

SPACE CENTER ROTARY -

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

by Tom Wier

Project Free Enterprise is coming into being before our very eyes. And it is a chance for you to make a difference through Rotary. Rotary has been forming new clubs in the old world capitals in the newly liberated Eastern bloc. The citizens of those former communist countries are becoming free to go into business and fend for themselves-- yet they are not familiar with the basic principles and forces at work in market economies.

Indeed, capitalism is being introduced to these countries by large corporations viewing them as a market for their goods, or as a cheap labor force to make their goods less expensively. Missing is a concern for individual citizens improving themselves through free enterprise principles.

Space Center Rotary's David Taylor has been setting up youth exchanges with eastern bloc countries before the Berlin Wall ever came down. It occurred to him that it was also important to help the "parents" of such students with practical assistance now. Whereas the youth programs can shape the future, our global neighbors in these countries need help now. He proposed to the District 589 Governor that we select a team of speakers on free enterprise to give seminars sponsored by the new local Rotary clubs. The governor agreed and Taylor then contacted Moscow, Talinn, Warsaw, Leipzig, Budapest and Prague.

In addition to the speakers, there are many parts of this project that will be done right here- no need to travel. For example, your help is being sought for topic planning, raising funds to pay air fare, skill in producing the program and its visual aids, liaison with RI, logistics and travel, publicity and even a place in Houston to present a dress rehearsal.

Our club has authorized pushing ahead with Project Free Enterprise. The project is coalescing. Sixteen were present at a meeting and some new assignments were accepted. Neal Jackson is in charge for our club. See Neal or David Taylor as to how you can help.

HERE IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE with the help of Rotary.