

COSMO Wheels

Monthly Bulletin
OF THE

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

MARCH 2025 EDITION



STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International



CHINEDU IKEGWUANI



YVONNE S. IWO-BROWN
Rotary President, 2024-2025

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

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-reliance 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;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

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

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?

A portrait of Stephanie A. Urchick, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue blazer over a white top. She is smiling and looking slightly to the right. The background is a dark grey gradient.

STEPHANIE A.
URCHICK

RI President's Message

One small act

March is here, and for Rotary International, that means celebrating Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month — a time to shine a spotlight on one of the most transformative areas of our work.

This month is an opportunity to reflect on The Magic of Rotary and the profound impact we create when we come together with determination and purpose.

Years ago, I experienced this magic firsthand in the Dominican Republic. When a group of members helped people install water filters, three children watched with amazement as dirty water entered one end of a filter and clean water emerged from the other. When we paused the demonstration, one child tugged at my sleeve and pleaded, "Show me the magic again."

To them, it felt magical. It was also the result of countless hours of effort — planning, transporting, and installing the filters — alongside local partners who were dedicated to making clean water accessible. In that moment, I realized that what seemed like a small act could change residents' lives. That is The Magic of Rotary.

This story is a testament to the incredible potential of our global family to create change. Water projects exemplify our reach, our partnerships, and our unwavering commitment to improving lives. Consider Rotary's work with USAID. That partnership has enabled us to work with communities and governments to improve access to sustainable water and sanitation services for thousands of people in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, the Philippines, and Uganda.

Partnerships remind us that Rotary's impact is amplified when we work together. Through our strategic alliance with the United Nations Environment Programme, we're advancing the Community Action for Fresh Water initiative. This program equips Rotary members with the tools and resources to protect, restore, and sustain freshwater ecosystems.

When we make use of Rotary grants and advocate for clean water in our communities, we create a ripple effect that extends far beyond individual projects.

As we embrace the spirit of the month, I encourage every Rotary member to seek out new partnerships. Collaboration multiplies our efforts and helps us reach more people in need.

Whether it's joining forces with local organizations, forming alliances with international agencies, or mobilizing your community, every step we take together brings us closer to a world where everyone has access to clean water and safe sanitation.

The Magic of Rotary shines brightest when we work in harmony with others to create lasting good. Together, we can turn dreams into realities that transform lives and communities. The result may feel like magic at times, but we know it's from the power of our collective commitment and compassion. Let's harness this magic to make a difference this month and beyond.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
President, Rotary International

District Governor's Message

Audrey Hepburn said, "Water is life, and clean water means health."

This quote simply summarises the month of March: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene.

I can confidently say that of all the seven Rotary's areas of focus, apart from disease prevention and treatment, this is the one most projects have come under.

Rotarians in our over 35,000 clubs globally carry out projects in this area of focus yearly.

This goes to show how important this area of focus is to us and Rotary in our efforts to touch lives and make the world more habitable.

Despite all these efforts, it is unfortunate that over 2 billion people still lack access to safely managed drinking water, and 3.6 billion lack safely managed sanitation according to United Nations.

This month of March, for what it stands for, affords us the opportunity to comprehensively think or assess how to continue to improve the situation.

Going forward, we need to take advantage of the various opportunities available to us, be it partnership or the different types of grants while leveraging technology in terms of planning and implementation.

This I know will not be easy due to the different types of challenges we face globally in making portable water available. The challenges vary from community to community and one country to the other.

However, one thing I'm sure of is if we stand together and in partnership with one another, no matter how difficult the challenges are, we shall prevail.

Our theme for the year: "The Magic of Rotary" came in the process of project execution under this area of focus: water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Therefore, it's an opportunity for us to reflect on the magic of Rotary.

On that note, please do me a favour and answer this simple question.

How have you been part of



this *magic* since 1st July 2024?

If you're yet to, let me remind you to kindly get on board through the following:

Please give to The Rotary Foundation now.

Contribute and join your clubs in delivering quality service projects

Bring in at least one new member into Rotary Family.

Together, we deliver the magic.

CHINEDU IKEGWUANI
District Governor

MARCH



YVONNE S. IWO-BROWN



President's Message

Welcome to March, Rotary's month of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, and the celebration of the World Rotaract Week from the 13th.

The month also houses International Women's Day on the 8th and the World Water Day on the 22nd.

Clean water, basic sanitation, and proper hygiene are fundamental human rights, yet about 2.2 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water. At least 3,000 children die each day from diseases caused by unsafe water. When children have access to clean water, they live healthier and more productive lives.

However, we cannot have clean water if people are still defecating into the river, nor improve quality of life for the poor if people are still getting sick due to poor sanitation. Women cannot be safe if they are subjected to rape or molestation from going in the bush. We cannot achieve equal education opportunity if girls have to stay out of school during their periods.

As we celebrate on the 8 March 2025, to mark International Women's Day under the 2025 theme, "For ALL women and girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment," which calls for action that can unlock equal rights, power and opportunities for all and a

feminist future where no one is left behind.

We cannot over emphasized the need for clean water and improved sanitation and hygiene to ensure safety, good health and equal access to education.

Rotary Foundation has invested more than \$180 million in over 2,500 water and sanitation projects worldwide. Rotary is making a difference through global grant-supported projects funded by your contributions to the Foundation and Rotary Clubs.

Through our efforts, we provide access to clean water, allowing communities to enhance education levels, improve health, and further development.

As we look to the World Rotaract Week, we deeply acknowledge the role of Rotaract clubs, our allies with their staunch engagement, energy, and ideas complementing the experience of Rotary clubs and increasing our collective impact emphasizing the need for more collaborations in making the world a better place. My sincere appreciation to everyone. Together we can do much more.

Yvonne S. Iwo-Brown
Rotary President 2024-2025

MARCH

Water and Sanitation Month

March Emphasis: More than 100 years ago, one of the first Rotary projects was to build a public toilet. Every Rotary member should know this story. When members do water and sanitation projects, at least 85 percent of them focus on water. But you cannot have clean water if people are still defecating into the river. You cannot improve quality of life for the poor if people are still getting sick because of a lack of proper sanitation. Women cannot be safe if they are subjected to rape or molestation because they have to go to the toilet in the bush. You cannot achieve education for girls if they have no place to change their sanitary napkin, so they drop out of school for a week every month to avoid embarrassment, and eventually cannot catch up and drop out altogether. - PDG Terry Pickering, DG's Newsletter, March 2016, RI District 5030

DATE	TODAY AT ROTARY	ROTARY TALK	THE BULLETIN TODAY
MARCH 6th	International Women's day Celebration Speakers: TBA Celebrating the Girls of Cosmo		
MARCH 13th	Business Meeting		
MARCH 20th	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: What Rotary can do to help. Speaker – Dr. Ntia		
MARCH 27th	Cosmo WASH PROJECT		





Things
to know
about

Mário

Meet your 2025-26 Rotary president, Mário César Martins de Camargo

After a day of interviews with the committee vetting candidates for 2025-26 Rotary International president, Mário César Martins de Camargo returned to his hotel and waited. And waited. "It's an elimination process," he says. "The anxiety level reaches sky high." When he got a call asking him to return to Rotary

headquarters in Evanston, his first thought was that he'd made some sort of mistake. As he walked the few blocks to the building, he mentally reviewed everything he'd said. When he finally realized why he'd been called back, it was an emotional moment, he says. "The nominating committee stands up and

applauds you, and you are invited to say your first words as president. Mine were, 'Are you guys sure?'"

They were, of course. De Camargo's Rotary résumé goes back decades. A member of the Rotary Club of Santo André, Brazil, since 1980, he served as his club's Rotary Youth Exchange officer the following year at age 24 and as its president in 1992-93. He was governor of District 4420 (part of Brazil's São Paulo state) in 1999-2000, Rotary Foundation trustee in 2015-19, and Rotary International director in 2019-21. He has also served Rotary as an RI learning facilitator, committee member and chair, and task force member. De Camargo and his wife, Denise da Silva de Camargo, also a Rotarian, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation.

Professionally, de Camargo was president of the printing company Gráfica Bandeirantes and has been a consultant to the print industry in Brazil. He has served as president and chair of several printing and graphics trade associations. He has been on the board of Casa da Esperança (House of Hope), a medical center in Santo André sponsored by his Rotary club that sees more than 200,000 patients a year.

That's his official biography. But we wanted to know, What's de Camargo really like, what makes him tick? Here's what we found out.


His biggest regret is that he stopped playing piano.

From the ages of 8 to 21, de Camargo played piano. He even attended a music conservatory for nine of those years. While in Germany apprenticing at a press manufacturer, he attended German language classes at the Goethe Institute. The school had a Steinway piano that "to me, was the Rolls-Royce of pianos," he recalls. The school's dean allowed him to play it under one condition: he perform for the school when his training was

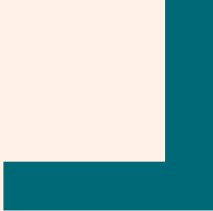
finished. "It was the last time I played the piano," he says, explaining that family and work obligations began to take more of his time. "I really regret not being able to continue because it is a self-rewarding experience."

He believes printers have a noble cause.

Printing presses have their origins in China, where movable type was invented in the 11th century. When Johannes Gutenberg created the mechanized printing press in Germany 400 years later, it launched the mass production of books, newspapers, and more throughout Europe. "The press and the publication of books and ideas changed the world," de Camargo says, allowing



When he finally realized why he'd been called back, it was an emotional moment, he says. "The nominating committee stands up and applauds you, and you are invited to say your first words as president."



scientific findings to be shared more widely, decreasing censorship as it was harder to destroy a "dangerous idea," and giving the general public access to educational materials.

De Camargo's business used to print 25 million to 30 million items per year: coffee table books, romance novels, automotive industry manuals — "you name it," he says. "We were replicators of ideas. Printers have a mission to reduce ignorance."

Rotary is the best leadership training he's ever had.

De Camargo has been on several boards in his industry, but it was through Rotary that he learned how to be a leader. "Rotary is the best school of leadership I've had," he says. De Camargo says Rotary taught him to speak in public, one of people's biggest fears, along with flying. ("If I was still afraid of flying and speaking in public, I wouldn't be president of Rotary International, because all we do is public speaking and flying!" he says.) He also learned when to stop talking and listen. "You have to pay attention to what people are telling you," he says. "It is an exercise of humility." And he learned how to motivate people who

aren't getting paid to perform a task. "When you're motivating volunteers, you don't have that tool of payment. The only tool you have is inspiration, motivation, and challenge to make them a better person."

This is the most memorable Rotary advice he's received: Never ask for anything, never refuse anything.

As co-chair of the Host Organization Committee for the 2015 Rotary International Convention in São Paulo, de Camargo received these words of wisdom from John Kenny, a past Rotary president who was The Rotary Foundation trustee chair at the time. "That has oriented my Rotary journey," he says. "I never refused any job that was given to me by Rotary or The Rotary Foundation, but at the same time I offered myself for different positions without knowing what the result would be," he says. "I could never fathom that I would be here someday."

People call him Membership Mário.

"It's not rocket science," he says. "If you look at our numbers, some people say we have stabilized at 1.2 million. I say we have stagnated at 1.2 million." The word "stabilize" makes people sit back and relax, he

believes, whereas the word "stagnate" makes people want to sit up and do something.

The puzzle, he says, is figuring out why membership is increasing in some areas and decreasing in others. "Maybe it's demographics, maybe it's economics, maybe it's an age thing," he says. "The challenge motivates me so much because it's a mosaic of different regions and different performances that makes it very challenging and at the same time very attractive."

What works in Korea may not work in Germany, and what works in Germany may not work in Brazil or the U.S., he says. "We have to be humble and very attentive to the different scenarios."

The 2025-26 presidential message is Unite for Good.

"I think 'unite' is a very powerful word," he says. "It's a very powerful word in a divided world."

It's easy to sow division, he says, but much harder to find common ground. "We are always looking for somebody's defects," he says. "We should be looking for somebody else's talents." That's where Rotary comes in, offering the opportunity for people to connect with others in their community and around the world.

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He believes a focus on the environment will draw younger members.

Before de Camargo, the last RI president to come from Brazil was Paulo V.C. Costa in 1990-91. Costa is best known for the environmental program he started, Preserve Planet Earth, which launched shortly before the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Had Rotary kept the environment as a central focus then, de Camargo says, "we would be far ahead, bringing a visionary agenda to the world." As a Rotary director, de Camargo helped secure approval of the environment as the newest area of focus. "We still have a lot of room to grow," he says.

In 2025, the annual UN conference on climate change, COP30, will be held in the Brazilian Amazon, and de Camargo sees a place for Rotary to get involved. "Rotary should have its logo, its brand, associated with environmental protection in the Amazon," he says. "We have a unique opportunity to do that."

He gets to know a city by walking.

"When I go to Chicago or New York or São Paulo or wherever, when I have the chance, I just put on my tennis shoes and I start walking," he says, "just seeing the colors, the smells, the different foods, the people." It's the best way to feel like a local, he says. "You cannot do that by Uber or by driving a car. You're not part of the environment. But when you're walking, you feel like you are." But he doesn't stop at the city. De Camargo is a fan of hiking. "I love the outdoors, to be able to breathe fresh air," he says.

Yes, he once dressed as Super Mario.

Step into de Camargo's office at One Rotary Center

in Evanston and you'll notice a collection of figurines based on Super Mario, the Nintendo character. "That was the idea of Trustee Akira Miki, who was a director with me on the Board in 2019-20," he says. "He immediately called me Super Mario, and it started catching." At the 2024 Rotary institute in Toronto, de Camargo dressed up as the character and engaged in a mock battle with Past RI President Holger Knaack, part of a Rotary Foundation fundraiser that netted \$115,000. "I put the moustache upside down, but I'll get better," he says. "Whatever it takes to raise money for The Rotary Foundation."



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Leadership in Rotary:

*A food for thought
by Richard Ogbechie*

Leading with Vision, Passion, and Purpose Becoming a Rotary Club president is an exciting opportunity to lead an organization dedicated to service, leadership, and community impact. However, with this honor comes great responsibility. A successful Rotary Club president must inspire members, drive impactful projects, and foster a strong sense of unity. Here's how you can rise to the occasion and make your tenure truly remarkable

1. Set a Clear Vision



Before stepping into office, outline your vision for the year. What do you want to accomplish? Whether it's increasing membership, launching a major service project, or strengthening partnerships, having a well-defined plan will keep your club focused and

motivated.

Tip: Align your goals with Rotary International's yearly theme and initiatives to ensure continuity and relevance.

2. Build a Strong Team



A successful leader surrounds themselves with capable and committed individuals. Your board and committee chairs will be instrumental in executing your vision. Foster an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and empowered to contribute.

Tip: Delegate effectively—trusting others will prevent burnout and enhance overall efficiency.

3. Lead by Example



Your leadership style sets the tone for the entire club. Show enthusiasm, commitment, and professionalism in all your interactions. Attend meetings, participate in service projects, and engage with members personally.

Tip: Regularly recognize and appreciate volunteers—it boosts morale and encourages continued participation.

4. Engage and Grow Membership



Membership growth is vital for a thriving Rotary Club. Actively recruit new members while keeping existing members engaged through meaningful activities and fellowship.

Tip: Organize social events, mentorship programs, and networking opportunities to strengthen club bonds and attract potential members.

5. Drive Impactful Service Projects



Rotary is about "Service Above Self." Plan projects that address real community needs, whether it's providing scholarships, supporting local businesses, or leading environmental initiatives.

Tip: Collaborate with local

organizations and businesses to amplify your club's reach and effectiveness.

6. Master the Art of Communication



Clear and consistent communication keeps members informed and engaged. Utilize multiple channels such as newsletters, social media, and WhatsApp groups to share updates, recognize achievements, and promote events.

Tip: Personal touch matters—pick up the phone, meet members for coffee, and be accessible.

7. Manage Meetings Effectively



Club meetings should be engaging, productive, and time-efficient. Balance Rotary traditions with dynamic discussions, guest speakers, and interactive elements.

Tip: Keep meetings structured but lively—avoid long monologues and

encourage participation.

8. Plan for a Lasting Legacy



Your presidency is temporary, but your impact should be long-lasting. Document successful projects, mentor future leaders, and ensure smooth leadership transition.

Tip: Create a roadmap for the next president to continue and build upon your achievements.

Final Thoughts

Being a Rotary Club president is a rewarding experience that allows you to make a tangible difference in your community and beyond. Lead with passion, involve your members, and stay true to Rotary's mission. By doing so, your tenure will be remembered not just for what you accomplished, but for the inspiration and unity you brought to your club.

Setting Objectives for a Vibrant Rotary Club: *A Roadmap to Success*

A thriving Rotary Club is built on clear objectives, strong leadership, and a dedicated membership committed to service. Setting well-defined goals helps steer the club toward impactful community service, increased membership engagement, and sustainable growth. Here's how to set objectives that will ensure your Rotary Club remains vibrant and effective.

1. Define Your Club's Vision and Mission

Before setting objectives, revisit your club's vision and mission statements. These guiding principles serve as the foundation for

all activities and initiatives. Ensure your goals align with Rotary International's core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership.

2. Establish SMART Objectives

To be effective, club objectives should be:

Specific: Clearly define what you aim to achieve.

Measurable: Include criteria to track progress.

Achievable: Set realistic and attainable goals.

Relevant: Align objectives with the club's mission and member interests.

Time-bound: Set deadlines for goal completion. For example, instead of a vague goal like "increase membership," a SMART objective would be: "Recruit 10 new members by the end of the year through targeted outreach and membership drives."

3. Strengthen Membership Engagement

A vibrant club thrives on engaged members. Set objectives that encourage participation and commitment. Examples include: Organizing at least

six fellowship events annually. Ensuring each member participates in at least one committee. Conducting quarterly feedback surveys to assess member satisfaction and involvement.

4. Enhance Community Impact

Rotary is known for its commitment to service. Establish goals that create a meaningful difference in your community, such as:

Completing at least three major service projects per year.

Partnering with local organizations to maximize outreach and impact.

Launching a new initiative focused on a pressing local issue, such as education, healthcare, or environmental sustainability.

5. Improve Fundraising and Financial Sustainability

To support service projects, clubs need financial stability. Set objectives to: Increase annual fundraising revenue by 20% through diversified events. Secure corporate sponsorships for key

initiatives. Create a transparent budget that aligns with the club's priorities.

6. Foster Leadership Development

Strong leadership ensures long-term success.

Consider these objectives: Implement mentorship programs for future leaders. Encourage members to attend leadership training programs. Establish a clear succession plan for club officers.

7. Embrace Innovation and Technology

Modernizing club operations can enhance efficiency and engagement.

Objectives might include:

Adopting digital tools for better communication and event management.

Launching a social media campaign to increase community awareness.

Hosting hybrid meetings to accommodate diverse member needs.

8. Regularly Evaluate and Adjust Goals

Setting objectives is not a one-time task; it requires continuous assessment.

Schedule quarterly reviews to measure progress, celebrate achievements,

and adjust strategies as needed.

By setting clear and strategic objectives, your Rotary Club can remain vibrant, effective, and impactful. With a shared vision and a commitment to service, your club will continue to make a difference in the lives of members and the community alike.



Celebration OF THE MONTH



Innocent Iyalla-Harry

Call name: Innocent
Birthday: 20th March



Kevwe Iwaegbe

Call name: Kevwe
Birthday: 20th March



Siki Mac-Barango

Call name: Siki
Birthday: 26th March



Preye Bob Manuel

Call name: Preye
Birthday: 30th March



Victor Alete

Call name: Victor
Birthday: 31st March

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
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