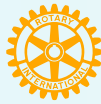
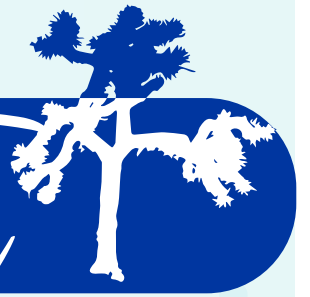




Rotary



# The Joshua Tree



May 26, 2020

## FEEDING WHEN FOOD IS SCARCE

We've all seen it. You go into the grocery store and see aisle after aisle empty. This has been the "new normal" and has affected everyone in our community. Although we are impacted, it has been very challenging to **Bill Edwards** and the Victor Valley Rescue Mission.

Bill shared with the Club this week that their Thrift Store is the social enterprise of their organization that funds the Mission, but due to COVID-19, has been closed since March 19th. Because of that, it brought on immense challenges for them.

The Rescue Mission already fed many people, but as a result of the pandemic, the need has risen 500% for low income families and seniors in the High Desert. Seniors have been hit especially hard for those on a fixed income. In most of these circumstances they pay rent, electricity/water, medicines, then whatever is left over goes toward food, and now with hoarding, there is much less of it.

The homeless have also been hard. Most of the homeless can get by with handouts from the public, but with people honoring stay at home orders, there are less people out on the road and a lot of less handouts given. In turn, the homeless have also turned to the Rescue Mission for food. The Food Pantry needs have risen from 500 to 1000 needing to be fed per month. To facilitate this need, the High Desert Food Collaborative has been essential.

In 2016 Kaiser Permanente put out a call to action for feeding agencies in the High Desert to work together and form a collaboration to feed those in need in our community. The Rescue Mission was asked to be the lead agency. After a year, there were 30 agencies involved and now in 2020 there

are 69 active agencies working together to handle the need. 500lbs of food is needed, and boxes of dairy, meat

and produce are handed out to families. At a recent "give-away", an average of 800+ vehicles were served! Monday – Thursday seniors can come by and pick up food boxes as well. The outreach does not stop just here in the Victor Valley. The organization reaches Barstow, Baker, Hinkley, all the way to Needles! With so many agencies working diligently,

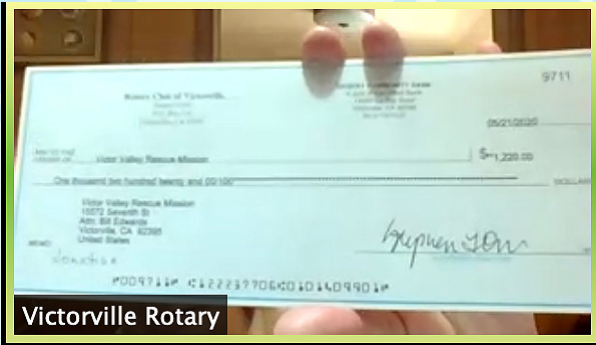
most of the time the food can get from the store, to the Food Hub and into people hands within a single day or sometimes only hours.

Their Shower Ministry, "Shower of Blessings", has also seen a rise in activity due to Coronavirus. Many options for showers for the homeless and needy were shut down, so the mobile shower is now more active than ever. Since the shutdown they have provided 1,048 showers, complete with a new pair of socks and undergarments given to the individual after each bathing. Like hunger, being unable to bathe for days on end overtakes people and their morale. The smiles on their faces and joy they receive from a bite to eat or a clean shower, gives the Rescue Mission opportunity to minister and provide additional opportunities to get off the street and find hope through the ministry.

Since March, more prisoners have been released, additional displaced homeless, and their COVID-19 shelter, these last couple months have been very busy for Bill and his staff, but they have successfully managed it and are proud to say there have been no positive cases of Coronavirus. Find out more at [vvrescuemission.org](http://vvrescuemission.org).



## GIVING BACK



This week the Rotary Club presented a check to Bill Edwards and the Victor Valley Rescue Mission in the amount of \$1,200. This amount is all due to our Club Members who have donated their monthly meal budgets to the Mission! Thank You!

## ITEMS TO DONATE?

During this time of COVID-19 and quarantined at home, many of us have had ample time on our hands to clean the clutter and collect unwanted items in our homes to donate. The Club is looking to see it would be viable to have a truck from the Victor Valley Rescue Mission come to an upcoming meeting for us to bring our items to donate. If you have such a need, please contact **Mike Page**. If there is enough need, we will do this.

## WE ARE BACK!

**Beginning next week  
Tuesday, June 2, 2020  
We will be returning  
to our regular lunch  
meetings at El Pescador  
Restaurant.**

**Please observe all  
safety measures that  
will be in place to  
keep within State and  
Federal mandates.**

## WORLD AFFAIRS SEMINAR 2020



**REGISTER TODAY FOR OUR VIRTUAL SEMINAR!  
JUNE 22-25, 2020**

**[worldaffairsseminar.org/register/](http://worldaffairsseminar.org/register/)**

The 2020 World Affairs Seminar theme is **Hunger in a World of Plenty**. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's seminar will be offered virtually. We expect those who attend include delegates from over thirty nations. Each delegate will have her or his own story and perspective. By the end of the seminar, each delegate will know the stories of others and will have gained skills to help them shape the world they will inherit.

### **The 2020 virtual World Affairs Seminar will include:**

An international diplomacy exercise based on food chain issues;

Virtual field trips to a variety of food production facilities;

Engaging dialogue around the topics of:

Food chains and food insecurity,

Hunger at home and abroad,

Rethinking world food production and distribution systems

Keynote presentations from:

Dr. Kelly Ottman, Milwaukee School of Engineering (Milwaukee, WI)

Neal Patel, Amazon (Seattle, WA)

Eilish Zembilci, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, DC)

Representatives from Rotary International

...and more!



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR



I hope this finds you all in good health and ready as the opening of businesses continues. I was informed last week that some of you have not been receiving the updates and they may have been lost in cyber space. Many many thanks!

I want to thank those of you that heard through the grapevine of my fall. I am doing much better and all is healing well. It is amazing how far reaching that grapevine is. I received a note from a Rotarian friend of mine in Australia and we didn't even post it on social media. Imagine how we can make the grapevine work for us in our expression of Rotary and Rotary service. Let's continue to post all that we are doing in the local communities and continue to shine the Rotary Legacy.

### A few quick reminders and notes:

1) We have just over 30 days to earn Rotary Foundation banners. Many of your clubs are very close - have your Foundation Chairs take a gander at your status online for the following banners and let's see if we can't get you over the top for 2019-2020.

100% Foundation Giving Club

100% Every Rotarian, Every Year Club

100% Paul Harris Society Club

Rotaract special recognition - Clubs can earn a special certificate when at least 5 members of a Rotaract Club cumulatively contribute at least \$50 to TRF during the Rotary year.

2) Considerations before resuming in-person meetings - please visit our website for documentation to help clubs prepare for the continuation of the in-person meetings. Please take a look, share it with your incoming Presidents and incoming Board. Together, help plan. Your experience will be an asset to those conversations.

3) I have completed the review of Rotary Club Central and will be contacting clubs that are still needing to update their goals/results from this year individually later today and tomorrow. For those of you that have completed your entries - you are well ahead of the timing - thank you! Remember, club awards will be based and in alignment with the Rotary Citation. I will send out an update on Awards for 2019-2020 this coming week as we learn more about the reopening efforts.

4) As an advance screening - Foundation Chair, Susan Johnson, Retired Police Chief and Governors Aide, Don Fernald and I met to open the PEPPAs. In total we had 7 PEPPAs. I will be posting the pictures and videos in the upcoming June Newsletter for the entire district. A couple of pictures have been attached above as an advance screening. Please be sure to thank Susan Johnson for making the trek from Nevada so that we could open PEPPA. She has led our Foundation team with excellence.



Together, PEPPA raised \$2,438.00. We added .42 cents to round it up to an even dollar amount. This does not include those clubs that indicated they would be sending in checks directly to the Foundation. Please note that the Foundation is requesting that all donations be made online due to the reduction in staffing during the Safe At Home Orders. I cannot thank you enough for helping me honor my Aunt Sue and helping to finish the fight to eradicate Polio once and for all. If COVID-19 has taught us anything is how quickly a virus can spread. Imagine if we stopped our efforts on the Polio Front how quickly it could spread again. Please continue to give towards the eradication of Polio. It is never too late to sign up for Rotary direct. Every penny counts...

Thank you for also continuing the legacy within each of your own clubs - you are truly amazing!

5) Please remember to keep sending me pictures of your service projects. I would like to post them in the next District Newsletter.

There are simply no words to express how much each and every one of you is appreciated - under your leadership, our clubs and members have accomplished many "firsts" which not only helped us continue the amazing legacy of those that came before us, but has set the tone for all that follow! You are all my super heroes!

**Hugs,**

**"Mama Lu" Governor**

**Rotary International District 5300**



## 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/Ryla & 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.....	Dr. Bowtie Brian
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

<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 San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	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
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

## Calendar Dates

### June

### End of Year Celebration

Home of Don and Pam Lager

**Canceled**

New Date and Location **TBA**

# Rotary

Club of Victorville, CA



## Upcoming Rotary Programs

- June 2:** T. Kirk Riding, Capstone Consulting Group  
**Topic: COVID-19 and the Stock Market - What's Next?** (Page)
- June 9:** Dr. Ron Williams, Superintendent,  
 Victor Valley Union High School District  
**Topic: Education in the COVID-19 Environment?** (Page)
- June 16:** Chris Ackerman, Marketing Manager,  
 Victor Valley Transit Authority **Topic: The Frontline Life** (Kane)
- June 23:** **OPEN** (Please Contact Mike Page)

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