

Mom & Lynn:

It is that time again, and I haven't done anything about getting something written for the newsletter.

Hi. This is Lynn again, even though I suspect Mom will add some to this before it goes out. Mom (Grandma) has spent the last month recuperating from her big knee replacement surgery. I have spent a lot of my time trying to help her with everything from getting out of bed, walking, getting the CPM (constant passive motion) machine set up and taken down, fixing something to eat (I still wouldn't call it 'cooking', I don't seem to get the hang of being a good cook), taking her to physical therapy and to doctors, keeping the house reasonably neat, helping her (sometimes) with her physical therapy, and generally being at her beck and call. It has been an enjoyable thing for me to have done. I love her, you know.

Her knee is recovering very well indeed. But that isn't the whole story. Remember last month I told about her having some crazy heart beats called 'atrial fibrillation' while she was in the hospital? Well, since then Grandma has gone back to the heart doctor (cardiologist) and she asked him to give his okay for her to go on a mission. He said "No, not till we get your heart fixed." So, we have an appointment with a different cardiologist for this Saturday morning to find out what more can be done. *If you ask me, I think there are some miracles going on here. Grandma had her weird heart problem while she was in the hospital, right when this cardiologist was on duty in the same hospital, it was Sunday afternoon, remember. This cardiologist's office partner is the only doctor in the Intermountain west who does the procedure recommended to take care of atrial fibrillation. Then, we thought it may take 2-3 months to get in to see him, and he has a time for our first appointment within two weeks. Pretty remarkable, don't you think?*

And, as I said last month, it seems there is always something else. Grandma has been having lots of pain in her lower back and hip (on the same leg as her surgery, her right.) That is still an ongoing problem. I will let her tell you about this.

I love all of you!! (Or as Grandma says, I love ya'all!!!)
Lynn

(Here is a picture of Mom's bionic knee.)

Hi Guys from Mom,

Isn't Lynn sweet? All he ever thinks about is ME! I love him lots and lots.

Well, we're really filling out our mission papers! (Again). Lynn passed his physical exam with flying colors. Now we have to do the dentist thing, get our pictures taken and I have to be released from the heart doctor and our papers can go in! We're saying we'll be available February 1st, although the Bishop doesn't think they'll get us out by then. It's so exciting and we can hardly wait to see where we'll get to serve.

In the meantime, we sure do feel relieved that the Dountiful House is sold. Well, not really all the way sold but at least 'promised.' We were sure excited to drive by the other day and see that they had put some really cute Halloween decorations up. We thought that showed that they were really making it their home. We just hope they'll come up with their financing soon so that it will *really* be sold!

In the meantime, we getting so excited for everyone to come for Caleb's blessing. It's going to be so great to have the Coons here and hope everything will go well.

We love you all very much and thank you for your prayers and words of encouragement. We need it!
Love, Mom

November Birthdays:

Nov. 1 - Lynn

Nov. 3 - Loreen

Nov. 21 - Rich & Anthony

December Birthdays:

Dec. 7 - Mom

Dec. 14 - Jenny



Happy Holidays everyone. Things are going well here in Arizona - hope things are well with you all. Life never seems to slow down, but we are enjoying it. An update on us.....

Tiffany is doing well in her first semester of college - she is doing very well in her classes - and has received 100% on all of her math exams so far, even though she is in the second year level math classes. She also has English, Philosophy, and Spanish - and is doing well in all of those classes as well. We bought her a car - a 2001 Toyota Corolla, which she has enjoyed so far. She did not like the buying part - that made her very nervous (I had a good time dealing for a lower price).

Heather will be swimming in the State meet Friday and Saturday. She will receive her second High School letter this year as a Sophomore for her swimming. Her best stroke this year has been her breast stroke, and she has received many first, second or third place finishes this year in the multi-school events, and is the fastest swimmer in her school for this event. Quite an achievement for a sophomore. She is still very outgoing, enjoys spending time with her friends, and is busy passing off her young women's goals. She will be getting her permit February 3rd, and is looking forward to driving next July.

Katelyn is in 8th grade, and also doing well in school. She is President of the Beehive class in church, and is doing a very good job with that. She has a very large group of friends, and we are frequently picking up, or taking them places. She continues to do well with her piano lessons, and has decided she needs brown hair now - we keep trying to talk her into black. She is a Harry Potter fanatic and has been looking forward to the release of the Chamber of Secrets for some time now. We probably will be going next Thursday at midnight - at least that is the plan for now.

Not much new with Jill and I. She continues as the Relief Society Secretary, and me on the High Council. My responsibilities in addition to a ward assignment, is with the Young Men, and that keeps me quite busy. We just finished a "Teen Elect" activity where Jill and I were in charge of cooking a five course meal for 250 youth, and our annual Youth Conference is this Saturday. We will be cooking 3 meals for 250 kids also - and having a day full of fun activities. The hospital is doing well. We just celebrated our 2nd birthday, and had a very big event where we unveiled a bronze statue of a nurse outside the hospital. She is sitting on our fountain, right by a little waterfall, and looks quite nice. We are already the largest heart program in Arizona now, and will be adding 49 more beds this year, and another CVOR and Cath Lab next year.

We miss you all - and look forward to seeing you soon. It is doubtful we will be coming up this year

Laura & Greg:

again, we really need to take care of some things here - but we will let you know.

Here are the highlights of our month:

We enjoyed several birthdays. Ondylyn turned 11 and had a party with three of her friends. They went to Nickelcade, and had pizza. For my (Laura's) birthday I got to sleep in and the kids decorated for Halloween. We had breakfast at the Golden Corral the next day. Zachary turned 8. For his birthday party, they went miniature golfing, played nintendo, watched videos, and he had his first ever sleep-over. He was baptized November 2 by Jeremy. Jeremy did a great job and baptized him like he had done it a million times.

Anthony had a karate competition and competed in two events and won two gold medals!

Our haunted house was a huge success. We had it open on Friday the 25th and again on Halloween night and took over 300 people through. Jeremy worked really hard on it.

I was really sick most of the month. Kelly Grow's son Brandon got married in Salt Lake so we did a wedding buffet for that.

We have a huge hole in our backyard. They started digging on Nov. 1 behind the garage and the kitchen. They say it will be done by Christmas but we'll see.

Hello, family! It is starting to feel like winter - and I'm not sure I like it! Jenny does, though. She calls from Ogden to tell me it is snowing and sooo pretty! She loves walking over to the school when it is cold! How can she be my daughter?? Probably because she is Steve's daughter, too, and he also loves the cold!

October sure flew by for us - and now we are talking about Christmas! Unreal!

Cory is doing great in school - a 4.0 last term - Yay! He is still playing the trumpet in band. He has a little group that stays after school and writes and practices music for each of the instruments in the group. He is doing great in piano. He was able to combine one of his loves with his science project for school - building and testing Trebuchets (catapults). He had built several small ones out of wood and planned to build a large wooden one. While visiting Grandpa Burnett, instead of building a wooden one, they built a 6 foot metal one! He loves testing it and launching balls of all sizes. It is pretty cool to see what he can do! We received word that Cory and Jared's Eagle packet is back from Nationals - Yay! The Court of Honor will probably be in January. He also took part in the Order of the Arrow Ordeal. It was really an ordeal, too. He had to sleep alone up the canyon under the stars at the end of October. The next day they were given very little food and performed service clean-up work all day. The Order has something to do with "Cheerful service under all conditions." Good things to learn. He is also Den Chief with my Cub Scout Wolf group. I love doing that with him.

Jared spent last Friday (stuffing school!) in Laura and Greg's backyard watching the digger and dump truck. I froze, but it didn't seem to bother him! We tried to get a lot of the "action" on video so Jared can have his own video of the Dye remodeling project! I have to admit that I

enjoy watching those big machines "do their stuff" - not for as long as Jared does, though! After about 5 hours he did get down in the sandbox and did some digging of his own!

Jenny is still loving life at Weber. We brought her home this weekend - that was a lot of fun! She got a job at Deseret Book with a firm personal resolve (having her checks direct deposited to the bank!) to not spend everything she earns on books! I know that will be hard, but she does want to use it to pay rent. One roommate moved out and another moved in, and the four seem to get along real well.

Christie has been going to an Institute class and has really enjoyed it. Her job is better some days than others - depending how the two girls are feeling. She made a denim quilt, and is working on another one. She enjoys it, but probably won't be as big a nut about it as her mother! She is also working on her recipe file and copying the recipes she likes. And still dating Dave!

Steve has been real busy with projects and deadlines for work. We are glad his job is going well!

Just FYI - We have planned to do Grandma Ethel's Temple work on Saturday, Nov. 30. I don't know what time - we can all decide that together depending on the needs of those with little ones and peoples travel plans. Laura and I thought maybe we could have a simple meal after (nothing big after all that Turkey and stuff!) - what do you all think? Hopefully everyone knows about this - I think I told everyone! Let me know if there are complications, and also if there is a specific ordinance you would like to do. Melanie will be doing the baptism, but the others we can decide on. Remember to bring your Temple Recommends! I am excited to do this!

Bye all!



October whizzed by with Caleb reaching his two-month birthday and the locals asking if we are ever going to bless him. We look forward to having a priesthood circle of family members around him when we go to Utah this month.

Our trip to the local fair reminded me of 4-H with animals, flowers, vegetables, etc. Brittney won a ribbon cheering for the winning pig at the pig races. Five small pot-bellied pigs racing around a hay-covered track for Oreos at the finish line was the highlight to our trip to the fair.

We got a small taste of pilgrim life as we went to Plymouth, Massachusetts on a rainy fall day. We toured the Mayflower II (a replica of the original Mayflower which was scrapped) complete with "passengers" in period dress who acted and talked as if they were real pilgrims. It's amazing how small the ship really was. There were 100 passengers and about 35 crew members. The luxurious captain's cabin which was about an 8 X 8 foot area with a wooden bunk built into the wall to sleep on made us appreciate our "small," heated, dry house.

That area is the heart of cranberry bogs so we visited Cranberry world and saw how they harvest cranberries. While the girls played in the cranberry bog ball pit (60,000 red balls!), Todd and I enjoyed the all-you-can-drink cranberry juice stand.

Aubrey continues to provide free entertainment for the whole family (but we are sending a bill to the people who sit around us at church). A few times a week we have to clean marker or pen off of most of her body. She got into a tangle with the vaseline jar again and we couldn't blame it on Mom this time because she wasn't here. Aubrey is a great climber and dancer. She naturally happy as shown by her ability to transition from sup-sipping to "I happy now, see?" in 10 seconds or less.

Brittney continues to improve her piano abilities and is enjoying her drawing class. I went into her class and read a book and showed slides, then had lunch with her in the cafeteria.

Caleb smiles, laughs, and even slept through the night a couple of times.

Hannah enjoys school. I ate lunch with her in the cafeteria, too, and she had a school friend over.

We can't wait to see you all soon!!

Tanner was baptized this month. He was very excited for it and very happy to be able to be baptized. The Sunday after his baptism, he got to sit on the stand by the Bishop. When Tanner has his interview with the Bishop several weeks before, the Bishop told him he could sit on the stand with him. That was on a Saturday night. The next day at church, we went in and sat down and Tanner just kept going up to the stand! He thought he got to do it right then! He enjoyed sitting up there and he almost fell asleep! I guess he was just practicing for when he's a Bishop someday!

We have our kids start fasting when they get baptized. We were talking about Cason and Tanner fasting and Thayne came to me and asked if he could fast. I thought that was neat, but apparently he didn't really mean it or he didn't understand what he was saying because a few minutes later he asked what was for lunch!

The 5th grade at Cason's school went to an environmental center recently and spent a couple of days and a night. They had a lot of fun activities for them. I went up in the evening and spent the night with them. They had separate dorms for the boys and girls and most of us grown ups slept out in the big common room. There were some serious snorers! I took ear plugs and still had a hard time sleeping!

Halloween was fun this year. Our ward had a dinner at the church and then did a trunk or treat in the parking lot. After that the boys still wanted to go out. It was so cold though! Cason gave up on it pretty quick! Tanner and Thayne and I kept going for a while but we were frozen by the time we got back home.

Kelly's pregnancy is going well. I can't remember the exact due date, but it's like February 24. We're nervous and excited to have another. This one will probably be the last for us. That makes Kelly sad. She's always enjoyed her pregnancies and new little babies. She's been very blessed that way because I know some people who really don't (can't) enjoy being pregnant because of the complications.

Overall things are going well for us. We're enjoying a little bit of slow time between sports. Soccer is over for this year and basketball hasn't started yet. It's nice to have some time to get some things done around the house. I'm really enjoying my calling in the Elder's quorum and Kelly is enjoying her gospel essentials class.

