

Rotary



The Joshua Tree



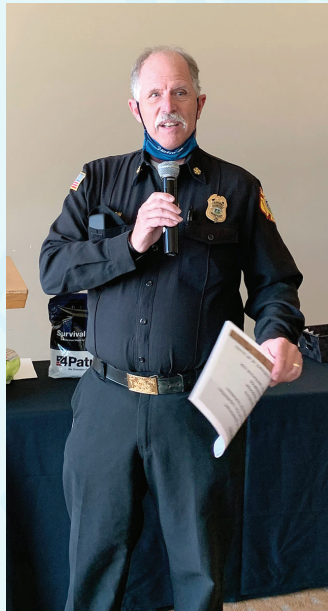
June 30, 2020

THE EVOLVING LIFE OF FIRST RESPONDERS

Life is changing all around us for many different areas and occupations. For Fire Chief **Greg Benson** and SB County Sheriff Captain **Rick Bessinger**, the life of a First Responder is much different now than this time last year.

Facing the Coronavirus Pandemic, our Victorville Fire Department were presented with a new set of priorities from the City in the form of the ability to maintain continuity of Government, the ability to maintain emergency services, a focus on hygiene for the homeless population and coordinating disaster response.

In response they looked at the COVID-19 situation from a County perspective and developed a better coordinated response that continues to this day. The Fire Department modified their response plans and developed an "assess and refer" mode of determining if a person needed to go to the emergency room or not.



Greg and his staff saw a decrease in the amount of 911 calls between April-May, compared to last year. The difference was, even though the calls decreased the severity of the calls increased. An example is there were less traffic collision calls, but the severity of crashes was much larger due to excessive speeding with less cars on the road.

For the Rick and the Sheriff's Department, they made the decision early on to not cut services but had to find a way to mitigate

risk to officers. A big way to accomplish this was in terms of how 911 calls were handled. Now, when someone calls they have to go through a series of health related questions to better assess if anyone at the location has/had COVID-19 or been in contact with someone who has. Based on the information they receive, allows the officers to properly prepare what PPE protective gear they need to wear.

While 'zero bail' is still in effect, when someone does have to go to jail, both the individual as well as the officer must be tested before entering the Detention Center. Unlike Greg, they saw calls rise, mainly in domestic violence and child abuse, which he attributes to more people stuck at home due to COVID-19.

Finally, Chief Benson gave a shout out to one of our own, Dr. Bowtie Brian! Brian was essential providing Antigen Testing Kits to First Responders, allowing them to serve the community while knowing they have not contracted the virus.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: **Chris Ackerman**

Flag Salute: **Kirk Riding**

4-Way Test: **Don Lager**

Finemaster: **Ryan McEachron**

ORR'S ROARS



Hello Rotarians! We once again had a sparse crowd this week to hear both Captain Rick Bessinger and Chief Greg Benson talk about changes in their Departments amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic. This brings up

an interesting proposition on whether we should go back to Zoom meetings until more Rotarians are ready to return, or keep holding meetings unless the State or County tells us we need to halt. What are your thoughts?

We are sad to announce that due to Coronavirus, this year's RYLA has been officially canceled. We are hoping for a bigger and better camp experience in 2021.

We have Movie Night at the Hove's coming up on July 25th. In addition to film, fun and fellowship it will also be a fundraiser, taking the place of our annual Fall fundraising event (formally Wine, Jazz and More). We are looking for large raffle prizes for the event to raise much needed funds for the Club. One of these prizes will be a "Wagon of Booze" provided by President Steve Orr. Please bring something to donate to the Wagon! Also, please take this opportunity to invite friends and potential members, so they can see first hand why this Club is so special.

In conclusion, this will be my final message to you as your 2019-2020 President.

Next week you will hear

from

your

new

2020-2021

president...me!

Have a great

Rotary week.

Steve

www.victorvillerotary.org

4 Way Speech Regionals

On Saturday, June 27 the 4 Way Speech Regional Competition was held at El Pescador in Victorville. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there were only two competitors who went head to head to take the title. Taking the award this year, representing the Apple Valley Club was **Karyn Pham** from Apple Valley High School. Karyn will next be heading to UC Berkley studying Computer Science.



The runner-up was **Cindy Palma** representing our



Club, a recent graduate from Victor Valley High School, who will be attending UCLA in the Fall, majoring in Biology.

Thanks to local Toastmasters, who served as event judges and Cindy Palma's sister who was the timekeeper.



Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD

Big Blue Dice



Chris Ackerman won the chance to grab the big money, but No Go! He drew White and saved the Blue Dice for another.

We will continue next week with 9 dice and \$325 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed **Jessica Perez** once again from the MRGroup and **Ernestina Escarto** who joined us to hear our speakers.

Raffle

The Booze Wagon for our Fundraiser at the Hove's Movie Night event began to grow this week. **Dwight Johnson** donated a bottle of Merlot and a bottle of Southern Comfort that were won by **Donna Wells** and **Ryan McEachron**, but both Rotarians donated their winnings to the Wagon!

Both Ryan and Dwight will be a little safer thanks to the bottles of Victor Valley Transit hand sanitizer they both took home from **Chris Ackerman**. If the world continues to fall apart, **Corey Beck** will have at least one day of food, thanks to the survival food kit that was brought by Dwight, and both **Greg Benson** and **Donna Wells** will be doing some shopping with the \$25 Midway Home Solutions gift cards they won from **Don Lager**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$7.00

Collected to Date: \$17,263.48

Total equals: 95,638 Doses!

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

July Birthdays

Matthew Farias	July 1
Sam Grandlienard	July 1
Glee Heikes	July 3
Paula Porter	July 5
Jim Mettler	July 7
Donna Wells	July 20
Dr. Bowtie Brian	July 26
Lynne Cole	July 28

July Anniversaries

John Kroencke	51 Years
Cherie Range	23 Years
Kevin Kane	22 Years
Paula Esteban	21 Years
Marilyn Buttelerwerth	21 Years
Ron Hughes	18 Years
Craig Garrick	17 Years
Kay Marie Gregory	16 Years
Nancy Noble	16 Years
Diane Anderson	15 Years
Pam Murray	6 Years
Chris Ackerman	5 Years
Maureen Mills	5 Years
Victor Rocha	5 Years
Trish Johnson	4 Years
Jim Mettler	4 Years
Esther Mears	2 Years

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Finemaster this week but only had one fine ready to hand out, and that was to **Donna Wells** in the amount of \$10. She received this fine because the IRS has chosen not to extend the tax deadline for the year.



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/RYLEA & 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

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, 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
FRIDAY:	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

Calendar Dates

July 13: Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 pm Meeting
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor
Hesperia and Silica Roads

July 25: Movie Night and Fundraiser at the Hove's

5:30pm. Home of Jon and Linda Hove
Movie: Notting Hill (1999)
Please Bring Side Dish or Dessert plus Lawn
Chairs AND Blanket

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Upcoming Rotary Programs

July 7: Matt Cabe, Editor, Daily Press **Topic:**

A Journalist's Perspective of COVID-19 (Page)

July 14: Jason Lamoreaux, Coldwell Banker

Commercial Real Estate **Topic: 2020 Real Estate Forecast (Revisited) COVID-19** (Page)

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