



ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY

THE JOSHUA TREE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

Positive Changes in the First District

The job of First District Supervisor comes with a lot of negatives. Upset constituents, media, board members disagreeing...you get the picture. Sadly, there a lot of positives you rarely hear about and **Robert Lovingood** was on hand this week to share some of those with us.

A perfect example of this was the recent Blue Cut Fire. Most reports we heard were about the devastation, but one story not told was heartwarming. Robert shared the

story of two children who arrived at the Fairgrounds with bags of dog food and water to feed displaced dogs. Their mother shared with Robert that the children refused to go to bed until they could do something to help.

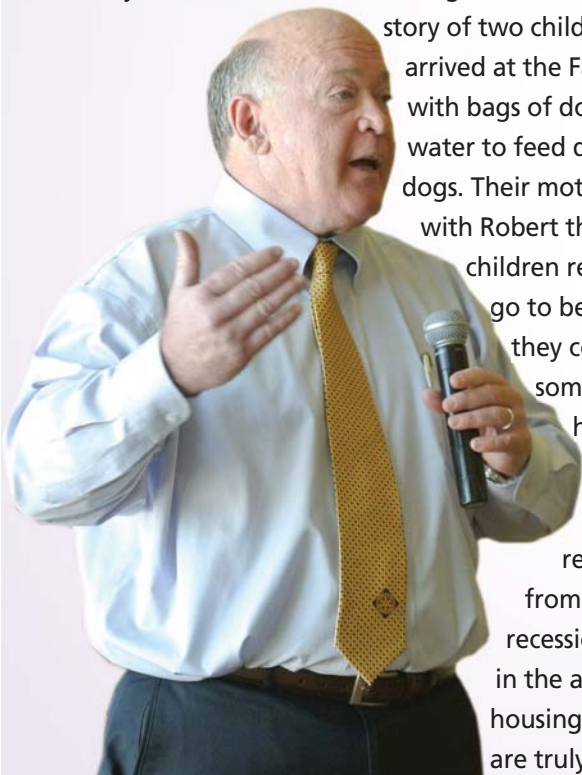
We have been slowly recovering from the 2008 recession and in the area of housing, things are truly looking

upwards, in the way of costs. Prices of housing is up 84% and in the area of unemployment, over 29,000 new jobs have been created over the last five years in our County. Included in that figure are the 3,000 jobs created at SCLA alone! **Robert Lovingood** took this time to discuss how businesses can grow within our community. He shared that business owners need to focus on staff retention. The best way to do this is by training your staff for new positions in the company, instead of recruiting from the outside. You have a much better chance to retain staff loyalty by taking the time and expense to train one of your own, whereas hiring from outside the area will increase the chances of that person moving on when something "bigger and better" comes along. Other ways to help companies succeed in the Victor Valley is through better benefits and wage increases.

In the field of law enforcement we have increased from 30 to 42 new Sheriffs in unincorporated areas such as Phelan and surrounding areas, to help fight crime throughout the high desert. If you take a drive late a night around 7th Street and La Paz, you will get a first hand look at the reality of homelessness and mental illness in our community. Robert and his staff are addressing this issue immediately, to help the suffering and also bring the crime rate down.

The High Desert suffers as well with illegal trash dumping and if you take some time to walk into the desert, you will be truly amazed at what you will see. To clean our desert up, Robert used non-violent inmates from our local prisons to pick up over 230 million tons of trash over 116 acres north of Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley!

As the Victor Valley continues to move forward and grow, the Rotary Club of Victorville would like to thank Robert and his staff for the hard and tireless work they do everyday to sustain and build upon the value of community and growth we feel as Rotarians.



This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Van Young
Flag Salute:	Sam Grandlienard
4-Way Test:	Russ Stringham
Song:	Al Castellucci

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Dwight's Writes

It was great to see a full room this week to welcome our speaker, First District Supervisor **Robert Lovingood**. Let's keep it up Rotarians!

Mike Page spoke this week to the assembled room to let us know that nominations are now open for our 2019-2020 Club President. Please take some time and nominate an individual worthy of this position. Nominations are open until September 15th, and can be turned into myself, **Ben Tafoya** or **Margaret Cooker**. The Rotary International Convention for that year will be held in Hamburg, Germany!

First Lady **Trish Johnson** made her homemade birthday cookies this week for the birthday boy **Steve Orr**. As you can tell from the photo, he may not be too thrilled to now be 60!



Wine, Jazz and More is just a couple of weeks away and your committee is hard at work for final preparations. There are 4 tables that still need sponsors and we only have 6 pairs of tickets left for individuals, so please buy a table for your company and let's sell the event out!

Finally, my thought of the week is from **Albert Einstein**, "We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them".

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$20.00

Collected to Date: \$13,489.32

Total equals: 88,037 Doses!

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

Rotarian of the Month



Congratulations to our Rotarian of the Month, Gary Adams on being selected for this honor. At every weekly Rotary meeting, Gary is the first one to arrive to set up and the last one to leave, tearing down. This is not a new position, but one Gary has been doing for the Club for many years. Congratulations and well deserved.

Rotary Guests

This week **Chris Ackerman** brought candidate for the VESD Board, **Patty Plaxton** to the meeting and **Pastor Paul Earle** invited his daughter **Abigail Earle** to join us.

Al Castellucci brought two guests, **John and Marie Brown**, and once again **Mary Hennessy** had **Leslie Martija** from Gentiva at her table. Finally, **Robert Lovingood** had one of his aides, **Melissa McClain** in attendance and **Kevin Kane** invited **Shea Johnson** from Daily Press to report on Robert's presentation.

Condolences

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of Charlotte Pote, mother of Immediate Past District Governor Randy Pote. Charlotte passed away peacefully and is now free of the terrible ravages of Alzheimer's. Anyone wishing to send condolences and/or flowers to PDG Randy and Beth may send them to this address, 42132 23rd St W, Lancaster, PA 93536.



Spoon of Exemption

Don Lager began his month with the Spoon sharing a bit about Midway's origins. The company began in 1951 when his family moved to the Victor Valley and they began on Midway Street out of their garage! Back then the population was 7,000, and now, with over 400,000 residents, Midway Home Solutions has met those needs, by growing along with the community.



Don Lager is the type of boss who would never ask an employee to do a job he would not do himself. In fact, Don has worked every department at Midway over his years there!

The competition level in his industry is fierce, and Don and his staff have kept up with Online services, competitive pricing and building relationships with customers. That is why everyone shops there!

Fine Session

This week **Mark Taylor** was our Fine Master and preceded to say Happy Birthday to **Steve Orr** with a \$30 fine for his 60th! **Doug Robertson** celebrates 5 years as a Rotarian and received \$10 for that accomplishment! **Russ Stringham** has been Club President 2 years straight, a Past Assistant Governor and is presently the Executive Assistant Governor for the Victor Valley, and had to look at the banner while doing the 4-Way test this week. That's \$20 for you Russ!

Finally, over at Victor Valley College, the LED Board says "Enjoy a Career in Law Enforcement" A \$20 fine to improve higher learning will be coming to **Dr. Roger Wagner**.

Raffle Prizes

This week combo gifts were the order of the day! A water infuser from **Rosanne Weathers** and a VVTA thumb drive from **Kevin Kane** went to **Rob Kilpatrick**, who also won a VVTA stress van and tickets to the Apple Valley Air show, courtesy of **Dwight Johnson**. Dwight received a water infuser as well.

Robert Lovingood gave away tickets to the (possibly) final Mavericks home game ever with gift certificates to HayBirds Hot Dogs from **Dwight Johnson**, that went to **Brad Letner** and **Marie Langley**. **Pastor Paul Earle** took home a double gift from Dwight of Air Show tickets and a Fox 106.5 shirt.

Van Young donated a Salvation Army coffee mug with a sleeve of golf balls that went to **Pastor Paul Earle**. **Gary Adams** received the same, with the included gift of a pair of final Mavs tickets. Our guest **Patty Plaxton** also has a pair of tickets to the final game of Mavericks Baseball as well as a Kat Country t-shirt.

Lucky Blue Dice



Brad Letner got another shot at the Blue Dice, but once again grabbed a white dice and a \$5 return on investment. Next week we will have 11 dice and \$275 up for grabs for the one lucky Rotarian who can select the blue dice.



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2016-2017	Dwight Johnson
Immediate Past President/International.....	Ben Tafoya
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Administration ...	Margaret Cooker
Incoming President 2017-2018/Membership	Dan Munsey
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service & President 2018-2019	Brad Letner
Community Service	Victor Rocha
Youth Service/Scholarships	Van Young
Vocational Service	Alicia Anderson

Members-at-Large:

Steve Orr • Mark Taylor • Dan Dever • Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Billing Officer	Jennifer Starbuck
Sergeant At Arms.....	Gary Adams
Song Master	Al Castellucci
Programs	Mike Page
Wine, Jazz & More	Brad Letner
R.Y.L.A./TLC/Public Safety Awards	Teresa Coomes
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 Maverick 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 Domingo's 1520 Main St, Quigley's Outlet Center, Lenwood, noon University Prep, 13853 Seneca Rd, 2:00 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

- Sept 21: WJM Committee Meeting**
6:00pm, Home of Brad and Teresa Letner
18175 Lake View Drive, Spring Valley Lake
- Sept 24: Wine, Jazz and More 2016**
Spring Valley Lake Community Center
- Oct 18: Offsite Meeting - Victor Valley Transit Authority**
Noon • 17150 Smoke Tree St., Hesperia

Future Rotary Programs

- Sept 13 :** Brad Letner, CEO, Hesperia Chamber of Commerce **TOPIC: "Read B4K - Victorville Rotary's anti-poverty Initiative"** (Johnson)
STAR students Brentwood & Galileo Librarian to receive check for books
- Sept 20 :** Don Ray **TOPIC: "The Spy of Shadow Hills CA - Rumor or Reality"** (Kane)

16TH ANNUAL
WINE JAZZ & MORE
Saturday September 24 2016
SPRING VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER
12975 ROLLING RIDGE, VICTORVILLE, CA 92395
5:00PM : WINE TASTING • 6:00 PM : DINNER
\$40 PER PERSON • \$75 PER COUPLE

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