



Club Presidents and Club RYLA/Youth Coordinators:

It is time to continue one of District 7890’s most successful and rewarding annual programs; namely, **RYLA**.

We encourage all Rotary clubs to take an active role in the selection process for local high school **Sophomores** with leadership qualities.

Appoint a RYLA/Youth Coordinator for your club with one or two committee members; someone who knows the high school administrator or the guidance counselor.

Arrange a talk at your Rotary Club about RYLA using the enclosed “RYLA PROGRAM: AN OVERVIEW” as a guide. Propose to the club how many students you will sponsor.

Arrange to have information about RYLA at your high school

Prior to the RYLA Leadership Camp, invite the selected **Sophomore** student(s) to your club and offer them the experience and knowledge of the Rotary’s purposes and programs.

After the RYLA Leadership Camp, invite them back to your club to relate their RYLA day experiences. We guarantee they will make the club membership feel great!

Send an article about RYLA to your local news media.

DISTRICT 7890 RYLA PROGRAM

WHEN: Saturday, June 3, 2017 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Springfield College East Campus, Springfield, MA
FOR: High School Sophomores
COST: \$150 per student

**** Application Deadline: May 20, 2017 -NO EXCEPTIONS ****

Duplicate, if necessary, the enclosed RYLA application and Springfield College Release of Liability Form and ask the school to give copies to interested students. Pick up all completed forms at a pre-arranged time with the school.

***Return with the Springfield College Liability Form and payment to District RYLA Registrar.**

***Please be sure that an officer of your club signs all applications, or they will not be accepted.**

Instructions on how to get to the **RYLA** Leadership Ropes Course and Leadership Camp, confirmation, itinerary, and all other pertinent information will be sent to all parties when we receive each student’s application.

Questions: Ask any of the following District **RYLA** Committee Members:

Karen Andrews, PDG..... 860-683-1710
Michael Barnett, PDG..... 860-644-2846
Linda Barnett 860-644-2846
Albert Grimaldi..... 413-525-3188
Susan Grimaldi.....413-525-3188

Pam Lupoli.....860-688-6846
Vinnie Marinaro.....413-443-
Ann Marie Ottoson..... 413-525-7116
Larry N. Ottoson, PDG.....413-525-7116
Bruce Posocco..... 860-684-7033
Marcel Schmidt.....413-568-2896

OVERVIEW OF THE RYLA PROGRAM

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Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a program for young persons that were officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971. Conducted at the 7890's District level, RYLA offers our local clubs a special opportunity to take part in developing the leadership qualities and good citizenship among our young adults.

The local Rotary club's sponsored **Sophomores** will arrive at **Springfield College** on **June 3, 2017**. After registration and a briefing of the day's events, the large group of students is divided into smaller groups and they begin the program. Their leadership qualities are noted by their instructors and the RYLA Committee throughout the day. A motivational speaker, a Rotary roundtable, and seminar focusing on the advantages of group efforts in accomplishing tasks are also part of the leadership training.

A selection process takes place whereby all students involved select students who best displayed leadership characteristics within each group. A number of which will attend the World Affairs Seminar at the Carroll University, Wisconsin in June of the following year. Alternates are chosen to replace those who cannot attend. The RYLA program of Rotary District 7890 pays for transportation, meals, and admission to this week-long event where students from all over the world gather to discuss global affairs.

Our District can be proud of its RYLA Program because it achieves all these objectives:

1. To demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth.
2. To encourage and assist young adults in methods of effective leadership by providing them with training experience.
3. To publicly recognize the high qualities of many young adults who are serving their communities as youth leaders

In February, District 7890's club presidents receive an informational package including applications for students who wish to attend a one-day leadership training event, held at Springfield College in Springfield, MA. Rotary clubs contact the local high schools to select **Sophomores** who have displayed leadership potential. Applications are to be filled out and returned to the local Rotary club for review, properly signed, and sent to the RYLA Registrar with payment. Upon receipt of their applications, the RYLA Registrar will mail the students a confirmation and other pertinent information.

Registrar: PDG Larry N. Ottoson, 25 Lenox Circle, E. Longmeadow, MA 01028

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