President Chris introduced our guest speaker for the

evening, Ms. Sierra Diewalt. Sierra was chosen by our

club to attend the recent RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership

Awards) annual conference at Fitchburg State University.

Sierra is a homeschooled

high school Sophomore from

Ayer. Sierra was very impressive as she explained a few

of the many activities she engaged in during the

conference. Participants actively participate in public

speaking and leadership skills. The attendees are

divided into groups of seven with a group leader. Sierra

mentioned that her most interesting activities included

Literary Baseball designed to improve her speaking skills

and develop more confidence in speaking before large

groups.

Another activity was the Culture Walk which increased

the participants sensitivity to all races. Sierra also

enjoyed the Ropes Course and Rockwall that was

designed to challenge the individual and demonstrate

the importance of open communication. It was obvious

that Sierra appreciated this opportunity to attend the

RYLA Conference and hopes to become a group

facilitator next year!

Sierra is pictured below with President Chris Lilly

