

# Happy Happenings

## Coons

### August

The big news for August is that the kids started school. Brittney is now in Junior High and doing great. She has a great group of friends and is working hard every day. She has 3 honors classes and lots of homework plus oboe and piano. Good thing she isn't in a sport right now! Hannah and Aubrey like their teachers and our new elementary

school, Quartz Hill. Caleb is doing great at preschool and has lots of fun with his friends.

Caleb had his fifth birthday. We had a fun friend party. We played lots of water games outside and the boys all had fun. Of course, Caleb's favorite present was a Star Wars Lego ship. He plays legos every day.

Aubrey and Caleb just started soccer. They are on different teams but both have practice on Tuesdays and games on Saturdays. They look so cute in their cleats and shin guards. Aubrey's team is the Stingrays (blue uniforms – Caleb's favorite color), and Caleb's team is the Red Socks (red uniforms – Aubrey's favorite color).

We took Taffy to the vet and are taking care of a few other things so we can breed her next time she comes in season. The kids can hardly wait for the puppies.

We are going to try to go to Disneyland for Fall break in October and are looking forward to that.

That's it. We sure love you all and hope all is

### September

September was really fun for us. Aubrey and Caleb started soccer and they are enjoying it. They only practice once a week, same place, same time, so it is pretty easy. Then they have their games on Saturdays. Last weekend Todd's parents came up to see the games

and it was great to see them. Brittney is playing softball with the Young Women.

We went to the Phoenix Zoo because the kids had earned free tickets through the summer reading program at the library. It's a great zoo and we had lots of fun.

Aubrey had her 7<sup>th</sup>

birthday. All she wanted was Barbies even though we have a million. She did get a Barbie, Barbie movie, and a Kelly and she was glad. She is growing her bangs out.

I'm staying busy with life in general, Piano, Activity Days, book club, Art Masterpiece, etc. Todd is busy with work, follow-

ing Mitt Romney and thinking about getting Taffy bred. He plays basketball once a week and stays active.

We are so excited to go to California for Fall Break! We'll tell you about it next month.

Love, the Coons

## Whites

Hi Family,

Well, we're forging on on our mission. We came January 5 so I guess October 5 is our "hump" day. But who's counting?

I have been released from my assignment to supervise all training on the British floor. I breathed a sigh of relief. For a minute. Until they assigned me to be the leader of the England

training group. Then I broke out in a cold sweat. You see, not only am I supposed to take a group of missionaries for an hour each Monday and make "specialists" out of them, but I have to teach a six-week intensive training course on how to help patrons do their English research to **ALL** missionaries. That means that I teach classes about 9 times each week. 6 X 9 = 54 AND tired to death. Plus—like I know how to do English research—

NOT! So I spend lots of time cramming for the next class. Hope I'm **learning** and will **remember!**

Other than that we're just both dealing with some painful joints. Lynn found out he has "Ankylosing Spondylitis" a hereditary form of arthritis which could really cripple him if he doesn't get it under control. They hope to do that with anti-inflammatory medicine. Me? Just knees, legs & feet.

We sure do enjoy seeing you when we have the chance. Enjoyed having Lana & family, Lawson & family, Laura & family, Lisa & family, Gwen & family at Laura's this last week. We missed Larry, Leslie and Loreen. We could've had a mini reunion!

Please pray for us and our mission. Especially that we'll be able to find other of our ancestors that need the gospel. They belong to all of us! We love you lots and lots.

## Sorensens

The Sorensen kids are doing great in school. It was an adjustment at first for Broox but he is fine now. It's a long day for him. It's nice because the bus driver is letting Jaxon and Jancy take turns sitting with him on the bus and

he likes that.

We are working on building a new house on our 40 acres. We are hoping to have the house finished at the first of next year sometime. We have the footings and foundation done. We aren't going to do a

basement. We have the well and septic done. We have the floor on and our logs should be here on Saturday.

Aaron's job is fine. He works 4 days on, 4 days off.

I canned a batch of relish and am waiting for the tomatoes to ripen so I can do some salsa.

We love you all! The Sorensen family

## Piersons

Hello, everyone! Pierson's are doing well. Steve has been traveling again for his work – he says he doesn't enjoy it like he used to! Cory is busy with school and track. He has gotten his official track gear and is excited to wear them. Jared is great. We are

thinking about changing his work to a place that is more activity based and has more supervision. I am researching it and have found that it is not an easy thing for me to make the change. I want to make sure he is safe and happy. Big decision! I am working

with Laura on finishing a Halloween quilt that we started a while ago, but this is the year to finish them! I have also been making some quilts for the Humanitarian center, and working on our downstairs family room. Jenny took a trip to Colorado to visit our

friends there and had a great time. Christie, Dave, and Riley are doing well. We love playing with Riley and are glad they live close to us. Love you all!!!



# Utah Burnetts



Everyone is back in school and so happy about it! This year we have everything covered—high school, junior high, elementary and preschool! Cason had a good time at band camp before school started. He's been busy with marching band and other studies. Tanner really likes junior high and is doing well in school.

For Labor Day weekend some of us went to Bear Lake. Tanner wanted to be in a soccer tournament so he and Kelly stayed home for that. The rest of us went to Bear Lake with Kelly's brother Bill and most of his kids. We had a great time and the weather was very nice. We went to a church there on the Sunday and there were over a thousand people there for sacrament! I thought passing the sacrament would take forever but they were very efficient! Each boy set out with 2 trays and they got it done!



We had a fun scout campout. The plan was to work on an Eagle project for one of the boys but it rained a bunch so we couldn't do it. But the rain stopped Sat. afternoon so we took the kids shooting to try to help them pass off the rifle shooting merit badge. They weren't very good shots and didn't pass of their badges, but we had fun! One of the leaders brought his 50 caliber black powder rifle and let the kids all shoot that. It was funny to watch some of them about get knocked over.

Thayne and I had a fun ATV ride. We went up Farmington canyon and rode up to the top of the mountain. We could look out over the Great Salt Lake on one side and over the Morgan valley on the other side. The picture is looking over the Morgan valley direction.

We had a nice visit with Mom and Lynn to see what their life is like right now. It was fun to take the kids to see the family history library and other things around temple square. The visit went great until a hurricane swept in! It was so windy we had to run for cover!

This year Utah had a youth hunting day for waterfowl that was 1 Saturday before the normal season opening date. Cason, Tanner and I went out with another boy from our neighborhood and his dad. The boys had a great time and everyone bagged some ducks. Kelly was grossed out by it all and didn't want to have anything to do with it! Tanner was so excited to show the ducks to her when we got home and she just wanted him to stay away!

I was able to attend Wood-badge scout leader training last month. I had always heard good things about it but I was surprised how good it really was. I enjoyed it so much and I felt that it really strengthened my feelings and testimony of the importance of the scouting program to help our young men get through that important and difficult period of life.

We are busy into fall soccer. Tanner, Thayne, Landon and Meg are all playing so there aren't many days without practice or a game for someone. It's fun though and they're enjoying it.





## Wilsons

We are having a great time here in Rexburg. I get up every morning at 5:30AM, get dressed in the Army PT uniform, and do PT. Then I get in uniform, teach cadets and fly out on field training exercises on the weekends. Sometimes I forget that I have retired from the Army. BYU-Idaho is a very special place. My brother

painting and getting the place livable. It is starting to come together and I am not missing the trailer park or my folks basement as much any more.

The kids are doing great! Brianna has jumped into Madison High with both feet. She will be in the Fiddler On The Roof production in

move on to schools, other units, or out of the Army. He and the crew coming in will for the base of the unit and will have a year to train before they go over. Amy is doing well and has found some people to teach. They had a hard time contacting folks in Germany because you can't really knock on doors. Everybody lives in apartments and you have to have the code to get into the building. You can hit the doorbells outside but then you just talk into the speaker. They end up doing lots of street displays and contacting folks on the street or train. They have a very nice ward and they get fed very well. When she gets back maybe we can have her and Jeremy cook a Brazilian/German meal for the crew.

ceiling, and the upstairs bathroom, which was in a rubber ducky theme, complete with that color window sill, door frame and light box. So I have been painting and demolishing. The kids are out of school for 10 days for potato harvest, so on Tuesday we got started on the kitchen. We knew that we wanted to tear down the upper cabinets over the bar but we were going to wait. When we got started, though we decided to do it, so we got out the sledge hammer and tore it down. It took a sledge hammer because they had just nailed it in with about 3 inch nails and no screws. So the rest of the week we painted. I am enclosing some before and after pictures. It will be a lot more work, but it will be fun.



teaches at BYU and when I tell him that the professors up here go by brother and sister rather than doctor he can't believe it. Those of you who are Ricks alumni need to come back up and check the place out.

Leslie is kicking butt and taking names. The kids have been out this week for potato harvest and she has had them

November. She has made some friends and is having a great senior year in the new school. Jeff has made some great friends and we have a basement full of teenagers almost every night.

Rich is just about ready to leave Korea. He has orders to Fort Carson Colorado. The unit he is going to will just be coming back from Iraq. When they get back almost all of them will

This is Leslie. We are loving Rexburg. It is a much smaller town than we are used to. There are only a couple of stores in town, a Walmart, a Kmart and a few local small stores. It was a really quiet town until the students came back and then I said that we had been invaded by a plague of 18 to 25 year-olds. They are very cute though and when we take walks it is fun to see the young couples out. We live only about 3 blocks from campus so we walk down by there a lot. Greg rides his bike to work every day, even now that it has gotten cold. We got our first snow here yesterday, Oct 6! Actually, it snowed all day last Saturday but it didn't stick. Yesterday it did stick and we got about a foot and a half. When we took our walk today there were a lot of branches broken off of trees because the snow was so heavy and the trees still had most of their leaves.

We really like our house. It had some things that needed updating, like the kitchen, which was 80's brown cabinets and dropped

Well, Greg told you about everyone else, I am enclosing Amy's address if any of you want to write to her or send her a card for Christmas. We are excited to have Rich here for Christmas, we haven't seen him since he graduated last May. We love you all and would love a visit from any of you at any time.

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# Arizona Burnetts

**We Did It!!!** After 10 weeks of training we traveled to Anaheim, California to run the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Disneyland Half Marathon. The key to success was knowing we were all in it together encouraging each other. I think we would all agree it was one of the toughest physical things any of us has ever participated in.

We arrived in California on Friday evening where we settled in at the hotel which was located next to the Anaheim Convention Center and we could see into the grounds of Disneyland / California Adventure. We had a wonderful view of the fireworks display they put on each night at Disneyland. Saturday we spent the morning picking up our race packets and visiting booths at the fitness expo held in conjunction with the half marathon and spent the afternoon at the beach. Sunday we went to church and then spent a little more time at the fitness expo to find out details for the following morning's race. Sunday night it was early to bed so we could arise in the morning for the race. None of us slept well that night (jitters and adrenaline rush). We arose around 3 a.m., left the hotel about 4:15 and walked to the Disneyland Hotel where the race would begin. The longest hour and a half of our lives was waiting for the race to begin. Once the race began we ran together for the first mile (I, Jill, was the one to help pace them in the beginning so no one would get too tired).

Larry over hydrated because it was unseasonably hot and he felt he needed more liquid. He began to struggle with light headedness and stomach problems around mile 6. Tiffany and Heather both had knee problems that started bothering them after 10 or so miles. Katelyn was first over the finish line!

After the race we were too tired to walk back to our hotel so we waited for the shuttle that would take us to the place

the hotel shuttles were running. By the time we got there it was going to take too long for the hotel shuttle so guess what . . . we walked another mile back to our hotel. Boy did that hot tub feel good when we got back to our hotel. After a good soaking, we got ready for home. We had linner (lunch/dinner) at Mimi's Café at which time we all took Motrin (except Heather) and then headed back to Arizona. The effects of the race didn't hit us until the following few days when most of us felt those sore, tired

muscles as we got up and down from resting positions.

What fun!! If anyone is interested in seeing more pictures from the race you can visit the website: [asiorders.com](http://asiorders.com). event: Disneyland Half Marathon

We welcome anyone with a desire to join us next year. Larry and Tiffany will run in the P.F. Chang's Half Marathon in January.

