

Dear Rotarians,
Please consider investing in Rotary's future

On October 8th Rotary Districts 5580 and 5950 held a faculty training at the Lodge at Brainerd Lakes, for the newest division of the Rotary Leadership Institute, the NorthStar Division which is lead by Chair Tim Kaminski, District 5580 and Vice Chair Kerstine Herda District 5950. The faculty received special training in facilitation and presentation skills in small group settings.

Faculty Certified from District 5580 were DG Tom Riley, DGE Don Cavalier, DGN Dave Smette, PDG Tully Chambers, ADG Marilyn Chambers, ADG Larry Riggs, Rick Wolff and DT Tim Kaminski. District 5950 certified DG Chuck Berg, ADG Kerstine Herda, Jim Nelson, Harold Storm, David Stein, Mark Kranz, Linda Roles. PDG David Buck from District 5970 was also certified, as it is expected that District 5970 will be joining the Division soon.

The Mission of The Rotary Leadership Institute is to provide an educational opportunity for Rotarians identified as potential leaders by their club presidents. Each club president will be asked annually to nominate club members as potential club leaders (not necessarily future presidents) in the years ahead. Courses will be given for the nominees to foster Rotary knowledge and leadership skills. It is hoped that these courses will also motivate the participants to be enthusiastic, creative and dedicated Rotarians.

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a series of fast-paced, interactive, one-day courses offered to refine a Rotarian's leadership skills and increase their base of knowledge in Rotary. Courses are fun, topical, interactive, and geared toward busy business and professional persons who want to be more effective leaders in their vocation and club and more knowledgeable Rotarians.

Rotary Clubs are encouraged to select at least two candidates for RLI annually. Students return to their club with enthusiasm, new contacts, fresh ideas, an increased understanding of their potential as Rotarians, and valuable skills impacting their potential leadership in the club. The Institute recommends that clubs nominate those Rotarians who appear to have the potential for club leadership, not necessarily as future presidents. They should preferably be at least 3-4 years away from a possible presidency or other key leadership post. Candidates should certainly have a strong interest in Rotary and be ready to be exposed to the larger world of Rotary. The Institute requests each club to nominate one or two Rotarians each year and to support previous nominees in completing Parts II and III. Other Rotarians interested in building their knowledge of Rotary and more effectively using their Rotary membership can also attend

The Institute offers a leadership course in three full day parts (Parts I, II, III). Those completing each part are eligible for the next part. The courses are designed to provide Rotary knowledge and to develop leadership skills for voluntary organizations. Some examples of course sessions include, "Rotary Beyond the Club", "The Rotary Foundation" (2 parts), "Membership" (2 parts), "Leadership" (four parts), "Creating Hands On Service Projects", "Vocational Service", "International Service", "Analyzing a Rotary Club", "Creative Service", "Public Relations", "Public Speaking" and other subjects.

The current course fees are \$95 per registrant per day. The fees cover lunch, coffee breaks and considerable materials given to participants. Course fees also pay for meeting space, audio-visual equipment and promotional costs. The Institute strongly recommends that clubs pay the fees for their participants.

District 5580 will hold Rotary Leadership Institute several times a year in various locations across the District so hopefully no Rotarian will have to travel too far to attend. Faculty from District 5950 will come to our District to assist and our faculty will travel to various locations in District 5950 in return. We are currently in the process of setting the first institutes and applications for participants are being taken.

Rotarians completing all three undergraduate parts of the Institute will graduate from Rotary Leadership Institute and will receive appropriate recognition. This recognition includes the presentation of a RLI Diploma at their Rotary Club, and the presentation of RLI Graduate Lapel Pins at the appropriate RLI Event.

RLI Graduate Courses are offered to RLI Participants who have completed the undergraduate course of Parts I, II & III, and who wish to continue their education on specific Rotary or Leadership Topics.

How is RLI Different from PETS (President Elects Training Seminar)?

First, **RLI is targeted toward "prospective club leaders"** and those who wish to learn more about Rotary. **PETS is job-specific training**, for the role of being Club President.

The standard PETS curriculum is a 1 day course with one segment each on Club Administration, Rotary Foundation, Membership, and Service Projects, along with District Sessions on Roles & Responsibilities, Goal Setting and Publicity. These are all geared toward that President's specific year of service as President. However, we all hope that the knowledge a President gains from PETS training and the experience of their year as the leader of the club inures to the benefit of the club for the duration of their membership.

Obviously, President-Elects come from many backgrounds and start from many different points on the "Rotary knowledge" scale. **A major challenge of PETS is to bring President Elects to more uniform point of Rotary knowledge while not boring those who have greater Rotary knowledge or experience.**

RLI has a significant "leadership" component that is not a part of the PETS curriculum. There is time for a more thorough look into what leadership is and how to exercise it effectively, how to "team-build", and then how to carry those leadership concepts through to service projects, committee & club meetings, public speaking and the like. There is just not time to develop and apply these concepts in the sessions at PETS dealing with goal setting and club administration.

PETS courses are generally larger in size (30-50 persons) and require less facilitation and more lecturing to accomplish the session goals than do RLI courses (10-15 persons). **RLI courses are more participative, interactive, and in fact, our students lead many of the class segments.** While RLI Participants tend to learn from each other, PETS participants necessarily are exposed to a specific set of information that is sought to be imparted in each session. In RLI, we encourage students to explore, discuss and study those area of being a Rotarian that excite them, hoping that as that spark is ignited, that they will take that enthusiasm and knowledge back into their club and apply it as a Rotarian, that is, as a leader among leaders.

RLI is more "voluntary" than PETS. From personal observation there are always a few people who do not want to attend PETS or think it is a waste of their time. **In RLI everybody in attendance has either been honored by being selected to attend, or they had the motivation to sign up themselves to learn more. This spirit is infectious.**

Both PETS & RLI have Facilitators and Discussion Leaders who are at the top of the Rotary Training field. There is much overlap between our RLI Faculty and the PETS Faculty chosen from year to year. RLI Faculty Trainers actually assist in training many of the PETS faculties. Both organizations are very fortunate to have very talented and very dedicated Senior Rotary Leaders involved in both administration and faculty.

Lastly, there has been a **conscious effort made by RLI not to duplicate the PETS curriculum.** There continues to be an effort to keep the RLI curriculum different and responsive to needs not met by the other components of the Rotary International Recommended Training cycle, like PETS

It is our philosophy at RLI that every positive learning experience you can give to someone who wants to serve others is a plus for their club, our organization and our world!

Below is a sample of what the schedule would look like .

Please contact Tim Kaminski with any questions or to register for the Rotary Leadership Institute

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**Recommended Schedules for
Part I, Part II and Part III Courses
2009-12**

Time	Part I Courses	Part II Courses	Part III Courses
830	Leadership/Characteristics	Leadership/Goals	International Service
920	Rotary Beyond the Club I	The Rotary Foundation II	Effective Leadership Strategies
1010	Break	Break	Break
1030	Rotary Foundation I	Communication Skills	Effective Leadership Strategies (continued)
1115	Membership/ Retention	Ethics/Vocational Service	Rotary Opportunities (f/ Programs of Rotary)
1215	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
115	Leadership/Team Building	Membership/ Recruitment	Leadership/Public Relations
215	Service Projects	Analyzing Your Rotary Club	Making a Difference
400	Adjourn	Adjourn	Adjourn