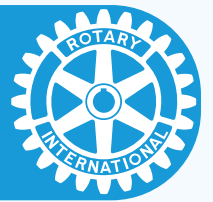


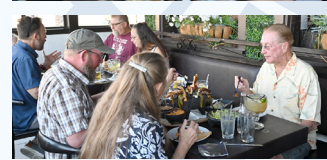
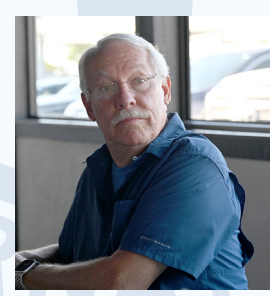
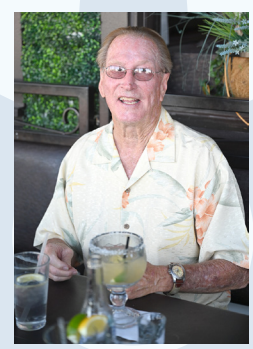
The Joshua Tree



July 30, 2024

A 5TH TUESDAY EVENING OUT

We had another fabulous 5th Tuesday evening meeting this week with Rotarians and guests at PV Mexican Grill on Restaurant Row in Victorville. Joining us for food, fun, fellowship and drinks were **Bill & Linda Scott, Ben & Jan Tafoya, Stew & Diane Anderson, Bill & Marianne Edwards,** and **Angel Espino** with his fiancé **Karessa Meza.** **Dan & Kris Dever** were in attendance with their son **Christopher Dever,** as were **Margaret Cooker, Arsalee Morales, Chris Ackerman** and **David North.**





GILLESPIE'S GAB

Although Wendy and I were unable to attend this week's 5th Tuesday Evening Meeting, I was pleased to hear of the

great time that was had by everyone. Our next evening meeting will take place on Tuesday,



October 29th and we hope to see you there!

Thank you to members of the Rotary Club of Apple Valley for sharing information on their upcoming Veteran's BBQ in Apple Valley this November 9th. More information will be coming soon, and I am currently in discussions with President Peter Allen on a partnership between our two Clubs.

Remember that Congressman Jay Obernolte will speak to the Club on August 20th. Please sign up for your attendance and invited guests as soon as possible to Margaret Cooker. We'd like to fill the big room at the Bear Valley Country Club that day.

Bryan

Friendship Recession



When Phil Clarke was in his early 70s, he set a goal: to make new friends. This was in 2021, and Clarke felt he'd drifted far from the days when he could turn to the next desk at work or school and find conversation and camaraderie. The writer and novelist does relish a bit of solitude for his creative work. But he's also gregarious when he wants to be. He grew up with 10 younger siblings, after all. Yet, like many people his age, he was frustrated. Then he set out on a friend-finding mission.

He browsed studies on the importance of social networks, pondered where he could find a pool of possible friends, and decided on the ideal criteria: a group that met regularly, welcomed people of all backgrounds and interests, stimulated his mind, and inspired action. Then he found a place that checked all the boxes: the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch, just outside Denver.

Phil Clarke, who joined Rotary on a quest for friendship, launched a film club that hosts screenings at a library. "I'm taking gradual steps to really get to know people on a deeper level," he says. "That was my goal in the first place. And I think it's working pretty well."

Since joining Rotary, Clarke, bespectacled with a slightly goofy grin, has worked with others to raise \$500,000 to fund an endowed fellowship for pediatric mental health at a Colorado hospital system. He's launched a film club that hosts screenings at a library; he's formed a musical duo — called The Elderly Brothers — that performs at nursing homes and other venues; and at the weekly Rotary lunches, he feels a

Continued on page 3



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Friendship

Continued from page 2



true sense of community. "I'm taking gradual steps to really get to know people on a deeper level," he says. "That was my goal in the first place. And I think it's working pretty well."

Research shows how important friendship is to a person's mental and physical health; it may even help you live longer. Scientists have found evidence suggesting that friends may influence our well-being as adults even more than family. And yet, in societies around the globe, things seem to be moving in the wrong direction. In what's been dubbed a "friendship recession," the number of close friends that adults have in the U.S. has declined over recent decades, affecting some groups — like men — more than others. The pandemic further aggravated our social isolation.



On the brighter side, scientists studying this phenomenon say that with some effort, individuals can turn the friendship recession into their own friendship boom. And, for many people, Rotary is just what the therapist ordered.

**Portions of this article from Rotary International. Full article at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/responding-friendship-recession>*

Images credit: Rebecca Stumpf

August Birthdays

Kay Marie Gregory	August 2
Don Lager	August 11
Phyllis Fox	August 14
Ben Tafoya	August 23
Manjita Patel	August 24
Esther Mears	August 25
Craig Garrick	August 27
Ron Hughes	August 31

August Anniversaries

Dan Dever	39 Years
Mattie Brown	22 Years
Phyllis Fox	22 Years
Brad Poiriez	8 Years
Jim Cox	3 Years

Partner Birthdays

Wendy Gillespie	August 9
Lesley Murray	August 16
Brian Mills	August 17
Charley Caldwell	August 21
Jan Tafoya	August 25
Leeann Ackerman	August 28

Wedding Anniversaries

Jason & Chris Lamoreaux	33 Years
Paul & Charmaine Earle	31 Years
David & Carrie North	30 Years
Bryan & Wendy Gillespie	26 Years
Steve & Pam Murray	14 Years



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	Mike Johnson
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	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.....	Please Volunteer
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

- Aug 12: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- Aug 12: 2023-2024 ReadB4K Backpack Giveaway**
10:00am
VESD Family Resource Center
Located off Mariposa Road
Please join this celebration and show your support of this program

Upcoming Programs

- Aug 6:** Marisol Escalante, Founder, Difference Maker Academy **TOPIC "My Journey Becoming an American Citizen"** (Page)
- Aug 13:** Jonathan Weldy, Silverwood Director of Development **TOPIC "Silverwood Development"** (Page)
- Aug 20:** **Congressman Jay Obernolte** (Page)

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