



The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – September 2003

Happiness is a Warm Trophy

Thanks in part to sales at the Big Bend Mission Otra Vez Thrift Shop, 5 girls from the Terlingua School attended Girl's Basketball Camp at Texas A&M University in late June. Here is Marcy Reed's account of the trip.

"The three girls that the Big Bend Mission helped pay for are Areli Villanueva, Lizzy Mendoza, and Judy Galindo; the other 2 girls that went were Vivy Aranda and Sierra Lowe. Judy, Vivy, and Sierra will all be Sophomores; Areli will be a Freshman; and Lizzy will be in the 7th grade. We left on Wednesday June 25th and stayed near Kerrville that night. We left early the next morning and took a tour of the campus and then checked the girls into their dorm rooms. If they weren't eating or sleeping, they were playing basketball most of the time. They did have a fellowship time at night which they told me several entertaining stories about, different skits performed, talent shows, etc. They had a great time after they got over the initial shock of their new environment. I'm so proud of them. They



were all brave, confident, intrigued, and appreciative throughout the entire trip. There were between 150-200 campers ranging from 4th-12th grades at the awards ceremony on Sunday. The 4 older girls were in one group, and Lizzy was placed in the younger group. The older group was separated into 4 different teams, and they competed throughout the camp. Judy Galino's team was the winning team for the older division. Lizzy's younger group was separated into 6 different teams. She came away with the trophy for 'Most Improved' out of the younger division. We left College Station shortly after 2pm. While the school suburban was outside the dorm, the head women's basketball coach from A&M, Gary Blair, made a point to stop his vehicle alongside ours and make the comment that these are 'my Big Bend girls.' He wished us a safe trip back and made the suggestion that next time we take an extra day to stop by Schlitterbahn on the way home. The last girl to get dropped off was Lizzy Mendoza (who lives in Lajitas), and that was shortly before 2am. It was a great trip, and



I'm so thankful to Judy Burgess' listening ear when I mentioned this idea at church. It could not have been done without the Otra Vez Thrift Shop. Go Thrift Shop go!"

Inside this Issue

- **Vicar Goes to Jail for Good**
- **Jesus Wears a White Hat**
- **Drink Bishop's Blend**
- **September Calendar**
- **And More**

Reagan and Marcy Reed

Reagan and Marcy Reed attend Sts. Mary and Joseph's in Lajitas and teach at the Terlingua School. Marcy is from Edna, Texas, and Reagan is from Midland. They



met at Texas A&M where Reagan majored in English and Marcy in Biomedical Science.

The Reeds moved to the Big Bend in the Spring of 2000. Reagan's parents built a one room vacation home near the Terlingua Ghost Town about 17 years ago. Reagan and Marcy are living there now and adding on. Reagan enjoys the construction work. Marcy enjoys cooking, reading, and running. She is also a Lay Reader in the church.

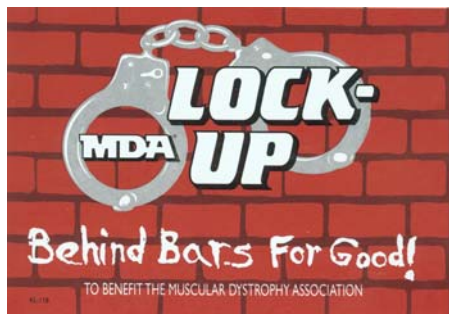
Marcy teaches 4th-8th grade Math, and Reagan teaches 4th-8th grade reading. Reagan also coaches junior high track, high school girl's basketball, and high school golf. The Reeds have a 4-year-old border collie named "Mabel" and a 2-year-old Catahoulla named "Ruby."

(Be sure to read the article to the left about Marcy and the Girl's Basketball Camp.)

We all long for Heaven where God is, but we have it in our power to be in Heaven with Him right now—to be happy with Him at this very moment. - Mother Theresa

Vicar is Going to Jail!

On September 23, 2003 Judy will be “going behind bars for good” by participating in the Alpine/Marfa Lock Up to



benefit the West Texas and Southern New Mexico Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). She will turn herself in at the B&B Restaurant in the Holland Hotel where she will be sentenced and held for one hour.

Judy's **bail has been set at \$1,050.** She will be accepting donations to pay her bail in full. Donations in any amount should be given to Judy before her incarceration. Proceeds go to benefit MDA's **local** health care service program and worldwide research efforts.

Drink “Bishops Blend”

Pura Vida Coffee, a Seattle-based company, has joined forces with Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to



make a difference in people's lives. ERD provides emergency assistance in times of disaster, rebuilds devastated communities, and offers help for sustaining

safer, healthier, and more productive lives. If you drink “Bishops Blend,” a portion of the proceeds from your coffee purchase will be sent directly to ERD. “Bishops Blend” is a certified Fair Trade, organic, and shade grown coffee. The coffee farmers are being paid a fair living wage and gain access to affordable credit.

To purchase “Bishops Blend,” visit <https://www.puravidacoffee.com> and click on Fair Trade Coffees, then Partner Coffees, then Episcopal Relief and Development.

Jesus Wears a White Hat

Remember those old Westerns where the good guys wore white hats and the bad guys wore black? Recently I saw “Destry Rides Again” on T.V. The hero (Jimmy Stewart) was a mild-mannered and incredibly patient sheriff who didn't wear a gun. In scene after scene, the sheriff is faced with tension-filled crisis after crisis and responds with patience, wisdom, and understanding. He is repeatedly faced with “living in tension.” He never rushes to judgment or resorts to violence at the drop of a hat. Most of the heroes in old Westerns were like that, living with incredible tension, but in the end they were victorious over the forces of evil without resorting to evil themselves.



Hard Questions

I'm not sure if this kind of sheriff ever really existed in the old West. The portrayal of heroes in old Western movies was not so much a portrayal of historical fact as it was a cultural yearning for “tall in the saddle” heroes who could live in crisis until things worked out, but who never avoided crisis by indulging in power or self interest. On the other hand, the bad guys always exercised power and indulged their self interests in spite of the consequences for other people.

Over the years, Westerns have changed and so has the yearning of our culture. We no longer yearn for white hat wearing, patient, considerate heroes who deal with crisis by working out a solution the hard way. Our heroes are now more like the villains in those old Westerns. Rambo, Terminator, Lethal Weapon: they are all about heroes who indulge in power to have things their own way, heroes who don't wait two seconds for a peaceful solution, but respond to crisis by blowing away whatever offends them. *(continued on back of calendar)*

Last Month's Question: What does it mean to be created in the image of God?

Answer: It means that we are free to make choices: to love, to create, to reason, and to live in harmony with creation and with God.

This Month's Question: What is sin?

Charles Blizzard Starts Seminary

Charles Blizzard, parishioner at St. James' and graduate of Sul Ross State University, has started classes at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. His new address is 624 Glenwood, Ambridge, PA 15003. His email is charlesblizzard@netscape.net. Please keep Charles in your prayers as he continues his journey to ordained ministry.



“Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of Heaven, to earth come down; Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful Mercies crown.”

from Hymn 657, words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)



from The Joyful Noiseletter
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Jesus Wears a White Hat *(continued from page two)*

Movies always reflect cultural norms. Modern American culture does not yearn for a mild-mannered, patient, wise hero who is willing to live in tension until a solution develops. Modern American culture wants a hero who will simply blow away any opposition. Our heroes don't wear white hats anymore. To a greater and greater extent, our heroes wear black hats.

Jesus found himself in the center of one crisis after another. He knew how to live in tension and let a situation develop until God provided a solution. He never exercised his power for personal gain. He placed himself in the hands of his enemies and allowed them to crucify him. What color hat did he wear?

Human lives are full of crises and tension. We are called to wait upon God, to refrain from using personal power for personal gain, and to live with circumstances or crises until just and loving solutions can be found. "Wearing a white hat" is not always comfortable, but to do less is to turn our backs on God who waits patiently for his love to bear fruit in our lives. - Seth

What People Learn from Dogs

- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Take naps and stretch before rising.
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- If someone scolds you, forgive quickly.
- If something you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- Never pretend to be something you're not.
- Be loyal.

From the Joyful Noiseletter—author unknown



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