

Tahquitz Ward Express

1-29-2024—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

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

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

We have such great activities. Please invite your friends!

COME FOLLOW ME

2/1 at Stange's

2/8 at Diaz's

OTHER DATES

2/2 Bishops Storehouse Food Distribution 10:30-1:30 Stake Center

2/4 Break the Fast. The Year of the Dragon, Asian inspired meal. Right after church.

2/4 Stake choir practice, 4:30 pm

2/6 (Tuesday) Relief Society activity at Laura's

2/9 A Night in Barbie Land Valentines Dance, 8-11 pm, 3354 Eucalyptus Ave, Chino Hills (\$5 entry)

2/10 Blacklight V-Day Dance, 7-10 pm, 316 A Street, Bakersfield 93304

2/10-11 Stake Conference

2/16 Carnival of Love Valentines Day Dance, 8-12 pm, 7505 Garvalia Ave, Rosemead 91770 (\$10 entry)

2/17 Valentines YSA Dance, 8-11 pm, 440 N Loara St, Anaheim 93801

TEMPLE DATES

2/16 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms

BIRTHDAYS!

1/29 Eric Alcocer

2/3 David Nelson, Vanessa Olvera

2/4 Ajshane Custis

RELIEF SOCIETY

2/6 (Tuesday) Relief Society activity at Laura's

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.

Our new missionaries are: Sister Jackson (Wisconsin): A unique thing about her is that her sport is sailing—on Lake Michigan. This is her last transfer on the mission and wants to do all the good she can.

Sister Solis (Hawaii): No, she doesn't surf. She's served with Sister Jackson before (as a trainee). She, too, is committed to serving here with all her heart.

Elder Pitcher (Canada): He loves being a missionary. Jesus Christ is his greatest strength. Please take the opportunity to go out with these dedicated servants of the Lord. It will bless you more than you know.

Sunday:

What a treat it was to hear from the Herterichs from Valle Vista ward. Sister Alicia Herterich spoke about rules, using a Richard L Evans talk from many years ago, still pertinent today. The commandments should not be rewritten, he said. They should be reread. For every choice we make, good or bad, small or large, short term or long term, there are consequences. Long term consequences, such as marriage in the temple, are often more important than short term consequences. Good long term consequences are the result of many good small choices. Jeremiah Herterich (who is his ward mission leader) enjoys the competition and adventure of video games. The best game, though, is the game of life. We are all included in this game and each have a role to play. We have quests, such as taking the sacrament, ministering, and going to the temple. There are pinnacle moments in our lives—baptism, receiving the Holy Ghost, the endowment and other covenants we make. Experiences help us gain knowledge. Satan knows what the greatest spiritual experiences are and wants us to fail. Our default setting should be: I am a child of God. Knowing that one fact can give us confidence in every aspect of life. When we mess up, tell Heavenly Father, I know I can be better today than I was yesterday. He will send you help.

QUOTES

Life moves in one direction only, and each day we are faced with an actual set of circumstances, not with what might have been, not with what we might have done, but with what is, and with where we are now. And from this point we must proceed. Not from where we were, not from where we wish we were. But from where we are.—Richard L Evans

If you don't want temptation to follow you, don't act as if you were interested.—Richard L Evans

Spotlight—Eric Alcocer

Eric Alcocer grew up in Rosemead and Ontario. He moved to Hemet five years ago and lives with his uncle, 2 nieces and 1 nephew. Eric found the church through a Facebook ad for a free bible. At that time he was struggling with negative feelings about failures, losses (his mom and grandma both passed away), and the fact that his family had split up. “Turning to Jesus Christ was the best medicine I could take,” he says.

He is grateful that the missionaries came to teach him, invited him to church and gave him a Bible and Book of Mormon. Speaking of Christ, Eric says: “I want to learn His word . . . and try to be obedient to His way of living.” Eric likes the spirit, energy and “vibe” of the church and the people he has met. “I love it so much,” he says.

Eric has a great interest in yoga, specifically “Pranayama.” What is Pranayama? Pranayama is a collection of breathing exercises developed by the ancient yogis for purification, mental focus rejuvenation, and healing. Prana translates into “life force energy,” and Yama translates into “control or mastery of.” Thus, Pranayama is a breathing technique used to control, cultivate, and modify the amount, quality, flow, and direction of vital energy in the body. Pranayama is often defined simply as “breath control” and is a primary component in a traditional yoga practice.

Eric is also interested in “Mudra,” which is gestures or hand signals used in yoga, and “Asana,” which is posture or poses. All of these help promote energy, happiness and healing. Eric’s goal is to “remold myself for the better.” He wants to become a follower of Jesus Christ and help others. He knows how hard it is to be alone, thinking no one cares about you and judges you. We are so happy to have Eric in our ward. And when you see him tonight, wish him a Happy Birthday!!



BUNCO

Last Monday night we played Bunco, a rolling dice game. I was initially shocked that they would allow dice into the church. I expressed my concerns to Bishop Gray but he didn't seem to care. In fact, he said to go tell someone who cares.

So I called President Evans. He said he loves playing Bunco and he was going to cancel the rest of his interviews that night and would be right over. I hung up on him.

I've always heard that the third time is the charm. So I walked over to the Elder's Quorum President Stephen Tadlock. As I started to voice my concerns, Stephen asked me to hold his dice while he tied his shoe. I refused and stepped on a shoelace, hoping he would walk away. That didn't work either. Up to that point, my entire night had been a failure.

However, once we started playing, I kind of liked it. I finished in sixth place but they only had five prizes. Benjamin Noel, Sister Clawson, Gladys, Jeff and Alex took the first five spots.

I think the night went well. My only suggestion is that next time, they need to have six prizes. Having five prizes is lame-o.

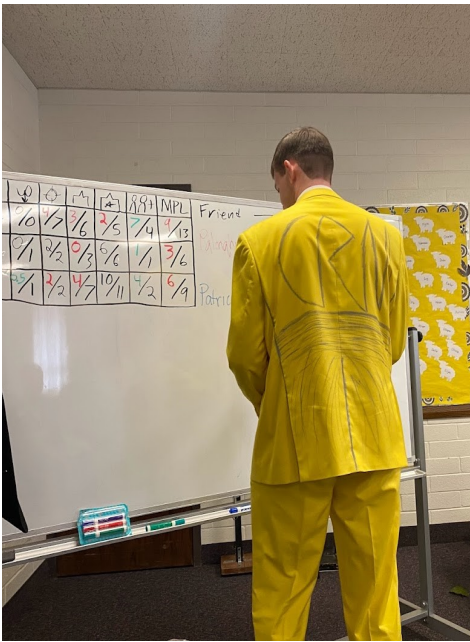




We took Elders Nebeker & Coburn to lunch. Elder Coburn constantly gives me a hard time about my bald head. Therefore, I put a hex on him that he would go bald next week & told him that the only part of his meal I was paying for was his water.

We had a nice meal. I noticed a few hairs falling down on his plate so I would consider it was a successful lunch.

Tuesday brought missionary meetings. Elder Loertscher gave a presentation in his best suit. I



don't think I've seen a more fascinating presentation since the time I read the book Curious George. It got me wondering where the hat and the monkey were?

The meetings were actually instructive and not inappropriate. The suit has been handed down from other missionaries in the past & signed by all. CRM on the back stands for California Riverside Mission





I loved the suit. On our next P-day, I'm going to call around and see if any stores in Hemet stock yellow suits.

We have been working with Sister Cordova on "My Plan" in preparation for her to go home on the next transfer. We took her to lunch in Corona Wednesday (I forgot to snap a picture, darn it!) and then headed for LA.

Sister Casper's father is a top-notch violin player. He has gone deaf and blind and his instruments are no longer able to be used by him. So, they're going on the auction block.

The quality of instruments he has need to be sold by a top-notch vendor. We found the best place is in LA so after lunch, we headed west.

After looking around, I could tell that top musicians from around the world buy their instruments from this guy.

So if you're in the mood to spend tens of thousands of dollars on a fiddle or a gut bass, head for LA!





The sisters held a discussion at our apartment on Wednesday.

Wednesday evening we had English Connect. We're getting more people all the time to attend and the spirit during the classes is extra special.

We love the new friends we've found and judging from their attendance and participation, they love us!



So this week was transfers. We are sorry to see our missionaries go, as were they. And, we're glad to be getting new ones. Always changing.



We are sad to see Sisters Clawson and Brady go but to tell you the truth, my thumbs are going to be very relieved.

Severe arthritis has set into my left thumb joint. I visited numerous doctors and they all told me the same thing: Quit the Thumbs Up thing or you will never stick your thumb in a cherry pie again.

The Huffs had us over for dinner.

We've enjoyed the dinners we've had with them and are going miss them when our address changes from CA to WA! They are the best!



(Matt & Robin): Please notice that I said nothing about the cat doing you-know-what on the you-know-what at the very moment we knocked on your you-know-what. Let's just keep it between us 5.



Friday night found us setting up for the Hemet YSA Winter Ball.

Lots of people showed up to help. The only thing I didn't appreciate about the whole evening was every time I started climbing the ladder, Brother Hartvigson ran over and told me to get down. I have a 40 foot ladder at home that makes this 36 footer look like a baby. I only used the 40 footer when I forgot where I last parked my man lift. I was on the ladder quite often.



Saturday morning after transfers found all the Hemet zone missionaries having breakfast and a missionary meeting at the Jergensens. Sister Casper and I always go early to help prepare the feast. Because we show up, they let us stay to eat.

So the big night arrived. We were all worried sick that no one would show. A few people trickled in and I figured it was going to be a bust. We had all kinds of decorations, a DJ, and bucket loads of gourmet food prepared by Polly and Brian Hartvigson.



I even put my best Go-to-Church attire on. I only do that on special occasions like Sundays for church and Tuesdays for zone meeting. We even wore our new spectacles.



Just a little before the stroke of midnight, bodies started rolling in. It turned out to be a great night! I was more than a little disappointed that they assigned me to sit at the back door and make sure no one came in that way. I never saw one person.



If you look carefully at the snowflakes on the far left of the left wall, you can see the one that I pinned up. It's the one at the bottom, third from the left. There were a lot of snowflakes hung on the walls that night, mine was by far the best.

We had over 100 attending as far away as San Diego to the south and Northridge from the north. It actually exceeded our wildest dreams. Hemet is now on the map!





JOIN US TO CELEBRATE...

YEAR OF THE DRAGON

WITH AN ASIAN INSPIRED FEAST

February 4th, 2024 • After Sacrament Meeting
27020 Meridian St, Hemet, CA 92544

Please sign up to bring something if you can!!



