

## The Rotary Welcome Home Scholarships

### What they are

Financial assistance from Salisbury Rotary and (ideally) from employers throughout the Northwest Corner for high school graduates who are NOT on the academic trail ... young people who need vocational guidance and assistance. Acceptance of a Rotary Welcome Home scholarship is a commitment to living and working here in the Northwest Comer for a certain period of time after vocational studies have been completed (3 to 5 years).

### Who benefits?

High school graduates who are not planning on going to college but who need rewarding and responsible work NOW. We may be able to offer Welcome Home Scholarships in the fields of cable television, electronics, automotive repair, real estate, banking, geriatric care, plumbing, lumber, construction, transportation, restaurants, newspapers, insurance, hospitality (inns and hotels), and ecological studies (tree services).

### Who else benefits?

The entire Northwest Comer. As the county with the oldest citizens in the state, we continue to lose young people to big cities where employment opportunities are more numerous, yet we live in one of the most desirable parts of the entire nation. We need young people here to stay vital and to grow. Further, the companies/industries who help us with the Welcome Home Scholarships benefit from

- (1) seeing the local talent
- (2) getting to know them in advance of employing them
- (3) feeling secure in the fact that when they are employed, they've been tutored and are ready to accept new and important responsibilities.

**Who else benefits?** Of course, the young people. With a significant lack of affordable housing here, by providing these students with a future that includes employment, they will be able eventually to enter the housing market in surrounding towns and villages, and to raise their families there --- bringing to the Northwest Comer thereby new ideas, young families, and enthusiasms we need.

### How do the Welcome Home Scholarships work?

In their senior years (or before), vocational education students who apply will be interviewed first by Salisbury Rotary members, and then by those prospective employers whom we have been able to introduce to the values of this plan. We will offer those selected students vocational scholarships to institutions around the country (favoring those nearest us to make our dollars go further). At the same time, it is possible that employers in our area will create an apprentice program wherein these same students work during off-school hours or in the summers at their sites of business. At the successful conclusion of a vocational course of study, the student will return to the Northwest Comer to take up his new responsibilities in a job that pays adequately and for which he/she is trained. The students will make the commitment, on accepting the scholarship, to stay in our neighborhood for 3 to 5 years. At the conclusion of this time, the student and his/her family are free to market their new skills anywhere they want, although we hope their progress will have been such that they will happily stay right here.

### What do we need to make this work?

**Money** - The Rotary Welcome Home Scholarships will be entirely independent of other Salisbury Rotary financial aid programs. We will "market" this annually in our end-of-the-year fund-raising appeals. If the plan hits the way we hope, we will make the Welcome Home Scholarship fund the annual beneficiary of this year-end fund-raising, thereby giving the public a focus for our appeal and for Salisbury Rotary Club.

**Rotarians** - We will need a scholarship committee of Salisbury Rotary members to do two important jobs:

- (A) interview the high school students who apply
- (B) travel throughout our area talking with business and industry leaders about the plan, its benefits and their participation in it. It is entirely possible, and we hope initially to do this via our list of business contributors from the last two years, that these community leaders will see the value of this plan and want to match our own contributions. They may even want to sit in on the "scholarship committee's" interviewing process so that they know whom and what they're committing to.

**Business Leaders** - See immediately above.

**High School Guidance Counselors** - We need their cooperation and "input," as well, to get this program off the ground.

### **When will all this happen?**

Happily, whenever we're ready. We have three or four or even five months to get our ducks in a row .. .i.e., write our appeals, alert the counselors, find our industrial sponsors/colleagues, organize Rotary members. Applications may be made as early as January, but more likely in the Spring of '02. Interviews would follow.

### **Who chooses the vocational areas of study, and the institutions?**

The students themselves. If they like the program, our hope is they'll be inspired to do the required research, finding out schools and locations, tuitions, courses of study and length thereof. How much money are we talking about? How many scholarships per year? This depends entirely on the success of our fund-raising efforts, and on the expenses envisioned by applying students.

### **Should this program be open to people in the Northwest Corner who are not just out of high school?**

It would be terrifically healthy for our communities to do so. The process is identical, although applications could be made throughout the year. We hear a lot about "retraining" adults ... here's one way to help this process get started in the NW Corner ... helping families who are already here but who made be in serious need of our assistance in making them self-supporting and genuine members of their communities.



**Salisbury Rotary Foundation  
Scholarship Application**

**Welcome Home**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuition: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Needed \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduated From: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

References: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal \_\_\_\_\_

Teachers \_\_\_\_\_

Employers \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Income</b>
	Travel-	Family Contribution-
	Supplies-	Student Contribution-
	Registration Fee-	List Scholarships rec'd-
	Misc.-	
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	Other Sources-

Use this area to explain anything from the budget areas: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount of Grant Request: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Start \_\_\_\_\_

End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach any relevant documents, brochures, or additional information that pertains to your request.

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application and supporting material is true, accurate and complete, to the best of my knowledge.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian of parent signature (if a student) \_\_\_\_\_

An interview may be requested.

Please return this completed application to:

Scholarship Committee  
c/o Salisbury Rotary Club  
P.O. Box 287  
Salisbury, CT 06068