

Rotary



The Joshua Tree



February 4, 2020

INNOVATIVE & PROACTIVE CURE FOR HOMELESSNESS

The facts are in, according to **Cassandra Searcy**, the Homeless Solutions Coordinator with the City of Victorville... we are the 2nd highest concentration of homeless in California for the last two years! While you are processing that, there is also the political aspect of it all. In year's past, the Federal and State governments worked on the homeless issue, but now cities are being pushed to the forefront to deal with it and they are ill equipped to do so. Now, any city that is seen as not offering alternatives to this crisis is being sued!



Victorville is not wanting to be put in that situation, so Cassandra and her staff were hired to make proactive changes, as she shared with the Club this week. One year ago, the City of Victorville created the Homeless Task Force and began plans for the Homeless Wellness Center, which will have separate sleeping quarters for men and women who are single, plus pet kennels for those with animals. Basic needs will be met, such as meals, transportation assistance, laundry facilities, mailboxes, and assistance in locating stable housing. There

will also be education in life skills and individual needs addressed, providing a sense of purpose and direction.

Connected to the Wellness Center will be Recuperate Care, as a place for homeless to recuperate after hospitalization to improve health outcomes. As anyone can attest, emergency rooms are overcrowded and expensive. In fact, for some people, one ER visit is equivalent to one year's rent! This new care system will help alleviate the

traffic in our area's emergency rooms.

Innovation is needed to make this project a reality, so Cassandra and the task force are looking into modular construction. Modular construction is a process in which a building is constructed off-site, under controlled plant conditions, using the same materials and designed to the same codes and standards as conventionally built facilities – but in about half the time. This will allow the facility to be in operation much sooner than normal foundation building. To accomplished their vision, they are currently looking into building a 17,000 sq. ft. facility to house both centers. If proven successful, this could also allow for more affordable housing development for more than just the homeless, but for seniors and those on very low income as well, who spend almost 30% of their total year's income on rent.

To get involved or have your voice heard, the Homeless Task Force holds a meeting at City Hall every 2nd Tuesday at 4:00pm.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Bill Edwards

Flag Salute: Rick Bessinger

4-Way Test: Esther Mears

Finemaster: Ryan McEachron

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ORR'S ROARS



We began this week with a great Super Bowl party at the home of Russ and Gaylynn Stringham and followed it up with a very informative presentation by Cassandra Searcy,

about solutions on the growing homeless population in Victorville.

Bill Edwards reminded everyone who plan to attend the Valentine's Dinner on February 13th,



that we need your food choices by this Friday. Along with a choice of beef or fish, there will be gifts for all ladies in attendance plus we will be playing Valentine's Bingo, with gift card prizes! Sign up today and we look forward to love in the air on February 13th.

Don't forget, we still have Luci Lights available. Solar powered and frosted, these lights are great for camping, travel, gifts and more. Only \$19 each and we'd like to get these sold, so please buy one, or two, or even five.

Have a great week!

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Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master this week and welcomed **Don Lager** back to the meetings with a \$40 fine since this was the first time since 2019, he had the opportunity! (20+20 = \$40)!



Terry Caldwell was back and since Ryan had to cover him last week as Fine Maser, Terry was thanked with a \$20 penalty. Others receiving \$20 fines included the **Steve Murray** for getting a free plug as Ryan shared what a great job Bob's Tires did on his Yukon and **Rob Kilpatrick** for showing up to the meeting for once. Finally, the largest fine of the day went to **Jim Cox** in the amount of \$50, in honor of his 50 years as a Rotarian!

Raffle

Rob Kilpatrick was a big winner this week, taking home a Midway \$25 gift card from **Don Lager**, as well as a Valentine's goodie basket from **Esther Mears** at DCB. **Greg Benson** also took home a goodie basket, and Esther herself did not leave empty handed, by winning a pen set and a bottle of Jim Bean, courtesy of **Oscar Garcia**. Oscar also donated a cigar, which will be enjoyed by **Don Lager** and guest



Cassandra Searcy won a Heritage Victor Valley Pop Socket from **Steve Orr**. Finally returning guest **Jim Doltar** brought a couple of necklaces that were won by **Marilyn Buttelwerth** and **Ryan McEachron**.

**ROTARY
CONNECTS
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Big Blue Dice



Rob Kilpatrick won the opportunity to grab the Blue Dice, but he drew white and saved the money for another.

We will continue next week with 9 dice and \$325 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.

Spoon of Exemption

David North won the Spoon for February but was unable to make it to this week's meeting, so he allowed **Oscar Garcia** to sub in his place. Oscar reminded everyone that for the next few days, we will have freezing conditions in the High Desert and with those low temperatures, your plumbing can also freeze, so make sure you leave faucets dripping at night and wrap your outside faucets with dish towels. But, since Elementum Services makes money on catastrophes, if you end up with major water damage, call Oscar at (800) 319-9022



Rotary Guests

Joining our room full of parents, officials and school administrators for our STAR Students, we welcomed **Jim Doltar** who was a guest of **Don Lager**, and pilot **Miguel Mornles**. We also welcomed **Brian Pierce** as a guest.

Our only Stand-in this week was **Regina Weatherspoon-Bell** for **Robert Lovingood**.

S.T.A.R. Students

We once again recognized S.T.A.R. Students this week, from Mojave Vista School of Cultural Arts and Parkview Elementary Prep. Jim Barnes led the proceedings, and certificates were handed out by **Rebecca Tennison** (Rep. Senator Scott Wilk), **Kimberly Messen** (Rep. Representative Paul Cook), **Regina Weatherspoon-Bell** (Rep. Supervisor Robert Lovingood), **Laura Villa** (Rep. Assemblyman Jay Obernolte) and **Keith Metzler** (Rep. City of Victorville).

At Mojave Vista we honored **Alondra Berrios** for showing significant improvement in homework assignments, **Joey Montero**



who went from low grades to being on the Honor Roll in just 1 year, **Daniel Roberts**, who has become a great class contributor and **Meirae Zakour** for showing improvement

not only in her work ethics, but also in her work effort!

Down the street at Parkview, **Dylan Buckley** was recognized for improvements in his attendance and **Aiden Provinziano**, who



takes his tests more seriously and tries his hardest in all assignments.

Congratulations to all of our S.T.A.R.'s!

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: **\$30.50**

Polio Pig: \$24.50 + Jim Doltar: \$1.00 +

Dice (Rob Kilpatrick): \$5.00 = \$36.00

Collected to Date: **\$17,090.91**

Total equals: 95,293 Doses!

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



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2019-2020	Steve Orr
Immediate Past President	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service	Bill Edwards
Community Service	Paul Earle
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC	Arsalee Morales
Vocational Service	Dr. Bowtie Brian
Grants/Speech Contests	TBA
Scholarships.....	David North
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Don Lager
Billing Officer	Esther Mears

Members-at-Large:

Dwight Johnson • Jon Hove • Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Programs	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley & Greg Benson
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Marie Langley
S.T.A.R. Students	Jim Barnes/Robin Cackler
Fundraising/Flowers and Gifts	Steve Orr
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

MONDAY:	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
TUESDAY:	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
WEDNESDAY:	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, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, AV, 1st, 2nd and 4th Thurs Ontario, 12:15 p.m., Doubletree Hotel San Bernardino, Denny's at I-15, 7 a.m. Redlands, Masonic Temple, noon
FRIDAY:	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

Calendar Dates

Feb 13

Valentine's Dinner

6pm • El Pescador Victorville

May 1-3

Assembly and District Conference

Assembly May 1, Conference May 1-3
Westin Pasadena
191 N Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 792-2727

June 6-10 International Convention

Honolulu, Hawaii
Register through DaCDB

Upcoming Rotary Programs

Feb 11:

Public Service Awards (DeAtley)
Ethics Essay Winner (Boyd)

Feb 18:

Sid Hulquist, **Topic: "Desert Wildlife, History and Landscapes"** (North)
Dan Stover Music Contest - Club Level

Feb 25:

Jason Lamoreaux, President, Coldwell Banker
Real Estate Solutions, **Topic: "A New Horizon for Real Estate in the High Desert"** (Basen)

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