

Birthdays & Anniversaries
 Upcoming Events
 Announcements

The **Fall Social** invitations have been mailed! Check your mailbox. You can sign up at the meeting or call Cindy at The Elmore Company (760-344-1080) to RSVP. **The deadline to RSVP is THIS Thursday, October 10th.** It will be held at the new home of Immediate Past President Stephen Smith and his lovely wife, Melissa on Thursday, October 24th at 6PM. **Remember, your account will be billed \$50 per person whether you go or not,** make plans to attend.

The **Pioneers Memorial Hospital Foundation** is having their **20th annual Fall Gala** on Thursday, October 17th at 6PM. Please see Mary Miller for tickets.

We still have tickets available to the **Dancing for a Dream Gala** to be held Friday, October 18th at 6PM at Cheval Farms. Please let President Francisco know if you'd like to go.

- October 9th: Ryan Brandt, Owner and CEO of RJLB Pictures, LLC
- October 16th: Todd Bean, General Manager of the new Cambria Hotel in Imperial
- October 23rd: We are **DARK** for our annual Fall Social
- October 30th: Elizabeth Espinoza from Energy Source

October Birthdays:

None!

Member Anniversaries:

- 6th: George Fareed, 31 years
- 14th: Mercedes Wheeler, 37 years

Wedding Anniversaries:

- 4th: Tim and Marisa Kelley, 27 years
- 4th: Ramiro and Larisa Urias, 6 years
- 20th: Don and Sue Barniske, 46 years

This Week's Meeting

Guests: Tony Ojeda

Recognitions: **Tim Kelley** confessed to attending two baseball games, one in Detroit and one in San Diego. He paid \$25.

Program: Program chairman for October Robert Trimm introduced Tony Ojeda, who is the President of the Imperial Valley Challenger Little League. Tony founded the Imperial Valley Challenger Little League over 11 years ago. Tony told us that it is a division of Little League baseball designed to meet the needs of children with physical and intellectual disabilities. The program allows every child, regardless of ability, to enjoy the fun and team work of baseball. The league is open to boys and girls ages 4-18 with physical and developmental challenges. No prior baseball experience is necessary. Every child, no matter their ability, is welcome! They also have a Senior League that accommodates ages 14 and above looking to share in the adaptive team spirit. They provide buddies for assistance, and the fields and equipment are adaptive. They utilize a team-centered approach, and it's for all abilities. Tony said that they believe in the power of sports to teach teamwork, confidence and life skills. The program creates a supportive and inclusive environment where every child can shine on the field. The players build lifelong friendships and get physical activity and have fun! Registration begins January 11 and runs thru April 30, 2025, and they already have kids asking when they can sign up. Games are every Saturday morning at 8:30AM at Evans Park in Imperial. The cost is only \$25 per person and financial assistance is available to those who need it. Tony was recognized by Little League International and New York Life as one of five 2024 Little League Community Heroes of the Year. You can contact them at IVchallengerlittleleague@gmail.com, or on Facebook under IVChallenger. You can tell that Tony is very passionate about this! He is an inspiration and a role model! Thank you for sharing!

