

# The Joshua Tree

**October 12, 2021**

## SPEAKING UP FOR CHANGE!

For over 50 years **Jim Cox** has been Apple Valley Town Manager for Apple Valley, Victorville City Manager, and is recognized as the longest serving Council Member in the State of California for his tenure with the City of Victorville. Jim spoke this week and addressed some questions Rotarians had for him.



One question raised was about the growing housing tracts in the High Desert. Jim enlightened everyone by sharing that large corporations down the hill are buying up 14-20 houses at a time and turning them into rental properties, and city councils cannot stop them. In fact, if you have a large enough lot, you can build a second home on it and rent it out. With all these additional rental properties, no one thought of the impact it would have on sewer lines and parking. In 2020 there were 500 new homes built in Victorville, and already in 2021, there have already been 600 new units manufactured. Along with that, the population of Victorville is growing with currently between 135,000 - 137,000 residents. The average Hispanic population has grown to 60%, while the Caucasian population has shrunk to 23%. Since it is still cheaper to buy a home in Victorville than down the hill, more people

are moving here and commuting to work, which is causing chaos on the 15 Freeway.

Speaking of traffic, another question raised had to deal with red light cameras. The reason they are no longer used was strictly political. The major issue was that the fines were so steep even judges were embarrassingly reducing the fines when in court. The problem was that the public thought the City of Victorville was raking in the

money from all the hefty fines and getting rich off of them, but in reality, the fines were set by the California Legislature and the City only received \$32 per citation. But the public wouldn't listen, and they took them down. With the City receiving \$18 million annually, the issue is now being addressed and the money will be used to hire many more officers. Citations will now be around \$450 for running red lights, and with more officers, more tickets will be written up.

As for the topic of illegal dumping, there is a three-tier fine system. \$100 for the first offence, \$250 for the second and \$500 for the third. Jim supported that half of the fine money should go to the person reporting the crime, and it was one of the most unpopular ideas he ever had with the public. The thought of children turning in their parents in or spouse turning in the other spouse proved to be too much.

Other topics addressed during the meeting included the city and schools working together, voting districts and the homelessness problem. As discussed before, if someone steals \$950 or less in a

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### This Week's Functionaries

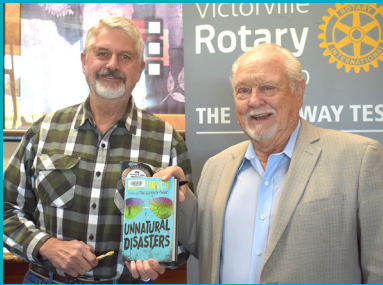
<b>Invocation:</b>	<b>Pastor Paul Earle</b>
<b>Flag Salute:</b>	<b>Jeff Armstrong</b>
<b>4-Way Test:</b>	<b>Brad Poiriez</b>
<b>Fine Master:</b>	<b>Jon Hove</b>

## HOVE'S HELLO



We had a great format this week with our own Jim Cox answering questions from Rotarians. It was very informative, and a lot of fun to boot! We will have you back Jim to share

some more insights from your long career with the City of Victorville.



We need a Fine Master for October 26. If you think you have what it takes, please see Mike Page to get signed up.

We are very close to our Bingo Night on October 23! Please sell your tickets and let's fill up the room! We are still looking for a few more sponsors, so please contact Bill Edwards for additional information.

We are still looking for Rotarians to step up and get involved! We are looking for a Vocational Service Chair, Speech Contests Chair, and Presidents for the Rotary years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Please see me if you'd like to take an active leadership role in our Club.

*Jon Hove*



[www.victorvillerotary.org](http://www.victorvillerotary.org)

## Jim Cox...

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robbery, it is a misdemeanor. Because of that, it is the highest reported crime in the High Desert. Many of the people committing these crimes do it to pay for their drug addictions and become homeless because their family doesn't want them back anymore. Currently, the city is looking into options, such as they are doing in Boise, Idaho. The punishment there is very strict and is driving the homeless away. One such example is urinating in public equals jail time, not a ticket, as it currently stands in California.

Finally, Jim shared there is only one way that changes can happen is to make sure the city hears from you! Send emails, make phone calls, and speak at Council Meetings. Speaking up and sharing your thoughts can and will bring the changes we need in Victorville.

## Fine Session

**Jon Hove** was a "special guest" Fine Master this week and chose five Rotarians to share something that happened in their business over the past week and accept a fine for sharing. The largest fine of \$100 was awarded to **Mike Page** for sharing that due to the vaccine mandate for Providence St. Mary, many hospital staff got vaccinated or exemptions, and in the end they did not have to close beds, as that was a big concern for them. Fire Chief **Jeff Armstrong** shared that over the last week things caught on fire, and they put them out. Then more stuff caught on fire. And again they put them out. Cars crashed, and some caught on fire. And they put those out. Jeff received a \$5 fine. **Brad Poiriez** dealt with a lot of dust in the air at MDAQMD but shared he cannot control Acts of God. Instead he had to deal with a \$10 fine.

**Bill Edwards** was happy to take a fine of \$20 for announcing their first Women's Shelter that will open on November 1st! Finally, **Kevin Kane** paid a fine of \$25 for sharing a Victor Valley Transit passenger complaint that a Driver would not leave their bus to go into the Lucerne Valley Post Office to get the passenger's mail for them!

# SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

## Big Blue Dice



**Chief Armstrong was given the chance to grab the Blue Dice, but drew a white one and donated his \$5 winnings back to the polio pig.**

**We will continue next week with 7 dice and \$375 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.**

## Rotary Guests

Our guests this week included **Chandale Sutton**, who attended with **Pastor Paul Earle**, **Linda Hove** who was seated with President **Jon Hove**, and **Linda Scott** came to the meeting as a Stand-in for **Bill Scott**.

## Paul Harris Fellow Pins



This week **Margaret Cooker** presented four Rotarians with Paul Harris Fellow Pins with sapphires included for going above and beyond financially to help fund our programs worldwide. **Jim Cox** was presented with a two-sapphire pin, **Rob Kilpatrick** received a three-sapphire pin, and **Kevin Kane** was honored with a four-sapphire pin. Finally, **Pastor Paul Earle** was given a five-sapphire pink for donations exceeding \$6,000 to the Rotary Foundation! Thank you all for your selfless generosity.

## Spoon of Exemption

**Pastor Paul Earle** had the Spoon this week and shared a bit of information on his talk next week. He will be talking about a journey he has taken from ministry as a missionary, the management of Life Church, and thanks to his wife **Charmaine Earl, MD**, a path into medicine. Please join us for our October 19 meeting and hear Pastor Paul's inspirational journey.



Bingo Night is right around the corner! We are now up to 17 items up for auction! If you have not provided your auction item for inclusion, please make sure you bring them to the October 19 Rotary meeting, so we have item to get them ready for the event. Our own **Chris Ackerman** will be once again heading up emcee duties for the evening and we want to thank **Steve Orr** and **Pastor Paul** for their sponsorships. We are still looking for a few more sponsorships so we have the funds secured for the food and Bingo winners. Please remember this night will be our best and largest opportunity to raise much needed funds for the programs we serve. It is imperative all Rotarians buy and sell tickets to family, friends, loved ones and those you know in our community. We will have physical tickets for you at next week's meeting.

## Raffle

Life Church were the big winners again this week! **Chandale Sutton** added to his booze collection with a bottle of wine from **Dwight Johnson**, plus a sleeve a golf balls from **Jim Murray**. Pastor Paul also got a sleeve of golf balls from Jim and a copy of "Men of Integrity" from Dwight. **Brad Poiriez** received a set of golf balls as well. Dwight himself won a Victor Valley Transit water bottle and USB Drive from **Kevin Kane**, while **Tina Escareño** took home a \$25 Midway gift card from **Don Lager**. Finally, **Margaret Cooker** will have hours of fun playing "Hesperia-opoly", which donated by Tina.

## The Polio Pig

**Collected this week: \$16.00**

*Polio Pig: \$11.00 + Dice (Jeff Armstrong): \$5.00 = \$16.00*

**Collected to Date: \$18,366.05**

**Total equals: 97,846 Doses!**

*One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!*

*\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!*



## VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

### Board of Directors

President 2021-2022 .....	Jon Hove
President 2022-2023 .....	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2025 .....	<b>Need Candidates</b>
President 2025-2026 .....	Bill Edwards
Immediate Past President .....	Steve Orr
Treasurer .....	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary .....	Margaret Cooker
Foundation.....	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations .....	Stephen Quintero
Club Service .....	Arsalee Morales
Community Service .....	Michael Krause
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC .....	Ryan McEachron
Vocational Service .....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
Grants.....	Margaret Cooker
Speech Contests .....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
Scholarships.....	Esther Mears and Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest .....	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Dwight Johnson
Billing Officer .....	Esther Mears
<b>Members-at-Large:</b> David North, Esther Mears, Rob Kilpatrick & Ron Boyd	

### Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary .....	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Programs .....	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, John Wickum & Jeff Armstrong
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
S.T.A.R. Students .....	Maureen Mills and Michal Krause
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
Flowers and Gifts .....	KayMarie Gregory
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 Spring Valley Lake Country Club, 13229 Spring Valley Parkway, Victorville

### Make-up Days and Locations

<b>MONDAY:</b>	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	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.
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	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
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

## Calendar Dates

- Oct 23: Garbis Der-Yeghian Rotary District 5300 Annual Peace Conference**  
FREE via Zoom • 9am - 1pm  
<https://district5300.org/peace-conference/>
- Oct 23: Bingo Night Fundraiser**  
5:00pm • \$25 per person  
The Activity Center  
15075 Hesperia Road, Victorville, CA

## Upcoming Programs

- Oct 19:** Pastor Paul Earle, Life Church **Topic: "My Journey of Ministry, Management and Medicine"** (Page)
- Oct 26: San Bernardino County Sheriff K9 Unit** (Wickum)
- Nov 2: Teacher Mini-Grants** (A. Anderson)
- Nov 9:** Allen Williams, General Manager, Desert View Funeral Home & Memorial Park  
**Topic: "Never Take the Fun Out of Funeral: How COVID Has Impacted the Funeral Business"** (North)

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