

Catania, 1 marzo 2016

R.F. "Better a reminder today than a forgetfulness tomorrow"

Dear fellow Rotarians,

The month of March is dedicated to Water and Hygiene. This is an area of vital importance for the survival and the wellbeing of humanity. It therefore receives special attention from Rotary with numberless initiatives. Our District too has taken important steps in favour of this area. Among these I wish to mention: The Rotarian Charter relating to Water which was the outcome of much work by the Italy-Tunisia inter-nation committee which took place last October in Mazara del Vallo; the programme called 'Gigi and Water' which was an educational and informative programme with the production of a brochure which was distributed amongst thousands of schoolchildren and students; the various club projects in collaboration with RF in favour of the deprived areas of the globe.

March also sees Rotaract yearly week which this year falls between 7 and 13 March. This event stimulates the getting closer to our young partners in service, we must never forget that Rotaract is a programme that each Rotary Club must responsibly follow avoiding to disappoint our young ones who trust us and have chosen Rotary as a step towards their development in the area of service to others.

We are preparing for the 38th District Congress in Viagrande CT on 17 to 19 June at the Gr. Hotel Villa Itria. The event's theme will be 'Be a gift to the world' and it will be tackled by renowned expert personalities from various aspects - economic, sociologic and from the point of view of communication. There will be, of course, much more. But for the time being I will leave this to your imagination as we are making every effort to make sure that this important Rotarian encounter will be most enjoyable.



The month after, on 30th April, the Rotarian Jubilee will be held. I trust that the District will participate with a good number of Rotarians. Already quite a few of us have booked but still I repeat the site address for you to join as soon as possible: <http://www.rotary-jubilee2016.org/>.

I bring my monthly letter to a conclusion by reminding you all to send your contributions to the Programs Fund and to Polio Fund. I am well aware that these are voluntary funds and that the time for sending them has not elapsed, but a kind reminder may avoid forgetfulness! It is good to remember that the Programs Fund, which this year requests at least \$60 equivalent to approx. €53 will be in favour of district projects in three years' time in just the same way as this years' copious District Funds originated three years ago. We ought to show our gratitude by being generous this year. It is my wish that the Club Presidents and, above all, area delegates for RF, may heed this appeal of mine all the more because the success of this action will be proof of their year's commitment... the rest would only be 'empty words'.

Yours in Rotary and buona Pasqua!

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