

THE **REPRESENTATIVE**

Newsletter

Rotaract
District 9110



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ROTARACT DISTRICT 9110, NIGERIA

JANUARY
EDITION



**ROTARACT FELLOWSHIP
AT RYLA 2021**

SEVENTEEN INDUCTED MEMBERS

A Special Time to Relax & Celebrate our Bond

10TH-12TH DEC., 2021
JUBILEE RESORT HOTEL
Epe, Lagos.



Rotary
District 9110.



Rotaract
District 9110



Interact
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CHANGE LIVES

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Rotaract
District 9110



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For Rotaract District 9110

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This scheme is in Partnership with **Ajo Cards** and over 700 hospitals all around Nigeria.



For more inquiries, Contact us: +234 906 139 9883 | +234 803 369 9311 | +234 806 518 9571

THE **REPRESENTATIVE**

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ROTARACT DISTRICT 9110, NIGERIA

Ayodeji Sobowale

District Rotaract Representative

Phone/Whatsapp +234-803-369-9311

Afolabi Abdullahi

District Rotaract Representative-Elect

Raheem Rashidat

District Secretary

Rotaract Club of Agege

Ebunoluwa Isaac

District Treasurer

Rotaract Club of Mushin

Editorial Team

Tiamiyu Adetayo

Chairman

Rotaract Club of Ijebu-Ode

Esobitan Ezekiel

Rotaract Club of Omole-Golden

Kakanfo Yetunde

Rotaract Club of Ijebu-Ode

Selere Korede

Rotaract Club of TASUED

Oluwafemi Gbemileke

Rotaract Club of OOU, Ago Iwoye

Akanni Damola

Rotaract Club of Olambe

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of things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP?
4. Will it be BENEFICIARY to all concerned?

PURPOSE AND GOALS OF ROTARACT

The purpose of Rotaract is to provide an opportunity for young men and women to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address the physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service.

The Goals of Rotaract:

1. To develop professional and leadership skills;
2. To emphasize respect for the rights of others, and to promote ethical standards and the dignity of all useful occupations;
3. To provide opportunities for young people to address the needs and concerns of the community and our world;
4. To provide opportunities for working in cooperation with sponsoring Rotary clubs;
5. To motivate young people for eventual membership in Rotary.



It's been a hectic journey so far but with the support of my amazing committee members, we've been able to scale through it and we shall not relent. It is another publication and as usual its an exciting and interesting piece. Have first hand insight into reports and activities of the Rotaract District for the month of January and as well urging every humanitarian not to rest but to keep serving with all our heart. Once more, I pray 2022 be our year of greater achievements and Fulfillment.

Please take out time to read and digest each column and find inspiration in them.

Remember, there is always an opportunity to change lives while also making a difference.

Happy new year

Tiamiyu Adetayo
RAC Ijebu Ode

DISTRICT ROTARACT REPRESENTATIVE'S MESSAGE

FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY
(VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH)



It gives me immense pleasure to greet you all happy new month and brand new year. It is a dream come true seeing you all crossover with your loved ones joyously in Year 2022. Glory be to God!

Today also is significant in the Rotary calendar. It simply means we have successfully passed half Rotary year. Realizing this, it is imperative that I reflect on the journey so far. There is no doubt we have achieved pretty much together, particularly the support and unity to bring Rotaractors together for fun, fellowship and service.

Dear Changemakers, in the first half of the year, we have been able to improve on partnerships to enhance more impact; notably, we established a sustainable partnership with strong social and business organization-Lagos Country Club and Excellence Hotel- to raise more fund to The Rotary Foundation to support the massive donation of Rotaractors.

We also partnered with the Lagos State Government in which 3 Government owned Vocational Centers were released to Rotaract District for 3 month to train young people. The program that has not less than 300-400 participants being trained in different areas of vocational skills of interest.

There was also a Brachial Plexus Injury Awareness in partnership with Conquering BPI, One Young World and Rotaract Club of Medilag Golden to educate and train local bone setters. A project that also had TV appearance for our crop of finest Rotaractors.

I am particularly excited that we have also look within for formidable partnership to change lives. We partnered with two Rotaract Districts (9141 & 9142) for Mental Health project to commemorate World Mental Health Day. It is my joy that we are advancing the vision of Rotary International through collaboration, we also had a joint Family of Rotary celebration with Rotary District and of course still the biggest of its kind for Rotaract District.

These partnerships are establishing a sustainable trends and we are confident to seal more partnership as we proceed through the second half of the year.

As Rotaract District, other activities and projects we have done include organizing soft skills training, tree planting/tree tagging project, great trek in which Oto Awori community and its environ will not forget our impact in a hurry. The Membership seminar has enhanced improved membership quality where Rotaractors now indulge in best practices, participate in District activities and exhibit great ethics within and outside Rotary cycle. We also welcomed 4 new Rotaract Clubs which now takes our numbers to 76 clubs.

Administratively, we have taken the bold step to turn the Rotaract office to place of rich history where Rotaractors can be inspired to do more in service to humanity by unveiling Hall of Fame of our Past District Rotaract Representatives.

The records are there to see and I am really humbled for all the things we have achieved together because I couldn't have wished for better volunteers like you who are changing the narratives in all ramifications. I say a big thank you to everyone from the depth of my heart.

DISTRICT UPDATES

The application for the District 9110 Educational Welfare and Endowment Fund scholarship is ongoing to support indigent but brilliant students in Lagos and Ogun state. Late last month, I however written to the office of the District Governor to specially solicit the committee to also consider indigent but brilliant students who schools outside the Lagos and Ogun state but are

bonafide and active Rotaractors of District 9110. I believe there is no harm in attempting new thing, therefore, we hope to have positive response from the Rotary District where more Rotaractors can be open to more opportunities.

RYLA

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award is starting on Friday 7th - Saturday 15th January, 2022. Rotaract District will be hosting fellowship with the RYLA participants on Friday 14th January 2022 by 2pm. Rotaractors are all invited to join the fellowship with RYLA participants. I have also encouraged the Changemaker Presidents to seize the opportunity at RYLA ground to attract new members to their clubs through branding, club project exhibition and other items worth sharing to the interest of the RYLA participants. The District is also open to new ideas that can be taken to the RYLA Participants capable of human capacity development.

COUNCIL MEETING

The third council meeting will be holding on Saturday 22nd January, 2022 in Ijebu. The council meeting is statutory meeting for Rotaract Club and District leaders to share information about the District and other relevant matters. Further details of the council meeting will be made available in due time as necessary.

DISTRICTING

The districting of our dear district is very much on course and gathering momentum. All procedures are well in order.

DRR VISIT

I have been able to visit 20 Clubs from the available 24 weekends in the first Rotary year. The DRR visit has been challenging traversing the nicks and crannies of Lagos and Ogun State but it has been full of knowledge sharing, strategies and adventurous.

PROJECTS UPDATE

The ongoing 3-month Vocational training will end this January. Lagos State Government will issue certificate to the trainees after the closure. In the bid to not just leave the graduating trainees with only the Certificate we have started sending proposals for partnership to help empower at least the best student in each of the skills with basic start-up equipment while we still work on submitting the data of certified students to Lagos State Employment Trust Fund. Let me seize this medium to reach out and seek sponsorship from well-meaning individuals and Rotary/Rotaract Clubs who have passion for human development for sponsorship and or links to sponsorship. Rotaract District is open to sustainable partnership. Just as we have been able to coordinate projects in the first half of the year, we shall consolidate on our efforts to do more in second half also.

Distinguished members of Rotary family, the second half of the year will definitely come with its own challenges, probably tougher than the ones we have experienced in the first half. However, I have high optimism that we will together do more because of our determination to succeed together, strength and unity of purpose. I therefore urge you and seek more support even as we proceed in this very first day because as changemakers, we are committed to just one thing- serve to change lives.

Happy new year 2022!

Ayodeji Ezekiel Sobowale

District Rotaract Representative Rotary International

District 9110

drrdeji2021.22@gmail.com

08033699311



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Public health is on everyone's mind due to the global pandemic that still threatens the safety of ourselves and our loved ones. In a sense, COVID-19 has made all of us much more aware of the roles and responsibilities of medical professionals than we were before we had to wear masks and maintain social distance. In addition, while moving through this pandemic, we have also learned about the role we can play in keeping others safe.

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month in Rotary. The pandemic unfortunately has schooled most people on the toll that disease takes on our communities. But fighting disease is something that Rotarians around the world have been doing for decades. In fact, it is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus.

As Rotarians, we believe that good health and well-being is a human right —

even though 400 million people across the globe do not have access to essential health services. The work we do in establishing clinics, eye hospitals, and blood banks, as well as in building infrastructure for medical facilities in underserved communities, all returns to a central belief that access, prevention, and education are the keys to stopping deadly outbreaks that harm the most vulnerable.

My exposure to health work began with my Rotary club, Calcutta-Mahanagar. There, among other things, I helped pioneer a program called Saving Little Hearts that over the years has provided more than 2,500 free heart surgeries for children from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Africa. Before the program went international, it started locally with the goal of performing just six surgeries within our community. Today, our goal is to complete another 20,000 surgeries over the next five years.

Since we are not ingrates, I say NONE of the bounties of our Lord will be denied by us. Let me start with a heart full of gratitude for His grace that has made us to witness this New Year 2022 as I say HAPPY NEW YEAR! This moment signals the beginning of the second half of our Change Maker Year.

I cannot but to thank each and every member of our organisation, Rotary International and in particular members of RI District 9110, for your support during the first half of the Rotary year. I am pleased with our modest achievements as a District during the first half for the obvious reason that we are playing the District's role as stated in Article 17.10.1 of RI Code of Policies dated August 2021.

This is what the article says: "A District is a group of clubs within a geographical boundary established by the Board. The purpose of a District is to strengthen and support the clubs. Districts are not required to complete a particular service project or programme. (April 2018 Mtg. BD. Dec. 160)" On this note, I am happy to say we have done what is expected of our District and majority

The world relies on Rotary to tackle challenges like these and to set an example for others. Over the past decade, medical professionals and government workers have provided free health services to 2.5 million people in 10 countries during Family Health Days, which are organized by Rotarians around the world. Similar health camps in India also provide thousands of surgeries to those in need. Medical missions from India to Africa each year are an excellent example of hands-on service in disease prevention and treatment. Rotary members can also get involved at a local level; clubs in the United States and Mexico, for example, fund a free health clinic in Guerrero, a small town in Mexico.

And of course, our effort to eradicate polio is by far the best story in civil-society health care.

This month, think about how your club can focus on preventing and fighting disease. This is the time to take a bigger, better, bolder approach through both club and district projects that can impact more people. Re-evaluate where you are with your goals. Create strategies that can sustain change over years, not months.

Everyone deserves a long, healthy life. When you Serve to Change Lives, your actions today can help extend the lives of others.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY



of our clubs have been strengthened and supported in such a way that our agenda for the 2021-22 Rotary Year in growing Rotary is not in any way challenged.

However, the year is just half way gone, so we still have plenty of time to 'BEAT THE

"Which then of the bounties of your Lord will you deny?"

'CLOCK' because we have so many of goals that have not been achieved.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FIRST HALFYEAR

The visit of Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta and his spouse, Rashi, to Nigeria between 2nd and 7th September, 2021 was hugely successful. Our District Leaders and Rotarians received

DG message contd.

our august visitors on September 2 during the visit of the RI President and spouse.

It was a high profile event that took the RI President, spouse and Rotary Leaders in Nigeria to visit President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR at the Presidential Villa in Abuja. I'm happy to report that it was a remarkable visit. I cannot thank Rotarians enough for the support that contributed to the success of the visit.

HALF YEAR REPORT BY CLUBS

Rotarians, you know we designate each month for specific causes. Our Clubs and District committees lived up to expectation in marking various activities. Indeed, we truly served to change lives.

It has been a half year full of activities in which the District Governor was always invited but regrettably, due to time constraint, not many invitations were honoured. But I am aware that our Change Maker Presidents and Committee Chairs appreciate my regular engagements with them.

It is time for Clubs to put together half year reports in line with the Guidelines for Awards and Recognition for Clubs and individuals as released by the District. I am very sure our clubs will prepare detailed reports of activities, upload goals achieved in the Rotary Club Central (RCC) for the half year to reflect how we have served and changed lives in our various communities.

ONGOING PROJECTS

A review of the expired District Strategic Plan has commenced, EREY promotion is still on going, unveiling of Hall of Fame where our past most outstanding presidents' portraits are displayed, Zonal Multi-club Training Seminars were held at various zones and will continue, necessary instruments for operating District Economic and Empowerment Programme (DEEP) were worked on and the loans will be granted in the month of January under the supervision of DEWEF.

DEMISE OF ROTARIANS

We appreciate God for His grace that has kept those of us that are alive until this moment. It is not because we are saints or special people with extraordinary talents and manners that He spared us from the cold hands of death either by Covid-19 that is ravaging our world or other forms of death.

Regrettably, some of our colleagues were not that lucky and passed on. They were with us this time last year but are no more today. Our District 9110 lost six Rotarians including a Past District Governor, Rotarian Ezekiel Olalekan Ogundimu, in the last six months. May I request we observe a minute silence for the repose of their souls whenever we read up to this point of this address.

DISTRICT AGENDA

We rounded up the first half year with the Districting Agenda when we sent out ballot to clubs for their votes to confirm their support or otherwise for the agenda. Having attained the membership figure that has positioned us to pursue our agenda for splitting the District into two, it gladdens my

heart that the responses of District Leaders, Rotarians and indeed our clubs have been very encouraging.

I see us having a resounding YES vote for the splitting agenda. Let me thank you in advance of a life time achievement in the history of Rotary International District 9110. I want to assure you that the confidence reposed in the District leadership will not be taken for granted and we shall deliver as mandated.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2ND HALF OF THE YEAR (JANUARY - JUNE, 2022)

We shall use the second half of the year to consolidate the gains of the first half and start preparing ground for birthing the two new Districts (District 9111 and District 9112). I want to specially recognise the role of the District Governor Elect, Rotarian Omotunde Lawson and the District Governor Nominee, Ifeanyiwa Ejekwe in the splitting agenda so far.

RYLA

The Rotary Youth Leadership Academy will run between 7th and 15th January, 2022 at NYSC Camp, Iyana Ipaja, Lagos. The theme for this year's RYLA is 'Youths Serving to Change Lives'. Over 800 youths will be attending the academy to learn about leadership, citizenship, vocational activities amongst other activities.

The Chairman of RYLA, Past President Dare Adeyeri has assured of a RYLA that would create a wholesome experience for the participants and other stakeholders like never before. May I use this opportunity to request our leaders to join the committee to show our youths how to be great people in life.

ADOPT A SCHOOL PROJECT (WASH)

This legacy project whereby clubs are expected to adopt public primary schools in their communities with a view to providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) under TRF is on. Clubs have started to show interest in the project and the issue of international partners is being sorted out. The project is expected to be delivered in the next few months.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION FUND RAISING DINNER

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) dinner will be held on Saturday 19th February, 2022. A new concept is being introduced in our fund raising effort through TRF Fund Raising Dinner. The event is meant to raise funds for TRF; therefore all tickets will be denominated in US Dollars. Each ticket will be sold for a minimum of 100 USD which will go into individual Rotarian's TRF account as against using income from ticket sales to run the dinner.

The committee in charge under the leadership of PP Niyi Adelaja is fine tuning the workability of the new concept.

DEWEF FUND RAISER AND APPRECIATION DINNER

A dinner to raise funds for DEWEF and appreciate clubs and individuals who have significantly supported DEWEF will hold on 19th March, 2021.

DG'S VISIT TO CLUBS

As at the close of the first half of the Rotary Year in December 2021, a total of 84 Rotary Clubs have been visited by the DG. I hope to visit the remaining clubs before the end of February 2022. The club visits have been full of fun, in addition to being motivational, inspirational and knowledge sharing with ourselves. I thank all the clubs that received me and my team and those that are looking forward to my visit this year.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE (DISCON) 2022

Preparation for DISCON 2022 holding in Abeokuta, Ogun State from May 12 - 15, 2022 is gathering momentum. The conference is the equivalent of an Annual General Meeting in the corporate world. It is the gathering of Rotarians from our District and other Districts with RI President's Representative in attendance to give the President's address.

Motivational speakers have been invited to address participants while the House of Friendship on this occasion is very limited in number but with varieties of Rotary merchandise and opportunity to meet old and make new friends. The closing dinner will be entertained by a first class musician still kept under wraps.

ON TO HOUSTON CONVENTION 2022

The Rotary International Convention is holding between 4th and 8th June, 2022 in Houston, Texas, USA. The little set back we have is the reluctance of the American Embassy to entertain group visas processing. Rotarians are encouraged to apply and confirm appointments on their own and process their entry visas.

The On-To-Houston Convention Committee of the District under its Chairman, PAG Niyi Adesanya, is going ahead with the plan to receive the attendees at the Convention in Houston. I want to assure all the attendees of special treatment as I will personally be on ground to welcome those who are able to make it to Houston in the company of the Committee Chairman.

DG SPEAKS - INTERACTIVE FEEDBACK FORUM

We shall continue with the novel feedback mechanism from Rotarians through the 'DG Speaks' initiative by the District Public Image Committee Chaired by PP Michael Effiong James. I want to thank those who have participated in the past editions and implore others to seize the opportunity to be part of the running of our District by your questions and comments during the programme. The first edition this New Year will hold on Thursday 6th January, 2022. PP Michael Effiong James will provide further information on the virtual meeting.

"Together we can, together we will".

Let me end this address by thanking you, on behalf of myself and my wife, Nike, for your support to date and plead that the job is half done. The clock is still begging to be beaten; let us continue to Beat the Clock and be the confirmed 'Change Makers' as we serve to change lives'.

ROTARACT CLUB OF IKORODU GOLDEN CELEBRATES THE NEW YEAR WITH NEW BORN BABIES AND THEIR MOTHERS AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL IKORODU



In celebration of the new year and the year and spreading love to their community. The Rotaract club of Ikorodu Golden D9110 led by the club Rtr. Ogunbanwo Damilola chose to give out gift items to the new born babies, infants and mothers at the General Hospital, Ikorodu.

The Rotaract club donated gift items, toiletries and provisions to the different wards at the children sector of the hospital. There are over 50 beneficiaries for the items donated

Highlights of the event includes the presence of the Ayangburen of Ikorodu and his council when the gift for the baby of the year (The first baby that was born in 2022 at the hospital) was presented to the mother.

The parents, matron and management of the General Hospital were happy for the candid gesture.

The project was chaired by Rtr. Adebamijoko Mathew had 15 members, District officers and Mr Aroyewun Hammed.





BABY OF IMPACT

By Roractaract Club of Abeokuta

The New Baby and Family of Mr. & Mrs. Akinwande

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT:

The purpose was not just to ensure safe delivery or celebrate them alone but to ensure the future of the baby is well taking care of; being the first baby of the year. Also, to help put smile on a face and impact our community during rendering medical help where necessary

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:-

Rotaract Club of Abeokuta in partnership with JCI Rockcity Celebrates 1st Baby of the Year 2022.

In our quest to actualizing the set plan of action, we, the member of RAC ABEOKUTA want to make it a norm to show love and concern to the First Child delivered in any Government

Hospital of the State Capital of Ogun State with the Project tagged "Baby of Impact".

This is aimed at honoring the first baby of the year with gifts (baby items) and presentation of cash donations.

The first baby for this year 2022 in Abeokuta was delivered at 1:35am at the Primary Health Centre, Okeilewo, Abeokuta.

The baby was delivered into the family of Mr. & Mrs. Akinwande.

Rotaract Club of Abeokuta in partnership with JCI Rockcity, JAO Foundation and Ojulowo Omoluabi donated cash, materials gift and scholarship to the first baby of the year 2022.

The scholarship will see the lucky baby from Primary level to Secondary

School level being the first partnership of its kind between the humanitarian organizations.

The event was graced by Her Excellency Mrs. Bamidele Abiodun, First Lady of Ogun State. In her remarks, she appreciates the efforts of the organizations and also states that she understands what the organizations stand for and her office is opened to future collaborations.

Each representative of the partners acknowledges the involvement of Her Excellency service to humanity which has been outstanding and are proud to associate with her office and look forward to more future partnership as our ideology align with that of His Excellency, Prince Dapo Abiodun (MFR) towards Building Our Future Together.





ROTARACT FELLOWSHIP AT RYLA 2021

The Rotaract and Interact members of trooped to the 2021 Rotary Youth Leadership Award ground en masse to share joint fellowship with the RYLA participants on Friday 14th January, 2022.

The purpose of the fellowship was to promote Rotaract to the RYLA participants as a platform to continue building their leadership skills and other things they have learnt at the RYLA.

The fellowship started which at exactly 5:00pm had in attendance the 2021 RYLA Chairman Rtn Dayo Adeyeri, Youth Service Chairman Rtn Saheed Rasheed, DRC Chairman Rtn Adedayo Akinbobola and District

Interact Committee Chairperson Rtn Fatimah Hassan.

The District Rotaract Representative Ayodeji Sobowale addressed the RYLA participants to embrace Rotaract and join a club that is close to their community or school while the guest speaker David Odunsi addressed them on the significance of Rotaract in the world.





CALL TO ORDER: By the District Rotaract Representative Ayodeji Shobowale at 7:24pm

ROTARACT GRACE:sung by all

The DRR introduced himself and his personal assistant,after which all board members of Ikate current and incoming introduced themselves.

The DRR checked all the documents of the club.

1. The Club Budget
2. The Club Project plans
3. The Club Cheque book
4. The Club Constitution
5. The Club register of active and intending members.

6.The Club Treasury

7.The Club Minute book

The DRR corrected on the minute book and also the register book,he suggested there should be a club album that stores all club activities (project,celebrations etc)

He further advised the club should start with little project, project that won't cost the club much as it is just a starting club,a project that will benefit the members.

The president Rtr. Benjamin Ugochukwu



DRR OFFICIAL VISIT TO ROTARACT CLUB OF IKATE

thanked the DRR for the advise and assured all corrections will be effected.
The meeting was called to a close at 8:00pm.



DRR OFFICIAL VISIT TO ROTARACT CLUB OF ISOLO

It was with great ecstasy and delight that the leadership and members of Rotaract Club of Isolo, District 9110, received the District Rotaract Representative (DRR), Rotaractor Ayodeji Ezekiel Shobowale and his entourage on Sunday, January 30, 2022.

The club hosted the number one rotaractor in the district at the usual meeting venue at Isolo City Hall, Opposite Osolo's Palace, Isolo LCDA.

President of Rotary Club of Isolo, Rotarian Tejumola Taiwo and a few Rotarians from the sponsor club who had come to honor the Club, the visitation was successful and fruitful.

The business of the day kicked off with a

brief familiarization session followed by the board meeting which started at exactly 5 pm.

The DRR painstakingly and analytically assessed the club's document and other relevant records and encouraged the club's president, Rotaractor Temitope Jinadu and the board members on heightened diligence and efficiency in their respective duties.

Subsequently, the president, Rotaractor Temitope Jinadu rang the bell for fellowship session at exactly 6:15 pm and it ended around 7:45.

In his closing remarks, Rotaractor Shobowale harped on the need for the club to work on a sustainable growth plan and membership drive for the club just as he

expressed his commendation for the club's league of past presidents.

Rotr. Jinadu appreciated the DRR and his entourage for his visitation with words of assurance of executing the various recommendations.



Ongoing 3 month Vocational training updates: Ikorodu Center - Hairdressing and Fashion design Department



SEVENTEEN INDUCTED MEMBERS



Our target is to bring in young professionals with new ideas and enthusiasm that will further push Rotaract Club of Laspotech high up. Today's induction of new members gives us the opportunity to appreciate our members, look at where we have deficiencies and make necessary corrections.

It's in this regard that the club charging the newly inducted members that are inducted today to be good ambassadors of this club, and

work in good faith, love and integrity to achieve their aim of becoming Rotaractors for this is our divine mandate.

We appreciate the presence of ADDR Rotaractor Adenekan Abdulazeez, CP Rotaractor Adekeye Fathia and IPP Rotaractor Bamidele Oluwafemi.

The inducted members are listed below;

1. Yahaya Aminat Abimbola
2. Ayoola Monsurat Mosunmola
3. Foli Tobiloba Stephen
4. Remilekun Shonowo
5. Mark Ime Sunday

6. Irinyemi Opeyemi Olayinka
7. Pitt Akinola Anointed
8. AbdulRaheem Omolabani
9. Oluwaniyi Blessing Oluwatimilehin
10. Adekoya Gbenga
11. Akinola Aminat Morenikeji
- 12 Adeoyo Obanla Greatking
13. Olasunkanmi Ibukun
14. Lawal Rahimat Kehinde
15. Usman Mariam Mosunmola
16. Abioye Emmanuel Olamide
17. Aileru Oluwabunmi Rebecca

Once again we welcome you all to Rotaract Club of Laspotech.

MY RYLA 2021 EXPERIENCE

Having heard of the sweet and fun-filled experiences of my fellow Rotaractors who have participated in previous Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) event, I decided to sign up for it. Little did I know that both retrospective and prospective views of life were about to change.

I arrived at the camp location on Friday, got placed in a room after registration and grouping into various watches. At first the conditions of the facility were not favorable, not like the ones I was used to. That same night, I made up my mind that I could not endure such conditions for the rest of the 9 days the event was to take place for. I walked up to one of the facilitators and told her I was ready to leave. To my dismay, I was told that it would be impossible because I would have to go through some formal steps to leave the camp. I broke down in tears, shaking with the fear of how I was going to cope with such conditions. The facilitator (Rotn. Mariam) I walked up to, with Rotn. Adeniran Adebukola calmed me down. It was soothing to experience motherly care among Rotarians.

For the next 3 days of the camp, I was more focused on how to leave the camp. Sometimes I would wake up and count the number of nights I have left in camp. The friends I had in camp were the set of people I came to the camp with. On most occasions, I would feel really lonely as our hostels were different.

On the night of the 4th day, I walked up to Rotn. Fatima Hassan, she

already knew me as the girl who wanted to leave. Although this wasn't my aim of approaching her, I wanted her to know I appreciated her personality- discipline garnished with motherly love. We got talking, she told me how she went for RYLA despite being above the age bracket for participation, a nursing mother and working. Other Rotarians and Rotaractors joined in the conversation and shared their memorable experiences, the friendships and opportunities they had been exposed to as a result of RYLA. For me, that was the push and motivation I needed.

Immediately after the conversation, I went in search of my watch- Jaja watch, ate dinner with them and apologized for my absence for the past days. Although, the watch comprised of various age groups, the acceptance was phenomenal. I

"Although RYLA 2021 is over, you will not forget the experience in a long time."

- Rotn. Remi Bello, FCA
District Governor 9110 (2021-2022)

experienced the feeling of being with a new family. Some of their behaviors reminded me of myself. From engaging ourselves in activities such as early morning workouts, drama presentation, cooking competition, organization of eating and cleaning up, in the spirit of team work, communication, support and strong leadership.

Of all the lined up activities, the fellowship with Rotary Club of Ikeja

was my favorite. Seeing a number of Rotarians who are professionals in their various fields relate with us showed how much humility among other virtues is one of the core values of Rotary. Whenever, the citations of Rotarians who came as guest speakers were read, that gave me a prospective view of how my life can be. Like I always say, Rotary is one of my motivations to be successful in life.

During the course of the event, it was announced that participants should come up with business proposals integrating technology as a way forward into the future. I came up with an idea of incorporating telemedicine into curbing the health menaces of hypertension and diabetes. Having to defend such an idea with over 30 people while facing an audience of over 650 participants was such a huge moment for me. After 3 stages of elimination, I was selected among the top 3 with a monetary prize attached to this. It felt so unreal.

On the last day of the event, it was said that about 56 of the over 650 participants will be awarded with a special blue seal of citizenship and leadership for being extraordinary, based on the subjective evaluation of their watch members. I got the seal. From a girl who never wanted to continue with the program to being awarded in 2 different categories, I felt really grateful, especially to my sponsor club, RC Ogedu GRA.

This shows how elastic the mind can be as long as there are no limitations placed on it. The mind is a very capable domain if pumped with the right amount of zeal.

THANK YOU, RYLA for being a part of my success story.

**ROTR. OLUWATIMILEHIN
ADELEKE**
ROTARACT CLUB OF LASUCOM

PHOTO SPLASH FROM THE COUNCIL 3RD COUNCIL MEETING





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38TH ROTARACT DISTRICT CONFERENCE & CONVENTION
Rotary International District 9110, Nigeria

OSHODI

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20.2

THEME:

**THE YOUTH,
THE SOCIAL QUEST,
THE CHANGE.**

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

1ST STREAM
APR. 4TH - JUL. 1ST
N2500

2ND STREAM
JUL. 2ND-DEC., 31ST
N3000

3RD STREAM
JAN 1ST-MAR. 15TH
N3,500

ACCOMMODATION: N5000 (PER PARTICIPANT)

For Further Enquiries

Chairman:
Afolabi A. Abiola
08038551241, 07042856561

Vice chair [Ogun]:
Owolabi Fehintola
08065189571

Vice chair [Lagos]:
Raheem Rasheedat
07039886164

Ayodeji Sobowale | 08033699311 [DRR]
Isaac Ebunoluwa | 09025162696 [LOC Chair]

Account Details: Rotaract District 9110 20003585094 (First Bank)