

## SYNOPSIS

### Arizona Rotary Leadership Academy

Recognizing the increasing demands on Rotary leaders' time, as well as each Rotary district's need to identify and train Rotarians for district leadership roles, Rotarians acted. In 2004-05, District 5510 created a new and innovative online learning approach to Rotary leadership development.

In 2006-07, RLA was expanded to become an all Arizona program involving Districts 5490, 5500 and 5510 and governed by the Arizona Tri-District PETS committee. Following the 2016-17 district reorganization, the Arizona RLA is now managed and coordinated by the Districts 5500 and 5495 partnership. Annually, Past District Governors, current Governors, current Assistant Governors and RLA graduates nominate candidates for the academy. These nominees, past Rotary club Presidents, Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) graduates and Rotarians interested in leadership roles beyond their clubs are provided training which prepares them for the "next step," a district leadership role.

Each fall the participants begin the academy's annual program with an orientation to our self-paced, computer-based online learning framework. The primary objectives of the academy are: (1) to expand the foundation of Rotary and district leadership, (2) to provide opportunities for excited and engaged Rotarians to expand their leadership talents, and (3) work within the parameters and constraints of Rotarians busy lives. This quality online training is facilitated by talented and experienced past District Governors and senior Rotarians. Within the program guidelines, students can work at their own pace and on their own schedules. The following online learning courses are offered by RLA:

#### First Semester

- September: **The Rotary Brand.** A basic overview of Rotary International's branding and public image efforts, and the role each of us must fulfill.
- October: **Understanding and Utilizing The Rotary Foundation.** An overview of The Rotary Foundation for District leaders: spending Foundation dollars, giving to the Rotary Foundation, reports you can use, goals, recognition of donors, District Designated Funds, and resources you can use in your District.
- November: **Collaboration and Funding to Meet Needs.** Helping leaders to think outside the box regarding tackling and funding larger needs that are beyond the abilities and resources of a single club, and often require extending beyond a single Rotary year.

#### Second Semester

- January: **Building on a Heritage of Leadership and Accomplishments.** A review of who your District Leaders have been and what your District has accomplished so far.
- February: **How to Succeed in Membership Growth and Retention.** Rotary International has approved several new/innovative club membership types and club models. This course will draw on these changes to help your club restructure itself to succeed in changing lives in our communities and world.
- March: **Rotary's Fiduciary Responsibilities, and Youth Protection.** What are a Rotary club's responsibilities to its members, its contributors, its community, the government and to Rotary International? How can liabilities be evaluated and minimized?

A past club president, RLI graduate or Rotarians interested in leadership beyond the club must be nominated by one of the following: Current District Governor, Past District Governor, current Assistant Governor, a graduate of the Arizona RLA.