

Happy



Happenings

Twenty-second Edition

August 2000

LARRY & JILL:

We thought it was about time that we contributed something! Things have been very hectic here, not unlike many of your lives I am sure. Larry has a new job since we last wrote - he is now the Patient Care Administrator of a new hospital that Banner Health System is building here in Mesa. All patient care departments report to him now, and it is 10 minutes from home which is the best part. The hospital will specialize in cardiac and vascular care, and is licensed as a specialty hospital. It is also the first time that the system has joint ventured with physicians, which everyone in the medical community here will make for a successful venture. The bishopric here was also changed July 2, Larry will remain in the bishopric as the first counselor again. For Lisa and Steve - the new Bishop is Ernie Milius and the 2nd Counselor is Tommy Moore. He went with the Varsity scouts July 5-8 to Havasupai again - that is in the bottom of the Grand Canyon. He has just returned from a trip to San Diego with the Laurels and Priests, and from a week at Girls Camp as a cook.

Jill is still the Primary President here, and unlikely to be released soon with this change in Bishopric (she was hoping). She is enjoying her summer off catching up on household projects. She will return to work July 27th - earlier this year than last. The rest of our time is spent shuttling everyone to softball games, swim meets and other summer activities. We all are sorry that we were unable to attend the reunion this year - we had a wedding to attend at the same time. We will be coming up for Christmas and will look forward to seeing you all.

Tiffany attended EFY at BYU in May and had another great experience. Half the kids who attended were from Arizona because school ended earlier here than in Utah and California. She joined the working force in June with a company that handles legal documents -- she codes each document as to its type. How many people get a Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$8.00/hour job for their first job! We are really grateful she won't have to work Sundays. AND she got her driver's license -- Independence!?!?!?

Heather and Katelyn have both been actively involved in softball and swimming this summer -- games or meets almost every night of the week! Heather attended girl's camp -- it was so hot I took fans to them when I went up to visit on Sunday!! (Upper 90's in the mountains at the end of May!) She had a great time regardless.

Katelyn participated in Primary Softball the last two weeks of July (Ages 9-11 with games played at 6:00 a.m.)

We love you all!! The Arizona Burnetts

“Always respect
your superiors . . .
if you have any.”
Mark Twain

LANA & AARON:

We have had a good month. I have been making cherry jelly and picking raspberries and chokecherries. We had a good trip to Utah. We worked on our house for three days putting chinking between the logs. It was good to see everyone.

I saw my first rattlesnake on the road while we were driving to town. We ran over it and it didn't die so we ran over it about ten more times. Finally Aaron got out and killed it with a rock. The neighbor came and chopped its' head off and buried it and gave the rattlers to the kids. Jancy didn't want them so she threw them out the window. Jaxon came in one day and told me there was a rattlesnake in the sandbox by Jancy. He was scared and shaking. I ran out and told Jancy to walk slowly to me, which she did because she didn't even know anything was going on. I looked at it and saw that it wasn't a rattlesnake. It was a blow snake about five feet long. I didn't dare kill it with a shovel so I got the four-wheeler and parked it on it until Aaron got home. It was a good reminder that we live in Wyoming where there are snakes and we need to be careful.

Jaxon: I like being a cowboy. I like to go rope with my dad. I saw a snake in our sandbox. I liked going to Utah to be with Grandma, Grandpa and cousins.

Jancy: I like to ride on Grandma, our horse. I like to play with Jaxon and Amberly. I like to wear my swimsuit every day. I liked seeing Grandma, Grandpa and my cousins.

Amberly: I learned how to walk. I did it all by myself because my mom gave me no encouragement. I take steps everywhere. I'm going to have my one year birthday on Aug. 9. I like to play outside with Jaxon and Jancy and the kitties.

Hospital Bed

by Agnes Palmer

*The long, dark hours creep slowly by
The night surrounds me and I
Feel so alone.
The shadows seem to threaten
And Fear sits by my bed.
And then a warmth steals over me
As I remember that He said
He will be forever near me.
The shadows lift and fear is gone.*

LAWSON & KELLY:

Cason had a pretty exciting month! He spent some time in Las Vegas with his Uncle Tom and Aunt Tena. He said it was a lot of fun. They had a very nice house and several swimming pools right there in the gated community where they live. He got to fly back so he could go to his cub scout day camp. That's his first time (that he remembers at least) in an airplane and he was by himself! He had lots of fun at day camp with his den and then got to go again the next day when I went with the Webelos den. He got to shoot BB guns, bow and arrow, work with leather, pan for gold and lots of other fun things.

Thayne made me laugh the other day. Ever remember wondering about that light in the fridge? Well Thayne was wondering about it! I saw him closing the fridge door slowly watching it closely. Then he discovered the little

switch that turns off the light, so he was trying to hold the switch in to keep the light off and close the door! He soon figured out he couldn't hold it in all the way and that the light would come back on. So next he was just closing it almost all the way till he saw the light go off. I guess that finally satisfied him because he left it alone after that! It's funny to see kids start to wonder about and discover things.

We enjoyed spending July 4th in Springville and Provo with the family down there. Laura and family were gone, but we spent the night at their house with Grandma, Grandpa, Leslie and Amy. Then Steve, Cory and Leslie got up very early and saved us a nice spot on the parade route. After the parade we had lunch at Piersons and then went to a couple of parks for activities. It was a fun day.

We went to Lagoon with Grandpa, Grandma and the Piersons (some of

them). Steve, Cory, Kelly and I went on The Rocket! It was quite a rush!

Dad called and let us know Grandma wasn't doing very well so we went up for the weekend. The Piersons were there too. It was nice to visit with Grandma. She was very weak; moving around very slowly, but still impressed me with her memory! She's always just telling stories about when we were little; things we did and said. She told about one time telling Loreen she loved her, Loreen said I love you more... I love you most and on till Loreen said something like "I love you till the buttons pop off." Grandma said she couldn't top that!

We enjoyed spending time with family members that were able to make it to the reunion at the Summit and missed the ones that weren't there. Our dog, Tori, was due to have pups while we were at the reunion. We watched her close, but she decided to wait till the ride home to start! We were about halfway home driving along and she had one puppy! Then she waited about an hour till we got home and had six more! So far they're all strong and healthy.

Kelly will be going to Youth Conference. She's excited about that. After that, she'll take off with the kids for their annual Canada trip. I probably won't go up this year because Kelly and I are hoping to do something different than that for our 10 year anniversary this year. We'll try to do something later on after they get back from Canada.

That's about all the news we have this time. We're still working on our fence and other projects at home. By the time you read this, I'll be about done with my class I'm taking, which means I'm finally done with my last class in the 10 year Computer Science program I started a long time ago at Ricks! I wish I would have just done the 4 year program, but for some reason the 10 year option seemed to be what worked out better for us!

THE COONS:

We are doing great. The weather has been perfect for several weeks now and we are taking advantage of it. Our garden is doing well and we have already eaten peas, beans and squash. We're still waiting for corn, okra, cucumbers and tomatoes. We also enjoy our flowers and playing outside.

The girls had swim lessons and they loved it. We were amazed at how fast they picked up on things and felt more comfortable in the water. Brittney even went under after three lessons!

We went camping July 3rd and 4th and it was SO fun! Connecticut is a beautiful state. We swam in a lake, waded in a river, saw a waterfall, and lots of other beautiful things. We camped by the river in a nice, secluded spot. Right when we got our dinner cooked it started to rain. We ate and played games in the tent until it started leaking. We moved over to the van (Todd had taken the back seat out so there was plenty of room) and ended up sleeping in there. It worked out well and we were all dry and warm and happy. The weather was fine the next day. We went on nice walks and just enjoyed being together.

We left our kids with some friends last weekend and went to Newport, Rhode Island. Luckily, we got a free hotel from Todd's Marriott rewards from his trips to Florida. It's a beautiful place and we had such a good time. On Friday night we walked along the beach with the moon shining on the ocean. One big attraction they have there are The Mansions, so Saturday we went through three of them. They are owned by the

National Historic Society and are very large, expensive, and ornate. Two of them are Vanderbilt houses. One of them (The Breakers) takes up a whole acre and has 138,000 square feet. It has 23 bathrooms and 27 fireplaces! Another (Rosecliff) cost \$2 million to build and \$9 million to furnish. It has a heart-shaped staircase. They let people rent the ballroom, drawing room and balcony that overlooks the ocean for weddings. It costs \$4500 just to open the doors for 3 hours (not including caterers, music, flowers or anything). Then it's \$1500 for every half hour after that. Can you imagine? Several movies have been filmed there, including *The Great Gatsby* and *True Lies*. The other one (The Marble House) has 500,000 square feet of marble! It cost \$11 million to build, but a big part of that was all the marble. Anyway, we really had fun.

They had a neat free program at the Mark Twain House in Hartford so the girls and I went there for three Wednesdays for a couple of hours each time. They were encouraging literature and helping kids enjoy museums more. They had a fantastic storyteller, crafts, snacks, games, and other activities. We saw about half of the house. At the end of each session they gave the kids a grab bag including notebook, postcards, pencil, shells, frogs or whatever they talked about. It was so fun, interesting, educational, and we even got into the newspaper!

We also went to the beach in Rhode Island on Sat., July 22. We all enjoyed it very much.

We are excited for the baby to come in a couple of months. Todd

and the girls are taking good care of me and we are all really looking forward to it.

Brittney's Primary teacher got a laugh when she told a story and Britt said, "I know this one. It's the Ten Leprechauns!" (The Ten Lepers) Hannah likes to do math on her fingers. Brittney loves giving Todd really hard addition problems like "What is sixty-hundred plus twenty-nine seventeen?"

Brittney starts school Sept. 5. Can that be possible?? They have all day Kindergarten here but there is an option to put them in half day so we'll start with that and see how things go. She's excited about it.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

THAYNE - AUG. 6

LANA - AUG. 11

GRANDMA B. -

AUG. 14

JILL - AUG. 22

KELLY - AUG. 24

Annbarly - Aug. 9



THE PIERSON'S:

We are doing great. Staying busy! Cory and Steve went on a scout hike and overnight camp. Jenny and Lisa went on a pack - in hike and overnight camp. It was an adventure, but we both made it and did quite well. We loved the family reunion. It was great to be with those that could be there. The Summit was great and the weather was perfect! Jen and Lisa go to girls camp next week, then school starts a couple of weeks after that. I feel like the summer has flown by! We love you all!!

"It's So Hot In Arizona That....."

The birds have to use pot holders to pull worms out of the ground.

The potatoes cook underground, and all you have to do to have lunch is to pull one out and add butter, salt and pepper.

Farmers are feeding their chickens crushed ice to keep them from laying hard-boiled eggs.

The cows are giving evaporated milk and the trees are whistling for the dogs.

You can say 113 degrees without fainting.

You eat hot chillies to cool your mouth off and you can make instant sun tea.

You learn that a seat belt makes a pretty good branding iron.

If the temperature drops below 95, you feel a bit chilly.

You discover that in July, it takes only 2 fingers to drive your car.

You discover that you can get a sunburn through your car window.

You notice the best parking place is determined by shade instead of distance.

Hot water now comes out of both taps.

It's noon in July, kids are on summer vacation, and not one person is out on the streets.

You actually burn your hand opening the car door.

You break a sweat the instant you step outside at 7:30 a.m. before work.

Your biggest bicycle wreck fear is, "What if I get knocked out and end up lying on the pavement and cook to death?"

You realize that asphalt has a liquid state.

A sad Arizonan once prayed, "I wish it would rain - not so much for me, cuz I've seen it -- but for my 7-year-old."

MOM & LYNN:

Hi! It's me, Lynn, Dad Grandpa. Mom, Grandma is very busy, harried, stressed and asked me to write this time.

For those of you not attending, we just finished the family reunion at the Summit. Thanks to Lisa and Laura for organizing it this year! They did a great job!

As kids grow up, as families become more scattered, and as we acquire new commitments, we tend to not be able to all get together at one time. (We're sure sorry about that!) We missed Larry, Jill, and girls; Greg, Richie, and Amy (although we did have Amy with us earlier); Greg Dye; Loreen, Todd and girls; and Jenny. We had David, Shauna, and kids for part of the time, but missed the rest of my kids/grandkids.

The trampoline, sandbox, stream, rafts on the reservoir, and Lava Hot Springs were the big hits (again). We had a great time! Wish we had ALL been able to be there! We love y'all!!!!

We've had some excitement (if

you can call it that) at our house. I replaced the water pump in our swamp cooler, and got the half-inch water feeder line too close to the fan belt. The fan belt wore through the water line and the water was pumped directly into the fan. Mom/Grandma was out shopping for a little while. When she got home water was coming down through everything.

We, of course, have repaired the swamp cooler, but the repairing of the house is taking a whole lot longer. Our insurance company (State Farm) has been very solicitous about getting the repair work done, but so far we don't even have a firm bid from a contractor to do the repair work. Some sheetrock in the master bedroom, hall, bathroom, and kitchen will all have to be replaced -- with the attendant repainting, etc. Carpet was damaged upstairs, which will need to be cleaned -- at least -- maybe replaced. Bathroom floor will need to be replaced. All in all, a pretty big mess. We hope it gets fixed

soon. The house is livable but rather torn up.

My saga with the prostate cancer continues -- without apparent end. We had our second visit with the head of urology at the Huntsman Cancer Institute up at the U on the 25th. He favors surgery, but I dislike the almost certain side effects of the surgery. He suggests I consider a temporary seed implant radiation treatment by one of his colleagues here in Salt Lake (we have an appointment to see him next Wednesday, Aug. 2). I suggested another radiation treatment (protons) by a group at Loma Linda University Medical Center in California; he suggests I check it out (I expect we'll go there for a consultation before long). They think this cancer is small and slow growing, thus, we do have a bit of time to decide, but I hope we decide soon.

We love each and all of you -- lots!! We're sure glad we're family!!