

JANUARY 2021

THE SATANIC TEMPLE ARIZONA



Refresh, rejuvenate, renew: these ideas came to mind with the approach of a new year... Though 2020 is behind us its effects are still ringing, from COVID overloading our public health system to the threat of homelessness, joblessness, injustice, and insurrection. With this new year has come a new administration, which has announced some policy changes to celebrate: a scientific approach to the climate and health crises; the end of the gag rule on abortion; and a desire to rectify the persistent celebration of Confederate racist traitors in the naming of our country's military facilities. These are reasons to be optimistic, but the struggle for justice implies that we should continue to hold our elected officials accountable for following through on their promised progress, and more. The inauguration included a call to unity; I hope to see that occur broadly, but I call for it in our chapter, as well. It's been almost a year of disunion and isolation, so let us unite for creativity, community, and common cause.

Creativity has been an important part of surviving this pandemic; we've all had to pull back from social events and outings, so many you may be feeling a loss of engagement and new experiences. Creativity, by its definition, produces a novel item or experience, and we can amplify its effects on us by collaborating. Though we'll still need to obey health department recommendations, we can come together to create projects, art, ritual, and anything else our black hearts desire.



of

This collaboration requires a digital and local community of those who share our values. It also includes the broader community, whom we have the opportunity to serve through our charity and service projects. Those projects keep us integrated with our cities and state, but working together binds us as well. Take every opportunity you feel you can to collaborate with individuals or on our chapter projects.

Community is common cause with other individuals, but we are surrounded by groups similarly organized around community and equality, and should take advantage of partnerships we can form with them. I speak of other atheist/humanist groups, other religious groups who value secularism, and charitable organizations such as our partners for Menstruating with Satan. When we join others in common cause around policy issues or for social justice, we'll multiply our impact.

Hail yourself and Hail one another,
[Oliver](#)

Please note that some of the included links in this newsletter go to Official Member only resources, so if you're not able to access them and you are an Official Member, please contact your [local leadership](#) to fix that!

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 UPCOMING EVENTS



2/11 - 2/15 - TST VHQ Lupercalia

Lupercalia is nearly upon us and the crew over at TST's Virtual Headquarters is celebrating by hosting a series of sensual and amorous delights for your enjoyment! Informative lectures, stand-up comedy, live cooking demonstrations, DJ sets, and social hours - it's all happening at VHQ.

For more information, go to tstvhq.com



2/13 - TST FL Dark Crafts Carnival

TST Florida is hosting a crafty chapter fundraiser including a variety show, a virtual action, and limited edition merchandise! Show starts on 2/13 at 4 p.m. AZ time on TST TV, while the auction and merchandise run 2/13 - 2/24.

For more information, check out darkcraftscarnival.com



2/13 - TST Southern California - Lupercalia

Just in case your Saturday isn't chock full enough of Satanic goodness, you can keep the party rolling with TST Southern California's Lupercalia Ritual and Celebration, beginning at 8 p.m. AZ time. If you'd like to follow along you can purchase your own ritual kit at infernalpossessions.com

For more information, see the post on [TST - Convergence](#) FB group (members only) or TST SoCal's [FB page](#).



02/23 - Black Mass Appeal presents FaustFest

Miss music festivals? So do our friends from the [Black Mass Appeal](#) podcast. Fortunately for all of us, they're hosting a virtual Satanic music festival at the end of February. We don't know details just yet - but keep an eye on their website as the date draws closer.

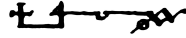
For more information, go to blackmassappeal.com

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CHAPTER UPDATES

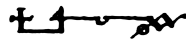
TSTAZ's Council has reviewed members' comments on our current constitution, and revised it. The revised constitution is currently available for review in our Official Members' Forum; the link can be found in the Facebook event for our [Members Meeting](#); we will have a Chapter Town Hall discussing constitution changes on February 1.



Recently, several current and past moderators of TSTAZ's Facebook page and forums had their accounts suspended with no option to appeal. After a couple of days, some accounts were restored with no explanation. This illustrated the risk of using Facebook as our primary forum, so we encourage Official Members to join our Slack server ASAP. Please provide your email address to any [council member](#), and they'll send OMs an invitation to the server.



"Infernal Peers¹," we're looking for volunteers! Dresden Visage has announced that they're resigning from the newsletter committee, and Lynita Killen plans on handing off Highway to Hell after the next cleanup. Dresden is making this change to take on more responsibility with TST VHQ and remains active in TSTAZ's Welcome Legion. Official Members have these and other opportunities to provide input and leadership on ritual, event, & campaign planning.



Kate Diaz continues to lead the Devil's Playground park cleanup at Joaquin Murrieta Park in Tucson. January's cleaning will take place on [Jan. 31](#), and COVID safety is mandatory. The February cleanup will be on Feb. 14; watch our [Forum](#) for the event.



HELLFIRE CLUB



The HellFire Club

TST AZ's Hellfire Media Club strikes again! For our second Salon, we'll be exploring the practice of creating a "personal Satanic bible" or everyday Satanic grimoire. Check the #hellfireclub channel on the TST AZ Official Members Slack or the [TST AZ public forum](#) for journal inspiration and some educational reading. Then join us on **February 20, 2021 for a special presentation by Satanic podcaster and author Stephen Bradford Long.** We'll be discussing the process of "[creating a Satanic root document](#)" as part of integrating the practice of Satanism into daily life. The Zoom link will be posted on the Slack and [TST AZ's FB group](#) in early Feb. so look for it there, or email ms.zee.kay@gmail.com if you'd like to be added to the Hellfire Club mailing list!

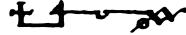
¹ Milton, John, 1608-1674. *Paradise Lost*, book II, line 507. London ; New York :Penguin Books, 2000.

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INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

Happy 2020. On New Years Eve and into the next morning, Satanists celebrated the end of 2020 at TST Virtual Headquarters and TST-TV. VHQ wrapped up their week-long Sol Invictus celebration with an all-day live stream, only stopping to hand it off to TST TV's *Fuck Hindsight* variety show from TST Idaho. You can see the archived *Fuck Hindsight* on [TST TV](#).



Ongoing legal campaigns. In January, The Satanic Temple highlighted its legal campaigns via their newsletter in six installments. Newsletter subscribers learned about the Judy Doe Missouri abortion case, the Lamar billboard lawsuit, the Belle Plaine Monument case, the Scottsdale Invocation case, the new Boston Religious Discrimination lawsuit, and the Arkansas Ten Commandments case. You can sign up for the [national TST newsletter here](#).



Judy Doe Abortion case. The Supreme Court declined to hear the Judy Doe abortion case. This unfortunately stalls this campaign, until or unless we have another instance of a Satanist's religious rights being violated while seeking or receiving reproductive healthcare, if that Satanist is willing to become the plaintiff in a new lawsuit.



Scottsdale invocation case. A date has been scheduled for oral arguments in the Scottsdale Invocation case. TST lawyer Matt Kezhaya announced that it will be on March 18, 2021 at 11:30 am CST, and that it will be livestreamed on [www.ca9.uscourts.gov](#). A recording will be available the following day.



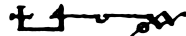
Ohio fetal burial requirement. On December 30th, Ohio enacted a new fetal burial regulation. The Satanic Temple asserts that this requirement is a violation of the First Amendment, and declares TST members to be exempt from this rule, which goes against our third Tenet. TST vows to defend the religious rights of Satanists in court, if necessary.



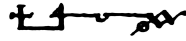
Boston invocation case. On January 20, The Satanic Temple [filed suit against the city of Boston for denying its request to deliver an invocation](#), which are regularly delivered before their City Council meetings. The Boston City Council permits invocations only by invitation from Council members. The Satanic Temple has requested to deliver an invocation three times, and has been told that they do not accept requests. This gatekeeping ensures that only some religions are represented.



Public forum participation. On January 22, TST announced that it plans to provide a support system for members to participate in their local public forums, enabling us to contribute to religious diversity and promote inclusivity within our local communities. [The announcement included a link to information on the Scottsdale Invocation case.](#)



TST app development. After we all realized once again how much power social media companies have over our lives and ability to communicate, the TST App opened up a “sanctuary” for official chapter members. It currently has only basic message boards and messaging capabilities, but it’s important to take a step toward having a place of our own to organize that can’t be taken away by a rogue algorithm or a vindictive troll. If you are an official member of a TST chapter, have created an account on the app, and would like to be added to the members-only features, please [fill out this form](#).



Historic home destroyed in New York. The ‘Halloween House’, formerly owned by a prominent member of the Church of Satan, [was destroyed by an arsonist](#), potentially too badly to be restored. While this attack was not directed at The Satanic Temple, we should acknowledge the possibility that this was a religiously-motivated hate crime against Satanists. And whatever our feelings about CoS may be, we must condemn this act. We also might do well to show compassion and empathy to our fellow Satanists in the wake of this tragic event.

MEMBER CONTENT



Every month we’ll be highlighting some of the awesome things our members are doing. This newsletter’s Member Content is...

ONLINE GAME NIGHTS! TST AZ council member Oliver Spires has been organizing unofficial, pandemic-safe online game nights over Zoom for TST AZ members and adjacents. These casual evening gatherings are a great way to unwind and meet new friends, all while finding out exactly how much

Satanists *love* puns. If you’d like to get in on the (rarely safe for work) fun, hop on over to the TST AZ [FB forum](#) and check the Events tab.

Oliver says: “My favorite of the Jackbox games is Fibbage, because it’s two truths and a lie, inverted... one truth and a lie from each player. It’s hilarious and you end up learning weird trivia!”

SATANIC SWAG

It might be a new year but we’re all still stuck inside our houses for the foreseeable future. So if you’re tired of looking at the same four walls, consider changing things up to help stave off the quarantine boredom. And what better way to decorate your lair than a new TST poster? The Satanic Temple’s [online storefront](#) [has just added two more posters to their collection](#). You now have three choices for official wall art: the Seven Tenets in a revivalist Egyptian style; Baphomet in all their Art Nouveau-influenced



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glory; and an Art Deco reminder that “Thyself is Thy Master” (all 11” x 14”, matte printed on archival-quality paper.)

THE EVIL EYE



Anything for Jackson (2020), dir. Justin G. Dyck. Ah yes, the exorcism film - one of the classics of the horror genre. Beginning with *The Exorcist* in 1973, movies about innocent people possessed by demonic spirits heighten their scares by tapping directly into America’s hellfire-and-brimstone cultural psyche. After fifty years of the trope, you probably know what to expect, but this movie turns the exorcism trope inside out: instead of removing a troubled spirit, the main characters - a pair of grieving grandparents - want to invoke a possession. Specifically, the possession of an unborn child by their dead grandson. And of course, the only way to do that is by kidnapping a pregnant woman, tying her up in a bedroom that doubles as a ritual chamber, and enlisting the help of the rest of their amateurish Satanic coven. (In what feels like a very intentional nod to plugged-in horror fans, one of the Satanists could

be an exact double for *The Last Podcast on the Left’s* own [Henry Zebrowski](#).) Anchored by a solid and sympathetic cast, *Anything for Jackson* doesn’t quite live up to the promise of its premise, but it’s still full of unexpected humor and genuinely creepy moments. You can find this spooky, thrilling romp streaming on [Shudder](#).

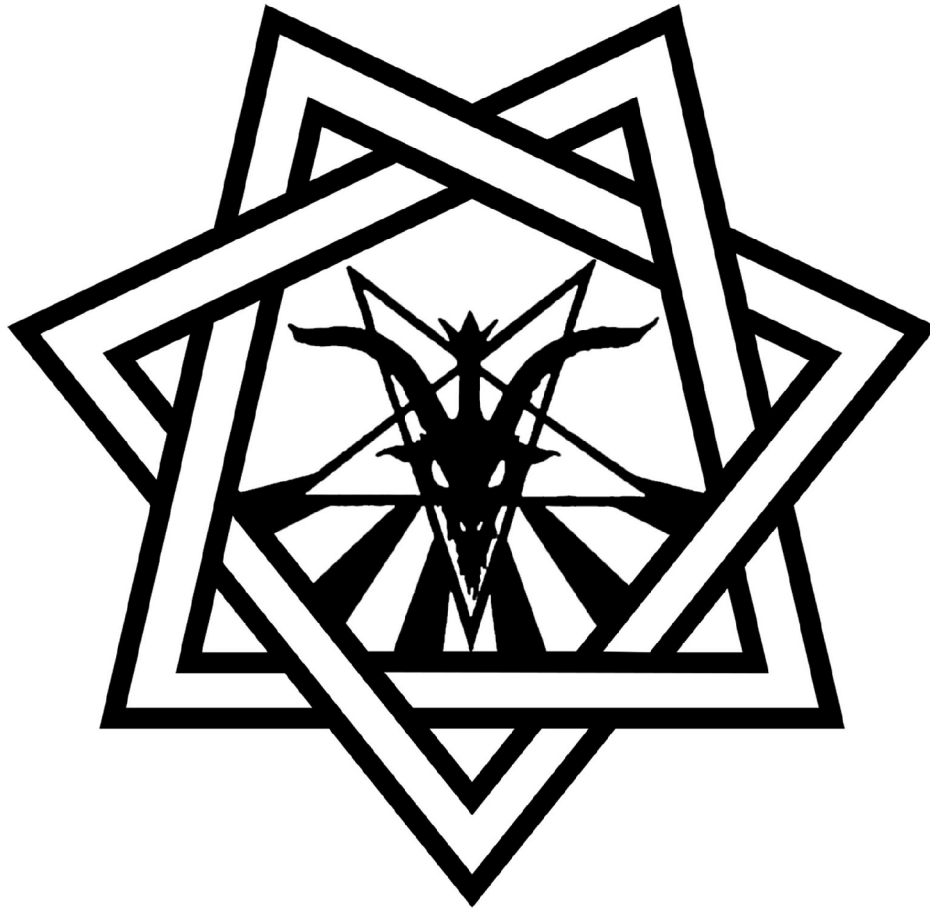
Content warnings: Contains pregnancy, graphic death scenes, and a lot of gore. For more information, [doesthedogdie](#) has a comprehensive list of content warnings.

PARTING GIFTS

The Satanic Temple International Council member Sadie Satanas (@[SadieSatanas](#)) recently posted a [fantastic vintage advertisement](#) for a 1920s quack medicine called Sa-Tan-Is with the slogan, “It brings mental sunshine!” Her post made us wonder: how often has our very own Old Scratch been used to make buyers sit up and pay attention, and what kind of wares is He selling? Turns out, the answer is almost everything - from liquor (of course) to matches (naturally) to deviled ham (makes sense) to... mothballs? [Pinterest user Geri Heater Jones has assembled a 200+ image collection of the Devil in advertising that’s well worth a look.](#) (The page will prompt you repeatedly to log in; if you don’t have a Pinterest account simply close out the popup and carry on.)



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HAIL SATAN

Special thanks to the newsletter committee: Oliver Spires, Zee Kay, Dresden Visage, and Pope Wonka.