

Birthdays & Anniversaries  
 Upcoming Events  
 Announcements

**Past District Governor Chuck Pretto** will be in the hospital for 4-6 weeks receiving **chemo and a stem cell transplant**. His wife Kim would like to decorate his room with greeting cards to lift his spirits. If you can, please send a card to: 3555 Rosecrans Street #114-109 San Diego, CA 92110. Thank you.

**El Centro Rotary will have a Fellowship Night** on Thursday, September 14th at 6PM at the Sunbeam RV Resort, 1750 Drew Rd in Seeley. All Valley Rotarians are invited to attend, and bring a friend! \$25 per person. RSVP to Jennifer Thomason, 760-960-9471.

Former **Brawley Rotarian and Past President Carl Russell** is celebrating his 85th birthday and inviting all of us to his party! It will be held Friday, September 8th at 6PM at the Stockmen’s Club. RSVP to Lori at 760-427-5034 by September 1st. Carl would really like his fellow Rotarians to attend!

**Pioneers Memorial Hospital Foundation** will have their **Fall Gala** Thursday, October 19th. The theme is “Night at the Louvre”. Save the date!

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August 30th: Francisco Cossio, LPL Financial, Annuities  
 September 6th: Sam Couchman, program chair for September  
 September 13th: Regular meeting and board meeting

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**August Birthdays:**  
 15th: Sam Couchman  
 24th: Bill Gates  
 29th: Kenny Humes  
 31st: George Fareed

**Wedding Anniversaries:**  
 10th: Bill and Tina Gates, 65 years

**Member Anniversaries:**  
 25th: Ramiro Urias, 2 years

This Week’s Meeting

**Visiting Rotarians:** Assistant District Governor Hortencia Armendariz and El Centro Rotary President Jennifer Thomason

**Guest:** Camilo Garcia

**Recognitions:** **Dillon Faubion** paid \$50 for a trip to a Los Angeles Rams football game. **Mercedes Wheeler** paid \$5 for not wearing her badge.

**Program:** Our program today was our very own Sam Couchman. Sam has a collection of both vintage and old toys and there is a difference between the two. Older toys are typically more than 100 years old. Vintage toys are typically the ones we were more familiar with and recognized as the ones we grew up with. Sam brought with him samples of his collection which were mostly vintage toys. He shared with us a football helmet from the 1960’s. He brought a few cast iron as well as tin and wooden toys. Through the years toys have been made out of just about every type of material, depending on what was available at the time. During the war, metal toys were not being produced because all of the metal was reserved for the war effort. Through the years, animals have always been a favorite in the toy world. Horses, dogs and cats led the list of favorites. When times were tough, toys were made out of what was available. Many toys were carved out of wood during the depression. Dolls have always been a favorite and that is true today. Barbies have led the list of favorites and that is evidenced by the popular movie that is currently showing worldwide. Toys are very collectable and many consider them good investments. If you choose to go that route, beware of reproductions and other types of imposters that aren’t the real thing. Toys have always been a part of our lives and will continue to be a part of our lives. Kids, even big kids, and toys just seem to go together. Thanks again Sam, for a great program!

**Joke of the Week:** I think my wife is putting glue on my antique gun collection. She denies it, but I'm sticking to my guns.