

Birthdays & Anniversaries
 Upcoming Events
 Announcements

We will have a **board meeting** immediately following the lunch meeting on Wednesday, September 13th. The board meeting is open to all Rotarians and counts as a makeup.

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.

Pioneers Museum will have a FREE "Museum Day" Saturday, September 16 from 10AM to 2PM, 373 E Aten Rd in Imperial. Check out their collections and engage in educational activities while learning more about our local museum!

The **Imperial Valley Desert Museum** located at 11 Frontage Rd in Ocotillo will have a **Volunteer Day** on Tuesday, September 24 from 10AM to 4PM. They need 25 volunteers to assist with sorting and cataloging photos and documents. If you would like to stay the whole day, bring your lunch! Contact the museum at 760-358-7016 or email them at curation@ivdesertmuseum.org to sign up.

September 13th: Joel Gonzalez, Brawley Police Foundation

September 20th: Surprise program

September 27th: Jim O'Malley, Vietnam experiences

September Birthdays:

- 2nd: Nick Pricola
- 10th: Annette Fortier
- 21st: Mercedes Wheeler
- 24th: Jim O'Malley

Wedding Anniversaries:

None

Member Anniversaries:

- 11th: Stephen Smith, 4 years
- 14th: Kenny Humes, 7 years
- 22nd: Francisco Cossio, 2 years
- 26th: Mary Miller, 22 years

This Week's Meeting

Recognitions: President **Stephen** recognized **Annette Fortier** for her recent trip to Tacoma to see her grandbabies. She paid \$50.

Program: Our program today was our very own Civil War enthusiast, Sam Couchman. Sam brought a half scale 1857 cannon. Yes, it does work! The types of cannons used were referred to by the weight of the cannonball used, such as 6 pounders, 12 pounders, and even 24 pounders. This replica was most likely a 12 pounder. There was a twist bore inside the gun which allowed them to shoot farther. This cannon could shoot accurately as far as a mile. Considered a mobile artillery, they would put an explosive charge inside. When the charge was shot, it was able to explode with more shrapnel and was more effective. Most of the cannons in the civil war were breach loaders. You could have it explode on impact, or you could have it explode in the air. They would fill the explosive charge with balls, which would spread out the shrapnel more. They could fire grape or cannister, like a shotgun shell. Cannister is like a coffee can filled with about 30 little round balls. When Sam and fellow civil war re-enactors were practicing at the range, it was pretty effective at reaching the targets. A union utility battery would consist of six 12 pounders, pulled by two teams of horse at 6 horses each, with 288 solid shells, and 96 shells and 96 cannister shells. The life expectancy of an artillery horse was about 6 months. They left them on the field. You can imagine the trauma of seeing the fields with all the fallen soldiers and horses. There would be 8 soldiers servicing the cannon when in use. Sam showed us how they would load and shoot the cannon and what the duties of each soldier would be. He said that you could put three rounds a minute through it. But, if you're not in battle, and you're using all the safety procedures you have to wait three minutes before you could load another round. Thank you for your expertise, Sam! What a great program!

