

# Happy Happenings

February, 2004

2nd Edition

## Sorensen Family:

Hello, Family. January has been a good month. The kids were glad to get back to school. On Martin Luther King, Jr. day we went to Jackson Hole & took a sleigh ride to look at all the Elk. It was really neat & the kids had fun. Here are two pictures of the Elk and a picture of us in the Visitor's Center by a wolf. There is also a picture below from when we got some snow at Christmas. The kids were so excited to go out & play.

We also went to Casper one Saturday to buy cabinets & carpet for the front of our horse trailer

Aaron is finishing off. It should be nice when it gets done.

Calves will come any time. Aaron hired a guy to help.

Broox and I just hang out here. We play with Jancy & get her on the bus at 10:00 & he usually has a nap. That's when I read & sew & do pictures. It is weird having so much free time in the day while he naps. I guess I'll just enjoy it while I have it. Sometimes when it's warm enough we walk to the bus stop to get Jaxon & Jancy. Broox likes riding in the stroller.

The kids will be in a rodeo at the Golden Spike Arena at 5 pm on March 16. We'd love to see any of you there to watch the kids.

We have been healthy & we are all doing well. Hope you all are, too.



## Pierson Family:

Not much to say this month-just a note to tell everyone hello! Jared is happy going to school and work. Jenny is real busy with her classes and work. Cory is learning to play his guitar, and wanting to learn drums. He performed in a State Junior High Honor Choir up in Woodcross last weekend. We enjoyed listening to the group. Steve is going to Japan in March. He has scheduled in two days for sight seeing - hope he gets them! My big Enrichment meeting is this Thursday. We are doing a lot with 72-hour kits. It has been good to help me get our kits updated, but I'll be glad when it is over and I can think of something else! Christie and Dave are happy and doing well. We love you all!!

## Elder & Sister White:

Lynn reminded me that I hadn't yet told the family about our trip to Erath County where my Daddy was born. After reading my journal entry to him he decided that it would be good to copy it and send it to all of you. Now, there are some grammatical errors in it, (Jeffrey and others can probably pick them out.) BUT, if we need to share our history with our family, here's some for you.

That trip was the breakthrough. Even though Lynn felt convinced that part of the reason we were called to the Texas Dallas Mission had to do with my genealogy, I had hesitated to fragment my missionary efforts. I can't tell you how wholeheartedly we have been into our mission. We don't watch TV, read secular books, go to movies, go to the mall, even go sightseeing very much. We just do our missionary responsibilities plus some extra for the mission work. It's great! So when I thought about doing family history I wondered if it would take away from that.

BUT, after the trip to Erath county, I became convinced, (as Lynn has been all along) that there must be a purpose for us being right here in the middle of my roots! Why, there are several places right in our mission boundaries where various portions of our family have been born, lived and/or died. Sherman, Bonham, Bullard, Whitehouse, Shelby and Panola counties, Ellis county. I can't believe it! I got a Texas map and am marking the places PAF says I have ancestors. My map is very colorful!

So, I'm thinking, planning, and praying about what else I should be doing. You all know that I have been into genealogy for a long time. Now, I need to think what needs to be done on site before its time to come home. Did you realize that we've passed our halfway mark? Yup. Missionaries aren't supposed to count or be trunky and were not really. But time is flying by.

We love you all. Thank you for your prayers that we can sell the Bountiful house. We hope it will be soon. We're getting to the point of not knowing where the next dollar (or actually 1500) is coming from. Keep us up to date with all that's going on. I owe Lisa and family a letter. And we heard from Cason, Tanner, Thayne and Landon. THANK YOU!

Here are a couple of pictures. The one on the left is of Lawrence (Larry), my cousin and me. Larry is Aunt Bernice's son. The one we went to see on Christmas Eve. On the right are the Farrers, our good friends here in the mission office and two of the assistants, Elder Thatcher and Elder Williams. Elder Thatcher has gone home now--to Saratoga Springs! His parents moved there just two weeks before he went home. We think he lives in our ward right down the street from our condo.



### Coons Family:

Here is a picture of Tiffany, Brittney, Todd, Loreen, Aubrey, Heather, Caleb, Hannah, Larry & Jill (Katelyn was sick) when we saw the Christmas lights at the Arizona Temple.

We had a great start to the New Year at Todd's parent's house. We also had a fun Saturday day trip with them to Parker lake to fish (picture). It was a little chilly and we didn't catch anything but we had a great time.



Another Saturday we met Todd's parents, Grandparents, and Tracy's family at the Sonora Desert Museum outside of Tucson. It was fun to learn more about the desert plants, animals, minerals, etc. The drive through the mountains was so beautiful!! I forget sometimes that Arizona is much more than either flat desert or city, and it really has some amazingly beautiful places. We went back home through the Saguaro (those are the tall cacti with arms) National Park and you wouldn't believe how many cacti we saw! They were everywhere and it was neat. It takes them 15 years to get about a foot tall and they don't start growing arms until they are 70 years old! If you see one with 4 or 5 arms it's probably about 200 years old! It's illegal to harm them in any way. We saw a beautiful sunset and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Todd and I had a great 10th Anniversary overnighter and Larry & Jill kept the kids for us. The kids had so much fun!! Todd and I went to the temple and to a comedy club. It is "family appropriate, no profanity" and it was a hoot. The outside pool at our hotel was heated so we swam there. We had a great time.

The sad news for the month (actually it happened at the first of February and that's why this is so late) is that Aubrey got sick with vomiting, diarrhea, and fever and ended up in the emergency room at 3 am and had to stay in the hospital for a couple of days. She was dehydrated and her blood sugar was extremely low. She is on the mend and almost back to normal. We are so glad she's okay.

Brittney and Hannah started piano lessons with a new teacher and are both doing well. They have good teachers at school and are adjusting. They are both in the gifted program and Hannah scored in the 97th percentile in the nation in math. I enjoyed going into Brittney's class one day and stayed for lunch and recess. They love practicing baseball with Todd in the backyard.

Caleb is so fun and happy. Here is a picture of us riding Brittney's scooter, one of our favorite things to do. He loves his goggy (doggy) and kiki (blanket). He's always wanting to go outside. If he wants something he points to it and says, "I do!" We got a porch swing from Todd's parents that we all enjoy.

Todd had a good interview with Intel so we have high hopes there and will let you know.





### Lawson & Kelly:

We've had fun skiing a few times lately (Family picture). Thayne went for the first time and did really well (picture). We went to Park City last week with some friends and even Kelly skied! (Picture of Kelly)

Cason, Tanner and Thayne are all playing basketball now. It sure is fun to watch them. Thayne's games are fun just because it's such a hoot to watch those little kids running around, not dribbling, quadruple dribbling, all that fun stuff!! Everyone is just laughing and enjoying it. Cason's games are fun because the basketball is better, but what's not as fun is that parents are always yelling at the refs and stuff. Too bad we lose so much of that 'just have fun' as we get older and competitive.

Landon thought he was being a good boy to tell Mom that he had flushed Meguire's bikini! Kelly was looking for it and he told her what happened to it. The honesty of little children! Again, too bad they grow up and change; learn when to keep quiet or bend the truth!

Meguire started walking a week or so ago (Picture of Meguire). She's such a good, cute little thing. A real joy to have around.

Cason and I went on the Klondike Derby winter campout (Picture of Cason). Overall it was fun, but had its moments! Friday night it snowed a lot so it was a real challenge to get tents set up and all. Some boys (including Cason) dug snow caves. Bedtime came (about midnight!) and Cason got in his cave (which just wasn't big enough) with his friend Braden. Other boys got in their caves or tents. Cason did ok for a few hours, but ended up coming to the tent in a little bit of a panic saying he was having trouble breathing in the cave. So I went and dug his sleeping bag out of the cave from under Braden and he finished the night in the tent. Inside the sleeping bags (we did 2 sleeping bags each... 1 inside the other) it was plenty warm, but I had too much hot chocolate before bed and had to get up a couple of times! The snow had stopped and the clouds went away and it was COLD by that time! In the morning it was about 6 degrees - COLD! We had breakfast and did the Klondike sled races. That was funny! Some kids got run over by their sleds; one sled just came apart in a bunch of pieces! I'll be interested to see when next year comes, if Cason wants to go or not. I think he had fun, but having 0 body fat, he was pretty cold part of the time.

Kelly and I are having fun with our indoor soccer. Our team is improving. We started out at the bottom of the pack in 10<sup>th</sup> place. We lost a few games and then won a few and moved up to 7<sup>th</sup>. Then we won a game against the 2<sup>nd</sup> place team and moved to 6<sup>th</sup> which is where we are now. It's been fun and we hope to keep doing it as a wintertime activity for us.

Cason, Tanner and Thayne did well in reflections. They went on to district and each placed, but only the top one goes on past there.

Cason and Tanner entered the science fair. Cason got 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tanner got 1<sup>st</sup>. We got bad info on the time and missed the awards, but we were happy they did well in that.



**Larry & Jill:**

We are busy, as usual. Larry is putting together a video for a family in our ward who is losing their 19- year-old son to colon cancer. So when he gets home from work he is busy with that. Tiffany has started her fourth semester at school. She is taking Linear Algebra, Computers, Spanish, and Anthropology. Heather is taking a photography class. She went to the park yesterday to take a roll of black and white pictures. Katelyn finished Cheerleading for this year but is thinking about trying out for JV High School Cheer.

**Jokes from Kelly:**

- \* In a Podiatrist's office: "Time wounds all heels."
- \* On a Septic Tank Truck in Oregon: "Yesterday's Meals on Wheels."
- \* On a Septic Tank Truck sign: "We're #1 in the #2 business."
- \* On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."
- \* Pizza Shop Slogan: "7 days without pizza makes one weak."
- \* At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee: "Invite us to your next blowout."
- \* At a Towing company: "We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."
- \* In a Nonsmoking Area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."
- \* On a Maternity Room door: "Push. Push. Push."
- \* At an Optometrist's Office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."
- \* On a Fence: "Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive."
- \* At a Car Dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."
- \* In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"
- \* At the Electric Company: "We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be."
- \* In a Restaurant window: "Don't stand there and be hungry, Come on in and get fed up."
- \* In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."
- \* Outside a Muffler Shop: "No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."



Cory Feb. 10  
 Greg W. Feb. 13  
 Meguire Feb. 13  
 Lisa Feb. 22  
 Broox Feb. 24

