



The Joshua Tree

May 7, 2024

\$20 FAST FOOD WAGE AND PAGA LAWSUITS

In the dynamic landscape of California’s labor laws, recent developments have sent ripples through the business community, both big and small. Two significant factors have emerged as focal points: the implementation of a \$20 minimum wage for fast food workers and the prevalence of Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) lawsuits, as shared this week by ICR Staffing COO **Mike Thrapp**.



However, for businesses, especially small enterprises operating on thin profit margins, this mandated wage hike presents a significant challenge. Businesses may be compelled to raise prices, cut employee hours, or even automate certain tasks to offset the increased expenses. Small businesses, in particular, may find it difficult to absorb these additional costs without potentially compromising their viability.

California’s move to set a \$20 minimum wage specifically for fast food workers has garnered attention nationwide. Advocates argue that this wage increase is essential for addressing income inequality and ensuring that workers can meet the high cost of living in the state. Proponents also suggest that higher wages can lead to increased productivity, reduced turnover, and greater consumer spending power, thus benefiting businesses in the long run.

In addition to the wage mandate, California’s Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) has become a source of concern for businesses of all sizes. PAGA allows employees to file lawsuits on behalf of the state labor agency for labor code violations, thereby bypassing traditional routes of resolution through government agencies. While intended to protect workers’ rights and enforce labor laws, PAGA has been criticized for enabling frivolous lawsuits and imposing hefty financial penalties on businesses.

For small businesses, in particular, PAGA lawsuits can pose a significant threat to their survival. The costly legal proceedings and potential fines resulting from even minor violations can drain financial resources and divert attention away from core business operations. Moreover, the ambiguity surrounding PAGA regulations and the broad scope of potential violations make compliance a daunting task for employers, especially those without dedicated legal departments or resources.

This Week’s Functionaries

- Invocation:** **Chris Ackerman**
- Flag Salute:** **Mike Page**
- 4-Way Test:** **Mike Johnson**
- Fine Master:** **Ryan McEachron**



ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Mike Thrapp from ICR Staffing for coming to the meeting and



sharing so much going on in the workplace concerning the raise of \$20 per hour for fast food employees and the fallout.

Mike Page shared that we need programs for May 21st, May 28th and June 4th. Please contact Mike if you have a program or know someone in the community who would like to present to the Club.

The Demotion Party is coming soon at the home of Dan & Kris Dever! It will be held on June 15th at 4:00pm. Please make plans to join us for a lot of fun and the announcement of Rotarian of the Year!

The District Assembly and Foundation Gala is just a few weeks away on May 18th at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel in Pomona, CA. Come out and support our students in the 4-Way Speech Contest, George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest and the Dan Stover Music Contest.

Finally, "I never dreamed about success, I worked for it".

Arsalee Morales

Raffle Ticket Update



Jim Murray presented the Club with a board today with photos of all of the items so far for the Rotary Raffle Basket. Time is coming to a close to sell tickets for \$10 each, as it will be drawn at the Demotion Party on June 15th.

This is our main opportunity to raise money for the Presidency of **Bryan Gillespie** so it is of the utmost importance for Rotarians to get a book of tickets from Jim and sell them around the community or in their business.

We are still hoping to gain more items for the basket, so please bring more items worth \$25 dollars or more. Currently some of the items include \$150 cash, a \$45 Amazon gift card, a \$50 In-N-Out gift card, alarm system, toolkit, liquor bottles, waterproof speaker, golf club and much more!



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**



CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Big Blue Poker Chip



Mike Johnson had the chance to pick the Blue Poker Chip, and picked a green one and saved the chance for another Rotarian. We will continue next week with 13 chips and \$225 for the one lucky Rotarian who has their ticket drawn.

Fine Session



Ryan Mceachron was our Fine Master this week and began by fining himself \$10 for not being at a Club meeting for over a month. More penalties of \$10 were levied against **Robert Lovingood** for being in Tennessee instead of

the meeting as scheduled in the Joshua Tree, as well as **David North** and **Mike Johnson** for causing **Arsalee Morales** to have such egregious comments about banking when she worked for and with them.

Finally, **Chris Ackerman** got hit with a double fine! First he was penalized \$10 for his daughter Aubrey being selected Prom Queen at Excelsior Charter School and a hard fine of \$25 for announcing a Mobility Needs Hearing at Victor Valley Transit on May 14th at 10am.



Rotary Guests



This week we welcomed back **James Rightmire**, who now works for USA Today as a guest of **Chris Ackerman**.

Our Stand-ins this week were **Rosa Rivera** and **Kristyn Kirby**, who attended on behalf of **Jon and Linda Hove**.

Spoon of Exemption

The Spoon was made available to purchase for the month of May by **Ryan McEachron**, and was bid on for \$25 by **Chris Ackerman**. **Rob Kilpatrick** countered that by offering \$50 for it and won it for the month.

Raffle

Rob Kilpatrick was a big winner this week, mainly for buying a lot of raffle tickets. **Mike Johnson** donated a journal that will be used by Rob. He also won a bottle a wine from **David North**, but he gave it to **Arsalee Morales**. Rob also received 2 prizes of coffee mugs and sharpie pens from Mr. Johnson. Rob kept one and gave the other to speaker **Mike Thrapp**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$15.00

Polio Pig: \$10 + Dice (Mike Johnson) \$5 = \$15.00

Collected to Date: \$20,447.33

Total equals: 101,873 Doses!

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

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA





VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2023-2024	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	Please be Interviewed
Immediate Past President/Special Projects.....	Arsalee Morales
Treasurer/Scholarships	David North
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants	Margaret Cooker
Club Service/Membership	Bryan Gillespie
Community Service/Speech Contests	Mike Johnson
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC/Ethics Essay.....	Ron Boyd
Vocational Service	Bill Edwards

Members-at-Large: Rob Kilpatrick & Bob Basen

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Pam Murray
Billing Officer	Esther Mears
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Bill Edwards
Flowers and Gifts	Linda Hove
Foundation & Grants	Margaret Cooker
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Membership.....	Bryan Gillespie
Programs	Mike Page
Publicity/Public Relations	Rob Kilpatrick
Public Safety.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, 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 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 13: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30 pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- May 18: District Assembly & Foundation Gala**
10:00am
Sheraton Fairplex Hotel
601 W Mckinley Ave, Pomona, CA
- June 15: Demotion Party**
Home of Dan & Kris Dever
13166 Waco Road, Apple Valley, CA
4:00pm
- July 13: Movie Night at the Hove's**
Movie: August Rush (2007) PG-13
More information soon

Upcoming Programs

- May 14:** Chris Lamoreaux, Owner, Coldwell Banker Home Source, **TOPIC "Real Estate Commission Settlement - Changes to Commissions: What Does It Really Mean?"** (Page)
- May 21:** **OPEN** (Contact Mike Page)
- May 28:** **OPEN** (Contact Mike Page)
- June 4:** **OPEN** (Contact Mike Page)

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