



ROTARY ROUND-UP



Kathy Ball, President 2018-2019 Celebrate Rotary Number 31 for The Week of February 23, 2019

PROGRAM



President Kathy introduced our speaker Dr. David Beekner, executive director of the Imperial Valley Desert Museum. There are a lot of exciting things going on at what David referred to as the “community-focused” Desert Museum that he has been overseeing for almost two years. For instance, there is a wildly popular hiking program, there is a traveling education program that take education into the classrooms and a new geology of the earth exhibit is being developed through a grant from the Imperial



Irrigation District.

Working with the community has opened up a number of opportunities for the museum. David is particularly proud of a partnership with county probation that includes an arts grant. In the program juvenile offenders worked at the Museum to revitalize an old storage building into a learning center and outdoor art and garden area. The juveniles got to handle and learn about the artifacts really make a difference. David said it was rewarding to see the kids begin to appreciate the environment and become community leaders.

Founded in 1973, from its early days David said the Museum has contributed to the knowledge of man’s early history. Today, the Museum continues to preserve, interpret and celebrate the desert and its antiquities. And its drawing more people than ever. Last year there were 16,000 visitors. This year its track to have 22,000 visitors, David said. School visits are also way up, from 3,873 last year to about 5,000 this year. And the 8 hikes held in the fall drew about 400 people.

Pledge, Prayer ad Song

Capt. Brent Alfonzo pledgee. Ed Snively prayed. And, Emma Jones led a “different” version of the song.



POT



Rosa Caro won the drawing for \$45, but then drew a white chip so the pot grew to \$452.

Announcements

Cathy Kennerson announced a litany of events involving the El Centro Medical Center, that by now have come and gone.

President Kathy announced that the District Conference will be held March 1-3 at the Catamaran Hotel in Mission Beach.

On Friday, the conference will include an International Project Fair with Rotary Clubs from Baja. Registration is on the District website for all or parts of the conference. She also announced the district Training Assembly will be held March 30 at the Joan Kroc Center for Peace & Justice on the USD campus. To be able to apply for district matching grants at least two club members must

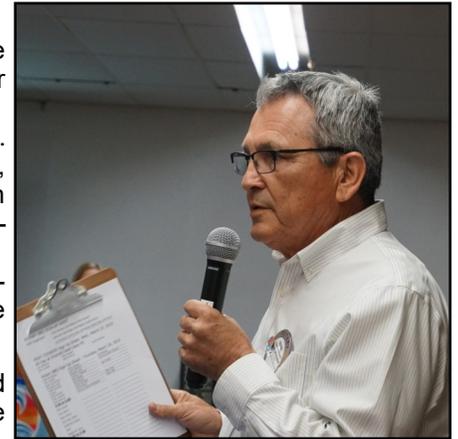
attend.

Lee Hindman announced the Club will meet at the fair next week so PAL will be dark. He also reminded everyone the lunch is \$15 and can be paid in cash or check, not credit card.

Frank Miranda announced our Club's annual barbecue will be held March 28. Since we will be doing the deep pit barbecue by ourselves this year, we need help, a lot of help, on both March 27 and 28. He passed around a signup sheet, which will be circulated again. Randy Miles also passed around a sign-up sheet for members willing to set up speakers for programs in the coming year.

Capt. Brent announced the Blue Angels Food Fest, including a lot of great entertainment will be 5:30-9 p.m. March 15 at the base. And the biggie, of course, is the annual Blue Angels Air Show that will be on March 16.

The President of the Calexico Rotary Club announced the annual Crab Crack fund raiser on March 23, 2019 to be held at the Calexico Community Center, tickets are \$45.00.



Whining and Fining



A very embarrassed Sue Giller paid \$50 because had a calendar malfunction (or otherwise forgot the date) and failed to present the S.T.A.R program to her class. Bob Mapes, who squealed to President Kathy, and made the regrettable incident very public, did redeem himself by presenting the program to Sue's class as well as his own.

Diane Cason paid \$50 to the club and \$100 to her son's Paul Harris following her return from an amazing trip to Israel. Luis Plancarte paid \$100 after he posted photos announcing his 28th anniversary to his wife, Martha, on Facebook because, as he put it, he is 100% happy with his wife. Smart man.

Visiting Rotarians and

Ed Snively introduced Dr. Mervat Kelada, a family medicine doctor who practices in Calexico and Imperial, as his guest. And, President Kathy introduced Dr. David Breeckner, executive director of the Imperial Valley Desert Museum.

