



The Joshua Tree

June 6, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING IN THE HD

MEEC (Mojave Environmental Education Consortium) is the non-profit arm of MDAQMD (Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District) to improve the environmental literacy of students, teachers, and communities of the Mojave Desert Region by actively providing educational resources for educators. Program Specialist **Samantha Duvall** shared some of their programs with the Club this week.

Their mission is to link teachers with high quality environmental and STEM education resources to improve the environmental literacy of California's students. All of MEEC's services are provided free of charge.

Their largest and most popular program is the Envirobus. This program awards hands on learning field trips that has already served over 900 schools and over 70,000 students to such locations as cement mines, water reclamation plants, zoos and National Parks.

For the past decade the Solar Oven Cook-Off has been a huge hit with students from around the area. Weighing



under 15 lbs, student teams design unique solar cookers and develop original recipes for the cooker and recipe competitions. First place is \$300 for both constructions and recipes.

The Environmental Maker Fair allows students to tinker and explore with problem solving and hands on learning. Students apply science, technology, engineering and math to make connections to school, community, work and more.

Environmental Mini-Grants are offered to teachers in the High Desert to help fund environmental projects in the classroom. These Grants are given to teachers to pay for unique and engaging STEM and environmental projects. Grants are between \$600 and \$800 and each year 15-18 are awarded.

The School Garden Grant Program has funded over 70 gardens throughout the High Desert. During the pandemic, grow kits were sent home to students so they could continue to learn while away from school.

Scholarships are also given out. For students, five \$3,000 scholarships are granted to graduating high school seniors who are declaring a major in the environmental or engineering field.

Educators are also recognized for the annual Teacher of the Year and Teachers of Excellence awards. MEEC honors teachers for their outstanding commitments to environmental stewardship in their schools, their students and the community.

Find out more at meeconline.com

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Chris Ackerman

Flag Salute: Robert Lovingood

4-Way Test: Mike Johnson

Fine Master: Ryan McEachron



ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Samantha Duvall from MEEC for stopping by and sharing all of the different programs for students

and teachers in the High Desert. We wish you much success as your non-profit continues to grow.



As you saw in last week's Joshua Tree newsletter, Margaret and I had a wonderful time celebrating our 2023 ReadB4K graduates. A wonderful program that began at at Hook Community Center and is now at five different facilities. We had 21 graduates and were presented \$100 for clothes, shoes, and more, plus they will each get a loaded backpack before starting Kindergarten.

My Demotion Party is coming up on June 24th at 4:00pm at the home of Dan & Kris Dever. I will finishing my presidency and Steve Murray will begin his with a Hispanic themed Fiesta! This is a FREE event.

Movie Night at the Hove's is coming on August 19th at 6:00pm and the movie has been selected! This time it will be the 1958 film "Auntie Mame" starring Rosland Russell and Forrest Tucker. Jon and Linda are looking for attendees to sign up to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. Please put your name down and be a part of this great event!

Finally, "Train your mind to see the good in everything. Positivity is a choice. The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts."

Arsalee

The Marilyn Buttelerwerth Community Service Scholarship



The late **Marilyn Buttelerwerth** continues to leave her mark in the High Desert. A Rotarian and community icon, Marilyn served a secretary for High Desert Opportunity, which has since become an endowed perpetual scholarship to the Victor Valley College Foundation. HD Opportunity chairs **Terry Saenz** and **Gwen Bedics** were left with a large sum of money and in honor of Marilyn, donated the money to the Club with a brand new scholarship.

President **Arsalee Morales** was presented with a check this week in the amount of \$20,645.71 for the new "Marilyn Buttelerwerth Community Service Scholarship". This scholarship will be awarded to community members who have made an impact in the community. Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 and Gwen will be will be on the selection committee.



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**



IMAGINE ROTARY

Big Blue Dice



Robert Lovinggood 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 7 Dice and \$375 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice.

Raffle



For our raffle this week, **Chris Ackerman** gave away a Micro-Link thumb drive that will be used by **Bryan Gillespie** and a Victor Valley Transit phone holder that was won by **Don Lager**. **Bill Edwards** donated a lavender grow kit that will

be planted by **Bo Goulet**, hot cocoa mix that will be enjoyed by **Ryan McEachron**, and cocoa bombs that went to **Stew Anderson**.

Finally, Bo brought a bag of Hawaiian Coffee that will be enjoyed by **Robert Lovinggood**.

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed **Karen Diaz**, Representative for **Scott Wilk**, plus **Terry Saenz** and **Gwen Bedics** representing High Desert Opportunity.

Our only Stand-in this week was **Martial Haprov** for **Brad Poiriez**.

June Birthdays

Mike Page	June 12
Mike Johnson	June 25
Chris Ackerman	June 26
Keith Metzler	June 27

June Anniversaries

Bob Basen	39 Years
Mike Page	31 Years
Esther Mears	4 Years

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master this week and gave **Arsalee Morales** a \$10 fine as soon as she let go of the Spoon of Exemption and levied the same amount to **Robert Lovinggood** before he was able to take possession of it.

Fines of \$10 also went to **Bill Scott** for being late to the meeting and **Don Lager** for sharing tales of his recent trips to Egypt and Jerusalem. Sheriff Captain **John Wickum** left the meeting fine free since the Green Tree Bridge still is clear of road racing skid marks.

Spoon of Exception

Arsalee Morales had her final week with the Spoon and once again shared information about the \$99 Summer Special from Apple Valley Communications. Find out more by visiting their website at www.applevalleycommunications.com.

Next it was time to raffle the Spoon off for the month of June and **Robert Lovinggood** garnered the Spoon for \$100. Robert shared that things are going wonderful at ICR Staffing and they are very busy at the moment.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$9.00

Polio Pig: \$4 • Dice (Robert Lovinggood) \$5 = \$9.00

Collected to Date: \$19,759.52

Total equals: 100,507 Doses!

**One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!**

Rotary

Club of Victorville, CA



The Joshua Tree is a Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Victorville
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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.

VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2022-2023	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2024	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	James Rightmire
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/RYLEA & 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	Rob Kilpatrick
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, Thursday various meeting locations and times. 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 12: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm -Fellowship
5:30 pm Board Meeting
ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA
- June 24: Demotion Party**
4:00pm • Home of Dan & Kris Dever
13166 Waco Road, Apple Valley
- Aug 19: Movie Night at the Hove's**
6:00pm • Home of Jon & Linda Hove
Film: Auntie Mame
Please sign up to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert

Upcoming Programs

- June 13:** Chris Ackerman, Senior Marketing/PIO, Victor Valley Transit **TOPIC "Betrayal: My Years in the Music Industry"** (Page)
- June 20:** Tony Winkel, Senior Hydrologist, Mojave Water Agency **TOPIC "2 Dams and a River"** (Page)
- June 27:** Arsalee Morales and Donna Wells **TOPIC "Club End of Year Update and Celebration"** (Cooker)
- July 4: DARK: HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**

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