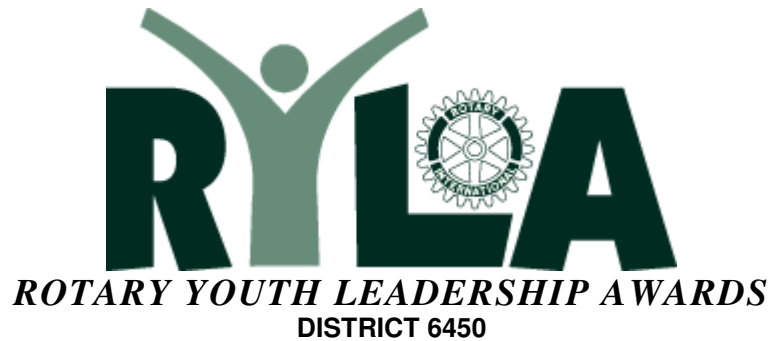


New for 2008
Full day program
Friday, Oct. 10
Buses depart @ 9am



OCTOBER 10-12, 2008

To all Rotary District 6450 Club Presidents, RYLA chairpersons and interested Rotarians:

It's time to think about sending students and club volunteers to RYLA 2008 the weekend of October 10–12.

Each year thousands of young people take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program worldwide. Young people are chosen for their leadership potential to attend workshops to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. RYLA aims to:

- Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth;
- Provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders;
- Encourage leadership of youth by youth; and
- Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities.

In Rotary District 6450 we plan a RYLA camp weekend at the Lake Geneva campus of Aurora University in Williams Bay, WI where the leadership-training program is administered by the O.W.L.S. (Outdoor Wisconsin Leadership Synergies) group. **80 students will be bused to the campus Friday morning (new this year)** and will return home Sunday evening; housing and meals will be provided on campus by Aurora University and the RYLA committee.

As your RYLA Committee, we would like all clubs to consider sending 2 students between the ages of 14-18 (high school Sophomores & Juniors are preferable) to this fabulous leadership activity weekend. Many of the Youth Exchange (YE) Inbound students will attend the weekend. We hope contact with them will encourage our Chicagoland youth to become YE Outbound students.

We would also like to have at least one Rotarian from each club volunteer to help in one of the areas listed below:

- Chaperone for the entire weekend (including OWLS activities with the students)
- Saturday evening Reality Store (4pm – 10pm)
- Friday & Sunday bus stop greeters for pick up and drop off
- Provide a sponsorship for the weekend

There is no fee for the adult weekend chaperones and dinner on Saturday night will be supplied for all Reality Store volunteers. There may be room for Reality Store volunteers on campus Saturday night but those reservations will have to be made independently through the campus reservation system.

There is an 80-student limit for the weekend. Registrations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

We would really appreciate your full cooperation with registering your students for RYLA as early as possible. This year the cost for the RYLA weekend for the students will be \$275 if the registration. Checks should be made out to Rotary District 6450 and should accompany your registration forms. Some clubs ask the student to pay a portion of the registration fee. If that is the case, please have that check made out to your club and send the District one check for the entire amount. **Please return all forms and checks made out to Rotary District 6450 to Xenia Chow at the address listed below.**

Registration forms are included in this packet. Extra copies can be made or the files can be downloaded from the RYLA link on the District 6450 website (www.rotary6450.org). Please note that there is only one set of forms and any student under 18 must have the signature of their parent or guardian. Make sure that all forms are filled out completely. If you have any questions about the forms, contact Linda Yates at the number below.

This year we are planning on building on the RYLA experience by holding RYLA alumni events. We hope to help further the leadership development learned at RYLA and promote other Rotary youth activities. Clubs not sending students to the RYLA weekend are urged to send an adult volunteer or a financial contribution to defray the costs of the camp and reunion events.

Again, **please return the completed registration forms and check for \$275 as soon as possible.** Since school doesn't start until the end of August, if you would like to reserve space for your students but are not able get the forms filled out immediately, you can send the check for the registration fee to hold the space. **Please return the Adult Volunteer sign up along with your registration forms. If you are planning on being a weekend chaperone, we also need the OWLS health form filled out.**

Return all forms and checks made out to Rotary District 6450 to Xenia Chow at the following address:

241 N. Richmond Ave
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514
jonxen@sbcglobal.net

Home: 630-310-8472
Fax: 708-352-2573

Participants will receive bus information by mail and email the week before the event so please make sure mailing addresses and email addresses are correct and legible on the forms.

If you have any questions about RYLA, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. Committee members are also available to make a presentation at your Rotary Club. If you would like a program for your club, please contact Bill VonStein at williamvonstein@comcast.net or 630-860-7619.

The RYLA Committee

Committee chairs:

Jerry Lordan (Oak Park) 708-386-0127 x114
glordan@fenwickfriars.com

Linda Yates (LaGrange) 708-352-2565 work
lyates@starkeychemical.com 630-904-1210 home

Committee members:

Michael James (Hinsdale)
Julia Mullikin (Kankakee)
Bill vonStein (Elmhurst)
Xenia Chow (Hinsdale)
Vim Pillari (Hinsdale)

Kathy Kansfield (Homewood)
Erica Egger (Shorewood)
Brian Andersen (Darien)
Carl Jackson Jr. (Rotaract/Rotex)