



RYLA COMMITTEE

Ryan Lee - Chair

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Description

- RYLA is one of the pieces of the 5th Avenue of Service for Rotary, Youth Services. RYLA stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Award. This is a Rotary wide program and much of what club does is governed by RI and our District 7040.
- The "Award" is the opportunity for sophomore and junior high school students to attend a District event which focuses on taking students who have strong leadership skills, and taking them to the next level. The three day event currently is held at a camp near Kingston, Ontario. The event is run by Rotarians from district and nearby Rotary Clubs. Since our district covers parts of New York, Quebec and Ontario, there is a diversity of cultures and governments that influence the diversity.
- The exercises primarily consist of presentations by various leaders of the community, schools, businesses, police/military, business and public service who bring a variety of experiences that reflect ways of leading and helping people. There are also group/team exercises that the attendees have challenges provided to them. Each group needs a solution to the problem and each group needs to develop a structure to complete the challenge. Free time enables the attendees to get to know one another and share their past experiences and future plans. There are typically around 50 to 75 participating.

Participation

- Our club committee typically works with the Sunrise club in soliciting students from the local schools. Sunrise: Peru, Seton and Saranac; Noon: Beekmantown, Plattsburgh and Chazy. Northern Adirondack and Northeast Clinton could also be included. Candidates can also be from other sources, such as kids of Rotarians, student organizations.
- The RYLA event typically is in May. Solicitations start in February. Presentation by attendees to the club is before school starts.

Expectations

- In recent years, changes have been implemented as it relates to child abuse and group health. Currently, there are two options for addressing those issues. If we want to have contact with the applicants and attendees, our club needs to be certified through Rotary. Rotarians will need to be trained and to have background checks completed. If we do not do that, we cannot have contact with the applicants and attendees. We will just contact sources for applicants, provide them the information on the event, the application forms and where to submit them. Applications will be sent directly to district. Our club will send a fee to district for each applicant that we want to sponsor (\$310). All screening that is done will be by District. It is not clear at this time if the attendees will be able to make a presentation to our club.