

Not just yet..

Okay you may ask, where is/are the camp post(s)? Well, in short, I haven't written it/them yet. As you can tell from the last sentence I don't know how many of them there will be. Work was quite busy over the last week and I really had little time for myself when I returned home, usually around 7-ish with photos to go through and upload. Aside from that my mother had an episode a little over a week ago that left her with a slightly fractured ankle and so I have been doing some extra work helping with that. Her ankle will be healing for about eight weeks (one down, seven to go...)

So how about some "small world" news? Not about me, but about one of our church's pastors? Both of the main pastors at my church are from Canada, though now have citizenship here. What do most boys growing up in Canada do? Hint- it's not baseball, the past-time of this country. Even I participated in that for a couple of years- one tee-ball when I was very young, and one as a very poor player in intermediate league because my best friend at the time played it. Interesting story there- he was on the best team in the league, I was on the worst. What do you think happened when we played each other? A classic case of overconfidence of course, so we won. The only game we won if I remember correctly. Oh, well. My interest was never really there so I didn't practice, got stuck in right field, and the only ball I ever hit was an easily caught pop-up.

But this isn't supposed to be about me. I am sure you have figured out by now that what most Canadian boys do growing up is play hockey. You know all professional athletes start somewhere, and the story of a hockey superstar intersected with the story of one of our pastors on a team together as kids. The reason for him bringing it up in his message was about teamwork, the body of Christ working together in their separate roles defined by spiritual gifts. The story was how

he tried and failed to score a goal on his own when a teammate was wide open to pass to. Wayne even came up to him afterward and asked why our not-yet-pastor didn't pass the puck to him. Oh, did I just give away the superstar? Even though I only gave his first name, I do believe that will be sufficient as all of you of course mentally added his surname. Being a very gifted player even at a young age, you know he would have scored that goal too. But anyway, just as not all hockey players are goalies or forwards, just as not all baseball players are pitchers, we in Christ are not all teachers, not all pastors, not all bearing higher-profile gifts. God has given us different gifts and we are, as I already mentioned, to use them together whether our gifts are onstage, backstage, outside, or wherever.

So... how has your week been? Camp post(s) still coming soon.

Attn: Mr. Moreno & Mayor Emanuel

My lunch today:



That is all.

Drivin' a wagon

No, not that kind of wagon- though I freely admit my first vehicle was an 80's Chevy station wagon. What other kind of wagon can one drive? If you're a creative couple, this kind:

zero tolerance = zero brains

When my nephew was in 5th grade, he accidentally brought his pocketknife, the onetime staple of just about every American boy, to school. Naturally, he got suspended. So was he caught showing it off to his friends? Victim of a random search? Nope. Realizing he did something wrong by bringing it to school, he walked up to his teacher, handed him the knife, and told him he accidentally left it in his pocket and didn't mean to bring it to school. He might as well have been showing it off for all that confession got him. Thanks to zero tolerance, motive could never be considered in his punishment. My brother said at the time his teacher should have just kept it to himself, but realistically he would have been fired if the principal somehow found out, also thanks to zero brains tolerance.

Flash forward to today, and history repeats itself on a larger scale, at least where consequences are concerned. And to a military veteran no less. This former soldier found a black bag in his garden, took it inside, and found a gun inside. Being a good citizen, or so he thought, he brought it in to the police who promptly arrested him. He has since been convicted by a jury and now faces a minimum five-year prison term. From the article:

Prosecuting, Brian Stalk, explained to the jury that possession of a firearm was a "strict liability" charge – therefore Mr Clarke's allegedly honest intent was irrelevant.

Just by having the gun in his possession he was guilty of the charge, and has no defence in law against it, he added.

But despite this, Mr Blackman urged members of the jury to

consider how they would respond if they found a gun.

He said: "This is a very small case with a very big principle.

"You could be walking to a railway station on the way to work and find a firearm in a bin in the park.

"Is it unreasonable to take it to the police station?"

Paul Clarke will be sentenced on December 11.

Judge Christopher Critchlow said: "This is an unusual case, but in law there is no dispute that Mr Clarke has no defence to this charge.

"The intention of anybody possessing a firearm is irrelevant."

Is this crazy, or what? It happened in the UK, but with the way liberalism is taking hold in this country we won't be far behind. While we have the NRA fighting against such gun-possession laws, all it would take is a single rogue judge to interpret the 2nd Amendment the wrong way and we will be a giant step closer to life in the UK.

Oh yes, click for the entire article:

[Ex-soldier faces jail for handing in gun](#)

Theorizing about Fun

I've been waiting to post until I catch up on reading my friends' blogs, but I am realizing that if I do that I will never post. Sorry Taylhis, Jamiahsh, JustJ, Whatever, and

even MareMare whose blog I haven't read in over a month! Sigh... Where does the time go? I have a couple of normal things I want to blog about, but that will have to wait as geek.com has just now posted on a third video from the maker of the car from the past we know as Herbie the Love Bug, Volkswagen. They have decided to take up the cause of environmentalism and try to change people's attitudes through what they call the [Fun Theory](#). A couple of weeks ago they started with trying to get people to burn their own energy by using the stairs instead of the escalator. I remember my days of visiting malls and seeing the stairs used only infrequently when they were next to an escalator. Often though, I would use the stairs simply because they were faster than waiting behind someone on the escalator. Of course, if there was no one on the escalator I would climb up or down them like stairs to be even faster since the stairs were moving. Anyway, [see what they did in this video](#):

Next, [they added something to a trash can](#) to get more people to throw their litter away:

Just today I learned about their newest video. This one involves a bottle collector, something I have yet to see around here. For that matter, I don't know of any sort of effort to collect recycling outdoors. Many places like schools have some sort of indoor recycling of course, but that's far from a large-scale municipal effort. Is it just my area? Surely we're doing it somewhere in the US? Of course, being a European company Volkswagen made these videos on the other side of the pond we know as the Atlantic Ocean, so it may well just be a European thing. Meet the [video game bottle collector](#):

The videos are actually larger than the small window we get here on Tangents, so you will probably want to click on them to open them up on their Youtube pages.

Speaking of unusual...

Here's probably a very unique and unusual way of preventing people from committing suicide by jumping off of bridges. Apparently this is somewhat common in China, so some workers decided to do something about it. The source is the same as the last article, WPTV.com:

Slippery when buttered

Last Update: 10:12 am

Chinese workers have covered a giant steel bridge with butter because officials are fed up with traffic jams caused by people who slow down to watch suicide victims leaping to their death.

In a single month eight people jumped to their death with many more threatening to end their lives on the bridge.

The butter was spread over all of the climbable surfaces and it appears to be working. Officials report they are able to get to the bridge and catch the suicide attempters.

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Here's hoping that missionaries over there can spread the Gospel there more quickly to these urgent cases.