

The Joshua Tree



May 6, 2025

COUNTY EDUCATION FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Ryan McEachron, elected in 2022 to the San Bernardino County Board of Education, recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Victorville about his experience and responsibilities as a board member. Representing Area A, McEachron's district includes school districts throughout the High Desert, as



well as more remote areas like Baker, Needles, and Trona. His role covers a broad and diverse educational landscape, including a school inside the Juvenile Detention Center in Apple Valley—a place where he's had the meaningful experience of attending two student graduations. "It's inspiring to see young lives change right in front of you," he told the Rotary members.

There are 58 County Boards of Education in California, each governing a County Office of Education (COE).

Collectively, they support nearly 1,000 school districts and serve 6.2 million K-12 students. The San Bernardino County Board of Education consists of five members from different professional and personal backgrounds. Together, they aim to represent local values while fostering a shared vision for educational success.

McEachron explained that the Board's responsibilities include adopting COE budgets, overseeing educational programs, and conducting hearings for

student expulsion appeals and charter school petitions. In partnership with County Superintendent **Ted Alejandre**, the Board works to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

Transparency and accountability are key elements of their governance. Public hearings are conducted regularly, and the Board evaluates its own performance to ensure ongoing effectiveness. Despite varying political perspectives among members, McEachron emphasized the Board's commitment to open, respectful communication and unity in purpose.

He closed his presentation by stressing the importance of education and community leadership, encouraging others to stay involved and informed. "We're here to serve our communities and help shape the future through education," he said.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: **Bill Edwards**

Flag Salute: **Bryan Gillespie**

4-Way Test: **Arsalee Morales**

Fine Master: **David North**



GILLESPIE'S GAB

Thank you to Ryan McEachron for sharing with the Club all that he does within the County Board of

Education. Your presentation was easy to follow and gave us greater insight into what you do for the County.



This Thursday, our Fundraising Committee will be meeting at the home of Steve and Pam Murray to begin plans for our 75th Anniversary Celebration on September 5th. Although the first meeting will have passed by the time you read this, please consider joining the committee. Please reach out to Bill Edwards at 760-985-5686 or Arsalee Morales at 760-985-9581.

Other notable dates for your calendar are the Rotary Leadership Academy coming to Excelsior Charter School on May 17th and for our former leaders of the Club, we will be having a Past Presidents' Dinner at Mama Carpino's in May 22nd. See page 4 for more information.

Until next week...

Bryan

April/May Birthdays

Bill Scott	April 15
Alicia Anderson	April 23
Russ Stringham	April 23
Arsalee Morales	May 13
Pat Mark	May 29

April/May Anniversaries

Margaret Cooker	37 Years
Stew Anderson	35 Years
Ryan McEachron	25 Years
Bill Scott	24 Years
Rob Kilpatrick	18 Years
Mary Teran	18 Years
Teressa DeAtley	18 Years
Paula Porter	15 Years
David North	15 Years
Todd Sturges	14 Years
Sam Grandlienard	9 Years
Kirsten Acosta	6 Years
Capt. Randy German	1 Year

Wedding Anniversaries

Brian & Maureen Mills	33 Years
Russ & Gaylynn Stringham	30 Years
Dr. Derek & Marsha King	20 Years



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Big Blue Poker Chip



Alicia Anderson had the chance to draw the Blue Chip but picked green and saved the chance for another.

We will continue next week with 3 chips and \$475 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip!

Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master this week and began by wishing **Alicia Anderson** a Happy Birthday with a \$25 fine and the same amount went to **Kirsten Acosta** for her husband's birthday! Since **Arsalee Morales** will have a birthday next week, but won't be in town, she got an early present of a \$25 penalty.

Moving onto Anniversaries, **Rob Kilpatrick** had his 18th anniversary with the Club that netted him an \$18 fine and **Margaret Cooker** left with \$25 less in her purse for her 37 year Club anniversary!

Raffle

This week, **Chris Ackerman** brought a pair of Victor Valley Transit travel coffee travel cups that will be used by **Bill Edwards** and **David North**, while David gave away a bottle of wine that will be enjoyed by **Alicia Anderson**.

Spoon of Exception

It is a new month and time to auction off the Spoon! **Arsalee Morales** went first offering the Spoon for \$50, which waived her fine (see above) but **Bo Goulet** offered \$75 for it. Finally, **Alicia Anderson** won the Spoon for \$100, which also waived her fine!

Rotary Guests

This week our only stand-in was **Alyy Martinez** for **Angel Espino**.

A poster for 'Read B4K Graduation' featuring a close-up of a young child with curly hair wearing a blue graduation cap and gown. The text on the poster includes the Rotary Club of Victorville, CA logo, the event title 'Read B4K Graduation', the date and time 'May 20, 2025 • 5:00pm', and the location 'RB21 Dr. Ralph Baker, 21st Century Learning Center, 15456 El Evado Rd • Victorville CA 92394'.

Rotary Club of Victorville, CA

Read B4K Graduation

May 20, 2025 • 5:00pm

RB21 Dr. Ralph Baker
21st Century Learning Center.
15456 El Evado Rd • Victorville CA 92394

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$28.00

Polio Pig: \$23+ Chip (Alicia Anderson) \$5 = \$28.00

Collected to Date: \$21,411.83

Total equals: 103,802 Doses!

One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	Please be Interviewed
Immediate Past President	Steve Murray
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer/Scholarships	David North
Youth Services/Ethics Essay	Ron Boyd
Club Service & Membership	Bill Edwards
Community Service/Speech Contests	Please Volunteer
Vocational Service	Please Volunteer
International Service	Ben Tafoya
Member At Large, Young Leaders Contact	Arsalee Morales
Member At Large, Special Projects	Rob Kilpatrick

Members-at-Large: Bob Basen, Darron Poulsen, Angel Espino

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD/PP Secretary	Pam Murray
Special Billing	Esther Mears (TBD)
Public Service Awards	Please Volunteer
Teacher Mini-Grants	Angel Espino
Dan Stover Music Contest	Angel Espino
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Read B4K	Please Volunteer
Foundation & Grants	Margaret Cooker
Food Baskets	Bill Edwards
Interact (Junior Rotary)	Please Volunteer
Programs	Mike Page
Fundraising	Stefanie Montoya
S.T.A.R. Students	Angel Espino
Club Learning Facilitator	Please Volunteer

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Bear Valley 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:	San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, DiNapoli's Firehouse, 1358 E Main St, Barstow, CA
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, 13685 John Glenn Rd, Apple Valley, Noon. 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

- May 12: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- May 17: Rotary Leadership Academy**
10am - 3pm
Excelsior Charter School
18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville
- May 20: Read B4K Graduation**
5:00pm • Ralph Baker Center
15456 El Evado Road
Victorville, CA 92394
- May 22: Past Presidents' Dinner**
5:30pm Fellowship • 6:30pm Dinner
Mama Carpino's Apple Valley
\$50 per person/\$95 per couple

Upcoming Programs

- May 13:** Jessica Crouch, Rhea Lana's of the High Desert **TOPIC "Clothing and Connecting the Community"** (Page)
- May 20: OPEN**
- May 27: OPEN**
- June 3:** Dan Munsey, San Bernardino County Fire Chief **TOPIC "TBA"** (Page)

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