



April 2004

"Hoppy Hoppenings"

64th Edition

LAWSON & Kelly:

Cason and Tanner are finishing up indoor soccer in the next couple of weeks. They've already started practicing for outdoor. They and Thayne will start games this next week.

Meguire has started going downstairs. When it first got warm it was kind of nice because we could leave the doors open for fresh air and Meg would just stand there and look outside. Unfortunately it didn't take long for her to figure out how to turn around and scoot down the stairs! That just makes one more thing for Kelly to have to remember! Meg loves her mom more than anything. She can be playing and doing just fine but if she sees Kelly she'll kind of whimper and cry until Kelly is holding her!

We went to watch the Sorensen kids in the rodeo a couple of weeks ago. Tanner really thinks he needs to ride a bull! I'm pretty sure he'd chicken out! It was great to see Jaxon do the barrels perfectly and get 1st place. And to see Jancy take 1st in the poles. It's fun to go watch them. When it was time to leave we had a little problem locating the car keys. We ended up piling all the Sorensen's and Burnett's (except Aaron) into their van. Lana took us home and then took Kelly back with our extra keys to get our van. That was pretty cozy with 11 people in their van!

I've written before about Cason being in the science fair. He placed in the school to move on to the district, then placed there to move on to the region competition. This last week they had the awards for regions. Cason got an 'excellent' certificate. Some of the kids won several things and ended up with a fair amount of money. We'll see if this whole thing makes him want to do it more in the future.

Kelly will be happy when this broken leg thing is over! She's doing great to take care of everything. She got the turf builder on the lawn this last week. She's just doing everything! I'm scheduled to get my smaller cast this next week. Can't wait for that! I've had a minor setback. Last week my calf and the bend in my knee were really getting sore. I talked to the doctor and he had some concern about it being a blood clotting problem. He suggested that I just stay in bed and that if the pain gets worse to go to the emergency room. Hopefully everything will be ok once I get the new cast and have more mobility in my leg.

Landon had his 3 year old birthday last week. Here's a picture of his with his 3 new ties and holding his fingers up to show that he's 3 years old. He's crazy about horses so he got a horse that he can sit on. It plays songs and moves its head. He wanted to sleep with it but it didn't fit into bed well. He settled to have it stand by the bed with the head hanging over by him!



P.S. Lawson did have to go to the hospital with a blood clot in his leg. Please pray for him and his family!!!

Sarah & Garrett:

Garrett and I and our boys just returned from a long weekend in St. George... his parents have a park model home there that is available for these kind of get-aways - so the expenses are kept down. We went to Zion National Park and went hiking. The kids loved it and our nerves survived (our boys would run carefree along the trail and all we could focus on was the drop-offs...scared to death they were going to trip and fall off the edge...) but we all survived.

Joseph just recently participated in a couple of piano competitions - he received glowing remarks from the judges and at 'Federation' received a 'superior' rating and at 'AIM' (Achievement in Music) received the highest score in his division. This is his first year doing this. Daniel will qualify to participate next year. I may need to take some adult piano lessons... I never had any formal lessons - just kind of picked it up - and now I am becoming quite self-conscious playing around my children; I know they see and hear my fumbling I am told by them to remember to keep practicing.

Daniel just completed his first testing in his 'youth defense' (Karate) class and will receive his yellow-belt rank this coming Saturday.

Ryan just keeps moving right along through his stubborn-independent stage (I'm sure you know what I'm talking about) and is quite accomplished at challenging anything with limits. But I continually find myself smiling at his antics and amazed at his abilities. (he will be three in May).

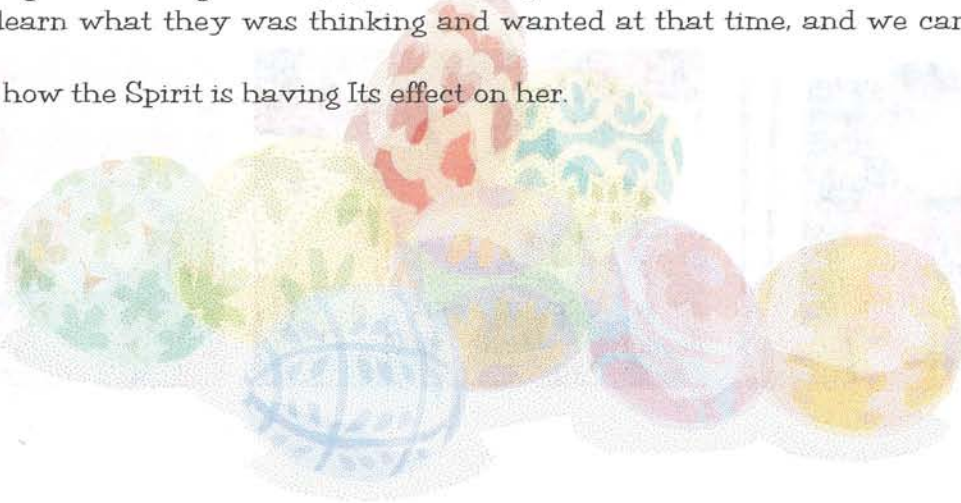
My husband, Garrett, is working at 'Flying J' in Ogden - all is well for us in that department - things seem secure (although there isn't much of a health plan).

I am combating spring fever and my window sills are filled with little seedlings. I need a green house.

I have recently struck up a correspondence with a very distant cousin in Denmark (on my Dad's side of the family) who wrote to me with a treasure of information on this line of my ancestry, taking me back many many more generations. She was curious about the number of people who left Denmark for America - captured by the 'Mormons.' I have enjoyed explaining to her - and she has been receptive - to learn about the history of the Church there in Denmark and I believe she will be attending the Copenhagen Temple open house at the end of April. (Maybe after that she will accept the missionaries.)

I sent to her a little history about my emigrant ancestor and her conversion story and she writes back: "Thank you so much for the story about Jacobina, when we read it, it was like we was back in time or we was watching the movie going west, but just this time we could feel the happiness and fear they had at that time, and we talk about that was a VERY good script to a very good movie that we would enjoy. Things like that gives us joy, so thank you so much for it. When I read... I'm trying to understand and learn what they was thinking and wanted at that time, and we can never learn too much."

I love reading how the Spirit is having Its effect on her.



Elder & Sister White:

A cry for help from the wilderness! (of Texas) This is your parent speaking----barely. Helpppppp! Were going down! This Bountiful house thing is getting us down. If you are not already praying with all your might, please begin, this hour. We need to sell it. Were sure of it. We've been promised that Heavenly Father knows our situation. We don't mean to be impatient but its such a worry to us.

Here we are in Dallas, doing a good work, Im sure of it. But there's that house. People say it smells bad. It needs to air out maybe we need to plug in some air fresheners. People say its too personalized with wall paper and carpet. Not vanilla enough. Lynn has asked his brother, Neil, to give us a bid on replacing the teal and purple carpet. People don't like the basement. The ceiling is too low. The last guy ripped out the shelves in the wonderful storage closet that Greg Dye gave us and all of you helped to build. There's not an adequate heat source in the basement. And on and on.

Then there's the yard. People love the yard. Well, they kinda love it. It needs to be mowed and trimmed. The pond has to be cleaned. The trees need to be unwrapped. Then there's the dad-gum swamp cooler (what a scary thing that is after all the times we've flooded the house with that thing.) You get the idea? All this in addition to the \$1,500 / month payment plus utilities.

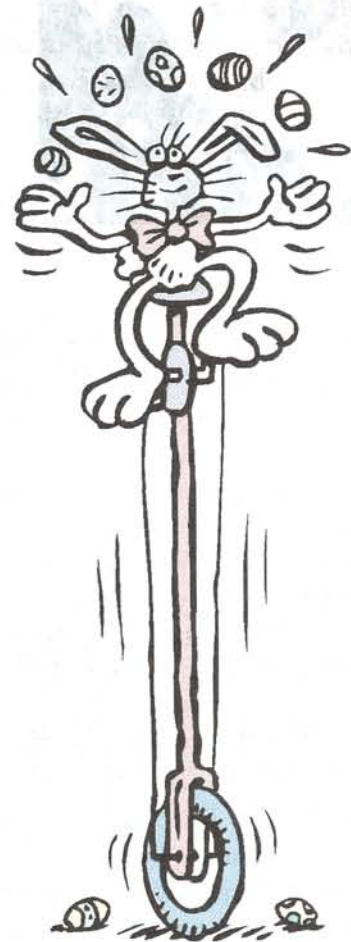
But more than that, its *Where did we go wrong?* And *What are we supposed to be learning?* And *How fast can we learn it?*

Now, I know you are praying. And I know you care. We thank you for your love and support. Were just having a pity party right now.

Other than that, were fine. The mission is going well. The number of missionaries is decreasing and it means were closing five apartments at the end of April. That's a lot of work. But, I think President Fisher is very pleased with the job were doing with the apartments. We've upgraded many of them so that nearly every missionary has a decent home. PLUS were having some success getting them to keep the apartments clean. That's a chore, Ill tell you.

We continue to look for some way to do some genealogy. Grayson county is right here in our mission and I ran a report from Sarah's Webb PAF file and there are 68 ancestors who have Grayson listed as a place of birth, marriage, death or burial. I just don't know exactly what to do!

We continue to pray for each of you. We love our family so much. You're on our minds *constantly* !



JEFF	APRIL 9
JAXON	APRIL 9
JARED	APRIL 19



Lana & Aaron:

Hi, Everyone! We've had a good month. Aaron turned 32. He would try to tell the kids he was 25, but they remember our ages better than we do. He is over halfway done calving. They have a little over 500 total, but it has been going well for him, & the weather has been good. Hid hired guy quit, so the kids & I are his helpers. Lary is back to do farming & he feeds in the morning which helps.

Jancy lost her 4th tooth, & that darn tooth fairy didn't make it until we were eating breakfast. She has a hard time, but Jancy doesn't let it bother her. She & Granny are still doing pretty well at the Ogden rodeos. Last month they took first in the poles. Jancy doesn't let it bother her. She & Granny are still doing pretty well at the Ogden rodeos. Last month they took first in the poles. Jancy likes to check cows with Aaron. She isn't grossed out by anything. She'd make a good vet. Here's a picture of us out on the 4-wheeler checking cows. Jancy does great in school.

Jaxon is getting baptized on Easter Sunday, April 11, after church. Consider this your formal invite. I'm not good at sending off the cute invites. He is pretty excited, & he is such a great boy. I think he's ready. Jaxon likes to drive the 4-wheeler around & play outside with Jancy & Broox. He is playing B-ball at the school on Saturdays & he likes that. Jaxon & Choc do good at the rodeos, too. Last month he got first in barrels & fourth in poles, but fell off his sheep, not for lack of trying to hold on, just bad luck. It was nice of the Burnetts to make it again, cast & all. We love the support. Here is a picture of me, Kelly, Laura and Lawson at the Feb. rodeo.

Broox is so happy for the warmer weather. He loves the sand box & whenever we try to leave he gets so sad & will say, "No go, stay box." It's usually hard to say no to that. He can finally say Jaxon's name after lots of coaching. He would always say Jancy, but Jaxon was a little harder, so Jaxon is happy now. Broox still loves to be with his dad & check cows & go in the tractor or on the horse. He is a definite outside boy. He is talking lots & is at a fun stage (usually). Here's a picture of him helping with his birthday cake. Also, pictures of Jaxon & Jancy's huge fish that they caught.

By the time you get this we'll only have about a month & a half until the baby is due. The kids are excited & trying to pick names. Aaron told me that I got to pick out the last 4 names so he's picking this time. Should be interesting. I'm sure I'll be ready by the time the baby is, but I'm still not quite ready yet.



Loreen & Todd:

Todd started working at Intel on March 1. It is going well so far. He works 8-6 M-Th. and has half a day off on Fridays. With the commute (45 min. each way), it's a marathon during the week, but we have certainly made the most of the weekends and love having him home early.

We enjoyed having company this month. Todd's parents came the first weekend of the month and we went to an airplane show here in Casa Grande.

Dad and Connie stopped by on their way south and stayed for a couple of days. They went to church with us. On Mon., the 15th, we had a Bar-B-Q with Larry, Jill, Tiffany, Heather, and Katelyn. Then on Tuesday we (the kids and I) went with Dad & Connie to Todd's parents' house for a visit.

After that, Jacinta (my friend from High School and College) and Jason came to visit. We went swimming with the kids. The adults went on a date out to eat and to the Comedy Club "Jester'z" which is a family-appropriate place that is very fun. Jason went golfing with Larry and his golfing buddies.

We started looking for houses a few weeks ago. It's a big job!

Caleb loves to jump. He says, "Mommy, watch this, Mommy!" and jumps off chairs or the couch or anything. I hope that practicing here where the carpet is soft will help him be good enough not to hurt himself too badly somewhere else, but I'm sure the day will come when he'll have to learn a jumping lesson the hard way. He's all boy but his sisters sure have fun with him, as you can see by this picture. Caleb is a talker all of a sudden! He can suddenly communicate and it really is fun. When he says, "I want cow," you know he wants some milk.

We are all doing well and love you very much.



Leslie & Greg:

Hello From Texas. March was a pretty busy month for us. It was spring break for Leslie and the kids. This year we decided to go to Dallas and see Leslie's mom and Dad who are on a mission down there and we also wanted to hit the Beach at Corpus Christy. I needed to get some work done so I stayed in San Antonio while Les took the kids to Dallas. While she was up there I planned to do some fishing but unfortunately we got deluged with lots of rain, which raised the rivers that I wanted to fish. I still went out a few times and had a good time but I didn't catch anything. After Les and the kids got back from Dallas we packed up and headed off to Corpus Christy. Several of Amy's friends also wanted to go with us so we took two of them with us and another one came down the next day. We all stayed in the Navy lodge at Corpus Christy and had a very good time.

None of our spring break antics compared with to what Rich would go through on his expedition. He went with some of his friends to Mocitlan Mexico to stay with a guy they know from the University who is down there doing some graduate work. They had planned to do some surfing and scuba diving but after a few attempts at surfing they gave up after getting pounded into the rocks under the heavy waves. After that they settled for sitting on the beach and visiting the local market. One day when they went to the market they got a taxi to take them back to the guys place with their goodies. On the way back the taxi pulled into an alley. A police car followed them in and started flashing its lights. The police pulled the two boys out and started threatening them. They pulled out a bag of white powder and said that they would say they found it on them if they did not give them 2000 pesos or something like that. Rich had a little money in his wallet, which they took the other guy had an ATM card. They took him to a machine and made him clean out his account \$200.00. A day or so later they were out on the town and the same thing happened but this time the guy that they were staying with was with them. He yelled some things at them in Spanish and they quickly got back in their car and moved on.

Well it looks like we will be going to Fort Huachuca Arizona this summer. We will be leaving sometime in June. We are thinking of doing a "do it yourself" move this time around. We are going to let Rich and Amy do the lions share of the work and then split the profits for next years college money.

P.S. MOM AND LYNN JUST WANT TO SAY



TO LISA, JARED, CORY, LAURA, JEREMY,
ANTHONY, ONDYLYN, AND ZACHARY FOR
CLEANING AND FIXING UP THE YARD AT THE
BOUNTIFUL HOUSE!!!