



Cynthia Lopez, President 2011-2012

Celebrate Rotary

Number 29 for the Week of February 2, 2012

## LETTERS FOR THE TROOPS



David Takata, after his pre-“Dancing With The Stars” demonstration of the Argentine Tango, introduced Carol Thomas. While Carol’s day job is with RaboBank as VP for vendor management, her passion involves gathering letters sent to our troops deployed to battle-scarred areas, primarily in the Middle East. This is Carol’s third year as a one-person collector of letters to members of the military serving in remote, hostile areas of the world, usually in harm’s way. She collects letters from people of all ages - students, members of churches and other groups, people who may or may not have been touched by the absence of loved ones due to military service, and dispatches them to soldiers far away from home as reminders of our profound appreciation and respect for their sacrifices. She read some of the letters aloud, showing her emotional commitment to this remarkable effort. Thanks, David and Carol, for a moving, uplifting program.



## Paul Harris Awarded

Mike Rood was honored with his second Paul Harris Fellowship. As Ed Snively eloquently (how could Ed do any sort of honoring without eloquence?) noted, Mike’s first PH was with the Calexico club, over which he presided on more than one occasion, and he was now recognized for his second with our club. Great stuff, Mike. Finally, in conjunction with his presentation to Mike, Ed announced that the number of countries still suffering from polio has now been reduced to two. India, which was one of three remaining countries with an identified polio presence, is now polio free, thanks to the marvelous work of the Polio Plus program of the Rotary International Foundation.



Randy Miles	1
Robert Pletka	7
Mike Dessert	9



Gabe Contreras	14
Dan Williams	22
Norm Germani	25
Jack Tyler	28



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S**

Our next meeting will be held on  
**Thursday, February 9, 2012**  
 At the PAL facility located at 1100 North  
 4th St.  
 Meet at 12:00 noon  
 If you miss Rotary, you miss out!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Bob Mapes provided more details about the annual Norm Self Memorial Campout (what'll ya bet Norm will be there, in the flesh). It's set for March 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, if anyone has the staying power to do all three days. Pres. Cyndy sure doesn't, since her first question of Bob was "Will the potties be heated?" Uh, doubt it, Yr. Honoreess.

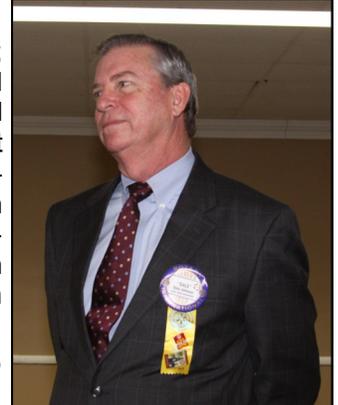
Don Thompson reminded us that our tri-tip fiesta is set for March 29<sup>th</sup> at the usual location. Don't forget to peddle (or buy) your 20 ticket allotment (received, amazingly, via certified mail courtesy of Bob Barros). Don's still looking for helpers. Insists that not all the prime spots, such as slingin' coleslaw) are taken.



Bob Barros was awarded something; not sure what, but it merited a coat and tie for the day. Bob looked rather odd making change like a baseball ticket seller with a coat and tie. But for whatever it was he was honored, along with

acquiring a new care, Bob popped a C note for the Club and another toward his PH Sustain. Dale Johnson received recognition for 52 parking spaces at the new Sun Community CU office in Brawley. \$50 for parking and nothing for the new office. Strange.

Edgar Aguilar proudly announced that he will be a daddy again, congratulation Edgar!



## Proposed Member



Carlos Figari is being proposed for membership. Carlos is being proposed by Past President Nancy Thornburg. Recently moving to El Centro from Yuma, where Carlos was a member of the Yuma Rotary Club for eleven years and served as President 3 times, Carlos is the Director of the Imperial Valley Small Business Development Center. Carlos believes that being a member of Rotary equates with

being an active participant.

Please take time to introduce yourself to Carlos

## The 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say, or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

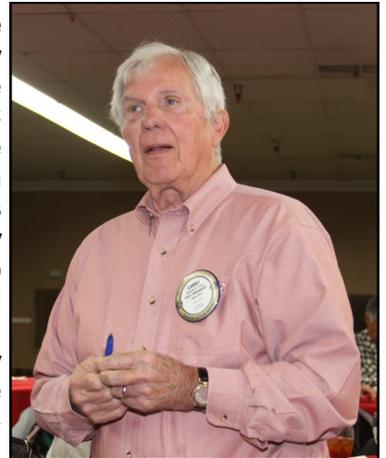
## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

February	2 & 3	Thousand Smile Day 1&2
February	23rd	4-Way Speech Contest
March	8th	Service Club Luncheon—Fair
March	29th	Curt Swain Memorial BBQ

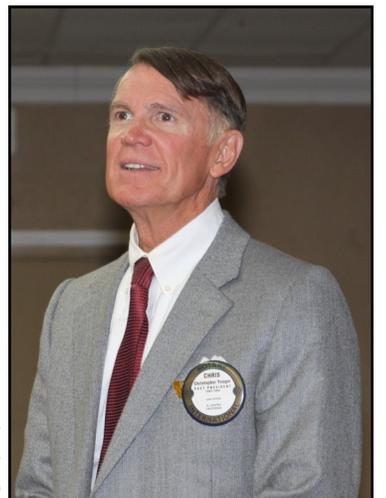
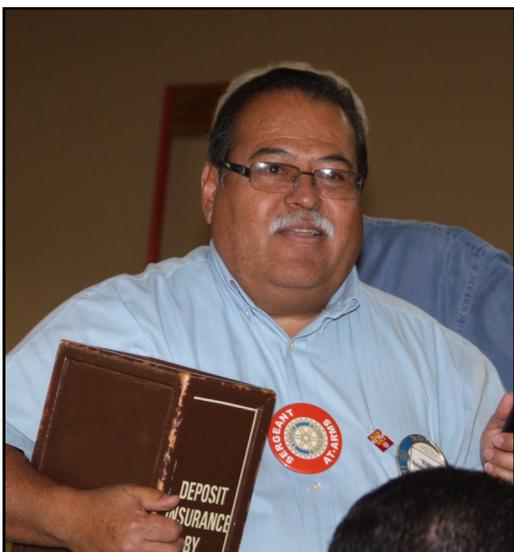
# Whining And Fining



Prez Cyndy's committed the Club to a table at the annually Mardi Gras celebration at the Euc, supporting the ECRMC Foundation. Tickets were "conferred" on Lanny, Tom Budde and His Grace Chris Yeager. One of these lucky ducks looked at the tickets. They have no price on them so assume they're provided courtesy of Club largess. Thanks, Prez.



Who wouldn't have believed that Danny Nuffer is a cat person, as disclosed by the disgusting pic of two Siamese feline creatures with their noses in one toilet, as seen in the IV Press – both off and on line? Hey Danny, are you auditioning for that new reality show – "Date My Pet?" Danny compounded this with a tale about his hearing aid – in the toilet.



Andy Horne, not to be left out of this YouTube op, added something later about cats in the toilet, which doesn't bear repeating, except that it had something to do with flushing, or watering his cats. Whatever. Anyway, everyone, including Cyndy, was so thoroughly grossed out that Danny apparently got away (unless I missed something) with a minimal (\$50) fine.

David Takata is risking life and limb by participating in IVROP's annual Dancing With The Stars contest, as are Sebjo Arballo and Les Rogers' wife, Terri. Dave paid \$100 for the recognition and Sebjo was hit with the same amount, *in absentia*. Les? Probably the statute will have run before anyone has a shot at his spouse's claim to fame. Rudy Rodriguez paid \$100 toward his PH and \$50 to the club. I guess the Prez just fine poor Rudy out of frustration, or because he was there an breathing, or because she thought he was boring. Next time I'm in the firing line, I want Rudy to defend me, since he's apparently met his quota and could not be pinned down for any real basis for a legitimate fine. Jack Tyler and Matt Contreras had to stand and were recognized for something, but what it was, in the deathless words of Andy Griffith, was football. Since I cannot read my writing that must be it!

## Visiting Rotarians and Rotarians



Liz Villalobos introduced visiting Rotarians Ken Phillips from Coleville, Washington and Richard Acosta from Holtville. Richard



had the GALL (no, not as in "all of . . .") to poach in El Centro for the Holtville club's meaty fundraiser, "No Bones About It," which, I assume, refers to some sort of boneless item such as eel or octopus. It's this Saturday, if anyone has a boneless yen.



James Taylor (introduced by Mike Rod). James, I assume, was brought in to assess Rev. Ron's picken' 'n grin-nin' talents as his (the real James Taylor's) successor, since the James Taylor of the Jane Fonda generation is getting a little long in the tooth; Don't know how Ron did, but I did see Mr. Taylor taking notes. Carlos Figari was introduced by Nancy Thornberg, and Dr. Ray Loo, one of our new docs, was introduced by Rev. Ron.

## FOUR—Rotary Golf Team Places 3rd

Rev. Ron proudly presented Prez Cyndy with a slightly used LA Dodge jersey, allegedly worn by Sandy Kofax (at least it had his number – 32) in 1958. Ron apparently isn't adverse to a game of chance or two, since he claimed he won the



jersey in a raffle, which, in turn, was connected to a Rotary Golf Tournament. Ron, Bob Hahn and Gabe Contreras teamed up to win third place. Hope there were more than three teams playing.

## PLEDGE, PRAYER AND SONG

Dale Johnson led the Pledge, Neal Hitch the Prayer and our Jimi Hendrix look-alike, Rev. Ron, the song. Ron mentioned, in passing, that he was headed east for a couple of weeks – that's seriously east – to the Holy Land. What, need your batteries charged, Ron?



## POT



Don Thompson was the winner of the drawing, however, he left the big pot for another day!