

# Happy Happenings

SEPTEMBER 2001  
34TH EDITION



## LARRY & JILL:

Hey - hope you all remember who we are! It has been a while since we contributed. We do think about you all often, life continues to rush by, and it is so hard to slow down. Things continue to go well for us here, it is still hot - averaging around 114 degrees during the day, but it is down into the 70's at night. Phoenix continues to grow at about 5-8% per year, it continues to amaze us. The freeways are expanding, the Superstition is expanding to 5 lanes this year, and now goes all of the way through Apache Junction. When we moved here in 1984 the freeway was 2 lanes, and ended shortly after our house. We now have a 25 movie complex next to our home, 7 new restaurants within one mile, a new mini-mall, and soon will have an In-and Out Burger down the street.

Larry continues to work to get the new hospital up and running. We have been opened for almost one year, and the bugs are almost worked out. This is definitely going to be a once in a lifetime experience. We have been able to achieve some pretty remarkable milestones in our first year. We have had 5 surveys by different governmental agencies, we have quickly become the hospital with the highest patient and staff satisfaction scores, and achieved the best clinical results of any other Banner hospital in cardiac surgery. Not bad for our first year. I am into my 5th year in the Bishopric and enjoying it, but that does not leave too much free time. Tiffany and I did get away for a trip to Havasupai. That was my third time, and her first. We spend 4 days there with some other folks from our ward, did lots of swimming, cliff jumping, hiking and playing. She did quite well on the hike, but did learn how deep the canyon is while hiking up the 2 miles of switchbacks. Jill continues to work at Keller Elementary school. Everyone expected her to quit this year and follow the girls to Junior High, but she enjoys her work and plans on staying there. She was released as the Primary President earlier this year, and was called to 5 other jobs. She is on the Activities committee, manages the missionary plaques, the Bishop's birthday cards, the magazine drive chairperson, and

the Know Your Religion program.

Tiffany is also doing well. She is a Senior! and is only taking classes till noon this year. She spent the summer working at InData - a corporation owned by a woman in our ward. She is planning on living at home, and starting college right after High School. She is still a home body, but does enjoy hanging out with her friends, jogging the morning with her Mom, playing the piano, and has had a great summer traveling to Moab for a river trip, to Salt Lake for her annual Laurel trip, and to Havasupai.

Heather is a 9th grader, and a very good student. She is the life of the party, and has many good friends. It seems like she spend every waking moment together and then some. She is on the High School swim team, and spends 3 hours per day practicing. She swam in the city league for the 7th year, and played fast pitch softball for the first time this year. It was quite different from the slow pitch leagues she has been in. She is a new Miami, and enjoying young women.

Katelyn is also in Junior High this year, and we are very glad. The group she hangs with started Junior High last year, and she spent a lonely year in Elementary by herself. She is a new Beehive, and went to camp for the first year this summer. She did have a good time, went repelling for the first time, and shared her testimony for the first time also! She spends every waking moment with her friends, and went to California with a group of them earlier this month. She also did swim team for the 7th year, and played slow pitch softball.

We miss you all, and plan on coming back for Christmas. Will see you all soon.





## Lawson & Kelly:



We've had a fun summer and are sad that school has started and summer's coming to an end. We had fun going to an Ogden Raptors baseball game (left). It was a pretty exciting, high scoring game. There were some home runs and a lot of foul balls that kept the boys on the watch!

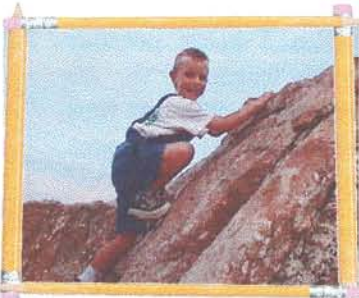
We were sad about Grandma Burnett passing away, but we know she was ready and that she's probably a lot more comfortable now. It was sure nice to see everyone even though it wasn't for a happy occasion. We

enjoyed being at the Summit with everyone. Here's a picture (right) of Grandma White and Landon at the Summit.



Cason and Tanner went to Canada for almost 2 weeks. Kelly's sister Colleen who lives in Idaho Falls was going up so we drove the boys up there and she took them with her. They had a great time up there. They love to get out like that where they have lots of room to run and play with cousins and friends. On our way back to Idaho Falls before picking Cason and Tanner up, we stopped at the Summit and Kelly, Thayne, Landon and I went for a fun 4-wheeler ride up one of the trails in the mountains there.

At the beginning of the summer Cason mentioned several things he wanted to do. Going to Canada was one, going to Lagoon was another, and going to Antelope Island was another. Here's a picture of Tanner (left) and one of Cason (right) climbing rocks at Antelope Island. Also a picture of me with



Thayne and Landon (bottom right) there at Antelope Island. We also went to Lagoon and had fun there, so Cason was able to do all the things he really wanted to do this summer. Kelly and I rode the Cliffhanger at Lagoon while a friend watched the kids. It was a pretty fun ride!



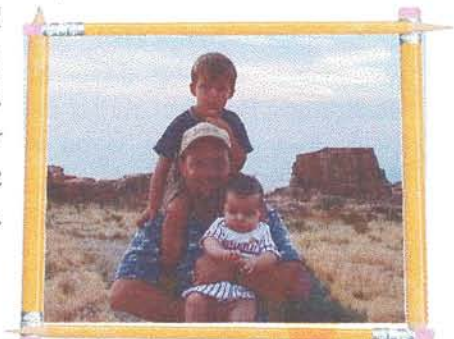
Landon is growing so fast! He is over 16 pounds now. That's over double what he came into the world as. Can you imagine doubling your weight in about 5 months?! He's rolling over now. All the boys are so good with Landon. They all like to hold him and make him laugh. He just loves them too. Anytime he sees any of his brothers, he just starts giggling.

Cason's excited to be in 4th grade this year. Tanner's in 1st grade. They're both happy to be back in school and I think Kelly will enjoy having a little more quiet around the house for part of the time! Thayne's starting preschool next week.

Soccer's starting next week. They are short on coaches so I'll be coaching both Cason's and Tanner's teams this year. Hopefully that won't be too much to keep up with!

We were at Mom's and Tanner got put in timeout. Guess it was too long (10 minutes) because he just ended up falling asleep! (left)

We had a really fun time at the Summit last weekend. A couple of other families in our ward went with us. We rode the 4-wheeler, played basketball and other games, had yummy dutch oven food and cobbler, nice campfires and had fun picking out constellations after it got dark. The weather was so nice and we just had a lot of fun. We hope everyone is doing well.





**Todd & Loreen:** It's a bummer to say, "We HAD a great summer," because we're not ready for summer to be over yet. July was busier than we had expected. The girls finished their swim lessons and we went to the temple. Then Grandma passed away and we made an unexpected trip to Utah. We will sure miss her! It was so good to see all of you there (even Sarah!). We enjoyed going to the Summit, Lana's, Lisa and Laura's, and Dad's. Thanks, Mom and Lynn, for your wonderful hospitality (as always), for letting us use your car, and for the fun visit!

Melanie, came to Connecticut for a week. We went to the Mark Twain House, the beach, the Yankee Candle Factory, New York City, and the Aquarium. We all had fun and it was nice to have her. So after all that traveling, we cancelled our trip to Maine, but hope to make it there some other time. Dad & Connie are coming in October.

Todd was in Utah only for a few days. He had to get back to work and the Young Men. He took them to the White Mountains in New Hampshire and they had many fun adventures. He is starting a class to prepare for the Professional Engineer's Exam. It's every Wednesday night plus a couple of Saturdays for a couple of months. He's excited about it. He resurfaced our driveway - a long and messy job. He threw away the clothes and shoes he used after he was done.

Brittney starts school this week. We went to the school to see her new room and she is very excited. She

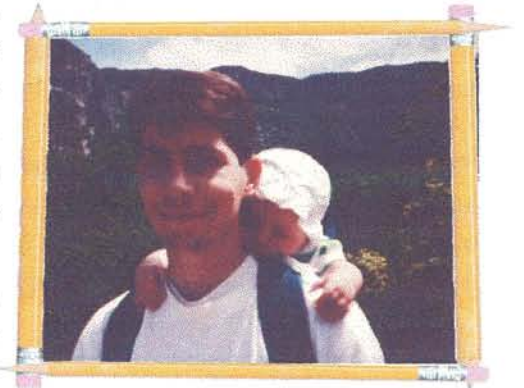
learned to swim this summer. She can jump in at the deep end and swim to the stairs. She finished all 100 reading lessons and wants to start piano now. When we have a bigger backyard, Brittney wants to get a yellow "labadog."

Hannah got several inches cut off her hair. She likes it because it's easier to brush and she has a tender head. Her favorite color is still pink and she still loves to wear dresses. The girls both enjoy the bikes they got for their birthdays (bottom left). Hannah likes to "beetle" things up when we're cooking, and try to "smack" the flies with the "fly swapper."



Aubrey is a joy! She crawls all over the place. Her favorite places are the stairs and the bathroom (the toilet, garbage can, and T.P. are of particular interest). She says, "Boo" and "Binney" (for Brittney) and lots of gibberish. It's very cute. We are looking forward to her first birthday this month, even though we really don't want her to grow up! Here is a picture of her asleep in the baby backpack when we were in Franconia Notch, New Hampshire.

Our latest house projects (we're always doing something!) is trim and a play house in the basement. Our garden is doing well, especially the tomatoes. We love our quiet, peaceful, green backyard.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
(LAST MONTH)**  
**THANYNE - AUG. 6**  
**AMBERLY - AUG. 9**  
**LANA - AUG. 11**  
**JILL - AUG. 22**  
**KELLY - AUG. 24**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
**TANNER - SEPT. 12**  
**GREG D. - SEPT. 14**  
**LAWSON - SEPT. 18**  
**JANCY - SEPT. 22**  
**AUBREY - SEPT. 26**



## Mom & Lynn:

What a busy month we've had! We certainly wouldn't have desired a funeral to bring us all together, and yet what a blessing and joy it was in our lives. As I grieved for Grandma, I realized that next to Lemuel, she was my oldest living friend. And that friendship meant so much to me. Lisa said that as she struggled to hear and understand Grandma's words on that last visit before her death, one of the things she asked was "How's Leah (or how's 'your mama') doing?" As we spent time with each of you, discussing Grandma's life and being involved in your sorrow, we understood a little more about what it can mean to be part of an eternal family! Now, it might sound strange to talk about Lynn and Ethel as being part of the same family, and yet I believe ultimately, that's what it's all about. Quite selfishly I can say that my friend Ethel did one more favor for me. Lynn and I were at such a fork in the road in our lives, (and still are) and our discussions with you, individually and collectively, helped clear some of the fog that has made it so hard to envision the path we should take. Your advice was invaluable to us and we have proceeded to act on many of your suggestions.

So—even as you read this, there is a "For Sale" sign in our front yard. Hard to believe! But it's there and we both feel very confident that this is the right thing to do. We've about worn ourselves out getting the house scooped out enough to show. Loreen started us out stripping it down and it's amazing how much we have. Thanks to those of you who came on the "Help Grandma and Grandpa Clean Their House So They Can Sell It" day! You were lifesavers! There's one thing I'd like all to understand: Grandkids, you are helping Grandma and Grandpa go on a mission! We want to be Missionaries! (without growing a foot or two).

And now we're off to Germany. When I tell people we're "Going to Europe" it seems very unreal! But we have our tickets and are on our way. Thanks so much to Leslie and Greg for all they're doing to make this dream come true. I'm sure you'll hear more about this later!

Kids, Pray for us! We need so much help. Not only in selling the house and doing what Heavenly Father wants us to do with our lives, but please pray about my knees. I must make a decision about them as we contemplate two years of service (maybe in a foreign land.) The knee replacement surgery seems so radical and Lynn is still not convinced that this is the right time for that. Of course, it scares me to death! Since getting them both injected with cortisone again, I can't imagine voluntarily subjecting myself to torture. And yet the last of June, July and part of August torture! President Hinckley was sure correct when he said old age is not for sissies!

We love you all and we love it that you love each other! As your parenthood matures, you will understand what I mean. We're working with a lawyer to draw up a living trust. (More about that later.) But in that trust we're making all eleven children equal in your inheritance. (Not that there will be any since we're spending it all up.) And that's how we feel about it: We love every one of you with all our hearts! Love, Mom and Lynn

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I (Loreen) have put most of Grandmother's poems that I have in the newsletters. I asked Mom & Lynn to write a part of their life story each month. It won't be chronological, but by whatever topic they choose. I'm really looking forward to it and I'm sure you will all enjoy it, too. Thanks, Mom & Lynn for being willing to do it!! Lynn volunteered to go first.





## Incident With The Hay Rake

Recorded July 29, 2001

This is a story I had completely forgotten about until today. Part of the forgetfulness is due to the fact that I was totally unaware of what was happening when it happened. What brought it to mind now is that today in Priesthood Meeting Mike Willey read some of what his Dad had recorded about his life, and one of the fears he had in his growing up is what happened to me.

I tell this story to illustrate how sometimes we are protected in some mighty marvelous ways. I still have no clue as to how or why I was protected on this occasion.

I grew up on a farm. I saw great advancement in farming technology in my years before I left the farm. In my early youth I remember the only non-human power for running farm equipment was a horse - or teams of horses. I remember the first old Fordson tractor Dad bought. Then a few years later he gave that up and acquired a much smaller but much more versatile Ford F5 tractor (We still see a few of those around - most of which have had some level of restoration work done on them. We even briefly considered buying one of those when we bought our property at Malad Summit, but didn't do so because of the perceived high cost per benefit. In retrospect it might have been a good idea to have chosen it rather than the little tractor-mower we did buy.)

I digress. The technology of harvesting hay in my youth consisted of a mechanical mowing machine with a five or six foot cutter bar - first pulled by a team of horses, later by the tractor; and a hay rake pulled by a horse or by a team of horses. If you are unacquainted with a hay rake let me describe it a bit. It was about 10-12 feet wide. It consisted of two tall wheels, probably five feet high, one at either end of this 10-12 foot span. Hanging from the long axle which connected the two wheels was a series of spring steel tines formed in a half circle opening toward the front, so that as the rake moved forward the tines were positioned so they would pick up the hay which had been mowed, and as the rake continued to move forward the hay would be rolled into a roll of hay. In the early version of rakes which I remember these tines were attached to a handle which could be reached from the seat which sat in the center of the machine - up high so it was away from the actual work of raking. When the rake became full of this rolling hay the operator would pull the handle forward raising the tines toward the back, and letting the hay fall out on the ground (not necessarily an easy job). One of the goals was to drop the hay at the same places as one crossed the field repeatedly, making a row of hay (called a windrow).

In later versions of the hay rake there was a foot pedal - rather than the handle - which connected a little lever to a cog on the wheels which raised the tines with the power of the forward motion of the rake rather than purely by man-power, and dropped the hay. I think it was this later version which fits into my story.

I can't fix precisely from memory what my age was when this event occurred but I believe it was when I was 15 or 16 years old, which would put the incident in 1948 or 1949. We had long since been using primarily tractors as a source of power for most of our farm work, but we still had - and used - the old hay rake.

It fell my lot on this particular summer day to rake the hay on a recently mown field on a farm we were renting (we had our own farm but contracted to run another farm to provide additional feed for the cows, etc.). Most of what follows comes not from my memory of the actual event, but of my memory of what a neighbor told me about the event. I do remember of slowly waking up surrounded by hay, with this neighbor kneeling over me trying to assist me in the wake-up process.

It seems the horse (team of horses? – I don't remember) had become spooked about something, and bolted and ran. I had fallen off the rake – and must have hit my head in the process and been 'knocked out'. I was then *in the rake, being rolled and rolled, collecting hay in the roll as the rake went along. Then, and I am* very much at a loss to explain how this happened, the mechanism which drops the hay engaged – and dropped me and the hay which had been collected.

I was safe. As I remember it there were very few scratches, no broken bones, no big sore spots on me which would have lasted for days. Just some grogginess as I slowly came to, and went and got the horse(s), and finished the job. (I guess I don't even remember for sure that I finished the job that day.)

Looking back at this it all seems incredible. Unconscious, in a rake being pulled by a spooked horse(s), rolling along at a rather high speed, keeping clear of the wheels (I almost surely would have been killed had I gotten wound up with either of them), the dropping mechanism engaging and dropping me out, a neighbor observing this happen and coming to my assistance. It is far too much to attribute to chance. I was protected that day. As I surely have been many times. Even how merciful was being 'knocked out'; as it was *I rolled with the rake rather than fighting it; I don't remember the fright I surely would have experienced had I been awake.*

I am certain I have not thanked the Lord adequately for His protection that day. I express my gratitude now. He was with me and protected me. I am very grateful!