



The Joshua Tree

August 22, 2023

WORKING TO FIX THE FEDERAL BUDGET

U.S. Congressman **Jay Obernolte** was our guest speaker this week and shared a lot of information on the hard work that he is doing in Washington D.C. on behalf of California's 23rd District. Jay proudly represents California's 23rd District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has served on the committees on Natural Resources, Budget, and Science, Space, and Technology and in a leadership role as the freshman class representative to the House Republican Policy Committee. He passed 6 bills, of which three were signed into law, to help protect our nation's supply chain and improve our defense against cyberterrorism. He also authored and cosponsored an additional 55 bills to tackle inflation, lower energy prices, crack down on drug trafficking across the southern border, and work to prevent wildfires.



He also shared information on the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act. He secured an important win for High Desert military bases and surrounding communities which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. It increases support services on remote and isolated bases, while an amendment protects the annual King of the Hammers event which takes place on shared-use land.

Another area of importance to Jay is H.R. 4278 that he partnered with House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman

Mike Bost (R-IL) for the Restore Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Accountability Act. The bill comes in direct response to an ongoing joint investigation conducted by Rep. Obernolte and Chairman Bost into a flood of credible whistleblower reports alleging a hostile work environment at VA Loma Linda. As of this month, this continues to be an ongoing issue.

His most important issue is in regard to federal spending. We currently have the largest federal deficit in the history of Congress. 24% of what we make in this country goes through federal spending, and cannot be allowed to continue. If not brought under control by the time we reach the 2040's, the deficit will surpass Medicare. Jay feels that we need to get it under control by cutting spending, and not raising taxes, which some on the "other side" want to do. According to Jay, "We don't have a tax problem, we have a spending problem." If something is not addressed soon with some Bills on the table, there could be a Government Shutdown on October 1st.

In the area of Artificial Intelligence, Jay and others in the House have introduced the Creating Resources for Every American To Experiment with Artificial Intelligence Act of 2023 (CREATE AI Act). The CREATE AI Act establishes the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) as a shared national research infrastructure that provides AI researchers and students from diverse backgrounds with greater access to the complex resources, data, and tools needed to develop safe and trustworthy artificial intelligence.

Finally, Jay shared a Bill he is proposing to combat the fentanyl crisis in this country. If Jay has his way, any drug dealer who knowingly mixes fentanyl with another known substance, for example marijuana, and markets it to users as only marijuana, can be charged with attempted murder, or first degree murder in cases that results in death.

To keep up with all of the latest news and updates on U.S. Congressman **Jay Obernolte**, please visit his official website at obernolte.house.gov and sign up for updates directly to your email or smart phone.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Bill Edwards

Flag Salute: Don Lager

4-Way Test: Chris Ackerman

Fine Master: Ryan McEachron



MURRAY'S MINUTE

Thank you to Congressman Jay Obernolte for taking time out of his very busy schedule for stopping by and give us all an

update on all things happening in our Federal Government. I also want to all of those who brought guests and potential members to the meeting. It was great to see such a full room. Let's keep it up!



The wind and threat of a hurricane did not stop a handful of Rotarians from spending Saturday night at the home of Jon and Linda Hove for our "Movie Night at the Hove's"! We had some wonderful food, fun and fellowship.



Congratulations to Chris Ackerman who received his Blue Badge in record time! He completed all of his mandatory requirements and then some.

Pat Thomasson and Ben Tafoya are working hard for our "Beer Pour" fundraiser on September 17th at Hesperia Lake Park for Mexican Independence Day Celebration. Once everything is lined up, Arsalee Morales will begin seeking volunteers.

Don't forget next week is our 5th Tuesday Evening Meeting at Pancho Villa at 5:30pm on Restaurant Row. Hope to see you there!

Steve

Rotary Guests

This week, we welcomed a whole hosts of guests. **Bryan Gillespie** invited Options for Youth staff members **Stefanie Montoya, Millie Escalante, Katie Jones, Kathleen Lowman, Michelle Murray, Nicole Barnes, Christine Leal, Deanna Pucket, Theresa Borden, and Vivian Bain**. From Robar Enterprises, **Jon Hove** had **Danielle DiRosa, Bui Quitelle, Cantine Muir, and Jaime Hove** at his table, while **Mike Johnson** invited Pastor **Rick Stonestreet** from Mountain View Church.

Robert Lovingood invited a slew of guests to this week's meeting including from ICR Staffing **Mike Thrappe** and **Colleen Hunt**. From Cal Portland Robert brought **Rich Walter** and **Jamie Ambrose**. He also invited **David Rib, Jeff Dunagan, plus Tony**



Turner from Mitsubishi Cement, **Matt Bath** from Advanced Disposal and **Luis Lopez** from Cemex.

President **Steve Murray** once again invited **James Campbell** from Sunland Ford and **David North** also brought **Allen Williams** from Sunset Hills again as his guest.

From the Mojave Water Agency, **Mike Page** invited **Yvonne Cox, Charlene Engeron, Kapo Coulibouy, Tony Winkel, and Adrian Anabtian**. Other guests brought by Mike included **Richard Schmitt** and **Bob Wyatt**.



We were pleased to see **Leslie Murray** join husband **Jim Murray** at the meeting and joining Congressman **Jay Obernolte** was aide **Sonia Miranda**.

Our only Stand-in this week was **Terry Saenz** for **Robert Lovingood**.

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD



CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Big Blue Dice



David North 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 in 2 weeks with 6 Dice and \$400 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice.

Fine Session



Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master and since it was such a rare sight to see President Steve Murray in long pants, he deserved a \$10 fine. Sharing traveling tales netted Don Lager

a \$20 penalty for his visits to Germany and France, while Jim Murray received a fine of \$10 for their large family reunion. Mike Page left with \$10 less in his wallet for there being water again in the Mojave River and Ryan gave himself and Chris Ackerman \$10 fines for having daughters starting as High School Seniors this week.



Raffle

In this week's raffle, Bill Edwards donated a double boiler set which will be used by Arsalee Morales, a desk mat that went to Bryan Gillespie and a guest won a \$10 Cinemark gift card. Bill himself won a Y102 shirt from Pat Thomasson as did a guest at the meeting. Another guest, Jim Cox and Jim Murray won ICR goodie bags with gift cards from Terry Saenz, and Don Lager received a DCB goodie bag with a \$10 Starbucks gift card from Mike Johnson. Mr. Cox and Mr. Lager also left the meeting with bottles of wine courtesy of Steve Murray and David North. Finally, both Jim Murray and Bryan Gillespie will use the Victor Valley Transit USB thumb drives they won from Chris Ackerman.

Proposed Member

If you protest the admission of this member please respond in writing by 5 p.m. August 28 to President Steve Murray.

Jason Lamoreaux

**Coldwell Banker Commercial
CEO**

Classification: Real Estate: Administration

Sponsor: Bob Basen

Requests a Transfer from the Apple Valley Club

Proposed Member

If you protest the admission of this member please respond in writing by 5 p.m. August 28 to President Steve Murray.

Carl Coles

**Victor Valley Union High School District
Superintendent**

Classification: Education: Administration: High School

Sponsor: Steve Murray

Spoon of Exemption

Arsalee Morales had a week with the Spoon and shared that Apple Valley Communications continues to have their \$99 Security Special for home and small businesses. The special comes with a wall panel, wireless communicator, seven contacts for doors or windows, a motion detector and key fob. Find out more information by calling Apple Valley Communications at 760-247-2668.

Arsalee also shared on a personal note that she is now a Notary Public! If you are in need of Notary services, you can call Arsalee directly at 760-985-9581.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$49.00

Polio Pig: \$44 • Dice (David North) \$5 = \$49.00

Collected to Date: \$19,922.52

Total equals: 100,829 Doses!

One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!

\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2023-2024	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	James Rightmire
Immediate Past President/Special Projects.....	Arsalee Morales
Treasurer/Scholarships	David North
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants	Margaret Cooker
Club Service/Membership	Bryan Gillespie
Community Service/Speech Contests	Mike Johnson
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/Ryla & TLC/Ethics Essay.....	Ron Boyd
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
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Membership.....	Steve Murray
Programs	Mike Page
Publicity/Public Relations	Rob Kilpatrick
Public Safety.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, 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, DiNapoli's Firehouse, 1358 E Main St, Barstow, CA
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

- Aug 26:** **Rotary Service Project: Second Life**
10:00am • Life Church Victorville
12199 Industrial Blvd., Victorville
*Donate Clothes, Help pass out water and more.
See Mike Johnson to volunteer and help!*
- Sept 11:** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm -Fellowship
5:30 pm Board Meeting
Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA

Upcoming Programs

- Aug 29:** **5th Tuesday Evening Meeting**
5:30pm, Pancho Villa Fresh Grill
11620 Amargosa Road, Victorville
- Sept 5:** John Kozyra, Executive Director
Operations, St. Mary **TOPIC: Lack of
Doctors in the High Desert - One
Solution to the Crisis** (Page)
- Sept 12:** David Greiner, Greiner Law Group
TOPIC: Trusts (North)
- Sept 19:** John Kozyra, Executive Director
Operations, St. Mary **TOPIC: Sexual
Assault in the High Desert - Why it
is Under Reported and what Can be
Done to Assist the Victims** (Page)
- Sept 26:** **San Bernardino County Sheriff
Shannon Dicus** (Wickum)

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