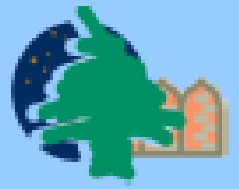


# Marhaba



Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan Newsletter — July/August 2015



## Club Charter Date

*June 22, 1995*

## Club Number

*30893*

## District

*2452 Rotary Int'l*

## RI President

*Ravi Ravindran*

*RC Sri Lanka*

## District Governor

*Mustafa Nasreddine*

*RC Amman*

## Deputy Governor

*Kamal Katra*

## Assistant Governor

*Rami Majzoub*

## RCBC Officers

**2015 - 2016**

### President

*Marie (Mimi) Hamam*

### President Elect

*Joe Boulos*

### Vice President

*Lina Shair*

### Secretary

*Amal Talhouk*

### Treasurer

*Jean Paul Moubarak*

### Directors

*Tony Asfour*

*George Beyrouti*

*Nora Haddad*

*Adib Mounla*

*Rabab Safieddine*

## RCBC Website

[www.rcbclebanon.org](http://www.rcbclebanon.org)

## PRESIDENT HAMAM OUTLINES HER AGENDA FOR 2015—2016



President Mimi Hamam has set a very ambitious agenda for this year that will touch every aspect of the club. While some are more tangible than others, all are important to the growth of the club and service to community.

- ◆ Encourage A Strong Commitment From ALL Members
- ◆ Focus On Fundraising To Fund Community Projects
- ◆ Encourage Fellowship Among Club Members and Between Clubs In Lebanon And Abroad
- ◆ Improve Attendance At Club Meetings and Rotary Events
- ◆ Actively Encourage Recruitment Of Younger Members
- ◆ Reactive Rotary Information At Meetings And In Club Media And Publications
- ◆ Identify Meaningful Sustainable Projects
- ◆ Maintain Close Contact With Rotaractors
- ◆ Be A Gift To The Community

RI Global and District Grants are always major thrusts for RCBC projects and this year is not an exception to that commitment. RCBC could be completing as many as four (4) Global Grants and one District Grant during the coming year. Projects involving Water Filtration for Public Schools, School Solar Lighting, Gift of Life Operations for Children, St. Jude's Children's Cancer Center Technology, and Public School Computer Literacy.

RCBC will be a "prime" source of funding and future initiatives. The RCBC project budget for this year is nearly \$40,000. These funds and others raised by other Lebanon clubs and clubs abroad will provide for the enhancement of life for thousands of people.

**AMBITIOUS? YES! DOABLE? YES!!!!**

## MAKING ROTARY CONNECTIONS



RCBC member Jean-Paul Moubarak makes another Rotary connection through fellowship while visiting France.

He visited the Rotary Club of Vannes in Bretagne. Banners were exchanged with Vannes club president, Bertrand Bollier. Mabrouk Jean-Paul!

## RCBC/ROTARY COMING EVENTS

### **SEPTEMBER 18—>23**

RCBC Excursion to Bavaria

### **SEPTEMBER 22**

Business Meeting

### **SEPTEMBER 29**

Bavaria Report

(RC Wasserburg Fellowship)

### **OCTOBER 5—>10**

Together in Lebanon Events

### **OCTOBER 6**

RCBC Dinner Meeting w/Speaker

PADG Samir Hammoud

"Banking Control"

### **OCTOBER 13**

Business Meeting w/Speaker

Mr. Hannes Siebert

"Dialogue and Consensus Building"

### **OCTOBER 20**

Business Meeting w/Speaker

Ms. Zeina Saab "NO Nawaya"

### **OCTOBER 27**

Business Meeting w/Speaker

Mr. George Homsy

## WHY JOIN ROTARY???

**Friendship:** In an increasingly complex world, Rotary provides one of the most basic human needs: the need for friendship and fellowship. It is one of two reasons why Rotary began in 1905.

**Business Development:** The second original reason for Rotary's beginning is business development. Everyone needs to network. Rotary consists of a cross section of every business community. Its members come from all walks of life. Rotarians help each other and collectively help others.

## ARE YOU APPLYING THE 4-WAY TEST???

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

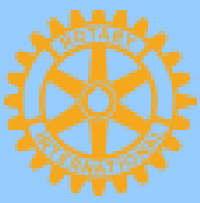
Does it promote **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIP**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all?

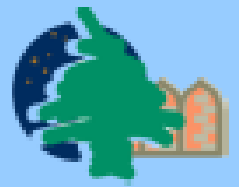
**RCBC Meets Tuesdays at the Phoenicia Hotel, Ain-Mreisseh, Beirut**

**Business Meetings at 7:00 PM — Dinner Meetings at 8:30 PM**

Marhaba Editor: Walter Ray (wrid773@marhaba.com)



# Marhaba



Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan Newsletter — July/August 2015

## THE POWER OF ROTARY TO POSITIVELY CHANGE LIVES RCBC INVESTMENTS IN YOUTH / GRSP PROGRAM

The Georgia Rotary Scholarship Program is a scholarship offered by Rotary to international students who wish to spend one academic year in Georgia, USA in the field of their career. For those who are accepted, candidates have the opportunity to learn about the US culture and life style besides making friends that will lead to the promotion of international goodwill and understanding.

RCBC, helps selected candidates apply properly to meet the requirements of the program. In principle, RCBC selects the candidates based on their outstanding achievement during the years spent at school. RCBC selected **IVANA HAYEK** and **RAPHAEL-LA AKHRAS** who will be participating in the GRSP program at Kenessaw University and Georgia State University, respectively. Congratulations!



(Ivana Hayek)

(Raphaella Akhras)

(Ivana & Raphaella with RCBC member Mrs. Nora Haddad)

Ivanna recently visited an RCBC meeting to express her feelings about this opportunity.

*They say that the biggest opportunities in life often come knocking on your door unexpectedly. Well that concept became personally familiar to me exactly one year ago, when I, a mechanical engineer student to be at LAU Byblos, came into contact with the Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan.*

*I was led by nothing other than sheer hope and faith in the work that this fine organization has accomplished over the years. At first, it seemed to me that being selected to represent them in the USA was a far-fetched opportunity, but the Rotarians have been relentless in their support ever since this whole thing started; an arduous process i must admit. I stand before you, with the full knowledge and realization that I've been chosen as one of the two Lebanese students who will shortly embark on a journey of education and self-development in a country as promising as the United States.*

*I would like to extend my deepest feelings of appreciation to the people at RCBC, who have taken me under their wing as their own personal responsibility, guiding me through my quest and being there for me in every step of the way especially Mr. Nabil Challah and Mrs. Nora Haddad. Without their constant endeavors, none of this would have been possible. Since I already started proclaiming regards, I would like to reserve a special one for my family who has taken thousands of measurements to ensure everything works as planned and my friends who kept encouraging me and supporting me every step of the way. I will miss them all.*

*As for the experience, I was accepted at Kenessaw State University, Georgia, where I will be taking numerous courses in my major aside from weekly meetings with the Rotary clubs and other GRSP students. I will be living on campus for most of the year but I have a loving sponsoring family I've been in contact with for quite some time that is making me feel right at home. I also have been adopted by the East Cobb Rotary Club and Marietta Rotary Club. I must say I have never felt so welcome and taken care off. with not a question left unanswered or a matter unresolved. I sincerely consider this scholarship as a blessing like no other. Aside from taking a huge leap in my future career goals, I'm making a family and meeting new people from all around the world. Getting to do this with them forms this special bond that might just be a once in a lifetime chance. For that, I feel so lucky and grateful.*

*In a couple of weeks, I leave for Georgia armed by the love and nurturing that this organization has given me, and with every intention of making my country and this club proud. It was your job to select the elite, and I'd love nothing more than to show you that you made the right decision. I now bid you farewell, leaving you with a heart that knows no fear for what's to come, only great anticipation and warm welcoming for the challenge that awaits. I will be back here next year in your presence, hopefully with lots of stories to be told and many successes to be shared. Thank you!*