



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS *Desertarian* for August 15, 2012

After calling the meeting to order, prez **Denise Ellis** asked **Mark Davidson** to lead is in the salute to our flag. One of the many "Allens" in our club (but he spells his name with an "a"), **Bob Allan** led is in reciting the *Four Way Test of the Things that Rotarians Think, Say, or Do*. The reverend **Jim Griffes**, shared an inspirational prayer.

Visiting Rotarians were introduced by **Bill Lentz**, and included Dr. Ginny Vu (Moreno Valley, CA), PDG Jack Horner, and Sheryl Silver (Palm Springs Evening Star).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thomas Smith**, fundraising chair for this Rotary year, asked for further volunteers to serve on his committee. He also solicited fundraising ideas from the membership at large.
- **Dr. Denise Ellis** asked for additional volunteers to read to children at our partner school, Cahuilla Elementary (where Denise is the principal).
- **Judy Bronstein** announced next year's Rotary Annual Garage Sale (RAGS), which will be held at Mizell SeniorCenter on Saturday, February 23, 2013. We are in need of a large storage area to store merchandise prior to the sale.
- **Christine Cross**, Rotary International Foundation Chair for this Rotary year, announced this year's "Every Rotarian Every Year" donation goal of \$250 per person. She also indicated that donations may be made by an automatic monthly payment plan.
- **Delaney Serfling** reported on her recent trip to Nicaragua, where she volunteered as a part of Rotary's International Medical Alliance. During the ten days of this medical volunteer effort, she performed numerous functions to the benefit of the many patients that were treated. Next year's IMA will be held in Peru.
- Donations to our local club Foundation in memory of **Norm Brown** are still being accepted. Please forward your donation to **Mike Brill**, foundation treasurer.

TODAY'S PROGRAM - SHERYL SILVER, CHAIR OF DISTRICT 5330'S PUBLIC IMAGE COMMITTEE

Sheryl discussed the three goals of this new committee: (1) Increase public awareness of Rotary, with the benefit of increasing its membership beyond the stagnant 1.2 million; (2) Getting the 60 district clubs to work together on a single milestone project; and (3) Insure the project has a major "WOW" factor, attracting media attention, and involving a wide variety of the community (School districts, Interact, Rotoract, key business, etc). She briefed on the

exceptionally high level of San Bernardino and Riverside residents who exist below the poverty level, stating that the two counties are 4th in the nation in food deprivation!

The key project that we'll be working on is called the "Million Meals" project, and information may be found at www.RotaryMillionMeals.com. Please collect your non-perishable food items, and bring them to our club meeting.

OTHER TIDBITS

Don Aikens read a beautiful thank you note, written by Kevin Brill and Harry Mazur scholarship recipients Katie Petterson and Tyler Petterson.

Bob Elsner, today's "Finemaster", asked a series of questions that are on the exam for prospective United States citizens. Happily, the majority of folks knew the answer to Bob's question, and were subsequently rewarded instead of fined. Participants included **Art Snow, Mike Sellin, Mike Brill, Jim Dunn, John Allen, Thomas Smith, Karl Kruger, Jamey Canfield, Jacque Wachs, Mark Davidson, and Bob Barrett**. Happy dollars were donated by **Judy Bronstein, Jamey Canfield** (celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary), **Bill Lentz, and Art Snow**. President Denise awarded coveted "Black Sheep" pins to **Mike Brill and Jim Dunn**.

Today's Marble Game was won by **Art Snow** (a whopping \$20)

Have a great week!

Mike Brill

Desertarian Editor