



Rotary Leadership Institute Northeast America Newsletter



Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Message from our Chair Jerry Gortner



Hope you had a fantastic summer! Rotary Leadership Institute NorthEast America (RLINEA) received rave reviews for their annual meeting with excellent breakout sessions facilitated by our ten facilitators. Our Friday evening banquet included a polio update from our own RLI International chair, Michael McGovern, followed by Drew Kessler, our Rotary International Director and Treasurer of Rotary International live via zoom. Drew gave us his thoughts on the Learning Center and RLI working together as we move forward.

You will see in our updated curriculum, that when we will start our first session in Summerdale, Pennsylvania on September 16, it will include frequent references to the Learning Center for specific Rotary program details. These references and specific curriculum updates are being made possible by extensive curriculum update work by Norma Madayag-Reilly, Bill Gormont, Bob Hobaugh, and Deb Glisson. Norma presented at our Saturday morning board meeting the curriculum changes and will be

making the final changes prior to our September 16 session. Our Outstanding Facilitator for 2022-23, Una Martone has volunteered to work with Norma on the final touches.

We have a new webmaster, Michael Thompson, who will be working very closely with our Executive Director, Deb Glisson, to update our website by removing outdated material and will have only current curriculum material on our website. Our 2023-24 Graduate course is "Succession Planning" and will be available on our website shortly. A huge thank you to Bill Gormont, Bob Hobaugh, and Deb Glisson, our 2023 Yvette Palmer award recipient for extensive work on putting this Graduate course together.

We are working on extensive sites this year to include 18 locations. The sites will be both in person and virtual, including two evening sessions in Wakefield, February 27 and 29 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. This pilot proved to be very successful last year. Toni McAndrew trained seven new facilitators at our annual meeting, and they have been invited to observe at our upcoming sessions and be fully trained to facilitate. With our updated curriculum, facilitators who have not facilitated in the past two years or attended either of the last two annual meetings will be completing a refresher by observing sessions before facilitating.

We are looking forward to an excellent year with excellent and excited facilitators.

Jerry Gortner

Message from our Executive Director Deb Glisson

I would like to take a minute or two to thank those who nominated and selected me to receive the Yvette M. Palmer Award for Exceptional Service at this year's RLI-NEA Annual meeting! Although I don't expect to receive awards for doing what I love best – engaging in "Service Above Self", I do appreciate that I received this award for - as the inscription indicates – "for your dedication and commitment of time and energy to further the mission of The Rotary Leadership Institute."

Having been involved with RLI-NEA since November 1, 2008, I have continued to find that the mission of offering facilitated learning, as one acquires from RLI-NEA sessions, is the way to go! Please don't misinterpret me. I often refer to the Rotary Learning Center when I need the nuts and bolts of a specific aspect of Rotary International, when I am required to fulfill a training requirement such as a Grants Management Seminar or the Council on Legislation training, or when I look to inform various officers of the how-to's of their specific roles. That Learning Center has the nuts and bolts that best assist me in gathering accurate information. The significant difference with the RLI-NEA is that the learning and acquisition of knowledge comes from facilitated discussion. I really appreciate having others with me in the group discussion format. Engaging with other Rotarians, learning and sharing, is essential to moving forward in my service as a Rotarian. I find that the key component of RLI-NEA learning is facilitation!

In case you are not aware of who those facilitators are that lead your discussion groups... They are Rotarians just like yourselves. They have completed all three parts of the RLI-NEA curriculum and have also engaged in several of the Graduate Level sessions. Ultimately, they have been trained as RLI-NEA faculty members, have observed other experienced faculty members, have been observed in their initial assignments and have been evaluated by those in the sessions they have been assigned to lead. In summation, they are trained RLI-NEA facilitators who demonstrate strong leadership skills, who are real-life examples of individuals who are not afraid to stand up for what they believe, who engage in the key role of facilitator toward the engagement of all participants and who help to ensure the program materials remain current and relevant. Basically, they engage in SERVICE where they foster a sense of trust between themselves and the participants, they know when to draw out participants' experiences and when to bring new ideas to the group. They are servant leaders! The next time you engage in an RLI-NEA event, please take the opportunity to express your appreciation for the facilitators, Servant Leaders, assigned to your sessions.

Yours in Rotary service,

Deb Glisson



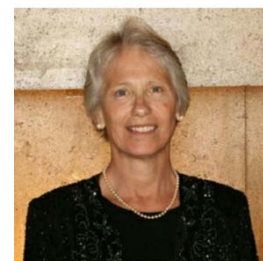
More than 50 RLI NEA Leaders Gathered Together at our Annual Meeting in Albany

More than 50 RLI NEA Officers, Faculty Members, Site Chairs, and Regional Vice Chairs and District Governorss from throughout Northeast America gathered on August 18 and 19, 2023 at the Albany Marriott (Wolf Road) Hotel to learn more about their involvement with RLI and to celebrate what we accomplished together in Rotary year 2022-23.



The Annual Meeting opened with Chair Jerry Gortner officiating at our Executive Committee's Annual Meeting on Friday morning (August 18). The agenda included: increased reimbursement for hotels and travel for Faculty members at in-person RLI sessions, changing our evaluations for RLI sessions to Members Minds Pro's new format, and voting on our new Treasurer Phyllis Danks, new Regional Vice Chairs and Vice Chairs, and the appointment of our new Webmaster Michael Thompson.

Meanwhile, in the next room, PDG Toni McAndrew trained a group of seven new RLI NEA Faculty members, who will now need to observe a well-seasoned RLI Faculty Member, and then to practice facilitating an RLI topic themselves at one of our upcoming RLI sessions.



Phyllis Danks, New RLI NEA Treasurer

Learning from Breakout Sessions

Everyone else arrived at the hotel in the afternoon to attend break-out sessions for Faculty, Site Chairs and Regional Vice-Chairs: Virtual Facilitation (facilitated by RLI Executive Director PDG Deb Glisson), Facilitator Selection (facilitated by Vice-Chair South PDG Mike McCarthy) and Promotion of RLI Sessions and Sites (facilitated by RLI NEA Marketing Coordinator PDG Bonnie Sirower and PDG Matt Adler). A second set of sessions followed, including a discussion on Curriculum (facilitated by Deb Glisson and PRID Mike McGovern), Managing Friday Evening Faculty Sessions (facilitated by RLI NEA Chair PDG Jerry Gortner and PDG Toni McAndrew) and Using Member Minds Pro for Registration (facilitated by Lin Kelly of Member Minds Pro, Donna Rinaldi and RLI NEA Vice-Chair North PDG Liz Cullen). Saturday morning, Faculty members learned about In-Person Facilitation (facilitated by PDG Una Martone), Site Administration (facilitated by PDG Deb Glisson) and an additional session taught by Lin Kelly and Donna Rinaldi.



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RLI NEA bestows its 2022-023 Yvette Palmer Award on our Executive Director PDG Deb Glisson



One of the best parts of Friday evening's dinner at the RLI NEA Banquet happened when PDG Toni McAndrew, RLI NEA Awards Chair, honored our Executive Director, PDG Deb Glisson, by presenting her with the Yvette M. Palmer Award for Exceptional Service to RLI NEA. This special award dedicated to the memory of PDG Yvette M. Palmer, one of the creators of our Faculty Training program. Those who have received this honor have all exhibited exceptional dedication to the RLI program, long term involvement in one or many roles within the RLI program and have served as positive role models reflective of RLI values. Previous recipients of this award are: Yvette M. Palmer; Frank Wargo; Ward Vuillemot; Greg Roche; Toni McAndrew; Ann Keim; Jerry Gortner; Ed King; Tam Mustapha; Liz Cullen and last year's Award winner, Mike McCarthy.

In presenting the award, PDG Toni praised Deb as one of the most dedicated Rotarians in the RLI family. As our Executive Director, Deb manages all of the RLI NEA sessions, coordinating them with local Site Chairs and Regional Vice Chairs. She works closely with Macro Members Pro, sets up training and oversees mentorship of new RLI Faculty and does everything else needed to make our RLI NEA run smoothly.

Deb became an active member of Rotary International District 7150 in 2004. She has served as Club President, Assistant Governor, District Governor 2014-2015, Representative to the Council on Legislation and Resolutions (2017 – 2023) District Trainer (2015-2018 and 2019-2022), District Membership Chair (2015-2018), Empire Multi-District PETS Chair (2021 – present), and Executive Director of RLI-NEA (2020 -present). Deb is a graduate, faculty member, Graduate Level Curriculum designer, and Zoom producer for RLI-NEA. She is extremely proud of having had District 7150 pilot the indoctrination of virtual RLI-NEA via ZOOM: thus, keeping RLI-NEA as a viable and continuous learning and networking Rotary experience!



Una Martone honored as RLI NEA's Best Facilitator (Learning Leader) for 2022-2023

On Saturday morning, August 19 of our RLI NEA Annual Meeting, PDG Mike McCarthy (*our selection for RLI NEA Chair-- see article below*) beginning Rotary year 204-25) presented this year's Outstanding Faculty Member Award to Una Martone, Past District Governor of District 7390 in Harrisburg, PA. This award honors our outstanding Faculty Member who has demonstrated:

- Session preparedness and knowledge of assigned topics at RLI sessions
- Ability to engage all group participants, whether on-site or on a video/Zoom presentation
- Ability to cite and review additional topic resources
- Being a team player—attending and contributing to faculty prep sessions, assisting where needed; having session flexibility
- Demonstrating innovative techniques for learning and computer skills where applicable, including camera readiness and virtual adaptability with breakout rooms
- Receiving positive evaluations from class participants.



Una Martone has articulated that her purpose in life is "to help people see their best so that they can be their best!" She considers herself fortunate to fulfill this purpose through Leadership Harrisburg Area where she has served as President & CEO since 2007. Highlights of Una's tenure with LHA include the creation of Beyond Leadership, a curriculum on servant leadership that she conceived, created, and has delivered to hundreds of people since 2015. Una is also responsible for the addition of the Alumni Circle Enrichment Series, Board Strong, The Color Code, and an original Diversity, Equity & Inclusion training program that has reached over 6,000 people since 2020. Una created the first and only community-wide volunteer fair which has been executed by three consecutive CLS classes serving more than 100 non profit organizations (unduplicated). All told, LHA's profile has increased under Una's leadership – a measured 500% increase with an outreach of over 6,500 people each year.

Una's love of curriculum development is accompanied by a focus on community partnerships, fund & resource development, and the creation of strategic alliances. Una's efforts have increased the organization's budget which prompted moving to a larger facility, adding team members, and acquiring a company vehicle (branded) which, in turn, have significantly increased the organization's ability to address community needs. Una's work has been recognized throughout Central Pennsylvania and beyond. She has received numerous awards and distinctions that include: the 2009 Robert D. Hanson Award for Excellence; 2012 Women of Excellence (TWE); 2018 Business Woman of the Year; the 2018 Luminary Award; the 2020 Women of Influence Circle of Excellence; 2021 Outstanding Service Award; and 2023 Facilitator of the Year Award. Una was honored with a Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Central Penn College in 2020.

In addition to her work with LHA, Una is active with Rotary International. A member of the Rotary Club of Harrisburg since 2006, Una served as Club President in 2012/13 and then went on to serve in several roles with Rotary District 7390. She was nominated to serve as District Governor in 2015 and, after serving as DGN, DGE, and the associated role of District Foundation Chair, Una fulfilled her term as District Governor, one of 103 women in the world at the time, in 2017/18. Una completed the Rotary Leadership Institutes and became certified as RLI Faculty in 2018. She spends many weekends training Rotarians across the Mid Atlantic and Northeast USA. Una has also been a presenter/facilitator with the Mid Atlantic President Elect Training Seminar and was elected as Executive Trainer for 2022 and 2023. Una serves as a Training Leader for Rotary Zones 28 & 32 (Northeast USA and Canada); and has the distinction of serving as a Training Leader for the Rotary International Assembly in 2020 and 2021 (virtually). Una recently accepted an international appointment as a member of the Marketing Committee for the Rotary International Convention 2023 in Melbourne Australia. Una is a Paul Harris Fellow x3 and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for The Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus.

Una earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Central Florida and has followed that with a number of professional certifications including: Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE); Certified in Organizational Leadership (The Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership); and Certified Interpersonal Skills Trainer (Color Code International). In 2023, Una was awarded a scholarship to become a certified coach in Positive Intelligence through Shirzad Chamine's multi-million dollar international campaign. Una is a first generation American of Irish descent; the youngest of 7 siblings; married to Mike for 31 years; and mother to Michael (28) and McCaffrey (24). As of this year, the family birthday list is over 70 people and growing! The holidays are always an adventure!

PDG Mike McCarthy Selected as Next RLI NEA Chair for 2024-27



At the RLI NEA Annual Meeting, the entire assemblage unanimously selected PDG Mike McCarthy as our next Chair Director, succeeding Jerry Gortner for 2024-27.

A Rotarian since 1997, Mike has served the Pottstown Club as Club President, Director and Youth Exchange Officer, and Rotary in a number of capacities, including District 7430 Governor (2009-10), DRFC (2011-15, 18-21) and ARRFC (2015-18). He is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and a Bequest Society member and is a facilitator for the Rotary Leadership Institute since 2010 and at PETS.

A Reading, PA, native, Mike's US Navy career focused on logistics and procurement. Following that he returned to his roots, working on economic development matters and on business consulting, building teams to improve performance and valuing businesses.

Mike is an active member of his community. He is a board member, and Past President, of the World Affairs Council of Greater Reading and is also a board member of Setebaid Services, Inc. He has taught Junior Achievement courses and serves in several capacities in his church.

His wife Mary Anne (Bradford) is a retired civil engineer and PE. She is also a Paul Harris Fellow and Bequest Society member. She and Mike have six children and seven grandchildren. They reside in the Oley Valley, near Reading.

Rotary Leadership Institute International Invites You to Join Its Annual Meeting on Zoom Sept 21

RLI NEA's parent organization, Rotary Leadership Institute International has invited all of our members to join them on Zoom on September 21, 2023 at 8 am EDT. This annual meeting is open to **all** Rotarians and Rotaractors in participating divisions. Division leadership, District governors, District Governor elects and Faculty members are specifically encouraged to attend (*although any required votes are limited to board members*). The meeting is expected to last about an hour and will be recorded.

Here is what will be covered at this Annual meeting:

1. Call to Order and Introductory Remarks: *PRID Mike McGovern, RLI International Board Chair*
2. Update from the Executive Director- *PDG Knut Johnsen*
3. Treasurer's Report: *PDG Paul Muczynski*
4. Curriculum Discussion Board : *PDG Margie Kersey and PDG Frank Wargo, Board Members*



5. RLI Activities at Melbourne Convention: *Board Vice Chair Adriana de la Fuente*
6. Update on Singapore Convention
7. Nominations Committee Report: *PDG Knut Johnsen, PDG Adriana de la Fuente and PDG Leila Ristelli*
8. Communications: *Margie Kersey*
9. Appointment of the Awards Committee for 2023-2024
10. Brief Concluding Remarks: *PRID Mike McGovern, Board Chair*

Plan to join and learn more about RLI International!

Topic: RLI International Annual Meeting
Time: Sep 21, 2023 08:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84358733294?pwd=eDAzeklleVNiNjRGYUorUG8wR3doUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 5873 3294

Passcode: 928382

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,84358733294# US (New York)

+16469313860,,84358733294# US

Dial by your location

• +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

• +1 646 931 3860 US

B R O A D E N your Rotary knowledge at one of our RLI NEA sessions this coming Rotary year

You have plenty of opportunities to BROADEN your knowledge of Rotary when you attend an RLI NEA course this year. We already have 18 opportunities for you to attend Rotary Leadership Institutes this year -- most in-person but a few on Zoom:

- September, 16, 2023 in Harrisburg (Summerdale), PA
- September 23, 2023 in Verona, NY
- October 28, 2023 in Wilkes-Barre, PA
- November 4, 2023 in Schenectady, NY
- November 5, 2023 in Center Moriches, Long Island, NY
- January 27, 2024 in Marlborough, MA
- February 27 and 29, 2024 on Zoom (3 hours each night)
- March 2, 2024 in Johnson City, NY
- March 23, 2024 in Bourne, MA
- March 23, 2024 in Center Valley, PA

Parts I, II, III and Graduate Course will be offered at all sessions as long as minimum attendance requirements have been met. Costs vary by location; virtual sessions will cost \$25 each.

To register for any of these classes, go to our website at www.rlinea.org

This year's RLI NEA Graduate Course will be on Succession Planning for your Rotary Club and your Rotary District.

Developed by PDG Bill Gorton and PDG Bob Hobaugh, the course will include the following:

The graduate program this year will involve Succession Planning. Here is an outline of the objectives.

- In the first part of the course in the morning, participants will be encouraged to identify and nurture promising candidates within their clubs and districts to take on leadership roles. These roles are often filled by the same people year after year. Participants will learn to identify characteristics of leaders and how to nurture those promising persons to take on leadership roles.
- Participants will look at current roles within both clubs and districts that need to be filled.
- Participants in the graduate course will be encouraged to create success profiles for each of the critical roles (like a job description), much the way Herb Klotz does for successful clubs. All of these skills will be considered transferable to all walks of life, not just Rotary.
- Participants will then create a development plan, including keys to success process, structure, steps to take and ownership of responsibility. They will create scenarios of these key roles and their development.

Remember, if you have completed RLI's Parts I, II and III, you can take as many Graduate courses as you wish!



Bulletin Editor Information

This newsletter is published quarterly by Marketing Coordinator PDG Bonnie Sirower (D 7490). Please send stories to her at Botzie@aol.com. If you no longer wish to receive this publication, just click *unsubscribe* at the bottom of this e-mail.

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