



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS *Desertarian* for February 29, 2012

What a wonderful "Leap Year Day" as a full-house of Rotarians and guests gathered to participate in another great Rotary meeting. Would you believe that the last time our club met on February 29 was way back on February 29, 1984! Only three of our current Rotarians were members 28 years ago - **Bob Allan, Don Aikens, and Norm Brown!** **Marv Goldberg** led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by **Dr. Denise Ellis'** interpretation of the 4-Way Test of the Things We Rotarians Think, Say and Do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Incoming president **Denise Ellis** enthusiastically reported on her attendance at P.E.T.S (President Elect Training Session), and she shared that the 2012-2013 theme is "Peace Through Service". She reminded her board that attendance is strongly suggested at the upcoming District Assembly.
- Foundation Chairperson **Christine Cross** shared that there are 854 million people who live with chronic hunger. One of the primary missions of the Rotary International Foundation is to help alleviate hunger and malnutrition. Remember - **EVEY = EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR.**
- **Bob Barrett** shared that Rotary founder Paul Harris planted a palm tree in Cathedral City in 1940, and someone recently stole decorative stones that were around the tree. The Cathedral City club is asking for \$50 donations to install pavers to commemorate this tree.
- Don't forget to bring resalable items for our annual garage sale - every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the old Zeldas on Indian Avenue. **Judy Bronstein** needs additional volunteers for this fundraising event.
- Keep April 28th open - that's our annual Rotarians at Work day.

OUR PROGRAM: PALM SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL'S VIRTUAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

Dr. James Young conducts this fascinating and productive program for 100 high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. Curricula include Business Education, Work Ethics, Financial Literacy, and Technical Skills. The program involves significant involvement with local employers who help mentor the students. After their junior year, students performing well enough to be on track for graduation are placed in internship positions. Students apply for these positions as they would in the open market; i.e., they prepare resumes, complete job applications, and have interviews. Companies make "hiring" decisions. Students compete nationwide with students enrolled in a similar program, and our students have consistently won national honors. Many of these students have successfully matriculated to major colleges and universities throughout the country, and some have even gone on to minor ones such as USC. Dr. Young's PowerPoint presentation was well received, and it was followed by many questions from our Rotarians.

OTHER TIDBITS

Recognition was conducted by **Bob Elsner**, and those donating to the cause included **Tim Ellis, Dick Hostrop, Dr. Dave Alderman, Dr. Dan Keller, Bob Barrett, Dr. Tony Signoret, Jacque Wachs, Marv Goldberg, and Jerry Moss.** Happy Dollars came from **Jacque Wachs, Mike Brill, Frank Peabody, Dr. Helene Kalfuss, and Jim Griffes.**

Judy Bronstein won this week's "Marble Game" **again**, but she couldn't find that elusive black marble. Next week's winner could take home over \$600!

Have a GREAT WEEK!

Mike Brill
Desertarian Editor