



Kris Becker, President 2017-2018

Celebrate Rotary

Number 8 for The Week of August 24, 2017

Program On GMO's

John Dalle introduced Suzanne Rutherford of Brawley who spoke to us about GMO's or genetically modified organisms. A genetically modified organism is any organism whose genetic material has been altered using genetic engineering techniques. I originally thought she was talking about Lee Hindman, but it turns out that she was talking about some of the local plant life (which still doesn't let Lee off of the hook). A transgenic organism is one whose genetic makeup has been altered by the addition of genetic material from an unrelated organism.

On a serious note, Ms. Rutherford is a 7th generation farmer and she has been involved (with her husband) in the growing of wheat, alfalfa, Bermuda grass and sugar beets.

She spoke of the "Sweet Truth" and explained that only a certain number of crops had been approved for use in their genetically modified forms. The crops that have been approved for the use of GMO's include alfalfa, corn, cotton, canola, papaya, potatoes soybeans, squash, and sugar beets. The reason for these types of crops is to sustain increased production, to feed the population through the use of modern technology, and to increase herbicide tolerance in these crops. The impact on farming practices in the future will be substantial. To get additional answers, Ms. Rutherford told us to go to the internet: www.gmoanswers.com and www.geneticliteracyproject.com. These websites cite articles, scientific studies, and videos explaining the use of GMO's.



Proposed For Membership

Gil Rebollar is being proposed for membership by Ed Snively, Gil's classification for proposal is Senior Citizen Advocate. Gil wants to become an active part of the community and is a very bright young person. He will be a great Rotarian. His refreshing honest Small News Pod Cast now have more viewers than our local news



POT



The winner of this week's drawing was Ed Snively who took home the weekly prize of \$21.00. However, Ed did not win the large pot which was carried over to next week.



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Pledge, Prayer and Song

President Kris began the meeting with the pledge by Cathy Kennerson, followed by the blessing/prayer by Randy Miles, and a patriotic song led by Pastor Ron Griffen.



Visiting Rotarians and Guests of Rotarians

The visiting Rotarians consisted of our own Richard Acosta.

Ed Snively introduced his guest Gil Rebollar (Mr. Podcast himself). It is rumored that Gil received his Masters Degree from the California State University at Northridge.

John Dalle introduced his guest Suzanne Rutherford of Brawley (who is also today's speaker).



Announcements

President Kris told about hearing Lee Hindman's statement that the current El Centro Rotary Club President was a pain in the posterior! We cleaned that one up! I am sure Lee will be fined accordingly when he next attends the club's meeting.

Around each table were copies of the local magazine "Valley Women". On the cover was a great picture of the honorable Ruth B. Montenegro, Imperial County Superior Court Judge. There was a good article about her younger years (i.e. being student representative for the Central Union High School District Board, the Imperial Valley College Student Body President, and the UCLA Graduate Students Association President). The judge co-founded the El Centro Education Foundation and her latest creation is the Imperial County Superior Court Academy (placing would be law school students in internships with the local court system). If you have a chance to read it, it is a very good article.

Also in the "Valley Women" magazine was an article by another Rotarian, Veronica Henderson where she writes about "Justice on the Border" referencing the collaboration between the executive branch for the state of Baja California, Mexico and the Superior Court of California, County of Imperial in dealing with certain family law matters.

Not to be forgotten is the Publisher of the "Valley Women" magazine our own Belinda Mills. As always, the latest Valley Women magazine was educational and fun to read.

The Prez also indicated that on each table there was a "Youth Program Volunteer Application" to be completed by the club members involved with youngsters that participate in Rotary activities such as Interact, RYLA, Rotaract, 4-Way Speech Contest, etc. The intent of the application is to provide a safe environment for those youngsters participating in these Rotary activities by weeding out those Rotarians who have been involved in violent crimes, child abuse, kidnapping, rape, or other sexual offences.



August Birthdays Celebrated



ians celebrating their birthday in August.

Dan Nuffer introduced those celebrating their birthdays in August. Those named included Erik Freeman (Aug. 9), Neal Hitch (Aug. 1), Andy Horne (Aug. 3), Bob Mapes (Aug. 14), Cristina Roberts (Aug. 18), Liz Villalobos (Aug. 9) and the honorable Christopher Yeager (Aug. 10). As it turned out only Liz and Chris were present. They stood in line according to age, but with only the two of them we were unable to establish which was older. In any event, we sang happy birthday to them and they collected their birthday gifts. Happy birthday to all those Rotar-

