

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE TO SOUTHERN FINLAND AND ESTONIA!

This exchange will be vocationally general and open to all young professionals and business-people.

Rotarians in southern Finland and Estonia - District 1420 (the District which stretches from Hapksalu and Tallinn, Estonia to Helsinki and Ylikerava, Finland) will welcome a Group Study Exchange team from our District 5450 on **May 3-31, 2006**. *This exchange will be vocationally general and open to all young professionals and business-people.*

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program of The Rotary Foundation is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40. For four to six weeks, team members will experience their hosts' ways of life, observe their own vocations as practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

It is not mandatory to speak the countries' languages; it is only necessary to have a willingness and a desire to embrace the country and its culture. The team leader should help coordinate the exchange by facilitating the submission of pre- and post-departure documents (including the Travel Request) and by acting as an adviser during the selection of team members.

The team leader must:

- be an experienced Rotarian;
- not be the current district governor, immediate past district governor, or district governor-elect;
- remain with the team for the duration of the exchange;
- be willing and able, physically and mentally, to keep pace with the GSE team and activities;
- not be accompanied by a spouse, companion, or other relatives or dependents.

An ideal team leader:

- is not more than 20 years older than the oldest team member;
- possesses outstanding interpersonal communication skills;
- is proficient in the major language of the host district;
- has presentation and public-speaking skills and is able to help the team prepare for speeches at Rotary clubs;
- has the ability to imbue a team with a sense of mission;
- not a President or President-elect of their club from selection through the exchange dates.

Team members must:

- be between the ages of 25-40 at the time of the exchange;
- be employed full-time in a recognized profession;
- not be a Rotarian, honorary Rotarian, or employee of Rotary or the lineal descendant or spouse of a lineal descendant, a Rotarian, an honorary Rotarian, or an employee of Rotary;
- not be the spouse of another team member;
- not be an ex-Rotarian or the lineal descendant or spouse of a lineal descendant of an ex-Rotarian or ex-Rotary employee who resigned less than 36 months before the time of application.

Ideal team members are:

- between the ages of 25 and 40;
- employed full-time in a recognized profession;
- a citizen of the country in which they reside;
- in good health;
- neat in appearance and able to express themselves clearly and logically;
- of a sound, general educational background;
- interested in and clearly enthusiastic about their chosen vocation and in possession of outstanding vocational skills;
- open-minded, tolerant, and flexible;
- proficient in the major language of the partner district;
- comfortable working as part of a team with a schedule that is physically and emotionally demanding.

The success of this exchange depends on outstanding team members and a dynamic Rotarian team leader. If you are interested in this opportunity or know of others who might be, the applications for both team leader (**due to the District Office on Sept. 30; interviews Oct. 25/29**) and team members (**due to the District Office on Oct. 31; interviews Nov. 12 and 13**) are available on our website, www.rotary5450.org/gse.

For more information, contact Linda Kay Nedved at mssqlkn@aol.com (303-446-3465).