



Happy Happenings - Dec. 2005 - 78th Edition

## The Utah Burnetts

I went 4 wheeling at the Jericho sand dunes (central Utah) a couple of weeks ago with a bunch of guys. That was a lot of fun; one of my favorite things to do.

We had an enjoyable Thanksgiving day at Laura's house with the Piersons, Tangrens and Mom & Lynn. The food was yummy and it was fun spending the day with everyone.

We are doing well with our family Book of Mormon reading. We might have to put in a little extra time to get all the way through by the end of the year, but we're well on our way. Sometimes (well most of the time) the boys aren't too excited to wake up to read, but they're pretty good about getting up and participating.

Cason gave a 5 minute talk in church last week. It was on fast offerings. He kind of put off preparing it till the last minute, but he did a really good job with the talk. That will help toward his Duty to God certificate as a Deacon. He still has a few things to finish before his birthday on Jan 19 so hopefully he will get it all done. That way he can start all over working on his Teacher certificate!


Kelly, Tanner, Thayne and I are all playing indoor soccer now. We're having fun and enjoying that. Basketball season is also on us. Thayne and Tanner will play in a city league and I'll play church ball. Cason hasn't decided if he wants to play.

We've gotten our first snow and cold weather here. Not Kelly's favorite time of year! I don't necessarily like the cold but I'm excited to get back to skiing here soon.

We have our Christmas lights and tree up and are working on getting everything ready for Christmas. We have thought about going down to Dad's house during Christmas, but Melanie might be getting married in January... so we may wait and find that out for sure before we decide.

We love you all and hope everyone is doing well.

The Sorensens say, "Hi."



From Mom and Lynn

What a great November we had! Thanksgiving was wonderful. Thank you, Laura and Greg for hosting the family. We hope it was not too much to ask, especially since Laura was not well. The food was good and we enjoyed the kids a lot. Family times like this are so precious to us. While our time in the mission field was great, being home feels so right, right now. (That *could* change someday.) We love being in close proximity to several of you and wish it were more. However, we are planning a January trip to Arizona and hope we get to go to Wyoming too. We love you all so much and hope you *feel* it.

We attended a wonderful rodeo! Yup, we saw Jaxon, Jancy and Broox do their thing. It was so much fun to cheer them on. Lana and Kelly have the score-keeping thing down to a science. I just enjoyed seeing the events and playing with the kids when they weren't participating. A Grandma-thing.



We were able to visit with the Burnetts and see a couple of great soccer games! Way to hustle, Thayne and Tanner! We also had burgers from the grill and the BYU game on their wonderful new TV.

Having Jenny live with us—at least on a temporary basis was wonderful. I tell you, she keeps us young. She also keeps us well-stocked with movies and books on tape. We've been having so much fun. Thanks, Jenny—you're the best. And just think, your birthday is coming right up.

I can't tell you how much fun it was to go to see "Pride and Prejudice" with daughters and granddaughters. And then to go see "Harry Potter" with two complete families! FUN!



The other high we've been on has to do with Cory's role in "Les Miserables". I don't know when I've enjoyed anything so much. Wow, I had to guard against the "P" word—you know—(*PRIDE*). Good job, Javert! Especially that free fall. I had real withdrawal pains when it was over! I wanted to go again and again!

I helped Amy Sue with some genealogy. She is one of the Family History teachers in her ward! We did quite a lot of research in order to get some ancestor's names ready to take to the temple. Now that she has done their baptisms, Grandpa and I will take the responsibility of doing the other ordinances. Way to go, Amy Sue!

We're revving up on our calling as Family History Consultants. We taught a short lesson to the Elder's Quorum today and they seemed to be somewhat interested. We had them complete a survey telling us how we could help and had several requests for classes, demonstrations and field trips. So, we've got our work cut out for us.

We love you all very much. Hasn't it been great to read the Book of Mormon—together. Well, sort of. Let's all keep it up in 2006!

# The Coons



Todd enjoyed playing several games for the church softball team. He came home quite sore, but he did have fun. He also ran a 5K at the Gilbert Days Fun Run. The kids and I all ran the 1-mile (Aubrey and Caleb were in the stroller most of the time, but ran a little and then ran across the finish line). Todd got 4th in his age group out of over 500! He ran it in 20 minutes. That night we had a big (50 people) party at our house for Activity Day girls (8 to 11-year-olds) and their moms. We had fun painting nails, playing games, making s'mores, and stuff. We had pizza for dinner. The party was fun but Todd got extremely sick that evening. We think it had something to do with eating junk food, but the ask-a-nurse lady thought he might be having heart problems and told him to call 911 or go to the Emergency Room. Finally at 1:30 am he headed off for the ER. On the way, he was hit by a drunk driver!! He is fine but our car is totaled. We are so grateful that he is okay. We are trying to get along as a one-car-family and hoping they get stuff worked out with the insurance soon.

Other miscellaneous items: We fed the missionaries. The kids did great in the Primary program. Aubrey even had a speaking part and did it really well. Brittney and Hannah finished up their Spanish class. Todd's parents and grandparents came for a short visit so his grandparents could see our place. I did Art Masterpiece for Hannah's class. That's where I go in once a month and introduce the class to an artist and a piece of their artwork, then we do an art project. Aubrey and Caleb and I have started going to a story time once a week at the church. We had a great Thanksgiving at Todd's parents' house. We really enjoyed having the Burnetts and the Wilsons over for dinner the Saturday after Thanksgiving. And last but not least, we all enjoyed the World Premiere of the Felicity movie. If you don't know about American Girl Dolls, just ask my girls!

Caleb likes to talk about "last time when I was 18." He goes on and on with very interesting stories that happened to him.

We had a great month but we ended it sharing sicknesses. Aubrey, Hannah and Caleb have had the barfs. Caleb and I had some sinus/respiratory problems. Brittney stayed home one day but never did barf. So hopefully we'll get over that soon and move on. We love you all!!! Merry Christmas!



Dec. 7 Mom  
Dec. 7 Melanie  
Dec. 14 Jenny



Todd & Loreen's 12th  
Anniversary is on  
December 17



Here is Jeremy's address:

Elder Jeremy Dye  
Belo Horizonte Mission  
POB 30150  
SLC, UT 84310-0150



## The Arizona Burnetts

The Arizona Burnett family is doing well. We enjoyed a dinner after thanksgiving with the Wilsons and the Coons family. It is nice to finally have some company here again,

The new job is going well - the travel is reasonable, and the people I interviewed with are just as they appeared. The company is solid, and I enjoy the work. I have had to purchase all kinds of winter clothing - including a long wool overcoat, a scarf and gloves. I have not needed these items since my mission! I think everyone around here notices the reduction of stress in my life - friends and family alike have commented on it.

Jill's job is going well. She is still working part time at the school, which works out well for our family. She and I have been going through the house lately re-organizing things. We are getting new office furnishings and built in cabinetry for my work at home office, we got a new bedroom set - so consequently we are having to re-arrange items in the house. We are still looking to redo our kitchen and make an Arizona room out of the back porch - just looking for the right time.

Tiffany is finishing her next to the last semester before she graduates next Spring. Finals for both her and Heather are this week and next. Both are enjoying their classes - and both are doing well. Tiffany and I went apartment hunting for her a few weeks ago - she will try and make the move after the first of the year - she just needs her roommates to get ready. Heather is enjoying her new car - and Jill and I are fortunate in that both of them have had full scholarships so we can help with the little stuff. Katelyn just finished her swimming for Mesa High, and has been nominated for the Winter Formal queen. We still enjoy her friends coming over on Sunday night - that has turned into quite an event.

We did our usual trip to the stores the day after thanksgiving - so we are almost ready for Christmas. We have all the lights and decorations up - and are looking forward to the day.

Happy holidays to everyone - we are not sure when we will be making the trip up north again - but I can't talk any of them into traveling on the winter roads again - so it may be next year before we are there. We love and miss you all.