

May

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72nd

Edition

# Happy Happenings



Hello from the Arizona Burnetts. We are doing well, busy and happy. Tiffany continues her course work at ASU. She is in her Junior year, will take some summer classes, and will plan on graduating next year. She is now a declared math major, and continues with her straight A record. She has made some very good friends in her math classes, one of which is especially entertaining to all of us. She is attending the newly created singles ward in our stake.

Heather is getting ready to graduate from Mesa High school in 3 weeks. She has had a great experience there, and is looking forward to college next fall. She received a scholarship to Chandler/Gilbert college here in Arizona. She recently sent a friend on a mission, and we all enjoy corresponding with him. All three of the girls and several of their friends went to California for Spring Break, and had a great time at the beach. Heather has some very good friends that we enjoy having at the house. She keeps busy with her school work, and then works part time for a company that distributes sports memorabilia.



Katelyn is a sophomore in high school now, and enjoyed being on the JV cheerleading squad this year. She is taking next year off cheerleading to concentrate on swimming. We have had a very good time watching her in her events this year, and spending time with her friends. Our house has become one of the locations for her group of friends to congregate to - we especially enjoy our Sunday nights with them. We watch movies, play games, eat a lot of food, and just enjoy talking together.

Larry and Jill are also enjoying our lives right now. We had a nice vacation to Palm Springs for our 25th anniversary, and we are looking to go back to Hawaii with the girls later this year. Our jobs are going well, and our church jobs keep us busy. Jill has been called to young women as a laurel instructor, and I continue my assignments on the High Council. I am the High Counselor assigned to the Young men in our stake, and have had a lot of great activities with them lately. We had our Varsity Mountain Man and Scout District camporee during the past couple of months. We had a great opportunity to provide service at a group home in Randolph Arizona for severely disabled adults in the month of March, and had a very good experience there. Recently we had our young man standards night, and concentrated on the subject of pornography. I gave a talk there on the subject, and the whole night turned out very well - we were all nervous about that.

We are looking forward to Mom and Lynn coming back again for Heathers graduation, and are enjoying having the Coons near us. We went to a softball game with them last night, and had a nice picnic in the park afterward. We are anxious to see you all again at the reunion, and miss you all.





## The Sorensens:

Jaxon had his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday. He had a friend over. They shot guns and we had a piñata and roasted hot dogs. We went to watch Donkey Basketball at the school. The teams were made up of different groups (alumni, volunteer fire department) and they had to be on a donkey to pass or shoot. It was fun.

Our palomino had a baby girl.

We had a big day of branding calves.

Broox got the chicken pox. He was such a good sport about it. He'd just say, "Something's bugging me."

We have the pinewood derby tonight.

We are going to Utah this weekend to be with our friends as their kids are sealed to them in the Logan temple. We are going to pick up the new van that Mom and Lynn bought for us (aren't you all jealous!).

Our sadness was that one of our horses died. It was the four-year-old baby of the palomino.

## Mom & Lynn

Hello, Family. Were just plugging along. Not very fast, even. But we're busy every day so we must be accomplishing something!

I know one thing that I've been doing that takes *loads* of time - preparing and teaching the Gospel Doctrine Class! I've only taught two lessons so far, but wow, does it take a lot of studying. Just because my patriarchal blessing says I'll be blessed to teach, it doesn't say it'll be easy. I'm sure I over-prepare, but its the only way I know to teach.

We're winding down on projects. Our last was curtains for the great room and dining nook. What a job that's turning out to be. We hope to finish that up this week. We've GOT to get to writing our personal history. It's our goal! We promised ourselves we'd come home and DO IT! The Bishop has challenged us to be well on our way by next conference time! That sounded like quite a while in April - six months! But every day the time grows shorter and we're not even started yet! HELP!

I enjoyed going to Women's Conference with Laura and Lisa. It was great. Then, Lynn and I delivered the van we bought (with their money) to Lana and Aaron. They were in Logan attending a Temple sealing so we took Jaxon, Jancy, Broox and Dixon to lunch and the park. It was great.

We're planning our trip to Arizona. We're trying to sandwich it in between the Sundays I have to teach the Gospel Doctrine class. I think that means that we'll come the week *before* Heather graduates on May 25. Loreen, I'm really sorry not to come later but we just can't seem to work it out. So, we can be with Brittney on her Birthday! And with Larry on his! Then maybe we can visit with the Wilsons on the weekend May 20, 21. Then we'll leave Thursday or Friday May 26 or 27. Let me know if that works.

Here are pictures of our pet. Loreen says it's the best kind--she cares for herself and we get the pleasure of

observing her. She has 4 BEAUTIFUL blue eggs (they look like they're flawlessly dyed). We love to sit in our study and watch her tend her future children.

We love you all and are looking forward to the Family Reunion! Hope all is going well.





The softball season was fun but it is coming to an end. We are going to have an end-of-the-season party at our house on Friday that we are looking forward to. Brittney did such a great job. She has learned a lot about hitting and how things work in the outfield. Larry, Jill, Heather, and Katelyn came to one of her games and we had a picnic dinner afterwards. Hannah didn't want to play softball this year but she has warmed up to it somewhat and thinks she might want to play next year (with Todd as the coach, of course!). She has enjoyed ballet.

Caleb is potty-trained. He did it so fast and he's dry night and day. Some kids are easy!

Todd and Caleb went on the Father-and-sons campout. Caleb was so excited the week before! Five or six times a day he would say, "Me and Dad are going camping this weekend" at random times. One day he said, "I'm a lucky boy!" I asked him why and he said, "Because I'm going camping with Dad this weekend." They had fun. Caleb slept like a rock, but it was below freezing and Todd didn't have a very good night.

We had a block wall put up on one side of our house. It will help with safety and privacy. We had them bring in extra sand and we made the kids a 8' x 7' sandbox. They have already used it a lot.

Brittney was able to participate in Academic Night because she has gotten all A's at school this year. We were very proud of her.

Aubrey and I have been working on letters and numbers for quite awhile. She finally just really **gets** it and that is fun. She makes a picture for Todd EVERY day and leaves it on his pillow so he can see it in the evening. They are buddies. He has spent many hours playing Barbies and Ponies with her.

Our garden is doing well. We are eating lots of salads and watching the other plants grow. The corn is almost as tall as Aubrey. We have lots of sunflowers that are almost that big, too. We have blossoms on the cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, and we have lots of little green tomatoes. It's fun to watch the kids enjoy it. They walk out there with us a lot to check on things. They go out there on their own, too, or take their friends out to show them. We got a bunch of straw and haven't had much of a problem with weeds. As you can tell, we like the garden.

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## The Piersons

Jared is happy working at the cannon center. I (Lisa) put Jared in the shower one day and went to do my work. A couple of minutes later he was yelling for me. I ran in and he said, "Look what I discovered, Mom!! It's snakes!" I looked down and they were some of my longer hairs going into the drain.

Jenny is doing her clinical work at a nursing facility in Sandy. She has learned that she doesn't want to do geriatrics forever. They have created a single's ward in our stake and they have asked the single people to go. She was sad not to teach Primary anymore, but she has started going to the single's ward.

Cory is busy in Track. He broke the school sophomore record in the 110 and 300 meter hurdles. He has qualified for state in the 110 meter hurdles. He has started mowing lawns again and is looking forward to school being out. He will work out with the Cross Country team during the summer.

I (Lisa) redid our bedroom. I'm still waiting for the end tables but we got a new headboard. We painted and put wall frames on the bottom of the wall under the chair rail. Mom and Lynn helped. We got new carpet and I have the fabric for curtains. The furniture for our family room should be ready soon. Enrichment also keeps me busy.

Steve went to Korea for a week. He's busy with work and Young Men's.





## The Wilsons

### The Wilsons:

Greg has been traveling a lot as usual. He has been to New York several times. He even called us from the East Bridge once. He also went to New Jersey. He was in charge of putting together a conference in Dallas. It was a lot of preparation, but he enjoyed it once he got there. He did a lot of fun things there. He went to "Billy's" and saw the famous Mechanical Bull. He went to a carnival and hit the Strong Man thing; he rang the bell 22 times in a row and won something for Leslie.

Jeff's Gifted and Talented reading class took a week-long trip to San Francisco. Among other things, he saw Chinatown, Alcatraz, and Fisherman's Warf. He had a really good time.

Amy just got home from BYU. She did really well there. She got a job the second day she was home at Schlotzsky's. She will be home 6 weeks and then go to summer school at BYU. She's going to live at Liberty square this year instead of at the dorms. She is liking the warmer weather here. It was snowing in Provo before she left.

Brianna is doing well. She got braces and is looking at two years of discomfort. She is almost 16 and is studying to get her driver's license. She will probably be taking a foreign language class through Cochise College this summer, maybe Chinese. She'll also be going to girl's camp.

Rich is in his 3rd year of ROTC. He does PT all the time. He is a Sergeant Major. We got a call from his professor in Military Science who said he is shaping up to be the number one cadet. He'll be home in the middle of May. He'll be doing summer camp in July, then home mid-August, then leave Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> to go to Spain. He has had two semesters of Spanish and he will be taking college classes in Spanish!

I (Leslie) am busy with Young Women's and school. I will be teaching summer school to the kids that I've been bringing through Algebra and first semester Geometry. I'll be teaching them 2<sup>nd</sup> semester Geometry to catch them up with their peers. It's five hours a day for three weeks. We will be at camp on my Birthday in July (there's always something going on for my birthday!). Our young women's group has five active girls and four girls investigating. That brings its own joys and challenges, as you can imagine.

Here's a story: One day Greg came home from work for lunch and Paisley was just going crazy. Greg looked in the backyard and there was a snake by our back patio about 4 feet long. It was a bull snake (not poisonous). He called animal control and they came over. He asked them to take it away even though it isn't poisonous because they eat rats and other small animals. He showed Paisley to them and they said, "Oh yeah! That snake is big enough to eat that dog!"

### Reunion Information:

The fireworks are on Saturday night, not Monday.

Church is at 9 am on Sunday.

Lana had a great idea for us to go to the Logan Temple together.

We hope this will work out and that the older cousins don't mind watching the younger ones at a park nearby. We can play it by ear, but we'd like to plan to break camp Tuesday morning and go to the temple on the way home. If you have any ideas about this, let us know.

Lisa and Laura have some great projects for us to do for the Humanitarian Project. A lot of their materials were donated but we are still asking that each family give the money they would have spent on Christmas presents (We were thinking \$30 per couple and \$10 per older cousin). This will cover for the things that they do have to buy, then any extra money will be given to the person who is in charge of it for next year so the money doesn't have to come out of their pocket.

Please also give Mom and Lynn \$20 or so for their expenses.



Hey fam, it's Jeremy speaking...again. My mom decided that since I did such a good job last time, I might as well do it again. She makes such a big deal about it that she never gets around to it. So here I am. Where to start... I guess since it has been about a year since most of you have heard from us, I could say anything and it would be new. I guess I'll start with the oldest.

My dad is doing well. He got released last Sunday from working with the Deacons, but now he is doing the Duty to God program for all the Young Men. He is working hard at work, like usual. I think he got 73 hours or something like that one week a while ago. My parents are going to Helsinki Finland for the puzzle convention and a cruise to St. Petersburg Russia for their twentieth anniversary. They are really excited.

My mom is the next oldest, so I guess she comes next. She is hard into volunteering. Just today she was finishing up a landscaping project at the junior high as an Eagle Scout project for two boys in our ward. She did Science Week at Sage Creek, that was quite a few months ago, but it's news to you. She tutors some kids at the school and helps with Reading Counts. She is working with the Beehives. This last week has been really busy for us, my mom and me especially. We have been working on a video presentation about Joseph Smith for the church cultural event thing. It involved almost all the youth in our ward, which is saying a lot, since we have about twenty five priests and lots of all the rest. I don't know the final count. The two of us spent many, many (200+ ?) hours editing and filming and scanning pictures and taking digital pictures and all that jazz for it. Last Monday was an eighteen-hour day. And most of the others were about like that. We showed it to the whole stake on Friday, and it was a huge success. I am now working on an extended version with all the behind the scenes and deleted scenes and directors' commentary and stuff like that. We have had many requests from people for a copy of it, so we are distributing it, if that's what you call it. We are trying to send everyone a copy, kind of to brag, but also because it is (I think) a spiritual but fun video.

Now for me. I finished my first year at BYU about a week and a half ago. I don't have a declared major or even an idea of what I want to do. I took some religion, engineering, physics, and math classes, but nothing just jumps out at me. It was a really tough year- I spent almost every waking hour in class or doing homework for class. But I did squeeze in some fun stuff too, so it wasn't all work. About the only other interesting thing in my life is that I have a girlfriend. The problem is that she lives near Ogden and was going to school at BYU-Idaho, so I don't get to see her much. I was actually writing to her earlier when my mom told me to do something productive, like write this, so here I am. That's it for me. Actually it's not, I just remembered that I am teaching the Valiant 9 class in Primary. They are a pretty good class.

Anthony is doing well in school. He is a sophomore. He doesn't have his driver's license yet, and it doesn't seem like he is going to get it anytime soon, because he still has to get his Eagle and get his grades up. He is in drum-line in school, and I think he likes that. He is in a movie class too. Yesterday my dad, he, and a bunch of his friends, got up at 3:30 a.m. to go to our cabin to film for it. It is a spoof on becoming an Eagle Scout. His first stunt (a couple weeks ago) was to strap on cardboard wings and jump off the roof, trying to fly like an eagle. Saturday they got in our canoe and sledded down the mountain, they went tree tipping, they had some pyrotechnics, and they played the accordion in the canoe out on the lake. I was standing on shore and all the fishermen started laughing like crazy as the sound came over the water to us. It was a fun day.

Onlylyn is in Seventh grade, in case you didn't know. She tried out for and was accepted into the Shakespeare orchestra for the school play. She had a piano recital where she played a really fast song and also played in a trio - three girls on the same piano, it was really cool. She got her hair tapered a few days ago and no one noticed. What a shame. She is now officially taller than my mom, but that is really old news. Just as a side note, Anthony is now the tallest in our family. I am an inch shorter than Anthony, and my dad is about a quarter inch shorter than I am. Ondy was just called as the Beehive class president. She'll do a great job.

I would include my other two sisters (Ondy's friends, Brittany and Sheridan) because they are over here so much, but since they technically aren't blood sisters, I'll move on to Zac.

Zachary is in fourth grade. He is the shortest one in his whole class, but I don't think of him as short.



He'll grow out of it. He is into Indians for the moment. We have burlap teepees in the garden with lakes (holes lined with black garbage bags and filled with water) and paths made out of rocks. A couple weeks ago it was bird watching and before that it was trebuchets and catapults, and before that I don't remember, oh yeah, it was spy gear and things like that for his fort above the shed. He is really easy to buy gifts for because he is interested in everything. Zac can beat everyone in his whole class at chicken fights (on the monkey bars).

Our yard is maturing beautifully. Four of our eight goldfish survived the winter, but luckily they had babies, so life may continue despite our ineptitude in the pet arena. We are planning to visit a whole bunch of the national parks in Utah starting the first weekend in June, so if any of you want to join us for all or part of the trip, you are more than welcome. We went to Grandpa Burnett's for the weekend a while ago, but since Lisa probably covered that, we'll just refer you to her article.

We love you all. So long.

P.S. We have included a DVD for you to enjoy. It's only 11 minutes long. It is what our ward did for the Commemoration of Joseph Smith's birth.

There is a song included on the DVD and here is the story: One of the young men in the ward wrote a poem about Joseph Smith. Two other young men were writing a song but hadn't come up with the words. When they heard the poem they realized that it fit perfectly with a song they had written earlier but hadn't yet added any words.

P.P.S. Jeremy's farewell is June 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. Everyone is invited. He leaves on June 28<sup>th</sup> to go to the MTC in Brazil.

Here is Jeremy's address in the MTC:

Elder Jeremy Dye  
Brazil Missionary Training Center  
Rua Padre Antonion D'angelo 121  
Casa Verde  
02516-040 Sao Paulo ST

Brittney	May 18
Larry	May 19
Dixon	May 21
Jeremy	May 28
Dad	May 30
Amy	May 30

We are very busy with kid's soccer. Thayne and Tanner are in the thick of it! Between training, practices and games we stay pretty busy. But it's fun and we're glad they like to be active. Thayne and Landon were talking the other day on the way to Thayne's game about how they wish they could be on the same team, but neither wanted to have to change their age to be able to!

Last week we got tickets to a Real (pronounce it in Spanish) Salt Lake game; the professional soccer team



here. The tickets were for Tanner's soccer team but some boys didn't go so we were able to take Cason also.

Before the game they had a bunch of activities. Here is a picture of Cason climbing a rock wall. It was really a lot of fun to be at the game. I've never been to a 'real' soccer game before and I wasn't sure if 1.5 hours at once would be fun but we really enjoyed it.



Tanner, Thayne and I got one last ski day in last month. Here's a picture of us on the lift. It was a fun day. It was quite warm but not so bad that everything was slushy.



Kelly is in charge of girl's camp this year. They decided to have a Luau for their fundraiser. Tanner and Kelly both did some of their Polynesian dancing.



Here's a picture of Kelly and Meguire in their muumuu dresses. Also a family picture. The Luau was fun. They had a great turnout and made lots of money. Love you all.

