

Happy



Happenings

Sixteenth Edition

February 2000

Mom & Lynn:

Hi, Family! Wow, it's hard getting back to the routine after the holidays! In fact, Lynn keeps saying that they're not quite over yet--like, "Tomorrow we diet." Thank you all for your visits and gifts. We love you all so much and love being with you.

Lynn's mind has turned more to retirement and he wonders how we'll make it on a fixed income. We're having a little tug of war over whether to sell our property at the Summit. I hate so much to give it up since I crave beautiful views and some sense of peace and quiet. I love our house in Bountiful, but staring at condos out our window is not my idea of beauty. But I am willing to do whatever he's SURE we should do.

Our little fiasco in 1998 has me a little gun-shy. You remember, it went something like:

1. Sell our house (We agreed on this but our approach DID NOT work!)
2. Build a wonderful house at Eagle Mt. (Boy was THAT unwise!)
3. Buy an existing house at Syracuse (My idea--Had a stupor of thought.)
4. Buy a house at Hobble Creek (Lynn's idea. WHAT were we thinking?)
5. GET A BLESSING (That was Lynn's idea and it said STOP & WAIT!)

SO--instead of going to St. George for our anniversary and spending more money, (when lack of money is one of our problems), we decided to go to the Summit. Now, in a normal year, we wouldn't be able to get up there easily. But with so little snow and such mild temperatures, it was no problem. And we

had a wonderful time. We spent Thursday evening, Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning there. We worked a puzzle, read "Children of the Promise" #2 together, watched several videos, went to Pocatello and did a little shopping and ate out. We stayed up late and slept late and had a very peaceful time. It would have been cheap too if we hadn't run out of propane. Soon after we arrived on Thursday evening, the stoves started sputtering and we ended up driving to Pocatello to buy an electric heater and comforter. But otherwise, it was lots of fun.

I felt that I was really making headway convincing Lynn how valuable our little place is and how I'd use it this summer as a peaceful place to get away and write my life story. I painted a very vivid picture of how ideal it would be. In my prayer Saturday night I asked Heavenly Father to help me follow my righteous husband and do whatever is right. That night I dreamed, and thought a LOT, about SNAKES! I have never seen a snake at the Summit. But Lawson and Kelly have! Jeremy has! Karl and Jerilyn saw them right on the patio, on the step, in the rocks by the sand box. UGH. I hate snakes. SO, do I have my answer? Maybe!

In the meantime, we're doing fine. We love you all. We continue to pray for each of you and want you to know so much of our concern. Call us! Write to us! Send us E-mails! Tell us what's going on in your lives! We're genuinely interested! And we'll answer!

Let's continue to strive to do our best so we can be a FAMILY FOREVER!

Todd & Loreen:

We are all fine except the Mustang. We have been a one-car family for two weeks (which meant that the girls and I stayed home). Hopefully the Mustang is up and running again. We'll see. We have been playing games, doing puzzles, painting, making all sorts of things, and having a good time. I didn't get cabin fever until the end of the second week, but it will be nice to have a car again.

One good thing about being home is that we haven't noticed the sub-freezing weather. It's been kinda nasty with only two days in the last month above freezing. The Mustang just can't take it.

Todd has been having fun making a snow sled for the Boy Scout Klondike derby. Work has been challenging. They laid off 1700 employees, but fortunately none of them were Engineers.

Someone broke into our church. They did some minor damage and made a mess, then left when they didn't find any money in the Clerk's office. We still had our meetings as usual, but we couldn't go into that part of the building because the Police were doing an investigation.

The girls' favorite thing lately seems to be to ask us to tell them about when we were kids. They love it and they ask us all the time, especially in the car.

We are so excited that we are going to pay off our Student Loan this month!!

We love you all and hope you are well. Love, The Coons

Happy Birthday to:

Cory - Feb. 10

Greg W. - Feb. 13

Lisa - Feb. 22



Be Mine



Lawson & Kelly:

(Written by Kelly.) We are all alive and well and survived another holiday season! We are excited to let everyone know of our latest news in increasing our household number. Tori has had her puppies! She had 6, but two of them didn't make it. They are three weeks old now and are getting cuter by the minute. Tori's a great Mom and I'm just glad that I'm not a dog....

We had an enjoyable New Years Eve. We spent it at the Dye's. It was great to be around family. We missed that at Christmas time very much.

We are now officially out of Konnections. They bought us out at the end of last year. Lawson is happy, yet a bit sad about not being there as it grows. He still will be doing tech. support until they decide otherwise. My surgery to have my gall bladder taken out went very well. Lawson was a trooper!!!! He is a wonderful man. It is amazing how much he can accomplish. He is taking an Anthropology class on-line right now, has a full time+ job, a part time job doing tech. support from home, is a father, is the cub scout committee chairman, primary teacher, loving husband, and for the past week has been the househusband (if that's what you call them). He has been cooking, cleaning, and doing laundry to keep up with everything while I've been down. I am truly blessed.

We need to thank so many people for their help. Leah came to our house the day of my gall bladder surgery and took care of all there. Laura was a real trooper too - she offered to take Cason AND Tanner for the long weekend up to the farm while I was recouping. Christie Marie spent her long weekend watching

Dragon Tales, Dragon Tales and then more Dragon Tales with Thayne. She was so cute with Thayne. He loves her to death. Thank-you, Lisa for sending food with Christie. It helped a lot, too. We have had 5 meals brought in by ward members and friends. Lawson has never eaten so well!

Cason will be turning 8 this week and gets put into cub scouts tonight. He is very excited. He will also be being baptized Feb. 5th @ 3:00 p.m. We can hardly believe how grown he is. He is a very sweet and wonderful boy.

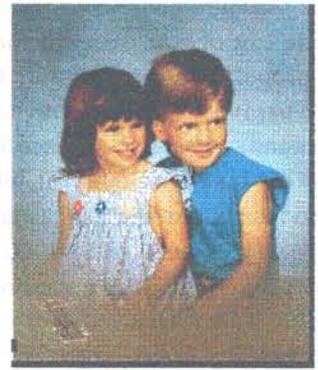
Tanner is our peacemaker. He is very quick to give in when we ask for a peacemaker or need someone to wait for their turn.

Thayne loves Elmo, Winnie the Pooh, the puppies, Dragon Tales (Christie knows), and his Daddy. Thayne was sure easy going here at home without his brothers. Sometimes I wonder why we do what we do to ourselves with wanting more kids!

Thanks again to all for your help and prayers. We feel truly blessed to be a part of this family!!!

Another note from Loreen:

With the decline in the number of entries for this month's newsletter, I told Mom that I wasn't going to print a February edition. Obviously, I changed my mind, but I would certainly appreciate increased support for the newsletter if it's something we still want to do every month. I know you're busy, but we love hearing what's going on in your lives, even if you think you don't have anything to write about. Please take a few minutes around the 20th of each month and e-mail us (or write a few days before that)!!! We sure love you all!!!



Rich and Amy 1989 - Aren't they cute!

Our three-year-old likes to stand near me while I'm working and sing the little motion songs she learns at Sunday School. We had been singing the one about hands which ends: "And lifted them to Jesus to work for Him 'til night." After we had finished she was silent a moment and then asked, "Mother, why can't that man do his own work?"

Mrs. E. L. Palmer
1011 East First St.
Austin, Texas