

# DISTRICT YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM UPDATE

By Ric Meyer, District YEP Co-Chair



Meyer (Annapolis), the Committee Chair. Cliff Barr (Urbana) and Marilyn Nevy Cruz (Washington) stepped down from the Committee this summer. We're very thankful for their service. Rotarian Andrea Downing (Capitol Hill) and Rotaractor Landon Fortenberry (Washington) have recently joined the Committee. Andrea will serve as Rotex Chair (Youth Exchange Alumni) and Landon, as Diversity and Inclusion Chair. Andrea, Landon, and Ric are all Youth Exchange Alumni. The Committee also has several vacancies, especially as Inbound Chair and Inbound Co-Chair.

Applications for Long Term Candidates are due on November 1. District interviews will be held online in the second or third week of November.

Last fall we selected seven students to sponsor during this academic year. Because of the Pandemic ESSEX, the regional multi-district organization to which we belong, chose to take a pause from sending or hosting any students this year. Five of these students asked if they could be deferred until next year; to which we gladly said yes. The other two students graduated high school in June and are beginning college this fall. Since 2007 District 7620 has sponsored or hosted more than 61 Rotary Exchange Students, engaging more than 32 Rotary Clubs. In 2019-2020 more than 64 host parents and Rotarian volunteers supported this program in our District. Each year 10,000 students participate in Rotary Youth Exchange — some 8,000 in the Long Term (academic year) program, and about 2,000 in the Short Term program.

To RSVP for the 1 September meeting or for more information about District 7620's Youth Exchange Program, please contact Ric Meyer at [meyer7620@icloud.com](mailto:meyer7620@icloud.com) or 917.756.0900.

The District 7620 Youth Exchange Committee will hold an online meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 7-8 pm.

This meeting will discuss the fall recruiting campaign for 2021-2022 Long Term Rotary Youth Exchange candidates, changes to the application process, Youth Exchange basics, and changes to the District Committee.

Susan L. Glover (Carroll Creek) is now the Committee Co-Chair; and Ric

[Above] Youth Exchange Program Reveal Dinner: Last fall we selected seven students to sponsor during this academic year. Five of these students asked if they could be deferred until next year; to which we gladly said yes.

[Below] The Rotary Club of Mount Airy has teamed up with the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company, and The Town of Mount Airy to raise money for the Fire Company, Rotary scholarships, and other community projects. If you would like to adopt a duck, you can apply by contacting Matt Heard at 301-829-0100, VM 331.

