



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS Desertarian for September 7, 2011

Is it autumn yet? Hardly, with temperatures hovering in the 110 to 115 range. But hey - just think "Celsius" and it doesn't sound so bad (43C to 46C).

After opening our meeting, Prez **Mike Sellin** asked shy, reserved, Buckeye **Jim Dowler** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, which he did with aplomb (or a pear, a peach, or...). Hey, it's one of those days - sorry! **Norm Brown**, celebrating his **91**st birthday, led us in the 4-Way Test. Remembering the 10th anniversary of that horrendous day on 9/11/01, **Rev. Jim Griffes** led us in an inspiring spiritual moment.

Bob Barrett introduced visiting Rotarians Sherry Scherotter Burwin, a past member of our club and current member of the Petaluma Rotary Club; and Palm Springs City Councilman Rick Hutcheson from the Palm Springs Sunup Club. **Judy Bronstein** introduced her guest, John Brewster from the Boys and Girls Club.

Speaking of birthdays, **Anna-Marie Frost** was celebrating hers as well as **Norm Brown**, so the club serenaded both of them with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday to You" (the most popular song in the world).

Welcome back **Ed Ellis**! We have missed you, and your return is most welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We received a district funds grant to purchase 30 computers, 10 printers, and ancillary equipment for Raymond Cree Middle School. We will be placing Rotary stickers on all items on September 27, so please volunteer to assist. For further information, contact PDG **Helene Kalfuss**.
- **Christine Cross**, this year's Rotary Foundation chair, has complete data on everyone's previous contributions, the amount required to reach the next Paul Harris level, etc. Please contact her for this information, and please remember - Every Rotarian Every Year (aka EREY).
- The next club board meeting will be at the Mizell Senior Center on September 13 at 5:00 p.m. All interested Rotarians are welcome to attend.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Incoming president and program chair **Dr. Denise Ellis** introduced today's guest speaker, Jimmica Guess. Ms. Guess is the Community Relations Director for Martha's Village & Kitchen, a facility that provides meals, housing, counseling, and employment assistance for homeless and impoverished families and singles. She thanked visiting Rotarian Sherry Scherotter, who was her counselor at Palm Springs High School!

Martha's Village has a 78% success rate for singles, and a 98% success rate for families to become self-sufficient. This self-sufficiency is defined as the individual or family attaining permanent income and housing. The facility has a medical clinic on site, and it provides both physical and mental health services. It provides child care from infancy through five year old children, who are tutored to prepare them for kindergarten. While non-denominational, there is an on-site chaplain, with voluntary Sunday services. Ms. Guess fielded numerous questions with comprehensive answers.

RECOGNITION (AKA fining)

Bob Elsner tested our membership's knowledge of government, and he was pleased that so many of us had the knowledge to receive Bob's dole of a Sacagawea dollar! "Fines" included **Jerry Moss, Lisa Reagan, Hal Castle, Dick Hostrop, Ed Ellis, Mike Sellin, Jamey Canfield, Bill Lentz, Margie Taft, JJ Bronstein, Mike Brill, and Anna Frost.**

HAPPY DOLLARS

Jack Srebnik in honor of Anna Frosts' birthday, **Jamey Canfield, Mike Brill, Jim Griffes, Bob Barrett, Sherry Scherotter, Norm Brown, Bob Elsner, Jim Dowler, Bob Allan, Bill Lentz, and Hal Castle.** What a Happy Bunch of Rotarians We Are!!

BLACK MARBLE ANYONE??

Apparently not this week, as **Bob Allan's** ticket was drawn, but the marble was mauve. So - next week - close to \$800!!

Thanks to **Bob Elsner, Frank Peabody, and Jamey Canfield,** who will be doing the Desertarian for the next three weeks. Carol and I will be visiting and cruising Viet Nam and Cambodia during this time period.