



# THE Rio Rotarian

*"Diplomacy is the art of telling people to go to hell in such a way that they ask for directions." -Winston Churchill*



HELEN MADERE BRIDGE

*"Having fun helping others...watering the rosebuds"*

*-Dr. Ted Schulz*

## Welcome

- Pres. Dave opened the meeting at 7:00 a. m. with bell, but no gavel; Jim Mac led Pledge, Lee led Rotary Grace, Gene led "Tiny Bubbles."

## Visitors, Guests

- Jim Mac presents Jim Lira, Palm Desert Rotary Sunrise Club.
- Jay introduces Rick Carter, Sup't. Twitchell Is. Reclamation District #1601.



*Interact members greeting us at 7:00 a. m. from left: Gabe De La Rosa, Meagan Delancy, Jesus Rivas, Katie O'Connell, and Montana Olson.*

## Treasurer's Report

- Patty outlines financial picture; states that there is \$335 in Marble Draw.

## Celebrations

- Although we recognized Dr. Ted's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, last week, we do so, again.

## Announcements

- Rotary Dist. 2021 & 2023 hold R. I. Int'l. meeting, Sept., in Hawaii. Pres. asks J. Mac to attend at his own expense, but he doesn't jump at the chance.
- J. Mac reads thank you letter from RVHS Principal Vicky Turk to those Rotarians who helped sponsor the prom. She describes in detail the activities enjoyed by the students.
- Affair of the Arts event will be held at Dutra Museum, 4/27/19 from 3-5 p. m. Proceeds will benefit RVHS Art Dep't.
- Jim Lira brings back golf shirts from 29 Palms; they're auctioned off to J. Mac (cont'd. next page)

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ship applications this year.

- SBAC testing is coming up next week.
- Wellness Center project is moving forward and will be meeting with the Leo Club in the near future. Sofia Soldana and Colin Lira are training for sections, right now. Jesus' FFA pig is named "Peanut", and she weighs 270 lbs. Graduation is scheduled for first week in June...that's not so far off!

## Jim Lira's trip to 29 Palms

Local VFW Commander and Jim Lira tour marine base in desert. Jim is impressed by huge store that's likely even larger than Lira's Supermarket! That's where he found those amazing golf shirts. He purchases 3 of them, 2 for our tournament silent auction and one for the VFW golf tournament this summer, honoring Adam Kinser, a kid who worked in Jim's store and was later killed in the mideast war, never having seen his son.

## Program—Rick Carter

Jay introduces our speaker, Rick Carter, who has been the superintendent of the Twitchell Is. Levee District for 30 years. Jay notes Rick was a captain with RVFD, first fire chief for River Delta, and he's a purveyor of water hyacinth!

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for \$175 (+ \$25 for Rotarians wearing red shirts in support of troops); J. Mac gives total of \$200 to Dictionary Fund.

- Ted says kids will get their dictionaries at White School at 10:20 a. m., May 7; first responders to teach kids, May 15.
- Gil gives \$100 memorializing the loss of his eldest son 8 years ago.
- Pres. Dave says next Friday will be our waitress, Ireland's, last day serving us. She's going to work for Abel Chevrolet.

### Committee reports

- Golf tournament—Patrick circulates signup list for members not playing golf to work at tournament, May 15. So far, 15 foursomes have signed up. We need 15 more for success. Please get your gift baskets or \$50 to Patty for silent auction.
- Demotion—Lee says we need to remind Danny that he is the chair.

### Interact

- Field Trips— Engineering Program will travel to Travis AFB, then out to pizza and bowling later. Some students enjoy 3-day Shakespeare Festival at Ashland, OR, and see "Hair Spray," "Between Two Knees," "As you Like it," and Cambodian Rock Band, featuring real Cambodians!
- FFA students preparing their animals for Dixon May Fair. KRVH back online.
- Many students are submitting scholar-

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Star Reporter:  
Jon Blegen  
Editor:  
Bob Bard



Keynote speaker, Rick Carter

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Rick explains that Chinese laborers built our levee system from bundles of reeds and buckets of peat dirt piled on top of each other in the 1850's, creating a potential for "slip circles," in which parts of the levees sink into the ground, destabilizing the levee system.

They must regularly inspect the levee system at

highest tides, utilizing tide charts indicating the longest duration of the highest tides specifically at Twitchell Is.

Setback levees are often used as energy dissipators to preserve the system. Also, rodent control is critical to preserve the system, as burrowing rodents dig tunnels in the levees. Currently, nutria have been found in nearby areas, but they have not yet invaded the district.

Constant conflict between the state of CA and the U. S. Corp of Engineers often complicates the job of managing the natural vegetation that invades the levees.

Rick describes issues surrounding the dredging of the river bottom that causes health risks due to the stirring up the mercury embedded in the river bottom as a result of industrial operations such as mining/refining gold. Jim Mac notes that there's less risk in eating smaller, younger fishes because they haven't lived as long and eaten as much as the older ones, so their tissues won't have accumulated as high a level of mercury as the tissues of a larger fish.

### 50/50 Raffle

Patty's number was drawn, but she got the wrong marble.

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS

DATE	SPEAKER/EVENT	PROGRAM CHAIR
April 3	Jay Forbes, Booster Club—New Van for RVHS	Bob Bard
May 3	TBD	Leon Guzenda
May 15	Marta Dron Nineteenth Annual Golf Tournament	Pat Byron
May 17	No meeting today	
May 24	Report on Golf Tournament (This'll be a first!)	Patty Huyssoon
May 31	[Edwin is thinking...]	Edwin Kingen