



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL THEMES

In 1955, RI President A.Z. Baker announced a theme, "Develop Our Resources," to serve as Rotary's program of emphasis. Since that time, each president has issued a theme for his Rotary year. The shortest theme was in 1961-62 when Joseph Abey selected "Act." Other one-word themes were chosen in 1958-1959 by Charles Tennent ("Serve") and 1968 - 1969 by Kiyoshi Togasaki ("Participate").

Carl Miller, in 1963 - 1964, had a theme for the times when he proposed "Guidelines for Rotary in the Space Age." Other "timely" themes were in 1980-81 when Rolf Klärlich created "Take Time to Serve" and William

Carter in 1973 - 1974 used "Time for Action." Two themes have a similarity to commercial advertising: "A Better World Through Rotary" (Richard Evans, 1966 - 67) and "Reach Out" (Clem Renouf, 1978 - 1979). Bridges have been a striking metaphor. Harold Thomas, 1959 - 60, urged Rotarians to "Build Bridges of Friendship"; William Walk, 1970 - 71, created "Bridge the Gap"; and Hiroji Mukasa, 1982 - 1983, declared "Mankind is One-Build Bridges of Friendship Throughout the World."

A worldwide focus was given by Stan McCaffrey in 1981 - 1982 with the message, "World Understanding and Peace Through Rotary," and again in 1984-85 by Carlos Canseco who urged Rotarians to "Discover a New World of Service." In other years, the individual was emphasized, as "You Are Rotary" (Edd McLaughlin, 1960 - 61), "Goodwill Begins with You" (Ernst Breitholtz, 1971 - 1972) and "You Are the Key" (Ed Cadman, 1985 - 1986).

Frequently the theme urges Rotarians to become more involved in their club, such as "Share Rotary-Serve People" (Bill Skelton, 1983 - 84) or "Make Your Rotary Membership Effective" (Luther Hodges, 1967 - 1968). But whether you "Review and Renew," "Take a New Look," "Let Service Light the Way" or "Dignify the Human Being," it is clear that the RI president provides Rotarians with an important annual program of emphasis. In 1986-87, President M.A.T. Caparas selected the inspiring message that "Rotary Brings Hope."

Charles Keller in 1987 - 1988 saw "Rotarians-United in Service, Dedicated to Peace," while Royce Abbey asked his fellow members in 1988 - 1989 to "Put Life into Rotary-Your Life." Hugh Archer (1989 - 1990) urged us to "Enjoy Rotary!" and Paulo Costa (1990 - 1991) asked that we "Honor Rotary with Faith and Enthusiasm." My predecessor Raja Saboo (1991 - 1992) exhorted every Rotarian to "Look Beyond Yourself." In 1992 - 1993, I reminded Rotarians, "Real Happiness Is Helping Others," and in 1993 - 1994, Bob Barth counseled Rotarians, "Believe In What You Do and Do What You Believe In." In 1994 - 1995, Bill Huntley encouraged Rotarians to "Be A Friend" to their communities.

2019-2020 Rotary Connects the World

- Mark Daniel Maloney
- Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, USA
- Decatur, Alabama

2018-2019 Be the Inspiration

- Barry Rassin
- Rotary Club of East Nassau
- New Providence, Bahamas

2017-2018 Making A Difference

- Ian H.S. Riseley
- Rotary Club of Sandringham
- Victoria, Australia

2016-2017 Rotary Serving Humanity

- John F. Germ
- Rotary Club of Chattanooga
- Chattanooga, Tennessee

2015-2016 Be A Gift to the World

- K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran
- Rotary Club of Columbo
- Sri Lanka

2014-2015 Light Up Rotary

- Gary Huang
- Rotary Club of Taipei Taiwan
- Taipei, Taiwan

2013-2014 Engage Rotary Change Lives

- Ron D. Burton
- Rotary Club of Norman
- Norman, Oklahoma, USA

2012-2013 Peace Through Service

- Sakuji Tanaka
- Rotary Club of Yashio
- Saitama, Japan

2011-2012 Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

- Kalyan Banerjee
- Rotary Club of Vapi
- Gujarat, India

2010-2011 Building Communities Bridging Continents

- Ray Klinginsmith
- Rotary Club of Kirksville
- Kirksville, Missouri, USA

2009-2010 The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands

- John Kenny
- Rotary Club of Grangemouth
- Grangemouth, Scotland

2008-2009 Make Dreams Real

- Dong Kurn Lee
- Rotary Club of Seoul Hangang
- Seoul, Korea

2007-2008 Rotary Shares

- Wilfrid J. Wilkinson
- Rotary Club of Trenton
- Trenton, Ontario, Canada

2006-2007 Lead the Way

- William B. Boyd
- Rotary Club of Pakuranga
- Auckland, New Zealand

2005-2006 Service Above Self

- Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar
- Rotary Club of Göteborg
- Göteborg, Sweden

2004-2005 Celebrate Rotary

- Glenn E. Estess Sr.
- Rotary Club of Shades Valley
- Shades Valley, Alabama, USA

2003-2004 Lend A Hand

- Jonathan B. Majiyagbe
- Rotary Club of Kano
- Kano State, Nigeria

2002-2003 Sow the Seeds of Love

- Bhichai Rattakul
- Rotary Club of Dhonburi
- Dhonburi, Thailand

2001-2002 Mankind is Our Business

- Richard D. King
- Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont)
- Fremont, California, USA

2000-2001 Create Awareness...Take Action

- Frank J. Devlyn
- Rotary Club of Anáhuac
- Distrito Federal, Mexico

1999-2000 Act with Consistency, Credibility, Continuity

- Carlo Ravizza
- Rotary Club of Milano
- Sud-Ovest, Italy

1998-1999 Follow Your Rotary Dream

- James L. Lacy
- Rotary Club of Cookeville
- Cookeville, Tennessee, USA

1997-1998 Show Rotary Cares — for your community, for our world, for its people

- Glen W. Kinross
- Rotary Club of Hamilton,
- Brisbane Queensland, Australia

1996-1997 Build the Future with Action and Vision

- Luis Vicente Giay
- Rotary Club of Arrecifes
- Buenos Aires, Argentina

1995-1996 Act with Integrity - Serve with Love - Work for Peace

- Herbert G. Brown
- Rotary Club of Clearwater
- Clearwater, Florida, USA

1994-1995 Be A Friend

- Bill Huntley
- Rotary Club of Alford & Mablethorpe

- Lincolnshire, England

1993-1994 Believe In what You Can Do - Do what You Believe In

- Robert Barth
- Rotary Club of Aarau
- Aarau, Switzerland

1992-1993 Real Happiness is Help Others

- Clifford L. Dochterman
- Rotary Club of Moraga
- Moraga, California, USA

1991-1992 Look Beyond Yourself

- Rajendra K. Saboo
- Rotary Club of Chandigarh
- Union Territory, India

1990-1991 Honor Rotary with Faith and Enthusiasm

- Paulo V.C. Costa
- Rotary Club of Santos
- São Paulo, Brazil

1989-1990 Enjoy Rotary

- Hugh M. Archer
- Rotary Club of Dearborn
- Dearborn, Michigan, USA

1988-1989 Put Life in Rotary - Your Life

- Royce Abbey
- Rotary Club of Essendon
- Victoria, Australia

1987-1988 Rotarians - United in Service Dedicated to Peace

- Charles C. Keller
- Rotary Club of California

- California, Pennsylvania, USA

1986-1987 Rotary Brings Hope

- M.A.T. Caparas
- Rotary Club of Manila
- Manila, Philippines

1985-1986 You Are the Key

- Edward F. Cadman
- Rotary Club of Wenatchee
- Wenatchee, Washington, USA

1984-1985 Discover a New World of Service

- Carlos Canseco
- Rotary Club of Monterrey
- Nuevo León, Mexico

1983-1984 Share Rotary - Serve People

- William E. Skelton
- Rotary Club of Christiansburg-Blacksburg
- Christiansburg-Blacksburg, Virginia, USA

1982-1983 Mankind is One-Build Bridges of Friendship Throughout the World

- Hiroji Mukasa
- Rotary Club of Nakatsu
- Oita, Japan

1981-1982 World Understand and Peace

- Stanley E. McCaffrey
- Rotary Club of Stockton
- Stockton, California, USA

1980-1981 Take Time to Serve

- Rolf J. Klärlich
- Rotary Club of Helsinki-Helsingfors

- Helsinki-Helsingfors, Finland

1979-1980 Let Service Light the Way

- James L. Bomar, Jr.
- Rotary Club of Shelbyville,
- Shelbyville, Tennessee, USA

1978-1979 Reach Out

- Clem Renouf
- Rotary Club of Nambour
- Queensland, Australia

1977-1978 Serve to Unite Mankind

- W. Jack Davis
- Rotary Club of Hamilton
- Hamilton Bermuda

1976-1977 I Believe in Rotary

- Robert A. Manchester II
- Rotary Club of Youngstown
- Youngstown Ohio, USA

1975-1976 To Dignify the Human Being

- Ernesto Imbassahy de Mello
- Rotary Club of Niteroi
- Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

1974-1975 Renew the Spirit of Rotary

- William R. Robbins
- Rotary Club of Miami
- Miami FL, USA

1973-1974 A Time for Action

- William C. Carter
- Rotary Club of Battersea

- Battersea, London, England

1972-1973 Let's Take a New Look and Act

- Roy D. Hickman
- Rotary Club of Birmingham
- Birmingham, Alabama USA

1971-1972 Good Will Begins with You

- Ernst G. Breitholtz
- Rotary Club of Kalmar
- Kalmar, Sweden

1970-1971 Bridge the Gaps

- William E. Walk, Jr.
- Rotary Club of Ontario
- Ontario, California, USA

1969-1970 Review and Renew

- James F. Conway
- Rotary Club of Rockville Centre
- Rockville Centre, New York, USA

1968-1969 Participate

- Kiyoshi Togasaki
- Rotary Club of Tokyo
- Tokyo, Japan

1967-1968 Make Your Rotary Membership Effective

- Luther H. Hodges
- Rotary Club of Chapel Hill
- Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

1966-1967 Better World through Rotary

- Richard L. Evans
- Rotary Club of Salt Lake City

- Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

1965-1966 Action, Consolidation and Continuity

- C. P. H. Teenstra
- Rotary Club Hilversum
- Hilversum, The Netherlands

1964-1965 Live Rotary

- Charles W. Pettengill
- Rotary Club of Greenwich
- Greenwich, Connecticut, USA

1963-1964 Meeting Rotary's Challenge in the Space Age

- Carl P. Miller
- Rotary Club of Los Angeles
- Los Angeles, California, USA

1962-1963 Kindle the Spark Within

- Nitish C. Laharry
- Rotary Club of Calcutta
- Calcutta, India

1961-1962 Act. Aim for Action. Communication for Understanding. Test for Leadership.

- Joseph A. Abey
- Rotary Club of Reading
- Reading, Pennsylvania, USA

1960-1961 You are Rotary - Live it!

- Edd McLaughlin
- Rotary Club of Ralls
- Ralls, Texas, USA

1959-1960 Vitalize! Personalize! Build Bridges of Friendship

- Harold T. Thomas

- Rotary Club of Auckland
- Auckland, New Zealand

1958-1959 Help Shape the Future

- Clifford A. Randall
- Rotary Club of Milwaukee
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

1957-1958 Enlist-Extend-Explore-Serve

- Charles G. Tennent
- Rotary Club of Asheville
- Asheville, North Carolina, USA

1956-1957 Keep Rotary Simple

- Gian Paolo Lang
- Rotary Club of Livorno
- Livorno, Italy

1955-1956 Develop Our Resources

- A. Z. Baker
- Rotary Club of Cleveland
- Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Past Rotary International Presidents, Before Presidential Themes.

1954-1955 Herbert J. Taylor, Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA

1953-1954 Joaquin Serratosa Cibils, Montevideo, Uruguay

1952-1953 H. J. Brunnier, Rotary Club of San Francisco, California, USA

1951-1952 Frank E. Spain, Rotary Club of Birmingham, Alabama, USA

1950-1951 Arthur Lagueux, Rotary Club of Quebec, Quebec, Canada

1949-1950 Percy Hodgson, Rotary Club of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, USA

1948-1949 Angus S. Mitchell, Rotary Club of Melbourne, Australia

1947-1948 S. Kendrick Guernsey, Rotary Club of Jacksonville, Florida, USA

1946-1947 Richard C. Hedke, Rotary Club of Detroit, Michigan, USA

1944-1945 Richard H. Wells, Rotary Club of Pocatello, Idaho, USA

1943-1944 Charles L. Wheeler, Rotary Club of San Francisco, California, USA

1942-1943 Fernando Carbajal, Rotary Club of Lima, Perú

1941-1942 Tom J. Davis, Rotary Club of Butte, Montana, USA

1940-1941 Armando de Arruda Pereira, Rotary Club of São Paulo, Brazil

1939-1940 Walter D. Head, Rotary Club of Teaneck, New Jersey, USA

1938-1939 George C. Hager, Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA

1937-1938 Maurice Duperrey, Rotary Club of Paris, France

1936-1937 Will R. Manier, Jr., Nashville, Tennessee, USA

1935-1936 Ed R. Johnson, Rotary Club of Roanoke, Virginia, USA

1934-1935 Robert E. Lee Hill, Rotary Club of Columbia, Missouri, USA

1933-1934 John Nelson, Rotary Club of Montreal, Quebec, Canada

1932-1933 Clinton P. Anderson, Rotary Club of Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

1931-1932 Sydney W. Pascall, Rotary Club of London, England

1930-1931 Almon E. Roth, (law practice—industrial relations) Rotary Club of Palo Alto, California, USA

1929-1930 M. Eugene Newsom, Rotary Club of Durham, North Carolina, USA

1928-1929 I. B. Tom Sutton, Rotary Club of Tampico, Mexico

1927-1928 Arthur H. Sapp, Rotary Club of Huntington, Indiana, USA

1926-1927 Harry H. Rogers, Rotary Club of San Antonio, Texas, USA

1925-1926 Donald A. Adams, Rotary Club of New Haven, Connecticut, USA

1924-1925 Everett W. Hill, Rotary Club of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA

1923-1924 Guy Gundaker, Rotary club of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

1922-1923 Raymond M. Havens, Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA

1921-1922 Crawford C. McCullough, Rotary Club of Fort William, Ontario, Canada
1920-1921 Estes Snedecor, Rotary Club of Portland, Oregon, USA
1919-1920 Albert S. Adams, Rotary Club of Atlanta, Georgia, USA
1918-1919 John Poole, Rotary Club of Washington, DC, USA
1917-1918 E. Leslie Pidgeon, Rotary Club of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
1916-1917 Arch C. Klumph, Rotary Club of Cleveland, Ohio, USA
1915-1916 Allen D. Albert, Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
1914-15 Frank L. Mulholland, Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio, USA
1913-1914 Russell F. Greiner, Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, USA
1912-1913 Glenn C. Mead, Rotary Club of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
1911-1912 Paul P. Harris, (Founder of Rotary), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA
1910-1911 Paul P. Harris, (Founder of Rotary), Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA