

# Happy Happenings



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84<sup>th</sup> Edition

June 2006

## WURRAY! IT'S ALMOST FAMILY REUNION TIME!

### The COONS:

Hello, Everyone. May was a fun and busy month for us. We enjoyed having Mom in Arizona for 10 days and going to Tiffany's graduation at ASU. We missed Lynn. While Mom was here she went to the school with me and helped me do Art Masterpiece where we teach about an artist and then do a related art project. We did Pablo Picasso for Hannah's class and Jackson Pollock for Brittney's class. Pollock was known for his HUGE "splatter" paintings so we took the kids outside and splatter painted all over a couple of big pieces of butcher paper. It was really fun and the kids behaved well.



Mom and I worked on her pictures from her marriage through 1978. We enjoyed having her here to share our garden produce. It's just nice to have her.



Brittney turned 11 and we had fresh peach pie. Our neighbors keep us stocked with fresh fruit pretty much all year. Brittney got a new bike. She has played the flute for a year

and we went to her concert with Mom. She is going to switch to the oboe. She will take lessons every week for the summer and we'll see how it goes.

The kids are out of school. We will start swim lessons tomorrow and gymnastics (2 times per week) next week. We are still taking piano lessons.



We went camping Thurs. - Sat. Memorial Day weekend. It was a great trip. We took Taffy, our dog, and it was really fun to have her there. We had such a nice campsite where the sites were really spread out and it was beautiful. There is a Reservoir nearby way, way down in a gorge. We hiked down and went fishing but didn't catch anything. I'm sure that didn't have anything to do with having Caleb throw



rocks in the water or having Taffy go for a swim a few times. We had a good time.

We are looking forward to the reunion. Well see y'all then!

### The PIERSONS:

Hello everyone! It's hard to believe school is out and summer is here again. Only one more year of school for Cory and then we are really out of school!! That is so weird! Well, I am a Grandma now so I better accept the fact that I am getting older! Cory is glad to be out of school, but sad that track is over. He had a great year. He broke the school record in the 300M Hurdles, and placed 3rd in the state in the 100M Hurdles. He also placed in some of the relays. It was fun to watch him and his teammates. They were always so encouraging of each other, and they had a wonderful coach who was great with the team. We are glad Cory has had this experience. He started a full-time summer job on June 1 working with Steve as an IT assistant. He plans on getting a good chunk of his mission money put away.



Jared is still working at BYU. He loves going on trips. Lately I have to be careful not to let him know too far ahead that we are going somewhere or he becomes obsessed with packing and getting ready to go! That is all we hear about until we get in the car and leave!

Memorial weekend we visited some graves and Steve's family. We stopped first in Richmond and put some purple flowers on Grandma Ethel's grave. Her headstone is real nice. She was a wonderful lady! On Sunday we drove to Aberdeen, Idaho where Steve's grandparents and uncle are buried, and saw places where Steve grew up. Monday we went to Steve's dad's grave. This was the first time we saw his headstone, and it was beautiful. Steve's mom had a bit of a hard time, but did quite well. All four of her children were there which helped her. Then on the way home we stopped and put some bright yellow flowers on Amberly's grave. It was a nice (long!) trip, but a let down for Jared because he didn't have anything left to pack for!



Actually, we went to Mom and Lynn's for a swimming party and lunch and we had to pack for that! That gave him a couple of days worth of excitement!

I'm staying busy trying to catch up on things I have put off - scrapbooks, pictures, cleaning closets, etc. I'm also having lots of fun with Riley! He is growing and changing so much. It is fun to watch them become a little person. Life is good!! We look forward to seeing everyone next month!



### The SORENSENS:

The Sorensen family is doing well. The kids got out of school and were pretty excited about that.

Aaron's family-Josh, Darci, Patty & kids and Leon and Annette came and helped us brand our calves and watch Aaron bless Rix. So that was a nice visit. Leon is getting pretty bad pretty quick. They say he probably has Alzheimer's and where he used to be able to carry on a conversation, it's hard to get him to say anything now. It's pretty sad.

We shipped the ranch cows to Cora. We also shipped most of our own cows to some summer pasture by Casper. So that's nice to have the cows gone for a while.



I got a new calling as primary chorister. When I ended up coming to Utah for a root canal (because I didn't want to wait until the end of June to get it done in Wyoming), I was able to talk to Lisa and Laura (who are also Primary choristers) and get some good ideas.

We plan on taking swimming lessons the last two weeks in June and we are all looking forward to seeing everyone at the family reunion.

Here are some pictures taken when Lana was in Utah:



Dixon and Anthony drummin'



Silly Jancy and Dixon



Rix & Riley-Grandma's cute kids

### The Arizona BURNETTS:

Larry sends greetings from ARIZONA! He says he and Jill are doing just fine.

Tiffany graduated from ASU with HIGH honors. In fact, she was one of only 23 recipients of the "Moeur" Award for the highest academic standing for her four-year undergraduate years at ASU and received the award in the main commencement program.



**CONGRATULATIONS** Tiff! She also moved into a new apartment.

Heather finished her 1<sup>st</sup> year of college with flying colors! She is transferring to Mesa Community College.

Katelyn will be a senior next year and she was elected to the Student Council. Way to go!

### The WILSONS:



I took this picture in Fort Huachuca when I was visiting there.


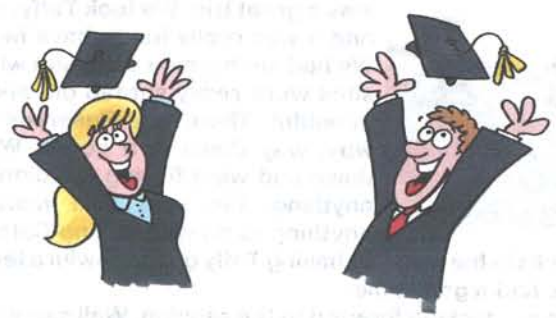


Here's a picture of MAJOR Wilson and SECOND LIEUTENANT Wilson together with a proud MAMA-Leslie and a beaming sis-AMY SUE.

Rich was commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. And graduated from University of Idaho with a Bachelor's degree the next day. **Congratulations** Rich!

Happy Birthday!

June 17.....	Katelyn
June 20.....	Brianna
June 26.....	Tiffany
June 29.....	Hannah



On Wednesday, June 1, Laura, Lisa and family came for a swim and say Happy Birthday to Amy Sue. I asked everyone to write at least a sentence for the newsletter before going into the pool. In fact, Laura made it a *requirement!* So here goes:

- ANTHONY: Drumline is awesome. We went up to the cabin (Schofield). That was fun.
- CORY: Track was great this year. I did great in the hurdles finishing third in state. School's out, and I'm starting work with my Dad.
- ZAC: Life is awesome. Summer's awesome. We went to the cabin. It was fun.
- AMY: I'm working two jobs right now and I'm going to Hawaii in July!
- ONDY: I'm glad it's summertime. PARTY. YEAH!
- LAURA: We're looking forward to a great summer and lots of fun at the family reunion. We love being a part of such an awesome family.



**MOM:**

What a great month we've had! I flew to Arizona May 2 and visited with all of the Arizona kids and grandkids!



Then on Thursday, May 11, I cheered as Tiff got her award. The next morning at 8:30 she "walked" and got her degree.

Loreen, Caleb and I slipped out and I got to the airport in plenty of time to fly to Spokane, Washington where Lynn and Amy Sue met me. We sped off to Moscow, Idaho where Rich was commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. What a great patriotic service! I was SO proud! The next morning Rich received his bachelor's degree!



Soon after we returned to Utah we had the privilege of attending Landon's pre-school graduation. What a cutie!



We also attended Cory's barbershop quartet performance and the State track meet where he took 3<sup>rd</sup>.



On Memorial Day we visited Amberly's grave and felt again our great love and longing for that sweet little girl.

**MY STORY**

I'm the one that writes my own story, I decide the person I'll be.  
What goes in the plot, and what will not, is pretty much up to me.  
And just in case I need to erase, it was figured out before,  
A thing called repentance, can wipe out a sentence, a page or a chapter or more.

Everyone that writes his own story, Now & then will make some mistake,  
But given some care, they needn't stay there, And this is all that it takes:  
You must know you've done wrong and so, You feel very bad and then,  
Don't try to hide it, Do try to right it, and vow you won't do it again.

This book of mine is very important, And so someone is waiting right there,  
To help with my story, He's been here before me—and always as close as a prayer.  
We will write each day & night And do it well and faithfully—  
A wonderful story, of sadness and glory, is written by Jesus and Me.

Now, it's hard to explain how profoundly I feel the miracle of these events. How utterly similar they are, even in their differences. Each of them show how we move through the stages of our lives. From birth to the grave we live out our "story". I'm reminded of Larry's mission farewell when he tearfully quoted the *My Turn On Earth* song "I'm the One That Writes My Own Story". (See left) So, which is most important? Pre-school or college graduation? Sports awards or "premature" death? Depends! They're all events which mark our rites of passage here on this earth. Thank you—each one of you—for allowing us to share in your lives. It means more than I can say.



### LYNN:

Hi Everyone,  
May was a busy and a somewhat stressful month for us. It started off with us trying to meet two different college graduation schedules within less than two days' time about 1400 miles apart. Well, we made it!! – sort of. It started with Grandma flying to Arizona for about ten days where she got to visit all the Arizona kids and grandkids. She thoroughly enjoyed that.

Tiffany's graduation was on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, which Grandma got to attend. (Congrats, Tiffany!!!) Then Loreen took Grandma to the airport where she caught a plane to Spokane, Washington. Meanwhile, Amy Sue and I (Grandpa) drove to Spokane and were there when Grandma got off the plane. We were able to get to Moscow, Idaho in time to see Rich receive his 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt bars, then to see him graduate the next day! (Congrats to you too, Rich!!!) What a treat – to see the first and second of our grandkids graduate from university!!! Of course it was great to see Les and Greg too while we were in Idaho/Washington..

Then, I spent some time reminiscing – with Grandma being with me to share my memories. I spent four years in school at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington in graduate school – and that's only 8 miles from the University of Idaho where Rich was. And I had never been back to Pullman since I finished my school – something like 38 years ago! We attended Church in Pullman on Sunday. What a treat – I got to see several members I knew all that many years ago.

We came back by way of Island Park to look at our family reunion campsites. They're nice. You'll hear more from Grandma.

Now, to some of our stress for the month.

We have been trying to decide what we should do to be of service to the Church and to the Lord. We recognize that we're getting older and we won't be able to leave home for a mission too many more years – we are increasingly aware that our health won't allow it forever. And yet we do want to be of service.

We are also enjoying our calling in the ward – Family History Consultant. And we are serving half a day a week in the Lehi Family Center. This is part of what we have been struggling with in recent weeks.

While Grandma was in Arizona Larry commented that he thought we should go on 6 months missions, and thought the Family History Center in Mesa would be a great place to serve. And Loreen really liked the idea of us serving a mission there too. We worked up enthusiasm too. We even met with our bishop to start the paperwork. We then found out that we would have to live in Mesa to be called to serve in that Center.

So, we're really trying to figure out where to serve, and what the Lord would like us to be doing. We accept prayers in our behalf! We love each of you!! We're looking forward to the reunion!!

### The Utah BURNETTS:

Kelly has been busy lately! She decided to paint the upstairs bathroom and to repaint and redecorate Meguire's bedroom. It all looks very nice. She is also helping with stake Laurel Legacy (camp for Laurels) and with the ward based girl's camp. With these responsibilities along with all the normal mom things she has been very busy.

Landon graduated from preschool! What an accomplishment huh?! Mom & Lynn came and we enjoyed a fun little program and graduation ceremony.

Thayne has decided he likes soccer enough to try out for a competitive soccer team. It will a lot busier for him so hopefully he really does like it.

We had a fun Memorial Day weekend at the Summit. We had a few families up and rode 4 wheelers and stuff. It was very rainy and cold Saturday and Sunday but Monday was nice. Mom and Lynn came up Monday after visiting Amberly's grave.

Cason and I will be off to high adventure scout camp in another week. From there we head to Canada to see Kelly's family and for her family reunion. Then we'll come back through Yellowstone to the campground at Island Park for our family reunion. Busy summers!



Here is the Cousin Christmas Gift Exchange list again. The rest of us will contribute \$30 per couple and \$10 per older cousin for Humitarian Aid. Money should be given to Lawson and Kelly this year.

Giver	Receiver
Brianna	Zachary
Anthony	Thayne
Ondylyn	Jaxon
Zachary	Broox
Cason	Jancy
Tanner	Brianna
Thayne	Riley
Landon	Aubrey
Meguire	Brittney
Brittney	Anthony
Hannah	Meguire
Aubrey	Landon
Caleb	Rix
Jaxon	Tanner
Jancy	Hannah
Broox	Caleb
Dixon	Cason
Rix	Ondylyn
Riley	Dixon



# Family Reunion News

On our way home from Rich's graduation we made it a point to visit the Buffalo River Idaho Campground where we have reserved 8 campsites for July 5 to July 8. Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. and check-out is by 12:00 p.m. We think it is a very beautiful campground and hope you will all like it. Plan to arrive early on Wednesday and have dinner together that night. We will spend all day Thursday and Friday, have breakfast together on Saturday and you can leave then or hang out.



Cost is \$45 for the three days—payable to Mom and Lynn. Lisa, Laura, Loreen and Lana have paid. Ummmmmm, now who does that leave?

Lawson & Kelly and I will bring cooking utensils and Lynn & I will provide paper products. Following is a list of things we plan to provide. Please let us know if there are other things we should bring:

1. Dutch Ovens—16", 14", two 12" & lid lifter, foil, gloves
2. Dye's Camp Chef plus large griddle & propane
3. Large mixing bowls, spoons, rubber scrapers etc.
4. Can opener, peelers, pancake turners etc.
5. Cutting boards and sharp knives
6. Dish pan, soap, SOS pads, dish cloths
7. Paper towels, plastic bags of varying sizes
8. Large & small styrofoam plates & bowls
9. Plastic knives, forks, spoons, & napkins
10. Salt & Pepper, PAM spray

## DESCRIPTION:

Loop F has a pleasant mixture of Aspen and Lodgepole pine with a heavy middlestory providing the best privacy between sites in the campground. This loop also has vaults and flush toilets and paved parking aprons

Although wildlife is not often seen during the warmer weather, the number and variety of birds is delightful. It is not unusual to find an Osprey perched on a snag across the river from the campground looking for dinner or to spy heron standing at the river's edge. Informal "beater" trails connect the loops and provide access to the river.

This is bear country; practice safe food storage techniques.

## FIRE SAFETY:

Build fires only in fire rings. Never leave your campfire unattended. When you are done with the fire, be sure it is DEAD OUT! You are responsible for keeping fires under control.

## WATER SPORTS:

Buffalo River is a good family floating river.

## FISHING:

Rainbow and Brook trout. Fishing dock very close to Loop F.

It's approximately 30 miles from the west entrance to Yellowstone, which means driving 30 minutes to get to the entrance and another 15 to get to the intersection where you have to choose to go north to Mammoth Hot Springs etc., or south to geysers etc. or east to "Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone"



# Reunion

**SEE YOU THERE!!**