



# **The Desertarian**

**Newsletter of the  
Rotary Club of Palm Springs, California**



2010-2011 Year August 4, 2010

Issue 4

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE SELLIN!

While the chef is recovering from what must have been a bad case of heat stroke suffered while preparing lunch, here's the news of the day:

Margie Taft gave the greatest flag salute in the world (the most fun too) followed by John Craig reciting the Four Way Test (not as fun, but technically proficient). And Bob Barrett had the audience on their feet as he prayed for the fellowship and good work Rotary provides.

Visitors and guests introduced by Club President Christine Cross included Bill Morse with his Cambodian entourage, Sophin Sophary and Dok Noket. Also joining us were Lisa Regan, wife of John; John Neerat, a childhood acquaintance of Dick Hostrop; and special guest Tom Searles.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Don Aikens introduced Andrew Deans, a recent Palm Springs High graduate, who is headed to USC this fall on a full tuition scholarship, thanks to his outstanding scholastic achievements. Andrew will be majoring in computer science, his talent for which was illustrated by his ability to use the remote control for today's video presentation. Congratulations, Andrew. Hey, next time bring the trombone!

Bob Allan announced that our goal this year is for every member of the club to donate an average of \$225.00 to the Rotary International Foundation. Donors, start your checkbooks.

Jim Dowler updated news on local fundraising and publicity opportunities including the Latin Music Heritage Festival coming to O'Donnell Country Club September 18th. Volunteers to staff the beer garden are needed. Note to Bob Elsner: Beer trivia needed for upcoming recognition session.

Jim also hopes that the club will have the opportunity to participate in opening ceremonies of the US Olympics pentathlon training camp scheduled for February 2011.

Gary Luce again asked those present for participation in helping the club find new members. Those interested in participating in a membership seminar being held in September should contact Gary for more information.

Christine Cross reminded the group that anyone who does a "make up" on line should contact club secretary Nancy Palmer via e-mail to ensure attendance is updated accordingly.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER**

From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli, our guest speaker, Denise Goolsby, has gathered stories of gallantry and courage from around the world, all told to her by local World War 2 veterans. To date, Denise, a reporter with the Desert Sun, has retold tales from 230 men and women whose valour on the battlefields helped keep America free from Axis tyranny. Several club members, including Norm Brown, have been among those who have shared their experiences with Denise. In fact, Norm is featured in a Desert Sun video about those interviews.

Most surprising to me was the number of veterans willing to share their personal stories with Denise who heretofore were reluctant to relate their experiences even to their own families. By contrast I can vividly recall my own father (r.i.p.) telling his three boys how he spent "23 months on Maui . . . servicing the nurses". Maybe when you join the CB's you go to a different war?

#### **WRAPPING UP**

Bob Elsner provided the recognition finale with a fine collection of WW2 trivia. John Craig was the trivia star.

Happy Dollars were provided by Bill Morse, Norm Brown, Ed Ellis, Judy Bronstein, John Craig, Christine Cross, Don Aiken, and guest speaker Denise Goolsby. Denise, feel free to come back again, soon.

Judy Bronstein took home the \$20.00 opportunity drawing prize. \$682.00 remains in the pot.

#### **NEXT WEEK**

Bill Morse will be our guest speaker, providing an update on the important work being done in Cambodia in an effort to eliminate land mines.

And be sure to dress up, we're expecting Assistant District Governor, Bill Chase.

Until then, this has been your humble reporter,

*Tracy Powers*