

To: Jerrold DeWease, Rotary Club of Space Center

Sent on Behalf of Steve Coleman, RC of Danbury. Please contact him directly if you have any questions or wish to learn more.

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

I will share a little of what we've experienced in our FV pilot district, 5890. Before FV our district had two GSEs per year, one funded through TRF and one we funded through our own funds but organized through RI. During the first two years of the pilot we have had zero GSEs. I think the loss to our district and to the Rotarians in our district is palpable.

We hope to have one GSE in 2013 but it is proving very difficult. Not only does GSE now come totally out of district funds, just as difficult is the loss of any support from RI. All travel arrangements, communications and establishing a relationship with the exchange district are completely up to the district. We had great difficulty finding another district with which to complete the exchange. That is partly due to the fact that the DGEs from the FV pilot districts are not included in the GSE session during International Assembly. We can only assume that once all districts are in FV there will be nothing at the Assembly to facilitate GSE. It is very apparent that RI is washing its hands of GSE.

Now, lets get busy saving GSE because if we don't it will disappear. You will find attached to this e-mail the front and back of a handout card about our effort. Please feel free to print these and hand them out to other clubs, at your District Convention or wherever you find fellow Rotarians. (They print 3 cards per page). If anyone in our list is going to Bangkok I hope you'll print a few of the handouts and distribute them at the convention. I have SaveGSE.org buttons and will try to send them to anyone who e-mails me a mailing address, it's a great conversation starter. The next edition of *The Rotarian* will have a SaveGSE.org button in the classifieds. I had hoped to get a full quarter page add but it was beyond my SaveGSE budget. (Now that my wife has seen the credit card bill to *The Rotarian* magazine my budget may be even more limited.) Should any of you feel so compelled, please let me know if I can forward any images for an add in a district newsletter or any other publication that will get our message out.

Thus far, we have resolutions to save GSE from 45 Rotary Clubs from 19 districts. I would ask that each of us commit ourselves to encouraging our own club to adopt the resolution if they've not done so and getting the word out to other clubs in our districts to adopt the resolution. The resolution can be found at the website in several languages. I propose that we set ourselves a goal of resolutions from 330 clubs by the end of the year. That will be ten percent of the clubs in Rotary. Of course, the more the better. These will be forwarded directly to the RI Board members.

Should anyone wish for me to contact clubs or club officers directly, please provide me an address or e-mail address and I will be happy to forward a resolution for their consideration directly to them.

We have one other effort. Our district has forwarded an enactment for consideration at the Council On Legislation in April 2013. Please encourage your district's representative to the COL to support this enactment that directs RI and TRF to continue their support of GSE. I

am confident there will be efforts to remove this enactment from consideration before it reaches the full Council. The more representatives are looking for the enactment and questioning its absence the better.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you save GSE.

Thanks,
Steve Coleman
SaveGSE.org
R.C. Danbury, Texas
D5890

This message is automatically generated by [ClubRunner](#) for [Rotary Club of Space Center](#). Powered by [Doxess](#).