

Snapshot

Victorvilla Community, Victorville

Helping hands



Many thanks to Marsha Hamilton, resident manager of Victorvilla Community, for her contribution and whose nephew Jack was the inspiration behind this story.

For over ten years Victorvilla Community in Victorville has been raising much needed funds for the East Valley Sheriff's Mounted Posse, a volunteer search and rescue team assisting the Yucaipa Sheriff's Department.

Unfortunately this relationship developed after the disappearance of nine year old Jack Phillips from a neighborhood picnic area in 1995. At that time, hundreds of police and search and rescue groups from neighboring areas participated in a 14 day and night search for the missing boy. After the search for Jack was called off, the East Valley Mounted Posse (EMVP) refused to give up and searched for him over the course of many more days. Sadly, Jack was never found.

"At that time we were looking for a charity or good cause to support, in order to be a bit more socially conscious. Our immediate thought was that this search and rescue team was a perfect way to reach out and give a helping hand," said resident manager Marsha Hamilton.

Victorvilla Community began their fundraising efforts by hosting lunches, brunches, dinners and ice cream socials with the cost being a donation to the EMVP. Residents gave very generously and soon the community had donated hundreds of dollars.

A while later, the community wished to increase their fundraising efforts by hosting regular bingo matches on their property. In order to do so, they were required to obtain a license from the City. They were

able to do this by using the EMVP's non-profit status, which they happily provided.

"Between the fundrais-

ing we have donated many thousands of dollars to our favorite Mounted Posse over the years," Marsha stated. "We are thankful and fortunate to be supported by the Vedder Community's, who made it possible for us to do this precious work for this hard working and deserving group of professionals who put aside their lives and go look for our loved ones."

In June 2008, the EMVP attended Victorvilla's annual Supercue where they unveiled a new command post that had been purchased thanks to the contributions made by the residents of Victorvilla Community. "We are very proud to have been able to make such a difference," said Marsha.

Editor's note: The command post is housed in a large converted horse trailer and is equipped with the necessary items needed to conduct detailed and thorough search rescues.



Photos provided courtesy of the San Bernardino County East Valley Mounted Posse.

Victorvilla Community is managed by Vedder Community Management.

