

Tahquitz Ward Express

2-12-2024—Send info:

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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

February—Battle of the Sexes (see Flyers)

2/12 The Night Before Rizzmas

2/19 No FHE—President's Day

2/26 Finale: Love Heist

Colors to wear in February: Red, pink, black or white

We have such great activities. Please invite your friends!

COME FOLLOW ME

2/15 at Casper's. Come at 6:30 for food.

2/22 at Gray's

2/29 at Stange's

OTHER DATES

2/13 Family History night at stake center 7 pm

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

3/1-2 Ward Beach Campout

TEMPLE DATES

2/16 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms. Meet at church at 5 pm.

5/17 (Fri) 6:30 pm Baptisms

RELIEF SOCIETY

Look for your new ministering assignments on tools.

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.

MISSIONARY INVITE

Continue this week to find opportunities to serve someone, physically or spiritually. Testify of Christ. Please share your experiences with the ward mission leader or the Caspers. Who can you invite?

SUNDAY

Stake conference was a spiritual feast, although we were saddened that President Evans was sick and couldn't be there. We love him so much and are thankful for all he does for our stake. We had a visiting authority, Elder Kevin Parks from Alaska. Our ward was well represented, with testimonies by Raegyne Gemo and Isaac Collett on Saturday night. Also, Laura Hiner was on a panel and over a dozen members of our ward sang in the choir on Sunday, under the direction of Sister Hartvigson. This was a real treat.

We were taught about choosing faith over fear. An eternal perspective reassures us that everything will be okay. We were taught to be kind but bold in sharing the gospel or helping others back onto the covenant path. Thinking celestial will increase our quality of life right here and right now.

Contention is like Newton's cradle. It is always in perpetual motion, with one negative response initiating another. Learning to "respond" rather than "react" is empowering. Words are like medicine with the power to hurt or heal. Contention follows reactions. Harmony and love follow responding. Never forget that Jesus Christ is our sure anchor. Spending more time in the temple helps us build our faith and think celestial.

Spotlight—Ethan Kowallis I was born in Riverside, California and lived in Moreno Valley for a couple of years. I have lived in San Jacinto since then. I have a family of 6 and am the oldest of 3 other siblings (2 sisters and a brother). We also have 3 dogs and one cat in the family!



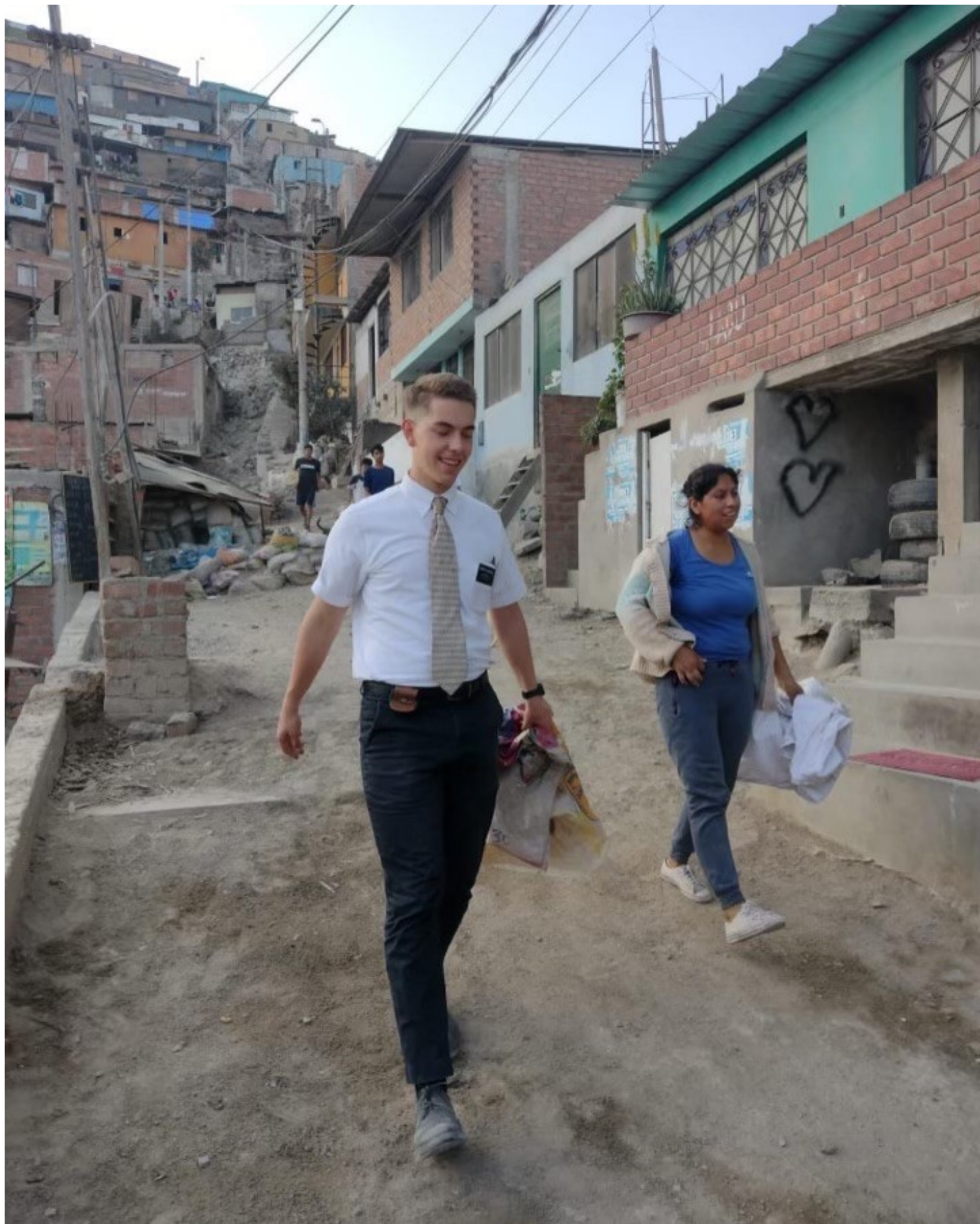
My mission experience was indescribable. I grew in so many ways personally, and especially spiritually. I'm currently at MSJC and planning on transferring to BYU. I'm majoring in kinesiology for right now but

I'm not sure if that is what I want to continue with. So I'm doing that and doing the general ed classes. [Kinesiology is the scientific study of human body movement.]

I love watching and playing sports, especially basketball. I also love watching movies. I like hiking and camping. Also, I love going to the gym and eating right to stay healthy. Going out with the missionaries is also a lot of fun as well.

My favorite hymn is "I Know That My Redeemer Lives." We sang this song at the MTC and the Spirit was so strong in that moment. I've remembered it ever since.







For FHE this week, we shot arrows at Cupid. Everyone was safety conscious at first but then some true feelings came to the surface.

Raegyne brought up the fact that Bishop Gray and Brother Stange are always giving her more assignments. She asked for a bow and ordered Bishop Gray to walk toward the wall or she would blast away.



He did as instructed. She then spotted Brother Stange and ordered him to do the same. He started crying but walked to the wall.



This very tense situation was exacerbated and compounded by Ethan Collett also breaking into tears. Between tears, he sobbed “I can’t watch this anymore. Please make Raegyne stop this madness!”

Everyone besides Gray, Stange and Collett were cheering Raegyne on. Many onlookers marveled at the mob mentality that such a sweet little girl could create .

Lucky for Bishop, Sister Gray ran up, grabbed Raegyne’s bow and threw it on the floor. Raegyne immediately lost her bravado and apologized.

Brother Stange wasn’t quite as frightened as our good Bishop. He yelled out “Raegyne is a bad shot anyway. She couldn’t hit the broadside of a barn!”

Then Aaron appeared on the scene. He scooped up the bow and ran toward his dad. I thought he was going to take a shot from 20 feet out so I snapped the following picture...



Instead, he kept going and released the arrow less than 6" from his target. I've heard Aaron is a poor shot but he hit a bullseye on this one.



A couple of you may be aware I'm not into sour cream. The only thing worse is the smell of yogurt. Guess what Sister Casper has every morning for breakfast?

So Tuesday we headed for District meeting. Sister Casper was running late so she brought her breakfast with her. I insisted she sit in the far back seat. I rolled the window down and was able to drive to the stake center without losing my breakfast. I might add that my breakfast was not and will never be vanilla yogurt.

That was probably the first day at a District meeting that the missionaries did not see me kiss my wife. In fact, the more I think about it, the chance of another kiss in this life diminishes. I still love her. But when you see us driving with her in the far back seat, you'll know she's chugging another yogurt down.



Wednesday morning brought us notice that the Quail Ridge apartment team were coming around, doing inspections. I've always liked these folks. They are friendly and helpful. But they weren't on Wednesday.

I realized that maybe they were coming around to inspect our unemptied garbage cans full of empty but still smelly yogurt containers. My wife asked me several times to dump the trash. I told her I would but instead I stood by the window and watched for them.

They finally showed up but walked right past the contaminated trash containers and into our guest bedroom which doubles as my writing room and man cave.

I was disappointed that they said nothing about the stench of yogurt but focused solely on the dirty dishes on my desk. They said this is probably why they keep having to spray our apartment for roaches.

I said their priorities were in the wrong place but the entire crew acted like they didn't even hear me. I guess they don't realize I can't write a decent ward newsletter unless I partake of nourishment at the same time I type.

So this is probably my last creative newsletter. By this time next week, according to the apartment people, I'll be writing a blasé' newsletter and won't be much more than a withered skeleton trying to drum up the strength to hit another keyboard key. I am now penning a letter pointedly asking them to never darken our doorstep again.



We had another great English Connect evening. I love the spirit of everyone as a new language is learned.



As all Hemetites know, this last week was wet and left a lot of snow in the mountains. Note the little red car heading right. You can't see it from this picture but it was pulling a kid on water skis.

If you look to the left, an ambulance is following them in case of broken bones or road rash.



So my wife's step-mom passed this week. You might remember a month ago we high-tailed it to St. George to move her and Michele's dad to an assisted living center. They didn't want to go but after staying with them a couple of days, we could see it was impossible to leave things the way they were. She was not in good health and we knew the end was near.

She was pretty mad about the new digs and just to show us, she quit eating. So she soon moved on.

We also moved on. To St George for the service. On our way, my inattentive wife neglected to give me good directions so we ended up a long ways from the correct route.

She is very aware of my feelings about not being given good directions. We had to turn around and backtrack almost back to our starting point. She felt bad and promised me we could stop for ice cream along the way. This pacified me but as I look back, I realize that I never did get the promised ice cream.



Notice who else will soon be her neighbor!



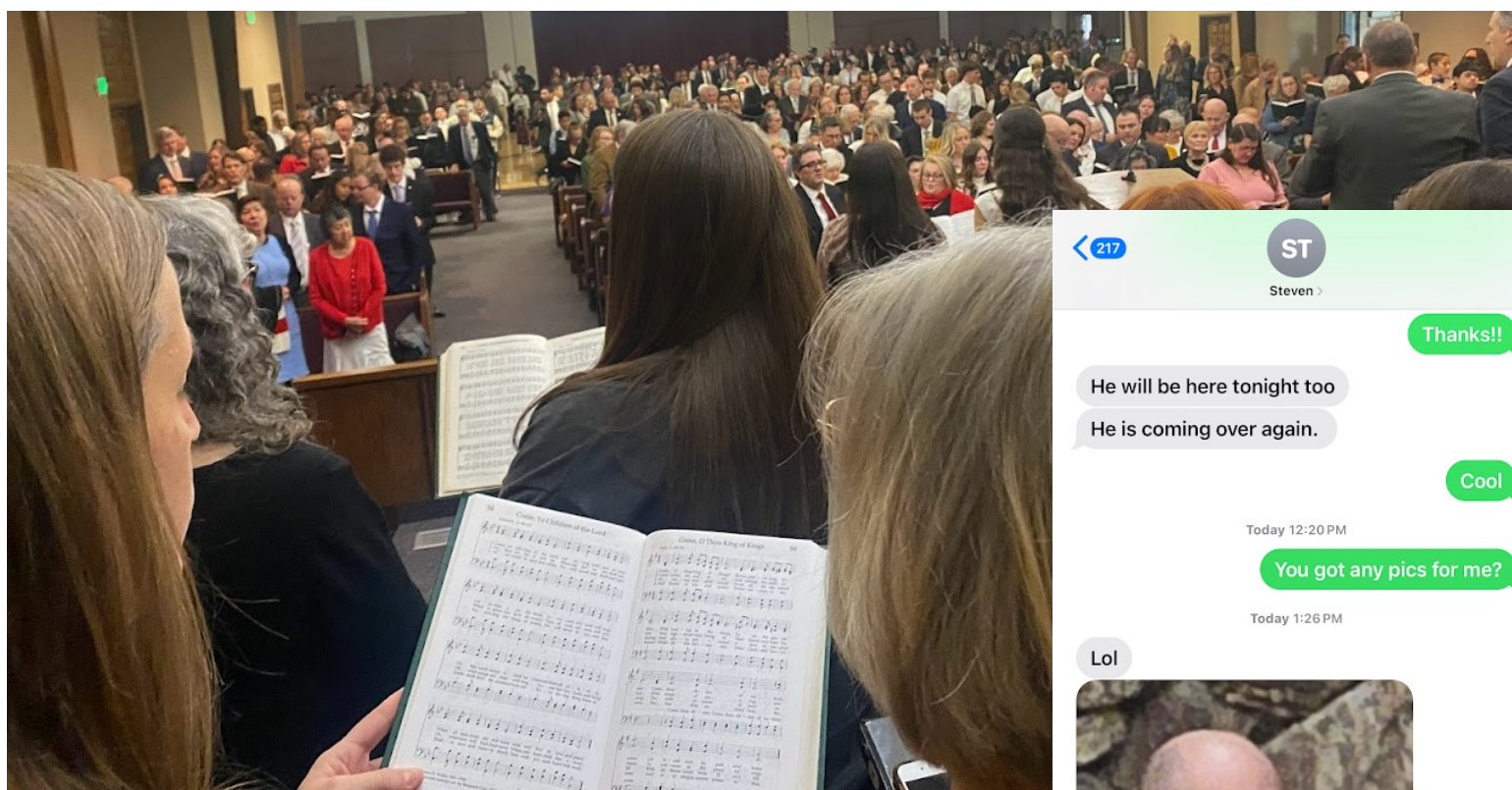
Violet's bridal shower was held this week. Unfortunately, we were gone. A couple other two events also took place but we were out of town and missed the photo ops. Congratulations, Violet & Nathan!!!!



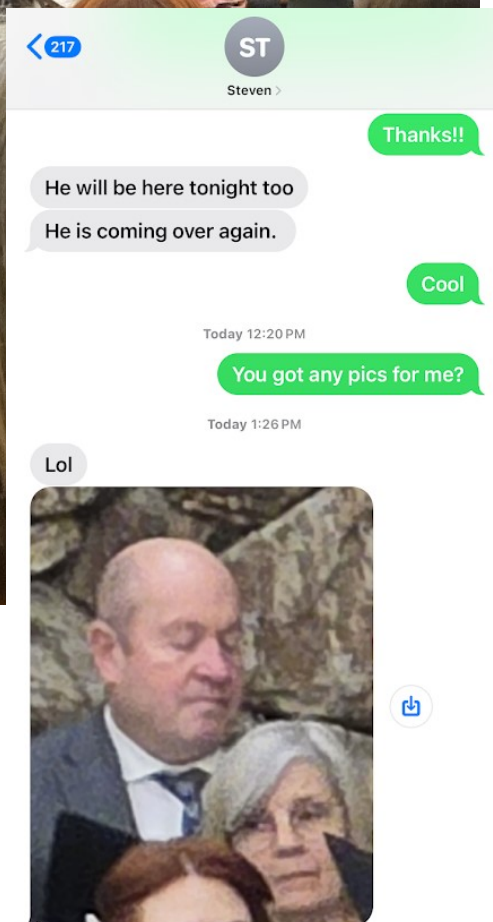


Violet is a sweet girl who can really get things done. You might remember her boyfriend is Nate, a nice guy who is on his third heart. We wish them well!

We rushed back so we could be at Stake Conference. Bishop Gray asked Stephen to



take pictures of the choir as there were some from our ward singing. All he sent me was my little cat nap while the rest of the choir was singing.





Michele's dad is an amazing 94 year old guy. I don't remember if I've described him before but here it is again. He is deaf and blind but still likes to do things himself. More than once I have been shoved out of the way so he could do a job on his own. (Most of the time, I end up finishing the job)

He was the #1 fiddler in Utah for many years. You can You Tube him at "Karl Allred Utah Fiddlers". I did the crummy camera work and Sister Casper is playing directly behind him. He's in the black hat.

So we went out for burgers that evening. Michele's sister Andrea was trying to help Karl eat his hamburger. He was trying to eat his hamburger with one hand and fries with the other. It was pretty funny. Most of the burger ended up on the floor.

Pic on the right—me, Michele, our son Will, Steve and Andrea and Karl. Steve has a very loud voice. It just so happened there were about 20 young people behind us



who were all deaf. They were using sign language and telling jokes. Everything was quiet as the joke was signed and when it came to the punch line, they all laughed. It was pretty funny and interesting.

Several times, Steve would make a very loud exclamation which startled me & my wife. I also noticed all the deaf people would turn and look when Steve made an outburst. It was that loud!

So both trips to and from St. George involved us hauling stuff to and from for Sister Holt & her mom. I'm going to put a sign on our van that says "Holt Distribution & Logistics"

Her mom compensated us on this last load.

Snow in the mountains. The last two years have ended the drought. We showed up for both. Maybe we should go on the road & help end droughts everywhere. What should we charge?

It's been a crazy month for us! In fact, it's been a crazy year for us! We've had a blast serving in CA!



More pictures

San Bernardino Regional YSA presents



GATSBY YSA DANCE

3860 North Waterman Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92404

FEBRUARY

24

7:00PM-11PM

Free
Admission



Dinner and
Dancing

TO RSVP OR FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE
USE THE QR CODE ABOVE

DRESS CODE IS FORMAL MODEST ATTIRE



FHE Committee Presents



BATTLE OF THE SEXES

CUPID'S BOW TRAINING FEB. 5



SEEM'S CUPID NEEDS HELP!
COME TO CUPID'S BOW TRAINING TO
CAPTURE THE HEARTS OF LOVERS ALL
AROUND BUT WATCH OUT!
BETTER NOT TARGET THE WRONG HEART
OR THINGS WILL TURN OUT IN A
NOT-SO-LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!
GOOD LUCK,
FATE IS IN YOUR HANDS



THE NIGHT BEFORE RIZZMAS FEB. 12

DO YOU WANT TO TEST IF YOU GOT ANY
RIZZ?

OR DO YOU WANT TO SEE IF YOU CAN
MAKE SOMEONE BLUSH BY SAYING A
CHEESY LINE?

NOW IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO DO SO
BEFORE VALENTINE'S DAY!

A NIGHT FULL OF CHEESY, CLEVER,
CLEAN, YET CRINGY PICK-UP LINES!

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT UP YOUR
SLEEVE,

OR I MUST SAY FROM YOUR HEART





NO FHE: PRESIDENT'S DAY FEB. 19



FINALE: LOVE HEIST FEB. 26

IT'S TIME TO SEE WHO WILL WIN AT THIS
FINALE!

WHO WILL TAKE HOME THE HEART TROPHY?

WILL IT BE THE BOYS OR THE GIRLS?

YOUR TEAM HAS TO COMPLETE THE LOVE
HEIST OR ELSE, YOU ALL HAVE TO PAY THE
PRICE.

BETTER STEAL THE HEARTS BEFORE TIME
RUNS OUT!



INVITE FRIENDS, CRUSH, OR LOVER TO ENJOY THE
BATTLE OF THE SEXES THIS MONTH!

FHE NIGHTS ARE FULL OF FUN AND LAUGHTER!
THE FHE COMMITTEE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL
THERE!



Location: Park Hill Building

Time: 7 pm

Colors to wear: Red, Pink, White and Black



LOS ROBLES YSA PRESENTS
CARNIVAL OF LOVE



VALENTINE'S DAY
DANCE

FEBRUARY

16



CASH, VENMO
OR ZELLE

MUSIC · DRINKS · SNACKS · PHOTO BOOTH
DJ ROBERT

8PM - 12PM

7505 GARVALIA AVE
ROSEMEAD, CA 91770
UNITED STATES



Hosted by the
Anaheim Stake YSA

**Valentines YSA
Dance**

**February 17
8-11**

440 N Loara St, Anaheim 93801