



The Joshua Tree



December 2, 2025

ARE SURE YOU ARE ADA COMPLIANT?

The importance of understanding CASp standards continues to grow for architects, builders, and business owners throughout California, and this was the focus of a recent presentation given to the Rotary Club of Victorville by **Robert Martinez** of Martinez & Okamoto, Architects, a Certified Access Specialist (CASp) who spoke extensively on the critical role of ADA compliance in the built environment. Martinez explained that accessibility requirements originate from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a federal civil-rights law enacted in 1990 that established nationwide standards ensuring individuals with disabilities have equal access to buildings, services, and public accommodations. While the federal government set broad ADA design standards, California, known for maintaining some of the strictest regulations in the country, expanded these protections through the CASp Program, which began in 2010. CASp



professionals like Martinez are trained to evaluate whether buildings meet both federal ADA guidelines and California's detailed Title 24 accessibility provisions, helping architects, contractors, and business owners avoid costly violations.

Martinez emphasized that CASp inspections cover a wide range of essential access areas, including parking lot requirements, accessible routes, path of travel, access to goods and services, and all required signage, particularly parking signs that must meet very specific height, color, and visibility standards. He noted that one of the most frequent areas of non-compliance is company restrooms, which often fail to meet requirements for clear floor space, fixture heights, grab bar placement, turning radius, and outward-swinging doors. He also stressed a point that surprises many business owners: there is no such thing as being "grandfathered in" when it comes to ADA accessibility. Even older buildings must be brought into compliance when alterations occur or when accessibility barriers prevent equal access. Martinez further explained that architects and contractors must be familiar with Chapters 11A and 11B of the California Building Code; sections that outline accessibility requirements for residential (11A) and non-residential/public buildings (11B).

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Chris Ackerman

Flag Salute: Bob Basen

4-Way Test: Bo Goulet

Fine Master:

Continued on page 2



MURRAY'S MINUTE

Thank you to Robert Martinez from the Apple Valley Club for stopping by this week



and sharing a wealth of information on the importance that all businesses need to be ADA Compliant.

Sign-ups are only open for another week for our annual Christmas Dinner at Chateau Chang on December 11th. See the flyer on the next page for more information. We have the restaurant to ourselves and Pam and Arsalee are working on some great prizes for our annual Christmas bingo game.

Please note that we will be dark on both December 23rd and December 30th to give everyone time to focus on the holidays. With that said, please make sure to attend our December 16th meeting as we will have a Christmas program from Excelsior Charter School!

Finally, I have some 75th Anniversary Rotary pins available for Club members. Please let me know if you'd like one for your collection.

Steve

Martinez...

Continued from Page 1

For builders and architects, Martinez highlighted that working with a CASp professional early in the design and construction process is one of the most effective ways to prevent expensive post-construction corrections. CASp evaluations identify potential issues long before permits are issued or concrete is poured, giving project teams the chance to correct slopes, door clearances, restroom layouts, and signage plans before they become legal liabilities. Because California sees a high volume of ADA-related lawsuits, many triggered by easily avoidable mistakes, these inspections offer both legal protection and professional peace of mind. CASp involvement not only reduces exposure to litigation but also guarantees that buildings truly meet the needs of all users.

Martinez also directed business owners and Rotarians to a helpful federal resource, "A Primer for Small Business" on ADA.gov, a 2020 article that clearly outlines accessibility responsibilities and helps non-experts understand what compliance really looks like. He reminded attendees that accessibility is not simply a regulatory burden but a reflection of a community's values, ensuring that everyone, regardless of ability, can move through businesses and public spaces safely and with dignity. By incorporating CASp expertise, adhering to ADA and Title 24 standards, and understanding that compliance is an ongoing responsibility rather than a one-time requirement, builders, architects, and business owners can create spaces that uphold both the law and the spirit of inclusivity.

UNITE FOR GOOD

Big Blue Poker Chip



Dr. Derek King had the chance to draw the Blue Chip but picked green and saved the chance for another. We'll continue next week with 11 chips and \$275 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip.

Raffle

During this week's Raffle, **Chris Ackerman** donated a VTA blanket that will be enjoyed by **Rob Kilpatrick**, and a coffee cup that will be used by **Don Kinnard**.



Finally, **Chandale Sutton** received a bottle of wine from **Brad Letner** at i9 Sports.

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed **Veronica Martinez** from CASp who attended with speaker **Robert Martinez**, and **Alyy Martinez** was in attendance as a Stand-in for **Angel Espino**.



Alyy Martinez reads her Newsletter.
Alyy is smart and super popular.
Be Like Alyy.

A background image for the Christmas Party announcement featuring a close-up of a Christmas tree with gold and white ornaments and lights.

Rotary Club of Victorville
cordially invites you to our

Christmas Party

December 11, 2025
5pm

Chateau Chang
15425 Anacapa Rd
Victorville, CA 92392

Please R.S.V.P by December 9, 2025
Pam Murray 760-963-1923
pam75454@msn.com

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$27.00
Collected to Date: \$21,709.68
Total equals: 104,398 Doses!
One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2025-2026	TBA
President 2026 - 2027	Please be Interviewed
Immediate Past President/Club Service	Bryan Gillespie
Executive Secretary/Grants	Steve and Pam Murray
Treasurer	Darron Poulsen
Youth Services/Ethics Essay	Please Volunteer
Foundation.....	Darron Poulsen
Club Service & Membership	Bryan Gillespie
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service	Ryan McEachron
Community Service	Arsalee Morales
Vocational Service	Angel Espino

Members-at-Large: Bob Basen, Ron Boyd, Steve Murray, Ron Boyd, Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD/PP Secretary.....	Pam Murray
Scholarships.....	Please Volunteer
Special Billing	Esther Mears (TBD)
Public Service Awards.....	Please Volunteer
Teacher Mini-Grants	Angel Espino
Special Projects.....	Rob Kilpatrick
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Angel Espino
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Read B4K	Brad Letner
Grants.....	Please Volunteer
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

- Dec 8** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:30pm Board Meeting
ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA 92395
- Dec 11** **Rotary Christmas Party**
5:00pm at Chateau Chang
15425 Anacapa Rd, Victorville
\$65 per person; \$130 per couple
RSVP to Pam Murray at 760-963-1923 or
fill out sign-up sheet at meetings.

Upcoming Programs

- Dec 9** Jason Anderson, San Bernardino
County District Attorney (Page)
- Dec 16** **Christmas Music Program presented
by Excelsior Xpression, Led by Sam
Sooter** (King)
- Dec 23** **DARK**
- Dec 30** **DARK**



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