



Rotary



BE THE INSPIRATION

# The Joshua Tree



January 8, 2019

## THIS IS "MY TOWN"

One year down, and hopefully many more to go! This week our featured speaker was none other than Victorville City Manager and brand new Rotarian **Keith Metzler**, who spoke about his first year as City Manager.

Keith has been a local boy his whole life. Attending Hook Jr. high and a graduate of Victor Valley High School, he affectionately calls Victorville "My Town". An early connection with Rotary, he attended RYLA as a teenager and took part in the 4 Way Speech contest.

While attending UC Riverside, where he switched his Major from Medical to Business, Keith got the chance to meet then City Manager **Jim Cox** and other city staff while working at Green Tree Golf Course and in 1996 was offered and accepted an internship with the City.

Keith Metzler has now been with the



City of Victorville for 23 years. A lot of that time he has served in Economic Development. In 2011, he became the Assistant City Manager under Jim Cox and took on a more managerial role with the Airport, where he ran SCLA more in a business model to great success, as we see from all the infrastructure there today. One of his greatest achievements has been being an integral part of seeing his town grow.

When Keith sat down for his first day a year ago as the new City Manager for Victorville, nothing prepared him for the big issues he had to face. One of the biggest was the Securities Exchange Commission lawsuit against the City, Airport and even Keith himself! There were allegations of financial mismanagement, but in the end, there were no findings to the case and in August 2018 the suit was settled and Keith's name was dropped completely as a Defendant.

There was also the issue of whether to go with a local City Fire Department or with the County. In agreement with most, the local Victorville Fire Department was the way to go and with Fire Chief **Greg Benson** at the helm, it is proving to be hugely successful all around.

Another challenge that faced Keith was proposed rate increases in sewer and waste divisions during an election year. After looking at the financials for the City, Keith made it his mission to "stop the cash flow bleeding" in Victorville and focus on settling lawsuits, and rebuilding business relationships.

In his first year, Keith Metzler saw some great successes as well! With improved infrastructure, updated parks and new partnerships, 2019 is on track to be a banner year. Acknowledging his team and 400 dedicated employees, Keith will face more challenges and celebrate more success and continue to see "his town" grow beyond what he ever imagined as a teenager.

### This Week's Functionaries

- Invocation: **Bill Edwards**
- Flag Salute: **John Kroencke**
- 4-Way Test: **Corey Beck**
- Finemaster: **Ryan McEachron**

## HOVE'S HAPPENINGS



It was my turn to lead the meeting this week and what a way to start off the new year with two new members inducted! Welcome Keith and Greg!

As the Chair of Membership, it is great to see us reaching towards our membership goals. At our last meeting, we had 44% membership attend which is great, but we still need more applications and invite more guests. With this week added we are at 7 new members and time is running down to hit our goal of 20 by June, so let's all work hard to grow our Club!

I was honored this week to acknowledge the great staff from El Pescador who serves us every week with our delicious lunch and hosting many of our special events. The Club presented **Rico** with a check in the amount of a \$300 tip for the staff to share. Keep up the great work and fantastic food!



Thanks to **Don Lager** for inviting the staff of the Route 66 Museum to share with the Club about the Great American Race coming to Victorville on June 22nd. Our City is the first stop on their long trek, and possibly there could be some great Rotary involvement with this event.

Have a great Rotary week and remember to *"Go Out and Make It Happen!"*



## SPOON OF EXEMPTION

**Pastor Paul Earle** began January with the Spoon talking about Multiplying! That is the name of a current series of sermons happening over at Life Church on Industrial Blvd. In some part of the world there is an over population problem, where in other parts, it is under.



But one fact remains, God made us in His own image and wants us to multiply with His message all over the globe! Find out more at [lifechurchhd.com](http://lifechurchhd.com).

## NEW ROTARIANS



This week we inducted two new Rotarians into our Club, and both from the City of Victorville! 4th Generation Rotarian and Past President **Dwight Johnson** led the induction of Victorville Fire Chief **Greg Benson** and Victorville City Manager **Keith Metzler**. They were joined by sponsor **Jim Cox** as they were welcomed into the fold.

As the new Fire Chief, **Greg Benson** shared that their motto is "Service, Safety and Excellence" and what better way to exemplify that is to be in our service organization.

**Keith Metzler** was once a RYLA student and a participant in the 4-Way Speech Contest as a teenager, so it was fitting all these years later, to become a Rotarian himself!

Both men are excited to connect with other Club members and make a difference in our community! Welcome to the Rotary Club of Victorville!

# BE THE INSPIRATION

## LUCKY BLUE DICE



*New Rotarian Keith Metzler got the chance to start off with some good money, but took another white dice out!*

*We will continue next week with 11 Dice and \$275 for a Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice!*

## FINE SESSION

Due to time restraints, Finemaster **Ryan McEachron** only had time for one fine, and that honor went to **Don Lager** who was fined \$5 for having the Route 66 Museum staff get up and speak about the Great American Race visit.

## RAFFLE PRIZES

Invited guests were big winners this week! **Alan Ricard** from Route 66 Museum won the airplane clock from **Craig Garrick** at ComAV while **Chandale Sutton** from Life Church received a copy of the "Transparent Leader III" book from **Dwight Johnson** as well as a tin of holiday popcorn from **Bill Edwards!** **Rob Kilpatrick** also went home with a popcorn tin and received the \$25 Midway gift card from **Don Lager**. A Subway gift card from **Steve Orr**, along with a Y102 shirt from Dwight will be enjoyed by **Terry Caldwell**, as will **Pastor Paul Earle** who won a Starbucks card and Kat Country shirt.

**Keith Metzler** went away with a cooling towel and candy from **Bill Edwards** and **Corey Beck** will be using a special calendar made by the Orphanage we sponsor in Mexico, which was donated by the Club. Finally, we will see the 2019 Reagan Ranch Calendar again next week we presume, since **Dwight Johnson** won his own prize!

## ROTARY GUESTS

This week it was a family affair as **Dr. Ron Williams** brought his wife **Wanda Williams** to the meeting and **Pastor Paul Earle** had his sister **Camille Randall** at his table along with **Chandale Sutton** from the Life Church. **Don Lager** had a table of guests as we welcomed **Alan Ricard, Patti Bridges** and **Sue Bridges**, all from the Route 66 Museum in Victorville. **Dwight Johnson** was joined by **Jenny DeWeese** from El Dorado Broadcasters and former President of the Rotary Club of Apple Valley and **Keith Metzler** invited his aide **Sue Jones** to the luncheon.

Our only stand-in was **Martial Haprov** for **Brad Poiriez**.

## MEET A ROTARIAN



In what hopes to be a new feature, one of our newer Rotarians is **Esther Mears** from Desert Community Bank. Esther handles all financial products connected with the bank's business and personal clients. The biggest satisfaction she gets from her job is motivating her staff through team building exercises to be better and happier people both inside the bank and in their personal lives. At home Esther is a dog mom and has been with her boyfriend Wes for 18 years.

## THE POLIO PIG

**Collected this week: \$42.00**

**Collected to Date: \$16,024.49**

**Total equals: 93,097 Doses!**

*One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!  
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!*

# Rotary Club of Victorville, CA



The Joshua Tree is a Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Victorville  
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If you are not receiving your newsletter, please contact Editor Chris Ackerman at  
[chris@signifydesigns.com](mailto:chris@signifydesigns.com) or 760-559-1686 to be added to the e-mail or mailing list.

## VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

### Board of Directors

President 2018-2019 .....	Brad Letner
President 2019-2020 .....	Steve Orr
Immediate Past President .....	Dwight Johnson
Treasurer .....	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Administration ...	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations .....	Kevin Kane
President 2020-2021/Club Service .....	Arsalee Morales
Community Service .....	Dwight Johnson
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC .....	Rob Kilpatrick
Vocational Service/Speech Contests .....	Dr. Breada Leach
Scholarships.....	David North
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest .....	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Jon Hove

### Members-at-Large:

Mark Taylor • Dan Dever  
Steve Murray • Russ Stringham • Don Lager

### Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary .....	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Corporal At Arms .....	Arsalee Morales
Programs .....	Mike Page
Public Safety Awards.....	Rick Bessinger
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Marie Langley
S.T.A.R. Students .....	Jim Barnes/Robin Cackler
Fundraising/Flowers and Gifts .....	Teresa Letner
Joshua Tree Editor .....	Chris Ackerman

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship  
at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Green Tree Golf  
Course Clubhouse, 14144 Green Tree Blvd., Victorville

### Make-up Days and Locations

<b>MONDAY:</b>	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	High Desert/Hesperia Club meets 7:00 a.m., Denny's, 14165 Main St., Hesperia Adelanto Club meets 2nd Wed. at Chamber Room at Adelanto Stadium at 11:30 a.m., and the 3rd and 4th Wed. at Budweisers, Adelanto Rd, Adelanto at 8am. San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Los Domingos, 1520 E Main St, 12:00 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	Apple Valley, Apple Valley Country Club, noon Ontario, 12:15 p.m., Doubletree Hotel San Bernardino, Denny's at I-15, 7 a.m. Redlands, Masonic Temple, noon
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

## CALENDAR DATES

- Jan 14:** **Board of Directors Meeting**  
5:00pm Fellowship • 5:30pm Meeting  
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor  
Hesperia and Silica Roads
- Feb 3:** **Super Bowl Party**  
2:30pm  
Home of Russ & Gaylynn Stringham  
16437 Viho Court, Apple Valley
- Feb 23:** **Rotary Peace Conference**  
8:00am • La Verne College  
Registration now open

## UPCOMING ROTARY PROGRAMS

- Jan 15:** **Public Safety Awards**
- Jan 22:** **District Governor John Chase**
- Jan 29:** **Evening Meeting**
- Feb 5:** Bud Green **TOPIC: "What you don't know about the 40,000 babies born with heart defects each year in the USA!"** (Page)

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