Thanasis Katsikis, Stavros Katsoulis and Dida Manolis for the excellent organization, to the instructors Christina Covotsou-Patroclou, Mavros Georgios , Maria Delivoria, Dora Kemou Bitsa , Dimitris Tsimpoukis, Charalambos Tigginagkas, Panayiotis T. Katrougalos , George Stavropoulos, Kostas Katakalos, Ikiakis Yannis, Mariza Economou and Christine Driva for the high quality of their presentations, to the organizing clubs RC Kifissia - Politia and RC Athina-Parthenon, for their commendable contribution, to the sponsor Dimitris Routsis for his significant support, and to the trainees for their willingness and participation.

Through unity , cooperation and selfless service, Rotary continues to play a key role in making the world a better place.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - ICC GREECE AND SERBIA-MONTENEGRO

The final signature of the ICC GREECE-SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO with the presence of RIP Stephanie Urchick ,in Montenegro took place!

A big bravo for the two Presidents Ioannis Samniotis and Pero Duletic and all the members of this ICC.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - ROTARACT AGIA PARASKEVI

On February 26th Rotaract Agia Paraskevi had the pleasure to visit the Agapi Foundation and distribute sweets and various toys- gifts to the children! It was definitely an unforgettable experience!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF



RID 2475 - RC ANOIXI-SEMELI

DONATION TO THE INFANT HOSPITAL OF PENTELI

On March 10th, RC Anoixi-Semeli, in the framework of its social action, offered to the Infant Hospital of Penteli, items for the needs of the 31 infants it hosts, waiting to be given for adoption. This year we were asked for specific toys.



RID 2475 - RC CHRISOUPOLIS-NESTOS

A delegation of the Rotary Club of Chrysoupolis - Nestos visited the offices of the Association for the Disabled of Kavala prefecture for handing over the amount collected by the Club in order to cover the needs of the Association. The President of the Association for People with Disabilities, extended a warm welcome to the delegation of the Club.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC PERISTERI ANTHOUPOLIS

RC Peristeri Anthoupoli, delivered 900pcs of energy bars (Nature Valley crunchy) to the Parents and Guardians Association for the Disabled of West Attica ELPIDA, for the needs of the beneficiaries of the Foundation!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC MARATHON NEA MAKRI & DIONYSOS

Rotary Club Marathon – Nea Makri, in collaboration with **Rotary Club Dionysos**, donated a full set of specialized gym equipment to the Athletic Club Marathon - People with Disabilities (PWD) of the Municipality of Marathon. This generous donation was made possible by Mrs. Pari Angelika (Premium Wellness), transforming the space into a modern and fully equipped gym. This donation reflects Rotary's core values by promoting social



ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

Rotary Club Dionysos Rotary Club Marathon - Nea Makri 2475 District

14 Μαρτίου (11:00)

Στήριξη Αθλητών ΑΜΕΑ & Τοπικών Αθλητών με την ΔΩΡΕΑ

υψηλής ποιότητας επαγγελματικών οργάνων γυμναστικής στον Δήμο Μαραθώνα!

RSVP By 10 March:
R.C. Dionysos 693 27734 48
R.C. Marathon-Nea Makri 694 43069 34

14 Μαρτίου (11:00)
ΔΗΜΟΤΙΚΟ ΣΤΑΔΙΟ ΝΕΑΣ ΜΑΚΡΗΣ ΠΑΤΑΡΙΩΝ & Α. ΜΑΡΑΘΩΝΑ

ΠΡΟΣΚΛΗΣΗ

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC ANOIXI-SEMELI

Tree Planting

On March 8th, the Dionysos Volunteer Civil Protection Association organized a tree planting, for the restoration of the landscape at the Dionysos Cemetery, which was affected by last year's devastating fire.

The plants were offered by RC Anoixi-Semeli.

Follows letter of thanks from Dionysos Civil Defence Volunteer Association for our Club's donation.



	ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΩΝ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ Δ.Κ. ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΥ Λεωφ. Μητροπολίτου Γρηγ. Καθακινών & Λεωφ. Διονύσου, Διόνυσος 145 76 ☎ 6945 258 282, 6980 209 372, 22957 70300 ✉ edionysiou@gmail.com 🌐 Έθελοντες Πολιτικής Προστασίας Διονύσου (eppd.gr)	
Διόνυσος 12/3/2025 Αριθ.Πρωτ. 044_2025		
Προς		
Την Πρόεδρο του Ροταριανού σμίλου «ΑΝΟΙΞΗ-ΣΕΜΕΛΗ» D2470		
Κα Ασπασία Μαρτίνη – Βάρδακα		
<p>Με την παρούσα επιστολή, ο Σύλλογος Εθελοντών Πολιτικής Προστασίας δημοτικής ενότητας Διονύσου (ΣΕΠΠΔ), σας ευχαριστεί για την ευγενή προσφορά σας και την συνεχή στήριξη του κλιμακίου μας από τον όμιλό σας. Η οικονομική σας βοήθεια, προς το κλιμάκιο μας, είναι πολύτιμη και πολύ σημαντική για όλους τους τομείς δράσης μας.</p> <p>Έτσι με το ποσό που μας διαθέσατε, ο Σύλλογος μας, αγόρασε φυτά και στις 8/3/2025 οργάνωσε δένδροφύτευση. Φυτεύτηκαν στο Κοιμητήριο της Κοινότητας Διονύσου, κυπαρίσσια και μικροδάφνες για την αποκατάσταση του τοπίου που επλήγη μετά την καταστροφική πυρκαγιά του Αυγούστου 2024.</p>		
Με εκτίμηση		
Για το ΔΣ		
Ο Πρόεδρος	Η Γραμματέας	
		
Δημήτρης Πιπινούδης	Δέσποινα Ιατρού	

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC PIREAS ANATOLI

RC Pireas-Anatoli, as it has committed to do, delivered once more this year clothing and bedding to the Social Integration Structure of Piraeus, which is under the auspices of the UNESCO Group of Piraeus and Islands. The Facility provides a sleeping room and offers support and care around the clock to our fellow human beings in need.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC ILIOUPOLIS

RC Ilioupolis participated in the workshop on early diagnosis and prevention of cancer organized with the support and participation of the municipality of Ilioupolis.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 21475 - RC PENTELI

RC Pentelis, continuing its ongoing support of the Penteli volunteer Fire fighters and appreciating its contribution to extinguishing fires in our area, offered 3 water lumen.

RC Amarousion also participated in this specific donation.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC AGRINION

RC Agrinion organized an informative workshop with double topics. The issue of the Rotary POLIO Programme from the point of view of medical data and developments was dealt with by the physician Mr. Spyridon Kalaitzakis, while the issue of Domestic & Child Violence was dealt with by the psychologist Mrs. Magdalene Agrafiotis. The event was attended by RID 2475 incoming Governor Stefanos Anastasopoulos and representatives of Rotary Clubs from Athens, Patras, Tripoli and Preveza! Congratulations for the successful organization and warm thanks for the impeccable hospitality, offered by the Rotarians of Agrinio!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC. RHODES

“Donation to the Special Experimental Primary School of Rhodes”

Following a request from the Special Experimental Primary School of Rhodes, housed in the Rhodes Academy Building, for the donation of an electric kitchen oven, absolutely essential for them, as the children attending the school, participate daily in a “kitchen program”, in a space designed for this purpose, RC Rhodes responded immediately.

RC Rhodes President Nikos Retsas, with the members of BOD Smaro Thomaidou and Evanthia Boni, visited the school on 18/3/2025, on behalf of the Club, and with great joy and love they carried out the delivery of the kitchen oven.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC DIONYSOS

On Saturday March. 22nd, at the Museum Drosini in Kifissia, RC Dionysos awarded the World Champion in Special Olympics Vasso Katsoudi.

Vasso is a commendable young person of our Municipality who won many distinctions in international competitions thanks to her will, her stubbornness, her consistency, her diligence and finally the WINS!!!!

An example for all of us!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - e-Club Greece and RC Preveza, Chalandri and Psychiko

The "Give the Gift of Access 1.0" Program, a program designed by the Rotary eClub Greece and implemented with the contribution of the Rotary Clubs of Preveza, Chalandri and Psychiko, continues its journey throughout Greece with two more wheelchair deliveries, this time in Preveza and Messara, Crete.

More specifically, on March 6th, a six-member delegation of RC Preveza, representing the partner Rotary Clubs, visited the Museum of Ancient Nikopolis in Preveza, accompanied by representatives of disabled people's associations in the area. There, in the presence of the Deputy Mayor of Tourism & Culture, the Rotarians met with the Head of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Preveza, Archaeologist Ms. Anthi Angeli, who received the wheel chairs , expressing her thanks and the service's satisfaction for the donation.

In another part of our country, specifically at the New Messara Museum in Ampelouzos, municipality of Gortyna, Crete, on March 8th, another delivery of wheelchairs took place.

The handover to the Museum representative, Mr. Antonis Papadakis, was made by the member of Rotary e-Club Greece and responsible for Crete, rtn Dimosthenis Marakis, who also represented the other participants in the program,RC Preveza, Chalandri and Psychiko. RID 2475 and DG Nikos Margaropoulos were represented by AG Michalis Zografakis - Sfakianakis.

During the brief handover ceremony, those responsible emphasized the usefulness and at the same time the necessity of the offer, given that the New Messara Museum, which has not yet completed its first year of operation, seeks to become a Museum fully accessible in all its spaces by people with mobility difficulties. In fact, they emphasized that this move is the first at the level of donation to this particular museum and they hope that worthy imitators of this movement of our Clubs will be found.

This was followed by a guided tour of the new museum, which is truly a modern jewel of the region.

Soon the first cycle of the "Give the Gift of Access 1.0" Program will be completed with the last two deliveries for this rotary year at two emblematic archaeological sites in our country and at the same time the planning of the second cycle of the next Rotary Year will begin..... Stay tuned!!!

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - e-Club Greece and RC Preveza, Chalandri and Psychiko



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - DISTRICT GRANT RC Santorini Oia with support of RCs' Agia Paraskevi, Voula, Volos-Argo, Ermoupolis, Iraklio-Kazantzakis, Kerkyra, Kerkyra- Kapodistrias, Kifisia-Kastri, Kozani-Elimeia, Koropi, Nea Smyrni, Pireas East, Rotaract Agia Paraskevi.

With a sense of social responsibility and offer, RC Santorini-Oia proceeded with the donation of three modern bus stops, enhancing the island's infrastructure and improving the daily life of residents and visitors.

The new bus stops were placed in key locations, offering protection from the sun and weather conditions, while at the same time contributing to the aesthetic upgrading of the public space. The handover took place in a simple ceremony in the presence of Mayor Zorzos Nikolaos , Deputy Mayor of Education Katsipi Nikolaos , Deputy District Governor Charalambos Darzenda, who expressed their satisfaction for this important initiative. Also present members of the Rotary Club. The President of RC Santorini-Oia, Alafouzou Ioanna, said:

"Our contribution to the local community is continuous and substantial. We hope this donation will facilitate travel and improve the experience of our island's residents and visitors."

We would like to thank for their participation in the District Grant: RID-2475, RCs' Agia Paraskevi, Ermouolis, Voula, Volos-Argo, Iraklio -N.Kazantzakis, Kerkyra, Kerkyra Kapodistrias, Kifissia - Kastri, Kozani-Elimeia, Koropi, Nea Smyrni, Pireas- East and Rotaract Agia Paraskevi.

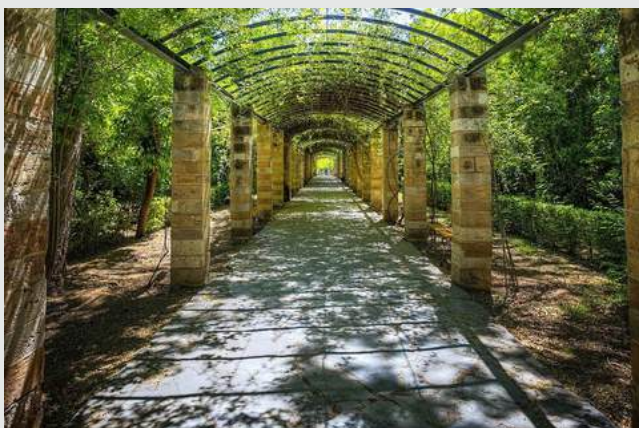


THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC Marathon Nea Makri & Vouliagmeni **Visit of the National Garden in Athens**

RCs' Marathon - Nea Makri & Vouliagmeni had the opportunity to visit the National Garden, where our Sergeant at Arms and CEO of the National Garden - Metropolitan Green S.A., rtn Nikos Fournarakis, welcomed us warmly and presented us, in an excellent and historically documented way, this valuable oasis of greenery of Athens

Such actions promote the rotarian friendship and collaboration, while strengthening the ties between our Clubs. They are a source of inspiration for future joint initiatives, reinforcing the spirit of giving & creating a positive impact on our society.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - District Grant of RC PARNITHA & support of RCs' KIFISIA KEFALARI, KIFISIA-KASTRI, VOULA

Water filters in affected areas of Thessaly

Members of the above Clubs visited the areas on March 21st, talked to the people in charge of the structures about the consequences of the disaster and delivered water filters in schools and health structures.

An essential contribution to ensuring that even more of our fellow citizens have access to clean and safe water - a resource that is precious, but not always given.

This initiative is another action of Rotary, which continues to deliver consistently, based on the values of service, cooperation and solidarity.

Together we can make a difference.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475. - DISTRICT GRANT RC IOANNINA, with support of RCs' THESSALONIKI EAST, KERKYRA, KERKYRA KAPODISTRIAS and PREVEZA

RC Ioannina, within the framework of a District Grant program, offered a complete electronic equipment (Laptop, Projector, projection screen and support base for the devices) for the educational needs of the schools, handed over this equipment in a ceremony today to the 4 primary schools that it has selected in cooperation with the Municipal Authority.

The project was carried out with the support of RF and RC's of Thessaloniki East, Kerkyra, Kerkyra Kapodistrias and Preveza.

In the photos, snapshots of the delivery of the equipment to one of these schools and specifically to the Primary School of Ioannina for the Physically Disabled (SOP).



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 RC KOMOTINI RODOPI AND CHRISOUPOLIS-NESTOS

RC Komotini-Rodopi and Chisoupolis-Nestos during the match between Herodikos Komotini and Dodecanese, in a touching ceremony awarded the athletes with disabilities.

These People are Heroes and Deserve every Award. RC Chisoupolis- Nestos and Komotini -Rodopi, awarded them for LIFETIME CREDIT "HONORABLE AWARD FOR THE POWER OF THE SOUL" - Citation of Excellence.

The medal was designed by rtn Greek Armenian jewellery designer Kevork Melkonian (RC Chisoupolis-Nestos) and it was inspired by one of the athlete's arms holding the ball. Heartfelt congratulations to all.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC KOROPi

RC Koropi honored the National Independence Day of March 25th, by laying a wreath at the Koropi Memorial of Fallen Soldiers.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC ALEXANDROUPOLIS AND PANORAMA

Participation of RCs Alexandroupolis and Panorama in the "2nd Gastronomic Rotary Friendship Weekend" in Bulgaria 14-16.03.2025.

The "2nd Rotary Culinary Friendship Weekend", which was organized by the Rotary Club Jambol in cooperation with the Satellite Rotary Club Tvarditsa, in Zrebtsevo, Bulgaria, was successfully held. In the event actively participated RCs Alexandroupolis and Panorama, continuing the gastronomic and cultural tradition that started with last year's first event in Volakas Drama. Also the Inner Wheel section of Yabol participated in the event.

This year's meeting, apart from the importance of the continuation of the institution, highlighted the importance of international friendship, gastronomic tradition and cultural exchange between the Rotary Clubs of Greece and Bulgaria.

RCs Alexandroupolis and Panorama express their sincere thanks to the organizers and all those who participated, renewing their appointment for the next year.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475
RC AGIA PARASKEVI

RC Agia Paraskevi laid a wreath on March 25th honoring the heroes of 1821.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID 2475 - RC MARATHON NEA MAKRI

RC Marathon - Nea Makri, honored with respect and pride the 🇬🇷 National Anniversary of March 25, 1821, by laying a wreath at the 🪦 Monument of the Unknown Soldier at Nea Makri.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION "CHOOSE FREEDOM!"

The Art of Saying NO to Addictions

Rotary International, District 2482 Bulgaria, proudly announces the launch of the national visual arts competition "Choose Freedom!", dedicated to the art of saying NO to addictions.



ARPIC ARKAN APTURAHMAN
DISTRICT 2482

МАРГАРИТА БОГДАНОВА
Дистрикт гуверньор 2024-2025
Ротари Д-2482 България



Who can participate?

The competition is open to young people aged 14 to 18.

Objectives of the Competition:

1. To raise awareness in society, especially among young people, about the dangers of addictions, including the use of harmful substances.
2. To encourage creativity and digital skills among young people.
3. To inspire participants to create powerful visual messages against addictions.
- 4.

Competition Timeline:

- Competition Announcement: March 22, 2025, Hotel Calista, Stara Zagora Mineral Baths.
- Regulations Announcement & Start of the Competition: March 27, 2025.
- Deadline for Submission of Entries: May 10, 2025.
- Announcement of Winners: May 31, 2025.
- Official Award Ceremony: June 14, 2025, Plovdiv, Annual Conference of Rotary International, District 2482 Bulgaria.

Categories for Participation:

- Poster (hand-drawn or digital)
- Short Video (2 to 3 minutes)
- Meme with a message

Evaluation and Awards:

Participation in the competition is individual. Each participant may compete in only one category with one submission.

All young people aged 14 to 18 who are students are eligible to participate.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

"CHOOSE FREEDOM!"

The entries will be evaluated by a jury composed of representatives from Rotary clubs in Bulgaria, experts in graphic design, and representatives of organizations involved in addiction prevention and treatment.

Evaluation Criteria:

- ✓ Clarity and impact of the message (up to 40 points)
- ✓ Artistic and technical execution, and script (up to 30 points)
- ✓ Originality of presentation (up to 30 points)

In addition to the official jury, there will also be a "Audience Award". Information on how the public can vote and express their preferences will be published on the district's website by April 10, 2025.

Prizes:

- 🏆 **First place in each category – Tablet**
- 🥈 **Second and third places – Material prizes**
- 🏅 **Additional awards:**
 - "Special Award for Social Impact"
 - Audience Award

All participants will receive a digital certificate. Schools with the highest number of participants will also be recognized.

How to Participate?

- 1 Fill out the participation form: <https://forms.gle/2xnraA9v4Fgm1ANB8>
- 2 Upload your artwork; for video submissions – send a link.
- 3 Wait for a confirmation email regarding the receipt of your submission.

Technical requirements are published on the Rotary District 2482 website:

🔗 <https://www.rotarydistrict2482.org/>

Follow us on social media!

#ChooseFreedom #NoAddictions #RotaryBulgaria

Be part of the change!

Share your message, inspire those around you, and support the cause of building a healthier future!

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

"CHOOSE FREEDOM!"

Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

(1) Category: Poster – Hand-drawn or Digital

Requirements:

- Standard poster size:
 - Option 1: 50 cm × 70 cm (1:1.41 ratio)
 - Option 2: 42 cm × 59 cm (A2 size)

(a) Posters must be submitted for initial review and evaluation by the jury as a .jpg or .png file with 96 dpi resolution, RGB color mode.

(b) Finalists will be required to submit a file with the following technical specifications:

- Size: 50 × 70 cm or 42 × 59 cm
- Resolution: 240 to 300 dpi
- Color mode: CMYK
- File format: PDF HQP, EPS, PSD, with all text converted to outlines
-

Evaluation Criteria:

Posters will be assessed based on inspiration, message content, and technical composition.

A. Posters will be evaluated on a 100-point scale based on the following criteria:

1. Clarity and impact of the message (40 points)
2. Artistic and technical execution, and composition (30 points)
 - Does the message align with the competition's theme?
 - How convincing is it?
 - Is the poster presented in a logical and artistic composition?
 - Are the technical requirements met?
 - Compliance with copyright for any fonts or elements used.
3. Originality and creativity (30 points)

Audience Choice Award

- The poster with the most likes will be awarded.
- Posters will be published on the district's website and evaluated based on "likes."
- The ranking will be determined by the number of likes received within a specific time frame stated in the competition timeline.

(2) Category: Short Video

Requirements:

- Must be suitable for YouTube.

Requirements:

- Video length: Minimum 2 minutes, maximum 3 minutes.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

"CHOOSE FREEDOM!"

Evaluation Criteria:

Videos will be assessed based on inspiration, message content, and technical quality (sound and video quality).

Videos will be evaluated on a 100-point scale based on the following criteria:

1. Clarity and impact of the message (40 points).
2. Artistic and technical execution, and script (30 points).
 - Does the message align with the competition's theme?
 - How convincing is it?
 - Is the video presented in a logical sequence?
 - Technical execution: How well is the video produced in terms of continuity, timing, camera work, sound quality, editing, and adherence to the 3-minute (180 seconds) limit?
 - Copyright compliance for background music and other used materials.
3. Originality of presentation (30 points).

Audience Choice Award

- The video with the most likes will be awarded.
- All videos that pass the jury evaluation will be published on the district's website and collected in a YouTube channel.
- The ranking will be determined by the number of likes received within a specific time frame outlined in the competition schedule.

(3) Category: Meme – Hand-drawn or Digital

Requirements:

- Standard meme size:
 - Option 1: 29 cm × 42 cm (A3 format)
 - Option 2: 42 cm × 59 cm (A2 format)
- (a) Each meme must be submitted for initial review and evaluation by the jury as a .jpg or .png file with 96 dpi resolution, RGB color mode.
- (b) Finalists will be required to submit a file with the following technical specifications:
- Size: 29 × 42 cm or 42 × 59 cm
 - Resolution: 240 to 300 dpi
 - Color mode: CMYK
 - File format: PDF HQP, EPS, PSD, with all text converted to outlines.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

"CHOOSE FREEDOM!"

Evaluation Criteria:

Each meme will be assessed based on inspiration, message content, and technical composition.

Memes will be evaluated on a 100-point scale based on the following criteria:

1. Clarity and impact of the message (40 points).
2. Artistic and technical execution, and composition (30 points).
 - Does the message align with the competition's theme?
 - How convincing is it?
 - Is it presented with logical coherence and composition?
 - Are the technical requirements met?
 - Copyright compliance for any fonts or elements used.
3. Originality and creativity (30 points).

Audience Choice Award

- The meme with the most likes will be awarded.
- Memes will be published in a gallery on the district's website and evaluated based on "likes."
- The ranking will be determined by the number of likes received within a specific time frame outlined in the competition schedule.

For details and technical consultations:

✉ Plamen Ilarionov – ilarionov@sts.bg

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary, Rotaract and Interact club Kardzhali Plant a Tree – Give Life!

On 9 of March, with smiles and enthusiasm, we planted trees and roses to make our city even more beautiful! 🌳❤️ This is part of our annual initiative, through which Rotaract Club Kardzhali, Rotary Club Kardzhali, and Interact Club Kardzhali contribute to a greener and better future.

We believe that every planted tree is a symbol of life, care, and hope. 🙌 A huge thank you to everyone who took part and supported this cause! Let's continue working together to care for nature and leave a lasting impact!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary club Asenovgrad in collaboration with the Municipality of Asenovgrad third annual mathematics

"Rotary Club - Asenovgrad", in collaboration with the Municipality of Asenovgrad, is organizing the third annual mathematics competition in memory of Academician Blagovest Sendov.

The event will once again be hosted by the Paisiy Hilendarski City Library in Asenovgrad. The competition will take place on March 25, 2025, starting at 2:00 PM.

Seventh-grade students from primary schools within the municipality of Asenovgrad will participate in the mathematics challenge. The competitors will be grouped into teams of three students.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Chess Talents Awarded by Rotary Club Kazanlak

More than 90 children, divided into several age groups, participated in a chess tournament in Kazanlak, organized to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the "Kazanlak 21" Chess Club.

The sporting event took place over two days – March 22 and 23 and was made possible through the financial support provided by Rotary Club Kazanlak.

This initiative is part of the club's ongoing mission to support talented children and foster their potential.

At the end of the competition, Rotary Club Kazanlak President Dimitar Minchev presented awards to some of the tournament's medalists, wishing them many more medals and success in the world of chess.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Good Oral Hygiene is Essential for Healthy Teeth and a Beautiful Smile, Rotary club Dupnitsa

Rotary Club Dupnitsa has launched a new initiative dedicated to the youngest residents of our city – "Clean Teeth with Pinko, Dino, and Rotary"!

Our goal is to teach the children of Dupnitsa the importance of good oral hygiene and how to properly take care of their teeth to maintain healthy smiles.

In this initiative, the friendly animated characters Pinko and Dino play the role of patients, and together with Dr. Daniela Sapundzhieva, a dentist and the president of Rotary Club Dupnitsa 2023-2024, they explain to the children, in a fun and accessible way, why it is important to brush their teeth regularly and how to do it correctly.

"We have already visited several kindergartens in the city, where the children not only learned many new things but also received gifts!" says Dr. Sapundzhieva.

In the coming weeks, Pinko, Dino, Dr. Sapundzhieva, and her colleagues, dentists, will visit children from other kindergartens in Dupnitsa to teach them how to smile wide and without cavities!

Rotary Club Dupnitsa continues to invest in the health and future of the children in our city!



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Cross Safely with Rotary Club Nova Zagora

Rotary Club Nova Zagora - A New Stage of the "Cross Safely with Rotary" Project

As part of its ongoing project, Rotary Club Nova Zagora has donated traffic mirrors to the Municipality of Nova Zagora to be installed at busy intersections with poor visibility.

With this gesture, Rotary Club Nova Zagora strengthens its "Cross Safely with Rotary" initiative, once again demonstrating its commitment to the health and safety of the residents in the city and municipality.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

In Support of the Children of Stara Zagora with the "Thracian Steps" Project by Rotary Club Stara Zagora-Beroe

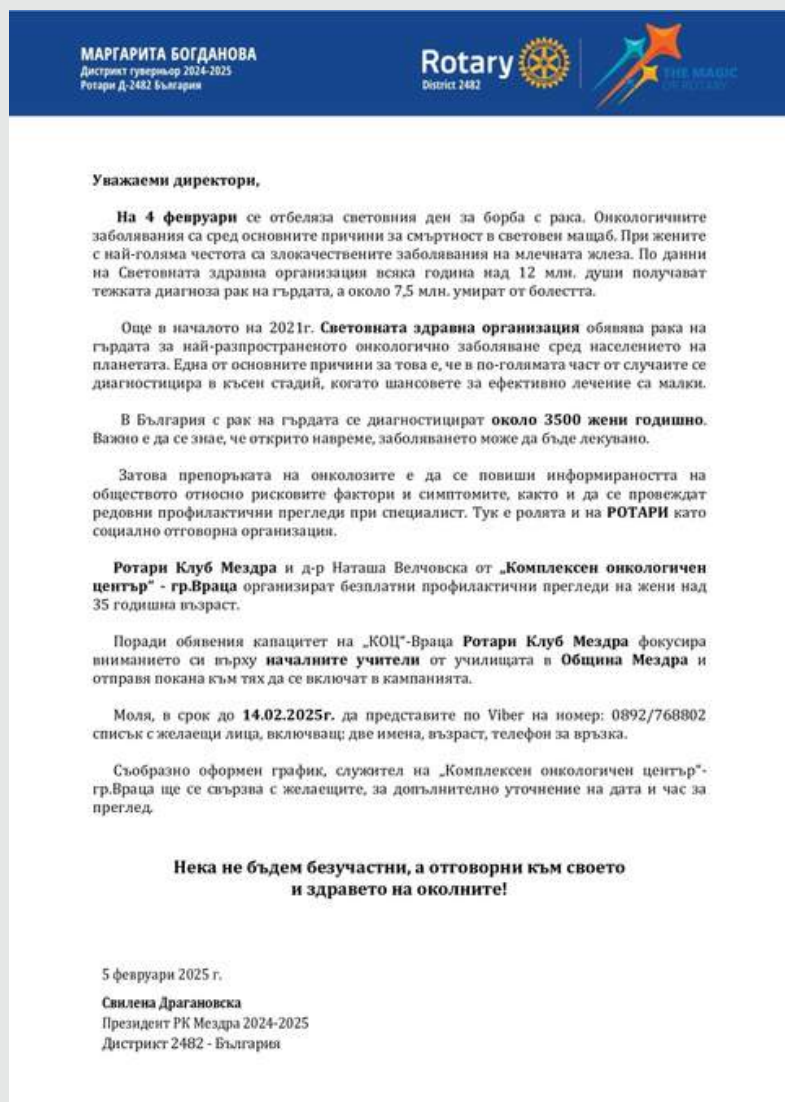
On March 28, 2025, Rotary Club Stara Zagora-Beroe held the latest edition of its traditional project "Thracian Steps," in the form of a dance and music performance. The event, titled "Cycle", was inspired by the theme of natural elements. The entire organization of the project, including the script, was the work of the club's friends. The event took place at the Cultural Center of Stara Zagora in front of an audience of over 500 people.

The project was realized entirely with the participation of children's and youth dance and singing groups from Stara Zagora and Chirpan, including DS "Karibe", Formation "Dimitrov", the youth group of the ensemble "Nashentsi", the children's school at the "Nastroenie" community center, DUTS "Broenichka", DMF "Zvezdopad", TS "Horche" from Chirpan, TS "Chirpanlii", students from CHOU "Elin Pelin", and individual performers.

The charitable cause of the project was to raise funds for purchasing national costumes for the children's youth folk choir "Zharava" at the "Rodina-1860" Community Center in Stara Zagora, as well as support for the participating formations. All groups on stage showcased incredible talent and skills, receiving loud applause from the audience. The total support raised for the 9 children's and youth groups amounted to 4100 BGN, entirely collected through the sale of charity invitations for the event.

The "Thracian Steps" project by Rotary Club Stara Zagora-Beroe has been evolving in various forms since 2019, and this year marks the first time the event has been realized entirely with the participation of children's and youth ensembles. The project is one of the largest events organized by the club. Its goal is entirely charitable, with previous years' causes supporting different children's and youth dance groups and schools. Through this project, Rotary Club Stara Zagora-Beroe follows one of the main priorities of the global Rotary organization, namely the support and development of young generations





THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Joint meeting of Rotary club Kardzhali and Rotary club Edirne & Rotary club Edirne Mimar Sinan

We are happy to share that Rotarians from Kardzhali and Edirne have joined forces to support the Sunday Bulgarian Language School at St. George's Church in Edirne. This school, named after the late Father Alexander Chakryk, provides an opportunity for 55 children of emigrants and Turkish citizens to learn the Bulgarian language and culture.

We are committed to exploring opportunities to provide teachers to teach at the school. Additionally, we have invited the children to visit Kardzhali, where we will show them the beauty of our city and introduce them to Bulgarian history. We will cover all travel expenses, as we believe that education is a bridge to friendship and mutual understanding.

During our meeting at the General Consulate of Bulgaria in Edirne, we discussed with diplomats and our friends from the Rotary Clubs of Edirne and Mimar Sinan the possibilities for further support. One of the key topics was finding a larger space for the school, for which Rotarians from Edirne will assist with the Bulgarian Exarchate in Istanbul.

Our joint initiatives don't stop here! We discussed the revival of the "Together on One Bridge" project, which will allow talented children from Kardzhali and Edirne to showcase their talents together.

We would like to thank everyone who supports this cause! With our collective efforts, we can create a better future for these children!



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THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RID2483

1. FESTIVAL "WITH KNOWLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE"

DISTRICT COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS FROM NIŠ AND THE SURROUNDINGS

On March 11, 2025, the district competition for elementary schools from Niš, Leskovac, Vranje, Piroć, Aleksinac and surrounding municipalities and towns was held at the Secondary Electrical Engineering School "Mija Stanimirović" in Niš.

PDG ALEKSANDAR RADOJICIC DISTRICT 2483

The attendees were greeted by Ivanka Milutinović from the Rotary Club Niš Medijana and the director of the host school Aleksa Stevanović. Introductory remarks about the festival were given by coordinator Vladimir Matić, technical director Vladimir Lalošević and competition manager Igor Tomić. The festival was opened by Predrag Milačić, member of the Niš Municipal Council.

A total of 30 teams participated in the drone, mbot robot 1 and mbot robot 2 disciplines, and the following schools secured a place in the final review based on the number of points won and the place they took on April 12th this year in the "Ranko Žeravica" Sports Hall in New Belgrade:

Drone control and programming

1st Place - Elementary School "Sreten Mladenović Milka", Niš-Palilula - 245 points

1st Place - Elementary School "Radoje Domanović", Niš - 245 points

2nd Place - Elementary School "8. Oktobar", Vlasotince - 230 points

3rd Place - Elementary School "Ivan Goran Kovačić", Niška Banja - 225 points

Control and programming mBot robot 1

1st Place - Elementary School "Ivan Goran Kovačić", Niška Banja - 237 points

2nd Place - Elementary School "Jovan Jovanović Zmaj", Vranje - 174 points

3rd Place Elementary School "Vuk Karadžić", Niš-Crveni Krst - 135 points

Control and programming of mBot robot 2

1st Place - Elementary School "Stefan Nemanja", Niš - 287 points

2nd Place - Elementary School "Radoje Domanović" Vranje - 260 points

3rd Place - Elementary School "Vuk Karadžić" Vitkovac - 245 points

3rd Place - Elementary School "Vuk Karadžić" Vitševac, - 245 points

3rd Place - Elementary School "Toplički Heroji" Žitorađa - 245 points

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

FESTIVAL "WITH KNOWLEDGE FOR THE FUTURE" DISTRICT COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS FROM NIŠ AND THE SURROUNDINGS



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Rotary Club Pirot – two decades for the benefit of the local community

The Rotary Club Pirot is celebrating its 20th anniversary. As part of the celebration of the anniversary, numerous activities have been organized. In early March, an art competition for preschool and primary school children was announced with the theme "Pirot through the eyes of a child". On Friday, March 14, a humanitarian art colony was held, which brought together 19 artists from the Pirot district. Their works will be sold at auction, and all proceeds will be intended for the talented children of Pirot. Children's works from the competition will be exhibited in the "Čedomir Krstić" Gallery. The exhibition will be officially opened on April 2 at 7 p.m., and awards will be presented on that occasion.

The work of the Rotary Club in the past 20 years has been marked by a series of actions aimed at helping citizens and institutions. The basic idea, or rather the motto of Rotary organizations around the world, is "To serve selflessly", since it most precisely explains the philosophy of volunteer service and association. Starting from this idea and intention to help all those in need through humanitarian work, members of the Rotary Club of Pirot have been active in their local community for 20 years. The anniversary year was preceded by actions aimed at supporting the modernization of working conditions in kindergartens and elementary schools, and previously, health and educational institutions, as well as a large number of individuals, were helped. With the same goal and enthusiasm, members of the Rotary Club of Pirot continue their mission of socializing and serving for the benefit of the community. As a crowning achievement of the 20th anniversary, a monograph is being prepared that will be published by the end of the year and presented to the public.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

REPORT FROM THE JOINT MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB ZRENJANIN AND ROTARY CLUB NOVI SAD NEOPLANTA

On March 13, 2025, a joint meeting of the Rotary Club Zrenjanin and the Rotary Club Novi Sad Neoplanta was held. The meeting took place in a constructive atmosphere, with an exchange of experiences and ideas between the members of both clubs.

The meeting was officially opened by the President of the Rotary Club Zrenjanin, Veselin Stojanovski, who greeted everyone present and thanked the members of both clubs for their response. He emphasized the importance of joint cooperation and continued friendly relations between the clubs.

After the opening remarks, those present had the opportunity to introduce themselves

Presentation of the work of the Rotary Club Zrenjanin

The President of the Rotary Club Zrenjanin presented the activities of the Club in the current year, highlighting key projects and humanitarian actions that have been implemented or are planned. He emphasized the importance of joint engagement at the local and regional levels.

Presentation of the activities of the Rotary Club Novi Sad Neoplanta

The President of the Rotary Club Novi Sad Neoplanta presented the activities of his club, referring to

projects focused on education, environmental initiatives and humanitarian actions. He emphasized the importance of

mutual support and exchange of experiences between clubs.

Lecture on waste and recycling Gojkan Stojinović gave an expert lecture on waste and recycling. In his presentation, he highlighted the importance of proper waste management and recycling for environmental protection. He also presented examples of good practice and proposed concrete steps that Rotarians can take to contribute to sustainability and environmental awareness of the community.

The conclusion of the meeting was that there is strong potential for future cooperation between the clubs, especially in the areas of humanitarian work, environmental initiatives and education. It was agreed to organize further joint projects and activities in order to strengthen mutual support and contribution to local communities.

THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RIP visit to RD Serbia and Montenegro

As part of RIP Stephanie Urchik's second official visit to Rotary District 2483 Serbia and Montenegro, RIP Stephanie Urchik had the opportunity to visit RC Kotor, then RC Budva where the ICC with Greece was signed, and finally the ceremonial academy and celebration '120 years since the founding of Rotary' organized by RC Podgorica.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

World Rotaract Week
Digital Tools for Active Communities
March 11
„Bytheriver“ Niš

As part of World Rotaract Week Rotaract District 2483 organized a lecture on the topic “Digital Tools for Active Communities” by Rotaract alumnus and one of the founders of the innovative app “City&Me,” Aleksandar Stamenković. Aleksandar was once a very active and prominent member of the Rotaract Club Niš-Centar. The lecture was held on March 11 at Bytheriver in Niš. Aleksandar spoke about his experience in Rotaract, the benefits it brought him, and why it is important for young people to be active in society. At the end of the lecture, attendees asked questions and engaged in discussion.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Environmental protection and preservation, with a focus on the situation in Serbia

March 10

Hotel „Muzej“ Belgrade

As part of World Rotaract Week, Jovana Vanovac, a master ecologist and member of the Rotaract Club Stara Pazova, gave an excellent lecture on the topic of Environmental protection and preservation, with a focus on the situation in Serbia. We learned about key issues in environmental protection as well as the importance of preserving natural resources for our generation and future ones. The lecture was held on March 10 at Hotel Muzej in Belgrade.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

**Rotaract School of Diplomacy
Visit of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission of the Malaysian Embassy
February 27
Hotel „Muzej“ Belgrade**

Rotaract District 2483 and the Rotaract Club Dedinje, as part of the “Rotaract School of Diplomacy” project, hosted Carmallia Budiatty Che Embi, Head of the Diplomatic Mission of the Malaysian Embassy, on February 27 at Hotel Muzej in Belgrade.

Rotaract members had the opportunity to uncover the hidden wonders of beautiful Malaysia, explore options for postgraduate studies, and learn about business opportunities with Malaysia. Thanks to the Malaysian Embassy, they also enjoyed a tasting of Malaysian cuisine. The lecture was interactive, and a quiz was organized at the end.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Kapadokya Rotary Club is Officially Established!

The Rotary Club, which embraces the spirit of community service within the historical and cultural richness of Cappadocia, has been officially established. The (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club aims to make a difference in education, environment, health, and social development through impactful social responsibility projects.



ARPIC MUSTAFA FARUK GÜLER
ROTARY AND ROTARACT
CENTRAL ASIA CLUBS

Successfully completing its establishment process, the club will develop projects addressing the needs of the local community, guided by Rotary's principle of "Service Above Self." With a special focus on education and youth projects, the (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club also aims to promote sustainable development and environmental awareness.

Members of the Ankara Beysukent Rotary Club played a significant role in the establishment. It was emphasized that this new club would add great value to Cappadocia's social structure and be a valuable asset for the local community.

During the preparation meetings, PDG Murat Öz, PDG Altan Arslan, DGN Orhan Uludağ, PDG Emre Öztürk, PDG Malik Aviral, and PDG Ömer Tezcan provided valuable insights and information to the members of the (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club.



THE JOURNEY IN DOING SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Kapadokya Rotary Club is Officially Established!

A Strong and Diverse Membership Structure The (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club is a dynamic community of 23 members. The club was founded with Rotary's principles of equality and inclusivity:

- 52% of the members are women (12 members) and 48% are men (11 members), bringing together diverse perspectives.
- Two members have a background in Rotaract, ensuring experienced leadership familiar with Rotary values.

Professional Diversity The (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club brings together professionals from various fields, creating a broad range of expertise. Among the club members are:

- Tourism professionals
- IT specialists
- Communication experts
- Education professionals and teachers
- Musicians
- Entrepreneurs
- Doctors
- Architects
- Engineers
- Painters
- Academics

This professional diversity allows the club to approach projects from multiple disciplines, providing more effective solutions.

Under the leadership of President Mustafa Melih Tarlacı, the (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club is preparing to launch projects in collaboration with the business world, academia, and civil society organizations to contribute to the region.

Continuing to Serve with the Spirit of Rotary! The (Cappadocia) Kapadokya Rotary Club is committed to bringing valuable projects to life with great enthusiasm and dedication, embracing the motto "Service Above Self!"



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NOVEMBER

2025

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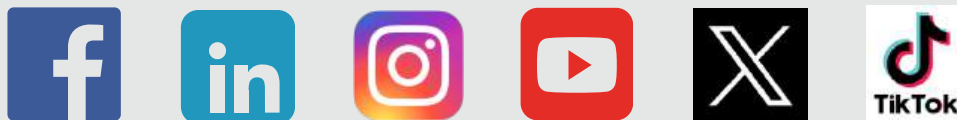
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