

Be a gift to the world



THE JOSHUA TREE

Rotary

Club of Victorville, CA



April 4, 2016

The Passionate Congressman



The 4-Way Test. Rotarians live by it. According to our Congressman, **Colonel Paul Cook** (Ret). some of those in our Government need to start adopting our creed and soon!

Congressman Cook spoke at this week's meeting to an over capacity room and shared that this election year is becoming nonsensical in the way the candidates are running their campaigns. He is fearful for our country and it shows in his passion.

Paul Cook shared his number one rule: To keep people informed about what is going on, in a way that people can understand. He understands that citizens are disillusioned about how the present leadership is being run in Washington, Congressman Cook has attempted to tell fellow Congressmen

to knock it off and start working together. Unfortunately, that is easier said than done in this day and age where scandals seem to be more important than the issues.

As a retired Marine Officer and Purple Heart recipient, Paul Cook understands the importance and readiness of our military to compact against ISIS, North Korea, and Iran. This ongoing war with terrorists is going to be a long fight and it boggles his mind that Obama has signed a treaty recently with Iran...a country that hates the USA!

Using a military analogy, Congressman Cook sees us as his troops, and he is here to lead and protect us. Past the terrorists, and the importance of securing our borders, there are people right in our own community that need our help. As Rotarians, we are on the front line to help those in need in our own country. If we don't care and become apathetic, then who will be there to help others. We are encouraged to keep the 4-Way Test close to our hearts, and to stay in the fight!

Our world is very complicated and right now it is in a mess, and the Rotary Club of Victorville is honored to have Congressman Colonel Paul Cook here to be our voice to protect us, our future, and our future generations.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Van Young
Flag Salute:	Sam Lucia
4-Way Test:	Mark Taylor
Song:	Al Castellucci



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Tafoya Talk...

This week's Rotary meeting with **Congressman Paul Cook** was absolutely fantastic! Thank you to all who attended the meeting and invited guests from all over the Victor Valley.

The 2016 Super Build is coming up on Saturday, April 30th down in Mexico, this year, Rotarians from all over our District will be gathering to build, in one weekend, two homes and a community building! Best of all, we will hand over the keys to the families while we are there. A worthwhile opportunity to be a part of. Please sign up on the District 5300 website, on the DaCbd.com calendar or email robin@smithteamlasvegas.com for more information.

Visiting Rotarian **Pat Orr** shared information on the upcoming Golf Tournament to be held on Saturday, April 30th at the Apple Valley Golf Course for the Rotary Club of Apple Valley. Sign-in begins at 7:30am with a shotgun start at 8:30am. A foursome is \$400 or \$125 per person. All proceeds benefit local Rotary youth programs through the Apple Valley Club. Pat encouraged us to form a team or two and go out for a great day of golf with fellow Rotarians and members of our community. For more information and to sign up, please call (760) 985-9995.

Raffle Prizes

Don Lager gave away some Midway t-shirts this week that will be worn by **Steve Orr** and **Melanie Lovingood**, who also took home a book of devotions from **Pastor Paul Earle**. **Dwight Johnson** had more tickets to the upcoming Pet Expo that will be used by **Robin Cackler** and **Ben Tafoya**, and some sweet treats that will be enjoyed by **Paula Porter**.

Dr. Hough donated a nice selection of goodies as well. A key-chain went to **John Kroencke**, **Violette Robers** won a small plant and a note holder went to Don Lager's guest. Finally, **Ryan McEachron** donated a bottle of wine, which will be poured with love by **Mark Taylor**.

Spoon of Exemption: Van Young



This week was the first week for **Van Young** at the Salvation Army with the "Spoon". Van has a wonderful after school program that focuses on the educational success for the children they host in the afternoons. With grades continuing falling throughout the High Desert, the kids in

the Salvation Army program are flourishing! Three weeks ago at church some of the children were thanking God that their grades were changing and even one girl is now on the honor roll at her school! If you would like more information on how you can volunteer and support our local Salvation Army, please speak with Van Young.

Lucky Blue Dice



It was time to start with a new round of the elusive blue dice. First up was **Don Lager** who won the chance to add some money to his pocket, but grabbed a white one, and donated his \$5 winning back to the Polio Pig!

We continue next week with 13 dice and \$225 up for grabs for one lucky Rotarian.

Fine Session

Terry Caldwell was back as our Fine Master and to honor retired Colonel, **Congressman Paul Cook** asked all Veterans in the room to stand. They were fine free due to their "fine" service to our country (*pun intended*). All those who did not stand were told to check in with **Margaret Cooker** to receive a \$10 fine. Terry said anyone who did not check in with Margaret would receive a \$50 fine next time Terry was Fine Master! Hope you non military Rotarians checked in...

Russ Stringham fined himself an "arrogance fine" of \$20 for taking up not two, but three spaces with his brand new Cadillac Escalade! **Ryan McEachron** was offered to give himself a 'reinstatement fine" since no one can even remember the last time Ryan attended a Rotary meeting. Ryan gave \$100.

Finally, **Dan Munsey** was given a fine even though he had to leave the meeting early. The Victorville Police now have a dog, and when Terry was a firefighter in San Jose, they had a Dalmatian, so Dan will be fined \$5 a meeting until the Victorville Fire Department gets a dog at the station!

Rotary Guests

Because of this very special Rotary meeting we had a full room of community leaders and elected officials. From the City of Hesperia we welcomed **Mayor Bill Holland** and council members **Russ Blewett** and **Paul Russ**. **Tony Penna** from Liberty Utilities was a guest of **Violette Roberts**, **Al Castellucci** invited **Tim Evans** and **Paula Porter** had two guests at her table, **Midge Baltimore** and **Margie Simpson** from Senior Affair. **Dr. Hough** brought half a table full of associates from Brandman University, Burning Bush Church and Park University. **Terry Caldwell** had **Charley Caldwell** attend with him today, **Steve Orr** invited **Casey Armstrong**, and **Ron Williams** invited **Chris Ruely** and **Lisa Crosby**. **Mike Page** invited **Richard Hall** from the Mojave Water Agency, **Lynnette Holland**, and staff from the Daily Press.

Out stand-ins this week were **Violette Roberts** for **Eldon Heaston**, **Melanie Lovingood** for **Robert Lovingood** and **Cathy Caruso** for **Mary Hennessy**.

Literacy Project

Brad Letner has a passion for education. He believes that education is a cure for poverty. With this mindset, Brad started the Literacy Project as part of our Community Service for this year. With the aide of a computer program, 3-4 year olds attend three sessions, Tuesday - Thursday from 2-3pm where after completion, they will be able to read at a 1st grade level by the time they start kindergarten.



The project was budgeted for 5 children, but on opening day, 18 families were waiting to get in! They have even had to send away 6 families because they just cannot fit any more in! This shows there is a need in the Victor Valley and our residents want to see filled!

The sad part, even after many pleas, Brad is still very low on volunteers! **Margaret Cooker** is there on most days and **Chris Ackerman** volunteers on Wednesdays. Even though this is Rotary project, Brad has been forced to go to the community to ask for volunteers due to the lack of Rotarians signing up to help out.

We all understand life is extremely busy and it is very hard to get away in the work week, but we ask that you do what you can to work your schedules to fit in 1 hour a week for these kids. The Rotary Literacy Project has the seeds to be a long standing success in the High Desert, but it will die and burn unless more Rotarians step up and help out.

The Polio Pig....

Collected this week: \$13.00

Polio Pig: \$8.00 + Dice (Don Lager): \$5.00 = \$13.00

Collected to Date: \$13,010.16

Total equals: 87,9088 Doses!

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

VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President	Ben Tafoya
Immediate Past President	Steve Murray
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation	Margaret Cooker
Incoming President/Membership	Dwight Johnson
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service & President 2016-17	Dan Munsey
Community Service	Brad Letner
Youth Service/Scholarships	Ginger Ontiveros
Vocational Service	Jim Barnes
International	Dan Dever

Members-at-Large:

Rob Kilpatrick • Mark Taylor • Russ Stringham

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Sergeant At Arms.....	Gary Adams
SongMaster	Al Castellucci
Programs	Mike Page
Wine, Jazz & More	Dan Munsey
Cards and Calls	Pam Murray
Newsletter	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 Maverick Stadium at 11:30 a.m., and the 3rd and 4th Wed. at Astro's Burgers, 11619 Rancho Rd, Adelanto at 8am. San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Quigley's Outlet Center, Lenwood, noon University Prep, 13853 Seneca Rd, 2:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	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
FRIDAY:	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

CALENDAR DATES

- April 9: District Assembly**
Sitting Bull Academy
19445 Sitting Bull Rd., Apple Valley
- April 15-17: RYLA 2016**
Thousand Pines Camp, Crestline
Facilitators Needed!
- April 21: Past Presidents' Dinner**
Mama Carpino's, The Village in Apple Valley
\$20.00
- April 28: Fireside Chat with the Murray's**
Time and location TBD
- June 25: Demotion Party**
4:00 p.m. • Dever's Home, Apple Valley

Upcoming Rotary Programs

- April 12: Junior High 4-Way Speech Contest**
(Barnes)
STAR students from Village, West Palms &
Victor Valley Christian
- April 19: Cari Thomas - United Way**
RYLA students talk about their
experience
- April 26: S.T.A.R. Students from Riverside Prep**
- May 3: Melda Gaskins, Principal, Cobalt
Institute of Math & Science, Topic -
"An Introduction to a School Worthy of
Praise." (Williams)**

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If you are not receiving your newsletter, please contact Editor Chris Ackerman at
chris@signifydesigns.com or 760-559-1686 to be added to the e-mail or mailing list.