



February 2008

Dear IR Club President ,

During the course of the year Rotary International and District 7470 sponsor many worthwhile endeavors and as a Club President I understand how challenging it is to make decisions on all the opportunities presented to you during your term in office. However, I would like to tell you about an exciting ongoing project sponsored by District 7470 that not only boosts local Rotary Club exposure to the community, but also provides immediate results to which a Club can point.

This opportunity is known as **RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award)**. RYLA is a Rotary International sponsored program to recognize, train and promote leadership amongst high school students. District 7470's RYLA program is **an intensive coeducational leadership training program** set on the campus of Drew University on the weekend of **May 30-June 1, 2008**. Approximately 75 juniors from high schools around the district spend a weekend interacting with speakers, learning through hands-on and experiential learning exercises and sharing ideas amongst themselves. District 7470 RYLA prides itself by attaining dynamic, key leaders as speakers for interactive communications with the students. Some former RYLA speakers include:

- The President of AT&T
- The President of Bell Atlantic
- NFL football referee

RYLA also provides the opportunity for experiential learning where high school students improve their leadership skills in actual situations instead of in classroom style education. During this weekend there are multiple opportunities for students to interact with one another, share ideas and develop friendships with like-minded young leaders. If you would like to see what we did last year, check us out on the web at www.armigerint.com/RYLEA.

RYLA is both an opportunity for the **Club to support the youth of our nation**, and expose high school students to the opportunities Rotary International provides. RYLA alumni have learned about Youth Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and have started active Clubs in their local high schools.

One of the best parts of this program is that it requires **little financial involvement** to really make a difference in your community. The sponsorship cost is **\$195 per student** for the complete weekend including all room and board, snacks and activities. The only other involvement we ask is that the Rotary Club work together with the local high schools to identify students for this opportunity. As a thank you, we ask that you invite the students your Club sponsors to come back and speak to your Rotary Club on what they learned at RYLA.

Enclosed please find a flyer describing the seminar as well as two application forms. Please contact the guidance department in your local high school in order to secure nominations. The cost per student is \$195.00 which is paid by the local Club. Additionally, the **deadline for submitting nominations is May 1 2008**. Please send your check and completed applications to me at the above address. Make checks payable to ROTARY DISTRICT 7470.

This annual event gives selected young men and women the opportunity to participate in a structured weekend that focuses upon leadership and how each student can make a positive contribution to our society. The dates for this year's program are **May 30-June 1, 2008**. **The site will be Drew University**. Your efforts in this matter are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Camper Bull".

R. Camper Bull
Chairperson
RYLA District 7470, Madison
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www.armigerint.com/RYLEA