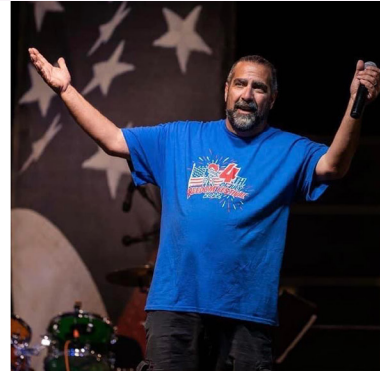
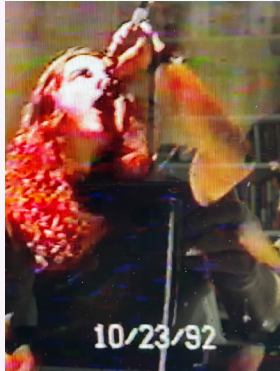


# The Joshua Tree

**November 22, 2022**

## I TALK GOOD, ACKERMAN'S STORY

For our Thanksgiving week meeting, we heard an inspirational story from Honorary Rotarian **Chris Ackerman**, who on most weekends has been a professional sports announcer for the past 15 years.



A year or so later, a salesman from a local motorcycle track came into the print shop and soon Chris found his niche and began a career announcing speedway motorcycle

His story began when he was in his early 20's fronting a popular thrash metal band called Betrayal. A signed act, who released two albums and toured across the globe, Chris loved the "rock star" life, except when it came to speaking to crowds in between songs. He could never think of anything to say and dreaded it.

When he came to the High Desert and began his now 30 year career in marketing and graphic design, he was mentored by original Mojave Copy & Printing owner **Howard Kack** who sent him to the Dale Carnegie Public Speaking Course. After graduating with the "Highest Award of Achievement", Chris thought he was now a public speaker, but failed miserably at it, doing painful business speeches to our local Chambers of Commerce. After that he gave up on public speaking.

racing, which after a few years grew into different types of motorcycle racing and more tracks throughout California and Nevada.

Adding to his resume announcing minor league baseball for the Mavericks and Yardbirds, thanks to **Don Lager**, Chris got the opportunity to live his dream of being on the radio, but not as a DJ as he had hoped, but a Sports Broadcaster for CBS Sports Radio.

With his life consumed by sports announcing and his "Crazy Chris" persona, it became an all consuming beast, a drive to do this type of work full time, which left anything else in his life a very distant second. But God had other plans for Chris...

In 2018, after 20 years "in the wilderness", Chris was at the lowest point in his life, but the Lord was there and raised him back up, but first had to get his priorities in order.

Fast forward to 2022, He is now more balanced. The drive to be a full time sports announcer is long gone, and he is thrilled where the Lord put him as Marketing Manager/PIO for Victor Valley Transit and youth leader to high school boys in his church. Chris now announces motorcycle races only a few Saturday's a month at 5 different tracks throughout California, and as "the voice" for the Town of Apple Valley Freedom Festival every 4th of July. And that is good enough for him.

### This Week's Functionaries

**Invocation:** Chris Ackerman  
**Flag Salute:** Mike Page  
**4-Way Test:** David North  
**Fine Master:** David North



## ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Chris Ackerman for sharing the story of his announcing career with the group

this week. A lot of funny moments, some tragedy, but some great life lessons we all took away from the meeting.

Our Comedy Night event this past weekend was so much fun! Thank



you for all who came out. If you weren't able to make it, we plan to hold an even bigger event in the Spring. Who knows, maybe even add the magic of James Rightmire into the mix...

Our annual Christmas Party is next week! Please make sure you send in your RSVP as quickly as you can or contact Ben Tafoya as we need your meal choices as soon as possible. We have a lot of great things in store, so please mark your calendars to join us at the Bear Valley Country Club for this wonderful evening of food, music and fun.

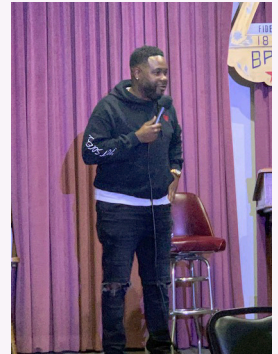
TLC is happening from December 2-4 this year, and we have some Rotarian volunteers going as leaders. We look forward to glowing reports.

Finally remember, "It is not how much we do, but how much love we put into the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much love is put into the giving".

Happy Thanksgiving, see you next week...

Arsalee

## Comedy Night 2022



IMAGINE  
ROTARY



# IMAGINE ROTARY

## Big Blue Dice



*Margaret Cooker had the chance to grab the Blue Dice, but picked white and saved the opportunity for another Rotarian. We will continue next week with 8 Dice and \$350 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice.*

## Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master this week and began by sharing with James Rightmire that as a Rotarian we encourage employment, and since El Dorado Broadcasters canceled Chris Ackerman's CBS Radio show when they bought the station, James was fined \$10. Mike Page was also penalized \$10 for being a "Debby Downer" by having Chris share the tragic story of his band's demise.



Arsalee Morales was fined \$10 for doing a great job putting on Comedy Night, and Bill Edwards left the meeting with \$42 less in his pocket for celebrating his wedding anniversary and giving up the Spoon of Exemption to Margaret Cooker before month's end.

## Raffle

Chris Ackerman donated a Victor Valley Transit campfire mug that will be used by Rob Kilpatrick and a package of Peppermint Rocha that will be enjoyed by Arsalee Morales.

## Spoon of Exemption

*Eat Chicken!  
Support the  
Mission!*

Mention the Victor Valley Rescue Mission at Raising Cane's on Tuesday, Nov. 29, and the Mission will get 15% of net sales!



Only on Nov. 29th  
from 3-9 pm

Raising Cane's Hesperia is at Main and Escondido  
[www.raisingcane.com](http://www.raisingcane.com)  
[www.vvrescuemission.org](http://www.vvrescuemission.org)

Bill Edwards had his final week with the Spoon and announced a fundraiser happening on November 29th from 3-9pm at Raising Cane's in Hesperia. During that time, if you go in and mention the Victor Valley Rescue Mission, 15% of your order will go to the Mission!

Finally, Bill also shared that at their recent turkey event, the Rescue Mission gave away over 600 turkey baskets and 800 meals!

## Rotary Guests

Our only guest this week was Steve Prichard, who came as a guest of James Rightmire.

## The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$9.00

Polio Pig: \$4 + Margaret Cooker (Dice): \$5.00 = \$9.00

Collected to Date: \$19,308.52

Total equals: 99,705 Doses!

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

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

If you are not receiving your newsletter, please contact Editor Chris Ackerman at  
[chris@signifydesigns.com](mailto: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 2022-2023 .....	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2024 .....	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025 .....	<b>Need Candidates</b>
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/Ryla & 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.....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
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 .....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
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

<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, <i>No Longer Meeting</i> 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

- 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 County Club
- Dec 14: Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Dark for the Holidays**

**Rotary**   
Club of Victorville, CA

## Upcoming Programs

- Nov 29: 5th Tuesday Evening Meeting**  
5:30p.m.  
Los Domingo's Mexican Restaurant  
17790 Wika Road, Apple Valley
- Dec 6:** Lynn Hounsley, Integrity HR **Topic: "Here We Go Again! Make Way for New HR Changes in 2023!"** (Page)

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