



The Joshua Tree

February 14, 2023

TALES FROM THE CITY MANAGER

As a 39 year resident of Victorville, **Keith Metzler** has seen our region grow. Celebrating five years as City Manager for the City of Victorville, Keith shared his history and outlook on the future of Victorville.

The City of Victorville is 74.4 square miles in size, 445 miles of roadway, and a population of 136,000. In total they employ 550 city staff members, 148 Sheriff contract employees and 105 Sheriff Officers on the street, protecting citizens.

Victorville is set up as Council-Manager form of Government. In a Council-Manager Government, an elected city council serves as the city's primary legislative body and appoints a chief executive officer called a city manager to oversee day-to-day municipal operations, to draft a budget, and to implement and enforce the council's policy and legislative initiatives. Council members used to be voted in by residents of Victorville at large, but they are in a transitional phase where two of the council members have been voted in by District. Soon, all council members will be voted in that way. The Victorville City Council listens to the public, shapes



and forms policies and initiatives for the City, and as City Manager, Keith is directed to oversee and make sure all directives by the council run as smoothly as possible.

After receiving his Masters in Business Administration from CSUSB, Keith began his career with the City of Victorville 27 years ago. He has worked 3 years as Deputy Director of Redevelopment, 8 years as Director of Economic Development, 7 years as

Assistant City Manager, and the last 5 years as City Manager.

When Keith began his first day as City Manager, he was faced with severe fiscal challenges such as the Solid Waste Fund running out of money, Airport Bond default, and much more. There were also several large legal challenges with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the State Water Board. On top of all that Keith was charged to move away from a County Fire Department and form a City Fire Department.

In his five years, all major litigation has been resolved, all Bond defaults were cured, the General Fund reserve increased by \$1.3 million and Keith developed a financing plan that successfully supported the reactivation of the Victorville Fire Department with a 60-member department.

The future of Victorville looks just as bright. On the horizon there will be new strategic initiatives for recruitment, employee development and succession, an expanded police station, a new and expanded library, and a recreational sports complex.

To find out more information, please visit victorvilleca.gov.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Mike Johnson
Flag Salute: Ryan McEachron
4-Way Test: Bill Edwards
Fine Master: Ryan McEachron



ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Keith Metzler for taking the time to come and share

your history as City Manager of Victorville. You have done so much to make our city a better place.



We have had a couple of epic events over the last week! Last Thursday, 25 couples came to Chateau Chang for our annual Rotary Valentine's Dinner. Great food, music and lots of love in the room! Chuck & Krissy Utgard surprised the club with all of the wine for our Valentine's party! Over a \$500 "surprise" for the attendees!!

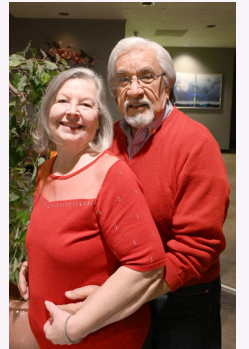


On Sunday, we gathered at the home of Steve & Pam Murray for our Annual Super

Bowl Party. At the party, Steve & Pam received a phone call from Mattie Brown! (one of the very first "Rotary-Ann's" in the club, and wife of Past President Dr. Gerry Brown). She said, "I know the Victorville Rotary Club must be having a Super Bowl party and I just want to say I really miss those parties." Steve had a very nice conversation with Mattie and she really misses all of us very much.

Arsalee

My Funny Valentine



IMAGINE ROTARY



IMAGINE ROTARY

Big Blue Dice



Arsalee Morales had the chance to grab the Blue Dice, but picked a white one and saved the chance for another Rotarian.

The pot continues to grow next week with 10 Dice and \$300 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice.

Raffle

Bill Edwards once again brought a bevy of prizes which included Coco Bombs to **Ryan McEachron** and **Chris Ackerman**, who also took home a cookie cutter set. **Arsalee Morales** won a potted plant kit, as did **Russ Stringham**, who also went back to Utah with Christmas scented cookies and a large Christmas gift basket, all donated by Bill. Russ also received a Victor Valley Transit USB Bus and **Rob Kilpatrick** won a VVTA cell phone holder, both donated by Ackerman. Rob also got a set of Star Wars shot glasses from Bill and a bottle of wine from **David North**. **Donna Wells** won the final gift, a hot sauce dynamite pack from Bill's collection of goodies.

Rotary Guests



Sue Jones, Assistant City Manager **Tony Carmargo** and Victorville Council Member **Leslie Irving**.

This week we welcomed Real Estate professional **Carman Major** who attended as a guests of **Mike Johnson**. Joining our speaker **Keith Metzler** we welcomed PIO

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master this week and began by fining **Keith Metzler** \$50, ten dollars for each of his five years as Victorville's City Manager. **Russ Stringham** was penalized \$25 for taking a phone call at every Rotary meeting, and \$10 each to **Bob Basen** and **Robert Lovingood** for leaving the meeting early. **Kirsten Acosta** was asked to pay \$25 for the Foundation's Hall of Fame Gala on February 25th.



Finally, **David North** asked for wings to be on the menu at the Rotary Super Bowl Party and then didn't show up! To make matters worse, he still played in the betting pool and won \$200, the most of anyone else! He was ordered to pay a \$20 fine.



Spoon of Exception

Mike Johnson had another week with the Spoon and shared that DCB will soon be re-branded as Flagstar Bank, with a new look but services will remain intact. DCB is now offering a 13 Month CD at 4.00% APY with at least \$10,000 new money. Please see Mike Johnson for any details.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$17.00

Polio Pig: \$12 • Dice (Arsalee Morales) \$5 = \$17.00

Collected to Date: \$19,559.52

Total equals: 100,207 Doses!

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



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2022-2023	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2024	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025	Need Candidates
President 2025-2026	Bill Edwards
Immediate Past President	Jon Hove
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary	Margaret Cooker
Club Service	Steve Murray
Community Service	Bryan Gillespie
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/Ryla & TLC	Ryan McEachron
Vocational Service	Bill Edwards

Members-at-Large: David North, Mike Johnson, Rob Kilpatrick & Ron Boyd

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Pam Murray
Billing Officer	Esther Mears
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Dawn Quigg
Flowers and Gifts	Linda Hove
Foundation & Grants	Margaret Cooker
4-Way Speech Competitions	Mike Johnson
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Membership.....	Steve Murray
Programs	Mike Page
Publicity/Public Relations	Need Volunteer
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, Jeff Armstrong and John Wickum
Sergeant At Arms.....	Steve Murray
Scholarships.....	David North
S.T.A.R. Students	Maureen Mills and Michal Krause

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Bear Valley Country Club, 13229 Spring Valley Parkway, 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., Mile High Cafe, 8832 Orange St., Hesperia San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, <i>No Longer Meeting</i> 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

Mar 13: Board of Directors Meeting

5:00pm -Fellowship
 5:30 pm Board Meeting
 ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency
 17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA

April 22: District Assembly

Sitting Bull Middle School
 Apple Valley, CA

May 5-7: District Conference

Horseshoe Hotel & Casino
 Las Vegas, NV

Upcoming Programs

Feb 21: 4-Way Speech Contest (Johnson)

Feb 28: Carl Coles, Superintendent, WUHSD Topic: "TBA"

STAR Students - Adelanto Elementary School District
 (Edwards)

March 7: Cindy Bostick Topic: "12 Principles for Producing Results" (Johnson)

March 14: George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest (Boyd)

March 21: OPEN

March 28: STAR Students - Oro Grande School District (Edwards)

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