

Happy Happenings

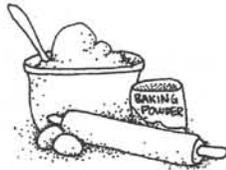
Page 1

November 2005

This Edition by MOM

The Coons Family

Since we are both returned missionaries, we were asked to have some of the Young Men and leaders over for dinner. There were 18 altogether plus the 6 of us! I served Paella, Spanish Tortillas (they are made from potatoes, onions, and eggs and are very thick and filling), and baguettes. We had fruit for dessert like the Spaniards do. Then we talked about our missions a little and they asked questions. The evening went well.



The kids' school had a fun family movie night. They put up a huge screen and we all sat on the lawn. They sold pizza, popcorn, etc. The movie was Bedknobs and Broomsticks. It's a cute movie and we hadn't seen it for a very long time. I don't think the kids had ever seen it. It's super long! We had a fun time.

The kids had a week off for Fall Break. Todd took a couple of days off and we went to the Phoenix Zoo one day.

The weather has turned beautiful. Our garden is growing and starting to produce. We planted trees – lemon, tangerine, tangelo, plum, and apricot. Hopefully they will all do well. We are also putting shelves in our shed. We planted a winter lawn in part of the backyard so we will have nice green grass all winter.



We celebrated the 13th anniversary of Todd's 21st birthday. They went golfing at work that day and he won a \$25 gift certificate. I had called his boss and told him it was Todd's birthday so they made him go up front and they all (about 100 people) sang to him. He was embarrassed. They gave him a little key ring

calculator that has a top that opens. Caleb likes to pretend like it's his cell phone (even though we've never had cell phones).



Caleb is really into super heroes. We asked him which super hero he was and he said that he is "The Number One Powerful Guy." So that's what we call him!

Brittney and Hannah are enjoying their Spanish class. Aubrey is still learning a lot about reading.

We were almost at the Orthodontist's office when we realized that a neighborhood cat was in our van! We just got out and back in at the office without letting the cat out, then took it home when we were done. Luckily it didn't freak out. It did scare us a little, though.

For Halloween Brittney is going to be an Indian girl, Hannah is going to be Pippi Longstocking (or Longstopping as some people here say it), Aubrey is going to be a pilgrim, and Caleb still hasn't decided for sure so we'll see. The people on the four streets where we live always have a bonfire on Halloween so we are looking forward to that.

We love you all!!

**ANNOUNCING: (DRUMROLL)
CORY IS A**



**He has the part of Javert in
Les Miserables in the School Play!**

THE BURNETTS

We had a father/son softball game for a young men activity. Cason had fun, but wasn't fully recovered from his broken collar bone so he was a little sub-par.



We (the fathers) let the boys have the bishop on their team to make it more fair! With the young men we also went to the BYU vs. Air Force game. We had an extra ticket so Tanner was able to come with us also. It was raining really hard right up till the game started so everyone got wet but then the sun came out and it ended up being fun.

We had a parents vs. kids soccer game with Tanner's team. That was a lot of fun. The parents won 3-2. Those boys are getting big enough and good enough now that it was a challenge for us to keep up with them!



We had the Spanish speaking missionaries over for dinner. One of them is from Uruguay and I had fun visiting with him. Kelly talked to them about what they wanted for dinner and they said anything but Mexican food! They said they almost always eat with Hispanic families and it's always Mexican food! So we had spaghetti with breadsticks and salad and they loved it! It's always good to have them over for the boys to see them and visit with them.

Tanner, Thayne and Landon have finished outdoor soccer for now. They all had fun and did well. Thayne and Kelly have started indoor soccer and Tanner and I will start next week. Kelly and I decided to try playing her on a women's team and me on a men's team instead of playing co-ed. We'll see how we like that.

We had a good Halloween and got lots of yummy, healthy candy!



We had our stake conference this last weekend. We had a nice priesthood leadership meeting and a great adult meeting Saturday evening. Then on Sunday we had our own song, prayer and stake business and then had a satellite feed from Salt Lake with Bishop Burton and Elder Packer giving the talks for our general session. That was pretty cool. I don't remember for sure how many stakes were involved, but it was a bunch of stakes in Weber, Box Elder and Cache counties at least.

Hope everyone is well.



Remember to pray for
Jeremy, our
MISSIONARY!
We love you,
Elder Dye

Amy Sue

Hi family! I just thought I would write in and tell everyone how it's going here at BYU. I have a job for the office of information technology. It turns out that I usually get to do homework for most of the time so it's really nice. Besides that I have a bunch of hard classes. I spend a lot of time doing homework and studying, but I really enjoy all of my classes. I have two callings at church, one is temple specialist/coordinator and the other is family history instructor. Considering I've never done anything in family history I've been working hard to learn it and going to Grandma's so she can share some of her knowledge and help me. I still don't know nearly all that I want to but I'm on my way. For the temple calling I'm helping with planning our ward temple trip to Manti and we just found out we have to bring our own names so I'll be working hard on that for a while. It's hard being away from my family but I'm glad that I'm so close to everyone else and I get to spend time with all of the family in Utah. Besides that I'm just trying to get enough sleep and get everything done! I love all of you and I hope I'll get the chance to see everyone soon!

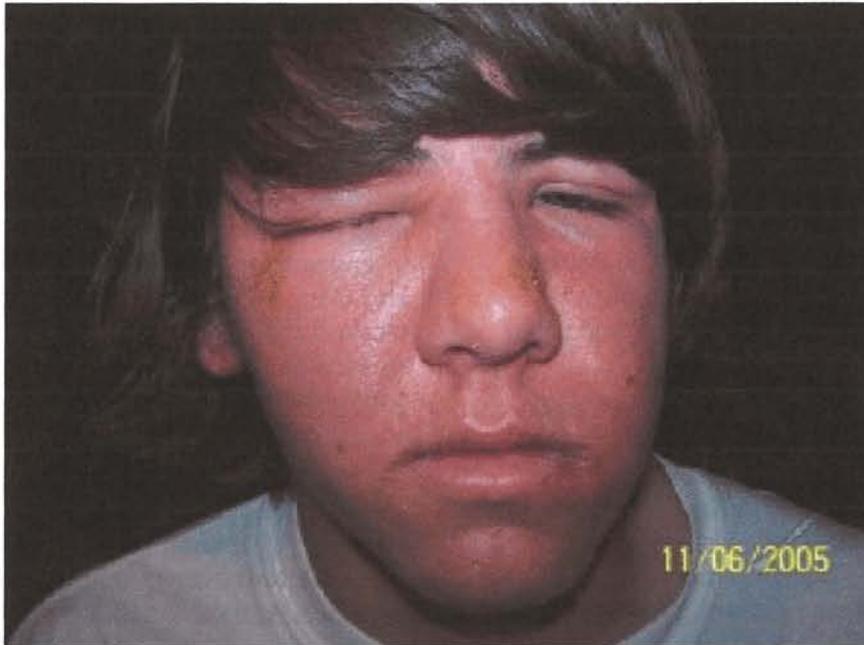
Amy Sue



Nov 1st
Nov 3rd
Nov 21st

Lynn
Loreen
Rich
Anthony

QUIZ: Who is this fellow?
(Clue: It's NOT Harry Potter's Aunt--
the one Doby blew up)



Poor Anthony!

He was in California for a Band competition and he came back looking like THIS! All kidding aside, Anthony has been a very sick boy.

After winning the contest Saturday night, they started home on the school bus. At about 3:00 a.m. they took Anthony off the bus and rushed him to an emergency room in Winnemucca, Nevada. At first they thought that he had cellulitis, and treated him and sent him on home. When I saw him on Monday, I *cried!* Many treatments later they have decided that he probably had a very severe allergic reaction to something. Then they gave him massive amounts of antibiotics which

he was *also* allergic to. He had some horrible reactions, like trouble breathing and swallowing. They had to give him epinephrin to pull him out of that. He also got high on morphine—but don't tell anybody. We don't want them to think he's a druggie.

Now he'll have 12 days on prednisone. Hopefully that'll be it.

Well, he's better. That's the important thing. Well, one important thing. The other is to figure out what in the heck made him so sick so he can avoid it *forever!*

WE LOVE YOU, ANTHONY!!!!

November 1, 2005

Hello from the Dyes



Zac - Our class walked to the cemetery on Halloween. We looked at headstones to see who had served in different wars, who had died the youngest (1 day), who had lived the longest (108), who was buried the longest time ago (Baby Smith had an old, old crumbled headstone I could hardly read), who was buried the most recently (a hole was being dug while we were there). One grave had a new can of beer and bottle of Gatorade on it, I guess they must have liked that. The coolest tombstone was like a miniature house with a triangle roof on each side, so they all came up to one point.

Anthony - Guess what! I am going to California for my band competition. I am so excited. It is going to be so much fun! I will get back on Sunday night. WE are going to the ocean and to china town and to Riplies believe it or not place. Then we are going to kick some trash in the competition. I am sharing a room with Bailey, Warren, and Matt. It's going to be a wild room. Sweet!!!!!!!

Laura - Well, the big news this week is about the Haunted House. It rained all day, so we worked inside on things for the Haunted House and put up the "brick wall" in the dungeon (a 4' X 50' roll of plastic printed to look like a very realistic rough, old-fashioned brick wall we put around the stairs and stairwell leading to Dad's shop). Saturday brought more rain. The tunnel roof collected so much water, we'd have to send Zac out every hour or so to dump it off - it ripped several of the gromets out of the white tarps because it got so heavy. Ondy had very little help from friends and was having a hard time getting people to commit to help on Halloween night. I was so depressed and discouraged on Friday that I was ready to call the whole thing off, but she really wanted to do it, so we persevered! Dad took the



day off work on Monday, Ondy skipped school, and Lisa, Grandpa Lynn, and Grandma all came over to work all day putting things together. By the time it opened, we were all exhausted! Things started slowly and we hardly had anyone in line. No one was really out trick-or-treating at all even though the weather was beautiful, thank heaven! The weather was so beautiful, I just wore a heavy sweatshirt and didn't even have to put my coat on!!! And, NO rain!!! Thank you Heavenly Father! We had 200 lines filled on the guest register, but a lot of people went through more than once, and a lot of people just signed as a family. We had a few kids who stayed 'til the bitter end helping clean up but most of them grabbed their candy and took off to go trick-or-treating. Thank heaven for Lisa and Cory and Grandma and Grandpa. We all worked really hard and got everything down and inside (it's so messy in here you can hardly walk, but at least it's taken down!)

Ondy - The Haunted House was fun, but there was a lot of last minute work! Thank you everybody that helped with it! It went really well. We had over two hundred people come, and they seemed to enjoy it. I think my mom already gave all the rest of the details so I'll go to the next subject. I turned fourteen, so I'm in the Miammaids now. I also went to my first dance. That was really fun. I'm still in Piano and loving it. I have a recital in a few weeks, so I'm having fun working on a Christmas piece for that. School has been pretty fun, but I'm looking forward to all of the breaks. Especially the Christmas one. That's always fun. Well, I'll see you later. Maybe.

BOOK OF MORMON

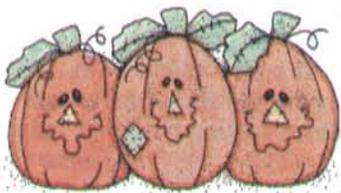
**SO, HOW'RE YOU DOIN'?
GONNA FINISH BY THE
END OF THE YEAR?
YEA!**

From the Sorensens

The biggest news from the Sorensens is that we bought a 40 acre piece of property. We have moved a single wide trailer onto the property. We plan to rent out the trailer; we already have a renter – as soon as we get everything ready. We want to farm the rest of the 40 acres – some sort of cash crop, like clover seed or soy beans, since we don't have cows to feed or anything. It has been a lot of hard work, but the trailer is almost ready. We hope this will be a good investment for us.



The kids had fun on Halloween. Jaxon was a bit big for much costuming this year. Jancy went as a vampire, Broox was a cowboy, and Dixon was a hit as a one-year-old boy.



Aaron, Jaxon, Jancy and Broox had the chance to be in a PBS documentary on the Martin and Willey handcart companies. They went to Casper one Saturday. They got fitted with clothing, and were filmed crossing the North Platte river. Sometime after Thanksgiving, when there is enough snow (JOY, JOY) they get to go back to Casper and do another three-day shoot. (That should be a lot of fun –NOT).

Aaron's least favorite part of all this filming stuff is that he can't shave or have his hair cut until the filming is done. He doesn't like it – but noone else seems to care. Jaxon and Broox don't mind at all that they can't have haircuts until later.

In July I had to fill out a questionnaire for possible jury duty. The case is for a man who was on the honor farm here near Riverton and is now charged with rape and murder. I had to appear in the court house in Riverton on November 2. There were 100 people called for the first screening. They picked 45 people who were acceptable to both the prosecution and the

defense for the next go-round. I was in the group of forty five. Two days later we were all called back. I was relieved when finally I was excused. It would have taken at least three weeks – the last week we would not even have been allowed to go home at night. I wouldn't have minded being on the jury, but it sure would have created problems with taking care of the kids, etc.

We will be coming to Ogden for a rodeo on the 15th of November. Any of you who want are welcome to come see the kids do their thing. Jancy's events start at about 5:30. This probably means we won't be coming back just a few days later for Thanksgiving.

Aaron got another chance to conduct a funeral yesterday. It was for a woman who lived within the Branch boundary – and she said she was a member. We didn't really know her.



Mom & Lynn

What a sad thing–

Lynn spent several hours composing an entry for the newsletter–telling all about our Church History Tour. But it got LOST! Yup–the computer ate it, I guess. So here we go again. Now it's my turn:

On October 6th Lisa and Jared took Collene and Ralph Farrer and us to the airport. Lynn's brother Karl and his wife Jerilyn joined us and we were off on our tour. On October 19th Laura picked us up. What transpired between those dates was *marvelous!*

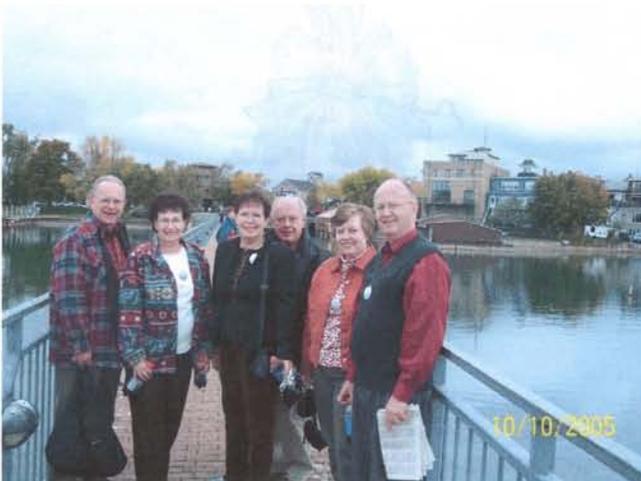
We traveled with 33 others on a large, very comfortable bus–called a "kneeling" bus. That means that you ride high in the air and in order to get off, the front part has to be lowered to ground level–Cool! Our driver, Dave, was not LDS and I often wondered what he must be thinking since the tour was so thoroughly "Mormon". Turns out he takes LDS tours often and his daughter is a member of the Church.

We started in New York where it was *raining!* We were still able to have a great driving tour through downtown Manhattan. Couldn't see Ground Zero well, which was a big disappointment. But we rode the Staten Island Ferry past the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island and met the bus on the other side in New Jersey.

We traveled on to Harmony and were able to actually be at the place where the Priesthood was restored and where the majority of the Book of Mormon was translated. I was new to the feeling and I stood and wept when I thought that I was standing on the sight where these marvelous things took place. Little did I know then of the feelings yet to come.

From there we visited Joseph's birthplace in Sharon Vermont. What a special experience to be able to have our own "Sacrament Meeting" and partake of the sacrament at that holy place.

NEW YORK STATE! I never realized so much Church History happened in New York! And it's *beautiful!* Especially interesting were the "finger lakes". We actually had lunch in Skaneateles NY right by Skaneateles Lake!



We visited the Peter Whitmer Farm where the Church was organized, the Book of Mormon translation was completed and where Moroni showed the plates to the 3 witnesses + one. *Yup—Moroni also showed them to Mary Whitmer—look it up!*

The Palmyra Temple was so special—small and cozy and friendly. They were so glad to have a large group—but a little overwhelmed too. I was thankful I listened to Loreen and lugged my temple clothes the whole way, so I could be in attendance in that special session. (They don't have clothing to rent and, due to space limitations, I was tempted not to take mine. I'm so lucky to have children to advise me!)

For years I have heard Lynn tell of his experience in the Sacred Grove when he was a young boy scout. He received such a strong manifestation of the holiness of that place. So I was particularly anxious to be alone and feel of the Spirit. And I did! It is truly a sacred place. AND, Brittney, I *did* collect leaves! Beautiful fall leaves from some of the same trees that were there when Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith. AWESOME!



I was overwhelmed with feelings as I entered the Smith's log home. It all became so real to me. A large family, crowded into this small, humble cabin. And an *angel* appearing to a boy in the sleeping loft—while his brothers slept on beside him! What a story! We also saw the Hill Cumorah and tried to visualize Joseph getting the plates from Moroni there. It was amazing!

We took a break from the great spiritual experiences and visited Niagra Falls! We rode on "The Maid of the Mist" and got *very close* to that great roaring stream of water.

Next was Kirtland. Oh, I couldn't believe that I was seeing the Kirtland Temple. And what a spirit it has about it—even though it belongs to the Community of Christ Church! They were very gracious to us and we admired them a lot.

We enjoyed a meal in the Amish town of Shipshewana, Indiana. Another people just trying to live their religion. We can think what we want, but there are many, many devout people in the world. We have a great missionary work to do to help them turn their devotion in the right direction.

Carthage Jail was somber. What a feeling of sadness. How amazing to be able to put your finger in a hole made by a bullet meant to slaughter your Prophet! I guess I'm glad to have seen it but it left me with a deep sorrow.

But nothing surpassed Nauvoo. I loved it! The temple was grand. We loved seeing the town and how it was laid out. We didn't get to many of the exhibits about life there during the 1800s but we did get to walk down Parley Street, as President Hinckley asked. And I was overcome by the thoughts of pity and admiration for



those poor people. I'm sure they have their reward

Another break while we attended 3 shows in Branson Missouri. Branson is a town built around clean, wholesome, entertainment. The Osmonds have a theater there where they perform. The most amazing of the three we saw was presented by a musical family--The Lowe Family. I couldn't comprehend either the talent they possessed or the self-discipline it must've taken to develop that talent.

We ended our trip in Missouri. We visited Independence and the future temple site. Saw the great spiral of the Community of Christ temple--wow! And sad, sad, Liberty Jail. But I think Lynn thought 'Last was best of all the game' as we visited Adam-Ondi-Ahman. He was so very impressed with the solemnity of the future of that large natural amphitheater where, in a great and grand meeting, the heads of all the dispensations and even all those who have held any "keys" while here on the earth, will turn those over to Christ as he comes to rule and reign.

Well, can you tell that we loved it? What added so much to being able to visit those places was that we had guides who have taught in CES for years, filling us in on the history of each of the sights. Telling us of the wonderful manifestations, the scripture that was received there, and bearing solemn testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel. Also sharing it with our friends, the Farrers and Karl and Jerilyn. The six of us were so compatible.

The Church is True! Joseph Smith is a Prophet of God. I knew it before. I know it better now!

Love, Mom and Lynn

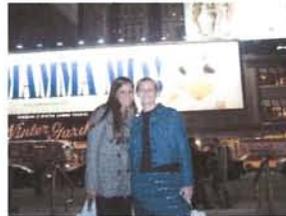
Hey, did you know Lisa and Steve went to Austria?

Ask her about it!



The Wilsons

We's doin pretty good here in Arizona. In September I had to take a trip to Fort Monmouth New Jersey. I had a couple of free flights from getting bumped off of full flights so I took Leslie and Amy along. I went to meetings and they jumped on the New Jersey Transit



and went to New York Penn Station. It is right in the heart of Manhattan on Broadway. I stayed an extra day, so Saturday I joined the party. We went on a boat tour where we went down the East River and up the Hudson. We went

right by the Statue of Liberty but it was at night so the

pictures didn't turn out very well. We also saw Mama Mia at the Winter Garden theater. It was really cool. It is a musical and all the songs they use are from Abba. For those of you who are old enough to remember, Abba was big in the 70s, so for me it was a trip down memory lane.



Rich is still in Spain for his study abroad. He just got back from a trip to Morocco and he will be in Rome over Thanksgiving, maybe they have turkey pizza there somewhere. He will go to Moscow (Russia) in December before he comes home for Christmas. After Christmas he will return to Moscow (Idaho) for his last semester of school. When he graduates in May he will get commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army and go off to his officer basic course. He put field artillery as his first choice so if he gets it he will go to Fort Sill Oklahoma.

Brianna is working ever night baby sitting for a sister in the ward who is trying to finish her degree. She does a great job and really likes the kids. Jeff is doing well in school and he and I have managed to go out camping with friends a few times. Hope everybody is well! Here is Rich's address if you want to write.

Richard Wilson, ISA, Pasaje Dr. Barual Moretn #6, oficina L, 46010 Valencia, Spain