

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Upcoming Events

Announcements

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Brawley announces the 3rd annual **“Santa’s Local Workshop”!** **Friday, December 15th** from 5-9PM at the Plaza Park in Brawley. There will be over 40 local vendors, a petting zoo, and SNOW! Mayor Castro will be there to light the City of Brawley Tree. Mark your calendar and take the kids or grandkids!

Valley Jazz will have their **34th annual Holiday Concert** on Saturday, December 16th at 7PM at the Jimmie Cannon Theatre at Southwest High School in El Centro. Admission is free with 2 food items for the IV Food Bank. Our very own **Sal Ortiz** will perform!

We will have a **board meeting** on Wednesday, December 6th immediately following the regular meeting at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it counts as a makeup.

- December 6th: Oreda Chin, SDSU Nursing Program
- December 13th: To be announced
- December 20th: We are DARK for Christmas
- December 27th: We are DARK for the New Year holiday

- December Birthdays:**
- 10th: Eddie Gee
- Member Anniversaries:**
- 1st: Bill Gates, 62 years
 - 7th: Sam Couchman, 6 years
 - 12th: Simon Canalez, 5 years
 - 16th: Annette Fortier, 31 years

- Wedding Anniversaries:**
- 10th: George and Martha Fareed, 7 years
 - 30th: Carter and Sandra Taylor, 40 years

This Week’s Meeting

Visiting Rotarians: Peggy Price and Carla Kuhns, Imperial Valley Breakfast Rotary

Guest: Mike Pacheco

Recognitions: **President Stephen Smith** recognized **Dillon Faubion** for his 6-year club anniversary and **Jim O’Malley** for his 46-year club anniversary. Congratulations guys, and thank you for your dedication to Brawley Rotary! **Bill Gates** recently celebrated his wife Tina’s 90th birthday. He contributed \$100 to the club and \$100 to The Rotary Foundation. Thank you, Bill and Happy Birthday, Tina!

Program: Sal Ortiz introduced Mike Pacheco, who is a Water Department Manager at the Imperial Irrigation District. IID’s water starts at Imperial Dam which is where the All American Canal starts and is about 20 miles northeast of Yuma. The Colorado River is our only source of water for the Imperial Valley. Our boundaries are about 1 million acres and we farm about 470,000 acres here in the Valley. We have about 3,000 miles of channels and open drains in the IID system. The only section that is lined is 23 miles of the All American Canal. The rest is earthen. Mike offered to give us a tour of the Imperial Dam. They remove silt from the water before it gets to the All American Canal. There is some hydro power along the canal as well. With the water situation the way it’s been, they’ve been looking at new reservoirs. There are about 11 now. They just finished construction the Lloyd Allen conservation reservoir, which has 45 acre storage. Most reservoirs are about 300 acre storage. They are looking at a new reservoir that will have a 21 foot acre reservoir, which would help the farming community have more flexibility. They’ve been working on it for 4 years. There have been delays due to finding Indian artifacts. They got a grant from the Reclamation Board for \$9 million. There are monitors that measure how much water goes out into the river. They think that this new reservoir will help them save 400 acre feet of water. The farming community, cities, and industrial communities were all put on a water budget this year. 96% of the water that comes into our Valley is for agricultural use. In 1988 they had an agreement with Metropolitan Water District, where they agreed to give them 105,000 acre feet per year. In return, they constructed 5 reservoirs and funded 270 miles of concrete lining for us, in addition to 3 interceptor canals, and upgraded our automation system with a 12 hour program. IID was able to hire 14 extra zanjeros. In 2003 they did another water conservation program with San Diego and Coachella, which allowed them to make improvements with laptops on the zanjeros vehicles so they can control the water from their truck. This was a very interesting program! Thank you, Mike!

Quote of the week: "Do the best you can in every task, no matter how unimportant it may seem at the time. No one learns more about a problem than the person at the bottom." -Sandra Day O’Connor