



The Joshua Tree



June 5, 2018

The Quest for Fire

For the many years **Jim Cox** has been involved with the City of Victorville, he has been there through some wonderful high points as well as some horrible lows, but one thing he did not plan on was having to fight for fire!

The City of Victorville has a long rich history with our Fire Department; there is even a Fire Museum on 8th Street, but in 2016 something happened that no one was expecting. With contracts coming up, the former City Manager



suggested that instead of funding our own Department, that the City should contract with the Country Fire Protection League. The council decided against that decision and that is how Measure K was born.

Measure K would allow for a half cent sales tax to Victorville residents, and in turn would allow the City to have their own

Fire Department and provide local control in the area. As well, it would make the City accountable and allow them to purchase new equipment and personnel, that hadn't been done in 5 years.

Of course the Country was not happy that the Council wanted to keep local control and did everything they could to stop Measure K, through accusations that the sales tax collected could be used for anything the council wanted, even though it was earmarked

strictly for the Department and personal hit pieces we mailed.

The Measure needed 66% to pass. It only received 64% of the vote. Even though the outcome was not what Jim and other council members have hoped for, we still need a Fire Department. The City will be going with the County for a contract lasting from July 2018 through March 2019. From that we have a new Chief **Greg Benson**, five new pieces of equipment, new fire fighters, and a much needed face lift for a few of our stations. The best part is that the City of Victorville will be ready to go with our own Fire Department in 9 months!

Jim Cox finally shared for Rotarians who want local control and accountability need to get involved, write the Daily Press and get your voice heard!

This Week's Functionaries

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Invocation: | Jim Doltar |
| Flag Salute: | Rick Bessinger |
| 4-Way Test: | Joe Alvarez |
| Song: | Al Castellucci |
| Finemaster: | Ryan McEachron |

Dwight's Writes



After all of the fun last week at Republic, it was great to see a full room of members back in the swing of our regular weekly meetings. Thank you **Jim Cox** for the passionate

talk on the City's desire to have its own Fire Department.

As I finish off my final month as your President, we still have a lot going on within the Club, cumulating with the introduction of **Brad Letner** as your new President. After our June 19th Luncheon, I am inviting all Rotarians to stick around for about 90 minutes as **Mike Page** will lead our Annual Program Committee meeting to discuss programs you want to see here next year. This is a perfect time to have your voice heard!

Continue to keep **Gary Adams** in your thoughts and prayers as he had a fall recently, that has set back his return to the Club. We all wish Gary a speedy recovery and look forward to his place as our Sergeant at Arms soon.

On Saturday, June 30th will be my official Demotion Party! This year's event will be held at the home of **Brad and Teresa Letner** with lots of food, fun, fellowship and announcement of Rotarian of the Year! Please make plans to join us!

Finally, the thought of the week is "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."

- Vincent Van Gogh

Raffle Prizes

The raffle began with sets of pens, lip balm and cell phone holders from **Mike Johnson** at DCB that were won by **Ryan McEachron** and **Corey Beck**. Not to be outdone,

David North donated an Alaska USA tumbler that went home with **Donna Wells** and a Journal Notebook that will be used by **Craig Garrick**.



Back to **Mike Johnson**, he

will enjoy his to-go coffee from **Capt. Rick Bessinger** from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and **Ryan McEachron** won again, with a candle warmer he received from **Jim Murray** from Bob's Tire.

For those who voted this Tuesday, a special raffle took place, and **Al Castellucci** took home a crisp \$5 bill!

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed Pastor Paul's daughter, **Anna-Kay Earle** who attended to see her dad receive his Paul Harris Pin, and **Valene Vetack** invited **Holly Marsden** from Choice Medical Group to enjoy the luncheon. We also welcomed City Fire Chief **Greg Benson**, Read B4K Coordinator **Colleen Calderon**, and the family of **Myriam and Eli Alvarado**.

Our Stand-ins this week were **Jimmie Smith** for **Mark McKay** and **Melanie Lovingood** for her husband, Supervisor **Robert Lovingood**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$43.00

Polio Pig: \$38.00 + Dice (Ryan McEachron): \$5.00 = \$43.00

Collected to Date: \$15,338.93

Total equals: 91,726 Doses!

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



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Lucky Blue Dice



Ryan McEachron got the chance to get some big money but took another white dice out of the bag!

We continue next week with 9 dice and \$325 for one lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice!

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master and first set his sights on Brad Letner. Brad was given a \$50 fine for taking the job with the City of Adelanto, and because Ryan nor anyone he spoke with, has ever seen a title on a business card saying "Acting City Manager".



Dr. Ron Williams was also given a \$50 fine due to the high number of students who graduated this year in the High School District.

Captain Rick Bessinger went away with \$25 less in his pocket because detectives took camera footage from Ryan so they could investigate a bank robbery, but still have not gotten back to him about someone stealing his newspapers!

Mike Johnson was fined \$8 for the DCB Billboard that features staff members off the 15 Freeway and Melanie Lovingood was given a \$70 fine for the seven times Jim Cox mentioned Robert's name in his presentation, but Jim took the fine for her instead.

Read B4K

Summer is here and that means another year of Read B4K is in the books! This week, Brad Letner, along with Project Coordinator



Colleen Calderon recognized Eli, one of 14 students who graduated from the program this year who will be starting kindergarten in the Fall reading at a first grade level! Eli's mom, Myriam, said that he is very excited for Kindergarten, thanks to the program. Eli received a certificate, a book to continue his reading through Summer and a \$50 gift card for school supplies, so he will have the proper tools when he starts school.

Paul Harris Fellow



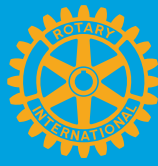
Pastor Paul Earle was the latest Rotarian to receive his Paul Harris Fellow Pin with 4 Sapphires, recognizing over \$5,000 in donations to the Rotary

Foundation. Monies have gone towards the International Water Tank Project in Ensenada, Mexico and our ReadB4K Program.

Spoon of Exemption

The Spoon was up for auction again and Don Lager almost took the Spoon for another month at \$50, but Steve Orr came in and stole it for the final sum of \$75!

Heritage Victor Valley Medical Group now does Business 2 Business Presentations to show companies and employees all of the benefits of Heritage as well as group packages, so you can find the best fit for your company. Along with this they also provide a tour of Heritage and provide lunch.



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2016-2018	Dwight Johnson
Immediate Past President	Ben Tafoya
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Administration ...	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service & President 2018-2020	Brad Letner
President 2020-2021/Fundraising/Billing Officer	Rosanne Weathers
Community Service	Victor Rocha
International Service	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/Ryla & TLC	Rob Kilpatrick
Vocational Service/Speech Contests	Ryan McEachron

Members-at-Large:

Steve Orr • Mark Taylor • Dan Dever • Rob Kilpatrick • Jon Hove
Steve Murray • Russ Stringham

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Sergeant At Arms	Gary Adams
Song Master	Al Castellucci
Programs	Mike Page
Public Safety Awards	Jon Schuler
Scholarships	David North
Dan Stover Music Contest	Marie Langley
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
S.T.A.R. Students	Robin Cackler
Flowers and Gifts	Trish Johnson
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, Los Domingos, 1520 E Main St, 12:00 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

- June 11: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship • 5:30pm Meeting
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor
Hesperia and Silica Roads
- June 19: Annual Program Committee Meeting**
1:00pm Immediately Following Luncheon
- June 30: Demotion Party**
Home of Brad and Teresa Letner

Future Rotary Programs

- June 12:** Don Ferrarese, Former Major League Pitcher
TOPIC: "More Stories From My Time in the Big Leagues- Encore Presentation" (Page)
- June 19:** Victor Valley College Professor, David Wilkerson
TOPIC: "Unusual and strange requests for military stock footage to be used in television shows and movies." (Wagner)
- June 26:** President Dwight Johnson
TOPIC: "My Second Year - A Year in Review"
Treasurer Donna Wells
TOPIC: "Update on our Club's Finances"
(Johnson)
- July 3: DARK**

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