

Announcements

District 5340's sole reason for existing is to support Rotary clubs within its boundaries and operates with volunteer support. The District provides support and resources to assist clubs in serving their members and communities. **A variety of positions are available on District committees** which include: Membership, Training, Public Image, Youth, International, District and Projects & Events. There is a special need for several Sergeant-at-Arms to help manage our events. Most positions require 1 year of Rotary membership, Assistant Governor positions require 5 years of membership. District positions are filled by Rotarians from clubs throughout the District, Rotarians just like you, who are passionate about service and supporting fellow Rotarians. When you serve at the District level you will expand your Rotary knowledge, enhance your Rotary experience, share your skills and professional experience by helping others accomplish their goals and you will make new friends. If you are interested in learning more, contact DGN Dianne Crawford, at dcsandiego@yahoo.com.

First Imperial Credit Union is having their 80-year celebration on Thursday, August 18th at 6PM at their El Centro location. There will be appetizers, drinks and giveaways. Please RSVP by August 12th by visiting this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y5wyxzs9>

August 10th: Jaysel Mendoza, Director of Small Business Development Center

August 17th: Regular meeting Stockmen's Club

August 24th: Regular meeting, Stockmen's Club

August 31st: Regular meeting, Stockmen's Club

Upcoming Events

Birthdays & Anniversaries

August Birthdays:

15th: Sam Couchman

24th: Bill Gates

29th: Kenny Humes

31st: George Fareed

Member Anniversary:

25th: Ramiro Urias, 1 year

Wedding Anniversaries:

10th: Bill and Tina Gates, 64 years

This Week's Meeting

Guests: Craig Elmore, Tyler Salcido, and Kara Mulkey

Recognitions: **Francisco Cossio** and **Mercedes Wheeler** paid \$5 each for forgetting to wear their badges. After a long absence, **Kenny Humes** was here! He paid \$20 for his kids growing up so fast and for forgetting to stand up. Welcome back, **Kenny!**

Program: Our program today was Craig Elmore, who is a managing partner of Desert Sky Farms. Craig explained to us about what is going on with our water rights and the Colorado River. A 20-year drought and rainfall caused by climate change have decreased both Lake Mead and Lake Powell to dangerously low levels. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton advised all the contractors on the Colorado River to come up with a plan to save 2 to 4 million acre-feet (maf) of water next year. If no plan is submitted by August 15, the Department of the Interior would decide how to do it. Previous negotiations for water cuts have taken years, not months. The simple way to do it is to cut every user's allocation to balance the amount of water that's available with the amount of water used. Currently, it's out of balance. He gave us a little background. 100 years ago, the Colorado River Commission divided the river between the upper states of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico and the lower states of Arizona, Nevada, and California, allocating 7.5 million acre-feet per year for each basin. The river's annual flow averaged about 15 million acre-feet per year. From the beginning, the policy makers allocated too much water. Because of the rapid growth of farming here and development in Los Angeles and San Diego, California exceeded its annual allocation of 4.4 maf quickly. Arizona drew only half of its 2.8 maf allocation, and the upper states use 4.0 maf out of their 7.5 maf entitlement. In addition, we have to account for evaporation. Between Lake Mead and Lake Powell and the thirteen other dams along the Colorado River there is 2.4 maf per year lost to evaporation. 12.3 maf is flowing into the river and 15.4 is flowing out, and the number for reduction is 3.1 maf. The easiest way to find those 3.1 maf is to cut all users on the River by the same rate. That would mean a 24% cut to the Imperial Valley. The IID should be exempt from cuts, due to our senior water rights. Junior water rights holders like San Diego and Los Angeles must be cut before the IID has any cuts. All of the other junior water rights holders have other sources of water, the Imperial Valley does not. Craig urged us to write letters to the IID board. Thank you for a timely and informative program, Craig!

Joke of the Week: Someone asked me to name two structures that hold water. I was like, "well,... damn!"