David Ballesteros and Hugo Murillo are your International Service Chairs for 2013-2014. We provide support and networking for you at the District and Club level. We 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 are continuing 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 considers additional DDF requests during certain parts of the year. Contact: Dave Breeding, Marge Cole, or John Fistere.

The intent of this Rotary year is to provide you with 5-6 Newsletters during 2013-2014 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)
San Diego, an International Center par excellence:

There is no question that we live in an area of the United States where we exemplify an international atmosphere. San Diego is not only one of the largest cities in the U.S., “America’s Finest City,” but an area which embraces people from around the world, speaking different languages in a multicultural setting. The Greater San Diego area also houses an Olympic Center in the South Bay where athletes from around the world train. As to Rotary International, San Diego hosts the annual Conference for incoming District Governors, borders Mexico, a key country of Latin America, has three major universities: SDSU, USD, UCSD which offer excellent study abroad programs and student exchange programs. We also have unique Rotary clubs, like Coronado Binacional conducting its meetings solely in Spanish. The University of San Diego through the Joan Kroc Center, Peace and Justice Studies, offers a Master’s Degree in Conflict Prevention and Resolution bringing scholars from all over the Globe. The use of District Grants also provides assistance and economic development to thousands of recent immigrants in the San Diego area, for example, Somalis. The Balboa Park Centennial Celebration in 2015 will give us another opportunity to cherish our international setting.

Global Grant Opportunities Still Available

The District Rotary Foundation Committee is still entertaining Global Grant projects for 2013-2014. The deadline for submitting proposals is April 1. In order to be considered for DDF support, you should have your project fully pledged. Minimum dollar amount for a GG is about $35,000 which usually requires collaboration with other Rotary clubs; the Mechanical Cow Nutrition $100,000 plus Global Grant for Ecuador, was recently approved by The Rotary Foundation and it involved 3 countries, 4 Rotary Districts, and 17 Rotary Clubs. Needless, to say this was a challenging task but it did create the necessary funds and better of coordination of resources. As you consider a Host Country make sure that you have contact with a particular Rotary club and with the District leadership (a good opportunity is touching base with the incoming governors when they are here in January or better yet have your Club host them). As you make decisions as to partnerships both for the host and international clubs, keep in mind that under the new TRF Guidelines, strict adherence as to sustainability, stewardship, reporting mechanisms, technology savvy are essential to a successful grant. As you can see below, there is a summary statement of a recently funded successful Global Grant in India involving three D5340 clubs with a focus on Water and Sanitation. At the March 22nd District Assembly, two persons from your Club must participate in the Grants Management Seminar in order to be certified for the 2014-2015 Rotary year.
Water and Sanitation Global Grant in India

Groundbreaking for ten sanitation blocks in the poorest areas of Ghaziabad, India is scheduled in the near future. The Indian rupee equivalent of $60,000 has been deposited in the grant bank account of Host partner Delhi South Metropolitan. International partner RC Del Mar generated donations from Rotary clubs Del Mar, Escondido Noon, and La Jolla Golden Triangle, plus gifts from individuals and DDF from District 5340 with matching money coming from The Rotary Foundation. Designed with locking doors and wash basins with running water, each of the six compartments in each toilet block will provide safe sanitation for the young girls, thus enabling them to be able to remain in school through completion of their elementary education. In addition to the expected improvement in retention rate, for young girl students, the grant will also provide training in sanitation for the school staff and families in the ten communities with a resultant drop in disease. Conservative estimates are that nearly 4000 students will benefit from this grant each year, with that number rising steadily as the communities become involved. (Article contributed by Peggy Martin, RC Del Mar Grant sponsor)

Announcements:

March 5: “Friends of Ecuador” meeting, 8:00-9:30 a.m., Mimi’s at Mira Mesa (off I-15)

March 22: District Assembly, USD, Joan Kroc Center, International Service Session, 10:00-10:50 a.m.

April 4-6: RYLA

April 12-13: Model UN, USD, Peace & Justice Studies Center

May 2-3: 1000 Smiles Clinic, Ensenada, Mexico (for details contact Kim Muslusky, San Diego North RC)

June 1-4 Rotary International Convention, Sydney, Australia

July 20-26 International Youth Music Festival (for details contact PDG Bill Sturgeon, Coronado RC)

January 2015: RI Assembly for DGEs, Manchester Hyatt Hotel