

The Sorensen Family:

Hello! We are all doing well. Jancy had her seventh birthday. We told her she could invite her class friends, but two days before her birthday she got the stomach flu.

We teased her that we would have to sing "Happy Barf-day" instead of "Happy Birthday." Luckily it didn't last long and she was able to have a fun birthday. There were 11 kids from her class that came. Their favorite thing was a Piñata and getting fresh eggs from the chickens to take home.

Everyone but Dixon and I took a turn with the pukes. Jaxon puked right outside the door of his classroom right before time to go home. When he got home, Jancy told him his shoes stunk; he still had a little bit on them. Dixon had a visit of the doctor to fix something that should have been done better when he was born. It was a miserable experience but I think we're all recovering.

We are all still trying to adjust to Aaron's new church calling. The kids and I moved to the back row in church. That helps and I don't feel like everybody can stare at us as easily. He gets emotionally drained on Sundays, but I'm sure it will all get better. Other than that, this is one of my favorite times of year. Things seem to slow down a little and we can enjoy the nice fall weather. We love you all.

The Coons Family:

The month of September started out fun for us. We went on a family reunion with Todd's family in the White Mountains for 4 days. We stayed in our tent, something we all enjoy. All the girls caught a fish - Hannah and Aubrey's first ever. We roasted marshmallows and ate s'mores. One day was a Hawaii day, complete with a treasure hunt with a huge treasure chest at the end. It was such a beautiful place and so fun to be with family.

We put in a fall garden and are hoping for the best. We are always working on other projects, mostly outside.

We found a new piano teacher and she only charged a little more for lessons for a third person so Brittney, Hannah, and I are all taking lessons! I love it.

Aubrey had her fourth birthday. She got a My Little Pony that she wanted and just squealed and hugged it and was so happy. It was cute - just the reaction you wish your kids had at every birthday. Aubrey loves horses so Brittney and Hannah decorated her cake with a horse. Aubrey has enjoyed Preschool and her tumbling class.

Brittney and Hannah have been taking an art class and they love it. Brittney was in her fourth grade musical and did very well. Hannah lost a few more teeth.

Caleb continues to delight us all. And last week he delighted the whole congregation at church (except Mom) by running up through the choir seats during Sacrament Meeting. Sometimes after the opening song and prayer, he thinks it's the end of the meeting and says, "Nursery time!" He is so thoughtful and really likes to open the doors for me. He can sing most of the words to "I Love to See the Temple." He and Aubrey like to race their stick horses. He wants to say every prayer in the family. He loves Bob the Builder and will say, "Can I watch Bob Builder? Daddy said so." He loves balloons and calls them "Bla bla blooms." We really enjoy our kids.

The girls' school put on a Drive-in movie and pizza night at the school. We watched "Home on the Range" and had lots of fun.

I was very fortunate to be able to attend a Women's Conference put on by our stake. Todd offered to take the day off and watch the kids - what a great husband!!!! The conference was inspirational and fun. It was so well done! We are grateful to be here in a great ward and neighborhood

Elder and Sister White:

We Well, it's here! Time to come home! We can hardly believe that eighteen months have gone so quickly. We have enjoyed our time here so much and have grown spiritually. BUT, we have all of YOU! And we can hardly wait to see you. certainly have mixed emotions. We have enjoyed our

The Hollenbecks, our replacements, will arrive in Dallas October 11. We'll train pretty intensively Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday we'll move out of our apartment into the Rogers' spare bedroom and the Hollenbecks will move into our apartment. We may do a little training that day. Friday will be test day to see what questions they have. Saturday all the senior couples are going to Tyler to the Rose Festival. Then I *guess* we'll leave here Monday the 18th.

Now, I had planned to stay and do some genealogy. Go visit some graveyards. Go to the court house somewhere. But, to tell you the truth, I can't remember even *how* you do family history! It has completely flown from my mind. I don't even know what I'd look for. That could change if I get with my cousin Kathy again. So we might leave later that week.

We're going to do some touring and sight-seeing on the way home. I want to go by way of Clarendon, where so many of my family resided at one time or the other. Then to Palo Duro Canyon the Grand Canyon of Texas where I can remember going with my parents. On down to Carlsbad Caverns. Those are two places where Lynn has never been! I'll love sharing them with him.

Leslie and Loreen have extended an invitation to come see them. We haven't heard from our other Arizona kid in so long that we don't know for sure he still lives there. How 'bout it, Larry, would you like a visit too? I hope so. So, we'll be at Leslie's maybe Wednesday night. Leave there Friday morning. Go to Loreen's. Maybe a get-together with the Wilson's, Coons and Burnett's on Saturday/Sunday? Visit 'til Monday or Tuesday? That would mean that we'd be coming through Utah county Wednesday or Thursday and could stop by Springville and catch Lisa and Laura plus Gwen. We'll probably get home and unpack our trailer and see what's going on and then head out for Salt Lake to see Tracy, Bountiful to David's, Roy to Lawson's and to Lana's in Riverton by the next weekend. I can't wait to meet Dixon Lynn.

How does that sound? We have arranged with our ward to speak in Sacramento meeting the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 28. We've also reserved the club house so that we can have a big get-together and invite Lynn's brothers and sisters as well as all the kids. Is that good or what? I couldn't believe the club house was open. We feel very fortunate.

Well, this is unreal. It's so weird to be thinking so much about home and what's going to go on there. I want so much to be able to Return With Honor.

So, it's back to work, back to our responsibilities. It's Clean The Mission time and I'm getting so many cute messages. I'm recording them and would like for you to *ask* to hear them and see our pictures. That way I won't feel like we're forcing them on you. Maybe you'll still be bored, but you will have *asked* for it!

We love you all. Let us hear from you if you have ideas that differ from these disjointed ones.



Lawson & Kelly:

Meguire is starting to kind of say quite a few words. She's very fun. I think it will be hard not to spoil her. Kids grow so fast. The other day Kelly and I both noticed how tall she looked sitting in her high chair.

Landon is starting to try to identify with how time works. Anything in the past was yesterday! The other day he asked me when it would be Christmas... is it tomorrow or next week?! Anytime we're in the car he wants to know "how long till us get there?" We tell him 5 minutes or whatever and about 2 seconds later... "how long till us get there?"

Thayne and Tanner are enjoying soccer. I am coaching both of those teams. I enjoy that but sometimes Kelly and I think that they would do better for other people than they do for me. Sometimes Thayne gets mad and throws a fit and he never does that for other people. Same with Tanner... he would probably hustle better for someone else. Sad sometimes that kids don't want to please their parents as much as other, but it's just true sometimes. I went to a young men training conference at the conference center last week and they emphasized how true it is that especially by the time kids get to teacher and priest age, they look for mentor type people outside of their parents and that as quorum advisors we need to try to fill those roles.

Tanner is scheduled to have his adenoids and tonsils out this week. It will probably be done by the time you read this. He's been talking about how fun it will be to eat so many popsicles and all. We've tried to explain, but he just doesn't seem to get that it's really not going to be that much fun!

Cason is doing well in junior high. He is taking percussion and enjoys hauling his (heavy) practice kit back and forth!

Kelly is back into running the reflections contest for the school. That will keep her busier than she needs to be for a while! I am really enjoying my calling in young men, but usually feel like I should be doing more. There's always so much training between young men and scouts and so many meetings. It's hard to keep up with it all and also keep up with parental responsibilities.

Hope everyone is well. We love you all.

The Piersons:

Hello, everyone! Thanks to Loreen for putting this newsletter together for us, and being patient with my forgetfulness!

The Piersons are doing well - Christie and Dave bought a cute house in Spanish Fork!! We all love it, and they are having fun setting up house. The house is just a few blocks from Christie's work, which will be nice for her on those early mornings and late nights.

Jared is working every day now. He about went crazy when school started and he couldn't go. Every time he saw a bus he just knew they were coming to get him for school, but then they didn't. I tried to tell him he was too old for school, but he didn't understand. That was when I decided he needed to go to work every day. He loves it and still feels like he is important to his crew. There is construction work going on one road up from our house, so that is where all his attention is. One little guy in the neighborhood saw Jared sitting in the front yard watching diggers in the morning when the kids school bus came, and again in the afternoon when he got off the bus. The kid asked me, "Has he been sitting there all day?" Jared had been to work, but it did seem like he was there all day.

Jenny is traveling to Salt Lake City Mon. - Thurs. for her Physical Therapy Assistant program at Salt Lake Community College. It is keeping her real busy, but she really enjoys it. I can't wait till she has to practice massages! She is still working Saturdays filing at a Physical Therapy office, and teaching her favorite kids in Primary on Sundays. Busy girl!

Cory is playing football this year. Surprise for me! He really does like it - I don't understand why, but he does! He even made a touchdown in one of the games! That was definitely exciting! His practices are every day after school, and the games are on Thursday. He still mows three lawns, and is working for a guy in the ward, too. Sounds too busy for a kid to me!

Steve continues to busy with work. I can't remember if I wrote about this or not, but he is now YM Pres. and busy with that.

I have my big Enrichment Super Thursday this week. That has kept me pretty busy for the past while. It will be nice to have it behind me! We got the kitchen cabinets finished, and we redid the hall bathroom. We really love the new looks!!

We hope everyone is doing well! We love you all!

The Wilsons:

The Wilson's haven't contributed for a while now but we will try and catch you up on things. I am enjoying my new job. I thought I wouldn't be traveling as much but I have been on the road for the past three weeks. My job is to line up big defense programs for joint certification. That means we have to ensure that service specific programs can pass data to the other services. It sounds like a given that Army systems would talk to Air Force, Navy, Marines and vice-versa but it doesn't always work that way. I finally got out last month and did some fishing. I went up to the Apache reservation and hiked down to a river. I didn't get anything but when I came out I talked to some Indians. They ask me how I did and when I told them they ask me what I used and when I told them they said "no wonder". They told me what to use next time so now I am looking forward to going back. I really like Arizona; it feels so good not to be humid any more. I'm looking forward to showing everyone the place when you can come down here. We live at the mouth of a nice canyon. Brianna and I used to like to walk up there at night. Unfortunately, last time we went we kept hearing Spanish in the brush and gullies. I guess we will leave that place to the illegal's from now on, after dark anyway.

Greg

Hey ya'll! It be me!!(Jeff)

How ya'll doin'? I know ya'll miss the sound of my voice, so ya'll will just have to deal with my language. I have been learning to play the guitar; yes all praise me because it is hard!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm learning to play *Drift Away* by someone I forgot the name of. School's O.K. (as O.K. as school can be, I guess) I am in like all honors (advanced) classes and pre-algebra, yeah, I know I'm smart. So, now I don't know what to say so I shall sign off. Weep, for you can't listen to me anymore. Bye

And he's just so humble too. Yeah, so it's my turn now, I guess. It's my first year in high school, and it's surprisingly similar to middle school. Except for seminary, of course. Rich and Amy both graduated from early mourning, so I was excited to find that I had released time. I have private lessons for flute every week. I just started band so I am really, really bad. I also have speech and debate after school once a week. I know, me, in speech and debate, go figure eh? Whenever dad leaves he gets paid for food and stuff. Then if you don't spend the money (and you know my dad) you keep what you don't spend. So I cook and stuff when dad is gone and I get said money. So that's me. Oh! And I will never look at white bunnies the same way ever again... ever! Bai bai

Brianna

Well, just a couple of words from me. I am crazy busy doing lesson plans, grading papers, teaching SAT prep classes, etc. I'm starting to feel like a real teacher, but I'm really looking forward to fall break that's coming up next week. Hopefully I'll have more time for details later.

Love, Leslie

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