

March 12, 2005 PETS Opening Remarks
Centennial District Governor Lee

Governor-Elect Helen, incoming Presidents, and fellow Rotarians:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the PETS which stands for **P**resident **E**lect **T**raining **S**eminar. This is our District 7230's annual training session for club leaders. And this year, Governor-elect Helen has chosen to include Secretary-Elects as well, so we have a busy schedule ahead of us!

We have gathered here from every corner of Rotary District 7230 and it's great to see you all. Today, we have set aside one day, putting the rest of our busy lives on hold, in order to learn about and prepare for a year of service and leadership. We have done this because we feel a sense of deep responsibility to Rotary, and we are ready, willing and able to accept those responsibilities.

Past Rotary International President Bob Barth said that a Rotary pin should say this about the wearer:

You can rely on me.
I am dependable.
I am reliable.
I give more than I take.
I am available.

All of these are statements that should apply to every Rotarian, but they have special meaning for a club president who is leading by example and setting a standard for others to meet.

Remember always that the Rotarians in your club have selected you because they saw your potential. They believe in your abilities, and they have placed their trust in you, knowing that you will always be dependable, reliable, and available.

Our Centennial Rotary International President Glenn Estess Sr. defined his own values about leadership at the International Assembly last month in Anaheim, California.

I'd like to share a few of those values with you. Hopefully you will keep these in mind in the months ahead:

- ***A leader must see the consequences of his or her behavior.***
Every action you take has consequences, and as a Rotary leader, you should strive to be more conscious of those consequences.
- ***An effective leader must not be driven by ego needs.***
For a Rotary president, that means staying focused on the Rotary and working to make your club more effective.
- ***A good leader should listen and learn from others,*** being mindful of what others believe is good for your club and Rotary as a whole.

Today, you will prepare to serve this great organization on a more profound level – as the first class of presidents in Rotary's second century of service. It is a formidable responsibility, but one for which you will be well prepared. Throughout the day you will receive excellent training from experienced leaders who will strengthen your understanding of Rotary. PETS also provides the unique opportunity to meet your fellow presidents from all over the District, broadening your perspective and providing even deeper Rotary fellowship.

To Governor-elect Helen and all of the incoming club presidents, I wish you great success and happiness as you enter into this most exciting and rewarding chapter of your Rotary lives.

Thank you.