**Club Charter Date**

June 22, 1995

Club Number

30893

District

2452 Rotary Int'l

RI President

Ron D. Burton

District Governor

Jamil Mouawwad

Deputy Governor

George Beyrouti

Assistant Governor

Yara Younes

RCBC Officers

2013—2014

President

Mounir Jabre

President Elect

Lina Shair

Vice President

Edouard Rassie

Secretary

Christine

Arzoumanian

Treasurer

Karim Naamani

Directors

Asaad Salhab

Tony Asfour

Habib Bassoul

Joe Boulos

RCBC Website

www.rcbclebanon.org

RCBC Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/
beirutcosmopolitan](http://www.facebook.com/beirutcosmopolitan)

DG Mouawwad visits RCBC – September 3, 2013

The new DG of our new District 2452, DG Jamil Mouawwad, paid an extended visit to our Club during which he met with our Board, Officers and members as well as those of our affiliate RotarAct Club. The commemorative photo below shows DG Mouawwad in the front row, with P Mounir Jabre to his left and AG Yara Younes and PE Lina Shair to his right, with a large number of our members behind them.



RCBC committee chairs presented their programs for the year. Of concern to the DG were such issues as the need for more young blood to ensure that the average age does not rise to untenable levels.

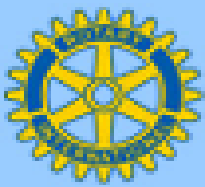
He was glad RCBC was programing important events jointly with other clubs to help ensure both meeting quality and attendance.

He was also happy with our success in the area of service projects and the degree to which we involve other clubs, both Lebanese and foreign, thus achieving leveraged value.

These views were shared and discussed by the DG with our members during the plenary session and dinner that followed.

***RCBC meets Tuesdays at the Phoenicia Hotel, Ain-Mreisseh, Beirut
Business Meetings at 7:00 PM — Dinner Meetings at 8:30 PM***

***Marhaba Editor : Kamal Saad — e-mail knsaadrcbc@gmail.com
We welcome your comments and suggestions.***



RCBC Service Projects – September 10, 2013

PE Lina Shair, Service Projects Committee Chair (LHS photo below) led a discussion of current and prospective service projects of RCBC. She presented an overview of current and prospective service projects and urged members to come up with and promote project ideas.

A striking characteristic of our Club's service project activity is the proportion of projects funded and implemented in association with local and particularly with foreign Rotary Clubs. As a result we achieve highly leveraged impact with our funds. Furthermore we have helped the public service and welfare community in Lebanon as a bulk importer of much needed wheelchairs.



A sector of growing importance in our service project activity is water filtration for public schools -- a priority concern of DG Mouawwad and a mega-project at the Rotary Lebanon level. RCBC has urged that maintenance and replacement of the filters be treated as a priority concern.

Shown in RHS photo above (Left to Right) are PP Karim Naamani; RT Mimi Hamam; and friend of RCBC Nora Haddad. Shown below Left to Right are P Mounir Jabre; RT Rana Salhab; RT Edouard Hakimian; PP Tony Asfour; RT Kamal Saad; then RT Jean-Paul Moubarak; PP Joe Boulos; PP Edouard Rassie; RT Nabeel Challah; and PP Habib Bassoul.



Rotary Acronyms for Non-Rotarians

RI: Rotary International

TRF: The Rotary Foundation

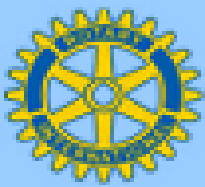
RC: Rotary Club

RCBC: Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan

RT: Rotarian

P: President - **IP:** Incoming President - **VP:** Vice President - **PE:** President Elect - **PP:** Past President

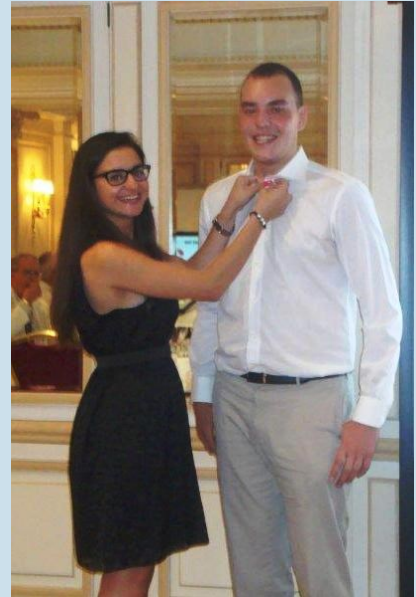
D: District - **DG:** District Governor - **IDG:** Incoming DG - **DDG:** Deputy DG - **ADG:** Assistant DG



RCBC RotarAct “Fellows in Service” – September 17, 2013

Our meeting on September 17 was devoted to catching up with what our RCBC RotarActors are up to -- and up to a lot they are! Small in number so far, our RotarActors are big in impact and spirit. The key descriptor for themselves that they have chosen, “Fellows in Service”, reflects their belief that Rotarian fellowship and Rotarian service are mutually reinforcing. And they are impressively effective in combining the pleasant with the good.

Including P Christina Asfour and new member Peter Rassie whom she is shown pinning in the photo to the RHS, the Club has ten active members. Another six are shown in the photo below, from Left to Right: Rashel Asfour (Head, International); Andrew Bartles (American Visiting Member); Lama Ghebaly (Immediate Past President); Rita Imad (Club Secretary), Elie Farhat (Head, Community), and Sarah Nasr (Head, Professional). The last two are

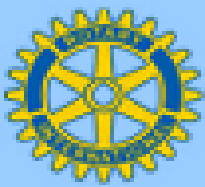


amongst the three of our RotarActors who are sons of RCBC members: Fouad Boulos is shown first in order from Left to Right in the RHS photo below, standing behind his father PP Joe Boulos, followed by Samer Jabre behind P Mounir Jabre, the third being Peter Rassie, shown behind PP Edouard Rassie.

The camaraderie amongst our RotarActors is evidenced by the nicknames they use to refer to each other:

- **P Christina Asfour is the “Blue Fairy”**
- **Rachel Asfour is “Smiley”**
- **Andrew Bartles is the “Lebanese Patriot”**
- **Fuad Boulos is “The Handyman”**
- **Elie Farhat is “The French Businessman”**
- **PP Lama Ghebali is “The Fat Detector”, the health champion**
- **Rita Imad is “The TwoPlacesAtOnce Girl”, the doer**
- **Samer Jabre is the “Keep Calm, Its Handled”, the control man**
- **Peter Rassie is “The Club’s Baby”**
- **PP Christine Arzoumanian, currently RCBC Club Secretary, is “First and Last resort”**
- **PP Nayef Mecharrafie is “The Godfather”**





Dar Al Ajaza Project Handover – September 21, 2013

The Rotary International organization provided a Nissan Urvan NV350 mini bus for Dar Al-Ajaza Al-Islamiah Hospital (DAIH) in Beirut, Lebanon. The gift resulted from a service project sponsored by the Rotary Club of Beirut Cosmopolitan (RCBC) -- whose Past President (PP) Asaad Salhab made a generous contribution -- together with its associate, the Rotary Club of Beirut Cedars (RCB Cedars).

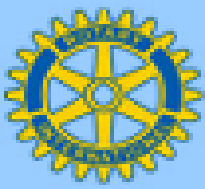
International co-sponsor clubs (all from California, USA) included RC San Mateo, RC San Mateo Sunrise, RC Half Moon Bay, RC San Fransisco Airport, RC San Raphael Harbor, and RC South San Fransisco. Rotary District 2450 (which included Lebanon when the project was initiated) and District 5150 (California, USA) also contributed, whilst The Rotary Foundation provided a matching grant.

The handing-over ceremony took place on September 21, 2013 at the Hospital. Representing Rotary were President (P) Mounir Jabre of RCBC (LHS below); P Joe Kanaan of RCB Cedars; PE Zareh Abadjian, RCB Cedars; and PP Rosemary Azem of RC San Mateo. Representing the DAIH Chairman of the Board was Board Member Mrs. Hana Bsata Naja (RHS below). Also representing DAIH was Mrs. Chirine Abboud El Khatib, Secretary of The Board of DAIH (second from RHS below).



Present for Rotary and shown from Left to Right below, were RT Mazen El Farra, RCBC; Mrs. Nora Haddad, RCBC friend; PP Tony Asfour of RCBC; Mrs. Nada El Farra, spouse of RT Mazen El Farra; RT Mrs. Rima Khalaf of RCB Cedars; and RT Kamal Saad of RCBC.



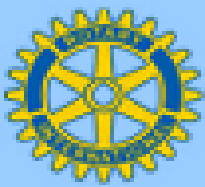


Present for DAIH were (from Left to Right above) H.E. ENG Mohamad Ghaziri, Honorary Chairman of The Board of DAIH, and ENG Azzam El Hourri, Director of DAIH in the LHS photo. In the RHS photo from Left to Right were ENG Assem Sinno, Member of The Board of Trustees of DAIH; RT Mrs. Rimane Bitar Jabre of RCB Center, spouse of P Mounir Jabre of RCBC; Dr. Mahmoud Faaour, DAIH Board Member; Mrs. Hoda Atrouni, President of the Association of Lady Friends (ALF) of DAIH; Mrs. Maliha Tabbarah Rayyes and Mrs. Hala Daaboul, both members of the ALF of DAIH; followed by members of the staff and friends of DAIH. Shown to RHS, behind Mrs. Jabre, is Mrs. Ilham Chidiac Hourri, spouse of ENG Azzam Hourri, Director of DAIH.

To ensure that they are not isolated from the community, DAIH organizes external activities for its elderly, including weekly trips to different areas throughout Lebanon, accompanied by a team of nurses and social workers. Whence the need for a means of passenger transport like that provided by Rotary (see photo of Nissan mini bus to RHS).



DAIH (in which DA stands for home for the elderly in Arabic) was first established in 1952 to provide shelter and healthcare services for the disabled and the elderly. In 1997, the institution was recognized by the Arab Board of Medical Specialties as a teaching hospital for general practitioners in psychiatry and mental health. It also signed collaboration agreements with the Beirut Arab University. In 2001, the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MOH) recognized DAIH as a center for education as well as scientific and clinical research in psychiatry and mental illnesses. The panoply of services provided by DAIH today encompasses three major domains: Psychiatry/Mental Health; Geriatrics; and Respiratory Palliative Care.



RT Elie Rebeiz Classification Presentation – September 24, 2013

The principal event of the evening was the presentation of his background by new RCBC RT Elie Rebeiz (see RHS photo). Elie took early retirement after a career of 34 years with Procter and Gamble during which: He held a rich succession of manufacturing management positions in Switzerland, the Czech Republic, France and Saudi Arabia; led global acquisition assignments; and managed a network of contract manufacturers in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia Pacific.

He is currently contemplating a number of (part-time) future career opportunities whilst enjoying a life of leisure between Lebanon (Ain Saadeh) and France (Rue de Bassano in Paris). He and his wife Tania Chamaa are both dual Lebanese-French nationals; they have three daughters, all three professionals, one living in Dubai and two in Paris.

Elie graduated from the American University of Beirut with a BSc in 1975 and obtained a MSc in Chemical Engineering from Birmingham University, UK, in 1977.

Our meeting was also graced by a number of visitors: First, PP Rosemary Azm of RC San Mateo, California, USA, shown LHS below next to P Mounir Jabre of RCBC. Second was RT Lauren Pucci, of RC Dupont Circle, Washington DC, USA, shown RHS below exchanging banners with P Jabre. She is currently involved with response efforts to the Syrian crisis -- for Global Communities, of Silver Spring, Madison, USA with which she serves as Humanitarian Assistance Officer. Ms. Pucci is a former Rotary International Cultural Ambassadorial Scholar to Egypt. Third was RT Marcello Mori, shown Center below, First Counselor and Head of Sustainable Development with the European Union Delegation in Lebanon.

