

# T.E.A.M. CENTS



Sixteen Years and Counting

# November 2009

ALL EMPLOYEES ARE REQUIRED TO WORK ONE SHIFT ON BLACKOUT DAYS!!

Sun



STOP

	2	3 Ian Anderson @ Dodge 	4 Wide Spread Panic @ Dodge 	5 Training: Advanced Concepts	6	7 UCA Cheer @ Dodge 
8 Carolina Panthers 	9	10	11	12	13	14 Noche de Gourmet
15 Seattle Seahawks 	16	17	18 Training: Radio Usage	19 Training: Report Writing	20 John Prine @ Dodge 	21 Ron White @ Dodge Dierks Bentley @TMP 
22	23 Training: Alcohol/ ID	24	25		27 Jeff Dunham 	28 
29	30					

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T.E.A.M. Cents encourages all staff and employees to submit an article about your work experience, suggestions and ideas. E-mail your letters to:

[elizabeth@teamsecurity.net](mailto:elizabeth@teamsecurity.net)

Or FAX to:

(480) 736-8252

Management has the right to review and approve all written material. Any article deemed inappropriate will not be published

anniversaries

Cynthia Vadya 7 years

birthdays

- Alex Robertson 11/3
- Justin Urbanski 11/4
- David Wright 11/4
- Jim Keefner 11/5
- Erik Kaul 11/6
- Kent O'Neil 11/6
- Eddie Sosa 11/6
- James Donner "Reindeer" 11/7
- John Johnson 11/8
- James Commack 11/9
- George Karanja 11/9
- John Eaton 11/11
- Matthew Williams 11/11
- Jerry Dienes 11/13
- Court Slabaugh 11/14
- David Visser 11/15
- Marlon Evans 11/17
- Hector Ruiz 11/17
- Jose Salazar 11/20
- Steve Trinci 11/22
- Joseph Byriski 11/22
- Jeffrey McDonel 11/23
- Jay Alvarez 11/24
- Jennifer Apel 11/24

Ben Atkinson 11/24

David Arrendondo



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!

Ashleigh Gaylord

Thanksgiving. What a great holiday. It celebrates such an important concept; something that society could use more of. It's a time to give thanks to others and celebrate family, kindness, and humility. It's funny...these days it seems like we live in a world where it's "every man for himself". Everyone is only concerned with themselves and it makes for such a hateful world. It's hard to think differently about strangers and other people being part of a larger "family" but it's true that we are all in this together, and our lives would be more fulfilling if we were kinder to one another. To sit there and think "these people are all in this with me" is hard to do. It gives you a different perspective; one of unity. I feel like this time of the year promotes kindness, sharing, giving, and appreciating.

I've found that when I help someone or do something nice for someone, it is one of the greatest feelings in the world. And it also touches my heart to see other people helping each other. Just yesterday I witnessed a younger adult helping an old lady with a walker up onto the curb. The simplest things like that can matter SO much to someone. On a large scale, I'm sure all of you heard about the whole Kanye West incident with Taylor Swift at the Video Music Awards. The act of kindness Beyoncé displayed letting by Taylor go up again to do her speech, even though Beyoncé was up there to accept an award, was such a sweet thing to do. I just thought it was simply amazing that someone like Beyoncé (wealthy and famous) still has a heart. I feel like so many famous people start to think they are better than everyone else (especially us common folk) and get jaded and rude. So I commend Beyoncé on her decision and hope that she will continue to set the ex-

ample for all those younger kids that look up to her.

This positive thinking and these random acts of kindness can be applied in the security field. One thing I love to do when working the VIP door at Dodge, is help the Dodge personnel that comes to shut down the door with taking the stanchions inside and rolling up the red carpet. It's such a simple thing and it's not required of me, but it feels good to help someone and do something for them that they aren't expecting. I would feel weird just standing there, watching him do it all by himself.

Simply holding the door open for someone with their hands full is another small act of kindness that someone will really appreciate. They don't have to sit there and juggle their load of items to try and get the door open...they can just walk right on through because you are there to help them.

We are a company based on customer service, and we should all strive to be kind, give thanks, and make a positive environment for our co-workers, personnel at the facilities, and patrons. It's much easier to be negative than it is to be positive, and I'm challenging you all to make a positive influence on your peers. I am working on this myself, as I am nowhere near perfect, but I do have the desire to create a positive energy for those around me. I'm sure we could all use more smiles in our lives. J

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Ashleigh



Kendra Witham

With the holidays coming up, most of us are scrounging for money or gift ideas. During this time of year it's always hard to find the "perfect gift" for those you love. Instead of a gift like a Bath and Body Works set for your mom or cologne for you dad, gifts that are nice but unoriginal, why not do something different to really "wow" them!? Make them something that will be special as apposed to conventional. Making your family member something original will really impress them and show them how much you love and care for them. Last year I had NO idea what to get my family, let alone my in-laws or boss whom do so much for me. When thinking about conventional gifts that I could get each of them I realized that I just simply did not have the money. So I decided that making something for each of them would be a lot more practical for me and also something that they would really appreciate, knowing that I put my time and effort into something for them instead of just buying a basket of goodies from Target. When Christmas rolled around, I had completed a beautiful quilt and sent it to my mom, step-dad and brother. They LOVED the quilt and couldn't believe that I had actually made it, today they still use it as a throw on blanket while sitting on the couch and relaxing. For my in-laws and boss I made bow tie blankets (which are easy to make), they turned out beautifully and they absolutely loved their blanket! These gift ideas were easy on my wallet and to see them open their gift was priceless and very worth my time. I encourage you to get crafty this year! Make something special for you family or friends that they can treasure. Have a great Holiday Season!

Scheduling Reminders

Tom Heck

Always write down the info the schedulers give you.

Keep your personal schedule in mind while scheduling with TEAM, so as not to overburden or double book yourself. This helps prevent last minute call outs.

All call outs need to be through the "Call Out Pager". The number is 602-219-8326. Listen to the message and make sure to speak clearly and leave a number you can be reached at.

Please do not call in more than once to get scheduled. This causes delays in getting a return call. Also do not call or text the schedulers cell phone to get scheduled.

On Mondays and Tuesdays Do not walk into the scheduling office. Its not fair to the guards who called in. We appreciate your enthusiasm and willingness to work but we operate on a first call first scheduled basis.

If you are unsure of your schedule or have a scheduling question, please don't hesitate to call the Scheduling Office during the hours of operation. Please do not call the schedulers cell after hours unless it is a dire emergency. Or call the Scheduling Pager for questions during the weekend that cannot wait until Monday.

All call outs with in 12 hours of your scheduled start time will be written up and HR will be notified. HR also requires proof for emergency call outs. Please have some courtesy and give the schedulers enough time to find a replacement for your shift, by not calling out at the very last minute. Last minute call outs are difficult to fill esp. at o'dark thirty in the morning.

Random Thoughts

- Why doesn't McDonald's sell hot-dogs?
- At a movie theater which arm rest is yours?
- What is Satan's last name?
- Why is there a disclaimer on the Allstate Auto Insurance commercials that says "Not available in all states"?
- If you are asked to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth and your the main witness, what if you say "no"?
- How far east can you go before you're heading west?
- How does a Real Estate company sell its office without causing confusion?
- Do dentists go to other dentists or do they just do it themselves?
- Why do people think that swaying their arm back and forth would change the direction of a bowling ball?
- If girls with large breasts work at Hooters, then do girls with one leg work at IHOP?
- Why is it that everyone driving faster than you is considered an idiot and everyone driving slower than you is a moron?
- Why does grape flavor smell the way it is when actual grapes don't taste or smell anything like it.
- If a kid refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?
- Is it rude for a deaf person to talk (sign) with their mouth full of food?
- Why is the Lone Ranger called 'Lone' if he always has his Indian friend Tonto with him?
- When does it stop being partly cloudy and start being partly sunny?
- Are eyebrows considered facial hair?
- If a baby's leg pops out at 11:59PM but his head doesn't come out until 12:01, which day

was he born on?  
 -In the song Yankee Doodle, is he calling the horse or the feather "macaroni"?  
 -Is there a time limit on fortune cookie predictions?  
 -Do they have the word "dictionary" in the dictionary?  
 -Can you daydream at night?  
 -Can crop circles be square?  
 -If ghosts can walk through walls and glide down stairs, why don't they fall through the floor?  
 -Is it legal to travel down a road in reverse, as long as you're following the direction of the traffic?  
 -When Atheists go to court, do they have to swear on the bible?  
 -What do you do when you see an endangered animal that is eating an endangered plant?  
 -If a doctor suddenly had a heart attack while doing surgery, would the other doctors work on the doctor or the patient?  
 -Why aren't drapes double sided so it looks nice on the inside and outside of your home?  
 -Why is it that when we "skate on thin ice", we can "get in hot water"?  
 -If money doesn't grow on trees then why do banks have branches?  
 -Why do caregiver and caretaker mean the same thing?  
 -When lightning strikes the ocean why don't all the fish die?  
 -If a nursing mother had her nipples pierced would the milk come out of all three holes?  
 -If parents say, "Never take candy from strangers" then why do we celebrate Halloween?  
 -Why do we put suits in a garment bag and put garments in a suitcase?  
 -If Mars had earthquakes would they be called marsquakes?



-Do you yawn in your sleep?  
 -Do Chinese people get English sayings tattooed on their bodies?  
 -How come lemon washing up liquid contains real lemons, but lemon juice contains artificial flavorings.  
 -Do you wake up or open your eyes first?  
 -Did Noah have woodpeckers on the ark? If he did, where did he keep them?  
 -Why put a towel in the dirty clothes basket if when you get out of the shower you are clean?  
 -Do the security guards at airports have to go through airport security when they get to work?  
 -Are children who act in rated 'R' movies allowed to see them?  
 -How come cat's butts go up when you pet them?  
 -What would happen to the sea's water level if every boat in the World was taken out of the water at the same time?  
 -How come you never see a billboard being put up by the highway?  
 -Why do people say "head's up" when you should duck?  
 -Why does triangularly cut bread taste better than square bread?  
 -When a pregnant lady has twins, is there 1 or 2 umbilical cords?  
 -Why do they put holes in crackers?  
 -How old are you before it can be said you died of old age?  
 -What happens when you put a lightsaber in water?  
 -On Gilligan's Island, how did Ginger have so many different outfits when they were on a 3 hour cruise?  
 -How does Freddy Kruger wipe his butt?  
 -Do butterflies remember life as a caterpillar?  
 -If there's an exception to every rule, is there an exception to that rule?  
 -Doesn't a lightning rod on top of church show a lack of faith?  
 -If you soak a raisin in water, does it turn back into a grape?  
 -What is another word for "thesaurus"?  
 "Riddle me this Batman....."

## Dear Frankie

DEAR FRANKIE:

I have been working as a TEAM guard for almost a year now and have really enjoyed both the company and the work as well. I am always looking for ways to improve my self and the work I do. So I have two questions for you.

Question #1 - What continued education classes can you suggest I take that will make me be the best guard (TEAM member) I can be? I have already taken and been certified with Basic First Aid, CPR certified for adults, children and infants and recently received my CCW certification. I was thinking about some criminal justice classes, other handgun classes and some management classes but was curious what else you could think of.

Question#2 - Once I have done some outside training and certifications should I report them to you to add into my file. I believe strongly that Truly Every Assignment Matters and I want to do everything I can to ensure this happens. GUARD IMPROVEMENT

DEAR GUARD:

That is a very good question. I just don't know if I am the best person to ask though. I'm happy that I finished grade school, lucky to have graduated High School, and shocked I survived my one semester of Trade classes at Chandler Gilbert Community College. I would say that Criminal Justice would be a good subject to study. Honestly though, for the job we do, public speaking classes or classes that would help with customer service would probably be of more use. Although the Criminal Justice classes will teach you about the legal side of what we do, 90% of

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our job here at T.E.A.M. is customer service. You don't need to bring anything in if you attend these classes, unless it is to inform us of your school schedule. As for certifications, we can not give credit for CPR, Defensive tactics, or weapons training classes unless you go through T.E.A.M. training. This is a Liability issue. We need to make sure that all guards who are certified have received the same level of training.

DEAR FRANKIE:

I came to T.E.A.M. to keep some income coming it after being laid off of my other job. I have been actively looking for another full time job and I am starting to get some call backs. I love working here, and appreciate the opportunities T.E.A.M. has given me, so I do not want to burn a bridge. My question is, what is the proper way to go about adjusting my availability or possibly resigning if I am offered a position with one of the other companies? GRATIOUS GRACE

DEAR GRACE:

We are glad things are looking up for you. We understand that you are not the only one in that situation, and support our employees striving to better their situations. The fact that you are asking this question shows me that you are a professional and we would be sorry to see you leave. If you are able to continue working with us and just

need to update your availability, all you need to do is come in to the office, ask Kendra for a new "Availability" form, fill it out, and hand it back to her. Easy peezy. If you are unable to continue working with us, send me an email(frankie@teamsecurity.net) and let me know what's going on. We prefer a standard 2 week notice, but will work with you as much as we can. Unfortunately, others have gotten jobs and chose to No Call / No Show for a scheduled shift as their resignation. Those people may be held financially responsible for those shifts. Everybody has signed a "No Call / No Show Wage Garnishment" form, and it will be enforced. Good luck to you. Keep me in the loop on how things are going.



## Nap Time

Not just for preschool any more!

## Jeff Swanson

For those of you that didn't make it to the company picnic, it was a lot of fun.. I want to say thank you to both Mick and Elizabeth for putting so much into it. I would also like to say "THANKS ALLOT" for trying to kill Steve and TJ by way of alcohol poisoning. (As if the warehouse hasn't been cut enough). I'm surprised they were able to function the next day.

Well into October brings lots of fun events. It also reminds me that we are really close to

Thanksgiving. This is one of my favorite holidays of the year. No stress, lots of good food. It also starts to cool down! For those of you who don't know me, I HATE the heat and it makes me sick. (I can't answer the question of why I live in AZ for). I excited for the snow up north.

On a very positive note, with all of the companies that I see folding around us, TEAM is still standing strong. It's like being in a brick building and watching the straw houses and the stick houses being blown away by the big bad wolf. I feel bad for them, but I feel happy that we are in the brick building. I know business is slow some weeks, but keep your smiles on because there is a lot of stuff just around the corner. Have a great month!

Jeff



# This Month in History

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

November 1 - All Hallows Day, also known as All Saints Day among Roman Catholics, commemorating those who have no special feast day.

November 2, 1947 - The first and only flight of Howard Hughes' "Spruce Goose" flying boat occurred in Long Beach Harbor, California. It flew about a mile at an altitude of 70 feet. Costing \$25 million, the 200 ton plywood eight-engine Hercules was the world's largest airplane, designed, built and flown by Hughes. I

November 3, 1534 - King Henry VIII became head of the English church following the passage of the Act of Supremacy by Parliament.

November 4, 1862 - Richard Gatling patented his first rapid-fire machine gun which used revolving barrels rotating around a central mechanism to load, fire, and extract the cartridges.



November 5, 1911 - Aviator C.P. Snow completed the first transcontinental flight across America, landing at Pasadena, California. He had taken off from Sheepshead Bay, New York, on September 17 and flew a distance of 3,417 miles.

November 6, 1860 - Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th U.S. President and the first Republican. He received 180 of 303 possible electoral votes and 40 percent of the popular vote.

November 7, 1944 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected to an unprecedented fourth term, de-

feating Thomas E. Dewey. Roosevelt died less than a year later on April 12, 1945.

November 8, 1895 - X-rays (electromagnetic rays) were discovered by Wilhelm Roentgen at the University of Wuerzburg in Germany. November 9, 1965 - At 5:16 p.m., the Great Blackout of the Northeast began as a tripped circuit breaker at a power plant on the Niagara River caused a chain reaction sending power surges knocking out interconnected power companies down the East Coast. The blackout affected over 30 million persons, one-sixth of the entire U.S. population. Electricity also failed in Ontario and Quebec.

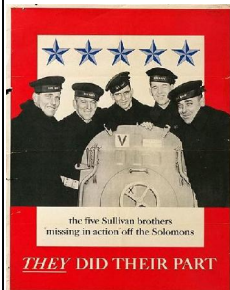
November 10, 1775 - The U.S. Marine Corps was established. Originally part of the Navy, it became a separate unit on July 11, 1789.



November 11, 1918 - At 5 a.m., in Marshal Foch's railway car in the Forest of Compiègne, the Armistice between the Allied and Central Powers was signed, ending World War I effective at 11 a.m. In many places in Europe, a moment of silence in memory of the fallen soldiers is observed at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

November 12, 1867 - A major eruption of Mount Vesuvius in Italy began, lasting several months.

November 13, 1942 - The five Sullivan Brothers from Waterloo, Iowa, were lost in the sinking of the cruiser USS Juncau by a Japanese torpedo off Guadalcanal during World War II in the Pacific. Following their deaths, the



U.S. Navy changed regulations to prohibit close relatives from serving on the same ship.

November 14, 1889 - Newspaper reporter Nellie Bly set out from New York to beat the record of Jules Verne's

imaginary hero Phileas Fogg, who traveled around the world in 80 days. Bly (pen name for Elizabeth Cochrane) returned 72 days later to a tumultuous welcome in New York.

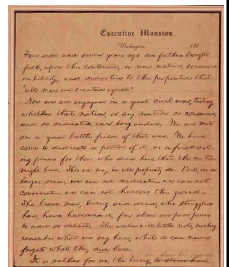
November 15, 1969 - The largest antiwar rally in U.S. History occurred as 250,000 persons gathered in Washington, DC, to protest the Vietnam War.

November 16, 1933 - President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced the U.S. and Soviet Union had resumed diplomatic relations, suspended since 1919.

November 17, 1558 - Queen Elizabeth I ascended the throne of England at the age of 25, reigning until 1603 when she was 69. Under her leadership, England became a world power, defeating the Spanish Armada, and witnessed a golden age of literature featuring works by William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser and others.

November 18, 1883 - A Connecticut school teacher, Charles F. Dowd, proposed a uniform time zone plan for the U.S. consisting of four zones.

November 19, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address during ceremonies dedicating 17 acres of the Gettysburg Battlefield as a national cemetery.



November 20, 1789 - New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

November 21, 1783 - The first free balloon flight took place in Paris as Jean Francois Pilatre de Rozier and Marquis Francois Laurent d'Arlandes ascended in a Montgolfier hot air balloon. Their flight lasted about 25 minutes and carried them nearly six miles at a

height of about 300 feet over Paris. Benjamin Franklin was one of the spectators.

November 22, 1963 - At 12:30 p.m., on Elm Street in downtown Texas, President John F. Kennedy's motorcade slowly approached a triple underpass. Shots rang out. The President was struck in the back, then in the head. . At 1 p.m., John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 35th President of the United States, was pronounced dead. On board Air Force One, at 2:38 p.m., Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as the 36th President.

November 23 - Wild West outlaw Billy the Kid (1859-1881) was born in New York City (probably as Henry McCarty, better known as William H. Bonney). He was

a ruthless killer who escaped from jail and a sentence of hanging at age 21. He was recaptured at Stinking Springs, New Mexico, but escaped again. At Fort Sumner, on the night of July 14, 1881, he reportedly asked, "Who's there?" only to be shot twice through the heart by Sheriff Pat Garrett.

November 24, 1992 - The U.S. military departed the Philippines after nearly a century of military presence..

November 25, 1963 - Three days after his assassination, John F. Kennedy was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.



November 26, 1789 - The first American holiday occurred, proclaimed by President George Washington to be Thanksgiving Day, a day of prayer and public thanksgiving in gratitude for

the successful establishment of the new American democracy. November 27 - Wild West lawman Bat Masterson (1853-1921) was born in Henryville, Quebec. He was also a gambler, saloonkeeper, and later became a news writer in New York. November 28, 1520 - Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan passed through the strait (of Magellan) located at the southern tip of South America, thus crossing from the Atlantic Ocean into the Pacific. November 29, 1947 - Palestine was partitioned into Jewish and Arab land by the UN General Assembly, resulting in the establishment of the Jewish state of Israel the following year. November 30, 1782 - A provisional peace treaty was signed between Great Britain and the United States heralding the end of America's War of Independence. The final treaty was signed in Paris on September 3, 1783. It declared the U.S. "...to be free, sovereign and independent states..." and that the British Crown



"...relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof.

## Richard "Taz" Zahn

TAZ TOOLBOX

In Memory of.....

Lead by example, helping one another  
Working side by side, sister and brother

For when one moves forward, we all can follow  
Surrounded by success, not pity or sorrow

Each one will have their strength for others to hold  
Examples of love, not left in the cold

Unified, United we all will stand  
Eye to eye, and hand to hand

Please don't forget the sacrifice that has been paid  
For blood, sweat and tears, there is no shade

Life is good, life is great  
Let us be thankful for the life we make

Let's be nice let's be kind  
Let us put all of our troubles behind

Remember a day and never forget  
The price that was paid with no regret

Live life to the fullest, live life to be free  
Life in America, this is how it should be.

TAZ 10/1/09

When you think you've seen it all, heard it all or read it all, something pops out and reminds you that ANYTHING is possible! People are people and will continue to amaze us all....

Yes, it's that magical time of the year again when the Darwin Awards are bestowed, honoring the least evolved among us. Here



POST ORDERS

then, are the glorious winners.

Darwin Award Winners:

1. When his 38-caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked....

And now, the honorable mentions.....

2 The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and, after a little hopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence, sent out one of its adjusters to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

3. A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his Vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

4. After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

5. An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an

oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.

6. A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer...\$15. He was later identified from his fingerprint on the \$20, arrested and charged. (If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, is a crime committed?)

7. Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.

8. As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within just minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."

9. The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5

a.m., flashed a gun, demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.

A 5-STAR STUPIDITY AWARD WINNER!

10. When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges, saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.

In the interest of bettering human kind please share these with your friends and family ... unless of course one of these individuals by chance is a distant relative or long lost friend. In that case be glad they are distant and hope they remain lost.

TAZ THOUGHTS

Be good and be gone, and out of my way,  
I'm fighting for you to live another day.

My tactics may be harsh and not the kindest you see,  
I'm standing my ground for your family.

Take care in knowing I'll fight to the end,

For even a stranger will become my friend. TAZ

10/1/09



### Mick Hirko

I recently read, that in 2008, over 2 trillion text messages were sent. Clear has been a very busy girl. It is amazing to me, that 10 years ago, no one even knew what a trillion was, now, thanks to our federal government, the number "trillion" gets thrown around an awful lot. If you take the ten richest people in the world, they together do not have a trillion dollars of wealth, but our government has straddled us with over 10 trillion dollars of new debt in only 9 months. If you do not know what a trillion is – it is a very scary number, and I have no idea how Clear was able to text that much!

One of my favorite shows on TV was "The Unit". It was cancelled recently, as most good shows are. I enjoyed the show for many reasons. For those of you who never saw it, it was about an elite Army Special Operations Unit. It not only showed the sometimes dramatically enhanced and fictitious action stories of this unit, but their lives, their loves and wives, and the very realistic scenarios of life in the military. Military spouses have a very keen understanding of what sacrifices are asked of them, an incredible support network, and a camaraderie second to none. That carries them through most anything. I realize that it does not always hold true, and that the Army (or military in general) has failed many a family through time, and that there is a lot of dramatic license in this show, but certain core values are not only apparent, but are the building blocks of this show, and their real counterparts. Those include the value of the team, honor and country. Those are values that may be mutually exclusive, but in combination with each other, are a powerful force.

We all have our own sense of country, and I consider myself very patriotic. I believe in the values that this country stands for, the vision of our founding fathers, and our strength as a nation through common values

and patriotism. Patriotism means a lot of different things to different people, and to me include being called a brown shirt and being marginalized by those elected to serve us. In some circles it is called the tail wagging the dog, and I think some people have forgotten the foundation of this great nation, and that our leaders are put in office to serve us, not for us to serve them. It actually was Abraham Lincoln who in the midst of a great war, a war that greatly divided our country, reminded us all that it is a government of the people, by the people and for the people. I think about these things at the time of Thanksgiving, the pilgrims settling at Plymouth Rock, and the nation that rose from those meager beginnings, and the values the developed. They were selfless for the sake of a greater good. It is pretty amazing. Yet, I digress...

The other two values are teamwork and honor. Both are core values of our company. We, working as a team accomplish great things again and again. I see so many fantastic performances when we all work together to accomplish large and small tasks. Those accomplishments bring a sense of satisfaction and pride in that teamwork. That pride moves us on to the next challenge. I know it is sometimes hard to see that when you are in the middle of an event and you have patrons yelling at you, you feel like there are too many chiefs telling you what to do, and you need a 10-100. Well, every person doing their part is not only noticed, but it leads to very successful outcomes, something that does benefit us all.

Honor is a core values that does lay in the eye of the beholder. To me it means doing the right thing always, not letting your team members down and holding yourself to very high standards, and above all, to be beyond reproach in your conduct. Every one of you has been led into temptation to compromise your honor. By excepting a bribe or turning the other way to let a pretty girl close up to the stage, you would dishonor us all. Sometimes it might be some-

thing that you do not see as being a big deal, but by compromising yourself, you would have diminished the value of all of our work. I continue to be amazed how many times I have seen many of you do the right, the honorable thing. We are in a position of trust, with our clients, with the public and with our communities. Any guest of any of our venues or events MUST know that they can trust you, that you are a person of honor. We do on a regular basis send in secret shoppers, some with bad attitudes, some with bad intentions. I get the biggest pleasure of them returning, frustrated for not having been able to bribe any of our staff, not being able to get into restricted areas and getting themselves defused playing the angry patron. I am lucky, we are all lucky to get to work with such a great group of people as you all are, and I thank you for that. Speaking of which, I also want to thank all of you who attended the picnic for coming out. (Our very own early version of Thanksgiving. But, instead of cooking the turkey, we gave her the Ironman Award) Thank you too, for all of you that brought dishes. I think it was the best company picnic we have had in many years, in spite of Clear claiming she had 14 shots of Jaeger and fell off of her bench as a result. I am so very proud of all of you, and I thank you for all of your hard work, dedication teamwork and Honor.

Enjoy the holidays. Honor your parents and your family, be safe and I will see you out there.

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