



Vittoria, 01 novembre 2018

Dearest friends,

November is Rotary Foundation month and is also the month in which, from 5th to 11th, we celebrate World Interact week. Celebrate this recurrence with your sponsored Interact club, or sponsor a new club. I also wish to remind you that 15th November is the closing date for applications for Youth Exchange. May I also suggest that you start updating the database of your Club membership in Rotary Club Central on www.rotary.org, so that the six-monthly report due on 1st January 2019 together with the second invoice to clubs will be up to date.

Rotary International dedicates November to Rotary Foundation and it is suggested that clubs hold a particular event in support of its programmes. These include the PolioPlus campaign, remember the unique pivotal role that the Foundation has in the End Polio Now campaign, and the development of such funds as Friends of Paul Harris, The Paul Harris Society, Benefactors, Members of the Bequest Society and Great Donators, with the assistance of District Sub-committees.

But I dare ask, 'Is it really necessary for us Rotarians to have a month dedicated to Rotary Foundation?' I believe that it is not necessary because the Rotary Foundation is our most precious tool, that which allows us Rotarians to do good in the world by means of humanitarian and educational programs within the six areas of intervention: Prevention and cure of disease; peace and prevention/resolution of conflicts; water and hygienic and sanitary structures; maternal and infantile health; basic instruction and education; economic development within communities.

Just think about it, much of Rotary's prestige worldwide comes from what and how much is done by The Foundation. "While Rotary is the catalyst of service, friendship, professional ethics, the Foundation is its humanitarian arm". (E. Cossu)

In the history of the Rotary Foundation, founded more than 100 years ago by Archibald C. Klump, lies the history of each and every Rotarian who has invested time, money and ability in one of the many projects of the Foundation. It is the story of all those people whose lives have been improved thanks to these projects. It is the story of doing good in the world and this story has just begun.

It is therefore the duty of each Club to support the Rotary Foundation. Furthermore every Rotarian has the moral obligation of supporting the Foundation. Every Club and every Rotarian must care for OUR Foundation, always!

Over and above each single Club's yearly commitment towards the Foundation, each one of us independently could contribute to the Foundation's funds by means of a very simple method, that is placing a €2 coin in a piggy bank each week. This does not require time and energy and represents only 28c daily. This is less than a daily cup of espresso coffee at the bar! Often, it is simple matters that allow us to reach great heights. Just think what we would be able to achieve within our communities and in the world, for the weak, for the sick and for children, if with commitment we saved €2 weekly. Just the little effort of remembering every week to drop the €2 coin into the piggy bank could contribute in bringing a smile on a

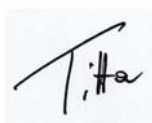
child's face. We could also use this system to participate in the campaign 'Every Rotarian every year', thus creating a link between each Rotarian and the Rotary Foundation.

Many of us make personal donations to other Non Governmental Organizations, so why not contribute to OUR Foundation which has such noble aims? A personal donation, apart from the amount contributed by our Club, would strengthen the Rotary Foundation and increase the credibility and public image of Rotary. I place my trust in the sensitivity of Rotarians and in their spirit of solidarity which is at the core of Rotarian service.

I wish to remind all that, after three years, 50% of the donations made to the Programs Fund of the Foundation are returned to the FODD (District Designated Funds). This enables the District to provide funds for the projects proposed by the District Clubs.

Three cheers to Rotary International and to the Rotary Foundation!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Sallemi', is centered on the page. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent upward stroke on the 'T'.