



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE REPORT **September 19, 2024**

- **D5500 GUATEMALA FORUM & D5500 CONFERENCE INT'L PROJECTS FAIR**

Rick will have a table at the District 5500 Conference International Projects Fair on Friday, Oct 18th, from 9:30 – 11:45 AM in Junior Ballrooms F & G at the Casino del Sol to showcase our Adopt-a-Village sustainability activities.

If Sheree, Tim and Linda can help that would be great!

- Rick and Gene Medina (RC Tucson Sunset) continue to develop a plan for a "D5500 Guatemala Forum" to link OVRC with RC Tucson Sunset and other District Clubs and non-Rotary Organizations in the Tucson Area doing work in Guatemala.
- Rick and Gene have had several discussions regarding both collaboration in Guatemala and attracting other clubs to International Service.
- Eugene, PDG Diane Goodyear and Rick are also trying to build interest in International Service among the other clubs and members.
- Pat Patton, D5500 International Chair has also agreed to help support the creation of the Guatemala Forum.

THE FOLLOWING FOUR ITEMS ARE FOCUSED ON ROTARY'S "BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY" MISSION

- **EL JUTE SCHOOL LIBRARY / ESL CLASSROOM (ACTION REQUIRED)**

- Total project cost is \$16,100. This project is below the \$30,000 minimum for a Global Grant. We have received the Rotary Club of Denia donation of \$1,000.
- This Library is also the temporary ESL Classroom that is important for the future opportunities of the children of El Jute, a topic that has been reported in detail and was discussed with the RC Gualan, Sheree, Tim and Linda while in Guatemala.
- The International Service Committee, BOD and membership have been asked to contribute \$15,000 from the International Service 2023-24 and 2024-25 approved budget of more than \$23,000. There have been no objections to date.
- A total of \$16,100 should be wired to the Rotary Club of Gualán as soon as possible in order to start construction.

- **EL JUTE SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION**

We have asked the Rotary Club of Gualán and School Director Sandra Carolina Mendez-Duarte to begin a search for qualified part-time ESL instructors (2 days per week). The budgeted cost is approximately \$2,000 per year. An insignificant investment for the future of the children of El Jute.

- **NEW BI-LINGUAL GOOBER GUYS**

Tim has been assigned to research the cost for reformatting and printing of this book. There are both an existing English and Spanish version of the 4-Way Test Book "GOOBER GUYS" for children. The new book would be a combined bi-lingual version. It was agreed that this book would be a perfect working tool in ESL Classes to promote one of the guiding principles of Rotary and be included in all the nearby school libraries. Reformatting and printing costs need to be discussed by this committee after we review costs. Once we establish a budget for

reformatting and printing of books for D5500 and Guatemala, then, if the BOD agrees, this would be a good District Grant request.

- **GUATEMALA LITERACY PROJECT (GLP)**

David will make a formal presentation in October. As previously discussed, the Guatemala Literacy Project (GLP) is one of the largest grassroots, multi-club, multi-district projects in Rotary. It is coordinated by the Ohio Pathways Club in District 6600. The 2024-2025 Global Grant #2463588 is hosted by the Rotary Club of Nueva Guatemala (D-4250) and sponsored by the Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada (D-6400). Our Rotary Club contributes \$1,000 annually to this very large Global Grant which typically raises over \$500,000 each year.

We see two possible routes for this source of funding. Our Club already commits a minimum of \$1,000 per year to this huge (\$500,000) Global Grant. If we go the District Grant route our \$1,000 (or more) is matched by the District. It is an annual application, i.e., one-time deal. If we can convince DG Sue Archibald to make D5500 an annual District participant in this amazing Global Grant, then our Club's \$1,000 is matched by the District and the District's \$1,000 is match by 80% from Rotary International. And with her approval, this can be an annual contribution of \$2,800 without having to file a District Grant Application every year.

- **FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE BETWEEN D5500 & SPAIN (ONGOING)**

This is being coordinated by Rick. The original article that Rick published in D5500 IMPACT has received a very good response. There are currently nine D5500 Rotarians who have signed up to go on an exchange in June or July 2025. Keep in mind, Rotary International Convention in Calgary is June 21-25, 2025.

Rick is working out the details with the Rotary Club of Denia and participants from Spain would arrive in Arizona in April 2025 (to avoid heat and rattlesnakes). Dr. Patricia Martin-Rico is also interested in making a trip to Guatemala to visit El Jute and meet with Dr. Edwin Olivia.

- **FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE BETWEEN D5500 & GUATEMALA (ONGOING)**

During our visit with the Rotary Club of Gualan, President Linda, Sheree, Tim, Rick & Rianne opened a discussion and extended a formal invitation to the members of our Sister Club to visit Oro Valley in October 2025, possibly at the time of the District 5500 Conference.

- **ZACAPA HOSPITAL – PEDIATRIC ICU EQUIPMENT (WAITING ON REPORT)**

Waiting on the Dedication of the New PICU in August.

The main objective is to supply five (5) mechanical pulmonary ventilators and five (5) vital signs monitors, all new, for use in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) of the Regional Hospital of Zacapa, Guatemala. The April 2024 Guatemala Team from Oro Valley also visited this facility with Dr. Edwin Oliva who is also a Rotarian from Gualan. Rick and Edwin are in direct communication with the MINDRAY (Medical Device Manufacturer) representative for Guatemala in hope of obtaining the equipment as a donation.