



# **The Desertarian**

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

## **THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS Desertarian for April 25, 2012**

Back from celebrating his anniversary in Las Vegas (with his wife, no less), President **Mike Sellin** called this week's meeting to some semblance of order. He assigned the task of leading the Pledge of Allegiance to **Ed Ellis** and - keeping it in the **Ellis** family(?), Dr. **Denise Ellis** led the group in the 4-Way Test. Four visiting Rotarians graced our meeting: Sharon LaComb (Apple Valley, Minnesota); Rick Teisan (Desert Hot Springs, CA); Dow Dooley (St. John's, Newfoundland); and Cal Harriman (Amarillo, TX). **Christine Cross** introduced, for the third time, Delaney Serfling.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Christine Cross** shared that Mayor Steve Pougnet's spaghetti dinner "carb load", in support of his health initiative, raised \$286 for our club's treasury. While not a huge amount, this event was important in that it helped demonstrate to the city our Rotary Club of Palm Springs' commitment to community service.
- Christine also asked us to reserve Saturday, May 26, for a wine tasting and potluck going away party for departing Rotary Peace Scholar Michele Mician. This fun social event will be held at the Cross' lovely home, 38760 Maracaibo Circle, at 5:00 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a pot luck dish and a favorite bottle of wine priced at \$20 or under. Thunderbird and Manischewitz are discouraged.
- **Judy Bronstein**, again chairing the Angel View Prom, shared what a wonderful, inspirational event this is! This year's prom will be held the evening of June 2, at the youth center on Mesquite Road.
- **Ted Calourie** and his fellow-Rotarian wife **Sherre**, chaired this year's Rotarians at Work Day. It was an unqualified success! Completed projects included painting the exterior an elderly woman's manufactured home and improving the home's exterior landscaping; painting an Angel View home; and conducting an ice cream social at an assisted living facility. Thanks to all who participated! These included our club members, members of the Evening Star Club, and Interactors.
- Upcoming events include a service project for Well of the Desert on 5/12/12, and **Mike Sellin's** demotion extravaganza on 6/30/12.

### **OUR PROGRAM:**

**Ted Calouri** introduced our speaker, long-time restaurateur and community leader Patty Delgado Elliott. Patty spent the majority of her years in Palm Springs, attending Palm Spring schools, including St. Theresa's, Palm Springs High School, and COD, continuing on to UCLA (Go Bruins!). Her family, Florencio and Maria Delgado, opened the original Mexican restaurant, Las Casuelas "Original", in 1958. The second restaurant, Las Casuelas Terraza, opened in 1979, and it has since become one of the busiest and most popular restaurants in the United States. Patty has co-owned, and is the president and CEO of this lovely restaurant on South Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. She was awarded the 336th Golden Palm

Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Fame, as a result of her continued active involvement in civic affairs. She has served on the boards of directors for the Desert Regional Medical Center, the Agua Caliente Tribal Labor Relations Board, and the United Way of the Desert. She is currently a member of the board of directors for Shelter from the Storm (where her restaurant has helped feed 600 people per month), and the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. She has been honored as "Business Person of the Year" from the Coachella Valley Mexican American Chamber of Commerce, "Small Business Woman of the Year" for the 80th Assembly District, and the "2010 Athena Award", presented by the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce. She has donated thousands of her restaurant's famous "BURRRRRRRITOS" to the Palm Springs High School's football snack bar (where her son, Patrick, was a football star). Patty shared her love of providing quality cuisine in a beautiful environment, at affordable prices. She then fielded questions and answers.

#### **OTHER TIDBITS**

**Bob Elsner** blustered his way through the unenviable job of extracting "fines" from many of our attendees, including **Dr. Dan Keller, Bob Barrett, Marv Goldberg, Dick Hostrop, Dr. Tony Signoret,** and **Mike Sellin**. Happy dollars flowed from **Bob Allan, Judy Bronstein, Frank Peabody, Margie Taft, Tony Signore, Norm Brown, Jim Dowler, Ted Calouri,** and sojourners **Charlie House** and **John Jackson** (hurry back, guys - we'll miss you!!).

Today's "marble game" was **Dick Hostrop**, who picked a mauve marble instead of the black one - so next week's jackpot should exceed \$875!

Have a great week!  
Mike Brill  
Desertarian Editor