



Kathy Ball, President 2018-2019

Celebrate Rotary

Number 21 for The Week of December 20, 20018

## ***PROGRAM***

Our presenters were Juan Benito and his wife Jennifer Benito. Juan is the youth pastor at Valley Christian Church in Imperial. Today's program was all about Night To Shine, which is a prom night created by the Tim Tebow Foundation for those with special needs. The event is free and open to anyone 14 and older with any type of disability. This prom was created for these individuals who ordinarily might never experience a prom. Juan told us about last year's Night To Shine that was held locally at the IVC gym. As the prom participants exited their cars, they walked on a red carpet leading to the gym and were greeted by a long line of cheering volunteer students and paparazzi, and it made them feel special. Once inside, the prom attendees received the royal treatment, including professional photography, hair and makeup stations, corsages and boutonnieres, shoe shines, a catered dinner, a karaoke room, and a dance floor to dance the night away and have a lot of fun. Parents and caretakers were in the upper seats of the gym keeping watch on the fun below. Everyone was crowned as Prom King and Queen. Participants attended the event for free. Junior's Café catered the event. Juan told us that \$12k was raised for the event locally, plus another \$6K was provided by the Tim Tebow Foundation to put on this event at IVC.

The second annual local event will be held on February 08, 2019. Locally, Valley Christian Church is the host church. 10 -12 additional local churches will be participating in planning and delivering the upcoming event. Like last year, 250 local volunteers are expected to directly participate in this year's prom night. Internationally, this special night is in its 7<sup>th</sup> year since inception. Worldwide, over 550 churches representing 29 denominations, and 175,000 volunteers in 50 states and 15 countries will come together for one night and will celebrate 90,000 honored guests in Night To Shine, 2019. To register a prom night participant, please call (760) 678-8608 or email Juan Benito at [juan@valleychristian.us](mailto:juan@valleychristian.us) Anyone wishing to volunteer or contribute to the event is encouraged to call or email Juan.

For their dedication to the event, and for today's excellent presentation, President Kathy presented Juan and Jennifer Benito with a Rotary, End Polio Now certificate and name recognition.

### ***Pledge, Prayer and Song***

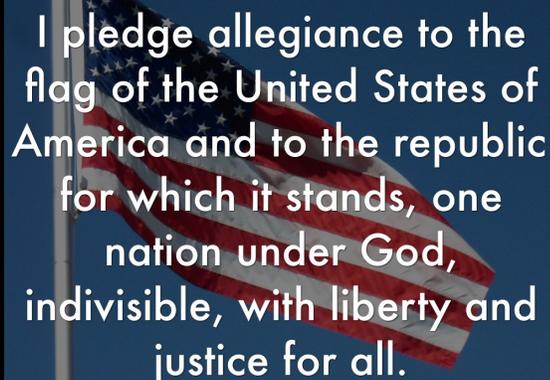
Rudy Rodriguez led the pledge, Dave Wells offered the prayer and the Song, Jingle Bells was led by Mike Rood

### ***Visiting Rotarians and***

**Visiting Rotarians Intro:** President Kathy Ball

**Visiting Rotarians:** Richard Acosta – Holtville

**Guests of Rotarians:** President Kathy Ball introduced her guests and program speakers, Juan Benito and his wife, Jennifer Benito.



I pledge allegiance to the  
flag of the United States of  
America and to the republic  
for which it stands, one  
nation under God,  
indivisible, with liberty and  
justice for all.

## ***Whining and Fining***

Lee Hindman has been gone for a good while; he was busy for Thanksgiving, sick for the Rotary Christmas Party, and cruised through the Panama Canal for his mother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. As a bribe, he offered Prez Kathy a Panama Canal travel brochure and chocolates, which still cost him \$100.

Bob Barros announced the birth of his first grandchild, Madeline Barros. A club-wide, cash collection was taken up in honor of Bob's granddaughter. Bob paid \$100 towards his Paul Harris membership and \$100 to the club. Congratulations to Grandpa!

Several Rotarians received awards at the recently-held National Philanthropy Day luncheon. Ed McGrew and wife Patty were recognized for their recent Lifetime Achievement Award. President Kathy presented Ed with a Rotary People of Action pin, and Ed gladly paid \$100 to the club. Cliff Caldwell was also recognized as a Distinguished Volunteer at the same luncheon. Cliff paid \$100 to the club. And finally, Kathy and John Kennerson were recognized as Distinguished Philanthropists. Kathy practiced her philanthropy by paying \$100 to the club for her award.

Diane Cason and Kathy Kennerson took a trip to Iceland and brought back souvenirs for President Kathy, which were a map of Iceland and visitors' guide, licorice, chocolate, and some really terrible Icelandic liquor. Diane contributed \$100 to the club and \$100 to her Paul Harris.

Wes Blakely took a trip to Europe, enjoying a river cruise on the Danube that wound through Budapest, Vienna, and Nuremberg. For this wonderful trip, Wes paid \$100 to the club and \$100 to his Paul Harris.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The club received a thank you card from District Governor Mel Gallegos and his wife Judy, which was read aloud by Prez Kathy. We were reminded of the upcoming Rotary District Conference to be held at the Catamaran Hotel in San Diego on March 1 – 3, 2019.

Additional thank you cards were sent by Charlee Family Care and the El Centro School District, recognizing the club's donations.

Last week saw Chris Yeager's son, Nick Yeager, receive his Paul Harris recognition. Nick seems to have misplaced his Paul Harris recognition pin. If you should happen to find one, notify Chris Yeager or Prez Kathy.

The upcoming Rotary District Council meeting will be held on Saturday January 26, 2019 at Ricochet Rec Center, 450 W. Aten Road, Imperial CA 92251. The reception begins at 5:30pm and dinner will be served at 6:15pm. Please plan on attending this local event.

Dr. Randy Miles reminded us that the Feb 1 – 2, 2019 Thousand Smiles clinic in Ensenada BC, Mexico still needs 2 more volunteers. Registration is open all of January for the upcoming event. Register at [www.thousandsmiles.org](http://www.thousandsmiles.org)

**POT**

Gunther Chin was the lucky winner of the \$21 small pot. Gunther did not draw the correct chip to win the large pot, which was \$363.

