

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

16 October 2019



VOLUME 16 OF 52

Fellow Rotarians,

May I start by saying "eku ile o" and I hope my writing this evening finds you well.

The much talked about West African Project Fair has come and gone at least for some of us, we thank God for a safe trip to and from Liberia. Our President Elect will give us a detailed report at the next club meeting by his grace.

I wish to however thank the following Rotarians, who were in Monrovia, Liberia to do Gbagada proud.

- 1) PDG Deinde Shoga
- 2) PAG Lanre Kasim
- 3) PE Isola Ogunsola

And of course, Rotarian Tosin Olawoyin, our Chair of Service Project. I am most appreciative of you. May the good Lord bless you and all yours richly, amen.

Fellow Rotarians, our planned Polio day club project is fixed for the 19th of October 2019 at Gbagada. We intend to brand a car for this polio awareness

and immunization walk as well engage musical band to create awareness within Gbagada community. Our convergence point shall be the General Hospital Gbagada and time is 9am. Our club chairman Polio committee shall brief us more about this project in due time and put up notices to the club.

I urge you all to please make out time to be there for this event.

Till I see you on Wednesday, please remain committed to the year's theme; in Unity, Rotary connects the World.

YIRS

**Akinwale Odutola
President, RC Gbagada
2019/2020**

WE CARE GROUP

16 October 2019

WE CARE GROUP (RC GBAGADA) 2019-20	
S/N	
A	GROUP A
	PP Adefowoke Williamson- WE CARE CHAMPION
	Sub-Group 1
1	Taiwo, Oladipo Francis - LEADER
2	Adeyeye Segun
3	Yomi Oladele
4	Kupolati, Oluwatoyin Williams
5	Adedoyin Adedeji
	Sub-Group 2
1	Lawal, Babatunde Maroof - LEADER
2	Ezie, Joseph Julian
3	Usiholo, Josephine Oiyokun
4	Omale, Yakubu
B	GROUP B
	PDG Niji Raji - Group Head
	Sub- Group 1
1	PP Adenuga-Taiwo - LEADER
2	Niyi Adekunle
3	Mike Ayinde
4	Adekogbe Brian Oyin
5	Irantiola Olutayo
	Sub-Group 2
1	Tayo Lawal - LEADER
2	Tunde-Olowu Dapo
3	Remi Moshood
4	Priscilla Dikko
C	GROUP C
	PDG George Taylor- Group Head
	Sub-Group 1
1	Oguntade Olubunmi - LEADER
2	Oludipe Bayo
3	Aina-Marshal Abimbola
4	Oke, Adeola
5	Odutola Akinwale
	Sub- Group 2
1	Baruwa Idris - LEADER
2	Vinod Obasa
3	Funmi Ipaye
4	Dotun Bamigbola
D	GROUP D
	PDG Deinde Shoga - Group Head
	Sub- Group 1
1	Alozie Nsirimobi - LEADER
2	Ayodele Bamidele
3	Olaide Arewa
4	Okusanya Korede
5	Nkechi Arizor
	Sub- Group 2
1	Tayo Adelaja - LEADER
2	Olanrewaju O'Nezer
3	Jaiyesimi Omotayo
4	Bolaji Agoro
5	Erica Chikwendu
E	GROUP E
	PDG Abayomi Adewunmi- Group Head
	Sub-Group 1
1	IPP Basirat Giwa - LEADER
2	Onyemelukwe, Akaoma
3	Osinuga , Oyeyemi Bola
4	Adesina Adedayo
5	Anasiudu Joseph Nwanne
	Sub-Group 2
1	Fehintola Folusho-Onagoruwa- LEADER
2	Yemi Lawal
3	Ayeni Samuel
4	Gbenga Olubowale

Editor's MESSAGE



Olanrewaju o'nezer
Editor

HOW?

We say we are on a "mission to retain" however, how many of us are fully aware of what exactly we are retaining and how we intend to achieve it.

Well, for the benefit of the newbies, we simply mean we are retaining our status as award-winning club, not just any award but the overall best club in the district.

So how do we achieve this? Together Everyone Achieves More!

Whatever has been committed to us, let's do it efficiently and effectively.

Our mission will be accomplished when we operate as a team therefore the Doyen is serving us leadership strategies to achieve this, remember we are all leaders. In the same light organizational power returns this week with part 2.

You don't want to miss out the Rotary Story by my amiable, loving and ingenious mentor.

Do have a happy and beautiful week.

Rotarian Olanrewaju O'nezer
Editor.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ROTARY?

- Who introduced Rotary to its motto?
- o Frank Collins (A Fruit Merchant)
- When was the "Service Above Self" motto first adopted by Rotary?
- o 1911

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | West African Project Fair, Liberia | 12th-16th October |
| 2. | Board Meeting | 29th October |
| 3. | Group D We Care /Spouses' Fun Nite | 30th October |

CELEBRANTS OF THE WEEK

BIRTHDAY

17th October

Rotn. Adenike Abdul-Azeez

SPOUSES' BIRTHDAY

13th October

IPDG Kola Sodipo

18th October

PAG Lanre Kasim

ACCOUNT DETAILS

POLARIS BANK: Rotary Club of Gbagada
1770013352

UBA: Rotary Club of Gbagada
1021819772

FIRST BANK: Rotary Club of Gbagada
2031005540



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

16 October 2019

F	GROUP F PAG Onafuwa Ayotunde- Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Erinle, Bayowa - LEADER	1 Lydia Collingwoode-Williams- LEADER
	2 Oneh, Vera	2 Akinbobola Kunle
	3 Ayodeji Kuku	3 Okanlawon Tola
	4 PP Atolagbe Afolabi	4 Nancy Ngozi
	5 Oluwole Farinu	
G	GROUP G PAG Wale Adegbite - Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Odude Adebukunola - LEADER	1 Isola Ogunsola , - LEADER
	2 Kunle Williams	2 Ogundele Abosede
	3 Seyi Osunkeye	3 Koiku Adeshina
	4 Oba Bayo Windapo	4 Tijani Gbolahan
	5 Adebari Adeolu Oritsebemigho	
H	GROUP H PAG Layi Abidoye- Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Olawoyin, Tosin - LEADER	1 Soluade, Dotun Omelolu - LEADER
	2 Jakande, Adijat Rotimi	2 Ayeni Oludare
	3 Jones, Ajaere Tobachukwu	3 Tikolo, Olu
	4 Okaro Columbus	4 Orohundusi Augustine
	5 Banjo Dapomola Temitope	5 Adebimpe Giwa
I	GROUP I PAG Lanre Kasim - Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Akintilo Olanrewaju-LEADER	1 Opanubi Tayo-LEADER
	2 Afuwape Yinka	2 Emmanuel Paul Owoicho
	3 Odude Charles Olanrewaju	3 Animashaun Omotanwa
	4 Eleshin Kayode Kassim	4 Akinleye Folarin
	5 Kelechi Onwuegbuchulem	
J	GROUP J IPDG Sodipo, Kolawole - Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Etim, Hamson - LEADER	1 Fabamwo, Adetokunbo Olusegun-LEADER
	2 Soninmade, Adebayo Bamidele	2 Onaivi, Dania
	3 Osunrinde Oluwaseyi	3 Omogua, Justice Mubarak
	4 Shola Osho	4 Edun, Temitayo
	5 Kayode Taiwo	
K	GROUP K PP Matuluko, Muyiwa - Group Head	
	Sub-Group 1	Sub-Group 2
	1 Abdul Azeez, Adenike- LEADER	1 Ogunbarwo, Bamidele - LEADER
	2 Adenekan, Hakeem	2 Osho, Raymond Oludare
	3 Okoya, Folake	3 Ajonibadi, Bankole Kayode
	4 Durojaiye Remilekun Susa	4 Abiodun Aina

HUMOR & QUOTE



WHY DO COUPLES FIGHT..???!?

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping channels.
She asked, 'What's on TV?'
I said, 'Dust.'
And then the fight started...

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her someplace expensive.
So I took her to a petrol station.
And then the fight started...

I asked my wife, "Where do you want to go for our anniversary?" "It warmed my heart to see her melting in sweet appreciation.
"Somewhere I've not been in a long time."
So I took her to my parents' house.
And then the fight started...

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, 'I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 100 in about 3 seconds.'
'I bought her a weighing scale.
And then the fight started...

My wife was standing & looking in the bedroom mirror. She was not happy with what she saw and said to me, 'I feel horrible. I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to give me a compliment.'
I replied, "Your eyesight is perfect."
And then the fight started....***

*I sent it to my friend.
He sent it to his wife and then the fight started...
(Author unknown)*

martinjalleh



Rotary's long-term, sustained battle against polio has defined our organization for decades. We have a right to be proud of all that we have accomplished through the years.

Our progress is real and noteworthy. In 1988, polio was endemic in 125 countries, with more than 350,000 new cases a year worldwide. Since then, Rotary and our Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners have reduced the incidence of polio by more than 99.9 percent, vaccinated more than 2.5 billion children against the virus, and prevented 18 million cases of paralysis. Over the years, Rotary has helped country after country move into the polio-free column. This includes India, which some considered impossible not long ago.

Of the three types of poliovirus, type 2 has been eradicated and type 3 could soon be certified as eradicated. Nigeria has not reported a case of wild poliovirus in nearly three years. If this trend holds, we will be down to just one type of wild poliovirus in only one section of the world, Afghanistan and Pakistan. There are major challenges in that region. But it is crucial that we remain optimistic. Look at all that we have accomplished so far.

This is no time to get discouraged or to think that the task is impossible. We will end polio forever, but only if we remain steadfast and vigilant. World Polio Day is a time for Rotarians from all over the globe to come together, recognize the progress we have made in our fight against polio, and plan the action we must take to end polio forever. The key word is action, because we still have important work to do.

This year, we want to see as many Rotary clubs as possible holding World Polio Day events around the world. Need some ideas? How about organizing a viewing party for friends and club members to watch Rotary's Online Global Update? You could also dedicate a club meeting to World Polio Day or create a fundraising event. Remember, every dollar raised is matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Once you have created an event, register it at endpolio.org/register-your-event. Then promote it using the World Polio Day toolkit, available at endpolio.org/world-polio-day.

Mark your calendar to tune in to Rotary's World Polio Day Online Global Update on 24 October. This year we will stream our program on Facebook in multiple time zones around the world. Visit the Rotary International Facebook page to RSVP to your region's program. And do not forget to follow the event on social media and share it with your network.

When we reach our goal, polio will become only the second human disease eradicated on the planet, and Rotary will receive international acclaim. But what matters most is the children who will never again have to face this terrible, disabling virus. Rotary must continue to connect the world in the effort toward polio eradication. It is up to us. Let us finish the job.

MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GBAGADA, DISTRICT 9110 HELD AT GOLFVIEW HOTEL IKEJA GRA, LAGOS.

DATE: 9th October 2019

ATTENDANCE

Members: Odutola, Adedeji, Adekunle, Aina, Ayeni Adeleke, Ayeni Samuel, Ayodele, Dikko, Eleshin, Erinle, Fabamwo, Farinu, Ipaye, Kasim, Koiku, Matuluko, Nsirimobi, Odude-Olasinde, Ogunsola, Oke, Olawoyin, Olubowale, Onafuwa, O'nezer, Osunrinde, Shoga, Williamson, Jobi

Visiting Rotarian

1. Rotn. Favour Madu RC Omole Golden
2. Rotn. Mufutau Adelotan RC Oregon Guests

1. PraiseJah

The meeting commenced at exactly 7.09pm.

Rotary Grace: PP Fowoke Williamson

Object of Rotary: Rotn Lanre Odude-Olasinde

4 Way Test: PP Tayo Opanubi

Sergeant-At-Arms: PP Tayo Opanubi

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Rotarian President, Rotarian Akintola Odutola welcomed everyone to the meeting. He briefed members about the club activities for the preceding week.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The President asked for comments and corrections on the minutes of the last meeting.

PAG Ayo Onafuwa pointed out the fact that Rotn Folasade Koiku who fellowshiped with the Club last week was from RC Omole Golden as opposed to RC Maryland as contained in the minutes.

Rotn Gbenga Olubowale subsequently moved a motion for the adoption of the minutes and the motion was seconded by Rotn Sam Ayeni.

WEST AFRICA PROJECT FAIR

The President announced that the RC Gbagada contingent will be leaving for Monrovia on Friday 11th October and will be returning on Wednesday 16th October 2019. The project booklet was passed around members.

WORLD POLIO DAY 2019

PAG Lanre Kasim inquired on the club's plan for the World Polio Day and whether such plans had been registered. He also appealed for support for the upcoming Polio Concert.

The President, in response said that the club was yet to register a World Polio day but will do so in the course of the week. He also affirmed that two tables had been booked for the Polio concert.

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS (RYLA)

The President announced that the closing date for payment and nomination of candidates had been postponed. He however appealed to members that were yet to redeem their pledges to do so in good time for the club to make payment. He also encouraged more members to sponsor candidates as the club was still behind the target of 50 candidates for RYLA.

WE CARE FUN NIGHT

The President announced that We Care group D would be hosting the We Care night for the month of October 2019. He encouraged the members of group to continue their plan to ensure a successful outing.

MEMBERSHIP

The President asked the Membership Chair, Rotn Alozie Nsirimobi to give an update on the Club-in-Club guests.

Rotn Nsirimobi gave a report of the activities of the Membership Committee. He said that he has about 25 names of C-in-C guests that are waiting to join the club. He also said that interviews would be arranged after the West Africa Project Fair.

It was also announced that Mr Oladapo Jobi had paid his dues and had become the 114th member of the club.

BULLETIN REVIEW

Rotn Alozie Nsirimobi did a great job of reviewing the current edition of the weekly bulletin.

PORTACABIN PROJECT

PDG Deinde Shoga gave a briefing concerning the Global grant project on portacabin health posts. He said that our partners from District 2430 Turkey would be arriving on 20th October 2019. The partners would be conducting a training on the project between 21st and 22nd October 2019. He also said that they would be sharing fellowship with RC Gbagada as well as going to Ikorodu and Ota during the visit.

ROTARY FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS

The President reported that our club's contribution to the Rotary Foundation this year had not been encouraging. He appealed to members to continue to make donations to the Rotary Foundation as we aim to be an "All EREY" club.

ANNUAL DUES

It was reported that 65 members had (either fully or partly) paid their dues. The President encouraged other members to pay up their dues.

ROTARY ALUMNI WEEK

The President of the Rotary Alumni Association of District 9110, Rotn. Favour Madu was at the meeting to commemorate the Alumni Reconnect week. She reiterated that the essence of the Alumni week was to celebrate people that participated in various Rotary learning programmes such as RYLA, Peace Fellowships, Youth exchange and Group Study Exchange. She also said that the alumni association serves as an avenue to connect and establish a network. The Club's Youth exchange candidate, Tope Olaleye addressed the club about her experience in Brazil.

TRF LOTTO GAME

The Rotary Foundation lotto game was played with the sum of ₦10,000 in the kitty. The winning numbers were 46, 58, 34, 15 and there was no winner.

SERGEANT-AT-ARM COLLECTIONS

Total SAA collections for the day stood at ₦68,000

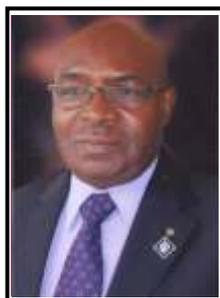
TOAST

Rotn. Isola Ogunsola gave the toast.

CLOSING

The meeting ended at 9.00pm with members reciting the National Anthem.

'Bamidele Ayodele
Secretary



PDG ADENIJI RAJI

LEADERSHIP STRATEGIES

IMPROVING LEADERSHIP PERFORMANCE

Leadership strategies can vary greatly depending on situation, but they all can greatly impact the vision and the direction of growth within our Club.

Potential success lies in the hands of our club leaders. It's important for those in leadership positions to have a clear vision for their teams and having a strategic plan can play a big part in that.

A strategic leadership plan would not be complete without involving team building. Our teams are our future; thus, our leaders must understand how team building can help build us a better future and maintain our winning ways.

1. Create Motivation

Leaders not only need to feel motivated but also need to be prepared to motivate others. Nothing drives motivation in an organization better than the team having a clear understanding of their mission or vision. Being challenged, and the overall feeling of being a part of a successful and trusted team that comes with completing a challenge, increases motivation even further. Leaders who facilitate team building encourage all of this, plus give all those involved a chance to feel appreciated for their individual talents. What could be more empowering?

2. Build Better Communication

One of the most important things a leader can do is foster communication between members of their team. Whether it's in the form of mediating a dispute, or making sure everyone's voice is being heard, it's important for a leader to make sure lines of communication are clear. Team building activities and games encourage discussion, friendly debates and opens the floor for ideas and contributions from the team to spill out. Everyone involved feels comfortable to speak out during these friendly activities, and there are so many to choose from!

3. Build Better Problem-Solving Skills

Leaders often end up in the role of problem-solver. While this is an important skill for a leader to have, it's also important to recognize and strengthen problem solving skills within your team. Team building allows the teams to search for possible solutions to a problem, make

decisions, experiment with different course of actions and give each other helpful feedback. They quickly learn that to be successful as a team they must work together. These skills are easily transferable to any situation they find themselves in next!

4. OPEN UP SOCIAL GATES

Strong leaders will recognize the roles that social bonds play in the effectiveness of a team. Simply put: people who like each other will work better together. Barriers are broken down and new trust walls are built. When you host a team building event, teams can learn about each other through the power of play. You want your teams to feel comfortable with each other and be able to learn from each other. Being able to socialize and appreciate your team is just as important as getting the work done is. The work will get done better by a team that HAS FUN TOGETHER!

THANKS TO FOWEEZ FOR CREATING THE "WE CARE" GROUPS THAT ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTIONS EVERY MONTH END.

5. Learn Strategic ways to Utilize your Teams Strengths

Team building allows each member to learn more about each other and themselves. A good team is made up of introverts, extroverts and many different personalities and strengths. Learning how to use this knowledge is another key to be a successful team leader. Different activities give teams a chance to strategically think, act or experiment with different options of how to accomplish goals.

Leaders can utilize this time to figure out how to maximize strengths, that can be transferred to work related projects. Let's imbibe these leadership strategies to improve our "winning ways" in order to attain our "Mission to retain" We must continue to "Show Rotary Cares" as we "Connect the World"

Yours in Rotary Service

Adeniji Raji (mni)

Governor 1997-98

PHOTO REEL
BUSINESS MEETING



The United President giving our club's bannaret to Rotarian Gary & Nancy Harrington of RC Pleasanton CA

West Africa Project Fair
Liberia



Rotn. Bukky Odude's Mum's
80th Birthday Party



KEEP POLIO AT ZERO CONCERT

16 October 2019



NIGERIA NATIONAL POLIO PLUS COMMITTEE
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICTS IN NIGERIA

PRESENTS

KEEP
POLIO
@ZERO
Concert

A FUNDRAISING CONCERT IN SUPPORT OF
TOTAL ERADICATION OF POLIO

COMEDY | MUSIC | CHARITY

FEATURING POLIO AMBASSADORS



ALIBABA PHYNO SHUGA RANTI TIMAYA KATE DANJA

SUNDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2019 4:00PM

ROYAL OAKS EVENT CENTRE, IKATE-LEKKI, LAGOS

REGULAR N10,000 VIP N25,000 VVIP N50,000

ENQUIRIES

0803 333 1731, 0803 438 7815
CONCERT@ENDPOLIO.ORG.NG

WWW.ENDPOLIO.ORG.NG

ORGANIZATIONAL POWER & COMMUNICATION PART II USING POWER IN AN ORGANIZATION

16 October 2019

Power use is a part of an organizational dynamic that is, at heart, political. This political process is an ingredient of planning, organizing, staffing, budgeting, goal setting, and program management.

However, texts on management often ignore (and as a result mask) the political power dimension of these functions. In budgeting, to use only one example, guidelines concentrate on goals methods, steps, and criteria of the budget cycle; elements of the budget process; implementation; and control. They assume that producing a budget is as mechanical as, say, manufacturing an automobile.

The organizational reality is that participants influence each other during each phase of the budget process. They negotiate schedules, they compromise goals, they marshal support, and they compete for limited resources. Budgeting and all of these other activities are power tasks.

Organization members accomplish them via use of power tactics implicit in a political action process many call organizational politics. We all continually find ourselves in situations where power negotiation is a legitimate part of our working lives. Organization members are continually in situations where they are competing with other people for dominance (Pfeiffer, 1981, 1992). They compete for the capacity to get their own way in the face of competing action by others in their intimate work group. We can describe this situation in five sentences:

1. Organizational participants react continually with other people who are in interdependent relationship with them.
2. The participant's goals or methods (or both) differ with those of others in the relationship. This difference is such that if one person achieves his goals, the other is thwarted from accomplishing his goals or methods.
3. The participants are in competition with each other as to who will achieve desired goals.
4. There is scarcity present in the situation to some extent.
5. The participants attach enough importance

to the situation, goals, or approach that they are willing to engage their energy in this relationship.

These five aspects of the power relationship also define typical organizational life. That is, most situations in which we find ourselves in organizations are situations where our understanding of what is happening increases by viewing the relationship in political power terms.

LIMITS OF POWER USE

While power is, by definition, a part of joint action, it is constrained by a variety of factors in the situation and the character of participants. One factor constraining power use is the perspective from which we view it. We are constrained whether we see it as an end or only as instrumental to other ends.

There are always constraining factors that limit its use and effect. For example, personal characteristics or physical appearance impacts our power use. Those with attractive physical or personality characteristics find it easier to exercise power than those not so well endowed. Height, intelligence, relative comeliness, and similar factors help or hinder our effectiveness as power users. These factors are symbols of our power.

Similarly, factors in the situation surrounding power use can impact effectiveness. Position held in the hierarchy is significant, as is socioeconomic status, the size of the group, and the nature of the task dealt with. All these factors, individually or combined, can impact our ability to use power productively. The central factor in power use is will and resources.

Unless there is enough of both, we cannot exercise power. Success in achieving desired results in the face of opposition is a function of individual will and control and the imaginative use of available resources.

PACK THE PLATES

Usually, my mum would leave some piece of meat for the person packing her plates after meal.

My motivation to pack her plate was the meat. On a particular day, the plate was empty, and I just walked pass. One of my brothers came around, moved by a sense of duty and packed the plates. Mum thanked him and while he engaged both hands carrying the plates, she asked him to open his mouth as she dunked a mouthful chunk! The plate was empty, but her hand was full! I didn't see the hand, I only checked the plate. That lesson never left me!

The reward for packing some plates of responsibilities and duties may not be visible on the plates but wrapped within the faithful fingers of devotion, dedication and selfless service to humanity.

Many people walk pass their fulfillment by looking the other way from obligations simply because the plate poses with an empty reward.

I have since learnt that greatness is postpaid!

Greatness is rarely advertised on the screen of reward but disguised like an empty manger bearing the burden of a full Inn.

You cannot predict the weight of a child by the size of his mother. If you missed the blessings of being responsible to your siblings, clients, partner, friends etc. the best anointing oil will do is to fry your head for dinner in the canteen of frustration.

So, be eager to pack the plates you found on the table of responsibility: at home, office, the associations you belong to, everywhere...

Don't look at those making jest of you, be intentional and live a life of meaningful impacts in this side of eternity.

ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



PDG DEHINDE SHOGA

MY ROTARY STORY



PP ADENIKE ABDUL-AZEEZ

My Rotary Story

How do I begin my Rotary story?

Daughter of a Rotarian, wife of a Rotarian and mother of a Rotaractor, yet I wasn't inducted into Rotary until

August 2008 at the Rotary Club of Ketu by the then PAG Olugbemiga Olowu who is now a PDG.

Initially, I felt I didn't have enough time; raising children as a working mother left little room for other interests. Later, I thought I didn't have enough treasures, I thought you must be rich or at least have a lot of leftovers to be a Rotarian. In short, I always found an excuse not to join the fold.

Then in April 2007, I had my last child, a child of destiny, a child with multiple congenital malformations, the experience transformed me. In the depth of my despair, I held on to almighty Allah and prayed for her to live despite the malformations. I saw hopelessness in the faces of doctors and nurses in the special care unit at UCH yet I prayed for a miracle.

My baby was on oxygen support, week after week, all I had was my faith in God. At the end of the 6th week, she started breathing without support, my hope blossomed. Unable to suckle, she took her breast milk through NG tube, 5ml at a time, but that was enough to keep my hope high.

Seven weeks after birth, we went home and had to start physiotherapy visits. It was gruesome, it was hell, it was heart wrenching. No neck control at 4 months, then 5, then 6, then 7 months and so on. Knowing what we were going through, how much we were spending and most importantly how we felt, I promised myself that I'll find an avenue to help others in similar situations if I could.

My prayer now was on neck control; so back to orthopedic clinic we were referred. Body braces, more exercises and she gained neck control at one year old, Allah be praise. It was time to start to give back; my hubby nudged me toward Rotary, I began to fellowship with Rotary club of Ketu in May, 2008 shortly after she clocked a year. Rotary will be one of my ways of giving back. I still plan to have a clinic that will offer free services to such children when my purse is larger but for now, in Rotary I find an opportunity to reach many more that I could have done on my own.

After joining Rotary, I found joy in fellowship; I found friends, fun and camaraderie. I found joy in service and I have never looked back. When the spirit of fellowship waned for me in RC Ketu, my interest began to dwindle yet I wanted to continue to serve, thus I began to scout for other avenues I could utilize to serve humanity. Lions club beckoned but Rotary had me firmly in her grasp.

Which Rotary club should I move my membership to? Many tried but Gbagada won. Thanks to their record of service projects and the doggedness of PAG Lanre Kasim, in the Rotary year 2014/2015, I finally came home. RC Gbagada is home.

I have served in various capacities at both club and district levels and I was the 27th president of RC Ketu in the Rotary year 2011/2012. I have attended ten district conferences and three RI conventions. I have enjoyed fellowship in various countries like Ghana, Tanzania, Kenya, USA etc and I have found joy in the four way test. ...this is a part of my rotary story.

**Yours in Rotary Service,
PP Adenike Abdul-Azeez
Iya'yawo (shildren).**