



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS Desertarian for May 2, 2012

President **Mike Sellin** was recently released from the hospital, and standing in for him was our incoming president, **Dr. Denise Ellis**. We miss you, Mike, and we're all pulling for you to make a full and speedy recovery. **Don Aikens** led us in the salute to our flag. **Karl Krueger** had us join him in reciting the 4-Way Test of the Things That Rotarians Think, Say and Do; and the Rev. **Jim Griffes** provided a spiritual invocation. He asked that our thoughts be with **Norm Brown's** lovely wife of almost 66 years, who is experiencing serious health issues.

Bob Barrett, who will celebrate his "BIG 8-0" on May 3, introduced visiting Rotarians PDG Frank Aiello and his wife Mary (Norwin, PA); and Dow Dooley (St. John's, Newfoundland). We welcomed back, after a long absence, fellow Palm Springs Rotarian **John Reagan**). Special guests Anita Gray (**Frank Peabody**) and Delaney Serfling (**Christine Cross**) were introduced as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Ted Calouri** thanked all those who devoted last Saturday to "Rotarians at Work" day. Ted and Sherre will be departing this week for Portland, and we wish them a pleasant summer.
- **Jim Griffes** asked for volunteers on Saturday, May 12, at 6:00 a.m., to assist with the distribution of food at the Well of the Desert distribution center, 181 N. Indian Canyon.
- **Christine Cross** reminded everyone about the wine tasting and potluck party and going away party for Rotary Peace Scholar Michele Mician. This fun event will be at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 26, at the Cross' home - 38760 Maracaibo Circle, Palm Springs. RSVP to [760-322-1961](tel:760-322-1961)
- Christine also told us of a very special event - world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman, performing "A Concert to End Polio Now". This concert will be on Sunday, February 10, 2013, at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa. A portion of the proceeds benefit The Rotary Foundation, Polio Plus. For questions, please contact event chair, Joe Partise, at joepartise@earthlink.net.
- **Mike Brill** shared a letter he received from the Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo. The letter praises Kevin Brill Memorial Scholarship and Harry Mazur Scholarship recipient Ian Nay, for making the Dean's Honors List. Ian is the son of long time Palm Springs Rotarian **Kevin Nay**.

OUR PROGRAM: **Tim Ellis** introduced today's guest speaker, Lee Morcus, the head of the Kaiser Restaurant Group in the Coachella Valley. Lee discussed his efforts in promoting business in the Coachella Valley through his work with the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP). During his presentation, Lee shared his frustration with the State of California's government's policies. He then fielded questions from the attendees. Several of our members added their positive experiences with several of Lee's restaurants.

OTHER TIDBITS

Bob Elsner asked several restaurant questions and extracted "donations" from **Bob Barrett, Jamey Canfield, Norm Brown, Frank Peabody, Bob Allan, Karl Kruger, Art Snow, Milt Levinson,** and **Mike Brill**. Happy dollars were offered by **Art Snow, Sherre Calouri** (see below), **Tim Ellis, Frank Peabody, Bob Barrett, Dr. Denise Ellis,** and sojourner **Dow Dooley**.

Sherre and **Ted Calouri** donated a very generous check to our Palm Springs Foundation. Included with this check was a beautiful note:

"To our friends in the Palm Springs Rotary Club. Thank you so much for your willingness to include us in your meetings and projects. It means a lot to us to feel like we belong to a community as we do when we are home. That's what makes Rotary so special. Any time you are in Oregon, please allow us to host any of you. We would love to introduce you to our part of the world. Until next year, Sherre & Ted Calouri"

Winning today's "marble game" was **Art Snow**, who picked a puce marble instead of the black one - so next week's jackpot should exceed \$925!

Have a great week!
Mike Brill
Desertarian Editor