

My Leadership In Rotary

As a Rotarian, I am, by definition, a leader.



Session Goals

Explore the Characteristics of Leadership

Discuss what Motivates People in a Volunteer or Civic Organization

Examine Your Own Leadership Style

Inserts & Online Materials

● The Basics for Effective Leadership Are Really Pretty Basic
http://rlifiles.com/files/resource/Basics_of_Leadership_1.pdf

● 12 Leadership Essentials for the 21st Century
http://rlifiles.com/files/resource/12_Leadership_Essentials.pdf

Key: ◆ attached insert ● online article

All session materials are also available at www.rlifiles.com

Session Topics

- 1) What is the difference between leadership in a business and leadership in Rotary? What is the role of a “leader” in Rotary? **Consider flip chart for this question and the next.**
- 2) List the characteristics of good leaders. Discuss which characteristics you think are most important.
- 3) Leadership styles may differ by culture and generation. Which leadership style do you feel best represents you?

Go around the room and ask each student which style best fits them. See if any patterns emerge. Conclusion should be that we all take parts of the 5 styles to develop you the leader.

- **Participative:** seeks to involve other people;
- **Situational:** changes leadership style according to situational factors;
- **Transactional:** works through hierarchical structures and systems of reward;
- **Transformational:** leads through inspiration, sharing energy and enthusiasm;
- **Servant:** serves others rather than being served;

- 4) Are good leaders born or can leadership be taught?

YES. RLI believes that while there are certain innate qualities a person brings to leadership, that leadership can be taught in the sense that a person can improve his/her leadership skills. People do differ on this question and all views may have merit.

- 5) What motivates someone to excel in the workplace? What motivates someone to excel in your Rotary club?

Use the characteristics you developed in question 2 to form your style.

- 6) Think about presidents of your club and select who you think was the best leader (without naming names). Tell the group why that leader was the best. What seem to be the most significant differences between strong and weak Rotary club leaders?

Break into groups of 4 or 5 and have them from their own club experiences describe the best club presidents. Have each group select a speaker to promote their best club president.

Summary: Good leadership requires thought, planning, preparation, a willingness to try something new, not being bound by the past, and the confidence to take risks.

In Part II under team building we will develop further qualities and characteristics of volunteer leadership.