

Dear Family:

January '88

We hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday season and is gradually getting back to a normal pace. Our plan to finish Christmas shopping early in order to have free time to enjoy the season worked for us, and we recommend it to all next year!..... Aubrey is enjoying her new mobility out of her cast, and isn't as physically advanced as her counterparts, but the progress is steady -- so we have no concerns. .... We were glad to have a white Christmas, but the storm hit just as we started out our trek to Idaho -- but arrived safely nevertheless. ... Marcelle is going through some challenging little stages, but her happy disposition and unquenchable curiosity overshadow the daily struggles otherwise. Shelly & I finished reading Carol Lynn Pearson's book of her story of her husband who died of AIDS -- thought provoking reading if you're looking for such. The title is Goodbye, I Love You, published by Random House. One last reading recommendation that goes to the top of my all-time fav's: Les Misérables by Victor Hugo .... I wish all books were that worthwhile!!! Well, wishing you & yours a happy & very healthy new year, and good treats for Monday Night F.A.E. lessons, we subscribe ourselves

With love,  
Bryan, Shelly, Marcelle & Aubrey

Jan. 4, 1988

Dear Family,

Happy New Year to Everyone!!! Hope y'all had a wonderful holiday. We had a great one starting with a visit from Dad + April. We felt like we were on vacation too + totally enjoyed ourselves as we showed them around + visited some of the attractions.

Ken sold his computer last week + now is waiting for delivery of a new one. He has his small lap-top computer, but it's in constant use so therefore the handwritten letter this time around.

The best news of the new year is that WordPerfect made their goal for 1987 (doubled their sales from 1986) so we will be going to Hawaii. We just need to decide when + make the arrangements.

We've had a nice rest during the break and I needed that. Now school has started and all things are back to normal.

Thanks to everyone for the cards, letters, telephone calls, etc. during the holiday.

Love to you all.

Connie + Ken

Dear Family

Jan 1988

Thanks for your Christmas letters and cards. We enjoy hearing from you and about you. In fact I enjoyed your news so much I am finally getting out a letter about ourselves.

Conner will be four by the time you are reading this. He is a Sunbeam in Primary this year. Often he gets to go hunting and ice fishing, sledding and inner tubing with his dad. Trucks, especially diesels and their horns, fascinate him. He swam alot this summer and tans a lovely golden color.

Andrea is in kindergarten. Both she and Orrin have excellent teachers. She is tall and kind and cares and shares. She loves animals. We have a dog, Greta, a german shorthair she cares for and our wonderful next door neighbors, Kwongs, have a little calico cat she plays with. We did do alot of swimming this past summer, as I've said, and Annie is an extra good swimmer - we called her a "fish in the water." I know I'm bragging... but I'll go ahead and do it anyway! Annie is so pretty and fun. We really enjoy her... all three of the kids... !!

Orrin has the opportunity of being in a Spanish Immersion program. He is in the second grade. In homeroom they speak only Spanish. The teacher is from Guatemala and has a "native" accent, (as do all the teachers in the program), thus the children sound authentic. We are amazed at how much he already knows. Northridge, the school, also has two well-equipped computer labs so the kids are learning computer.

My sister, Sue, and her family moved to Orem, just 1 1/2 miles from us <sup>tr</sup>, and they let Orrin use their computer regularly so he is getting more good experience. He continues to be ACTIVE and INTELLIGENT so we need and appreciate all these extra things for him to do!

Larry got a nice big deer Opening day, so did the friends who went with him. He hunts alot and enjoys the friendship; hunting company of our neighbor Phil Kwong. Larry works as a respiratory therapist and specializes in taking care of the babies in newborn intensive care. He is very good at his job.

I am finally feeling well and healthy after nearly a year of struggling with chemical depression probably caused by a miscarriage. It is so nice to be HEALTHY again. I keep busy with daily duties, and reading as I belong to two choice bookclubs, one with neighbors, one with cousins.

Love  
Cooper's

Orrin was just baptized 100!

January 7, 1988

Dear Family,

Happy new year to all of you. Atlanta is semi-paralyzed today in a winter storm they are calling the Siberian Express. Schools are closed and Earl is home from work just like the Christmas holidays all over again. Actually we think it's quite comical but nevertheless we understand the reasons. It's impossible to travel the hilly roads with no equipment to clear them off; and to think of the cost to purchase enough to do it when it only snows 2 or 3 times a year!

Christmas brought us a lot of joy this year. The children spent their "countdown" looking at the day that Grandma and Grandpa would arrive. Only after they came did they say when Christmas was going to be (which was only 2 days by then.) I don't remember ever having time to ourselves with parents and grandparents before, but it has been one of the most enjoyable and memorable experiences we have had. It was such a pleasure to listen to dad reminisce with stories about his childhood, his time in the service here in the South, his relatives, etc. even though all memories weren't happy ones. And we had some good visits with April concerning her work as a counsellor, giving us some advice in some areas that would be helpful to us. We spent much time just relaxing, talking, eating, playing with the kids, eating, cooking, eating, playing games, eating, doing dishes, eating and eating! We only hope they enjoyed their stay half as much as we enjoyed having them! We sincerely hope that each family will get the chance to spend time with them as we did for it was greatly rewarding. We felt somewhat guilty having them all to ourselves for Christmas but sure enjoyed the opportunity. Thank you for coming 6 & 6!

We appreciated all the cards and letters and phone calls during the holidays and hope yours were plentiful too.

Earl and Dad and Lonnie & Greg began a project which got well under way and has progressed steadily since then in our basement. Soon both of the boys will have their own room down there and they are all excited. Too bad the excitement wears off when the hours of work get long, though. We will also put a bathroom in but it will have to wait a little while. Dad gave us some very good advice and long hours of practice, hands-on work which would not have even been started yet had he not been here to get us started.

I appreciate the opportunity to do the family letter this year. I know it is a very important part of each of our lives and hope to do as good a job as Shelly and Bryan did. As a reminder, it will be \$9.00 per family this time as I do not have access to occasional free copies. Thanks to those who have sent \$. Please have your letters in the mail by the 1st of each month so you will receive by the 10th.

*Businesses have been shut down & roads impassable so this letter is later than it should be. Feb. will probably be spring! We have 2-3 inches of solid ice - 15 inches snow in N. Georgia mtns. Kids having fun.*

*Love, Karyne  
Family*

Jan. 25, 1988

Dear Family,

I guess it's my turn now to remember to get my family letter sent off in time each month.

Here in to "Hello Dolly" Rehearsals full-fledged now - about 4 times a week, so that's keeping me challenged. I'm learning alot despite the sore muscles, broken glasses & sleepless nights from memorizing & worrying, I guess. Bryan sure has been wonderful to arrange his schedule in order to be home with the girls most of the time I've had to be gone.

Aulrey X-rays this week showed good growth of the bones. The Dr. says she only has to wear her brace for one more month & then we don't have to take her back in until July!! We are very happy about that & thankful, too.

Marcelle is thrilled to finally be a Sunbeam. She's been looking forward to it for so long. Sunday is her favorite day, anyway, as she loves to go to church & be with other kids. There's started a neighborhood "play group" of 4 little girls one morning a week. The mothers take turns having it at their house. Marcelle loves it & gets along well with the others - actually, she'd like to do it every day. She gets pretty bored, as she's not a loner by any means.

Love to all, Shelby & Pam.

January 26, 1988

Hello to everyone,

It continues to amaze me just how fast time seems to fly by. Life seems to be one big merry-go-round with all the usual (and some unusual) ups and downs. And still, it seems there is not enough time to get everything done that needs to be done. I surely do not understand it at all!

We are glad to have this family letter going to help us keep in touch with our loved ones. Thank you Shelly and Karyn for your special efforts in this. I hope that this year we hear from Catherine, Sue, and Dan too so we can get to know them better.

Our school year is half over already, which also seems nearly impossible; especially with Joey headed for kindergarten next year. It will really be different to have them all in school! Most of our children are doing well in school, others seem to struggle a bit more. But they're all hanging in there and learning some important things about themselves as well as necessary school facts.

Tim is enjoying his cub scouting and should be getting his Wolf award next month. Bryan and Mark are really dragging their feet. If they don't pick up some speed and determination, Tim may just pass them up one day here before they know it.

Paul has exceeded a quota given him for the year 1987 in his parts management position at work which has earned a trip for the two of us to Orlando, Florida. We are really excited about it. It will be March 7 - 11. We will stay at the hotel in Disneyworld with passes to Disneyworld, the Epcot Center, and the Space Center. There will also be company goings ons each night with dinners, dances, programs, etc, including one night at Sea World. We don't know much about the area so are excited to go and spend some time vacationing together. We hope that Connie and Ken and maybe even Karyn and Earl can join us for some of the time. That would really make it special.

My church calling is extremely busy right now. We have leadership meeting this week and ward conferences starting with our ward this Sunday. So alot of extra time has been put on behind the scenes in preparation, as you all know how it goes. We're hoping the Lord will help us pull it off so that it will be a help to the leaders and girls we are working with.

It was fun to see the pictures from Connie's and Karyn's that Dad and April were able to take. The get together at DeVon's and Bobby's looked like fun. Bobby, your home looked nicely decorated for the holiday's.

Love to all,  
Sandra and family

Jan. 26, 1968

Dear Family,

The most difficult thing about writing is just sitting down and getting started. I enjoy everyone else's letters so much, but sometimes can't find much to write about myself.

We've had a lot of snow - but not a lot of storms. Just great big ones when they hit. We haven't seen our road since before Christmas.

Life has really been interesting lately. It seems a lot of our household "things" have reached their "old age" & are needing repairs or replacements. In the last two weeks we've had two floods - one due to the garbage disposal, the other from the washer. Besides that we've had dryer, garage door & car problems. We don't view them as real problems, only learning experiences & are grateful that we are blessed with "little" inconveniences rather than major problems or sorrows.

Stephanie recently spent a week with all the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at out-door lab school. It's a "big deal" in this school district. They have classes in things like forestry & geology, & topography (maps, elevation, etc.) She had a real good time.

Ben entered a poem into a contest at school & took first place. Now it goes to "district" competition & on up to state then national levels if it places at district. The contest theme was "Wonders of the World" & some of the cousins may be familiar with the Reflections Contest. His poem's title is "What Happened to the Dinosaurs."

I'm enjoying going to Sunday School for the first time in years & also an Institute Class (also on the Book-of-Mormon,) during the week. I hope we're all heeding the prophet's admonishment to read & study it more.

George is busy, like usual, & the little girls are a source of joy, & at times, frustration. They're getting to be real pals!

Love you all & send our best wishes - till next time. Mom, Dad, & Family.

# THE FAMILY LETTER

THE DAVID & SUSAN LONGHURST FAMILY

250 EAST 1000 SOUTH OREM UTAH 84058 \* 29 JANUARY 1982

Dear Family,

The flu bug gave us a visit this month, and David got the worst of it. It has a way of making you feel just like a television commercial, we saw, depicts it; Like you've been run over by a truck. Twice! Between the Doc. and his drugs life feels like it's worth living again and we hope all of you are enjoying good health too.

We all wish for a happy and prosperous new year, and our personal wish is the same. However, we are yet to see the second part of that wish. Business has been very slow for us and we think it is due to a new program which Color Tile has started. It has had it's way of fazing out the Longhurst's in general, but there still seems to be enough "bait" remaining on the hook to confuse at least our end of the business of vinyl installation. It seems like all we are doing sometimes is playing a big game. Oh well...

Speaking of games, this might be a little pre mature, but we think we might have a good game to market. It was put together in an unexpected way one day when David spent the better part of a day and tried putting together a card game that was in the

back of his mind. It fell. But it apparently fell in the right direction, because a new game was born from the cards that had been made for the other game. Susan and David started playing the game once it was refined a little bit, and played it for almost five hours straight. A waste of time maybe, but we had fun.

Since that time the game has been even more refined, instructions written, more cards made, and every person it has been exposed to thus far has been excited about it. We call it "Wild Sandwich." It works like the game of Yatzee, but we think it is a lot more fun than Yatzee because it uses cards instead of dice. Instead of a black and white game with Yatzee, this uses color, and it uses a more appealing subject, it uses FOOD. It deals with putting together different parts of a sandwich using the different parts that are most commonly used in building a sandwich. The object of the game is to fill all the spaces on the score sheet with the highest score (like Yatzee), and with the deck of cards comprising of the parts of a sandwich, along with various Wild cards, the big scoring option of the game is getting a Wild Sandwich. Sound like fun? Wait till

you play a few times, you'll get hooked on it!

Test marketing is something we don't have a lot of knowledge of doing, but 20 out of 20 people who play games, even if it's just checkers, have been turned on with the idea. And when they are all turned on about it, it turns us on even more about it.

All this has taken place in the course of two weeks or less, and by the time you get this letter, the game will be official and legally copyrighted and protected. In fact it only lacks a small part of the instructions and it is complete.

Maybe, just maybe that "prosperous" new year is on it's way. At least it seems to be in line. But for now we still are pressing forward in marketing vinyl installation, to put food on the table.

We hope all is well with each of you, and want you to know of our love for you!

David, Susan, and Nicole



January 30, 1988

Dear Family,

Wow, what a long week. Wednesday I was thinking it seemed like it should be Friday. Maybe it's because it's January. The month was pretty uneventful until yesterday when it ended with a bang! Literally! I was driving down the highway (about 50 mph) and a lady in a white Toyota didn't see me and thought the road was clear so she started to cross. Well, it didn't take long to crunch up three cars (there was another one sitting at the stop sign waiting to enter the highway on my right--she had come from my left). I keep going over it in my mind and wondering what would have happened if one small detail had been different. As I think of the outcome, I realize we were all pretty lucky (if you can call it luck). The cars got the worst of it and no one was injured. I'm quite stiff this morning but all of that will go away. It could have been much worse. Well, now I'm without a car again for a while. The whole front will need to be replaced and the driver's side all the way back straightened and painted. It looks pretty sad. I hope it doesn't take too long to get it repaired.

Ken has been real busy with work and with ward business. There is always something to do and sometimes some of it just doesn't get done. The bishopric is involved in getting certified as scout leaders. The scouting program has been pretty crippled so the stake is pushing to get more qualified people. They've been to two classes and will now be starting overnight camp-outs every other week-end for about six weeks. It is involving a lot of time. We are trying to get a little better organized here at home to help out with all the time commitments. That seems to be something that constantly needs to be re-done.

We had some pretty cold weather here this week and my tomatoes and peppers got nipped. The leaves are all wilted but most of the fruit is still okay. I had to pick some of them and line my window sill with green tomatoes. I think they will ripen fine. I pulled all my carrots today but don't know what to do with all of the green onions. I can't use them fast enough to pull them all up at once. I gave a handful to a neighbor and may have to give more away. I want to prepare the soil again for my next crop. I should be planting in a couple more weeks. I learned last year that if I plant too late, there is not enough time for things to mature before the summer gets too hot and things die. Most vegetables can't take the hot, hot sun. I'm learning.

Darn, I just missed the mailman. I'll have to drop this letter off at the post office. We hope everyone is well and always look forward to hearing from all of you. Our love to you all. Till next month.

We Miss getting your letters -

Feb. 1988  
Georgia

Dear Family,

It's fun and exciting to look forward to and receive your letters one at a time now! It will be a pleasant year of watching for the mailman. Be sure to have yours in the mail by the 1st of the month - I should have them by the 4th or 5th and will copy them unless it falls on Sunday, which then I will do on Monday.

Earl is still home after 2 months of no travel but has very little work to do in the office; he would much rather be very busy. For several months he has followed the ads in the paper on computers and has just been able to get us another IBM PC trading guns for it. Now where to put it?

Wendy turned 11 this week and we celebrated as a family - she enjoyed herself. Lonnie is a member of our ward boys basketball team and is doing well - this past semester he took BSKT Ball in school PE. He has acquired a used drum set to practice on but it may have to have its own house in the back yard!

Lonnie and I just finished up our concert of live, American composers and now will begin working on a Dvorak Concert with the Symphony.

Kemi & Wendy and Greg are all doing really well in school which we are very glad of. Ashley copies what they do doing "homework" copying letters, numbers, "reading" books, etc.

It's been very cold here this month of Jan - except for a few days. We are feeding MANY birds & squirrels.

that Earl has paralymped legs and it comes from the ground. interesting! Earl, Kemi & family

February 1, 1988

Dear Family,

We have missed writing in the family letter for several months now and hope this one makes it for February or we'll never catch up. It's terrible to get out of a good habit and we think the family letter is a good habit - it's great to keep in touch.

Our Christmas vacation began with Colissa and Sheldon home for a short visit when we were altogether a week before Christmas. The times are few already when we can be together as a complete family with the children leaving the nest. It will happen all too soon for the rest of you, so cherish your time together. Dad and April popped in as pre-Christmas visitors also and we very much enjoyed having them and were happy for them in their fun vacation. Skiing at Targhee for a couple of days and hosting our group of 30 dental friends and families from California was a special experience for all of us. They were very impressed with the beauty, grandeur and excellent skiing in Idaho.

Warren recently enjoyed a successful ice fishing trip to the Mackay Reservoir which supplied two delicious fish dinners for our family.

One week ago Sharon participated in the Winter Rose Festival snow sculpture contest and took 2nd place in the open class division. She and another gal worked 2½ days on a 4'x4'x8' block of snow sculpting it into a big Cowardly Lion and bathing him with 30 gal. of water to preserve (glaze) him. He lasted for a week until the warm weather softened him enough that his head fell off. She even managed to get on TV being interviewed on Channel 8. All in all, it was a thoroughly enjoyable event featuring many activities from the parade which Josh was in, to the snoball-softball tournament that Jolana played in. An open-house was a main attraction at a new geothermal rose greenhouse with 1500 rose bushes all heated and watered from a geothermal well. Such a marvelous thing to see in the dead of winter with snow outside and roses blooming inside.

Sheldon continues to do well at Ricks with grades, and finds time to enjoy skiing plus his work at Kelly's Canyon. He travels with the owner to other resorts picking up ski equipment for the rental shop which gives him some extra work time and gives us a chance to see him when they travel to Sun Valley. Norman & Kevin are getting ready for the Aaronic Priesthood scout Encampment at Island Park - they plan for 6,000 boys and leaders with 'big-time' activities and entertainment. We are pleased that their leaders are really getting into this.

Lupi is gone to games every night cheerleading and Butte girls basketball is now on top in District so there's no end in sight for the sleepless nights and no time to study. It's amazing kids make it academically with such a load of activity. Valina was saddened when her puppy died in the night with no apparent cause. Colissa is trying very hard to save money for her mission as she has moved into a studio with a roommate and working 16 hrs/day with her several jobs in Park City.

We are all doing quite well aside from colds now and then and hope you all are finding joy and happiness in your daily lives. We love all of you.

Warren & Sharon  
& Family

February 23, 1988

Dear Family,

It doesn't seem like there is anything new to tell anyone this month. Things must be in a rut.

Paul is swamped at work ~~h~~ having the job of shop foreman "temporarily" added to his service manager and parts manager titles. He is becoming quite discouraged with feelings of never being caught up, even going in early, staying late, and working some on Saturdays. It seems to be a never ending circle. He doesn't seem to have any time for either the family or his church jobs. And with spring in the air and farmers now wanting to get their equipment ready for the seasons work, they are getting busier than ever. He does do a good job, they just seem to expect too much from him.

Paul did get a call yesterday from a dealer in Washington and they want him to come up there to work as the service manager. That sounds like a reprieve to Paul to do only one job. We shall see--.

The kids are all busy with school and extra circular activities and it promises to be a busy spring for all.

We have tryouts this week for a stake musical "Within these Walls". Several of the kids and Mom are interested in being involved. Paul says he's done his share of acting. Bryan and Mark are more interested in the band and the technical help of it and the rest of us would like to try for the stage. That will be put on the latter part of April, so would keep us busier for a couple of months, but as many of you know- it is a fun and rewarding thing to do.

Paul and Sandra are looking forward to seeing Shelly in "Hello, Dolly". We checked out the video so now we at least know what it is we will be seeing. The kids are dissatisfied ~~that~~ that we won't take them with us to see it.

It was very nice to have Catherine write in the letter last month. I hope we will hear more from her and Sue.

March 7th is the week Paul and Sandra will be going to Florida. We are very much looking forward to that. It should be a lot of fun and a good and welcome break from the routine. We have farmed out all the kids and they are each excited ~~and~~ about their week away from everyone, too. If we can swing an extra couple of days without it costing any more for flights, we plan to spend a little more time with Connie and Ken. Maybe even spend a night with Karyn and Earl. *(We just found out we can't)*

Well, we hope everyone is doing fine with life in general. We really are blessed in many ways and I need to appreciate those blessings more than I do.

Love to all till next month,

Sandra, Paul, and kids

2-24-8

Dear family

Now with a few warm days I find I'm already behind with spring work. With no snow, things look like spring even tho I doubt we can count on good weather from now on.

We sure want to express our love and happiness for the visits at Christmas time. Although we didn't get 100% we felt good about seeing so many of you. It has been nice having Bobbie and some of their family come by as they go up to Arco for dental work. In fact they came by at a real good time when we had a nice catch of fish that was ready for the pan.

Yes I've been playing hockey and learned some places and techniques for ice fishing. It has been fun! Phil went with me last Sat. AM and we really had a blast! A cold one that is! We had good luck, in fact the best day of all, and were back shortly after noon.

I'm starting to get the green house ready. Already have some seeds planted. Have been pruning trees ect on the warmer days.

April is really feeling the pressure completing all the requirements for graduating. She said she thought her statistics class last semester was about as tough as it could get, but getting her masters paper done

is even more stress. We will both be glad when she finishes. I don't know how life will be then. We have either one or the other, or both, been on the job or in school every since we got married.

April says she wants to work some after ~~the~~ graduation, but not like an 8 to 5 job. She hasn't had time to think much about that yet. It might be a good thing tho, because our cars are all getting older and more miles on them. Social Security is great as far as it goes, but for buying anything other than the necessities, it doesn't go far.

What a blessing our home production and storage is. Although we never seem to realize opening many bottles, or in the summer thinking we need much put away for only two of us, but find a bunch of emptied bottles on top of the dishwasher about once a week to be taken down to the fruit room. I can tell you all, now that we don't have the store handy as a pantry, we sure depend on our production and storage. At what ever level you can, work on production and storage, do it! Our family has known that as a way of life. Practice it, teach it. It's fun.  
Love to all Dad & April

February 28, 1988

Dear Loved Ones,

February has been a great month for us. Many of you will remember Shawn Steenson, Colissa's boyfriend who went on a mission two years ago. He was present at the last family Christmas party held in Pocatello. Shawn, for part of the party wore a red suit trimmed with white, remember? Shawn has returned from a very successful mission. A member of the Church only 3 years now - he has been such a powerful example with such a dynamic testimony. He has truly blessed our family. Colissa did not "wait" for him but he really is as a son to us. As one who has "come out of the world" the contrast in his life could not be more vivid. He baptised his boyhood best friend here just two weeks after returning, and his missionary efforts continue. The sad part is that his own parents refuse to even hear the Gospel and withdrew their support. We have helped along with others to support his mission. His welcome home surprise party, homecoming Sacrament meeting, high council report, trip to the temple, cottage meetings, baptismal service, visits in our home, and companion speaker with me today on H.C. assignment, have occupied our time and hearts the entire month. Tomorrow he leaves to take a traveling salesman job opportunity before pursuing school and designs to be a chiropracter.

Colissa, with her second missionary out (he's in London) plans to go on a mission as well. Paperwork to begin in March, she will be 21 in August. She is still working in Park City for now.

Missionary work is great, it is 1/3 of the three fold mission of the Church. We cheat ourselves if we don't do it. One of my New Year's resolves was to do better at missionary work. We have also enjoyed Jolana's friend Heather who was baptised 3 months ago. We are grateful for the blessing that relationship is for Jolana.

Another New Year's "resolution" was to do more fishing this year (for fish). I went ice fishing once - first time in about 20 years. Other fishing plans are in the making.

Viewing the winter olympics has been a favorite for us the last couple of weeks. We used to get 1 1/2 channels on TV; recently we got the basic cable hook-up and now get several channels.

Spring-time in February?! Oh, yes - it has been gorgeous. We barbecued on the south patio yesterday - Feb 27! Today, the 28th we celebrated Kevin's 13th birthday with a nice dinner and it was for Lupi also - 18 yrs next week. Our Stake fasted for moisture today.

Well, we have one more meeting to go to this evening - best get going. Love to all - hope you're doing well - especially in the things that really count.

*Shawn*

P.S. Feb. 29th The rains started this morning at 6:00!

*Thanks for the goodies!! We enjoyed them!*

Dear Family,

We now have a computer again and I am attempting to use it for this letter even though I need a coach by my side. Earl was able to trade some guns for a used system by answering an ad in the paper and the fellow turned out to be a gun collector. Since we bought our first one about five years ago or so, the price has dropped to about 1/4 of what it was. Of course inflation in other areas makes up for it.

On Feb. 15 Earl turned 40 and I decided to throw him a surprise party which was successful! Lots of people came (and they were here for 1 1/2 hrs. before HE showed up making us wonder if he'd caught wind of it and decided not to come home.) A couple of interesting and VERY contrasting events transpired throughout the evening also. Not long after Earl arrived home (this was on the 12th) he received a call from his mother with news that his uncle R.B. passed away. Then a little while later our Relief Society President's water broke; they left in a big hurry and delivered a baby the next day. So it was a memorable occasion to say the least.

When we were in Pocatello still we at one time got a kitten from some friends and had our own Morris. He grew up and began romancing the female felines more and more, coming home with battle scars. Eventually his excursions became longer and longer, sometimes not coming home for a couple of days. Then he never came back. Well, he seems to have found us again all the way back here in Georgia; at least it's fun to believe that he has. He showed up on our porch one day and after not giving in to meows of hunger for three days thinking his family would miss him, or that he would find his home again, we gave him something to eat and he has never left since. The kids are happy to have a pet again.

It is official now. We have purchased our plane tickets for our trip home this summer! We will arrive in Salt Lake City about 2:00 pm on July 19 and will fly back to Atlanta on August 16. We hope by being there that long will allow us to see and spend some time with each of you. We would like to begin planning when we will see you by knowing when you will NOT be home during those times. We are tentatively planning to spend some time in SL first since we will be there anyway. It's exciting to us to anticipate coming! My 20 year reunion is scheduled for Aug 5,6 which Sandra so kindly discovered for me so we will definitely be in Pocatello then. We're open for bids for places to stay. Earl may or may not be coming with us initially; it will depend on his work schedule at that time; but he will have 2 weeks vacation during that period. I don't think we have ever planned anything this far in advance before so it's a new experience.

Yesterday they shook up our ward by changing the Presidencies of the Relief Society, Primary, and Young Women all at once. Earl and I were left alone this time. He is still YM Pres. As for Activities Committee, we are currently finishing writing the roadshow and preparing to begin rehearsals plus organizing a big ward Building Fund dinner and program. There are lots of people who will help with things but the trick is to find them. We're also in the middle of doing a survey for that purpose. So there is always something going on with my calling.

The computer tells me I am nearly out of space so I will sign off by requesting A LETTER from those who haven't been sending one for next month or you'll be sorry!!!!!!

Love,

*Karyn*

Dear Family,

March came in like a lamb here, but as the day progressed we went from sunshine to clouds & rain then snow by midnight. The warm spring days we do get are so uplifting & welcome, & the children enjoy the chance to play outside. I guess it won't be long before we'll wish it were a little cooler & then we will be bragging about our gardens, etc.

I feel like we've made some progress this past month... nothing broke, and both the cars are running & fixed! We were hoping to have new vinyl flooring by now but those funds got eaten by all the recent repairs we had to make. That's life I guess.

When the last letter came I was thinking how fun it would be to see the "Hello Dolly" musical Shelly is in. Hope you've had a good experience there Shelly! The good news about Aubrey was a joy to read also & we hope she continues to progress.

Sandra & Paul, hope your trip to Florida will be great! What a fun chance!

It's so good to read everyone's letters with all your comings & goings. I am glad to be a member of this family & enjoy each phase of our lives, because I know it will "never" be the same tomorrow as it is at this moment. The memories are all we have & I cherish mine. God bless us all in our right<sup>eous</sup> pursuits. With love,

Harlyn, George & Family.

March 31, 1988

Dear Family,

We missed last month because I forgot to take my address book with us to Hawaii. I had intended to use some of the long hours in the air writing our letter. It was such a rush getting ready & we didn't get some things done before we left. We did go, though, & we had a good time. It's sure is a long way from Florida! We flew to Dallas which was 2½-3 hours, and then we flew non-stop to Honolulu. That was an 8 hour flight. What do you do in the air for 8 hours? Well, we ate twice, saw a movie, read magazines, played cards, & even slept a little. We were mighty glad to get on the ground. Then we flew to Maui. We stayed on Maui for 3 days (and saw nearly every bit of it.). It is a beautiful island, as they all are. The water is so clear & beautiful. We rented snorkeling gear & saw it from under water also. If you take something to feed the fish, they come right up to you to get it. There were lots of fish. Then we spent 3½ days in Waikiki (Honolulu). We had a rental car both places. In Honolulu I took Ken around to all (both) of my mission areas. It was strange seeing them again. Many memories & feelings came back to me. I only made contact with one person that I had known there. We didn't find anyone else. We missed our intended temple session. The day we had tickets to the Polynesian Cultural Center (which opens at 12:30) we went early enough, we thought, to do a session. Well, since the temple doesn't operate at full capacity like many here on the mainland, they have cut back to only six sessions a day. Three in the morning & three in the evening. We got there about 20 min. after the last morning session started. I've taken up all my room talking about our trip. We're back.

Bishopric, scouting & work keep Ken busy. Seminary is still my main effort. This week is spring break and I feel like I'm on vacation again. Six more weeks to go. I feel like I'm back in school counting down the days before we're set free again.

We enjoyed a visit from Sandra & Paul. One of Ken's brothers stopped in also. We love visits - look forward to having some more of you maybe this summer. Love, all, Carrie & Ken

Dear Family,

A month sure can go by quickly! It seems I just finished my last letter not more than a week or so ago. I suppose that that is a sign that we're always busy.

The kids are enjoying a week of "spring break" but the weather is not very cooperative. Yesterday we got about 7 inches of snow. George did take a days vacation on the 29<sup>th</sup> & he and Stephanie & Ben went skiing. It turned out to be the best day of the whole week, so far. They came back sporting the old sunburned faces, in spite of the sunblock! We've also taken on an extra paper route for the week for a family in the ward who left town for their spring break. We're doing it for trade which will come in hand hopefully sometime this summer.

George has active duty in San Diego July 11-22 & Stephanie will go to Girl Camp July 12-16. We start school here August 15<sup>th</sup>. We're trying to wiggle in a trip sometime while the Mechams will be here (in the west that is).

Next week we register Melissa for kindergarten. She is so anxious to be 5 & go to school. Every week or so she asks how many more days till her birthday. Stephanie, too, is anxious for her birthday & the "move" into Young Womens. This already involved a little with them in the fund-raisers for Camp.

George was released as Ward Mission Leader a few weeks ago & is now a counselor in the Stake Mission Presidency. They want him to be a High Priest also.

I am doing well pregnancy-wise. We're to six weeks & counting. I have to take lots of breaks during the day & get off my feet, or I ache like crazy by evening. I sewed the girls each an Easter dress, same fabric, different patterns. Now I need to re-organize our furnace/storage room so we can find the baby things & kids summer clothes. Gonna have to get ready one of these days!

We visited the Ramses II exhibit while it was here. It was nice, but not nearly as impressive as the King Tut one was. Still, it's neat to see those "pieces of the past."

Love to all, Robyn, George & family

P.S. Glen & Linette, you good luck on your baby's birth!

April 1, 1988

Dear Family,

I guess the only way to have a family letter is to keep writing one. We don't generate enough news to write about, so maybe we can talk about the weather. It is really looking bad! All of the hills around have been bare most of the winter. The lakes are not even going to fill up, they say and there is hardly any water running in the river. A power rate increase is imminent for the lack of Hydro-power.

The sun has been a good companion lately, making the green house a nice place to work. I have been making a few changes there and experimenting a little. I have some 4 variety apple trees in the making. Grafts and buds are sprouting good and will be ready next spring for transplanting. I would like all of you if you have room, to have an apple tree, propagated from the big Red-Gold tree and others here at home.

We can already see this summer being a busy one. We hope we can cover all the bases. Even while writing this letter a high counselor called to remind me of something else I need to do.

We will have to move to the Stake Center on Hawthorne and Eldredge while remodeling our building, beginning in June or July. It has been interesting to help plan for the new decor and changes. When the church architects came to inspect the building they asked the bishops of the wards meeting there to accompany them. Having there when the original building was built, I probably know more about the building than most other people. I was able to bring to their attention things, such as the furnace in the attic that has never even been turned on. When I told them about it they said, "So this is the building that has that heater in it!" They said engineers and architects all over the church have heard about that albatross.

As we inspected other things we found another heating system that was not working and only needed to be turned on. We had a kickoff fundraiser dinner last Saturday night and raised \$20.00. It only cost \$300.00 so at that rate it may take a while to complete our building! Actually we did generate a lot of support and comradery and are sure of plenty of support.

We are constantly impressed with the young families in the church (and especially our own). We are grateful and appreciative of the good job you all seem to be doing in teaching the grandchildren gospel principles.

We love and appreciate each of you and look forward to seeing most if not all of you this summer.

Much love, Dad & April

Thanks for the check - appreciate it!  
Glad you found the pecans (I'm curious as to why you  
saved that tube ??) They were sold as is - shelling isn't  
my bag - well worth it -

April, 1988

Dear Family,

Here I go again with this machine that commands that everything be just so to operate and give any service. Now I know how intimidating it must be for a child sometimes when we as parents demand certain things. My problem with the computer is that it speaks a different language, of course. I've decided that a lot of problems in life are due to mis-communication.

We've received notification just now that Earl's mother will be coming next Tuesday for a week's visit so we are looking forward to seeing her. Wayne is tied up with moving some houses onto some lots that he owns in order to sell them, so she will be coming alone. The azaleas, dogwoods, tulips, etc. are in full bloom and she's hoping to take in some of the splendor of the season. I hope they last for her.

Life has been pretty busy here as I know it is with all of you. Often we rub shoulders with non-members if the church and it is difficult for some of them to understand how a "church" can keep one so busy. There is a delicate balance to be met in this area when a person is investigating the church for it is easy to portray a feeling of being over-worked when we actually would have it no other way. We have been praying in our family for missionary experiences since we are admonished so frequently to be doing so. The full-time missionaries have visited us many times to "set-a-date" and we had committed to do so when a friend of ours (actually our mechanic) began talking about learning more of our religion. Now he is coming on Sunday evenings to our home to be taught by the missionaries and we are really excited! He has had the first discussion and a chance to ask some questions so far. This is a choice experience to see someone so thirsty to know the truth and can be a great blessing to our family. I also know that Satan sees something he doesn't like happening and is pounding his wedges in every little weak spot he can find, keeping things as stirred up as possible, but as the smoke clears we can see the strength and knowledge gained by enduring.

My weaknesses are coming more and more clear to me and it is uncomfortable at times; but the scriptures say this must happen to progress. And we can only change ourselves; nobody else.

On to more worldly things: Earl is trying to get some grass planted in the areas that are still bright red Georgia clay in our yard. That will be exceptionally nice! What he has done so far is coming up well so that's encouraging. Our garden will be on the limited side this spring because of our anticipated trip this summer, but we plan a fall garden in a much larger area which Earl is preparing by felling a few trees. (Now we have lots of firewood too!) This area is already behind nearly 5 inches for average rainfall and looks like a drought here again so far. We need a few more good storms to push the water levels up. Are the conditions going to be severe in the west?

We enjoy receiving your letters one by one each month! It is a huge effort as we all know, but well worth the time to keep in touch. May the Lord bless each of you and yours, just as we pray for daily. Till next time,

P.S. YOUR "DONATION" OF 9.00 IS NEEDED  
IF YOU'VE NOT PD YET -

Love,

Karyn

## MOTHER-OF-STEEL

Grandpa and I were steelhead fishing in Northern Idaho. I hooked into one that brought me to realize that it was the fightin'est fish around. Having already fought the current upstream for over 500 miles, this monster sea-run rainbow trout was now going to fight for its territory in the river. My home-made fly clearly invaded that territorial claim and was attacked. The fish instantly ran down stream, broke out of the water, then across river and leaped four feet straight up into the air shaking its head ferociously!

Well over 36" this plump native female carried probably 5,000 eggs. A total of five air-borne sorties, deep runs, and 30 minutes of valiant battle proved she was fighting not just for her own life but for posterity as well.

As I carefully released her, Grandpa softly remarked: "You know, you kinda get feelings for a fish that fights like that. I hope she goes and lays a lot more just like her."

Submitted by:

Warren Longhurst  
332 Highland  
Arco, Idaho 83213

*The above article was submitted to Western Outdoors Magazine in the Fightin'est Fish Essay Contest. We are doing fine. Colisse has submitted paper work for her mission.*

*Love to all, Janen*

# THE FAMILY LETTER

THE DAVID & SUSAN LONGHURST FAMILY  
250 EAST 1900 SOUTH OREM UTAH 84058 28 APRIL 1988

Dear Family,  
We know that life is not a bowl of cherries, but you could say that it's a bowl of popcorn now that all the cherry blossoms are here. It's a shame though that most of the fruit that comes from these blossoms in our back yard are going to go to waste due to poor maintenance of the orchard. We have learned that in spite of all the people that come and get free fruit (U-Pick) most of it never gets picked, but falls off and goes bad. The property out back was bought by a guy who wanted to build four-plexus on it, but soon after he bought it another individual did that very thing just one street over. When the time came to get going on the construction, he was denied the building permits on the four-plexus since the zoning wouldn't allow any more four-plexus. Since the guy is a contractor rather than a farmer, guess what... he hasn't pruned or picked the fruit for ten years. They say it isn't even profitable to keep it up. They do irrigate it, but it's too big for there family (who don't farm anyway), and too small to support a person to take care of it, and still profit from it. Does anyone want to pick free cherries and apricots this year when they are on?

In the same lot, we have started our garden. It was nothing more than getting to know the neighbors and asking the simple question if we could grow a garden this year, but now that we have done it we have everyone else wanting a piece of the property. We have now got four families in the same spot. Now we feel like moving it to a different location so we aren't crowded out. At least it was a way to get people to grow there own gardens. It will be interesting to see if they have a garden at the end of the summer, after all is said and done.

Spring has not only brought the gardeners out of there houses, and the blossoms out of the buds, but have also made people do a little remodeling etc. in there kitchens, which has enabled David to work at installing more vinyl floors. Color Tile still seems to have problems with there system so we tried another place called Farnell's. After trying us out, they wanted to go full time with us. But just as the jobs were picking up another market was discovered in dealing with water storage barrels. We find it to be a little easier than vinyl, so we have put Barrels on the front burner, and vinyl on the back

burner. There is nothing like taking an order over the phone and profit the same as if a whole new floor job came our way. The big difference is that of labor vs. phone time. It takes all day to labor on getting a floor in for people, but only an hour of phone calls for ten times the return. However the barrel business could be short lived, so it may not be as good as we hope it to be.

Nicole is done with pre-school for this year, she gets so involved in playing out side with everyone that she has no need to go to school for social skills, so Susan will be her teacher to help her with the rest of what she can learn. Although one of the youngest of the neighborhood gang, she seems to assume leadership of anyone that gets out of line, even if the only remaining tactic of getting her way is to come crying or informing us of who did what, and most the time, both. She has her chores of taking out the garbage, and cleaning her room, but playing outside takes most of her time.

Love to all! The Longhurst's



April 30, 1988

Dear Family:

Hello again to everyone. I'm sitting here trying to think of any news but not much is coming to mind. I guess for some of you a lot has happened this month. We certainly want to congratulate Glen and Linette on the birth of their little girl. Even though there have been some set-backs there we hope things will continue to improve with her now. Our hearts have gone out to you and our prayers continue for you.

Ken finally finished his Wood-Badge training. These week-ends gone as well as his travels during the week have kept him away a lot. Now he has Comdex in May and Rep training in Orem in June. Other than that I should be able to keep him around a little more. In a few more weeks I'll be able to go with him again on road trips if I want to. We have two more weeks of Seminary that I need to finish up. The kids are sure looking forward to the end of that. They will still have about four weeks of school left that they can enjoy without having to get up so early.

I'm on the board of directors of our Homeowner's Association as the Architect Review Chairman. I'm learning about building codes, building permits, etc., and all of the lingo that goes along with it. I have to review everyone's plans for putting up fences, additions to homes, swimming pools, screened porches, and anything else. Basically I just check to see that they are following our constitution, and that it will be in good taste to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood. If they don't have my approval they can't do it. It makes me feel like I have some power. In reality, it's just a step of "red tape" for most. But it makes them think about what they are doing and how it will affect the neighborhood. I've gotten to meet many neighbors who I wouldn't otherwise come in contact with.

We are also involved in a protest to keep a major grocery store (along with 10 - 15 other shops) from going in just outside our little subdivision. Because of the added traffic and all of the trucks etc. that would be coming through here no one is happy about it at all. We've had a couple of rallies with picketing, petitions etc. and drew quite a crowd including police and news media. Our story was the top story of the 11:00 news one night. Hopefully we are raising a big enough stink that the developers or the grocery chain will change their mind. We are not apposed to having the new store come in, just to having it right in our backyards. Many of the children walk or ride bikes to the school within a mile from here, so the school is apposed to it as well as all of the parents. This is not a good place for a shopping mall.

Hope you all are well. We look forward to hearing from you each month. Love to all,

*Connie + Ken*

My 305 Area Code will  
change to 407 effective  
April 16, 1988.

May 9, 1987  
Atlanta, GA

Dear Family,

The holly in our yard has bloomed and dappled 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 Mother's Day with breakfast served in the bedroom, no dishes to wash & filet mignon on the grill! (After church) Some nice little gift.

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. Congrats to Spencer Helliwell - & thankful Shailee is fine now.

Love, The McWilliams

June 1, 1988

Dear Family,

Much seems to be happening all at once with the onslaught of summer. I am sure you all feel the same. Lusi has graduated and is anxious to 'celebrate' her new freedom. She and Coline are living together in S.H.C. hopefully working. Sheldon is working construction on the island of Maui, making good money. Saving - ?? Waiting for a mission call. The big news is that Coline is going to Philippines, Cagayan de Oro mission. Eastern M.T.C. Aug 10. Several weeks ago Sheldon was in a car wreck. A baby pulled out in front of him and he couldn't avoid the collision. She was critically injured, Sheldon miraculously was not hurt bad - both are totaled.

Jolene took over Lusi's job at the Deli Sandwich Shop. Norman took over Sheldon's job at Area Feed & moving pipe. Kevin got the lawns to mow that Norman had and Jack is getting "big brother indoctrination" on how to do it. Coline is Mom's big helper and has an occasional baby sitting job. Not all work though - water skiing, fishing & boating activities too, besides the camps etc. Sharon's greenhouse, bedding plants sales are on the move. She's busier with State R.C. Commissioner position. Plans are for a Longhant "Reunion" (our family) July 22, 23. Probably camp-out. Location and more details later. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Love, Sharon

FOR THOSE  
WHO CAN  
MAKE IT

June 1, 1988  
~~June 1~~

Dear family,

I felt guilty last month when the family letter was so skinny + resolved to do better.

Our trip to Disneyworld a couple of months ago was very nice + a lot of fun. We did get to spend one very enjoyable day with Connie + Ken. We saw their home + they took us to the Kennedy Space Center. We found it nearly as enjoyable as EPCOT center. The trip was a good break from the ordinary routine, but certainly was not a rest. We were going from 6 am to 11 or 12 pm every day. We did build some good memories, though. If we never earn another bonus - that will be well remembered. (The trip for those who meet additional quota this year is an 8 day cruise, but the goals seem unattainable.)

With school nearly out, the kids can hardly wait for this week to be over. Talina + Shauna both have babysitting jobs lined up to keep themselves busy. Talina will also be in dancing through the summer + piano. Shauna - voice + violin. Bryan + Mark are still reading the "help wanted" ads. Bryan was in an accident that totaled his little car, so is pretty much without wheels. Mark sold his motorcycle (dirt bike) + bought a fancy new trick bicycle that he's thrilled with.

Paul's job + our future is questionable at this point. He has been offered the job in Wash; but we haven't been able to sell the house so we don't know - we may have to pass it up.

Memorial day weekend was cool + rainy; the much needed moisture has really greened things up - now Connie + Ken, Idaho + Utah are about as green + pretty as Florida (for a few months -).

June 1983

Dear Family,

First of all we want to congratulate Colissa & Sheldon on their mission calls - to the Philippines and Germany! We are proud of them as are their family and applaud them in achieving this goal. We will be anxious to be present at their "joint farewell."

In fact, the time is truly drawing near for us to make preparations for our trip and the excitement is building. We hope to spend time visiting with everyone in one way or another.

Please still send your letters the 1st of July - but we will take a break in August and pick up the Family Letter again Sept. 1.

We are in another drought situation here as it has been the past 2 summers with water bans. We can water certain hours of the day but only do so on our little garden since it's very costly to keep the yard wet - so all the lawns are beginning to turn brown all over. A few good thunder showers would change it all back to green again. The lake is still high, though so we are beginning to frequent the beach.

The kids are glad school is out - Greg is babysitting 3-4 days a week at 3.00 an hour so is putting a pretty good little sum of \$ money for his age as is Windy with her first "real" tending job. She will be taking a couple weeks of tennis lessons this month too, and Kami is going to Basketball camp 3 hrs an eve. for a week. Ashley likes the kids home to play with. Lorne is in Utah working w/ Glen - Earl hasn't had much travel yet, still. Take care - Love  
Tara

From the Hellawells: Hellos to everyone - Kids are glad school is out, mother & baby doing fine, getting their horse ready to sell (too small), Stephanie going to Girl's camp, other day camp - have summer phases at the pool, sorry they missed the letter.

Dear Family:

June 1, 1988

It promises to be a busy summer for the Crockett's of Sandy... Shelly leaves for Florida next week, and I leave for Canada with the Explorers to bike the Canadian Rockies... On top of it all, Shelly is expecting #3 in December! Marcelle really enjoyed her time in preschool and we're having a challenge keeping her happy and busy now that preschool is out. Aubrey is growing well, and looks a bit chunkier than Marcelle at that age. Because of the cast, she is a bit behind in motor skills, but her crawling is keeping us on our toes. Our lawn mower died on us after 2 years -- the one I bought for \$5 at the Scout yard sale. I bought another for \$15 last week and it should last a few seasons I expect. We look forward to seeing all of you in July! Congratulations to Colissa on her mission call! Looking forward to hear about Sheldon's in due time. Hope everyone is trying to enjoy the journey -- and not just the destinations....

Love,

Bryan, Shelly, Marcelle,  
Aubrey, & the Mystery Guest

Shauna is making a pinata for the family reunion. Will everyone please bring things to fill it? Thank

June 27, 1988

Dear family,

We're well into summer around here and it sure seems that we're plenty busy.

Bryan has spent all of his summer so far in Idaho Falls with ~~his~~ his Grandpa Perry + in Arizona with his uncles Dale + Steve. We picked him up in Salt Lake this last weekend + he will now put in some time helping at home.

Mark has spent some time off + on relieving Shauna + Talina in their babysitting jobs and is also enjoying his new bicycle. He ended up getting stitches in his thumb after helping make Hoagie sandwiches for a youth fund raiser.

Timmy has pretty much taken over the lawn job. He has been doing the mowing + trimming and does quite well. He + Paul overhauled his bike last week - fixed, repaired, + painted it. He now feels like it's new.

Shauna spent a week down at Sue + Brent's + Talina spent part of the same week at her Grandma Perry's. Both had a good time. Shauna's ready to go back. I guess she liked feeling like the oldest child (or the mom, or something) Sue + Brent are really good to her.

It looks like Paul will stay put at his job in American Falls, + in taking the change of direction instead. I start tomorrow in cosmology school. It will generate a change of pace for everyone as schedules and responsibilities are adjusted. The long range plan is to put a beauty shop in our home.

We're looking forward to seeing many of you at the reunion.

Love to all,

Sandra + family

July 1, 1988

Dear Family:

Ken finally got his laser printer for the Macintosh, so I'm trying it out. **I'm trying all of the fonts (typing styles).**

**The summer is well under way and we have the weather to prove it. It's in the 90's with 50 and above humidity which brings the heat index into the 100's. Definitely warm! We had a good time with Shelly here a few weeks ago. We missed having Bryan along with her, but I'm sure he had a memorable time in Canada.**

We will not be going to Utah for the family reunion. We will miss the chance to visit and play with everyone. Hope ya'll have a really good time. You'll have to send us some pictures. **By the way, congratulations to both Colissa and Sheldon on their mission calls. We think that is super. We regret having to miss their farewell. If you happen to tape it, we'd like to have it.**

As usual, changes are still happening. I have been called as the Homemaking Councilor in the Relief Society. If any of you have had any real successful and interesting homemaking meetings, pass along your ideas.

Occasionally things happen in our lives that bring us back to reality and kind of help us to rethink our priorities and our perspective on life. Ken was returning home from a meeting at the church late Wednesday night and came up on an accident just seconds after it happened. Two 18 year old boys were killed. They were so badly torn up after hitting a concrete power pole going nearly 80 miles an hour (in a 30 mile an hour zone) that it was useless to even try to save them. The car was torn in two and half of it ended up through a fence and into a yard 70 feet away. The next day I found out that it was one of our neighbors. It's a sad thing. Both boys had just graduated from high school. Life is so fragile and things can change drastically in just a few seconds. I think all of us need to evaluate our behaviors and take precautions where we may have become a little careless.

*Speaking of realities and back to the weather, how many of us are current on our food storage? As I listen to the weather reports and all of the problems that farmers are having because of the weather, I can see how it may become very important to be prepared with our food storage. We've stepped up our activity there.*

Sending our love to all,

*Connie + Ken*

Dear Family,

As you may well guess, the past two months have been a little on the busy side around here. Things are starting to work into a pattern with the baby, which I'm grateful for. It's incredible how much a baby can throw things off track.

I'm sure you all probably heard about the tornadoes we had - on George's birthday! He was driving home right at the time they were happening - not more than a mile away. It was pretty exciting!

We've put our home up for sale again. (After painting & re-decorating of course.) Part of the reason was that George had been entertaining a job offer with Ford Aerospace. JRW lost the bid for a particular project, Ford won it - with the location thought to be in Japan for 3 years. It turned out to be in Okinawa, for 5 years, with no special benefits or anything, so he turned them down. The other reason we're trying to sell, is that we're getting pretty crowded here. Seven people, 3 bedrooms & one bathroom! (And no real workable way to add on.)

George drives 30 miles each way to work, so we would like to get about 15 miles closer. We hope things will work out.

Last night I participated in a taste-test for chunky peanut butter. It took about 3 hours & we had to sample eleven products. When you see the peanut butter ads that say (4 out of 5 mothers choose such & such ...) I may be one of those statistics. However, we didn't get to find out the product brands we <sup>liked</sup> ~~were testing~~ best. We tested Skippy, Jif, Peter Pan & some store brands but ~~we~~ they were coded so we couldn't tell which was which.

George is having "close encounters" with our dentist tonight. He broke a tooth last week & had to have a crown - they're seating it tonight. If that's not fun, then I guess his night as a star was. Our stake didn't do a musical this year, but they had a Broadway Review - he sang & performed in three Broadway "hit" numbers from various musicals. I would love to see our Stake do Showboat.

It would be fun to get involved.

George's Naval Reserve Active Duty will interfere with the family Reunion. He gets back July 22 & can't really be gone a third week right then. We hope to see everyone in August & will try & make it for the farewells. Congrats - Colissa & Sheldon! Till then, Loalyn & family

Dear family,

July 1, 1988

In June Andrea and I were able to share in taking one of my cousins (Cindy Buer) daughter (Kim) to Ricks. En route we stayed with April: Woody (mom: dad!). What a vacation! We enjoyed the hospitality, the harmonica music, the visiting (grandma Barton was also there!), the superb, fresh, wholesome food (the fish fry<sup>yum</sup>, corn soup, enchiladas, home made bread, greenhouse vegetables), the beautiful well-kept yard, and the list continues... Mom said this is a summer of visiting ~ and expect each of you have/will get a visit in.  
hope

Our Orrin is spending nearly six weeks in Flagstaff with Larry's parents who both are retired <sup>recently</sup>. They have enjoyed his company and zest for life. Andrea: ~~Orrin~~ Conner are taking swimming lessons and helping in the yard, garden, + house. Larry and I keep working at our routines, and enjoying them.

The Sunday we were in Idaho was Father's Day. Sandra spoke about her father ~ the father of the ward. Ward members commented how much they enjoyed getting to know more about Woody. (Dad didn't enjoy having the ward members get to know more about him \*v!\*) She read two stories Woody wrote that I enjoyed ~ and thought it would be nice to share them in the newsletter. Thanks Woody → April → Sandra!

Our love, Larry, Catherine, Orrin, Andrea, Conner

(70 W. 1485 N.  
Orem, UT 84057  
225.3031)

Although the great depression was yet around the corner, and things were to get very bad for almost everyone, hard times had already settled very squarely for us. The agreement grandpa had made for the sale of his home and farm was not honored and so far as I know, even to his death, never received payment. His hopes were dashed and we all lived in deep poverty. To us now a pitcher of milk was a pitcher of water with a can of condensed milk poured in it. Cereal was made from cheap feed grain from the mill. A meal might be some cooked vegetables gathered from culled produce from the packing shed. Fruit picked off the ground or gleaned after harvest was all utilized as we knew how to take care of it; by drying, bottling, etc. We found and picked up fallen fruit, brought culled cantalope, watermelons, and vegetables from the packing shed. Depression? We didn't know when it started. I always thought we brought it with us.

I have described "the best meal I ever ate" before, verbally, but will have to put it in writing and with the foregoing introduction it might be realized that even a good meal is relative.

It is easy now to realize that what we had been eating was an extremely low protein diet. All I knew then was that I was hungry even after eating. When I was born I weighed 10#. As I entered the 3rd grade, I weighed 61# and mid-way in the 4th grade I still weighed 61#. Well, anyway, on a corner near the high school and my grade school (3rd grade) was a hamburger stand. I didn't even know any grade school kids could buy a hamburger. The high school kids swarmed the place at times. Can you imagine what a hamburger joint smells like day after day to a kid that had been on a vegetable diet for months? I don't think I even knew what a U.S. Nickle looked like, but would have almost given my soul for a hamburger.

Early one morning on my way to the packing shed, and it was summer time, as I passed by the hamburger stand, the cook stepped out the back door with the large grill in hand. Into a garbage can containing crumpled up paper he began to scrape off the grill. (Cleanup from the evening before) Three hamburger patties! I went on to the packing shed. And after eating a split (that's an overripe cantalope that has a growth crack) and gathering what I was going to take home, I hurried back to the hamburger joint. There they were! They looked like some one had carefully saved them for me- three kinda crisp patties. With some thought, I might have considered taking them home, but no - I would not chance someone denying me them because they came out of the garbage. I was sure they were clean, I was sure they were good, I had smelled them cooking many times, and it was my turn on earth. Well, quickly I bunched them in the paper and was on my way. I never remember asking the Lord for one of those good smelling hamburgers nor did I say the blessing as I ate those three patties. But deep in my heart, I felt they were meant for me, and never was I more thankful for a meal. "The best meal I ever ate."

I remember discovering a good number of black bass at a pumping station near home. They were down deep in some big head gate systems. There was a house right there and some way Horace Done and I had learned that there was no fishing allowed. We enjoyed, however, dangling our feet in the cool water.

'Twas then that with a little fishing experience and having been pretty well hooked on fishing anyway, that the inspiration came. We could sit on the side as we were, run a line down our pant leg, use a foot as a fishing pole and if we catch a fish, pull him up the pant leg. Super! Fix some lines, catch some grasshoppers, dream all night and be in heaven tomorrow!

Those fish were wild for grasshoppers and were bigger fish than they appeared to be down deep in the water. And say, if you want a thrill, pull a big black bass out of the water right up your pant leg and keep him between your legs nonchalantly till he quits wiggling and you can walk away without notice. Day after day we played in the hot sand near the pump station then sat and "cooled our feet" in the water. Mother thought I was the best little fisherman in the world and I knew she was right!

July 7, 1988

Dear Family,

Earl and I just returned (Greg also) from a very successful Wilderness Youth Conference where some small miracles took place. We went as a parent couple to a mixed group of teenagers and enjoyed ourselves. It was a very spiritual occasion for all that were involved. More later.

As the clock ticks steadily toward our departure the excitement is building to get to see cousins, grandmas & grandpas and aunts and uncles. The thrill of some hours in a big jet is almost felt in just anticipating it for a few young people in Acworth, Georgia! They are beginning to drag out the suitcases.

Considering the persistent drought situation and being absent from home for a month during prime canning season, I may crash in some last-ditch efforts during this next week on anything I can get my hands on. I'm checking into that now. Hopefully we can raise a fall garden to supplement our storage but I'm a little nervous about counting on it for a volume of produce. The trees are losing leaves - I believe they think it's fall because of no moisture.

Everyone is doing well here. We continue to shuffle priorities to fit all the needs and still teach correct principle as are the rest of you. We thank you for your support and interest in behalf of our family.

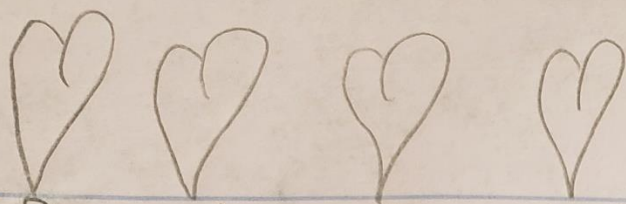
Looking forward to a joyous reunion  
Love, Karen & Jan

Dear Family,

Sept '88

It's always nice to hear about how you are all doing, and about important happenings. Not much "important" things are going on here, but still many "happenings"! Aubrey's legs are gradually strengthening and she shows some encouraging signs of walking -- a big relief! Marcelle has a lot of fun at her pre-school and dance lessons. She's too excited to just be there to learn much of anything quite yet. Shelly is as pregnant as ever, and we're still anxious for a great Christmas present. She has put up a lot of fruits & veg's this year, and we're trying to get serious about our year's supply. I'm attacking a new sprinkler system, and yet the ditch witch I used seemed to get the best of me -- not my idea of fun... One thing in the midst of it all, the song tells the story of how "Time flies on wings of lightning, you cannot call it back." I hope I am making something worthwhile of life & the gospel & our family with my time -- hope you're doing likewise... Have a great fall!

Love, Bryan & Shelly, et.al.



Dear Grandma + Grampa

I had a great time at your house. Oh! And Ashley just wanted to say thanks for the great time she had. You may not be at home all the time but you sure are fun. And grampa thanks for giving me that horse ride. I love that salad you make. Do you think that you could send me the ingredients for your salad? Grampa I loved those milk shakes that you made for us. I really enjoyed them. You don't have to worrie about sending the resapie to me. We already have it. I just wrote to you two to say that I had a great time over there.

Yours

granduter,

Kamela

Dear Grandma & Grampa,  
Thank you for letting us  
stay over at your house.  
It was good seeing you  
again. I can't wait to fly  
back up there. I'm glad  
your map grandparents.  
I love you. Please write  
me some individual letters  
when you get a chance.

Love,  
Wendy



Sept. 26, 1988

Dear family,

It sure was good to hear from Carolyn + Karyn last month. The rest of us didn't do so well ~

Fall has definitely begun. Our little garden is all harvested - such as it was. I'm pickling beets today + that will probably wrap up what little canning I did do this year.

We're now into full swing with school schedules. It's a race each morning to get all 8 of us up + gone on time. ~~Then~~ Then afternoons with piano, dance, voice, soccer + all other errands make us feel like we live in a whirlwind. I'm not sure how we manage this pace, but everyone seems to be doing well. Joey is very excited about school - Kindergarten has been a lot of fun so far.

Mark has been ordained a teacher + Bryan has his interview this week + will become a priest. How time flies!

My school has been going good. Dad + April have been in for haircuts. It was Dad's first time in a beauty salon (+ I'm sure it's his last!) Sharon was also in last week for a perm + cut. It was fun to do them + to visit with her for a couple of hours.

Paul + the boys have been putting in a tub + shower downstairs this fall. Progress has been slow, but they're doing a good job + we all anticipate a second bathroom.

Hope all is going well for everyone.

Love to All,  
Sandra + family

9/29/88

Just a note to catch people up on  
"relative" news:

I stopped in tonight to see Clara.  
She had her left eye operated on today -  
cataract<sup>sp?</sup> removed again. Joan was there  
+ I visited with her + found out several  
bits of news. ~~She~~ Burton had surgery  
today also - a hernia repair.

Luella had a stroke last Friday.  
She's still partially paralyzed in her legs  
+ one arm.

Allen's (Luella's oldest son?) oldest  
child + only daughter was in a car  
accident ~~last~~ a couple weeks ago.  
She was pregnant - they took the baby -  
it was dead + she died shortly after.  
She had her 3 other sons in the car  
with her + they are okay.

Alleen<sup>sp?</sup> Fife's oldest son Mark  
died last Monday. He had had a  
pacemaker + through the birth of his (first)  
daughter + her having heart problems  
it seems it was just too much + he  
died instantly the hospital while they  
were there with the baby (3 wks. old.)

Wow!

- Knock on wood -

Sept 30, 1988

Dear Family,

Hello from A'no. We're having the most beautiful Indian Summer weather right now. Garden mostly done, I've caught up on a few extra things outside (no new major projects though.)

It was so good to see most of you this summer. We enjoyed it so much. August was a whirlwind for us. Colissa seems to have adjusted well to her new life-style. Says she had almost no culture shock, was well prepared. She gets lots of stares from people - she is only white person for miles. Is learning Visayan language. It has some Spanish words. The children call out: "Americana - <sup>(pretty)</sup> guapa - Americana." Sheldon is 1/2 way through his M.T.C. experience. Seems to enjoy the comedienne and doing O.K. with the pace. Most of his companions have had foreign language training so he is disadvantaged that way. He leaves for Germany Nov 1. Lupi took a nanny job in Wash. D.C. She's active in a singles ward and says she likes it there. All three of them left within 30 days! We have a more relaxed household now and I think it seems good. We're proud of the kids.

Too bad the salmon were running in the middle of all that. Some of you got to taste some - we did catch a few. Canning season is about over, we have our bottles filled up - hope you do too. The boat is winterized, wood nearly <sup>all</sup> cut. What comes next? Stay tuned.

Our love, Stanen

October 1, 1988

Dear Family:

It's October already and Conference is upon us. We don't get the broadcast until 12:00 our time so I've got time to get this letter out. Ken is busy with a computer show this weekend so he will miss most of it. We can make arrangements to borrow the video tape from the stake library though, so that will be nice.

A friend and I have arranged for a booth in a Christmas craft fair the weekend after Thanksgiving. We have been busy getting some craft items made to sell. We're going to have to step up our pace to get them all done. We're hoping to make a little money on our stuff. If it works out well we may continue and enter more fairs.

Ken had a show up in Pensacola last week. I went with him and after his show on Friday we got a motel room on the beach for Saturday and took some time to play and relax. It was a much needed little break and felt good. The beaches along the Gulf of Mexico are different than the ones down here on the Atlantic. The sand is so white and fine. They call it sugar sand. We drove back on the scenic route along the coastline. There are miles and miles of beautiful beaches. The drive was kind of nice. It took us longer than we expected, but we enjoyed it.

We're looking forward to going to the temple this month (to Atlanta). One of the ladies that I visit teach is going with her family to be sealed. When I started visiting her the whole family was inactive. She was wanting to come back to church and struggled with it a little. Getting her husband there was more work. But things have happened and now they are ready and excited about going. They have three young children that they will have sealed to them. It will be a real special experience for all of us.

We have some other friends who have just adopted a baby and they have been planning to go also and have him sealed to them. It's beginning to look like they will have to postpone their trip though, the doctor has put her to bed because of a herniated disc in her back. It could mean surgery. It would be nice to have both happen at the same time but it may not work out that way. We will enjoy a visit with Karyn and her family while we are up there.

Ken's area has been split again. (He must be doing a good job, huh?) The northern part has been given to another Rep. so Ken has only the central part of the state. He can reach any location in his area now within two and a half to three hours. It makes him feel like he can keep closer to his dealers and serve them better. It doesn't eliminate the two or three (or more) day trips though. He can still get a lot more done in an area if he just stays for a few days.

Well, ta ta for now. I better get dressed and fix some breakfast. Ken is out mowing the lawn and will need to leave soon. Hope to hear from more of you this month.

Love to all,

*Connie + Ken*

October 1788

Dear Family,

Fall seems to have arrived early for Georgia and we've used the furnace the past couple of days, but more than likely it won't last. Halloween is usually trick-or-treated in shirt sleeves - no coats under costumes.

Ashley is now 5 and Inez soon 14 which means church dances for him! He seems to be doing alright in High School. Both boys are taking French from the same teacher (at different hours) so they are helpful to one another there. V.P. Bush's running mate Dan Quayle is speaking at their school today because we live in the fastest growing county in the nation - that impressed Lonnie and he was looking forward to his speech today. Lonnie is joining the debate team so is watching the televised debates.

Our ward has several volleyball teams going which we are playing on - quite a bit of good exercise. (Inez, Lonnie Earl & I). Our new Bishop's Counsellor<sup>(sp)</sup> over activities has got me hopping as chairman now - plus I'm still active in the parents support group and playing 1st violin in my string quartet. Earl is hopeful in obtaining a job with H.U.D. in the near future to cut out most of his travel. Lonnie will be getting a job soon to pay for his expenses - the girls are all doing fine.

We pray for each of you every day - including the missionaries - and are thankful for all the blessings we enjoy. Until next time ....

Love, Karen & family

October 31, 1988

Dear Family,

It seems these days our lives, or at least mine as a mother is centered around our missionaries and finding the joys of receiving letters from them each week and of course writing to them each week plus Lupi; consequently those are the only letters I get around to writing and seems my fingers are written out.

Tomorrow morning at 9:10 a.m. we will see Sheldon off to Germany at the Salt Lake airport. He feels he has learned a lot in the MLC but has tons more to learn. He is anxious to get on to Germany and try out what he does know, and we are very happy for him that he is feeling more comfortable with the language and has a determination to baptize a whole person and not  $\frac{1}{2}$ . He has studied harder than he ever has in his life, has gained 8# from so much food and sitting 12 hrs/day, but best of all has strengthened his testimony and learned how to appreciate a companion and love him inspite of qualities he dispises.

We haven't heard from Colissa since the typhoon in the Philippines but trust she weathered it out okay. She has had 4 baptisms the last we heard - all young men between the ages of 18-24, is on her second companion and will have a third in a month. She is gradually picking up on the language but gets by in English.

Lupi is very much enjoying her situation in D.C. and feeling more comfortable with her family. They like her work and have already given her a \$10/wk raise.

Norman and Kevin have their deer- Norman: 4 pt, Kevin: 3 pt.; and Warren is still looking for the right one. It feels good to have a little red meat in the freezer and they are good animals. They have had some interesting experiences with their hunts and I have enjoyed going out a couple of times with them spotting. The hills are so dry and roads so dusty and weather so warm for hunting and aging a deer, but everyone seems to be getting their deer this year - they are plentiful.

We have been planning an Eagle Court of Honor for Norman on Sunday Nov. 20th at 5:00 p.m. at the Church. He will share his Court with 3 other boys so it is going to be a joint effort. If anyof you can come we would love to have you.

Kevin is going to Merit Badge PowWows on weekends and is getting closer to his Eagle with mostly time to wait.

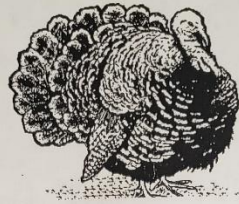
Football season is over for Norman and Kevin and they are hoping for snow. Valina is enjoying art and Jolana also. Josh is working toward his Bear award in Cub Scouting now that he hurried up and finished up the requirements on the Wolf trail.

As general chairman of our Ward Fall Festival (auction/bazaar) in two weeks, I've been busy planning, etc. and hope it turns off successful to help meet the budget needs. It is a shame that we have to have fund raisers because people do not pay their share of the budget; plus fund raisers are not appreciated by those who do pay their budget. Guess this is a problem throughout the Church but I sure wish their was a good solution for bishops in depressed areas. I am enjoying my calling as Ed. Counselor in the Stake Relief Society and find it not to be near as time consuming as most of my past callings.

General Conference was ~~at~~ treat as usual and we have Stake Conference in two weeks. Our Preparedness Fair was a success and we found several interested in the storage barrels that David & DeVon are selling. We hope to get more orders at the Bazaar for them and are glad to see people taking an interest in storage.

We hope this month finds all of you well and enjoying your lot in life.

With Love,  
Sharon, Shanon  
& Family



November 1, 1988

Dear Family:

Well, our old friend, Change, has paid us another call. This time it was a double whammy. The last few weeks have been intense. Some time ago we were talking about other areas we would like to be in if an opportunity came to move. We decided the Pacific Northwest would be a nice place to try in 2 or 3 years. That must have started things moving and we learned that there is an area opening up there now. It could be ours if we wanted it. So we had to make the decision sooner than anticipated. We have decided to go. It was a very difficult decision to make because we have both just accepted new callings again. Two weeks ago Ken was released as second counselor in the bishopric and put in as the first counselor and I was put in as the new Relief Society President (that was the first whammy). We struggled to know what we should do. I guess if you are involved and busy serving there is no easy time to leave. I kind of feel like what it must feel like to some when they are called to leave this life. It's hard to go, but we look forward to what lies ahead. Anyway, we'll be going to Olympia, Washington the first part of January. Great time to move, huh?

We've got a lot to do now to get ready and my head is kind of swimming. We don't know how the news will affect the ward so we are keeping it quiet until the bishop gives us the go-ahead. I don't know how easy that will be if we put up a for sale sign on our front lawn and start doing some of those kinds of things that just can't wait.

I'm also behind schedule on my craft projects to have them ready for our fair at the end of the month. So I'll be busy, busy, busy.

We made our trip to Atlanta. We spent a couple of days at the temple and a couple of days visiting with Karyn and Earl and family. We enjoyed that. We were the escorts for the couple from our ward who were going through for the first time and then witnessed their sealing. That was really special. We've seen them grow and come a long way.

Somehow I think that's quite enough news for now. I'm glad I don't have anymore. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving this month. We are thankful to belong to such a great family. That is one of the main reasons for our move back to that part of the country and we hope to have more frequent visits with all of you.

All our love,

*Connie and Ken*

Dear Family,

November 7, 1988

We just had a power failure and I lost my whole letter just as I was finishing up so I am beginning over and hopefully can finish this time. That's the hazard of these wonderful electronic devices.

Halloween came with a cold front that poured rain and insisted on the wearing of coats which is unusual for the South. We had a good time anyway with friends and their families. Thanksgiving is upon us and we plan to travel to Florida for it since Connie and Ken are going to move on the beginning of next year. We will miss them even though they are not very close to us geographically. I know it must have been a very tough decision to make. Moving always is. It has been good to spend time with them when they have come up to the temple.

School seems to be going quite well for the most part for each of the kids. Lonnie has improved in this area and seems to be making a greater effort toward good grades. Greg has adjusted to high school and early-morning Seminary. Wendy puts her all into her efforts and is discovering the social aspects of public education. She is the only one in her class who hasn't had her name on the board for talking, etc. and is odd-man-out experiencing a great deal of teasing. Kami is on the All "A's" Honor Roll for the fourth grade. Ashley is feeling left out now after turning five and not being in school, so a friend of mine and I are trading caboose daughters once a week, tending each others' so they can have company and a rest from mom and we from them. It should work out well.

Our ward boundaries were just changed again and we are officially back in the Woodstock ward that we were in when moving here; but our stake president has asked us to stay in the Acworth ward because of the past situation with the girls. Their perpetrator still attends there and is an unrepentant man. It would be very unfair to them to have to think of that again every Sunday. It puts us in an awkward situation with some raised eyebrows in both wards, but we will deal with it OK. We have to look out for the little girls' welfare first. With the boundary changes they also released the Woodstock bishop who has had heart problems and their new bishop is the boys' Seminary teacher. So now we are waiting to see how far we'll have to drive to a new teacher. Right now they are in the neighborhood. Change seems to be one thing that is constant in the church!?

We hope all is going well for all of you and pray for your welfare each day. It has been good for the kids to have had some time with their cousins and renew acquaintances. They talk often of each of you. It is important that we stay in contact with each other. We also pray for "our family missionaries" which we hope you don't mind us taking some claim on, Warren and Sharon!

Earl is waiting to hear of acceptance or denial of a job he has applied for that would put him working downtown Atlanta at HUD. We are very hopeful to decrease his travel to almost none. He should know possibly this week. The string quartet I play with has been hired to perform with a Baptist Choir for a Christmas Cantata and we are earning \$600 doing it which thrills us! We really enjoy playing together us four completely different women.

May the Lord bless each of you, and let us be thankful to him.

With love,

Next month will be the last you send letters to me. January's goes to Warren.

Karen & Family

From David - ( Phone call )

Doing fine selling barrells and installing floors - working for self. He and Susan & Nicole are going to Denver for a week to install a floor for Loalyn & George. They have all begun to go to the local, home ward and David was sustained as a counsellor in Sunday School.

From David for Glen -

Still living in same place. They have had colds, somewhat. Baby is doing quite well - Glen painting signs, laying tile, working on boat.

From David for Delon -

Bobly is selling barrells for him - Their boys are working

Nov. 1988

Dear Family,

We're enjoying a wonderful Indian Summer. Except for the draught condition I wouldn't mind if it continued for a long time. The kids have enjoyed the extended outdoor playing & we've gone up to the mountains & Aubrey & I enjoy walking Marcelle to pre-school & getting a little exercise.

We've all been keeping busy in our various activities: Aubrey pulling herself up to things & discovering a whole new world of things to get into; Marcelle with Preschool, Dance lessons, playing w/ friends & learning to be more creative with crayons her toys, etc. She says good little prayers & tries to read her Book of Mormon stories each day; Bryan just finished the busiest month in the 30-year history of Publisher's Press. It's good for the company, but it's awfully stressful on him with so many schedules to juggle, problems, the

(2)

need to hire more people, etc. In his spare time he's managed to put in a sprinkling system (which I will especially appreciate next summer.) He's also been very busy w/ explorers. Their planning their last overnight biking trip to Silver Valley this weekend. He also starts the basketball season this week & has been asked to coach the Senior team. At least he'll have to exercise once a week or so.

I've been trying to do my "Spring" cleaning & get things in order before the baby comes. Here down to 7 weeks & counting, so it's coming up soon. I've also been trying to get a few Christmas things ready so the holidays won't be totally lost in the new arrival.

Hope everyone is doing well.

Love,

Shelly, Bryan,  
Marcelle & Aubrey

Dear Family

It sure doesn't seem like it should be December already. Last year at this time we were getting excited about our trip to Georgia and Florida. We still think about the nice time we had.

We have sure been happy about the storms we have been having. If it keeps it up, things will begin to get back to normal. I have never seen this country so dry. It really made me sad to see the streams, where I have fished for years, completely dry, and with not enough water in any of the lakes to put a boat in.

We made a good start on our skiing. We went opening day up to Targee. It was really good snow, and the weather was not too bad most of the day. We have made a resolution to go more than we did the last several years, which has been about twice a year.

Things are about as usual here at home. The bathroom had a complete rebuild and is sure nice. David and Glen came up after I had finished the walls, floor, and plumbing. David laid the floor, and Glen did the tile. They sure did a nice job.

I have been upgrading things around the place since I retired. Some things inside and some outside. One would think that upon retiring, there would be time for everything. I had gotten behind on a lot of things over the years, and hadn't actually made many improvements, only fixed things that were broken. But it has been good to get things in better condition.

April was in the same boat, having been in school for the last three years. She does about the same as I do, picks a project and goes after it.

We had a nice thanksgiving. We went to April's sisters in Fresno. We, together, had never visited them. They had no one else of there intended company come, so we just had a good time seeing the valley and getting better acquainted.

I had to come back for a specially called meeting, but April stayed till the next Wednesday. It had really turned winter while we were away.

The church house is coming long fine. We should be back in it by the last of January.

Well I am taking some of the welfare families Christmas shopping in a few minutes at the D.I. It may be the only shopping I'll do this year. The ward members made up a cannery crew to can pie filling so we decided to do that as our Christmas shopping for the family. We canned pie filling for all of you for this year. I hope we can get it to all of you in good time.

I'll turn the rest of the space to April. By for now Love Dad.

CHRISTMAS 1988



At this joyous time of year,  
With the warm tones of Christmas so close & dear;  
Our minds are centered on Christmas giving,  
Special memories of the year in our minds reliving.  
Family events we'll share with you,  
Commencing to put off the old and bring on the new.

-SGL-



DEAR FAMILY & FRIENDS:

1988 has been a year of family excitement for us as we have watched our three older children spread their wings & test out new grounds literally. Colissa, Sheldon & Lupi all left the nest at once within 30 days beginning August 10th.

COLISSA (was almost 21) left for an 18 month mission for the CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST of LATTER DAY SAINTS to Cagayan De Oro Mindanao Philippines. She had previously been working in hotel management at Park City, Utah after graduation from Ricks College.

SHELDON (19) then left for a 2 year LDS mission in Frankfurt, Germany & is presently in Fulda about 10 miles from the Iron Curtain. While a student in landscape architecture at Ricks, he escaped serious injury in a car accident that totaled his car. His summer was spent in Hawaii at house construction.

LUPI (18) then left for Washington D.C. for a one year stay as a nanny for two little boys ages 1 1/2 & 4 years whose parents are a doctor & A lawyer. She had graduated from high school this spring & worked in Salt Lake City with Colissa for the summer.

LOLONA (17) is very busy as President of her Junior Class & found out how involved one can get at Homecoming & other events. She works at the Deli, is an active art student, Laurel Class Pres, A-B student, enjoys her friends, and dates a-plenty.

NORMAN (15) recently received his Eagle Scout Award at a very special ceremony; improvements in the city park children's play area was his project. Starring on the football team, bringing home good grades, wrestling, hunting & trapping are his favorites. In spite of draught conditions, he has a few beaver & mink & he also shot a nice buck deer.

KEVIN (13) spends hours on the computer & helps the rest of us figure it out. Hurray for snow, since he has the old snowmobile running & is working on a second one. He shot his first deer this year, played football, does well in school, is an active scout & along with Norman & 7,000 others attended the Aaronic Priesthood Scout Encampment at Island Park.

VALINA (12) enjoys Beehive activities & making things for her secret grandparent. She likes babysitting jobs, studies hard for good grades, is creative, willingly helps others, plays the piano & clog dances. She was in the top 5 finalists of the Pre-Teen Pageant in Pocatello playing the piano & working a marionette simultaneously for her talent.

JOSH (9) is a 4th grader who enjoys his buddies at school, riding his scooter to school & participating in Cub Scouting. His wit gets him where he wants to be with most people, Josh is Kevin's right hand for many projects & delights us with music from Suzuki piano pieces.

WARREN finds dentistry slowing down with the economy but manages to keep us a-float. He enjoyed some great salmon fishing (45 pounder) trips & deer hunting with his boys. He continues on the High Council & works with the missionary program. Warren took his boat & family on a fun trip to Lake Powell, several river trips, fishing & water skiing trips to the Mackay Reservoir and to British Columbia.

SHARON enjoys her occupation as a homemaker, wife & mother & delights in each family members progress. With good health she gets along fine with contact lens after last year's successful corneal transplant. She serves as Stake Relief Society Ed. Counselor in the Church, & as Beautification Chrmn. and 4-H leader for the community. Her snow sculpture in the Winter Festival took 2nd place in open class and TV coverage. A special event was a weekend snow skiing with her daughters at Park City & fearful events were heart surgeries for a 16yr. old nephew and a 1 wk. old niece & a car rollover & injury of close friends.

More of our joys have been harvesting a successful garden, bountious yields in the Valley for the potato farmers, marriages of a niece & nephew, times with family & friends, return of an adopted missionary & a niece, participating in gospel conversions of friends; and canning vegetables, fruits, fish, blackberries & getting 3 deer into jerky and in the freezer.

May PEACE be in your heart, JOY & HARMONY be found in your home  
and your thoughts be centered in a CHRISTlike  
love for all.

The Longhursts



CHRISTMAS 1988

Dearest Family,

Whom we are very Thankful for, greetings at this most special and joyful time of year! We wish that we could be with each of you and share some great fun, wonderful food, and warm and loving atmosphere together as we celebrate our Savior's birth. It certainly doesn't seem like it has been a year since we enjoyed having Dad and April here with us.

On Tuesday before Thanksgiving we traveled down to Orlando in a tropical storm without incident to spend a few days with Connie and Ken. We enjoyed ourselves very much, taking in Epcot and the Kennedy Space Center with the official tour guides, The Mason's, whom the rest of you will not be as fortunate to bask in the sunlight of their services since they are shortly leaving Florida. We will certainly miss them out here. Thanksgiving dinner was the traditional bountiful feast including the overeating part! Connie did a good job. We left Saturday morning to make the 9 hour drive back to Atlanta and no more than turned out of their subdivision when our gallon of water tipped over and flooded the back of the car-----we only lost a few coloring books.

Earl is still waiting to hear if he is the one selected for a job with HUD that he applied for which would eliminate his travel time overnight almost entirely. Time will tell. Lonnie is bringing home much better grades in his school work now and seems to want to do well. He and Greg play basketball and the church teams will begin competing in January. Greg's schooling is an adjustment being in high school; he will need to apply himself more. Wendy is approaching the magic age of 12 and is desiring more action in her life. School in general agrees with her and her teachers speak highly of her. Wendy and Kami both always do their work and try to do their best. This week Kami turns 10 and she is both looking forward to it and sad at the same time since her daddy can't be here. Ashley is her own busy little self; she has had a taste of playing with friends and asks quite often now to go play.

As for mom, here, she's pretty happy and contented with herself at the present time which benefits everyone. She wants so badly for her family to do the right things and make a success of their lives, pleasing Heavenly Father along the way.

Now each of you enjoy the Holidays with good music, smiles, hugs, glittering lights and sizzling logs, hot chocolate and toast, candy canes, a prayer of thanks on your lips, an extended hand of giving, and most of all, the love of Christ in your heart.

All our love,  
Karyn and Earl and family

## Dear Family

The past month has had our family on the road a lot, we have traveled a total 3000 miles all together. Our trip went as far as Stillwater Ok. one way, to Arco ID. the other way. If the average car travels only 1000 miles/month we're in favor of staying home and hibernating for about three months now to meet the average.

Our visit to Warren's & Sharon's was a nice one as we attended Norman's Eagle Court of Honor Nov. 20. We had some good visits and renewed our relationships once again. We wish to thank them for letting us stay with them.

While in Denver we spent some time with Loalyn's family, as we installed for them a new kitchen floor. Our trip was also to attend a temple wedding in the Denver Temple for a good friend of David's. The wedding was followed by a reception two days later back in Stillwater Oklahoma, to which David journeyed to with members of the wedding party.



Sunday School is now set up in our ward to have opening exercises and include time for practicing new Hymns. It was David's turn to conduct these opening exercises today and he felt like a real armature as he attempted this new experience.

As far as news goes about how we are doing, we are happy to report that Susan's pregnancy is doing fine. The Doc says things are developing real well, and the baby is strong and healthy so far as he can tell. Nicole, as well as her parents are excited for the new arrival around Christmas time or New Years. Nicole has been torn in her decision of whether she wants a brother or a sister, but we feel that whatever it is she'll agree with, and be all the help she can be.

We have enclosed a copy of the family gift exchange list put together by Shelly last year. Some of you may still have your copy from last year, but those who don't can be sure which family they have now.

## Christmas

ROTATING CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE  
(FAMILY GIFT)

|        | <u>1988</u> | <u>1989</u> | <u>1990</u> | <u>1991</u> |
|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| WARREN | CONNIE      | DAN         | SANDRA      | LOALYN      |
| DEVON  | DAN         | SANDRA      | LOALYN      | SUE         |
| CATHY  | SANDRA      | LOALYN      | SUE         | SHELLY      |
| KARYN  | LOALYN      | SUE         | SHELLY      | GLEN        |
| CONNIE | SUE         | SHELLY      | GLEN        | DEVON       |
| DAN    | SHELLY      | GLEN        | DEVON       | DAVID       |
| SANDRA | GLEN        | DEVON       | DAVID       | WARREN      |
| LOALYN | DEVON       | DAVID       | WARREN      | CATHY       |
| SUE    | DAVID       | WARREN      | CATHY       | KARYN       |
| SHELLY | WARREN      | CATHY       | KARYN       | CONNIE      |
| GLEN   | CATHY       | KARYN       | CONNIE      | DAN         |
| DAVID  | KARYN       | CONNIE      | DAN         | SANDRA      |

As we near the Christmas season, we wish to express our Love and appreciation to you. This family is truly a treasure for all the memories we have shared, for all the wisdom that we have learned, and for all the Love we have shown.

Marry Christmas,

*David, Susan, Nicole*



December 3, 1988

Dear Family:

We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday. We are not sure just yet where we will be spending the holidays. We may get to see some of you in our comings and goings. We'll probably fly out to Washington to look for a place to live and then drive out for the move. We would like to stop in Utah and Idaho on one of those trips.

We have a contract for sale on our house. We are waiting to see if the buyer will qualify for the assumption of our loan. They want to have everything done and be in the house by the end of the year so they can apply for the homestead exemption. That will work out just right for us. We are hoping this goes through.

Our craft fair is over. We worked hard and long with some very late nights. We sold some of our stuff but didn't do as well as we were hoping to. I'm glad it's over.

We went out to Kennedy Space Center and saw the shuttle go up yesterday. We were hoping for the chance to see it before we left. Our home teacher works out there and he got us tickets to see it on the Center. We were about five miles from the actual site. We got up at 4:00 Thursday and went out and waited. They scrubbed the flight at 9:00, so we came back home and went out the next morning. It was looking like they were going to have to cancel again because of high altitude winds, but just before the 9:30 deadline they got the go-ahead and it went. We were so excited. What an awesome sight. We took pictures but I know they won't be anywhere near spectacular. We'll have to do something really nice for our home teacher.

This will be a busy month for us getting everything ready for moving and for Christmas. And there are some things we would like to do and see still before we leave Florida. With a contract on our house now, we feel like we can do some of those things instead of sitting home waiting for the phone to ring.

Well, much love to everyone, and Happy Holidays!

*Ken and Connie*

Here's hoping the holidays finds everyone happy and healthy! We enjoyed a good Thanksgiving & were looking forward to a Merry Christmas!

We went to Jackson for Thanksgiving. Bryan, Mark, & Tim each took a friend with them & we believe everyone had a good time. Talina, Shauna, & Joey are looking forward to taking friends next year.

Bryan has found a job & seems to like it fine. He is working over a Rax ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> the Pine Ridge Mall. He brought his first pay check home last Thursday so now has the challenge of learning how to budget and account for his own \$. It will be good and fun for him.

The kids are all taking on a few extra duties and chores for the holiday trying to earn some shopping money. They are also having to do most of the decorating & baking & making. A few of them really seem to enjoy it.

We are excited for Connie & Ken to move closer & hope to see them on their way through.

Paul is busy with training sessions for his hired help & is gone alot. He is also in charge of the Christmas shopping & has agreed to some Ho Ho Ho jobs - so hes busier than he would like to be.

Merry Christmas & Love to All,  
The Perrys

December 1988

Dear Family

Here's wishing each of you a warm and wonderful Christmas season. "Warm" in the sense that your hearts will be full of the Christmas Spirit and love for our fellowman no matter what the weather or your circumstances, and "wonderful" in the sense that we share that love with others that they too will know of faith, hope and charity. What blessings we can share, not to mention those we receive as a result!

Here in our home we have had a busy year as usual. George made me a list of things he did the past year, but I wanted to have some room in this letter to mention everyone (!) so I'll just highlight. In May he became a High Priest and is currently serving as a counselor in the Stake Mission Presidency. He estimates he has driven 15.5 K miles to & from work. Recently he tore out the engine & transmission on the Ford (again) & replaced it; the poor thing is on almost a continual life-support system! He helped his dad paint our house & my brother replace our vinyl flooring. He's been taking Naval correspondence courses & of course had his two-week active duty in San Diego. Next year he goes to Pearl Harbor. He was promoted to Lt. JG (Junior Grade) He has enjoyed reading two Hugh Nibley books and has started a regular exercise program at work. (Lost 5 lbs.) He made it to the ski slopes with the kids once during the spring and wants to do that more this ski season.

I enjoyed taking an Institute class on Book of Mormon Jan-April and enrolled for the second class this fall but haven't been able to keep up with it (since Spencer's birth) so I mostly attend to glean and enjoy the warm spirit. I managed to redecorate the kitchen, dining room & living room & have enjoyed their new look. The majority of that got done before the baby came. We had a prolific garden this summer and are still enjoying "cellar" ripening tomatoes! Having another baby & trying to keep up with a family of 7 has of course been my main focus. In church I am currently serving as Stake Primary Nursery Leader.

Stephanie has been such a big help to me. She is our main babysitter & we pay her with clothes-which is a big thing for her right now. She loves being in Jr. High & is a good student-missed the honor roll last quarter by one point. She enjoys going to Young Women at church and all the weekly activities. She's doing well in piano & started flute in band this year; she'll move into Cadet Band after Christmas.

Ben has had a challenging year so far in 5th grade. He is doing much better this quarter. He now wears glasses, a fate I'm afraid all our kids are destined to. He's grown quite a lot over the summer, and played his heart out outside. He & Stephanie each have a paper route now, but they share the work and rewards 50-50. They're good kids to get up early daily!

Melissa is the proudest kindergartner you ever saw. You would think they invented it just for her! She's progressing well in piano & plays so good with Krystin & Spencer, entertaining them for me. Krystin keeps us on-the-go with some of her 2-yr. old stunts. She has a new hair-cut thanks to Melissa! She'd be a cute boy! Spencer has been a genuine heart-warmer around here. It's fun watching him discover his world, & making ours a happier place. He's now on the verge of crawling. We're glad he's part of our family.



We look forward to hearing about each of you!

Merry Christmas!

Lange, Loahyn  
& Family

# W-W-LONGHURST ~ FAMILY-LETTER

Dear Family,

I just realized it is family letter time again, so I thought I'd go ahead and write through the old year and into the new - we enjoyed having some friends over to celebrate 'New Years'; but none of us planned to make a late night of it, so they've gone home, the family is all in bed (except Stephanie who is out babysitting) and I have the mess all cleaned up. The new year is only 10 minutes away.

The past week has been good for us - George has been off work and has really had time to spend with his family. Nobody has really seemed to get in each other's way too much and the kids have enjoyed sharing their Christmas treasures with each other and their friends.

It's traditionally the time to reflect on the past year and set goals and make resolutions for the new year ahead. I think of all I'd like to accomplish and realize I have to be reasonable and settle for the things I think I can honestly achieve; keeping in mind my limitations.

(HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone - I hear the neighbors setting off fire-works and about every dog in the whole neighborhood barking!)

I guess my biggest resolution is to figure out a way to remember my goals and some way to remind me of what they are and how I'm doing in my progress!

We hope you each had a Merry Christmas - I couldn't help wondering what Christmas is like in the Philippines and in Germany - Colissa & Sheldon, we were thinking of you - and hoping the members there were helping ease any homesickness. We had our "white" Christmas a day late and only got a portion of the storm that hit Utah and Idaho. We got about 2 inches of snow.

The week before Christmas Ben got 6 stitches in his leg from a mishap on the paper route - 4 days later Krystin fell off the piano bench, cutting her lip taking 5 stitches! We're glad we don't have weeks like that too often (They're both just fine now.)

Happy & Prosperous New Year!  
The Hellewells

Dec 30, 1988

Dear Family,

The holidays have treated us well - we have enjoyed ourselves and we send our congratulations to the Crocketts and the D. Longhursts and their new baby(ies)! We are very happy for you!

We have a bit of good news ourselves - Earl was selected for the job he applied for at H.U.D. and will make the transfer over in 2 weeks. This means he is through traveling except for within Georgia 2-5 days a month mostly at his convenience and we have a pretty happy crowd here! The news came yesterday. I will need to take on a few more music students to compensate for the change but that shouldn't be a problem.

On Wed. the 28th Earl's folks flew in for a few days and on Jan. 2 they will borrow one of our cars and go to Florida for about 10 days. I guess I will be quilting up a storm with my new frames since I won't have a way to go anywhere. I plan to quilt each of the kids one and Lonnie's has been started already.

We were excited about you all having a White Christmas - we enjoyed 63% and sunshine - now we have rain - typical for a southern winter. Who all will be doing some skiing? As soon as it dries out we will be "turning over the soil and the 2nd week of Feb. will plant the 1st part of our garden. With Earl going to be here every day (eve) now we can keep a better garden and get our food storage back to where we need it.

We are thankful for all of you.

Love, Karyn & Family

