

The Joshua Tree

September 10, 2024

THE (RE)BUILDING OF SCHOOLS

Victor Valley Union High School District Superintendent **Carl Coles** spoke to the Club this week on the importance of ballot Measures A and X this November, and how they will benefit the students of the District.



Measure A is a proposal to issue general obligation bonds to raise funds for the district. The funds from these bonds would be used specifically for capital improvements and facility upgrades across the district's schools. The key foci of the bond measure include:

Modernizing Classrooms: Upgrading outdated classrooms with new technology and furnishings to enhance learning environments.

Safety Improvements: Ensuring school facilities meet current safety and accessibility standards.

Infrastructure Repairs: Addressing critical repairs to aging buildings, such as roofs, plumbing, and electrical systems.

Energy Efficiency: Implementing energy-efficient upgrades to reduce operating costs and promote sustainability.

Measure X proposes a new parcel tax to provide ongoing funding for the district's educational needs. The revenue from this tax would be allocated to:

Educational Programs: Supporting and enhancing academic programs, extracurricular activities, and special education services.

Teacher Retention: Providing competitive salaries and benefits to attract and retain high-quality teachers.

Maintenance: Ensuring that school facilities are well-maintained and conducive to learning.

Unlike a bond measure, which provides a lump sum of funding for specific projects, a parcel tax generates a steady stream of revenue. This tax would be levied on property owners within the district, and the measure would specify the amount of the tax and the duration for which it would be collected.

The oldest school in the District is Victor Valley High School which was built in 1952, making it 72 years old! Some of the improvements needed are to modernize classrooms, painting of the whole campus, lighting of the sports fields, locker room renovations, replacement of the cafeteria roof, concrete repair, permanent bathrooms, pool modernization and an outdoor space for students. These needed improvements are just for one of the eleven schools in the District!

If you live in Victorville, Carl hopes you will vote a "Yes" on these Measures on the November Ballot.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Bill Edwards
Flag Salute:	Kris Reilly
4-Way Test:	Ron Boyd
Fine Master:	David North

GILLESPIE'S GAB



Thank you to Carl Coles for coming out and sharing how Measure A and Measure X will give

the School District the money it needs to make necessary upgrades to their campuses.



The Fireside on September 26th at 4:00pm is shaping up and will be co-hosted by three Rotary Clubs; Victorville, Apple Valley and Barstow. The food will be Mexican and our District Governor Michael Driebe will be in attendance! Attendance to this free event is a perfect opportunity for those with a Red Badge, looking to upgrade to a Blue one. Please make sure to sign up so we have an accurate headcount.

How would you like to help decorate the District 5300 Rose Parade Float? If so, please see myself or Margaret.

Please make sure you join us on November 5th for our annual Teacher Mini Grant event. We are still looking for Rotarians to donate monies towards the grants for our area teachers. Last year we gave out over \$20,000 in scholarships and this year we want to beat that!

Bryan

Welcome New Rotarians



This week we welcomed two new members into our Club. **Margaret Cooker** led the proceedings, and joined by President **Bryan Gillespie**.

First up was **Carl Coles** Superintendent of the Victor Valley Union High School District. Although he has served in this role for more than a year, this was his first opportunity to be officially inducted. Carl was married on July 6th of this year and has five children between him and his new wife. Carl is also training for his first Iron Man Race next month!

Next to be welcomed into the Club was **Dr. Derek King**, Superintendent of Excelsior Charter Schools. Dr. King has been a Rotarian since 2011 and was most recently a member of the now defunct Rotary Club of the High Desert - Hesperia. He is excited to be a member and is ready to get working for the Club!



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Big Blue Poker Chip



Jim Murray had a chance to pick the Blue Poker Chip, but picked Green and saved the chance for another Rotarian. We will continue next week with 10 chips and \$300 for the one lucky Rotarian who has their ticket drawn.

Raffle

Derek King and **Arsalee Morales** were both big winners this week! Both of them won gift cards from **Don Lager** while Derek also won a bag of Hawaiian Coffee from **Bo Goulet**.



Arsalee wasn't finished either, taking home a bottle of wine from **David North** and a set of wine glasses from **Bill Edwards**.

Bill also donated a sunshade that will be used by Mr. Lager.

Spoon of Exception

Chris Ackerman had the Spoon this week and shared Victor Valley Transit Bus Route information changes that affect area students. Beginning with Route 15, CSUSB students, who ride for free will now have two trips instead of one, directly from the University to the Victor Valley Transportation Center at 5:46pm and 7:46pm. Chris also noted that Route 55 will provide faster service to Victor Valley College students, with more trips, running every 30 minutes on weekdays.

Rotary Guests



Rotary President **Bryan Gillespie** invited Senator **Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh** and her Aide **Alicia Grinnals**. Bryan also had **Jacob Kanekuahim** at the meeting as his guest. Finally, our speaker was joined this week by WUHS D photographer **Kristopher Reilly**.

Please Note:
As of August 27, 2024
Guest Meals are now \$26.00

Program Committee Meeting
September 17, 2024
Following Rotary Luncheon
All are welcome to participate and share their ideas!

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$9.00
Collected to Date: \$20,708.83
Total equals: 102,396 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	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	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	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

Oct 14: **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA

HIGH DESERT VETERANS APPRECIATION BBQ
NOV 9TH 2024
11AM-3PM
LOCATION:
SINGH PERFORMING ART CENTER
22311 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308
TODAY, WE CELEBRATE YOU. LUNCH IS FREE FOR VETERANS.

FOOD PROVIDED BY **CLASSIC CAR SHOW** **LIVE MUSIC**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Rotary **Rotary**

Apple Valley, CA Town of Apple Valley Victorville, CA

Upcoming Programs

Sept 17: Sandy Christensen, Non-Medical Rotoplast Team Member **TOPIC "Rotoplast"** (Cooker)
Program Committee Meeting Following Immediately After Luncheon

Sept 24: Jason & Chris Lamoreaux **TOPIC "CreekCut - Our Journey Birthing a Winery"** (Basen)

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