

Happy Happenings



Seventeenth Edition

March 2000

Hello from *Lynn and Mom*,

Not much going on with us. We are beginning to partially finish the basement and are quite pleased with the wall we have completed and the wonderful laundry cabinets Lynn put together for me. It's amazing how excited I get over simple improvements but I was actually giggling as we placed the formica top on the cabinets to make a great place to fold clothes, wrap presents, do small projects. I love it!

I think most of you may know that in December I was released from my calling as Young Single Adult Advisor. I had had the calling for about 4 years and so I was really kinda ready for a change. Meeting with them and the stake, planning and carrying out activities such as water skiing, hiking, biking, cookie baking, service projects etc., plus teaching the Gospel Doctrine lesson to them every Sunday was sort of like a full-time job. BUT I was sad that the Bishop didn't call me to something else! I always want a calling in the Church and actually since I quit work I should be able to handle a pretty big job. But, that was December and then came January and still no calling. Our friends serve on Temple Square as volunteers and have been trying to get us to join them. So, I started looking into it and got really excited! The result: **We have applied to serve a Church Service Mission on Temple Square and in the new Conference Center!** The calling entails ushering and making people feel welcome at the "Music and the Spoken Word" broadcast on Sunday morning, every General Conference including the Women's broadcast, etc. We also help with firesides, concerts, and other events. Sometimes we might be assigned to circulate on Temple Square "fellowshipping" and helping the Sister

Missionaries. I AM SO EXCITED! It will be a very demanding calling requiring long hours and giving precedence to the calling.

We felt some of the rewards Sunday, Feb. 13 when we served in the Assembly Hall at a fireside honoring Hyrum Smith. They displayed artifacts including the box that Hyrum loaned Joseph so he could hide the golden plates and urim and thumim. YES--we saw the box that held the plates! Also Hyrum's watch with the face all broken from the bullet and the clothes he had on when he was shot--including the blood on the shirt. PLUS I shook hands with Sister Hinckley and helped her and President Hinckley get out the side door when it was over! (Well, I sort of stood as the secret service men and several other ushers helped. OK, so I didn't really help at all, I just stood there and smiled--The truth. The end.)

So--what happens when you get really busy with a great calling that you're really enjoying--different from anything you've ever done in the Church? Right. I got a call to come visit with the Bishop. Got called to teach one of the two Gospel Doctrine classes in the ward. Now, I don't want to undermine the calling. I'm tickled, actually, that they still look at this 60-year-old senior citizen as being of some worth. But it's a hard job. I know! I've taught off and on for 12 years in 3 different wards! But I do love it. Trouble is, now I have two demanding callings--thank heavens only one requires study.

Otherwise we're just puttering around. Enjoying our visits with all of you who are close enough. Doing some genealogy and picture albums. Writing a chapter in my life history every once in a while. Boring to you--exciting to me! I'm still really LOVING my retired life! What a

blessing! I guess you gotta taste the bitter to know the sweet. And boy, is this sweet!

We love you all. We pray for you. We love hearing from you. We thank Loreen SO much for this wonderful newsletter. I'm sure it will become part of our family history! She's fulfilling one of the major missions of the Church! WOW, Thanks, Loreen!

Compensation

by Agnes Palmer

I have just been doing some thinking--
Which, perhaps, is very meet.
When I feel my spirits sinking--
I'm glad I have some feet!

It's a blessed thing to stroll around
In any kind of weather
And, with the aid of sight and sound,
To get my tho'ts together.

When life becomes distressing
And I find the world looks gray
And most things are depressing
I go out and get away.

I can leave my cares behind me
And in God's great out-of-doors
I can walk until I find me
Calmness for my chores.

And so when I get back
From walking field or street
I think, no matter what I lack,
I'm glad I have some feet!

Lawson & Kelly

Cason got baptized this month! He was excited about it, but also very nervous. We sure thank everyone for all the help and support with his baptism. Uncle Steve and Grandma White gave talks, some of the cousins (supposed to be all of them, but I guess the older ones were too scared?!) sang a song, lots of help with food and all. It was a good experience for us as a family. Cason was the scholar of the month at his school this month. Way to go Cason!

Tanner had one of his friends sleep over the other night. That was his first sleep-over, and as far as we're concerned, his last one, too! At least for a couple of years. He didn't sleep much and was very ornery the next day.

Thayne is talking so much it's surprising to us sometimes. He's still not too interested in getting rid of his diapers... and we're still not making an extra effort to make it happen. We encourage him and try to get him to, but we haven't wanted to just go cold turkey yet! Thayne is very cute at bedtime. He has his blanket (it's like Lana's dilibobber blanket) with the little ties of yarn on it. He likes to get his face tickled with them while you sing him songs. Then on the way out he always says 'blow kiss' and blows you one. Though these young years are sometimes trying, they sure have worthwhile rewards.

Kelly's Mom made it down for Cason's baptism and Kelly was sure happy to be able to spend some time with her.

I (Lawson) am taking an Anthropology class now. After this one, just one more to get my Computer Science degree (finally!). My boss said he'd give me a raise if I got my degree. What better motivation can you ask for?!

We started doing some work in our (unfinished) basement. We've decided

not to go into debt to just get our basement done all at once. Instead, we're planning on doing a little here and there as we have money. It would sure be nice to have all that extra room for bedrooms and a big family room... in time.

Lisa & Steve:

Hello, family!! We are having a wonderful winter - at least I am!! Very little snow, and when it does snow I don't get too worried because I know it will be melted within a few hours! It makes it hard to remember that it is winter, though. We have tulips and daffodils up about six inches. The plants think it is spring! Hopefully the fruit trees don't or there will be trouble in the fall with the harvest. My strawberry plants are even looking pretty green! I am ready for spring. Spring is a beautiful time in Utah!

I missed writing last month - sorry! I was in the middle of a new calling, and feeling a little overwhelmed. I knew our Young Women President would be getting released soon because she is expecting a baby, so when the Bishop asked me to meet with him without inviting Steve, I knew I was being released, too. Well, I thought wrong. I got that calling. I hope I can keep going - I feel like I have been in Young Women so long that I am out of ideas. I asked for and received extra advisors, so hopefully the new blood will help. I can already tell it is - the women are wonderful to work with. Poor Jenny just got out of two years of Mia Maids with me, now she gets me again! She says she is excited - hope she means it!

Christie is almost through with her classes - one more week! She has to complete 180 hours of internship, which she is working on at a dentist office here in town, then she will be finished. What

next??

Jared is sad that he can't throw snow balls, but he loves shooting hoops. Todd - want to go out and play with him??

Jenny finally got her license - the real thing! She is a good driver, but we aren't ready to let her take off with her friends yet. She went to the Sweethearts dance and had a great time.

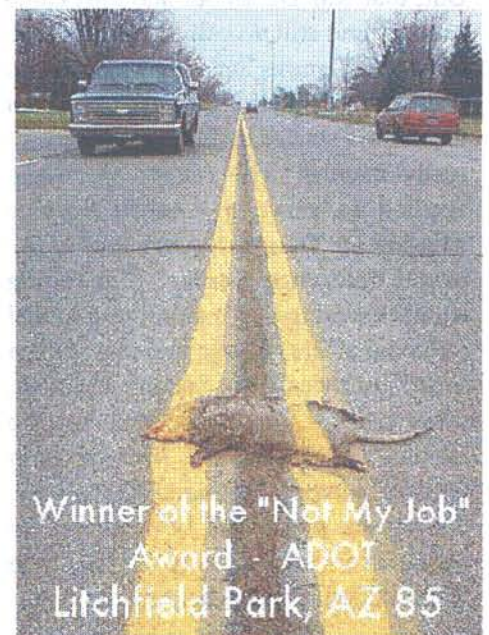
Cory had his birthday, and we decided to let him have a party - a sleep-over!! There were six boys counting Cory. As they were arriving, things got a little loud as you can imagine. Jared walked over to me, looked me in the eyes and said, "Mom, are you insane?" Sometimes he is so right on!! I took the boys swimming which wore them out. They were ready for bed by about 11:00. Not bad!

Steve is staying real busy. He will be going to New York next week. We are all healthy and happy! Hope everyone else is, too!

Love from the Piersons

The Piersons have a new E-mail address:
spierson@airswitch.net

We (Todd & Loreen) thought this was pretty funny:



Aaron & Lana

Hello! Things are still going good in Wyoming. We got a skiff of snow last night, so the kids were excited, but it will probably all be blown away by this afternoon.

We got a new-to-us car over Christmas. Aaron's brother, Lee, was wanting to sell his car, so we bought it. It is a little bit nicer than our little car, but we don't really want 2 cars to license and insure. I don't think we could get very much out of our car if we tried to sell it, though. We went to Vernal in January for a branch temple trip. Jason & Misti (Aaron's brother) live there, so they watched our kids for one session. Amberly was tired & I guess cried most of the time, so Aaron got to do more work, but I just stayed with the kids. Jason & Misti have no kids, so it was a pretty big load to drop on them.



Around here we have started feeding cows. He feeds the calves (about 275) twice a day & feeds all the others once a

day. The heifers are getting ready to calve, so he will have to start checking them every few hours. It is hard on him to get up in the night. He hired a man to help him, a less active guy named Justin that moved in sort of by us. He has a wife & 3 kids & got laid off from his job. His wife has breast cancer. Justin smokes & Jaxon has let him know that we don't smoke & that is's not good for our bodies. It was a little embarrassing because Jaxon was so blunt, but it's good that he is starting to understand.

Jaxon & Jancy drive the truck for Aaron while he feeds. Jaxon does really pretty well & Jancy likes to turn the wheel hard one way & then turn it hard the other way. Aaron sometimes has a hard time staying on when Jancy drives

& the cows have to look around for their feed, but she is learning.

Jaxon finally got to go to his "big sunbeam" class. He was very excited to be such a big boy. I thought it would be hard on Jancy, but she hasn't seemed to mind being the big girl in nursery. Jaxon & Jancy play well together & both are good with Amberly. Amberly is growing so fast & thinks she needs to be up looking around & always wants toys. We started feeding her some, but she doesn't love it yet.

There has been a lot of yucky flu & stuff go around, but we have kept ourselves isolated enough that we have all stayed healthy.

We "sold" our pig & gave the kids each \$10. They paid tithing & then Jaxon wanted to buy goggles. We go swimming almost every week & Jaxon always saw the other kids with goggles & wanted them. He is fearless in the water & we have to watch him close. All the kids love it & it is a good family activity. We have fun, too. They have a big kiddie pool so we go in there & all play for an hour or so. We like it also because they usually sleep really well.



**Happy Birthday to
Aaron on March 25th!**

Todd & Coreen:

Hello from the Coons! Well, since none of you have snow, we got everyone's and it hasn't melted in over a month. We went sledding with some friends and had a great time. Actually, Hannah really didn't like it and spent all but 15 minutes in the car. Brittney LOVED it and wasn't ready to go after 2 hours! We're finding that Brittney seems to be a little more adventurous than Hannah. But Hannah is a great little Mommy and her babies never lack anything.

Todd got a royalty check from his bicycle brake, and an editor from BYU Magazine called to interview him for the May edition. He will be included in an article about his professor, Dr. Howell's students' inventions and the brake is the "most prolific one" so they wanted to interview Todd!

We (the girls & I) went to a Fairy Tale story time at the library and we all got into the paper! They let the girls dress up and did lots of fun, interactive things with them.

So our big news is that we are expecting a baby in September. We are excited so now we just sit back for the long wait.

We are going to D.C. again in March to go to the temple. We're also going to try to see the main things in D.C. that we've missed so far because we don't know when we'll go back. They are opening the Boston Temple soon (Yeah!) and it will be much closer for us.

