



RYLA

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

DISTRICT 5840

P.O.Box 6628

San Antonio, Texas 78209

(210) 410-2761

September 1, 2016

Dear Club President:

THE 2017 ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD (RYLA) CONFERENCE IS ONCE AGAIN READY TO GO AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

WOW.....If your club doesn't get involved with RYLA this year.....you will miss an opportunity to really see Rotary Youth in action. The 2017 RYLA Conference will be held over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend (Friday, January 13 - Monday, January 16, 2017) at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels, Texas and I can't tell you how excited we are about this year's program. An entirely new program has been designed and I can promise your students a tremendous and memorable leadership experience.

For those clubs and Presidents just getting involved, RYLA is District 5840's way of recognizing our outstanding youth. More than 160 junior class students will attend this weekend and be led by 38 or more returning senior peer Team Leaders (TLs) who actually put the program on. Along with at least three major, hands-on leadership workshops, there will be some new programs and surprises that I know the students will enjoy and get a lot out of. As always, there will be plenty of food, snacks, entertainment and just plain fun over the weekend.

The RYLA concept is quite simple but very effective. Guest speakers make presentations and conduct "Hands On" and interactive sessions on leadership, trust, cooperation, communication, teamwork and other meaningful and topical subjects. After each talk, the students meet in small groups to discuss the topics and their views and share with the others in their group and the students have some pretty lively debates and discussions. The response is GREAT... the students find it informative and enjoyable and Rotary is the forum to get our message out about leadership and service. Hopefully, this brief description will suffice to get your candidates as excited to come as we are to offer the program.



At this point, I hope you will move swiftly toward selecting at least two (more if you want) outstanding JUNIOR (only) students from the high schools in your club area (preferably one boy and one girl).

DATE: JANUARY 13 - 16, 2017
PLACE: THE JOHN NEWCOMB TENNIS CAMP
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 18, 2016 (however.....)
COST: \$ 200.00 PER STUDENT

Like last year, the workshop is being held over the Martin Luther King holiday, and will be over three nights (Fri. evening through Mon noon). Additional details of arrival time, map, etc., are included within this packet.

This is what we need for you to do:

1. DON'T SIT ON THIS LETTER.....ACT ON IT YOURSELF OR IMMEDIATELY TURN IT OVER TO YOUR YOUTH CHAIRMAN OR BETTER STILL YOUR RYLA CHAIRMAN.....FOLLOW UP ON EVERY STEP. PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!
2. Select the students - How? Ask your high school counselor to recommend two (2) or more, outstanding students from the junior class. Be sure and tell them that they may use this program as that little extra boost or push for that potential outstanding leader who doesn't always get the recognition. Rotary foreign exchange students are again welcome this year should you choose to send them; in fact, we encourage it and they become an integral part of the experience.
3. Be sure your counselor and students know that the conference is over three (3) nights and once registered, they will have to remain for the duration. No student will be permitted to arrive after the announced registration time nor will they be permitted to leave early..... please no exceptions. If selected students have basketball, SAT, etc., please select other participants. Rest assured, as always, the students are totally cared for and under the constant supervision of adult and peer chaperones, day and night.
4. Get the names and addresses of the students to me as soon as possible:
Phone: (210) 410-2761
Address: PO Box 6628, San Antonio, Texas 78209
E-Mail rong@reagan.com

Send your check, made out to Rotary District 5840, for \$200 for each student that you plan to send and mail to: District Treasurer Bobbe Barnes at PO Box 13, Boerne, Texas, 78006



If you wish to phone in your names, it is extremely important to send me a verification letter/email so that I can get proper spelling of names, addresses, etc.

5. The students will be free to leave Newcomb's around 12:00 noon on Monday, January 16, 2017.
6. Also attached is a letter that we normally send to the students. This year, we will let you give it to them so that you have some control and know everything that is going on. For those of you who wish to send more than two students, feel free to do so, but let me know so that I can make reservations. Call or email me and we will work out details, but please know that an early response is your best guarantee that you will be able to send the desired number of students.
7. **DON'T FORGET!!! DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS DECEMBER 18, 2016 (longer if necessary and you contact me ahead of time).** PLEASE ACT ON THIS AS SOON AS YOU RECEIVE THIS LETTER!!

Please call me if you have questions or comments about the program, deadlines, or costs. IT IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR AND A GREAT CONFERENCE AND AS ALWAYS, WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS!!!!

It's Great to be a Rotarian and a RYLarian,

Ron Greenberg	Work phone:	(210) 410-2761
PO Box 6628	Home Phone:	(210) 824-0396
San Antonio, Texas 78209	Work E-mail:	rong@reagan.com (preferable)
	Home Email:	cl.greenberg@att.net

PLEASE SEND NAMES TO ME AND CHECKS TO Rotary District 5840 at PO BOX 13, Boerne TX, 78006



RYLA

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE DISTRICT 5840

Dear RYLA Nominee,

CONGRATULATIONS on being chosen by your school and the Rotary Clubs of District 5840 to participate in the 2017 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). This is truly a unique and exciting conference/workshop and we hope that you will realize and appreciate the honor in having been selected to attend. Below are the Who, What, Where, etc., for this fantastic weekend.

WHAT IS RYLA?

RYLA stands for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and the purpose is to give you (and 160+ other students from around Texas) an opportunity to learn and to exchange ideas on leadership techniques and topical issues with outstanding community and student leaders. The entire weekend is an interactive weekend with every session building on the previous one. After a presentation by one of our powerful facilitators, student Team Leaders (TLs) will moderate small group dialogues and I know that you will find these discussions interesting, thought provoking, entertaining and exciting. One session that I know that you will enjoy and learn from, is an entire workshop, with hands-on participation, on effective leadership in high school. This workshop is conducted by one of San Antonio's most enthusiastic past educators and speakers. We are confident you will come away with some new ideas and insight into being a more dynamic and effective leader both in and out of your school. I know you will enjoy the other hands-on and interactive workshops on the program as well as a challenging low ropes course. Don't worry.....there are plenty of games and fun times over the weekend.

WHEN?

RYLA takes place over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend, January 13-16, 2017, and you should plan to arrive at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch Lodge (directions attached) between 6:00 and 7:00 PM on Friday night, January 13. Don't worry about eating beforehand, a dinner buffet (including vegetarian dishes) along with dips and fruit will be set-up during registration.

We understand that many of you are very involved in other activities (basketball, soccer, SAT, etc.) or may have schedule conflicts. However, once you agree to attend and arrive at Newk's, you will not be permitted to leave until the conference is over (**ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS** except for illness). As you can see, the conference is over four days due



to the Martin Luther King school holiday (for most districts), so please take note and make your plans accordingly. Additionally, because of the camp setting, no one will be permitted late registration. If you must decline, call and talk to your school counselor so that substitutions can be made or call me and I'll take care of it.

WHERE?

RYLA takes place at the JOHN NEWCOMBE TENNIS RANCH, in New Braunfels. The entrance to the Ranch is on Highway 46 at Mission Valley Road. Look for the big water tower that says "Newk's Resort" (a little hard to see in the dark but...) and follow the RYLA direction signs to the Main Lodge. The RYLA Team Leaders will be available to help you find your cabin and help with your luggage. If you are driving your own car, you will be shown where to park and you will not be permitted to drive until you leave at the end of the weekend. The conference will conclude around 12:30 PM (parents, no earlier, please) on Monday, January 16. Parents or other drivers, you will pick your student(s) up at the same location where you drop them off. Emergency (only) phone numbers follow should it be necessary to get a message to your student: Newk's - (830) 625-9105 or Ron Greenberg -(210) 410-2761 (24 hour mobile). The entire weekend is totally chaperoned, day and night, by a number of Rotarians and other adult leaders as well as the John Newcombe Staff (Mom and Dad take note).

WHAT TO BRING

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ AND TAKE NOTE - You will be in a camp setting in bunk bed style cabins (comfortable-not rustic). Newk's has the beds however, **YOU are responsible for your own linens or sleeping bag, blanket (maybe two of them), quilt, towels, soap etc.** Dress throughout the entire weekend is casual and comfortable (jeans to dressy). However, you may wish to dress up a little for the evening social sessions (there is a dance on Sunday night) and remember the weather can change at any time **SO BRING A COAT, SWEATER, RAINCOAT ETC.** Many of the conference activities are scheduled outdoors, (ropes course, games, etc.) so bring sneakers (maybe even an extra pair), warmups and/or "climbing clothes" (those that can get dirty, etc.). Bring your alarm clock (Mom or Dad won't be there to gently shake you awake).

OTHER STUFF

There will be an informal get-acquainted party on Friday evening after registration, a games/social event on Saturday night (the RYLA Olympics) and a dance on Sunday night. Additionally, we have special entertainment planned throughout the workshop. Our schedule is extremely busy; however, throughout the conference you will have periods of free time to just relax and get to know the other students and enjoy the facility.



Non-denominational religious services (optional) and Catholic Mass will be held Sunday morning at Newks.

UP FRONT RULES (other rules will be given to you later)

This entire conference and weekend has been designated as a **smoke free weekend**. Tobacco products of any kind (cigarettes, Scoal etc.) are prohibited (TL's rules), so please take note.

OUR GUARANTEE

If you come with an open mind and are prepared to fully participate (the willingness to "step out of your comfort zone"), we guarantee that you are going to have an absolutely amazing, tremendous, worthwhile and fun weekend. We really are excited about having you!!!

QUESTIONS?

If you, your parents or school counselor have any questions, I can be reached at the following:

Ron Greenberg
Conference Chairman
PO Box 6628
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Home Phone (210) 824-0396
Mobile (210) 410-2761
E-Mail: rong@reagan.com



Directions to the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch

From Austin/Dallas:

Hwy 35 south to New Braunfels (approximately 45 miles south of Austin).

Take Exit # 189 (Seguin/New Braunfels).

Turn right at stop light, you will then be going west on Loop 337. Go 5 miles on Loop 337 until you come to the Hwy 46 exit - take that exit and turn left at stop light.

Go about 3 miles on Hwy 46 and you will see a big water tower on your left that says, "Newks Resort".

Turn left at the water tower (Mission Valley Road) and go about 1/4 mile.

The main entrance will be on your left. The Main Lodge is by the parking lot.

From Houston:

Hwy 10 west to Seguin.

Take the New Braunfels exit and west on Hwy 46. Stay on it about 15 miles to New Braunfels. When you go under Hwy 35 in New Braunfels, Hwy 46 turns into Loop 337 (McDonald's on the right). Go 5 miles on Loop 337 until you come to the Hwy 46 exit - take that exit and turn right at stop light.

Go about 3 miles on Hwy 46 and you will see a big water tower on your left that says, "Newks Resort".

Turn left at the water tower (Mission Valley Road) and go about 1/4 mile.

The main entrance will be on your left. The Main Lodge is by the parking lot.

From San Antonio:

Hwy 35 North to New Braunfels.

Take Exit #184, Rueckle Road. Turn left at the stop sign and pass over Hwy 35. You will be on Loop 337. Go 5 miles on Loop 337 until you come to the Hwy 46 exit - take that exit and turn left at stop light.

Go about 3 miles on Hwy 46 and you will see a big water tower on your left that says, "Newks Resort".

Turn left at the water tower (Mission Valley Road) and go about 1/4 mile.

The main entrance will be on your left. The Main Lodge is by the parking lot.



From Boerne/West Texas:

Hwy 10 East to Hwy 46 Exit.

Go east on Hwy 46 towards New Braunfels. We are 15 miles east of Hwy 281.

You will see a big water tower on your right that says, "Newks Resort". Turn right at the water tower (Mission Valley Road) and go about 1/4 mile.

The main entrance will be on your left. The Main Lodge is by the parking lot.

LOOK FOR THE YELLOW AND BLUE "RYLA" SIGNS

If you have question on these directions, please call NEWKS at (830) 625-9105.



RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

"I give permission to my (circle) son / daughter (please clearly print student's name):

_____ to participate in the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference, being held from January 13 - 16, 2017 inclusive, at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch, New Braunfels, Texas. In the event of a medical emergency and in the event that I/we cannot be reached, I give my approval and authorization for my son/daughter to be treated at the closest medical facility in New Braunfels and understand that I will be pecuniarily liable for all medical care rendered.

In consideration of my son/daughter being allowed to participate in the above mentioned activity, I hereby agree as follows:

- 1) To forever release and discharge the Rotary Clubs and the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch, its agencies, agents, and authorized personnel as hereinafter defined, from liability arising out of, or in connection with my son's or daughter's participation in the above references activity, or in going to or departing from, or being upon John Newcombe Tennis Ranch property.
- 2) For the purposes of this agreement, the term "authorized personnel" shall include a) Rotary Voluntary Personnel and/or b) John Newcombe Tennis Ranch personnel."

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Emergency Phone Number: _____

STUDENT CONTRACT

In accepting this invitation to attend the RYLA Conference, I agree and understand that I will not be able to leave the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch for any reason (other than sickness or emergency) during this period and that I have no scheduling conflicts that would require me to do so. In so accepting, I agree to arrive within the scheduled time on Friday, January 13, will stay for the duration of the conference and will attend and participate in all functions.

Student signature with parent acknowledgment

Date

Please sign the Student Contract and have parent sign the Release from Liability on appropriate signature line and bring this form with you to the conference. Someone will collect it on your arrival (or mail it to me in advance). It is most important that this release form be turned in on or prior to arrival.