



100 Outstanding Quotes
from Rotary International Presidents



The following 100 quotes reflect the diversity of presidents who have led Rotary International and its Foundation since the organization's beginning in 1905. Taken from Rotary resources, the quotes are a selective sampling and by no means exhaustive.

1910-12 Paul P. Harris (Founder of Rotary) (law), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA. Rotary vision: To harness the great power of friendship to help do the world's work.

“Man has affinity for his fellowman, regardless of race, creed, or politics, and the greater the variety, the more the zest. All friendliness needs is a sporting chance; it will take care of itself in any company.”

— *A Road I Have Travelled*, THE ROTARIAN, February 1934

“Friendship is a natural and willing servant....There is no reason...why the great power of friendship should not be harnessed to do its part in the world's work.”

— *Report of the President, 1912 Rotary Convention, Duluth, Minnesota, USA*

“The best antidote for international fear is international understanding; the best way to cultivate international understanding is through business and social intercourse.”

— *Message to 1928 Pacific Rotary Conference, Tokyo, Japan*

“It is easier to interest men in war than in peace; it therefore requires more moral courage to talk peace than war.”

— *Rotary Just at the Threshold*, THE ROTARIAN, February 1917

“Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together.”

— My Road to Rotary

“Is everything all right in Rotary? If so, God pity us. We are coming to the end of our day.”

— *The Best Is Yet to Be*, THE ROTARIAN, February 1945

“If this Rotary of ours is destined to be more than a mere passing thing, it will be because you and I have learned the importance of bearing with each other’s infirmities, the value of toleration.”

— *Rational Rotarianism*, The National Rotarian, January 1911

1912-13 Glenn C. Mead (law), Rotary Club of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. Rotary vision: Business as a means toward world betterment and a catalyst for world peace.

“A business house should be as public-spirited as a citizen.... Business is not a beast of prey, but the handmaid of civilization and progress.”

— *Code or Creed?*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1921

1913-14 Russell F. Greiner (banking), Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA. Rotary vision: That it might help to establish a Golden Rule of business throughout the world.

“What constitutes a successful man? He must possess these qualifications: honesty, ability, initiative, enthusiasm, tact and sincerity.”

— *Inaugural Address, 1913 Rotary Convention, Buffalo, New York, USA*

1914-15 Frank L. Mulholland (law), Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio, USA. Rotary vision: Rotarians united as a brotherhood to promote the good of humanity.

“Rotary is Fellowship. Real Fellowship is frank, spontaneous, full of warmth, and if you want to gauge its depth you will find that it is the difference between “Mister” and “Bill” — “Reverend” and “Jack.”

— *Call Him “Bill,”* THE ROTARIAN, May 1915

1915-16 Allen D. Albert (journalism), Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Rotary vision: Development of the individual Rotarian to become his ‘best self’ in service to others.

“Rotary summons men to respond to their best impulses...their best selves...[to] lift up their heads in every land. The best things in us are not confined by national boundaries.”

— *The Tree That Is Rotary,* THE ROTARIAN, December 1934

1916-17 Arch C. Klumph (lumber), Rotary Club of Cleveland, Ohio, USA.
Rotary vision: An endowment to fund the association's good works into perpetuity. The result: The Rotary Foundation.

“The Rotary Foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone. If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with the full meaning of the spirit of Rotary as expressed in our Objects and with the just fear of God and love of our fellowmen, we are engraving on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity.”

— *The Rotary Foundation*, THE ROTARIAN, April 1929

1917-18 E. Leslie Pidgeon (religion – Christianity), Rotary Club of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Rotary vision: Unity of thought and purpose as a means to world understanding and peace.

“There is no growth unaccompanied by growing pains...peace is a universal fact which can only be realized in the fullness of the days...the ultimate achievement of spirit will be at the end of a long and painful process.”

— *Christmas Message*, THE ROTARIAN, December 1917

1918-19 John Poole (banking), Rotary Club of Washington, D.C., USA. Rotary vision: Rotarians as the builders of the postwar world, through their influence and their vocations.

“Quick and complete employment is both a sword and a shield. That’s why every possible line of industrial and agricultural activity should ring with new life. This is Rotary’s opportunity.”

— *President’s Annual Message, THE ROTARIAN, August 1919*

1919-20 Albert S. Adams (real estate), Rotary Club of Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Rotary vision: To make Rotary friendship and fellowship a living force in the world at large.

“Friendship...the craving for which brought Rotary into existence is the thing that will keep Rotary a living, vital force in the world for all time, the very foundation of our organization.”

— *Address to 1920 Rotary Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA*

1920-21 Estes Snedecor (law), Rotary Club of Portland, Oregon, USA. Rotary vision: To make its teachings a guiding principle and vitalizing force in the lives of men everywhere.

“Every Rotary club should be made a forum before which vital economic and social problems may be fairly and intelligently discussed. Club programs should stimulate thought, widen the horizon, and deepen conviction.”

— *The Program for the Year*, THE ROTARIAN, August 1920

1921-22 Crawford C. McCullough (surgery), Rotary Club of Fort William, Ontario, Canada. Rotary vision: Applying the organization’s simplicity and sincerity of purpose to service worldwide.

“There is nothing intangible about Rotary: It is reality itself. To give is to receive; to lose oneself is to find oneself; to be happy is to serve. These are old truths...for the individual...and the mass, whether application be in the exchange of goods, toil, knowledge, or love.”

— *The Meaning of Rotary*, THE ROTARIAN, November 1921

1922-23 Raymond M. Havens (stationery products manufacturing), Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA. Rotary vision: Vocational ethics, as practiced by Rotarians, as the building blocks of world civilization.

“As a harbinger of business ethics, Rotary sends its message around the world that true service means personal responsibility for ‘peace on earth and goodwill toward men.’”

— *Bethlehem — and Twenty Centuries*, THE ROTARIAN, December 1922

1923-24 Guy Gundaker (restaurants), Rotary Club of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. Rotary vision: To help establish ethical business practices worldwide.

“Ethical conduct of business, emphasized and spread throughout the world, will greatly diminish the inclination and disposition on the part of the peoples of the different nations to fight one another.”

— *Address to 1924 Rotary Convention, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

1924-25 Everett W. Hill (ice manufacturing), Rotary Club of Shawnee, Oklahoma, USA. Rotary vision: To show the world a high example of unselfish service.

“The greatest thing one finds in one’s travels, the soul-satisfying thing, is that [people] in their native countries all weep with the same spirit, the same feeling, the same happiness and contentment.”

— *Why the Convention?*, THE ROTARIAN, January 1925

1925-26 Donald A. Adams (casualty insurance), Rotary Club of New Haven, Connecticut, USA. Rotary vision: Keeping the Rotary movement a spiritual force for improvement of world conditions and encouragement of world understanding.

“Primarily Rotary seeks to apply the theory of service to business and community life....This is expressed in the first part of our code of ethics: To consider my vocation worthy and as affording me a distinct opportunity to serve society. He Profits Most Who Serves Best is a less ideal expression, but the suggestion of egoism is removed by the added words, Service Above Self.”

— *Address to 1926 Rotary Convention, Denver, Colorado, USA*

1926-27 Harry H. Rogers (law), Rotary Club of San Antonio, Texas, USA.
Rotary vision: Making its Object effective — personally, in the community, and worldwide.

“Let the slogan this year be *Make Rotary Effective*. Where it exists, make its influence felt. Where it does not exist, if possible, extend it. Let courtesy abound, widen acquaintance, intensify friendships, and put the program over in every club.”

— *Address to 1927 Rotary Convention, Ostend, Belgium*

1927-28 Arthur H. Sapp (law), Rotary Club of Huntington, Indiana, USA.
Rotary vision: To encourage adoption of a Rotary-inspired code of ethics in business and professions everywhere.

“It is idle to boast that Rotary is a panacea for all the ills of the world. It is not, nor will it be. It has grown to its present position for two reasons. First, Rotary ideals justify its existence. These ideals are as fresh today as they were in the beginning and I believe that we have come to understand them better. Also, Rotary activities

have been sane and wholesome. Men's lives have been quickened into a zeal to be helpful to others. The work of Rotary has been ideal. It has also been practical."

— *Address to 1928 Rotary Convention, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA*

1928-29 I.B. Tom Sutton (hardware wholesaling), Rotary Club of Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Rotary vision: To hold the good of the organization's past in reverence, as it climbs to higher usefulness in the future.

"Untold blessings have come...with the conquering of disease and the lengthening of life, but have we stopped to consider the wonderful growth of understanding... the expanding kindness and goodness in our social relationships? These have come with a very natural desire to enjoy a higher and higher plane of civilization."

— *Address to 1929 Rotary Convention, Dallas, Texas, USA*

1929-30 M. Eugene Newsom (general office fixtures retailing), Rotary Club of Durham, North Carolina, USA. Rotary vision: To keep it simple enough that the average Rotarian can apply its principles to daily life.

“Real genuine friendship and the laws governing friendships provide the truest basis for all forms of enterprise. If Rotary can materially contribute to the development of friendship between individuals, businesses, professions, and nations, and if the individual is willing to make friendship the basis of his job or vocation, then we have an ideal of service being applied in ways that should make all of us happy.”

— *What Constitutes Vocational Service?*, THE ROTARIAN, November 1927

1930-31 Almon E. Roth (law practice – industrial relations), Rotary Club of Palo Alto, California, USA. Rotary vision: Development of a central administration with provision for both autonomy and cooperation of club and district.

“Our success or failure will not depend upon the machinery of Rotary or its physical growth, but upon the extent to which Rotary’s ideals or objectives are

translated into positive, tangible results in personal, business, community, and international life. We shall be known by our works.”

— *The Second Quarter Century*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1930

1931-32 Sydney W. Pascall (sugar confectionery – manufacturing), Rotary Club of London, England. Rotary vision: To achieve an international unity for the organization, making it one family of Rotarians.

“We are all Rotarians. There is only one family of us....Kipling said, ‘East is East and West is West, and ne’er the twain shall meet.’ We do not recognize that in Rotary. We realize that Kipling spoke the truth when at the end of that poem he said:

For there is neither East nor West,
Border, nor breed, nor birth,
When two strong men stand face to face,
Though they come from the ends of the earth.

— *Address to 1931 Rotary Convention, Vienna, Austria*

1932-33 Clinton P. Anderson (insurance – casualty), Rotary Club of Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. Rotary vision: Helping to create a world without barriers to cooperation and understanding.

“Science has broken down the barriers between people, but that merely accentuates our problems, particularly those which arise out of misunderstandings, unless there is also a spiritual growth. For every shortening of the distance between peoples there must be a broadening of human sympathies.”

— *New Year — New Thinking*, THE ROTARIAN, *January 1933*

1933-34 John Nelson (journalism), Rotary Club of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Rotary vision: The mobilization of individual goodwill in solving universal problems.

“Without goodwill no system can succeed; with it even an imperfect one can scarcely fail.”

— *Rotary on the March — Whither?*, THE ROTARIAN, *July 1933*

1934-35 Robert E. Lee Hill (bankers associations), Rotary Club of Columbia, Missouri, USA. Rotary vision: Individual Rotarians, working together to pay their duty and show their responsibility to society.

“Merely selling things is boredom; selling services is the stuff of which self-respect and dignifying one’s vocation are made.”

— *Rotary in a Progressing World*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1934

1935-36 Ed R. Johnson (coal industry), Rotary Club of Roanoke, Virginia, USA. Rotary vision: Application of individual responsibility as the key to service.

“One of the most inspiring Rotary experiences that I have had...was the participation in a regional conference in Venice....More than 1,500 Rotarians and members of their families, coming from 29 countries, gathered to meet at a time when Europe and the world were torn by dissension....European Rotarians, animated by goodwill, showed themselves determined to maintain contacts with fellow Rotarians of other countries up to what might have been the last moment. They wanted to explore every possibility to help in the development of mutual understanding and thus preserve international peace.”

— *Address to 1936 Rotary Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA*

1936-37 Will R. Manier Jr. (law), Nashville, Tennessee, USA. Rotary vision: Making vocational service truly international and its application the basis for world understanding and peace.

“The first thing we must do if we are to have international understanding is to realize what is prejudice and what is fact.”

— *Address to 1937 Rotary Convention, Nice, France*

1937-38 Maurice Duperrey (abrasives manufacturing), Rotary Club of Paris, France. Rotary vision: To show the world the way to peace through friendship and understanding.

“Rotary is so simple that many people do not understand it, and some even misunderstand it. Rotary is not a philosophy...not an all-embracing world point of view which answers every question...and satisfies all the dictates of the heart and mind. Rotary is merely an association of business and professional men united in the ideal of service.”

— *Address to 1938 Rotary Convention, San Francisco, California, USA*

1938-39 George C. Hager (law), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA.
Rotary vision: Good communication as the basis of true understanding.

“Rotary believes that the citizen who best serves his country is the one who wishes to know the truth about his neighbors, and who desires to replace hatred between nations with friendship.”

— *Address to 1939 Rotary Convention, Cleveland, Ohio, USA*

1939-40 Walter D. Head (education), Rotary Club of Montclair, New Jersey, USA.
Rotary vision: Every Rotarian a living example of Rotary principles in action.

“In a world where precious little love is being lost between nations, [the] movement to save the children is revealing man’s best and perhaps truest side.... Just how great or small Rotary’s part in this movement will be, nobody can yet say....[But] Rotary will open its great heart and do as it has always done when facing emergency — rise with magnificent courage, grateful for another opportunity to exemplify its one fundamental principle, the service of one’s fellowman.”

— *New World Homes for European Children, THE ROTARIAN, September 1940*

1940-41 Armando de Arruda Pereira (industrial engineering), Rotary Club of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil. Rotary vision: More clubs! More friends!

“Just as Rotary itself can never keep its place unless it is constantly growing, so each individual Rotary club cannot afford to stand still while the stream of life moves onward.”

— *Ever Forward!*, THE ROTARIAN, February 1941

**1941-42 Tom J. Davis (law), Rotary Club of Butte, Montana, USA.
Rotary vision: To help mankind learn to live together.**

“Rotary was born in a time of peace, but its program of service is even more necessary in a period of world conflict.”

— *Inaugural Message, 1941 Rotary Convention, Denver, Colorado, USA*

1942-43 Fernando Carbajal (civil engineering), Rotary Club of Lima, Peru.
Rotary vision: The application of practical action in solving problems, locally and worldwide.

“The prevailing Rotary attitude in rendering service is *practicality*. Its aim in performing a useful action is to be helpful and serviceable, not sentimental.... As practical idealists, we temper the fanciful flights of the dreamer with the limitations of common sense.”

— *Address to 1943 Rotary Convention, St. Louis, Missouri, USA*

1943-44 Charles L. Wheeler (intercoastal shipping), Rotary Club of San Francisco, California, USA.
Rotary vision: Making the organization strong by strengthening the individual club.

“If we ever reach the point where we can feel that the greatest and noblest things that Rotary could possibly do have already been done, at that very moment our organization will begin to disintegrate.”

— *Address to 1944 Rotary Convention, Chicago, Illinois, USA*

1944-45 Richard H. Wells (hardware – retailing), Rotary Club of Pocatello, Idaho, USA. Rotary vision: Rotarians as leaders in every facet of postwar recovery.

“We can tell people how glad we are to belong to such a fine organization. We can tell of our...achievements. But Rotary will never flourish and never accomplish those dreams we are so proud to own unless we can so live that Rotary may be proud of us.”

— *Address to 1943 Rotary Convention, St. Louis, Missouri, USA*

1945-46 Thomas A. Warren (education – general administration), Rotary Club of Wolverhampton, West Midlands, England. Rotary vision: Informed Rotarians as strong influences in public opinion.

“There is significance in the fact that seven chairmen of national delegations at the San Francisco Conference [to charter the United Nations] and a score more members of the delegations, were Rotarians. Such fact and such figures are but an outward and visible sign that the world is hungry for our simple mission. Rotary’s growth and its practices and its potentials go far beyond any numerical assessment.”

— *Leaders Need Followers, THE ROTARIAN, October 1945*

1946-47 Richard C. Hedke (chemicals and dyestuffs distribution), Rotary Club of Detroit, Michigan, USA. Rotary vision: That it show human beings around the earth how to get along together.

“The entire world is attempting to climb from the bottomless pit of international rancor and strife...our only hope is the very thin thread of international cooperation.”

— *Nations Are People*, THE ROTARIAN, March 1947

1947-48 S. Kendrick Guernsey (capital investments), Rotary Club of Jacksonville, Florida, USA. Rotary vision: To train men in every community for strong, unselfish service.

“Enter to Learn — Go Forth to Serve.”

— *The Unofficial Motto of Rotary's International Assembly*

1948-49 Angus S. Mitchell (manufacturing), Rotary Club of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Rotary vision: To work with the youth of today to build a strong and peaceful world of tomorrow.

“Our boys and girls have greater freedom, exercise greater power, and have more opportunities for both good and evil, than ever before. Even if we fail them, youth will not be neglected, for they are the object of universal attention from all the conflicting ideologies and opinions in the world...How important it is, therefore, that youth’s great possibilities for good be realized and developed!”

— *Address to 1948 Rotary Convention, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

1949-50 Percy Hodgson (novelty yarn manufacturing), Rotary Club of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, USA. Rotary vision: To train the youth of today (the leaders of tomorrow) in sound business ethics.

“If we train our youth properly, we need not have any fear as to the future of the world.”

— *Inaugural Address, 1949 Rotary Convention, New York, New York, USA*

1950-51 Arthur Lagueux (investments), Rotary Club of Quebec, Quebec, Canada. Rotary vision: Turning its aims and ideals into action.

“Rotary’s influence on the heart of the world will be in direct proportion to the number of communities that are exposed to the Rotary ideal. So let us help to found new clubs wherever the soil is at all fertile.”

— *Five Goals for Friendly Men*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1950

1951-52 Frank E. Spain (insurance – law), Rotary Club of Birmingham, Alabama, USA. Rotary vision: That every club meeting be a forum of ideas; for men of ideas make history.

“Rotary is a fellowship of noblemen; not a hereditary nobility but a nobility that must be earned and re-earned....Nobility is measured by its obligations, not by its rights and privileges...service above self.”

— *Rotary in the March of Mankind*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1951

1952-53 H.J. Brunnier (structural engineering), Rotary Club of San Francisco, California, USA. Rotary vision: Applying the principle of gradualness as a powerful force for good.

“The things that are worthwhile take time, and it is not the *I's* of the world but the *We's* who achieve them.”

— *Eventually... Gradually...*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1952

1953-54 Joaquin Serratos Cibils (tire distribution), Montevideo, Uruguay. Rotary vision: Continual creation of new clubs to turn Rotary's dream of service into ever wider action.

“The more clubs we have, the more friends we have, and the more friends, the greater our opportunity for service.”

— *Meet Your President*, THE ROTARIAN, September 1953

1954-55 Herbert J. Taylor (cooking utensils distributing), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA. Rotary vision: To inspire businessmen around the world to honor the Rotary ethic as reflected in The Four-Way Test.

“The fundamental principles contained in Rotary’s Four-Way Test — truth, justice, friendliness, and helpfulness to others — are among the tenets or doctrines of the religious faiths of practically all Rotarians. These four simple questions apply in all we think, say and do:

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?”

— *Address to 1954 Rotary Convention, Seattle, Washington, USA*

1955-56 A.Z. Baker (law), Rotary Club of Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Rotary vision: That Rotarians would use their great resources to extend neighborliness around the world.

“What could be more symbolic of Rotary than a great symphony orchestra, bringing together in perfect harmony people from many different countries, nationalities, races, creeds, and cultures, representing many specialized talents but each playing a different note on a different instrument, and each essential for the perfection of the whole?”

— *Address to 1956 Rotary Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA*

1956-57 Gian Paolo Lang (produce exporting), Rotary Club of Livorno, Italy. Rotary vision: To educate, encourage, and foster understanding among all peoples.

“The spirit of Rotary is not exclusive; it expands. It is not local, it is universal. It is the wish to understand and be understood, to see virtues rather than faults in others, to find what we have in common rather than what divides us.”

— *Address to 1957 Rotary Convention, Lucerne, Switzerland*

1957-58 Charles G. Tennent (nurseries), Rotary Club of Asheville, North Carolina, USA. Rotary vision: A great forest of living clubs finding fertile soil worldwide.

“When a tree stops growing — it is ready to die....A Rotary club is like that: It is moving ahead only when it is growing. When the growing ends, the knife-and-fork club begins.”

— Little Lessons in Rotary (*Third Edition*), March 1978

1958-59 Clifford A. Randall (general law practice), Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA. Rotary vision: That it meet the challenge of new needs in new settings in a changing world.

“It is frightfully easy to mistake the speed with which information can be transmitted from one place to another today with the actual and complete act of communicating....Having seen the picture or having heard the event described almost at the time it happened, we are so often left with questions. We know what has happened but we don't know why.”

— *Address to 1959 Rotary Convention, New York, New York, USA*

1959-60 Harold T. Thomas (furniture and furnishings – retailing), Rotary Club of Auckland, New Zealand. Rotary vision: To vitalize, personalize, and build bridges of friendship.

“One of the most impressive examples I know of international cooperation is in those gardens where we find plants, shrubs, and trees flourishing side by side in perfect harmony and beauty....There is much wisdom to be learned in a garden, and the very beginning is a realization of the fact that all final results depend upon proper preparation of the soil....So it is with Rotary. The crop we envisage is world peace and stability, a world in which we all live together as friends and neighbors. The seed to be sown — fellowship, friendship, understanding. The soil — the minds of individual Rotarians.

— *Address to 1960 Rotary Convention, Miami-Miami Beach, Florida, USA*

1960-61 J. Edd McLaughlin (banking), Rotary Club of Ralls, Texas, USA.
Rotary vision: For the individual Rotarian to realize... *You are Rotary! Live it! Express it! Expand it!*

“Rotary is without reality until men translate it into their lives and the lives of others. In short, you and I are Rotary.”

— *You Are Rotary — Live It!*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1960

1961-62 Joseph A. Abey (newspaper publishing), Rotary Club of Reading, Pennsylvania, USA. Rotary vision: *Act; Aim for Action; Communicate for Understanding; Test for Leadership.*

“This is not a time for us to say, ‘Somebody ought to do that.’ Our words must be, ‘We will do it.’”

— *Act*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1961

1962-63 Nitish C. Laharry (motion pictures distribution), Rotary Club of Calcutta, India. Rotary vision: **To kindle the spark within each Rotarian that lights the path to service.**

“Man’s instinct for making and amassing wealth...the profit motive...cannot be rooted out from human nature either by the sword or by legislation. Let us make all the legitimate profit we can, but, in doing so, let the basis of that profit be service to all concerned. Idealism in practice should be characteristic of the Rotary movement.”

— *That’s a Good Question*, THE ROTARIAN, March 1963

1963-64 Carl P. Miller (journalism), Rotary Club of Los Angeles, California, USA. Rotary vision: That it meet the challenge of the Space Age.

“We must have the ability to learn from our friends; to listen to the ideas of other people and to weigh them...to have the contemplative quality of our [Asian] friends...to be scholars as are our friends in Germany, England and Scandinavia... to learn from our Spanish and Latin brothers the art of gracious living.”

— *Address to 1963 Rotary Convention, St. Louis, Missouri, USA*

1964-65 Charles W. Pettengill (civil law practice), Rotary Club of Greenwich, Connecticut, USA. Rotary vision: That every Rotarian would *Live Rotary* in all facets of his life.

“At the Westinghouse laboratories in New York, an interesting experiment was conducted. A great bar of steel, eight feet long and weighing a half-ton was suspended vertically from a chain. Parallel to it on a stout thread hung a cord from an ordinary bottle weighing perhaps a half-ounce....Again and again the small cork was swung against that huge steel bar. For a long time the bar hung motionless but after 10 minutes a nervous chill seemed to go through the bar. Another two minutes and the chill turned into plainly visible vibrations. Those

vibrations increased in rapidity and in strength until after 25 minutes the great bar began to swing like the pendulum of a grandfather clock...Rotarians, you and your club projects may seem at times like the cork tapping against the bar, but tap you must, and if you tap long enough the bar will swing.”

— *Address to 1964 Rotary Convention, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

1965-66 C.P.H. Teenstra (institutions and hospitals), Rotary Club Hilversum, The Netherlands. Rotary vision: A program of *Action, Consolidation, and Continuity*.

“What binds Rotarians together is a unity of desire and a unity of purpose to serve society and to serve mankind...a unity in diversity.”

— *A Unity of Desire, THE ROTARIAN, July 1965*

1966-67 Richard L. Evans (religion – L.D.S.), Rotary Club of Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. Rotary vision: Applying its ideal to build a better world.

“Example, good or bad, is contagious....If we set a good example, seeing us, others may do likewise. All of us have more influence than we sometimes suppose.”

— *The Appearance of Things*, THE ROTARIAN, May 1967

1967-68 Luther H. Hodges (textile manufacturing), Rotary Club of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA. Rotary vision: For Rotarians everywhere to make their membership more effective.

“‘Good performance properly appreciated’ is the goal of a public relations program. The deed must precede the word.”

— *Address to 1968 Rotary Convention, Mexico City, Mexico*

1968-69 Kiyoshi Togasaki (newspaper publishing), Rotary Club of Tokyo, Japan. Rotary vision: That individual Rotarians *Participate!* at every level of service.

“The old saying about charity beginning at home is still a valid one. It is good and necessary to look at distant lands, but it is also essential to be concerned with problems in your own hometowns....We have a literal smorgasbord of opportunity for service right in our own communities.”

— *Address to 1968 Rotary Convention, Mexico City, Mexico*

1969-70 James F. Conway (law), Rotary Club of Rockville Centre, New York, USA. Rotary vision: *Review and Renew* its procedures and programs, keeping the good, excising the ineffective.

“Rotary must be renewed constantly at the club level to avoid stagnation and at the international level to avoid retrogression. But Rotary at all levels depends on the individual Rotarian.”

— *The Challenge: Review and Renew*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1969

1970-71 William E. Walk Jr. (law), Rotary Club of Ontario, California, USA.
Rotary vision: To help *Bridge the Gaps* in solving environmental, economic, generational, sociological, and ecological problems.

“Today’s youth have a right to honestly ask and then be heard; to peacefully state what they think is right...But, by the same token, I believe adults who have traveled the path of life have the right, by reason of age and/or experience to say...‘We have listened...now...what do you propose as a change and how do you propose to peacefully implement this change?...and are you willing to pay the price?’”

— *Address to 1970 Rotary Convention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA*

1971-72 Ernst G. Breitholtz (compressed and liquefied gases manufacturing), Rotary Club of Kalmar, Sweden. Rotary vision: The spreading of goodwill to every region of the world.

“Launching a new Rotary year...is like...launching a great ship....The sea is said to be a teacher of truth and in sailing we find the salt of reality. Rotarians and like-minded men of goodwill can come to recognize that we are one people around the

earth, and that we can do much to bring harmony and understanding between brothers who may dwell across expansive oceans...or perhaps next door.”

— *Goodwill Begins with You!*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1971

1972-73 Roy D. Hickman (photoengraving), Rotary Club of Birmingham, Alabama, USA. Rotary vision: That clubs and individuals *Take a New Look* at service and act on their findings.

“What has been accomplished by others is now Rotary history. It is our time to add to our glorious history. What is said of us in the future will be determined by you and me.”

— *Address to 1972 Rotary Convention, Houston, Texas, USA*

1973-74 William C. Carter (law – general practice), Rotary Club of Battersea, London, England. Rotary vision: That it make the present *A Time for Action* on the experiences of the past.

“A Rotary club is autonomous, free to seek its own outlets for service. This is a source of strength. Springing from it is the ability of a club to adapt itself to the local community.”

— *Address to the 1974 Rotary Convention, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, USA*

1974-75 William R. Robbins (citrus fruit growing), Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA. Rotary vision: A program to renew its spirit.

“Set high personal standards. Make others aware we expect the same. Respect the pursuit of excellence. Recognize, dignify honest work.”

— *Renew the Spirit of Rotary, THE ROTARIAN, July 1974*

1975-76 Ernesto Imbassahy de Mello (law), Rotary Club of Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Rotary vision: That its program, in all aspects, seeks to *Dignify the Human Being*.

“To dignify the human being in all aspects — respecting his rights, the achievements of his work, of his culture, intelligence, and spiritual values — is a certain path to goodwill and to the desired understanding among men, peoples, and nations: peace.”

— *To Dignify the Human Being, THE ROTARIAN, July 1975*

1976-77 Robert A. Manchester II (utility law), Rotary Club of Youngstown, Ohio, USA. Rotary vision: That fellow Rotarians around the world sincerely believe in the Rotary ideal.

“Whether or not the ethical climate in business is higher or lower today, each of us has an opportunity to speak up for higher standards. And for each person willing to voice his convictions, there are others who are willing to follow and be influenced by that kind of leadership.”

— *Business Ethics Today — A Call to Leadership*, THE ROTARIAN, November 1976

1977-78 W. Jack Davis (automobile distribution), Rotary Club of Hamilton, Bermuda. Rotary vision: That Rotarians around the world *Serve to Unite Mankind*.

“Much of the trouble in the world today is not so much the noise of the bad as it is the silence of the good.”

— *Address to 1977 Rotary Convention, San Francisco, California, USA*

1978-79 Clem Renouf (accounting services), Rotary Club of Nambour, Queensland, Australia. Rotary vision: That it marshal its vast resources to *Reach Out* to people everywhere.

“Rotary takes ordinary men and gives them extraordinary opportunities to do more with their lives than they ever dreamed possible.”

— *Acceptance Address, 1977 Rotary Convention, San Francisco, California, USA*

1979-80 James L. Bomar Jr. (general law practice), Rotary Club of Shelbyville, Tennessee, USA. Rotary vision: To *Let Service Light the Way* to a better world.

“What is the value of the life of one child saved? No one will ever know, but if the child were our own, the price tag would be marked: Not for sale — this life is invaluable.”

— *When Life Is Gone, That's All There Is*, THE ROTARIAN, January 1980

1980-81 Rolf J. Klärich (confectionary manufacturing), Rotary Club of Helsinki-Helsingfors, Finland. Rotary vision: That its members *Take Time to Serve* — any time, anywhere — and make the organization work.

“The time we take to serve those who need us can be the turning point, not only in their lives but also in our own.”

— *Take Time to Serve*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1980

1981-82 Stanley E. McCaffrey (regional civic and economic development), Rotary Club of Stockton, California, USA. Rotary vision: To apply its many resources toward achievement of *World Understanding and Peace Through Rotary*.

“As one who has participated in sports all my life, I am a great believer in teamwork. In sports, one learns early on that teamwork is absolutely essential to a team’s success....An individual star...will not assure victory unless there is coordination, cooperation, and a team spirit among the players....So is [teamwork] vital to Rotary....Rotary cannot achieve complete success without the participation and cooperation of all members of the team.”

— *Teamwork — Indispensable to Rotary’s Success*, THE ROTARIAN, January 1982

1982-83 Hiroji Mukasa (neuro-psychiatry), Rotary Club of Nakatsu, Oita, Japan. Rotary vision: To recognize that *Mankind Is One — Build Bridges of Friendship Around the World.*

“Working to find peace in the world is a family problem. It is not too big a problem to deal with if we realize that we are all from the same family.”

— *Building Bridges of Friendship in the Community*, THE ROTARIAN, August 1982

1983-84 William E. Skelton (universities – extension administration), Rotary Club of Christiansburg-Blacksburg, Virginia, USA. Rotary vision: That Rotarians worldwide *Share Rotary — Serve People.*

“Our greatest strength...at the club or international level, lies in the work that Rotarian volunteers put into the programs....Dedicated, dynamic volunteers are the mainspring of Rotary’s strength and continued growth.”

— *Address to 1983 Rotary Convention, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

1984-85 Carlos Canseco (medicine – allergies), Rotary Club of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Rotary vision: That all Rotarians *Discover a New World of Service*.

“One of the best outcomes of this century has been the growth and development of service clubs...all service clubs should be given credit [but] Rotary is perhaps the best known....While Rotary can continue to play a vital role in society, it has yet to *fully* do so....Polio immunization is a major effort at achieving this end.”

— *Where Do We Go from Here?*, THE ROTARIAN, August 1984

1985-86 Edward F. Cadman (orthopedic surgery), Rotary Club of Wenatchee, Washington, USA. Rotary vision: To remind the individual Rotarian, *You are the Key* to Rotary service.

“Rotarians in one part of the globe can affect lives on the opposite side of the world. We have the desires and the capabilities to give help where help is needed.... Where there [is]...a starving child...a weeping mother — Rotary can be there. Where there is a cataracted eye, a crooked limb — a need for medicine, braces, surgery — Rotary can be there. Where there is the sigh of the lonely, the despair

of the isolated — Rotary can be there. Rotary is the sanctity of fellowship, the love of brotherhood, the warmth of trust. Rotary is a vision — yet struck in stone. We build not only in concrete, but also in lives and futures.”

— *Address to 1985 Rotary Convention, Kansas City, Missouri, USA*

1986-87 M.A.T. Caparas (labor law practice), Rotary Club of Manila, Philippines. Rotary vision: That *Rotary Brings Hope* to those in need throughout the world.

“Hope is the expectation of better things — a polio-free world, a world without hunger, universal peace. It is the spark that keeps a man going, whatever his station. Without it, life is nothing more than existence in despair.”

— *Rotary Brings Hope, 1986-87 Presidential Citation Program*

1987-88 Charles C. Keller (corporate law practice), Rotary Club of California, Pennsylvania, USA. Rotary vision: That the world see *Rotarians — United in Service — Dedicated to Peace.*

“The challenge of world peace...is the most pressing imperative of our time....In a world which possesses the means of self-destruction, if we do not find the path of peace, whatever else we do won't make much difference.”

— *Address to 1987 Rotary Convention, Munich, Germany*

1988-89 Royce Abbey (window shades manufacturing), Rotary Club of Essendon, Victoria, Australia. Rotary vision: That every Rotarian *Put Life into Rotary — Your Life.*

“Be sure you apply the qualities...that made your own business successful...as diligently in the business of Rotary — the multinational enterprise in which we are all partners. We must work tirelessly to perfect our important product, service, and look always toward our ultimate bottom line: international understanding and peace.”

— *Running Rotary Like a Business, THE ROTARIAN, October 1988*

1989-90 Hugh M. Archer (electrical engineering), Rotary Club of Dearborn, Michigan, USA. Rotary vision: That Rotarians *Enjoy Rotary!* in every aspect, from simple fellowship to wide-ranging service.

“...There is so much pleasure in Rotary activities. The breakfast, luncheon, or dinner every week brings you in contact with your fellow members. Their diverse interests and knowledge stimulate your interest in your community...The planning for service projects both close by or across some distant horizon carries us out of our own self-interest into the wonderful world of service to others...[and the] pleasing paradox...that we grow in stature when we give of our time and talent to improve the quality of life for someone else. How strange that when we give dignity to someone else, we grow in dignity ourselves...”

— *Enjoy Rotary!*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1989

1990-91 Paulo V.C. Costa (architecture), Rotary Club of Santos, São Paulo, Brazil. Rotary vision: To bring about a better world, he challenged all Rotarians to *Honor Rotary with Faith and Enthusiasm*.

“Rotary International’s masterpiece is The Rotary Foundation....It transforms our most daring dreams into the most splendid realities....The Rotary world

and even the political world are already aware that The Rotary Foundation is the most generous expression of Rotarian generosity — a generosity that not only brings benefits, but also brings help and cooperation to solve the problems that affect mankind....Only God achieves the impossible, but The Rotary Foundation achieves the best that mankind can possibly achieve.”

— *Address to 1996 Rotary Convention, Calgary, Alberta, Canada*

1991-92 Rajendra K. Saboo (needle manufacturing), Rotary Club of Chandigarh, Union Territory, India. Rotary vision: A challenge to every Rotarian to *Look Beyond Yourself* for opportunities to serve.

“Giving is living. What is important is how much of yourself you put into the giving. That is what makes the living sublime.”

— *A New Definition of Rotary*, THE ROTARIAN, January 1992

1992-93 Clifford L. Dochterman (university administration), Rotary Club of North Stockton, California, USA. Rotary vision: Observance of the Golden Rule of service — *Real Happiness Is Helping Others*.

“The search for individual joy, satisfaction, and happiness is universal, and I strongly believe it is a goal that can best be fulfilled by helping others....Some of the most rewarding moments in our lives occur when we are helping, serving, and caring for others.”

— *A Chat with President Cliff*, THE ROTARIAN, August 1992

1993-94 Robert Barth (beverage industry), Rotary Club of Aarau, Switzerland.
Rotary vision: That all Rotarians *Believe in What You Do — Do What You Believe In.*

“If we want to see another century of Rotary, we must make Rotary attractive to young people. Many young people share our beliefs. To get them involved in Rotary, we must concentrate on activities that capture their attention, so they are willing to make a commitment. It is not the responsibility of young people to come to our clubs. It is *ours* to invite them.”

— *Address to 1994 Rotary Convention, Taipei, Taiwan*

1994-95 Bill Huntley (education), Rotary Club of Alford & Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire, England. Rotary vision: That it *Be a Friend* to all.

“Rotary was born out of loneliness...and it exists to bring hope to the lonely and help to the desolate.”

— *Address to 1994 Rotary Convention, Taipei, Taiwan*

1995-96 Herbert G. Brown (furniture retailing), Rotary Club of Clearwater, Florida, USA. Rotary vision: That Rotarians *Act with Integrity, Serve with Love, Work for Peace.*

“We can teach children to love. We can teach them to respect themselves and others. We can teach them to set goals and work toward them. And in return, they can pass on these life-affirming values to the next generations.”

— *Address to 1995 President's Conference on Family Values and Community Service, Chicago, Illinois, USA*

1996-97 Luis Vicente Giay (public accounting service), Rotary Club of Arrecifes, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Rotary vision: *To Build the Future with Action and Vision.*

“Action without vision is wasted, and vision without action is just a dream. Action with vision brings *hope* to the world.”

— *Address to 1996 Rotary Convention, Calgary, Alberta, Canada*

1997-98 Glen W. Kinross (furniture manufacturing), Rotary Club of Hamilton, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Rotary vision: *For each Rotarian to Show Rotary Cares: for your community, for our world, for its people.*

“Rotary’s greatest strength will always be the individual Rotarian. No other organization has such powerful human resources.”

— *President’s Message, THE ROTARIAN, July 1997*

1998-99 James L. Lacy (candy manufacturing), Rotary Club of Cookeville, Tennessee, USA. Rotary vision: To invite each Rotary member and each Rotary club to *Follow Your Rotary Dream!*

“We cannot talk about the future without talking about children. They are our future.”

— *A Dream for Our Children's Future*, THE ROTARIAN, September 1998

1999-2000 Carlo Ravizza (architecture), Rotary Club of Milano Sud-Ovest, Italy. Rotary vision: To ensure Rotary's success in the 21st century through the message *Rotary 2000: Act with Consistency, Credibility, and Continuity*.

“Clearly, we are moving toward a future that will be characterized at once by desperate needs and vast potential. We Rotarians are especially well-positioned to serve as a bridge between the problems and the possibilities. We have a strong presence in nations that are technology-rich as well as in countries that can barely meet even the most basic human needs. Let us use that presence — and the unique perspective it affords us — to create the vibrant spirit of Rotary...and extend it to every part of the globe.”

— *Rotary 2000*, THE ROTARIAN, July 1999

2000-01 Frank J. Devlyn (optical stores), Rotary Club of Anahuac, Distrito Federal, Mexico. Rotary vision: To encourage Rotarians to *Create Awareness and Take Action.*

“We must face the fact that today we are a recognized public force, and that we will receive many benefits if we cultivate the image and the recognition that go along with that reality.”

— *Meet Frank J. Devlyn*, THE ROTARIAN, July 2000

2001-02 Richard D. King (law), Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont), California, USA. Rotary vision: For Rotarians to recognize that *Mankind Is Our Business.*

“Rotary is of great value. It changes the course of human life. It changes the life of every Rotary beneficiary, as well as the life of each Rotarian.”

— *An Uncommon Man*, THE ROTARIAN, July 2001

2002-03 Bhichai Rattakul (pharmaceutical manufacturing), Rotary Club of Dhonburi, Bangkok, Thailand. Rotary vision: That each Rotary member, club, and district *Sow the Seeds of Love*.

“When love is infused into our actions, we do not stop to question the time or money we are sacrificing. We are inspired to do more, to give more. Love is the motivating force behind all of Rotary’s best work.”

— *Sow the Seeds of Love*, THE ROTARIAN, July 2002

2003-04 Jonathan B. Majiyagbe (general law practice), Rotary Club of Kano, Nigeria. Rotary vision: That Rotarians would reach out in fellowship and service to *Lend a Hand* wherever it is needed.

“Whether we are reaching out to those in our own clubs, or reaching halfway across the world, personal involvement has always been fundamental to Rotarian service. When we *Lend a Hand*, we focus on this personal involvement and we celebrate our shared humanity. Working together, ready and willing to help our brothers and sisters in need, one hand can become many and there is no limit to what the helping hands of Rotary can accomplish.”

— 2003 International Assembly, Anaheim, California, USA

2004-05 Glenn E. Estess Sr. (personnel consulting), Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Alabama, USA. Rotary vision: That Rotarians worldwide celebrate Rotary and its 100 years of service.

“Soon our centennial will be upon us and we must be prepared to ‘celebrate’ both our remarkable past and our plans for the future....The future of this organization — and the new peaks that we will reach — is in our hands.”

— *Address to the 2003 Convention, Brisbane, Australia*



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