

# **DISTRICT 7670 YOUTH EXCHANGE**

Youth Exchange has been part of Rotary since the 1940's

## **District 7670 belongs to the Ohio Erie Multi District Exchange Program**

The Ohio Erie Multi District includes Districts in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina. It is a CSIET accredited organization and is approved by the US Department of State to conduct exchanges in secondary schools. Its program is audited annually by CSIET and/or the US Department of State.

District 7670 certifies to RI annually that it is in compliance with all RI policies and procedures governing youth protection.

## **DISTRICT 7670 HAS SINCE 2005 HOSTED 62 FOREIGN STUDENTS**

These students have been hosted by Rotary Clubs in Franklin, Highlands, Bryson City, Sylva, Brevard, Pisgah Forest, Hendersonville, Arden, Asheville, Asheville West, Black Mountain, Madison County, Weaverville, Morganton, Lake Hickory, Granit Falls, Lenoir, Lake Hickory, and Lincolnton.

## **DISTRICT 7670 HAS SENT OUT 81 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SINCE 2005.**

Outbound students have been sponsored by the Rotary Clubs in Franklin, Highlands, Sylva, Waynesville, Burnsville, Asheville West, Asheville, Weaverville, Black Mountain, Lake Hickory, Denver Lake Norman and Lenoir

## **OVER 120 FAMILIES IN DISTRICT 7670 HAVE HOSTED OUR EXCHANGE STUDENTS**

Most of our host families are Non Rotarians. They often become Rotarians after being exposed to Rotary

## **THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE IS MADE UP OF FOUR CHAIRS AND SUBCOMMITTEES.**

The Chairs are: District Chair, Bill Biggers, Inbound Chair, Tom Rightmyer, Outbound Chair Bill Christy, and Short Term Chair, Bill Bauman

## **THE DISTRICT OFFERS ACADEMIC YEAR EXCHANGES TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:**

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, India, Philippines, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey.

## **STUDENT SAFETY**

Each country has an Ohio Erie Country Contact and a host country Country Contact to assure student safety. Each host club has a club counselor that is the student's advocate with the Host Club. Each student receives a monthly allowance from the host club of approximately \$125.00 US Dollars.

Each club that hosts a student is responsible for finding host families. Our goal is to have each student experience at least two host families, preferably 3 host families. This makes the Rotary program unique among secondary school exchange programs. Each member of a host family age 18 and above as well as any Rotarian that has regular contact with the student is subject to a background check to assure student safety.

## **COST**

Our District Fees for outbound students are set each year. They are normally around \$900.00 which includes two orientations, one is for 2 days in Westerville, Ohio, a Rotary Blazer, District Pins, and business cards with the student's picture.

Additional expenses the family will have are, the cost of an open airline ticket to the host country, health and accident insurance, procuring a visa to the host country and in some exchanges the cost of a language camp.

To host an inbound student a club is obligated to pay the student a monthly allowance of \$100.00 to \$150.00.

## **TIME LINE**

Applications for outbound students should be submitted to local clubs in August. After being interviewed at the local club level the application should be forwarded to the District for District interviews which are conducted in November. As part of the interview process we encourage applicants to participate in a weekend retreat at Jabez, KY the first weekend in December. If approved the application is then sent to Ohio Erie for country placement. The student usually knows the country they are assigned to in late January. They will not know the city they are going to or their first host family until May or June.