



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS

Desertarian for August 31, 2011

Today's Spa Hotel lunch was replete with carbohydrates everywhere - spaghetti, pasta with cheese, garlic toast - obviously presented to maximize the energy of the highest energy club in the desert!

David Allen led us in the pledge of allegiance, followed by PDG **Dr. Helene Kalfuss** (welcome back!!), who had us join in reciting the 4-way pledge of the things we Rotarians think, say, and do. And just to repeat them here, for the benefit of guests and newer Rotarians who might like to review them:

1. Is it the **Truth**
2. Is it **Fair** to All Concerned
3. Will it **Build Good Will** and Better **Friendships**
4. Will it be **Beneficial** to All Concerned

Bob Allan introduced visiting Rotarian Steven Boswell from the Lake Arrowhead club. Bob got off easy, as there were no guests in attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Welcome back **Jerry Moss**! We all wish you the speediest recovery from your recent illness!
- Our new web site is up and running (with **HUGE** thanks to **Janie Bolitho**!)
- **Dr. Denise Ellis**, principal of Cahuilla School, stressed the importance of volunteerism. With the budgetary cutbacks to education, and the concurrent large increase in class size, volunteers are needed more now than ever. Denise introduced Angie, her administrative clerk, who is the volunteer coordinator. You can contact Angie at (760) 416-8161.

- Past President **Christine Cross**, this year's club Foundation chair, stressed the "Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY)" goal, and stated that our club is in the top 1/4 in the district for per capita contributions.
- PDG **Milt Levinson** further emphasized the importance of volunteering at Cahuilla school. As most of you know, Milt has tirelessly devoted many, many hours as a volunteer, and he is a model for the rest of us to emulate. Milt also reminded us of the fun and delicious Progressive Dinner, slated for the evening of October 29.
- Please put November 13, 2011, on your calendar. Rotary International will be conducting a Peace Conference on that date, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at our Palm Springs Convention Center. Speakers will include Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee, and a nephew of Mahatma Gandhi! Over 2,000 Rotarians from throughout Southern California are expected to attend. As an extra special added attraction, a comprehensive multi-cultural event will be held in conjunction with the conference.
- We should all have our current issue of *Rotarian* magazine. The one and only "Dr. IQ", lab coat, stethoscope and all, will be in attendance on September 21, to quiz our members on key contents of the magazine. Be Prepared!

Dr. Denise Ellis introduced today's guest speaker, Maria Candy Kylis. Ms. Kylis was born and raised in the Coachella Valley, attended UC San Diego, and received her Bachelor of Science degree in bio-chemistry. Since 2006, she has been the community outreach coordinator for the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. She presented an extremely interesting illustrated talk on the function of the district, and how its efforts help to significantly reduce the population of mosquitoes and other "varmints" (aka "vectors"). Other subjects of her discussion were the incidence of West Nile Virus, the importance of eliminating standing water from our properties, the introduction of "mosquito fish" to control the mosquito population, and fly and eye gnat control.

Tim Ellis was today's "fine master", and his subject - naturally - mosquitoes! Among those who "donated" were **Jacque Wachs, Denise Ellis, Don Aikens, Hal Castle, Jerry Moss, and Judy Bronstein.**

Forty-eight Happy Dollars were donated by **Bob Allan**, in honor of his and Carrie's 48 years of wedded bliss. This prompted **Helene Kalfuss** to come forward with \$46 happy dollars for her years of marriage to husband/Rotarian Leonard. Congratulations to both of you! Other happy dollars were donated by **Mike Brill, Denise Ellis, Jerry Moss, and Bill Lentz.**

I'm SO happy to announce that fellow Rotarian **Chuck Cheeld** is home from the hospital, and he is on his way to regaining his strength. He is looking forward to attending a meeting in the near future.

Finally, today's drawing was won by **Jerry Moss**, but the black marble eluded him. Next week's "pot" should be in excess of \$750!

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe Labor Day Weekend!

Mike Brill

Desertarian Editor