



The Joshua Tree



September 19, 2017

Leaving Uncle Sam's Plane in the Jungle

Lt. Col. Tony Marshall (USAF-Retired) is an unapologetic and blunt individual, who used mind games and outright lies to survive a 9-month stay in the Hanoi Hilton in Vietnam, before it was fashionable.

Tony always had a love for flying, which began as a child, living near an Air Force Base with his mom. As an adult he joined the Air Force and became part of the 13th Squadron Panther Pack in Thailand and chose to do a tour of Vietnam. As a Weapons Operator on a F4 Fighter Jet, he completed 266 missions and because he followed the rules of combat, he always came home...except one time.

There are three facets to combat flying. Follow the rules, come home safe, and if the bad guy is in your way, shoot him down. When you don't follow these rules, one of three things will happen to you. You will either be fine, get shot down and go to prison, or get shot down and killed.

One July, Tony was flying with a new pilot who did not follow the rules. One of the rules is not to fly below 4500 feet and never fire the gun on the F4, use the bombs instead. This pilot had a target he liked and would continue to go to this location and try to blow up a barge. Unfortunately, once you start doing the predictable, the enemy catches on...quickly. They finally did hit the barge, but the enemy hit them too and all Tony remembers was the explosion, ejection, a white light

and an out of body experience. When he awoke, he was faced with AK47's and the choice to fight or surrender. The pilot chose to fight and was killed, and Tony surrendered and following a 5 mile hike, arrived at the Hanoi Hilton.

Tony had only one fear in his time there, and that was becoming a vegetable. In solitary with no one to talk to, you can lose your mind easily. Instead he made friends and gave names to the rodents in his cell to keep his sanity. He quickly learned the way to keep from being tortured and beaten was to bow. The Vietnamese do not like to lose face, so when told to bow, he did. In fact **Lt. Col. Tony Marshall** was never beaten because he played a game of wits with them and lied all the time, and told them what they wanted to hear.

He was finally released at the end of the war and now runs the Aviation Program at the Millionaire Mind Kids organization. There he helps kids in the local community to fly and to become pilots and make a positive change on the ground, and above it, in the skies.



This Week's Functionaries

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Invocation: | David North |
| Flag Salute: | Jon Schuler |
| 4-Way Test: | Maureen Mills |
| Song: | Al Castellucci |
| Finemaster: | Mark Taylor |

Dwight's Writes



With so many things going on in the High Desert this past Tuesday, I want to thank everyone who still made time to attend the meeting to hear

Lt. Col. Tony Marshall speak about his time captured in Vietnam.

Please make plans to join us November 10-12 as we will be heading down to Ensenada to visit the school water tanks, buying food for the orphanage, and meeting Ensenada Rotarians and their families. See **Margaret Cooker** to make your reservations and to choose your hotel.

Speaking of Margaret, we are continuing our survey of members to find out what you like, dislike, and what ideas or changes you'd like to see made in the Club. Please take time at next week's meeting to fill out a survey card.



This week, **Mark Taylor** was back with us and returned from his travels with a Rotary Banner from the Anchorage South Rotary Club in Alaska!

Finally, my thought of the week is "If you want others to be happy, practice compassion; if you want to be happy, practice compassion."

- Dalai Lama

ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Lucky Blue Dice



Stew Anderson won the chance this week to grab the big money, but oh!, another white dice was pulled!

Next week we will continue with 3 dice and \$475 up for grabs for one lucky Rotarian!

Wine, Jazz and More Update



Your Wine, Jazz and More Committee is hard at work on next week's event, but we need more auction items, raffle prizes and ticket sales! Thanks to **Stew Anderson**, **Jon Hove** who is donating a whole load of rock, **Chris Ackerman** gave a High Desert Yardbirds autographed baseball, **Bill Edwards** is donating a patio umbrella, **Dwight Johnson** and El Dorado broadcasters have made many donations, and **Mark Taylor** for buying a whole table!

The time is ticking away, please join us September 30th!

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$10.96

Polio Pig: \$5.96 + Dice (Stew Anderson): \$5.00 = \$10.96

Collected to Date: \$14,451.17

Total equals: 89,949 Doses!

One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!

\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!

Raffle Prizes

In this week's raffle **Bill Edwards** brought Halloween goodie bags full of mystery items that were won by **Robin Cackler** and **Gary Adams**. Keeping the winning streak alive, Gary then won a sleeve of golf balls and towel from **Stew Anderson** and finally, **David North** donated an Alaska USA tumbler and calendar that went home with **Steve Murray**.

Fine Session

Mark Taylor returned as our Fine Master this week, and once again, a loud phone ringing caused a fine for a Rotarian. This time it was to **Dr. Ron Williams**, so he was penalized \$10. The only other fine this week was given to Wine, Jazz and More Chair **Rosanne Weathers**, who addressed Mark in the food line as **Mark Sawyer!** That mistake also cost Rosanne a \$10 fine.

Membership Moment

Jon Hove challenges every Rotarian to think of one person you know that is "service-minded". A service-minded person is one who goes out of their way to help others. If you know someone like this, they are the exact type of person who can benefit from being in Rotary.

Go pick up the phone right now and invite them to our luncheon. It's really that easy.

Rotary Guests

This week, **Jonathan Hove** brought Heir Apparent **Harrison Hove** to the meeting and Captain **Jon Schuler** had Deputy **Marvin Wilke** at his table.

Our Stand-ins this week were **Robin Cackler**, in the place of **Pastor Paul Earle**, and **Mike Johnson** for **Louise Bevilacqua**.

Spoon of Exemption

It was another week with the Spoon and **Jim Cox** announced to the Club the upcoming Annual Fall Festival! The City of Victorville Fall Festival on October 6th and 7th, is a one day street fair experience designed for family entertainment and community involvement. The festival features two stages of live entertainment, music and dance performances, food vendors, merchandise vendors,



education & service organization and informational booths, kids activities, and fun for the whole family. Admission, parking, two stages of live entertainment, and Kids' Zone rides and attractions are FREE!

Giving Back to the Community

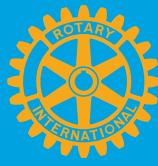


This week the Rotary Club of Victorville was honored to present Deputy Sheriff **Marvin Wilke** with a check for \$1000 for the PFAL, Police and Fire Activities League.

The PFAL is a non-profit sports program for boys and girls age 12-18 and offers year-round boxing with Deputies, Firefighters and licensed coaches as teachers and mentors, at no cost to the participants. The 8 year program focuses on discipline, accountability, teamwork, physical conditioning and respect for one's self and others.

Over the last 18 months they have impacted close to 200 kids, keeping them active and off the streets.

Rotary Club of Victorville, CA



The Joshua Tree is a Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Victorville
P.O. Box 734 • Victorville, CA 92393 • www.victorvillerotary.org

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 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
 Community Service Victor Rocha
 International Service Ben Tafoya
 Youth Service/Scholarships Van Young
 Vocational Service Ryan McEachron

Members-at-Large:

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

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary Marilyn Buttelwerth
 Billing Officer Rosanne Weathers
 Sergeant At Arms Gary Adams
 Song Master Al Castellucci
 Programs Mike Page
 Wine, Jazz & More Rosanne Weathers
 Public Safety Awards Teresa Coomes
 R.Y.L.A./TLC Ryan McEachron
 Dan Stover Music Contest Marie Langley
 George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest Ron Boyd
 Four Way Speech Contest TBD
 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 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,
 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

Rotary Club of Victorville, CA PRESENTS
The End of an Era...
17TH & Final
WINE JAZZ & MORE
Saturday September 30 2017
 SPRING VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER
 12975 ROLLING RIDGE, VICTORVILLE, CA 92395
 5:00PM : WINE TASTING • 6:00 PM : DINNER
 \$50 PER PERSON
WINE TASTING LIVE JAZZ MUSIC DINNER
SILENT AUCTIONS LIVE AUCTIONS
 For more information contact Rosanne Weathers, Chair at (760) 780-7847

Future Rotary Programs

Sept. 26: Tom McCarthy, General Manager - Mojave Water Agency **TOPIC: "From the Bay-Delta to the Mojave Desert, What is the California Water Fix and What Does it Mean for the High Desert"** (Page)

October 3: Dwight Johnson, Club President **In House Project... "BANNER UP!"**

This is a perfect opportunity to bring a service minded person as your guest to enjoy the camaraderie of a Rotary service project and the opportunity to experience Rotary as a Service-only member.

Design & Layout By



Printing By



www.victorvillerotary.org