David Ballesteros and Hugo Murillo are your International Service Chairs for 2013-2014. We will provide support and networking for you at the District level. We will make ourselves available to answer your questions in the area of International Service. We encourage you to advise us of your on-going Global/District Grants. We will, through our Newsletter, promote these, and attempt, when needed, to have other Rotary Clubs join you in your projects. As we experienced during the era of Future Vision grants, 2010-2013, several aspects will continue during 2013-2014, such as sustainability, measurability, stewardship, and better oversight of the financial management and reporting mechanisms of your grants. Global Grants will require larger investments of resources and cooperation of several clubs, both inside and outside DS340, with the Host countries and the International clubs. Our District Rotary Foundation Committee will consider additional DDF requests in January 2014. Contact: Dave Breeding.

The intent of this Rotary year is to provide you with 6 Newsletters during 2013-2014 (July, October, December, February, April, June) featuring your projects and activities related to international endeavors. International Service will continue to work with District groups such as Mobilizing Rotary for Microcredit, Safe Water/Sanitation, Gift of Life, Shelter Box, RI International Assembly, Pathways to Peace, Thousand Smiles, Friendship Exchange, HIV/AIDS, “Friends of__”. We will also encourage you to collaborate with other Rotary Clubs within and outside the District in order to expand the resources and effectiveness of a proposed Global Grant.

David Ballesteros, Chair

Hugo Murillo, Assistant Chair

“Friends of District__” Group Leaders are as follow:

District 9200, East Africa  Philippe Lamoise (philippe@lamoise.net)
District 4400, Ecuador  David Ballesteros (david.ballesteros@sdsu.edu)
District 9270, South Africa  Marty Rosenstein (shamartr@hotmail.com)
District 4100, Mexico  Daniel Wood (danielwood@acnrep.com)
District 3420, Indonesia  Kathleen Roche-Tansey (kroche.tansey@gmail.com)
District 3190, India  Mandyam Venkatesh (Mandyam.Venkatesh@ga.com)
District 4240, Costa Rica  Hugo Murillo (murill2@yahoo.com)
Around the Globe

**Rotary District 4400 Project Fair in Ecuador** by Ed Knight, Rancho Bernardo Rotary.

The 9th Rotary Project Fair took place from November 8-10, 2013 at the Hotel Hilton Colon in Guayaquil, Ecuador. A Project Fair is a Rotary program that enables Clubs to form partnerships for developing international humanitarian projects. The Fair is an excellent opportunity for clubs to complete required activities for Presidential Citations by participation in a sustainable service project related to at least one of Rotary’s six Areas of Focus. Projects highlighted at the three day event included several projects in the Water and Sanitation area, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Education, and Prevention and Treatment of Diseases and long-term disabilities.

Four Rotarians from District 5340 attended and returned with many Global Grant proposals to share with clubs in our District. Those attending were Luene Corwin, Vista High Noon, Ed Knight and David Brooks, Rancho Bernardo Noon, and Bill Stumbaugh, Santee-Lakeside; Bill will be spending most of this Rotary year in Ecuador working with the District 4400 Leadership and gathering information for new grants for 2014-2015. Information on possible projects your club might wish to lead or participate in can be obtained from Luene (lhcorwin@cox.net), Ed (ehknight@roadrunner.com), Dave (davebrooks@san.rr.com), Bill (stumbaughw@gmail.com) or David (david.ballesteros@sdsu.edu). DGE Governor Edgar Yanez will be in San Diego for the RI Assembly, and staying at the Manchester Hyatt.

**RI ASSEMBLY, January 12-18, 2014 in San Diego**, by Marta Knight, Chula Vista Sunrise Rotary

Chula Vista Sunrise Rotary has hosted a Mexican dinner, along with a well-known Harpist from Uruguay, for the past five years of DGEs plus significant others from around the Rotary World at the home of Rotarians Rowena and Mike Bell at their spacious home in Bonita. This will again take place during the late afternoon/evening on Wednesday, January 15th during the RI Assembly and it gives an opportunity to other District Rotary Clubs to host a similar event or to join efforts with other clubs, such as East County, to host the incoming District Governors for 2014-2015. Our special guests can be picked up at the Manchester Hyatt Hotel, starting at 4:30 p.m. and returned by 9:30 p.m.

The opportunity to having events like these is to connect with District Rotary leaders and learn about their countries and any special projects they may wish to undertake with District 5340 clubs. Marta further states that during the evening all DGEs and guests have an opportunity to comment: 1) talk about themselves and family, 2) describe District, 3) how invited to join Rotary, 4) Goals for 2014-2015.

For further details about hosting on January 15th, you may contact Marta (marta_knight@yahoo.com) or Dale Bailey (dale@rotary5340.org).
HIV AIDS TESTING and TREATMENT CLINIC, Ubud Bali Indonesia, by Kathleen Roche-Tansey, LJGT Rotary

According to Sue Winski, member of the Ubud Bali Indonesia Rotary Club, Host Partner, and recent visitor to San Diego, renovation has started on the HIV AIDS Testing and Treatment Clinic, Global Grant #26281, a project with La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary, International Partner and also collaborating are Blythe Rotary and Carsbad Hi-Noon Rotary. The Clinic operates on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8-1 p.m. with two physicians on duty. In addition to testing and treatment, the Clinic also offers personal counseling and group sessions. So far 114 patients have come to the Clinic for medical needs.

The challenge presented with a project of this nature is the stigma of having HIV. There are efforts to educate the public as to the realities of HIV but there needs to be much more education of the public. More and more people are coming for testing every month as the word spreads. The disease is also rapidly spreading.

Past President Sue Winski extends an invitation to any Rotarian from District 5340 to come and visit Bali and specially her Club, Ubud Bali Rotary, and observe their Clinic project; an opportunity could present itself if you plan to attend the RI Convention in Sydney with a stopover in Bali. For more details about this Global Grant project you may contact Sue Winski (suewinski@gmail.com) or Kathleen (kroche.tansey@gmail.com).

ASSISTANCE to the Philippines FLOOD VICTIMS, by AG Josie Perpetua, SD Paradise Valley Rotary

Assistant Governor Josie Perpetua and her husband Gabe, San Diego Paradise Valley Rotary are spearheading a drive to assist the people of the Philippines on the recent typhoon that hit that country.

On Thanksgiving Day each November we pay tribute to all the blessings we have received and the great opportunities available to us in the U.S. For the upcoming December Holidays we have an opportunity to offer help and monetary assistance to a nation in grief. Josie and Gabe are traveling to the Philippines on December 8th to work with various Rotary Clubs to join forces on how best to assist victims of this terrible tragedy. You can make a check contribution (EIN:30-o651576) to: The Rotary Club of San Diego Paradise Valley Foundation, P.O. Box 390433, San Diego, CA 92149. For further details contact Josie Perpetua (josieperpetua@yahoo.com).

Gone to COSTA RICA! by Hugo Murillo, La Mesa Sunrise Rotary

In recent years, the La Mesa Sunrise Rotary has established a strong partnership with two Rotary clubs in Costa Rica. On three occasions, LMSR members have traveled to this Central American country to work on vision projects to fit low-income students with eyeglasses; a wheelchair initiative that delivered 59 wheelchairs and other medical equipment to patients in urgent need of them.
The latest foray into Costa Rica (November 16-23, 2013) included eight LMSR members and three spouses. Two members, past presidents Manuela Bump-Murillo and Hugo Murillo traveled ahead of the group to visit with the San Pedro and Curridabat Rotary and the Cartago Rotary clubs and to lay the ground for the travelers’ activities. As a result LMSR agreed to make a donation in the amount of $1600 and be part of a literacy project aimed at providing packages of school supplies to at least 1000 low-income students. Our contribution will be enough to purchase 100 packages, 25 of which will go to a one classroom elementary school with a lone schoolteacher, serving five different grades in Playa Hermosa, Guanacaste Province. Our group visited this school and was very impressed with the work being done by the schoolmaster and by the community.

Our extremely fun trip included visits to volcanoes and waterfalls; observing the arrival of Lora and Baula turtles to lay and bury their eggs in Playa Ostional, and a visit to the colonial city of Granada in Nicaragua. More donations for the purchase of school supplies packages, at around $16 each, are welcome. These supplies would make a huge difference in the academic performance of these children in Costa Rica. For more details, contact Hugo (murill2@yahoo.com).

THE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE STAFF WISHES YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROSPEROUS 2014