

Happy Happenings



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80th Edition

February 2006

HEADLINE NEWS : Lynn and Leah Become Great Grandparents !!!!

SHOCKING NEWS : Steve and Lisa are Grandparents!!!

GREAT NEWS : Christie and Dave are First-Time Parents!!!

(Now, I know, it's the same event. But somehow the second is hardest to believe.)



Introducing Riley Matthew Tangren

The Piersons & Tangrens

Hello, family! Yes - we are now officially old, and grandparents!! We love having Riley in the family! He is the best baby I have ever seen, too! He sleeps most of the night, and is happy and content when he is awake during the day. How did Christie and Dave get so lucky?? They are enjoying it, they just don't know how good they have it!!

Jenny graduated, got a job in Salt Lake City, bought a car, got a cell phone, and moved out to an apartment in Salt Lake! Wow! Lots of changes for her. She is loving her new life and is doing well.

Jared is great! He had to hire a new Personal Assistant since Jenny moved out and Chris had Riley. He still has Cory working with him, and has now hired Anthony. Jared is having fun with it, and I think Anthony is, too. It is nice for me and for Jared to have someone new to do things with him. He really misses Jenny. They are such buds! It is fun to watch him with Riley.

Cory is back to running track. He has competed in two indoor meets and placed in both. He is so excited to be racing again! Outdoor season starts in March, and he is working hard to be ready for it. He is also in a Barbershop quartet and will be singing for the opening ceremonies for the State Wrestling Match at

UVSC. He is about the proudest uncle I have ever seen! He loves holding Riley, and can't wait till Riley doesn't sleep so much and will play with him!!

Steve is Executive Secretary again. I guess the new Bishop decided he couldn't do his job without Steve! He is back to spending lots of hours at church (12 hours last Sunday!) and on the phone. I think you all know that his father passed away in January. What a hard thing, and at the same time a blessing. He passed peacefully. Steve's mom is still very lonely, but doing ok.

I am busy with Primary and my new grandbaby. Can't get enough of him!! What a miracle new life is. It has been nice for me as we have experienced a death and a birth so close to each other in our family to reflect on the many blessings we are given and the wonderful plan our Father has for us. We truly are blessed, and I am grateful for His hand in our lives. Love you all!

10th
13th
13th
22nd
24th

Cory
Greg W
Meguire
Lisa
Broox



The Burnetts

A couple of weeks ago I was at work late. I came home and was getting ready for bed. I could hear Tori (our dog) whining downstairs. She was in Tanner and Thayne's room. Tanner had set his alarm wrong and it was just blaring! Tanner and Thayne were just sleeping right through it but it was driving Tori crazy!

Cason, Tanner, Thayne and I had a fun ski trip to Brighton. It was a nice day and not too busy. There was some pretty new snow and we had fun going through the trees and playing in soft powder.

Meguire is in a fun stage where she just goes from one thing to the next making messes! She was always getting into Kelly's makeup and making messes with that. Kelly would move it and Meg would find it. I think Kelly finally has it high enough that Meg hasn't done makeup for a week!



Last Saturday she got someone's Gatorade bottle and tried to pour some into a cup and spilled it all over herself and the kitchen floor. I put her in the tub and cleaned up the Gatorade. Then I went to check on her in the tub and the bathroom was flooded! We can't leave here in the tub without being right there watching her or she starts dumping water out onto the floor!

Cason got braces on recently. He's had them for about 2 weeks now so I think he's getting more used to them. The first few days were pretty miserable! Cason was ordained a Teacher last week. Time passes quickly! Hard for us to believe we have a 14 year old.

We've been pretty consistent with our morning Book of Mormon reading as a family and Thayne is getting to be a good little scripture reader. The boys are always tired but are pretty willing to get up and participate in the reading.



We had a stake conference with E. Hinckley (Pres. Hinckley's son) recently. It was a good conference and E. Hinckley had good words of wisdom. During the priesthood leadership meeting someone asked him what it was like growing up in the home of a future prophet. He said that it was no different than growing up in any home where the father loved his wife and honored his priesthood.

We've had a couple of campouts lately. We had our winter Klondike campout that Cason went on. It was a good campout at Camp Fife which is near Cutler Dam in the Tremonton area. It got cold but not too bad; I think it was about 20 degrees at the coldest. There was actually snow so we really had our Klondike race! Last year we were at Antelope Island and there was no snow so the boys had to carry their sleds on the race!

This last weekend Tanner had an overnight campout also. Since he's just 11 we decided to have their campout at our stake camp where we could sleep inside the lodge. It went really well. The boys were able to have a campfire and play outside and then have a warm shelter to sleep in. Hope everyone is well.

Hey, we always see pictures of your kids doing cute stuff and making you proud. Well, I took this picture of *my* little boy and thought I'd get part of the action. I love you Lawson, MOM



The Sorensens

Hello family, Things are good. We had a good visit with Mom and Lynn. They came to help us re-do the closets in the kid's rooms. We took the doors off and raised the top shelf, and added shelves, high/low places to hang clothes, and a long part for dresses. It should be nice. Lynn also helped finish a front porch, and Mom helped clean out and vacuum under beds, which



I rarely do. They got to watch the kids' indoor soccer game, watch Jancy dance, and watch one of their Saturday rodeos we are doing in town. They also came to Church, and then went with us to tag the kids' steers for next year's fair. We appreciate

all of their help.

The kids are all doing well. Jaxon and Jancy stay busy with school, and life. Broox and Dixon are great.



They love to be outside playing and walking around, so we are glad that with coats and gloves, the weather is still nice enough to be outside lots.

We finally did the PBS filming. *(For those who don't know, the Sorensen family has been involved in filming a PBS special about the Mormon migration across Wyoming. They're stars!)* It was quite a cold, interesting experience. We spent one day sitting in the bus trying to get to Rock Creek, the rescue site of the Willie Handcart Company. The wind was blowing 40-50 MPH, and with 2 CATS, 2 backhoes, and 1 road grader they couldn't keep the road open long enough for people to drive in. The next day we tried again, and at about 3 o'clock finally got within about 1/4



mile and the buses couldn't go any farther, so we walked the last part. They had a big trailer full of clothes, so we went there to get outfitted, and then to a tent to dress. We could leave warm stuff on underneath, but their shoes were very cold, and impractical, and probably very fit for the era. They did a couple of shots with handcarts, and hills, and cold, and snow. The kids were freezing, because it was getting dark. Then they did some night shots with tents and fires, and then we changed and hurried to the busses, because they were running out of gas. The next day we went up South Pass towards Rock Creek, but not all the way in, and they did some more shots of families and handcarts, and rescue horses and wagons. It all took quite a while. This time we left the boys' warm boots on and covered them up, but Jancy's feet and hands



were cold, and she was crying and miserable. We finally put her in someone's Suburban to warm up. It definitely gave me a better appreciation for what these people went through. Not only would the handcart trek have been hard enough, but with cold and hunger, and kids, I really felt for them. Our kids would talk about how hungry they were, and they don't even know what hunger is. So if you ask if we had a good time, I don't think you could get any one to be too positive about the whole experience yet, but I think it will be remembered as a learning experience that drew us closer as a family. They expect to air the show next fall. They also had 15-20 professional photographers with cameras taking pictures of everyone. The more miserable they looked for the cameras the better, and we had some pretty natural miserable pictures taken. They will paint the pictures, and will have a show of them here in Wyoming, and then in New York, and other places. So they should be neat to see.

It was nice for Aaron to be able to shave, and for everyone to have a haircut. (Except Jaxon—he thinks the long hair is cool.)

Aaron is buying 100 cows, hopefully for a good retirement investment, but with cows you never know. We hope it will be a good thing for our family.



The Coons

Hi, Family. We loved having Mom and Lynn here at the first of January. Lynn helped fix little things up around the house. Mom and I worked on her scrapbook. And we got the living room all ready to paint. I finished it after they left and we are really enjoying that. While they were here we also had the missionaries over and went to the temple with the Wilsons. We love it when they come.



Loreen The Queen

(Well, it *looks* that way, and that's what Todd calls her!) Actually, they were waiting for Grandma and Grandpa's Christmas presents.

We bought a solar oven and are learning how to use it. Its about the size of a suitcase and you just open up the panels and put it out on the lawn. You can cook anything in it. Its cool because it doesn't use any energy that we have to pay for and it does its job well. We have cooked bread, Chex party mix, and stuff in it. Aubrey started Preschool and she goes three times each week to Miss Becky's house (she is in our ward). Caleb and I go on Mondays and I help out and teach them a Spanish lesson so we get half off tuition. Its fun for us all. Aubrey is so excited to go each day. Aubrey, Caleb and I also go to Story Time at the church every Thursday for an hour.

Todd took Caleb to a High School Basketball game and they had a great time. Now Caleb knows what Basketball is all about.

Caleb got a Buzz Lightyear for Christmas and thought it was pretty cool but didn't play with it very much. But this weekend we rented *Toy Story 2* and now, all of a sudden, Buzz is the greatest, coolest thing in the world. Caleb takes him everywhere-- to bed, in the back of his shirt when he takes a bike ride. And everywhere. It's really cute to have him enjoy something so much.

We are still taking piano lessons and learning lots of songs. Hannah memorized the simplified version of *Come, Come, Ye Saints* and is learning *We Thank Thee, O God, For a Prophet*. Brittney is learning *The Spirit of God* and I am working on *Come, Follow Me* and *How Great Thou Art*. It's nice to have some accompaniment in Family Home Evening.

Todd got rear-ended in our new Camry, but wasn't hurt. The car had to get fixed so the Painters (people we know who own a body shop) took it and fixed a few other cosmetic problems so it looks perfect now.

The Painters also have tons of citrus trees and we have really been enjoying all the fruit they share with us.

Hannah and Aubrey learned how to ride their bikes without training wheels. It won't take Caleb much longer. He's so fast.

We sure love you. The Coons Family



Well, *somebody* has to fold the clothes while:



the Moms are Scrapbooking! Thanks, Grandpa

Family Reunion News

The reunion this year will be in Beautiful Yellowstone. We will be camping near Island Park Idaho. Plan to arrive early on Wed., July 5 and have dinner together that night. We will spend all day Thursday and Friday, have breakfast together on Saturday and you can leave then or hang out.

We'll make meal assignments later. Mom and Lawson will bring cooking utensils (they'll make out a list later so you can plan) and Mom & Lynn will provide paper products. We do need to keep in mind that we don't have a fridge so we need to try not to cook too many leftovers. I know that is hard, but we can just all bring lots of snacks for when people get hungry.

Lawson and Kelly are in charge of the Humanitarian Project. Larry had a great idea to do some service (manual labor) at the campground or someplace in the park for a few hours. Then if they need benches or something else that costs money, we can help with that, too. Well let you know.

NOW, here's the scoop on camp grounds. National Park campgrounds *do not* take reservations. That means that the 40 of us would show up in Yellowstone *hoping* to get enough sites on a busy holiday weekend. We didn't think that would work. So Loreen and I (Mom) got busy on the internet and tried our hardest to find a campground close *and* reasonably priced. Doesn't exist. The ones that were close and had showers were like KOAs and charged a lot! Plus, we didn't think we'd have a lot of outdoors fun there.

So, after *hours* of looking and calling, we reserved sites in the **Buffalo River Idaho Campground**. It's approximately 30 miles from the west entrance to Yellowstone, which means an additional 30 minutes driving. Sorry. And, we've never been there or know anyone who has. So—don't shoot the ones who make the reservation! We did our best. More to come later. Cost \$45 for the three days—payable to Mom and Lynn.

Here is the Cousin Christmas Gift Exchange list. If you have questions, ask Loreen. She let her kids do the drawing and no, they didn't cheat. Hannah really, really wanted Meguire and was so happy when she got her. Its a fun thing to do. The rest of us will contribute \$30 per couple and \$10 per older cousin for Humitarian Aid. Money should be given to Lawson and Kelly this year.

Giver	Receiver
Brianna	Zachary
Anthony	Thayne
Onlylyn	Jaxon
Zachary	Broox
Cason	Jancy
Tanner	Brianna
Thayne	Riley
Landon	Aubrey
Meguire	Brittney
Brittney	Anthony
Hannah	Meguire
Aubrey	Landon
Caleb	Lana's Baby
Jaxon	Tanner
Jancy	Hannah
Broox	Caleb
Dixon	Cason
Lana's Baby	Onlylyn
Riley	Dixon



Mom & Lynn

Hi, Everyone!

Here's your Mom/Dad/Grandma/Grandpa again. We seem to be busy all the time – but we never seem to get everything done. How did we ever have time enough to go to work five days a week? Huh? Maybe it is just that we are slower.

When Steve's father died we were still in Arizona. We were just getting ready to re-do the Burnett's dining table top (still don't know if it got done; how about it Larry?), and paint Loreen's living room. Sure sorry about not getting those projects done, but we really wanted to be with Steve and Lisa and family and Steve's Mom at that time. So we left Arizona hurriedly (inadvertently left our pillows and a couple of other things) and got home in plenty of time for the funeral. Took Jenny with us to Rexburg. Spent the night with my brother and sister-in-law -- Karl and Jerilyn -- in Pocatello, on the way up. The funeral was very nice as funerals go. We felt Steve and family could sense of our love and sympathy. His Mom was so gracious in this time of sorrow. We're glad we came home to be with them.

Lana has really wanted us to come help her do some re-shuffling of some of her storage space, getting ready to add one more new person to their rather cramped space. So we spent last week in Wyoming. More of that from Lana



Gwen and Ed's fourth child, Dallin, had his 12th birthday on Saturday and was ordained a deacon yesterday. So we went there and spent a very pleasant afternoon with them.. We thoroughly enjoy being with family. Maybe that is why we don't get as much done as we would like – 'cause we jump in the car and go whenever a family member says 'come'. We love it!

We decided we wanted to re-paint our bedroom and get a new bed cover, etc. We've had our old bedspread and stuff for at least fifteen years, and the paint in the bedroom is original (and pink). We just decided we wanted a change. So we spent a lot of time looking at bedspreads, etc – taking it back to the store – finding another one, buying it – taking it back to the store – etc. We have finally

made some decisions and have embarked on the project of painting. I (Grandpa) pretty well completed the closet on Saturday. I'm hoping to get the bathroom done today (it has an 8 foot high sky light above the tub that I don't know how we're going to paint). But if I don't get it done today (we're going to Lawson's today for Meguire's birthday) then I'll do it tomorrow. Then the actual bedroom is next. We hope we will really like it when we're through.

I (Grandpa) am scheduled to go in for surgery on the 23rd of February. My right shoulder has been progressively more and more of a pain for several years. I recently had an MRI of that shoulder and was told I have one complete rotator cuff tear, and maybe a couple of partial tears. So, I won't have use of that arm for about six weeks. I expect everything to go well but will appreciate prayers.

We're thinking about another mission. Just thinking. We'll talk with the Bishop soon and discuss our callings, mission, life. More to come!

WE LOVE EACH OF YOU LOTS!!

Hey, Family—did you know Sarah had her baby? Here he is! Congratulations, Sarah!



Name: Owen Garrett Lewis

Birthday: February 7th, 2006

Time: 5:39 AM

Weight: 9 lbs. 10 oz

Height: 21 inches