

The Outbound GSE Cycle The word OUTBOUND refers to the **sending** of a team from our district to another district with which we have an exchange agreement for a given Rotary year. For the current Rotary year (2005-2006), we will be sending a team to District 1710 (Lyon, France) for a month commencing on April 24, 2006.

The outbound GSE cycle is comprised of three main activities: recruitment, selection, and training. During the outbound cycle, your role as a club GSE chair is with the **recruiting** effort. We will, however, discuss all three activities here.

Recruiting There is a district-wide recruitment effort to get qualified applicants for Team Member positions, and a separate field of applicants for Team Leader. (Remember: Team Leaders **must** be Rotarians; Team Members can **not** be Rotarians. There's no age restriction for leaders; but **members** must be between 25 and 40 when applying.) This recruiting drive is scheduled and overseen by the District GSE Committee, but **the actual recruiting takes place at the club level**. Yes, that's right: the **clubs** do the hands-on recruiting of eligible candidates. As your club's GSE chairperson, it falls to you to organize a recruiting effort. Your actual recruiters should be the entire club membership. A reasonable goal for your club would be to forward two or three Team Member applications and perhaps one Team Leader application to the District GSE Committee.

Prior to sending the applications to District, somebody at the club level who is very good at nitpicking should check each one carefully. If we have to return one because of errors or omissions, the deadline will probably be missed, and that applicant will not have a chance on selection day.

Application forms: go to "Materials for Download" here on the GSE pages of the District 5520 website. You'll see the **Team Member application**, the **Team Leader application**, and the **biographical data form**, among others. Just click on these items to open them up in Adobe Acrobat, from which you can print hard copies. Or, download them as PDF files for later printing. **Important: the application forms each have detailed information about the qualifications and responsibilities for the applicants. Read these over before you start recruiting!** (Caution: age 25 through 40 for Team Members. Age waivers are just about impossible - don't even think about it!)

It is important to understand that the GSE experience, as wonderful as it is, is no walk in the park for the leader or the members. The schedule is demanding, and conditions generally do not resemble a typical vacation or guided tour. We need to have teams made up of people who are nothing less than ROBUST in both personality and physique. You will be doing us all a favor if you keep that in mind and recommend ONLY applicants who deserve that description! In addition to that, you are looking for people who have the right blend of social, language, and professional skills to help build a strong outbound GSE team that will represent our district well, and whom you would welcome into your club as Rotarians in the future.

Mail the application forms to Ouida MacGregor, 2319 Calle Camarico, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Application packages must be postmarked by August 26, 2005 for Team Leader, and September 9, 2005 for Team Member applicants.

The Selection Process The first selection committee to meet is for the Team Leader. That will occur September 10, 2005. The committee will invite some of the applicants to attend the selection process in Los Lunas, NM. A primary and alternate Team Leader will be selected. Both will train with the team in preparation for the trip.

After the District GSE Committee screens the Team Member applications, some of the applicants will be invited to attend an interview and selection process. This will also take place in Las Cruces, on September 23-24, 2005. Four Team Members will be chosen, plus several alternates.

Training the Team The Team Leader trains the team for the trip, with the help of the Alternate Team Leader and support from the District. This usually amounts to two or three training sessions, in various locations around the District. All Team Members and alternates are expected to attend **all** of the training sessions. The Team Leader has complete authority in determining who stays on the team. Missing a training session can be cause for removal.