

# The Desertarian

The Newsletter for the Rotary Club of Palm Springs,

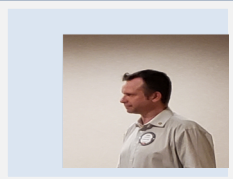
Rotary



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

April 7, 2021

April is Maternal and Child Health Month



President John Fritch

**President:** John Fritch, **President-Elect**-Paul Raffer, **Secretary**-Ed McBride, **Treasurer** Eileen Reilly  
**Board Members:** Bob Allan, Victoria Bentley, Judy Bronstein, Tim Ellis (Ex-officio), Doris Haltermeyer-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—Jim Dunn

This week's speaker was Bob McKechnie, Rotarian and formerly the Director of the Senior Center in Cathedral City. Bob is starting a Rotary E-Club for Peace, World Beyond War.

Attended his first Rotary club meeting in 1965 as a newspaper reporter in Chico, CA, where fines for being late were \$100 and swore he would never join Rotary. In 2017, he was finally convinced to join the club in Cathedral City. That is when he discovered the Rotary Conference for World Peace and attended the Rotary Peace Conference in Ontario, CA.

There he attended a meeting on ending war. This impactful seminar lead to his founding the California Chapter of World Beyond War (worldbeyondwar.org). Californians for a World BEYOND War envision a world where all conflict is successfully resolved in non-violent ways.

## Mission Statement

*We work to convince our fellow Californians that war is unnecessary, wasteful, ineffective, dangerous, painful, and deadly. We also promote the stance that war can and must be abolished.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us on Zoom each week at the following link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84324635354>  
 Meeting ID: 843 2463 5354
- District training assembly is running from April 7th-28th. Go to the District website to view the seminars. The trainings cover "how to" properly run a club topics as well as broader areas of interest like working with youth.
- COVID Vaccinations are available at the Hanson House this weekend. Let Michele know if you have any questions.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries for April

Member Birthdays	Birthday
Ellis, Timothy A. (TIM)	4/23/21

Griffes, James (JIM)	4/15/21
Kruger, Bernadette (NANDY)	4/1/21

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years
Raffer, Paul Kenneth MD(PAUL)	4/17/19	2

Wedding Anniversaries	Partner's Name	Anniversary	Years
Kruger, Bernadette (NANDY)	Karl	4/25/21	40
McBride, Ed	Tad	4/25/21	24

### This Weeks Program (Continued)

Bob compared the thought of ending war with the thought to end slavery and Polio. Both of these these thoughts were unfathomable at a point in time and substantial progress has been made in ridding the world of both. These and so many other advancements began with a single thought that was acted upon.

Bob explained that it is likely that future wars will likely be nuclear war. He then shared a short video describing the effects of even small scale nuclear weapons.

Bob emphasized that "**No one is safe until everyone is safe and secure**"

- Funding of anti-war efforts
- The time to act to outlaw war is now - utilizing international laws to hold leaders initiating first strike military actions accountable in an international

Websites for more resources are [beyondwar.org](http://beyondwar.org) and [Codepink.org](http://Codepink.org) . You may also visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/promoting-peace> to learn about Rotary's efforts regarding peace.

### Updates

- Send Michele your donations for Coins for Kids
- Victoria shared pictures from the Congo village to which the club has donated (contributed toward feeding 500 children per day)
- Frank reported that the auction generated \$4,350. Thanks to all of our donors and bidders! The club also received \$700 from the Tour de Palm Springs.