



Július Tomka, District Governor

GOVERNOR'S LETTER NO. 2

AUGUST 2017

Dear Rotarian friends,

Before any of us may have noticed, most of the summer vacation has gone by. This is a season when most of our Clubs do not lead very active lives, but I hope that despite this trend, each Club may include several more active members who will read this letter and will mention some of its main messages to their friends at their next Club meeting.

Over the course of the last few weeks, my friend Ota Kovář, District Secretary, and his Assistant, Sváťa Jedlička, helped me focus our efforts on assisting several Clubs whose leaders waited until the last available moments to update member data for this year's **Rotary Club Directory**. I am sorry to report that the resulting data quality, while better than in past years, will be far from ideal. However, I am hoping that despite deadline extensions granted to some of the Clubs, the printed directory will be available to you by mid-September.

In my first letter, I wrote that August is Rotary's Membership and New Club Development Month. We will be able to revisit this topic in early October during a week dedicated to the Alumni, i.e., former Rotary members and friends. I will continue to regularly remind you of the upcoming months' themes. The next few are the following:

- **September:** Basic Education and Literacy Month
- **October:** Economic and Community Development Month
- **October 2–8:** Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week
- **October 30 – November 5:** World Interact Week
- **November:** Rotary Foundation Month
- **December:** Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

This information can inspire your Clubs' activities for each given month.

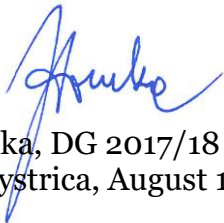
I wanted to come back to the Rotary International President's challenge to **plant a tree for each Rotarian** by April 22, 2018 (Earth Day). Our largest Club, Prague International, has come up with the initiative to help plant trees in Zambia, a country that critically needs them. Anyone (Clubs or individuals) interested in joining this effort may do so by consulting [annex 2.1](#) of this letter.

Very soon, Clubs will begin activities associated with the new **youth exchange** year. Related to this work, I have signed the resolution about this year's **fees and their use** during this Rotary year, as proposed by the head of the District Committee for Youth Exchange. This document may be found in annex 2.2 of this letter.

Finally, I want to share a couple of **invitations**. The first one is from my own city's Rotary Club Banská Bystrica Classic, which has been the organizer of the now traditional Rotary Half Marathon (annex 2.3). This year, the tradition may inspire the creation of a possible new fellowship. The other invitation is from Varaždín and is aimed especially at those interested in aviation (annex 2.4). The last two invitations refer to traditional events organized by RC of Poprad and ICC Austria (annexes 2.5. to 2.7)

This much for today. I wish you a pleasant end of the summer, and I am going to start planning my first few visits of our Rotary Clubs. I look forward to meeting with you.

Yours,



Julo Tomka, DG 2017/18
Banská Bystrica, August 15, 2017