

Rotary Youth Exchange Basic Information

Rotary Youth Exchange is the only program (open to the public) that pays for most of the cost of the Exchange.

Rotary sponsors more than 8,000 Exchange Students each year. The Rotary Club of La Grande sponsors and hosts one student each year and has done so since 1971. Some years they sponsor / host more than one student. Each year we bring a student from another country to live and go to school here in La Grande and we also send a local student from Union County to live in another country and go to school there for a year.

Currently we have Gabriel Tritchka in Austria for a year and we have Pufi from Thailand here in La Grande.

Rotary uses 3 host families during the year and believes that this allows the student to get a better grasp of the culture of their new country. Each host family has the student for approximately 3 1/2 months - give or take.

Host families are expected to provide room and board and treat the Exchange Student as one of the family - not as a guest.

The Rotary Club provides a monthly allowance, health Insurance, pays school fees and several scheduled activities during the year. And many other things.

The student can share a room - but does need to have their own bed.

On the first host family - we try to find one that has a high school student living at home that can show the Exchange Student the ropes so to speak at the High School. They usually have the Exchange Student from the end of August to the end of December - right after Christmas.

The 2nd host family doesn't need to have a high school students living at home - In fact some of my best host families have been empty nester's. They will have the Exchange Student from the end of December to the end of March - Spring Break usually.

The 3rd host family again doesn't need a High School students living at home - the Exchange Student has friends at school to do things with. They have the Exchange Student from the end of March to the end of June when the Exchange Student go's home.

Here are a few you tube videos on Rotary Youth Exchange.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pspgla9pyfg> Host family,

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpP5ZLYTcV0&noredirect=1> Everyone

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_tWyFMv7v7M Student

Please give me a call if you have any questions

Thank You,

Chris Taylor
Rotary Club of La Grande
Youth Exchange Chairman
541-786-0408