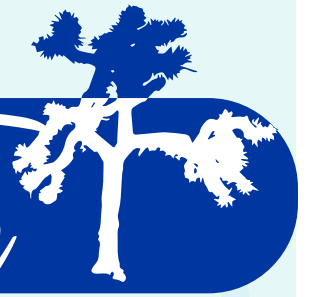


Rotary



The Joshua Tree



October 15, 2019

WHO WILL PROTECT THOSE WHO PROTECT US?

It all comes down to the numbers. In 2017 there were 140 police suicides and 103 Fire Fighter suicides. These numbers are higher than those who were killed in the line of duty that same year. Fire, Police, EMS, Dispatchers and Medical staff are subjected to a lot of horrors and are having trouble dealing with it.

crimes, injury to others, chaos, in addition to heavy workloads; answering one call after another with no time to process in between, and also lack of organizational support and leadership. But Chief **Greg Benson** is trying to change that.

While the professional stigma to our First Responders lead to them to not feeling comfortable talking to a 3rd party like a psychiatrist, they also don't want to appear as weak, or be judged by colleagues. In addition, some worry it will hurt their chances to be promoted and have a long career. To overcome this Greg and others on his staff are having courageous conversations, past the "Are you doing OK?" stage. Greg admits he is not a shrink, but if he is not there for his firefighters, who will be?

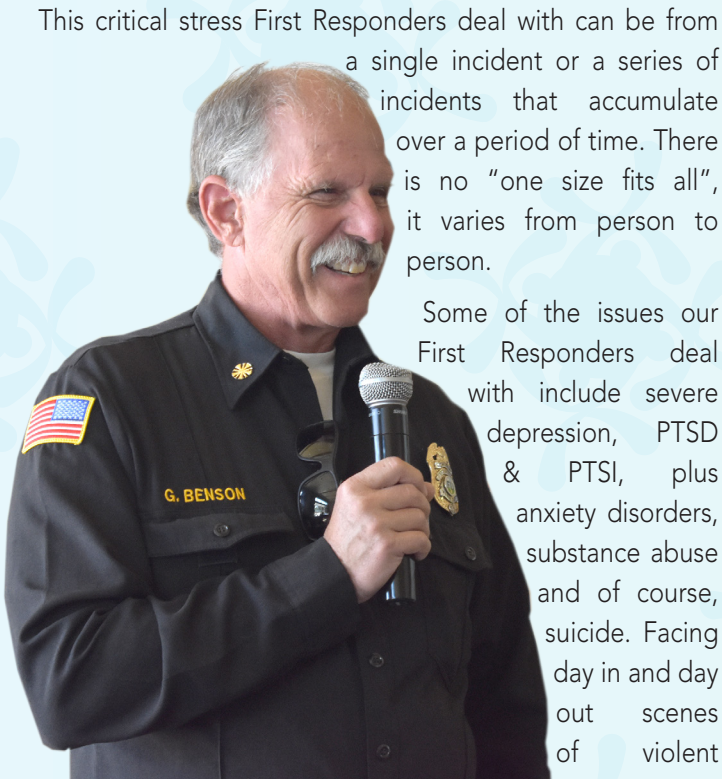
Along with deep talks, he encourages crews to watch out for each other, eat together and bond tightly to help each other get help when needed.

No way to avoid the elephant in the room, it is time to develop peer support training in the Department, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, make sure all First Responders feel a sense of belonging and to shift the culture from "suck it up" and be human. It's OK to ask for help.

As recently as October 1st, The Governor passed new legislation for AB116, the California Firefighter Peer Support and Crisis Referral Services Act, that establishes state wide standards for First Responder support and SB-542, the Trauma Treatment Act, which provides First Responders with worker's compensation while they deal with mental health issues from stress related incidents while in the line of duty.

Finally, Greg is also part of RespondersRetreat.org who are looking to purchase a place in the Northwoods of Wisconsin for First Responders suffering from PTSD.

Thank you Greg for not only protecting the public, but protecting from within as well.



This Week's Functionaries

- Invocation: **Chris Ackerman**
- Flag Salute: **Rick Bessinger**
- 4-Way Test: **Brad Poiriez**
- Finemaster: **Terry Caldwell**

ORR'S ROARS



Thank you to our own Fire Chief and Rotarian Greg Benson for speaking about the tough situations our first responders are having to face in their line of duty.



Dwight Johnson took some time to promote the upcoming Multi Club Mixer but unfortunately the

event has been postponed due to it being scheduled the same day as this year's High Desert Opportunity.

If a rescheduled date is announced, you will be the first to know.

As a reminder, we are still looking for

Rotarians to step up and help us fund Teacher Mini Grants. Our teachers are coming up with some innovative ways of teaching our youth and we want to support them!

Now go, have a wonderful and successful week!



www.victorvillerotary.org

Raffle

Going home with a Reagan Ranch 2020 Calendar from **Dwight Johnson** was **Bill Edwards**, while **Greg Benson** will enjoy using his "Lucky Tiger" Ointment from **Kevin Kane**. Finally, Dwight will do some shopping at Midway with the \$25 gift card he received from **Don Lager**.

Fine Session

Fine Maser **Terry Caldwell** wants his parking spot. So much so that **Bill Scott** took a \$10 fine for stealing a prime parking spot from Terry at last week's Rotary meeting, and **Captain Rick Bessinger** was also hit with a \$20 penalty for not having any officers around to give Bill a ticket for the infraction!

Dwight Johnson paid a \$30 for send out emails claiming to be the "#1 Media Guy" in the High Desert, and **Steve Orr** took a \$20 hit for allowing most everyone to be fine free last week.

Margaret Cooker was waived her fine for all of her signs around town promoting her bid for a seat at the Victor Valley Union High School District Board of Trustees next month, but **Fire Chief Greg Benson** was not as lucky, as he paid a \$5 fine for not knowing what year Victorville had their first Fire Department.

The answer was 1972.



Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD

Big Blue Dice



Brad Poiriez got the chance for the Blue Dice and big money, but drew a white and gave his \$5 back into the Pig.

We will continue next week with 13 dice and \$225 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.

Spoon of Exemption

Mike Page was back with the Spoon and promoted one more time the 28th Annual St. Mary Gala happening this weekend.



This year they are raising funds for 12 stationary and 30 mobile cardiac monitors to catch heart issues faster and in the process, to save more lives. They have already raised \$200,000, but need another \$280,000 more to meet their goal!

There is still time to pick up some great opportunity drawings including a \$575 Disney gift card (\$25/ticket), trip for 2 to Hawaii (\$35/ticket) and a \$5,000 Midway Home Solutions Makeover (\$50/ticket)! Contact **Lezli Roberts** at 760-946-8189 for more information.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$22.00

Polio Pig: \$14.00 + Marci Taylor: \$1.00 + Stefanie Montoya: \$2.00 + Brad Poiriez (Dice): \$5.00 = \$22.00

Collected to Date: \$16,752.72

Total equals: 94,677 Doses!

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

Proposed Member

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

Bryan Gillespie

Position: Principal

Company: Options for Youth

Classification: Options for Youth

Sponsor: Steve Orr

Legacy Dinner

Community leader **Marci Taylor** stopped by our meeting to



promote a Legacy Dinner honoring Tech Sgt. Isiah Roberts. Joined by his widow **Gloria Roberts**, this special evening will occur on Saturday November 9th, from 6-9pm at the Hilton Garden Inn honoring Sgt.

Roberts for his sacrifice and legacy while establishing an ongoing George Air Force Base Honor Roll to recognize others who have served honorably at G.A.F.B. Get more information at www.don-frse.com/roberts.

Rotary Guests

Speaking to our Club this week about the Legacy Dinner, along with **Marci Taylor** and **Gloria Roberts**, we also welcomed **Garner Morris**, all as guests of **Steve Orr**.

We also welcomed **Brian Pierce** as a guest of **Oscar Garcia** once again and in addition to **Stefanie Montoya** from Options for Youth, we also met her boss **Bryan Gillespie**.

Finally, to report on our speaker this week, Chief **Greg Benson**, we met **Martin Estacio** from the Daily Press.



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2019-2020	Steve Orr
Immediate Past President	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service	Bill Edwards
Community Service	Paul Earle
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC	Arsalee Morales
Vocational Service	Dr. Bowtie Brian
Grants/Speech Contests	TBA
Scholarships.....	David North
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Don Lager
Billing Officer	Esther Mears

Members-at-Large:

Dwight Johnson • Jon Hove • Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Programs	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley & Greg Benson
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Marie Langley
S.T.A.R. Students	Jim Barnes/Robin Cackler
Fundraising/Flowers and Gifts	Steve Orr
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 Adelanto 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, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, AV, 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 28: Past Presidents' Meeting

5:30 pm • El Pescador Bar

Nov 14: 2019 Peace Conference

8:30am - 1:30pm

Treasure Island, Las Vegas

Sign up on DaCDB.com

May 1-3 2020: Assembly and District Conference

Assembly May 1, Conference May 1-3

Westin Pasadena

191 N Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101

(626) 792-2727

Upcoming Rotary Programs

Oct 22: Dr. Lisa Harvey, PhD., Victor Valley

Community College **TOPIC: "The Use of Bloodhounds in Criminal Investigations"** (Acosta)

Oct 29: Evening Meeting

5:30pm - La Casita, Palmdale Road

Nov 5: Brenda Sutherland, San Bernardino County

TOPIC: "Court Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A.); Changing a Foster Child's Life" (Benson)
S.T.A.R. Students

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