

## **Rotary Vocational Visitors**

### **Rotary District 5890 - Houston**

**IDEA:** Host individuals who would benefit their community, and not just themselves, by being exposed to the business ideas, expertise and practices of companies or individuals in their same vocation. For example, the owner of a day care facility may acquire ideas about how to better educate and care for children by observing other day care facility practices. This would benefit children at their own business, but would also introduce new ideas or standards into their community.

**PURPOSE:** Sharing of knowledge and experience in effect makes the world a global community.

**METHODS:** A "Visitor" is selected and sponsored by a sending Rotary club which submits an application on the candidate. The committee in Houston will review the vocational request and network the city to see if an appropriate agenda of participating businesses can be aligned. It will then ask a well located club to be primarily responsible and provide host homes.

**TYPICAL VISIT:** for 1 to 3 weeks, usually about 10 days. During the "work week", the visitor would be taken to observe at 2 to 5 related businesses. Exactly what is planned can depend upon the vocational field. One business may be all there is available or necessary. The number of host homes will likely be limited to one and maybe a second one on longer stays. Transportation will be arranged in combination with the host home, hosting businesses, and the hosting Rotary Club in that part of town. The social agenda will also be a collaboration of these hosts.

**MULTIPLE VISITORS:** are preferred. It's about as easy to make arrangements for up to three people as one. But they need to be following the same business work week. The number of people the host business will accommodate may be the most limiting factor. Transportation the second.

**WHO QUALIFIES?** Must be age 21, and in a position of ownership or management to be able to implement ideas. This is not for students. It is a post-educational internship visit to gain experience. It is open to Rotarians and their family, as well as non-Rotarians. They must pay their way here. They must speak English. There will be no translator available.

**HOW TO GET STARTED?** Make our various contacts with other Rotary Clubs and teams aware of this. Send a preliminary proposal from the sponsoring club as to number of people, vocation, and time frame to:

**Dr. David Taylor**  
**One Professional Park**  
**Webster, TX 77598**  
**281 332-6513 (also a FAX)**

After we do some preliminary checking, if it seems feasible, then make the formal application. Those application forms will be used to line up businesses and homes and in soliciting a host Rotary club.

## VOCATIONAL SERVICE

This committee deals with four different vocational activities:

### (1) Vocational Scholarships:

*on  
hybrid*  
Vocational Scholarships is a recent R.I. funded activity. The district can submit one candidate to R.I. for a one-time grant of \$10,000 for further studies in their vocation. This is for non-Rotarians only. Formal application required. Grant recipients must meet certain criteria. The district can also solicit companies to become study sites and be listed in a master directory.

### (2) Vocational Visitors:

*David*  
Vocational Visitors consists of our district hosting individuals who come to stay for 1-2 weeks and are scheduled to visit or "observe" in 3-5 sites to study businesses in their same vocation. The visitors pay their way to Houston. We locate business sites, host homes and arrange transportation and social activities. Prefer 2 or more visitors from each foreign city. These candidates would be selected by Rotary clubs we know from other activities, such as GSE, Youth Exchange, other exchanges, or just by way of visitation. *District*

### (3) Rotary Seminar Teams:

*Shaila*  
Purpose: Since 1990 our district has formed teams of business people to serve as speakers for seminars organized by Rotarians in another country. The seminar teams usually go for 1 to 2 weeks, stay in host homes, and give 3-4 seminars during the trip. Teams to Eastern Europe have been called Project Free Enterprise. Teams to Mexico are called Project Amigo. District 5890 Rotarians can serve on a team, or help the committee to prepare and send a team. Funds are partially raised from club contributions. One tentative goal is a seminar team to South America and one to Viet Nam.

### (4) Vocational Awards:

Awards for Excellence in Education for teachers, or for Excellence in Law Enforcement for police have been a feature of some club's activities for years and the district committee can facilitate other clubs undertaking to do similar awards in their communities. *District & Club*

DAVID TAYLOR  
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Club Vocational ideas

- A. Teacher Awards
- B. Law Enforcement
- C. Vocational Excellence
- D. Promote 4 way Test

*Clare Taylor*