



The Joshua Tree

October 3, 2023

SHE IS SUFFERING, BUT HELP IS COMING

The victims of rape, molestation and other sexual assaults have a long road of recovery. After an assault is reported, one of the biggest challenges for law enforcement are the forensic/medical exams. This week, the Club was joined by San Bernardino Sheriff Captain **John**



Wickum and Providence St. Mary Philanthropy Officer **Nicole Orr** to speak on the Sexual Assault Response Team (S.A.R.T.).

For these victims, once a Deputy makes contact, the individual is taken off site to the station to give a full report, so officers can begin their investigation at the crime scene. In the past, the next step are for the victim must go for a forensic/medical examination. The closest locations have been Kaiser Medical Centers in Fontana or Redlands. While some people drive themselves or have a loved one assist, the Sheriff Department will provide drop off transportation 24 hours a day to a facility. While the exam takes place, their clothing is used for DNA, and many are left at the end with only a hospital gown, and no way to get home. With the need for sophisticated forensic and examination equipment, skilled and specifically trained medical personnel, the need for local help is apparent, that is where Providence St. Mary comes into the picture.



With over 100 rapes reported each year and only 5-20 actually reported, plus even less resulting in apprehension and conviction, the need for health care professionals, victim advocates, local social services and law enforcement to work together. Currently, the Assistance League of the Victor Valley provides

clothing for victims after their Kaiser exam, but much more is needed. Current obstacles facing victims are the shame, stigma, location of services and access to local care, removal (or amelioration) of which will result in more reporting, investigating and convictions.

Next year, a new Sexual Assault Response Facility will open up at Providence St. Mary in Apple Valley. Still on campus, but away from the hospital/emergency room in its own private facility, the building will host nurses with specialized training as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. The facility will include the latest equipment that will not only be used to prove the validity of the claim, but also used for suspects, as a way to gather DNA.

Another large portion of this will be community education to help some of the under reported 63% of sexual assault victims gain the strength to finally come forward. For those who have not reported the assault to the police, they can still arrive at the Providence St. Mary facility and receive service.

Rotarians and members of the community can help too by becoming engaged in support of the effort with Providence St. Mary plus other partners in the region, working with victims and survivors. Finally, one of the best ways to help is to communicate. Please let family, neighbors, friends and loved ones know that the Sexual Assault Response Team and Facility exists and help is out there. If you, or someone you know, has been a victim of sexual assault, rape, molestation ect, help is out there ...locally.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Bill Edwards
Flag Salute:	Terry Saenz
4-Way Test:	Jon Hove
Fine Master:	David North



MURRAY'S MINUTE

Thanks to both
Captain John Wickum
and Nicole Orr for
taking time out of their

busy schedules
to share
information
on the difficult
subject of
sexual abuse
and how to better assist those suffering in
silence in our community.



Congratulations to Linda Hove as our
September Rotarian of the Month. I cannot
thank you enough for all you do behind the
scenes to keep the Club running smoothly.

Welcome Darron Poulson to the Club!
We are honored to have you here, and are
excited to see your enthusiasm in action.

If you are a Jeep owner or off-roader
please join us for a fun weekend of cruising
and camping from October 13th - 15th.
Over the weekend we do a challenging run,
and the next day a nice cruise in the desert.
It's a great weekend with a fire pit, BBQ and
more. Please talk to me if you want to be a
part of this!

We have a Rotary Enseñada, Mexico Trip
coming up from December 15th - 17th,
where we will fellowship with the Enseñada
Club and visit the orphanage. Please
contact Ben Tafoya for more information

See you next week!

Steve

A New Rotarian!

This week, our Club welcomed a new Rotarian, **Darron Poulson** from the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority. Darron was inducted by Rotarian and Past District Governor **Stew Anderson**, and was joined by his sponsor, President **Steve Murray**.

Darron has lived in the High Desert his entire life and for the past 37 years has been working in the water and wastewater industry. Most of his work took him down the Cajon Pass for work, and he was approached by several Rotary Clubs for membership, but it never felt right, not being in the High Desert. Now, working locally, it feels right and we are honored to have him as a member. Darron has a passion for being a public servant and is excited to start another chapter in his life, serving others as a Rotarian.



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD



CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Big Blue Poker Chip



Bill Edwards had the chance to draw the Blue Poker Chip, but picked green and saved the chance for another next week. The pot will continue next week with 12 dice and \$250 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Poker Chip.

Raffle

Arsalee Morales was a big winner at this week's raffle. First, Arsalee took home some wildflower seeds and a set of wine glasses, both from **Bill Edwards**. To go along with the glasses, she won a bottle of wine and a mini frying pan, both from **David North**! Bill also donated a set of table garland that will be used by **Bo Goulet**, as will the flowered golf balls he received from **Jim Murray**. Jim himself will have a lovely smelling house, thanks to the pumpkin spice candle he took home from Bo.

Mr. Edwards will enjoy reading a copy of "Who Owns the Ice House", that he won from **Kirsten Acosta**, and herself, along with Stew Anderson, took home brand new Victor Valley Transit 30th Anniversary branded items from **Chris Ackerman**. Chris and Bill won the final prizes, as they both left the meeting with ICR goodie bags from **Terry Saenz**.

Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master again this week and first began by fining **Bill Edwards** \$25 for sharing information about the turkeys they are collecting for this year's feast for the homeless at Thanksgiving.

Other \$25 penalties were leveled to **Dr. Ron Boyd** in honor of his recent birthday and to **Bo Goulet** in celebration of his one year anniversary as a Rotarian.

Spoon of Exemption



Kirsten Acosta had another week with the Spoon and shared information about the High Desert Economic Summit on October 20th at Victor Valley College. Registration begins at 7:30am with the Program at 9:00am.

This year's program will

feature an Economic Update from Dr. Taner Osman, Manager of Regional and Sub Regional Analysis at Beacon Economics and the Keynote will be from Gary Schoeniger, the founder and CEO of the Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative. Tickets are \$75 each with sponsorship opportunities available. Get more info at vvcfoundation.com/hdes.

Rotarian of the Month



cards and much more to keep members active and engaged!

Congratulations to Honorary Rotarian **Linda Hove**, who was selected by President **Steve Murray** as our September Rotarian of the Month! Linda was chosen for her hard work behind the scenes, sending out birthday

Rotary Guests

Chris Ackerman introduced to the Club Victor Valley Transit Operations Manager **Sylvia Harris**, who will serve as his stand-in for future meetings. Our Stand-ins this week were **Terry Saenz** who attended in place of **Robert Lovingood** and **Stephanie Montoya** for **Bryan Gillespie**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$19.00

Polio Pig: \$14 • Dice (Bill Edwards) \$5 = \$19.00

Collected to Date: \$20,006.52

Total equals: 100,997 Doses!

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



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

- President 2023-2024Steve Murray
- President 2024-2025Bryan 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/MembershipBryan Gillespie
- Community Service/Speech Contests Mike Johnson
- International Service..... Ben Tafoya
- Youth Service/Ryla & TLC/Ethics Essay..... Ron Boyd
- Vocational Service Bill Edwards

Members-at-Large: Rob Kilpatrick & Bob Basen

Positions & Committee Chairs

- BOD Secretary Pam Murray
- Billing OfficerEsther Mears
- Dan Stover Music Contest..... Dawn Quigg
- 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. StudentsMaureen 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:** High Desert/Hesperia Club meets 7:00 a.m.,
Mile High Cafe, 8832 Orange St., Hesperia
San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon,
Barstow, DiNapoli's Firehouse, 1358 E Main St,
Barstow, CA
- THURSDAY:** Apple Valley, Thursday various meeting locations
and times. 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 9:** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm -Fellowship
5:30 pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- Oct 30:** **Past President's Meeting**
5:30 pm at Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



Upcoming Programs

- Oct 10:** Mike Thrapp, ICR Staffing
**TOPIC: The New Laws in California
that will Impact Employers (Page)**
- Oct 17:** Colleen Quinn, El Dorado Broadcasters
**TOPIC: The History of Radio in the
High Desert**
- Oct 24:** Chris Ackerman, Senior Marketing
Manager/PIO, Victor Valley Transit
**TOPIC: 30 Years On, Let's Re-Shape
Public Transportation (Page)**
- Oct 31:** **OPEN**

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