

Rotary District 2110 - Sicily and Malta Monthly Sicilia e Malta

Rotary
Distretto 2110
MAGAZINE

October 2025



FUSION A BRUXELLES
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ROTARY

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Rotary 2110 Magazine

Monthly magazine of the Rotary District 2110 Sicily and

Malta Editor in chief:**Valerio Cimino** Editorial Director:

Sergio Malizia Rotary Press Delegate:**Rino Realmuto**

Western Area Communications and Image Coordinator**Selene Grimaudo**

Communications and Image Coordinator for the Eastern Area**Maria Torrisi**

Graphic design and layout:**Maria Dell'Utri**

Editorial Staff:***magazine.Occidente@rotary2110.it - magazine.orientale@rotary2110.it***

Rotary 2110 Magazine - Reg. No. 1087/19 of 05/07/2019, Court of Caltanissetta



Sergio Malizia

Dear Friends,

October invites us to reflect on one of the fundamental pillars of our action on the territory and in the world: the **"Community Economic Development"**. A topic as timely and necessary as ever in an era that continues to face inequality, poverty, and economic instability. The future of our region rests on **strength of our local businesses, on the creativity of our entrepreneurs and on the solidarity of our citizens**. It's not enough to donate; we must create the conditions so that every person has the tools to build their own independence and future. We often think of our impact in terms of large-scale projects, but in reality, the most profound and lasting change comes from the ability to act at the local level, investing in the people and communities where we live. Our fundamental purpose as Rotary is to **Creating the ideal conditions for communities to thrive and grow independently. In a rapidly changing international landscape, our efforts must focus on key elements: supporting local entrepreneurship and promoting vocational training.** Creating decent work opportunities is the most effective way to enhance existing human resources and build, step by step, a truly sustainable future for all. Our role, in short, is clear: to be **builders of opportunities, promoters of sustainable growth and strong supporters of local communities**

drops. Let us therefore transform the commitment into **"concrete results"**.

As Governor, I feel a strong responsibility to encourage you... let's look around, let's act with determination. I invite each of you to consider what sustainable and lasting actions we can take to stimulate the economic development of our communities: let's support... **small businesses, local entrepreneurs, we enhance the excellence of the territory** Share your ideas, work together, let's prove once again that we can **"united to do good"** Achieving great results in the spirit of sustainability. I invite you to look at the surrounding area with fresh eyes. Let's ask ourselves who needs a concrete opportunity: **where we can intervene, how we can involve our young people in projects that create jobs and hope.** Our **Club** They have energy, expertise, and extraordinary relationships. Development is not just a purely economic issue, but also a question of humanity.

From this perspective, October 4th takes on a particularly symbolic meaning. On this day, in which our **PI Francesco Arezzo** celebrates his name day, we also celebrate the **"Click Day"**, a special moment in which every Rotarian is invited to reflect on how a personal donation, even if symbolic, to **Rotary Foundation**, represents the beating heart of our action in the world, and it is thanks to its support that we can transform ideas into projects, words into actions and values

are in concrete change. To underline our full conviction, all the **14 Governors of the Italian Districts**, we shared the decision to personally donate the **same amount** at the **Foundation**. This

joint gesture is a symbol of **unity** and an invitation to all you to unite, demonstrating the united strength of Rotary in Italy.

October is also the month in which we celebrate one of Rotary's most important and symbolic battles: the **"World Polio Day"**. Thanks to our efforts, polio has been eradicated from almost every country in the world, but as long as a single child is at risk, our work isn't done. Every Club can make a difference in this fight, not only globally, but also locally: organize events or simple meetings in Clubs to tell the story of the campaign. **"End Polio Now"** and the role of Rotary. Every contribution, large or small, makes a difference. In this regard, I am proud to share with you an important testimony of our **PI Francesco Arezzo**, who, together with Chairman Holger Knaack, participated in a mission to Pakistan, together with a delegation of the team **PolioPlus**, to meet Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif and some senior government officials to take stock of the progress of the eradication campaign. I believe it was a gesture of great impact, which strengthened with **the example**, Collaboration between Rotary and local institutions, highlighting Rotary's commitment in the field. A highly symbolic gesture, which made this mission even more significant, was the moment when Francis personally administered polio vaccine drops to several Pakistani children. A powerful image, an example

perfect example of what I like to call the **"Rotary of doing"**: presence, action, responsibility and hope.

Among the most significant moments of the month of September I am pleased to remember the district event

"Notes, Wines and Sunset", be considered a simple cohesive commitment which was held at the enchanting setting of **the long island of Marsala**, amidst the colors of the sunset, the notes of music, and the flavors of our land. A unique experience that combined the beauty of our region with local culture, traditions, and the value of sharing in perfect Rotary spirit.

September was a month of intense activity and great enrichment for me. I had the honor and joy of visiting other **16 clubs**. These meetings add to those we've met in previous months. Each meeting was a valuable opportunity for me to listen, gather ideas, and offer suggestions, with the aim of better aligning our clubs' activities with the goals we've set for the Rotary year. These moments of direct discussion, in my opinion, were a valuable opportunity for exchange and growth, once again confirming the vitality and commitment that characterize our District's clubs and demonstrating that we're on the right path to making a difference in our communities.

Added to this was an international experience of great value: I had the opportunity to participate in the **Rotary Institute** "which took place in Brussels, an important event bringing together governors, executives and Rotary leaders from all over Europe. A high-level meeting and training moment focused on the evocative theme of **"Fusion"** **break down barriers, build bridges**.

The opportunity for meeting and dialogue offered food for thought that goes far beyond the confines of our usual work. The message of the **International President** resonated with particular force: the **"peace"** can't

be a simple cohesive commitment. Peace is one of Rotary's many goals, but it must also become the guiding thread that runs through all our future initiatives. An authentic peace, rooted in mutual respect and constructive dialogue between people of all backgrounds and cultures. Every project we carry out, every initiative we undertake, must carry within it the **DNA** of reconciliation and understanding. **"The Fusion"** which the Institute's theme speaks about, takes on a particular meaning: **It's not about standardizing diversity, but about creating harmony in plurality, about finding common ground that respects the specificities of each individual**. It is a vision that invites us to look beyond geographical and cultural boundaries, to build together a future of true sharing and sustainable development. Therefore, I ask you to consider how we can ensure that our Clubs live out the mission of peace every day, transforming it into a visible and measurable reality through every act of service to our communities.

Looking at what has already been achieved and what awaits us, I am increasingly convinced that our District is strong **energy, distinctive capabilities and a solid strategic vision**. I therefore invite you to continue our journey with determination and a spirit of service.

United we can do anything.

"Development is not just about the economy, but about the freedom to build a dignified life."

Muhammad Yunus



Sergio Malizia

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Muhammad Yunus



Francesco Arezzo

Dear Friends,

October is Rotary Community Economic Development Month, a time to spotlight our efforts to help communities build a prosperous and sustainable future. This month's observance aligns perfectly with Rotary's core value of leadership.

Leadership means giving people the tools to drive their own progress. This is precisely the goal of Rotary's economic development projects.

Take, for example, a recent initiative in southern India, where Rotary members unlocked the potential of Adivasi tribal women through sewing training, enabling them to earn a living and reintegrate into society. Historically, widows and abandoned women in this region lose their social standing and are marginalized by society or blamed for their own misfortunes. Opportunities for earning a living or obtaining an education are minimal.

This year, the Rotary Club of Windsor Roseland, Ontario, partnered with clubs in Districts 3203 and 3234 in India and the Indian organization Sevalaya Trust to provide sewing machines and training to 80 Adivasi women. These women learned to sew sari blouses, kurta tunics, and salwar suits, enabling them to support themselves and their families. Each woman received a certificate for completing the program, and the sewing machine supplier offered free long-term maintenance. The project provided a vital income and dignity to women marginalized by society after widowhood.

This story is an example of Rotary leadership in action: local people with solutions that address the needs of their communities. Our role is not to provide charity or impose external models, but to promote self-reliance by investing in leadership, skills, and sustainable entrepreneurship.

This October, I invite Rotary members around the world to reflect on economic leadership in their communities. Who is stepping up to lead local economic initiatives? Where is untapped talent that could be supported with training or mentoring? How can your club foster opportunities through partnerships with local businesses, vocational schools, or financial institutions?

Leadership doesn't always mean being visible. Sometimes it means listening, working collaboratively, and amplifying the voices of others. This approach is at the heart of Rotary's philosophy and our lasting impact on economic development.

By developing capacity, whether through microcredit groups, vocational training workshops, or entrepreneurship programs, we empower communities to lead their own transformation. When people take responsibility for their own progress, change becomes sustainable.

Let us be guided by good intentions and offer support from the heart. By cultivating local leadership, we can create opportunities that spread throughout communities, strengthening the capacities of individuals, families, and societies.

Together, we can support economies that work for everyone and build lasting community development projects.

Francesco Arezzo
President, Rotary International, 2025/2026



Francesco Arezzo

Dear Friends,

October is Rotary's Community Economic Development Month, a time to spotlight our urges to help communities build thriving, sustainable futures. This month's observance aligns perfectly with the Rotary core value of leadership.

Leadership means empowering people to guide their own progress. That is precisely what Rotary's economic development projects aim to achieve.

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This story is one example of Rotary leadership in action: local people guiding solutions that address their community needs. Our role is not to deliver charity or to impose outside models, but to foster self-reliance by investing in leadership, skills, and sustainable enterprise.

This October, I invite Rotary members worldwide to reflect on economic leadership in their communities. Who is stepping forward to lead local economic initiatives? Where is there untapped talent that could be supported with training or mentorship? How can your club catalyze opportunity through partnerships with local businesses, vocational schools, or savings groups?

Leadership is not always about being visible. Sometimes it means listening, working collaboratively, and amplifying the voices of others. That approach lies at the heart of Rotary's philosophy and our lasting impact on economic development.

By building capacity — whether through microcredit groups, vocational training workshops, or entrepreneurship programs — we enable communities to lead their own transformation. When people take ownership of their progress, change becomes sustainable.

Let us lead with good intention and provide support with heart. By nurturing local leadership, we can create opportunities that ripple through communities, empowering individuals, families, and societies.

Together, we can support economies that work for everyone and enact community development projects that last.

Francesco Arezzo
President, Rotary International, 2025/2026

ROTARYTHEINSTITUTE

FUSION ABRUXELLES ALL'

SIGN OF PEACE

Fusion brought together Rotarians from Europe and Africa in Brussels from 26 to 28 September for a meeting to discuss and share ideas.

Three intense and emotionally charged days: moments of listening, discussion, and increasingly strong relationships with Italian governors and international leaders. Peace and polio eradication: these are the two major objectives that International President Francesco Arezzo has identified as priorities for this year.

A peace born of mutual respect that becomes a concrete commitment to building bridges between cultures and communities, guiding projects and visions toward a shared future. Not just meetings and work, but also discovery: Brussels with its Automobile Museum and the iconic Atomium, and the magic of Bruges, with its canals that reveal evocative corners of the city by boat.

Culture, friendships and the desire to give one's contribution to



communities near and far have made this experience unique.

Always with the same spirit: United to Do Good!





NOTE, WINES AND SUNSETS AT THE STAGNONE OF MARSALA AND WIND PRO ROTARY FOUNDATION

A special light enveloped the evening of September 21st at Isola Lunga, in the Stagnone lagoon of Marsala, during the "Notes, Wines and Sunset" event organized by the Rotary Club of Marsala in support of the Rotary Foundation. The sunset, the reflections on the water, and the magic of the setting gave those present a suspended atmosphere, where the beauty of nature merged with the values of giving, sharing, and service.

The evening combined music, wine, and conviviality in a setting that truly embodied the Rotary spirit: an opportunity for reflection and celebration, friendship, and solidarity. The event, recognized by District 2110, fully embodied our guiding motto: "United to do good."

The presence of numerous local clubs has strengthened the initiative's community strength.



Attendance, contributions, and participation demonstrated how Rotary translates its ideals into concrete actions, generating value for the local community and, through the Foundation, for the entire world.

Making the event even more significant was the visit of District 2110 Governor Sergio Malizia, who, with his closeness, emphasized the importance of the clubs' work and the need to network to strengthen projects. Throughout his term, the Governor has repeatedly emphasized that "Rotary's true heritage is human: friendship, respect, and closeness."

The data collected in these first months of the fiscal year confirms the District's vitality: over €50,000 has already been allocated to the Rotary Foundation and an increase of 51 new members, a sign of a vibrant and growing movement, capable of attracting energy and expertise.

The evening at the Stagnone was therefore not just a convivial occasion and fundraiser, but a celebration of Rotary values: beauty, friendship, and social responsibility. To all those who made this magic possible, our sincere thanks go out.







GOVERNOR'S VISITS

ROTARY CLUB TO GRIGENTO

THE UNIVERSAL VALUES

LIKE THE POLAR STAR

On September 6, Governor Sergio Malizia visited the Rotary Club of Agrigento at the Hotel Dioscuri, on the San Leoni coast. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on Rotary's role in this historical moment, characterized by a challenging context due to social, economic, and, unfortunately, war conflicts.

The District and Club reaffirmed their commitment to promoting the Rotary values of inclusion, equity, and acceptance of diversity, which they consider an added value of civilization for all peoples. During the visit, the Club presented its numerous planned projects, along with the goals it intends to achieve in terms of membership promotion, support for the Rotary Foundation and the Polio Plus Fund, local economic development, and environmental protection. President Napoli spoke about the Club's initiatives and objectives aimed at promoting legality in the social, civil, and economic context and solidarity with those most in need.

Governor Malizia, for his part, illustrated the district's rich program of events and projects.

He also highlighted the importance of supporting Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo, a member of our District.



The visit was divided into two parts: in the afternoon, the Governor, together with his assistant Cinzia D'Amico, met with the board of directors and some members. The ritual administrative check took place, followed by a lively debate; in the evening, in the presence of a large par-

The participation of Rotaractors, who brought a breath of fresh air and enthusiasm that bodes well for the future of the Club, after the President's presentation and the Governor's speech, the gala dinner concluded the meeting.

ROTARY CLUB TORAGONA COLLI SICANI

NEW MEMBER ADMISSIONS, AWARDS AND TWO PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

A meaningful and inspirational day was recently held for the Rotary Club Aragona Colli Sicani, which had the honor of welcoming the Governor of District 2110 Sicily and Malta, Sergio Malizia. The visit, which took place in a climate of deep friendship, provided an important opportunity for discussion and sharing, strengthening the bonds between the clubs and the District. Club President Mimmo Rotulo hosted the event.

The visit was divided into two distinct parts, each with its own significance. The first part was dedicated to an administrative meeting, a time for reflection and assessment of the club's health. President Rotulo and Governor Malizia had the opportunity to discuss current activities, future challenges, and growth opportunities, in a constructive dialogue that highlighted the vitality and commitment of the club's members.

The evening culminated with a ceremony attended by numerous members and spouses, as well as friends of the Rotary Club of Licata. A convivial atmosphere surrounded Governor Sergio Malizia's address, which outlined the highlights of his Rotary year. His vision focuses on key values and concrete projects, which he shared with everyone in attendance. Among the projects presented, Governor Malizia proudly illustrated the book of the year.



A collection celebrating the "large and small theaters of the District." A work that testifies to Rotary's cultural richness and commitment to promoting local traditions. But another project particularly touched hearts: the Pet Therapy Project. With evident emotion, Malizia and her wife Angela described the initiative, aimed at raising funds to help

Helping vulnerable people through the support of our four-legged friends. The enthusiasm and sensitivity with which they presented this project highlighted Rotary's mission of service, an organization that believes in the power of solidarity and empathy. The ceremony also represented a moment of growth for the club, with the admission of

A new member: Architect Gero Niesi. Niesi's arrival was greeted with great enthusiasm, a sign of the continued expansion and dynamism of the Aragona Colli Sicani Club.

Two prestigious awards, Paul Harris Fellows, were also presented to members Lillo Cumbo and Celestino Saia. This honor, the highest a club can bestow, celebrates their constant and tireless commitment to the club and the community.

The presence of DNG Gaetano Casimiro Castronovo further enriched the evening, confirming the collaborative network and shared commitment that unites the various clubs in the District. The event was not only a time for review and planning, but also, and above all, a celebration of the Rotary spirit, based on friendship and commitment to community service.

Governor Sergio Malizia's visit to the Rotary Club Aragona Colli Sicani will remain a tangible sign of the importance of working together for a better future, on a journey of service and passion.



ROTARY CLUB BARCELLONA POZZO DI GOTTO

CRESCITA DELL'EFFECTIVE AND LISTENING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

On September 13, the Rotary Club of Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto had the honor of welcoming District Governor Sergio Malizia in Contrada Condurso, at the Tenuta Pietravera estate.

The Governor, accompanied by secretary Alessia Di Vita and in the presence of assistant Felice de Luca, met in the afternoon with the president of the Mazzeo Club, Nicolò, and some of the club's members, as well as the young people of the Rotaract of Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto.

During this meeting, the Governor had the opportunity to confirm the club's administrative integrity, but also to appreciate the many strengths of a club that has been operating in the area for 20 years, along with some inevitable weaknesses. The growing membership is a sign of the club's health and balance: the age groups are equally represented, which is an element of appeal that makes the club attractive to new members, among whom active collaboration and healthy dialogue prevail.



The Governor took an interest in the club's plans and responded comprehensively to the questions and requests of the members present.

In the evening, before the usual convivial dinner, at the pre-

therapy. The campaign, launched in District 2110 to involve all clubs in Sicily and Malta, supports a project that employs trained companion animals to support vulnerable people.

The meeting was a useful opportunity to affirm that a club's growth must occur alongside the younger generations, that the focus must be on listening, that the approach must always be one of coordinated work, and that projects must be supported by lively and constructive activities. Because, as the year's motto states, we must always be "United to do good."



without a good large number of members the Governor has illustrated here - there are the criteria to strengthen the strengths of a club and has illustrated the new go campaign of solidarity and inclusion That employs the pet

ROTARY CLUB CAPO D'ORLANDO

ROTARY CLUB SANT'AGATA DI MILITELLO

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTE FOR TWO

On September 13th, the Capo d'Orlando RC, together with the Sant'Agata di Militello RC, had the honor of welcoming District Governor Sergio Malizia.

The meeting, which represents one of the most significant moments of the Rotary year, as it allows the Governor to personally understand the activities, the environment and the adherence to the Rotary values of the clubs, took place at the premises of the "Paul Harris House" located in Sant'Agata di Militello where, in the presence of Alessia Di Vita (Secretary-



District Governor) and Pia Pollina (Assistant Governor for both Clubs), the President of the RC Capo d'Orlando Maurizio Zingales and the President of the Rotaract Club Capo d'Orlando introduced the Clubs and outlined the program for the Rotary year just begun, which will see members involved in a multitude of activities and projects of collective interest included in the RI Areas of Action and an expression of the District's planning.

The club program is developing

but with a view to continuity of action with respect to the past and with a view to strengthening the membership in the future.

During the meeting, President Zingales also had the pleasure of presenting the DG with a contribution to support the district project called "Pet Therapy".

The administrative visit concluded with the Governor's speech, who, in illustrating the numerous and important projects of the District, transmitted heartfelt messages of cohesion and

of hope with a strong motivational value inspired by the Rotary International motto "United to do good".

The meeting was a significant occasion for Governor Malizia, who provided those present with significant encouragement to reflect on Rotary's role in the region and around the world. At the end of the visit, those present enjoyed a convivial dinner with the numerous guests.



ROTARY CLUB THE ICATA FORTE EXPERIENCE AND SPIRIT OF BELONGING

On September 7th, the Governor's administrative visit took place in Licata, which highlighted the good health of the club, which was reiterated by the District Secretary Michelangelo Gruttadauria. On this occasion, the President of the Licata Club, Carmelo, emphasized the extensive experience and sense of belonging of all members, each of whom represents excellence in their respective fields, both past and present. This has allowed our Club to persevere in its respect for tradition and quality, and to comply with the District's activities. Concluding the remarks by some of the members present, the Governor reiterated the Licata Club's great commitment and support to the District.



Subsequently, an administrative visit was held to the Aragona Colli Sicani Club, led by President Mimmo Rotulo.

The conference followed with various presentations and the presentation of new members for the Licata Club: Vincenzo Sica and the return of Giuseppe Di Falco, and for the Aragona Club, the entry of new member Calogero Niesi. Prestigious awards were presented with Paul Harris: for our Club to member Angelo Riccobeni and for the Aragona Colli Sicani Club to members Celestino Saia and Lillo Cumbo.

In his speech, the Governor recalled the three pillars of our partnership: Leadership, Rotary Foundation, and Youth.



ROTARY CLUB MENFI

UNA MEMBERSHIP

PROUD AND COHESIVE

Governor Sergio Malizia of Rotary District 2110's visit to the Rotary Club of Menfi on Saturday, September 6, 2025, led by President Antonino Verderame, was an opportunity for discussion and inspiration for members. Not only was it a customary and necessary event in the life of a club, but it also demonstrated a cohesive and proud membership. The Rotary Club of Menfi welcomed the governor to the club, accompanied by district secretary Michelangelo Gruttadauria and the governor's assistant.

Francesco Montalbano. In a very pleasant atmosphere, during the administrative visit, all issues relating to the life of the club were addressed, from membership to planning, from attention to youth to the overall management of financial resources, with specific reference to each member's Rotary experience. During the meeting, the Governor shared the district's guidelines for the Rotary year, highlighting key projects and ongoing charitable initiatives. President Verderame outlined the club's programs, highlighting the club's commitment.



towards the territory and the local community. The Governor expressed his appreciation for the work done by the club and encouraged all members to continue



continue with commitment and dedication in their activities. The administrative visit was followed by the usual social gathering, attended by club members and their spouses. A particularly moving moment, after being introduced by listing their qualities and characteristics that perfectly match Rotary's goals, was the induction ceremony for two members, Vita Di Campo, a teacher, and Giuseppina Cavarretta, a physician. The presence of the Governor, with the affixing of the inductees' badges, made the ceremony even more meaningful. It was an intense day, marked by strong empathy and a genuine Rotary spirit of service, embodied so effectively by Governor Malizia, whose experience testifies to a deep commitment and a strong sense of belonging.



ROTARY CLUB MILAZZO

LOCAL AREA AND COMMUNITIES

SOCIAL POLICIES AND INCLUSION

Visit of Rotary District 2110 Governor Sergio Malizia, accompanied by District Secretary Alessia Di Vita, to the Rotary Club of Milazzo, led by President Maria Torre. The Governor's visit represents a significant event for the

Club. It first took place with administrative meetings with the members of Rotaract and Interact and subsequently with the Rotary Club represented by the President, the Secretary Tindaro Impellizzeri, the Prefect Ada Betto, the Treasurer Antonio Coluccia and several members of the Board of Directors and numerous members. The Governor's assistant Felice De Luca was present and briefly illustrated the significant data of the Club, highlighting the

Its significant presence in the Peloritana area and beyond. During the meeting, the Governor shared the district's guidelines for the 25/26 Rotary year, highlighting key projects and ongoing solidarity initiatives.

President Torre outlined the club's programs for the local community, social policies, and inclusion.

A particularly moving moment was the induction ceremony for a new member, Paola Spedale, a professor of philosophy and history. The Governor's presence made the ceremony even more significant with the affixing of the insignia.

The event was an opportunity to



It was a meeting of inspiration and discussion for the members and concluded with a convivial moment, strengthening the spirit of friendship and collaboration among the participants.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO MONTEPELLEGRINO

DDIALOGUE BETWEEN

GENERATIONS AND SHARED VALUES

A meaningful evening was experienced by the members of the Rotary Club Palermo Montepellegrino, presided by Freda Liotta, on the occasion of the official visit of District 2110 Governor Sergio Malizia, accompanied by District Secretary Alessia Di Vita. The meeting, which saw the participation of Assistant Governor Aurelio Caronia and the President of the Rotaract Club Palermo Montepellegrino, Marco Raneri, represented a precious moment of discussion, sharing, and vision. During the visit, the Governor met with the two presidents (Rotary and Rotaract) and members of both clubs, emphasizing the profound value of Rotary and, even more, of being a Rotarian. "Being a Rotarian," Malizia emphasized, "is not just belonging to the



"Joining a club: it's a way of life, of acting, of interpreting one's role in society, in one's profession, in the world. It's an identity to be embodied day after day."

Ample space was dedicated to ongoing projects and those planned for the Rotary year, in a dynamic and



constructive, which highlighted the synergies between Rotary and Rotaract. Freda Liotta, president of the Rotary Club of Palermo Montepellegrino, expressed gratitude and enthusiasm: "The meeting with Governor Malizia was a source of inspiration for us. We felt a strong sense of belonging to a large family that shares values, visions, and the desire to make an impact on the local area." Marco Raneri, president of the Rotaract Club, agreed: "Having the Governor at our side is an honor and an opportunity. His message invites us to experience Rotaract as a training ground for life and service, on a journey that unites generations and strengthens our mission."

The visit concluded with a renewed sense of motivation, reflecting the continuity, responsibility, and friendship that unite the Rotary world.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO THEATRE OF SOLE

SSERVICE, BROTHERHOOD

PIONEERING PROJECTS

On September 18, District 2110 Governor Sergio Malizia made his usual administrative visit, meeting with the Palermo Teatro del Sole Rotary Club.

The day began in the morning with a moment of strong symbolic and social significance. In the presence of Club President Sonya Vasto, Governor Malizia officially inaugurated the joint project "A 4-Legged Friend." The initiative, which unites

Combining the strengths and skills of the two associations, it presents itself as an innovative path of social and work inclusion, focusing on the relationship between humans and animals to create new opportunities and well-being for the disabled community. The work continued in the afternoon with the traditional **administrative visit**, a crucial moment of discussion between the Governor, the Club's board and their members.

In particular, the Governor's Assistant Sergio Aguglia presented the Club's identity, describing it as a lively and cohesive group of professionals, united by **solid Rotary ideals** and a concrete commitment to the territory. Aguglia illustrated a portfolio of activities that ranges from **new pioneering projects** to **multi-year initiatives** of undisputed value and high quality, testifying to a continuity of action that is si-



synonymous with reliability and real impact.

The visit ended in the evening in an atmosphere of **friendliness and constructive collaboration**. The Palermo Teatro del Sole Club, following the famous proverb "*Alone we go fast, but together we go further.*", he strongly reaffirmed the bond of friendship and mutual respect.

The event not only highlighted Governor Malizia's important work of oversight and support, but also demonstrated how synergy between Clubs is key to multiplying the effectiveness of Rotary's actions, furthering the mission of being united to do good, doing it well.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO NORD

CA COMPARISON RICH IN IDEAS

AND NEW PROJECTS

On Thursday, September 11, the Rotary Club of Palermo Nord welcomed Governor Sergio Malizia for his official visit to Villa Airoidi.

The day opened with a speech by the Governor's Assistant, Roberto Vadalà, who outlined a picture of the Club, underlining its long and significant history – crowned last year by the celebration of the 45th anniversary of its foundation – and highlighting the most relevant activities and the notable progress made over the last three years.

During the administrative visit, President Gaetano Lo Cicero presented a summary of the Club's programme, highlighting the main objectives, and subsequently gave the floor to the Commission Presidents for further information.



on the individual areas of activity. The ongoing projects were illustrated: from the district grant led by Filippo Castelli, to the Strategic Plan presented by Mimmo Sparti, to the Primi Passi project and the Communication Plan curated by Angela Piraino, up to the initiatives for peace and harmony illustrated

Paola Romano and Enza Fundarò, respectively. Alessandro Torre, President of the Palermo Nord – Parco delle Madonie Satellite Club, along with Francesco Giarraffa, presented the projects that will be implemented in the Madonie area. The Governor followed with



He paid attention to each presentation, appreciating the initiatives illustrated, offering helpful advice, and responding fully to requests for clarification from Rotaract members and young people, led by President Riccardo Randazzo and the President of the Interact Commission, Giovanni Vacanti, who had the opportunity to discuss their projects with him. In her address, Malizia reiterated the year's three focus areas—membership, the Rotary Foundation, and youth—and presented the district publications along with the new Magazine, featuring a revamped design and expanded editorial staff. She also highlighted the fundraising initiatives for the Rotary Foundation, from the Noa concert to upcoming events with Sei Ottavi in Palermo and at the Teatro Bellini in Catania. Among the district projects, the Governor drew attention to Pet Therapy, promoted together with his wife Angela, and made a strong invitation to participate in the Convention



Taipei International (13-17 June 2025), which will see a Sicilian, Francesco Arezzo di Trifiletti, at the helm of Rotary International for the first time.

The visit concluded in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and sharing, confirming the growth and renewed commitment of the Rotary Club

Palermo North in serving the territory.

A heartfelt thank you to Governor Sergio Malizia and his team for their support, encouragement, and attention to our Club.

UNITED TO DO GOOD



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO SUD

EC CLUB COLONNE D'ANDRACOLE

TOGETHER WITH VILLA TOIROLDI

After the usual administrative meetings with the leaders of the two Clubs, the assembly was held in the presence of a large number of members of the two Clubs.

In his speech, the Governor, who was accompanied by District Secretary Alessia Di Vita, spoke to those present about the importance of the values that unite us: "service, friendship, and integrity," as themes underlying this year's motto, "United to do good."

He also illustrated the various initiatives of the year, starting from those already realized, such as the Noa Concert, held on August 3rd at the Teatro di Verdura of Villa Castelnuovo, which was a notable success and allowed a significant collection that will increase the resources available to the Rotary Foundation, to which the net surpluses of the initiatives will also be donated.



already scheduled for the entire Rotary year.

In conclusion, he illustrated the project, promoted and curated together with the kind Mrs. Angela, entitled Pet Therapy,

therapeutic practice that uses pets (and only pets) to improve the psycho-physical well-being of individuals.



ROTARY CLUB OF RIBERA

THE STRONGER EGAMI

WITH DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

During the visit, Governor Malizia expressed appreciation for the work of President Gioacchino Genna and his team, emphasizing the importance of the Club's projects for the benefit of the community. The Ribera Club is involved in several initiatives, including:

- the "Smart & Go" project, which includes a series of initiatives focused on environmental sustainability and will culminate with the installation of a shelter equipped with a bicycle rack and photovoltaic panels for charging small electric vehicles.
- Health Services: Free medical and dental visits for those in need at the multipurpose center, which has been open for several years.
- School Support: after-school programs and guidance for disadvantaged children.
- Computer Literacy: courses for young and old.
- Promoter of various cultural events and active participation



of the club at various district events.

The Governor also met with the presidents of the Rota-

riact and Interact of Ribera, expressing appreciation for their commitment.



ROTARY CLUB SCIACCA

REX OCTOBER THE INSTITUTIONAL

AND CONVIVIAL OPPORTUNITY

On September 5th, the Rotary Club of Sciacca hosted the visit of District Governor Sergio Malizia, accompanied by District Secretary Michelangelo Gruttadauria: an institutional appointment that punctuated an entire day of work and meetings.

The morning was dedicated to a cultural event: the Governor, together with a group of Club members, participated in a narrated tour of the Caravaggio exhibition.

The usual administrative visit took place in the afternoon. The Governor met with the Club Board to discuss current activities and planning. Attention was also focused on youth groups, with meetings dedicated to the newly formed Rotaract and Interact members.

The engagement concluded in the evening, with a dinner held at the

Verdura Resort. The Governor gave his official address in the presence of members and their spouses.

The evening also served as an opportunity to formalize the entry of four new members into the Sciacca Club, a significant moment in the association's generational turnover.

The visit thus completed the planned institutional process, strengthening the connection between the Sciacca Club and the District.







ACTUALITY

ROTARY YOUTH AND EXCHANGE

ROTARY OPENS BORDERS FOR INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

"I have seen boys and girls leave, and I have seen men and women return": with these words, Pucci Piccione, Youth Exchange Program Coordinator for District 2110, sums up the essence and profound value of the Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE), a concrete opportunity for international training, personal growth, and peacebuilding.

Today more than ever, in a world that is building walls, Rotary builds bridges between people, promoting experiences of dialogue, friendship, and mutual discovery, and has been doing so for over 50 years, through this historic, globally recognized youth exchange program.

District 2110 Sicily and Malta also strongly believes in this transformation process and has always invested in young people, the drivers of change. Now, under the leadership of Governor Sergio Malizia, District 2110 renews its commitment with a highly qualified and motivated District Commission led by District Coordinator Pucci Piccione, with the Western Area Coordinators Vito Cocita (RC Valle del Salso) and the Eastern Area Coordinators Giovanna Tumino (RC Ragusa Hybla Heraea), together with the members: Roberto Angileri (RC Enna), Michele Bacchi (RC Sciacca), Salvatore Bottone (RC Marsala), Alessandro Liberto (RC La Valette, Malta), Alessia Mauri (RC Catania), Dorian Montella (RC Catania Sud), Fernanda Paternò Castello di Carcaci (RC Ca-

tania), Tommaso Maria Puccio (RC Palermo Mondello), Alberto Sardella (RC Messina), Gianluca Sartorio (RC Palermo Mediterranea) and Sergio Spinoso (RC Siracusa Ortigia). The team led by Pucci Piccione focuses on listening, caring for, and supporting the children and their families, both upon departure and arrival.

But what is the "Rotary Youth Exchange"? It's an educational and cultural program that offers young people between the ages of 15 and 19 the opportunity to live abroad for a period, living with selected, welcoming families, attending local schools, and participating in the social and Rotary life of the host community.

The program is divided into different modalities: Long Term Exchange (a school year abroad), Short Term Exchange (4-6 weeks, often with reciprocal exchange between families), Summer Camps (15-20 days, cultural or sports experiences in a group) and NGSE (New Generations Service Exchange) for young adults (18-30 years old).

For everyone, it's a life-changing experience, as Pucci Piccione emphasizes in the interview: "The Youth Exchange opens minds and hearts." Young people learn to understand themselves, overcome their fears, face change, and acquire new languages and intercultural skills. They return more independent, confident, and responsible. And often profoundly transformed. Many then work abroad, others return to live and invest in their communities.

own territories with an international mentality. Each participant is supported with passion and responsibility by a tutor, selected families, and active clubs that are part of their community.

However, as mentioned in the interview, currently only a little over 20% of the District's clubs are involved in the program. This is why it's important to strengthen the culture of exchange within clubs, overcome fears related to responsibility, and understand that accompanying a young person on this journey means sowing peace and building the future. If you want to be part of the change (for example, if you're young and curious about the world, or if you're a welcoming family or a club ready to make a difference), then simply join the Youth Exchange network, contact the District 2110 RYE Committee, and find out how to begin this wonderful journey. Because Rotary Youth Exchange is a simple formula that changes the world through the transformative action of one young person.

Maria Torrisi
Image and Communications
Coordinator – Eastern Area
District

PUCCI PICCIONE: LIN TRUST OF ROTARY IN THE YOUTH OF THE FUTURE

How much attention does Rotary International devote to young people? And how much does our District?

Rotary International recognizes the profound importance of highlighting the creativity, passion, and role of young people in society through programs and projects that, at various levels, seek to enhance their leadership skills. Among these is Rotary Youth Exchange, which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year. Our District has always supported youth programs and projects, although many clubs lack full participation. This is demonstrated by the still relatively small percentage, just over 20%, of clubs participating in Youth Exchange. We often sense within clubs a fear of taking on responsibility.



What growth opportunities does Rotary offer young people?

Rotary offers the opportunity for young people to engage in a

direct and responsible service in their own territory through Interact and Rotaract, the opportunity to explore the world and learn other languages and new cultures with the "Youth Exchange" in its various forms: Long Term, Short Term, and Camp, and offers the opportunity, through the RYLA experience, to attend a leadership course which becomes, in many situations, the only real opportunity offered to young people to exchange and learn about experiences and values. **From your vantage point, what results have the kids who participate in the exchange projects designed for them achieved?**

I've always said that I've seen girls and boys leave and I've seen women and men return. The exchange project, especially the Long Term one, allows





Youth Exchange opens minds and hearts, making us understand that the world is, after all, much smaller than we think, and that it doesn't take much to be friends.

Do we have aggregate data on the actual opportunities these children had after participating in these exchange programs thanks to their commitment to our District?

There are no statistical or otherwise detailed data that allow us to have a clear picture, over time, of how the exchange experience has also become a professional and life opportunity for the young people who participated. It would be useful, in this regard, to begin to define a comprehensive and specific context. It is our personal experience that manages to outline how many young people have been able to:

First and foremost, it's about knowing yourself, especially because, especially in the initial stages, you experience the fear of a new environment, the lack of your comfort zone, the distance from friends and family, and the difficulty of speaking a new language that you often don't know. It's therefore essential to develop your creativity, your desire to learn, and your passion for things. Through this human and natural process, it becomes natural to recognize your strengths (to enhance them and share them with others) and also your limitations (to overcome them and not be afraid of them). You acquire an international outlook and very often return fluent in multiple languages and with a surprising confidence in your abilities. It's no coincidence that many young people who have had the RYE experience work abroad, with great success and prospects.





fully utilize, in their professional and personal lives, what they had experienced during the exchange, and we can also confirm that many young people who spent their year in our District return because they have a strong connection to the places and people. I saw many girls and boys who returned with their families or partners, and many who chose to work and live in Sicily or who came here on vacation or to get married, for example. The bonds that are created during the exchange experience

exchanges remain forever and this is an element of strength and guarantee of the program, but also of beauty and personal joy.

How much has interest in Rotary's youth program grown among young people, families, and schools, and what more can be done to improve the dissemination of information about the important opportunities it offers?

The Covid period has had a strong impact on the RYE program which had to restart ex

I am still experiencing new and diverse concerns, but the beauty and originality of the program have allowed us to fully resume all activities. The exchange program in our District is now completely financially self-sustaining, but if we want to give it greater relevance, we need to allocate additional financial resources to a new project. This involves identifying responsible and highly motivated individuals, including through rewards. This project can also involve more clubs, ensuring a strong presence in schools, no longer sporadic but constant. Above all, it can involve the rebounders—the young people who have participated in the exchange—as true and authentic witnesses to the beauty and strength of the program. They are the first witnesses, and they, better than anyone else, can share their stories, their journey, their emotions, and recount Rotary's service around the world.

What do you think is the real key to the success of the Rotary youth program? I'd say it's rooted in Rotary: spontaneous collaboration and a positive attitude toward the future. It's important to remember that the program works because there's always a Rotarian, anywhere in the world, who, completely selflessly, stands beside the kids and helps them live their life experiences in a peaceful and harmonious way.

Maria Torrisi
Image and Communication
District Coordinator – Sicily
Oriental

FRANCESCO DAIANA: AND NOW

THE ROTARY FIGHTS AND HOPES

The END POLIO NOW Campaign was included among the main objectives of the 2025-26 fiscal year by both International President Francesco Arezzo and Governor Sergio Malizia, thus the District's clubs felt even more encouraged to boost fundraising and organize events to promote the Campaign's objective, both among Rotarians and among the people in the communities where they serve. With undisguised pride, we can state that in recent years, fundraising and promotional activities carried out by our clubs, except for a slight decline in 2024-25, have placed District 2110 among the most generous and committed Italian districts in achieving this noble goal.

An important date is approaching for Rotary Clubs around the world: October 24, World Polio Day. Rotary International invites you to:

Rotarians around the world to carry out initiatives that promote the importance of fighting the disease and to record (it is very important) the planned activities in the appropriate section of the website <https://www.endpolio.org/>.

In order to organize the To better understand these activities, Clubs can take advantage of the many resources available at <https://www.endpolio.org/en/world-polio-day-resources>, using them to complement the numerous and varied materials available in the Rotary.org Brand Center. Our Governor, through the letter sent by the Polio Plus Fund Subcommittee at the beginning of September, also invited all Clubs in the District to organize high-impact events in the local area for October 24, suggesting, in particular, to project

- on the evening of October 24th at 9pm - on a building located in a central area and with great visibility, in every city where there is a Club, the im-



The symbolic image of the END POLIO NOW campaign. Sergio Malizia also expressed his hope that all the District's Clubs would donate their funds to the Polio Project in October. Another initiative suggested was the one conceived by the Megara Augusta Club, called A DAY WITHOUT, which aims to raise funds by donating the monetary equivalent of a good, normally enjoyed by us, that we will do without for a day. To this end, the Club that created it provided us with an editable poster, which Carlo Napoli then customized for each of the District's 102 Clubs, making it available on Google Drive at

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZpDSQh1eqt-4Qc6BU6Ey4ujp57oekCsusp=sharing>.

The Polio Plus Fund Subcommittee (composed of Francesco Daina, Giuseppe Virgilio, Francesco Tabacco, Bryan Sullivan, Dario Di Bella and Rosa Savarino) is always ready to support the Clubs in promoting and disseminating the importance of vaccination and immunization, which little by little and in alternating phases, are allowing us to get closer to the great final goal, that is, the eradication of polio.



TONNALISA GUERCIO :POLIOPLUS SOCIETY AND THE CULTURE OF DONATION

Rotary International's history of service began in the last century and has developed over the years thanks to the work and service of Rotarians and the culture of giving that distinguishes our Association. The most important milestones we recall are:

1978 Promotion of the 3H (Health, Hunger and Humanity) program, in which Rotary is committed to combating hunger, disease, and social conflict. The first act of this program is the allocation of \$760,000 for polio vaccination.



for 6 million children in the Philippines;

1985: Rotary launches the PolioPlus Program, one of the most ambitious humanitarian programs undertaken by a private organization, with an initial fundraising goal of \$120 million and a commitment to vaccinating children in polio-affected countries. Its creator and promoter is Sergio Mulitsch, a Rotarian emeritus, founding member of the RC Treviglio e Pianura Bergamasca, and Governor of District 204 in 1984-85.

In 1988, Rotary and the World Health Organization launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), joined by UNICEF, the CDC, and the Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation. At the time, there were approximately 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries. Thanks to GPEI, the eco-commitment



The vaccination program becomes even more important and vaccination programs are expanding on a global scale, allowing the first successes to be achieved.

In 1994, WHO declared the Americas polio-free, and in 2000, the Western Pacific region, stretching from Australia to China, was also declared polio-free.

In 2003, The Rotary Foundation raised \$119 million during a 12-month campaign. Rotary's total contribution to polio eradication exceeded \$500 million.

Six countries remain polio-endemic – Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan.

In 2006 the number of polio-endemic countries dropped to four – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, Pakistan.

And in 2020, WHO certified the African continent as wild polio-free.

Today, wild poliovirus 1 (WPV1) is present only in Pakistan and Afghanistan, but the problem is also represented by the spread, in other countries of the world, of virulent strains of vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPVs), present in the environment, which constitute a serious risk to public health. The eradication strategy

The key to disease control continues to be vaccination, adopting new vaccination schedules, increasing interventions, and using more stable, new-generation vaccines. However, it is necessary to invest in research, epidemiological and environmental surveillance, new technologies, vaccines, and to promote and strengthen the culture of blood donation.

It was with this very objective that the PolioPlus Society (PPS) was born in 2012, from the intuition of Harriet Shloer of the Rotary Club "Bend High Desert", District 5110 (Oregon and Northern California), which over the years has spread to other districts around the world.

In the Rotary year 2024-2025, the PPS is founded in District 2110, by will of the Governor-

King Giuseppe Pitari on the initiative of

International Stephanie Urchick who places the diffusion of PPS among the objectives of his year in office. Raising awareness of a historic yet highly topical problem such as the spread of the polio virus and promoting recurring annual donations to the End Polio Fund are the primary objectives of PPS.

Rotarians and Rotaractors join the PPS with a moral commitment to contribute at least €100 annually to purchase vaccines, support vaccination campaign logistics, and conduct epidemiological surveillance until the World Health Organization declares the world polio-free.

PPS members receive a Certificate of Recognition and a special membership badge from the Governor.

The donation is recognized individually for Paul Harris Fellow, Benefactor, or Major Donor status and helps increase the contributions of the member clubs to the Polio Plus Fund.

PPS currently has 114 members, representing approximately 50% of the district's clubs, but this number is expected to grow thanks to the commitment of Governor Sergio Malizia and the PolioPlus Society Committee. PPS members are Rotary Ambassadors in its most ambitious fight; they maintain personal commitment and actively promote the culture of giving. PPS's commitment is part of Rotary's larger global effort to eradicate polio, championed by International President Francesco Arezzo di Trefiletti.

Thanks to the extraordinary progress achieved so far, polio eradication is within reach, but the END POLIO goal requires a further effort and commitment constant.



October 24th
WORLD DAY
OF POLIO

a day WITHOUT

END
POLIO
NOW

Rotary
Distretto 2110



UNITI PER
FARE DEL
BENE

MARCELLA MILIA: LTO PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY GROWS AND STRENGTHENS

It's a great thrill to share the work we do to support The Rotary Foundation, the beating heart of Rotary's work. Among Rotary's missions, the PHS represents one of the most authentic expressions of generosity, going beyond financial commitment to provide an opportunity for personal and community growth with global impact.

PHS, created to honor founder Paul Harris, brings together members and non-member friends who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to supporting the Foundation through a minimum contribution of \$1,000 to the Annual Fund, Polio Plus Fund, or a Global Grant. The result achieved in the 2024-25 fiscal year is a source of pride because it responded to the appeal of Foundation President Mark Maloney, who had set a goal of increasing at least 10 new members for each District.

District 2110 accepted the invitation and enthusiastically exceeded the required goal by registering the entry of 13 new members. With the beginning of the



For the new social year 2056-26, we have already registered another 3 new members who join the thirteen previous ones who have already confirmed their membership for the new year.

New PHS members are given a badge and a certificate of gratitude as a tangible sign of the impact generated by their gesture which gives concrete testimony of service.

trust and support for our Foundation.

I hope that in the new year, their example will inspire others to spread and strengthen the "culture of giving," so that more and more members will choose to become protagonists of the global change that Rotary builds every day with passion, generosity, and vision.



GJOHN VACCARO: THE ROTARY CHANGES

BUT REMAINS FAITHFUL TO ITS VALUES

On October 17th, during the Enna District Assembly, District 2110 Sicily and Malta will elect the new Delegate for COL and COR activities for the three-year period 2026-2028. The meeting was held at the Palermo Interclub, which was attended by District 2110 Governor Sergio Malizia, who closed the meeting.

A significant moment that we wanted to explore further with the current District Delegate, the PDG **John Vaccaro**, who has held this dual role of great responsibility since 2023.

Why is the election of the Delegate to the COL and COR important? Because Rotary is a living organization, evolving and transforming through democratic debate. The District Representative is responsible for representing the local clubs on the Council on Legislation and the Council on Resolutions.

These two distinct yet complementary bodies shape the rules that guide our association and express the visions of the Rotary of tomorrow. This responsibility requires study, listening, a spirit of service, and collaboration with the other Representatives.

What are the main innovations introduced in the latest COL?

Many. The 2025 COL approved substantial changes to the Rotary, Foundation, and Club Constitutions and Bylaws. For example, it was reduced to **15 members** the minimum number to found a new one



Club; it was **the convening of the District Congress has been made non-mandatory**, although it remains open to every Rotarian; **District Assembly has become a Learning Seminar**; and the **International President can now suspend a member** initiating disciplinary proceedings. We have also made strong recommendations regarding administrative transparency, periodic reporting, and cost containment. The report is already available. **new Procedure Manual** in English, while the

Italian translation is expected in the next few months.

How does your work actually work in the District?

In these years I am meeting many Clubs and Areas for **explain the proposals in detail first and then the approvals** and stimulate debate, for ongoing training. Finally, after the Agrigento Area, part of the Nissena Area, and the Lands of Ceres and Panormus, I also plan meetings in the Drepanum Area and elsewhere. The goal is twofold: to inform and gather



breWe will elect the Delegate for the three-year term in Enna **2026-2028**, so that he can support the outgoing Delegate and begin training immediately.

In conclusion, how do you see the future of Rotary through the experience of COL and COR?

Rotary has a structure capable of reforming without losing its identity. Through the COL and the COR, we keep alive our democratic, pluralistic, and participatory nature. My hope is that more and more members will become passionate about these aspects of our organization, because this is where the future is built. A future rooted in our ethics, yet looking far ahead with fresh eyes and an open mind.

suggestions from members, in one spirit of knowledge and collaboration.

What is the role of the Council on Resolutions?

The Rotary International Board of Directors is the forum where clubs can submit proposed resolutions to the Rotary International Board of Directors. The ideas are diverse—a true treasure—and delegates from around the world are called upon to select the most worthy. We are currently evaluating the proposals for the current year and will make final decisions by October. This year, especially for us Europeans, is even more important, as **the international president is the PDG of our District, Francesco Arezzo**, a globally respected and authoritative figure. It is a source of pride and commitment for all of us. **Why are we voting in October if the three-year term begins in 2026?** Because the COL approved an important change last April: the Delegates will officially begin their mandate **from January 1st**, and no longer from 1st Lu-

child. This will allow you to pre-participate in all pre-legislative stages. This is why the **October 17-**



UNIIPA & ROTARYSOS API

STRUST AGAINST A FUTURE AT RISK OF EXTINCTION

On September 26, 2025, the European Researchers' Night – SHARPER Project celebrated science; but it was also the stage for an important collaboration. The excellence of the UniPA-SAAF Department and the fieldwork of Rotary District 2110 with the SOS Bees project. Together, scientific discovery and commitment that goes beyond the laboratory raise a silent alarm that threatens the planet: the risk of bee extinction. The event was a marathon (6 p.m.–12 a.m.) with 3,000 visitors at 120 stands and more than 500 researchers, despite the initial adverse weather conditions. It was thrilling to welcome the

Many, young and old, flocked to our stand to learn more. An interactive experience exploring the world of bees revealed their crucial role and the dangers they face. It transformed research into entertainment and awareness into concrete action; they tangibly understood an uncomfortable truth: our future hangs on the thin thread of pollination! Through it, we have food and oxygen! The urgency of this mission is captured in the words of Sergio Malizia, Governor of District 2110: "Bees can't scream. We will do it for them. Their silence would be our greatest loss."



Luigi Loggia, president of the SOS Bee Commission, the protagonist of the evening for Rotary, thanked the Rector of the University of Palermo, Professor Massimo Midiri, who was at the stand to greet us and certify its success; Professor M. Gruttadauria, organizational coordinator of the "Night," "for encouraging us to participate"; and the researchers from the SAAF Department who "welcomed us with kindness and competence." The goal, explained Professor Lo Verde, professor of entomology at the SAAF-UNIIPA Department, was clear: to involve; and she declared: "We want everyone, from children to adults, to understand that saving bees is a collective mission." The event concluded with an echo of enthusiasm: "Science is an adventure," explained Professor Michelangelo Gruttadauria, co-organizer, "since 2016 we have been telling it in an ever-changing and engaging way through the SHARPER project. With Rotary, it also becomes action!"

DT01 LUGLIO-1OCTOBER2025

MEMBERSHIP

THE MEMBERSHIP INCREASE +47



VINSERTIONS TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

54,000.00 And






Pre - S.A.P.E.

Seminario Apprendimento Presidenti Eletti a.r. 2026-2027

**10-11-12
October 2025**

**Palacultura
Brolo (ME)**

PROGRAMMA

Friday, October 10, 2025

Hotel Capo Skino + Sikani – Gioiosa Marea3.30 pm **Participant Registration**

(Hotel Capo Skino and Hotel Sikani)

5.00 pm **Departure from the Hotels to Brolo(Bus)**5.30 pm **Participants gather in Piazza Annunziatella - Brolo**6.00 pm **Visit to Brolo Castle**7.00 pm **Aperitif at Brolo Castle and show by the "I Nebrodi" Folk Group. Return to the hotel.(Bus) Dinner**

8.00 pm

9.00 pm

10.30pm **Music together**

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Palacultura, Piazza Annunziatella – Brolo-9.00 **Opening of the Secretariat and registration of participants**9.30 **Work begins - Honor to the Flags**- **Marilia Turco**, District Prefect ar 2026-27- **Alessia Di Trapani**, Co-District Prefect ar 2026-279.40 **Institutional Greetings**- **Hon. Giuseppe Laccoto**, Mayor of Brolo- **Giorgio Orlando**, President of RC Patti – Land of Tindari- **Sergio Malizia**, DG District 2110- **Casimiro Gaetano Castronovo**, DGN District 2110 ar 2027-28- **Michele Trupiano**, RD Rotaract District 2110 ar 2026-2710.00 **Reading the CV of DGE Lina Ricciardello Glaucus**10.10 **Together Lina Ricciardello**, DGE ar 2026-27 **District****Staff Presentation Lina Ricciardello**, DGE ar 2026-2710.30 **The Presidents introduce themselves**

10.50

(Aragas, Drepanum, Peloritana, and Ceres Land Areas)

11.30 **The role of the President**PDG **Alfio Di Costa**, District Learning Facilitator ar 2026-2711.45 **The book of the year 2026-27** PDG**Carlo Marullo of Condojanni**12.00 **The Rotary Foundation, also for growing together**PDG **Ferdinand Testoni Blasco**, DRFC ar 2024-28

Pre - S.A.P.E

12.15 **Deadlines and contributions****Rosario Indelicato**, District Treasurer ar 2026-2712.25 **The Presidents introduce themselves**

(Etna, Iblea, Maltese areas)

13.05 **Transfer to the Bontempo Restaurant - Ponte Naso(Bus)**1.30pm **Business breakfast and group photo**3.20 pm **Return to the Palacultura and resumption of work****The Presidents introduce themselves (Aretusea,****Nissena, Panormus Areas)**16.10 **Projects for 2026-27****Lina Ricciardello**, DGE ar 2026-274.30 pm **Workshop**5.30 pm **Question time**5.50pm **Conclusions**DGE **Lina Ricciardello**, DG **Sergio Malizia**6.00 pm **End of work**6.30 PM **Return to the hotel**8.30pm **Departure from the hotels to Capo d'Orlando(Bus)**8.50pm **Gathering at the port of Capo d'Orlando**9.00 pm **Gala Dinner (Mercadante Terrace - Capo d'Orlando Port)**10.30pm **Music Together**11:30 PM **Return to the hotel(Bus)**

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Hotel Capo Skino + Sikani – Gioiosa Marea9.30 **Departure for Tindari**10.00 **Free Participation in the Holy Mass****Sanctuary of the Black Madonna**11.00 **Visit to the Sanctuary of Tindari and the Greek**1.00 pm **Theatre. Farewell lunch (Tyndaris Restaurant - Patti).****Program for companions****Saturday 11 October 2025**10.30 **Visit to Villa Piccolo in Capo D'Orlando** Transfer to**1.00 pm **the Bontempo Restaurant for lunch Return to the**3.00 pm **hotel(Bus)**

* For hotel guests, a transfer is provided, departing at 8.30 am.

** For those staying at the hotel, a transfer is provided with departure at 10.00 am



Thank you!
Lina Ricciardello
DGE



DISTRICT SECRETARIAT

Piazza Ludovico Ariosto, 29 - 95127 Catania

Tel. +39 095 7151604

email: segreteria@distrettuale2627@rotary2110.it



Sergio Malizia
Governatore Distretto

Seminario Distrettuale sulla Rotary Foundation e sulla Gestione delle Sovvenzioni R.F. a.r. 2026-2027



November 15, 2025
Hotel Federico II - Enna

PROGRAMMA

MORNING

Rotary Foundation Seminar

- 09:00 Opening of the secretariat and registration
09:00 **Onore alle Bandiere e presentazione della giornata**
Fausto Assennato, *Prefetto distrettuale*
Indirizzi di saluto
Rino Realmuto, *Presidente RC Enna*
Lina Ricciardello, *DGE 2026-2027*
Casimiro Gaetano Castronovo, *DGN 2027-2028*
Valentina Fallico, *RD Rotaract District 2110*
Federico Lombardo, *RD Interact District 2110*
- 10:20 Greetings and introduction to the proceedings
The Rotary Foundation in District 2110
Sergio Malizia, *Governatore Distretto 2110*
- 10:40 **District grants awarded**
Leoluca Mancuso, *President of the Humanitarian Grants Subcommittee*
- 11:00 **The proposed global grants**
Salvatore Vacante, *Humanitarian Grants Subcommittee Component*
- 11:10 **The pro Rotary Foundation concerts**
Mariafrancesca Franco, *President of the Music and Solidarity Committee*
- 11:20 **Focus on the End Polio Now program**
Francesco Daina, *Chair of the Polio Plus Subcommittee*
- 11:30 **The Polio Plus Society**
Annalisa Guercio, *President of the Polio Plus Society Commission*
Delivery of PINs and Certificates of Appreciation to new PolioPlus Society members on 25-26
- 11:45 **Major Gifts to the Rotary Foundation**
Giovanni Pitarresi, *President of the Major Donations Subcommittee*
- 11:55 **Major Donors Summit in Palermo**
Sergio Malizia, *Governatore Distretto 2110*
- 12:05 **The International Convention in Taipei**
Salvatore Miano, *President of the International Convention Committee*
- 12:15 **Rotaract's commitment to the Rotary Foundation**
Valentina Fallico, *RD Rotaract District 2110*
- 12:25 **Rotary Foundation Awards for the 2024-2025 Rotary Year**
Giuseppe Pitari, *PDG year 2024-2025*
- 12:55 **Closing of works**
Sergio Malizia, *Governatore Distretto 2110*
- 1:00 PM **Business breakfast**

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- 1:00 PM **Business breakfast**

With the participation of



DISTRICT SECRETARIAT

Piazza Ludovico Ariosto, 29 - 95127 Catania
Tel. +39 095 7151604
email: segreteria2526@rotary2110.it email:
segreteria2526@rotary2110.it

Vent'anni in SeiOttavi

Teatro Golden, Palermo
Domenica 23 novembre, ore 19.00

Concerto di Solidarietà
pro Rotary Foundation

The
Rotary
Foundation



SAVE THE DATE

IMPORTANT EVENTS AHEAD FOR THE EUROTARIANI FROM SICILY AND MHIGH IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

On December 6th, the Rotarian Jubilee will take place in the Vatican. The general audience with His Holiness Leo XIV will take place in the Nervi Hall at 10:00 a.m. Participants must be in St. Peter's Square at 8:00 a.m. Please register by October 30th by sending a communication to the district secretariat at segreteria2526@rotary2110.it. Please note that only spouses and children may attend along with Rotarians. Please provide the names of the people, not their numbers.



On December 17th, in Naples, a meeting was held with International President Francesco Arezzo, who wanted to dedicate a special event to the Rotarians of Southern Italy. Reservations must be made by October 6th, subject to availability. Reservations must be sent with a copy of the bank transfer to the Rotary District 2101 Prefect, Luigi Pane, at 335 5806290 or at paneluigi1968@gmail.com.



Bank transfer to Associazione Rotary International Distretto 2101 IBAN:
IT48L0898774840000000204533
Cooperative Credit Bank of Terra di Lavoro "San Vincenzo de' Paoli"

VISITA DEL ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT - FRANCESCO AREZZO

EVENTO INTERDISTRETTUALE

PROGRAMMA

MERCOLEDI' 17 DICEMBRE 2025 - NAPOLI	
MATTINATA E PRIMO POMERIGGIO ARRIVO A NAPOLI E SISTEMAZIONE IN HOTEL	
ORE 17,00/18,00	CIRCOLO NAZIONALE DELL'UNIONE NAPOLI INCONTRO DEL R.I.P. CON I GOVERNATORI ITALIANI
ORE 18,00	TEATRO SAN CARLO
ORE 19,00/20,15	CONCERTO "CORO E ORCHESTRA DEL TEATRO SAN CARLO"
ORE 21,00	CIRCOLO NAZIONALE DELL'UNIONE NAPOLI SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI E ALLOCUZIONE DEL R.I.P. CONVIVIALE INTERDISTRETTUALE E BRINDISI DEGLI AUGURI
ORE 23,00	RIENTRO IN HOTEL ROYAL CONTINENTAL NAPOLI
GIOVEDI' 18 DICEMBRE 2025 - NAPOLI	
MATTINATA	VISITA SITI DI INTERESSE NEL CENTRO STORICO DI NAPOLI CRISTO VELATO, S. GREGORIO ARMENO, PALAZZO REALE, MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO PAGAMENTO IN LOCO
ORE 14,00	PIZZA IN LOCALE TIPICO - PAGAMENTO IN LOCO
PRIMO POMERIGGIO SALUTI E PARTENZA	

RIEPILOGO COSTI

HOTEL ROYAL CONTINENTAL VIA PARTENOPE 38 NAPOLI

COSTO CAMERA PER IL GIORNO 17.12.25

CAMERA SINGOLA VISTA INTERNA	€ 120,00
CAMERA DOPPIA VISTA INTERNA	€ 130,00
CAMERA SUPERIOR SINGOLA VISTA MARE	€ 150,00
CAMERA SUPERIOR DOPPIA VISTA MARE	€ 160,00

TEATRO SAN CARLO

COSTO BIGLIETTO PER IL CONCERTO COMPENSIVO DI QUOTA DONAZIONE ROTARY FOUNDATION	€ 70,00
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CIRCOLO NAZIONALE DELL'UNIONE VIA SAN CARLO 99 NAPOLI

COSTO CENA DEGLI AUGURI DI NATALE € 45,00

NB: I TIKET PER L'ACCESSO AI SITI D'ARTE ED I COSTI RELATIVI ALLA PIZZA DEL 18/12 SONO DA CORRISPONDERSI IN LOCO.

GLI SPOSTAMENTI DA E PER L'HOTEL SONO A CARICO DEI SOCI PARTECIPANTI.

RESTA INTESO CHE PER IL R.I.P. GLI OSPITI INTERNAZIONALI ED I DG ITALIANI SARANNO ORGANIZZATI DAL DISTRETTO OSPITANTE

Prefetto Distrettuale Luigi Pane + 39 335 5806290 paneluigi1968@gmail.com

tOGenda of theGoverlord ofOOctober

DATE	CLUB
October 5th	Meeting of the Governor with the Assistants of Western Sicily Santa Ninfa
October 10-11	Pre-sape DGE 2026/2027 Lina Ricciardello Brolo (ME)
October 12th	Youth Exchange Seminar - Enna
October 12th	Governor's Meeting with Assistants of Eastern Sicily - Aci-Catena
October 19th	Interfaith Prayer Meeting - Mazara del Vallo Polio
October 24th morning	Day - Aretusea Area

Visite of theGoverlord ofOOctober

DATE	CLUB
Monday, October 6, 2025 -	Connections D. 2110
Thursday, October 9, 2025	Palermo
Thursday, October 16, 2025	Palermo Costa Gaia
Thursday, October 16, 2025	Palermo "Bay of the Phoenicians"
Saturday, October 18, 2025	Partanna
Saturday, October 18, 2025	Salemi
Sunday, October 19, 2025	Marsala
Sunday, October 19, 2025	Mazara del Vallo
Thursday, October 23, 2025	Augusta
Thursday, October 23, 2025	Syracuse Climiti Mountains
Friday, October 24, 2025	Lentini
Friday, October 24, 2025	Megara Augusta
Saturday, October 25, 2025	Syracuse Ortigia
Saturday, October 25, 2025	Palazzolo Acreide-Anapo Valley
Saturday, October 25, 2025	Syracuse
Sunday, October 26, 2025	Noto-Land of Eoro
Sunday, October 26, 2025	Pachino



**COSTRUZIONE DELLA PACE
E PREVENZIONE DEI CONFLITTI**

ROTARY CLUB PALERMO NORD

"STEMS OF PEACE" A UNIVERSAL SYMBOL OF WELCOMING

A rainbow of colors illuminates Palermo with a timeless message: peace. On Via Emerico Amari, right in front of the port, the work "Stems of Peace" was installed. This installation, donated by the Rotary Club of Palermo Nord, combines artistic beauty and civic values, transforming an urban space into a universal invitation to encounter and mutual respect. The project, designed by architect Anna Maria Tesauo and built by Giuseppe Di Liberto's company of Villabate, consists of seven colored stems reminiscent of a rainbow, a symbol of harmony and brotherhood. The side of the flowerbed features the word "peace," translated into dozens of languages, an embrace that transcends borders and cultures and aptly represents Palermo's calling as a crossroads of peoples and traditions.

The inauguration ceremony, held on September 9th, saw the participation of numerous Rotary, civil and institutional authorities, including the mayor Roberto Lagalla, the councilors co-



Municipal representatives Cannella, Falzone, Carta, Calabrò, and Forzinetti, City Council President Giulio Tantillo, Eighth District President Longo, Regional Councilor Alessandro Aricò, and Court of Appeal President Matteo Frasca were also present. Also present were the current president of the Rotary Club Palermo Nord, PDG Gaetano Lo Cicero, along with

me to numerous Club members, demonstrating the strong bond between the Rotary community and the city. "Today we inaugurate the Stems of Peace," Mayor Lagalla declared, "a work that is not just an artistic symbol, but a profound message to those who enter Palermo. We want the first image they see to be that of a city



open, inclusive, which makes dialogue between peoples and peace its founding values." Its location on Via Emerico Amari, a thoroughfare welcoming residents and tourists from the sea, is no coincidence: the interplay of colors and the chorus of languages transform this space into a place of reflection, encounter, and hope.

The idea for the Stems of Peace was born from last year's 2024-2025 Rotary president, Filippo Castelli, who wanted to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Palermo Nord with an initiative destined to leave a tangible and lasting mark on the city. This choice transformed a special anniversary into a gift of beauty and meaning for the community.

Sergio Malizia, Governor of Rotary District 2110 Sicily and Malta, was present at the installation on Via Emerico Amari. He commented: "With the Stems of Peace, Rotary renews its commitment to the community, leaving a visible and lasting mark. This work speaks a universal language, transcending differences and encouraging mutual respect. It's a message that originates in Palermo but belongs to the entire world." With this initiative, the Rotary Club of Palermo Nord reaffirms its commitment to the city and its citizens: a commitment that is nourished by Rotary values translated into concrete actions, capable of uniting beauty, service and hope.



GEMELLAGE ROTARY CLUB BOLOGNA GALVANI ROTARY CLUB MAZARA OF THE VAT THE

The twinning was born with an initiative that led a group of "Bolognesi" to visit Mazara in October 2024, precisely during the Rotarian Invocation for Peace among Peoples, Presidents: Bologna Galvani, Maria Grazia Diana and Mazara, Gaspare Ingargiola.

On September 7 and 8, 2025, we returned the visit, welcomed with great enthusiasm and with generous and unforgettable hospitality, which allowed us to get to know and appreciate Bologna as we could not have bettered it, with tours of the city led by Rotarians.

During the convivial gathering on Monday the 8th, dedicated entirely to this event, we signed a memorandum of understanding that covers the next two Rotary years, and signed the "Diploma" that establishes this partnership.



The presentation of the history of the Clubs and the way they have interpreted Rotary comforted us: our Clubs are designed to develop strong joint projects.

They signed for Bologna Gal-

Vani, President Edda Molinari and the incoming 26-27 Pietro Aciri; for Mazara del Vallo, President Lillo Giorgi and the incoming 26-27 Giuseppe Angileri, well known in our District for his commitment to BLSD courses.



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On Sunday, September 28, 2025, as part of the Cous Cous Fest, the Rotary Clubs of Menfi, Ribera, and Palermo Ovest met for a discussion and sharing session, in the presence of Mayor Francesco La Sala and City Councilor Leonardo Sieli. The Rotary Clubs were represented by Presidents Antonino Verderame and Gioacchino Genna, respectively, while the Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest was represented by member Bruno Mirrione. The Rotarians of District 2110 Sicily and Malta have

placed at the center the theme of Peace and the embrace of humanity Union, Rotary's banners against all forms of violence. Even the club's very young friends, children of members, aged 4 to 11, participated, presenting Mayor La Sala with a poster whose theme was cooperation between peoples, including the cooking of a delicious couscous dish. Peace born from mutual respect becomes a concrete commitment to building bridges between cultures and communities.

directing projects and visions towards a shared future. Peace is not just a vision: it is a call to action that everyone can respond to by promoting understanding, respect, and justice in their daily lives. Inspiring others to make their voices heard and help build a more peaceful world. This meeting launched a heartfelt plea for peace, concluding the 2025 Cous Cous Fest with a focus on the most acute wounds of our time.



ROTARY CLUB TRAPANI

CELEBRATES THE MEDITERRANEAN, SEA OF PEACE AND SOLIDARITY

The Rotary Club of Trapani celebrated the values of dialogue and brotherhood that unite the peoples of the Mediterranean with the event "Mediterranean Waves," held on Thursday, September 4, in the evocative setting of the Trapani Naval League.

An initiative that successfully combined a high institutional profile with concrete commitment to the community, a cornerstone of Rotary's work. The evening's guest of honor was the President Emeritus of the Republic of Albania, Bamir Topi, accompanied by Giovanni Firera, former Honorary Consul of Albania in Piedmont and a member of Rotary Torino Next. His presence symbolically reinforced the event's message: the Mediterranean is not a barrier, but a bridge uniting diverse cultures, histories, and traditions. Constructive dialogue and encounters between peoples were at the heart of the discussion, highlighting the crucial role that cultural diplomacy and international relations play in peace and development. The event was attended by prominent figures from the political and institutional spheres, including the mayor of Trapani, Giacomo Tranchida; the regional councilor for education and professional training, Mimmo Turano; and the honorable Giuseppe Bica and Dario Safina.

During the evening, the president of Rotary Trapani, Salvo D'Angelo, illustrated the club's vision: "Rotary promotes the Me-



diterraneo as a cultural beacon and does so through initiatives that build bridges between communities and enrich the cultural heritage of our territory. Hosting President Topi is a moment of great significance for us, which confirms Rotary's role as a driver of cultural and social growth."

Beyond the moment of reflection and dialogue, the "Mediterranean Waves" event had a tangible charitable value, in keeping with the spirit of service that distinguishes Rotary International. The initiative led to the completion of three important projects benefiting the community: the installation of a defibrillator at the Lega Navale headquarters, dedicated to the memory of physician Salvatore D'Angelo, past president of the club; the purchase of ten ventilators for the inmates of the Casa Circonda-

Trapani River; and the donation of a trip to a family with limited resources.

These concrete interventions demonstrate how Rotary's commitment translates into targeted actions to improve the quality of life in the area. The evening also provided an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of friendship and collaboration among members, essential elements for the success of any Rotary initiative.

The event thus confirmed itself as an expression of Rotary's ability to unite people for the common good, creating a positive and lasting impact on the local community and beyond.

ROTARY CLUB TRAPANI BIRGI MOZIA

THE THE ROTARY FOR THE PACE IN UCRAINA

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly with the aim of strengthening the ideals of peace among the world's peoples. Over the years, the observance has taken on an increasingly broader meaning, becoming a symbolic day to reflect on the root causes of conflict, the importance of prevention, and the promotion of just, sustainable, and inclusive societies. Since 2001, the United Nations has designated September 21st as a day of ceasefire and non-violence, urging all parties involved in conflict to lay down their weapons, even for just 24 hours, in the name of dialogue and reconciliation.



The **Rotary Club Trapani Birgi Mozia**, as in previous years, wanted to participate in the World Day of Peace, joining

last September 21st, at the first edition of the Peace Festival, coordinated by the Association "Friends of Ukraine".





The demonstration began with a gathering in Piazza Vittorio Veneto in the center of Trapani, which attracted a large number of local citizens. The group then proceeded for a peaceful walk through the city streets, with a large Ukrainian representative in attendance, along with many associations, political institutions, and citizens, celebrating peace and the joy of living peacefully in one's country.

The demonstration ended in Piazza Mauro Rostagno and on this occasion space was given to a forum on "**Peoples beyond borders**" with the intervention of the mayor of Trapani Giacomo Tranchida, the mayor of Erice Daniela Toscano, the police commissioner Giuseppe Felice Peritore and the extraordinary commissioner of the ASP Sabrina Pulvirenti.

Nine mayors and two rectors from Ukraine spoke of bombed communities, cities that resisted, and schools that continue to operate online despite the occupation. Collaboration agreements were signed with the Italian municipalities of the D50 Social and Health District, led by Trapani. The president of the Rotary Club

Trapani Birgi Mozia, **Maria Elvira De Luca**, commented "*The walk alongside Ukrainian representatives with the pleasure of exchanging fraternal hugs and who appreciated the presence of Rotary, an international institution that does so much good and fights for the affirmation of peace in the world, was a moment of growth and full of deep emotion.*" **Mario Fontana**, president of *Support Ukraine*, he recalled the province's commitment: "*More than four trucks loaded with aid have left Trapani and its province.*"

Today we look at training and university".

The shared vision is clear: to welcome Ukrainian youth to teach them European civics, training a new workforce that, once returned, will be the backbone of Ukraine's reconstruction. A grassroots initiative, initiated by associations and mayors, now looking to Brussels to become a reality.

The evening ended happily with a music contest.





**PREVENZIONE E
CURA DELLE MALATTIE**

COMMISSION DISTRICT PREVENTION FIBROSIS CISTICA

PROGETTO "1 ON 30 AND YOU DON'T KNOW IT"

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a rare genetic disease but is the most common of the serious genetic diseases.

It affects 1 in 3,000 newborns; in Italy, two babies are born with CF every week, 100 new cases a year.

The genetic mutation on the CFTR gene finds clinical expression when it is present in double copy in the DNA (homozygosity), therefore for it to be transmitted both parents must be carriers, that is, have only one copy of the mutated gene; carriers are by definition healthy and unaware, but a parental couple with two healthy carriers can have a child affected by CF in a rate of 1 in 4.

A child born with CF presents a series of complex clinical problems, prolonged disorders to, pancreatic insufficiency, diabetes, infertility, but above all there is an alteration of the mucus of the respiratory tract that leads patients to repeated infections, respiratory failure, lung transplant and death. Today, thanks to research and new therapies, the average life expectancy is around 50 years (in the past, patients did not live beyond pediatric age). The National Health System takes care of these complex patients and employs significant professional and economic resources ensuring: neonatal screening, diagnosis and treatment pathways at highly specialized centers present in every region (

in Sicily (Palermo-Catania-Messina), recurrent hospitalizations, complex antibiotic therapies, being able to conceive a child, such as growth for months, respiratory therapy to FC if at least one member of the couple takes the test and can conceive a child, such as growth for months, respiratory physiotherapy, oxygen therapy, lung transplant and re-transplant, benefits of law 104, logistical and psychological support for caregivers, etc, etc, etc. Despite all this effort, absolutely nothing has been done by the NHS to raise awareness among the general population and the medical profession about the possibility of carrying out the Healthy Carrier Test (a genetic test that identifies the CFTR mutation). *before conception.* Yet the test has been known for over twenty years and the execution of the test *identifies 9 out of 10 healthy carriers* lowering the risk of being born with CF *from 1 in 3000 newborns to 1 in 100,000* parental couples

they can know the genetic risk before conception

In 2022, for the first time in Italy, it was designed and funded by the Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation (FFCr) in collaboration with the Mario Negri Institute, the **National project "1 in 30 and you don't know it"** Awareness raising project for the Cystic Fibrosis healthy carrier test, strongly supported by President Matteo Marzotto and Scientific Director Prof. Castellani, Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Center at Gaslini Hospital in Genoa; in 2024, phase 3 of large-scale awareness raising began



general population scale and continues in 2025 in phase four.

Even though it is a rare disease, the problem of Healthy Carriers concerns each of us, it concerns our children, our grandchildren, girls and boys of childbearing age and it concerns us because Healthy Carriers are present in the general population to the extent of **one in thirty**; The healthy carrier is one of us, one among us and he doesn't know it, he is by definition healthy and unaware of his genetic risk but can transmit the mutation. I proposed the national project to the District (and I still thank them for the trust they have placed in me) **"1 in 30 and doesn't know it"** with the aim of making my experience as a doctor and volunteer for the Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation available to Rotary and the strength of the District available to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation (FFCr) which can do an extraordinary job for this project, can act as a multiplier and amplifier of the message and help fill the information gap that no one has addressed for years. To achieve this goal, in Rotary Year '25-'26 the District Cystic Fibrosis Committee intends to accomplish the following:

- Awareness-raising meetings in as many clubs as possible in the district, involving, when possible, local FFCr volunteers, patients and caregivers who can share their experiences.

- Awareness-raising meetings with Rotaract members, who are the intended recipients of the message and who can support social initiatives to raise awareness among the general population. This initiative will also involve volunteers, where possible.

FFC Research rates.

- **"Let's light up Sicily"**: During the week of October 20-26, 2025, in close collaboration with FFC Ricerca, which is promoting the initiative nationally, and involving, where possible, FFC Ricerca volunteers (Delegations and Groups), and with the support of ANMI (National Association of Italian Municipalities), we will light the symbolic monuments of Sicilian municipalities green to support the national initiative that last year saw 70 monuments in Italian cities illuminated in green. This symbolic gesture will raise awareness of Cystic Fibrosis and the carrier test.

- we will distribute information brochures in sensitive places (gyms, pharmacies, clinics, general practitioners, laboratories....etc) using the information material

The initiative's project was developed by FFC Ricerca and on which it will be possible, after mutual sharing, to place the Rotary District 2110 logo. We will seek institutional contacts to raise awareness of the project, and as citizens, we will ask them to initiate the bureaucratic process that could lead to the free provision of the test by the Sicily Region, as is already the case in the Veneto Region, which provides the test free of charge to women between the ages of 18 and 50. For this initiative, we will also be able to count on the support of the FFC Ricerca headquarters, which, at the national level, is engaging several regions in Italy to launch similar pilot projects.



ROTARY CLUB BAGHERIA

GDAY MWAVE FOR THE HEART

Bagheria, September 27, 2025

– On the occasion of “World Heart Day”, held on 27 September 2025 at the PalaOreto in Palermo, promoted by the “World Heart Federation”

and organized by the Association of our human body in the Movement for the Health of That keeps us alive: the heart. For young people, a major free cardiac screening initiative called Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death globally, “Don't Lose Your Heartbeat” was held. The Rotary Club of Bagheria and with effective prevention and enthusiastically supported and a healthy lifestyle, its incidence sponsored the initiative, with can be significantly reduced. President Piera Rizzo in attendance. Various activities were held throughout the day, ranging from a sports demonstration by the 4th Engineer Regiment of the Aosta Brigade, to First Aid lessons, and recreational activities for children. Furthermore, thanks to

thanks to the extraordinary participation of the citizens, 227 electrocardiograms and 53 echocardiograms were carried out, demonstrating how important it is to take care of the organ

Even by joining this initiative, RC Bagheria renews its commitment to cardiovascular health, promoting prevention and awareness in citizens, to improve their quality of life.



ROTARY CLUB CALTANISSETTA

CPRACTICAL ADVICE FOR WELL-DESERVED WELL-BEING

On the afternoon of September 16, 2025, the "Over 45s - Practical Advice for Well-Deserved Well-Being" conference concluded at the Caltanissetta Medical Association, hosted by President Dr. Giovanni Ippolito, who welcomed all participants and the various organizing clubs. Dr. Ippolito emphasized the special and enjoyable occasion for which the conference had begun in the morning with a practical activity aimed at understanding the benefits of physical exercise and walking, led by Dr. Dominguez, at Dubini Park in Caltanissetta. The President of the Rotary Club of Caltanissetta, Ivana Guarneri, spoke and, after greeting the attendees, presented Dr. Giuseppe Sportato, on behalf of the Club, with a commemorative plaque as a sign of gratitude and esteem for his support in so many services.

the partner Giuseppe Gianche has it is not, been dealing with this for many years cup to organize medical prevention activities in schools within the District Commission for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Rotary District Sicily Malta 2110. Dr. Antonio Burgio moderated the Conference which began with the report of Dr. Giuseppe Giannone himself who addressed with scientific rigor, but with attention to practical aspects, the useful and concrete advice needed to address the issue of health of the Over 45s. The second report was entrusted to



Dr. Ligia Dominguez, who emphasized how the percentage of elderly people, whom she prefers to call "mature" people, is increasing in the world's most advanced societies, and how attention to their well-being can be ensured first and foremost by the well-known Mediterranean diet, but also by physical and mental practices that facilitate health maintenance. In her presentation,

by Dr. Rosalinda Vitali on the topic of mindfulness, it was possible to learn more about this practice very close to the average tation, which helps to manage the The stress of everyday life and 'cleansing' the mind of negative thoughts and improving vital signs. In the latest presentation given by neurologist Dr. Michele Vecchio, the topic of sleep and how to improve this important aspect of life was explored in depth.



Vilia Aquilina, President of Inner Wheel of Caltanissetta, Gabriella di Carlo, President of RC San Cataldo, Emanuele Scalzo of Rotaract of Caltanissetta, Federica Vinciguerra, endocrinologist, Carmela Ricotta, President of Women's Physicians, Andrea Sardone, cardiologist, Dina Calabrese, Censor of the Lions Club of Caltanissetta, and Marisa Sedita, President of the Dante Alighieri Society of Caltanissetta. Satisfaction was expressed by the participants at the end of the conference, and to thank the speakers, they were given the precious books edited by the Sciascia Foundation. The event sponsor, Tasca D'Almerita, offered its excellent wine during the convivial moment that followed the conference to toast to a long, but above all, peaceful life.

The discussants, selected from among the members of the organizing clubs and the Order of Surgeons and Dentists, are distinguished and qualified.

That they have lived up the conveno with interesting questions and food for thought, together with those formulated by the large, attentive and interested audience: Ne-



ROTARY CLUB CAPO D'ORLANDO

PREHEARING RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY

"Prevention and Diagnosis of Hearing Loss" Let's Feel Rotary. Screening activities for vulnerable individuals.

In the true Rotary spirit of service above self, the Rotary Club of Capo d'Orlando organized a significant service event at the "Villa S. Anna" Nursing Home in Capo d'Orlando, dedicated to measuring the hearing of elderly residents.

The initiative took place on Friday 19 September, with the collaboration of hearing aid specialists and healthcare personnel, including Doctor Roberto Santoro, ENT doctor, and Dr. Salvatore Alberto, audiometric technician, who made their expertise available to carry out free screenings of the u-

The meeting was attended by dozens of residents. "Many elderly people live with hearing problems that are often overlooked or underestimated. This type of prevention is essential to improving their quality of life and relational well-being," explained Maurizio Zingales, president of the Rotary Club of Capo d'Orlando, who attended the meeting.

In addition to audiometric measurements, guests received useful information on hearing health and practical advice for prevention.

The medical care was conducted in a calm and caring atmosphere, accompanied by attentive gestures and human warmth, which provided companionship and smiles to the elderly guests.

This initiative is part of the most



extensive community service program, with particular attention to seniors, a group that is often vulnerable and in need of care, support, and closeness. The Rotary Club of Capo d'Orlando thanks the Management of the Rest Home, all the staff involved and the professionals who joined the initiative.

Even with small gestures, you can offer a smile to those who need it most.

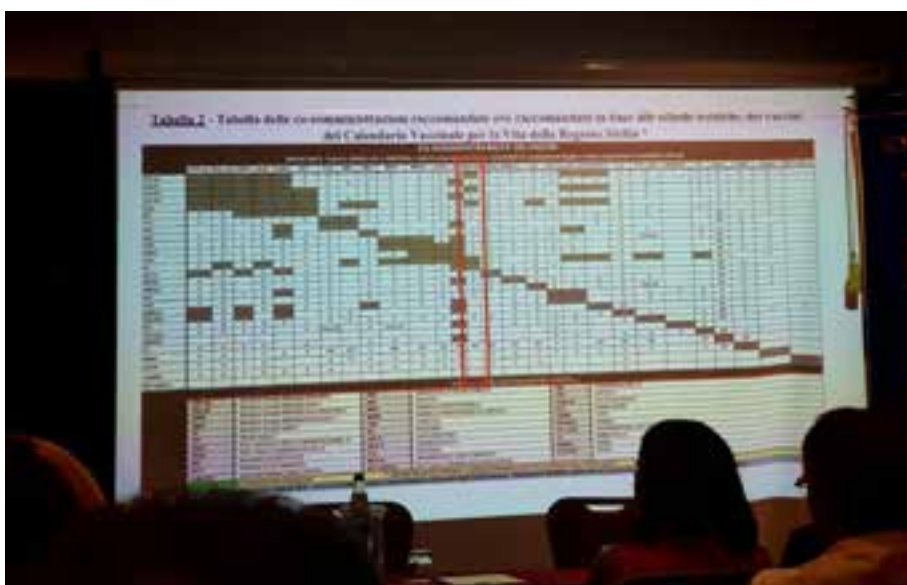


ROTARYCLUBCATANIA

CHuman Papillomavirus Prevention Campaign

Education and prevention go hand in hand in the commitment, also supported by RC Catania, to combat the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, such as HPV (human papillomavirus). A day of conferences was dedicated entirely to issues related to the dangers of the virus, which can cause cancer in both women and men, but which can now be fought thanks to youth vaccination.

The conference on the need to encourage vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) was held at the Nettuno Hotel thanks to the collaboration of several Rotary Clubs, which also actively participated in the youth clubs. The interclub event was attended by: Rotary Club Etna Centenario, Rotary Club Catania, Rotaract Catania, Rotary Club Catania Sud, Rotaract and Interact Catania Sud, Rotary Club Misterbianco, Rotary



Club Passport Méditerranée. Speakers at the evening included Dr. Pietro Sciacca, Dr. Carmelo Gullo, Dr. Gaetano Bottari, Dr. Attilia Musumeci, and Dr. Gabriele Giorgianni, head of the Coordination Unit for Vaccination Activities at ASP Catania. The experts focused on the pathology, on the dispersion, on the prevention (which, in this age

to drain should involve all the girls and even the boys who often infect their partners).

The presentation of possible therapies was followed by an illustration of vaccination strategies and the ASP's planning for this sensitive issue.



ROTARY CLUB PACHINO

THE PREVENTION IS IMPORTANT TO US

Preventive screening for atrial fibrillation and cardiovascular disease

This is the aim of the President of the Rotary Club Pachino Gaetano Alagona and of all the members who organised this screening activity last 27th August at the Terrazza dei due mari in Portopalo di Capo Passero, and

On September 9th, at Piazza Regina Margherita in Marzamemi, the event was aimed at preventing cardiovascular disease. The service consisted of blood pressure and electrocardiogram measurements using a device capable of detecting any insidious and dangerous conditions.



dangerous heart arrhythmias, the main cause of many widespread cardiovascular diseases. The medical members of the Pachino RC were involved, dedicating the day to service activities for the prevention and protection of the health of the local community, as well as the commitment of the young volunteer doctors of Pachino and Portopalo di Capo Passero, with a single goal: promoting and protecting the health of citizens even in the height of summer. Many people took part in this free screening, involving locals, swimmers, vacationers, and the merely curious who approached the space set up by the club, inquiring about their health status.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO BAIA OF THE FENICI

HOW TO USE THE DEFIBRILLATOR

On September 9th and 10th, two BLS/BLS courses for classes 5H and 5I of the Ippocrates course were held in Palermo at the "Giovanni Meli" International State Classical High School, directed by Headmaster Professor Cinzia Citarrella and coordinated by Professors Roberta Rizzo, Giovanna Galati, and Daniela Puglisi. The initiative had the operational support and supervision of instructors from the Rotary Club Baia dei Fenici: Giuseppe Chiarello, Piero Luigi Almasio, Emilia Occhipinti, and Francesco Zambito, who, with proven professionalism, impeccably managed the two days.

The audience was particularly receptive and demonstrated considerable commitment, much to the satisfaction of the Club Instructors.

The BLSD Project (acronym for basic life support-early defibrillation) offers these courses to teach patients how to provide care for those suffering from sudden cardiac arrest using cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and early defibrillation. This project is a flagship for the Rotary Club Palermo Baia dei Fenici, highly regarded at the district level.





**SVILUPPO ECONOMICO
COMUNITARIO**

ROTARY CLUB CAPO D'ORLANDO

DONO DEL ROTARY FOR THE CENTENARY OF THE TOWN'S AUTONOMY

To mark the centenary of Capo d'Orlando's municipal autonomy, the Rotary Club of Capo d'Orlando wanted to leave a tangible sign of its commitment to the community by donating a striking heart-shaped artistic structure to the city.

The heart, installed in a symbolic point of the area - near the famous lighthouse, at the beginning of the Andrea Doria seafront - represents a gesture of love and belonging to the city, where citizens and visitors can stop, look at the sea and the suggestive sunsets, take pictures and share a message of collective identity.

"We wanted to give Capo d'Orlando a symbol of community spirit - a value that Rotary has always promoted." declared the president of the Club, Maurizio Zingales, during the

Inauguration ceremony. The structure, constructed with durable materials and meticulously crafted in aesthetic detail, fits perfectly into the urban context, enriching the public space and becoming a new emotionally charged reference point for residents. The Rotary Club has chosen to combine the symbolic value of the heart with the historical value of the Centennial, contributing with a lasting work that will remain over time as a visible sign of participation and civic dedication. *For us, this heart is also an invitation to solidarity and is a way of saying: we are here, together, for Capo d'Orlando.*" Zingales reiterated.

The ceremony was attended by civil authorities, the Mayor, representatives of the Pro Loco, local associations and numerous citizens, confirming



of the strong bond between Rotary and the territory.

With this gesture, the Rotary Club of Capo d'Orlando renews its commitment to serving the community with initiative and a love of the common good.



ROTARY CLUB MUSSOMELI- V TO THE PLATANI

THE MEETING CONVIVIALE ON A MIDSUMMER EVENING

On September 6, 2025, at the villa of the new President of the Rotary Club Mussomeli - Valle del Platani, Claudio Mingoia, the event with the evocative title took place *"A convivial gathering on a midsummer evening"*, which officially inaugurated the new Rotary year, in continuity with what was announced during the Passing of the Bell.

The evening was attended by the Assistant Governor for the Nissena area, Tiziana Amato, the president of the Rotary Club Valle del Salso, Salvatore Pasqualetto, the member of the Rotary Club Palermo Mediterraneo, Nicola Sorce, together with numerous guests and the young people of Rotaract Mussomeli - Valle del Platani. The meeting had a specific goal: to strengthen bonds between members, consolidate collaboration with other clubs, highlight local excellence, and fully embrace the Rotary mission of service.

The evening was enriched by significant cultural contributions. Honorary member Professor Enzo Vullo offered a reflection on the historical dating of Mussomeli and its castle, while Liliana Genco Russo, a member of the Club and the President's wife, led guests on a fascinating journey through the local traditions and cultures, further enhanced by the invitation she herself wrote for the occasion. In dialect verse, Liliana recounted the ancient *pisata* and the deep devotion of the people of Mussomeli to Our Lady of Miracles.



A key moment was the presentation of the Global Grant project *"Vision for the People"*, promoted by the Rotary Club Trans Amadi (Nigeria) which was joined by the Rotary Club Iblei and the RC Mussomeli - Valle del Platani. Ample space was also given to the valorization of the

local folk and food and wine traditions. A rich buffet, prepared by the Mingoia family with typical local products and good wine, allowed us to rediscover the authentic flavours of the Sicilian hinterland: ricotta, toma, chickpeas, *macco*, *priulate*, panelle, caponata,



Peperonata, pizza, and a selection of traditional desserts. The theme chosen for the outfit, *"Strolling through time: with the presence of nobles, notables and*

burgisi in the hinterland Sicilian". It helped make the atmosphere even more evocative and engaging.



The evening concluded with a lively contradanza, written by the father of honorary member Enzo Vullo and led by Liliana, which engaged those present in a joyful moment of sharing. The initiative represented a concrete example of the Rotary Club's ability to unite culture, service, and local promotion, laying the foundation for new experiences of growth and collaboration.



AND-CLUB DISTRICT 2110 "LUCE ROSALIA- VIVA PALERMO"

In a historical moment in which it is difficult to find harmony and civic sense, in which it is particularly important to convey messages of Peace and Beauty as tools to promote unity between peoples and people, we of the e-Club District 2110, have considered it innovative to use Art



by Domenico Pellegrino as a communication tool aimed at the numerous citizens who on September 4th of each year perform the so-called "acchianata" up to the Sanctuary of Santa Rosalia, patron saint of the city of Palermo. The Municipality of Palermo has launched the comprehensive artistic and cultural initiative "L'acchianata delle Rosalie," which included the event we supported. We planned to offer a scholarship to a vulnerable and deserving individual at Domenico Pellegrino's art workshop, also involving three Rotary Clubs in the Panormus area: Palermo Libertà, Palermo Mediterranea, and Piana degli Albanesi. They enthusiastically welcomed our proposal and we thank them especially for their support.



It is "United to do Good" that things work best. We know that the figure of the Saint is transversal, that is, perceived as an "amulet" even by those who are not Catholic, so our message could also be addressed to the various ethnic groups that populate the city. Domenico Pellegrino's art transformed the Sanctuary's forecourt into a space of light and emotion with "Luca Rosalia-Viva Palermo." An experience of sounds, voices, and light installations, it celebrated the Santuzza and the city as symbols of freedom, acceptance, and rebirth. The three evening performances involved the spectators in a collective journey of Faith and Beauty. A gift of light and hope for the city. We will follow the implementation and success of the artistic internship in the coming weeks as soon as the ideal candidate has been found.





AMBIENTE

ROTARY CLUB CALTANISSETTA

WHITE MARKET OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

A large number of people gathered in Piazza Santa Flavia in Caltanissetta at 9:00 PM on September 1, 2025, to embark on a fascinating nighttime walk to discover the ancient course of the stream that ran from Santa Venera to Ponticello, in the city's historic center. The fascinating discovery trail, organized as part of "Le Notti di BC Sicilia" (The Nights of BC Sicily) for the protection and enhancement of cultural and environmental heritage, actively involved the presidents and members of local service clubs and associations, as well as many citizens who came out to support the initiative: Nevilia Aquilina, President of Inner Wheel, Do-

Professor Bonelli, President of the Caltanissetta dei Castelli Lions Club, Ivana Guarneri, President of the Rotary Club, Paolina Lo Bue, President of the CL Lions Club, and Gabriella Urso, President of the La Ferula Garden Club, were all coordinated by the Regional President of BC Sicilia, Alfonso Lo Cascio, who concluded the presentation of the event in the Church of Santa Flavia and gave the floor to two expert speakers: Giuseppe Giugno, President of the Alchimia Association, and Luigi Santagati, Local Historian. Professor Giugno, with a wealth of historical notes and precise architectural details, guided the participants through a thorough understanding of the Church of Santa Flavia Sanctuary.

of Our Lady of Fatima. He briefly retraced the history of the church, from its foundation in the late 1500s, at the behest of Aloisia De Luna Vega, to the present day, revealing very interesting details both about the works on display and those lost forever. He was able to identify the original nucleus of the church, consisting of the small church of Santa Venera, later incorporated into the church of Santa Flavia. After visiting the courtyard, Professor Luigi Santagati and his assistants followed the route that led from the cisterns collecting water from the hill behind to the historic center, specifically to the first Moncada houses. He then revealed the existence of now-buried pipes and the original route of the stream that reached the Santa Lucia area. The historian illustrated several stages with great detail and references to historical documents, captivating and intriguing the participants. They once again demonstrated their interest and sensitivity in promoting the historical and architectural beauty of our city, its illustrious history, which they believe should be used as a catalyst for the rebirth of Central Sicily. The Rotary Club of Catania has always been sensitive and committed to this issue and could not fail to offer its organizational and outreach support.



ROTARY CLUB CATANIA D MAN 150 AT THE DISCOVERY OF MILITELLO V TO THE DAY CATANIA

In an atmosphere steeped in Sicilian history, art, and identity, the Rotary Club Duomo 150 Catania organized a cultural visit on September 28 to Militello Val di Catania, a precious baroque gem nestled in the Iblei Mountains, already a UNESCO World Heritage Site and now a candidate for "Borgo dei Borghi 2025."

Welcomed to the evocative council chamber of Palazzo Branciforti, the seat of the Town Hall and former Benedictine convent, the Rotarian members were received by Mayor Giovanni Burtone, who welcomed the Club and expressed his gratitude for its decision to promote the local cultural heritage through an initiative dedicated to conscious tourism and the value of knowledge.

Accompanied by a qualified tour guide, members admired the architectural splendor of the churches, squares, and noble palaces that tell a centuries-old story of faith, art, and resilience. Special attention was paid to the Mother Church of San Nicolò and the former Monastery of San Benedetto, both examples of an elegant and intimate Baroque style, captivating in its authenticity. The day concluded with a convivial moment that strengthened the bonds of friendship and service inherent in our association. A typical lunch, enriched by the flavors of local tradition, provided a fitting conclusion to an experience.



which united culture and community, beauty and commitment. As Rotarians, we continue to promote the development of our communities, because every village is a piece of our collective identity, and every encounter is an opportunity to build bridges of friendship and collaboration.



ROTARY CATANIA AND EUROPE, ETHICS AND LEGALITY, IN COLLABORATION WITH SSD CANOTTIERI JONICA, AT THE CLUB'S HEADQUARTERS OVERLOOKING THE MARINA OF THE SEASIDE VILLAGE OF CATANIA.

"Ognina submerged and rediscovered" is the name of the FAI cultural and environmental enhancement project that was presented during an initiative by Rotary Catania Europa, Ethics and Legality, in collaboration with SSD Canottieri Jonica, at the club's headquarters overlooking the marina of the seaside village of Catania.

The project involves placing eight information stands in the Ognina square. The initiative was presented by Vittorio Balestrazzi, president of the Jonica Rowing Club, and Francesco Mauceri, president of the Jonica Rowing Club.



of the Rotary club. Rotarian Dr. Luciano Sfogliano introduced several speakers to emphasize Ognina's important cultural and historical role for the people of Catania, hosting events such as the Madonna of Ognina celebration and the New Year's Eve celebration at the seaside. The small harbor also serves as a training ground for canoe polo athletes.

And this is why enhancement initiatives are being planned, starting with a fact-finding campaign conducted by professional divers, underwater archaeologists, and marine biologists, enriched by the contributions of LIPU, Legambiente, and Slowfood, as well as admirers and enthusiasts, to create a true open-air museum, accessible even to the blind. This will allow the creation of a true open-air museum, as announced in a brief speech by Professor Barone, director of the museum at the University of Catania.



It was also an opportunity to make known the precious sunken treasures, the presence of archaeological finds on the seabed (Roman ships lying at the entrance to the port of Ognina with a load of amphorae, possible submerged port structures, traces of

ancient settlements). Carmelo Mannino and Francesco Balestrazzi of the Scuba Diving School showed their valuable underwater footage. Seabed cleanup and restoration efforts are also planned. The eight information stands will display the marina map not only in normal characters but also in Braille and QR Code, allowing for maximum sharing even for the blind and hearing impaired.

Several professional associations (Italian Union of the Blind, AFAE, AIPD) and cultural organizations such as Slow Food (which will enhance the project by promoting local seafood, what the people of Catania call "masculini") and local fishermen have announced their operational support for the initiative. Present for Rotary were past governors Salvo Sarpietro and Francesco Milazzo, presidents' facilitator Francesco Calabrese, and club instructor Giovanna Fondacaro.



ROTARYCLUBGSHE URBAN TALK

You can't regenerate without RESIGNING, this is the slogan of the event organized by the Rotary Club of Gela, on Saturday 6 September, at the former Benedictine Convent.



The Rotary Club of Gela, as part of its commitment to the cultural and social growth of the area, hosted the Urban Talk "The Sea Inside," a meeting dedicated to the theme of urban regeneration and the sea's defining role in the project of a more livable and sustainable city.

The speaker at the event was Prof. Vincenzo Castellana, Director of the Master in Strategic Design and Creative Direction.

– Abadir Academy and Contract Professor at the Polytechnic University of Milan.

The presentations by Architect Rosalba Ferlenda, Councilor of the Order of Architects, and Architect Guglielmo Giordano, Coordinator of Uè LAB 2025, followed the institutional greetings of Architect Rosa Galiano, President of the Order of Architects, PPC, of the Province of Caltanissetta.



The meeting was moderated by Francesco Giudice, President of the Rotary Club of Gela. "We strongly believe," stated Giudice, "that urban regeneration is not just a technical matter but a cultural and participatory process that must involve the community. With this meeting, we wanted to stimulate an open dialogue between citizens, professionals, and institutions to revitalize urban spaces and build Gela's future together."



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO THE FREEDOM

"ROMAGNOLO, HOW WE WERE"

On Friday, September 5th, at 5:30 PM, the event "Romagnolo, as We Were" took place in the Sala delle Carrozze of Villa Niscemi in Palermo. The event was curated by Professor Tommaso Romano and promoted by the Rotary Club Palermo Libertà, led by President Mariagabriella Licari. The event was part of an interclub program dedicated to understanding and promoting the city's suburbs. Among those present, in addition to Governor Fabio Di Lorenzo's assistant, were the presidents of the participating clubs:

Simona Pantaleone
Rotary Club Palermo Monreale

Flavia Prestana
Rotary Club Palermo Costa Gaia

Piera Rizzo
Rotary Club Bagheria

Salvatore Galioto
Rotary Club Palermo Piana degli
Albanesi – Hora e Arbëreshëvet

Justyna Anna Malinoska
Rotary Club Palermo Baia dei
Fenici

Massimiliano Messina
Rotaract Palermo Libertà

Also present was Giuseppe Incardona, Coordinator of the Technical Committee of the Interclub Project "Let's Re-Appreciate the Sea." The initiative offered numerous participants a fascinating journey into the memory of the Romagnolo neighborhood, through its history, identity, anecdotes, and cu-



often little-known treasures. Professor Romano, poet, philosopher, and publisher, passionately and expertly guided the audience on a cultural journey that allowed them to rediscover the roots of one of Palermo's iconic neighborhoods. The meeting, moderated by Mariagabriella Licari, President of the Rotary Club Palermo Libertà, opened with a convivial moment: a welcome drink in the internal atrium in front of the room, an opportunity for members and guests to meet and chat. The attentive and warm participation of those present confirmed

I emphasized the importance of initiatives aimed at enhancing the historical memory and social fabric of the suburbs, helping to strengthen the sense of belonging and civic awareness. This activity is part of Rotary International's area of intervention dedicated to "Economic and Community Development" and Territorial Development, which aims to promote initiatives and actions of public interest, capable of strengthening the bond between people and their environment, stimulating cultural growth and promoting social inclusion. The Rotary Club Palermo Li-

Rotary Club Palermo-Moncaligi

Rotary Club Palermo-Stato Sola

Rotary Club Anghese

Rotary Club Palermo-Punta Raisi-Montebello

Rotary Club Palermo-"Bella vita Palermo"

Rotaract Club Palermo Libertà

UNITI PER FARE DEL BENE

Rotary

Club Palermo Libertà



Romagnolo, come eravamo.




Convegno culturale

Un viaggio nella memoria e nelle radici identitarie del quartiere Romagnolo, attraverso parole, immagini e riflessioni.

Relatore:
Prof. Tommaso Romano
Intellettuali, poeta e saggista.

Moderà:
Mariagabriella Licari
Presidente Rotary Club Palermo Libertà

5 settembre 2025

Villa Niscemi

Ore 17:30

L'evento ha il fine di valorizzare la storia, la cultura e l'evoluzione di uno dei quartieri più significativi di Palermo, sito nella costa sud della città rientrante nei programmi di riqualificazione urbana promossi dall'amministrazione comunale.

Bertà, together with its member clubs, thus renews its commitment to promoting culture as a tool for growth and cohesion, placing the beauty and richness of our city at its center, hoping that the urgently needed urban redevelopment interventions can be carried out on the southern coast.

Thanks to all the members and friends of the clubs present:

Together, we continue to promote Palermo's suburbs as a heritage of culture, memory, and community.



ROTARY CLUB MARSALA

ATUTELA OF THE SALINELLA

Last Sunday, September 28th, was the Rotary Club Marsala's Plastic Free Day, a celebration of civic engagement and environmental protection. The Rotary Club Marsala, Interact Marsala, and the Plastic Free Association joined forces for a cleanup along the scenic coastline of Salinella Park. Armed with gloves, bags, and a whole lot of goodwill, the participating youth collected abandoned waste, focusing on plastic, the primary enemy of the marine ecosystem. "The event also had a strong educational value," commented Daniele Pizzo, President of the Youth Commission, who emphasized that many young people participated in the activity, raising awareness of the importance of waste reduction and respect for nature.

Interact Delegate Salvatore Bottone thanked the young people present and encouraged them, explaining that "every small gesture counts, and our action today is just the beginning of a journey toward a more sustainable future." The President of the Rotary Club Marsala Antonio Giovanni De



Vita thanked the Plastic Free association for its ongoing commitment to fighting plastic pollution and praised its representative, Giulio Crimi, for his impeccable organization of Sunday's event.

The cleanup at Salinella Park concluded with the collection of numerous bags of waste and the satisfaction of having made a difference. The initiative's promoters have already announced their intention to organize further events, involving more and more local organizations and citizens.



ROTARY CLUB MUSSOMELI

COMMISSIONS DISTRICT WORKERS

Experts, institutions, and Rotarians gathered in Mussomeli to discuss biodiversity, sustainability, and the future of agri-food production. The conference, "The Challenges of the Livestock Sector in Inland Agri-Food Production: Biodiversity and Sustainability," hosted a high-level debate and a large audience. The conference, organized by the Rotary District Committees, was promoted by Santo Caracappa and Dario Cartabellotta, Chairs of the District Committees on "Sustainability of the Agri-Food Sector" and "Promotion of Agricultural and Dairy Products." Nicolò Sorce, member and coordinator of the day, offered a lively discussion on crucial topics: climate change, market globalization, the challenges of small-scale production, and product quality and traceability.

At the Fiera del Castello, the venue for the meeting, speakers with proven experience, university professors, industry experts, and association leaders took turns speaking, along with numerous Rotarians from the Mussomeli Valle del Platani Club, led by President Claudio Mingoia. Among the dignitaries present were the Fair's president, notary Roberto Indovina, Councilor for Productive Activities Michele Spoto, and the Honorable Giuseppe Catania, Mayor of Mussomeli. Rotary, protagonist of the debate, highlighted how connections and collaboration networks



The collaboration can promote the appropriate positioning of inland agricultural and food excellence. The quality of the interventions and the rigorous approach have allowed us to combine scientific research with strategic vision and the commitment of the service clubs, without losing sight of the concrete needs of local communities. The conference revealed a rich picture of operational proposals and collaboration prospects.

between institutions, academia, and associations. A method based on dialogue, expertise, and shared responsibility, it was reflected in the public's active participation with questions and contributions. The initiative concluded with a commitment to continue the process, creating new opportunities for in-depth study and concrete benefits for the region.



ROTARYCLUBPACHINO

ROMANZI D'AUTORE A STONE'S THROW FROM THE SEA

Figures of women with a distinct Sicilian identity, values and traditions of the past, places that evoke family memories. Members of the Rotary Club of Pachino, led by President Gaetano Alagona, and members of the Inner Wheel Club of Noto Terra di Eoro, chaired by Laura Maccarrone, gathered on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, to present the brilliant creativity of writer Silvestra Sorbera, journalist, author of short stories and novels, blogger, and creative writing instructor. Born in 1983 in Piedmont but of Sicilian origins, the writer is already very active: from her pen come the stories in the series: Commissario Livia, Rinascita storie di donne, and Eri mia madre, ranging from thrillers to fiction, from romance to fairy tales, real-life stories of women fighting to stem often archaic and patriarchal family rules and traditions, in a historical period and in a Sicily with a distinctly Sicilian flavor.



Ancient yet at times contemporary. Different stories, yet all sharing a common thread: women, to be valued and supported in a contemporary society where they still don't occupy the space they deserve, and our wonderful territory. All the events are set in the area around Pachino, ranging from the Tanneries and Punta delle Formiche to Fondo barche, which in the novel is described as Porto Scogliera. These are timeless places, where the Etruscans once tanned hides.

Sun and where today they are battered by the west wind, where the scent of the sea and sand mingles with that land cultivated by the cherry tomatoes, the red gold of Pachino. From the high, rugged cliff, one slides onto the golden sand, and there the stories of women, of family life and misunderstandings, of battles for independence and unsolved mysteries come to life, always shining a light on our wonderful land.

The meeting, graciously led by RC Pachino member Rosalba Savarino, who engaged with the author in a captivating Q&A, interspersed with readings of several texts, illuminated by the light of the sunset and enriched by stories of the grape and olive harvest, which represent the places and times of the southeast, managed to excite and engage the many enthusiasts, tourists, and members in attendance, succeeding in the aim of making us know, appreciate, and love even more the traditions of this part of Sicily further south of Tunis.



ROTARY CLUB SCIACCA

THE FUTURE OF PESCAPE AND CFILE

Sciaccia – On September 25th, an event of great scientific and social significance was held in the historic premises of the Circolo Garibaldi, home of the Rotary Club of Sciaccia. Members welcomed CNR researcher Dr. Fabio Fiorentino for an insightful discussion entitled "Fishing and Climate Change." Fishing, an activity that has shaped the life and economy of coastal communities for millennia, is undergoing a profound and rapid transformation. Dr. Fiorentino offered a detailed examination of how fishing is intrinsically linked to crucial environmental factors.



The speaker clearly illustrated the influence of depth, light, and in particular the characteristics and temperatures of the waters and coasts. These elements are taking over

undergo significant alterations due to global climate change.

The most critical aspect highlighted concerns the changes in fish species. A fe-

name for the displacement or even extinction of fish traditionally known in our waters, while we witness the entrance of new alien or non-native species.

Dr. Fiorentino emphasized that this dynamic has a significant and direct impact on our tables and our diets. The community is called to adapt to the new situation, changing consumption habits to integrate the newly available fish resources. The meeting offered a valuable opportunity for the Club to reflect on the role that research and information play in supporting a conscious ecological and food transition.





RC TUTELA AND UEGUALITY SANT'AGATA

PASSEMBLED ON THE 'ANDTNA

The last Sunday of September was the perfect opportunity for the Club to organize a hike on Mount Etna in collaboration with ASD Nordic Wolking Etna. Led by Lagap guide Alain Risuglia, the group of members and guests explored the pristine trails that branch out across the slopes. This initiative was born because knowledge is the foundation of every commitment to protecting and safeguarding the environment. The walk of about three hours allowed each participant to come into contact with the beauty of our Etna volcano, to rediscover and admire the wonderful vegetation that surrounds it.

welcomed the guests and, along the way, illustrated the many varieties of plants and shrubs, explaining their properties and characteristics. A highly professional information campaign aimed at achieving a more informed understanding of our region.

Before starting the walk, Wolking Etna kindly gave each participant a neck warmer with our logo and the Rotary colors.

This walk in the spirit of Rotary sharing was also desired by the Club to create greater harmony

but above all for
in a direct and enzi
way



fundamental theme of the protection and safeguarding of our precious natural environment. The sport of walking has become a means of further enhancing our local area and a clear expression of our Club's desire to actively contribute to environmental protection.

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ROTARY CLUB VALLE DEL MELA B. CAPO MILAZZO WORLD CLEANUP DAY 2025

On World Cleanup Day 2025, members of the Rotary Club Valle del Mela gathered at the picturesque Tre Pietrazze Trail in Capo Milazzo to begin their now-customary cleanup campaign. This was a moment of civic engagement, sharing, and awareness, allowing participants to enjoy the unique beauty of the Milazzo coast while also contributing to its protection. The activity focused primarily on collecting the waste that the sea periodically deposits along the beach: a significant amount of plastic, sadly a clear testament to humanity's impact on the marine environment.

The initiative also had an educational value: the example of the volunteers involved

some tourists present on site, who decided to spontaneously join the group, tra-





transforming a gesture of care into a collective and participatory experience.

The Rotary Club Valle del Mela has once again demonstrated how small gestures and a great deal of passion can make a difference, helping to protect the precious natural heritage of Capo Milazzo.



COMBINATION

ROTARY CLUB TOETNA NORD OVEST

CELEBRATI TRENT'YEARS OF HISTORY

A moving, intense, and meaningful evening for the Rotary Club Aetna Nord Ovest in Bronte, with the "Fireplace Under the Stars" event, hosted at the Casa della Fraternità, an extraordinary oasis of peace founded by the late Father Rubino, uncle of member and prefect Nunzio Saitta.

The meeting was also attended by the Governor's assistant, Giancarlo Modena, accompanied by his wife Giovanna, underscoring with his presence the importance of this convivial and reflective moment. The evening was opened by President Paolo Falanga, who wanted to start a journey



A journey through time, brought to life by the contributions of past presidents, each retracing the most significant moments of their presidency: from Umberto Liuzzo to Giuseppe Spitaleri, from Angelo Smario to Marcello Stella, from Salvo Saitta to Davide Saitta, with valuable insights and contributions from honorary member Mattia Branciforti.



The discussion offered food for thought not only on Rotary's history and roots, but also on the meaning of service today: a Rotary capable of looking to the past with gratitude and to the future with a renewed sense of responsibility toward the community.

The evening concluded in an atmosphere of friendship, sharing, and renewed commitment, under the stars of Bronte, in keeping with Rotary values.

ROTARY CLUB CATANIA

SCHANGE OF TO FRIENDSHIP THE INTERNATIONAL

The evening that RC Catania celebrated at its headquarters with Rotarian members from India who participate in the RFE (Rotary Friendship Exchange) program was filled with friendship and joy.

The evening was attended by representatives of five Rotary Clubs from District 3060 (which encompasses the regions of Gujarat and Maharashtra, India), hosted for their stay in Sicily by members of RC Catania and members of other clubs in the District. After greetings from IPDG Giuseppe Pitari, in whose year (2024/2025) the exchange was actually launched, PDG Francesco Milazzo, a member of the club, spoke and illustrated to the guests the unique characteristics of the vast territory that falls within the area.

District 2110 - Sicily and Malta, focusing in particular on the Sicilian areas the guests would be visiting. Past President Laura Bonaccorso then presented the club's activities during the past year, focusing on the significance of the friendship exchange.

The joyful evening was also attended by PDG Attilio Bruno, project team leader, and Sergio Castellaneta, RFE district delegate for the 2024/2025 school year. After a brief greeting from the inbound (Exchange Students sponsored by Rotary Catania) who had just arrived in Catania, Maytè Vizcarra from Peru and Landon Esquivel from the USA, the representatives spoke in turn

Indian District representatives, each with a short video introducing themselves and their respective clubs.

Thanks to the opportunity offered by this meeting, we were able to appreciate the value of friendship that knows no territorial borders, nor linguistic barriers, nor social differences. We were able to especially congratulate the Indian members for their professional merits and educational qualifications (2 out of 5 held a PhD), which have allowed them to crown splendid professional careers.

The evening was an important moment of fellowship for club members, but also a time for discussion and friendship with members from other countries.



SCONVIVIAL EVENING BETWEEN THE ROTARY CLUB CEFALU MADONIE AND THE ROTARY CLUB OF MATARÒ

Cefalù, September 4 – A pleasant, convivial evening took place at the Sea Palace Hotel in Cefalù, bringing together members of the Rotary Club of Cefalù Madonie and the President of the Rotary Club of Matarò. The meeting, marked by friendship and sharing, was a valuable opportunity to strengthen the bonds between the two sister clubs.

During the evening, the president of the RC Cefalù Madonie, Giu-

Patti, and the president of the Matarò Rotary Club, Mario Francesco Randazzo, had the opportunity to discuss and plan a series of Rotary initiatives to be implemented in the coming months. Their shared goal is to promote joint service projects capable of generating a positive impact in their respective communities and further strengthening international collaboration.

The appointment has confirmed-



the spirit of brotherhood and cooperation that characterizes Rotary, offering participants an opportunity not only to discuss projects, but also to foster friendship and conviviality. The climate of enthusiasm and renewed commitment with which the two clubs looked to the future testifies to the vitality of the bond that unites them and the desire to continue growing together in the spirit of Rotary values.



ROTARY CLUB CORLEON

SHOSTEGN TO PREMIO OF POESIA CITY OF MARINEO

An audience of approximately one thousand spectators attended the awards ceremony for the 50th edition of the Città di Marineo Poetry Prize on Sunday, September 7th.

Satisfaction for the success of the event was expressed by the secretary of the Jury, **Ciro Spataro**, as the Marineo literary prize represented and represents much more than a cultural event, which over the course of the

For years it has been a point of reference in the national cultural panorama.

Fifty years have passed since June 1975, when the Marineo Cultural Association threw the proverbial stone in the pond by establishing an award capable of drawing the attention of the cultural world to the town of Marineo each year, said the association's President **Salvatore Arnone**.

The event was once again supported by the Rotary Club of Corleone, whose president, architect **Guido Fiduccia**, attended the awards ceremony with a delegation.

The highlight of the evening, presented by **Stefania Blandeburgo**, was the presentation of the special prize to the actor **Sebastiano Somma** who enchanted the audience with some notable theatrical pieces including





"If I Had a Piece of Life" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, "A Livella" by Totò, "La Preghiera" translated into Neapolitan by Massimo Troisi from an anonymous Brazilian and the "monologue between the Prince of Salina and Chevalley" taken from "The Leopard" by Tommasi di Lampedusa.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Targa Grisi to actor Salvo Piparo, who amazed the audience by stepping into the stalls and improvising, with his customary theatrical technique, the "cunto" of Ulysses, a Panormite Ulysses, a traveler inside the theater of dreams, arousing the interest of the entire audience.

The plaques and prizes went to the section of works published in Italian language **Michael Porzio**, with the collection *"The song of the earth"*, Editions La Nave di Teseo, and **René Corona**, with the collection *"But p luckily Offenbach is there"* Book publisher, a **Maria Nivea Zagarella**, with the collection *"Vocalanzicula"* for the section of works published in the Sicilian language, Giovanna Drago with the lyric *"Silence"* and to Joseph Cardello, with the lyric *"Paisi who died"* for the unpublished works in the Sicilian language section.

Marisa Palermo's interpretation of the poems was very beautiful, and the evening was hosted by actress Stefania Blandeburgo.

"The Città di Marineo Poetry Prize," commented Guido Fiduccia, president of the Rotary Club of Corleone, "is a cultural tradition that has allowed the town of Marineo to be a point of reference in the field of poetry.

This is why our club supports this event every year.

ROTARYCLUBTHEICATA

PBOOK REVIEW"THE'NEVERLAND ISLAND'AND"

The President of the Rotary Club of Licata Carmelo Ciotta and the President Anna Dainotto of the Inner Wheel of Licata, with the cooperation of the Morinelliane Sisters and Caritas Christi at the Cittadella del Sole in Licata, organized on September 15th the presentation by the author, writer and poet Beniamino Biondi of the book "Nell'isola che non c'è" (a guide to the ghost towns of Sicily).

Beniamino Biondi was born and lives in Agrigento. A writer and essayist, he writes about poetry and film.

He collaborates with literature and film criticism magazines, is the curator of arthouse cinema reviews and is the director of col-

Wool for several publishing houses. Author Beniamino Biondi took us through the imagination to visit ancient farming villages, bringing them back to life. Villages that, according to their creators, were intended to modernize and revitalize Sicilian agriculture, but which in reality appear to be populated by ghosts, dilapidated and abandoned to neglect and the ravages of time. Congratulations to the brilliant author, who subsequently engaged in poetic conversations about Sicilian identity and its history. Credit goes above all to President Carmelo Ciotta for the excellent organization of the evening, the choice of theme, and the excellent author.





ROTARY CLUB PALERMO BAIA OF THE FENICI THE INTERCLUB TO REAPANORMUS

Over 300 members, representing eight Panormus area clubs (specifically Palermo, Palermo Libertà, Palermo Ovest, Palermo Piana degli Albanesi, Palermo Nord, Palermo Sud, Palermo Mediterranea, and Bagheria), attended an interclub meeting/event on September 18th at the Gran Hotel Villa Igia in Palermo. The event was organized by the Rotary Club Palermo Baia dei Fenici, chaired by Justyna Anna Malinowska, and featured renowned writer Stefania Auci, author of the books "I Leoni di Sicilia" and "L'inverno dei Leoni," inspired by the Florio family saga. The meeting, organized jointly by the Rotaract Palermo Baia dei Fenici, chaired by Federica Mannino, was also attended by several members of other Rotaract clubs, as well as a number of

further representation of the clubs of Agrigento, Alcamo and Caltanissetta, demonstrating a full union of friendship and collaboration in District 2110. After the introductory greeting by President Malinowska, who underlined the art of multifaceted yet at the same time accessible to all writing of the AUCI, there were speeches by Vito Rodolico, President of the Palermo Club, who highlighted the importance of the initiative at the District level as well as the massive participation of members, never recorded before at an interclub event, and by the Councilor for Culture and Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Palermo Giampiero Cannella, who praised the event, which fits perfectly into the rediscovery of the "Liberty" in Palermo, of which the fa-





Miles Florio was one of the main architects.

Moderator Pasquale Hamel, a member of the Rotary Palermo Baia dei Fenici, gave a passionate and comprehensive presentation of the historical context in which the Florio family's fortunes and subsequent decline arose, brilliantly introducing Stefania Auci's speech.

The author has reconstructed the genesis of the books, the underlying motivations and the extensive study carried out in order to

resulting in true masterpieces that have been translated into 42 languages and were also followed by a television series.

Finally, she explained the reasons for the success with the desire to know through the Florios the history of a real "dynasty", an element that has always distinguished the curiosity of the reader, which in any case she has brought in a novelistic way without going into details of the

private life while recognizing the great merits of the Family with the many activities started upon their arrival in Sicily from their original Calabrian land.

The final applause closed the evening, which then concluded on the terrace of the Villa Igea hotel, a splendid building overlooking the sea, purchased by the Florio family in 1899.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO AND ST

PCURRENTNESS AND SHARED COMMITMENT

September 6th marked a significant moment for the Rotary Club of Palermo Est: the official presentation of the Committees for the 2025/2026 Rotary year. President Lidia Maugeri led the meeting, with the invaluable presence of Assistant Governor Fabio Di Lorenzo, in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and genuine Rotary participation.

The morning began with coffee and croissants, a special moment of conversation among members, in keeping with the Governor's guidance on the importance of teamwork and building strong interpersonal relationships. The meeting opened with a warm video greeting from Sergio Malizia, who wished the club every success.

The heart of the meeting was dedicated to project presentations, led by the Chairs of the Project Committees. Through slides, videos, and firsthand accounts, each committee member had the opportunity to illustrate their planned initiatives and the goals they intend to pursue over the course of the year.

The projects presented reflect the variety and depth of the Club's commitment, ranging from those now consolidated – such as the Francesca Morvillo ONLUS Rotarian Association, Formare i Giovani dell'Albergheria, the publication "Uomo & Società," and the "Natale a Palermo" concert series – to those starting to become historic, such as:



- Green Oasis Project: to support non-self-sufficient people with disabilities;
- "Giuseppe and Caterina Gioia" Degree Award, in memory of Cavaliere Gioia who was an active member of the Rotary Club Palermo Est for over 56 years, of which he was president, in addition to having held the position of Governor and Board Director;
- MOMA - Cancer Patients Mobilize Art, a project to humanize care through art;
- Rotary for schools.

The roll call was not missed

The district's historic projects, such as "Legality and the Culture of Ethics," BLSD, SOS Api, Female Empowerment, Sport and Inclusion, and "Let's Build Peace," a project of particular importance in this historical moment marked by wars so geographically close to us, up to the new entries "Promoting Local Excellence" and "Futuro in Conto," which, linked to the district's "Basic Financial Education" project, focuses attention on those over 50 and women.

The projects "Water and environment: a resource to be protected" and "Screening



latent infection by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*" and "Early screening for psoriatic arthritis in

patients with psoriasis" who underline, together with the project "Prevention of diabetes

Type 2 among migrant populations," the subject of a district grant, led by the Rotary Club of Palermo Est, the Club's focus on prevention. New committees have also been established: "Club Digitalization," born out of an awareness of the importance of a Club that keeps pace with technological developments, and "Events," with the goal of raising funds to support the Club's various projects.

The morning was not only a time for sharing and planning, but also an opportunity to reaffirm the value of Rotary service, founded on planning, collaboration, and a shared vision. The Rotary Club of Palermo Est thus confirms its dynamic and proactive nature, ready to face the challenges of the new year with determination.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO MEDITERRANEAN LAUNCHED THE BURRACO TO BE TOGETHER

The members of the Palermo Mediterranea Club enjoy gatherings. In recent years, they have created numerous opportunities, continuing a tradition cherished by the late founding member Gaetano Savona. His son Emanuele, the Club's next president, has inherited his father's passion and created an annual Burraco tournament dedicated to his father. The joy of this successful initiative has been revived on other occasions where members and many close friends continue to compete, not to compete with each other, but to support various activities, primarily aimed at raising substantial funds for ongoing initiatives and, above all, for the Rotary Foundation. One such occasion, also a resounding success, was the evening of September 5th at the home of member Francesco Cipolla and his wife Rossella La Fata, who hosted over thirty players at the gaming tables in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. With its renowned empathy, the Club manages to attract a large number of participants, particularly those of members' parents, likely drawn by their children's enthusiasm. These numbers are often limited in order to best organize the event. These and other initiatives have proven invaluable to the success of club and district projects. In fact, this year, under the vision and effective coordination of the president,



President Carmelo Di Giorgio, the numerous ideas are translating into significant service projects, dedicated to the environment, the marine world in its broadest sense, and as a common good. Other meeting opportunities will be organized by the lively members of this Club, and there will be other locations managed by third parties who, for



To pursue their promotional goals, they have already booked to host these tournaments in much larger numbers, having perceived the widespread interest in participation linked to a "craze" for solidarity that has now become the sentiment and watchword of Rotary.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO OVEST

FEDE, IDENTITY AND TRADITION

The Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest, led by President Giuseppe Cascio, wished to make a gesture of strong symbolic and community value in the evocative setting of the Sanctuary of Santa Rosalia in Montepellegrino. On the afternoon of September 1st, in the presence of the Regent of the Sanctuary, Father Natale Fiorentino, the Club donated three institutional flags: those of the Vatican State, the Municipality of Palermo, and the Region of Sicily.

An initiative that goes beyond a mere formality: the flags represent tangible signs of identity, belonging, and local roots, and have always accompanied the most solemn moments of a community's civil and religious life. They will be permanently and officially displayed inside the Sanctuary starting September 4th, the date marking the beginning of the celebrations dedicated to Saint Rosalia, patron saint of Palermo, a beloved figure who embodies devotion, hope, and protection for the entire city.

With this gift, the Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest reaffirms its commitment to preserving and enhancing the city's cultural and spiritual traditions, confirming a mission that extends beyond works of service and solidarity to the preservation of its cultural heritage. This heritage is renewed each year during the days dedicated to the Santuzza, when religious worship intertwines with historical memory and the sense of community that Palermo embodies.



with himself.

President Giuseppe Cascio emphasized how this gesture represents a bridge between the past and the future, a reminder that faith and culture are the pillars on which to build a cohesive and supportive society. Special gratitude was expressed to Sergio Aguglia, the promoter and organizer of the initiative, without whom

this project would not have taken shape.

The three flags raised at the Sanctuary will thus become permanent symbols of unity: religious, civil, and regional. A blend of identities that reflects the very soul of Palermo, a city capable of preserving its traditions while looking to the future with openness and courage.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO TEATRO OF SOLE SERA OF SOLIDARITY IN THE GARDEN OF NOW AND THE CARA

On Thursday, August 28, members of the Rotary Club Palermo Teatro del Sole gathered for a now-a-fun tradition: the annual dinner generously hosted by member Dora Di Cara in her charming home. With soft lighting, summery scents, and the warmth of a garden transformed into a meeting place, the event combined conviviality and social commitment, demonstrating once again how Rotary knows how to "do good, doing it well." This gesture went beyond hospitality, as the gathering became a precious resource. The entire contribution from participants went toward the purchase of musical instruments for children and youth from disadvantaged backgrounds, allowing them to cultivate artistic talents that might otherwise remain unexpressed. The initiative, rooted in the Rotary values of service and inclusion, aims to



Break down the economic barriers that often limit access to culture and art. "Every instrument donated is a key to opening doors to the future," a member emphasized during the evening. Funds raised in past years have already donated guitars, violins, and keyboards to young musicians, supporting not only their passions but also the growth of a more sensitive and cohesive community. The evening

The event perfectly embodied the Rotary motto of the year, "Unite for Good." Through collaboration among members, friends, and supporters, the club demonstrated that uniting purpose and resources can generate concrete impact. "This event is not just a fundraiser, but a symbol of how small gestures can create great opportunities in the community," commented club president Sonya Vasto, emphasizing the importance of keeping hope alive in young people. As the night concluded with toasts and plans for the future, those present reaffirmed their commitment to supporting music education as a tool for social empowerment. With the same enthusiasm that has driven them for years, the members of the Rotary Club Palermo Teatro del Sole will continue to work to transform dreams into music, and music into hope. Because, as Rotary teaches, doing good is not just a duty: it is an art that must be cultivated.



ROTARY CLUB PASSPORT MEDITERRANEAN THE OR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

On Friday, August 29, 2025, a gathering was held at the home of the president of RC Passport Mediterranée District 2110, promoting fellowship among members and developing skills. The guest speaker, Salvatore Attanasio, a long-time Rotarian and member of RC Agrigento, entertained the attendees with his expertise as a taster, producer, and expert communicator of independent craft beer, offering tastings of two particularly fine beers. The hosts prepared accompanying dishes and desserts that enhanced the flavors of the beers produced by the beer ambassador.

Member Attanasio has always had staff roles in District 2110 and therefore his presence at the dinner, accompanied by the club president Giuseppe Rossi, made it an activity



basic education and development of Rotary skills, during the long convivial meeting that continued pleasantly until late at night. Among the guests also present were Al-

Fio Grassi, a member of RC Acireale, the PDG Nando Testoni Basco and the Governor's assistant Leo Biasi and members of other clubs in District 2110.

The conversations among longtime Rotarians and the many members and guests in attendance, accompanied by a glass of excellent beer and good food, made the inevitable and desired discussion on broad Rotary topics effective and concrete.

During the evening, guests voluntarily contributed to a fundraiser for the Club's "Superhero School" project, also supported by a district grant.

Friendship, conviviality, and attention to Rotary's areas of intervention were also achieved this time, as befits Rotarians.



AND OAR OF THE QUISQUINA

THE MEETING WITH THE CLUB OF PALERMO AND ST E CANICATTÌ

On September 14, in the evocative setting of the Eremo della Quisquina, a meeting was held with the Rotary Clubs of Palermo Est and Canicattì, in the presence of presidents Lidia Maugeri and Rino Restivo.

The day began with a guided tour of the Hermitage and Grotto, symbolic places of the spirituality of Saint Rosalia. In the afternoon, participants visited the Andromeda Theater, an extraordinary example of contemporary art immersed in nature.

Making the event even more special was the performance by poet and musician Giuseppe Capobianco, who recounted—through music and images he created—the life of Saint Rosalia during her stay at Quisquina.





ROTARYCLUBSCIACCA

UN BEGINNING OF 'INTENSE YEAR

After the traditional passing of the bell from Past President Roberto Barrile to the new President Stephanie Bisch, the activities started again with enthusiasm, alternating moments of conviviality, cultural meetings of

prestige and important initiatives serving the city.

Among the activities, the now consolidated monthly breakfasts stand out, useful for members to discuss ideas and projects and consolidate relationships; as well as

cultural meetings with exceptional guests such as the motorcyclist and traveler Federico Marretta and the famous American writer Jeffery Deaver.





The club continued its historic services, including the "solidarity soup kitchen," "care with art" and "golf4autism," alongside champion awareness-raising initiatives.

environmental action. In this regard, a beautiful day was held at the IISS Don Michel Arena with experts from the Zooprofylactic Institute, who also led to the re-release of a Caretta Caretta turtle into the sea.

Maintenance work on the facilities the club has built over time has also been ongoing, including renewing the tourist information signs, which have now been updated in terms of descriptions and graphics.

Particularly thrilling It was the afternoon spent at the Verdura Golf Resort with Gianluca Zambrotta, who is currently working for Germany in the new of the RYE (Rotary Youth Exchange) program. The summer ended with a visit from Governor Sergio Malizia and the joy of welcoming four new, young members: Marco Antonio (notary), Francesco and Pierfrancesco (doctors), and Agata (yoga teacher). Together with Paola (a doctor), welcomed during the passing of the bell, these new members enrich the club with new and valuable skills.

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ROTARY CLUB SIRACUZA

THE HISTORY OF THE REGATA SIRACUZA-MHGH

The first fireside event under Salvo Vinci's presidency of the Rotary Club of Siracusa took place at Villa Politi: a meeting dedicated to the historic Siracusa-Malta Regatta, which for over sixty years has enlivened the waters of the Strait of Sicily with the sporting competition between Maltese and Siracusan crews. The evening began with a commemoration of one of the club's pillars, Mario Arcucci, who recently passed away. He was a great and passionate sailor, a mentor to every generation that has followed in this event.

This year's edition, the sixty-fifth, saw the triumph of the Syracusan crew of "Option B," led by helmsmen Michele Gallo and Fabio Santoro. The Syracusan crew brought home the trophy, strengthening the city's connection with a tradition that represents



feel real pride for Syracuse.

During the fireplace, ample space was given to memory

collective, brilliantly managed. Directed by Maurilio Carpinteri, the event featured historical photographs, interviews, testimonials, and anecdotes, allowing attendees to relive significant moments from past regattas.

Numerous figures from past and present attended the evening, including several Rotarian members who, over the years, have contributed to the growth of this sporting and cultural event, helping even non-sailors understand the rules of high-speed sailing. Among the guests was Sebastiano Floridia, president of the Siracusa Naval League, who emphasized the importance of continuing to promote this sailing challenge.



Rotary Club Rapani And Rice

to friendship, service and growth

The beginning of the Rotary year is a time of great energy and opportunity. It's a time to chart new paths, embrace new ideas, and, above all, strengthen the foundations of our service. And it's precisely here that Rotary training proves to be the cornerstone of our commitment.

On September 12th we had the privilege of participating in an important training session, enriched by the contributions of long-time experts: Francesco

Maltese, club instructor; Ludovico La Grutta, coordinator of the governor's assistants for Western Sicily; Salvatore Martinico, instructor for the Partanna and Salemi clubs; and Giovanni Palermo, assistant governor.

This precious moment of growth and reflection was an essential reminder: to meet the challenges of today's world and best serve our communities, we must constantly refine our

Our capabilities. Training isn't optional, but the most important investment we can make in ourselves and our projects.

We sincerely thank the speakers for sharing their expertise and experience. Their contributions have provided us with the tools and vision needed to start this Rotary year off on the right foot, ready to transform our ideals into concrete action.





**ALFABETIZZAZIONE
E EDUCAZIONE DI BASE**

ROTARY CLUB THE TO VINS

DONATO SCHOOL MATERIALS

Every year, as September arrives, and before school opens, the La Valette Club remembers the less fortunate children and youth and works to make the return to school easier and more enjoyable for some of them. This is in line with Rotary International's declaration of September as Literacy Month.

Let us also heed the recommendation made to us by our International President Francesco Arezzo who says, "Literacy is more than the ability to read and write. It is the key to human dignity, economic mobility, and peace.

Every book opened, every classroom funded, and every teacher trained becomes a brick in the building of peace." In keeping with this, the club cultivates an ongoing collaboration with the St. Jeanne Antide Foundation, the NGO founded by the Sisters of Charity, donating educational materials every September so that the young people supported by this Foundation do not lack the essentials.

Treasurer David Dingli went to deliver various stationery items, pencil cases, pencils, markers, and erasers that could be essential for both primary and secondary school students.

Club President Clare



Vassallo says that with the St Jeanne Antide Foundation, the RC la Valette had a relationship that is not one of charity but rather a collaboration based on shared values.

"Literacy is not a privilege, but it is a right and we are-

We are happy and proud to help some kids return to school with pride."

Photo – Treasurer David Dingli presents school supplies to St Jeanne Antide Foundation leaders

RotaRyClubMaRsala

Support to 'Instruction of prisoners

"The Rotary Club of Marsala confirms its commitment to the field of rehabilitation by launching the second edition of the project **"Air Time"**, an initiative that is part of the Club's broader "SPES" program. After the success of the first edition, the Rotary Club of Marsala, under the guidance of President Antonio Giovanni De Vita and Project Delegate Salvatore Bottone, has decided to renew this important initiative. **This year too, the Club has donated educational materials that will allow inmates of the Castelvetro prison to attend classes at the Professional Institute for Food and Wine Services and Hotel Hospitality.** This year, the recipients of the materials were Professor Vincenza Sancetta, a law teacher, and Sister Cinzia Grisafi.

The initiative confirms the philosophy of the Rotary Club Marsala according to which education and culture represent the most effective tools for true re-education.



of those who have made mistakes. As underlined in the first edition, **the goal remains to lead the prisoner to rediscover himself through the beauty of culture, creating concrete opportunities for building a better future..**

The "Ora d'Aria" project is added

This joins the other initiatives of the Rotary Club of Marsala dedicated to the prison world, including the third edition of the project **"Il mio Canto Libero,"** created together with the Clubs of the Province of Trapani, which will begin soon. **Continuing to invest in prison education means investing in the safety and future of our community."**, concludes Project Delegate Salvatore Bottone. "Every prisoner who manages to successfully reintegrate into society represents a victory for all of us." The Rotary Club of Marsala thanks all the technical partners of the initiative, Cartoleria Di Giovanni, the institutions involved and the volunteers who make the realization of these important social solidarity projects possible."



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO AGORA

GUIDED TOUR TO 'O ROBSERVATORY T OSTRONOMICAL

"And then we went out to see again... the Sun and the other wonders of Palermo"

During the month dedicated to literacy and basic education, the Rotary Club of Palermo Agorà has paid particular attention to activities aimed at supporting research and promoting scientific professions. This ongoing and concrete commitment is also pursued by the club with the project *"Work and young people"*

– to introduce new generations to the world of science, fostering their curiosity and passion for professions that combine age-old traditions and technological innovation. On September 20th, the club hosted the Palermo Astronomical Observatory (INAF-OAPa), directed by Dr. Angela Ciaravella. The members were accompanied by INAF researchers.



in an exclusive guided tour of the headquarters of the first astronomical observatory in Italy, founded in 1790 by the will of

Ferdinand I of Bourbon, inside the Norman Palace. Astrophysicist Sara Bonito welcomed the members and illustrated the





scientific professions among young people. Afterwards, astronomer Mario Guarcello organized a surprise for the club members: solar observation with a state-of-the-art telescope. The visit continued with technologist Laura Leonardi, who donated a copy of the magazine "*Universes*" for which she edits the *Metaverso* column. Dr. Leana Chinnici introduced visitors to the collections of the "*Observatory Museum*" - one of the six Unipa Heritage museums - telling the history of the Observatory and the importance of the work of Giuseppe Piazzi, a priest-mathematician who discovered the first asteroid in 1801: Ceres Ferdinandea. During the tour, it was possible to view the astronomical instruments that - at the time - made the Observatory avant-garde in Europe: the Ramsden Circle, created by the English builder J. Ramsden; the telescope in the Meridian Hall; and the marvelous Dome that is the emblem of this place. Among the most precious equipment is also the telescope that belonged



leopard The guided tour concluded on the Observatory's panoramic terrace, where one can enjoy one of the most beautiful views of Palermo. It's a unique opportunity to learn about an institution that has brought prestige to Palermo for centuries (the value of which is too often forgotten or little known), but also a way to appreciate the work that the scientists who work there carry out with passion and determination: excellence that exports the expertise and brilliance of Sicilian minds to the

Research activities that distinguish the observatory both nationally and internationally, including collaboration with the Vera C. Rubin Observatory in Chile. The researcher piqued the interest of those present by explaining how to search for stars and the sonification process, reproducing the "sound of the stars." She showed the tactile models that NASA has created in 3D for the visually impaired and blind, based on the suggestions of the Palermo researchers. The activities that

engage the Observatory in the world, becoming a social ambassador to promote inclusion of the most vulnerable people, guarantee equal opportunities and promote

pedusa, used by the director Luchino Visconti for the making of the famous film "*The Cat-*





INCLUSION AND SOLIDARITY

ROTARY CLUB CALTANISSETTA

THE IN THE FIELD FOR THE SPORT PARALIMPICO

The atmosphere on the court on September 6, 2025, at the La Baita sports club on Viale Luigi Monaco, was intense and dynamic, as befits any tennis tournament that pits champions against each other. This is the National Tennis Tournament for athletes with intellectual and relational disabilities, which was able to host its fifth stage in Caltanissetta. The tournament, of seven scheduled in various regions of Italy, will conclude in Milan, passing through the Capri Masters in October. Vincenzo Morgante, the tennis technical advisor for FISDIR (Italian Federation of Paralympic Sports for Intellectual and Relational Disabilities), a Sicilian native who works in Pordenone, spoke to us about this packed program. FISDIR was able to count on the support of the local committee, led by Giuseppe Cobisi and his team, as well as other representatives of the



Fisdir, such as Gaspare Majelli, national councilor, and Roberta Cascio, regional delegate. The president of the Rotary Club of Caltanissetta, Ivana Guarneri, and her members hosted a joyful breakfast and lunch for the entire group of over 20 Paralympic athletes, their companions, and the organizers. During the meetings with these special athletes, they revealed the rich experiences they had gained in this important tournament.

The boys have indeed grown in cognitive and interpersonal skills, and in independence. Among the tennis players present is the world champion in the category II2 (Down syndrome) singles and doubles, Emanuele Bezzi. The 22 athletes, from all over Italy, train in FITP clubs, which are characterized by the true inclusiveness of their sporting environments. Rotary could only support initiatives like these, which perfectly embody the motto "united to do good."



ROTARY CLUB CATANIA AND EUROPE ETICA AND LEGALITÀ AND THE EQUALITY

THE BOOK IS PRESENTED "THE LIVING AND THE DEAD" FROM FRANCESCO PULEJO

A large audience attended the presentation of the book "The Living and the Dead" by magistrate Francesco Pulejo at the Cloister of Santa Chiara in Catania. The event was organized by the Rotary Club Catania Europa Etica e Legalità, the Alfredo Agosta National Anti-Mafia Association, and the Navarra publishing house. Journalist Mario Barresi coordinated the presentations by Professor Tino Cariola, magistrate Mariano Sciacca, and the author himself.

Pulejo, after "The Windy City," returns to Inspector Santacroce, who attempts to uncover the motives behind the murder of a renowned gynecologist. Investigative techniques unfold amidst ethical pressures, legal requirements, and the now inevitable urge to stand out.

Francesco Mauceri, president of Rotary Catania Europa Ethics and Legality, opened the event by greeting the institutional representatives present: magistrates, university professors, the prefect, the police commissioner, the commander of the Carabinieri, the commander of the Guardia di Finanza, citizens, and Rotarians.

The book launch is an opportunity for the club to discuss topics it has chosen as its core objectives, such as legality and ethics.



ROTARY CLUB MARSALA

PROGETTO TO TREE TO BLUE

The Rotary Club of Marsala, as part of Rotary International's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, has presented the "Blue Tree" project, an important solidarity initiative that will support the association of the same name, which assists people with disabilities.

The project will be funded by funds provided by the ELSER Foundation, based in Spain, for six years, supplemented by additional resources that the Rotary Club is committed to raising locally.

The ELSER Foundation supports





Twelve humanitarian projects in Europe, Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Oceania in the fields of education, health, social inclusion, entrepreneurship, culture, and nature. These are the pillars around which the Foundation's humanitarian projects revolve. One of these, for the past eight years, has been the financial, organizational, and conservation support of the Albero Azzurro Association of Pantelleria. The ELSER Foundation, in the per-

The founder and secretary of the Marsala Rotary Club, Luis Barcala, has identified the Rotary Club of Marsala as the continuation of this action to support the project, given that the Spanish organization itself had to withdraw from our territory.

Our Club and in particular the Health Commission chaired by Salvatore Mancuso, having listened to the needs of the Pantelleria association and the Spanish foundation, has accepted

to this commitment. Rotary's action will be to transfer the financial contributions provided by the ELSER Foundation based on reporting provided by the association, to protect and support the association in all its bureaucratic and healthcare needs, and to publicize its worthy activities.

The Albero Azzurro project, with its professionals and volunteers, supports and accompanies individuals with intellectual disabilities in Pantelleria, offering creative workshops, group outings, and various therapies. President Angela Rizzo eloquently described the passion, tenacity, patience, and conviction that drove them to continue their work, creating opportunities for recreation, growth, and education for these special individuals. Rotary can only stand by them to support and strengthen their commitment to helping people with functional disabilities or mental health problems, for a dignified life that is essential for every human being."



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO OVEST

TO MONTHLY APPOINTMENT WITH THE RONDA CLOCHARD

On the evening of September 10, the Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest renewed its commitment to helping those living in vulnerable conditions by participating in the usual "Ronda Clochard," a monthly event that brings a hot meal, a smile, and a tangible sign of support to those most in need.

This time, too, our club wanted to be present not only with material support, but above all with the direct testimony of members and friends who chose to serve. A simple gesture, yet one that embodies the true meaning of our motto: "Serve to change lives."

President Giuseppe Cascio wanted to extend a heartfelt

Thanks to Giorgio, who dedicatedly oversees the organization of this activity for our club, and to Rossella, along with Carlotta L'Ala, president of Interact Palermo West, and her father, who shared the experience by actively participating in the meal distribution. The presence of the younger generations is an important sign: it demonstrates how a spirit of service can be cultivated from a young age and become an integral part of personal growth. A special thanks also goes to the members who donated meals and milk, making the evening a success. It's these small, big gestures that make a difference.

the difference, because they transform solidarity from a simple intention into concrete action. The Clochard patrol isn't just a time for providing material assistance: it's an opportunity to meet, listen, and share. Looking into the eyes of those on the margins of society, shaking hands, stopping to listen to a story, restores dignity and makes people feel that no one is truly alone. The Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest will continue to be involved in these initiatives, convinced that only by joining forces can we build a more caring and supportive community. United, truly, to do good.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO THEATRE OF SOLE STO SERVE IN THE TRUE SENSE OF THE WORD

True service transcends formal meetings and translates into concrete gestures. This is the spirit that inspired the Rotary Clubs of Palermo Teatro del Sole and Palermo Montepellegrino, who spearheaded a significant solidarity initiative following the visit of Governor Sergio Malizia. After the successful dinner that concluded the day on September 18th, the two clubs chose to transform the evening's abundance into an act of love for those most in need. All the leftover non-perishable food—premium groceries and food and wine—was carefully packaged and delivered to the "Missione Speranza e Carità" Association of Brother Biagio Conte.

A van loaded with goods arrived at the facility that for decades has been a beacon of welcome and support for the city's most vulnerable. Direct donation is a simple yet powerful way to be closer to those suffering on our earth.



district, bringing immediate and tangible help to those living in severe poverty. "The Governor's visit was a moment of intense discussion and planning, but Rotary isn't just about words and projects on paper," commented the President of the Palermo Teatro del Sole Rotary Club. "It's about action. Bringing the leftover food from our dinner here is the logical consequence of our ideals: it helps us take action and share, reducing waste."

and supporting those in need." "This joint initiative perfectly symbolizes the harmony between our Clubs," continued the President of RC Palermo Montepellegrino. "Together we hosted the Governor and together we chose to close the day with a strong message: our community comes first. Supporting heroic projects like that of Biagio Conte is a civic and Rotary duty for us."



The simple yet humane gesture underscores how Rotary's essence lies in its ability to serve others, transforming festive occasions into opportunities for giving. It's a concrete example of how solidarity can and should be a daily practice, a bridge between the diverse realities of the same city to build, together, a more just and supportive future. Because true change begins with an act of caring for others.

RC PALERMO TEATRO DEL SOLE e RC MONTEPELLEGRINO

"INSIEME A 4 ZAMPE"

On September 4, 2025, an interclub fireside event was held at the San Paolo Palace in Palermo, sponsored by the Rotary Club Palermo Teatro del Sole and the Rotary Club Palermo Montepellegrino. The focus of the meeting was the "Insieme a 4 Zampe" project, designed to promote inclusive educational programs for vulnerable young people through the human-animal relationship. After institutional greetings from the presidents of the two clubs—Sonya Vasto and Freda Liotta—the latter emphasized: "'Insieme a 4 Zampe' is much more than a project.



educational project: it's a gesture of trust towards those who are too often left aside. It's proof that a relationship with an animal can become a language of freedom. Rotary doesn't limit itself to charity: it builds paths. Looking at Mario, I felt the need to say: let's not stop at this year. Let's make it a tradition. Rotary thrives on continuity and roots.

The project was presented by Amedeo Pecoraro, founder of the dog training school "Quanto Cani," along with trainer Francesco Calafiore and Stefania Di Fresco, an expert in dog training. The program includes theoretical, relational, and practical phases, culminating in direct interaction with the animals. Dr. Luca De Paoli, director of the Yellow School in Palermo, also delivered a significant speech: "An inclusive community doesn't just tolerate, it creates space and recognition. Rotary can do much more than we imagine."

During Rotary's membership month, the fireside offered an opportunity to strengthen bonds between members, while also promoting a model of society that values differences and transforms weaknesses into resources.



ROTARY CLUB TRAPANI BIRGI MOZIA

THE MEMBERS TOGETHER FOR SOCIAL ISSUES

Great participation for the solidarity evening organized on the occasion of the Trapani stage of the solidarity ride promoted by MAF (*Mission Aviation Fellowship*) Italia, the largest Christian humanitarian airline, has been flying to the world's most isolated communities for over 80 years. The initiative was supported by the Rotary Club Trapani Birgi Mozia, chaired by Mariella De Luca, the Solidalmente Trapani association, and the Panathlon Club Trapani, led by President Roald Vento. This shared commitment saw the involvement of institutions, law enforcement, and numerous Paralympic and other sports associations. The ride, now in its second year,



The event featured Paralympic cyclist Leonardo Melle. On the way to Trapani, he had to stop due to a foot problem, but upon arrival in Piazza Vittorio, he was greeted with a long round of applause. At his side was the president of MAF Italia,

Graziano Dalembo. "The day was intense and full of emotions. Meeting Leonardo, the staff, and Graziano Dalembo was a wonderful experience. The evening concluded at Agriturismo Sanacore with about 70 people getting married.





"We developed the idea of a fundraising project to donate to MAF," said Mariella De Luca, president of the Rotary Club Trapani Birgi Mozia. A friend also dedicated a personal tribute to Melle: "Leonardo is a force of nature, a noble soul, a person always ready to lend a helping hand. He never puts himself first and reminds everyone that disability is not compassion, but daily life made up of struggles, fears, and courage. Today he brings good humor and a sense of inclusion to every part of Sicily." The convivial moment of the solidarity dinner, hosted at the Sanacore farmhouse, strengthened the spirit of the initiative: every participation helped support MAF projects, which this year focus in particular on medical flights to Timor-Leste, where the company provides assistance to communities that would otherwise remain isolated and without treatment. An initiative that combined sport, friendship, and solidarity, leaving Trapani with a strong message: every pedal stroke, every gesture of support, can truly make a difference.



ROTARY CLUB TUTELA AND UEQUALITY

THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COMMITMENT

It was a busy Saturday in mid-September for the Club. In the morning, members went to the Caritas in San Giovanni la Punta and donated boxes full of over-the-counter medications to offer to the most vulnerable. The head of the volunteer association, Agatino Lo Faro, and his staff welcomed the initiative, given the precarious conditions in which an increasing number of families live.

This assistance was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Annolino Pharmacy in Sant'Agata Li Battiati, represented by Dr. Giusy de Pasquale, who sensitively understood the value of our commitment as Rotarians. Later, in the afternoon, the presentation of Eliana Vivirito's new novel, "Il Respiro Profondo del Mare," took place at the "G. Verga" Cultural Center in Sant'Agata Li Battiati. The event was organized by our Club together with President Carmelo Licciardello of the Rotary Club Via-



large 150 and to the President Carmelo Coniglione of the Rotary Club Valverde Terra dei Ciclopi and also with the collaboration of Vita Maria Catalano, President of Fidapa Sant'Agata Li Battiati. In a room packed with numerous guests, after the welcoming speech by Marco Rubino, mayor of Sant'Agata Li Battiati, who showed great appreciation, and the greetings of the Presidents, Salvatore Massimo Fazio, Councillor for Culture of Sant'Agata Li Battiati, led, in

As a speaker, he conducted a brilliant interview with the writer. The evening was enlivened by musical interludes provided by the talented guitarist Antonio Petronaci, who accompanied Dorian Spina's intense voice on his guitar. Two events experienced by our Club as opportunities for Rotary sharing and full expressions of our social and cultural commitment to the community.





**ACTION
YOUNG**

ROTARY CLUB PALERMO OVEST WELCOME JORDYN

A special moment for the Rotary Club of Palermo West last September 2nd. Jordyn, from Iowa, USA, arrived in Palermo that afternoon to spend a year here as an exchange student.

Welcoming her at the airport, together with the host family, were our President Giu-

Seppe Cascio – particularly happy to welcome on behalf of the entire Club – the RYE delegate of the Panormus Area Tommaso Puccio, our Yeo Ada Rera, the tutor Marika Lo Monaco and the member of the Board Fabio La Seta.

For the Rotary Club Palermo Ovest it is a great joy to be able to open

The gates of our city and our District 2110 Sicily and Malta to a young international student. We are confident that for Jordyn it will be a memorable experience, full of discovery, growth, and new friendships, and that we too will have much to learn and share thanks to her presence.



ROTARY CLUB NISCEMI

THE IN MY EXPERIENCE AT ROTARY CAMP IN AND GITTO

My name is Isabella Caruso and I am a member of the Interact Club of Niscemi. This year I had the opportunity to have an extraordinary experience by participating in the Rotary Camp in Egypt, titled "Think Egypt Egyptology," promoted by Rotary District 2451. This unique initiative brought together ninety young people between the ages of 15 and 22 from all over the world, with the aim of fostering cultural exchange, mutual understanding, and a spirit of service.

From day one, we were captivated by the allure of ancient Egypt: visiting the Pyramids of Giza was thrilling, a true immersion in the grandeur of the civilization that built them. I will never forget the camel ride across the desert dunes, a moment straight out of a timeless tale. The day concluded with our first Rotary Meeting, a gathering that allowed us to make new friends and discover different cultures.

On the second day, we traveled to Alexandria, where we visited the famous Library, a symbol of knowledge and dialogue between peoples. Next, we headed to Aswan: upon arrival, we explored the splendid temples of Philae, before embarking on a Nile cruise.

During the voyage, we visited a Nubian village, experiencing the daily lives of the locals firsthand and purchasing small, authentic souvenirs.

Among the most significant experiences-



There was a visit to the Aswan hospital, where a doctor explained to us the "To Save a Child's Heart" project, a humanitarian initiative that deeply touched me. Listening to the passion and dedication with which this

The doctor told us the stories of the little patients and it was touching: behind every number, there is a face, a family, a hope for a new life.

At that moment I understood that the true meaning of Rotary

Camp wasn't just about traveling or having fun, but learning to open our eyes to the world and feel the responsibility to make a concrete contribution to others. "To Save a Child's Heart" isn't just a project, it's a universal message: the life of every child has infinite value and deserves to be protected. There were also moments of celebration and sharing: aboard the Nile cruise, we organized International Day, where everyone presented their country with traditional clothing, dishes, and objects. It was like traveling through dozens of cultures in just a few hours, discovering that our differences enrich us and that, ultimately, we are all part of the same great human family. In that moment, there were no longer nationalities or borders; we were simply young citizens of the world, united by enthusiasm and brotherhood.

In Luxor, we explored the Temple of Karnak, but there was also time for relaxation: a few days at the resort, between the pool, sports, and laughter, allowed us to strengthen the bonds we'd developed during the trip. Even the simplest moments, like drinking a Pepsi together while gazing at the Nile, took on a special meaning because they were shared with extraordinary people. This camp wasn't just a tourist trip: it was a life experience.

I had the opportunity to meet boys and girls from different backgrounds, with whom I made sincere friendships that I will always carry in my heart.

breathed the thousand-year-old history they were available, kind and to a profound sign: not only of Egypt, I was amazed
I admired its monuments and museums, tasted new flavors and discovered customs far from my own.
Everything was organized with great care: the organizers



always ready to make us feel at ease.
Every moment, from the most adventurous to the simplest, was precious and unforgettable.
I can say with certainty that the Rotary Camp in Egypt left me...
It allowed me to enrich my culture, but it taught me the value of sharing, friendship and openness to the world.

ROTARY CLUB PALERMO MONDELLO

"IN AGAINST INBOUND"

On Saturday, September 20th, in Mondello, organized by member Tommaso Puccio, District Area Delegate of the Youth Exchange Commission, on a delightful morning still blessed by a summery climate, a meeting was held with the leaders of Rotary International's programs for the younger generations. Accompanied by the Antoninis, his host family for the entire year, young Dylan, who had arrived in Palermo from Taiwan, was introduced to the club members.



a few days ago.

With the enthusiasm of someone preparing for this experience as a Rotary International exchange student, he brought greetings from his Rotary sponsor and spoke about himself and his expectations. He also shared his experiences on the short-term exchange in Germany and the long-term exchange in Mexico. – Gaia Mazzara and Elena Ficano respectively – it emerged that RYE is an incredible opportunity to learn about different cultures and lifestyles, broaden one's worldview, and create new connections with peers from other countries.

Another flagship Rotary program is, as is well known, the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award), which the club has always supported by sponsoring the candidatures of deserving Rotaractors and non-Rotaractors identified by their respective sponsoring clubs. In fact Ichrak Mtir, who participated in the last edition of Ryla held in Palermo last April, lived this intensive experience aimed at young people in order to allow the



opportunity to develop leadership skills and make new acquaintances.

But the club's commitment to future generations doesn't end there.

A concrete example is Dr. Veronica Leporatti, winner of the "Padre Pintacuda" degree prize, promoted by the RC Palermo Mondello, to whose members she presented the salient points of her thesis in economics and management on Euro-Mediterranean issues.

Finally, the morning meeting saw Rotaract Palermo Mondello among the protagonists with the president Cristina Fileccia, who presented the programme guidelines. that of the current social year. President Vincenzo Bucca, in thanking those present, emphasized how the young people's testimonies are clear proof of the importance of Rotary's youth programs, and that they offer the opportunity for exchanges that foster respect and understanding between different languages and cultures, different traditions, different customs and help people get to know the great Rotary family from within, also with a view to their future inclusion.



ROTARY CLUB PALERMO OVEST FEDERICA PROVITO AND ITS EXPERIENCE IN JAPAN

Federica Provito, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Palermo Ovest, is spending her exchange experience in Japan. Behind these beautiful and enriching experiences is the hard work of the RYE District Committee and the generous and loving support of the host families. We are thrilled that Rotary can offer these opportunities to our children, which they will remember forever.

Hi everyone,
My name is Federica, I'm 16 years old, I'm sponsored by RC Palermo Ovest, and this year I'm on a youth exchange abroad, in Japan. I arrived in this beautiful country about a month ago, and from the very first moment, I received a warm welcome from my host family and my Rotary club. Already in the first few days, I had the opportunity to experience many meaningful moments: from visits to nearby cities to sampling my first traditional dishes, I couldn't stop for a moment!

During my first week here, I met the other inbound girls from my district and immediately got along very well. One day, my host brother suggested we go to a baseball game together, a sport not particularly popular in Italy. Of course, I enthusiastically accepted, and we had a blast. Another very pleasant experience I shared with



His visit was to a school festival organized by a school near our city. There, I met some of his friends and we participated in various activities offered by the classes. Among them, a "lucky draw" where I was lucky enough to win the top prize:

A 10,000 yen gift card! August 29th was my first day of school. My host mother had asked me to prepare a short presentation in Japanese to give to the faculty and my new class. I was quite anxious, but luckily I managed to show up.



without difficulty. That day I met my classmates, who immediately proved extremely welcoming and helpful. They're so thoughtful that, during class, if I can't follow the explanations well, they help me by activating simultaneous translation on their phones. I never expected such great support, and for that I thank them every day.

My host family and I also attended an end-of-summer festival, which ended with a truly impressive fireworks display.

My relationship with my host family is very positive: every day we talk, joke, and share everyday moments. A few days ago, I also started taking Japanese lessons with my host mother, who is patiently helping me understand the language better.

I'm truly happy I chose to embark on this experience: it's giving me so many special moments and the opportunity to meet wonderful people who I'll cherish forever.

Federica Provito



ROTARY CLUB CATANIA

MARTINA, MY ADVENTURE IN COREA OF THE SUD

Three weeks ago I took a 16 and a half hour flight to South Korea and begin my adventure as an exchange student sponsored by RC Catania.

It was my first time on such a long journey, but I immediately knew I was setting off for something truly special.

I now live in Busan, a beautiful city on the southeastern coast of Korea.

My Rotary district and my host family—or rather, my second family—were there to welcome me upon arrival. In a very short time, we've built a strong bond, built on trust, respect, and a great deal of affection. Every week, they take me to discover new traditional dishes and hidden corners of the city, helping me immerse myself in Korean culture.

Two weeks ago I started school. Finding yourself in a classroom where the language isn't understood every day isn't easy, but thanks to my classmates who speak English with me and teach me new Korean words, I feel welcomed and less alone.

The teachers are also very helpful.

Every evening I study Korean on my own: I want to learn to communicate as quickly as possible.

I'm already having so many unique experiences.

Sometimes I go out alone for a walk around the house, to reflect and relax. I think that an-



that solitude, if experienced with awareness, can be a strength: it helps you to know yourself better and to grow.

There are two other exchange students in my district with whom I spend a lot of time.

Every weekend we choose a different place to explore together. It's nice to share this

Experience with young people who, despite coming from other countries, are facing similar challenges to mine. One of the best moments so far was Rotary International Day: I met new people, danced, laughed, and had a truly special day.

I'm going to Seoul in two weeks

to meet all the exchange students from Korea, and I can't wait to have that experience too.

In recent weeks I've also discovered a new passion: I started a K-pop dance class at school and I'm enjoying it so much that I've decided to continue it outside of school as well.

It's a fun and engaging activity that makes me feel even more a part of this culture.

To those who dream of leaving, I advise them not to be afraid, not to be shy, to speak up, to express themselves. Even when you feel lost: that's where the real adventure begins. Thanks to Rotary, I'm realizing a dream, and every day I feel more grateful for this incredible opportunity.

Martina Grillo





ROTARY FOUNDATION

ROTARY CLUB TOGRIGENTO

"PIZZA FESTIVAL IV EDITION" PRO RF

On August 30th in San Leone – Agrigento, for the fourth consecutive year, the event called "PIZZA FESTIVAL" took place at Villa Napoli Gucciardo, aimed at raising funds for the Rotary Foundation. The event, which has now become a ritual for

The Agrigento Club, strongly supported over the years by the President of the Rotary Club of Agrigento, Engineer Filippo Napoli, saw the presence of numerous Rotary and Rotaract members. During the evening, various types of pizza were tasted, in a

A harmonious, joyful atmosphere, accompanied by good music. €1,360 was raised, which will be donated to the Foundation.



ROTARY CLUB THE TO VALLETTA BANNUAL SUMMER ARBECUE

Year after year, for 23 years, the La Valette Club has organized a summer barbecue, a celebration of Rotary friendship and an opportunity to raise funds for the club's projects. This year, the barbecue dinner took place on August 26th at the Tigné Beach Club in Sliema, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea and the beautiful golden hues of the sunset.

Among the more than 130 Rotarians and friends in attendance, an evening of joy, laughter, new friendships, and new encounters was created. This was further enhanced by the fine Donnafugata wine, generously donated by S. Rausi Trading Ltd., as well as the delicious meal of savory chicken legs, swordfish, and sizzling pork medallions, accompanied by a varied salad and side buffet.

The highlight of the evening was

The usual raffle drawing, which this year featured magnificent prizes donated by some of the club's members. This helped replenish the funds raised during the evening, which will go towards the District Project, which this year involves a collaboration with the University of Malta's Trust for Research, Innovation, and Development to map the ALS genome. This project was well received by the District and received approval from the Rotary Foundation as it aims to understand and research a cure for this debilitating disease. The club thanks its sponsors, especially Belair Real Estate and Finductive, for their invaluable support for the evening, which resulted in an extraordinary €6,000.00 raised.

The words of President Clare Vassallo resonate throughout all this



which is Rotary: "Events like this remind us of the power of community. It's not about food and wine, it's about people. The value of Rotary is based on personal relationships, on the generosity that brings joy. This evening, in fact, we witnessed a beautiful celebration of friendship, with the hope of meeting again for many more occasions of fellowship, with the goal of being useful in our societies."



ROTARY CLUB MEGARA TOUGUSTA AND ROTARY CLUB THE ENTINI UNITES FOR COMMON GOALS IN THE WORLD

The September fundraiser for the Rotary Foundation, organized by the Megara Augusta and Lentini clubs, exceeded even our wildest expectations. This year, too, saw strong participation and growing generosity.

The evening was organized by an interclub in the splendid setting of the Lido Ufficiali della Marina Militare in Punta Izzo and was enlivened by the voice of Marzia Toscano and the participation of her Rotarian friend Pieluigi Incastrone, who curated the DJ set to conclude the event. Good music, good food, and many friends who, along with members of the two organizing clubs, wanted to support the Rotary Foundation's projects and the End Polio Now campaign with their contributions. For 40 years, Rotary International has been at the forefront of vaccinating children around the world, with the goal of eradicating polio. They were present the admiral Andrea Cottini, commander of Marisicilia, the president of the Augusta City Council, Marco Stella, the PDG Titta Sallemi, the governor's assistant Emanuele Nobile and many Rotarian friends from the clubs in the Aretusa and Etna areas. The president of the Rotary Club of Lentini, Cristian Rapisarda, underlined how the synergy and friendship between the clubs makes these initiatives even more effective so as to carry out wider service activities both in their respective territories and, as in

in this case, for projects of global importance.

In turn, the president of the Rotary Club of Megara Augusta, Giuseppe Tringali, emphasized that the Rotary Foundation is a fundamental tool for carrying out the service activities that involve Rotarian volunteers around the world, for projects in areas such as the environment, literacy, and with particular reference to the End Polio Now campaign, to which everyone can contribute even with a small amount.

PDG Titta Sallemi recalled that it was an Italian in the 1980s who proposed to Rotary International the idea of vaccinating all the world's children against polio, and it is thanks to that intuition that today, after more than forty years, we are one step away from achieving that ambitious goal.

Finally, the Assistant to the Governor-



The speaker, Emanuele Nobile, emphasized the efficiency, as well as effectiveness, of the Rotary Foundation, which for many years has received "4 stars," the highest rating, from Charity Navigator, both because it demonstrates best practices, because it carries out its mission in a financially efficient manner, and because it manages to ensure quality and transparency.



RC SALEMI AND WIND PRO RE

On August 28, 2025, the third annual charity event was held at the Terrazza Orestiadi in Gibellina. The event was promoted by the Rotary Club Salemi, the lead club, in collaboration with the Rotary Club Partanna, the Rotary Club Castelvetro, and, starting this year, the Rotary Club Alcamo. The event was well attended, with over 260 attendees from across Sicily and representatives of numerous clubs from District 2110 – Sicily and Malta. The funds raised will go to the Rotary Foundation, supporting its polio eradication program, and to the service projects each club carries out in its local area. The evening reaffirmed Rotary Clubs' commitment to initiatives that combine conviviality with concrete solidarity.

Numerous Rotary officials attended the event. District Governor Sergio Malizia spoke, emphasizing how the motto "Unite for Good" represents a shared responsibility: "Together, we can achieve great things. Rotary demonstrates every day that cooperation between clubs, territories, and diverse individuals generates valuable results for communities."

The large participation of Rotarian and non-Rotarian friends confirmed the initiative's ability to involve the wider area, strengthening dialogue with the community and support for causes.



of Rotary International. Special thanks were extended to the staff of the Orestiadi Terraces, who on this occasion not only provided a warm welcome and professional service, but also shared the initiative's spirit of solidarity by generously contributing to Rotary's projects.

The third edition thus concludes with significant results, which encourage the sponsoring clubs to continue on this path, consolidating a network of solidarity capable of producing concrete effects both internationally, through the Rotary Foundation, and locally, with projects that respond to community needs.



ROTARY CLUB VALLE DEL SALSO CAMINETTO DEDICATED TO THE RF

Day **September 19**, a well-attended fireside discussion was held, promoted by the **Rotary Club Valle del Salso** at the club secretary's home, **Filippina Romano**. The meeting was dedicated to the **Rotary Foundation** and was led by the district delegate **Manlio Galatioto**, who illustrated the goals and projects of the Foundation, the true beating heart of Rotary in the world. There **Rotary Foundations** supports peace initiatives, educational programs, and public health interventions internationally. Among its flagship projects is its commitment to polio eradication through the campaign **End Polio Now** and the **Polio Society**, which brings together Rotarians and supporters committed to ensuring constant resources for this humanitarian cause of

global nanny. The evening was attended by members and friends of the club, as well as **PDG Giovanni Vaccaro**, the **Governor Tiziana Amato's assistant And Marilia Turco**, demonstrating the District's closeness and attention. The president of the Rotary Club Valle del Salso, **Except Pasqualetto**, he underlined: «The Rotary Foundation represents our silent strength, the guarantee that the actions of Rotarians can be translated *providing concrete assistance to communities around the world.* AND *It is an honor for our club to dedicate time and thought to this fundamental tool of service.*» The evening was enriched by musical moments thanks to the young trumpeter **James-Pace**, who performed famous songs with passion, giving



an elegant and engaging atmosphere for everyone.

A meeting of training, sharing, and Rotary friendship that strengthened the club's spirit of service and cohesion.





ROTARACT CLUB CATANIA AND ST SERA OF MUSIC, LIGHT AND SOLIDARITY

On September 4th, the candlelight concert "Uscimmo a Riveder le Stelle" (We Went to See the Stars Again) took place at Villa Ardizzone. The event was promoted and organized by the Rotaract Club Catania Est, in collaboration with Rotary and Interact Catania Est, and the "Catania per il Bellini" association. The evening was a resounding success, with over 180 tickets sold (all proceeds going to the Rotary Foundation), a result that demonstrates the enthusiasm and desire to share the beauty of music through the generosity of solidarity.

The piano was the absolute protagonist, accompanying the audience on an exciting journey through the masterpieces of Puccini, Tchaikovsky, Chopin, Umberto Giordano and other great composers. The magical atmosphere created by the candlelight, combined with the



The villa's historic elegance made the experience unforgettable, enhanced by a wine tasting offered by the Vigneti Verzera winery.

The event, which in addition to its artistic value, had a strong charitable aspect (with all proceeds donated to support international humanitarian projects such as End Polio) demonstrated that it is possible to unite

Culture, art, and social commitment in one extraordinary initiative. "Sincere thanks go to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening," said Rotaract Catania Est President Carlo Di Bella, "and to all the participants: together, we made possible an event that will remain in the heart of our community."



ROTARACT CLUB CATANIA AND ST GRAN PREMIO NUVOLARI 2025 PRO POIL PLUS

From September 18th to 21st, the Rotaract Club of Catania Est experienced an adventure that will remain etched in their memories: "Run for Polio," the project that brought Rotary's values to the legendary streets of the Gran Premio Nuvolari. Aboard a 1954 Alfa Romeo 1900 TI, President Carlo Di Bella and Secretary Francesco Pezzillo took on one of the world's most prestigious classic car competitions for the first time, competing against nearly 300 crews from across Europe. The true achievement was a charitable one: thanks to the support of members, friends, and partners, nearly €1,000 was raised for the Rotary Foundation's End Polio Now campaign, and every kilometer traveled meant a step closer to a polio-free world. Rotaract Catania Est also achieved a sporting achievement.



Exciting: 90th in their category, 164th overall, 31st in the Italian Major Events Championship. "But what will truly remain," declared President Di Bella, "are the landscapes we crossed, the complicity of the crew, the smiles along the way, and the thrill of having lived a dream and transformed it into service.

Uncle".

The silent protagonist of this undertaking was her: the Alfa Romeo 1900 TI, an icon of Italian motorsport, formerly owned by Baron Nicola Musmeci, a symbol of pioneering Sicilian motorsport: a car that in the 1950s wrote legendary pages of sporting history, from the Giro di Sicilia to the Targa Florio, and which today returns to racing as it did then, with the same spirit and the same grit.

Special thanks go to our sponsors and the Rotary Club of Catania Est, Fabriano, and Arezzo, who believed in this wonderful adventure, "allowing us to transform a personal dream into a shared mission."

"Run for Polio" wasn't just a race, but a concrete demonstration that passion, combined with service, can truly drive the future.



ROTARACT CLUB COSTA GAIA

PARCHI GAMES "GINEVRA TOMATO"

On September 14, 2025, Rotaract Costa Gaia inaugurated the new playground in the courtyard behind the church of Santa Caterina in Partinico, named after Ginevra Amato, a little girl who recently passed away.

The project, which began with the installation of a simple swing, has evolved into a larger redevelopment, creating an inclusive and safe space for the neighborhood's children.

Members of Rotaract Costa Gaia participated in the initiative. The support of Rotaract District 2110 was crucial, providing funds through Past District Representative Gianni Battista Cauchi's Koinonia project to purchase some of the equipment.

A significant contribution also came from the Pi' i Picciriddi association, which enthusiastically joined in as soon as we contacted them, actively collaborating on the project. "The decision to dedicate the playground to Ginevra deeply touched all of us," recalled President Flavia La Mantia of Rotaract Costa Gaia. The girl's parents, owners of a construction company, played a key role, carrying out most of the renovation work free of charge.

Their practical availability and direct involvement allowed the project to be completed quickly and with great attention to detail, strengthening the collaboration between the church, associations, and citizens.



This is one example of how community involvement can help a project grow and become something more.



ROTARACT CLUB PALERMO MONTEPELLEGRINO

CONFERENCE ON THE POLLUTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A concrete, passionate and rigorous debate on the future of our planet animated the conference *"Pollution and environmental sustainability"*, promoted by the Rotaract Club Palermo Montepellegrino (led by Marco Raneri), with the support of the sponsoring Rotary Club and the participation of Professor Antonio Fundarò, lecturer in "Environmental Sustainability" at the University of Palermo. The initiative – hosted in a space open to intergenerational dialogue – represented a moment of shared reflection on one of the most urgent challenges of our time: that of safeguarding the environment, and in particular the seas, increasingly threatened by microplastics, industrial waste and climate change.

climate. In his speech, Fundarò proposed a cultural, not just technical, approach to the ecological issue, recalling that "the environment is not protected by law, but by conscientious choice." He then added: "Sustainability is not a goal, it's a journey. It's the ability to plan for the future without denying the present to those who have no voice. This is why speaking to young people is not only useful, it's necessary." Marco Raneri, president of the Rotaract Club, reiterated the profound meaning of Rotaract's commitment: "We wanted to shine a light on an issue that concerns each of us. We are young, but we know that every daily action can contribute to protecting the environment."

environment. For us, sustainability is a lifestyle, not a slogan."

A special message was delivered by the president of the Rotary Club of Palermo Montepellegrino, Freda Liotta, who highlighted the value of intergenerational synergy: "Educating for sustainability means building bridges between knowledge and generations. In this, Rotary and Rotaract can— together—make a difference. Young people have ideas, enthusiasm, and vision: supporting them is our highest duty."

An intense moment that opens new horizons of commitment and demonstrates how Rotary values can become concrete instruments of change.



ROTARACT CLUB PALERMO MONTEPELLEGRINO

MARCH RANERI RETURNS TO THE GUIDE

In the splendid setting of Santa Flavia, the Bell Ringing of the Rotaract Club Palermo Montepellegrino took place. It was a symbolic and emotional moment, which saw Marco Raneri replace Giorgio Genna and once again assume leadership of the Club.

The ceremony was opened by Rotary sponsor president Freda Liotta, who emphasized the importance of the collaboration between Rotary and Rotaract: "Together, we have built authentic bonds. Supporting young people is a priority. This handover strengthens a shared vision."

Raneri, in his speech, outlined his mandate: "Our actions will be oriented towards service, listening, and caring for the least fortunate. Polaris invites us to eliminate the causes of poverty: this is the direction we are taking.



we will follow, guided by the values of our Rotary sponsor."

His tribute to the synergy built with President Freda Liotta was particularly heartfelt, «a present guide,

peace of involving us in every phase of the project." Raneri also remembered the person who introduced him to the world of Rotary, his uncle Antonio Fundarò, and thanked his Rotaractor godfather, Pietro Francesco Mistretta.



During the evening, Monica Palazzolo, a Rotaractor and psychologist, proposed the creation of a youth counseling center, an initiative enthusiastically welcomed by all present. The ceremony was attended by numerous members of the sponsoring Rotary club, including Treasurer Alessandro Gambino and Councilor Antonella Ferraro, a tangible sign of an intergenerational community united by a shared desire to serve. The new Rotaract year thus begins with a focus on listening, co-planning, and a renewed spirit of service.



THE INTERACT MARSALA SI MOBILITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF SOLIDARITY MEALS

The solidarity initiative promoted by the Marsala Interact Club was a great success. Through the organization of a charity party, the club raised €1,300, which was entirely donated to the Giorgio La Pira soup kitchen. The event, made possible thanks to the invaluable support of eight local sponsors who believed in the project, was attended by a large and enthusiastic turnout from Interact members and their friends. The party was attended by the President of the Marsala Rotary Club, Antonio Giovanni De Vita; all members of the Interact Commission, Daniele Pizzo, Salvatore Bottone, Valentina Agoglitta, and Maurizio Cimiotta; the President of the Marsala Rotaract, Vincenzo Valenti; and the Interact District Representative, Federico Lombardo. The funds raised will be donated to:

used to purchase food items needed to prepare main courses, an urgent need expressed by the facility which is currently experiencing particular difficulty in offering complete meals to its patients.

The "Giorgio La Pira" soup kitchen represents a fundamental point of reference for people experiencing social and economic hardship in the area. The lack of resources to guarantee nutritious main courses was compromising the ability to offer adequate food service to users, making Interact's intervention even more significant. "We are proud to have made a concrete contribution to supporting such an important organization for our community," says President Federico Canova. "The response of the volunteers



The presence of the members and their friends at the party demonstrates how much the entire local community cares about the well-being of its most vulnerable citizens."

Delegate Salvatore Bottone specified that "the funds raised will allow the "Giorgio La Pira" soup kitchen to purchase essential ingredients to guarantee complete and nutritionally balanced meals for its residents, responding to a concrete and immediate need of the facility."





THE INTERACT CLUB OF MARSALA

THE MEETING OF TRAINING

On Saturday, September 20th, the Marsala Rowing Club hosted a meeting called "Leadership in Your Life" with Lieutenant Colonel Marco Forcato, a pilot from the Italian Air Force. The event, which was well attended by Interaction members, offered the opportunity to explore leadership principles applicable to everyday life. The speaker shared his experiences and expertise, explaining how empathy, emotional control, and decision-making skills can be transformed into tools for personal growth. Marco successfully transformed the meeting into a brainstorming session where each participant felt free to express their opinions and generate new ideas.

During the meeting they were



important and, at the same time, everyday topics were discussed, such as the ability to work in a team, stress management and emotion control techniques.

ni. The President of the Interact Club Federico Canova expressed sincere thanks to Lieutenant Colonel Marco Forcato for the availability shown



and for sharing his invaluable experience with the young participants, underlining the formative value of such authoritative testimonies for the growth of future leaders. The event was given importance by the good participation of Rotarian members, as simple listeners, including the President Antonio Giovanni De Vita, the Prefect Michele Conticelli, the members of the Youth Commission - Interact Daniele Pizzo, Valentina Agoglitta, and Maurizio Cimiotta. Youth Committee President Daniele Pizzo thanked fellow member Marco for dedicating his time to the young people and explained that "the initiative is part of the Interact Club's training program, dedicated to developing leadership skills in young people.



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