

The Joshua Tree

October 4, 2022

TK, RB21 AND OTHER ACRONYMS

There are some wonderful educational goals being reached with our elementary students at the Victorville Elementary School District and Superintendent **Lori Clark** was on hand this week to share what the VESD has been through, what they are doing presently and what the future looks like.

Lori is in a new position as Superintendent, but has actually been at the VESD for over 30 years and is a former principal at Brentwood Academy and spent a decade working in Educational Services.



The VESD is made up of 18 schools including 2 Charter schools. Their newest school is RB 21 (Dr. Ralph H, Baker 21st Century Learning Center), and overall, they have 12,004 students enrolled.

Big topics in 2020 was learning how to work within independent study amidst of Covid, with 1400 last year learning from home, with 200 students this year. The District is fully staffed with teachers and has a 92% retention rate.

Currently, they are moving ahead with TK education, transitional kindergarten for four year olds. This is an in-between

space from pre-school to kindergarten and next year it will become an actual grade level. Fifty teachers are already credentialed in early childhood development and are ready for next year. The best part of the TK learning program is students will be more advanced entering kindergarten.

Jumping ahead to 6th grade students, the focus is on Guided Reading, which develops not only a student's reading skills, but also their comprehension. VESD has also introduced Extracurricular Learning, which takes place after regular school hours. In addition to reading, the course also allows

students to take part in STEM activities.

In School Districts across the country, Cyber Security has been a major issue. The VESD has taken extra steps, and along with firewall protection, they now have a 24/7 monitoring structure in place.

Looking ahead, the Victorville Elementary School District will be reinstating their Robotics Program and Junior Olympics, which haven't taken place since 2019.

The District will also be introducing a Careers Curriculum, which will be developed by members of the community, teachers and Jr. College staff. The studies will start from TK and move forward in each grade. The curriculum will assist students on the process of finding the career path they want to follow, from "what do you want to be", "what do you like", "where do you want to live" and so forth. In addition the District holds three Career Fairs each year, with 4th graders visiting the City of Victorville and all the Departments, 5th graders touring the VESD Maintenance and Operations facilities, and a whole District Career Fair with Fire, Police, Transit, professional companies, and, don't worry **Jon Hove**, Cement Trucks too.

Find out more at www.vesd.net

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Chris Ackerman

Flag Salute: Ben Tafoya

4-Way Test: Steve Murray

Fine Master: Ryan McEachron



ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Lori Clark from the Victor Elementary School District, for sharing all

of the wonderful things the District is doing for their students, and setting them up early on their career paths. Very exciting!



We now have a location for our Comedy Night Fundraiser on November 19th. It will be held once again at the Victorville Elks Lodge and only 100 tickets are available (\$20 each), or you can be a \$250 sponsor and receive 4 tickets. Our comedians this year have played Los Angeles, Las Vegas and New York, so you know its going to be hilarious! We are also looking for raffle prizes to raise a lot of money, because the community is asking us for money to give back to help those less fortunate.

November 8th will be our annual Teacher Mini Grant event, and teachers are already contacting us, so please be generous so we can give more mini grants away than ever before this year!

Finally remember, "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way".

Until next week...

Arsalee

A New Rotarian



Congratulation to **Bo Goulet** for being the newest Rotarian in the world! Former President **Jon Hove** led the proceedings and Bo was joined by his Sponsor **Mike Page**.

Bo is a Realtor for Coldwell Banker, as well a broker at Mojave River Mortgage. He has been in the High Desert for the last 15 years, and his wife teaches math at the Lewis Center. He is excited to achieve objectives and accomplish the Club's goals.

Rotarian of the Month



Congratulation to **Steve Murray** for being selected as September Rotarian of the Month! Steve was chosen for his assistance, guidance and leadership to our Club. President **Arsalee Morales** presented Steve with a "Rotarian of the Month" pin.



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**



IMAGINE ROTARY

Big Blue Dice



Oh Snap!! Bill Edwards had a 50/50 chance to pick the Blue Dice and big money, but drew the last white one and saved the opportunity to have a big winner next week!

We will conclude next week with the Blue dice and \$525 for the lucky Rotarian who gets their ticket drawn!

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master this week and began by going after **Jon Hove** for going on about pouring cement for new schools and cement trucks for career fairs at VESD, which earned him a \$20 fine. **Bill Scott** was hit with a \$10 penalty for not knowing all the VESD acronyms, and **Chris Ackerman** was hit with the same amount for being the VMI speaker for October. **Kirsten Acosta** paid a \$25 fine for holding the High Desert Educational Summit at VC this month, and **Robert Lovingood** gave himself a \$20 penalty for sharing a story about the Victorville Sheriff's Department.

The final fine went to **Corey Beck** in the amount of \$40 because of the rising gas prices each day!

Raffle

In this week's Raffle, **James Rightmire** brought a bevy of goodies including three pairs of tickets to the Apple Valley Air Show that will be used by President **Arsalee Morales**, **Ben Tafoya**, and **Robert Lovingood**, plus a solar powered crank radio that went home with **Steve Murray**. Steve donated a bottle of wine that will be enjoyed by **Ben Tafoya**, and **Chris Ackerman** gave away a couple of Victor Valley Transit campfire mugs that will be used by **Arsalee** and **Margaret Cooker**. Finally, **Bill Edwards** donated a cooler bag that went home with new Rotarian **Bo Goulet**.

Spoon of Exemption



Victor Valley Union High School District (VVUHSD)

BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM FOR ALL 2022 VVUHSD CANDIDATES

Hosted by Options For Youth – Victor Valley

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 | 5:00PM – 7:30PM

Hilton Garden Inn | Victorville Conference Center
12603 Mariposa Road, Victorville, CA 92395

A new month and **Bryan Gillespie** had his first time with the Spoon to promote the upcoming Board Candidate Forum for all 2022 VVUHSD candidates. The event will be hosted by Options for Youth and takes place Tuesday, October 11 from 5:00 - 7:30 at the Hilton Garden Inn. This is an important event because it shows students the political process. Get more info by emailing Bryan at bgillespie@ofy.org.

Rotary Guests



This week **Stefanie Montoya** from Options for Youth stopped by as a guest of **Bryan Gillespie**, and **Linda Hove** attended with **Jon Hove**. We were also introduced to **Jonathan Brewster**, CEO of El Dorado Broadcasters, who attended with **James Rightmire**.

Our Stand-In this week was **Eric Camarena** for **Maureen Mills**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$39.00

Polio Pig: \$34 + Bill Edwards (Dice): \$5.00= \$39.00

Collected to Date: \$19,180.52

Total equals: 99,449 Doses!

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



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

- President 2022-2023 Arsalee Morales
- President 2023-2024 Steve Murray
- President 2024-2025 **Need Candidates**
- President 2025-2026 Bill Edwards
- 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 **Need Volunteer**
- 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 **Need Volunteer**
- 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 Spring Valley Lake 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.,
Denny's, 13165 Main St., Hesperia
San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon,
Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
- THURSDAY:** Apple Valley, ZOOM Meetings, 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

- Oct 17: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm -Fellowship
5:30 pm Board Meeting
ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA
- Nov 19: Comedy Night Fundraiser**
Victorville Elks Club, 14041 Hesperia Road
5:30pm • Tickets \$20 each
Sponsorships \$250 + 4 Tickets
- Dec 1: Rotary Christmas Party**
Bear Valley Lake County Club

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



Upcoming Programs

- Oct 11:** James Rightmire, Director of Sales, El Dorado Broadcasters **Topic: "Engaging Your Audience is by Using Magic Tricks"** (Page)
- Oct 18:** Chet Hitt, Entrepreneur, Owner Town's End **Topic: "A Moment with Chet - lessons from an entrepreneur, the early days to Townsend- he is still learning"** (Page)
- Oct 25:** WC Professor David Wilkerson (Acosta)
- Nov 8: Teacher Mini-Grants** (Cooker)

Design & Layout By

Printed By

