



The Desertarian

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

Desertarian July 11, 2012

Happy New Rotary Year!! Former Prez **Jacque Wachs** covered for our new Prez **Denise Ellis** who is on a well-deserved vacation. Denise will be back for our July 18th meeting. In the meantime, we can follow **Denise** on Facebook. Looks like they are having one good time!

Mark Davidson led us on the Pledge, **Tim Ellis**, the 4 Way Test (with his hand over his heart like the pledge, yet!) **Peabody** had the pleasure of welcoming the **Gillian Cross**, this year's Prez of Cathedral City, and **Luke Pytuk** from Temecula's New Generation Club. Two special guests were welcomed: **Richard Chamberlain** from Coldwell Banker (**JJ**) and **Fireman John Allen** from the PSFD (**Jim Dunn**).

Jacque acknowledged **Cy Breen's** Celebration of Life. Talk about leading a full life of over 100 years! We were informed **Cy** was the oldest living Rotarian. He was certainly an inspiration to all who knew him!

Announcements: **Bob Elsner** announced our Club Foundation Meeting will be held at the Pacific Premier Bank at 9AM Saturday, 7/14 to choose the new officers for this New Year. He acknowledged the past service of **Jim Dowler** who stepped down at Prez after many years of service. **THANK YOU JIM!**

Head **Fine Master Bob Elsner** continued with changes are a-coming in the world of fining. Every member was arbitrarily put down for a \$100 pledge. If you wish to lower, increase, or stick with the \$100, please advise Treasurer **Tracy Powers** (tapawn@yahoo.com) your commitment.

Mark your calendars...The first Board Meeting will be on Tuesday 7/17 (rather than the usual 2nd Tues) due to Denise's vacation. AND our next meeting will be a

Club Assembly on Wed, 7/18 where Denise will intro her new Board and we'll hear of some great activities for this new Rotary year.

Incoming Prez **Anita Gray** introduced our two guest speakers from GSE India. **Jennifer Henning**, from the PS Art Museum and **Luke Pytuk**, a Tattoo Artist (!) among other talents...presented a power point of their adventure to North East India. They had a full schedule, beginning in Calcutta, visiting 15 cities in 5 states including West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, and Sikkim. OK, get out your atlas! They visited several villages and experienced, first hand, the work of our RI Foundation. They did have time to visit a Tea Garden, Wild Life Preserve (elephants, rhinos, monkeys oh my!), historic tombs and shrines.

Tim Ellis began the new fining season and extracted \$\$ from **Jamie, Christine, JJ, Ed, Anita, Milt, and Bob Elsner**. We learned that chess and martial arts originated in India, the largest employer is the Railroad, C. Columbus thought he discovered India (therefore the name Indians used here!), and the Brits arrived in the 17th century. Now you know! Great job, **Tim!**

Helene and Gillian donated Happy Dollars. AND...Taaa-Daaa..., **Art Snow** won the \$33 raffle plus the \$1149 pot!! He very generously donated the funds to the Rotary Foundation.

Submitted by guest editor, **Frank Peabody** for **Mike Brill**