



The Desertarian

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

Desertarian, March 21, 2012

Prez Sellin opened the meeting with the Pledge and 4 Way Test, and then introduced our only visitor, Bob Moody from Coquitlam Sunrise, BC, Canada. Only one visiting Canadian?? But, we still have Rodger! Spring must be here.

Jim Dunn, looking spiff in his funeral attire, requested more volunteers for the Palm Springs Craft Beer Conclave, March 24th. Call him at 760-831-2426. Thanks, Jim, for taking charge on a very last minute basis. The event features over 100 craft brews, music, and food. We benefit our fund raising by serving the beer of which we DO have the experience.

JJ Bronstein announced that RAGS "Garage" Sale, Saturday, March 31st, needs more volunteers. Please go through your unwanted stuff and donate for this important fund raiser. Call **JJ** at 760-408-1905 if you haven't already volunteered. I remember last year, our Interactors manifested Service Above Self arriving right on time at 5AM! By the way, it's the last week for donation drop-off at Zelda's Saturday, 3/24, 10AM to Noon at the old Zelda's. If you miss it, bring it with you on the 31st.

Christine Cross, Foundation Chair, gave out donation recognition stickers to **Janie Bolitho, John Brewster, John Glenn, John Martin, and Mark Davidson**. Thank you, guys and gals. RIF wants the World free of Polio, and, clean water, literacy, and clean air for all. Remember, "Every Rotarian, Every Year".

The **District Assembly** was held in a very rainy Corona last Saturday. It was attended by our present and next year's leadership. We'll hear further details of the event.

Our Sojourner, **Ted Calouri** introduced **Gino Biggi** owner of Beaverton (OR) Foods and marketer of horse radish, wasabi, mustard products, and other condiments. His mother began horse radish farming in 1917, bartering it for meat to feed the family, then, began marketing it in 1929 to stave off the effects of the depression. In 1985, son Gino purchased the Company and took it to new heights in the US to Japan and England. They are building a huge new facility in Hillsboro, OR...and plan to employ more folks. Always so refreshing to hear a story of a family living the American Dream!

Fine master **Bob Elsner** regaled us with mustard snippets like mustard was first used on hot dogs at the 1904 World's Fair in St Louie, French's was the first brand, but, didn't use the squeeze bottle until 1957, and mustard gas was first used in WWI in 1917. Historically, horse radish was first used in 1500BC and the phrase "Cut the Mustard" was first heard in 1897. **Now you know!** (I wonder when "Cut the Cheese" began?) Fines were collected from a verbose **Dr. David Alderman, then Bob Barrett, Nancy Palmer, Tony Signoret, Miltie, Dick Hostrop, Mark Davidson, Thomas Smith, JJ, Christine Cross, and Art Snow.**

Happy \$\$\$ were received from **Denise Ellis, Tim Ellis, Bill Lenz, and Art Snow.**

Bob Barrett won the raffle, but, THE marble remained hidden in the depths of the marble bag!

Respectfully submitted by guest editor Frank Peabody