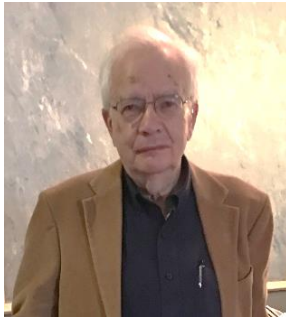




## INTERNATIONAL RLI JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

*“The Rotary Leadership Institute is not an official training program of Rotary International”.*

### INTERNATIONAL CHAIR DAVID LINETT



#### **My Dear Friends and Colleagues,**

It is with mixed emotions that I have decided to step down as International Chair of RLI. I first announced the formation of a Rotary Leadership program when I was the District Governor for my former District 7510 in New Jersey, USA. I mailed a letter to our clubs in December 1991. It is hard for me to realize how many years have passed and how now RLI has grown into a substantial district program in more than 400 plus Rotary districts in every continent of the world.

I still remember the first "course" my district held in New Jersey when one of our speakers "lectured" a group of my then district Rotarians on the subject of Rotary history. It was clear from that time that a lively discussion was the "way to go" and that method is still a key to our success.

At that time, I and my district leaders, thought only of a district program, but two years later at a multi-district meeting with 7470, I met an active member of that district who seemed to be interested in our leadership development

program. His name was Michael Rabasca, now probably one of the very best-known names in all of Rotary around the world. We have been partners in RLI throughout these many years and we split the duties for the program from that very beginning.

After that time Mike and I began to spend many of our weekends traveling around our two districts and then many new districts in the Northeast USA conducting courses. The word went out and Rotary districts in New England, New York and more and more in the USA and some in South America joined the program. We were kept busy renaming the program geographically until we began to substantially expand outside of the USA and adopted our current name.

We attracted the help of many Rotary directors and soon the R.I. Board of Directors adopted a resolution of approval in 2001. Three sessions of the Council of Legislation adopted Resolutions of Approval by large margins, until R.I. asked Rotarians to stop proposing resolutions because the program was so well established.

Almost every R.I. director in the Northeast USA became involved with RLI as did many more directors and Rotary leaders in countries all around the world. Today RLI is a program in substantially most of the world's districts and is well known by many, many thousands of Rotarians.

I am very pleased that PRID and Past Trustee Michael McGovern has agreed to take the reins of RLI leadership for the Rotary world. Mike was a chair of a regional RLI program when I was a director and, in fact, succeeded me on the R.I.

Board. He is one of the best-known Rotarians in the Rotary world, partly because of his current leadership of the R.I. Polio Committee. As a past very active part of RLI for some years, even before either of us became a Director, Mike is a perfect "fit" for RLI leadership and I know the program will greatly benefit from his work.

I will "still be around" with RLI and hope to continue to see many of you at Rotary events. My sincere thanks go to the MANY Rotarians who became part of RLI over the past almost 30 years as well as to our current international leaders whose names are well known to all.

**INCOMING INTERNATIONAL CHAIR  
PRIVP MICHAEL J. MCGOVERN**



Mike joined Rotary in 1986 as a member of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Maine, USA. He served as club president, district governor, district foundation chair, Council on Legislation delegate, Rotarian Action Group chair, international training leader, Institute convener, RI committee member and chair, trustee and vice chair of the Rotary Foundation, and director and vice president of Rotary International. Mike has spoken at events representing Rotary in 37 states, 8 Canadian provinces, and 34 countries.

He is the incoming chair of the Rotary Leadership Institute, an independent association of Rotary districts. He began serving RLI as a faculty member in 2001 and served as chair of RLI in the Northeast America (Home) Division in 2004-2006. He was a recipient of the RLI Distinguished Award in 2014.

Mike McGovern has served as the Chair of Rotary International's PolioPlus Committee since October 2014. In this role, he is the volunteer leader of Rotary's largest humanitarian

project, the global eradication of polio. Rotary is the spearheading partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and has donated over \$2.0 billion to ending polio and has worked with other partners to reduce the number of polio endemic countries from 125 in 1988 to 2 today. Mike represents Rotary on the Polio Oversight Board.

He served his entire career with the Town of Cape Elizabeth, Maine beginning as an intern in 1977 and serving as town manager from 1985 to 2016. During his career he also led several boards including the Maine Municipal Association, the Maine Town and City Management Association and EcoMaine and served on committees of the International City and County Management Association. He currently serves on the board of Park Danforth, a not for profit retirement community and as chair of the Diocesan Review Board of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland.

**THE VISION CONTINUES**

David Linett is irreplaceable. It is seldom that any organization has its founder stay with it for more than 25 years of growth and success. While we take international communications for granted today, David began RLI beyond the initial district just as many of us were first connecting to the internet for the first time. He established the mission for the organization, wrote the first curriculum and established a division structure that enabled the organization to grow. We would hear from David that he wished us to do this or that and the conversation or the emails would continue until he heard the word "yes" He has tenaciously pursued the vision of RLI serving every district in the world and no other Rotary related entity outside the official programs of Rotary have expanded as much as RLI.

There are many ways to measure success. The number of Rotary districts being served is one metric and an important one. To me the key successes are all the stories I have heard from Rotarians on how much the RLI experience has meant to them. Many had little knowledge of Rotary beyond their club until attending RLI. Countless individuals have gone on to serving as club presidents, district governors and in other senior Rotary positions after becoming

exposed to what Rotarians working together can accomplish. Rotarians have heard in RLI sessions of Rotary Foundation grants and have then developed many global grants that have served communities. This is the legacy created by David and it is the legacy of the thousands of Rotarians who have attended RLI sessions. It is now up to all of us to bring RLI forward following the same vision created by David all those years ago. We will see some changes as change is inevitable and necessary but the vision of developing club leaders to better serve in Rotary will not change and will endure. No words can properly thank David for what he has accomplished. While we will honor David in some tangible way to be announced later, the greatest honor we can bestow upon him is to continue RLI in his vision and to have it grow even further. I commit to working to do so and look forward to serving with all of you in evolving RLI to meet the needs of Rotary clubs and Rotarians of the next generation. David, all of Rotary is indebted to you.

### **BRANDING**

As many of you know Rotary International has asked us to reinforce their branding rules in regard to our RLI program,

A - We will be replacing the traditional wheel in our logo with the world globe, looks really nice by the way and quite appropriate especially since we're a worldwide program. We have requested time to use up the current quantity of pins and printed materials with the old logo. The new logo can be downloaded from the RLI files website [rlifiles.com](http://rlifiles.com).

B - With the wording, Rotary Leadership Institute, we must include an identifying name, i.e. Zone, District, or Location. Using just Rotary Leadership Institute is unacceptable.

C - All subsequent printed materials, websites, etc., we agree to clearly state the following disclaimer:

"The Rotary Leadership Institute is not an official training program of Rotary International".

Many thanks to PDG Bo Porter RLI Heart of America Division

### **DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

**RLI South Asia Division Activities** - Covering RI Zones 4, 5, 6 & 7 and Bangladesh

During the Rotary year 2019-2020 RLI Courses were arranged by 12 Districts (including Bangladesh Division). Courses were spread over 28 days with enrollment approximating 550 Rotarian. However, much more needs to be done towards activating RLI Courses in many Districts covered by Rotary Leadership Institute South Asia (RLISA). Unfortunately, 12 Courses in 8 Districts had to be cancelled or at least postponed for the time being, due to the Pandemic.

During a visit from International Vice-chair Frank Wargo, in March, we were able to arrange Course and Faculty Orientations sessions in 6 districts and also conduct a two-day RLISA Board Meeting at Bhubaneshwar (3262) with 40 Board Members. PDG Frank had to cut short his visit due to COVID-19.

The Pandemic threat opened a new opportunity to conduct virtual RLI Sessions. The first Zoom Session, arranged on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020, was ably conducted by Nikate Khaitan. We had 50 participants, from USA, Bolivia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal. Excellent and encouraging feedback was received from many participants. Another successful Zoom Session was held to discuss best practices and discussion method for online courses, conducted by RLISA Jt Secretary PP Mohan Kumar and several top Discussion Leaders, all well received and applauded for their successful efforts.

Many thanks to PP Binod Khaitan, Vice Chairman – RLI South Asia for his message.

### **RLI Bolivia Division Activities**

We needed to find purpose behind this dark cloud (the pandemic) that would keep our members engaged and focused. So, the Bolivia Division thought reestablishing the RLI courses using a tool called Zoom, that allow people to attend remotely (from their own homes) would be an interesting option, worth exploration and validation.

We raise the idea to PDG Juan Pedro Torroba, to run a course as a prototype, share the experiment and evaluate if it was something that was possible to apply or just discard. When we offer the courses in Bolivia (4690 District) we had enough interested Rotarians to run 4-5 courses. After the first pilot course, we made some minor adjustments, realizing the main purpose of an RLI course could be achieved, online. Juan Pedro informed the rest of the Division Chairs in the Zone (Latin America).

In a general evaluation, we can say that the remote sessions will never replace the motivational aspect of our traditional format. Also, we should add that remote courses have PROS, like: cost reduction, use of IT tool that make the process easier (registration, evaluation form, other), no side talking, facilitator and participants from other regions could easily attend). We are very pleased to have around 100 Rotarians certificate on course 1, 2 and 3.

Many thanks to Nicolás Zalles Faculty Chair RLI Bolivia Division

**New RLI Ukraine Division Activities**

Plans are being arranged by PDG Per Hylander. Chair of the Denmark Division and Rina Christiansen, Regional Chair, to travel to the new Ukraine Division (with Belarus). They will be there to introduce RLI and train incoming facilitators. Currently delayed due to the pandemic. Much Good Luck.

Many thanks to PDG Per Hylander Ukraine Division

**RLI Lone Star Division Activities**

In a message from PDG Sherri Muniz, Chair of the Lone Star Division, she announced that District 5910 signed an agreement to participate in RLI. They are nearing the goal of 100% active member districts in the Lone Star Division, Congratulations!!

Many thanks to PDG Sherri Muniz Lone Star Division Chair

**RLI Mid - Atlantic Division**

Our Division will hold our Summer Staff and Faculty meeting July 11<sup>th</sup> online. We will follow this meeting with 5 regional meetings throughout

July to address specific wishes of the districts in our regions. We will try to offer our districts options like having 3 separate level 1(Sept), Level 2 (Oct.) and Level 3 (Nov) events in each district if they have difficulty finding venues that will allow for safe social distancing.

While we have been talking about adding some online learning for the last two years, we now have a talented group that is actively engaged with hopes of providing online options by Spring of 2021. Please contact us should your division have interest or questions.

Many thanks to PDG Leigh Hudson, Chair of the Mid-Atlantic RLI Division

**INTERNATIONAL RLI FINANCIAL REPORT**

**July 1,2019 through June 30, 2020**

**RECEIPTS**

**Division Dues**

USA Sunshine Division -----	\$1,400.00
USA Main Mine Division -----	\$300.00
New Zealand & Pacific Islands -----	\$700.00
USA/Canada Great Lakes Division ---	\$500.00
Canada St. Laurent -----	\$100.00
Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay ----	\$1,000.00
Spain Districts 2201, 2202, 2203 ----	\$300.00
Peru Districts 4455 & 4465 -----	\$200.00
USA heart of America -----	\$2,300.00
Australia Northern Division -----	\$100.00
Japan Division. -----	\$2,400.00
India Welfare Trust (unknown divisions) -----	\$1,015.00
Unknown wire -----	\$1,181.00
North East America Division -----	\$2,100.00
Mexico Division -----	\$700.00
Belarus & Ukraine District 2232 -----	\$100.00
Russia district 2223 -----	\$100.00
Lone Star Division, Texas -----	\$300.00
Flagstaff, AZ Linda Riddell -----	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL DUES-----</b>	<b>\$14,896.00</b>

**Financial Report continued**

**PAYPAL TRNSFER** ----- \$850.36  
**BALANCE** (Carried over from 19-20)  
----- \$13,068.68  
**NET WORTH** ----- **\$28,815.04**

**EXPENDITURES**

Annual NEA Meeting Park Ridge, NJ \$162,77  
Constant Contact Fee ----- \$969.00  
Curriculum Best Practices meeting \$7,239.79  
Equipment {l pad} \$ ----- 1,154.57  
Faculty Training Philippines ----- \$1,010.35  
Faculty Training Ukraine Per Hylander and  
Riva Christiansen Flight to be paid by RLI  
----- TBD  
Hawaii hotel deposit to Wyn Spiller-- \$830.71  
In memory of Michael Bergamasco \$ 500.00  
Internet Host Charges ----- \$73.63  
Micro Computer Security ----- \$369.00  
Russia Training and startup expenses  
----- \$1,296 74  
Web Hosting ----- \$1,061.21  
**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** ----- **\$14,667.77**  
**BALANCE 06/07/2020** ----- **\$14,147.27**

**SPECIAL NOTE RE: DUES\***

\*\$5,787.64 were paid in the 19-20 Rotary year.