



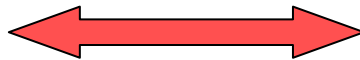
Rotary International District 5890

Group Study Exchange (GSE)

With Rotary District 1880 in Germany 2009/10

Highlights:

The Rotary Foundation’s Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for business people and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four weeks four to five non-Rotarian team members and their Rotarian team leader experience the host country’s culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships and exchange ideas.



In October, 2009 team members from the Houston area will participate in a four-week tour which will include at least five full days of vocational visits, 15 to 20 club presentations, formal visits and social events, two to three days at a Rotary World Peace Conference, dedication of a Rotary Peace Window honoring Leipzig’s 20th anniversary of the silent marches that led to the “Iron Curtain” coming down and East and West Germany being reunified. While this is a vigorous vocational study program filled with great adventures, many tours of cultural, historical and industrial sites, there will also be time to daily visits with host families and Rotarians.

For each team member, the Rotary Foundation provides a round-trip airline ticket between Houston and Germany. Rotarians in the host area provide for meals, lodging, and group travel within their district.

The German Rotary District 1880 covers parts of Bavaria and Saxony (previously East Germany). It was formed after the reunification of Germany and includes 58 Rotary Clubs with about 2800 members. Major Cities in the District are Chemnitz, Dresden, Erlangen, Görlitz, Meissen, Leipzig, Nürnberg and Regensburg, the Eastern borders are with Poland and the Czech Republic.

Dates:

- Outbound to Leipzig: October 2 (arriving October 3) to October 31, 2009
- Inbound to Houston: April 10 to May 8, 2010

Eligibility Requirements for GSE Team Members:

- Applicants between the ages of 25 and 40
- U.S. citizen
- Reside in District 5890 (Greater Houston area)
- Currently employed
- Have clearance to take time off from their profession
- Have time to participate in the preparation and language training)

- Physically and mentally prepared for this demanding vocational study program and rigorous travel schedule
- Not be directly related to a Rotarian

Deadlines:

- Team Member Applications: July 28, 2009.
- Team Selection Process July 30th (evening social) and August 1 (morning interviews), 2009

Additional Information:

Rotary International GSE brochure: http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/160en.pdf

Frequently asked questions: http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/gse_faq.pdf

To download an application: http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/161en.pdf

For more information about this exchange, or to send in a completed application please contact:

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Other Important Events in Leipzig during GSE Visit in Oct. 2009:

- Dedication of a Rotary Peace Window at the Thomas Church in Leipzig funded by Rotary D. 5890 and the Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association
- Rotary World Peace Conference with political and academic leaders from the US and Germany
- A mass candlelight "Peace March" through the Leipzig City Center, concerts and other celebrations in Leipzig
- Plans are being made for Friendship Exchange between a group of Rotarian couples from Houston and Leipzig. For more information contact: Lindsey Kroll. L.Kroll@ieee.org.

Recent Connections between Leipzig and Houston:

- Nov. 1990: Reconstitution of the Rotary Club of Leipzig (chartered 1927) as the first in East Germany with representative of Rotary District 5890
- May 1991: GSE Team from Leipzig in Houston, the first GSE from East Germany after the Wall come down
- 1993: Official Establishment of the Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association, initiated by GSE visit to Leipzig
- 1993 – 2009: Numerous official visits of Mayors, other politicians, business delegations, scientists, students and youth groups, art exhibitions, orchestras and other private exchanges between Houston and Leipzig