



The Joshua Tree

January 27, 2026

2 CELLOS AND A VIOLIN MAKE MUSIC



The Rotary Club of Victorville recently hosted its annual Dan Stover Music Competition at the Club level, showcasing the incredible musical talent of local student performers while honoring the legacy of a man who believed deeply in youth, music, and opportunity. **Dan Stover** was a longtime Rotarian and passionate advocate for music education, and this competition continues in his name to encourage young musicians to develop their gifts and share their talents with the community. Each year, students take the stage not only to compete, but to carry forward Stover's belief that music builds confidence, discipline, and character in young people.

This year's competition featured three outstanding performances. Finishing in third place and earning

\$50 was **Layla Kelly**, who delivered a beautiful violin performance of "Czardas." Taking second place and earning \$150 was last year's Club Level winner, **Cedric Liam Kelly**, who performed a Cello Concerto on the cello. Last year, Cedric advanced all the way to the District Finals, making his return to this year's competition especially impressive. Claiming first place, a \$200 award, and the honor of representing the Rotary Club of Victorville at the upcoming Area Competition was **Mariana Serrano**, who performed the Prelude from J.S. Bach's Second Cello Suite with poise and technical excellence, leaving a lasting impression on everyone in attendance.

Special thanks go to **Angel Espino**, who served as both the event Chair and emcee for the event, helping the program run smoothly from start to finish. The Club is also grateful to the judges, **Tim and Natalie Garton** of Garton Family Music and **Sarah Johnson**, for lending their time and expertise, as well as timekeeper **Alyy Martinez** for keeping the event on track. The evening was a wonderful celebration of young talent, community encouragement, and the enduring impact of Dan Stover's vision.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Chris Ackerman
Flag Salute:	Ryan McEachron
4-Way Test:	Steve Murray
Fine Master:	Ryan McEachron



MURRAY'S MINUTE

Thank you to all of students, Layla Kelly, Cedric Liam Kelly and Marina Serrano for taking part in our Dan

Stover Music Competition. Congrats to Mariana who will now represent us at the Area Competition! You got this!



Darron Poulsen still has available squares on the \$1 and \$5 opportunity for this year's Super Bowl Party! Let's fill them up! Please sign up for the party and invite potential members, friends, and neighbors to this free party. We do need a headcount so we know the amount of hamburgers, hot dogs, water and soda to purchase. Bring an appetizer or dessert for others to enjoy! Please remember this is a BYOB event.

Our 50/50 jar is doing great! Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. We will draw the winning ticket on June 30th! Half of the money will go to one lucky person, while the other half will go into our account to give Brad Letner the financial advantage to begin his presidency. Get your tickets now! See the flyer on page 3.

Steve

SIGN UP TODAY!

JOIN US FOR

SUPER BOWL

Party

LX

Let's eat, cheer, and get ready for the big game together!

February 8 | at 2:30pm

Darron & Donna Poulsen 18841 Nowata Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308

rsvp 760-953-1236

PLEASE BRING APPETIZER OR DESSERT
BYOB

UNITE FOR GOOD

Big Blue Poker Chip



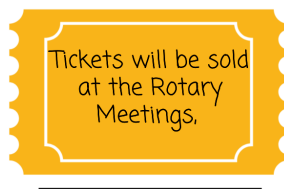
Don Kennard had the chance to draw the Blue Chip but picked green and saved the chance for another. We'll continue next week with 5 chips and \$425 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip.

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed parents of the competing students, Alma Serrano and Sarah Kelly. Our only Stand-in was Stefanie Montoya for Bryan Gillespie.



All proceeds to benefit the projects of The Rotary Club of Victorville



Winner will be announced on June 30, 2026

Raffle

This week, **Chris Ackerman** donated two goodie bags of new VVTA swag that will be enjoyed by **Ryan McEachron** and competition winner **Mariana Serrano**. **Craig Garrick** will enjoy using his Rotary Koozie and bracelet from the Club and **Don Kennard** won a LED Pick-up tool and flashlight from **Steve Murray**.

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron returned as our Fine Master and because Southwest Airlines now has assigned seating and **Craig Garrick** makes Ryan think of airplanes, he was fined \$5. At the meeting **Dr. Derek King** solicited Ryan for claims advice, even though he is not an ISU ARMAC client, so he paid \$10. **Jim Cox** was also penalized the same amount for hurting himself, and **Don Kennard** was fined \$20 for showing up late and winning a raffle prize!

Spoon of Exception



President **Steve Murray** had the Spoon this week for **Arsalee Morales** and did his best imitation of her as he shared the reason why she was unable to be in attendance this month to share. It was announced today that Apple Valley Communications has been sold to Sciens and she has been busy preparing to continue her career with them.

Then it was time to auction the Spoon for February. **Kirsten Acosta** could not be in attendance this week, but tasked **Angel Espino** to bid on her behalf, as she has some big event next month...

He (She) opened up the bidding at \$50, which was then countered by **Rob Kilpatrick** to \$75, only to have Angel (Kirsten) up it to \$100 and winning it. **Craig Garrick** took possession of the Spoon to give to Kirsten, so she doesn't have it next week, we will know who will be fined.





VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2025-2026	Steve Murray
President 2026 - 2027	Brad Letner
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.....	Ben Tafoya
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

- Feb 10** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:30pm Board Meeting
ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA 92395
- May 2** **Rotary Golf Tournament**
Apple Valley Golf Course
\$100 per Player • \$400 per Foursome

Upcoming Programs

- Feb 3:** Lisa Harvey and the Bloodhounds from Victor Valley College **TOPIC "Bloodhound Research for Crime Scenes to Medical Breakthroughs"** (Acosta)
- Feb 10:** **The Victorville Rotary BS Show** (The Brad & Steve Show)
- Feb 17:** Bruce Ebmeyer, Ebmeyer Charter Services **TOPIC "TBA"** (Page)

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$8.00

Collected to Date: \$21,758.68

Total equals: 104,496 Doses!

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

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