

The Club of Lagos Lagos Rotarian

Rotary CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

ROTARY CLUB OF LAGOS

CHARTERED 30 MAY 1961

ISSUE 71, VOL 1 JANUARY 2024



JANUARY IS THE MONTH OF VOCATIONAL SERVICE

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Dear Distinguished Rotarians,

Happy New Year and welcome you to the seventh month of the Rotary calendar. May the remaining period be a fulfilled and progressive one for us all in our service to humanity. The month's theme, Vocational Service, will enable us to contribute our vocational talents to the needs of our society. It is also to promote the high ethical standards in the workplace. It was in this spirit that Rotarian (Dr) John Asiegbu delivered a talk on The Importance of Emotional Intelligence in Business and Corporate Environment. In furtherance of this, the Committee on Vocational Service is preparing to take to the underserved community the Essence of Art in the Development of the Child. This Year's activity commenced with the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) from 7th – 14th January 2024. Our Club, in partnership with Rotary Club of Admiralty, sponsored 42 participants. During the programme, all the participants showed impressive individual and group discipline throughout the period. One of our sponsored participants, Adikwu Godwin Oloche of Interact Club of Lafiaji Senior High School Lagos emerged as the best RYLArian for 2023-2024. I commend the efforts of the Director Youth Service, Rotarian Ibiyemi Ayeni, Rotarians Yomi Awoyemi and Abayomi Musa at ensuring that the

Message from The President ROTARIAN (MajGen) ABIODUN ROLE Rtd

programme went without hitch. We also thank our Past President Seni Oduyoye, who couldn't hold back his nostalgia for the activities he has championed over the years. The Club acknowledge the trust of the various institutions that we could look after their wards during the time. We are truly grateful to all members who shared their treasures to ensure Rotary Club of Lagos made its impact at the programme.

I am happy to inform members the Club has paid the 2nd Half Year Dues to Rotary International. In fulfilling this financial obligation, the state of the Club's account has become very depleted. At our last meeting on 17th January 2024, we were informed that only 87 members have paid fully or paid a part of their dues, and that a substantial amount of money is yet to be credited. I humbly appeal to members with outstanding dues, EREY and Polio Plus contributions to please do the needful.

I rejoice with members who celebrated their birthdays and appreciate those who made generous donations in support of the celebrants. Owing to the galloping foreign exchange, we still have not been able to achieve the desired amount for our Marrakech-Menara Relief Fund. I want to reach out again to kind-hearted members to please donate to the fund so that we can forward it to the sister Club in Morocco before the month ends.

May this New Year bring immense goodness and happiness to our businesses and homes by God's grace. Please accept the assurances of my highest esteem. Rotary is good.

> ROTARIAN (MajGen) ABIODUN ROLE Rtd FSS, MSS, DSS, GSS, fdc + PRESIDENT 2023-2024 ROTARY CLUB OF LAGOS

Welcome Note

Dear Esteemed Members of the Rotary Club of Lagos,

s we unfurl the pages of a new year and embrace the promise it holds, our January bulletin arrives with a refreshed look and an invigorated spirit. Reflecting our commitment to strategic and intentional communication, this edition is crafted not just as a mere repository of information but as a mosaic of inspiration, showcasing the vibrant hues of our club's ethos and the remarkable people who form its core.

In this month of Vocational Service, we are reminded of the profound impact our professions have on the world around us. It's a time to celebrate not only the work we do but also the values, integrity, and dedication we bring to our vocations. Our professions are more than just means to an end; they are vehicles through which we express our commitment to service, our pursuit of excellence, and our desire to make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve.



This ethos of vocational excellence is beautifully embodied in our cover story featuring the Ikeji brothers. High Chief [Mayor] Victor Ikeji and Mr. Gabriel Ikeji Esq., with their diverse yet harmonious paths, remind us of the extraordinary potential that lies in embracing our unique talents and using them in service of a greater good. Their story is not just one of professional success but a narrative of how sibling synergy, underpinned by shared values and a commitment to service, can yield remarkable outcomes.

As you journey through the pages of our newly designed bulletin, each section has been thoughtfully curated to resonate with our theme of vocational service. From the article on emotional intelligence, as presented at our club meeting by Rotarian Dr. John Asiegbu to the updates on our club's service projects and activities, there is much to inspire and engage you.

This year, we aim to place a spotlight on 'our people' - the heart and soul of the Rotary Club of Lagos. It is your stories, your achievements, and your unwavering dedication to the Rotary ideals that truly define our club. Through this bulletin, we seek to celebrate these stories and share the myriad ways in which each of you contributes to our collective mission.

As we step into this new year, let us do so with a renewed sense of purpose and a deepened commitment to our vocational callings. Let the stories and insights within these pages serve as a beacon, guiding us towards a year filled with impactful service, personal growth, and strengthened bonds within our Rotary family.

Together, let's make this year a remarkable journey of service, camaraderie, and excellence.

Warm regards, Ifeoma Williams Director of Public Image and Strategic Communications

ROTARY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

ROTARY Prayer

Inspire Rotarians Lord we ask To live as we profess To dignify our daily task And serve in selflessness

For fellowship which here we share We offer thanks to Thee We pray that it will be our care To spread it bounteously

ROTARY Grace

O Lord and giver of all good We thank thee for our daily food May Rotary friends and Rotary ways help us to serve thee all our days.

THE FOUR WAY TEST OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

Can be applied profitably in relations with others in the home, community, business, national and international life, particularly, to proposed plans, policies, statements and advertising in business and professions, to proposed legislation in government, to relations between teachers and students in the schools. The four way test of the things we think, say or do.

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular, to encourage and foster.

FIRST

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service

SECOND

High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society

THIRD

The application of the ideal of service in every Rotarian's personal, business and community life.

FOURTH

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotary Learning and Development January 2024

Embracing the New Year with Rotary's Vocational Service: A Pillar for Personal and Community Growth

As we step into the heart of January, the Rotary calendar beckons us to focus on one of its most fundamental avenues of service – Vocational Service. As members of the esteemed Rotary Club of Lagos, with a rich 62-year legacy, it's imperative that we rekindle our commitment to this crucial aspect of Rotary's mission. This article aims to enlighten, especially our new members, about the significance of Vocational Service in our journey as Rotarians.

Vocational Service: The Essence At its core, Vocational Service is about adhering to and promoting the highest ethical standards in all occupations, recognizing the worthiness of all useful occupations, and contributing our vocational talents to the problems and needs of society. It's not merely a segment of Rotary; it's the essence of being a Rotarian.

Why Vocational Service Matters

- Ethical Foundation: Vocational Service is Rotary's framework for building ethical practices in professional life. It embodies the principle that one's vocation is an opportunity to serve society and to foster integrity.
- 2. Skill Utilization and Development: It provides a platform for Rotarians to use their unique skills and expertise for community service. This not only aids societal growth but also contributes to personal and professional development.
- 3. Networking and Collaboration: For a club as diverse and seasoned as ours, Vocational Service is a conduit for collaborative efforts. It brings together varied skills and experiences, creating a synergy essential for impactful community service.

Key Focus Areas for the Rotary Club of Lagos

- 1. Mentorship Programs: Establish mentorship schemes where seasoned professionals can guide younger Rotarians or community members, helping them navigate their career paths with ethical guidance.
- 2. Vocational Training Initiatives: Partner with local institutions to offer vocational training. These programs can empower individuals in our community, especially the youth, to gain employment or start their own businesses.
- 3. Community Service Projects: Utilize the collective professional skills of our members to identify and address community needs. This could range from providing pro bono services to underprivileged groups to conducting vocational workshops in schools and colleges.
- **4. Ethical Leadership Seminars:** Organize seminars and talks that emphasize the importance of ethics and integrity in professional life. These sessions can serve as a reminder and guide for both new and seasoned members.

In conclusion, as Rotarians, particularly in a club as distinguished as the Rotary Club of Lagos, we have a responsibility to uphold and propagate the values of Vocational Service. This January, let us renew our commitment to this avenue of service. Let us use our professional skills not just for personal success but as instruments of societal change. To our new members, you're now part of a global movement that values your profession not just as a means of livelihood, but as a tool for creating a better world.

Let's move forward in this new year with a reinvigorated sense of purpose, embracing Vocational Service as a pathway to personal growth and community development.

"Service Above Self"

Past President Dare Adeyeri AKS- Club Trainer

COVER STORY Siblings in Rotary

Cover Story: The Ikeji Siblings and Their Dedication to Vocational Excellence"

January, a month marked by new beginnings and resolutions, is also when we celebrate Vocational Service in the Rotary world. This month's theme, "Vocational Service," emphasizes the dignity of every occupation and the opportunity each one presents to serve society. In this spirit, our cover story features two exceptional siblings: High Chief [Mayor] Victor Ikeji and Mr. Gabriel Ikeji Esq. Their diverse vocations and unwavering commitment to community service perfectly align with this month's theme, showcasing how different professional paths can converge in the pursuit of societal betterment.

High Chief Victor Ikeji: A Trailblazer in Politics and Business

High Chief Victor C. Ikeji, a son of Umuagbom, Umukabia, Ohuhu in Abia State, is a testament to scholarly brilliance and multifaceted success. A first-class graduate in Political Science from the University of Lagos and a master's degree holder with distinction from the University of Ibadan, Chief Ikeji is currently completing his Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

His illustrious career spans various sectors including real estate, mining, finance, and sports management. As the chairman of several companies, including Blue Anchorage Ltd and Central Mineral Development Company, he brings over two decades of expertise in business and strategic development. A polyglot fluent in Hausa, Yoruba, and Igbo, he actively participates in numerous sociocultural associations and is a proud Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary Club International.

A recent highlight in his career is his appointment as the TC Chairman/Mayor of Umuahia North LGA, Abia State, an accolade that speaks volumes about his leadership and societal impact.

Mr. Gabriel Ikeji Esq: A Legal Virtuoso with a Heart for Service

Gabriel Chimaraoke Ikeji, fondly known as "Gaby," was born in Lagos and educated at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, where he earned his LL.B. He furthered his legal education with an LL.M in International Business Law from BPP University School of Law, London.



Founder of the commercial law firm Brockwell Practice, he specializes in project finance, regulatory auditing, and international trade negotiation, among others. Appointed as the Legal Adviser to the Honorable Minister of Industries, Trade & Investment, Gabriel is an active member of the Nigerian Bar Association and a patron of the Nigerian Hunters Council. His dedication to community service is evident in his role as the Legal Adviser to the Traditional Council in his native town of Umukabia-Ohuhu.

In Their Own Words: The Ikeji Brothers on Rotary and Brotherhood

- 1. Foundations of Service: "What inspired each of you to join Rotary, and how has being brothers influenced your journey and activities within the organization?" We were introduced to the RCL by the same person for the time and he joined immediately after while I joined two years later. Personally, what inspired me to Rotary was my memory of Rotary's impact on the improvement of my secondary school the Rotary logo on all our science equipment because they financed our science laboratory.
- **2. Shared Values and Diverse Perspectives:** "As brothers, you share a unique bond. How do your individual viewpoints and skills complement each other in Rotary projects and initiatives?"

Our viewpoint with respect to Rotary has always been aligned.

The Ikeji Brothers

A beacon of commitment and passion in the realm of vocational endeavours, exemplify the true spirit of service through their actions.

We have shared value in the area of charity and service so we have always found it easy to be united in Rotary affairs.

3. Memorable Rotary Moments: "Can you share a memorable experience or project you've worked on together in Rotary that exemplifies the spirit of brotherhood and community service?" One memory would standout for me. It was at the implementation of the walking Aids distribution project sponsored by the RCL with support from an international partner. It was interesting that we had independent of each other, penciled a number of eligible beneficiaries in our local community without discussing with each other. Only to learn on the morning of the distribution that we had almost the same intentions for almost the same set of would be beneficiaries.

As soon we realized that, he became even happier and asked that I do the distribution solely without any mention of his involvement to the beneficiaries. The reason being that the project was implemented at the height of political campaigns and electioneering. He thought it right that because he was a very visible figure within the political space, his direct involvement in the distribution could have been interpreted to mean that he was using the noble gestures of Rotary to advance his political interest or to seek the patronage of voters. So, I filled that void and Rotary remained good.

4. The Impact of Rotary on Family Dynamics: "How has your involvement in Rotary affected your relationship as brothers? Do you find that your Rotary service has brought you closer together?"

Rotary is a great experience and indeed GOOD. It is easy to love the ideals of Rotary once you are service oriented and given that we have a family foundation embedded in service and giving back, I would say that Rotary has further cemented our unity of purpose in service.

5. Challenges and Rewards of Collaborating as Siblings: "Working closely with family can be both rewarding and challenging. Can you discuss a challenge you've faced together in Rotary and how you overcame it, as well as a particularly rewarding moment?" Quite frankly, we have always had common ideas when it comes to service. Though we have not worked in that much Rotary projects together, I don't think it would be a problem.

6. Advice for Fellow Rotarians: "Based on your experiences as siblings in Rotary, what advice would you give to other Rotarians about fostering strong partnerships and collaborative efforts within the organization?

I would advise that Rotarians take out time to study and understand the ideals and culture of Rotary, to appreciate its true purpose and vision for humanity. Rotary's approach to solving the little things are as dutiful as its approach to the "big" things. The Rotary culture of diligence to all service related issues and the need to focus on what Rotary is about would help to rightly condition us to drive its objectives.

In addition to their remarkable vocational achievements, the Ikeji brothers are deeply immersed in Rotary service, contributing their skills and leadership to further the club's mission. High Chief Victor Ikeji, demonstrating exceptional organizational prowess, was the esteemed Chairman of the 2023 Annual President's Dinner hosted by the Rotary Club of Lagos. Under his guidance, this flagship event successfully raised significant funds, greatly supporting the club's initiatives. Similarly, Gaby Ikeji, with his legal acumen, serves the club diligently in his professional capacity, handling legal matters and ensuring compliance and governance excellence. Their active involvement and leadership in these roles not only exemplify their commitment to Rotary's principles but also underscore the synergy between their professional expertise and their dedication to community service.

High Chief Victor Ikeji and Barr. Gabriel Ikeji, through their vocational prowess and commitment to service, embody the Rotary spirit. Their journey within Rotary, marked by a shared commitment to societal betterment, highlights the power of diverse professions in unifying efforts to improve lives. As we celebrate Vocational Service Month, let the Ikeji brothers' story inspire us all to leverage our unique skills and vocations to make a meaningful impact in our communities and beyond.

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Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Rotary Club Of Lagos Held On Wednesday, 3rd January, 2024, Physical And Via The Zoom Virtual App

Fellowship commenced at 12.30pm at the Westwood Hotel, Ikoyi.

The meeting was called to order by President Abiodun Role at 1.00p.m.

Rotary Prayer: Past Assistant Governor Hairat Balogun

Object of Rotary: Rotarian Kemi Adeyemi-Doro **4-Way Test:** Past Assistant Governor Toyin Emeordi

1. WELCOME ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT ABIODUN ROLE

1.0.The President warmly welcomed Members both physical and online to the fellowship. He wish everyone a happy and prosperous new year 2024, and gave a very brief recap of last month's activities.

2.0. THEME FOR THE MONTH

- 2.1.President Role announced January as the month of Vocational Services where Rotarians carry out vocational services in the communities.
- 2.2. The president invited Rtn. Ayo Ajayi to sit as the SAA for the day in the absence of Rotarian Okigbo.
- 2.3.He announced the upcoming All Nigerian Rotary Convention in February.
 - 2.4.DTS is coming up in February as well

3.0. HALF YEAR PAYMENT.

3.1.The announce that the treasurer will make payment for the second half of the rotary year

4.0. RYLA

4.1. The Youth Service Chair, Rtn. Ibiyemi Ayeni was invited to address the club on the forthcoming RYLA program. Speaking, she was happy to announce that all is set for RYLA as the candidates have been screened and PP Oduyoye is preparing and training them ahead of the program at the camp. And all is going according to plan.

5.0.The treasurer Rotarian Seyi Edu who joined online was asked to give a statement on the club's account. She, however, was not able to give the detailed account of the club as she was not in a good location to render the account details.

6.0. INTENDING ROTARIAN

6.1.President invited Ms. Nneka Monye to address members on why she wants to join rotary. She had been involved in a lot of NGOs and it's her own way of giving back to the society and an avenue to mentor young people. She believes joining Rotary will empower her to make an impact in the society.

7.0. INDUCTION:

7.1.The president then Invited Ms. Monye to step outside for her induction ceremony rite and the Secretary Rtn. Tosin Ajayi read out her profile and this was followed by the induction.

8.0. SONGS:

8.1.The Second Vice President Rtn. Toyin Odulate, led the club in rendering three beautiful rotary songs, chorused by members.

12.0. JOKES:

12.1. Past Assistant Governor Gbolahan Ayodele cracked members up with some jokes from his archives.

10.0. SAA:

10.1. Rotarian Ayo Ajayi, the SAA for the day gave a beautiful performance to raise a handsome amount of donations. He raised N27,500. (N10,000 transfer, Cash N17,500)

11.0. ATTENDANCE:

Total attendance. 15

12.0. Closing. The President appreciated all Rotarians in attendance and called the meeting to a close at 2.00pm with a toast to Rotary International and led in rendering the National Anthem, sang by members.

Signed, Rtn.Tosin Ajayi Secretary 2023-24 January, 2024.

Collection
Gate – N6, 000 cash



Minutes Of The Meeting Of The Rotary Club Of Lagos Held On Wednesday, 10th January, 2024, Physical And Via The Zoom Virtual App

Fellowship commenced at 12.30pm at the Westwood Hotel, Ikoyi. The meeting was called to order by President Abiodun Role at 1.00p.m.

Rotary Prayer: Lt. Gov. Ibikunle Ogunbayo **Object of Rotary:** Rotarian Adeniji Adele **4-Way Test:** Rotarian Eki Eboigbe

01. WELCOME ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT ABIODUN ROLE

1.0. The president warmly welcomed members who were present physically and online to the fellowship. He gave a **recap** of last week's activities.

2.0. MARRAKECH FUNDS

2.1. President Role reminded members of the Marrakesh relief funds and asked the treasurer to arrange the disbursement of the donations to the club in Marrakesh.

3.0. RETREAT

3.1. The president requested that Past President Wale Agbeyangi confirm the convenience of the January 27th 2024 date for the board's retreat before the venue can be sorted.

4.0. NEW OFFICE PROJECT

4.1. The Service Project Committee Chair, Rtn. Goke Owolabi updated the club on the status of the recently rented office space which requires renovation works. He promised to come up with a quote to cover the renovation cost.

5.0. ALL NIGERIAN CONVENTION

5.1. President invited Rtn. Elder UK Eke to speak on the upcoming all Nigerian Rotary Convention coming up from the $15^{th}-17^{th}$ February 2024.

Every two years, Nigerian Rotarians come together to hold a convention. This year's convention will hold in Lagos, and it promises to be very interesting, educating and fun filled with various programs lined up before district9110 will bifurcate. He encouraged members to advertise their products, services and organizations. He also encouraged the club to take up a space in the house of friendship to display and showcase the club's achievements. He enjoined members to please register for the event.

6.0. The President called on **Rtn. Lanre Shonubi** to speak to members on what he had been up to in the last one year and why he had avoided fellowship.

Responding, he talked about changing jobs and being busy with the new task at the new place. He promised to do better this year and would attend more meetings going forward.

7.0.INTENDING ROTARIAN

7.1.Ms. Opeyemi Popoola, an intending Rotarians was invited to speak to the club on why she wants to join the Rotary Club of Lagos. Ms Popoola, an interior architect said that her primary purpose of joining the club is to give back to the society. She intends to serve the club in every way she can possibly be of service and also make new friends.

8.0.WPUD:

8.1. 1st Vice President, Rtn. Toki Mabogunje, updated members on the status of the WPUD event coming up in February. The club has remitted the N2m payment to the district, and has delivered a speaker to the district. The committee is working on the peace prize awards and all is set for the 23rd of February, 2024 WPUD.

9.0.Appreciation.

9.1.Rotarian Gbenga Onabanjo who joined the meeting online due to the third mainland bridge lockdown expressed his appreciation to members for the show of love and outpouring of encomiums on his birthday. He promised to do the needful since members are waiting.

10.0. **SAA**

10.1. The SAA Rotarian Chioma Okigbo in her new year spirit, allowed everyone to give as they wish and appreciated them all for their love towards Rotary.

11.0. ATTENDANCE:

Total attendance. 30 Visiting Rotarians. 3 Guest of Rotarians. 3

12.0. Closing.

The President appreciated all Rotarians in attendance and called the meeting to a close at 2.00pm with a toast to RC Festac, RC Abuja Imperial, RC VGC and Rotary International and led in rendering the National Anthem, chorused by Members.

Signed Tosin Ajayi Secretary 2023-24 January, 2024.

Collection

Gate - N10, 500

PHOTO STORY

























PHOTO STORY































PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE



MATERNAL AND Child Health

Rotary SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT



Club News



Club News: Highlighting Rotary Club of Lagos' Achievements

n the vibrant tapestry of our Club's endeavors, the Rotary Club of Lagos (RCL) continues to shine as a beacon of leadership and commitment. Our members, in a splendid display of dedication and learning, have notably distinguished themselves at the Rotary Leadership Institute.

Embodying the spirit of continuous growth, Rotarian Toki Mabogunje triumphantly completed Level 3 of the Institute, showcasing an exemplary dedication to Rotary ideals. In parallel, I, Dr. Comfort Otegbeye, have proudly completed the second level, furthering my commitment to our shared Rotary mission.

The journey of learning and development was also embraced by Rotarians Ifeoma Williams and Abidakun, affectionately known as "Tom-Tom," who successfully completed their first level in this enriching three-step program. Their initiation into this journey marks the beginning of an impactful Rotary trajectory.

In another illustrious achievement, the Rotary Club of Lagos sponsored several participants in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program.

participants emerged as the best amongst their peers – a testament to the potential and excellence that RYLA nurtures.

Furthermore, our commitment to promoting peace and understanding, a cornerstone among our seven areas of focus, will be celebrated with the much-anticipated annual Peace Prize Awards. Set to be presented on the 14th of February 2024, this event stands as a symbol of our unwavering dedication to fostering harmony and goodwill in our communities and beyond.

In these achievements and upcoming events, the Rotary Club of Lagos reaffirms its dedication to service, leadership, and community betterment. We move forward with a renewed zeal, ever committed to embodying and advancing the noble objectives of Rotary International.

By Dr. Comfort Otegbeye Director of Administration, Rotary Club of Lagos



Featured News

Rotary Member's Participation at the Rotary Leadership Institute









RYLA Participation



























Rotary Club of Lagos in the Media





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The Rotary Club of Lagon has natled for et in the gat shirt as his very impor



Light Banter



Cartoon: Mike Baldwin- Cartoonstock.com

THE ROTARY WHEEL

Why don't Rotary Clubs ever lose at poker?
Because they always have the best "service
above self" hand!



ROTARIANS AT THE PEARLY GATES

Three Rotarians arrived at the Pearly Gates at the same time.

Saint Peter greeted them warmly and said,
"Welcome to Heaven! But before I let you in, I need to
hear how you lived the Rotary principles on Earth."

The first Rotarian stepped up and said,

"I dedicated my life to the 'Service Above Self' motto. I organized numerous fundraisers for clean water projects in underprivileged communities."

Saint Peter smiled, nodded, and opened the gates, saying, "Well done, you've truly lived the Rotary way!"

The second Rotarian, eager to share, said,

"I applied the '4-Way Test' in all aspects of my life, ensuring truth, fairness, goodwill, and beneficial outcomes in my personal and professional dealings."

Saint Peter was impressed and again opened the gates, saying, "Excellent, you have indeed embodied the Rotary spirit!"

The third Rotarian, feeling a bit nervous, stepped forward and said,

"Well, I... uh... I was always the first to laugh at our club president's jokes, no matter how bad they were."

There was a brief pause, and then...

Saint Peter burst out laughing.

"You have shown great patience and a wonderful sense of humor," he said, opening the gates.

"Welcome to Heaven, where, thankfully, the jokes are much better!"

Rotary at a Glance 6 ways to take action during Vocational Service Month

Posted on January 10, 2020by rotaryservice.org

Vocational Service calls on us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to address community needs and help others acquire or refine skills and advance their professional opportunities. By bringing together people from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations. A vibrant Rotary club reflects the businesses, organizations and professions in its community, embracing diversity in experiences and perspectives.

Your professional life and vocational service go hand in hand. Rotarians have a dual responsibility: represent their occupations within their club and exemplify the ideals of Rotary in their places of work.

January is Rotary's Vocational Service Month, a great time to start leveraging vocational service! How can you take action?

Join a Rotarian Action Group

- and support service projects around the world. These autonomous groups consist of Rotarians, family members, and Rotary program participants and alumni with expertise in a particular field. Members advise and collaborate with clubs and districts on service projects. If your expertise fits one of the current 25 Action Groups, contact the groups' leaders to get involved.
- 2. Join or form a Rotary Fellowship related to your vocation. Rotary Fellowships are international groups of Rotarians, family members, and program participants and alumni who share a vocational or recreational interest. There are many vocationally-oriented fellowships such as: Authors and Writers, Editors and Publishers, Health Professionals, Lawyers, Photographers, Police and Law Enforcement.
- 3. Volunteer on a service project and use your vocational skills to serve others. Think about the underlying skills that make you successful in your profession: maybe you have training in some branch of science or medicine, are handy with tools or machinery know how to start a business, have expertise managing finances, or can influence others through public speaking or writing. Use your unique set of talents to make a difference in your community.

- 4. Share your expertise through your district resource network. If you have technical expertise in one of Rotary's six areas of focus, or with project planning and implementation, community assessment, measurement and evaluation, or other important aspects of large scale projects grants, let your district international service chair know. Lend your skills to local clubs and help develop more impactful projects.
- 5. Participate in a vocationally-oriented Rotary Friendship Exchange. Work with your district Rotary Friendship Exchange chair to organize an international, reciprocal exchange between two districts interested in exploring a professional field in a new cultural context. Involve young professionals, and organize activities allowing exchange participants to experience cultural immersion while exploring their field in a new environment.
- 6. Join TRF's Cadre of Technical Advisors The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers is a group of volunteer Rotarians who provide technical expertise and advice to Rotarians planning and carrying out Rotary grant projects around the world. Cadre members review, monitor, and evaluate projects and ensure grant funds are being used properly. Apply online to be considered for the Cadre.
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Professional and Personal Growth

The Importance of Emotional Intelligence in Business and Corporate Environment

We cannot tell what may happen to us in the strange medley of life. But we can decide what happens in us - how we can take it, what we do with it - and that is what really counts in the end. - Joseph Fort Newton

The greatest ability in business is to get along with others and influence their actions. - *John Hancock*

Every human being is an embodiment of emotions.

Emotions drive people, people drive performance.

Emotions determine behaviour.

Emotions serve as powerful catalysts for shaping human behavior.

The intricate interplay between feelings and actions is evident in everyday interactions.

Understanding this dynamic relationship between emotions and behavior is crucial for navigating the complexities of human interaction and fostering emotional intelligence.

Emotional Intelligence is life

Emotional Intelligence (EI) is the heartbeat of a fulfilling life, transcending intellect and shaping human connections. It enables us to navigate the intricate landscape of emotions, fostering empathy, self-awareness, and interpersonal skills.

Emotional Intelligence is not just a skill but the essence of a rich and rewarding life.

Developing Self-awareness

Identifying your strengths and weaknesses

Recognizing one's strengths and weaknesses is fundamental to personal and professional growth.

Recognizing strengths enables leveraging them for success while acknowledging weaknesses fosters self-improvement.

Recognising your triggers – stress

Recognizing triggers, especially in the realm of stress, is paramount for mental well-being.

Identifying stressors empowers individuals to implement effective coping mechanisms, fostering resilience and preventing emotional turmoil.

Awareness of triggers enhances emotional intelligence, enabling proactive management and the creation of a healthier, more balanced life.

Intrinsic motivation

Intrinsic motivation, driven by internal satisfaction rather than external rewards, is a powerful catalyst for personal growth and success. It fuels passion, resilience, and a genuine commitment to goals, fostering long-term fulfillment.

Embracing intrinsic motivation empowers individuals to persist in the face of challenges, ultimately leading to lasting achievement.

Importance of communication

Listening has become a commodity of value.

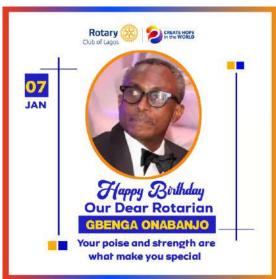
Asking open-ended questions; to customers, employees, vendors Emotions are contagious; mirror the energy you want in your organizations.

Rotn. (Dr.) John Asiegbu Africa's Leading Emotional Intelligence Expert +2348054746491

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH January Celebrants













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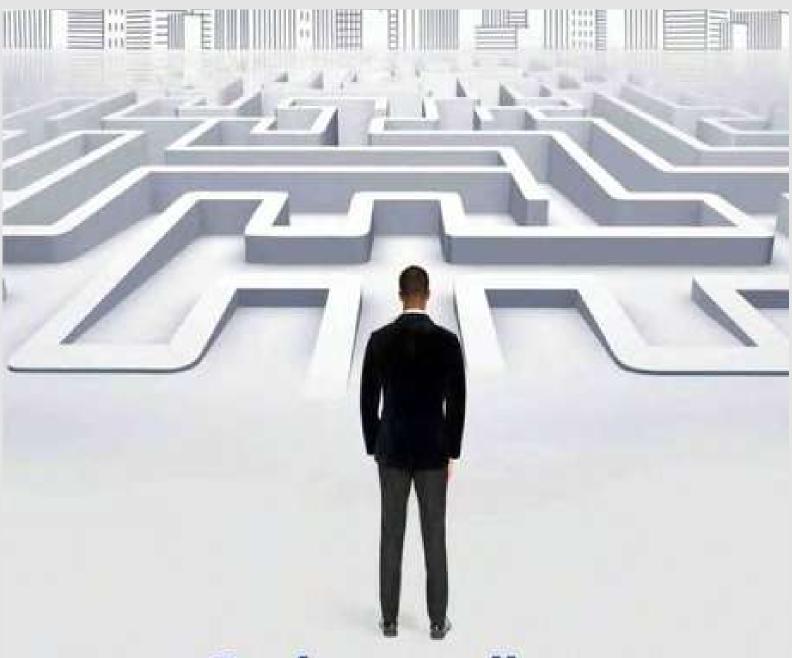
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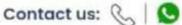
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