



The Desertarian

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

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALM SPRINGS *Desertarian* for September 5, 2012

President **Dr. Denise Ellis** rang the Rotary bell, thus signaling the opening of another great Rotary meeting. **Don Aikens** led us in the salute to our flag, followed by **Bob Barrett** enjoining us to profess our commitment to the 4-way Test of the Things that Rotarians Think, Say, or Do. **Rev. Jim Griffes** provided an inspirational invocation.

Only one visiting Rotarian was in attendance - Bob Denebeim from East Palo Alto, CA. **Marjorie Taft**, although not a visitor, was welcomed back after a long absence. We missed ya, Marj! Also, welcome back **Dr. David Alderman!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Frank Peabody** announced that **Jerry Moss** has become an honorary member of our club. As many of you know, Jerry collects aluminum tabs from soft drink cans, which he turns in to benefit the Ronald McDonald house. Please deliver your tabs to Frank, who will get them to Jerry.
- Our "Coins for Kids" committee met and voted to commit funds to purchase dictionaries, atlases, and thesauri for our great kids at Cahuilla Elementary.
- Our club voted to donate funds to our local Hanson House - a worthwhile organization that provides low- or no-cost housing for families of critically ill or injured patients at DesertRegional Medical Center.
- PDG **Milt Levinson** solicited additional volunteers to read or otherwise help at our adopted Cahuilla Elementary School.

TODAY'S PROGRAM - John Allen - Palm Springs Fire Department Fire Marshall and Deputy Fire Chief (and fellow Rotarian)

John was introduced by **Jim Dunn**. As the person in charge of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program and Training, John provided a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation explaining the program. CERT training is composed of nine modules: (1) Disaster Preparedness; (2) Fire Safety; (3) and (4) Medical Operations; (5) Light Search and Rescue; (6) CERT Organization; (7) Disaster Psychology; (8) Terrorism and CERT; and (9) Putting all of these skills to use. Summarizing CERT, the program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills as shown in the nine modules above. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. The City of Palm Springs will be offering a CERT class in October, 2012. The 20-hour class will be on 10/9, 10/11, 10/16, and 10/18/2012 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and 10/20 from 8 a.m. to Noon. Training will be conducted at the Fire Training Center, 3000 E. Alejo Road in Palm Springs. Please contact John for registration procedures.

OTHER TIDBITS

Neophyte **Bill Lentz** was today's recognition guru, and his questions revolved around disasters (what else!?). Contributing to the cause were **Dr. David Alderman, Donn Aikens, Anita Grey, Dick Hostrop, Milt Levinson, Jacque Wachs, Tim Ellis, Margie Taft, Bob Barrett, Frank Peabody, Thomas Allen, and John Allen**. Happy bucks came from **Bob Elsner, Tim Ellis, Jim Griffes, John Allen, and Mike Brill**. **Frank** Peabody won the marble game, but the black marble remains hidden in the bag.

Have a great week!

Mike Brill

Desertarian Editor