

NEWS

Crossroads Mission ♥ Yuma, AZ
Fall 2009

for our *Partners*

Saved & Baptized!

Under the Ocean to Ocean bridge, on a quiet and peaceful Monday morning, the Colorado River was the host of Crossroads Mission's baptisms.

Joe Avila, Associate Pastor of Community Christian Church and Robert Olague, a graduate of one of our programs and long-time ministry volunteer, had the privilege of baptizing sixteen men. They were participants of our recovery and homeless programs. The majority of them received Christ as their Savior right here at Crossroads Mission through the daily morning devotions and evening chapel services.

It was an awesome time that began with songs of praise and worship led by Sam Knight, Ministry Coordinator at Crossroads. After the singing came the long parade of man after man declaring Jesus as his Savior and obeying Him in baptism.

Thanks to the support of many area churches and caring friends like you, we are able to preach the message of God on a daily basis. Plus, we baptize the equivalent number of people that a small church would baptize. Thank you. You make it possible!

Read more about Robert Olague on page 5.



Everyday a miracle at Crossroads Mission!



Myra E. Garlit
M.Ed., LISAC
Executive Director

Fall Season greetings! How wonderful that we're well into the cooler season! The numbers of people needing our services have been steadily increasing as the pressure from the poor economy continues, but true to God's very nature, He continues to meet the needs through our donors. Many times we are amazed at how the needs are met. Someone will ask for a wheelchair which we won't have at the

time. In just a few minutes, we will have a wheelchair. We will receive an in-kind donation and will think, "What will we do with this?" Someone will have a need we're able to meet with the very thing we didn't know how we could use it. We will be low on food. Some club, individual, RV park, or church will just show up with food from a food drive or event that they held! It's amazing! God is in the business of meeting needs. I believe that God uses Crossroads to make miracles for people. We can't provide these "miracles" without our precious donors like you! Thank you for all you do to *help us help them!*

I'm excited and amazed at God's grace as I review this newsletter. The men being baptized under the river bridge were a sight to behold. (Front Page) What a colorful picture! The men were excited to proclaim their new life in Christ by participating in the baptism. Men, who at the very point of their need, turned to God for help and surrendered their lives to Him! Their baptisms are another miracle of God's grace in action! Many churches from this community support the

Mission by making monthly cash donations, food drives, offering church services at chapel and church members who volunteer in many of the Mission departments. Thank you!

Thanks to the Crossroads Mission Alumni Association for taking on the bed project. Each winter season, we have an overflow in both shelters. While we have utilized foam mats in the past, the Alumni Association is earning money to purchase solid bed "trays" that are easily stackable, cleanable, and longer-lasting. The total cost is \$11,000 to meet the needs. The group brought in over \$700 at their first car wash. Watch for other fundraisers in the near future. This group is on fire and all about service to others! (Page 4)

Finally, the work toward getting the Family Shelter built continues. We will hold the last major fund raiser for our 50th Year celebration on November 14. (Page 3) We are planning an evening of entertainment and nostalgia! Please don't miss the opportunity to be a part of building the Family Shelter. Dave Boyer will be "wowing" us with his big band sound of oldies. A delicious dinner will be served. For those of you who like to dance you won't want to miss this. If you're not a dancer like me, it will be a great time to watch and you won't go away disappointed. This night will be another "first" for Yuma! We're offering all of this for \$25 per person! See you there!

As always, continue to pray for us as we are on the front line of battling the diseases of homelessness and addiction. We can't do the work we do without your prayers and donations!

God bless you!

You can get a \$400 State Tax credit when you help Crossroads Mission

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about our taxes!

If you make an end-of-the-year donation to Crossroads Mission, you may qualify for a dollar-for-dollar Arizona tax credit. The maximum tax credit is \$400 for married taxpayers or \$200 for married filing separately, single or unmarried heads-of-households.

To qualify for the credit, report the donation on Arizona Form 321. You must itemize your

deductions. If you are using the credit, you must also subtract the donation from your Arizona itemized deductions. The credit is allowed in addition to other Arizona credits, such as those from donations to schools.

Donations must be postmarked or delivered to Crossroads Mission by December 31, 2009 - hurry! Use this form to send in your donation today.

For questions or to get a more detailed brochure call Bill Donnelly, Development Director at (928) 210-4525.

TAX CREDIT DONATION CARD

Crossroads Mission * P.O. Box 1161 * Yuma, AZ 85366-1161

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone No.: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount: _____ Check No.: _____

Credit card donations can also be made online at www.crossroadsmission.org, or by calling (928) 726-0491, Ext. 23.

Participating donations will be used for services to provide assistance to the needy. The maximum credit is \$200 per individual (a total of \$400 for a married couple). These donations are pursuant to A.R.S. Section 43-1088. For additional information, consult your tax advisor or go to www.azdor.gov.

Come and "Follow Us"

Crossroads Mission is now part of Facebook and Twitter!

Social networking sites such as these have become amazingly popular and are being used not only by individuals but by organizations trying to

get their message out to the community. That is exactly why we decided to join. Plus quite frankly, we are always looking for ways to save money! The concept of getting our message out to an unlimited number

of people with just a few clicks -for free- is something that we had to explore.

If you have a Facebook and or Twitter account, we invite you to be our cyber-friend. Please go to our website and click on the FOLLOW US link.

We'll post updates on upcoming events,

twitter



facebook

accomplishments and needs.

Who knows where technology will take us next, but it's very exciting!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Join us at our 3rd fundraising celebration - a fun time with a silent auction, dinner, and dance!



Dave's unique Big Band style of oldies and inspirational music has spanned over four decades.

He performs in over 70 concerts each year.



Saturday November 14th

AWC 3C College Community Center

Featuring Performer

**Dave Boyer
& LIVE BIG BAND SOUND!**

Doors open at 6 PM. Admission \$25 per person or \$250 per table for 10 - Dinner & refreshments included.

EVENTS AT CROSSROADS MISSION CAMPUS:

Nov. 18, 2009

Soup-er Celebration of Hope

12 noon - 4 PM

A services and information fair for the homeless and the needy.

Nov. 24-26, 2009

The 3 Days of Thanksgiving

at Crossroads Mission

11 AM - 1 PM, all 3 days

Dec. 23-25, 2009

The 3 Days of CHRISTmas

at Crossroads Mission

11 AM - 1 PM, all 3 days

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer call Barbara at 928-726-0491, Ext. 17

For more information contact Bill Donnelly at (928) 210-4525

A major fundraiser for a new Family Shelter and Career Center



ARTIST'S RENDERING

NEWS for our Partners

Getting to know Robert

Robert is one of the many people that have participated in one of our programs and made a life change that brought about positive changes in their lives. When he was homeless, Robert needed a hand up and he needed Jesus. Today, he preaches weekly and helps continuously at Crossroads. Here are a few questions to get to know Robert:

Q Did you participate in one of CRM's programs?

A Yes, the Renewed Life Program for four months (a program to help people out of homelessness.)

Q What was your life like before coming to CRM?

A I was homeless, doing drugs, in and out of jail, on and off probation, not knowing Jesus Christ and His salvation.

Q What brought you to CRM?

A My father's death which brought about homelessness.

Q What do you feel has been the most important thing that CRM has done for you?

A When I was hungry they fed me, when I needed a place to stay they provided a bed. I found salvation in Jesus Christ at Crossroads.



Q How is your life different now?

A I have been drug free for about six years. I attend church two times every Sunday, I have a home and I am a responsible adult now.

Q What would you say to the community about CRM?

A The program works but you have to be committed, just as the staff is.

Addiction!

By DAWN W.

What was once my high became my reality, that no one knew how to tap into.

My own world to escape to, but not willing to come back.

Struggling to survive by strangling my soul, body, and mind. Seeing my body collapse while watching my spirit die next to me as I lie comatose and death-like in my out of body experiences.

This was my energy to live. I couldn't go a day without the warm, comforting, euphoric blackness sensation running through my veins...

The tables turned:
Fear was my joy,
and dark was my light.
Silence became music,
and death became life,
Weeping was my laughter
And sorrow seemed so right.
I was dying to live
But living to die.

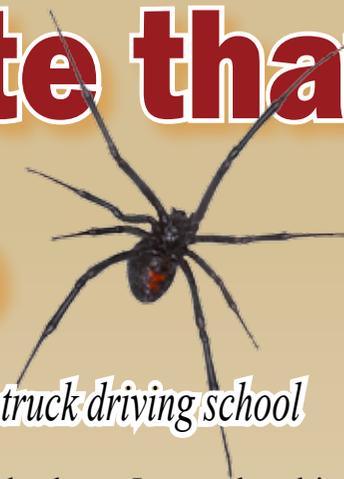
THIS POEM WAS WRITTEN BY A RECOVERY PROGRAM PARTICIPANT. IT IS AN HONEST LOOK INTO WHAT ADDICTION BRINGS TO A PERSON'S LIFE.

A Car Wash for BEDS!

Sam's Club was the place to get your car washed for a great cause Saturday October 3rd. The ones doing the washing were no less than the Crossroads Mission Alumni Association! The association is made up of program graduates from our recovery, homeless, and adult education programs. We are grateful to them for organizing this event to help purchase beds for our shelters. Every winter we have people sleeping on mats on the floor and sturdy, space saving beds are an urgent need. The group brought in over \$700 at their first car wash. The goal is to raise \$11,000!



Dan: a spider bite that changed his life



His own words on how he no longer camps by the river and is now in truck driving school

This letter is for those of you that think there is no chance or even no hope. My name is Dan and I'm fifty years old. Yes, I am an alcoholic/drug addict and though I've been responsible for my addictions for many years now, I haven't acted accordingly. The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous talks of me as the slow learner, this is true. Jails, institutions and death... oh my! I've seen it all but death.

I turned to Crossroads Mission when my leg was bitten by a spider while residing on the Colorado River. Don't ask why I was on the river; I think it's rather obvious and I'm not about to make any excuses. God bless the staff and the Mission itself for just being there. I can't express my gratitude enough for the men's shelter and the people who freely gave me a home. These people and this awesome place gave me all the necessities (food, water, and shelter) and more. They gave it without asking for anything but trusting me to participate by volunteering where there was a need.

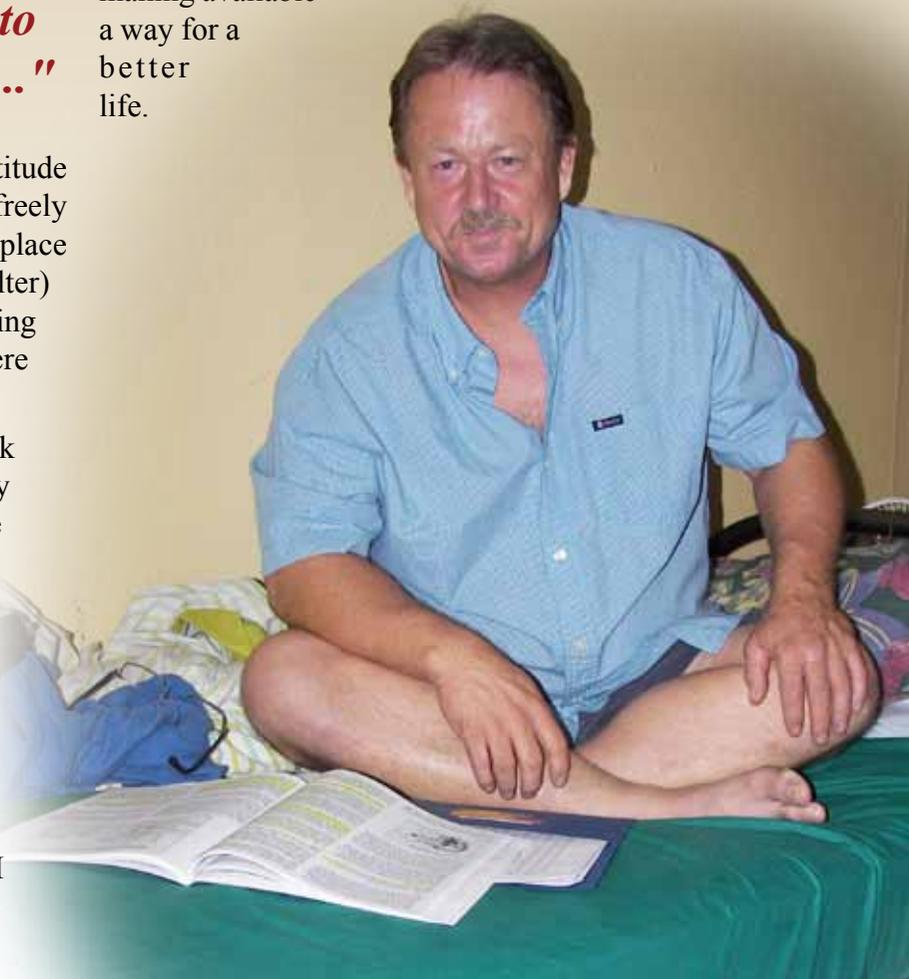
Maybe you heard about people who were sick and tired of being sick and tired? Well, I can't fully tell you that was my case. Oh, I was tired of the unemployment and not having a place of my own. I think that in spite of myself, I was just getting older and growing out of the old ways. I knew I wanted a better life, and finally I knew what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to serve God because He was the only consistent thing in my life and He had always given me a place. Yes, God has been real in my life since 1984 when I got on my knees and asked him into my life. I told you I

was a slow learner. I also knew I wanted to drive over the road in a big truck.

Check this out! I am now enrolled in California Career Schools and will have a place of employment when I finish this school and the whole thing is taking less than six months to do. I will be making more money than I ever made before and you can do it too. Get this... all it takes is to be willing to go get what you want. I don't have to pay back a dime for any of my studies. Is that awesome or what?

Twice today I have shed tears; once this morning while listening in on devotions about miracles and now, because I am forever grateful to the people of Crossroads Mission and God for making available a way for a better life.

"I knew I wanted a better life, and finally I knew what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to serve God..."



The Prayer Closet

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. —Matthew 6:6 (KJV)

We invite you to share your prayer requests with us on our website. You may also call us or write to us. Please remember Crossroads Mission's special requests:

- **Our outreach projects and special events**

That we may reach the many people who need services through our outreach efforts and special events and that they accept our help.

- **An increase of donations**

That our in-kind and financial donations increase to continue the many services that we offer. (in-kind donations are donations of goods such as food, clothing, blankets, furniture, etc.)

- **All the people involved with Crossroads Mission**

All of our clients, guests, volunteers, Board members, staff, and staff family members

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. —Romans 12:12 (NIV)

Our Basic Needs

Please consider helping us with some of our basic needs:

- Food, for pantry & events, turkeys for holiday season.
- Socks & underwear (new) for men, women, and children —in all sizes.
- General toiletries, personal care items, and bath towels.

WHAT YOUR GIFTS MADE POSSIBLE!

DEPARTMENT	APR 09	MAY 09	JUN 09	JUL 09	AUG 09	SEP 09
KITCHEN						
MEALS	9996	10215	10186	11430	11723	11508
FAMILY SHELTER						
BED NIGHTS	545	500	468	817	380	683
TOTAL GUESTS	34	31	30	48	50	41
CHILDREN	8	5	6	17	24	16
MEN'S SHELTER						
BED NIGHTS	3035	2973	2820	3291	3438	3189
NEW GUESTS	25	26	32	18	27	33
NEW LIFE RECOVERY PROGRAM						
ENTER PROGRAM	11	10	12	14	15	17
GRADUATES	10	8	10	11	10	9
CAREER & ACADEMIC CENTER						
STUDENTS	57	52	69	78	72	83
HOURS STUDIED	520.5	779.25	936	863.75	927	909.5
GED's	0	1	0	1	0	3
SERENITY COMPLEX						
BED NIGHTS	240	310	240	279	279	270
INDIVIDUALS	8	10	8	9	9	9
HARMONY HOUSE						
BED NIGHTS	141	152	136	118	124	110
INDIVIDUALS	5	5	5	5	5	4
GIVING						
CLOTHES	1771	2223	1740	1799	1873	1678
FURNITURE	36	51	70	63	44	46



SMILING FACES ALL AROUND

could be seen at the 2nd Birthday Party for the Homeless! We had BBQ chicken, cake, piñatas, train rides, hair-cuts, karaoke, and plenty of fellowship! Thank you for making it possible!



A "SOLE" of a Message by Brooke!

“I want to know exactly what you do. I am not coming to Yuma for a vacation. I want to do something!” Exclaimed Brooke Block-Frost, daughter of Crossroads Mission's Treatment Director, Gordon Block. “Well you like to run and exercise,” stated her Dad, “I guess you can take our girls out for some exercise!” Father and daughter agreed.

Two weeks later, Brooke called her Dad again, “The girls are going to need good foot wear if they are going to exercise!”

“Yeah” said her Father shyly.

“So I am going to start a shoe drive, e-mail all my friends and place this drive on my FACEBOOK!”

"Ok!" said Gordon.

Three weeks after that, “Dad, I have collected 211 pounds of shoes and Federal Express of Indianapolis is donating the shipping!” Most of the shoes came from Corey, Brooke's husband's work, garage doors of Indianapolis, and Grace Community Church Vacation Bible School.

Well, Brooke did come to Crossroads Mission and did take our girls out for some exercise. She participated in their recovery and gave out 211 pounds of shoes. In the process, she found out exactly what Crossroads Mission does, “CARRY A MESSAGE ONE SOUL AT A TIME.”



Help Us Help Them!

We would not be able to do what we do without your help. When someone comes to Crossroads for help - we're there for them! Through your donations, you are there too - THANK YOU! Will you please send your most generous gift today? You can help us help them!

YES! I want to help them! Here's my gift of:

- \$30 \$50
 \$70 Other: _____

PLEASE CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & SEND THIS CARD WITH YOUR GIFT TO:
Crossroads Mission, P.O. Box 1161, Yuma AZ 85366-1161.

Ensure that the mailing label with your name and address is visible on the back of this card. For credit card giving visit our website or call (928) 726-0491, Ext. 23. All donations are tax deductible and you will receive a thank you letter confirming your gift. Unless otherwise specified, donations will be used to cover general operating and program expenses and may be used throughout the year.





NUMBERS TO KNOW

Executive Director

Myra Garlit (928) 726-0491, Ext. 15

Ministry Opportunities

Chapel and Devotion Speakers, Special Presentations, Church Events & Worship Teams
Sam Knight (928) 783-9362, Ext. 11

Public Relations & Special Events

Fundraising Events, Group Presentations, Gifts of Goods, Food, Services and Vehicles.
Barbara Rochester (928) 726-0491, Ext. 17

Major Gifts & Development

Financial Stock & Property Contributions, Planned Gifts & Charitable Trusts
Bill Donnelly (928) 210-4525

Newsletters & Website

Azucena Solorzano (928) 261-9836

Volunteer Involvement

Individual, Church & Corporate Volunteer Groups, Service Clubs & Community Service
(928) 726-0491, Ext. 20

2nd Chance Bargain Center & Pick-up Line

(928) 726-0491, Ext. 18

Administration Offices

(928) 726-0491

Career & Academic Center

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 31

Harmony Home - Women's Transitional

(928) 783-5906

Family Shelter

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 30

Main Campus

(928) 783-9362

Men's Shelter

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 13

First Step Center - OPEN 24 HRS.

(928) 783-9362, Ext. 22

Serenity Housing - Men's Transitional

(928) 783-5642

www.crossroadsmission.org



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George Davis

Jerry Tams

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John McMarran

Judi Hipp

Lenora Werley

Lois Galyardt

Lynette Toepfer

Maggie Elmer

Mary Shane

Mike Friends

Paul Bense

Renee McRay

Rick Parr

Robert Hayworth

Rose Hill

Sonya Grimaldi

Tim Conovaloff

Sam Day

Stewart Bradshaw

2ND CHANCE BARGAIN CENTER



To Schedule a FREE pick up of your donations call:

726-0491
Extension 18

Find Quality Items at a **Great Price!**

2291 E. Palo Verde St
OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM



The purpose of Crossroads Mission is to help disabled, disadvantaged and disenfranchised individuals and families achieve a better quality of life. We are a 501(c)3, Private Nonprofit Organization serving the homeless, needy and poor of Yuma County without regard to race, color, national origin, religious background, age, sex or handicap. (Alternative format and reasonable accommodations available upon request.) We depend on the contributions of concerned individuals and organizations. All contributions are tax-deductible. We are a member in good standing of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions. We partner with the State of Arizona, DES, Yuma Community Food Bank, FEMA & Cenpatco of Arizona. We do not solicit in front of stores or door to door. Please report any impostors to us immediately. News for Our Partners is a quarterly publication for the friends and supporters of Crossroads Mission. We welcome comments about the content of the newsletter. If there are issues you want to hear about, please let us know.



P.O. Box 1161 . Yuma, AZ 85366-1161

Member of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions. www.agrm.org



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