



## **RLI International Newsletter**

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May 2013

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district, grassroots leadership development program of member districts organized into regional divisions throughout the world. It is not an official program of Rotary International and is not under its control. The RLI seeks to have Rotary Clubs in member districts identify those Rotarians who seem to have the POTENTIAL for future club leadership (not necessarily as club presidents) and provide those so identified with a quality education in Rotary knowledge and leadership skills for voluntary organizations.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

#### **RLI LISBON CONVENTION BREAKFAST START TIME MOVED TO 7:30**

RLI has been informed that we must vacate the RLI Breakfast Room at the Convention Center by 09:00 in order for the staff to prepare for the next event. Therefore, the BUFFET WILL OPEN AT 07:30 and the program will start no later than 08:00. We suggest that you arrive early and enjoy the full buffet breakfast.

**NOTE THAT THIS ISSUE CONTAINS THE REPORT OF THE RLI  
INTERNET COURSES COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE SURVEY SENT  
TO OUR MAILING LIST.**

*This is the final eBulletin before the Lisbon Convention.*

**SMALL GROUP MEETINGS**, Tivoli Oriente Hotel, Monday, June 24 by invitation. See PDG Michael Rabasca (m.rabasca@comcast.net) to schedule a meeting with RLI senior leaders.

## **Thoughts of the Month**

Since the very beginnings of Rotary, Paul Harris and his successor leaders have constantly emphasized the need for TOLERANCE around the world. The lack of real tolerance in today's world has continued to be a major impediment to world peace. Rotary has always been in the forefront of emphasizing the need for tolerance and it is a great pleasure to see that in action at R.I. Conventions. Rotarians in all their countries of the world consider themselves friends of all Rotarians, no matter from what countries they come or what are their political views and their religious or ethnic backgrounds. If you are still considering whether to attend the Lisbon Convention, please join your fellow Rotarians and guests there to see tolerance in action. It will be a great event to celebrate President Sakuji Tanaka's great theme of "Peace through Service".

## **Welcome New Members of the Sr. Leaders Advisory Board**

RLI is very pleased to welcome two outstanding Past R.I. Directors from India to our Senior Leaders Advisory Board. They are:

**Past Rotary International Director O.P. Vaish and Past Rotary International Director M.K. Panduranga Setty.**

PRID Vaish is a Senior Advocate in New Delhi. He served as a Director in 1999-2001. PRID Setty is an industrialist in Bangalore and served on the RI Board in 1991-3. He was the Chair of the Board's Executive Committee in 1992-3.

India has become one of RLI's major countries. In all of South Asia, every Rotary district except one is a member of RLI.

## **Welcome New Divisions/Districts**

Division Chair is PDG Nils Ove Jensen, who is also the RLI Regional Vice-Chair for Zones 15-16 (Scandinavia and parts of Eastern Europe).

RLI also welcomes **District 9670** to the Australia Northern Division. The Agreement of Membership was signed by District Governor Peter Raynor of New South Wales. Chair of the Division is RID John Boag and the Regional Vice-Chair for ANZO is PDG Cathy Roth.

## **Survey Results: RLI Online Courses - "Learning in the Future"**

In April 2013, International RLI Chair, PRID David Linett, requested PDG Chris Offer, Chair of the Pacific Northwest RLI Division to chair a committee to explore options for RLI courses online. A committee representative of the diverse Rotary regions was appointed.

Rotary clubs are located in 200 countries and geographic areas. Many Rotarians live in isolated communities and do not have access to RLI courses. The proposal for online RLI courses is to give these Rotarians options, not to replace current RLI courses.

In May 2013 the committee opted to survey the RLI community to solicit their ideas, views and critique of the notion of offering RLI courses online.

An invitation to take the survey was sent to everyone on the RLI newsletter database. A total of 830 people responded to the survey and completed all or most of the questions. A total of 507 people completed the full survey.

The high response rate to the survey indicates significant interest in the topic of online RLI courses and assures valid conclusions can be drawn from the survey results.

The majority of people (76%) who responded to the survey are from a district that is a member of RLI. Those responding have significant experience in Rotary with 79% having 12 or more years in Rotary.

Nearly 60% have participated in some form of online training.

In responses to several questions and in the comments section there is general concern that offering RLI courses online will result in loss of the interaction and ideas

Most people felt that RLI online courses should be offered to all Rotarians (65%). The balance felt that there should be some restrictions on who may take RLI online courses.

There is clear support for offering RLI online courses.

## **Future**

The RLI online committee will review the survey results and make recommendations to the executive committee of RLI International. The RLI online committee will consider if RLI courses should be offered online. If courses are recommended the committee will make submissions regarding cost, curriculum, and eligibility to take RLI online courses. The RLI online committee will also consider the potential for a pilot program.

DOWNLOAD - Executive Summary at: <http://goo.gl/Huu2d>

DOWNLOAD - full report at: <http://goo.gl/N3EGT>

## **RLI PHILOSOPHY**

*“Having leadership skills does not alone assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is now and a vision of what Rotary can be.”*