



RLI International Newsletter

February 2017

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district, grassroots leadership development program of member districts organized into regional divisions throughout the world. It was recommended by the R.I. Board of Directors and strongly endorsed by the Council on Legislation at three of their triennial meetings. RLI conducts a series of quality leadership development courses for potential club officers and other club members, including those who have recently joined a Rotary Club. The courses emphasize both leadership skills and knowledge of Rotary around the world. All course sessions are completely interactive. The 81 RLI Regional Divisions believe that leadership education has a positive impact on membership retention by creating enthusiasm and furthering engagement for Rotary.

February, 2017

The Atlanta Convention RLI Breakfast

The International RLI is pleased to announce that Past Rotary International President and two-time Chair of The Rotary Foundation, LUIS VICENTE GIAY of Argentina will be the principal speaker at the RLI Annual Breakfast on June 14 at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center, connected to the Convention Center.

The event will be held from 7:30 a.m. (doors open at 7:15 a.m.) to about 8:45 a.m. A Breakfast Buffet will be served. Other speakers and more details will be announced.

We expect a large attendance because the Atlanta Convention will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Foundation. We will also celebrate the 25th Anniversary of RLI, the Rotary Leadership Institute. Early registrations are recommended.

TO REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL RLI BREAKFAST see the RLI home page at www.Rotaryleadershipinstitute.org for the Breakfast flyer for registration information.

Visit the RLI Exhibit Booth in the House of Friendship - No. 2429

Welcome New Member of RLI Senior Leaders Advisory Board

RLI is pleased to WELCOME R.I Director Nominee David Stovall as a member of the R.I. Senior Leaders Advisory Board. He is a member of the Hall County, Georgia (USA) Rotary Club and was nominated to the Board from Zone 34. He will take office as a R.I. Director for a two year term for 2018-20. He is currently a Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator. The Advisory Board now has 134 members worldwide, of whom 19 are current, past and future R.I. presidents.

The Complete Translations of the Curriculum in Japanese now Posted

All the three Parts of the RLI Curriculum in the Japanese language have been posted on the RLI materials website. The materials were provided by PDG Dr. Ryusetsu Esaki, Curriculum Chair of the Japan RLI Division, who also participated in the Curriculum Meeting in Orlando. (See below)

The Revised Curriculum Meeting at Orlando, Florida, USA

The RLI Curriculum Meeting, the first to use a revised format, was held on January 27-29 at the Hilton Garden Inn Airport, Orlando, Florida USA. 31 RLI leaders from seven countries reviewed the new agenda items for the annual meeting and their reports will soon be released.

Because the 3-year review of the entire RLI recommended curriculum will take place in 2018, the actual curriculum review was limited to the three Rotary Foundation sessions (one session each for Parts I, II and III) and three Leadership oriented sessions for each Part (although most RLI sessions have a leadership component).

For the first time, the group began preparation of Best Practices for RLI Faculty and Best Practices for the workings of RLI Divisions. Such best practices will be posted on the RLI main website as updated annually. It is hoped that the exchange of ideas at these meetings will lead to improvements in the operation of divisions and their courses for the benefit of Rotary Clubs in the member divisions. One principle that guided some of the deliberations on Best Practices was that the quality/training/experience of discussion leaders is more important to the success of the RLI program than the curriculum outlines (although, of course, they are

also important).

Attending the meeting was Rotarian Steve Hellersperk, Board Chair of the Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF) that is coordinating with RLI for the development of history courses for the RLI Graduate Courses program. Although it was not necessarily planned that way, all the members of the joint History Project Committee are members of both RLI and RGHF. PDG Toni McAndrew is the Co-Chair for RLI for the joint committee and PDG Leigh Hudson is the Co-Chair for RGHF. The theory of the joint project is to utilize the expertise of RGHF in Rotary history together with the expertise of RLI in course development and course presentation/facilitation.

Online Courses Moves Forward

A special feature of the Curriculum Meeting in Orlando was the report and demonstration by Jeffrey Weinrach, a member of the RLI International Online Courses Pilot Program Committee. The report was the culmination of online pilot courses by the committee chaired by PDG Yoshihiro Sekiba, Japan, with members PDG Beryl Robinson, New Zealand, Phil Abraham, USA, PDG Diana White, Caribbean and Jeffrey Weinrach, USA. Jeff Weinrach conducted most of the pilot sessions.

The opinions at the session in Orlando were positive and a breakout group made suggestions for standards for the online courses. Also reviewed were technical procedures for the Zoom program, found by the Committee to be the best online program for RLI. While online courses were generally approved, it was also agreed that in person courses have many advantages over online courses, including more sharing of ideas, small group debates and the opportunity for Rotary friendships and cooperation. It was suggested that online courses were an opportunity for RLI education for Rotarians unable to attend regular courses because of distance, disability, personal conflicts, etc. It is, said the committee, a great supplement to regular courses to reach Rotarians who otherwise could not participate in RLI. It is expected that specific guidelines will be issued before April 1.

RLI Discussion Group on Rotary International Discussion Groups Website Keeps Growing

We urge RLI members to join the RLI discussion group on the R.I./My Rotary/ Discussion groups. The RLI site is called, "Rotary Leadership Institute/RLI". At the time of the writing of this eBulletin, 766 Rotarians have joined the site and 30 discussion topics have been opened. Any Rotarian may join the group.

HELP ROTARY IMPROVE RETENTION RATES - SEND ALL NEW ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS TO A RLI COURSE DURING THEIR FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP!