



Rotary  
Training  
Talk

February 2008

### **International Assembly**

District governors-elect attended the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, from 13-20 January. Visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) to read about RI President-elect Dong Kurn Lee's emphases for the coming year and [watch a video](#) on the 2008-09 RI theme. [Click here](#) to read the speech about the Club Leadership Plan, the Future Vision speech, and many more speeches from the International Assembly.

### **Presidents-elect training seminar (PETS)**

This March, more than 32,000 club presidents-elect will attend their district's PETS or a multidistrict PETS. During the seminar, they'll work on their goals for the year using the [Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs](#), available as a Word document that can easily be completed, updated, and e-mailed to fellow club members and district leaders. All handouts and [discussion questions](#) for PETS can be found in the [Club President's Manual](#) (222-EN) to help prepare for the seminar. Encourage presidents-elect to bring their manuals if they are distributed before PETS.

In late January, Rotary International shipped theme and reference materials to governors-elect to distribute to club presidents-elect at PETS. This mailing includes the [Club Leadership Plan](#), a publication explaining the plan and the steps clubs should go through to implement it. Learn more on the [Club Leadership Plan](#) resource page.

### **Financial Management**

New resources are available to help Rotary clubs and districts with financial management.

The [Club Treasurer's Section](#) an excerpt from the [Club Secretary's Manual](#), includes information on the club treasurer's about their role and responsibilities, and it helps with creating budgets.

The [District Finance Committee Resource Guide](#) is a general guide for financial practices. The four-page document explains how the district finance committee should work with the clubs in its district.

### **Communication using technology**

Thank you to those that responded about how technology is being used to enhance communication. From the responses we received, the most popular way to communicate is by blogging on the internet. Many use it to communicate with incoming GSE teams and others use it to share experiences while serving on an international service project.

If you would like to share what technology you're using and how you're using it. E-mail [elizabeth.lapp@rotary.org](mailto:elizabeth.lapp@rotary.org) to share your innovative approach.

## **March is Literacy Month**

[Celebrate literacy month!](#) Encourage Rotarians to raise awareness of [literacy issues](#) and to organize literacy projects at home and abroad. Consider facilitating a discussion at an upcoming club meeting about literacy and education in your community.

## **Training Tip**

Participants in a training session are always more engaged when they contribute to the discussion. Be sure to thank the learners for their comments. By doing this, you give participants the confidence to continue participating.

Looking for more training tips? Find a [collection](#) on the Training page.

## **Training Tools**

This icebreaker was sent in by a club president from British Columbia, Canada. It can be used for any amount of participants.

At the beginning of a session, pose this question to participants: "If you weren't here in this session today, where would you be?" It's a very simple, open-ended question but often reveals some surprising insights into people's activities and interests. This icebreaker can also be used as a brief needs assessment for the trainer.

[Tell us](#) about icebreakers that have worked during your training sessions.

## **Ask the editor**

[E-mail](#) your questions about Rotary training or training materials, and they may be answered in next month's edition of *Rotary Training Talk*.

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