

A THANK YOU LETTER FROM THE CHINESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS.

Dear members of the optimist club,

How are you?

We are the students of the Chinese exchange program. Since we came to the United States of America on February 11th, we have been enjoying ourselves. When we got off the plane at Chicago airport, everyone almost jumped up and down, shouting to show how happy we actually were. Unfortunately, we missed the flight and were arranged to take another flight. We waited and waited but as it was almost the time to get on the plane, we were told that flight was delayed. We were just so tired and couldn't hold our eyes open. Because of these reasons, we finally arrived at Dulamey High School around two o'clock in the morning. But when we met our host families, we were just so happy and excited. It's such a wonderful experience.

We really enjoy ourselves here in the US. We went to New York, Downtown Baltimore, D.C. and so on. We had great fun in these trips. Meanwhile, Dulamey and Hereford also organized a lot of activities, such as NBA games, Ring Dance and roller-skating. Teachers at school also gave us well-prepared classes and took great care of us.

It is really hard to imagine how these students from opposite side of the world gathered together and lived as a big family. As a matter of fact, there were surely a lot of misunderstandings caused by languages, cultures or customs. But none of the host families or the exchange students got angry. They were just so patient. This great exchange provided us with not only a chance to learn about English language and America, but also an opportunity to set up great friendships among all the students. Being a member in this great exchange program, we really experienced the American way of life by staying with our host families.

Another very fascinating part of our trip is the activities organized by your optimist club. The extreme bowling was great fun for us. It provided us with an opportunity to be together. Being far away from home just made us so sad and lonely. It's kind of like the Chinese students were brothers and sisters to each other. Instead of seeing our parents, we just hoped to see each other more often. And it's you guys.

who gave us the chance. And as for that farewell picnic, it's even more meaningful for us. That picnic let all the Chinese exchange students, American students and host families be together, enjoying the last part of their exchange program. The last part of the picnic really depressed us. The words were so touching that a lot of people were moved and they cried. That's the best picnic we have ever had and we will never forget it.

We first met you guys at the extreme bowling and learnt what your club was. As the name suggest, you really are optimists. You are happy all the time and always try to bring happiness to other people. It's not a religion, but I believe more and more people are going to believe in that and join it. You really did a nice job. We surely appreciate your assistance.

Thank you all again for preparing those wonderful things for us and supporting this exchange program generously. Thank you for bringing happiness and joy to us. We really appreciated it.

Hope you make this optimist club better and bring happiness to more people.

Best wishes,

Students from Chinese Cultural Exchange Program