

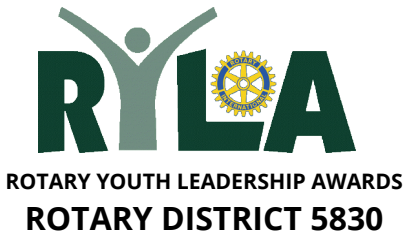


**ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS
ROTARY DISTRICT 5830**

2018

**Clements Scout Ranch
Athens, TX**

Facilitator Training	January 26-28, 2018
Camp Session 1	February 9-11, 2018
Camp Session 2	February 23-25, 2018



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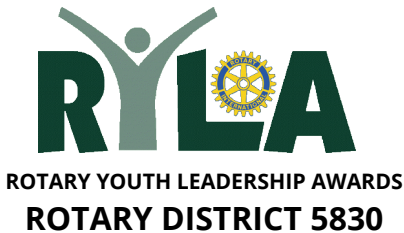
- General Camper Information
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ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS
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CONTACT INFORMATION

<p><u>Camp Director</u> Stephanie Parker 1035 Cannon Place Paris, TX 75462 sparker@parisjc.edu 903-249-2985</p>	<p><u>RYLA Board Members</u> Director Stephanie Parker, Paris United Assistant Director Elizabeth Piwonka, Bryan Secretary George Strub, Big Sandy Club Coordinator Ridley Briggs, Mt. Vernon Registrar Sarah Jenkins, Plano Metro Staff Coordinator Madalyn Smith, Salt Lake City Andi Darby, Texarkana Wilbur Smith Kerri Eickel, Idabel Karen Maines, Longview Greggton Jeff Miller, Tyler Sunrise Shawn Reeves, Paris United Laura Spencer, Paris United Tommy Warren, Longview Greggton</p>
<p><u>Camp Registrar</u> Sarah Jenkins 3653 Briargrove Ln, #1633 Dallas, TX 75287 sjenkins529@gmail.com 903-576-3985</p>	
<p><u>RYLA Clubs Coordinator</u> Ridley Briggs 379 Trappers Trail Mt. Vernon, TX 75457 rbriggs@peoplescom.net 903-860-2555</p>	
<p>For EMERGENCIES ONLY during camp sessions: Clements Scout Ranch 11217 FM 2970 Athens, TX 75751 903-675-3781 903-675-0293</p>	



CAMP ASSIGNMENTS BY CLUB

District 5830 RYLA holds two camp sessions each year. Campers for each session will be assigned according to the geographical location of the sponsoring club.

Session 1 – February 9-11, 2018	Session 2 – February 23-25, 2018
Athens	Atlanta
Bullard	Big Sandy
Canton	Clarksville
Carthage	Gilmer
Cedar Creek Lake	Gladewater
Henderson	Hawkins-Holly Lake
Jacksonville	Hugo
Kilgore	Idabel
Lake Fork	Jefferson
Lindale	Mineola
Longview	Mt. Pleasant
Longview South	Mt. Vernon
Longview Greggton	Paris United
Malakoff	Pittsburgh
Marshall	Quitman
Marshall Metro	Sulphur Springs
Overton	Texarkana International
South Tyler	Texarkana Oaklawn
Troup	Texarkana Sunrise
Tyler Sunrise	Texarkana Wilbur Smith
Tyler Downtown	West Bowie County
Wills Point	Winnsboro



GENERAL INFORMATION

THE DATES

Session 1 | 3pm, February 9 – 5:30pm, February 11, 2017
Session 2 | 3pm, February 23 – 5:30pm, February 25, 2017

THE COST

\$200/camper, 1 male & 1 female from each high school that your club represents.
Early reservation discount of \$25/camper applies if payment is received by Sept. 30.

THE PLACE

Clements Scout Ranch
11217 FM 2970
Athens, TX 75751

THE STUDENT CANDIDATE

Students who are chosen for RYLA 5830 must be high school juniors at the time of camp. The best candidate has proven leadership skills and/or potential shown through their school and community contributions. Each Rotary Club participating in RYLA should select one male and one female student from each high school they represent. If there are multiple clubs in your city/area, clubs should work together to decide which clubs will represent which high schools. Additional students may be sponsored based on camp availability, club need, and order of request receipt.

THE PURPOSE

To provide outstanding student leaders an opportunity to expand and develop their leadership skills at a weekend scholarship camp.

THE OBJECTIVE

- To provide an atmosphere where future leaders will experience learning situations that will aid them in developing sound skills and values.
- To promote an environment that will provide each individual with a basis of insight and understanding for intelligent leadership.
- To promote involvement that encourages the participants to think through appropriate actions based on values and ethics.
- To encourage students through cooperative activities and group dynamics to develop leadership skills that can be carried back to their individual communities.



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CATEGORIES OF RYLA PARTICIPANTS

1. ADULTS

a. Team Leaders

- Have final authority over and responsibility for the team's successful RYLA experience, which includes the training of Assistant Team Leaders and Senior Facilitators
- Be thoroughly knowledgeable of the RYLA procedures of leadership training, including goals and methodology.
- Become familiar with team members, including background, talents, goals, and aspirations.
- Be cognizant of any weaknesses among individual campers, which the group may play a part in strengthening.
- Realize that the safety of every team member is your responsibility.
- Know where every team member is located at all times.
- Be present with your team at all times, except during breaks and sleep.
- Be knowledgeable of camp rules and regulations, and be prepared to bring any violations to Camp Director immediately.

b. Other Adult Leaders

- At the Team Leader's direction, assist the team in any way which will strengthen RYLA's leadership training program.
- Because it is anticipated that most adults will become a Team Leader at some point in the future, it is critical that all adults become familiar with the Team Leader's responsibilities.

2. SENIORS

- #### a. Attendees from last year's camp, who have been asked to return, based on their facilitator potential, to help in making this year's camp a success.
- Must distinguish yourself as a leader/facilitator rather than a camper despite closeness in age and recent experience as a camper.
 - As a facilitator, your primary responsibility is to aid the Team Leader in any way he/she directs in order to accomplish the team's goals.
 - Past experience indicates that Seniors have a tendency to "help" campers rather than allow them to "experience" each event themselves. Seniors must understand that learning comes from experiencing rather than detailed instruction.
 - Report any rules violations to Team Leaders or to Camp Director immediately.

3. CAMPERS

- #### a. A balanced number of male and female high school juniors, who have demonstrated leadership abilities in their schools and communities and have been selected by District 5830 Rotary clubs to attend camp.



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- Each club has chosen campers from the list of recommendations, paid the \$200 fee for each camper, and furnished their transportation to and from the camp.
- No campers will be permitted to arrive at the camp late nor leave early.
- Campers will be expected to participate in all events, as well as to arrive at each event on time.
- Campers will be expected to present a program on their experiences at RYLA to their local Rotary Club subsequent to the close of camp.



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TIMETABLE

JULY

- Club president selects local RYLA Coordinator and informs the District's Coordinator, Ridley Briggs of selection.
- Schedule RYLA program for late February or early March at your local club meeting.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- Organize a committee within your club for student recruitment.
- Make appointments to talk with area HS counselors about RYLA and the type of students we are looking for.
- Update the counselor cover letter with your Club Coordinator's information and appropriate session date
- Distribute information and applications to high school counselors.
- **September 30th - Deadline for Early Reservation payment**

OCTOBER

- **October 30th - Deadline for submitting all reservation forms and payments** (other than additional reservations granted after this deadline). Clubs requesting additional reservations will be notified of additional reservations.
- Collect student applications and begin conducting interviews. Emphasize deadlines with school counselors.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

- Local Club Coordinator and committee need to finalize application and selection process.
- If not already completed, register all primary campers through online registration form. Paper applications will no longer be accepted as registrations.
- Registrations are due no later than December 15th.

JANUARY

- It is recommended that Club Coordinators host an informational meeting with selected students and their parents to confirm transportation details, collect medical forms, hand out camper packets, and answer any questions.

FEBRUARY

- Confirm volunteers from your club to provide transportation to and from camp.
- If there are changes to your attendees, complete the alternate registration form. Any cancellations must be made at least 1 week before your assigned camp session to qualify for a refund
- Ensure your club has scheduled a program for RYLA participants to share their experiences after camp.



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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Where did the RYLA program originate?

RYLA began in Australia in the 1960s as a program to identify and develop those young people with leadership skills. These young people become very positive influences and role models once they return to their schools. Our district held its first camp in 1996 and has influenced the lives of thousands of young people in our district in that time.

Who is chosen to attend a RYLA camp?

Each Rotary Club in District 5830 has the opportunity to award two scholarships to the camp for each high school they represent. Applicants are recommended by their high school counselors, teachers, and principals on the basis of service work performed, leadership ability, academic performance and citizenship. To be eligible, students must be high school juniors at the time of camp. Representatives of local Rotary Clubs will interview applicants and then make the selections. The scholarships that are awarded cover all expenses of attending Camp RYLA. The local Rotary Club will provide round-trip transportation to Clements Scout Ranch. Approximately 200 scholarship winners attend RYLA each year.

What do the students actually do at a RYLA camp?

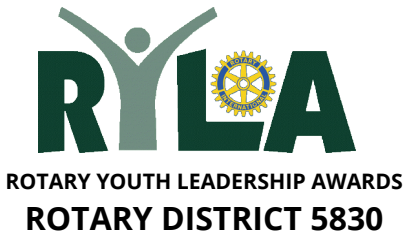
Students will arrive at Clements Scout Ranch on Friday afternoon. The camp will conclude on Sunday afternoon. The curriculum is comprised of small teams tackling various problems and working together for solutions. Group dynamics, counseling, leadership styles, and risk taking are all subjects which are discussed and taught. The curriculum also has a strong emphasis on challenging physical obstacles on an outdoor challenge course. The RYLA adventure has both indoor and outdoor components and is both mentally and physically challenging. It is an experience students will never forget.

Who are the instructors at a RYLA Camp?

The RYLA staff of team leaders, facilitators, and instructors is made up of Rotarians and RYLA alumni. Many of them come from college settings and from the business world. Additionally, distinguished visitors provide the students with excellent role models and informational resources.

Where is RYLA held?

District 5830 of Rotary International has arranged to use the outstanding facilities at the **Clements Scout Ranch / Trevor Rees-Jones Scout Camp just south of Athens, Texas**. Students will be housed in cabins, divided by male and female. There will be a bed or cot for each camper to sleep on. Meals are prepared by RYLA staff and a local caterer.



What about medical emergencies at Clements Scout Ranch?

RYLA has a camp nurse (RN, EMT, or related) on staff at each session. The staff at *Clements Scout Ranch* is also fully experienced in handling the medical needs of its visitors. Each student's physical safety is a top priority and necessary medical assistance is readily available. All students will be covered by supplemental insurance provided by the Boy Scouts of America. If necessary, there is a hospital within a few miles of camp.

Why would a high school junior want to attend a RYLA camp?

First, only the most outstanding high school juniors from the region are invited to attend. Therefore, applicants will associate with the best students area schools have to offer and competition for the slots will be keen. Second, attendance at leadership camps such as RYLA will be of benefit to students when they prepare their college admission applications. College admission officials are impressed with students who are selected for and attend camps such as RYLA. Third, RYLA participants will be more confident and self-assured in a variety of decision-making and leadership situations they will confront throughout life.

How will the students travel to the RYLA Camp site?

Representatives of the Rotary Club that select the campers will provide transportation to and from Clements Scout Ranch.

What if I still have more questions? Who can I speak with to get more information?

See the CONTACTS on page 3 of the packet.

Does RYLA District 5830 have a Web Site?

<http://www.RYLA5830.org>



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AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

CLUB PRESIDENT

- Select a club member as your RYLA Coordinator and notify the district of this selection.
- Approve funds for RYLA campers - \$200/camper with 2 campers selected from each high school your club represents.
- Periodically check with your Coordinator to ensure their time table is on track.

LOCAL CLUB COORDINATOR

- Become knowledgeable about the RYLA program.
- Organize your club's camper selection committee. This committee will review applications, conduct interviews, and select students to attend RYLA.
- Know the time table and all deadlines, and make sure they are met.
- Schedule a RYLA program at your local Club as soon as the campers return!
- Make sure that all selected applicants attend the camp.
- Make sure the RYLA candidates and alternates are informed of all necessary details of the program, included in the camper packet.
- Arrange for each student's transportation to and from the camp by one or more club member. This is a good opportunity for the candidate to find out more about Rotary and for your club to learn more about RYLA on the return trip.
- **Campers are not allowed to take their own vehicles to camp.**
- **If one of your club's prior year RYLA campers has been selected to return as a camp counselor, include them in your selection committee and transportation plans.**

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

- Help identify a pool of eligible students, both young men and young women, from which to select the best candidates. A realistic club goal would be eight to ten interviews.
- Distribute brochures and camp applications throughout the high school early in the school year to encourage student interest.
- **The counselor is not to select the campers, as that is the role of the Rotary Club's Camper Selection Committee.**



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THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

RECRUITING

Become familiar with the RYLA program by reviewing the RYLA 5830 website, this Club Coordinator packet, and [the RYLA video](#). Talk with high school counselors early in the school year to inform them about RYLA. Distribute applications with the counselor cover letter. Make sure that the high school counselors understand that they are an important link in the selection process, but not to select the campers.

Express to the high school counselors the far-reaching benefits their high school will receive by sending quality leaders to RYLA. These scholarship winners will bring back information and new skills that will benefit many others in the student body of their high school.

Some of the things that should be considered are:

- Service work performed (school and community)
- Involvement in school activities including athletics
- Work experience
- Significant personal achievements
- High school leadership roles
- Home schooled and non-traditionally educated students may also be considered
- Mentally and physically challenged individuals will have a greater difficulty handling the challenges of Camp RYLA. Our staff is not equipped or trained to handle campers with significant physical or mental handicaps.

If you have more than one club in your area, coordinate your efforts amongst yourselves. If you have more than one local high school, make sure that you consider candidates at all schools. Also, don't overlook private schools or home-schooled students in your community.

INTERVIEWING

Organize a club interview committee. Arrange an interview time for all the candidates from each school. Ask the same interview questions to each candidate. **Be sure to select an alternate for each scholarship winner.**

ORIENTATION

Notify each candidate as to the results of your committee's selection. It is advised that you hold an orientation with selected students a few weeks prior to camp. Be sure that your candidates are aware that they are receiving an award, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Make them aware of the commitment that your club has made and that they make in accepting their award. **Inform them that they are to attend the full weekend, regardless of unforeseen school, church or family activities (3:00 p.m. Friday to 5:30 p.m. Sunday).** If they cannot commit to this requirement, please select another candidate. Ensure that all questions regarding camp are answered, and give students a copy of the camper packet. Collect all medical forms to be turned in at camp check-in.



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SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

These questions are provided to help you, Rotarians charged with interviewing high school juniors to be selected as attendees for RYLA camp, stimulate responses from student applicants that will enable you to select the best candidates for camp. You may use any of these or other questions you feel are appropriate to each interview to get the best results.

Be sure to ask each applicant the same questions during interviews. You will not have time to ask many questions, so only choose questions that apply best to your club's goals.

1. *If I were to ask your parents or teachers, what would they tell me are your two greatest strengths? Your two greatest weaknesses?*
2. *Who has had the most influence on your life and how?*
3. *When you accomplish a task, how do you determine if you have done a good job?*
4. *What traits of a good leader do you admire most?*
5. *If you were interviewing candidates for this award, what leadership qualities would you look for?*
6. *Can a high school junior be an influential leader? If so, how?*
7. *What is the number one leadership quality you look for in a school leader? In a national leader?*
8. *Other than a family member, who is/are your hero/heroes? And why?*
9. *Name the best leader of whom you have ever heard. Why do you consider that person the best leader?*
10. *Is there anything you would like to share with us that would give us a reason to select you for RYLA camp instead of another student?*
11. *What five things do you value most in life?*
12. *If you had only six months to live, how would you spend your time?*
13. *If you suddenly came into a large amount of money, how do you think it would change your life?*
14. *What kinds of experiences in life give you the greatest feelings of importance?*
15. *If you knew you could not fail, what one great thing would you dare to dream?*
16. *Do you have any questions about RYLA camp you would like to ask?*



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GUIDELINES FOR CAMPER PRESENTATION AT CLUB MEETING

1. Students (and counselors, if present) are introduced.
2. Students explain their "RYLA name" and how they chose it.
3. Students should express their appreciation to Club members for sponsoring them.
4. Students should decide beforehand who will speak on each aspect of camp. This can be divided by day, RYLA leadership traits, or other areas determined by the students.
5. Students may present a demonstration of skills learned at RYLA via a small activity such as a trust fall, sherpa walk, etc.
6. Students should express specifically:
 1. How RYLA changed the way they perceive leadership.
 2. What it takes to be an effective leader in today's society.
 3. How their experience will change how they act in school and their community.
 4. How one specific attribute of the 8 leadership traits affected their lives.



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COUNSELOR COVER LETTER

Dear High School Counselor,

Rotary International District 5830 will host select high school juniors in a weekend leadership development program called RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award). The purpose of RYLA is to provide outstanding high school juniors, who exhibit leadership qualities in their school and community activities, an opportunity to develop those skills in a teamworking and bonding environment designed to challenge them to excel.

Rotary District 5830, through its local Rotary clubs, will award full scholarships to attend the camp to high school juniors from your school. We will award approximately 200 scholarships in District 5830 and our challenge is to select the very best student leaders we can. That is why your involvement is so important.

For the selection process, we would like to interview several students based upon your recommendations and their applications. Since RYLA is co-educational we must select both young men and young women. Your influence and assistance in getting the applications into the hands of the best candidates will be greatly appreciated.

The benefit to you and to your school comes with the opportunity to provide recognition for students who exhibit service and leadership achievement and are well-rounded individuals. In addition, you have the assurance that all students will be positively influenced by the example and leadership that your RYLA participants provide when they return to their positions within your school. You will notice the difference, and you will be proud of them.

RYLA will be held at the Clements Scout Ranch near Athens, Texas. Attached to this letter are several copies of the scholarship application which you may distribute to those students you feel would make good applicants. Completed applications may be returned to the local Rotary Club's RYLA Coordinator whose name is shown below. The deadline for submitting all applications to your local sponsoring Rotary Club is **[insert chosen deadline here]**.

The RYLA Coordinator representing the Rotary Club in your area is:

[INSERT CLUB COORDINATOR NAME AND CONTACT INFO]

The Camp Session designated for campers from this school is (check only one):

Session 1: February 9-11, 2018

Session 2: February 23-25, 2018