

Tahquitz Ward Express

YSA Weekly Invitational

Feb 6,
2023

We chronicle the partying and worshipping, comings and goings & general memory-making moments of our **GREAT** YSA Ward in Hemet. If you are missing, you are missing out!

In other words... You snooze, You looze!!

Available herein:

- ◆ Tahquitz Ward CA Young Single Adult happenings—Past & Future
- ◆ Elder and Sister Casper's mission experiences, religious opinions and odds and ends

If there are any mistakes, please place all the blame on me. (Sister Casper)

If there are profound, outstanding, positive, thrifty, virtuous, kind, obedient, cheerful, brave, clean, reverent, virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, give Elder Casper the credit.

This is the fourth weekly YSA newsletter (which may or may not happen weekly, depending on Sister Casper's laziness level) to announce coming attractions, past activities and is designed to energize, magnetize and attract everyone to our great young & old ward.

Since the last letter, there's been a lot of people wanting to wrap their hands around another copy of this letter so we are making over-the-top efforts to get it to each one of you.

The purpose of our ward is to stay engaged, energized, actively building personal testimonies and serving others. If you feel left out, dive in and make some ripples in the ward pool.

Often times we feel left out because we want others to make efforts to include us and do little ourselves to reach out. Often times, what is really needed is for each of us to make efforts to contribute and participate.

There are three kinds of people in life. Those who watch things happen, those who make things happen, and those who wonder what in the heck happened.

There's been a lot of activity in the ward this week. Several missionaries are preparing to embark. New members have been showing up. Service projects, games and get-togethers have occurred.

This last week found the Tahquitz Ward members enjoying a Kahoot! competition that demonstrated the academic prowess of many of the younger folk and total ignorance of a few older ones. Several games were played with multiple questions of four per round.

A few of the top finishers were Bryce Phipps, Brigham Hartvigson, Brother Stange, Evan Smith and Madalynn Phipps. There were others but Sister Casper was so focused on winning each game, she lost track of everyone else in the room. (She never won or placed)

The chances of winning were one in four in each round. A person really was dense if they scored an average of 25% per game. Elder Casper scored 0% of each game. Every time. He was glad when it was over and they got to go to Wendy's.

Wahquitz YSA Weekly Invitational



Highlights of the Wendy's visit were Douglas showing everyone how big of a fish he caught last summer and Madalynn wanting to dump hot sauce in someone's Frosty. Ajshane kept asking her why? It was a fun outing!

Vahquitz YSA Weekly Invitational

The Deseret Industries Service Assignment was held last Wednesday. We had 11 people make the trip north and complete the assignment. It was a pleasant assignment to help out those who struggle and give of ourselves. Thanks!!!

Unfortunately, the Casper's along with Gladys and Douglas were the last to check in at DI. Therefore, the only picture that was taken was one of Sister Casper entertaining the idea of wrapping plastic around Elder Casper's head as he was taking a selfie. But she refrained for several reasons...

- ◆ If she followed through with it, there might be photographic evidence of her husband's demise
- ◆ Who would drive her home from Riverside through rush-hour traffic?
- ◆ Her sugar daddy would be gone and she might be working at Deseret Industries for a long term spell, after she was released from prison
- ◆ Who would play piano accompaniment for her fiddling numbers at the old folk's homes in Hemet every week?
- ◆ How would she explain to Bishop Gray the fact that her husband had dropped dead right in front of her and she no longer had a junior companion?



This news-laden missive is for the benefit of the ward. If you have any news, would like to advertise or need to get the word out about anything pertinent, or even have a picture or thought you would like shared, text 509 531 3419 or email bgcasper@hotmail.com. (It may or may not make the editing process. If it doesn't, blame Sister Casper) If you have concerns or something to share, send it to the email above. If you want it kept anonymous, just mention that in an email and we'll keep your name out of the broadcast or forward the info to the party that needs to know. Forward this letter to anyone you know who is not getting it!

One last thing, your leaders love you and want you to be happy and successful in your lives! With the New Year upon us, make a change or commitment that will make 2023 a great year for you!

You belong to us and we belong to you!

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A great fast and testimony was held yesterday followed by a Break the Fast dinner afterward. Sister Casper was so intent on breaking the fast, she forgot to get any pictures of the appetites that were satisfied.

Because the Caspers are getting along in years, if you have any ward news, pictures or other happenings, please text them to 509 531 3419.

One item that was overlooked last week was the birthday of Madalynn Phipps. That grand event will be tomorrow, the 6th., the same day as the Glow In The Dark 9 Square In The Air at the Kirby building. Don't miss it!!!

Colton Huff passes another milestone on next Sunday if Sister Casper's arithmetic is still working.

Another announcement is Douglas Salazar performed a 390 lb leg press this week. There were witnesses. If any one doubts this, Douglas has volunteered to have a shin-kicking contest with them after Madalynn's birthday party/9 Square in the Air Monday night.

Speaking of contests, would anyone like to challenge Sister Casper to a wheelie contest?





WARNING—The author of this PDF (Pretty Doggone Fine) newsletter is doing it in the spirit of love and fun, kinda like a Valentine card showing up in your mailbox on April's Fools Day. If you have any concerns about being photographed or written about, text Elder Casper at 509 531 3419 and he'll relay the message to Sister Casper who will keep you out of the news. She has offended many and doesn't want to hurt anyone's feelings in the future. If we miss an item you wanted published, give Sister Casper the dickens. Elder Casper doesn't usually ever make mistakes and therefore isn't responsible. Also, if anyone would like to take over producing theTahquitz Ward Express letter, tell Sister Casper you want to take charge! That's all it will take for the

The Caspers had dear friends—the Woods drop in this week. The Woods pulled the Caspers out of a missionary zone meeting to say hi. The Caspers said hi and hurried back into their meeting.

There are many stories about Casper's history with the Woods. It's been a very interesting series of events over the last 50 years or so.

When it's all said and done, families are the best thing we can have in life along with good friends taking second place.

At one time Jay Wood was the Bishop for the Basin City 2nd Ward and Sister Casper was the Relief Society President.

Elder Casper felt strongly that he should have the job. He wanted to be the Relief Society President but Bishop Wood refused to even consider it.

Elder Casper finally got over the perceived shunning and moved on.

Elder Casper appreciated Bishop Wood rescinding the shunning order.



This leftover space is available for rent. If you have a car, pet, sibling, rodent or any other tangible asset you'd like to sell or give away, contact Sister Casper and she'll give you this space for as little as a song and a dance.

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A Missionary Experience from last week...

Old Elder Casper was invited by the Young Elders to go to a discussion with another old guy (we'll call him Brother White) they were teaching. The two old guys hit it off superbly because they had both lived in Philadelphia in the 70's and both had been in the petroleum business. Elder Casper had lived in Philadelphia on his mission but wasn't in the petroleum business at that particular time.

Brother White was a black gentleman and some of their discussion concerned the Priesthood and blacks back in the day. It was friendly and informational.

Elder Casper shared how he had been held hostage with a knife to his throat one evening by another black gentleman who was more than slightly inebriated. He talked about another black gentleman named Brother Berry who would go on missionary appointments with Elder Casper and was a devout member of the Church. He shared a story about a black family who had a daughter with leukemia that they gave blood for.

Elder Casper and his companion were both skinny (I am not lying) and were accompanied by two other Elders in their district who were big and stocky and former football players. Skinny Elder Casper and his slender companion got their fingers pricked and proceeded to take a seat and have a goodly amount of their blood drawn.

The other two big and tough Elders both had their fingers pricked, fainted and started to fall on the hospital floor. Because of the wimpyness of the two big guys, the only blood they were allowed to donate was the tiny test droplets on the end of their fingers. The two skinny Elders who were performing flawlessly got a good chuckle when their buddies fainted.

Back to the present: Brother White has a testimony of the Church and the Book of Mormon but wanted to know more about Elder Casper's feelings. Brother White was in a situation with a pastor friend of his and felt if he got baptized it would jeopardize his relationship with his friend.

The next week another brother (we'll call him Brother Black) called Elder Casper and said he was going to take Brother White and his wife to the temple in Redlands and share time, spirit and feelings on the temple grounds. Brother Black called Elder Casper that evening and said it had been a good experience. He said he would be meeting Elder Casper at Brother White's later that evening for another missionary discussion.

Elder Casper arrived at Brother White's home a half-hour early. The house was dark. There were no lights on in the White House, if you know what I mean. (And then again, there haven't been any bright lights in the White House for many, many years)

Elder Casper rang the doorbell several times without a response. He figured Brother White had gotten cold feet and bolted as often happens in missionary work. Soon Brother Black showed up with a big platter of chocolate chip cookies he had made for Brother White.



This is Elder Casper's favorite grandchild Millie. She's what he sees whenever he looks at his phone.

She looks best at the top of every hour. Why? you may ask. Because she's the only one who constantly Face Time's him at the beginning of every hour.

He and Sister Casper have 15 more grandkids. Please don't let the word get out about Elder Casper's comment concerning his favorite. If you do, there will be no more Merry Christmas's for Elder Casper when he gets off his mission.

He most likely will get just one present.
From Millie.

When he learned they had just been stood up, he lost part of his smile. But on the bright side, he offered Elder Casper some cookies. This is something that should never be done if you want any cookies left. They sat in the Casper van and marveled at what a great spiritual opportunity had been lost by Brother White and just how good the cookies were.

Six cookies later Elder Casper's phone rang. It was the young Elders just checking up on the old ones, (for good reason, it turned out,). Elder Casper told them not to come as it would be a wasted trip. He was asked if he had called Brother White. "Well, no. But the house is dark." he stated. The young Elder told him he would call Brother White.

Less than a minute later, the Elder called back and said Brother White was home. They were astonished! The old geezers looked at the house and just then the outside light went on. They gathered up the cookies that were left and walked to the home. They both felt a little sheepish but no longer were hungry.

It was decided by all three old fogies that Brother White's doorbell needed some work. They had a wonderful discussion, from the old guy's point of view. The young Elders were pretty much held speechless. The old Elders periodically said they weren't going to say any more but for some reason, kept talking.

As the discussion ended and they walked out the door, each Elder, old and young, got a hug from Brother White. Brother White is a very interesting and kind man. This most unique situation will continue, at least as long as Brother Black keeps bringing cookies and Brother White gets his doorbell fixed.

One thing Brother Black shared that evening was how sometimes things happen that we don't understand until later. He said in Biblical times the Savior was sent to preach the Gospel to the Jews. The Samaritans and the Gentiles were excluded from his ministry. This explanation seemed to satisfy Brother White and filled in a few squares on my puzzle too.

Who knows why the blacks didn't receive the Priesthood until 1978? No one but God and maybe President Kimball. It could have been one of many reasons. Anyway, I am grateful that they can now. My experience has been that many people of color are more humble, loving and spiritual than white folk often are. They seem to have more soul in their souls.

But, no matter the color, people are people. Some good, some bad. And incomprehensible at times, God loves us all. But, we are the ones who will reap what we sow.

All joking aside. This mission experience was hard to agree to do. We have a business that is exciting and doing better than ever. We have 6 kids and 16 grandkids that love us and we have the choice to spend all our precious time with them. Our slice of life is shrinking quickly. Still, we are loving our time serving here. We are thankful we made the hard choice to put everything on hold at home and come to Hemet to serve the Lord and the people in our ward.

We are loving making the sacrifice. This is a very unique Gospel. Unlike other religions, this Gospel is either all true or all false. It is not relative truth for each person. It is absolute truth which is far different. If it is false, we've been hood-winked but happier than most. If it is true (as we have received many witnesses of) we are happy and enjoying eternal covenants and truths available nowhere else. Many are making a big mistake by rejecting the Savior's invitation to come, inquire and partake.

God has restored His Church of Jesus Christ to the earth. It was lost after Christ was rejected. It was restored in these latter days according to ancient and modern scripture. The Book of Mormon is true and will witness as much great power by the Spirit to anyone who reads it with a sincere heart, real intent, and having faith in Christ. If read with a different agenda, it probably won't happen. The Book of Mormon is a witness, along with the Bible, that Jesus Christ lives. However, like I heard in church today, Faith has a short shelf life. It must be fed or will expire. Of that I have a perfect knowledge. Get lazy or quite trying and your testimony is toast.

We have carefully examined both the Church along with its detractors claims. We have carefully examined the fruits in life that come with believing or not. We are grateful to be part of this blessed way of life and belief and are glad our efforts are helping others. We love you all.