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 of FV continued 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 International clubs. Our District Rotary Foundation Committee considers additional DDF requests during certain parts of the year. You may contact Dave Breeding, Marge Cole, or John Fistere.

The intent of this Rotary year was to provide you with five 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 ddpPeace, 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 proposed Global Grants. We wish you the best during 2014-2015 and your continued efforts to sustain international activities.

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)
Microfinance Global Grant Completed in Honduras

The Rotary Club of Poway-Scripps has successfully completed a one-year Future Vision grant of $47,250 for business training and microloans to impoverished indigenous women in Honduras. The Host Club, Real de Minas Club de Tegucigalpa, Honduras partnered on the project in which 340 businesses were launched or expanded, funded by 411 Rotary loans, during two grant cycles. In addition, 534 impoverished Lenca women received business training.

The grant was funded by the Poway-Scripps, Escondido, San Diego, Encinitas, Rancho Bernardo and La Jolla Sunrise Rotary Clubs; the Mobilizing Rotary for Microcredit Committee; plus Rotary Clubs in California, Washington, and Illinois. Matching funds were contributed by District 5340, Cupertino, CA and the Rotary Foundation.

Poway-Scripps President Dan Brenner said of the effort, “what strikes our club members most in terms of success is the transformative effect these loans have in the lives of individual women. Now they can adequately feed and educate their children, improve their homes, buy medicine, and break the cycle of poverty that has trapped their families for generations. Success lies in each of those lives.” (Article contributed by Winifred Cox, Rotary Club of Poway-Scripps Grant sponsor).

Protecting the Environment

As more and more Rotarians travel to Host countries to observe Global and District Grants in which they are involved, many of these sites are in beautiful areas surrounded by trees. Rotarians in countries, such as Ecuador and Kenya are consciously aware that the quality of lives also pertain to protecting the environment. In the capital city of Quito, Ecuador, Rotary Clubs have joined forces in the largest city park, Parque del Sur. Visiting Rotarians from various Regions of the World who travel to the annual Feria de Proyectos, take time each year to plant trees in a reforestation effort, also working with Rotarians are Middle School students near the Park. Other elementary schools in Ecuador have also initiated recycling projects to show their concerns for reusable materials and to improve cleanliness of their campuses and communities.

Two billion people today cook with firewood or charcoal over open fires, at tremendous cost to their health and the environment. Fortunately, there are Rotarians like Roger Haines and Karen Cebreros from San Diego (Club 33) Rotary who are attempting to curtail further deforestation. They have a Solar Cooker Initiative which is making a positive environmental impact in Kenya with more and more women using solar cooking. In an upcoming International Service Newsletter, Roger Haines will give us more details about the efficacy of food preparation by solar cookers (bhaines@san.rr.com).
Upcoming International Dates/Events

This District 5340 International Service Newsletter is intended for Club IS Chairs. Should you not continue in 2014-2015, please forward to your Club new IS Chair. The following are dates/events which are relevant to international/multicultural activities.

- June 1-4, 2014 International RI Convention, Sydney, Australia
- July 1, 2014 Global Grants submission to District 5340 DRFC for DDF consideration, 2014-2015
- July 26, 2014 Youth Symphony Orchestra, Escondido Center for the Arts, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- August 1, 2014 District Grants submission to District 5340, 2014-2015
- October 24-26, 2014 District 5340 Conference, Desert Princess Palm Springs Golf Resort
- November 12-14, 2014 District 4400 Project Fair, Quito, Ecuador, invited guests worldwide
- November 22, 2014 Foundation Seminar 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, UCSD
- January 18-24, 2015 Rotary International Assembly, Manchester Hyatt, San Diego
- June 7-10, 2015 RI Convention, Sao Paulo, Brazil