

GOMMEL 101

Today is Monday, Aug. 19, and I'm sitting here thinking about our upcoming staff meeting on Wednesday. A couple of times a year we get the entire staff together, to look at each other, to present small department summaries from department managers, and to hear input from the staff. Usually these meetings are rewarding – full of good spirit and lots of laughter. (And we have donuts!)

This time, we have to spend an extra hour (3 instead of 2 hours) to satisfy a state-mandated training requirement to teach staffers basics of human relationships that are so fundamental as to be almost silly. So it won't be as much fun, unless we can laugh at the government idiots who think they know so much more than we do about how to run a business and how to manage our personal lives.

I usually say a little something about the spirit/Spirit behind this place, and this time it occurred to me how fewer and fewer of the staffers knew Gommel (my dad) first hand. So I thought I'd share



with them a few "Gommel-isms" from the list I have accumulated over the years as I thought of them. And then I thought that maybe I should share them here in this space, also.

Gommel was a very strong, somewhat polarizing character, whose greatest passion was his commitment to God. And then he loved to teach, especially about values, spirit, good personal habits, and self-discipline. He never stopped teaching all of us, by his words, and mostly by his personal example. He did not suffer fools well; he hated hypocrisy and put-on; and he demanded the best of anyone with whom he came in contact. He was a wellspring of intelligence, creativity, wisdom, and sensitivity, seasoned by God's Holy Spirit. (You think I may have

admired him???)

A few "Gommelisms":

"What's worth your life?" He wanted people, and especially young ones starting out, to think ahead far enough to make good decisions before bad decisions destroyed any chance of a meaningful life, preferably focused on following and obeying God.

"Where is your hope?" and "What did you expect?" he would ask me when I'd get down about the continuing triumph of Evil for now. He was reminding me that God has warned us of the stress of this broken world, and if my hope was in Him, and not in how good the world should be, I'd be full of the joy of the Lord, not the despair of the world. "The joy of the Lord is your strength!" he would say, quoting Nehemiah of the Bible.

"The more words, the less truth." "Speak in telegrams." "Let's not 'talk about' XYZ – let's decide XYZ." In other words, cut the you-know-what and let's get this done! A corollary of these: "Say what you mean and mean what you say." "Sin boldly" he borrowed from Martin Luther, meaning that sometimes when the Right and Wrong of a decision is not crystal clear, you have to make the best decision under the circumstances, and then give it all you've got.

Gommel did not want to say to our customers "Welcome to this store" because he felt that it placed a certain distance in the relationship with people who are so much more than just customers. For example, it irritated him when we'd go to dinner at our favorite Sizzler Restaurant, and they would greet us with "Welcome to Sizzler". It made him feel like a guest, not a part of the scene there. Many of you customers here seem to get that, and when we ask if you need help finding XYZ, you come back with, "No, thanks, I'm in here every day and I KNOW where stuff is!"

Related to the above: "Friends don't shake hands." Think about that. Several times it brought people up short who by habit expected to shake his hand, but even though a handshake is a friendly gesture,

it's like "Welcome to Sizzler." It assumes a certain distance or formality in the relationship. Some who understood that lesson will still come up to us and refuse to shake hands since they consider themselves friends. Observe your own interactions, and you'll see that you don't shake hands with family, close friends, and people with whom you spend significant time.

All that leads to his best known phrase, "Peachy keen". When asked how he was doing, which occurred multiple times per day, instead of a mindless response, he came up with "Peachy keen" because it motivated him to actually feel peachy keen. And then he turned to the person and asked sincerely, "Are YOU peachy keen?", and wait for their response, because he cared to hear what they had to say.

If there is anything he would want us to remember about him, it's his commitment to God and how all of this sprang from that. "When the spirit/Spirit is right, everything is right. When the spirit/Spirit isn't right, nothing is right." "It's the spirit, it's the Spirit, it's the SPIRIT!" Attitude and spirit are everything.

I feel so fortunate (not luck, but God's gift) to have been Gommel's daughter, and almost guilty that I had it so good compared to so many.

Thank You, Father, for the example and spirit of this Man of God! Hopefully we all continue to learn from it and pass it on! Hopefully this store is DIFFERENT than any other, based on Your Spirit, and the resulting care and concern for those whom we serve in this community!

Linda Gommel



Gommel testing a mister

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE From the Web.

GOD CREATES EVERYONE

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago".

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"



REPLIES TO CUSTOMER REQUESTS

- 1 - We're looking into it.
- 2 - Limited shelf space.
- 3 - Available by special order.
- 4 - Item was out & is back or will be soon.
- 5 - We are putting this in. Thanks.

May not be in yet.

Unavailable from Suppliers
Can be found in Section #

Sierra Mist Soda, 12 pack cans . . .	1A . . .	4
Golden Creme Whipping Cream, pt	1B . . .	1
Thrifty Ice Cream,		
Black Walnut, 48 oz.		✓
Olive Garden Italian Dressing		✓ 1
Banana Laffy Taffy		✓
Campbell Golden Mushroom Soup . . .		✓
Zero Candy Bars		✓
Gluten Free Soy Sauce (La Choy)	9B . . .	
Glucose Tablets	7A . . .	5
Gingerale, 20 oz		✓
Gingerale, liter	1A . . .	5
Coffeemate, Dry, Hazelnut		✓
Bang Energy Drinks, Birthday Cake	1A . . .	5
Smart Water Alkaline	1B . . .	5
Lactaid Cottage Cheese	1B . . .	5
L&A Cranberry Juice	9A . . .	5
Red Baron Breakfast Pizza		✓
Runts Candy		✓
Jiffy Baking Mix		✓
Nasoya Pasta Zero		✓ 1
Binoculars		1
Lime or Lemon Press	7B . . .	
Trump T-Shirts	14 . . .	5
Cellphone Mount for Cars	8A . . .	5
Guinea Pig Bedding	4B . . .	4
Door Mat, Bears Football design . . .		1
Hershey Candy Bar with		
Reese's Pieces in it	Chkstds . .	5
LifeSavers, 5 Flavor	Chkstds . .	4
So. California Gem Trails Book . . .	SrvCtr . .	
More organic produce?		
We added Organic Girl Super Greens salad mix. If it sells, we will expand that line.		
Liquid Bacon flavoring?		
Please call Linda for special order.		

ECHO RECYCLING

On the Northeast side of the parking lot.
Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM
Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.
Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV **\$1.70/lb**

#1 Plastic CRV **\$1.29/lb**

Pricing good thru September 4, 2019

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

TUES. SEPT. 3, 5 PM.
at the Senior Center

- Report from Sgt. Siebert on local crime.
- Presentation from Superintendent Peter Livingston on "State of the School District," new programs, the new Foundation and more.
- Updates on the Countywide Plan EIR and our community plan.
- Update on high desert survey, quality of life and what needs to be fixed in our region.
- Future agenda items.
- Updates on many local issues.

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 12, starts at 5:30PM.
At the Alternative Education Center,
8560 Alianto Rd up Highway 18.

SERVICES AT CROSSROADS CENTER

LUCERNE VALLEY MARKET & HARDWARE 248-7311

WASH N SHOP COIN LAUNDRY 248-7311

FIRST FOUNDATION BANK 248-2717

DR. ASHOK MELVANI M.D. 248-1070

ECHO RECYCLING 760-617-5404

AT THE SERVICE COUNTER In the store

- COPIES • FAX SERVICE
- PACKAGE EXPRESS -- UPS only
- PAYMENT STATION SCE, Frontier & Verizon

PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY 242-4900

Rancho Drugs – Tues. 11AM, Wed. & Fri. 3PM

ST. MARY HEALTH VAN 760-946-4240

Every Thursday except December
8:30AM - 3:30PM in our parking lot.

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THOSE WHO SPONSOR THIS STORE;
SEE <http://thenewlight.net>