

Catania, 1 ottobre 2015

## ***The “fantasy” of Rotary at the service of development***

Dear fellow members,

the month beginning today is dedicated to the economic and community development, in which it has been identified one of the answer to the most urgent humanitarian needs. In the field of this specific answer, Rotary conveniently suggests the Clubs collaboration with micro-finance institutions for the communities benefit; the development promotion of so called mobile bank transactions, in other words done by mobile phones which could facilitate the access to the bank system in developing communities; any type of possible collaboration to the implementation of vocational education courses.

The economic and community development might seem to be a specific objective of developing countries, and in part this is true, however the crisis, that has hit also that side of the world once considered immune from the kind of problems that is now facing, makes Rotary suggestions on this subject, concrete and feasible also for realities such as ours: just think of the micro-credit or of vocational education courses, more and more wiped out by heavy and unexpected cuts (however justified in some case by abuses). Once more our special Rotarian “fantasy”, result of culture, competency and openmindedness, can meet this challenge which, among the six action points, Rotary throws down to us and successfully interprets it thanks also to our valid district supervisors identified in the organogram as experts in the field.

And talking of experts, I could not describe otherwise the speakers who will intervene during the seminars about Leadership and Membership in Caltanissetta, in the morning and in the afternoon of Saturday 17th. These seminars are part of Rotary standard social year scheduling. This “is not always the same thing”, as sometimes this type of appointments are maliciously and/or hastily described but they are vital subjects for the organization and for this reason they are immutable in their titling but variable in their procedure and for the variety of the voices that are followed each year and for the hystorical flow which changes the contents of deliberations but without prejudice to the “label” under which they are elaborated.



This year, with the distinctive intention of “disturbing” as less as possible the Rotarian clubs everyday life, we have concentrated in one day what in the past years was done in two days. I hope that, to this logistic benefit will correspond the firm will of tangibly appreciating it by not planning lunch time returns rather than staying until the end as a form of respect towards all the speakers and also in order to benefit from the contribution, so much, that every voice will be able to bring, from the speakers to the debate participants.

About the critical point mentioned last month under the name Rotary Club Central, you should have already been reached by the respective assistants, who were on turn reached by the coordinators, recommended by the district secretaries. We have in this way started a strict reconnaissance in order to have a clear picture of cases of delay and act accordingly to rectify them.

I conclude going back to a vital point in terms of Rotary image.

Dinners and conferences have harmed and are still harming us not because we are having them but because we are telling everybody about them (perhaps even with pictures on facebook), instilling a misrepresented image of us in the public opinion and not the idea of service, as it should be, but of a cultural-elite society which, also with some malice, we have been stamped with. Dinner and conferences are opportunities for friendship and for inalienable follow- up meetings but they cannot be seen as the first thing that people think of about Rotary: it is up to us to divert this tendency with a massive and advertised service action.

Have a good Rotary everybody, this Rotary!.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francesco Filazzo".