

The Joshua Tree

December 7, 2021

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Victorville Fire Department has a long history in our community, as shared by Fire Chief **Jeff Armstrong** this week to Rotarians and guests. Jeff has 25 years in fire and emergency services experience and became a California Fire Chief nine years ago at age 35. Jeff has held leadership positions in both the California Fire Chiefs Association and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.



years later the first station was built on Eighth Street, and in 1956 it was modernized for a new era.

Currently, the Victorville Fire Department is an “all-risk” fire and emergency department and answers a wide range of emergencies including medical aid, structure fires, vegetation fires, commercial fires, auto accidents, technical rescues, public assistance, and hazardous material incidents. The department spends about 71% of their time on

Fire protection was first discussed in Victorville in 1923, with the Bucket Brigade that was funded by the Victorville Chamber of Commerce.

In 1926, the Fire District was formed and 4 years later the City

rescue and emergency calls which includes a high rate of traffic incidents. About 5% of their work are actual fires.

One of their newest departments is the Fire Prevention Division which includes community risk reduction. The department observe repeat calls to the same location and look into how they can reduce the number of calls. For example they recently went over to Cobalt High School which suffered from a high number of traffic accidents. They worked with the Victorville Planning and Engineering Departments and made changes for a safer traffic flow, which reduced the number of calls to the location. Another busy department is the Fire & Arson Investigation Unit. Currently, they are handling 20 open cases and prosecute every one of them.

Along with the beginning of the Fire Prevention Division, this year the department also saw many administrative goals reached, new equipment and vehicles purchased, enhancements to their EMS division and the design of a new ladder truck.

In the area of fire prevention for local businesses, the Department succeeds by their adoption of the “Four E’s”, Education, Emergency,

Continued on page 2



saw the formation of the Victorville Volunteer Fire Department. Ten

This Week’s Functionaries

Invocation: Chris Ackerman

Flag Salute: Bob Basen

4-Way Test: Donna Wells

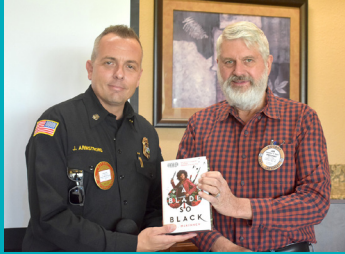
Fine Master: Steve Orr

HOVE'S HELLO'S



Thank you to Rotarian and Fire Chief Jeff Armstrong for taking time out of his busy schedule to come and speak with us this week, to share the history of the Victorville Fire Department, the

great things they have done this year, as well as plans for the future. We look forward to see what great things the department accomplishes in the coming years.



Mike Page shared with the group that it is everyone's responsibility to help book Rotary Programs for our luncheons. Currently, we have no programs set up for January which is not good. Please contact myself or Mike as soon as possible with program ideas so we can book the first quarter of 2022.

Please note that we will be moving our December Board Meeting to Tuesday, December 14th from the 13th due to scheduling issues.

Jon Hove



www.victorvillerotary.org

Fire Department

Continued from page 1

Enforcement, and Evaluation, with the most important being education. They strive to teach businesses and individuals where danger spots are, not to shut down the location. Internally, they want to help their fire personnel learn about the businesses in the City, to speed up incident mitigation and above all, to keep their firefighters safe.



Emergency Manager **Dana Wellborn** shared information on their Disaster Management Division. This department works to lessen issues that cause disasters, respond with proper plans and techniques, public messaging,

analyze threats to the community and work with the State and County to add resources as needed.

The future of the Victorville Fire Department looks very bright. They hope to release their much talked about public safety plan in 2022, along with a community risk assessment, a re-branding campaign, additional medical squads and possibly a new fire station! Jeff can be reached at jarmstrong@victorvilleca.gov or by calling 760-955-5230.

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

Big Blue Dice



Fire Chief Jeff Armstrong had the chance this week to pick the Blue Dice, but picked White and saved the money for another Rotarian. We continue next week with 12 dice and \$250 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice from the bag.

Rotary Guests



This week we welcomed from the Victorville Fire Department, Fire Administrative Manager **Tina Lopez**, Emergency Manager **Dan Wellborn**, and **Fred Stout**, the Division Chief of Operations. Other guests included **Linda Hove**, who attended with President **Jon Hove** and **Taylor Valdes**, who was a guest of **Arsalee Morales**.

Our only Stand-in was **Stefanie Montoya** who attended for **Bryan Gillespie**.

Raffle

Our raffle began this week with a bottle of wine from **Tina Escareño** that was won by **Chris Ackerman**. Since he does not drink, Chris donated the bottle to the Christmas gift basket giveaway for the Rotary Christmas Party. In addition, Chris and **Michael Krause** took home guest passes from the Spring Valley Lake Country Club.

For children or grandchildren of Rotarians, Chris donated a couple copies of Victor Valley Transit coloring and activity books that were gladly accepted by **Michael Krause** and President **Jon Hove**. Finally, **Donna Wells** left the meeting with an electric bus toy from Victor Valley Transit.

Fine Session

Steve Orr made a rare appearance as our Fine Master this week and began by fining **Tina Escareño** \$10 for butchering our guest's names at the introduction portion of our meeting. Also receiving fines in the amount of \$10 were **John Kroencke** for self-promoting his birthday, **Arsalee Morales** for talking during the presentation and **Robert Lovingood** for not wearing his badge.



The final fine of the day Steve gave to himself in the amount of \$39 in celebration of his 39th Wedding Anniversary to **Patty Orr**.

REMINDER

We Will be Dark for Two Weeks:

December 21 & 28, 2021

*For the Christmas
and New Year's Holidays.*

We Will Return on January 4, 2022

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$9.00

Polio Pig: \$4.00 + Jeff Armstrong (Dice): \$5.00= \$9.00

Collected to Date: \$18,503.20

Total equals: 98,120 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

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 2021-2022	Jon Hove
President 2022-2023	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2025	Need Candidates
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	Need Volunteer
Grants.....	Margaret Cooker
Speech Contests	Need Volunteer
Scholarships.....	Esther Mears and Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Dwight Johnson
Billing Officer	Esther Mears

Members-at-Large: David North, Esther Mears, Rob Kilpatrick & Ron Boyd

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttlerwerth
Programs	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, John Wickum & Jeff Armstrong
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Need Volunteer
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

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

Dec 14: Board of Directors Meeting
5:30 pm Meeting
ARMAC Insurance Board Room
Rear Building on Yuma

Upcoming Programs

- Dec 14:** The Everligh Sisters **Topic: "2 Ladies with NO History - a Detective Story from the Rotarian Fellowship of Genealogists"** (Cooker)
- Dec 21: DARK - MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
- Dec 28: DARK - HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



Design & Layout By



Printed By



www.victorvillerotary.org