## MONTHLY MESSAGE OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR DECEMBER 2020

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors in District 2482 – Bulgaria,

I painfully urge you to honor the memory of our wonderful friends in Rotary, who we shockingly lost over the past month.

I am convinced that the potential of our personal attitude to dealing with Covid-19 exceeds the protection opportunities offered by the state. Therefore, *let us be responsible to ourselves and to others*!



My official visits to the District's clubs suffered a sharp reduction in the second half of last month — nine clubs on my monthly schedule, with a number of quarantined members, preferred to postpone the visit for possible better times. Yet, I visited six clubs — three live and three virtual. Burgas Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors became pioneers in the Governor's visits via the Internet. For the first time, I visited the clubs not in their usual meeting place, but *each member in his own home or office*, moreover — in the presence of the others. Each challenge also offers unexpected solutions...

In a virtual environment, we have prepared and launched from the last day of November, a three-day Virtual Seminar for Life Club — a challenge to the district training forums. A number of District committees and clubs also continued to organize their own virtual meetings, includingly using the *new district subscription to the Zoom platform*. All Rotary international program events are now held in the same way — the Electoral Governor Training Seminars and the RI Institutes (these events for our Zone 21 were hosted by Athens), as well as various other meetings at the zonal and supervisory level.

And in the complex epidemic situation, Rotary is clearly present in the range of our priorities! Only for the last month Pleven Centrum RC donated a bus for children to the Special Educational Support Center, Gorna Banya RC and Dupnitsa RC donated computer configurations and equipment for classrooms, Veliko Tarnovo RC collected a donation in favor of the regional hospital, Panagyurishte RC organized a public exhibition, Sofia-Capital RC continued with its open virtual meetings with lecturers, Veliko Tarnovo ROC conducted a monthly campaign to collect books for school libraries, Varna RC donated protective equipment to the emergency department of a local hospital, Burgas-Pyrgos IAC

implemented a one-time campaign Read and Pass on, *Sevlievo IAC* organized a donation for the blind, *ROCorpus Nadezhda* together with the sponsors *Sofia-Serdika RC*, *Sofia-Vitosha RC* and with the participation of *Sofia-Serdika ROC* and *Kardzhali ROC* afforested part of the yard of a school in Nadezhda district, Sofia (in the meantime, ROCorpus Bistritsa was chartered as well!) ... And many others!

If I miss some unannounced Rotary deeds, it's a matter of the effectiveness of our internal information system. Due to these doubts, we are launching *a program* with the Public Image Committee and the editorial board of Rotary in the Balkans RJ *to activate the district correspondent network*. Let every club that has not yet determined its suitable active correspondent do so in the interest of the comprehensive information we need!

December is the month in which, by **secret ballot**, clubs elect President nominees (2022-23) and a composition of the Board of Directors (Board) for the next Rotary year (2021-22). I remind you that the names of the chosen ones should be entered in My Rotary in a timely manner. The technical team of the District is researching the possibilities of suitable platforms for the virtual implementation of the elections, which we will recommend to you as soon as possible. I call for mobilization to deal with this case!

Please note that also until the end of December, each club is entitled to *Proposals to the RI Legislative Council* (2022 session), prepared according to the explanations of the District Representative in the LC, RDG Nina, which you have already received.

## Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors,

Use the opportunities Rotary opens up! I wish everyone health and let the positive Christmas mood dominate in your souls!



Arch. Iliyan Nikolov District Governor 2020-21