

# GSE Final Report

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Please print or type.

I was a (check one)  Team leader  Team member

**Dr. Judith Staber**

NAME

**2005**

EXCHANGE YEAR

**Kellerstr. 43**

PERMANENT ADDRESS

**Munich; Germany; Bayern**

City, STATE / PROVINCE

**81667**

POSTAL CODE

**Distrikt 1840; southern Bavaria**

SPONSOR DISTRICT AND COUNTRY

**Distrikt 1840**

HOST DISTRICT AND COUNTRY

Please answer the questions below. If more space is necessary, please attach additional pages to this form. Send copies of this report to the GSE chair of the Sponsoring district.

1. What were your reasons for participating in a GSE? Did this exchange meet your expectations?

*For professional reasons I wanted to compare the status of state controlled programs against animal diseases and animal welfare in the USA to Germany. For personal reasons I wanted to get to know the more insight view of staying in another country with the families, to know their way of living and therefore to find new friends and connect different countries. This exchange exceeded my expectations. I enjoyed the experience of being in a wonderful group, get to know a lot of interesting people in the Midwest and that there is more in Iowa than corn.*

2. How did the materials or training that you received from the Foundation and your Sponsor district prepare you for the exchange? What specific suggestions do you have for improving the orientation process?

*Here I want to thank my sending Club RC Erding for the warm welcome and their support. I joined in several meetings and the Christmas tombola. Therefore I had a good overview of the Rotarian world. We also got to know the group very well while having a preparation weekend in the Alps in Switzerland. Thanks to Horst Dänzer for not only being a good team leader but also a friend.*

*It would be helpful to know a more detailed schedule before arriving in the country or the new clubs, for a better preparation and to avoid repetitions.*

3. How has your experience changed your outlook on your host country and Sponsor country? What professional experience did you gain from the exchange? What was the most important aspect of the exchange?

*I think that there are not so many differences between our countries. There are good and bad things on each side. An exchange of different experiences in dealing with various problems could help both countries. This is especially what I realized during my vocational days. As being a veterinarian working for the government there was a lot to see and to compare with the more bureaucratic way in the EU. On the other hand I would not want to miss our high standards in animal welfare.*

*Most important for me was the possibility to get to know new friends, in my group and in my host families in Iowa. A better understanding between different cultures is the best way in avoiding problems in our world.*

4. Give specific examples of activities that you and your team participated in during the exchange.

*I and/or we visited for example:*

*Veterinary School and the National Laboratory of Animal Diseases in Ames, Small and Large Animal Practice, Hog Confinements, Feed Lots, Ethanol Plants, Town Halls, Police Academies, Recycling Companies*

*We also played golf, went trap shooting and fishing.*

5. What advice or Information would you give future GSE participants?

*Don't have any prejudice, be open minded. But don't be afraid to express your wishes. The people will appreciate that you are honest. And get to know your group. We have been a wonderful team, helping each other and of course we had a lot of fun.*

6. How will you continue to stay involved in Rotary? If invited, would you become a member of a Rotary or Rotaract club?

*First of all I want to do a presentation in my sending club about the exchange. I also will offer my sending club support in any social activities that are planned in this area. I would like to become a member of Rotary in the future.*