DEAR FELLOW ROTARIANS, FACULTY SPONSORS, AND INTERACTORS:

It's that time again - time to sharpen the pencils for Rotary District 5890’s Scholarship Essay Competition! We will award three great scholarships to InterAct members (12th Graders Only) from our District who submit the most outstanding essays centered on Rotary’s 4-Way Test. That famous test begins each meeting of every Rotary Club around the world, has been translated into more than a hundred languages, and has become one of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics. READ ON to help us make this year's Essay Contest our District's best ever!

WHEN MUST ESSAYS BE RECEIVED FOR CONSIDERATION?

Rotary Club Member liaisons should contact their Interact Faculty Sponsors with information on the 4-Way Test and give that person a copy of this letter for announcement to the Interact Clubs by March 8, 2012. Winners will be selected by the 4-Way Test District Judges’ Committee no later than April 18, 2012. Sponsoring Rotary clubs will be notified of the winners.

Please observe the following deadlines in order to assure consideration of essays:
- By Mar 8: Rotarians provide 4-Way Test Information to Interact Clubs
- By Mar 23: Competing InterActers turn in essays to InterAct Faculty Sponsor
- By Mar 30: Faculty sponsors submit their group of essays direct to nwagoner@wagonerlaw.com
- Apr 18: 3 Winners Announced
- May 17: 3 Winners Attend Awards Luncheon

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

Top 3 essayists will divide our $3,500 in scholarship money as follows: First place winner will receive a $2,000 college scholarship, the 2nd place winner will receive a $1,000 college scholarship, and the 3rd place winner will receive a $500 scholarship. To receive the scholarship funds, the winners must notify the District Contest Committee Chair of the college/university which they are attending, and the District Treasurer will forward their scholarship money directly to the designated institution to be applied to the winner’s tuition and/or costs (see attached instructions). Winners should be available to be honored and read their winning essays at a Special Luncheon Awards Presentation to be hosted by Bellaire Southwest Rotary on Thursday, May 17, 2012, 12:00 -1:15 p.m., at BraeBurn Country Club, 8100 Bissonnet, Houston 77074.

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

1. Essay Subject: Must explore one or more aspects of Rotary’s 4-Way Test
2. Essay Length: Between 200 and 400 words (Count carefully to avoid disqualification)
3. Essay Format: Typed, double or single spaced
4. Cover Sheet: Each essay to have a cover sheet with the essay title and the following information:
   - LEFT CORNER:
     - Sponsoring Rotary Club
     - Rotarian Contact Information (Tel. & email)
     - Interact Club & School
     - Interact Faculty Advisor CONTACT Info (Tel. & email)
   - RIGHT CORNER:
     - Student’s Name & School (12th Grade only)
     - Student Full Home Address
     - Student EMAIL & Parents’ Name(s)
     - Student + Parents’ Telephones
5. Press Release: By submitting an entry, each candidate and candidate’s legal guardian agrees that candidate’s image, name, and essay contents may be featured in the press and Rotary news media.
7. Submission: Email transmission of entries to the District Committee Chair is strongly preferred to: nwagoner@wagonerlaw.com. If email transmission is not possible, however, essays may be faxed to Nan Wagoner at 713-668-7875 or may be mailed/delivered to Nan Wagoner at Wagoner Burgert Law Offices, 5202 Spruce, Bellaire, TX 77401, so long as RECEIVED by the March 30, 2012 deadline.
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

ROTARIANS: Contact the InterAct Faculty Sponsor for each InterAct Club sponsored by your Rotary Club and encourage them to promote the competition with their InterAct club members who are in the 12th grade. Be sure every InterAct Faculty Sponsor receives and distributes the competition instructions to their SENIOR members (only 12th graders are eligible). Offer to speak to your InterAct Clubs about the 4-way Test and the scholarship awards. Consider inviting one or more of your essayists and their Faculty Sponsors to a Rotary meeting to read their essay(s) regardless of whether or not they land in the District winner’s circle. Coordinate with your InterAct Faculty Sponsors whether they will email their submissions to your club for forwarding to the Judges’ Committee, or whether they will email the submissions directly to the Committee. **Watch the deadlines and do what you can to assure that a good number of entries are timely submitted from your sponsored InterAct club(s).** If one of your sponsored students is a winner, try to attend the Special Luncheon Awards Presentation at Bellaire Southwest Rotary on Thursday, May 17, 2012, 12:00 -1:15 p.m., BraeBurn Country Club, 8100 Bissonnet, Houston 77074, to support and congratulate your winning student. Also invite the students’ parents to attend (at your sponsoring Rotary Club’s cost).

FACULTY SPONSORS: **Encourage every ELIGIBLE member of your InterAct club (12th Graders only) to submit an essay.** The essays are short (200-400 words), and the scholarship awards are valuable! Timely gather all essays from your students and coordinate submissions with your Rotary club as described above when possible. Be sure all requested information is provided and that the entries all are signed by both you and the student. Please email your students’ essays directly to the District Committee Chair at nwagoner@wagonerlaw.com, or fax or deliver to Nan Wagoner by submission deadline.

SENIOR INTERACT MEMBERS: Have FUN writing a short and interesting essay that could win you recognition as well as a nice college scholarship to any college/university of your choice! Read and observe the instructions and deadlines below. Good luck to all entrants!

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE?
Only high school students who 1) are members in good standing of an INTERACT club in District 5890, and 2) are enrolled in the 12th grade at the time of the essay submission are eligible to compete for the three scholarships.

WHAT SHOULD THE ESSAY BE ABOUT?
Essays should explore one or more aspects of Rotary’s 4-Way Test of the things we think, say, or do.

- Is it the truth?     Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Students often write about how they have, or could, use the 4-Way Test to make a decision, or as a means to evaluate a situation. Other approaches might be, “How I Can Use the 4-Way Test In My Life,” or, “Resolving Competing Answers Within the 4-Way Test,” for example.

We look forward to reading a great group of essays again this year!

F. Nan Wagoner
District 5890 Essay Scholarship Chair
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Rotary Club of Bellaire / SW Houston
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Home: 713.662.0072 / Fax: 713.662.2347
LAW OFFICES OF WAGONER BURGERT LLP
5202 Spruce Street / Bellaire, TX 77401
Winners’ Instructions For Claiming/Utilizing Rotary Scholarship Funds

District 4-Way-Test Essay Contest Chair Nan Wagoner will notify the District Treasurer of the identities of the three Winners and the applicable scholarship amounts awarded. Winners’ Instructions for claiming and utilizing scholarship funds awarded for the Rotary District 5890 InterAct 4-Way-Test Scholarships 2009 are as follows:

1. Determine the college or university you will attend in the Fall and receive official notice of your acceptance as a student.

2. Provide the Rotary District 5890 Treasurer (by mail or email) with:
   a. Correct current name, email, telephone number, and permanent mailing address with zip code, for (i) yourself, and (ii) your parent(s) or legal guardian;
   b. A copy of the notice of your acceptance from the college or university you will attend, including your start date and the exact name under which the college/university has you listed as a student;
   c. Your student ID or registration number assigned by the college/university;
   d. Your social security number;
   e. The name, mailing address, email (if applicable), and telephone number of the financial services and/or registrar’s office for the college/university you will be attending;
   f. Your request that the Rotary District Treasurer forward funds for the amount of your scholarship directly to the college or university’s financial office to be credited to your student payment account.

3. The District Treasurer will send the amount of your awarded scholarship funds to the appropriate financial officer at the designated college/university you are attending to be applied as a credit to your student account for educational expenses.

The Rotary District 5890 Treasurer’s contact information is:

Name: Elaine Combs, CPA
Email: elainecombs@earthlink.net
Telephone: 281 970-5005 (office); 281 413-6593 (cell)
Address: P O Box 691870, Houston, Tx  77269

4. QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Please feel free to contact Nan Wagoner, District 4-Way-Test Essay Contest Chair, if you have any questions or problems with claiming or utilizing your Rotary Scholarship Funds:  Nan Wagoner, nwagoner@wagonerlaw.com, Rotary Club of Bellaire / SW Houston, Office Phone: 713.668.5680 / Office Fax: 713.668.7875; Home Phone: 713.662.0072 / Home Fax: 713.662.2347; Mailing address: Law Offices Of Wagoner Burgert LLP, 5202 Spruce Street / Bellaire, TX 77401.