



# ***The Desertarian***

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

## **THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS**

***Desertarian* for August 29, 2012**

### **\*\*THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF COLONEL JOHN JACKSON\*\***

President **Dr. Denise Ellis** opened today's meeting by announcing the passing of long-time sojourner **John Jackson**, who succumbed to his long, brave battle with cancer. **Dr. Dan Keller** led us in the salute to our flag, **Bob Elsner** recited the 4-way Test, and **Bob Barrett** shared a touching inspirational thought.

Visiting Rotarians, introduced by **Dr. Tony Signoret** (welcome back Tony!) included Neil Deppe (Saddlebrooke Rotary, AZ), Neil Tubb (Victoria, Australia), and our assistant governor Laura Ahmed (Cathedral City, CA).

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- This year's District Conference will be held October 26 - 28 at the Doral Princess Resort in Cathedral City. Maximum registration is encouraged, and registration forms are available at our weekly meetings.
- Our club's recognition committee (Elsner, Canfield, Lentz, Tim Ellis) is sponsoring a "Christmas Shopping @ Rotary" event the first week of December. Please donate gifts, gift certificates, etc., to any member of the committee, and they (the gifts, not the members) will be auctioned during the meeting.

#### **TODAY'S PROGRAM - F.I.N.D. (Food in Need of Distribution)**

**Anita Grey** (glad to see you back!) introduced Gwen Ford, Stakeholder and Volunteer Coordinator for FIND. Ms. Ford presented a comprehensive view of this organization, which is responsible for providing approximately 80,000 meals per month to the needy throughout the area from Beaumont through the high desert to Blythe (including the Coachella Valley, of course). Staffing includes 14 full time employees, plus a cadre of volunteers. Among FIND's many partners are Well of the Desert, Martha's Village, the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Boys and Girls Clubs, and the YMCA. It is a part of the "Feeding America" program consisting of 250 organizations nationwide. Our District's "Million Meals" program will work with FIND to accomplish our goals. FIND's massive warehousing and administrative facilities are located in Indio, and anyone interested in a tour should e-mail Ms. Ford at [gford@findfoodbank.org](mailto:gford@findfoodbank.org).

### OTHER TIDBITS

**Bob Elsner** tailored his "recognition" questions around political conventions. Showing their ignorance (or in a few cases, intelligence) were **Mike Brill, Art Snow, Milt Levinson, Dr. Tony Signoret, Jim Dunn, Dr. Dan Keller, Christine Cross, Anita Grey, Mike Sellin,** and **Frank Peabody**. Happy Rotarians donating happy dollars included **Dr. Denise Ellis** (congratulations on her Cahuilla School's wonderful test scores!), **Frank Peabody** (in memory of John Jackson), **Christine Cross, Mike Brill** (for his and Carol's 42nd wedding anniversary), **Anita Grey**, our guest speaker Gwen Ford, and Assistant Governor Laura Ahmed.

Today's Marble Game was won **again** by **Tim Ellis**, but the black marble remains hidden in the bag. Don't spend your \$15 winnings all in one place, Tim!

Have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

Mike Brill

Desertarian Editor