

The Joshua Tree

May 11, 2021

AN ELEVATOR SPEECH...IN FIVE MINUTES

Our scheduled speaker this week was none other than Captain **John Wickum** of the San Bernardino County Sheriff Department, but due to police activity, he was unable to share. Instead all attending



Rotarians were given the opportunity to share a few minutes about their business, or anything that was on their hearts.

David North began the proceedings on Zoom, sharing that the Bank of George, where he has been employed for the last 3 years, is doing well, providing Small Business SBA Loans, Real Estate Loans and much more. Most recently the cycle ended on Covid-related PPP Loans. The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on payroll. As the State is now opening, these loans are done and now the same people are applying for the PPP Forgiveness Process!

Next on Zoom, the Club heard from **Bryan Gillespie**, Principal at Options for Youth. Currently the school is helping students get caught up,

after home schooling for over a year, and preparing them for in-classroom learning.

In keeping with education, **Michael Krause** and **Stephen Quintero** from the Adelanto Elementary School District, are excited to welcome back students for Enrichment Classes in June and July. Classrooms will be updated with masks, plexiglass, hand sanitizers and more. Great news was also shared that one of their teachers was awarded "Teacher of the Year" and three students received "Outstanding Student" recognitions from the Mojave Environmental Society.

Chris Ackerman spoke for Victor Valley Transit (VTA Executive Director **Kevin Kane** was also in attendance), and shared that along with some of their great programs, like the current Vaccine Xpress Shuttle Bus, VTA is also proud of their partnerships throughout the Rotary Club. Between partnerships with Victor Valley College, the Victor Valley Rescue Mission, plus the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and others, VTA is honored to work with others to help make the High Desert a place to thrive.

This Week's Functionaries

- Invocation: **Bill Edwards**
- Flag Salute: **Steve Orr**
- 4-Way Test: **Steve Orr**

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What a way to band together! After Captain John Wickum was unable to join us this week to speak, I was so happy our members spoke off the cuff about their businesses and turned a negative around, into a

very informative Rotary Meeting!

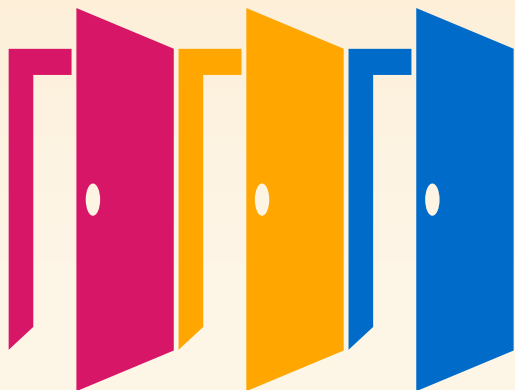
Less than two weeks until our Comedy Night Fundraiser at the home of Jon and Linda Hove on May 22. Remember half of the \$60 you spend comes back into our Club! There will be a BBQ Dinner, silent auction and much more. Bill Edwards shared that we are still looking for more auction items to raise funds at the event, so please donate an item that someone else would love! Don't forget to bring a lawn chair, jacket and blanket.

I am happy to say I will finally be demoted on Saturday, June 26! After a two year stint as your Rotary President, I will be passing the baton over to Jon Hove at the home of Bill & Linda Scott. The party starts at 4:30pm and I hope to see you all there.

Finally, please sign up for our 5th Tuesday Rotary Meeting at Korean BBQ on June 29th. The fellowship will be at 5:30pm.

See you next week!

Steve



SPEECHES...

Continued from page 1

Speaking of MDAQMD, **Brad Poiriez** spoke of his five years at the organization, and not only of their regulatory work, but also of the millions of dollars they give away through such programs as cash for cars, lawn equipment exchange and incentives for clean air/electric vehicles.

Corey Beck, the Vice President of Operations for family business Beck Oil, let the Club know not only do they provide gas to local stations, they also handle the commercial industry such as trucking and for cities, and fueling cards for companies around the region.

Dwight Johnson spoke next about the 6 stations on 7 frequencies that make up El Dorado Broadcasters! Their heritage station is Y102 that began in 1988, with their latest station, Hip Hop 96.3, a mere five years old.

Rob Kilpatrick did not speak on his career as Senior Project Manager with Dave Evans and Associates; he will speaking in two weeks to the Club about that, so he chose to speak from his Soapbox instead. Rob implored the Club to support the Daily Press newspaper. Rob seemed dismayed that he was learning what was happening around the community through our Rotary Club, instead of reading about it in the paper, which is running at bare bones due to low subscribers and more.

Mike Page did not talk about St. Mary, but instead shared some information about the latest drought warning and what the role of the Mojave Water Agency is. News is coming from the State that we are entering another drought, but Mike shared that we have already been in a drought for some time. The Agency serves as a water wholesaler and their job is to store water so residents of the High Desert have what they need to survive.

Guest **Peter Allan** was not left out and was given an opportunity to share. Peter retired 6 years ago as both an Economics and Marketing Professor at Victor Valley College, but kept his small law practice opened, until last year, when he chose to go 100% into retirement or unemployment, as he calls it.

Finally we heard from **Tina Escareño**, who is a retired nurse of 17 years, who is now involved in lingerie women's parties, which provides a unique opportunity to speak to women about the reality of HIV.

Rotary Opens Opportunities

Big Blue Dice



Dwight Johnson had the chance to get the Blue Dice and take home some money, but drew a white one out of the bag.

We will continue next week with 13 dice and \$225 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.

Raffle

Guest **Peter Allan** was the big winner in this week's raffle! Peter went home from the meeting with a 2021 Travel Calendar and Fox 106.5 Shirt, both courtesy of **Dwight Johnson**, as well as a \$25 Starbucks gift card, donated by Heritage Victor Valley Medical Group. The only other winner was **Tina Escareño**, who will enjoy a bottle of wine she won from Dwight.



Scholarship Update

David North gave an update on this year's Scholarship activity. Currently we have three High School graduates who will be sharing \$2,500 in scholarship dollars and \$4,000 scholarships for VVC students, one for each of the following categories: Aviation, Business, Leadership, and Nursing,

There were multiple applicants for each category, which is now down to the top three in each. Volunteers are needed to read the applications and essays for the top three in each subsequent category to select the winner of those scholarships. If you'd like to volunteer to read and judge, please contact David at dnorth@bankofgeorge.com.

Rotary Guests

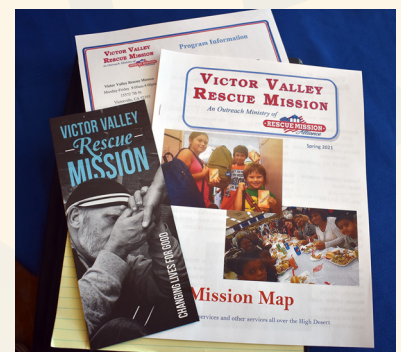
This week we welcomed **Choy Rio** as a guest of **Tina Escareño** and Victor Valley Transit Facilities Director **Ron Zirges** attended with **Kevin Kane**. We also had High Desert Icon and Apple Valley Rotarian **Peter Allan**, attended the meeting as a guest of **Mike Page**.

Spoon of Exception



Bill Edwards had the Spoon again this week and shared information found in their Mission Map publication, which comes out twice a year. Each version features updates on all of the Victor Valley Rescue Mission's programs

such as the Thrift Store, Emergency Food Pantry, Mobile Hot Shower program, Life Recovery program among others. Each issue also contains up to date resource information for programs throughout San Bernardino County, including fellow non-profit organizations. For more information please contact the Victor Valley Rescue Mission at 760-955-5958.



The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$16.00

Polio Pig: \$11.00 + Dice (Dwight Johnson): \$5.00= \$16.00

Collected to Date: \$17,901.23

Total equals: 96,916 Doses!

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

Rotary Club of Victorville, CA



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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.

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Grants.....	Margaret Cooker
Speech Contests	Jessica Perez
Scholarships.....	Esther Mears and Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Dwight Johnson
Billing Officer	Esther Mears

Members-at-Large: Dwight Johnson & Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttlerwerth
Programs	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teressa DeAtley, John Wickum
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Dr. Bowtie Brian
S.T.A.R. Students	Jim Barnes
Fundraising.....	Bill Edwards
Flowers and Gifts	KayMarie Gregory
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 San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, ZOOM Meetings, 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

- May 17: Board of Directors meeting**
5:30 pm Meeting *In-Person or Zoom*
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor
Hesperia and Silica Roads
- May 22: District Conference**
2:00 pm via Zoom
- May 22: Night of Comedy**
6:00 pm Home of Jon & Linda Hove
\$60 per person
- June 12-19: Taipei Convention (Virtual)**
- June 26: Demotion Party**
4:30 pm Home of Bill & Linda Scott
18136 Pier, Spring Valley Lake

Upcoming Programs

- May 18:** Capt. John Wickum, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Victorville Division
Topic: The Racial Profiling and Identify Act (AB 953) (Page)
- May 25:** Rob Kilpatrick, Senior Project Manager, Dave Evans & Associates **Topic: Growth Coming to the High Desert - An Engineers Perspective** (Page)
- June 1: OPEN**

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