

## Coordinator Communiqué

A Forum for Foundation News

July/Aug 2009



*Dear Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinators.*

*Welcome to the 2009-10 Rotary year! The year ahead of us will be a pivotal one in determining the course of the Foundation in this, our second century of Rotary service. There are new challenges before us—challenges that we must rise to meet, to keep the promises we have made, and to be able to keep Rotary’s promises for many generations to come.*

*I know this will be a challenging year – we simply have less funds to work with than we have had in previous years, and so that means we need to make the best possible use of the resources we have available to us. I expect you will do this in your work as RRFs, and I expect Rotarians will do the same as they pursue their international and community service projects.*

*But this will also be a very exciting year for The Rotary Foundation. I hope this year will see significant progress in our battle to eradicate polio. We have already brought in nearly half of the funds needed to meet the US\$200 Million Challenge. And that means we have the funds we need to continue to immunize children in the four remaining polio-endemic countries. I believe our efforts will put an end to the transmission of the disease in the very near future.*

*2009-10 will also see significant progress towards realizing the Future Vision Plan. We will teach and train Rotarians in the pilot districts about the Plan in San Diego, California next January. The training should be an exciting and informative event, and I know many of you will be there to help us train the governors-elect and Foundation chairs from the pilot districts.*

*I thank you for all you are doing for Rotary International and its Foundation, and I look forward to all the good work we will accomplish together this year.*

*Sincerely,*

*Glenn E. Estess, Sr.  
Trustee Chair, The Rotary Foundation 2009-10  
President, RI, 2004-05*

## Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge

### Message from Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge Committee Chair



*Greeting 2009-10 RRFCs!*

*Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge has gotten off to a great start. As of 30 June 2009, the Challenge has raised over US\$91.7 million in cash, DDF and pledges. I would like to invite you to join me in leading by example and making a personal contribution to Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. Encourage your friends and family to support Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.*

*Thank you for all you are doing to support Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. Together we will END POLIO NOW.*

*Sincerely,*

*John F. Germ  
Chair*

*Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge*



- ✓ Work with the District Governors to ensure that a dedicated and enthusiastic Rotarian is appointed in each district to serve as District PolioPlus Chair.
- ✓ When the District PolioPlus Chair is appointed, assist him/her to work with clubs in their district to set goals, identify potential major donors, corporations and foundations who would be interested in supporting the eradication of Polio.
- ✓ Work with your districts to ensure that clubs have completed their Fund Development Goal Report form. Club presidents were supposed to have submitted their forms to the DGE by 1 May 2009 and that DGEs submit them to The Rotary Foundation by 15 May 2009. It is very important that clubs complete this form so that we are able to ensure we are on track to reach US\$200 million. This is the first year that DGEs will be able to report their club goals electronically via Member Access.
- ✓ Encourage clubs (including Interact and Rotaract) to organize community-oriented events to meet their Challenge goal set on their Fund Development Goal Report Form. Any clubs that wish to contribute more than the minimum goal should be encouraged to do so.

- ✓ Encourage the Family of Rotary (e.g. Foundation Alumni, Alumni Associations, Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Action Groups) to participate in the Challenge through their own fund raising efforts.
- ✓ Encourage the 2009-10, and 2010-11 and 2011-12 District Governors and Foundation Chairs to designate twenty percent (20%) or more of their DDF to help match the Challenge. *April 2009 Trustee meeting it was decided to extend the match for the Challenge through the final year. First come, first served.*
- ✓ Engage new members and new clubs who have joined Rotary since 1 July 2005 to participate in a club fundraiser and make contributions to the Challenge.
- ✓ Encourage non-Rotarians to visit [www.rotary.org/endpolio](http://www.rotary.org/endpolio) This site has been created to encourage the general public to participate and support Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio. Include a link to this site on your District and Club websites!
- ✓ Encourage sign-up for the *END POLIO NOW* bi-monthly electronic newsletter. The publication will provide fundraising and polio eradication updates and feature club success stories. Urge Rotarians to submit their own inspiring stories to the newsletter at [Rotary's200MillionChallenge@rotary.org](mailto:Rotary's200MillionChallenge@rotary.org)
- ✓ Encourage clubs and Districts to offer the text messaging option at their local fundraisers. The text messaging campaign is intended for use by Rotary clubs while fundraising in their communities. It is designed for main-stream, public use. Having a poster or flyer with "Text POLIO to 90999" present at a fundraising or general Rotary event is a great way to start. This enables people to donate quickly, even if they don't have any cash on-hand for an event

#### **New multimedia materials for Rotary and non-Rotary audiences**

- *Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge* DVD (985-DVD) provides an overview of Rotary's continuing efforts to eradicate polio. The New DVD is a two disc set. Disc one contains promotional materials for clubs and Districts such as the logo, polio images, banner art and more. Disc 2 contains the polio PSAs, Polio Eradication: The End Is In Sight, and The Last Hurdle from the RVM. Available in eight languages, it can be ordered for US\$15 each.
- *Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge* brochure (986-EN) describes to Rotarians and non-Rotarians Rotary's commitment to finish polio and encourages support for Rotary's challenge. Available free in nine languages.
- *Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge* poster (987-EN) encourages participation in Rotary's challenge. Suitable for display at Rotary meetings, fundraisers, and other events, it's available free (limit two per order) in nine languages.
- *Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge* PowerPoint is a shorter version of the presentation made by Trustee Chair Robert Scott at the 2009 International Assembly. Periodically updated, the PowerPoint can be readily presented at club and other meetings by Rotarians who are not experts on polio eradication. Order from the PolioPlus Division by e-mail at [polioplus@rotary.org](mailto:polioplus@rotary.org).

- *END POLIO NOW* promotional pin (988) sold in bags of 100 for US\$50.
- *END POLIO NOW* cardboard pop-up boxes (989) for giveaways or centerpieces at fundraisers. They now have a coin slot so they may be used as banks. US\$3 each.
- *END POLIO NOW* graphics available for printing t-shirts with approved vendor.
- *Polio Comic Book* (976), available for US\$.75.
- *\$200M Announcement DVD* (977). Bill Gates announces additional US\$255 million at International Assembly. US\$5

## **FUTURE VISION**

### **FV Update**

Webinars are taking place during August, September, October and November to assist RRFC's with their preparations for pilot district training at GETS. Details regarding the specific dates were e-mailed to RRFC's in August.

Future Vision Pilot District Training will be held for the 2010-13 pilot district Rotary Foundation chairs and governors-elect on 16-18 January 2010. Registration materials will be sent to all invitees by September.

Qualification materials are available on the RI Web site ([www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)). Encourage clubs to begin familiarizing themselves with these stewardship guidelines. Non-pilot clubs may also wish to review these materials to learn more about how to most effectively manage grant funds.

Anyone interested in learning more about Future Vision should subscribe to the Future Vision Pilot News, a monthly e-newsletter containing the latest information on the pilot.

Rotarians within pilot districts can also join the Future Vision pilot discussion group on the social networking site LinkedIn. Although the site is in English, non-English speakers are encouraged to post discussion threads in their native language.

If you receive specific questions from a club in a pilot district, please refer them to their district's Future Vision senior coordinators for assistance.

## FUND DEVELOPMENT

### Interim Contributions Update

Interim figures for contributions to The Rotary Foundation for the year ended 30 June 2009 totaled US\$158,915,949. While this figure represents a decline of -4.32% over the previous record fundraising 2008-09 Rotary year, it is important to note that the combined giving of Rotarians to the Annual Programs Fund and PolioPlus (Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge) totaled US\$128,336,856 – the highest ever. Contributions to the Permanent Fund were down -20.16% to US\$11,508,440. Restricted giving was down -33.26% to US\$16,963,666 as a result of the reduction of the 2008-09 Matching Grant budget that was fully committed as of 2 March 2009. Unrestricted – Other are contributions from the Donor Advised Fund.

	<u>June 2009</u>	<u>June 2008</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
Annual Programs Fund	US\$ 98,683,380	US\$113,273,669	( 12.88%)
PolioPlus	US\$ 29,653,476	US\$ 10,585,900	180.12%
Permanent Fund	US\$ 11,508,440	US\$ 14,413,682	( 20.16%)
Restricted Giving	US\$ 16,963,666	US\$ 25,418,138	(33.26%)
Unrestricted - Other	US\$ 2,106,987	US\$ 2,408,188	(12.51%)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>US\$158,915,949</b>	<b>US\$166,099,577</b>	<b>( 4.32%)</b>

*\*Excludes contributions from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Google Foundation. Restricted contributions include the sponsor portion of Matching Grants that are not recognized as contribution revenue on the financial statements as required by U.S. accounting standards.*

### The 2009-2010 Worldwide Annual Programs Fund Goal

The worldwide Annual Programs Fund goal for the 2009-10 Rotary year is US\$96,000,000. It is important that every Rotarian make an annual gift to The Rotary Foundation this year if we are to achieve our goal.

### NEW – End Polio Now Paul Harris Fellow Certificates

Until the conclusion of Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, Paul Harris Fellows named as of 1 July 2009 will receive Paul Harris Fellow certificates that feature the "End Polio Now" logo.

### Online Entry of Fund Development Club Goals for 2009-10

Many District Governors are experiencing difficulties entering their clubs' goals into Member Access Portal (MAP) on the website. This is due to a system error that should be fixed shortly. When this problem is resolved, the entered goals that were not appearing in MAP should appear correctly and will appear on all goal reports (MCR, Club Goals).

### A Banner Year for Club Banner Recognition

As the reports are being generated to determine the actual recipients of club banner recognition, we estimate sending out the largest number of EREY Club banners (975 total) and 100% Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member Club banners (558 total) for the 2008-09 Rotary year. Also in 2008-09, a total of 201 clubs achieved 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club status, the largest even in a single year. Club banners will be sent out following the completion of the audit of the 30 June books in late September to mid-October.

### **TRF Paul Harris Fellow Recognition Totals**

In 2008-2009, TRF processed a total of 61,998 new Paul Harris Fellows and 49,057 Multiple Paul Harris Fellows for a total of 111,055. Of that amount, 48,101 Paul Harris Fellows or 43.3% of all PHFs were processed during the final quarter of the Rotary year.

### **Permanent Fund**

On 31 May 2009, the Permanent Fund's net assets were US\$158.7 million. As of 31 May 2009, the estimated expectancies to the Permanent Fund stood at US\$408.9 million. Therefore, the Permanent Fund's net assets and expectancies were \$567.6 million as of 31 May 2009, an increase of US\$12.4 million since April. The goal is to reach US\$1 billion by 2025.

### **Bequest Society Update**

As of 30 June 2009, there were 6,807 Bequest Society commitments with an expected value of US\$294.5 million. These commitments represent a significant percentage of the expectancies to the Permanent Fund and an increase of 59 new bequests valued at more than US\$3.8 million since May.

Welcome and thank you to the 539 new Bequest Society members who solidified their Rotary legacies in 2008-09 by committing a total of US\$26.6 million to The Rotary Foundation's programs during the last Rotary year.

Will you include The Rotary Foundation in your will or other estate plan to forever be a part of Rotary's legacy of doing good in the world? [www.rotary.org/bequest](http://www.rotary.org/bequest)

### **Donor Advised Fund Update**

As of 30 June 2009, there were 134 DAF accounts with a fair market value of US\$6.2 million. TRF DAF has gone interactive! Manage your account online at [www.rotary.org/DAF](http://www.rotary.org/DAF).

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

### **2009 Rotary World Peace Symposium Huge Success**

The event was attended by over 300 Rotarians and Rotary World Peace Fellows and included presentations by prominent peace makers including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Jan Egeland, UN secretary-general's special adviser for conflict prevention and resolution 2006-08.

A report on the event is being prepared and will be shared with all of the attendees and interested parties. The following are some highlights of the Web coverage that may be of interest.

- Tutu says, "You and I are created for goodness"
- Egeland say, [Holding leaders accountable helps prevent and resolve conflicts](#)
- Media panel says, [Bearing witness to events affects the course of conflicts](#)
- Convention photo gallery, [18 June 2009](#)
- Convention photo gallery, [19 June 2009](#)

### **2009/10 District Rotary World Peace Chairs Begin Term**

Incoming District Rotary World Peace Fellowship Subcommittee Chairs begin their year. Please encourage your District Governors to appoint a district peace chair to help promote and recruit applicants to the program.

### **New Rotary Centers DVD Available**

Building Peace: Rotary World Peace Fellows is a newly released multi-language DVD promoting the Rotary Centers for International Studies. Copies available at [shop.rotary.org](http://shop.rotary.org) and can be viewed on Rotary International's channel on [Youtube](http://www.youtube.com).

### **Upcoming Rotary Center Seminars**

Save the date and consider attending an upcoming Rotary Center seminar in your area:

**University of Bradford**  
Saturday, 31 October 2009

Individual presentations made by Duke/UNC Class VI Rotary Fellows at their center's 2009 conference in April are now available online at the following link:

<http://cgi.unc.edu/research/Rotary-Conference-2009/rotary-conference-2009.html>.

### **Sign Up & Receive More Rotary Centers News**

<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/RotaryCentersForInternationalStudies/Pages/PeaceNetNewsletter.aspx> Contact: Judy Gibson, Rotary Centers Department Manager, at [judy.gibson@rotary.org](mailto:judy.gibson@rotary.org) or +1-847-866-3834.

## **AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **Annual Call for Host Counselors**

Host counselor request forms have been sent to all districts with inbound scholars. District representatives should be reminded that all inbound scholars must be assigned a host counselor. Additionally, it is imperative that host counselors understand that they must maintain regular contact with their scholars during assignment periods.

### **Applications, Communications and Record Keeping**

In the interest of more efficient record keeping and in order to speed up the assignment process, districts are requested to submit all 2010-11 scholarship applications electronically when possible. This means that applications can be scanned and e-mailed to TRF. Additionally, districts are asked to encourage both their inbound and outbound 2009-10 scholars to submit all pre-departure documents and reports via e-mail to their respective coordinators. Contact: Renée Stephenson, Resource Development Supervisor, at [renee.stephenson@rotary.org](mailto:renee.stephenson@rotary.org) or +1-847-866-3314.

## **GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE**

### **2010-11 District GSE Applications Have Been Sent**

Electronic versions of the GSE district application have been sent to 2010-11 district governors via e-mail and are now available at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). Applications are due no later than **1 October 2009** but the GSE Department encourages districts to submit these **applications as soon as they are completed.**

District applications are also available for download on the Rotary website at <http://www.rotary.org/en/ServiceAndFellowship/Fellowship/GroupStudyExchange> Remember that districts that plan to participate in two exchanges during the 2010-11 Rotary year must submit a separate application per exchange.

### **GSE Resource Forum**

GSE Chairs, District Governors-Elect, and DRFC's are encouraged to visit the GSE Resource Forum. This forum can be accessed through the [Member Access Site](#) at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). In the GSE Resource Forum, districts can update contact information, access GSE documents, communicate with other districts about possible GSE partnerships and get updated on GSE news. This is a great resource for ensuring that your district's GSE program is a success. For further information regarding this Forum, please contact your GSE coordinator at TRF.

The GSE Resource Forum also contains the electronic document versions of all items you will need for your 2009-10 teams. This includes the RITS Travel Request form. **As of 1 July 2009 RITS will no longer accept hand-written Travel Request forms.** All districts are asked to please use the electronic version.

### **Host District Itineraries**

In the event of an emergency, such as natural disaster or accident, TRF must be able to contact each Team Member at any time. We remind districts that a detailed host district itinerary is required, which must now include contact information for the host families of each Team Member and the Team Leader. A copy of this itinerary must be sent by the Host District to TRF and the Sponsor District no later than 15 days before scheduled departure. Templates are available from your TRF GSE Coordinator.

### **GSE Teams Host Itinerary – Important Reminder**

GSE Teams who have not sent TRF a detailed host itinerary will not be allowed to travel. Please be sure to communicate this important detail to your partner district to avoid last-minute problems.

## **ALUMNI RELATIONS**

### **Reconnections**

The first electronic newsletter edition of *Reconnections* was sent in July. To register to receive this new format in your inbox, visit <http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/Alumni/ReconnectionsNewsletter/Pages/ridefault.aspx>.

### **Rotary Alumni Celebration**

At their June meeting, The Rotary Foundation Trustees approved a Rotary Alumni Celebration to be held in conjunction with the 2010 RI Convention in Montréal, Canada on Saturday, 19 June 2010. All Rotary Foundation alumni and interested Rotarians are invited to attend for a registration fee of only US\$25. The event will be held at the Palais des congrès de Montréal, the same venue as the RI Convention.

## Alumni Updates

### Ambassadorial Scholars

**Tananarive Due, 1987-88 Ambassadorial Scholar, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Perrine-Cutler Ridge, Florida, USA (District 6990) to attend University of Leeds in England**



Tananarive Due is author of nine books, ranging from supernatural thrillers to a mystery to a civil rights memoir. Her most recent novel, *Blood Colony* (June 2008), was a long-awaited sequel to her 2001 thriller *The Living Blood* and 1997's *My Soul to Keep*, a reader favorite which author Stephen King favorably compared to the famous *Interview with a Vampire*. *The Living Blood* received a 2002 American Book Award, and along with *My Soul to Keep*, was named among the best novels of the year by Publishers Weekly. *My Soul to Keep* and *The Good House*, her other novel, are both in film development at Fox Searchlight.

*Freedom in the Family: A Mother-Daughter Memoir of the Fight for Civil Rights* which Due co-authored with her mother, civil rights activist Patricia Stephens Due, was named 2003's Best Civil Rights Memoir by Black Issues Book Review. Her collaboration work with her husband, novelist and screenwriter Steven Barnes, has produced *Casanegra: A Tennyson Hardwick Novel* which was also successful. In 2004, alongside such luminaries as Nobel Prize-winner Toni Morrison, Due received the New Voice in Literature Award.

Due received a journalism degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, USA and a master's degree in English literature from the University of Leeds, England, where she specialized in Nigerian literature as a Rotary Foundation Scholar. She worked as a feature writer and columnist for *The Miami Herald* and currently teaches creative writing in the MFA program at Antioch University in Los Angeles, California, USA.

**Susanna Zaraysky, 1998-99 Ambassadorial Scholar, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cupertino, California, USA (District 5170) to attend Universidad de Belgrano in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and also 2007-08 GSE team member to Taiwan**



Some people spend years learning foreign languages memorizing vocabulary and grammar and may still be afraid to speak. A veteran traveler and linguist Susanna Zaraysky speaks seven languages, and learned them through music and other media. She recently published *Language is Music* introducing tips on how to have fun learning other languages using music, TV, radio, film and other low-cost resources. She wanted to help develop global citizens by making people confident in learning languages and traveling the world.

Also published as part of her "Create Your World Book Series" is *Travel Happy, Budget Low: 190 Money Saving Tips to See the World*, where Zaraysky gives a primer on how to travel well yet frugally anywhere in the world. She traveled to 50 countries and lived in 9 in 16 years and has compiled a list of 190 tricks and 137 Internet resources to help travel on a budget. Comical and bizarre anecdotes from her personal adventures will also help your next trip abroad. Please visit <http://www.createyourworldbooks.com> for more information.

Zaraysky grew up in a low-income Soviet immigrant family with inadequate English language skills in California, USA. She is passionate about sharing her experience and belief that no matter one's economic status or past language learning experience, anyone can be multilingual and see the world.

### **Group Study Exchange**

**Floro R. Francisco, 1997-98 GSE team member sponsored by the Rotary Club of Suburban East Rizal (D-3800) to Minnesota and Wisconsin, USA (D- 6250)**



Former GSE team member Floro R. Francisco recently joined the first Rotary club chartered by Rotary alumni in The Philippines. The Rotary Club of Mandaluyong-Pasig-San Juan, often called 'RC ManPaSan' for short, is located in Manila and currently has over 20 members. Already Rotarian Floro is participating in Rotary projects in the area, including newborn screenings to check for congenital problems at birth.

### **Rotary Centers for International Studies**

**Bautista Logioco** (Duke 2002-04) has been awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award for his significant contribution to the demobilization process of Colombian paramilitary groups between 2003 and 2008. The award is given to a Duke University alumnus who has made outstanding contributions to their field, sector, country, or region.

**Ruben Gonzalez Flores** (Duke 2007-09) is now the Director of Sister Communities of San Ramon Nicaragua, a US-based non-profit that works on economic and social development issues in the county of San Ramon, in Nicaragua.

**Timothy Haynes** (Sciences Po 2004-06) was recently assigned to Hong Kong as a foreign service officer with the US State Department.

**Miho Kishitani** (Bradford 2003-05) is now an external relations and project officer at the External Relation Department of *United Nations Relief and Works Agency* in Jerusalem.

**Carrie Anne Nedziopovik, USA, Rotary World Peace Fellow, 2007-09, University of Bradford, England, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Charlotte-Shelburne, USA, District 7850**

After finishing her master's program in England, Carrie returned to the Boston, Massachusetts area, USA, where she works as a "newcomer advocate" for the Chelsea Police Department. In this new position, she works as a liaison between the police department and newcomers (refugees and immigrants) to the city. This includes training the police force on cultural awareness and connecting newcomers to resources in the city. Additionally, in this role she is involved in informal dispute mediations between newcomers and community members. She finds the most fulfilling aspect of this job to be the fact that she can apply what she has learned during her Rotary fellowship locally to make a difference in her own community.



## HUMANITARIAN GRANTS PROGRAM

### Update on Matching Grants

HP began accepting Matching Grants applications on 1 July 2009 and has received over 900 applications from clubs around the world thus far. Grant approvals began 1 August, according to the standard business processes, and will continue until the budget for this year is fully expended. Sponsors with approved Matching Grants will begin receiving notification by mid-August. *Please note that we anticipate that the budget will be fully committed within the next few months. Updates on the status of the budget will be posted soon.*

### District Simplified Grants Mailing

At the end of August 2009, the annual District Simplified Grant mailing will be sent to all District Governors, District Governor Elects, District Rotary Foundation Chairs, and District Grant Subcommittee Chairs. This year's mailing will include the DSG spending limits for 2010-11, file activity reports for grant activity in the district, and other pertinent programmatic information. For your reference, a sample cover letter for this mailing is attached. Districts are encouraged to apply for their 2010-11 DSGs early and to complete reporting for all previous

DSG grants so as to streamline the application process. If you have any questions, please contact Tiffany Miller, Program Officer for DSG, at [tiffany.miller@rotary.org](mailto:tiffany.miller@rotary.org) or 847-866-3448.

### Humanitarian Grants Staff Reorganization

In order to provide optimal service to Rotarians, Humanitarian Grants staff members have been reorganized. [Click here](#) for an updated staff territories sheet. Please note that staff members are organized based on the geographic territory in which the grant project is taking place.

## *Humanitarian Grants Success Stories*

### BEFORE

The Rotary Clubs of San Salvador Cuscatlán, El Salvador (D4240) and Warwick, Virginia, USA (D7600) received a US\$17,600 Matching Grant to build footbridges in El Salvador. The grant, combined with sponsor contributions yielded a total project cost of over \$35,000 dollars, which was used to build three bridges that improved the lives of approximately 2,500 people. The bridges increased agricultural trade, economic growth, and access to health care and education. In all three sites the new bridge is the only way children can attend school during the rainy season. These three bridges have allowed over 100 children to attend schools that otherwise could not.



## AFTER



In addition to providing improved access, the process of building the bridges proved to be a valuable capacity-building experience for the surrounding communities. Local villages provided leadership and labor for the construction of the bridges. In addition, the Rotarians worked with a local NGO based in San Salvador, FORTAS, and were able to train two of their community organizers to build future bridges completely independently. FORTAS personnel are now certified as bridge technicians, and fully capable of designing and constructing this type of footbridge in the future for El Salvador. The grant sponsors shared with TRF the following, unexpected impact of this wonderful project: During excavation for one of the bridges, there was a water problem that was causing the bridge foundation to flood. Consequently a diversion was built. Later, when the municipality found out about this diversion, it sent its water utility engineer to investigate. He discovered that the water was of very high quality and superior to other municipal water sources! So, the municipality funneled this water into a cistern built next to the bridge, and this is now the best water source in the community. And how do people from this community access this water? They cross the bridge!