



Rotary Zones 30-31

Heart of America

Second Quarter, 2021 Newsletter

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a grassroots, multi-district leadership development program whose mission is to strengthen Rotary clubs through quality leadership education. Districts participate in the RI Zones 30-31 Regional Leadership Institute – Heart of America Division.





HOA-RLI — Board Members

RLI develops leaders!

Excellent leadership is the key to successful service to our communities and the world.

RLI was founded to improve Rotary knowledge and the leadership skills of future club leaders.

Rotary clubs depend on outstanding leadership to harness the talents and skills of their members to reach high levels of accomplishment.

This requires the constant effort to prepare more and more Rotarians for the responsibilities of leadership.

RLI develops leaders!

Executive Board Members

Paul Bucurel — Chair

Tom Greene — Vice Chair

Mary Beth Revels — Secretary

Bo Porter—Treasurer

Eric Lewis— Registrar

Board Members

Elizabeth Usovicz — Curriculum

Bo Porter — HOA-RLI Training Coordinator

Julie McCoy — Extension

Jerome Bannister — Materials and Supplies

Wade Drinkard — Procedures and Governance

Tom Greene — Nominating Committee

Jack McAllister — Coordinator, Districts 6540-6560-6580-6710-6740

Bill Shula — Coordinator, Districts 6600-6630-6650-6670-6690

Cindy Guthrie — Coordinator, Districts 6460-6490-6510

Jeff Romine — Coordinator, 6040-6060-6080-6150

Glen Vanderford — Coordinator, 6760-6780-6800-6860- 6880

Pamela Stewart — Coordinator, 6190-6200-6820-6840

Tom Greene — Technology and Communications

Jane Molloy — News Editor

(Note: Some members of the Board may hold more than one position.)



HOA-RLI — Chair, Paul Bucurel

Rotary year 2020-2021 — a year that change and innovation hardly describe.

As we moved into July of last year it was certainly not like any other year of The Heart of America Rotary Leadership Institute (and its member districts) had seen in the past — and certainly not like anything any of us could have imagined looking to the future



Some of it was typical —

*Some old faces —
returning as facilitators, district coordinators
or HOA-RLI board members
and
some new faces joining in those same positions.*

What some of us had — was a hard time with imagining the long-term effect and changes that Covid-19 would force upon us — better yet, what RLI would look and function like — or would we function at all?

After all, RLI was grounded in face-to-face facilitated discussion centered around forming relationships and sharing of experiences.

My dad served in the army air corps during WW II. Our military had a motto that he used to repeat to me as I was growing up.

**“The difficult we do immediately;
the impossible takes a little longer.”**

Watching RLI grow and change over the last year, I think he was also talking about everyone who had a part in RLI — the participants, facilitators, District as well as Regional Coordinators and all the members of the Heart of America RLI board.

Thanks to all of you and I cannot wait to see 2021-2022.



Regional Coordinator Reports

SE Regional Group Coordinator, Glen Vanderford reporting . .

District 6760 TN, D6780 TN, D6800 MS, D6860 AL, D6880 AL.

The challenges of today and the opportunity to be innovative increases our ability to adapt, expand our reach, increase our impact and enhance participation.

- We used the RLI materials for a virtually platform.
- A list of Certified Facilitators from all 5 Districts was used.
- The HOA RLI SE District Chairs served as Key Host in all three parts and six sessions.
- Jerome Bannister conducted ZOOM Technical Host Training.
- Class sizes were limited to 12-15 participants
- We used Links to RLI Learning Center and My Rotary for Self-Study
- An Initial Test conducted in February – Part III where 14 graduated.

Regional Coordinator, Jeff Romine reporting . . .

D6040. Under the leadership of District Coordinator has held one part each month. much of the year. With the exception of "PETS" month. The sessions were full to capacity until we started having great weather.

D6060. This District is under the leadership of Jerry Weems as District Coordinator. The are getting facilitators retrained and have plans to start offering sessions during the new Rotary year, starting in July.

D6150. This District is on pause, still.

Chris Duhon reporting . . .

District 6200 Planned RLI calendar — partnering with other Districts would be fantastic and certainly willing to discuss that further with other RLI District Chairs.

Session #2 in Two parts — July 20th and 27th- Tuesdays at 6:00 PM virtually

Session #3 in Two Parts — Sept 21st and 28th- Tuesdays at 6:00 PM virtually

PETS preparatory requirements for any PE's who have not completed other provided Sessions and RLI

6 week Program of 1 ½ hour virtual sessions each date

Session #1- Virtually — Jan 18th and 25th — Session #2- Virtually — Feb 1st and 8th Session #3- Virtually Feb 15th and 22nd

Would then like to move to Live Sessions- Full Day on the 3rd Saturdays of each month- as listed below.

April 9th- Session #1- Location TBD

May 21st- Session #2- Location TBD

June 18th- Session #3- Location TBD

Would like to potentially rotate locations throughout the District for these particular live sessions.



Regional Coordinator Reports

continued

Pamela Stewart reporting . . .

6190 did Session 3 over a 2 night period and is revising some aspects based on lessons learned and working on Session 2 as well.

6200 has completed Session 1 over a 2 night period and is working on 2 and 3. The new RLI chair is finishing his year as president and has provided the following schedule for the upcoming year.

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6820 is planning a session sharing materials with 6190 for RLI Part III via a zoom format session. It will include Monday June 7, 2021 6 PM-8:15 PM & Tuesday June 8, 2021 6 PM-8:45 PM. Monday's session will also include a virtual cafe meet & greet session.

6840 *schedule for next year:*

First three Thursdays in August 2021 AND January 2022 6-7:30pm VIRTUAL PART I (2 topics each evening in order) Max class size: 12 (min 6)

First three Thursdays in September 2021 AND Feb/Mar 2022 6-7:30pm VIRTUAL PART II

First three Thursdays in October 2021 AND Mar/Apr 2022 6-7:30pm VIRTUAL PART III

Final Three Tuesdays in April 2022 6-7:30PM VIRTUAL PART I

6190, 6200, and 6820 have offered to work together on materials and attending sessions. While many do look forward to in-person meetings, all do recognize the continuing benefits of maintaining online sessions.



Regional Coordinator Reports

continued

Elizabeth Van Sant reporting

As RLI coordinator next year for D6840 , this is a tentative schedule -- no idea if there is enough interest to offer this many:

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participants must progress through the parts in order and attend all three of each part: \$25 pay on-line before being sent the link/resources

Final Saturday in September (Ponchatoula, LA): 8-12:30 PART 1

12:30-5 PART II

First Saturday in November (Long Beach, MS): 8-12:30 PART II

12:30-5 PART III

Second Saturday in May (Petal, MS): 8-12:30 PART II

12:30-5 PART III

Cindy Guthrie, District 6490 RLI Coordinator reporting

District 6490 Successfully completed first virtual RLI in February. The RLI Chair, facilitators, and DG are discussing the possibility of conducting RLI in person in August. Virtual RLI will continue to be an option.

District 6510 Starting to look at options for in person, hybrid or virtual RLI, obtaining input from participants, facilitators, and District Governor, with respect to comfort levels and preferences.

District 6460 At this point, the District has not held any RLI Sessions, either actual or virtual in 2021. District Coordinator has been talking to potential facilitators and will soon be training them online.



New: RLI Sharing Platform

Jeff Romine reporting

Procedures and Protocols, May 17, 2021 Your fellow Rotarian and RLI friends in the Heart of America Division are willing to share the materials that they have developed with you. Our hope is that this will reduce the time necessary to develop high quality curriculum and programs for RLI Attendees and increase the time that you can spend on building a successful RLI program to further the cause of Rotary. To accomplish this, here is a list of procedures and protocols to inform you. Where we are working cooperatively together, any thoughts and ideas on how to improve this approach would be appreciated.

General Information: A link may be shared with the District's RLI chair/coordinator and HOA RLI coordinators, officers, and other representatives. This link will provide you with the right to "view" materials that others have developed and contributed. You are free to use these materials in the further development and refinement of your RLI courses.

District Chairs/Coordinators will be provided a link to their District folder in the HOA RLI database and the ability to add files to the folder that are identified with their District Number. The District Chair/Coordinator is ultimately responsible for the content of their District folder.

The shared information is reference material. Those who download and utilize these materials should not have any expectations that they will receive updates directly. Instead, individuals that are sharing are asked to update the reference material when needed.

To attain a folder for your district, send an email to one of the co-administrators, Jeff Romine at jeff.romine@gmail.com or (660)-349-8163 or Pamela Stewart at pamela@pstewart.com or 318-243-3358.

Directions for use: We encourage the District Chair/Coordinator to maintain any materials that have been shared in a backup folder on one's own personal computer to be used if the share folder should be deleted or accidentally corrupted.

District Chairs/Coordinators are encouraged to limit or restrict editing capabilities to their own use, but are allowed to share links to their District's folder. Anyone granted "Edit" capability should use this privilege and power cautiously. Facilitators that are working to develop a new course, improving an existing course, or adapting a course to an online or in-person session, are encouraged to access the different folders to see what others have done before them. They will be granted rights to "view," not to "edit."

Due to the 2 GB limitation on the basic Dropbox account, it is recommended that anyone looking at the files wishing to download something, be careful to download the file to one's own computer and not to a Dropbox account. Additional files loaded into your Dropbox account may inadvertently cause one to exceed the storage capability of their basic account.

If you borrow someone's work, please always remember that they may have spent many hours in developing and refining the shared course. Also, the course may have been influenced heavily by someone else that walked the path before them. Please only attempt to make changes in your own materials. You may download another's materials and use them as guidelines or alter them to better fit your own district. If your District wishes to share materials that they have been utilizing, please contact the Co-Administrators about creating a folder for your District.



Communications and Technology

Heart of America – Rotary Leadership Institute “Sharing Platform” Procedures and Protocols Tom Green reporting

Brief summary: Your fellow Rotarian and RLI friends in the Heart of America Division are willing to share the materials that they have developed with you. Our hope is that this will reduce the time necessary to develop high quality curriculum and programs for RLI Attendees and increase the time that you can spend on building a successful RLI program to further the cause of Rotary.

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Correction. . .

In the screen shot in the last newsletter, Bill Shulla was inadvertently misnamed —

Apology to Bill!



How “good” is RLI training ????

One example: All Mid-America Pets facilitators must be RLI trained!!!



Rotary Leadership Institute International

Knut Johnsen is one of the early leaders of RLI. As part of the International committee, he has traveled all over the world introducing RLI to Rotary districts.

He is currently the Vice-Chair of Operations and the Executive Director. He chaired the RLI section that had oversight for the original districts that created the foundation for the Heart of America RLI.

Knut wrote . . .

RLI International Officers

PRID Michael K. McGovern
International Chair
mkmcee@gmail.com

PDG Knut Johnsen
Executive Director
knutjohnsen@att.net

PDG Frank Wargo
Intl. Vice-Chair, Training
Frank.wargo@snet.net

PDG Paul Muczynski
International Treasurer
pmuczynski@epix.net

PDG Penny Byron
International Communica-
tions Director
pennybyronRLI@gmail.com

All is going very well with Mike McGovern as our International Chair. Much of this current year has been spent devoted to developing a truly international organization.

We are working with our many divisions, asking for up to date lists of districts in their divisions. With consolidations and realignments worldwide we felt this would be a good place to start. And it has been....

We have invited 21-24 involved RLI members from around the world to serve as part of our new International Board of Directors.

We have started several committees to further strengthen our program:

The Curriculum committee has members from different parts of the globe – the committee wants to know what districts emphasize and what they might be adding to customize their programs – a way to share ideas and important topics. We will offer an expanded curriculum going forward when one goes to RLIFILES. By just going to the international website one can now go directly into the course material. This will include participant and discussion leader materials. The updates and changes, especially Foundation material, will be out shortly, July timeframe..

Our International website is being updated and will have a fresh inviting appearance going forward. We have enlisted Dacdb, a program I believe you folks are working with to help us. We have a new Webmaster, a young Rotarian from Bolivia, to oversee the site. We are very excited with what we see.

We have also formed a Bylaws committee. Not to suggest any control but to give divisions a guide when developing their organizational strategy, just another tool!! As we all know, RLI continues to expand because it is popular and is district-run.

We're pleased with what we hear from divisions regarding Zoom, online sessions. All agree that the face to face approach is what we want to get back to.

Thanks to the ingenuity of many, the program continues nicely.



Promoting RLI In Your District

**** From the Editor:**

Here are some innovative advertisements for RLI training . . . (all have been “stolen” over the years — and apologies, as I don’t remember from where, or from whom — or when . . .)

**** Discover the Values and Vision that Will Allow Your Club to Thrive —**

**** Seasoned RLI facilitators focus on why “leadership” is much more than a position or job title—it’s about creating positive transformations throughout your organization.**

**** Find your passion in Rotary Make new friends Get new ideas**

**** RLI is a great place for newly inducted Rotarians to quickly learn about the “Object of Rotary”.**

**** Club Officers and members can build on their Rotary Knowledge to enhance their club experience . . .**

**** Club Presidents can expand on the skills gained at their Presidents-elect Training Seminar.**

**** Long time Rotarians can re-kindle the old Rotary flame, and at the same time share their experiences with the other participants.**

**** 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 going and a vision of what Rotary can be.”**

**** Take your Rotary leadership skills to the next level with RLI**

**** Building Better Rotarians — one session at a time**

Send your ideas for promotions to Jane Molloy at jabmolloy@bellsouth.net



Your “Input” Needed

Readers’ Forum

In planning for the future, several changes/ improvements to the RLI Experience have been suggested.

**We would like to hear comments from you on —
whether/or not/or how —
the curriculum should be changed?**

How long should the sessions last?

How are you handling RLI in the time of Covid-19?

If you are doing training on line — how is it working? What suggestions do you have?

What assistance can the RLI newsletter provide?

**Send your ideas/responses to News Editor
Jane Molloy — and we will start a “Reader’s Forum”**

jabmolloy@bellsouth.net



Database & Communications Platform

SUMMARY REPORT ON Database and Communications Platform Tom Green reporting

Tom Green reporting

The Project continues its forward progress. Overall, there are a couple of issues to settle to implement the new system. The registration method must be fully determined including making changes in order to start training. The training window was set for May. As a result, we are now at risk of pushing out the training and implementation date.

Below, is a more detailed discussion of the different tracks we are following to complete all work for implementation.

Data Transfer and verification

- Completed the first automated load of the registration data from the current system. 90% of that data loaded successfully.
- Unloaded registration data sent to district coordinators asking for help to find RI#s. Awaiting the return of the up dated registration data from most of them.
- Retrieved the registration data for D6540 from Great Lakes RLI thanks to the DG's help. The information needs to be reformatted to auto load.
- Any registration information not included by the second load will be input manually. I will ask the district coordinators to address this after their training on the new system.
- We will update any new records that are not auto loaded manually in time for the implementation.

Registration

- An internal review on the needs for registration has been done with the help of Elizabeth Usovicz and many of the district coordinators.
- Bo Porter has reduced the meeting's feedback to a set of needs for our registration process.
- The needs have been transmitted to DACdb.
- Awaiting a management meeting to discuss how to build the new Registration system accordingly.

Website

- An initial look at a website has been produced using our current website.
- A core team meeting reviewed it and provided feedback to the website developer.
- Continued follow-up is expected until we have a firm design.

Configuration

- A detailed list of information has been assembled for HOA-RLI board members and district coordinators.
- The files were transmitted to DACdb to begin setting access levels to the domains in districts and RLI.
- Specific set ups are being worked on to configure various tools in the system that aid support for the district coordinators and leadership team.
- A review of reports will be done to identify any unmet needs.

(continued on the following page)



Database and Communications

Continued

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Financial

A scope and schedule of implementation is being developed by Bo Porter for implementation.

A meeting with the incoming Treasurer is being set up to develop the best way to build the tools. This effort will not impact the other work ongoing but will help to decide how integrated the financial package will be with the DACdb modules.

Training

The planned training needs registration data loaded and the registration process to be firm.

Training for the RLI members will be completed over several training sessions.

A schedule will be setup when we are closer to the training.



What Is RLI?

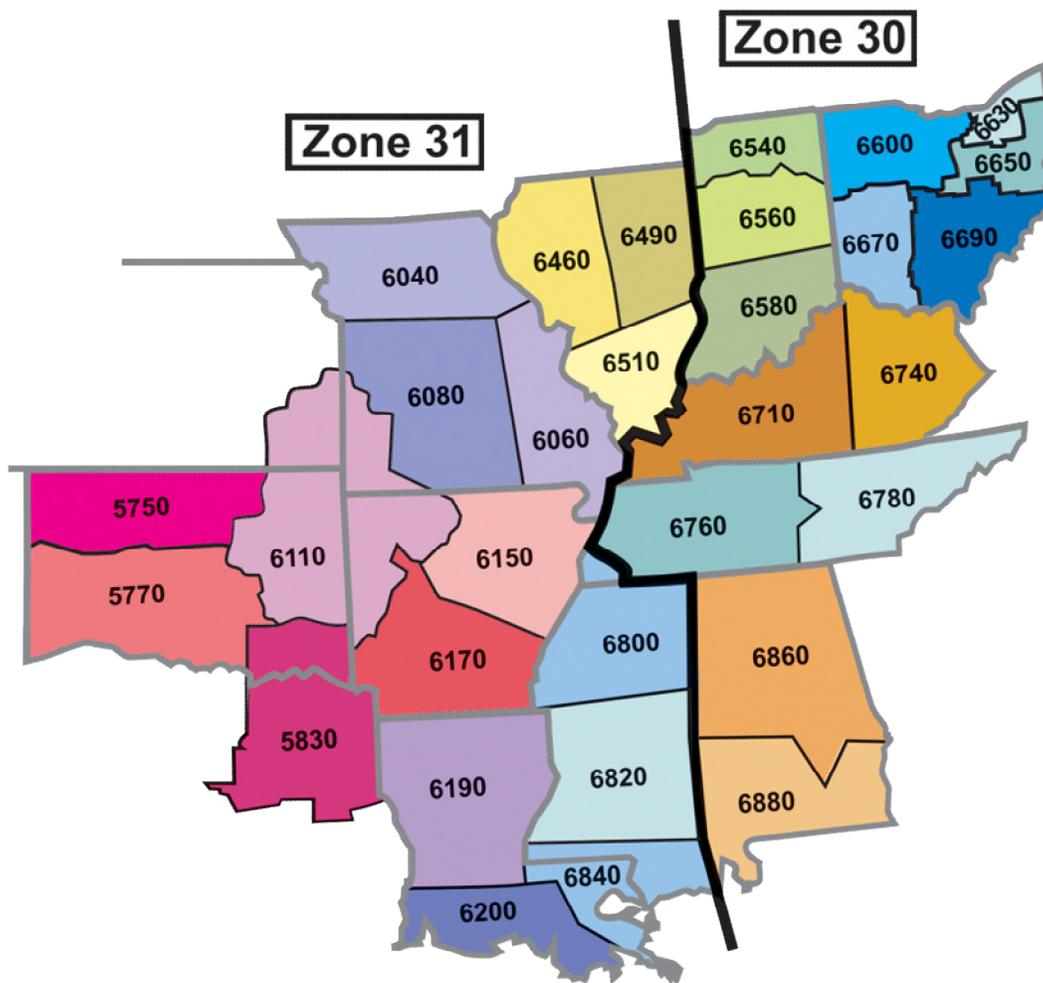
The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a multi-district, grassroots, leadership development program organized into regional divisions in various parts of the world.

RLI is a recommended program of Rotary International.

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

We Are the Heart of America regional division

HOA-RLI ROTARY ZONES 30-31





RLI — The Details

RLI was founded to assist in improving the Rotary knowledge and leadership skills of future Club leaders. Excellent leadership is the key to successful service by our clubs to our communities and the world. Rotary is blessed with members of high quality, but all Rotary clubs depend on outstanding leadership to harness the talents and skills of our membership to high levels of accomplishment. The rapid turnover of leadership positions in Rotary caused by annual elections requires constant effort to prepare more and more Rotarians for the responsibilities of leadership.

RLI provides a recommended curriculum for a basic course in three full days. The three days are called Parts I, II and III and are taken consecutively in order for the participants to gain perspective through their club activities in between the Parts.

RLI also recommends a program of graduate seminars for those who have completed the three basic Parts. Since the founding of RLI, the curriculum has been continually reviewed, updated and revised as the result of experience and the evaluations of the attendees.

Although any Rotarian may attend RLI courses, RLI recommends that Rotary Clubs encourage Rotarians who have the potential for future club leadership, not necessarily as club presidents, to attend. The ideal candidate is early in their Rotary career, has a strong interest, and is prepared to be exposed to the larger world of Rotary outside of the club.

Faculty members are carefully selected. Many are present and past Rotary International directors, district governors, presidents and those with experience in special areas. Each new faculty member must attend a full day training program and various periodic reorientation programs. The results of course evaluations help to improve the course content and instruction.

If your club cares about its future, it will want the best leadership possible. This is an outstanding opportunity for each club to improve the Rotary knowledge of its key people, who will also be exposed to new ideas of leadership.

The exchange of ideas with other experienced Rotarians alone makes the courses worthwhile.

For more information on RLI see <http://www.hoa-rli.org/>