

Tahquitz Ward Express

1-22-2024—Send info:

bgcasper@hotmail.com

michelecasper@hotmail.com

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

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

You need us & we need you!—Do something brave today, venture out & don't be a wall flower! Go out of your way to make someone else's day better!—You have a lot to share, now's the time!

Tahquitz YSA news, future happenings & Casper's mission journal

Sunday services take place at 27020 Meridian St.

Sunday School/Priesthood at 12 pm

Sacrament meeting at 1 pm.

All FHEs —Park Hill Building at 7 pm, unless otherwise noted 1151 Park Ave, San Jacinto.

RIDES

Our ride coordinators are Keoni Buenavista (951-391-3007) and Eric Diaz (951-492-8202) Please contact either for help with rides. Give as much notice as possible.

FHE Assignments:

1st Monday - Gray

2nd - Stange

3rd - Van Jindelt

4th - Hartvigson

5th - Frosties & Fries

CFM

Gray, Stange, Diaz, Casper—(This is not week specific as we sometimes have a 5th Thursday)

Tahquitz Ward Newsletter Addresses and Info — Gray: 25355 Rockford St, Hemet—

Stange: 27077 Val Deane Way, Hemet Casper: 409 E Thornton Ave, Apt A201, Hemet—

Diaz 781 Madden St Hemet—Park Hill building: 1151 Park Ave, San Jacinto —

**Past issues of Tahquitz Ward Express available at recoveringidiot.com
Top left —“Mission Posts” To contact Ben or suggestions— Top right**

FHE

1/22 Bunco

1/29 Pickle ball at stake center/Frosties and Fries

February—Battle of the Sexes (more info to come)

COME FOLLOW ME

1/25 at Gray's

2/1 at Stange's

2/8 at Diaz's

OTHER DATES

1/27 Winter Ball, sponsored by Hemet YSA —See Flyer at bottom

TEMPLE DATES

2/16 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms

BIRTHDAYS!

1/27 Ingrid Flores

RELIEF SOCIETY

.Upcoming Relief Society lesson talks for our ward can be found on the home page of your Gospel Library App. If you can't locate it ask a member of the RS presidency for help.

Good News!

Sunday:

We had a great time attending church in Idyllwild and eating together afterwards. Talks were given by Jayro (on the Aaronic priesthood), Zach (on forgiveness) and Aaron (on not murmuring).

Jayro said that the Aaronic priesthood has given him the opportunity to serve others by baptizing in the temple. It feels good to bring people to Jesus Christ in this way, he said.

Zach used Nephi as an example of someone who forgave his brothers more than once. We will all be wronged at times in our lives. Nephi had to pray for the strength to forgive, and so can we. Aaron reminded us that murmuring comes naturally. There are many examples in the scriptures of people who murmured. Murmurers have the shortest memories. Let us remember the good God has done for us and choose to be of good cheer, rather than to murmur.

There was a Spanish-only speaking sister in the congregation who was attending church for the first time.

Aaron bore his testimony to her in Spanish, then after his talk President Schelly invited three Tahquitz ward members to come up extemporaneously and bear their testimonies in Spanish. Erik Diaz spoke of Jesus Christ, Gladys spoke of the plan of happiness, and Ethan Kowallis taught about the Restoration.

How impressive it was to hear each of them bear heartfelt testimony in Spanish of these principles. Tahquitz ward continued to represent as Stephen taught Sunday School class on 1 Nephi 6-10.

QUOTES

“ . . . the things which are pleasing unto the world I do not write, but the things that are pleasing unto God . . . ” 1 Nephi 6:6

Spotlight—Evelyne Aponte

I was born in Los Angeles, California, and lived there until the age of 7, and have lived in San Jacinto since then. My family consists of my parents, my 3 older sisters, 2 of their husbands, 2 nieces, a nephew, and me. The thing I love most about my family is that know that no matter what they will always be there for me when I need it the most and I am so eternally grateful for that.

I grew up in a Catholic household and had always known God but never had a strong testimony, it was more that I would go to church because my mom wanted me to. Around the age of 19, I was lost and was looking for a sense of community and I had seen a few people who were in the church and how they seemed to have that. So, I reached out to the missionaries and began meeting with them. I was immediately drawn to the gospel and began listening to the previous conference talks and could truly feel the spirit when meeting with them or attending meetings, I had even set my baptism date about a month into meeting with them but due to other circumstances I ended up not being able to get baptized and it made me stray away a little bit but the gospel never left my mind, it was like the spirit kept trying to pull me back towards the gospel.

A few months later, I ended up beginning to attend church meetings again (thanks to one of the original missionaries who taught me who had returned home from his mission) and continued to do so even when I moved to Florida, it was nice to feel like a piece of home was with me so far away. In March of last year, I decided to become a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and it has brought me the most joy and comfort in life and has given me such a grand purpose that I will gladly spend the rest of my life trying to fulfill.

I am currently working at Starbucks while trying to figure out what it is I want to do with the rest of my life. (Which is totally not a daunting task!) My future goals and plans are to work for The Walt Disney Company in a more corporate setting hopefully doing something creative with them, but a more personal goal of mine is to one day be sealed in the temple to my eternal companion and to have a family of my own!



In my free time, I like reading and crocheting or learning any new skill I can. I am passionate about learning as much as I can so I maybe be a resource to others. My motto in life is to Do Good and Be Happy because what more can you want honestly, so I will always try my best to be the best me I can be because the world doesn't need more negativity.

Last year I had the opportunity to move to Florida for 9 months and achieve one of my childhood dreams and work for Disney, it was a super cool and challenging experience. It was awesome to get to make friends from all around the world but hard to be away from my family for so long since it was my first time doing something like that.

My favorite hymn is Count Your Blessings because being surrounded by everyone else's lives on social media it can be hard not to compare yourself to them and when I first heard this hymn it reminded me to look at all the wonderful blessings God has given me and be thankful for them instead of wishing for more. Also, the music is so upbeat and cheery!!



There was no FHE last week (because of James Earl Ray), therefore it is highly unlikely that I will have pictures from it. If, by chance, any of you think you have pictures or impressions of last Monday evening's non-existent activity, please send them. Sister Casper has volunteered to pay \$100k for each one submitted. If you submit them, you, like me, aren't dealing with reality.

Tuesday night featured a genealogical activity at the stake center. We weren't there as I had to lead a Bible study with a group at Buena Vista assisted living. It was a very inspiring meeting for those who attended. I was told there were at least 20 in attendance. Nobody took pictures so I have no proof.

When I arrived, I was on time which is generally not the case. I announced that we were going to read from the Mormon Bible. I saw a few surprised looks but no one disagreed. Therefore, perhaps one of these nights we'll read from the Book of Mormon. Anyway, I then asked them to turn to Matthew 16 which brought a few more surprised looks.



It was a good evening of reading!

We've been visiting with the sisters and teaching a guy about my age. He's been very hard-nosed about listening to the gospel message. He believes his calling in life is to take care of 25 or 30 feral cats. He does this in lieu of paying tithing. I call him Brother

Kat-man-doo.

He pushes the sisters around as they teach but not me. In fact, it had gotten sticky enough between he and I that I thought he was going to throw us out. However, the last time we were there, we left him with a large-print Book of Mormon. I was quite sure he wouldn't read but we have heard since that he is reading and very interested in it.

You could have knocked me over with a feather when I heard this! The missionaries share their "Miracles" every day on the Hemet Zone Chat. The picture above was us talking about our new friend. Stay tuned!

Sister Casper has a cousin, Sue Ann, who visited us this week with her husband Ramon.

Ramon is from Tonga and moved here as a kid. He was called up to fight in Viet Nam and was told they would make him a citizen. He did. They didn't. It took many years of pressure from many people (including congressmen) before they finally made him a citizen.

They've served two missions and are great people!

When I returned from Mormon Bible study Tuesday night, I noticed Ramon was eating some snacks. I was a little bugged he didn't offer me some. However, I felt better after Sue Ann told him he was eating their dog's food.

Ramon was not pleased. The rest of us were. This is one of many reasons I will never have a dog in the house.



We took a little time Wednesday and visited San Diego. It's a small village south of us. I guess you would call it a suburb of Hemet.

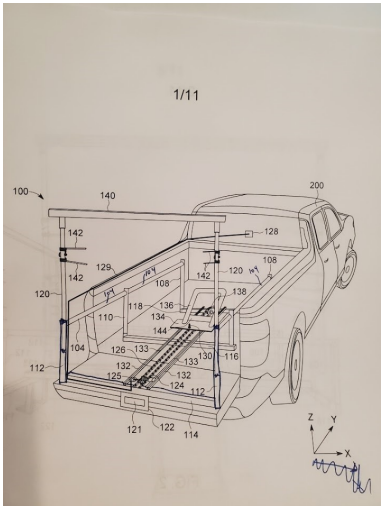


Here is Sue Ann holding on to their dog. I think the dog is looking for his treats that Ramon ate the night before.

The campaign signs are out. If I were Gerald, I would change my last name. I would not be keen on people calling me *Judge Fool* all day in court.

I hate to admit this but I had a deadline to submit a patent application Thursday that could not be put off. I was up all night Wednesday getting it done.

Miraculously I got it done even after dealing with some people in India who are unable to visualize American descriptions and instructions. Let's just say it was a stressful night.



Thursday Come Follow Me was held at our apartment. Attendance was light. Everyone partook of homemade bread Sister Casper cooked up so they left heavier than when they arrived.



Friday morning found me taking a bike ride. I got a little discombobulated and ran smack dab into a 6" curb. I tried to be discrete about it but after flying over the handlebars, skidding across the sidewalk and doing a face plant into a mound of dirt, I quit caring about discretion and started worrying more about the pain that showed up.



At least six cars stopped in the intersection, pulled over or rolled down their windows asked if I wanted them to call 911. I made a general announcement to the community at large within earshot that I've had worse. Note that the knee that got bugged up was just recovering from the issue I had in St. George playing pickle ball. I made a U-turn and limply rode my bike back home. I announced to my wife that I would no longer be scheduled to work at the stake food distribution that day. I'm not sure how they managed without me.

We had a dinner and meeting with all the senior missionaries about Service Missions at the President's home Friday night. The ward had a temple night but once again, I can't be in two places at the same time so there are no pictures from the temple outing. Saturday we spent a bit of time at our friends the Duffins. Between the two of them, they have about two centuries under their belt. They are sharper than we are. I guess it's because we have barely a century under ours.



The connections we have with them (before our mission) is amazing and multiple. Sunday found the ward heading up to Idyllwild for church. The meeting was good

and the dinner we had after was great.



Colby has finished his mission and gave a talk in his home ward. We visited him later. He has a collection of knives and other cutting utensils in his bedroom. I informed that if I ever come over to his house for a slumber party, I want my own room that I can lock from the inside.

HEMET YSA STAKE INVITES YOU TO...

WINTER BALL

JANUARY 27TH, 2024

**COME ONE AND COME ALL TO THE WINTER BALL
DINNER WILL BE SERVED ALONG A NIGHT FULL OF FUN AND DANCING!
WEAR YOUR BEST FORMAL SUIT AND GOWN
THAT IS UP TO CHURCH STANDARDS.
WE CANT WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!**

**DINNER STARTS AT
7 PM**

**DANCE STARTS AT
8 PM - 11 PM**

FREE ENTRY

**FORMAL AND
MODEST WEAR**

ADDRESS: 425 N KIRBY ST HEMET, CA 92545

ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
PLEASE CONTACT ISSAC COLLET: (951) 392 7281
AND/OR
RAEGYNE GEMO : (951) 322 3343