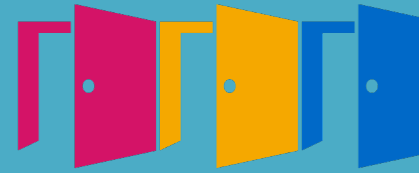


The Desertarian

The Newsletter for the Rotary Club of Palm Springs, California

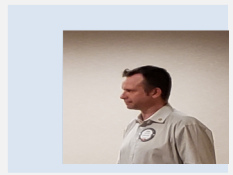
Rotary



Rotary Opens Opportunities

January 22, 2021

January is Vocational Service Month



President John Fitch

President: John Fitch, **President-Elect:** Paul Raffer, **Secretary:** Ed McBride, **Treasurer:** Eileen Reilly

Board Members: Bob Allan, Victoria Bentley, Judy Bronstein, Tim Ellis (Ex-officio), Doris Halftermeyer-Ross, Helene Kalfuss, Barbara Lippert, Andrea Madrigal, Michele Nobleman, Frank Peabody, Paul Raffer

District Governor: Barry Valdez

Desertarian Reporters: Frank Peabody, Barbara Lippert, Jim Dunn, Nandy Kruger



This Weeks Program

Deserterian Reporter—Barbara Lippert

Our speaker this week was Ms. Karen Cornett and is she is currently a member of the PSUSD Board. She was a teacher and administrator in the District for 35 years and she also serves on the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City.

The School district employs 2,600 people and is the biggest employer of valley. Currently 93% of PSUSD students graduate with 60% going to college. The District is doing well with the current distancing programs and the students receive online learning and group learning in morning and synchronized learning in afternoon with mentoring and targeting learning issues. Karen has 3 grandchildren currently in the online school she has a first-hand experience with how they are doing.

The District continues to supply tech equipment including 500 hot spots and a robust family engaging service with weekly online classes. They have provided two and a half million meals thus far. Because we remain in purple, the lowest and worst category for Covid they are not permitted to open in person school. The CA State Department and Health Institute govern who does and doesn't get to open schools. Once they open to hybrid model, they will still give parents the choice to send kids into the school or continue with online school. The federal CARES money provides everything they need to open safely.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE HAVE A NEW ZOOM MEETING NUMBER!

Topic: Palm Springs Rotary Club
Weekly Zoom Meeting

Time: This is a WEEKLY meeting
every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84324635354>

Birthdays and Anniversaries for January

Member Birthdays	Birthday	
O'Linn, Richard J (DICK)	1/4/21	
Johnson, Rebecca (BECKY)	1/19/21	
Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years
Halftermeyer, Doris	1/4/17	4
Freytmuth, Peter	1/7/15	6
Fritch, John	1/9/19	2

This Weeks Program (Continued)

Our own Ryan Saunders, principal of Cahuilla Elementary spoke of how they are using a variety of ways to monitor the students learning now. They have 2 classes for homeless kids and those unable to have technical support at home. They are using super safe standard for everyone and are busy getting ready for when the students can come back. They have put a manual together to help teachers and parents. Their priority is to hire the best of the best in teaching staff and to provide the best service and equipment to their students. In addition, they are still building and upgrading their facilities using solar and they are saving a million dollars a year. Their foundation helps support their students and families and they have a robust mental health program.

Update from Frank Peabody

Due to the short planning time, Frank Peabody moved the Auction from a Valentine Theme on 2/11 to an Easter/Spring Theme on Thursday, April 1st. He needs a few committee members...please contact him. If you have items for the auction please take a photo and email them to Ed McBride (ed.mcbride58@gmail.com) along with a description of the item including the estimated value.

Frank, also announces the Tour de Palm Springs is going viral this year! After a huge success last February, with 6,000 riders and huge apparel sales (Rotary made \$3,000!)...The TDPS felt the importance of being present, in spite of Covid. We can participate in three ways:

1. Buy Raffle tickets at \$1 each (for gift cards, meals, entertainment, etc..) or \$25 tickets for a \$2,500 state of the art bike. Rotary receives 90% of proceeds.
2. Sell registrations, where riders ride individually at their chosen distances. Earn a t-shirt and some good exercise for \$40. Rotary will receive 90% of proceeds.
3. Donations to TDPS will be welcome with 100% proceeds for the Tour. This covers publicity, operations, and administration, since they will receive no other income this year.

More details to follow.

