

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARS RECEIVE TRAINING

The District's five Ambassadorial Scholars destined for overseas travel in 2007-08 have successfully completed Rotary training for their year abroad. District Scholarship Chair Donna Landry and PDG Noel Bajat accompanied four of the five to a multi-district outbound scholar training session in Austin, Texas, in early January. The fifth scholar obtained similar training last year.

Among those participating in this year's training were Napatong Todjersin, assigned to a year's study in Cusco, Peru, under sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge Sunrise; Blair Berdusco, assigned to a year's study in Italy under sponsorship by the Rotary Club of Lafayette North; Nathan Rabalais, assigned to a year's study in Strasbourg, France, under sponsorship by the Rotary Club of Lafayette; and Austin Speier, assigned to a year's study in Berlin, Germany, under sponsorship by the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge. The fifth scholarship recipient is Meredith Barousse, assigned to a year's study in Rome, Italy, under sponsorship by the Rotary Club of Crowley.

Scholarships afforded Blair, Nathan and Meredith for study in France and Italy are privately funded by PDG Lou Capozzoli and his wife Laura Broussard Capozzoli. District funds contributed to The Rotary Foundation fund other annual scholarships, the value of which is up to \$23,000 each.

Outbound scholar training consists of a weekend of presentations on program requirements, Rotary facts and figures, tips for living and studying abroad and experiences of former scholars.

This year's session gathered outbound scholars from some 24 Rotary districts, in addition to their Rotary counselors and other Rotarians and guests. Both Donna and Noel were among featured speakers for the two-day session, as was our District's 2005-06 scholar to Italy, Quinton Keigley of Crowley.

Applications are now being taken for students interested in studying abroad as Rotary scholars in 2008-09. Completed applications must be sent with a Rotary Club endorsement to Donna Landry, 106 Touraine Circle, Lafayette, LA, 70501 no later than March 2, 2007. Interviews and selections are expected by mid-April. For more information, visit the District website or the www.rotary.org website or call Donna at 337-354-1339 (office) or 337-237-1323 (home).



Scholars with PDG Noel & Sis Bajat



2007-2008 Ambassadorial Scholarship Candidates with District Chair Donna Landry