

The Joshua Tree

December 3, 2024

MEET THE NEW FIRE CHIEF OF VICTORVILLE

The fire service career of **Bobby Clemmer** began with the Barstow Fire Department, where he gained valuable hands-on experience. He then moved on to Apple Valley Fire, where he served as Fire Chief for several years. Despite his success in Apple Valley, Chief Clemmer always had his sights set on Victorville. Since 2017, he had hoped to join the Victorville Fire Department, but he chose to remain in Apple Valley for five years, believing in the importance of stability and commitment to his role. Two years ago, Chief Clemmer joined Victorville Fire as Battalion Chief and has now risen to Fire Chief, bringing his years of experience and vision for the future.



first responders and other drivers. The new ladder truck also boasts double the storage space for essential firefighting equipment, making it a versatile and efficient asset to the department.

In addition to the ladder truck, the department will soon add three new paramedic squads that are transport-capable, bringing the total number of paramedic squads to five. This increase will ensure the department is better equipped to handle medical emergencies, offering fast

response times and comprehensive patient care.

Chief Clemmer is also focused on initiatives that aim to reduce the number of unnecessary 911 calls, helping to streamline resources and focus on the most urgent emergencies. One such initiative is the ECNS Program, a collaborative effort between the fire department and nurses who work within the dispatch center. This program allows nurses to provide advice and services to callers, helping to assess whether an emergency response is needed or if alternative care options can be explored. By addressing non-emergency situations more efficiently, this program helps keep the emergency response system available for true crises.

Another key initiative, Community Paramedicine, is designed to address the healthcare needs of residents without overwhelming emergency rooms. This program focuses on connecting people with the right services

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This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Chris Ackerman
Flag Salute:	Darron Poulsen
4-Way Test:	Walt Alvarez
Fine Master:	David North



GILLESPIE'S GAB

Thank you to Victorville Fire Chief Bobby Clemmer for coming by the Club this week and share

his story as a Fire Chief and what is coming to the City of Victorville.



Please stop by again soon for another update.

The annual Rotary Christmas Party is coming up on December 12th and food choices are due on Friday, December 6 at 5pm. Please contact Bill Edwards with your choice of NY Steak, Halibut, Chicken Lemon Piccata, Mojave or Kung Po Chicken.

I am pleased to announce that for the first time in ages we are supporting a Global Scholarship applicant! Her name is Annabella Garcia from Apple Valley, who recently graduated from CSUSB with a Bachelors Degree.

Area Governor Dan Harley was on hand and shared the District Assembly and Conference will be combined next year into one big event on April 11th at Disneyland, so competitions for speech, music and ethics essays will be pushed up. Finally, Dan let Rotarians know the Apple Valley Beer Trailer is available to use for private functions and parties.

Bryan

Clemmer

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before they reach the hospital. A prime example is the department's work with mental health patients. Rather than transporting these individuals to an emergency room, paramedics will help them connect with appropriate mental health facilities, helping to clear space in local hospitals for patients who require urgent medical attention. The department will also partner with Victorville's Wellness Center to ensure that those in need of medical care receive it in the most appropriate setting.

As Chief Clemmer settles into his new role, he remains committed to his mission of making Victorville a safer and healthier place for all. With his experience, leadership, and passion for public service, the future of the Victorville Fire Department is bright.

Raffle

It was a big raffle drawing at this week's meeting which was started with **Chris Ackerman** donating limited edition VTA system map water bottle that will be used by **Mike Johnson**, and a Christmas hot chocolate gift that will be enjoyed by **Rob Kilpatrick**. To go along with it, Rob will also eat some Italian chocolate he won from **David North!**



Before **Mike Johnson** moves to Providence St. Mary (see "Fines" on page 3) he brought a Flagstar Bank money bag and a notebook, and both items were taken home by **Jim Cox**. Jim also left the meeting with a packaged oversized beaded garland from Rob.

Rob brought some baskets made by his wife **Lynae Kilpatrick**. One basket for making Mimosa's will be used by President **Bryan Gillespie** and a Bloody Mary kit basket that will be enjoyed by **Jim Murray**.

Finally, **Don Lager** walked away with a "Christmas Vacation" oversized cup and Christmas decoration from **David North**.



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Big Blue Poker Chip



Keith Metzler had the chance to draw the Blue Chip, but he drew green and left it for another Rotarian to try next time. We will continue the opportunity next week with a 50/50 chance and \$475 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip!

Spoon of Exception

Bill Edwards had a final week with the Spoon and shared that the Rescue Mission Alliance's Gala, entitled "Pursuit" coming up in March 13, 2025 is in celebration of their 25th Anniversary! All of the money raised from the event will go towards growing their Woman's Recovery Program. Their goal is to service 18 women through the program. This year, the Program graduated five women for being clean and sober during and after the year long program. All of the sponsorships, table purchases and auction wins at the Gala will help to serve more women in the High Desert.



Next it was time to Auction the Spoon for 6 weeks for the remainder two meetings in December and four in January. Keith Metzler was then only taker at \$75, so we will plan to see more of Keith and hear about the City of Victorville as we turn over to a new calendar year.

Rotary Guests

This week, we welcomed Victorville Deputy City Manager **Tony Camargo**, who attended with **Keith Metzler**, and **Dan Harley** from the Apple Valley Club joined us as well. Finally, **Stefanie Montoya** was at the welcome table, as a guest of **Bryan Gillespie**.

December Birthdays

David North	December 5
Robert Lovingood	December 31

December Anniversaries

Pastor Paul Earle	13 Years
Dr. Ron Boyd	13 Years
Michael Krause	4 Years

Wedding Anniversaries

Denny & Donna Wells	57 Years
Terry & Charley Caldwell	54 Years
Steve & Patty Orr	42 Years
Kirk & Rene Riding	42 Years
Brad & Bonnie Poiriez	31 Years

Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master and began by telling Keith Metzler that he has seen Keith so little lately, if feel he was attending as a guest, so that resulted in a \$20 fine. Across the room Rob Kilpatrick was also penalized \$20 for calling Keith out on a recent report that showed the city in an unfavorable light.

Jim Cox made a rare appearance as well this week and shared the joys of retirement, which cost him \$20 and Mike Johnson will be moving way from banking and will be working with Mike Page as the Planned Giving Director for Providence St. Mary Hospital Foundation. His job move also included a \$20 fine.

The Polio Pig

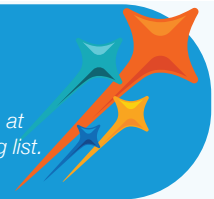
Collected this week: \$30.00

Polio Pig: \$25 + Chip (Keith Metzler) \$5 = \$30.00

Collected to Date: \$20,942.83

Total equals: 102,864 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

- Dec 12:** **Rotary Christmas Party**
6:00pm • Chateau Chang
Sign up at club meetings or contact Bill Edwards for meal choices for you and your guests.
- Jan 6:** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA

Upcoming Programs

- Dec 10:** Randy German, Sheriff Captain **TOPIC "Introduction and Update on Public Safety in Victorville"** (McEachron)
- Dec 17:** Michelle Lynn and Henry Phan, Providence St. Mary **TOPIC "Bringing Physicians to the High Desert"** (Page)
- Dec 24:** **DARK**
- Dec 31:** **DARK**
- Jan 3:** Nicole Orr and Katie Berrios, Providence St. Mary **TOPIC "Coordinating Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence in the High Desert"** (Page)
- Jan 14:** **VVC Superintendent Dr. Dan Walden** (Acosta)

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