



Giovanni Vaccaro Governatore 14/15

Dear friends in Rotary,

On wearing the Governor's collar, I became aware of the responsibility of representing each one of you during the Rotarian year which is starting.

However, at the same time, I was touched by the warm embrace with which I have been received by all the Rotarians present as well as by all Rotarians in our District and their partners.

It is my intention to share this collar with each one of the over four thousand Maltese and Sicilian Rotarians, for a collective activity of service.

Both in our 'bel paese' and in the Western world, we are going through a particularly difficult period. It is therefore our duty, while representing the best in the different categories of society, to operate seriously encouraging those who are less fortunate. Hence, while following Rotarian precepts that have been brought down since 1905, let us this year endeavour to leave our mark, according to tradition.

You will find the tracks to follow during 2014/2015 in the year's programme. To the traditional Rotarian Actions, will be added some particular actions relating to our specific present situation and these refer particularly to healthy food and to a united Mediterranean. We will tackle these together with Rotarians from other Italian regions as well as from other neighbouring nations. Unfortunately, as you may have read in Ron Burton's letter, Rotary International has preferred to pull out of the Universal EXPO, but nonetheless, we shall participate so as to fulfil our programmes.

The Israeli singer Noa certainly provides a good example of the sentiments that ought to represent the peoples of the Mare Nostrum. Noa, with her exceptional voice will, together with her band, entertain us in Palermo on 26th July. The song 'Smile' is one of Noa's most well known songs. You may have heard it during the Assembly meeting. So let us exchange smiles at Teatro Verdura, in Palermo, just as Amedeo did a few days back in Tanzania where he exchanged smiles with so many poor children. All in the name of solidarity towards those who will benefit from our generosity!

It is my fondest wish that during the coming year we may grow together in quantity and in quality lighting up the Rotarian Light and serving with a smile.

Today, I trust in St. John, my patron Saint, and together with Rosamaria and my collaborators, I send you my Rotarian greetings.

Sciacca, 24 June, 2014.

Giovanni Vaccaro Governor District 2110