

## Leslie &amp; Greg:



(Sorry, Les and Greg for not getting this in for last month.)

Hello From Texas. We are a little late getting out our August report. We have had an eventful month. Leslie and the kids started back into school. This is the big senior year for Amy, I'm afraid an entire forest died with all the trees that had to be cut for all the brochures that Universities have sent her. I think she has settled on either BYU or Utah State if she can get in under the Western Under Graduate Exchange. She is still motivated and still working hard this year.

Rich has started back at the University of Idaho. This year his Army scholarship kicks in all the way. He gets his books and tuition and in addition he will get \$300.00 per month for living expenses. That is up for the \$100.00 a month I got to support him and his mom. They are keeping him pretty busy, we called him twice last week and one night he was at an ROTC activity then on Saturday he was just getting ready to go and usher at the football game for ROTC. He had his first PT test of the year this past week and passed with no problem. I think we all miss having him around but it is nice to be able to go to the refrigerator and basically find the food you purchased. If he took a liking to something the sky was the only limit on how much of it he would eat.

Leslie recently got some good news. She had applied to the committee at the University to have them waive the requirement for student teaching. Her justification was that she had done a lot of teaching already in Germany. She got letters from other teachers and the whole works. She submitted the packet about six months ago, then several weeks ago they wrote and informed her that she would still need to student teach. She then made a phone call or two and said "hey what is the purpose of this waiver if you never grant it". Several days later she got a call saying the committee had reconsidered and that they would grant the waiver.

We are very proud of Jeff this month. He had swimming lessons several years ago but never really took to it. Since then we have gone swimming but it was never more than playing in the pool. Now that he is in 11-year-old scouts they are starting to work on their ranks, which have swimming requirements. He missed summer camp so they are trying to catch him up with the rest so they can all get advanced together. I took him swimming a couple of weeks ago and more or less explained how to do the crawl stroke. After that Rich gave some individualized instruction and he just took off. Then yesterday we took him again and I wanted to work with him on treading water. To our surprise he jumped in and started treading. We asked him how he learned and he said it was from watching the way Sponge Bob swam on TV.

Brianna took the plunge this month and got contacts. She has always said that it wasn't worth it because she couldn't stand the thought of touching her eye. Sometimes when I look at her I panic thinking she has lost her glasses.

I had to go back to Alaska for a week, as you can imagine it took some real arm twisting by my boss. I went up to line up sites for terrorists to attack in a big joint exercise we are going to do in October with the Alaska and California units. I only got to fish for a couple of hours one night for grayling up by Fairbanks. I caught a couple and had a good time. I was able to bring home the fish I had dip netted the last time I was up there. They were not frozen yet when I had to leave so my buddy kept them in his freezer for me.

We are patiently waiting for the heat to break any month now. We have had four inches of rain this past week but as soon as the sun comes out the heat is right back. I shouldn't be complaining since the folks in Utah would do about anything for four inches of rain even if it were followed by unbearable heat.

## Lawson & Kelly:

The kids are back in school and doing well with that. Kelly gets to do lots of homework! We are very busy with soccer. We have games or practices every day of the week except a couple. We're enjoying it, but it takes a lot of time. Thayne's team hasn't lost a game yet. Thayne is trying to get better with his left foot. I told him if he scored 4 goals with his left foot, I would buy him a king sized candy bar. So in today's game, he concentrated on using his left foot and got 4 goals with it! Tanner's playing on 2 teams. One of them hasn't lost any. Tanner's other team and Cason's team have both had some wins and losses.

We had quite a scare with Meguire this last month. I was at the library with Cason and Kelly called and told me to come home quick; that the paramedics were at the house because Meguire was choking on something. They didn't really do much because she was still breathing and putting their fingers down her throat to try to help could have made it worse. So they just waited at our house and she coughed and gagged for quite a while and finally spit out a little plastic spider. We're thankful that she's ok. It's hard with Landon that way. He really likes Meguire and is very good to play with her, but just doesn't understand about little things like that.

Otherwise Meguire is doing well. Getting into eating food. She seems close to crawling, but hasn't quite started moving around yet.

The other day Kelly was getting after Landon for something and he told her she was a bad boy! Hope everyone is well. Love, the Burnetts.

## Mom & Lynn:

Hi Y'all. This is Grandpa this time. I agreed with Mom/Grandma that I would write this month. I never was fast on the computer. And I'm not used to this laptop computer. So it is going to take more time than it would if Grandma wrote it. But, I promised.

The big news this month is – that our Bountiful house is ours again. Well, I guess it never really was 'not ours'. We had leased it to a family with an option that they could buy it any time within a year. We really thought they would buy it. We knew the year was getting close to being up. We began trying to phone him. We even wrote and sent them a registered letter (so we would be sure they got it). Finally, this week we got a phone call from him. **They are moving to Colorado!**

Their lease agreement is up this week – the end of September. So, now we have the house back. We have a big mortgage on the house, with a **big** monthly payment. You see, we had put a big mortgage on that house so we would have the money to pay for our condo in Saratoga Springs. Then, we thought, we would sell our Bountiful home – and we wouldn't owe anybody anything – we would be all out of debt. (After all we really don't need the Bountiful house, and the Saratoga Springs house, and the Summit, and our apartment here – all at the same time!)

It is a big worry for us right now. We don't have much money just waiting to be used on a big monthly house payment. When we first decided to try to sell the house and then we moved to Saratoga Springs, I got a blessing from my High Priest group leader there in Bountiful. We felt the blessing was very comforting for taking these steps – and that all would go well – even though we would have to step out into the unknown on faith – maybe even several times. We tried and tried to sell the house. Finally, along came this family who wanted to lease and then buy. (Actually, they were one of the early ones to look at the house but at that time we said 'No, we want to sell'. Then they came back again – after we had decided we may need to lease it to

be out of it.) So we agreed.

We have asked David to do what needs to be done to sell the house. We're asking each of you to help in any way you can. First off, we need your faith and prayers – even fasting and prayers. Then, for all of you in Utah, we hope you will make yourselves available to help clean and trim the yard, clean in the house, maybe paint a room, show the house to someone – whatever needs to be done to get the house in good shape for showing the house for sale. And, of course, send prospective home owners to have a look-see. David's phone number is 801-298-1741. His cell number is 801-699-1320.

We felt very comforted again by the blessings we got as we were set apart for our missions. And we need your faith and prayers now, too.

Just a bit of news. The other office couple, the Benders, were transferred out to Paris, Texas to be proselyting missionaries. We have a new couple, the Farrers, from Provo. They are feeling overwhelmed, but they'll do well. We are already liking them a lot.

I'll close for now. We sure do love you lots.

P.S. From Grandma

When we found out about the Bountiful house, I just **panicked!** Seems like too much bad stuff is happening. We're on a MISSION after all. We thought things would go *smoothly*. BUT, this week I had a real revelation. Well, at least a scripture came to me that helped. In Romans 8:28 it says: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Now that gave me peace! I don't know *why* things like Amberly dying while we're on our mission, are happening. Makes no sense. I thought our family would be blessed! But this scripture says that all this stuff is going to work together for good to us—because we do love God. And *we are* "the called according to his purpose." AND I BELIEVE IT! We're missionaries doing our best to serve Him. It'll all work out. President Hinckley said:



### Things Work Out

"It isn't as bad as you sometimes think it is. It all works out. Don't worry. I say that to myself every morning. It will all work out. If you do your best, it will all work out. Put your trust in God, and move forward with faith and confidence in the future. The Lord will not forsake us. He will not forsake us. ... If we will put our trust in Him, if we will pray to Him, if we will live worthy of His blessings, He will hear our prayers" (Jordan Utah South regional conference, priesthood session, 1 Mar. 1997).

## Todd & Loreen:

We are all well and happy. This month has been busy. We had a "Blue Party" at our friend's, the Buckner's, house and watched the BYU football game (Well, Todd and Tim did.), ate blue chips, blue rice krispie treats, and drank blue punch. The kids wore blue and had fun with their friends. We think they know why we did the whole thing but it was fun regardless. We had a Fiesta with the Buckner's kids at our house to celebrate all the Spanish the kids have been learning. We also had a Baby Shower at our house. We had a yard sale at a friend's house (she lives on a busy road) and made \$80 and got rid of some of our unwanted, unneeded junk. The kids sold Lemonade and made about \$10!

Aubrey had her third birthday in Sept. It was a RED party. That was the only theme she wanted so everything had to be red, which is her favorite color. She had a few friends over and we had fun. She got the Swan Lake Barbie so now the tables are turned because she finally has a Barbie that her sisters want instead of the other way around. Now the kids are teasing Todd that they are going to get him the Swan Lake Barbie Movie for his birthday on the 18th.

Brittney has a girl in her third grade class who just moved here from Peru and doesn't speak English. Actually, none of the seven people in her house speak English. I translated for their Parent-Teacher conference and we took her and her mother to the library to check out English learning materials. I try to help with homework and notices that come home. It has been good practice with the Spanish and they are neat people.

Hannah has had lots of luck lately being invited to birthday parties. One of them was at a big indoor playscape type place and socks were required. Of course I forgot to have her wear socks. Luckily I had one of the Buckner's kids with us and he had socks on so I had her use those (much to their dismay!).

Caleb is so cute and fun. We all adore him and enjoy him so much. His favorite thing in the world is to ride in the baby back pack while Todd mows the

lawn! He loves it so much and if he gets tired, he never fusses; he just goes to sleep. If the shed door is open he'll go inside and walk around the lawn mower looking at it and pulling the string and stuff. He had his first chance to work on the Corolla with Todd on Saturday. They both got all greasy and Caleb was in Heaven. He even got a screwdriver and tried to fix the wheels on the van all by himself. He says quite a few words and understands a lot. He really loves his blanket.

We have enjoyed our flowers and garden this year. The girls entered flowers and tomatoes at the Garden Showcase at school and both won ribbons. This is the first year we've grown more tomatoes than we could eat. We ate two butternut squash, had a good crop of beans, and are still waiting to see what the carrots and potatoes do. The Woodchuck has been well-fed this year so we haven't gotten many of the other vegetables we planted.

I started my third (of six) Independent Study class. It's a Psychology class and I've enjoyed it so far. Todd is staying busy with Young Men's, work, and we are doing things to get the house ready to sell.

We are looking forward to General Conference next week. We always go to the church for all the sessions. This time we organized a pot luck lunch between sessions on Sunday. Lots of people signed up so it should be fun. Then two weeks after that, Thomas S. Monson is going to speak at our Stake Conference!! Brittney is going to sing in a children's choir. Since we've been here, we've heard Pres. Hinckley twice, and Pres. Packer, Elder Oaks, and Elder Pace have come to our Stake Conferences. We feel very fortunate.

I'm sending out a list of family members with addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. I just noticed some of my information was out of date and thought that may be the case with others. So hopefully you'll stick this by your phone or update your address book. Let me know of any errors.

We love and miss you, as always. Love, Todd, Loreen, Brittney, Hannah, Aubrey, and Caleb



## Lana & Aaron:

We are all doing good. The kids still love school and I am enjoying my photography class. We got a new camera and I have taken and developed my own film. I'm learning about light and taking pictures of moving objects. A lot more goes into it all than I used to think. Very interesting having only one child at home. Broox and I are both trying to adjust. Aaron went Elk hunting and shot a five-point bull. That was fun for him. He'll go deer hunting on the fifteenth of October. The calves will be home October tenth. We are planning on going to the Utah youth rodeo one time a month in Ogden. That way we can go to the temple and the kids can do their thing and we'll go home.

