



# LEADER NETWORK



November 2006



## **2006-2007 VDG/DGE Training Program**

During 2005-2006, an alternate approach to vice district governor/district governor-elect training was introduced which included pre-seminar assignments with guidance and support provided by the group leaders, the DGE Seminar itself and post-seminar mentoring by the group leaders.

This new format was evaluated very positively overall. The majority of DGEs had completed the pre-work prior to arriving in Boston, enabling them to participate fully in the DGE Seminar discussions. Experienced group leaders reported that this format encouraged them to become familiar with specific challenges faced by DGEs in their group, allowing them to be better prepared to address the most relevant issues in the classroom.

Building on the success of last year, we have implemented a similar program during 2006-2007. Our goal is to enable our incoming district governors to maximize their effectiveness and our association's growth during the 2007-2008 year and beyond. The active involvement of all multiple and single district leadership development chairpersons is key to the success of this new initiative.

The 2006-2007 VDG/DGE Training Program is comprised of three components:

The **individualized** component is a self-driven learning experience designed to prepare vice district governors to effectively select their team, establish goals and develop their membership plan. Vice district governors will receive training modules involving online work and other assignments to complete at regular intervals, with support and coaching provided by their group leaders. An exciting highlight this year is a series of informational/motivational DVDs featuring Vice President Mahendra Amarasuriya.

The **regionalized** component involves incorporating a series of topics into your local VDG training. Materials for these topics will be sent to all multiple and single district leadership development chairpersons in November 2006. This regionalized component is critical to the overall success of this program, as much of the sharing that occurs during the 2007 DGE Seminar will be based on the regionalized learning.

The **international** component is the 2007 District Governors-Elect Seminar conducted just prior to the International Convention in Chicago, Illinois, USA. Plans include classroom sessions and workshops, general sessions, and fellowship events, including International Friendship Lunches, a visit to LCI Headquarters, and the Graduation Banquet. A component for spouses is also incorporated.

The success of the 2006-2007 Vice District Governor/ District Governor-Elect Training Program is contingent upon the active involvement and support of all involved, especially our multiple and single district leadership development chairpersons. Should questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact the Leadership Division at [leadership@lionsclubs.org](mailto:leadership@lionsclubs.org), or 630/571-5466, extension 558 or fax 630/571-1682.

We appreciate your participation!



## **Use of Senior Lions Leadership Institute Graduates**

Over 90 Lions have attended the Senior Lions Leadership Institute so far this year. After four days of intense training, Senior Lions Leadership Institute graduates are eager to utilize their newly refined skills within their clubs and districts. Equipped with newly enhanced skills in fields such as project management, conflict resolution, and public speaking; these recent graduates are preparing to be the Lions leaders of the future.

Lions clubs and districts can enhance their effectiveness with well-trained leaders. Communication, presentation and public speaking skills can increase your positive local exposure to the media. Training in diversity, creativity and team building will provide a refreshing outlook on existing projects, as well as new projects to engage current members and attract new members. With an increased awareness of existing Lions programs and grant opportunities, these new graduates can lead your next club project with confidence and success!

Visit the Senior Lions Leadership Institute webpage for additional information: [http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/news\\_train\\_senior.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/news_train_senior.shtml)

### **M-E-R Newsletter Links**

**Membership/Retention - News & Notes - [http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/pdfs/news\\_notes.pdf](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/pdfs/news_notes.pdf)**

**Extension News - <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/pdfs/extnl.pdf>**

**MORE**





# LEADER NETWORK



November 2006

## *Lions Learning Center*

2006-2007 marks the third year of Lions Learning Center, LCI's library of online courses accessible through the LCI website ([www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)). So why have more than 6000 individuals chosen to take advantage of this new way of learning? The reasons vary, but most often one or all of the following are cited:

- **Convenience:** Lions can participate in quality training at convenient times and locations with no travel, which saves time and money.
- **Customization:** Each participant controls the pace, sequence and content of training. Participants choose which courses to take and take their time in completing each, repeating material as necessary.
- **Efficiency:** The time between learning material and applying it can be shortened. Participants can take a course in the morning and put what they've learned to use that afternoon.
- **Effectiveness:** Lions Learning Center courses make excellent pre-work assignments to prepare trainees for upcoming face-to-face training sessions.
- **Fun:** Participants find the short courses interesting and fun!

Lions Learning Center currently offers user-friendly, interactive courses in all LCI official languages. Course topics include Coaching, Goal Setting, Meeting Management, Delegation, Public Relations and Effective Teams. New this year will be courses on Change Leadership, Service Projects, Personal Mission Statement, and Member Motivation. Each course includes matching activities, multiple choice quizzes, simulated conversations, realistic Lions scenarios, assessment activities, and a student notepad for note taking as courses are completed.

Lions Learning Center provides a unique opportunity to enhance our leadership skills twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week – and remember, the most effective leaders are always learning!



## *Multiple District Leadership Development Funding Program*

The **Multiple District Leadership Development Funding Program** allows multiple districts to apply for funding to support two leadership development programs per year: one for vice district governors and the second for district leadership development chairpersons. LCI will provide curriculum guidance. During 2005-2006, sixty-five multiple districts took advantage of this unique program and we expect to exceed that number this year.

Eligible expenses will be reimbursed in the amount up to US \$75 per qualified participant. Program expenses qualifying for reimbursement include meeting room rental, materials, audiovisual equipment rental, and meals and lodging expenses of the qualified participants and instructors; travel is at the expense of the participants.

Funding is limited and is available on a first come first serve basis – so don't wait to apply! For more information about the **Multiple District Leadership Development Funding Program** please contact the Leadership Administration Department at 630-571-5466 ext. 385, fax: 630-571-1682 or e-mail [leadership@lionsclubs.org](mailto:leadership@lionsclubs.org).

## *Tips For Leading Change*

We all know that change is inevitable in the world, including the world of Lionism. Our international president is asking each of us to be a catalyst for change in our club and in our district, but that is not always easy to do. When we detect the need for change our actions are key to leading the effort. Here are some tips for leading change:

- **Be Positive** -- Are you fearful when you notice change? If so, don't let fear take over. Instead, ask yourself how this change can have a positive effect.
- **Be Proactive** -- The world is going to change, with or without you, so it makes sense to take an active role. Seek out change opportunities and help shape them into worthwhile experiences.
- **Think Before You Act** -- Sometimes you can't anticipate change...it just happens. When change occurs unexpectedly, don't react impulsively. Pause and consider the "big picture" first, and make sure your actions are consistent with the vision and mission of your club and the association.

How you respond to change can go a long way toward inspiring others to follow your lead. Remember, "Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights." (Pauline R. Kezer, Business Consultant)

**MORE**





# LEADER NETWORK



November 2006



## **Training Tool: Technology**

Computer technology can be a useful tool in presenting information in an entertaining format. One example is using MS PowerPoint to play a game like Jeopardy, a popular television quiz show. Using the game format, you can ask questions using music clips to time each team's answer to each question. When small enthusiastic groups of trainees form teams to compete, your result will be interesting, educational and fun!

When using PowerPoint, remember the following presentation guidelines:

- Use no more than 6 lines of text per slide and only 6 words per line
- Information should be in a key word or notes style format
- Do not read from the slide to your audience
- Limit your use of colors, type fonts, and animation; too much can be distracting
- Use a remote control device to avoid standing in front of your presentation

A word of caution about using technology: use it only when it is appropriate. Remember that adult learners want to contribute ideas based on their own personal experience - do not use technology as a substitute for more interactive, learner focused training activities. At times, group discussions can be better facilitated using an overhead projector and transparencies or a simple flip chart.



## **Bright Idea**

When asked to reveal the reasons behind the success of their 2006 Regional Lions Leadership Institute, Charles Uhlman, Past District Governor and MD-41's institute coordinator, referred to the "Four P's":

**Planning:** "We spent many hours planning every detail so things went like clockwork. There were no problems, or surprises, once the institute got underway. The planning started many months before the institute. As a matter of fact, we have started planning for the 2007 institute which will be held in early May. Lack of proper planning can derail an activity in a hurry. Thus, plan, plan, plan and plan."

**Promotion:** "We started promoting the institute many months ago. At the DG(E) and VDG(E) school in May I spent considerable time talking about the institute. We also send the schedule and application forms to the other sub-districts, clubs in our district and our district's zone and district chairpersons. The 2006 participants will be receiving information and we will be asking them to promote the institute in their contacts with Lions."

**Preparation:** "We were well prepared well in advance of the institute. Each faculty member was provided with materials and asked to be well prepared when arriving at the institute. Because of this everything went well. Unless there is proper preparation things can go sour in a hurry, especially group work and group activities."

**Presentation:** "We exclusively used well prepared PowerPoint presentations that were either provided by LCI, or created by me. All instructors were expected to have appropriate participant handouts. There were several group sessions; a sharing best practices session, two activities and group skits. Because of proper planning and preparation, these went very well. During the welcome we told participants that all activities would start and end on time. We ensured that happened. All participants and faculty adhered to the time schedules. We used many group activities during the different modules when participants had an opportunity to be involved. When formulating the groups for the various modules we changed them on a frequent basis. Thus, each participant had an opportunity to work with each of the other participants during the institute. The key was the participants having fun and enjoying the fellowship of their fellow participants."

Congratulations to MD-41 on a great Regional Lions Leadership Institute and thanks for sharing your secrets to success!

## **We want to hear from you!**

Our objective with *The LEADER NETWORK* is to provide you, our multiple and single district leadership development chairpersons, with information and ideas you can use in your leadership development efforts. If you have a Bright Idea, suggestions for future issues or a specific topic you would like to see addressed in the next issue (February 2007), please let us know. Your comments will be welcomed at [leadership@lionsclubs.org](mailto:leadership@lionsclubs.org).

**"Be the change that you want to see in the world."**

**Mahatma Gandhi**

*The LEADER NETWORK* is a publication of:  
Leadership Division  
Lions Clubs International  
300 West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 USA  
TEL: 630/571-5466 FAX: 630/571-1682  
EMAIL: [leadership@lionsclubs.org](mailto:leadership@lionsclubs.org)