January 1987

Dear Family,

For those who may not have heard, we decided at the Family Christmas party to start a fam. letter again. Here are the "terms" we decided on. (Please save this sheet for reference, if needed.)

1. Each fam. unit (children of Dad and April) and Dad & April will submit a 1-page (one side only) letter (to cut down copying & postage expense) to me by the 30th of each month.
2. Each unit will pay $7.00 a year for copying, postage, etc.
3. I will copy the letters & send out by the 5th of the next month.
4. Next year someone else will be selected as "editor."

We felt this would be a good way to keep in touch, as none of us have the time to write to each other individually each month.

Please mark your calendar so you don't forget, & we all want to hear from everyone else, so please participate.

Shelly

Jan. 87

Dear Family

Life has a way of altering the course we follow. It seems each of you get further away and more involved in your efforts to meet its challenge.

In the family there was the era of babies, growing up, school missions, military, marriage and then - your turn in the cycle began.

Now that there are a good number of teen-agers in the family (again), I'm reminded of a little story something like this —

"Mom + Dad I don't know how you put up with all we put you through when we were growing up"

The reply

"Never mind my dear ones we still love you; your children will repay you"

Well, I love each and every one of you, ~~and~~ so did your mom and so does April.

It was fun growing up with you. And now as you go your sepeate ways it is a great joy to see each of you progress to that "joy in your posterity."

May the Lord bless all of you, and he will if you are faithful

Love Dad + April

January 1987
Arco, Idao

Dear Family,

As life takes us down our individual and separate paths, the tendency for us is perhaps to become more as strangers to one another. This unfortunate occurance should, of course, be counteracted. It was good to see you at Christmas time and although brief, reacquaint ourselves. And those who did not make it - you were missed. With the obstacles of distance and time, sharing a letter once a month with each other is an excellent thing. The pressures and demands of the seemingly increasing tempo of life will not, I trust, take precidence over a small commitment towards each other. I am truly looking forward to hearing from eachof my brothers and sisters.

Most of you know that we (my family and I) spent our Christmas present as five days in a little cabin at Aspen Grove, up Provo Canyon near Sun Dance Ski Resort. It wasn't even open because of a lack of snow. We did ski two days up in the Salt Lake area - Solitude and Brighton and tired ourselves out (the driver at least) driving around Mt. Timp & up to Salt Lake and back nearly every day. Nevertheless, we enjoyed the vacation, tried to make the best of it. The children mostly feel they preferred the 'experience' instead of 'things' for their gifts. Over 1200 miles, 10 bodies with luggage and ski equipment 3 ft. high on top of the work-horse of a station wagon - I was glad to get back home without one or more blowouts on those over strained tires.

There was a broken water main above the house by the hospital while we were gone and we found a small glacier in front of the house and in our driveway when we returned. A friend who tried to divert it with a shovel said that our house and front yard would have been seriously flooded except for the retaining wall of ties and dirt that the boys and I built last fall!

In January Norman turned 14 and was ordained a Teacher. Sheldon had his 18th birthday and feels 'somewhat' the shock that he's now only a year away from his mission. In the throws of decisions about college, career projections and work he is needfully becoming more serious about many things. Colissa, in her final semester at Ricks brought home a 3.8 report card last semester. She had her preliminary interview with Marriott Hotels in S.L.C. where she hopes to go to work after school is out.

Those are the highlights for us this month. The milder winter has been agreeable to me, however, a water shortage for our valley could be in the making. Our local business and farm economy has been tough and probably has not yet turned around; however it appears Sharon's health has. Her annual cancer check-up was all positive, for which we are grateful.

May the Lord's blessings be with all of you.

Love,
Warren

January 25, 1987
Sunday

Dear Family,

Christmas is already a month past and Georgia is finally getting some winter weather. Atlanta folds up, including the airport if it snows or threatens to freeze and any moisture is on the way. Thursday & Friday the schools were closed with 6 inches of snow (which is all melted by heavy rains today) and Earl couldn't get a flight in Fri. eve. from Wash. D.C because of the 12 inches of snow up there - so he flew in yesterday and leaves again in the morning.

Earl has assignments out of state for 2-3 weeks and then is home in his office a week and this will continue until Thanksgiving. That puts him home 10-12 weeks in 11 months time for 1987. He works with very good people but still gets lonely - he is the only LDS person and is well-respected.

Jonnie has been called as the Teachers Quorum Pres. and Greg a counsellor in the Deacons Quorum and we're proud of them both. Wendy has landed a major character part in her school musical which will be this spring and she's very excited! She memorizes easily which is a great help and you all know how aggressive she is! Kami and Ashley say hello to everyone. Kami and I (as a chaperone) were able to see the Nutcracker ~~Ballet~~ by the Atlanta ballet and we both really enjoyed it. (Also, Earl & I saw a live performance of Camelot with Richard Harris.) Ashley is now a sunbeam as of 2 weeks ago and we've already been asked if she ever stops talking at home because she never does in class, so you can tell ~~See~~ that her vocabulary has matured.

We are adjusting better as time goes on but the children have expressed a few times that they wish Dad hadn't got this job because they don't get to see any of you or their friends, and their Dad is gone all the time. Earl's working conditions in Pocatello made it necessary for the change and he enjoys everything about this job except the travel. I see it as another challenge we must face and how it is handled will be observed by the Lord. I'm not about to make myself miserable about it all when if I take it in stride I can be as happy as I want to be.

Looking forward to all your letters - Love
Karyn, Earl & family

Jan. 87

In December & January, in school, I have been taking Drivers Ed. I passed the class with an A-, so I will soon be getting my Drivers License. My mom has sent in for us to get our social security numbers, so I'll soon be getting my number & card. We have also had our family picture taken recently, so I have some new stuff to add to my wallet. I have, at the end of Jnuary, gone on a Winter camp where I was on the staff. It was a District camp for Boy Scouts called the "Klondike." Many other Eagle Scouts also served on staff at this compout.

Good Grades

There's nothing much that'd did this year but do mostly what my brothers did (mostly Jared). So that's all!

In January cc made a shirt in Home ec. & learned how to make button holes & put a collar on. cc made a skirt for sunday & c learned how to ice skate

Kris Longhurst

This January I went on the "Klondike" Scout Winter camp. I had fun, & helped our troop win a couple of things for our Scout troop. I will also be getting my Social Security number soon.
Nathan

Wayne I dont have very much to say but I saw the apple fall on [redacted] new years eve.

Roger Got registered in the Cub Scout program Is very excited.

Mom and A.J. just do the usual each day. Mom has become the taxi driver ~~at home~~. For everyone.

Dad works about 10 hrs. a day.

Jan. 27, 1987

Dear Shelly,

I think you said $7.00? If I'm wrong, let me know. (I can't locate your letter.)

Dear Family,

I think this idea of starting the family letter again is wonderful. Particularly for those of us who are the farthest away. We don't always hear about things that are going on. We also have a hard time keeping everyone up to date. It will be nice to increase the communication.

We're enjoying the winter here in Florida. (Even though there is no snow.) A few days have been quite cold, with frost + some freezing at night, but most days are very nice. The sun is out most of the time + the skies are blue. It feels good, I'm just wishing it would stay more this way during the summer

instead of getting so hot!

We are enjoying our new home. It's looking ~~no~~ better all the time. Saturday we went to the Farmer's Market + purchased some plants for the house. We got a nice six-foot palm for the living room + a smaller one for the bedroom. What a nice addition! Plants are pretty reasonable here + they grow well. We've decided we want more of them around the house.

Speaking of plants — Feb. is gardening time so we are beginning to get things ready for that. I started some tomato plants + they are doing well. I started a zucchini in a big pot. It has sprouted now. On warm days I can move it outside. Right now it's collecting sun in the kitchen.

One thing we have not enjoyed at all, are all of the salesmen that have been calling + coming by. We think the welcome wagon lady has been distributing our name. We are getting really annoyed with it. Some of them have been so pushy!

Ken was called as the ward mission leader. Wine had the missionaries over a few times & attended a baptism last Sunday. Ken also got assigned as the home-teacher for the new family. I went with him last night because he doesn't have a companion yet.

Our life is getting busy, and yes, sometimes hectic. When we both have to be going different directions, having only one car is a hassel. It would be nice to live within walking distance of the church. Twenty miles is hardly within range. It will be nice when he finally gets his company car. That should be soon.

Well, I better get going so I can catch the mail man & then prepare a talk & make cookies for a Young Women's program tonight.

We love you all.

Connie & Ken

Family letter time! Wow - what a busy month!

The holidays were very nice, but slipped by too fast. With Paul's switch of jobs he didn't have the week between Christmas & New Years off like he used to - I missed that.

With his work, my babysitting, the kids school, our church jobs & all the side projects life seems to be slipping away. It's hard to believe that Bryan will be driving this summer. He & I both are looking forward to him running all my errands! He will be released as Seminary pres. soon & is involved in church basketball! Mark is still working at bringing his grades up. He is slowly gaining. He is a councelor in his deacon's quorem & likes his scouts. Talina enjoys her ballet-tap class & was in a performance at the mall during Christmas & also danced in our ward talent show last weekend. She has quite a successful babysitting career already, too. She still works on the piano some. Shawna is taking orchestra & voice lessons. She's a quick learner & enjoys learning sign language at school. Timmy is ALL boy & will be glad when soccer season is here again. Joey is a new sunbeam & is very excited to tell us the things his "new teacher" tells him. He loves learning the songs, too.

Paul has been enjoying parts of his new job. He is re-arranging & re-programing the whole parts dept. at the dealership. In

fact, he enjoys it so much that it's hard to talk him into staying home on Saturdays. (He feels pushed to get it all done)

I have a part-time job one or two evenings a week. I dip chocolates for the candy shop in the mall. I've enjoyed learning to do it & especially enjoy the "quiet" in that little room. I'm running an ad to pick up a couple more kids to tend - we still are looking for a better way to supplement the income.)

There doesn't seem to be any more news — our life seems so routine!

Love to all,
Sandra + family

Dear Family,

January 30, 1987

It sure is good to be able to write this letter to you, I think writing the family letter is an excellent way for all of us to keep in touch, and I hope it can continue for years to come.

At present I am still learning business with my boss, and am about to try some marketing on my own as well as look into some importing from the Orient. I like the possibilities of success in the field, and am hoping they turn out for my benefit. I'll keep you posted. There is one thing that makes me happy pursuing this field, I like learning from a successful businessman instead of a text book. Not that the text book is wrong, but that it doesn't teach current methods or let one experience success and excitement at the same time. Text books seem to teach certain methods that have to be altered to a particular person or business.

I am amazed at how my so called "field of study" is somewhat altered from the traditional way of education. The traditional way of education is STUDY a carrier, APPLY what is learned, WORK to refine some of the technical points and hopefully start to earn, SUCCEED if possible, and then hopefully GAIN whatever you are seeking i.e. money. I don't claim to be the only one doing it this way, but my way has been WORK, SUCCEED, GAIN, STUDY, APPLY, ETC. Still the same basic aspects are in order, but I have just started with the work rather than the study. With my interests in the business field I went to college, but after disappointing myself in school I felt lost. This led me to look closer at what I was doing, and I found that it wasn't the subject that was disappointing, in my case it was school. I found that school has no mercy for someone with poor study skills, and that is what I have, or maybe I should say that is what I had. Now my interest in business seems to be grater than the overwhelming lack of study skills. In other words I am finding my nose in more and more books, even text books, to pull out some of the information they tried to teach me in school, all because I got a taste of success and gained some insight. My study skills have been improving, and I feel like I will end up with a similar education as any college student, but instead of having a diploma I will have some experience. Therefor I guess that would put me in position to hire help rather than look for a job. Who knows? Meantime, it's study, apply, and learn, then succeed for my next few rotating steps.

All this would not be so if dad hadn't showed me how to work, or Lou (my boss) hadn't showed me parts of business, or The Lord hadn't showed me how to be humble and patient. Now that I have learned these important steps I have to be persistent and continue to apply them.

I believe the more one does,

the more able he is to do more. From the daily study and application of the written word of The Lord, I have realized some wonderful blessings in my life. I don't mean to boast, but when I was called to be the Ward Clerk, I felt a great sense of joy. This joy made me want to serve people even more than I already was, I gained a deeper love for Jesus Christ and everyone in general, and of course even for you as brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces. I still have that joy, and I still have that love. What I wish to say about this calling is that I feel that I could still do all I have been called to do in the past, (in this ward) plus my present calling. I think that as I learn what the Lord has for me to do, I also, according to faith, learn how it is to be done. And I feel that his way is for us to learn leadership to be able to preside over those whom we are called to serve. This of course means using the help of others so that the Lord can teach them to understand the same principles as well. Thus incorporating an endless plan to eventually cover the whole world. To paraphrase a quote that Glen read to me once it said; The higher you climb the more you see, The more you see the less you know, The less you know the higher you climb.

Well I hope I don't seem to preach to people too much, but I love people, and that makes me want to teach others as much as they will learn or that I know, which ever comes first. However I find that even though I don't know much my knowledge exceeds the amount of interest in others. And that can be disappointing at times.

I do Love you, and hope all is well. Keep the faith and the commandments, and all will be well.

Until next time...

David

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

SOW A THOUGHT,
REAP AN ACT;

SOW AN ACT,
REAP A HABIT;

SOW A HABIT,
REAP A CHARACTER;

SOW A CHARACTER,
REAP AN ETERNAL DESTINY.

- DAVID O. McKAY-

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2-3-87

Dear April + Bishop,

As you can see I am in Alabama. I have been away during the week for four weeks now. It seems like I get home on Friday night and it is Monday morning, time to leave again. One more week on the road and I get to stay home a week. It sure is hard to do anything around the house.

I don't know when Karyn last wrote, but I will try to fill you all in on what has happened in the last little while. Last Sunday I was authorized by our Bishop to set Lonnie apart as the President of the teachers quorum. Lonnie hasn't said anything, but I think that he thinks it is neat. We are proud of him. Hopefully, he will be able to give a little service. Two weeks ago I set Greg apart as 2nd counseller in the deacons quorum.

Three and half weeks ago Karyn and Ashley was coming to pick me on a dark wet rainy night at the Air station and was in an auto accident. Ashley was thrown from her car seat on to the floor with only a tiny cut on her nose and Karyn wasn't hurt at all. She was driving the old wagon. It was hit on the right side right in the middle of the two doors. It got caved in, good. The car is totalled according to the insurance company. We drove it home. I am so grateful to our Heavenly Father that Karyn was driving the wagon instead of the Buick, because the wagon

saved Karyn & Ashley from serious injury. The girl that hit Karyn only received a cut on her head, but the rabbit was just about totalled. Heavenly Father has really blessed us. Last Saturday we found a 1979 Olds wagon that I can buy for $1600 which has a new engine in it. The insurance will pay us $950 for our wagon and we will keep it. I will sell the Buick & pay off the loan and hopefully put a little money in the bank.

Wendy and Kami haven't gone to court yet. The court didn't get to the case again, but they will in the last week of Feb. We are still hoping that the individual will ~~plea~~ enter a guilty plea. It has been uncomfortable going to church and setting ~~in church~~ with him in my high priest quorum meeting. We are noting a small change for the better for him. Wendy is starting to mellow now. What an experience. I am so grateful for Heavenly Father and His teachings.

This move has brought many trails, but it has also brought many blessings many of which are still unseen.

Karyn and I have grown so much more together and I believe the family has grown together too. Karyn is very special. I still remember very well, the evening that I came asking for her hand.

The hardest thing about this traveling is the evenings. I am doing a lot of work on the Book of Mormon, letters, Classes, and some exercising.

It's late now. I must close. I miss you and will look forward to seeing you in the future.

Love
Earl

Feb. 5, 1987

Dear Family,

Guess we've seen or corresponded with just about everyone lately so there's no a whole lot new by now.

I'm feeling quite a bit better and am finally gaining some weight. The baby is doing well - had an ultra-sound a couple of weeks ago because of the Dr's. concerns but all was well.

We hope to start a big project soon of turning our "spare" room (Den) into a bedroom for Marcelle. The carpet needs to be replaced, walls painted, etc.

Bryan stays busy with work & Church responsibilities. He's been having a camp out once a month for the scouts. This month will be the Klondike Derby. He's been waterproofing his clothes, etc. so he won't freeze this time.

Marcelle is 2½ & I hope soon will be out of the "terrible two" age. She reminds me a lot of Wendy at that age. She's using longer sentences & jabbers all the time. She loves to go to the nursery at Church & play with the other kids.

With this streak of warmer weather comes "Spring Fever". Even Marcelle asked yesterday to get the shovel out & dig in the garden. Hopefully the lawn we planted last year will do well & our yard will be a little nicer looking each year.

Love,
Bryan, Shelly & Marcelle

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Feb. 15 1987

Dear WOODY ARD APRIL,

In checking bithdays yours was on the 10 th. which makes you 71 I am 73 next may, this is one thing we stay about 6 years differance in our ages. My health is better now than it was 6 yaars ago. I hope your helth is good and have the energe to do your Bishops job and and all the rest that you need to do. Kieth Bowman is our Bishop now he has plenty time as he only has a small ranch to take care of, our south of the lakes.

How are all of your familys now we don t hear much about them. We have 5 of our kids living in Salt Lake now, they are partly getting by with poor jobs and some with no jobes. Joan and Blair seem to making th thier way , with there oldes son in Chili on a mission. Dale and Myrna both working needed help to suport there son Ray on his mission he just returned. Carl and Lila with no job. Warren and Gloria he works part time and going to schoal studing airplain mantanence. Jerold and Barbera he is working poor pay cant make there rent.
Things here dont wook the bes over one thousand pesos to buy one daller the inflation runes 80 to 100 persent per year, interest is over 100 persent per year lotes of people got cout owing money to the bank and cant pay about the only ones that are on soled grown in Dublan are the Jones and the Longhurst, and we cant help every one.
I am sell plantin new orchard on the mesawestof the sa Jose farm Iplanted 2 years ag 50, 000 new trees, peaches and pear Iam plantig 40,000 more peach trees, I have insald 6 kilometer of P.V.C under grown Pipe 10"- 8".
my type writer has gone out on me. 2 april 22 we are going with BUY its Korea- ~~May~~ malaysia Thailand ——— and China ave would injoy you and April joying us.

Ashton Longhurst

February 23, 1987

Dear Family,

Time must be clipping right along, it seems like only last week I wrote the last letter. It certainly was good to receive the "letter" again. It always was a special time when that came in the mail. It makes the distances between us seem smaller.

We have been friendshipping a black couple that the missionaries have been teaching. This has been a real joy to us. They have a darling little baby girl. We helped celebrate her first birthday a couple of weeks ago. They are just about ready for baptism. They have had an abundance of the Spirit as they have listened to the missionaries, read, prayed, and attended meetings. It seems that things just work out well and whatever they need to hear is what is taught or talked about in one of the meetings. They have shared many of these experiences with us and we have been able to see the Spirit working with them and their lives changing almost daily. We feel like this experience has really blessed our lives as well as theirs. There is nothing quite like the feeling you get from doing missionary work. It's great!

Our stake just completed a beautiful new stake center, which is also now our ward meetinghouse. Our first meeting in the building was our stake conference on February 15. It was a special occasion for all in the stake. It was particularly special for us as Ken was approved to become a High Priest and sustained and set apart as a member of the High Council.

This call came as quite a surprise to us as we were just getting used to our callings in the ward. Ken was the ward mission leader and now has the assignment from the stake president as the High Councilor over the missionary work and the public relations. We both have a good feeling about it and are looking forward to the experiences that will be available to us. (He is not looking forward, though, to having to speak in a sacrament meeting every month and I'll miss not having him with me in our ward on those occasions.) I am very proud of him.

Things are really going well for us and we feel like the Lord has been blessing us so much in our lives right now. We are happy. I guess that's what counts.

We love and appreciate you all.

Connie & Ken

Feb. 25, 1987

Dear Family,

We were sorry we missed seeing all of you at the Christmas party but we really enjoyed the season here in Sunny Arizona. The weather has been "seasonably" beautiful until two days ago. It has been raining continually since then and the floods are starting...

Brent, as Young Mens president in our ward, is going on a three day skiing trip with the youth this weekend. He keeps very busy with that calling, his job with WordPerfect Corporation, and writing his thesis.

I am the visiting teacher coordinator and I really enjoy getting to know all the sisters. I also work in the nursery. I babysit one day a week - four children from one family. Stephen + Ryan like having them come. Mostly, of course, I spend my time taking care of our three <u>all</u> boys.

Stephen started piano lessons in January. He's very enthusiastic and he's learning very fast. Ryan stands by the piano while we practice and is picking up quite a bit. They both go to "storytime" at the Mesa Public Library. Its like a pre-school. Ryan had a hard time starting Sunbeams since he had been in the nursery with me but he's finally looking forward to his class on Sundays. Aaron John just got his third tooth. He's crawling, pulling up on furniture, waving bye-bye, and generally as cute as ever. Everyone comments on his BIG beautiful eyes. He really seems to be eager to get on with life.

Love to all of you,
The Dones
Brent, Sue, Stephen, Ryan, and Aaron John

Dear Family,

I'm guilty of not getting a letter in last month... I'm trying to do better this month.

We've been battling sickness again this winter. It seems some winters are worse than others. Over a two-week span I had the kids into the doctor 6 times. (Not all at once of course.) George & I have had colds, but the kids have had strep & ear infections & the flu. I think we all need more exercise... I'm anxious for spring & summer.

George was gone for two weeks in January to Pensicola, Fla. for Officers Basic Training. He'll have to do that two more times before he'll go to Pearl Harbor for his two weeks active duty each year. He is enjoying being in the Naval Reserves.

Things have slowed down some for me now that the first of the year is past. I'm still Primary 2nd Counselor and it keeps me busy - but when the classes all switched it was a mess for a while.

Stephanie is involved at school on an Olympics of the Mind team. They'll have district competition this spring. She's also gearing up for her first real piano recital.

Benjamin will receive this "Wolf" at our Blue & Gold Banquet tonight. He is really excited. Next month is our Pinewood Derby & he's real keyed-up about that too.

Melissa is enjoying being home with just me & Krystin while the others are at school. She loves being a Sunbeam & especially learning all the songs.

Krystin is crawling & navigating the stairs. She loves being the center of attention & feels real secure when the whole family is all around.

George was made our ward mission leader & we're involved in a large missionary push with the media. It's been done in several other areas, & I'm sure eventually most members will be exposed to the new training program, videos, etc. They are a great help & support.

I wanted to share a yummy recipe with everyone, so I hope Shelly finds room to print it. I'm also making a request for the cinnamon-apple waffles we had at Grandpa & Grandmas! They were great!

Tell next time - how Jaclyn & family.

Mountain Mama Mudslide

½ C. (1 cube) margarine
1 C. flour
1 C. chopped pecans
1 small pkg. vanilla instant pudding
1 " " chocolate " "
1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 C. powdered sugar
1 medium container Cool Whip
1 Hershey chocolate bar for garnish (optional)
2 C. milk

Crust: Combine margarine, flour & pecans; press into 9x13 pan. Bake 20 min. at 350°. Let cool.

1st layer: Combine cream cheese & powdered sugar, until creamy. Fold in 1 Cup Cool Whip & spread over cooled crust.

2nd layer: Mix 2 Cups of milk with both boxes of pudding combined. Spread over 1st layer.

3rd layer: Top with remaining Cool Whip. Garnish with slivered or grated chocolate bar if desired. Chill & serve.

February 27, 1987

Dear Family:

I find it hard to believe that the time has come once again to write. It seems as if I just got it done, and now it's looking me in the face again, how about you? Either I will have to start doing a few more things to add interest in my life and be able to tell about them in this letter or it might be a hard thing to think of what to write every month.

I have been keeping busy in my calling as ward clerk, and find it quite enjoyable. It's a challenge sometimes to keep up with all the changes in a student ward, but it isn't so bad with a computer. This Sunday is ward conference. It's one thing that I have not yet experienced in this calling, but I figure there are many things yet to be experienced in the future.

Speaking of computers, I could say that except for programing, I have the computer learned pretty good now, and find there is so much that the computer can be used for. I have pretty much saturated the Wordperfect program as far as learning it, and now use it for work, church, and personal projects. You will not see this letter written any other way from me unless I can not use the PC. It's got to be one of the best ways to save info. and use it in any way a need dictates.

For work this company purchased a list of over 11,000 boat dealer names and address which will be used to print out labels for mailers on selling boat toys. I am in charge of the information management pretty much since the boss finds the computer "too time consuming" etc. and hasn't even a clue sometimes about it. It is hard to learn, but I look at it as fun rather than hard work. If I am not familiar with a certain function and need to use it I play around until I have it mastered, thus entertaining myself as well as education myself at the same time. It's a common thing now to pull up all boat dealers in a given state and print them out for use. As the warm wether moves north, the whole U.S. will be covered, but Florida, Texas, Hawaii, and Southern California have already been mailed to.

It isn't as bad this year as it was last year, but as some of you know, skiing is a bit more difficult with my ankle in the condition it is in since my motorbike accident in the summer of '82. I went up skiing with Glen and some friends last weekend, and thinking I wasn't going to enjoy it much I rediscovered the fun of it. I looks like skiing is still my sport. When does everyone want to go?

Sure hope all is well where you are, keep the faith...

Love, David

David - Thanks for the mailing labels for the Fam. Letter

Feb. 1987

Hello again,

We're looking forward to getting the letters again this month. I'm glad we decided to do it again.

I guess the biggest news is my change of schedule – I'm not babysitting any more. A friend, Cathy, used to come in one morning a week while I went visiting teaching, shopping, running errands, etc. For over a year and a half we talked about finding something better than babysitting. Well, they bought "Rent-a-Video" & she needed some help running it – so I've gone to work for her. We'll see what happens.

The kids say they like it much better with no babies around & our home is more private.

Paul & I went to a funeral a couple of weeks ago. Some of you may remember Dennis & Floretta Howell. Their son, Darin, shot himself the morning of his 21st birthday. What a hard thing for his family.

See ya next month,
Love, Sandra

March 1, 1987
Georgia

Dear Family,

My! the month passed by quickly since the family letter began. It was a very exciting piece of mail when it arrived and I'm sure will continue to be so as we inter-react through writing. Warren - you have the right idea to use a typewriter - it's easier to read and more can be said in a short space.

Christmas holidays were very different for us this time - we had never missed a family party; it was difficult for the kids knowing you were there and we were here, but we kept ourselves busy and had company, went places - fixed our traditional holiday foods. April sent us some very much appreciated pictures of the party and it looks like a good time for everyone.

We have company right now through the 10th - Earl's folks are here from Idaho Falls and it's good to see them. We have had a tremendous amount of rain for a few days so we've not done much but it will be dry this coming week and Earl has taken vacation so we can see some sights.

Not too long ago I was in a wreck (Ashley's Id) and totaled our wagon. (We were very thankful not to have been hurt.) We kept title car because it is driveable (looks terrible and embarrassing) and with the insurance $ and savings ~~provided~~ purchased a 1979 Olds. wagon and we will sell our Buick Century. Life is not dull here. I look at all the years things went quite smoothly for us and realize it must be our turn to be tested in different areas. We appreciate so much your prayers in our behalf.

It seems the right time to share something with all of you if you've not been aware before. About a month after our arrival in Georgia Wendy ~~was~~ and Kami were molested by a man we trusted. (no rape involved) We decided to press charges even though he is at church every sunday and his wife the Primary president. Finally the situation has come to a head and he has changed his plea to guilty which saved the girls from having to testify on the stand. All of us have experienced many emotions through it all, but the Lord has also blessed us greatly because these ~~were~~ was not anything we couldn't overcome with His helping us. There has also been many lessons taught to us which we want to pass on to each of you. For now: realize that there is a fine line between being careful and paranoid, and that we are very blessed to have the gospel to help us in our trials - and things can happen to us regardless of our situations. Good can come from adversity if it's handled with faith in the Lord.

May He bless all of you in your trials and in your joys!

Our love, Kenyn, Earl & Kit

Dear Family,

March 2, 87

This month of February, Cory turned 15 years old. Time sure goes by - it doesn't seem very long ago, he wasn't even in Kindergarten. He's almost 2 inches taller than Jered, has a sweet little girl-friend, and almost through his Freshman year in High School.

Took Jered to get his Drivers License and was told no license until he gets glasses. He didn't even complain, that he was having difficulty seeing. Soo we are waiting for his glasses to come in (they are on order). He's anxious, and I'm anxious too. Some of the errands he can run - will be such a help.

Enrolled Roger in cubscouts, he's really having a ball, doing very well. Wayne can't wait for the Pine wood Derby next month. He already has his car cut and sanded, just waiting for paint. Nathan is a Den Chief and does a good job. He's such an organized fella, and has good plans layed out each week for the little wolf group he works with.

Keri plays her violin in the Youth Symphony, and recently participated in a Music Festival. Our youth Symphony were the only valley group asked to play and be judged with adult groups. They felt quite honored.

Our stake held a Women's Conference this month (Feb). A painting of the 10 Virgins by Gayla Prince Larsen was presented and she also spoke and gave the symbolisms of the painting. A most beautiful presentation. Also Marion Bayer, a Counselor to Barbara Smith in the General Relief Soc. Presidency spoke. She is also a daughter of Elder LeGrand Richards (deceased now)

Out of room - till next month. Love from us all here!

3-3-87

Dear Family

Spring appears to be just around the corner, this being the mildest winter I have seen here. Even the daffodils have been trying to grow all winter and now are budding at least a month early.

My extra time this winter has been spent re-building the boat. Many things needed work, and some things I've wanted to change for a good while.

As you know, the store is no more. I put in a garage door and can now, for the first time, do some handy work inside and still have room for one car. Kinda nice in that way, but a little difficult to not have the store activity.

Now with the "new boat" we want to invite each of you on a river trip or a what ever with us when you can arrange the time. O.K.?

As we grew up, our many activities seemed first to be second nature then later evolving to tradition. I know of no other family to have so many traditions. None who worked and played as we did. As I reminisce the small events and greater ones, they all gave meaning to our lives. I'm sure there are preferences for each of us but for me, I guess boating and the many opportunities it provides is tops. Claiming the legacy of jet boating is a fulfillment for me to replace that great desire I had to be a pilot, which I forfieted to return, and build a home, and raise a family.

No matter what in this life has been fun important, or difficult, nothing compares to the joy I feel to have such a great family. Cathy, Dan, Sue, as did John, you and yours have a full measure of my feelings of joy and happiness

So while we still can, we want to carry on with each and every one, the traditions which have marked our family life. As always it will require effort on your part, and a lot on our part to spread ourselves, but let us know what you think + when you can.

We love you all

Dad and April

March 4, 1987

Dear Family,

Not a whole lot of excitement in Arco - just a lot of busyness in February. Warren heats the garage with a big propane jet heater & works on his boat. He almost has a nice carpeted-over/insulated-under aluminum cover made for the engine plus other touch-ups. It looks almost ready for the seasons' fun. He's been out steelheading once - it got away! Education Day which he was responsible for turned out to be a success with 3 fine speakers from out of town.

I spend the biggest percent of my time caring for a problem family(father in prison/Mother in behavioral rehab. center and the children in foster homes in our ward. I try to make their state welfare check meet all their bills & with collection agencies on their tail its really tough. How grateful I am for a competent husband who provides for me and my children & enfolds us in the Gospel. This poor little mother (mentally a child herself) with teenagers & younger ones too, needs so much guidance in even the simplest things of housekeeping & meal preparation. Indeed, this is an opportunity for our ward members to show a lot of charity.

Colissa is holding a 3.55 GPA at Ricks right now and looks forward to graduation next month. Her latest Bo's name is Darren from the Burley area. Sheldon has the helicopter down pretty good now after lots of bruises & ski tickets. He skis darn nearly every week & is making real progress on his 2nd waterbed.

Lupi wears a button "Boys play ball but men wrestle"; and it causes the basketball boys a little anxiety. The Butte ball team didn't make it to State but several of the wrestlers did; anyway that's the end of cheerleading for 86-87. Jolana is beginning training for track and the weather looks great for it. Norman is also happy for warm weather as it brings out the beavers for trapping. He's made a few dollars from hydes and is learning some skinning tricks. Warm weather for me means getting those little seeds in pots again. Norman and Sheldon have enjoyed Church ball, playing some good teamwork as they practice together quite often. Their team is few in number so they usually play all of every game and finished up 2nd in the Stake.

Kevin is now 12 years old and will soon receive the Priesthood. We went snowmobiling up Antelope for his Birthday with the clunker Sheldon has rebuilt the engine and everything else on. It worked pretty darn good and we had a good time. Valina and Kevin had their piano recital on Kevin's birthday and he wasn't too thrilled for the second year in a row this has happened. Valina goes to Rexburg for piano competition on March 14th.

After their first 4 months of Suzuki Piano lessons, Josh and Valina are getting a new teacher that we hope is as good as the first. I can say nothing but praise for the Suzuki method of music - I am thrilled with their progress. Josh enjoys his karate lessons twice a week and fantasizes he is Side Kick on the new TV series "Side-Kick".

My Mother's first grandchild to go on a mission is now out and in the Louisville, Kentucky Mission. Guess we aren't too far away from having a missionary ourselves now that Sheldon is 18. It's hard to believe. We send our love to all of you and hope you are each finding joy in the progress of your lives.

Love,
Sharon & Warren & Clan

Dear Family,

March 28, 1987

As I said in my last letter, I would either have to add more excitement to my life, or it would be hard to come up with something to write. I decided to add the excitement, and without much of my doing, excitement has found me.

Last Thursday evening mother nature visited Provo and Orem, and made a mess at two different apartment complexes, one of which was this one I live in. As I was getting dinner for myself the wind picked up outside, and was really making noise. I thought it would pass like any other storm front moving in does, but it lasted for some time, so I went to the window to watch it. As I pulled back the curtains I saw a flying garbage dump spinning directly over our apartment. It was only a small twister that almost developed into a tornado, but It could have fooled me. I saw bikes and other kids riding toys out on the lawn being thrown around. I saw big pieces of roofing and flashing dancing in the air, and as mentioned before, garbage and dirt darkened the sky. I could see that the force could break the window I was watching from, so I backed off a few steps as it moved to the next neighborhood. When it passed I went out side and found that the center of the twister passed over the neighboring building in the complex. It pulled much of the roofing off the top, and collapsed the bricks of one whole wall 60 feet high and 35 feet wide. I found part of the flashing in a tree just out side the window I was watching from. The flashing was a section ten feet long and eighteen inches wide weighing approximately ten pounds. There were three of these things in total all within twenty feet from each other, and if any one had been where they were hurling around they wouldn't be standing on there feet for long.

As I have mentioned before in my letters, my boss, Louis Erickson, is the first counselor in the bishopric of my ward. Well the Bishop was put in as the new Stake President, and Lou was put in as the new Bishop two weeks ago. The change was hard for most to get use to at first, but things are fine now, and I think it's kind of neat. I realize that except for Glen and maybe DeVon, no one knows Lou, but let me just say, he is quite a guy. He has been a great friend to me, and we have had fun in days past. As I sat with him the first day he was Bishop to discuss some statistics, we looked at each other and nether one of us could keep a strait face. As friends he has reveled much of his personality, and with me knowing more about him than anyone else in the ward It was funny to see him now as my Bishop. But that's okay, because he fills the position well.

I look forward each month to read the family letter, and miss knowing about those who do not write sometimes. I feel that the letter has brought us all somewhat closer together as a family, and just want to say to you all, I **LOVE YOU**, and KEEP IT UP!

Love always, David

The Lord does not ask about our ability or inability,
But only about our availability,
And if we prove our dependability,
The Lord will take care of our capability.

-Neil A. Maxwell

March 29, 1987

Dear Family,

Hello again from Colorado! From the looks of things outside you wouldn't believe it's even spring! There's eight inches of snow & is 14°. I'm afraid my poor daffodils are going to freeze in their buds! We are looking forward to better weather. We trekked out in the blizzard yesterday to purchase fertilizer for the lawn & strawberry plants for the garden. I'm wanting to do some landscaping changes in our front yard this year plus paint the house. I'll probably do most of it myself since George is gone from 5:45 a.m till about 6:15 pm.

George has been on jury duty this whole month, has had to report in 3 times & was dismissed both times. He has to report again tomorrow, for the last time. His duty was with district court. I served on county-court jury duty last year, but was dismissed... the people settled out of court, which was fine by me.

This week George & I are donating blood for one of the scouts (in our ward) Eagle project. Stephanie has her Olympics of the Mind competition, and a Patriotic program at school. Ben took first place in speed, for the 9-yr. olds, at the Pinewood Derby. (Mom is getting quite handy with tools & paint!) Only the over-all winners went to the stake derby.

We had a Primary activity 3 weeks ago where there was a boy with Chicken Pox. Ben came down with them & was home this whole past week. He had a fairly mild case of them when he was about 2, but this time got them real good. Stephanie & Melissa both had them really light 2 years ago; so now we're waiting to see if they'll get them again also. I do expect Krystin to get them.

We only made it to the temple here once since it opened, but I'm looking forward to our scheduled ward temple nights now once a month. We should be going more often & hope to start if we can stay "healthy" for a while!

We love you all & look forward to the letter each month.

Love, Roslyn, George & family.

Hope you're doing okay & feeling well!

You're doing a good job Shelly.

March 30, 1987

Dear Family:

Today is kind of a gloomy day. We have had six inches of rain in the last three days. The retention pond in back of our house looks like a little lake. Even though we are not excited about this much rain we wish the pond looked like this all of the time. It usually has mud in the bottom of it. We are hoping that when they complete construction around here they will clean it out, plant some grass and make it look real nice. Most of the others around look pretty good.

All of this rain makes me worry about my garden. I finally got it planted about two weeks ago. The plants are small and many are just barely coming up. I check it several times a day to make sure things are still growing and the rain hasn't beat the little things back into the ground. So far it has only taken one lettuce plant. The weatherman is predicting cold temperatures for Wednesday. I may have to find a way to cover them up. So far I have tomatoes, beans, corn, squash, spinach, cucumbers, cantaloupe, carrots, marigolds, nasturtiums, and onions. I am still waiting for my watermelon and dill to come up.

Getting them to come up has been the easy part. Now I have to protect them from unfriendly critters. I have already had a racoon in the garden. We fumigated the soil before planting so hopefully I won't have a lot of bugs. But, I'm sure there will be some. The other day I had a four-foot long snake in my compost pile. I haven't been too eager to get real close to it since then.

Ken left this morning for Miami. He'll be down there all week. This is his second week down there this month. He was only planning on the one, and when he returned WP called him and told him they had been invited to demonstrate their programs when IBM releases a new computer this week. Some of the big guys from corporate will be there for the event. He gets excited about these kind of things. He enjoys his job and likes what he is doing. With work and church some times he has more to do than he can handle. But he manages to stay on top.

I've got a live-in baby sitting job for three days next week for a couple in our ward. They are going to Washington DC and need someone to stay with their three kids while they are gone. Two of them are in school so it shouldn't be too bad. Could be interesting.

Looking forward to hearing from you all again. Till next time.

Love,

Connie + Ken

3-30-87

Dear Family,

When I read your letters, I got homesick and so did Karyn. We really miss being able to see you even if it wasn't very often when we were in Idaho. The thing that is really neat is the love that is in the family for each member of the family. This is Heaven on Earth.

As I travel here in the South I have really enjoyed the people that I have meet and seeing this part of the United States. The South is rich in tradition and it has a true southern flavor. I like grits, cornbread, catfish, greens, and hush puppies. I am also learning to understand southern and am starting to speak a small amount.

The thing that I got out of the letter is the quiet way that each member of the family has faced life's challenges and have been able to overcome each challenge. This gives me additional strength knowning that each one of us are praying for each other. Our strength comes from our unity and our prayers. We have felt this strength as we have faced our little trials and problems. An example this help was on the day that we left Idaho we stayed our first night in Rock springs. The girls wanted to swim and jumped in. I felt that I should stay and watch them. In just a few minutes they slipped of in to water over their heads and couldn't get out. I jumped in clothes and all get them out. The Lord will protect us if we can hear His. I am grateful for His and I am grateful for your love and prayers.

Thanks for the
birthday cards
& phone calls.
They meant a lot to me. Karyn

All Our Love
Earl, Karyn, & Family

MARCH 1987

Hello again,

It was interesting to note that nearly everyone commented last month on how quickly time flies. No wonder a whole year can go by without writing ~

We were glad to hear that Sue wrote last time & hope she & Cathy will enjoy these letters, too.

I only worked at the video store for three weeks. There just isn't enough money there to pay themselves, let alone hired help. So now were back to babysitting. I was able to get three of my "babies" back & three I lost. I really have mixed feelings over the whole deal.

Paul has been building (making, I guess) a trailer to haul the motorcycles on. He and the boys are quite anxious to head up to the hills. I hope they have alot of time to do that ~ they enjoy it so much & its good for them to be able to share that time & those experiences.

We were heavily involved this month in a stake musical. Florence Miller was in charge. It was called "Fascinatin' Rhythems." and was kind of a salute to Broadway depicting alot of musicals from the 20's to the 60's. It was all music except for "Mr. Broadway" who was the narrator. All of us were involved except Joey. Tim & Takina were in "Consider Yourself" from "Oliver". Shauna was in "Getting to Know You" from "The King & I." Paul & I were in several group numbers & also did a duet "Make Believe" from "Showboat." Mark was a go-fer for Florence & Bryan did curtain & stage lights. They did costumes & makeup, too. It was VERY time-consuming for 3 wks, but it was fun. Jamie played the piano (with her baby due the day of the 2nd & last performance - she still hasn't had it - a week later.) Till next month ~ The Perry's

March, 1987

Dear Family,

Seems like a short month - we've kept busy with doctor appointments, temple night, church callings, a ward activity, the Stake S & S ball, etc.

Bryan went on the Klondike Derby this past weekend & actually kept warm - they used National Guard tents & had some type of coal burning heater in them so they kept toasty. He said the boys performed better this time than on any other campout - worked well as patrols, etc - which he was glad to see.

Marcelle's getting excited about "her baby sister" (as she calls it) & tells me quite frequently that I'm bigger.

We've got 2 of the painting done for her "new" room - Bryan's done a great job of fixing it up.

With sunshine the past couple of days we're starting thinking about gardening. It'll be nice to get it in at a decent time this year. Hopefully it will pay off. We plan to try the "Square foot" gardening techniques that Connie & Ben introduced us to & see if we can get a better yield in less space & use water more efficiently. Till next month.

Love,

Shelly

MARCH 1987

Dear Family,

It seems like time flies so fast that there isn't enough time to do it all. (All the things that really need to be done, that is). And also it seems that one of the hardest things for me to do is to sit down and write a letter! This family letter is, however , I feel, a very important thing to do.

I think A.J. needs a little brother or sister or some kind of playmate as he seems to be quite spoiled in comparison to the other children of ours. The little whipper snapper is so smart because of all the older kids around him that some of the things he does and says just send you rolling on the floor (almost). He has a depth of understanding, excellent verbal skills and is full of love. There is always a big hug for dad when I leave or return. I think he watches too much TV also! (So does everyone else in our family).

Wayne is a go getter cub scout now and has a natural talent for music. He's quietand to himself most of the time and seems to be a budding student of a super, excellent quality, in my opinion.

Roger is too smart for his britches most of the time and if not careful uses his brain to do things that he knows very well are designed to arouse attention or cause mischief. His skills and abilities are getting better and better all the time. He truly is a miracle child and has been a strengh to, in many ways. I feel our Father in Heaven moving about and looking after this boy. He is probably the most interesting of all our children. I feel his destiny is special and will probably surprise us as he already has.

Nathan is little professor, AAA student,future Eagle Scout, as soon as he can, editor of his school news paper, teacher's pet, student's pet, sharp as a tack, very sensitive, eager, a den chief, a salesman, a business man, a creator, a friend and the leader of the pack. His nature is that of CAN DO. (Anything and everything).

Keri is getting it together on the violin. She is in Youth Symphony and is working hard to earn the right to the Westmoreland family violin which is a nice one and has seen many hoedown performances in the past years. Keri does her homework without fail and without question. She is very dedicated to whatever she decides to do. She is quite self conscious at 13, which is ok for growing up. She is turning into a pretty young lady. Her Patriarachal Blessing contains many wonderful things about leadership with sisters in the Church and promises her she will never have any kind of disease throughout her life and that when she dies, she will be taken without sickness but at an appointed time by our Father in Heaven, and many other beautiful things that are very personal to her.

Cory is AN Eagle Scout, Teacher's Quorum President, puppy lover, macho man, socializer, scripture carrier, Seminarygoing, budding young man. Almost as tall me! Cory's Patriarachal Blessing eludes to a direction in extensive community service and touching many, many lives for the good. He willteach the gospel in a land not open to the missionaries at present. Cory loves his family very much and I do not believe he would ever do anything to bring discredit to us in any way.

Jered just received his driver's license, our insurance went up and it will double if he gets even one teenee weenee ticket. He had to get glasses to pass the vision test and must wear them to drive. I think Jered will be very wise with his handling of this responsibility. He has taken an interest in aviation, HOW deep an interest remains to be seen. He loves dirt biking, is Assistant Jr. Scout Master in the ward, is an early riser and very neat and careful, and protective of the material things he has. Jered's Patriarachal Blessing is full of Church Leadership on a grand scale. Jered is a natural listener. He is very responsive to working with me in almost anything. He and Cory can finish a room in construction. They can run the wire, insulate, sheetrock, tape the joints, finish and sand ready for paint. And paint too. They will paint several houses together this Summer as they did a fine job last Summer sub-contracting with me.

I love each of our children very much. I see a lot of good things--- true joy and rejoycing in our posterity. Grandchildren that Grandma and Grandpa can be proud of for Eternity! Oh, they're not perfect, but niether are we. The important thing is that they are on the right track and any mistake they make will be for their good, their growth. We've talked about a little foster child (girl) to help round things out for Keri and A.J. but at this point is just that - talk.

I am becoming more and more proud of Bobby every day . She seems nicer to me than before. She seems prettier to me than before. Our relationship seems to be better than ever before. Yes there are many reasons for that but it is so---and that is the important thing about it --that it is so! She is a Boy scout supporter through and through. With our boys as well as every boy in the ward. She goes on two or three hikes a month with these little wild hares and I don't know where she gets the energy for that but she does and she has gained a reputation Stake wide that will never die. She still sings but is not taking regular lessons at present. I love her very much and it is a mystery, in a way, that she has blessed my life with six sons who each have a sister.

The Maintenance and repair business is the best thing I've connected up withyet. However, it is not without its problems. I hired a "DUD" who cost me in a big way. I let him go and it left me with more than I could handle at the time (last Dec.). Glen has filled that spot with concern and dedication. We have solicited more business and it is growing with repetition. We have many good people who depend on us in many ways. It is good! And we do our best to do good lasting work---it is paying off. In Jan. we did nearly $12,000.00 in minor repair work-- a lot of it was furnaces (winter). About 70% of that was gross profit. Glen worked about ½ capacity so we have room for growth on top of an already good pattern. Glen has sincere plans to sell his Camero and get set up with a small outfit similar to mine. My pick up has been repainted with no lettering on it as another driver bashed into my side, ruined the door, etc. His insurance paid for the new paint--it really looks great! Just when I thought I was ready to start in on reducing my investors debt I learned I had to come up with over $3,000.00 for uncle sam. That debt is a killer! Now that I am making fairly good money it has to go somewhere besides my family. I have truly learned my lesson in that regard! It may take the rest of my life to get that off my back. I hope not, there are other things I would like to do.

Four months on the Stake High Council have been more involved than that of a Councilor in the Bishopric. I feel a greater weight. My assignments are many. Stake Primary,(including Cub Scouts), Bishop's Storehouse, Desert Industries, Stake Welfare Committee, Stake Aaronic Priesthood Committee, Substance Dependancy, monthly speaking assignments, High Council Courts--each week,(no exaggeration), and other misc. things. My most involved of these is the Substance Dependancy. Under the direction of Elder Featherstone, I am on Regional Staff which meets sometimes twice monthly , developing a program for Churchwide use once it is fine tuned. This thing deals with the LDS people with priesthood leadership in all areas of substance abuse. Prescription drugs, alcohol, illegal drugs, over-the-counter remedies. Most programs designed to treat these things are unable to treat the magnified quilt which is present in the LDS Community. Under Priesthood direction the pilot system has already proven successful and is being refined. So---if and or when you hear more about it in the comming years you can say I had something to do with its development. Working with Glen has been a contribution to this. Aside from all this, my Priesthood Stewardship is over the 9th Ward in our Stake. My challenge is to inspire growth in that ward. It's heavy but very rewarding and I enjoy it. We are being blessed because of it.

Love to all,

DeVon

Dear Family: April 1987

Spring has sprung -- but our new lawn surely hasn't! We may have to go back to the drawing board. We're glad to be getting closer to a 4-member family. Shelly is 4-5 weeks away from delivery and seems to be in that very "uncomfortable" -- "non-comfortable" stage. The bedroom Marcelle moves into is painted and carpeted, so all that is left is 5 weeks away.

I got a promotion at work that is challenging me in every respect. I'm just hoping my body doesn't give up on me before the company does! I'm now production manager for the plant. I think what that really means is I'm in charge of picking up the weekly prescription of Tagamet for everybody!

Shelly is sewing quite a few things for the baby -- and using generic material of course... Marcelle continues to amaze us with her curious mind and how quickly she picks up on the most subtle things. It's great to see her discover the world around her.

We learned much at General Conference and have many things to work on... Hope everyone is healthy, happy, and safe --

Love,

Bryan, Shelly, Marcelle
and the mystery guest.

Dear family, April 29, 1987

An exciting summer is on the way, at least that's the plan for my ward. We've discussed lots of fun filled activities for the ward, so I could also say that there's plenty of work to do that others might have fun. As a ward we've been parasailing two summers in a row, river rafting two years in a row, and It's all on the calender again for this summer, as well as some other new activities. It's fun, but challenging at times staying abreast all there is to do in my callings. I enjoy it very much however, as I learn new and interesting things.

Doing something good for someone else, with a pure motive, is spiritually perpetual, wherein doing something for your self while denying service to others is selfish, and spiritually debasing. To me the important concern in my life is not me so much as it is other people. I have found that the solution to life's worries and nearly every problem challenging me this day, is serving others. When I say things like "as soon as I get this done, or that caught up, I will have more time and will be more able to help someone else", I miss the understanding of this principle. The world would teach this, but the spirit teaches otherwise. The more weight I carry for someone else, the less I have to carry for myself. Through the Holy Spirit I continue to learn more and more of the Lords will concerning me. I can strongly testify of the power in the priesthood and the importance of seeking the guidance of the spirit. When I say "Holy Spirit" I say it with reverence, because it really is Holy. It takes true dedication and continual striving for worthiness to maintain the constant companionship of The Spirit, but no matter what the price, it's always worth it to me.

Last sunday I attended the second Bishop's Court since my calling as Ward Clerk. I can't say I look forward to such occasions because of the grief that is felt in those meetings. There's even more grief felt by the court rather than the defendant sometimes because of the ignorance of such grievous committed sins. Two thirds of my ward are housed in a newly constructed complex were evil has great influence. It's heartbreaking to see kids away from home for the first time, wanting to develop relationships with other ward members, then give in to seemingly innocent situations only to get caught and tangled up in the webs of immorality etc. etc.

I think most of the family knows already but I took a week off for a vacation in Florida. Since Connie and Ken have been kind enough to put me up for a week, I will see the sights with them; go to Disney World, The Epcot Center, Cape Canaveral, the beach, etc., and do enough business to hopefully pay for my trip ,and claim as a deduction with the IRS (a lesson I learned as a business man).

I just flew in last night and am writing this letter at Connie's place, so all the above is still on the agenda. I did however plan a layover in Atlanta to see Karen and the kids. I want to say thank you to them for the effort they made to drive all the way out to the airport just for the 40 minutes we were able to visit.

Much Love,

David

April 30, 1987

Dear Family:

Getting in under the wire here. Hopefully, Shelly will be a little slow with the letter this month so I don't miss it. Time has a way of getting away from you.

David is here for a week. Ken is gone, so David and I have been doing some of Florida. We went exploring yesterday to a place I'd never been but heard was real nice. It proved to be true. We were there late in the day and didn't have time to do much but look around. It's a springs and state park. We'll have to go back and spend a day. There is camping, picnic area, swimming (in the springs), hiking and canoeing. The canoe looked fun. The river was clean and very lush green. Today we'll head out to Kennedy Space Center and save the beach and Disney for after Ken comes back tomorrow.

Ken flew to Atlanta and Nashville this week. It's the first time I've had a car when he's been gone. I feel like a new person. (We are <u>still</u> waiting for the company car we ordered in November. They keep saying it's coming. The latest was by April 30. I'm not holding my breath. I won't get excited until they call and say it's at the dealership, come get it.)

I was out early and watered my garden this morning. It's coming right along. I have blossoms on the cantaloupe and beans and some coming on the zucchini and tomatoes. I have 8 tomato plants so I think I'm going to have a lot. I wanted enough to make some salsa and bottle it and maybe some tomato sauce etc. We'll see. The grasshoppers like my garden too. Especially the corn and bean. As my garden grows, so do the pesky little hoppers. I called a nursery to see if there was something I could spray or put out to help get rid of them, but they said it was pretty hopeless at this point.

I was preparing to go to girls camp this summer with the young women. Now there are two weddings right at the same time. Ken's brother, David, is getting married on the 13th of June. And with Glen's the week earlier (I guess, He's never said anything about it to us) it may change our summer plans. Depending if Ken can take that much time off, we may try to make the loop and take them both in. If we do, Dad, can we take you up on that boat trip?

Well, I'll get this in the mail, then have breakfast (David is finally up) and it's off to Kennedy. Till next month,

Love, Bonnie + Ken

April, 30, 1987

Dear Family,

The gorgeous summer weather we are now enjoying in the spring of the year is unreal - the fruit trees in bloom and everything so green (2 lawn mowings already). This year we can enjoy an abundance of lilacs which froze the last two years. Funny how you take small things for granted til they are gone then you really appreciate them when you are able to enjoy them once again.

Our graduates this year number three - one down and 2 to go. Colissa's graduation from Ricks was rewarding - she still has her internship ahead of her for which she is awaiting an opening at the Marriott in Salt Lake. In the meantime she has moved in with Dad & April and waitressing at Frontier Pies to pay for her upcoming expenses like car insurance on her little '80 Omega we gave her for graduation.

The boys are happy to have a new motorbike and are lining up summer jobs; the girls are already into theirs. It has been fun watching and helping our older teenagers prepare for the Proms and having a good time helping each other out. Sheldon and his buddy each rented a tux for the first time and his sisters catered a dinner for them and their dates in the City Park before the Prom. Valina is enjoying 4-H sewing which Sharon is teaching this year. Josh has finished up with Karate for the year and will probably start soccer soon. Kevin repaired the cassette player in Colissa's car and is helping Sheldon overhaul our old lawnmower.

Warren has tinkered with his boat til he feels good about how it runs. We took it on the Mackay Reservoir and enjoyed a lovely shirt sleeve weather day til 7:00 p.m. (unusual for April) and watched the Canadian Honkers and ducks and fish. He sure handles it well up through the willows and is getting peak performance out of it compared to what it has done in the past. There was one crazy person water skiing in that frigid water. Another interesting sight recently we enjoyed with some friends who like doing crazy things was arising early and driving out into the desert to watch the Sage Hens booming on their booming grounds. They are so striking with their chest feathers ruffled and their tail feathers spanned .

At Sharon's last eye appointment her vision had improved from 20/200 to 20/70 with correction. The stitches remain in but don't bother and all looks good. She now has over 4,000 bedding plants she has individually potted and is pleased with the warm weather for good growing conditions.

Tonight is the OpenHouse for our new Stake Center at Moore. We are all involved in the program - singing and dancing and Sharon started up an accordion band by request. It is truly a lovely building - we enjoyed Stake Conference in it on Easter Sunday.

Warren & Sharon's trip to Yosemite Park California was a delightful experience enjoying lovely California in the Springtime but most of all renewing our acquaintances with the special LDS dental group we have been a part of since dental school in San Francisco. Also being able to meet with Romulo Casos in Salt Lake City has strengthened our faith. He is now a Regional Rep. in Peru and a former Mission Pres. and has touched so many lives since the day Warren baptized him in Peru.

We are thankful for our many blessings which are usually what we write about; and of course realize not quite so readily, that the trials or daily challenges are also blessings in disguise. There is a special enjoyment we get from reading about all of yours. It's great to keep in touch!

Love
Warren & Sharon

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WARREN LONGHURST, D.D.S.

April 31, 1987 (1.)

Dear Family,

The months do go by quickly but it is good to hear from you. Miss hearing from DeVon and Glen's most exciting life.

Kevin was ordained a Deacon in the Aaronic Priesthood so we too now have a Deacon, Teacher, and Priest all at once. We're proud of them.

Sharon had a corneal transplant on one eye the 18th of March. She has 32 tiny stitches in the eyeball and has to take a lot of precautions but is doing fine. The vision is slowly improving but will take 6 months to a year to be complete. She bought her a new watch with alarm to help with the 2 hr. medication schedule. Sharon was released as Relief Society Pres. just a few weeks short of 4 years. It has been a busy time with a lot to do all along and even during the last week of it. The 1st Counselor in our Bishopric and his family lost their house to a fire and all they had, so that has taken some extra effort on a lot of people's part. Sharon picked out a suit from D.I. for him and made all the alterations so he would look fit to sit on the stand last Sunday. Many people commented on how nice he looked and the rest of his family were well outfitted too thanks to so many caring people. Sharon now is ward music chairman with a different challenge. Her bedding plants are growing and spring is threatening even this far north.

With Spring coming, the trapping season is over for Norman. He caught one beaver and 586 muskrats. Steelhead fishing this year has not been as good as last year. Maybe I'll get to go once more before it's finished for the season (April 30)

I guess that's about all the news we have accumulated. Our prayers, thoughts, and best wishes are with everyone. Ken, congratulations on your new calling. Hasta luego.

Love,
Warren & family

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"TOP OF THE HILL"
Bedding Plants
SALE
Vegetables
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Box Hot Caps
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Located just below
the hospital in Arco
527-3407

High School awards night attended by 300

Approximately 300 parents, students, teachers and Booster Club members were present for the high school awards banquet and ceremony Thursday evening. Recognition was given to students excelling in academics, arts and athletics.

Vicki Northrop, the Student Council, Butte Booster Club chairperson Carol Ohmes Alsing and Carrie Allen, were with her daughters, Pam Bingham and Carrie Allen, were the dedicated organizers of this successful event. The Butte Booster Club provided the financial support.

The buffet style dinner of ham, baked potatoes, green salad, rolls, jello and cake was prepared by Barbara Reynolds and the PTA. The menu items and accessories were purchased from the ABA Market which were supplied by the sponsor.

Many students were recognized and were recipients of various awards. These below are just a few.

Art—Outstanding Honors—Freshman Jolana Longhurst; Sophomore Mischa Sherman; Junior Cree Wade; Becky Lish; Andra Snyder and Lesli Blatiner. Overall Honors went to Senior Janet Bailey.

Industrial Arts—Outstanding Project, John Lish; The Golden Hammer award, donated by Lost River Lumber—Shawn Longhurst and Ivan McAffee. Outstanding Honors, David Caldwell, Debbie Rowberry and John Danz.

Butte County High School

Arco, Idaho

This Certifies That

Sheldon Lee Kent Longhurst

has satisfactorily completed the Course of Studies prescribed for graduation from this High school and is therefore awarded this

Diploma

Given this twenty-second day of May, Nineteen hundred eighty-seven

He cant belicve he's a Graduate.

POSTER CONTEST

AWARD

TO

WARREN JOSHUA LONGHURST

FOR OUTSTANDING PARTICIPATION IN
FOREST AND RANGE FIRE PREVENTION

KEEP IDAHO GREEN
PREVENT WILDFIRE

April 23, 1987

Date

Bill Williams, Boy Idaho Green Director

The Watten Longhurst Family Collage
(May 1987)



77TH YEAR, NO. 20

Ricks College

is honored to present an award to

SHELDON LONGHURST

Amount $1,200

Academic Year 1987-88

Colissa Graduate of Ricks College

couldn't find

I Hate Drugs

by Josh

2nd Grade ESSAY Contest

I wish people wouldn't use druga. I hate drugs because they tempt people to kill themselves. Drugs make you feal bad at the end. Drugs are my worst enamy in the future. Drugs lie to you. Ahead of me. Don't even take them from your friends. It takes awhile to recover. That's why I hate druga.

DIPLOMA

This is to certify that

Kirsan Longhurst

has been granted this

DIPLOMA

in evidence of having completed the prescribed work of

Butte Middle School

Charles Haugen

Principal

Date

Three Arco students on Ricks honor roll

Rexburg — Ricks College officials recently named 919 students to its spring semester President's Honor Roll.

Registrar Gloria Andrus said students making the presitigious list earned at least a 3.5 GPA and carried 14 credits or more. Each fall and spring semester, students are named to the honor roll, she said.

Ricks College is the largest privately owned two-year college in the nation and is owned and operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons).

This year the college had historic enrollments with 6,931 students attending fall semester and 6,597 this spring. Students from 49 states and more than 30 foreign countries attend the college.

Last month the college also granted 1,405 associate degrees to graduates. The first term of Summer School is currently in session at Ricks College.

Arco students listed on the honor roll are Todd L. Johnson, Colissa Longhurst and Allen Terry Miller.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Seminaries
Certificate of Graduation
The Church Board of Education
Certifies that
SHELDON LONGHURST
having completed the course of study prescribed for the Seminaries of the Church, is awarded this testimonial of honorable graduation
Given this 24 day of May 1987

Sheldon Served as Seminary Pres.

RICKS COLLEGE
UPPER VALLEY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

This is to certify that

Valerie Longhurst

participated in the Junior Music Festival
Rexburg, Idaho

1987
Year

Solo Festivals
Event

99
Points

Previous Points
Total 99
Award 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Kathleen C. Nelson
Festival Chairman

Valerie Longhurst
Teacher's Name

LuPi Participated in the Miss Idaho Coed Pageant in Pocatello where She was Selected a Semi-finalist.
Sharon made her evening gown of rose metallic fabric, White lace & bows. She looked Stunning.



1987 National American Coed
Susan Riddell
Miamicsburb, OH

5-1-87

Dear Family,

The news from this end is our Easter visit in Ariz., April finishing the school year, and spring has sprung.

We visited most of April's family in Mesa which is always delightful. We also got together with my half brother and sisters Brandon + Betty Jean, Myra, Bessie. We had lunch with them and did a bit of remenising. It is the first time ever for that group to get together, and because of circumstances could also be the last.

The Easter pajant was very good. Brent was working the sound so was there early each nite and saved seats next to the sound control booth.

With no moisture last winter or this spring, we are having, for the first time, to irrigate before planting. The water turn starts to-day, and boy is it dry. With the unusual warm weather, the blossoms are out and very pretty. The next concern will be frost. If not tho' we should have

We also had short visits w/ Shelly + Marcelle (Bryan was at work - Dalton, Bobby + family + Sam + Grandpa David on our way to AK.

some apples this year. The plums ~~were~~ bloomed earlier and got frosted Easter morning while we were gone. As we took off from Phoenix the temps. was up in the 90°s and as we landed in D.I. at 4PM there was up to a foot of snow and 37°.

It's good to be almost finished w/ another year of school + surely wish I was graduating in May - However I have 2 more required classes. One is offered in the fall + one in the Spring. I am doing a lot of counseling now + enjoying the challenge. Colvia will be living w/ us this summer + working at Frontier Pies, a restaurant on Yellow-Stone Ave. We are excited to have her here, I especially like having a female to visit with.

Mark is Grandpa's right hand this year + is a very good employee. He works nearly every evening and most Saturdays. The yard looks neat + clean this time of year + the apple blossoms are beautiful.

We are looking forward to Glen's Wedding, the birth of Shelly + Bryan's baby + hopefully many visits from all of you this summer. Catherine, Larry + family are coming in June or July for a few days + Sue's family sometime later - Don has had a good semester at University of Alaska + is looking forward to more light + warmer weather - Much Love to All of You - Mom + Dad

Stephen gets to go fishing w/ Grandpa this summer - He think he is the only 5yr old right now - Is that right?

Dear Family,

I remember back to last year at this time & I was in Shelly's position - just a few weeks from having a baby & trying hard to do all I could before the baby came & my time would be limited. This year I'm making up for lost time & am spending as much time as I can in the yard. The weather has been so pretty & Krystin <u>loves</u> being outside.

Stephanie's "Odyssey of the Mind" team went to State competition on the 25th. Out of 23 teams State-wide they came in 9th (it's a creative problem solving team.) She really enjoyed it.

George has had to put in time during the evenings on his old car. The cam-shaft chain broke, but he thought he'd blown the head gasket. He keeps that old thing in pretty good running shape - it needs a body & paint job bad! (It is just shy of 270,000 miles.)

The little girls are getting quite tan. They practically live outside. Krystin is on the verge of walking & is so much fun to have around. She's been our funnest baby yet - I guess each one is at the time.

Love till next time, Loralyn

May, 1987

Dear Family,

Not too much new around here - Bryan is very busy with his new responsibilities at work, along with Scout Campouts & the normal.

I've been trying to get as many projects done as possible lately & I've been making Marcelle alot of clothes for summer, as she's grown out of about everything. Some of them have turned out really cute & fit her well.

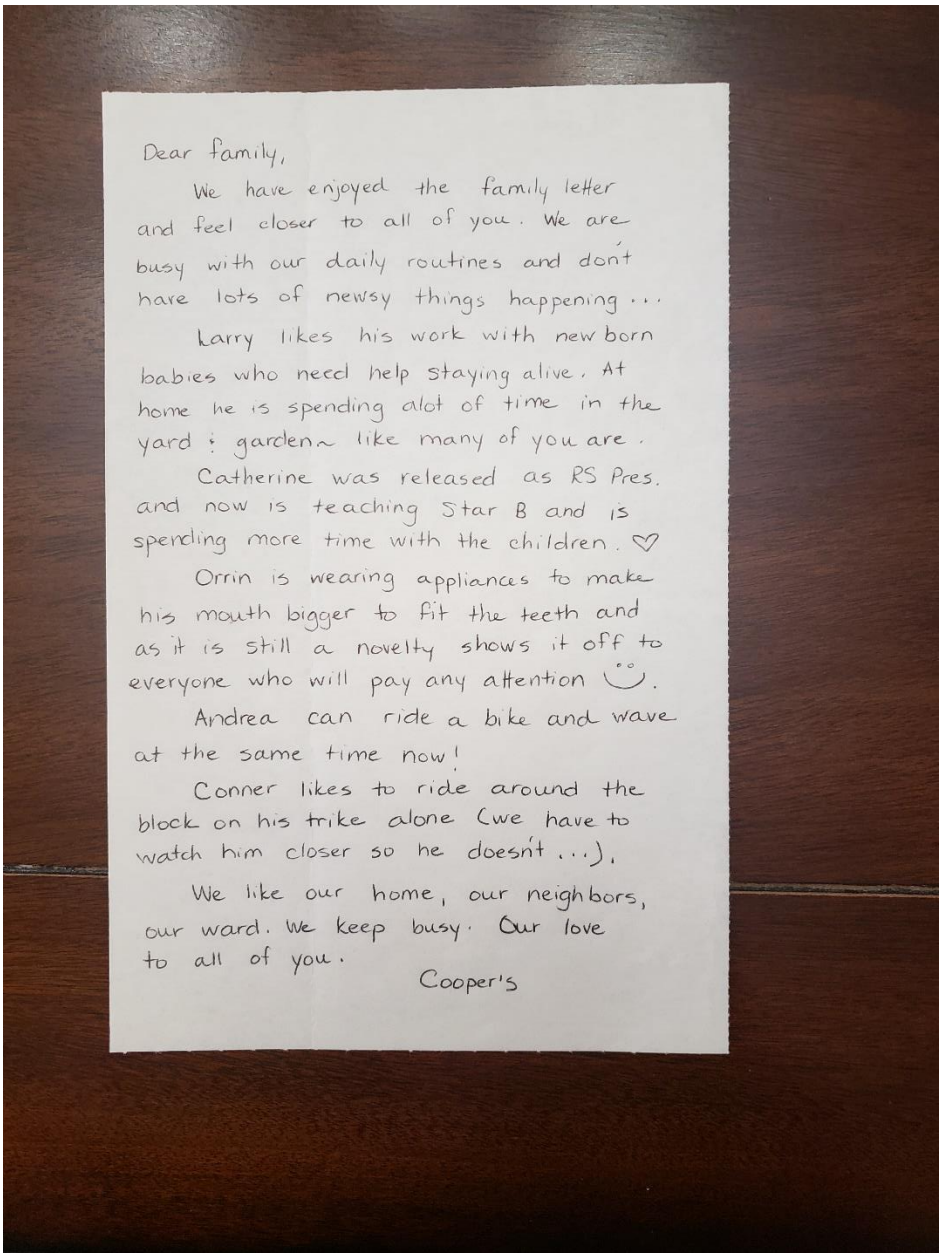
Marcelle thinks the outdoors is for her. She'd live out there if I'd let her. Along with it, though, comes the hard knocks. This past week she fell down the back cement steps, got stung by a bee, got dumped off a skateboard, fell off her bike, had 2 bloody noses, & fell & scraped up every other spot that wasn't already skinned. She looks pretty bad!" The funny thing is she just goes back for more.

The rest of the time I'm waddling around trying to keep track of her, which is no easy task. She's always looking for someone to play with & just loves kids. She should have been twins.

Well, hopefully will have some real news for next time. Love,

Shelly

P.S. Thanks for the B-day remembrances.



Dear family,

We have enjoyed the family letter and feel closer to all of you. We are busy with our daily routines and don't hare lots of newsy things happening...

Larry likes his work with new born babies who need help staying alive. At home he is spending alot of time in the yard & garden~ like many of you are.

Catherine was released as RS Pres. and now is teaching Star B and is spending more time with the children. ♡

Orrin is wearing appliances to make his mouth bigger to fit the teeth and as it is still a novelty shows it off to everyone who will pay any attention ☺.

Andrea can ride a bike and wave at the same time now!

Conner likes to ride around the block on his trike alone (we have to watch him closer so he doesn't...).

We like our home, our neighbors, our ward. We keep busy. Our love to all of you.

Cooper's

Dear Family,

Spring is here - Hooray!!
It is so beautiful this time of year, isn't it.

Golly, not a lot to share this time around. We've helped Glen move to his new home (apt.) - soon to be shared with Lynette. She really is super, very attractive in everyway.

We look forward to seeing everyone 1 month from now at the wedding.

DeVon is -too- busy - he needs 4 more hands, and another set of tools - but its great - and we've never been happier - about hard work.

We are anxious for Shelly to make a trip to the hospital - Marcelle visits once in awhile - she and A.J. are good - play - buddies, we sure love her.

Will say more next time around - will leave it short and sweet this time.

Love to everyone!! Bobby & Wodn.

May 9, 1987
Atlanta, GA

Dear Family,

The holly in our yard has bloomed and dazzled us with fragrance in the air and is now developing berries. The honeysuckle now permeates its sweet scent and the world is lush and green here. Our peas will soon bloom and the tomatoes are a foot high and developing quickly. I just planted some cucumbers a week ago so they'll soon be on their way.

School will soon be out & all the kids are anxious for summer. The weather makes it hard to be in school since yesterday was 82° for Mother's Day.

I had a very nice Mothers' Day with breakfast served in the bedroom, no dishes to wash & filet mignon on the grill! (After church) Some nice little gifts.

Earl is beginning to travel some again - We spent a nice week in Nashville with the kids all farmed out at home - Last time we were away for a few days was 3 yrs. ago so it was time.

Grandma Wilcox spent a week with us and we "shopped 'till we dropped" as the bumper sticker says. Congrads to Spencer Helliwell - & thankful Shailee is fine now.

Love, The Meadows

May 30, 1987

Dear Family,

It's time again to write and see if we can beat the Crocketts in getting our letter included. This is a very old typewriter with a new ribbon so I hope it will do the job. I seem to have trouble with my neck if I write with a pen too much because of the angle.

Summer has been here in Georgia for quite awhile and we have enjoyed it very much. For the first time we have seen Dogwood trees in bloom and azaleas of so many types, any acorns that the squirrells have missed shoot into young trees, and the foilage hide the countryside once again. Honeysuckle abounds profusly with the air filled with its sweet aroma. We have fallen in love all over again with the area. A year has passed and it hardly seems possible.

Our congradulations go out to all of you having special events in your lives right now and wish all of Heavenly Fathers blessing on you. We have been very blessed in all of our families in spite of the problems that come along.

We certainly enjoyed all the letters in the past months. It is an important way to mark time by remembering to write and anticipating the letter's coming. DeVon we especially enjoyed your detailed letter about your family and the way you expressed it.

School is out here as of yesterday the 29th. It has been difficult for everyone to keep going with the weather so "vacation-like" but we made it. The water level is very near normal this year and there is no drought expected (looks like we have changed places) so we are planning to spend a lot of time at one or two of the beaches very close to us on Lake Allatoona. It is a 4½ mile drive to it and such a nicely developed area. Last year it couldn't be used and the time was spent to improve and expand the facilities, so for now that is our great expectation. We are amazed at the little garden that we planted in the only spot that seems to receive any sunlight--it seems that if one stands close enough to the plants you can actually hear them grow or at least see them. It's been 4 weeks since the green bean seeds went into the ground and the plants are now ready to bloom. That is amazing to us. Earl can especially see the changes with him gone 5 days then coming home. He is very pleased. Never before have we had plants grow 3 times as fast as the weeds. I understand the weather has been kind in the west for early planting but that water may be a problem. We certainly hope that the west will receive the moisture needed for crops and gardens because we all benefit from good production.

We have had a "friend" living under our patio the winter and he has been given his walking papers. We are afraid the cement will crack and collapse if Mr. Rat doesn't leave so we can fill it in. He seems to have built himself quite a mansion under there; or should we say "she"? A field mouse has decided to take up residence inside our home, too, and I'm not willing to share it at all, so that one is going too. While sitting at the kitchen table typing this letter I am watching three squirrels eat and chase and play. I should name them because they are permanent residents in one of our trees and don't seem to have caused any problems anywhere. It's pleasant to also see the number of varieties of birds that feed in our yard. very peaceful and relaxing to watch wildlife.

Lonnie has begun a job with a landscaping company that could prove to be very beneficial in many ways. Today is day#1 and he was up early excited to get going. He has reached his parents in stature now and is hoping to add some muscle to his long frame and hefting railroad ties may just do the trick plus put some $ in his pocket. Beats McDonalds. Greg will have some mowing jobs as soon as we can purchase a lawn mower. It's time to rid ourselves of the 2 junkers that only take up space and cause frustration.

We feel badly that we will miss Glen's wedding and all the summer family times. We think about each of you very often and are very happy that we are keeping in touch with eachother. It takes away some the sting of being "left out" because family has always been a part of our lives. The kids miss their cousins and are learning to have joy in others happiness instead of feeling jealous. Good is coming from all directions if we watch for it.

Our love,
Karen, Earl & fam.

Dear Family: June, 1987

It has been a very busy month for the Crocketts in May! Shelly got a great Mother's Day present, as Aubrey was born Sunday morning! She is a true Longhurst according to Shelly. I have to agree. My job is keeping me busy -- busier than I like to be; it's hard to do the distractive things like gardening, golf, and eating. I hope it will settle down. It was great to visit with the family at Linette and Glen's wedding! (now you can tell I am tardy in writing our letter...!) We wish them a happy future.

Have a fun & hot June!

Love,
The Crocketts'
Aubrey
Marcelle
Shelly
Bryan

June 1, 1987

Dear Family

I realize most of us will have seen each other by the time we read this family letter & I'm happy for the occasion that brings us together. I know we'll miss those that can't come to Glen's wedding.

George is still in the process of tearing the old car apart. He decided to rebuild the engine now that it was already so disassembled! His schedule at work has eased up now & he works a normal day again, so he has a little more time to be at home & tinker on the car. It looks like all else will be the responsibility of the rest of us until he is finished with the car.

We had a couple hail storms that about beat everything growing outside into the ground. The weather has seemed alot more settled this past week & we're enjoying it. One of these first days we'll be able to start painting the house.

Stephanie & Ben finish school on the 11th. They're looking forward to that! I think they are hoping for a lot of play time this summer! Melissa gave her first talk yesterday & Krystin is starting to walk now. I'm still working on bedroom window shades! We love you all!

Love,
Kaelyn

6/1/87

Dear Family,

We missed last month + I can see that if I don't make more of an effort, it will be too easy to miss more.

School will be out in one more week. The kids are really excited about that – I Mom have mixed emotions. I don't suppose Paul feels much one way or the other. Bryan will start driver's training; Mark will work for Grandpa (it's good of him to give him that opportunity). Talina is finished with dance for the summer – her recital was Sat. afternoon. They did good + we were proud of her. One of the mothers that we babysit for came + even brought her a rose. That was really thoughtful! She will start up again with dance in the fall. Shauna + I plan to continue voice lessons through the summer. Tryouts for the summer musical are this week. We're not involved in that – we just don't have time this year. I think I will really miss that, too.

Paul had a go-round a couple weeks ago with his eye. He flipped a piece of metal into it + it became imbedded + rusted without him even knowing it was there. He ended up going to a Dr. + then the hospital in American Falls. They dug around + then sent him to a specialist in Pocatello. So he was not in too good of shape for a few days. He needs to go back now + have it checked. Paul + the boys have been busy managing some apts. for his brother in their "spare time." They are all 4 rented right now so it's a little easier on him.

Church jobs keep us busy still. Last night was our stake Laurel/Priest Standard Night. I decorated a cake like we will do for Glen + Linette (pink + white though) It was big. It was about 40" tall + served about 130 people. Next comes camp ~.

We hope to work with the kids on piano during the summer.

Love from the Perrys

We will be getting a new stake Pres. the end of June. We hear much in the way of speculation! – Should be interesting –

Dear Family, June 3, 1987

It may seem redundant information by the time this letter reaches everyone, because most of us will be at Glen's wedding and will have the time to visit and find out how each other is doing. I don't think I would have much to write about if it wasn't for my trip to Pocatello and Arco at the time of Sheldon's graduation on the 22nd of May. Staying for the whole Memorial Day weekend was not in my plans as I made my visit, but as it turned out, I had to alter my plans, and I did stay. As a matter of fact, I nearly gave reason to have a memorial of my own. Saturday the 23rd Warren took dad and me out to the lake to do some fishing, we had a pretty successful day as we nearly limited out in three hours. But I only mention that to show that it was a good day, at lest in the morning.

Last November I had an opportunity to fly a Paraglider, it's much like a square skydiving parachute made to manoeuver as it glides down. The Paraglider however is made to launch from the top of a mountain or large hill. I successfully made two flights back in November, but as I tried it on the Arco hill by Warren's home, I didn't have much fun. With Warren's motorbike I had Sheldon take me to the top of the hill to take off. We played around with the chute long enough that I decided it wasn't going to work because of the inconsistent wind gusts. Only seconds after the decision was made to put it away, I was still strapped in when a sudden gust inflated the chute and took me for a ride which I had not anticipated. I was dragged over rocks, cactus, and sagebrush. A miracle took place however, because as I think back to the tragedy I realize that I couldn't have been luckier in the path which I was dragged. The wind was blowing perpendicular to the west slope of the hill, but I was carried up the ridge in a parallel direction enough to line me up with the motorbike before I actually was blown in the direction the wind was blowing. The path I took was in the shape of a figure seven, and on the corner of the figure seven I had a rather hard impact with a bolder, which somehow took off my right shoe and sent it flying up in the air some 5 to 10 feet as it changed the direction of my path. All in all I can only recall that I traveled 100 plus feet in less than ten seconds. I hardly took note of the statistics. My arms, hip, shins, and right foot were all bruised, skinned and cut in the process. Several cactus quills were imbedded in my left hand as well. As I came to the motorbike I knew I had at least one more heavy impact to endure, but the more I think about it, this sacrifice saved my life. I knew that if I didn't try to grab hold of the bike, my ride would have been even longer, down the other side of the hill at lest. I knocked over the bike as I caught the front fork with my right hand, lodging it in the spokes while it skinned, cut, and nearly broke it. The chute then came to rest as it deflated on the down slope of the opposite side. Sheldon was a great help to get me freed from the bike and then the chute. He was rather excited as I told him to go for help. Realizing I would go from a state of shock to blacking out, and wanting to get on the other side of the hill where I could be seen, I picked myself up and hopped over to where my shoe was, then I was able to get it back on and start down the hill. Warren met me soon after, and he helped me down to where dad picked us up with the car. The hospital wasn't far of course, so I was taken care of quickly. But I just want to thank every one who helped out. Things are doing well for me now that I have the majority of the cactus quills out.

Much Love, **DAVID**

p.s. I moved, the new address is: 629 W. 1200 S. #54 - Orem, Utah 84058
(801) 224-5825

June 4, 1987

Dear Family,

We left the computer in Florida, so I get to hand write this letter. It's good to be here in S.L.C. + see everyone again. Though, it looks like we didn't leave all of the hot weather behind. It's pretty warm here too. It's nice to see the mountains + wide open country again. You kind of forget how other parts of the country look. There really are great differences.

Ken has been in Atlanta this week for Comdex + will join us here in S.L.C. this evening. We will attend the wedding + visit some friends then spend the weekend in Idaho. Then we'll be doing some business in Orem + visiting some of Ken's family there before we fly to Arizona for his brother's wedding. We'll return to Orlando on the 16th and probably have a lot of catching up to do after being away for two weeks.

No other news I guess, so until next time—

Love, Bonnie + Ken.

Dear family,

July 1, 1987

There are only six months left in 1987. The summer is upon us and kids are out of school. I know that making home into a summer camp must be the usual thing for you with families, but it has come and gone already for me this year, and I don't even have a family. You see, the last two weeks the management of my new apartment complex decided to put up summer basketball camp boys as this year the annual Utah Camp of Champs was held at UVCC (former UTC). Having been warned of this event as I moved into the complex I had hoped that they would have the brains to fill up all the vacant apartments only, so as to avoid possible problems with tenants having to put up with the juveniles. That was not the case. I didn't have any problems with the boys however as they put five in with me for a week, but as I think about making someone's "home" into a hotel, I can't help but to feel like a hotel maid. Between the air conditioner and the lights it was all I could do make sure they didn't run my bill up sky high. I could go on about the injustice, but my point is that I was invaded with kids. The second week they decided to have a heart and so I was given five coaches instead.

Now that it's over, I will be sending them the bill for my services and try to live in peace. I just received a new roommate today, still have to get to know him. Looks like I will at least have someone to share expenses with.

My luck hasn't changed with the dating game yet. I had hopes to date a cute gal that showed up with a Wavecutter one day at the shop. But to make a short story out of things she was taken, too young, and lived in Roy Ut. which would have been a long distance.

Had a good time at Lake Pawell the other week with my ward. Glen and Linette came down also and we spent the time having fun in the sun... and the dark... for three days and two nights.

If you remember last months letter, I have an update on that experience. My finger began to swell up from infection as I was at Lake Pawell, so I took care of it with iodine and a band-aid. When I returned from the lake I found that I was still carrying a cactus quill over 1/4" long. This one was in there for one whole month broken off under the fingernail which was a relief to get out.

Till next month -

Love David

July 7, 1987

Dear Dad and April,

I was finally able to get a few half-way decent pictures to send to you. I will try to be more regular about taking them. Enjoy!

Summer is always a relief and a challenge for me. No early morning strict schedules but children who have to have something to do besides just work. And something that doesn't cost too much. We've been out to the lake several times and plan to go even more when the weather cooperates. So far we are 20 inches above in the water level over last year and that is good but it rains nearly every afternoon and sometimes most of the day and night. This week is supposed to be hot with only slight chances of showers so we will be able to go.

We have had some fun over the 4th. Lonnie turned 15 on the 3rd and that evening was the annual "mormon night" with the Braves so we all went to the baseball game and saw the Cardinals slaughter the Braves. Afterwards was a super fireworks display done by the same company that did the ones last year at the Statue of Liberty for the bi-centenial. Then we spent the 4th at the lake with friends cooking out, swimming, etc. and some fireworks there. On Sunday eve. we attended an excellent fireside featuring Dale Murphy, Ed Eyestone and a couple of other notable mormon heroes. It was a very uplifting meeting with the church packed even through the halls. They had an aoutograph session which we stood in line for but they had to cut off before we were able to get up there. So some people we know took the kids' scriptures and will have Dale Murphy sign them at church next week as they are in his ward. It was all quite exciting for us all.

The stake and ward split that we were involved in has caused a lot of changes to be made as you know. Our ward was divided three ways and we are now part of the Acworth ward and the Marietta East Stake. Our Stake President is still the same; Paul Snow, who knows Joan and Dallas well being from the same area. But we have been absorbed by the Acworth ward and am finding myself a little lonely at church. Nearly everyone I was involved with is in the other two wards and I miss seeing them. Certainly time will take care of that but it just like moving again. I've substituted in music and played a violin solo already and Earl just received a calling to be the Teachers Quorum Adviser and Varsity Scout Leader and he is pleased. He really loves working with the boys. I've yet to receive a calling.

At the meeting downtown Atlanta where the stake division took place and all the new people spoke, including Elder Dallin Oaks, the temple president, and Pres. Mineer, I was asked to be the accompanist for the choir that sang. That pleased me very much and was a spiritual experience.

That is w at we have been doing lately. Connie and Ken are coming with a group to the temple this weekend and we hope to spend an evening with them. Lonnie is going to north Georgia to Youth Conference on Thursday and next week is Scout Camp which Greg and Earl are going to go to and Lonnie is still deciding on. I hope he goes because the girls and I are planning to go to Florida andhave a little vacation of our own since that seems to be a good time to do it if we can't all go together. That is all still to be decided. The Epcot Center and Disneyworld will probably have to wait untill another time.

Lonnie was laid off from his job along with a few other new people so he hasn't been working and really does need a job but who will hire him and then let him have a week and a half off ?

Our little garden is struggling with too much water and not enough sun. We are getting a good crop of cucumbers now though and a lot of tomatoes with 5 foot vines are coming. They are just beginning to turn and continue to grow. We have them in tomato baskets but should have also staked them. We had no idea they would get that big. We planted one zucchini hill and it may never produce. It just doesn't get enough light. The green peppers had their blossoms all destoyed by hail so they are putting on new growth and have begun to bloom again. We will soon plant some more things for our fall garden if we think they will receive any sunshine. A few more trees need to go if we are going to bee serious about this.

Earl was home for three weeks here in the office with various training and staff meetings. Some concernes were aired and people are quitting with a lot of job dissatisfaction e isting. Earl and a co-wrker were assigned to make constructive suggestions and they fell on deaf ears. He and many others are beginning to feel the effects of the continuous travel and are seeing some of the other groups' leaders able to arrange more time at home. Earl is a good organizer and can see the failings in his boss who is a work-aholic but fails to accomplish things. Earl says he is a patcher-upper instead of a preventer of problems. It bothers him because he can see what needs to be done and cannot do it. The boss does not accept any criticism. So that is Earl's work siuation. We have decided that the way people are dropping away that if he stys in there and through it that he will be in line for something better that comes up. He goes to every training session offered on any subject to gain qualifications and experience but patience comes harder. He is doing a lot of missionary work and we have given Books of Mormons to several people, had many discussions about the gospel and had investigators over, so I try to remember to point out all the good aspects of his job when he gets discouraged. Too many peoples ~~their~~ jobs are their whole lives and all their satisfaction is found or lost there. I don't believe it has to be that w way and neither does Earl. So we keep talking about that and trying to do the best we can with the things that are really important and hopefully these other things will work themselves out eventually. If they don't at least we've done what we should in the other areas. I've been told it is time for his mid-life crisis and that is the reason he doesn't feel fulfilled. But Earl really could do more. His talents just may never be used in the work-place.

I hope your summer is eventful and enjoyable. I think the time goes by faster and faster as I have been told it does as you get older. Sometimes I like the days sliding on by and other times I wish the clock would just stop for a feww hours. I think I notice what doesn't get done because of Earl being gone and other times I like the laid-back, slow-paced life of summer without heavy schedules. I miss being able to come over there or to Sandra's or to just pick up the phone for no reason except to just say hello. We're looking forward to the time when we can plan a trip back to Idaho..

We know that we are really blessed and are very thankful for our blessings. Our trials have made us stronger and more able to be of help to other people in their lives. I've learned a lot about myself by getting to know others and can realize some of the things I have taken for granted. We continue to move forward trying to let the wordly influences not find a place to settle in our home. We have lofty desires for our children as most parents do and have tasted of the sorrow felt when things don't happen as you thought they would. But we also see signs that the truths do sink in and correct choices are being made in spite of the mistakes. I guess this is all part of learning wisdom and maturing, and it doesn't come in any other way than to have a family to raise. There isn't anything else I would rather be doing.

Is Colissa enjoying her summer? She is now the age I was when I went to Europe for a month and then met Earl and we got married. It's hard to believe. I can still remember my disbelief when you told me I could go on that trip, Dad. That is a very special thing you did for me by letting me go that summer and my only regret is that I didn't take more in while there. I was just young enough that all my experiences there were for pleasure and not for education, eventhough the purpose of it was not educational. I have retained a vivid memory of a lot of it though. I just realize how young I was when I got married when I think of Colissa, and it didn't seem young at all then being almost 21!! You can laugh all you want at all my awakenings. It doesn't bother me. I'm just thankful that at least I'm awakening at all!

Better close. What a rambling letter. Looking forward to the next family letter. They are a treat.

All our love,

July 24, 1987

Dear Family,

We hope your summer is going well. It's now half over for all of us. We've been thinking about the Quinn reunion and wish we could be to it but hope some of you that are closer will attend and make a showing for all of us who cannot be there, expressing our regrets for us.

All of us here have had a bit of a vaca ion a week ago with Earl and the boys going to scout camp and the girls and I followed Connie and Ken back to Florida from their temple trip and spent the week with them. We had a very good time and hope we weren't a burden on them. The Sacrament meeting report about scout camp will be this week at church so I have not heard very much yet eventhough Lonnie and Greg went, they haven't said much. We are still hoping that Lonnie will put forth some effort to get his Eagle. We would be really proud of him. Greg seems to be a natural for the outdoors.

We have been involved in a large ward and stake split here which put us into an existing ward and a new stake. Earl is already busy as the Varsity Leader and Teacher's Quorum Advisor. I'm still waiting for a calling but have helped out leading music and have played a solo. This is the longest I've waited for a calling and it feels strange. Earl says I should just enjoy the rest but it's hard to feel a real part of a new ward untill you are involved.

It sounds as though each one of the families is happy and doing well. We're thankful along with the rest of you that A.J. is alright after his close call and that the rest of the family (Devon's) has recovered from the shock, etc. that accompanies such things.

Shelly I'm sure your household has had it's "minor" adjustments since Aubrey arrived. You looked really good in the pictures I saw of Glen's wedding that Connie had! In fact everyone looked really good and I see that Kathy you "stood in" for me eventhough you were there for yourself! I guess that is the hardest part about being this far away is missing the family things. We sure think about each of you at those times. I didn't notice anyone looking any older at all, so it's true that you don't get older, you get better.

I guess we don't really have much news. I just thought of one little thing though. Ashley has had her first stitches and seems to be as proud of them as Wendy was when she had her "biggies". She definitely will not vote to have a papoose board used on her next time though; it petrified her but there really was no choice. She gashed her head just above her left eyebrow and it will show all her life so they needed to do a good job on her. In fact I held out for a plastic surgeon-- I believe that will have been a wise choice when she is grown.

I've been thinking about joining a symphony this fall and will be checking into that further. I am also going to advertise soon for private lessons. That seems to be the best choice to pull in some extra but needed money. It is amazing to me how the costs of raising a family continue to escalate. I know that is nothing new to any of you. We have considered many options to solve this problem and this seems to be the best way without taking me from the home. (How could I go too with Earl having to be gone?) Besides it's what I can do the best.

Sandra are you still babysitting in the summer or did you take a vacation ? Ashley and I miss getting to come over. My best friend here moved up further north and I can't just walk over to her house now. You were my best friend in Pocatello and with our husbands gone a lot we need friends; at least I do. I hope this letter isn't coming out depressing because I don't mean it to be that way....

Looking forward to hearing from all of you again. Glen we wish you the best in your marriage and of course you too, Linette. Are you both working? Did you get a honeymoon? Loalyn-- in the church news was an arcticle about Sister Benson's birthday and they named all their children and where they live. One family is in your area. Do you know them? David, are you still planning a trip out here in August? Or was it October? Out of room.

Sending our love to all— Karyn & family

7/27/87

Dear Family,

One more month + summer will be gone! It seems to me that June went slow + July is gone in one blink!

As I evaluate our family, it seems that Joey is the only one who hasn't had things happening the last month. (no wonder he says he's bored + there's nothing to do.) We are going to Lagoon on Thursday though, + he can hardly wait for that. The last week has seemed like a whole year to him. We're looking foward to a day away together as a family.

Bryan finished diver's training last week + is now anxiously awaiting getting his liscence. Mark spent last week at scout camp + had a really good time. Talina has spent nearly 3 weeks in Utah with Catherine + Shelly - we'll pick her up when we go to Lagoon. Shawna is through with summer orchestra + spent one week in Arizona with Sue. Timmy had a birthday and will be baptized Saturday. Wow! Life sure is busy!

We got our new stake president - Tom Carlyle. His wife was serving as the Stake YW Pres. (I was secretary) So we sadly had a change Sunday so she could (reluctantly) be released. I am now the 2nd Councilor - I'm kinda excited about it. The other councilor + the new secretary are both from the 9th ward too ~ interesting.

We're all proud of Paul. Two weeks ago he was called to be the new Elder's Quorem Pres. He feels overwhelmed, but he'll do a good job. His work is also keeping him very busy at this time of year.

I went to girl's camp a couple weeks ago. We feel it was a very successful camp, but I sure was glad to come home.

Love to all,

Sandra + family

July 29, 1987

Dear Family,

Hello to everyone again. We returned home from our trip to Utah and Arizona happy and tired. It was good to see everyone. (How are the newlyweds?) We enjoyed the trip a lot. Ken especially loved the fishing with Dad. He would have liked to stay and spend the rest of his vacation right there. We shared some of our fish with his family and then brought the rest home and shared it with our neighbors. Everyone agreed it was the best they had had.

Hooray, Hooray!! We finally got our car! Oh, wow, it's so nice to have transportation. Now I don't have to plan my errands, grocery shopping, visiting teaching, etc. around the times Ken is home and not using the car. The new company car is a white 1987 Nissan Stanza. Ken is still partial to his Honda, though (which is now a year and a half old and already has 40,000 miles on it).

We enjoyed a visit from Karyn and her three girls for a week. She'll probably tell you about it. She followed us back from Atlanta when we were up there on a temple trip. We had a good visit and did a lot of fun things while they were here.

Ken and I are heading to Atlanta again tomorrow. This time it will be with the youth on the bus. They are going to do baptisms and we are chaperoning. What fun! We leave at midnight (ugh) and arrive midday Friday. The baptisms are scheduled for Friday afternoon. We'll stay overnight and come back on Saturday. Quick trip. I'm not looking forward to all that time on a bus.

Ken's work is going well. He is keeping very busy. He comes home from his trips really tired. In a few weeks some of the pressures will be gone. They are splitting Florida and sending another Rep out here. Ken will now have only the northern half of Florida to work. South Florida has kept him real busy and he has not been able to do as much as he'd like with the north end. He was in Miami 4 days last week and now he's in Fort Lauderdale another three days this week.

There are always changes taking place. Last week I was overwhelmed with another new calling. I've been asked to teach Seminary this fall. Of course, it's <u>early morning</u> Seminary. I could handle it better during the day I think. Seminary <u>starts</u> at 6:00. We have a hard time even getting up at 7:00. I told Ken if I had to get up so did he. He promised he would. School starts August 24th and the kids are studying the Old Testament this year. The next few weeks are going to have to include some heavy studying. Boy, what a challenge.

Well, that's about all of our news. Sure looking forward to hearing from everyone. Till next time.

Love,

Connie + Ken

August, 1987

Dear Family,

Seems like it's been an awfully busy summer, I guess as it has for everyone. Life in general seems to be going at such a fast pace it about leaves your head spinning -- hardly any time to "stop & smell the roses."

Thanks to everyone that came for Aubrey's blessing - it was nice to have all of you participate in that. She's doing very well, good & healthy - still colicky but hopefully that'll pass soon. It is easing up a bit, I think.

Between the bunch of us, we've spent quite a bit of our time in Dr's offices - Aubrey's legs are doing ok. She's still in the brace but in a couple of weeks we may be able to start "weaning" her off it. They x-ray quite frequently to see the positioning of the hips in the sockets. Marcelle has it down as to which Drs. are for who & what, which ones give balloons, have fish to look at, books, drinks of water in cups, etc. etc. She can even call most of them by name.

Bryan went to Scout Camp even though he's been released from scouting & is now 2nd Couns. in the Elder's Q. He's enjoying getting to know the men in the ward instead of just the boys. Work is becoming even more hectic for him & will be so until after Thanksgiving. I worry about the amount of stress he is under. Take care.

Love, Shelly

Aug. 1987

Hello to everyone!

This is the big week. School starts tomorrow + with that comes more kids to babysit.

My mind can't even think of anything interesting to say - it must have been a busy + dull month because we didn't have any time to loaf. We have canned fruit + vegetables, the boys have been busy with scouts. Mark earned his tenderfoot + is somewhat encouraged to trudge onward now. He also celebrated his 13th birthday last week - he is officially a teenager now - heaven help us all ☺ Tim earned his bobcat in cub scouts. He is quite interested in this new adventure. Shauna + I are back to voice lessons as of this week + I am also going to be taking piano. We hope we can handle it.

Talina will start dance again next week. She has saved some $ + is excited to get herself some new dance outfits. She does quite alot of babysitting.

Paul has been super-busy + is super-tired. With harvest well under way he is always swamped at work. He even ended up working on Sunday a couple weeks ago to try + get stacks of paperwork caught up before the Co. auditors appeared.

We seem to be having an early, pretty fall. As we set into a regular schedule now I think I feel a little pressure release knowing that Bryan can help out with errands + taxi service. We may survive!

Love from all the Perrys

Aug. 4, 1987

Dear Family,

With an extra month inbetween it's hard to get back into the habit of writing a letter so we're a little slow, but glad for the opportunity. As we think back we treasure the special family experiences with Glen's Wedding and the blessing of Shelly & Brian's Aubrey. Since that time Warren and I celebrated our 22nd Anniversary at Sun Valley for dinner and the ice show. We also celebrated my mothers 80th birthday in Ogden at Barbara's and enjoyed boating & skiing at Willard Bay (thanks to Warren's boat). I also enjoyed getting acquainted with 9 of the 16 children of Afton Gott (an Uncle) at the funeral of another uncle (Orion Mack) in Salt Lake. Our 8th child turned 8 so now we have all of our children baptized - Kinda Sad to Not look forward to more baptisms. Josh was baptised along with a 16 yr. old convert from our Ward.

This Summer Norman & Kevin went to Scout Camp together for a week & Josh to Cub Day Camp. Sheldon & Norman played church baseball & won every game til the first tournament game & lost out completely. Lupi received a full Scholarship for 10 days Study JETS at Moscow, Id. in Science & Engineering receiving 2 college credits, and had a fun expetience there.

I here enrolled Kevin, Valina & Josh in a home Summer Skills Program through Weekly Reader so they will be better prepared for School again. We have invested in a Computer which the Kids are spending a lot of time with. Warren & I have yet to learn its workings.

My 4-H Sewing Class has been quite enjoyable to see such young girls learning & completing nice projects. Valina is my greatest joy there and She also enjoys being involved in a 'Just Say No' Club in our Community and being on the float for Atomic Days (Afton being the 1st City in the World to be lit by Atomic Power)

We have enjoyed lots of fishing & boating, Canning: 350# Cherries, apricots, currants, peas, raspberries & Strawberries. The hail Storms nibbled a lot but things are picking up. We're looking forward to Vacationing in B.C. Now.

Love - Warren & Family

August 28, 1987

Dear Family,

School is back in session here as of the 24th so we are all trying to adjust to the early-morning schedule again. Earl has been home this entire month, which has been a treat, and should be here for a couple more weeks. There seems to be some major changes at his office in terms of personell which may lead to a lighter travel schedule but that is not all decided yet. His boss is leaving to go back to D.C.(where he was) in about a month, so we are waiting to see what happens.

We have all had a pretty great summer with lots of swimming and picnicing then the week before school stated Earl took vacation time and we saw some of the sights that are famous for this area. We went out to Stone Mountain which is carved on one side with military leaders from the war between the states, and the other side can be hiked--over 1½ mi. up, which we did; then stayed for the laser light show in the dark against the mountainside which was "awesome". We had no idea that anything like that could be done with lasers. Lonnie worked the later part of the summer at a big waterslide park and has been given some free passes as an employee for the family to use which we plan to do on labor day. Lonnie has also become the proud owner of a pair of contacs this week and probably will adjust to them quite well. He wanted them badly enough to pay for them himself. Greg is big cheese at the middle school this year but has been a little insecure these first few days. He was picked on quite a bit last year and was worried the same thing would happen again but so far things look pretty good. Wendy has fifth grade in a trailer(one of many at her school) which is becoming more crowded each semester. She is very good at fixing her own hair now and has it down to quite a system. She's looking forward to growing up this year like some of her friends have. Kami is going to get a perm this weekend and she is excited about that so she can do more with her hair. She really likes science so far in school. Ashley and I are on our own again here and she seems to like not having anyone around during the day yet she plays pretty well with her siblings too. She has two more years before she can go to kindergarten. I foresee her eventually doing what Shuana did. By the way, Sandra, how has that worked out in the long run?

I am the Primary chorister in our ward now- finally got my calling- and will enjoy it. It's a challenge for me because I'm not very creative on my own. The mechanics are easy for me but using them in varied manners is not. I've also begun to get some more private students which will help financially and I really enjoy it. There is a new convert in our ward whose wife has been a member for a couple or three years and he has come to church and finally was baptized. Anyway, he is a violinist and we have begun to get together to play and are performing in sacrament meeting this Sunday. (At 8:30 a.m.) It will be fun to have someone to play with.(Can Karyn come out and play?!) I have also arranged to join a symphony in a couple of weeks when they start up for the fall season. It is a combined university and community group similar to Pocatello so I'll go give it a try. They don't audition so I may just get put back on the last stand because I'm new and I don't like that too well. I don't play as well back there. We'll just see what happens.

We received a wedding announcement from Joan and Dallas about their youngest daughter Karen marrying a Tony Steffensen in the S.L. Temple on Aug. 14. He is a senior at ISU and they are really happy about him. She wanted me to let everyone know. Also, Kathy has a new baby (2) so they have 3 grandchildren and Shaydene was sealed to them the same day Karen was married

It's still nice and warm here. The paper says it's time to plant the fall garden for cool-weather vegetbles-- seems strange. I found a little turtle in our cucumber patch yesterday about the size of a hardball and still I enjoy watching the birds. I think I need a pair of binoculars. Everyone extends their love and hello's to all of you and are looking forward to a trip back home next summer. (It will be my 20th year reunion, too!!!)

Love, Karyn, Earl & family

August 28, 1987

Dear Family;

I was thinking this morning about how it's probably starting to cool off there at "home" and how nice those pretty fall days are. It is still warm here, in fact I'm just beginning to plant my garden again. Everything burned up while we were away this summer, so we didn't have much of a harvest. We did have one of the best watermelon I have ever eaten, though. Somehow that helped make it worth while. So we are going to try again.

I took a road trip with Ken a couple of weeks ago. We figured with me teaching seminary I won't be able to go again soon. We were in Miami one day and then traveled across the state to Fort Myers. At Fort Myers there is a quaint little island that is quite famous for it's abundance of sea shells. It's called Sanibel Island. We spent a half day out there hunting sea shells and playing around. You can hardly see the sand on the beach for all the shells. On our way back we stopped at a small restaurant there in Fort Myers that serves an all-you-can eat seafood buffet. I think that was my favorite part of the whole trip. I had all the crab I could eat. It was great!!

With school starting this week, so did seminary. I didn't feel ready for it, but I think I'm glad we've started anyway. Otherwise, I think I would have gotten an ulcer worrying about it. It will take some time for the kids to get used to me and me to get used to them (some of them are already sleeping through class). After that we should do fine.

Just about the time they asked me to teach seminary, a lady in our ward asked if I would be interested in working part time. They had an opening in their office. She works in the legal department of a housing development company. I thought that sounded interesting so I said yes. I told them I wanted to wait to start after I got started with seminary. Then I wondered if I was asking for too much all at once. Well, now that I get up so early, I find I get a lot more things done during the day (even if I take a short nap) and I find myself getting a little bored, so I guess the job will be good for me after all. I start Sept. 1st and will work about 15-20 hours a week. That will still give me enough time to prepare each day for seminary and do other things around here.

Ken will be off to New York next week. He is pretty excited about that. He's never been there and is really looking forward to it. Some friends of ours are from New York and they told him to avoid looking like a tourist (walking around with your head in the air trying to take it all in) to avoid getting mugged.

Looking forward to hearing from all of you. Till next time.

Love, Connie & Ken

Dear Family:

Summer finds us head-long into many projects at home: the yard, garden, fence, bathroom, etc.... Marcelle is a quick study in many things, and philosophizes on life with Shelly. I guess she's in the "too-big-for-her-britches" stage, but she's fun to have around. Aubrey is out of her brace -- but only until September 18th when she goes in to Primary Children's for possible hip surgery. One hip socket has firmed up, but one is still dangerously loose. She'll be in a cast from her chest down for a few months whether they operate or not. We plan to fast on the 17th, and would appreciate your prayers & fasting if you're so inclined. Shelly has just finished bottling peaches & freezing corn, and a few other fruits - and has just about had it for this season. Shelly is feeling better these days and is putting big miles on the exercise bike -- and enjoying it! My work is sufficiently busy and there is never a moment when I'm looking for something to do just to appear busy. I enjoy what I'm doing, learning how to handle the stress, and hope I can stay there for quite a while... Hope everyone enjoys Labor Day weekend --

Love,

Bryan, Shelly, Marcelle & Aubrey

Aug. 31, 1987

Dear Loved ones,

I guess I'll have to report on the last two months this time since I didn't make it in last month. I was even at Shelly & Bryan's for several days at the end of July! No excuse... however, we sure enjoyed our visit there, and with everyone else we saw. I & the kids took a two week vacation alone, and took in the Quinn Reunion. (Which, by the way, was real fun & there was a big turn-out! Next time they do it, more of our family ought to consider attending. Patty Jensen is the new president & Leonard Miller vice; they're in charge of the one for '89.) We even camped two nights at Flaming Gorge (On our way home.) — it was real great, & so beautiful! We all enjoyed the tour of the dam & the kids loved playing in the river. Krystin loved the dirt at the campground! I loved it all... even the drive.

Around here we are back into the school routine along with piano lessons & an early morning paper route. We're starting Melissa out in the PACE piano program. Steph & Ben are both in traditional. Ben & Stephanie share the paper route & I drive them. We get up at 5:00am, so now George has some company!! We are finished by 5:45 so George can take the car to work, since the old one is still in pieces. I'll have to plan a big celebration for the day he gets it running again! He is sure learning a lot about cars... that one at least. We have to rely on neighbors & Church members in the mean time when in need of transportation during the day. Our bikes have come in real handy this summer too!!

George flew to California for his little sister's wedding & got to see all but one of his siblings. He will go to San Diego around the end of November for another Officer's Training School.

Hope each of you are doing well. I look forward to your letters

We're anticipating a change soon in our Primary Presidency... by next month I'll be released I should know where I stand, whether or just what. Love ya all, Loalyn—

Dear Family,

September 28, 1987

She gasped for a little air as she looked at me and tried to see if I was just joking. "Are you serious?" she responded... (pause) "ARE YOU SERIOUS?"...

Would I be joking about something like that? Is that all she could say after I have been dating her for so long and looking for the same answer, and now have finally come to the most venerable position in a relationship? I guess I have joked around a little sometimes about some things, which would make her think that perhaps I maybe wasn't serious; but after asking that same question three times "Are you serious?" she then whispered back to me "YES."

I'll bet that since I didn't write a letter the last two months some of you wonder what's going on with me, right? Well some have met her, but for the rest of those who don't know all the details, her name is Susan Kendall and is from Orem. We were engaged two weeks ago today on the 14th of September, and plan to be married on the 24th of November. She has a daughter (Nichole) who was born out of wedlock, so I'll be an instant daddy. Nichole is three, in pre-school, is sharp, and needless to say is spoiled by her Grandma and Grandpa as that is were they have lived. Yesterday I asked Nichole if she wanted me to be her Daddy, and she independently replied "Yes". It's going to be an adjustment for all of us, but it's well worth it!

When I came to Orem two and a half years ago Susan was just one of the many I came to know in my ward, but she seemed to be a constant friend always, and if I might add, she was put at the bottom of my dating list many times as a default; or in other words she was always there, but I wanted to date others. I had been trying to avoid getting close to her just because I didn't feel ready for her and her situation. But as time has passed I have realized that what I had considered a weakness was now indeed a strength, now I can see how she is the right one. I couldn't see it all on my own, but it pays to live a worthy life and have faith in divine counsel.

I stopped working with Lou, and went working with DeVon for some six weeks, and at present I'm on my own. I've been installing vinyl floors for Color Tile's customers here in Orem, and the speed at which work has been coming has been just right. I had some physical aches and pains for a while initially but getting down on the floor all day is second nature almost anymore, and my back has quit rebelling from it now.

They say that possession is 95% ownership, and in the case of the computer I use, It has become more convenient to have it in my possession to use for my Clerk calling, as well as my personal use. Lou could see that I do all the work on it for him in business as well as Church anyway, so he has allowed me to use it at my place. It's becoming a standard information center, and

now an entertainment center with the many programs and games that I accumulate and use. After learning how to use it, I often wonder what I would do without it. The amount of time it takes to enter information is certainly profitable compared to the time it takes one to type, retype, file and save the same info. by use of typewriter and filing cabinet. Maybe some day those of us with computers could just hook up on phone line, and for nearly the same price, get the same news in seconds after it is ready.

Having missed two letters, I hope it's alright to add another page this time. I wanted to share this thought with you.

Much Love, David

Dear Children,

I remember well the day you left my side and wandered through the veil, and ventured forth to fulfill your earthly mission. I had a tear in my eye every time I clothed your spirit in a cloak of love and sent you off to school, Be assured my thoughts are with you now as always. I love you with all my heart. I know your lives, the good and the bad, your griefs, your disappointments, your unrewarded efforts, your frustrations, and temptations; but always remember, all that I have is yours if you will only come home again.

Children; realize that in each of you I placed a bit of Heaven, no one was exempt. I love you all very much. Each of you has some blessed gift, some talents, some small part of me in you. Search for it, use it, and most important, share it with others. If you really love me then help others to find themselves and lead them to me. Show your love by serving others. Repent of your failings and humble yourselves. Make yourselves ever teachable and continually strive to improve. I gave you weaknesses to help you be humble; don't curse me for that. I did it because I love you. Be full of hope, don't let discouragement engulf you. I'll come when you need me.

My children, cease your idle contentions. Be peacemakers, for it breaks by heart to see so many of my children fighting. If they could only see what I have hoped, desired and planned for them, if they are obedient. My heart breaks as I watch them; but you, my faithful children, are my hope. It is through you that my work must proceed. You haven't much time and there's so much to be done. So I beg you to please get started. Accomplish the mission I gave you before you left me. I'll help you. I'm nearer to you always than you might expect. I'm never too busy or too far away to come to you, and there's so much I would like to tell you but there isn't time now so come to me often in prayer. I love to talk to you, my beloved children. Be diligent in my work and my kingdom shall be yours. I'd love to take you in my arms but I too must wait patiently; that time will come. Until then, I leave you with my peace, my blessing, my love, and never forget I an nearby if you need me. I love you and miss you so very much and oh, how I am looking forward to your return again to me and your mother.

All my love,

Your Heavenly Father

September 30, 1987

Hello Everyone,

It is my turn this month I guess. Summer has been great this year - the weather is still fantastic, but we need rain. I can see from our front window tonight a fire burning near Craters of the Moon. (300 acres so far)

We're busy as usual. Norman and Kevin with football, Lupi with Cheerleading and lots of other stuff all the time. Sharon is making a prom dress for Jolana for Homecoming,(she just turned 16 and is finally allowed to date) and Lupi was selected an attendant to the Homecoming Queen so sewing is Sharon's occupation for the week.

Canning is about over. Our one apple tree produced 14 bushel (previous high: 2 bu.). I guess we haven't reported the Salmon Fishing trip to Vancouver Is. We towed the boat clear to the coast, took Norman, Kevin and Jolana. Grandpa & Grandma in their own camper. Picked and canned blackberries. We fished in the ocean of course, catching a variety of fish and crab too. The catch of the trip was Norman's 30# King Salmon. We bottled fish, ate fish, and brought back some fresh. It was gratifying to do what we did with our own boat and learn a few more things about fishing. Oh, I caught an 8 ft. octopus which I willingly released! All had a good time. Well, almost - Jolana would say she was bored.

Colissa is trying her hand (voice) at telemarketing for a firm at Park City, Utah. She is sending her boyfriend into the mission field this month. (October) Her second missionary)

I feel sorta cheeted when we don't hear from one of you in the family letter. Of course, everybody should be allowed to miss once! It is good to keep in touch.

Love,

Karen

October 1987

Dear Family,

October has been a month for the squirrels at our house as we have been busy putting away for the winter. Canning tomatos as they ripen, drying and juicing apples (18 gal. of juice thanks to Dad's apples and press), and turning two deer and one antelope into jerky and burger. The Bosch dehydrator works like a charm and Sharon keeps it full most of the time.

It was quite a year for Halloween with such gorgeous weather - guess we gave out 150 toothbrushes to trick-or-treaters. Josh dressed in his costume and performed four numbers with many other little goblins at the Teton Mall in Idaho Falls in the Suzuki Monster Concert on Halloween Day. It was quite a thrill to hear 12 pianos all going at once for three hours. Those hundreds of children were truly a sight to hear and see all playing together with such congruity. Josh and I were also privileged to hear a touring Suzuki group from Japan (ages 8-17) perform piano and violin in Idaho Falls earlier this month. They were marvelous evidence of a young child's potential in music as they performed most difficult Bach and Beethoven with such expression and memorization. As the children spoke no English, I thought how great that our countries exchange the beautiful abilities that God has given us. I'm also very grateful for the opportunities our children have of performing for various events to develop their abilities and confidences; and lending joy to others like the Senior Citizens whom they entertain quite often.

Our ward had a fun quilting party (husbands & wives) getting ready for the Bazaar and I have the responsibility for two quilts. They appeal to the hunters as they are blocked wildlife print quilted quilts and pillow shams done in blues; a lot of tedious work but how nice to see the finished product and know it is going for a good cause.

Colissa's friend (Darrin Teeter from Almo, Idaho) is now in the mission home and headed fro London, England. His farewell was outstanding - he's a very humorus but full-of-the-spirit missionary. He has really latched onto the Gospel since Colissa met him this Spring at Ricks. We enjoyed meeting his family and their humbleness. Colissa is now working front desk, at a Hotel in Park City, Utah and hoping for snow so business will pick up.

Sheldon is enjoying Ricks except when he whacked a golf ball through his living room apartment window at an expense of $60. for a new pane. The <u>pain</u> has caused him to find a job.

We are happy to be relieved of some of our worries in Pocatello in the name of Real Estate and I am very excited to be getting contacts to improve my vision to 20/15. It is such a marvelous thought to bring the vision of 20/200 (blindness) to better than perfect vision through the corneal transplant. What a blessing to live in the age of miracles.

Our family has been quite well outside of Valina and Josh fighting tonsilitus. Sure glad Norman and Warren were curred of their Buck Fever. N orman got his deer and Warren-deer and antelope.

Wasn't the Young Women's Sattelite Broadcast wonderful;We enjoyed having two lovely daughters to share that evening with in such a spiritual experience. Sis. Kapp is a wonder and a blessing to our youth.

Well, this is plenty long enough - you'd say, but we do want to wish David and Susan well. We'll be looking forward to the wedding and meeting Susan and seeing all of you.

Love,
Sharon & Warren & Family

Dear Family, Oct. 87

I missed writing last month so I'd better be sure to get this one sent! I understand Connie + Ken will be in Utah this week. It will be sad to have them so close + not get to see them. But it doesn't look promising.

The weather has been wonderful the last few weeks. Once in awhile it gets cold, but generally it is still nice + warm during the days and the kids can still play outside without jackets in the afternoons. Timmy has one more soccer game + I am glad the weather has stayed nice for us sideline fans.

We had our Stake Cultural Night this month. It was really nice. Ours is only for adults (16 or 14 up) Florence Miller was in charge of it. It was a dinner, program + dance. It was by reservation only, 500 person + a fancy affair. It was "Colonial Williamsburg" and about the time of the signing of the declaration of 1st. So that was our big date to celebrate both mine + Paul's birthdays. We had alot of fun.

Bryan sold his motorcycle and bought a car? It sort of runs + he tinkers on it alot. The biggest drawback is that it will be nearly another whole year before he will be old enough to even get a job so he can support it. But it gets him where he needs to go without leaving me stranded. (He paid $100.00 for it)

Looking forward to seeing most of you at David + Susan's wedding.

Love to all,

Sandra

October 1, 1987

Dear Family,

Not much news this time around. We're just keeping busy trying to keep up.

We've had some consternation the last few days over a squirrel that has decided he likes our home and wants to make it his. We've been trying to keep him out of the attic by covering up the holes where he finds access. (We are discovering the house wasn't built as well as it could have been.) Now he has begun to chew away at the trim on the face above the garage so it's now time for some lethal action. Just how we will accomplish our fateful plan isn't clear yet. We're going to try a trap first. We don't want to poison him because he might get inside and die there. Animal control will come trap him, but they want $65 to do it. A little outrageous.

Earlier this month we had a nice little break. We spent four days in a condo over on the beach. The youth in our ward had a fund-raiser auction earlier this summer to raise money for their temple trip. One of the parents offered a 4-day, 3-night package at their condo. We went in with another couple and purchased it. The little "vacation" was great. The condo was right on the beach. We could look out the sliding doors from the living room and watch the waves roll in. The pool was just off to the other side and there were tennis courts, basketball, shuffle board and bumper pool all available for free. We watched the sun come up on the beach, played in the waves, hunted crabs, swam, played or just rested all we wanted to. That's what you think of when you think of Florida. However, everyday life isn't much different than anywhere else.

We've had a rough start with Seminary. We have a real problem with absences and tardies. Some days the first one here is 20 minutes late. The bishopric has been visiting class and talking with the kids a little outside of class. It has helped some, but not enough. Now it's time to involve the parents. In order to get credit they need to be in attendance 80% of the time. Three tardies equal an absence. Without some drastic changes we could all be in trouble. The teachers in the past have not enforced these guidelines and so the kids are not taking them seriously. I personally feel it was a great injustice to the kids. They have learned some very lazy habits. Then, on the other hand, I often wonder if I'm being too hard on them and expecting too much. I fear if I'm too strict some of them will quit coming all together. Some parents have the attitude that they are just glad the kids are coming at all.

Ken has meetings in Orem the last week of this month. We've talked about me going along, but since he won't have hardly any free time for visiting etc., we're not yet sure what we will do. If I do go along it will be nice to see those of you who I can.

Our love to all until next month.

The Mesons

Oct. 4, 1987

Dear Family,

Thanks for all your prayers & faith in Aubrey's behalf. We appreciate it very much & the Lord has certainly blessed us because of it. When they took Aubrey into the Operating Room & got her under Anesthesia, they found they could put her hip where they needed without having to do an incision to cut tendons, remove fatty tissue & ligament as they had felt might be necessary. She is in a complete body cast from her chest to her ankles (her arms are free) & if it were green she'd just about look like a little turtle! It has taken lots of adjustments in how to feed, change, clothe, hold her, etc. But we're hanging tough. She had some complications since then - ie. flu, diahrea (yuk!!) which caused an infection to set in under the cast, but it's finally clearing up. Also she has a hard time holding down food because of the cast pressing on the abdomen. But, despite it all we're greatful they can help her out now & hopefully will not require hip surgery or replacement later in her life. She will go back into Primary Children's Hospital on October 27th when they will put her under General Anesthesia again & put a new cast on. They put the head of the femur further up in the hip socket so scar tissue will form, causing it to make a more tight-fitting socket thus reducing the chances of it dislocating, growing out of the socket, & being crippled. We love her very much & are just greatful to have her with us.

Mdralle can't wait for her to grow up so she can "play with her & share her things

with her."

Marcelle just had her 3rd birthday & is enjoying a few more freedoms & adventure in her life.

Bryan's "Christmas Rush" is on at work but he seems to be handling the stress a little better. If books aren't out on the Market by Thanksgiving people lose their Christmas ~~Patience~~ customers, so from now till then the pressure will be on - however they've had an unusually busy summer which has been wonderful for the Company. During August and again in Sept. they did $1 million worth of business & they're all celebrating that accomplishment.

Around home & the yard we've got lots & lots of unfinished projects, but I guess just like eating an elephant they'll get finished piece by piece. Love to all,

Shelly

FAMILY BUSINESS: What would everyone think of starting to have a family-get-together every 1½ years-- one year a Christmas party, then a year and a half later a summer "family reunion", then in another year and a half a Christmas party again. That might reduce a little stress for all of us, and especially those who have to travel the furthest. Also, it would allow planning to spend time with "the other side" of each of our families every other Christmas or so, and to plan family vacations around it for the summer. EVERYONE please send a response to this idea & we'll go with a majority rule vote if it's not opposed by anyone.

Also, would anyone like to volunteer to be the "editor" of the Family Letter next year? Yes, my time has almost come to an end already!!!

Dear family,

October 26, 1987

People ask me about how I am copping with all there is to do about getting married, they ask if I am able to get things done etc., but I guess we haven't yet noticed the "hassle" of it all. Maybe with all I am presently doing now, the responsibility of getting married seems to melt in to where it isn't noticed. The responsibility of being Ward Clerk in a ward where 16 people come into the ward each week, and about the same number leave is a real challenge, but I love it.

With the fast turn around in the ward, we are constantly restaffing the different positions. This means constant training, delegation and checking up on assignments, etc., etc., etc. With the stake announcing that boundary lines will be enforced, things have been even harder because 80% of the ward's staff was shipped out. The neat part of it all has been realizing the Lord's hand for time, energy, guidance, and added blessings. I sometimes put in as much time as the bishop does, and still am able to handle my own life and business.

It is customary to leave your singles ward when you get married, but in our case they are leaving us in. Bishopric members, Executive secretaries, and Ward Clerks can be married and hold such callings in singles wards. Good deal! Most of our friends are there so it will be nice. Nicole will be going to the ward she is use to also. She needs her grandma and grandpa still, and grandma will be happy to take her to her nursery class and still see her friends.

I can't help but to think of what a good mother Susan has been to Nicole, and how Nicole is so fun-loving and proud to be who she is. Things look good for the future too, Susan loves kids so much she has been a default for many people who need a baby sitter etc. It isn't always that one has the chance to find out what kind of a mother there prospective wife will be, but I got front row seats, so to speak. With the help of Susan, being a father isn't going to be such a problem I don't think. It's already exciting, but the excitement is only beginning.

For you who are wondering what the plans are for the wedding and reception etc. are, we plan to be married friday the 13th of November, with a reception that night here in Orem, and then a reception there in Pocatello Saturday night. Besides Susan and me, the line will consist of Susan's sister, and Nicole, and then I'll have my friends, David Cragun and Louis Erickson as best men, and then of course parents. We decided to be conservative since we were already doing everything twice. I wish I could have all my brothers and sisters to have as an impressive group all dressed up for the famous picture like is displayed on the wall at home, but to even invite one and not all doesn't seem fair, so it was either all or none. Sorry if it isn't tradition.

We hope to see all there that can make it. Love David and Susan

October 28, 1987

Dear Family,

I apologize for missing last month's letter. Warren has a point that everyone is missed when they don't contribute to the letter, for we are all interested in eachother.

We were pleased to talk to David right after we received the last letter and learn of another up-coming wedding. Congradulations again, and we are saddened that we will not be there to witness your special day. However, we will look forward to seeing you as newly-weds here in Atlanta on your way back home. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you both.

It's exciting to think of all the events that will begin to happen now as the older grandchildren are maturing and advancing toward a life on their own; Our family is very blessed in many ways (the WHOLE family) and we all owe a great deal to mom and dad and April for their example and teachings to instill in us a desire to be good individuals which makes us great collectively. I'm proud to be a member of this family.

As for what we have all been up to: things have become progressively faster-paced since school began and we have settled in in another ward and felt a need to branch out into our varied interests. Earl occassionaly takes a Mandarin Chinese lesson ffom the mother of a family who owns and runs a restaurant close by us. He tapes the words and carries a miniature recorder and a chinese reader with him on the road and practices it. He has also done a little shelf-building in our basement for our food storage and camping gear. His next project is to build two bedrooms down there for the boys and route some warm and cool air into them. With him only having Saturdays most of the time to do projects everything becomes long-term. His travel has been cut back slightly, though and they are trying to be out two weeks and in one. That's much better than the past year was with him gone sometimes for 5 or 6 weeks at a time. Earl is the Young Men's President in our ward now and that is tricky with him not here a lot of the time. He is wanting to buy a computer very badly again. It's amazing that they are only 1/3 the price they were a few years ago when we bought one (we sold it when we moved). The plan to get one includes the sale of some firearms in order to finance it. All of the kids can run a computer now. Earl has access to a lap-top on occassion so they all get a turn.

The four older kids take piano lessons from their mother now plus Lonnie is learning some electronic keyboard from a gal in our ward. He plays percussion in the band at school and I let him go with me to Symphony rehearsal this week. Our conductor is willing to let him try his hand there which I am very pleased about. Lonnie is also on the ward basketball team and they will soon begin their games; plus he works 3 evenings a week at pizza hut. Along with school and early-morning seminary his life is pretty busy. Greg saved up his money the past few months and when he turned 13 bought himself a pellet rifle which he is immensely proud of. Squirrel season is open and he just sits on the back porch to go hunting. He has enjoyed going to the temple to do baptisms for the dead and takes pride in how he dresses to pass the sacrament at church. (There seems to be no difference in the amount of hairspray used in this household between males and females.) Two bathrooms are a minimum requirement, agree?

Wendy is finding the homework load for fifth grade to be a source of frustration, but is diligent in getting it done and is not satisfied with anything less than an A. She is very creative and easily bored if "nothin's happenin' "-- she is constantly doing gymnastics, dancing, making tapes, correographing music, writing dialoge for "plays" she and her friends and sisters "put on" for any audience available, and playing the piano and singing.

Kami spends a lot of her free time with one or the other of her sisters and is taking a real interest in the piano. I plan to teach each of the kids as long as it will work and at as fast a pace as they can learn. This home

may become a conservatory of music in a sort of way with nearly daily instruction. Kami likes to ride her bike and be outside playing. She is domestic only on one-on-one. Helping cook is fun only if she's thinking she's missing out on anything.

Ashley will be my side-kick for a couple more years before she can go to kindergarten. For her fourth birthday she received her own scissors, crayons, play dough, etc. and ~~will~~ spends a great deal of time using them. Where I go she goes and does not like to stay home when it's my turn without her. She's not as fond of T.V. as the rest of the kids, so is busy with other things while the others watch a show if we are out for an evening. She loves to be read to and can quote her favorite books nearly word for word. Her bedtime routine is still a story and rocked with a blanket, then carried to bed. (I can hardly carry her any more!) She's learning how to be a little helper to me.

I guess I'd better wrap this up soon as I have used more than my allotment of paper. In addition to the usual duties I have taken on a couple of things that I just can't seem to live without. I did join a local Symphony and we had our first concert last Sat. eve. the 24th. It's larger than the Idaho one and has more GOOD violin players, but I miss being able to go and play with Mr. Quiene. I also have been invited by another symphony member (violist) to play with a string quartet which will be more fulfilling than the symphony is. We had our debut on Sunday night at a cultural night in our ward and impressed a bunch of people. Then I have my little handful of private students that I enjoy one day a week. I occassionally accompany people who sing for different things, also. Seems I just have to be involved with music a lot or I'm not satisfied. I do everything else better if I have that in my life. It's my motivator.

All of us send all our love to each of you and will miss you during the hollidays. We are proud of all the accomplishments we see.

Till next time,
Karyn & family

Organize Housework on Card File Plan

DEAR HELOISE:

pir16p,8p5 The biggest time- and effort-saver I have used is to organize my housework on a card file system. This helps me eliminate spring cleaning. When I see a job that needs to be done, I glance in my file and see that it will soon be on my day's work — so I don't concern myself further. I organize my housework into four sections.

1). Daily tasks — list all these on one card and use every day.

2.) Weekly tasks — make one card for each day of the week and list jobs on each. Rotate them.

3.) Monthly — list each job on a separate card. Rotate cards as many as needed each day to rotate all cards each month.

4) Semi-annual (annual) do same as monthly. Jobs should be broken down small enough so that after being done once, most jobs require no more than 15-20 minutes.

I have five children and using this system I always have my work done between 9 a.m. and noon, depending on my day's work schedule — so I have time for my family and myself. Everyone who keeps house ought to use this system it's great! — Sandra Perry, Pocatello, Idaho

• • •

This sure seems to be a great time-saver. Every housewife and working woman needs an easy way to keep up with everyday cleaning jobs. Thanks for writing in and sharing your time-saver with us. — Heloise

Idaho State Journal Sept 3, 1987

Oct. 30, 1987

Dear Loved Ones,

A month sure goes by in a hurry anymore! In fact last month we completely spaced-out getting a letter written.

We have been busy around here, with fall canning now finally over. & do still have tomatoes ripening in the shed. We too, had bumper crops of fruit this year! & bottled over 30 qts. of grape juice off our little vines & we picked over 4 bu. of apples from our dwarf tree.

Two weeks ago & received a call to be Y.W. Secretary... a big change from Primary, and a welcome one. & was ready for a rest & change-of-pace. We also been coaching our womens volleyball teams, which has been fun as well as a learning experience.

The kids are anxious for Halloween tomorrow & their class parties today. This is sure a fun time for them; then its on to Thanksgiving & Christmas! We've been hearing Christmas "requests" for months already.

Some of the ski resorts over here have opened already - most with fake snow. Prices are outrageous! $30-$35/day for a lift ticket. We have some discount passes & ~~make~~ may try going once. I'm not sure I'll be skiing however... there's a baby coming in May! The children are excited, but also very hopeful it will be a boy! (All our spring babies so far have been girls!) Needless to say... the last couple months have been on the difficult side for me. I'm hoping to start feeling better soon!

We're in favor of Shelly's proposal of the 18-month family reunion idea! (We're still game for a party here this year however.) Love to all, Kaelyn

DEAR FAMILY: NOV '87

Aubrey made it through her second visit to Primary Childrens with flying colors, and now she has a cast that allows her to bend at the waist!... The best news in 2½ months, however, seems to be that we now have a bathroom sink! I installed the counter top & sink a few days ago & it even works!.. Marcelle really enjoyed her first time Trick-or-Treat-ing..... We saw a good movie we can recommend to all - It's called The Princess Bride -- not too many come around that we can trust. ... Shelly is doing real well lately, and we're looking forward to seeing everyone at Susan & David's wedding.
I lost a few hundred thousand in the stock market, but hoping to make it back in gold futures - Hatta .. well, the letters are going to press (copier) now, so must close til next time (when it's not my turn to write!)

Love,
Bryan
Shelly
Marcelle
& Aubrey

P.S. Only 43 shopping days til Christmas! (can't count Sundays!)

Nov. 5, 1987

Dear Dad & April,

It's a beautiful Indian Summer day - lots of leaves falling, sun shining and the expected high of 75°. I *love* this weather.

Leon Ellis (our mechanic) just brought our Olds diesel wagon back to us with the Chevy's engine in it. After months of trying to decide what to do with our vehicles that seemed to be the least expensive and most logical thing to do. Now we hope it was the right decision to have it converted. We will part out the wrecked Chevy. (I *must* get some pictures first.)

About Christmas: Connie and I both decided that we will stay at our respective homes. They are counting on you for fishing, etc. That was discussed earlier in the year, I guess. And we want to just stay here - it's not the right time for us to be tripping around if we expect to make the big one next summer. So - your schedule you mentioned on the phone sounds fine. In fact, however you would like to work it is fine with us. We wouldn't actually be selfish with how much time you spend with us even if we wanted to be - (which we do!)

I will probably have a couple of "please bring"s for you to buy for me - One for sure is a couple of cans of bulk dry yeast at Waremart — it can only be found in little pkgs. here. It's funny - any time I

buy more than 2 bags flour (which is only in 5# bags) the check-out people ask me what I'm going to do with All That Flour! They've never heard of a 50# bag of flour. I don't remember what the cans of yeast cost but I'll send $ for you to get them if you don't mind getting it for me.

Thanks again for the apples — we are enjoying them immensely — The little red golds are our favorite — sure tastes like home.

Received a nice letter from Mr. Quine — he wants me to bring my violin & do some playing next summer. I don't think I looked ~~do~~ much of anything very wrong in his eyes. It's fun to have him still considering me ~~as~~ his "favorite person" as he calls me. We've had a good many years of enjoyable playing together, that's for sure.

We are looking forward very much to the upcoming several months. There's sure a better general feeling now here compared to last year at this time with the things we were dealing with and it's pleasant. I'm positive the trials will continue to come and I'm not going to cave into them.

We will miss being at David's wedding — and reception — I would love to see everyon, including extended family — cousins etc. We love and miss you — Let us know your plans when they are solid. Love, Karyn

THE FAMILY LETTER

THE DAVID & SUSAN LONGHURST FAMILY
250 EAST 1000 SOUTH, OREM UTAH, 84058 * 27 NOVEMBER 1987

The month of November brought a new lifestyle for David and Susan as they were married in the Jordan River Temple on Friday the thirteenth. In spite of the date, there was no superstition expressed by either of the two, or anyone who was at the wedding. Many friends and relatives attended the ceremony and were delighted to witness the sealing of Susan's three year old girl (Nicole) to her eternal parents. It was certainly a joy for the three to be made an official family in the eyes of the Lord, and now they are eager to continue in the same light as their family grows.



The two wedding receptions held in Orem Utah, and Pocatello Idaho turned out wonderful as the two sides of the family worked together to make it an enjoyable and memorable experience for all. Dave and Susan would like to thank everyone who contributed to the occasion with there time and/or finances. And thanks again to all who brought gifts to help them make there start together.

The honeymoon was a dream come true for the newlyweds, David had saved up for a trip to the Bahamas and the two fled to a weeks stay on Paradise Island, adjacent to Providence Island near the capital. They enjoyed the Summer weather, the turquoise colored water, the tropical and exotic plant and marine life, the native dishes, and of course the time together. The trip nearly paid for it's self as Dave mixed a little business with there pleasure and sold three Parasales to a water sports shop on the island. Of course both David and Susan were given free rides to try out the Parasails, and as they say there "We flew over Paradise."

Upon their return Nicole wasted no time to break in the word "Daddy" as she almost wore it out on David. The new family will reside at the address on this publication heading, and will have David's same telephone number (801) 224-5825. We send our Love and, once again, our Tanks to all.

David, Susan, and Nicole,

November 30, 1987

Dear Family,

It was good to see and visit with some of you while we were in Utah for a few days. Ken's meetings kept him busy for the most of it. We were sorry we didn't have a few more days so we could spend longer visiting and get around to see more of you.

We just returned from Atlanta. We spent Thanksgiving with Karyn and her family. We had a nice visit as well as a wonderful dinner. Then, we spent the next two days at the temple to finish out our "quota" for the year. There were sure a lot of people there. We ended up having to wait an extra half hour to forty-five minutes between each session. (We did 6 each in the two days)

The drive home Sunday afternoon was something else. It was like being in the middle of rush-hour traffic the whole way. We got within three and a half hours of Orlando and the traffic was stop and go for forty miles or more. And we weren't even in the city. Finally after more than an hour of that we got off the freeway and took the back country roads. Even they were crowded, but at least they were moving. Everyone stretched out their holiday as long as they could I guess.

Just as Ken was beginning to understand his responsibilities as a High Councilor, they released him and called him to serve as the second councilor in our bishopric. They certainly have given us both very challenging positions. As we struggle through them, hopefully we'll grow to match the calling.

Some days are still nice enough to do some yard work. I bought some bedding plants that I need to finish planting. We dug out some of the grass in the front yard to make a bigger flower bed. The pine trees have seeded and now we have small little pine trees popping up wherever they can get a hold. I hate to pull them up to plant my flowers, but I can't keep them there. I put a few of them in pots to see if they will transplant. We're hoping to get some of them growing in the back yard and one or two out by the front drive. We'll see how they do.

Well, better run. I still need to finish the wash, go visiting teaching, grocery shopping and fix dinner before we go to class tonight. Ken and I are taking a pottery class. It has been kind of fun, but I need to figure out something to make besides pots.

Hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas. Wish we could be with you all. We're looking forward to a visit from Dad and April during the Holidays. There certainly won't be any skiing down here but we're planning to get in a fishing trip.

Love to all,

Connie + Ken

11/30/87

Dear Family,

Happy holidays to everyone! Our family is already getting excited for Christmas ~ we're anticipating some fun times in making decorations + decorating the house, etc. Since Dad + April will not be home for the holidays, April has agreed to letting us use her nice big artificial tree. I'm excited about that! Paul is afraid of what that might lead to ~ + he has good reason to fear.

We hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving ~ we did. It was good to see so many at David's wedding. I guess it could be awhile before we all get together for something as special as that.

There has been a change in our Stake YW again. They called the secretary back into the ward to be a primary teacher. I'm hoping they "demote" me back to secretary. I sure enjoyed it more than 2nd Councilor. ~ less stress ~

We did our operetta Nov. 22nd. It went quite well. I felt good about the job I did. I have improved over the last year. Now it's recital time Dec. 12th + then church Christmas Choir programs after that. I keep thinking things will slow down. I have said "No" to 2 or 3 things for Paul + I to do ~ feels kinda nice. We want to simplify our lives. Does anyone have any wonderful ideas that would work along these lines? (The only way we've found is to move - + that is only temporary!)

We have a fun thing planned for our R.S. Homemaking Night this week. We are doing a parade of homes. We are going to 10 or 12 different homes in the ward to see their Christmas decorations + ideas. I understand they will serve appetizers, hoi'dervous [sp?] etc in their home + then we will meet back at the church to sample goodies that everyone else will bring. I think it will be fun!

We had a fun Elder's Quorem "Sundae Party." Admission was one topping. We played several fun games.

Merry Christmas to each of you!!! Love,
Sandra, Paul + kids

Nov. 30, 1987

Dear Family,

So many thoughts seem to rush around in my head when I sit down to write this letter, especially it being the culmination of Thanksgiving and the on-set of the Christmas season. As I've had the chance to think of my many blessings this past week, something I should do more often, there is so very much that I'm truely thankful for... things that I so often take for granted. We probably are all guilty of this, it being human nature.

I look at our growing family & think, "If they're really a reflection of me, then I could certainly be doing a lot better." I love them all & it amazes me just how quickly children grow up. Life really is short - no wonder our prophets plead with us to keep God's commandments. And how can we forget our fellow-man? I truely am thankful for seasons of reflection & growth, whenever they come. It is refreshing, enlightening & puts life & its daily processes all back into perspective.

Krystin is talking more & more each day & is facinating us with the speed at which she is learning. She's been going to nursery for only a short while & is singing the little songs they learn there almost constantly. She's also toilet-training herself & keeps me hopping to the bathroom often. She tells me when she wants to go & she's never wrong.

Melissa has grown alot this summer & is wearing clothes at age 4½ that Stephanie wore in 1st & 2nd grade. She is recovering from a recent bout of Bronchial Pneumonia, 3 weeks after Stephanie had it. They're both doing just fine now.

Ben still puts all his energy into whatever he's doing at the time & his bedroom will prove it. He knows that the priveledge of having his own room is short lived no matter what sex this next baby is. He

and Krystin or Melissa will have the honor of "bunking" together. We're hoping his housekeeping habits will start to improve before that time comes.

Stephanie is, as much as ever, a bookworm by nature. Next to reading she likes computers. She's doing well in school but gets tired of the thoughtless remarks others kids always make about her physical "petite-ness." In fact she gets quite discouraged.

We just sent George off to San Diego for another 2-week Basic Officer's Training course/Active Duty stint. He'll be back Dec. 11th & we'll "deck-our-halls" with our Christmas adornment when he gets home. It looks the season outside already. We've had two good snowfalls so far – the first on the Sunday of that plane-crash – the same day I flew home from David's wedding & the 2nd on Thanksgiving Day. That crash occured only minutes after I walked in our door – 2½ hours behind schedule due to the bad weather. Krystin was decent through the whole affair – otherwize I'd have been very frazzled!

I've been busy making holiday plans for projects & gifts & am pleased that we're more prepared, earlier, this year with our plans. We did some shopping during the summer which has helped a lot.

We're pleased that we may have Dad & April through here sometime during the holidays. It's always a real treat when someone comes our way, & we appreciate the effort that it takes! We're familiar with that effort.

I've taken up more than our share of space this time & if my typewriter were more dependable this would all be on one page! Season's Greeting to you all,

Loalyn, George & family

Dec. 1987

Dear Family,

Happy Holidays to all!! We don't have any white stuff around here - in fact the weather has been so nice it seems impossible that its almost Christmas time.

As with everyone, things are always busy and changing. Bryan's work has slowed down a little now that their Christmas rush time is over. I received a new calling quite similar to that of "Scout Master" I guess. Our ward has a young Women's goal program similar to that of earning scouting awards. We have several "facet" counselors & the girls achieve hard goals in many different areas & finally receive an honor similar to that of an Eagle Scout. Our Bishop felt the girls needed something more challenging to work on & that would bring recognition to them. The general board has a copy of the book that was developed by our ward, so who knows where it might lead to in the future. I'm kind of overwhelmed by it all right now - it's going to keep me busy I can see.

I guess you could call it "a dream come true" - our Stake will be doing the musical Hello Dolly - but it will be held at the Promised Valley Playhouse in April 7, 8, 9th. The auditions were gruelling, but I actually get to play one of the lead parts - that of Irene Molloy, the Hat shop owner. I'm really excited, as it includes acting, dancing and singing - but it will be a lot of hard work & rehearsals 3-5 times a week for the next 3 months. It'll be

worth it, I'm sure.

Great news - Aubrey gets her cast off tomorrow! I can hardly wait to give her a bath (it's been 3 months!) If everything looks ok, she'll be in a brace at night + nap time for the next 3 months + then hopefully that will be all she'll need. She's getting anxious to move around + roll over, etc. She gets very frustrated + bored.

Marcelle is excited about Santa this year - although she still doesn't want to sit on his lap! She just assumes he knows what she wants - she's had her decision made months ago!

Merry Christmas to everyone!-

Love,
The Crocketts

Karyn says they are all very excited that Dad + April will be here for Christmas. They enjoyed having Connie + Ken for Thanksgiving. Earl is trying for a new position so he won't have to be gone all the time.

** There will be no family party this year.

Karyn will be doing ~~the~~ the family letter next year, so please send your next letter to her:

Karyn Mecham
2301 Cochise Dr.
Acworth, GA 30101

Cost this year will be $9.00 - please send your money to her. She said it takes about 5 days to get mail from here, so plan accordingly - depending on where you live. She wants to have the letters at the first of every month.

THE FAMILY LETTER

THE DAVID & SUSAN LONGHURST FAMILY
250 EAST 1000 SOUTH OREM UTAH 84058 * 29 DECEMBER 1987

December was a busy month for us as it must be with most people, all went well however with our first Christmas together. Nicole "cleaned house" so to speak with two sets of guardians trying to make a good Christmas for her. I guess "cleaned house" is in fact the opposite of what takes place on Christmas morning, but I think you understand what I'm saying. There must be well over a dozen stuffed animals and dolls that Nicole owns, I don't think she can even keep track of every thing. Oh well, maybe we wont have to get things for a couple of years. All in all it was a choice experience to see Christmas from that angle.

Toys weren't the theme of Christmas I hope, as we took Nicole up to temple square and learned about the real Christmas. I hope that the nativity scene was the center of attention, in spite of all the lights.

Business has been really slow this season, at least for installing vinyl floors. We are hoping it picks up again, and will be enough to live on, so we are not giving up hope by any means.

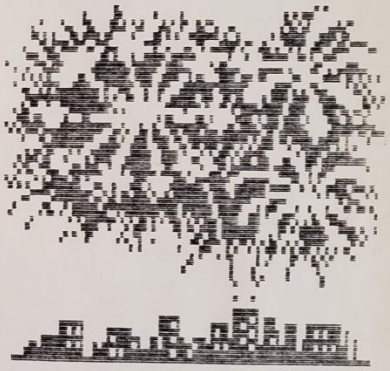
We are still attending our single student ward at the college, and many people still ask why; to most people in those student wards, I think, the name of the game is ward hop, but ward hopping didn't get Susan and me together, nor did it put us in any position where we could serve the Lord. My answer to them has to be a phrase I can say in one breath, or thy don't seem to want to know. The truth of the matter is not because we can't go somewhere else, but because I have been asked (indirectly) to stay and help keep the ward moving along. I have even made one observation as we chose to stay with the ward. So many kids do not want to serve the Lord when they need his help to make one of the most important decisions of their life. In other words they will release themselves from any leadership position soon after they get engaged, and say they need the time to prepare things etc. etc. They say it's too much of a burden to do both..

Well, even with the understanding of school being one of the time takers in "all there is to do" I can say it is possible to fulfill a calling and prepare for marriage at the same time, in spite of all the other things. It wasn't easy, but we feel it was worth every bit of dedication to both.

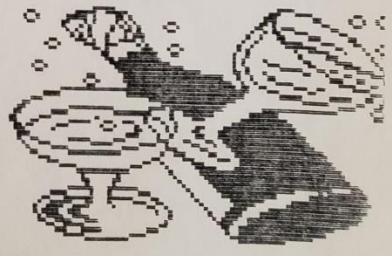
As this new year approaches, we hope all is well with everyone, and that you are finding joy in your lives as we certainly are. We love you all very much.

David, Susan, & Nicole

PS. Check the two charts with the birthdays etc. and let me know if I missed anyone or if it's incorrect.



HAPPY NEW YEAR 1988



BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CALENDER

JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH	
1 Norman Longhurst	'73	2 Cory Longhurst	'72	7 Lupi Longhurst	'70
3 Sheldon Longhurst	'69	4 Wendy Mecham	'77	16 Nicole Longhurst	'84
5 Benjamin Hellewell	'78	10 Woodrow Longhurst	'20	24 Karyn Mecham	'50
9 Conner Cooper	'84	14 Cathy & Larry	'79		
18 Shauna Perry	'78	15 Earl Mecham	'48		
29 Ken Mason	'51	20 David Longhurst	'64		
		28 Kevin Longhurst	'75		
APRIL		**MAY**		**JUNE**	
1 Ryan Done	'83	6 Andrea Cooper	'82	5 Glen & Linette	'87
5 Joseph Perry	'83	10 Woody & April	'80	14 Valina Longhurst	'76
11 Dan Lee	'58	15 Krystin Hellewell	'86	15 George Hellewell	'51
14 Catherine Cooper	'56	24 Talina Perry	'76	16 Aaron John Done	'86
14 Shelly Crockett	'58	24 Warren Longhurst	'43	21 Melissa Hellewell	'83
16 Stephanie Hellewell	'76	31 Connie Mason	'51	27 Loalyn & George	'75
23 April Longhurst	'37				
JULY		**AUGUST**		**SEPTEMBER**	
1 Linette Longhurst	'63	15 Bobby & DeVon	'69	2 A.J. Longhurst	'82
3 Lonnie Mecham	'72	17 Susan Done	'59	2 Bobby Longhurst	'49
7 Warren & Sharon	'65	20 Colissa Longhurst	'67	4 Loalyn Hellewell	'55
10 Timmy Perry	'79	22 Brent Done	'57	5 Stephen Done	'81
15 Joshua Longhurst	'79	26 Mark Perry	'74	22 Keri Longhurst	'73
16 Susan Longhurst	'64			26 Jolana Longhurst	'71
20 Bryan Crockett	'59			28 Marcelle Crockett	'84
25 Roger Longhurst	'76			29 Bryan Perry	'72
OCTOBER		**NOVEMBER**		**DECEMBER**	
4 Ashley Mecham	'83	4 Sharon Longhurst	'43	1 Orrin Cooper	'79
9 Larry Cooper	'56	11 Jered Longhurst	'70	8 Kamela Mecham	'78
10 Greg Mecham	'74	13 David & Susan	'87	9 Nathan Longhurst	'74
10 Paul Perry	'49	21 Wayne Longhurst	'77	18 Sandra & Paul	'71
22 Sandra Perry	'52	27 Glen Longhurst	'62	24 DeVon Longhurst	'46
				26 Karyn & Earl	'70
				27 Susan & Brent	'79

WOODROW & APRIL LONGHURST 10 MAY 1980

THE LONGHURST'S WARREN & SHARON 7 JULY 1965	THE LONGHURST'S DEVON & BOBBY 15 AUGUST 1969	THE MECHAM'S EARL & KARYN 26 DECEMBER 1970
Colissa Sheldon Lupi Jolana Norman Kevin Valina Joshua	Jered Cory Keri Nathan Roger Wayne A.J.	Lonnie Greg Wendy Kamela Ashley
THE MASON'S KEN & CONNIE 14 JUNE 1986	THE PERRY'S PAUL & SANDRA 18 DECEMBER 1971	THE HELLEWELL'S GEORGE & LOALYN 27 JUNE 1975
	Bryan Mark Talina Shauna Timmy Joey	Stephanie Ben Melissa Krystin
THE COOPER'S LARRY & CATHY 14 FEBRUARY 1979	DAN LEE	THE CROCKETT'S BRYAN & SHELLY 26 MAY 1983
Orrin Andrea Conner		Marcelle Aubrey
THE DONE'S BRENT & SUSAN 27 DECEMBER 1979	THE LONGHURST'S GLEN & LINETTE 5 JUNE 1987	THE LONGHURST'S DAVID & SUSAN 13 NOVEMBER 1987
Stephen Ryan Aaron John		Nicole

12/29/87

Dear Family,

Happy New Year to everyone!

The holidays have been fun but hectic. We've found it to be a real challenge to keep everyone happy + occupied with no school. Games and toys are good for awhile; work and jobs are good for awhile; movies are good for awhile. So with some give and take on everyone's part, we'll make it through one more week.

It snowed the Monday night before Christmas - quite a bit - so we did have a white Christmas. That was a happy sight to all of us. Bryan + Paul used the snowblower on several of the neighbors walks + driveways. The kids have enjoyed playing out in it + sliding on it.

Paul is working today, but the rest of us are in Arco at the dentist. The kids have come with mixed feelings ~ anxious to visit with their cousins, but ~.

Mark and Bryan have taken on the project of cleaning the building where Paul works. It's a weekly endeavor + they hope to make alot of money at it. Paul + I are interested in the experience + responsibility it will provide them as well as supporting their habits financially. Not even Paul knows how long the opportunity will last.

We've had a storm move in now + we're getting alot of snow.

Happy New Year to all ~~~

Sandra, Paul, + kids