



The Joshua Tree



February 13, 2018

Love Costing Less than Fear and Hostility

How does a family move from one of the best cities in America to the worst in the world? Hearing from **Gem Munro**, founder of the Amarok Society, you soon learn that Gem is a man who truly epitomizes care and humanity to others. A Canadian, Gem has devoted his life improving educational opportunities around the world. The Amarok Society provides educational programs to one of the worst counties in the world, Bangladesh.

Years ago Gem and his wife **Dr. Tanyss Munro** packed their 4 kids and headed to Bangladesh where millions live in terrible slums and are so poor they cannot attend school. In fact only 1 every 3 children, has just some type of education. The country is massively overpopulated too. Imagine fitting 180 million people in an area 1/4 the size of California and you'll get a pretty good idea.

Gem and his wife decided to teach mothers in the Bangladesh slums to become teachers to neighborhood



children. The response they received in the country, was that it was an innovated idea, but wouldn't work because such poor women would be unteachable, and on top of that with violent husbands, slumlords and extremists, they'd be lucky to make it out alive!

Five months later they laid the groundwork for their mission. The first lesson they teach the women is how to hold a pencil, secondly, they show them which end of the pencil works with the paper. They teach them Bengali language, literacy, math, health, social studies, conflict resolution and English. In fact, Gem loves teaching them English, because in this country, only the elite know the English language and they hate it that these poor women know it too.

Once the women are ready, they must agree to teach at least 5 children in the neighborhood from what they have learned from the Society, but most teach a lot more children because not only are the women educated, but it creates a positive community within the slums and teaches them to think! These women's lives have purpose now where they felt their lives were over when they were married off around the age of 11.

For Gem and the Amarok Society the biggest reason why they have dedicated their lives to this service is one simple thing; the more you learn about the world, the more you love the world. Find out more at www.amaroksociety.org.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	David North
Flag Salute:	Maureen Mills
4-Way Test:	Arsalee Morales
Song:	Al Castellucci
Finemaster:	Ryan McEachron

Dwight's Writes



Sometimes a person crosses our paths that shows us a true example of humanitarianism and hope for a better world, and we experienced it this week by having **Gem Munro**

speak to the Club on the work he and his family are doing in Bangladesh. Please read this week's cover story and be inspired.

This week we welcomed a very special guest, **Van Jeponond** from the Rotary Club of Lacy, Washington. Rotary is growing in Washington, and it was wonderful to hear from Van of all the great work Rotarians are doing up north.



Our 2020-2021 President **Rosanne Weathers** came back this week from visiting the birthplace of Rotary...Evanston, Illinois. Rosanne brought a banner back and also came back with a ton of ideas to grow our Club.

Finally, my thought of the week is "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

- Thomas Edison

ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Rotary Guests

Along with a large group of S.T.A.R Student's families and friends, we also welcomed **Valene Vetack** from Choice Medical, **Dr. George Soness** from Desert Valley, who attended with **Marie Langley** and the visiting **Van Jeponond** from the Lacy, Washington Rotary Club. Our Stand-Ins this week were **Jimmie Smith** for **Mark McKay** and **Robin Cackler** for **Pastor Paul Earle**.

Club Assembly

This week we held a Club Assembly where President Elect **Brad Letner** announced his Board of Directors for the 2018-2019 year. Board members include **Ron Boyd, Margaret Cooker, Dan Dever, Mike Johnson, Kevin Kane, Rob Kilpatrick, Don Lager, Ryan McEachron, Steve Murray, David North, Steve Orr, Russ Stringham, Ben Tafoya, Mark Taylor, Rosanne Weathers** and **Donna Wells**. **Dwight Johnson** will serve as immediate Past President.

With a approval of the Board, **Ben Tafoya** announced, out of three candidates, the Board asked for a vote to make **Rosanne Weathers** our Club President for the 2020-2021 Rotary Year. This was also met with the uncontested slate approval of the Club Assembly!



The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$9.00

Collected to Date: \$15,024.25

Total equals: 91,095 Doses!

*One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!*

Lucky Blue Dice



It was Mike Johnson's turn for some big money (even though he works at a bank), but drew another white!

We continue next week with 11 dice and \$275 for one lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice!

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron was our Finemaster this week and first fined **Dwight Johnson** \$10 for his horrible intro to the podium, and then gave **Mike Johnson** a \$10 penalty because the DCB doors were locked this week at 6pm for the Club's Board Meeting. **Jim Cox** was given a \$25 fine for being out sick at the State of the City event, **Arsalee Morales** was hit with a \$10 fine for being in the Daily Press volunteering with the Apple Valley Club, and **Kevin Porter** left with \$50 less in his wallet for making a rare Rotary appearance. Finally, **Rosanne Weathers** celebrated the vote of her Club Presidency by receiving a \$20 fine.

Raffle Prizes

Raffle prizes this week began by **Mike Johnson** winning a bottle of wine from **Ryan McEachron**, who also gave away another copy of "212 Degrees" that will be read by **Robin Cackler**. Robin also won a beautiful clock from DCB and **Jimmie Smith** went away with the DCB business package from **Mike Johnson**. **Kevin Porter** left the meeting with the Alaska USA bag and clip from **David North** and finally, **Gary Adams** took home a couple of gift cards, as he will use his \$25 Midway card and Lawry's steakhouse card.

Spoon of Exemption

Marie Langley came to the meeting with another guest to share her time with the Spoon. **George Soness, MD** is the



Cardiologist from Desert Valley Hospital and spoke about Heart Health. Heart attacks are the leading cause of death, and we can take measures to fight against the disease such as a proper diet, quit smoking and exercise, but sadly a heart

attack can happen to anyone. Dr. Soness shared some preventative treatment such as controlling high blood pressure and cholesterol and educating yourself on how you can make other heart health improvements.

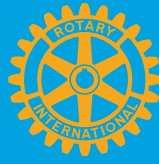
S.T.A.R. Students

We once again honored students this week, with kids from the Endeavour School of Exploration and Lomitas Institute of Technology. Handing out certificates were **Mayor Gloria Garcia**, **Susan Drake** from Robert Lovingood's office, **Rebecca Tennyson** from Senator Wilk's office, **Chris Nunez** from Jay Obernolte's office and **Wasey Noori** representing Congressman Cook.

Emceed by **Maureen Mills** and **Jim Barnes**, we acknowledged from Endeavour **Paul Rodriguez**, **AJ Trincinelly**, **Kylie Harper** and **Stevie Schully**.

Over at Lomitas, we honored **Ivy Torres**, **Eugene Perryman**, **Joshua Jenkins**, **Kenya Forcey** and **Sayed Sajid**.





VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2016-2018	Dwight Johnson
Immediate Past President	Ben Tafoya
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Administration ...	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service & President 2018-2020	Brad Letner
President 2020-2021/Fundraising/Billing Officer	Rosanne Weathers
Community Service	Victor Rocha
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/Ryla & TLC	Rob Kilpatrick
Vocational Service/Speech Contests	Ryan McEachron

Members-at-Large:

Steve Orr • Mark Taylor • Dan Dever • Rob Kilpatrick • Jon Hove
Steve Murray • Russ Stringham

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttlerwerth
Sergeant At Arms.....	Gary Adams
Song Master	Al Castellucci
Programs	Mike Page
Public Safety Awards.....	Jon Schuler
Scholarships.....	David North
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Marie Langley
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
S.T.A.R. Students	Robin Cackler
Flowers and Gifts	Trish Johnson
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship
at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Green Tree Golf
Course Clubhouse, 14144 Green Tree Blvd., 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., Denny's, 14165 Main St., Hesperia Adelanto Club meets 2nd Wed. at Chamber Room at Maverick Stadium at 11:30 a.m., and the 3rd and 4th Wed. at Budweisers, Adelanto Rd, Adelanto at 8am. San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Los Domingo's 1520 Main St, 13853 Seneca Rd, 2:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Apple Valley Country Club, 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

- Feb 24: Foundation Gala**
Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA
Black tie optional - club will reimburse you
the \$119 cost. Register on DaCDB
- Mar 12: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship • 5:30pm Meeting
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor
Hesperia and Silica Roads

Future Rotary Programs

- Feb 20: High School 4-Way Speech
Competition: Club Level**
- Feb 27:** Mark Clair, Director of Dual Enrollment,
Victor Valley College **Topic: "Dual
Enrollment - one option to reduce
the overall cost of a four year
degree"** (Wagner)

Proposed Member

If you protest the admission of this member please respond in
writing by 5 p.m. February 26 to President Dwight Johnson.

Valene Vetack

Director of Member & Provider Services

Choice Medical Group

Classification: Medical: Member

& Provider Services

Sponsor: Dwight Johnson

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