

COSMO wheels

Monthly Bulletin
— OF THE —

Rotary Club of Port Harcourt
Cosmopolitan
District 9141, Nigeria
Chartered August 10th, 2017



Meets Thursday at 1:00pm
Faraah Coffee Lounge, 37A
Aba Road Port Harcourt



SEPTEMBER Edition

National Anthem

Nigeria, we hail thee
Our own dear native land
Though tribes and tongues may differ
In brotherhood, we stand
Nigerians all are proud to serve
Our sovereign Motherland.

Our flag shall be a symbol
That truth and justice reign
In peace or battle honour'd,
And this we count as gain,
To hand on to our children
A banner without stain.

O God of all creation
Grant this our one request.
Help us to build a nation
Where no man is oppressed
And so with peace and plenty
Nigeria may be blessed.

Rotary Grace

Oh 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.

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 Code of Conduct

As a Rotarian, I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional and professional life.
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect.
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world.
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.
5. Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-reliation to those individuals that report harassment.

Rotary Guiding Principles; 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 worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each 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.;

The Four Way Test

The 4 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, statement and advertising in business and the professions, to proposed legislation in government and to relations between teachers and students in school.

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



Stephanie

A. URCHICK

Rotary
International
President
2024-2025

The Magic of Rotary is belonging, and it's a feeling that can appear when you least expect it.

Earlier this year, I was in Slovakia serving as a president's representative during a six-week trip through Europe. When I wrote to Katarina Cechova, governor of District 2240 at the time, I mentioned that my grandmother Veronica Zilka grew up in a small village in the area before settling in the U.S.

It wasn't long before Cechova tracked down my grandmother's village, Jakubova Vol'a. She even organized a visit for me, where I

received an unforgettable Slovakian welcome.

When I entered the community center of Jakubova Vol'a, a small crowd of people dressed in traditional Slovakian clothing greeted me. They sang with beautiful and powerful Central European voices that reminded me of my grandmother.

A lot of families play cards or games when they get together. When I was young, my father would pick up his accordion and lead my family in song. My grandmother would sing along with her impressive voice.

When I walked into the community center and heard traditional music from my childhood – when I saw a woman play the accordion the way my dad played – I suddenly felt like a little girl sitting at my grandmother’s house in Monessen, Pennsylvania. I burst into tears of joy at the memories.

But the magic didn’t stop there. District Governor Cechova really outdid herself. A local genealogist worked with a videographer to make a short film about my grandmother. We watched the video together in the community center.

When the video ended, I turned around and saw a man standing in the back of the room. I quickly learned that this stranger, Frantisek Zilka, was my second cousin. His grandmother and mine had been sisters. I felt like I had been struck by lightning.

I visited my newfound cousin’s home, which happens to be the home where my grandmother was born. There, he shared old photographs I had never seen of my dad, my uncle, and my grandmother.

Since then, I can’t stop thinking about my family of Rotary. When I refer to you as my family, I’m not just being kind. I really think of everyone in Rotary as my family. But I never

would have imagined that my Rotary family would introduce me to long-lost personal family.

Sitting in that community center listening to traditional Slovakian music from my childhood filled me with joy and a profound sense of belonging. I am so grateful to District Governor Cechova and everyone who helped create that magical experience.

As members of Rotary, we have a unique opportunity to share the same magic with each other and with the world. I encourage you to consider how you can help spread that magic and ensure other members of your club – other members of our Rotary family – feel like they truly belong.

District Governor's Message

Education is one thing I know that is priceless. I can bet my entire one year salary on this anytime. Let us together welcome this very important month in our Rotary calendar.

Our organisation has very high regard for education hence its inclusion in our 7 areas of focus as one of the best ways to impact people's lives positively.

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Unfortunately, most third-world countries, especially ours, are yet to realise this by the provision they make in our annual budgets.

While I don't expect our government to do all in terms of making sure her citizens have access to quality education, at least I expect them to take bold steps in terms of budgetary allocations and policies

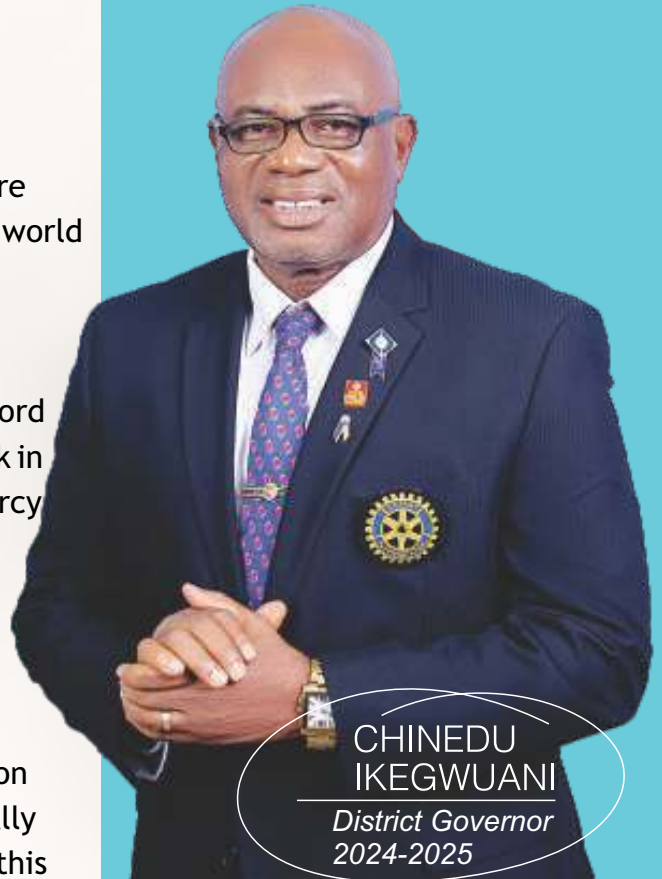
It's not a secret that our education has taken a big hit, especially in recent years.

Hence, our children are scattered all over the world in search of quality education.

Those who can not afford going abroad are stuck in the country at the mercy of private and public schools.

Our interest is in public schools where their learning condition is deplorable and totally unacceptable. It is in this regard I call on all Rotarians to join hands together and ameliorate this situation that has relegated our education to the background.

I must commend our Rotarians for the efforts so far. Rotary clubs are already carrying out projects in a lot of these public schools within our district to address the situation. Projects ranging from renovation of classrooms to provision of school uniforms, equipping the schools info tech. laboratories, enriching their libraries, etc



CHINEDU
IKEGWANI
District Governor
2024-2025

This month, being Basic Education and Literacy Month, let us once more use this opportunity to show our desire and love for humanity and education by putting smiles on people's faces through the above projects.

It is in doing this that we can truly lay claim to having a MAGICAL year. Dear friends, let's not be wary in doing good, perhaps it is for this purpose that we were created. Permit me to end with this quote from Muhammad Ali. "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth"



Club President's MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Partners,

Welcome to September, Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy month. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

Basic education and literacy are fundamental human rights for all which enable access to other human rights, greater freedoms, and global citizenship. Literacy is the foundation for the acquisition of broader knowledge, skills, values, attitudes, and behaviours to foster a culture of lasting peace based on respect for equality and non-discrimination, the rule of law, solidarity, justice, diversity, and tolerance and to build harmonious relations with oneself, other people and the planet. However, in 2022, at least one out of seven adults aged 15 and above (765 million), that is 17 percent of adult population worldwide who lacked basic literacy skills. Additionally, millions of children are struggling to acquire minimum levels of proficiency in reading, writing and numeracy, while some 250 million children of 6-18 years old are out of school. UNESCO 2024.

There is a pressing need to harness the transformative potential of literacy for promoting mutual understanding, social cohesion, and peace. "Like nothing else, literacy is a stepping stone away from poverty. It is a gift of self-reliance, one that can be freely passed on from generation to generation. Literacy quite opens up a new world." W. B. Boyd, R.I. President, 2006/2007. The Rotarian, March 2007.

We are taking action to help in this regard with our signature back to school project and in addition, award scholarships to tertiary students. We are also looking to renovate the girls hostel at the Special Needs School which hasn't been in use thereby depriving some girls access to relevant education and widening the gender disparity in education if no action is taken.

We cannot achieve the above without our members, friends and partners. As always, thanks for your selfless service and contributions for the betterment of mankind and our communities

Yours in Service,

Yvonne S. Iwo-Brown

Rotary President 2024-2025

The Power of Rotary Fellowship: Building Lifelong Connections

Rotary is more than just an organization focused on service; it's a global community where fellowship plays a pivotal role. The connections forged within Rotary are not just professional networks but lifelong relationships that transcend borders, cultures, and generations. At the heart of Rotary fellowship is the shared commitment to "Service Above Self." When Rotarians come together to work on projects, attend meetings, or participate in events, they are united by a common purpose. This shared mission fosters a deep sense of camaraderie, transforming acquaintances into friends and colleagues into family.

These bonds extend beyond local clubs, connecting members to a global network of over 1.4 million Rotarians. Whether attending an international conference or visiting a Rotary club in another country, Rotarians are welcomed with open arms, knowing they are part of a vast, supportive community.

The friendships formed through Rotary have a profound impact. They provide emotional support, professional growth, and collaborative opportunities. Members often find that the people they meet through Rotary become some of their closest friends, offering guidance and companionship throughout life's journey.

In an increasingly disconnected world, Rotary fellowship stands as a testament to the power of human connection. It reminds us that when we come together with a shared purpose, we not only make a difference in our communities but also enrich our own lives with meaningful, lasting relationships.

The Rotary theme for September is "Basic Education and Literacy"

This theme focuses on Rotary's commitment to improving education and literacy worldwide. During this month, Rotary clubs emphasize projects and initiatives that support educational opportunities, enhance literacy skills, and promote lifelong learning. Activities may include organizing book drives, supporting schools, providing teacher training, and implementing literacy programs in underserved communities.

Rotary International encourages all clubs to engage in efforts that help individuals gain access to quality education and literacy resources, recognizing that these are key factors in breaking the cycle of poverty and fostering community development.

SEPTEMBER

Basic Education and Literacy Month

September Emphasis: "Like nothing else, literacy is a stepping stone away from poverty. It is a gift of self-reliance, one that can be freely passed on from generation to generation. Once there is literacy in a family, it's almost always there to stay, as literate parents raise literate children. Literate parents are also more likely to raise villages. Literacy quite opens up a new world. "W.B.Boyd, R.I. President, 2006/2007. The Rotarian, March 2007.

DATE	TODAY AT ROTARY	ROTARY INFORMATION	THE BULLETIN TODAY
September 5th	SEMINAR FOR EDUCATORS: Differentiated Learning as a Tool for Inclusive Classrooms. - Prof A.U Nnodim		
September 12th	Business Meeting		
September 19th	Rotary atWork: Back To School		
September 26th	Nigeria's curriculum and National development - Prof. Itelima Adolphus		

September Bulletin

ROTARY

FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

29 Aug to 10 Sept
2024

DISTRICT
9141 (NIGERIA)
VISITS DISTRICT
9214 (TANZANIA)

Provisional Programme

Thu 29 Aug	Keribu! Travel to Zanzibar Abeid Amani Karume Int'l Airport Meet & greet, transfer to hotel, welcome cocktail.
Fri 30 Aug	Zanzibar Stone Town Stone Town tour, evening hosted by the Rotary Club of Zanzibar Stone Town
Sat 31 Aug	On the Beach Transfer to Zanzibar beach hotel Day & night on the beach
Sun 1 Sept	Hello Bongo! Transfer to Dar es Salaam, pick up by Rotarian hosts
Mon 2 Sept	Mambo Vipit? Swahili lesson & test Business networking event hosted by Nigeria High Commission
Tue 3 Sept	D9214 Club of the Year (and its offspring) Fellowships with RCs Oyster Bay, Sunset, Rotaractors Meet the DGs
Wed 4 Sept	Living by the Ocean Bungoya Island, Sanjeeda pirate ship, DSM Yacht Club Comedy Club special edition
Thu 5 Sept	Explore & Connect City tours or Rotary Golf Challenge Nyama Choma Night hosted by RC Sunset
Fri 6 Sept	Sugar Rush goes +234 Transfer to Hotel Slipway, relax by the pool Sugar Rush Nigerian edition, overnight at Hotel Slipway
Sat 7 Sept	Rotary Goat Races All-day fun and action for a cause Overnight at Hotel Slipway
Sun 8 Sept	Relax & Recover Transfer to Rotarian hosts All-clubs joint social, votes of thanks
Mon 9 Sept	Souvenirs & Farewell Shopping, packing, farewell cocktail
Tue 10 Sept	Kwaheri! Drop off & travel to Nigeria

Club of
Dar es Salaam
Oysterbay

The
Goat Races

TheGoatRaces
#TheGoatRaces
rotarydar.org

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Contact Tanzania: Thomas Scherer, tom@retom.com, +255 754 090 543
www.rotarydar.org



DESTINATION BONNY

On Saturday, 3rd August 2024, eight Rotary clubs in Port Harcourt ventured the fearsome Bonny river to visit their two sister clubs in Bonny Kingdom. The ten (10) clubs which included Rotary Club of Grand Bonny, Rotary Club of Bonny Island, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Creekview, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Cosmopolitan, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Atlantic City, Rotary Club of Choba Uniport, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Skyfield, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Medical Towers, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt Orbit and Rotary Club of Port Harcourt East; carried out a joint FMC+ project of distributing raincoats and shoes to primary school children of STARS OF THE SLUMP ACADEMY in remote Amariaria community in Finima, Bonny.

This project touches three areas of Rotary seven key areas of focus

1. Maternal and Child Health - Children protected from the rains will stay healthy
2. Disease Prevention and treatment - Protection from rain will reduce the likelihood of catching a cold and other illnesses
3. Basic Education and literacy - Healthy children can remain in school and learn better.

Other Rotary areas of focus are Water and Sanitation, Economic and Community Development, Supporting the Environment, as well as Peace and Conflict Prevention and Resolution.

The school management thanked the clubs for this donation as the children in the village were hardly remembered for these kinds of donations from humanitarian organizations as a result of being in such a remote village. Even though the school children were on holiday, they came out to school in their numbers to receive this donation, and their excitement could be felt by all present.

Indeed, Rotary is good

#RotaryInternational

#D9141

#RotaryDistrict9141

#MagicofRotary

#Irresistible

#PeopleofAction

#EndPolioNow

#Zone22

#rotaryclubofportharcourtcosmopolitan

#DestinationBonny

The Outbreak of Mpox in Nigeria: A PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, Nigeria has faced several public health challenges, but few have drawn as much concern as the outbreak of Mpox, also known as Monkeypox. First identified in humans in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mpox is a zoonotic viral disease, meaning it is transmitted from animals to humans. The virus is part of the Orthopoxvirus genus, which also includes the now-eradicated smallpox virus. While Mpox is generally less severe than smallpox, its reemergence in Nigeria in 2017 after nearly four decades of absence marked a significant public health threat, prompting urgent response measures.

The 2017 Outbreak: A Reemergence of a Forgotten Disease The outbreak of Mpox in Nigeria began in September 2017 when the first confirmed cases were reported in Bayelsa State. Initially, the source of the outbreak was unclear, but it soon became evident that the virus was spreading rapidly across multiple states. By the end of 2017, the disease had been reported in more than 20 states, causing widespread alarm.

The reemergence of Mpox after decades raised several questions. The last reported case in Nigeria before 2017 had been in the 1970s, and the country had since been considered free of the virus. However, the 2017 outbreak highlighted the latent risk of zoonotic diseases, particularly in regions with rich biodiversity where humans frequently

interact with wildlife.

Transmission and Symptoms Mpox is primarily transmitted to humans through contact with infected animals, such as rodents and primates. However, human-to-human transmission can occur, particularly through direct contact with the bodily fluids, respiratory droplets, or contaminated materials of an infected person.

The symptoms of Mpox resemble those of smallpox but are generally milder. The disease typically begins with fever, headache, muscle aches, and swollen lymph nodes. This is followed by the development of a characteristic rash, which progresses through several stages—macules, papules, vesicles, pustules, and eventually scabs. The rash often spreads across the body, including the face, palms, and soles, and can cause significant discomfort and scarring.

The Public Health Response The Nigerian government, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international partners, quickly mobilized to contain the outbreak. Key measures included:

Surveillance and Reporting: Enhancing surveillance systems to quickly identify and report new cases. Healthcare workers were trained to recognize the symptoms of Mpox and report suspected cases promptly.

Public Awareness Campaigns: Public health

campaigns were launched to educate communities about the symptoms, transmission, and prevention of Mpox. These campaigns aimed to reduce stigma and encourage individuals to seek medical attention if they developed symptoms.

Strengthening Healthcare Facilities: Efforts were made to equip healthcare facilities with the necessary resources to manage Mpox cases, including isolation wards and protective equipment for healthcare workers.

Research and Vaccine Development: Although there is no specific treatment for Mpox, the outbreak prompted renewed interest in researching potential vaccines and antiviral drugs. The smallpox vaccine has been found to provide some protection against Mpox, and efforts were made to secure vaccine stocks for high-risk populations.

Ongoing Challenges Despite the efforts to control the outbreak, Mpox continues to pose a public health challenge in Nigeria. Sporadic cases have been reported in subsequent years, indicating that the virus has not been fully eradicated. Several factors contribute to the persistence of Mpox in Nigeria:

Zoonotic Nature: The zoonotic nature of Mpox means that as long as the virus remains in animal populations, there is a risk of transmission to humans. Preventing future outbreaks requires ongoing surveillance of wildlife and human interactions with animals.

Stigmatization: Infected individuals often face stigma, which can discourage them from seeking medical attention or reporting their symptoms. This hampers efforts to identify and isolate cases, allowing the virus to spread.

Healthcare Access: Limited access to healthcare in rural areas makes it difficult to diagnose and treat Mpox cases promptly. Strengthening healthcare infrastructure in these regions is critical to improving the response to future outbreaks.

Conclusion

The Mpox outbreak in Nigeria serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing threat posed by zoonotic diseases. While significant progress has been made in controlling the spread of the virus, continued vigilance is required to prevent future outbreaks. Strengthening public health infrastructure, improving disease surveillance, and fostering international collaboration are essential to safeguarding Nigeria and other countries from the threat of emerging infectious diseases like Mpox. As the global community grapples with the challenges of zoonotic diseases, the experience of Nigeria offers valuable lessons in preparedness, response, and resilience.

The Secret of Flourishing Clubs

What is one thing the most successful clubs have in common? They set goals – and not just for the upcoming year. When club leaders plan for the future, they provide the club with direction and purpose. Whether that’s welcoming more members, completing more service projects, or improving the club experience, goal setting motivates members and inspires you all to work towards a common purpose. Rotary Club Central makes planning and tracking their goals easy for Rotary and Rotaract clubs. Club leaders can use the tool to set and record accomplishments, while members can view the club’s progress. Plus, future club leaders can use previous goals to make informed decisions about the club’s future and set up to three years’ worth of goals.

If you’re not sure where to begin, ask yourself:

How many members does our club want by the end of the Rotary year?

How about two years from now?

How many members do we want to participate in service projects?

Does our club have an up-to-date strategic plan?

How much money (US\$) do we want to contribute to The Rotary Foundation?

How can we increase our public image in the community?

What type of club experience do we want to offer members?

Are there any local organizations we can establish partnerships with?

It’s never too late to start planning for your club’s future

Sangkoo Yun

is selected to be 2026-27 Rotary International president



Sangkoo Yun, of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Seoul, Korea, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2026-27.

Sangkoo Yun, of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Seoul, Korea, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2026-27. He will be officially declared the president-nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

Yun received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Syracuse University School of Architecture in the U.S. and an honorary doctoral degree from The University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He is the founder and CEO of Dongsuh Corp., which engineers and markets architectural materials, and the president of Youngan Corp., which operates in real estate and financial investment. He is involved in many civic organizations and has a special interest in the preservation of cultural heritage.

A Rotary member since 1987, when he was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Yun has served Rotary International as a director, trustee, committee member and chair, and RI learning facilitator. He served for eight years as co-chair of the Keep Mongolia Green Project, by Korean members of Rotary. His RI committee roles include the Board Administration Committee (2013-15, vice chair 2014-15), the International Assembly Committee (vice chair, 2020-21), and the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (regional vice chair, 2023-27). He also served on The Rotary Foundation's Executive Committee (2019-22, chair 2020-21) and Programs Committee (2019-22, chair 2020-22).

Yun received The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award in 2021-22. He was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II, awarded the Friendship Medal by the president of Mongolia, and recognized for distinguished services by the president and prime minister of Korea. He is a veteran of the Republic of Korea Army and an emeritus elder at Andong Presbyterian Church.

Yun and his spouse, Eunsun, are Rotary Foundation Benefactors, Major Donors, and members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, and the Bequest Society. They have two children.

GALLERY



...and President Yvonne takes over from IPP Gogo



Fifi begging PE Iwo



And PE Iwo Grabbed, snatched and Ran with it



GALLERY



GALLERY





Celebration OF THE MONTH



Wale Adesokan

Call name: Wale
Birthday: 5th September



Adokiye Ikpoki

Call name: Adokiye Ikpoki
Birthday: 5th September



Kevwe Iwaegbe

Call name: Kevwe
Wedding Anniversary: 23rd September



MAGIC ALL AROUND

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA



MAGIC ALL AROUND 21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA



REGISTRATION CATEGORY	25-29 MAY 2024	30 MAY 2024 TO 15 DECEMBER 2024	16 DECEMBER 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025	1 APRIL 2025 TO 25 JUNE 2025
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 31 or over	\$475	\$525	\$625	\$695
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 30 or under	\$150	\$175	\$225	\$275
Guest age 5-18	\$20	\$20	\$30	\$40
Guest under age 5	Free	Free	Free	Free
Saturday, House of Friendship only	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$100

All amounts are in U.S. dollars.



Register today at convention.rotary.org
#Rotary25