



RCBC Marhaba: 2021-2022
Issue No. 9
May

ROTARY CLUB BEIRUT COSMOPOLITAN

Charter Date June 21, 1995
Club Number 30893
District 2452 Rotary International

RI President **Shekhar Mehta**
Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar
West Bengal, India
District Governor **Ashot Karapetyan**
District Governor 2021-2022, District 2452
PP- Rotary Club of Gyumri, Armenia
Assistant Governor **Shant Chinchinian**
RC Chitauri Bekaa Gate

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IPP **Habib Saba**
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Vice President **Joe Boulos**
Secretary **Haytham Kurdi**
Treasurer **John Edde**
Directors
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SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
District 2452

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Letter from the editor

PP Mona Jarudi

Another successful Rotary year is drawing to an end. I was privileged to be on this journey as Marhaba Editor, sharing with you my thoughts and highlighting the achievements of our club.

As a proud Rotarian, allow me to share the following as a reminder of our Rotary values and our mission and vision. We should never lose sight of our power of doing good in the world and our ability to effect positive change in our communities and around the world.



Rotary

Most Financially Sound
Largest
Most Powerful
Networking Service
Organization

Whose flag is recognized in more
Countries than any other flag in the world


Every minute of every day Rotary:

- * Feeds someone
- * Houses someone
- * Vaccinates someone
- * Performs surgery on someone
- * Comforts someone
- * Provides clean water to someone

THIS IS ROTARY!

 rotaryinternational

...



ROTARY

THE FOUR-WAY TEST
of the things we think, say or do

first
Is it the TRUTH?

second
Is it FAIR to all concerned?

third
Will it build GOOD WILL
and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

fourth
Will it be BENEFICIAL to
all concerned?

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

RUSSELL HAMILTON CO.

2021-22 ROTARY
International President



"
SERVICE IS
THE RENT I PAY
FOR THE SPACE
I OCCUPY ON
THIS EARTH.

Shekhar Mehta



Rotary Fellowships
are international groups
that share a common
passion. Being part of a
fellowship is a fun way to
make friends around the
world, explore a hobby or
profession, and enhance
your Rotary experience.

Online Business Meeting in Collaboration with
RC Keserouan

Anthony Rahayel (Youtuber / Content Creator a ngno)

**"TOURING LEBANON FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS: LEARNING
THE BEST PRACTICES TO REBUILD THE COUNTRY"**

MAY 4,2022



In the beautiful, spacious setting of MadeByNature in Kaslik, RC Beirut Cosmopolitan together with RC Keserouan held a joint meeting that was attended by IDG George Azar, visiting PDG from PDG Terje Gaarden (Norway) and fellow Rotarians.

This was a highly anticipated gathering to host the famous Anthony Rahayel (NoGarlicNoOnions) and his business partner Marc Beyrouti, an authority on the Lebanese Flora and wild plants all over Lebanon. After a scrumptious buffet of fresh saj, an array of Lebanese cheeses and produce, the audience were treated to an uplifting presentation by Anthony where every word showed his love for the country and his ongoing efforts to highlight its beauty and its people.

Anthony's journey to promote Lebanon started in 2012. It was an arduous one, visiting almost every village, introducing people to its artisans and local delicacies, capturing with the camera every beautiful corner. When the Lebanese economy hit rock bottom the past two years, he accelerated his mission by seeking ways of helping families survive. The past two years witnessed an increase in local tourism, 250 small factories are operating in Bekaa to produce Mouneh(Lebanese Preserved food) and export it. The crisis made the Lebanese reassess their situation and awaken their entrepreneurial spirit even more. there is now more innovation in food production: every kind of cheese is produced in Lebanon, four pasta factories using the highest quality wheat, jams, wines, vinegars etc are being manufactured and exported. MadeByNature space is the living example that houses all Lebanese made food items, arts and crafts, agricultural section all to support local families. It also has a conference room that is called the Positivity Hub of Lebanon where young people meet and exchange creative ideas.

Anthony's definition of Service to the community is "Give people the hook and bait and teach them how to fish", a philosophy that creates sustainability and improves quality of life. If we want to help Lebanon, buy Lebanese and distribute Lebanese products. Rotary can definitely implement this philosophy in its service in the community by educating people, help them buy what they need to sustain their livelihood.





Rotary International

Visit to KARANTINA Hospital - RCBC (GG)

On Saturday May 7, A Rotary International Delegation was invited to Lebanon to inaugurate the Wardieh Hospital upon completion of the reconstruction work done after the Beirut Explosion in 2020.

With the initiation of P Sona Kourtian, the RI delegation, in the presence of IDG George Azar and PDG Jamil Mouawad, started a very busy day by a visit to the Karantina Public Hospital, to see the progress of RCBC's Global Grant works: the hospital was totally destroyed and they got to witness the magnificent reconstruction & rehabilitation works of the hospital's new premises, as well as the work on the temporary existing site that was done by help of foreign embassies, NGOs and our Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan and the Rotary Club de Beyrouth.

P Sona in her address mentioned that RCBC is proud to have garnered the support of Rotary Clubs all over the world, thanks to the efforts of PP Habib Saba, who led the project after the port explosion to rehabilitate the pediatric and prenatal wing in the hospital new premises. The equipment our club is providing is in the process of installation and the handover will be done in the near future.



BEIRUT PORT EXPLOSION ON 4TH AUGUST 2020 EARLY RECOVERY SUPPORT

REBUILD THE PAEDIATRIC SERVICE OF QUARANTINE GOVERNMENTAL HOSPITAL



PROJECT DATA

AREA:	Karantina
HOSPITAL:	Quarantine (public)
NR BEDS (PROJECT):	32
SURFACE REBUILT:	900 m ²
SERVICES:	paediatric service
SCHEDULE:	08.2020 - 03.2021
COST:	7200000 USD
MODALITY:	Swiss self-implemented action
CONTRACTORS OF THE SWISS EMBASSY:	
Architect:	Nagy Sier & Associates
Contractor:	KAboud for construction

General Layout of the rebuilt paediatric department



LEGEND

- Reconstruction of the paediatric service, destroyed by the explosion
- outpatients: emergency admissions, consultation and treatment
- inpatients: 5 bedrooms (12 beds), incl. 2 isolation rooms
- intensive care unit: 4 paediatric beds, 15 neonatal incubators
- operation theatre
- support areas
- administration area
- Infrastructure for future use as paediatric oncology service



9th District Conference - May 2022

Yerevan - Armenia

After a two-year imposed virtual meetings and conferences, District Governor Ashot Karapetyan (D-2452) took the lead in holding the District Conference in Yerevan, Armenia, which was highly attended by Rotarians from the district and beyond. It was a very successful conference, thanks to the professional organization and hospitality of DG Ashot and his team.

After enjoying a pre-conference tour of beautiful Armenia, the conference started on May 19 with the utmost organization. Plenary sessions with panels focused on all important topics in Rotary life:

- Importance of Rotary Public Image and its impact.
- Growing Rotary through Youth engagement.
- The Rotary Foundation and doing good in the world.
- Inter Country Committees and Global Networking groups.
- Innovative and Adaptive Leadership.
- Rotary Responds with Peace.
- UN and RI International Partnerships.

These sessions were presented by keynote speakers and Rotary Directors whose experience and knowledge of Rotary enriched the conversations in every session and topic. RCBC President Sona Kourtian was honored by being one of the panelists on "Rotary Responds with Peace", a session moderated by PDG Kevork Mahdessian (Cyprus) with the keynote speaker RI Director, Keterina Kotsali-Papadimitriou (Greece).

Rotary cooperation was exemplified in the Inter Country Committee opening another chapter of Armenia-India in the presence of the Indian ambassador to Armenia as well as other Rotarians from India.

Per tradition, the conference culminated with the Awards Ceremony. Our club, RCBC, won awards in the two categories it applied to: Club Administration (Club Excellence Award) and the Rotary Foundation (Certificate of Merit).

The conference program was rich with tours of beautiful Armenia, entertainment, culture and history. Several members enjoyed additional days in the country where the spirit of fellowship was dominant throughout, highlighted by the Armenian hospitality. It was a successful conference, the memories of which will linger on.

Special thanks go to DG Ashot Karapetyan, his team, and all the clubs of Armenia who made this conference the success it was.







Service Projects Handovers

Dar El Ajaza Al Islamia

On May 26, an ENT Clinic was inaugurated at Dar al Ajaza al Islamia Hospital. This is a Global Grant initiated and led by PP Mounir Jabre, together with local and international partners, and the help of PP Adib Mounla.

This inauguration was well attended by our club members and RC Beirut Center and IDG George Azar. In her address, P Sona appraised the 70-year noble work of Dar el Ajaza, which in its own way is a

“service above self”, and giving us as RCBC the confidence that our project contribution is going to the right entity.

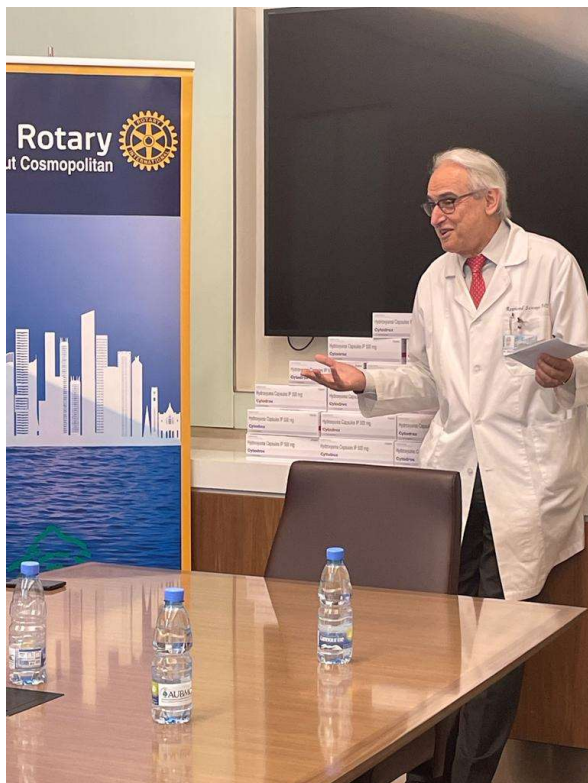
Many thanks go to the project leader, and our partners whose support contributed to the execution of this worthy project that will enhance the quality of life for our elderly.



Handover of the Hydroxyurea Medications at AUBMC with partner Rotary Bangalore Brigades

On Friday May 27, RCBC proudly handed over a shipment of 7000 capsules of Cytodrox to the medical center of the American University in Beirut (AUBMC), a medication that is badly needed for treatment of various chronic myeloid leukemia and cancers in children. In her address, P Sona Kourtian, expressed her pride, as an AUB Alumna, at being able to support AUBMC. She said: "service above self of Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan during COVID extended beyond Lebanon to reach India, and it was now reciprocated through the donation of 7000 capsules of hydroxyurea to AUBMC"

This generous donation by our partners in India, RC Bangalore Brigades, was facilitated by PP John Edde who together with P Nazih Ghattas (RC Baabda) established the cooperation between RCBC and RC Bangalore Brigades. The handover was attended by RCBC members and partners, ICC India-Lebanon chair May Monla, representatives of the Indian Embassy in Lebanon, the Dean of AUBMC Dr. Raymond Sawaya and Dr. Miguel Abboud, Chief of Pediatric Oncology. Many thanks go to RC Bangalore Brigades who exemplify the true spirit of Rotary: Service Above Self.



Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center
Office of the Dean

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To: Sona Kourtian, President of the Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan (RCBC)
From: Raymond Sawaya, Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of Medicine
Date: May 27, 2022
Subject: Message of Appreciation

Dear Ms. Kourtian:

As the Vice President for Medical Affairs and the Raja N. Khuri Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center, and on behalf of my colleagues in the Faculty, and most importantly on behalf of patients who are impacted by your generosity, I would like to extend our most sincere thanks and appreciation for your generous donation of hydroxyurea, Cytodrox (Cipla), capsules to the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine and the Sickle Cell Program at AUBMC.

Your valuable gift, especially during these challenging times, will definitely help in supporting the medical services and care we deliver to our patients and the community. We are grateful and appreciative as well, for your many previous precious gifts to the Medical Center, and look forward for future collaborations.

Through you, I would like to extend our appreciation to the Rotary Club family, especially to the Rotary Club Bangalore Brigades Trust (India) for their support and generosity.

Thank you once again for your contribution!

Sincerely,

Raymond Sawaya, MD
Vice President for Medical Affairs
Raja N. Khuri Dean, Faculty of Medicine

Gift of Life Lebanon

One of the Global Grants that is dear to the heart of RCBC is the Gift of Life Lebanon (GOLI).

This Global Grant hosted by RC Sahel Metn and we are one of the partners was finally accomplished after two most challenging years in Lebanon. 53 successful pediatric heart surgeries have been performed at AUBMC and Hammoud Hospital. A celebration took place in the Residence of Lina Shehayeb, President of Gift of Life Lebanon, which was attended by clubs in Lebanon. RCBC was represented by PP John Edde who is VP of GOLI in Lebanon.

A noble project that has saved many children's lives.



Banner Exchange



RC Volgograd (Russia)



RC Yerevan International



RC Hamlstad (Sweden)

Serving Beyond RCBC



P Sona Kourtian
Member of ICC India-Lebanon



Rtn Michel Mansour
Member of ICC France - Lebanon



May

Nasr El Baba – May (18)

Mounir Jabre – May (22)

The End