



District 5160

Newsletter #7

January 2016

## IMPORTANT DATES!

### Key Inbound Student Dates:

- January 28-31 – Surf City Trip
- All other key **Inbound dates** for 2015-16 - <http://yex.rotary5160.net/inbound-students/2015-2016-trips>.

### Key Outbound Student Dates:

- Applications for 2017-18 Outbounds will be released toward the end of January, 2016

### Key Host Family Dates:

- January – Confirm with your students that they have booked, or started booking, their return trips “home”. This is NOT the responsibility of the host family, but it is good to get these dates in everyone’s calendars.

### Key YEO/Counselor Dates:

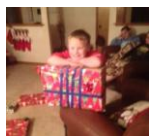
- January – Confirm with your students that they have booked, or started booking, their return trips “home”.
- January – Work with Amy C, Inbound Coordinator, regarding Surf City Trip
- January – Monthly counselor reports!!!  
**Please submit by Jan. 15.**

### Key Club Dates:

- January – Encourage club membership to make a new year’s resolution...to spend time with your student outside of Rotary meetings

**Paola** - My best things about Christmas:

1. I didn't feel homesick (at all).
2. The fantastic Ham
3. I get to meet more my new family.
4. Went in a hike with my sister.
5. Laughed so hard when we went to see Christmas lights and my brother was farting in the car.
6. Give and get a lot of presents.
7. A lot of cool moments!



## Mid-year “slump”

As we reach the mid-point of our exchange year, students, host families, and clubs often feel a mid-year “slump”. The student’s and host families are generally in a comfort zone, which has its pros and cons.

One pro is that many of the growing pains of the year are gone. The students have made friends at school, the families feel more connected to the students, and communication between the students, counselors, and host families, tends to be clear and concise.

On the flip-side, between New Years and spring break, this tends to be one of the most boring times for the students and their host families. Lots of school with limited breaks...and the newness of the exchange has worn-off.

We also see many students changing host families during this time of year...and it is often a very confusing time for host families and students. Families and students need to be understanding of each other and, whenever possible, stay connected while being respectful of the new relationships being formed in the new host homes.

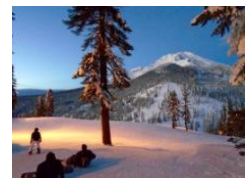
## Inbounds Celebrating!

The District Chair put out a facebook request of all of our 2015-16 inbounds for photos and stories of their holiday experiences. Please see what they submitted below...and on the following page.

**Alex** - The first day of the break I swithed familys which was fun. We started the break by getting snowed in up in Tahoe, which meant we had to stay at a super nice hotel, so I wasn't complaining. We came home on tuesday and the day after we went and saw the nutcracket performance in San Francisco. The same night we went on a fancy dinner which tasted amazing. We ended the day by going to the Macy's christmas tree. Then christmas came and we didn't do much we just stayed at home open presents and ate way too much food which I thought was really fun.



**Sylvain** - during this Christmas I skied a lot. Yesterday I went to skie with some friends and it was the first time that i went night skiing. We skied until 9pm it was very cold but that was a lot of fun ! Just before Christmas I when to Ashland for the Christmas parade. That was my first Christmas parade in my life so that was also very exciting. My dad gonna take me to Oregon to meet his family, I can't wait to meet other people from my host family !



MAKE A WORLD  
OF DIFFERENCE



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**Sophie** - I spent Christmas Eve up in Lake Shasta, where my host family has a house.



We had a tree at home but we had to go to the Lake Shasta house because my host fathers parents came to visit.

We didn't have a tree so my host brother and his mom went into the woods and found a Charlie Brown tree. My host brother and I drove a quad ATV to the top of a mountain until we reached the snow. I also shot a gun for the first time of my life. It was very loud but so much fun. We opened our presents in the late afternoon and ate good ham, corn soufflé and stuffing for dinner.

I got a lot of presents and was very happy.

**Lukas** - During the break I had ice hockey tournament.. We won and I got MVP! We also played a couple games on outdoor rink! And then I had delicious Christmas dinner with my family!

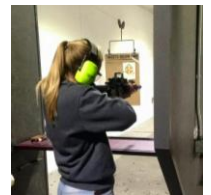


**Yi Lien** - My host family(dad, mom, two sisters, nanny) went up to Tahoe during the holiday. I spent 3 hours to build my first snowman! This is the first time I see the snow in person. It is a super wonderful experience! Although I'm freezing to death but I really enjoy the time I played in the snow. I had a really relax holiday here.



In Taiwan Chinese New Year is really an important holiday for us so we are planning to celebrate that in February. It'll be my turn to teach them our important holiday

**Hanna** - On tuesday before the holidays began, the Chico Rotary Club had a very nice Christmas party in the evening. There is one pic of my counselor with me and another one of the President of the Chico Rotary Club and me. On the following saturday I went up to Boreal with my snowboard team of Chico High and it was snowing the whole day! The snow was so fluffy and amazing to snowboard in. We went up to Mt. Shasta a few days later to play in the snow and we found some huge icicles. We had a lot of fun. On the same day I also shot a gun for the first time in my life! A friend of my hostdad told us how to shoot and then we went to a shooting range and had a lot of fun there!



**Ines** - During the first week we made with all the family a lot of truffles, I never did that before but it was fun and the chocolate was really good! We went to Oakland at the Yoshis restaurant and after there was a Jazz concert, my first one, I really like this kind on music. I did my first gingerbread house, expired from two or three year so it was difficult to do and now nobody want to eat it! For Christmas Eve we ate fondue: French dinner, I missed it so much!! And we did caroling, an American tradition so we could see every houses' lights, it was wonderful. On Christmas Day we opened our presents during the morning and after we walked the dog on the hill with all the family, I really liked this moment!

