

## News from the desk of Jack Lundy

There are two wonderful pieces of news. First, our son just called. He is on his way home from the hospital after a six week stay most of which was in intensive care. His voice is stronger than it has been in some time. Second, I attended the North American Youth Exchange Network Conference in Alaska where they have had 24 feet of snow. Two things happened that directly impact District 6740 and our club. First, we were given the Silver Award as a district for Youth Exchange. We were cited for many improvements in the district including a full complement of staff and working with host families and agencies other than schools but including schools as well. Second, I have worked out an agreement with the country contact in Brazil to send 10 students to Brazil next summer for six weeks. In return he will send 10 students during our Winter for six weeks to be housed in the homes of the folks who sent their kids. It is a family to family exchange. The Brazil exchange is a wonderful opportunity for the kids as there will be many trips around Brazil and they will also see the preparations for the Olympic Games which take place the year following. The people of Brazil speak Portuguese, but many speak Spanish and English. I will only send 10 exchanges from the district. So, it is time for Rotarians to start thinking about sending their kids for the trip of a lifetime. And, keep in mind that it is not limited to just Rotarian kids. It will be on a first come, first serve basis.