

January 1, 2005 - Sat. Slept in until 8:45 and did no walking. That really wrecks a day!! Went to visit Lud and Jackie for about one hour. They are both having a hard time. Lud's feet are doing well but his elbow won't heal. Jackie has intense pain all the time and has to lie down a lot.....I am so sorry for them. **Polly Walker died today.** Went to visit Sammie Wood and took her some popcorn balls, as usual. Got lost again trying to find her house (as usual) which just annoys me at our inability to remember how to get there. I think we should be able to remember that from year to year! Sammie is doing great. She still helps seven days a week at the nursing home where Garr used to be. She gives her time for free and does all sorts of things to help. She is amazing. Watched "A Man for all Seasons". A very good but depressing movie.

Jan. 2 - Sun. New church schedule and it is back to the 1:00 to 4:00 slot.....sigh. Barbara did not come today. Mark called. He had talked with Doug about the DVD/VHS not working and they decided that it has to be because our TV is so old. They then decided that Doug would give the time and be the legs and Mark and Dixie will furnish the money and they are going to buy us a 4-in-1 TV, DVD,CD,VHS!!!! They are so generous!!

Jan. 3 - Mon. Visited Darlene Smith and took her some homemade chicken noodle soup and a bagel. I called neighbors and arraigned for soup and some sort of bread to be brought to her for a week. Her throat is so sore she can hardly swallow so soup seems to go down easier than other food. I didn't try to orchestrate what kind of soup each would bring so I hope she doesn't get 7 varieties of chicken noodle!! While going up the steps into their house Bea fainted and fell backwards two steps and hit her head on the cement. She has a lump on her head and her back hurts but there are no broken bones, thank goodness! Watched "The Nuremberg Trials" Another depressing movie. Mer likes movies with a message.

Jan. 4 - Tues. No games. Bea fainted again when she bent over to get something out of a drawer. I went over and called her Dr. but she was not in and the nurse on duty said we should take Bea to the hospital. That seemed a little extreme to me since she has no broken bones. We called Bea's cardiologist and the nurse there also said to take her to the ER, so I drove her and Cliff to the LDS Hospital ER and there they gave her many tests and procedures. Kept her in the hospital overnight until all the test results were in. I got a \$10.00 parking ticket for over time parking. I hadn't even seen the signs that said it was timed parking. However, it was worth the money to be parked close to the ER. Called Casey to tell her about Bea. Mer went to his hearing aid doctor, then to visit with Tough. He forgot to go to Sarah until it was too late! He is so annoyed with himself. Paramours came VT and HT.

Jan. 5 - Wed. Temple closed. Mer and I picked up Cliff and went to the hospital. Bea had fainted again in the restroom there. When we got there she was in surgery getting a pace maker installed. That was somewhat of a shock! While we were there Mer went down to the Crossroads Mall and bought a pair of shoes for everyday wear. We were at the hospital several hours. Watched the News Hour then a 3 hour special by Robin McNeal called "Do You Speak American".

Jan. 6 - Thurs. Melanie sick, so no hairdo. Glad I have a new perm. Shopping. Mer to Sarah. Cliff and his neighbor went to the hospital and brought Bea home. Called Casey and talked a long time. Her mouth is still too sore for the dentist to make an impression for her bridge. She has canker sores big time and nothing she has done or used has cleared them up. Oh, for that old "Hall's Canker Medicine" we used to hate, but it was effective. There hasn't been any of that available for years. She is very miserable. Ammon and Melanie are in town. They went to Roosevelt where Ammon had a job interview. They didn't really like

the town so I hope they don't settle there.

Jan. 7 - Fri. The temperature was 14 ° this morning, the coldest so far this winter. Typed an email to Mark and Dixie to thank them for their generosity to us. The missionaries came to dinner. I was grilling chicken and realized that the propane had run out. I nearly had a panic attack but cut into the chicken and it was done and if the tank hadn't run out I would probably have burned it! Blessing in disguise. It was a very good dinner and the missionaries really enjoyed it. Elder Rokow is from Germany and Elder Gardiner is from OR. Elder G is part Filipino and is short and stocky & Elder R is very tall and medium build. They are both very nice men. Watched "The Bird Man From Alcatraz", a very unusual but true story.

Jan. 8 - Sat. 40 ° this morning, what a difference from yesterday! Washed Mer's temple clothes. Pressed them and also did mending while Mer read to me. Called Jackie. Rolled Bea's hair. Her head is black and blue where she hit it in her fall. She hurts like crazy all over except for her arms. Sold 5 qts of aloe juice to Kay Durfee for Casey.....lucky her. Stake Conference evening session and it was very good. The Family History Ctr at the Stake Center has been remodeled and enlarged and they gave tours, in which we participated. I always feel guilty that I am not doing FH. The Stake served ice cream sundaes as a social addition to the meeting and it was a nice visiting time, too.

Jan. 9 - Sun. Stake Conf. and again it was a good meeting. There was a special Tongan choir that sang several numbers and most of them were wearing Tongan style clothes and were very colorful. Their singing is very enthusiastic. Our Stake Choir performed one number, too. I cooked 40 rolls and took jam and one gallon of ice cream as we were invited to dinner at D & G's. All the kids were there but Conrad. Jeff Ammon, Melanie and their darling little Connor, who is six months old. He is a cutie and it felt good to hold a baby in my arms again. We were celebrating Melanie's birthday a little early. She ended baking her own cake as she was the only one that had the time to do it.....she didn't mind the job. Natalie won the candle race. Ammon and M had to catch a plane at 7:00 PM so the evening was cut short. We were home by 7:05. Read the paper until bed time.

Jan. 10 - Mon. Drove Bea to LDS Hospital for a checkup. Dropped her and Cliff off while I found a place to park the car. Parked, and then I went right to the examination room. They did more tests and more test.....one that lets them "interrogate" the pace maker and it answers the electronic questions! What a world we live in!! All this took a long time. Then some technician was supposed to come with the results of the interrogation and we waited and waited. Bea finally said, "Do you think you'd better go out and let Cliff know what is going on?" I went to the waiting room and when Cliff saw me he started to cry. He had been sitting there all that time thinking I had been in an accident or something terrible because it had been storming and the roads were wet. What a dummy I was.....should have checked in with him first thing, but the examination room was before the waiting room and I just whipped into it and never gave Cliff a thought. I apologized and apologized.....felt so stupid and also felt sorry to have put him through such stress. After we talked for awhile I went back to the exam room and the technician still had not come. I went out to the desk to find out if they had forgotten Bea. They had put in a call for one tech and no told them he was not even in the hospital! Another one came right away and everyone was most apologetic. Everything about Bea was just fine so we went home. Doug brought the new TV+++ that Mark paid for and set it up and checked all the processes. I am very thrilled! There is no place on this TV for the old rabbit ear antenna we have been using and we don't have one on the roof, so Doug just turned it upside down and stood it on the floor and it worked fine. However, it can't stay there as it keeps

falling down and it looks really dorffy. We really appreciate the time and effort Doug put into this gift. Worked on the computer. Wrote another thank you to Mark and Dixie.

Jan. 11 - Tues. Again Leah just couldn't make herself get up to play games so Mer and Cliff, Bea and I played one game of "Oh, H". Mer went to see Tough, then went to tutor Sarah. Ordered product online and found that we now have to pay sales tax to FLP on the retail amount of the order.....PITTS! They then send it to the Tax Commission in Utah, so I won't have to do that any more. The only way for me to recoup that expense is to charge my customers enough more to cover it. Casey called and talked about one hour. Mer bought a TV antenna at Wal Mart (which surprised me) and got the cheapest one they had, (which surprised me even more). It didn't work at all. He took it back, went to a different store and bought a really good one.

Jan. 12 - Wed. Temple still closed. I went to Dr. Stanford for an eye checkup. I thought he would use the laser beam to tack back the sacs that hold the lense, but he said I didn't need that and everything is fine. Good. Mer and I figured out how to hook up the new antenna and it didn't work either. Put it back into the box (no small process) and he will return it. We used the old rabbit ears upside down in the corner and it worked pretty well. Enrichment night. It was an exercise demonstration by a girl in our ward who earns her living as a personal trainer and charges \$50.00 an hour! She also teaches good nutrition. It was interesting and I am tempted to buy some of the equipment she uses. Think I could tighten my stomach muscles if I followed her instructions. However, I never have been one to exercise except for walking so I might as well save my money, having no pressing motivation!

Jan. 13 - Thurs. Did a short walk as we got a late start. Hairdo and shopping. Picked out 20 birthday cards, which is time consuming. Mer to tutor Sarah for the last time. They have finished all 6 levels and she doesn't want to try anything else. This has been a long project beginning with Natalie, then Ricky, then Amy and finishing up with Sarah. Gwen sent soup home with Mer. She made it herself, which is a rare occurrence. She doesn't do much cooking. I appreciated it. Mer returned the 2nd antenna. Turned on the Christmas tree lights, made a fire and sat and read..

Jan. 14 - Fri. We took down the Christmas tree and all the other decorations. Mer vacuumed. This takes most of a day. I went to Dr. Connolly and had to have repairs on two fillings; one new filling; and teeth cleaned and polished. This cost \$240.00 SHOCK! There is no such thing as an inexpensive tooth repair nor dentist! Mer and I went to the Hale Theater and saw "Don't Drink the Water", which I really enjoyed but Mer didn't, which is no surprise as it is very "slap-stick" humor.

Jan. 15 - Sat. Walked. Did Bea's hair. Miscellaneous stuff during the day. Watched "Dave" again.

Jan. 16 - Sun. With the new schedule I have to get most of dinner prepared before going to church. Barbara was here. We played 4 hands of Rummikub. Usual ice cream in front of the fire and visiting. Barbara left at 8:45. I called RS sisters to line up dinner for George and Louise Young for the next week. George is in a very bad way. Likely terminal. Sorry - sad.

Jan. 17 - Mon. Late walk, as usual. I have given up on trying to get there early. Didn't get home until 10:00. Went VT 11:00 to Bonita; 12:30 to Jeanne; 2:00 to Mabel. Called Darlene Smith and went and picked up a prescription for her at Wal Mart. Went to her home and visited until 5:00. Went to see Freddie Copier to take the obituary of her sister, which Freddie wants to send to a relative in Holland.....had nice visit. Mer went HT to Ethel, then went out to visit with an old friend from Brigham City, Earl Christensen, who is in an assisted living

home in Sandy or Midvale.

Jan. 18 - Tues. Mer and I played games with Bea and Cliff. Bea won both times. Mer went HT to Bill Thomas. I called Casey. Watched a special on the 30 year story of the development of the world's first supersonic airplane.

Jan. 19 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Went to see the project house and there is still much to do. Went to "Sweet Tomatoes" for early dinner, compliments of Mark and Dixie. Worked on the computer for awhile.. Watched two hours of a program about Auschwitz: "Beginnings" and "Orders and Initiatives". Horrible account of man being worse than beasts.

Jan. 20 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. To Dillards to check out their 75% off sale. Dress styles are all ugly! Bought nothing. Watched "Remains of the Day", a sad movie.

Jan. 21 - Fri. After our walk this day we drove around our neighborhood and area to see what is going on. We were surprised to see how many down-at-the-heels homes there are. We drove into the new condos on 9th East just south of 45th. Some of them have tiny one car garages that could only house small sized cars, if a person could even drive into them without hitting the opening. The condos are so closely packed together they gave me the creeps. Some of them have no yards in which to plant a shrub or anything else. Left me feeling weird...like a nightmare. Did washing and other house work. Worked on the computer typing two name lists of the Elders and High Priests in the Murray 8th Ward for Cliff, in size 14 font so he can see them when making phone calls.

Jan. 22 - Sat. Bea's hair. Mer read the O.T., then a short story called "Leader of the People. I scrubbed the TV trays we use at Christmas buffet with Scrubbing Bubbles and they look like new. I am pleased. Mer built an extension on the TV cart to hold our old rabbit ears antenna and it works just great.....clever! Talked IM with Joyce. Typed on computer in my journal. Watched part 1 of "In Search of the Oregon Trail". I then watched "Murder Ahoy", a Miss Marple mystery.....corny but entertaining. Mer thought it was so corny he went and took a bath instead of watching.

Jan. 23 - Sun. Regular meetings. Took dinner to George and Louise Young. Barbara came and after dinner we played 4 hands of Rummikub. Huge snow storm back east. In Nashua they canceled all their church meetings.

Jan. 24 - Mon. Went to get a bone density test and a mamogram. We called Mark and talked about 1 1/2 hours. Things are VERY BUSY with all of them but they are OK. Called John and Joyce about the snow and learned they had received 18". All are OK, too. Watched a special on the race horse, "Sea Biscuit". The horse looked like a dud but was an outstanding runner.

Jan. 25 - Tues. Raymond called us at 5:45 AM! I just happened to be up and was out in the kitchen. Raymond is an early riser and exercises on his bike, so just assumed we were up, too. I thought it must be something critical but he just wanted to let us know about a man who would be presenting a Fireside in their Stake, and he wanted to find out if we would be down there by Feb. 13th so we could go with them to hear him. I told him we would be there and that we would go with them. Leah was not up to playing games so we played with Bea and Cliff. Mer and Mel Thayne brought the food and went to have lunch with Tough at his daughter, Peggy's, house. This was to celebrate Mel's birthday and Mer and Tough paid for the food, of course. Got 15 letters ready for the Heart Fund drive. I am to mail them to my neighbors but have decided to just walk the route and tape them on their doors. Why I agreed to do this is beyond me, as I dislike doing it with a passion!!! Got a nice letter from Casey

with two pictures: one of Lydia (Gary's girl) in a really fancy, ruffled and lacy dress, and one of Casey and Lydia together, facing each other with their mouths as wide open as they could get them.....just playing around. Got in bed by 9:20, which is very unusual.

Jan. 26 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in laundry so was there full 4 hours. To project house but a painter was there doing a spray painting job so we couldn't stay so didn't really see anything. Chris has done most of the cement work outside. Mer to Geri Olsen HT. her son, Chad, has moved in with her again. Mer visited 1 3/4 hours. Early dinner. Watched "the News Hour", then Asuchwitz: Inside the Nazi State - "Factories of Death and Destruction"two hours of HORRIBLE history.

Jan. 27 - Thurs. No hairdo as Melanie has gone with the "warthogs" to St. George for their annual get away. Mer to help Tough exercise. Grocery shopping. Wedding reception for Megan Walkenhorst. This was held in a ward house that is close to where Kenna works so it was easy to pick her up and drive her home.

Jan. 28 - Fri. Late walk. Washing and hat loom while Mer read to me. Still trying to find a pattern I like to make me a new temple dress. Had a nice long talk with Lori then a long talk with Casey.....she called me. Worked on the computer. Watched the "Governor's News Conference", then Nature: "The Real Macaw".

Jan. 29 - Sat. We are always late walking now. Did Bea's hair. Made two batches of PCB's. Mer read 1 hour 40 mins. I dusted, then worked on hat loom. Mer drove Ann to Wal Mart and waited for her. Cadillac battery died. Watched part two of "In Search of the Oregon Trail", then "Frontier Photographers".

Jan. 30 - Sun. Regular meetings. Barbara here. Had dinner then played 4 hands of Rummikub. Arraigned meals to be brought in for the next 4 days to Andy Winegar. He is just a young father but has had a hip replacement and it is not going well and that is bad.

Jan. 31 - Mon. 10:00 when we got home from our walk. UGH!. Mer did a jump start on the Cad and we took it to Detlif for whatever it takes. Mer took the lawnmower in to be serviced. Bagged and mailed one batch of PCB's to Mark for his birthday.....he will be surprised and, we hope, pleased.

February 1, 2005 - Tues. Late walk. Came home and went right over to Cashes' and played games. Came home and had late breakfast. Mer up to help Tough. Lori and Chris have bought a new California King bed with one of those mattresses that is inflated with air so it can be firm or soft as desired. Each side is independent from the other side. That is like the one John and Joyce has and it is very good for people with back problems. Anyway, they gave us their Queen bed, sheets, pillowcases, bed skirt, throw pillows and comforter. Chris brought them over and he and Merlin set up the bed in the downstairs north bedroom. Now when Mark and Dixie (or anyone else) come they will have a more comfortable bed in which to sleep. This is very nice of C & L. We will give our double bed to someone but haven't gotten around to finding anyone yet. Mer will ask the Bishop if he knows someone who needs it. Dwight Anderson came over and helped Chris carry the heavy mattress downstairs from out in the driveway. Mer just hasn't the strength to do it. Nice of Dwight to share his muscles. Jack Huish came to check out our noisy furnace. We gave him 12 popcorn balls. Bro. and Sister Paramour came HT and VT.

Feb. 2 - Wed. Temple service. All four hours in the laundry. No time to go see the project house as Jack Huish was coming to repair the furnace. He gave us a really good price for his work.....first he said we didn't owe him anything but we couldn't accept that. With

some talking back and forth we finally made out the check for \$60.00 and I am sure he would have charged a non-family person much more. We really appreciate his family consideration and love.

Feb. 3 - Thurs. Short walk as I had an early appointment with Melanie. Shopping. Mer went HT to Bill Thomas and to Geri Olsen. He also went to help Tough. He then went to visit his old Brigham City friend, Earl Christensen. I prepared and took dinner to Andy and Kollette Wineger. Watched "The News Hour" and then "Music Man".

Feb. 4 - Fri. Worked on the computer then printed out nine journal pages. I am trying to do better about this as a little while ago I thought my computer had died and I was sorry I was not up to date on getting a hard copy. Joyce Rachlin called and told us that **Morris**

Rachlin had died on Jan. 11th. That was a shocker.....I feel so sorry for Vera.

Feb. 5 - Sat. Gave Bea a perm. Pulled a boo-boo and put the perm activator in the neutralizer and ruined them both. Cliff drove me to Wal Mart to get another. I wanted to pay for it but he wouldn't let me.....sigh. Took me three hours. Called Mark but he was not home so

sang Happy Birthday on the answering machine. Casey called me. Don fell and broke his hip so he is in the hospital. Bad news. Went to Marriott School of Dance at the University of Utah and saw the Ballet Showcase. Susan Holt was one of the dancers (that is why we went). Much to my surprise Merlin greatly enjoyed it, as did I, although I was sure I would. I paid for the tickets with some of my aloe money.

Feb. 6 - Fast Sun. Made orange jello and whipped the cream before our meetings.

DeLynne Walkenhorst asked me to handle the library so she could go to a family (something) in a different ward, so I asked Bonita Robertson to come help me. The librarian from the 6th Ward stayed with us the entire time. She was very helpful as neither one of us knew how to run the copier for double-sided printing nor how to set it up so an invitation could be folded and turn out right (which people asked us to do), but she is one really ornery lady!! We went out to L

& C's for my birthday dinner, before the date. The cake was done but it needed to be iced and when they got out the recipe they discovered it was a cooked icing, so Lori asked me to make it myself, to save time. Barbara was there and she helped make the green salad and she did whatever else she could. It was a very good dinner, of course, and with spice cake and caramel icing and ice cream to top it off. Hunter won the candle race. Marnie, Hunter and Charlotte each made me a birthday card and Randy made me a pipe cleaner flower. Lori and Chris gave me a box of Cummings mint chocolate wafers, too. Barbara gave me a really cute card.

Since L & C have this fancy new mattress setup they wanted us to lay down on it and experience how the firmness or softness feels as it changes. Very interesting and comfortable. It was snowing when we left their house.

Feb. 7 - Mon. It was a very good snowstorm during the night. After our walk I did lots of washing and some mending and some working on the hat loom while Mer read to me.

Mark called us and we talked but Mer had to take Ann to the store so I kept on talking. Mer returned and visited some more. Mark was really tickled to receive PCB's for his birthday.

Casey called.....Don had a hip replacement operation. For all our married life I have used a product called Thoro that is a pre-wash stain or grease remover and now I can't find any in any store. Mer got on the phone and called the place in CO where it had been manufactured and asked them if they were still making it. Some older man sort of yelled "NO" and hung up on him!!! He then called Ream's or Harmons (where I have bought it) and asked their buyer. The buyer said the company which made it had been shut down by the Federal Government because of polluting the water supplies by improper handling of their waste materials (or

something like that) and that we could not get it anymore. I am really at a loss as to what to use now. Haven't been able to find any substitute.....BUMMER. Watched "Antiques Road Show" and "Building the Alaskan Highway".

Feb. 8 - Tues. Played games with Bea and Cliff. Mer and Cliff each won one. Mer up to help Tough. Casey called and said Don will be in the hospital 3 or 4 more days then go to a therapy facility for 3 or 4 more days, then to home. We will not go to Mesa Thurs. as planned. Maybe next week, but maybe not at all this year. Called Leah and told her about Don but know she will not remember it more than a few minutes, if at all. Mer went HT to Flittons. Mer used the snow blower as we don't think he should be shoveling even a little bit of snow. Watched "The News Hour" and Front Line: "House of Saud", which explores how the Al Saud family maintains its hold on power in the face of growing tensions between Islam and modernity.

Feb. 9 - Wed. Temple service. Out by 10:45. To project house. Not much progress. The paint job is a MESS! Early dinner. Called Doug, Lori and Barbara to tell them we won't be going to Mesa on Thurs. Mer gave me 2# of See's chocolates for my birthday today.....YUM! Went to Enrichment Night. The theme was on women and the temple. We were all asked to come in Sunday dress to help make it feel more special. Both Bonita and I were asked to give talks about our temple service. She and Jim are ordinance workers and Mer and I are just patrons and volunteer laundry workers, so our talks were very different. However, the sisters seemed to enjoy both talks. After that there was delicious refreshments and each sister was given a lace-edged handkerchief to use in the temple.....very nice, but I prefer paper tissues that can be tossed! We had some time to visit and that is always a pleasure.

Feb. 10 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Mer went to help Tough. Spent too much time reading the paper. We would have left for Mesa today but Casey is too stressed for us to come.....sigh. Mer went to Art Proctor's and rented two movies. Called and talked to Casey and Don is not doing well and is in much pain. Casey goes every morning at 8:00 and shaves Don so he won't look so neglected. Spends much time there with him. One reason being that he can't hear worth beans, so when people talk to him he doesn't answer right and Casey has to interpret.

Feb. 11 - Fri. I got up at 5:40 as I awoke and couldn't sleep anymore. don't know just when Mer got up but we didn't get to the mall to walk until 8:15 so it was 9:30 when we got home. Mer read to me two hours while I died my eyebrows, pressed clothes and worked on the hat loom. We were assigned to write a letter to Carl and Pat Christiansen this week, so I started that. Mer took our old empty propane tank and exchanged it for a full new one..... plus money, of course. It is good to have an extra filled tank for emergency use. He also bought enough furnace filters for the next 5 years and that shows optimism! Mer called and let Raymond know we are not coming to Mesa this week. Watched the News Hour, then the old movie "Planet of the Apes" with Charlton Heston. I still like it. Anyway, for some reason I feel totally useless tonight.

Feb. 12 - Sat. Bea's hair. Did housework while Mer read to me. Went to Fruit Heights to the 50th Wedding Anniversary openhouse for my cousin, Wendell Collier and his wife Glenna. Saw other cousins and some of their children and it was fun. Went to a Chinese restaurant for dinner and it was not the best and we are not likely to ever go there again. Went to the Highland Care Center to visit with Bert and Barbara Kinsey. He has had a knee replacement and could not take care of her. She has multiple sclerosis and is almost helpless. When he got out of the hospital they had a room together at the care center. That is pretty rough.

Watched the other old movie Merlin rented which was "Friendly Persuasion".

Feb. 13 - Sun. Finished the letter to Christiansens and sent it by email to them. Did food preparation before church. Regular meetings. Barbara here for dinner, then she went home as we were going to D & G's to celebrate my birthday (after the date). Barbara was invited but chose not to go. We had cake, which was made by Suzanna, and ice cream. The grandkids put 79 candles on the cake and I managed to blow out 75 of them! Gwen won the candle race. Jimmy was not home. Alex had been there earlier but had gone. He had attended church for the first time in years (all 3 hours), Gwen said. I am just thrilled!! We played a fun and funny drawing game. They let us borrow 3 DVDs which we will watch soon. Got home at 10:00. It was a nice evening.

Feb. 14 - Mon. Mer slept in until 8:30 so we didn't get to the mall to walk until 10:00 - UGH. Called Casey. She is depressed. Don is not doing well. On a very happy note: Trevor is going to church again and that is very encouraging. Talked to Jackie. She is surviving and doing lots of therapy and exercising and it just wears her out. Watched the News Hour and a special on Australian Rail Roads.

Feb. 15 - Tues. Played one game with Bea and Cliff. Mer up to help Tough. Read in the Old T and then in the Charles Kuralt book. Watched the News Hour, then "Saving the National Treasures", which was a 5 year, multi-million-dollar odyssey saving the original parchments of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Quite wonderful.

Feb. 16 - Wed. Bea's birthday, she is 85! Temple service. Out by 11:30. Met Bea and Cliff at the Amber for dinner. Cliff insisted on paying as a thank-you for Mer picking up Jan at the airport and then driving her back to the airport when she was ready to leave, and for the times we drove them to the hospital when Bea was having trouble. We certainly didn't want any pay for such help as we were glad to be able to do it. He was most insistent, so we agreed if he would allow us to pay the tip. After eating we came to our house for ice cream. They arrived before we did and parked out by the ditch. When Bea got out on the passenger side the ground was on an angle and it was very muddy and she slid down into the ditch and landed on her bottom! It didn't hurt her physically (just her pride). She took off her shoes and sat with a towel on the chair while we ate dessert and we enjoyed being together and visiting. I scraped the mud off her shoes with a putty knife and wiped them with paper towels. She wore the towel home, like a sarong, to keep mud off the car seat. What an experience! I am glad her clothes are washable. A salesman came from Medicare Complete and compared the coverage we have in our policy and supplement with what he had to offer and said we have a good arrangement so he wouldn't recommend that we change. That is good news to me. Made two pie shells, one for Huibert's birthday and one for Merlin, but will fill them tomorrow.

Feb. 17 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Went to Deseret Book to temple dept. and bought a new pair of shoes and one new garment. Mer to help Tough. Made lemon pie filling and meringue, they do look beautiful. Called Eddie to find if we could bring the pie over but he did not answer. Left a message asking him to call us so we could set a time to come. Mer drove Kenna home from work. Scheduled VT appointments with two sisters. Called and talked to Donna Edwards and had a nice visit. It was the first time we have talked since she moved. They are still not completely moved out of their old house nor completely settled in their new one. She likes where they are but Bill does not.

Feb. 18 - Fri. Did Bea's hair. Washing. Mer to Tough. Made a BIG pot of vegetable/beef soup. Mer called and told Raymond we will not be coming to Mesa at all

and Ray said, "Oh, you'll drive down here to see Kay & Don but not to see us". Mer told him we had been invited by Nebekers to come, so Ray said he was issuing us an invitation to come stay with them for 3 or 4 days. Watched "In the Heat of the Night", an oldie but very good. When we went to get ready for bed we discovered that our toilet tank was running a small stream and the bathroom carpet was getting soaked. I hurried and turned off the water and flushed the toilet to drain the tank. We then got out our new wet/dry vacuum and spent an hour sucking up the water in both the upstairs and downstairs bathrooms. Glad it failed before we went to bed or it would have been much worse. Also, we are thankful we had not gone to Mesa and had it happen while we were gone.....that could have been an expensive disaster!!

Feb. 20 - Sun. Barbara was invited to Brad and Sharon's to celebrate her birthday. Mer convinced me that it is no worse watching a movie than playing games or reading the paper so we watched "The Scarlet Letter" which is four hours long. Very well presented. Natalie let us borrow her DVD copy.

Feb. 21 - Mon. After walking and breakfast, Mer took out the inner works of the toilet tank and replaced them only to discover they were not the problem.....the tank has a fairly good-sized crack in it. Mer went to help Tough. We went looking for a new toilet and they are all UGLY. Instead of nice smooth sides they have curves and curves that gross me out. Look like intestines or something that should be hidden!! and they are all like that. We thought perhaps we could just get a new tank and keep the bowl we have. Watched "News Hour" and "Antiques Road Show".

Feb. 22 - Tues. Shorter walk. Met Bea and Cliff and played one game of "Oh, H" and two of "Fan Tan". Mer went to St. Joseph's Villa and brought Alice Day to our ward for the funeral of Morris Cannegieter. Govert Copier and Pres. Thomas S. Monson were the speakers. The reason Pres M. spoke is that his secretary is Morris' daughter-in-law. It was a very good funeral. The R.S. prepared a dinner for 40 for after the funeral. We were there from 12:30 to 4:30. We workers ate there and I brought a serving of lasagne, some salad and cake home for Merlin so I didn't have to cook dinner. Watched the "News Hour" then worked on the computer. Mer drove Kenna home from work.

Feb. 23 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. To project house but the lock code had been changed so we couldn't get in. Mer to help Tough. Mer bought a plastic toilet tank at a "junk-for-sale" place that is supposed to be a universal replacement and can be painted to match the bowl. It cost over \$50.00 and is a flimsy, dumb-looking thing so we can only hope it will work. Watched the "News Hour" and "Dirty War" which depicts a terrorist attack on London. Makes it plain that there is no way to be prepared for such an occurrence

Feb. 24 - Thurs. Melanie called and she was very sick so I had to skip my hairdo.....I always hate that! Shopping. Iki came and bought \$148.00 worth of FLP product - - - lucky Casey. Mer started assembling the toilet tank. It has junky innards and very poor instructions on how to put them together. Called Raymond and arranged to go visit them. Will leave SLC on the 4th of March and arrive there on the 5th, leave Mesa on the 8th to return home Watched the "News Hour" and then a DVD borrowed from Doug that Ricky wanted us to see. It was called "Frequency" and was a sort of sci fi movie and to my surprise we really enjoyed it.

Feb. 25 - Fri. Late walk. Mer worked on the tank and it doesn't hold the water to fill up. Waste of time, effort and money. Went VT to Darlene Smith. Mer to help Tough.

In Jan. I got a notice from the Administrative Office of Courts that I had been selected as a prospective juror. I sent in a form stating I would be available the entire month of March,

assuming that our trip to Mesa would be completed long before then. Today I received notice that I am to call in next Fri. for further instructions.

Feb. 26 - Sat. Scrubbed the kitchen chairs while Mer read to me. Called Raymond and Kirma again and explained about my jury duty call, which means we cannot leave town after all. We just have to wait and see what happens next. Housework. Watched "Shackleton's Voyage of Endurance" and "Touching the Void" two accounts about human endurance and the will to survive. Both are almost unbelievable and awe inspiring.

Feb. 27 - Sun. We went out to D & G's ward to attend Jimmy's ordination as a Priest. Alex was there, too, and had been to all three meetings. We are so thrilled with both of them and the progress they are making in their better choices of the way to live. We pray God will continue to help them. Came back to our ward and our block of meetings. Barbara here for dinner and 3 hands of Rummikub. When she went home I read awhile by the fireplace. Had prayer with Mer, then slept on cushions in front of the fire for two hours.....really enjoyed it. It has been a long time since I've done that, and it is one of my favorite things.

Feb. 28 - Mon. While Mer read I did dusting, then worked on my hat loom. We called Mark and talked for over an hour. Mer took the toilet tank back to the man he bought it from and the man helped him reinstall the inner connections and etc. Brought it home and installed it again. Now the tank fills but water leaks on the west connection and along the front. Mer worked it over using more gaskets and it still leaked. He redid it using a heavier gasket and that took care of the water along the front but not the other. He put a pan under to catch the drips for the night. Watched the "News Hour", then "Antiques Road Show", then "Murder at Harvard". This was about a murder back in the late 1800's that was never solved.

March 1, 2005 - Tues. Bea and Cliff had early appointments with Dr. Flint. Bea had a cancer on her right hand that had to be cut out and Cliff had one cut off of his head. When they got to the hospital there was an emergency of some sort and they had to wait for the Dr. to return. As a result they were there for 4 or 5 hours. Dreary waiting time. They called us when they got home and we went over at 2:15 and played two games of "Oh, H". Did washing. Called Casey and learned she had fallen in the bathtub because the rubber bath mat was not stuck down and it slipped and she hurt her left knee!! Watched the News Hour.

Mar. 2 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Went to the project house and some progress is finally beginning to show. Had early dinner. Tough had a Dr. appointment so Mer did not go help him exercise. We went to visit Bert and Barbara Kinsey. His knee is mending well and that is encouraging. They are very nice people. Watched News Hour.

Mar. 3 - Thurs. Got a perm. Went shopping a little. Lori called and told us that the painter that fell down the stairwell is going to sue them. Mega worries!! Mer got another gasket for the toilet but it still leaks. Watched the News Hour then a DVD of Doug's that Ricky wanted us to see called "Big Fish" it was a fun movie.

Mar. 4 - Fri. Woke up at 4:15 and couldn't go back to sleep worrying about Chris and Lori's finances. Finished reading the Charles Kuralt book. Mer went to help Tough. I finished grocery shopping. Mer tightened the bolts in the toilet tank and it still leaks. I think this is a lost cause. News Hour. Made a fire in the fireplace and read the paper a little then "escaped" by going to sleep in front of the fire.

Mar. 5 - Sat. Did Bea's hair. House work and worked on the hat loom while Mer read

the O.T. then started "London" a 1,000 page historical novel J & J sent us. Worked on the computer. Mer went HT to Bill Thomas.

Mar. 6 - Sun. Fast Sunday. Barbara went to the blessing of a great-grandchild. We had just a simple dinner. Read together before church and after dinner we each read separately. Had ice cream in front of the fire and talked. Nice quiet time together.

Mar. 7 - Mon. No walk for me as I had to be at the courthouse by 8:30 for jury selection. This was a very interesting experience. I was not selected to serve so don't have to go in again. Got home about 12:30. Mark called and we had a short visit. Mer to Tough.

I worked outside for the first time this year. Mer drove Ann to Wal Mart and waited for her. Watched News Hour then "Tribute to Victor Borge" he was a very nice, funny man.

Mar. 8 - Tues. Cliff went to get his stitches removed. We played two games of "Oh, H" Mer got his hair cut. We went and had a good visit with Leah. Called Casey and she had a second fall and has hurt her right foot and leg! Is she trying to self destruct??? Don is doing better, doesn't have to use his walker in the house. He can bend over straight down but not to the side. Watched the News Hour. Paramours came HT and VT.

Mar. 9 - Wed. Temple service. Out by 12:00. Mer to Tough. I to project house. It is a constant worry.

Mar. 10 - Thurs. Hairdo at 9:00. Shopping.

Mar. 11 - Fri. Walked. Read. I up to project house. Worked on windowsills and window openings. Paint job a terrible mess. Dust everywhere so will take our vacuum cleaner up there. Went and heard the "Sandy City Orchestra" at the Assembly Hall.

Mar. 12 - Sat. Walked. Did Bea's hair. Read. I worked at the project house. The waterline blew a gasket and ran water on the kitchen hardwood floor, through the ceiling into the laundry room.....it was AWFUL but could have been worse. Chris was there, heard it happen and ran downstairs and shut off the house water. My little vacuum is a shop-vac and takes up water, so he hurried and used that, which minimized the damage. We were glad it was there. Afterward he remembered he had his own shop-vac there, too, but didn't think of it at the time. This day I did LOTS of vacuuming; Swept the patio. Picked up lots of trash in the backyard just to make things look better.

Mar. 13 - Sun. Regular meetings. Picked up Barbara and went out to L & C's for dinner to celebrate Marnie's birthday. Barbara brought frozen rolls to Lori and also gave Marnie a birthday card and \$2.00. Marnie was pleased. Marnie turned 12 years old....I can hardly believe it. She got 4 new tops and 4 pairs of pants; a silver charm for her bracelet; a book; and a silk plant that looks like a real palm tree. What a haul.....very different from how we celebrated birthdays for our children. Marnie's favorite dinner is French Dip Sandwiches so that is what we had along with Lori's special green salad with mandarin oranges and toasted, sugared almonds in it. Had strawberry shortcake for dessert, which is also Marnie's favorite. She even won the candle race.

Mar. 14 - Mon. Mer came with me to the project house. He worked on removing the old peach tree, began working on replacing the window in the garage but before he had done much Chris came and sort of took over. He had a more efficient way of doing the job than Mer had planned out and he is so strong and so quick it amazed Mer and made him feel rather useless. However, Mer did clean up a lot of trash in the yard and loaded it into the truck to be hauled away. Mer went to see Tough then came back until I was ready to go home. Watched the News Hour and Antiques Road Show.

Mar. 15 - Tues. Played one game of Oh,H with Bea and Cliff. Went to project house.

Mer gave our chainsaw to Chris as he no longer has the strength to start it. Mer did more yard cleanup and then scrapped paint off the patio ceiling overhang. I worked on the bathtub to determine if it really would come clean. It took about 1 ½ hours and it will never really look good as it is so old and worn. I sanded, vacuumed and used a tac rag on the windowsills then primed one and decided it wouldn't suit Chris so quit and did other work. Came home and had dinner then made PCB's to take to Kirma and Raymond. Watched the News Hour.

Mar. 16 - Wed. Temple service. All 4 hours in the laundry. Spent most of the afternoon getting ready to leave in the morning. Mer went to help Tough. Went to the R.S. Anniversary Social. Very neat program. Six or seven sisters told about their pioneer ancestors. Also, a nice musical number. Good dinner with a birthday cake made by Joyce Kroon. Mer drained the toilet so it won't leak while we are gone.

Mar. 17 - Thurs. No hairdo as Mer was too nervous about needing to leave early. I will be an itchy mess before we get back, but it has happened before and I do survive. Left home about 10:00 AM. Drove the Las Vegas route. We planned to sleep in Boulder City but they were having big conventions there and a cheap room was \$125.00!!! so we drove on to Kingman, AZ and lodged in a Motel 6 for \$40.00 and got there before dark, so that was very good. The only unpleasant thing is that there were no smoke-free rooms available so the smell was awful and our clothes and everything were saturated with it. Had enough food with us to eat dinner in our room.

Mar. 18 - Fri. Drove through to Nebeker's and arrived about 1:30. Don is doing quite well. Kay's foot is very swollen and painful. We were there less than an hour. Mer called Ray and they had arrived home so we went right over. The new bedroom Ray is building is going to be beautiful. He does very good work. We had dinner and then visited. Ray had to go hang a door for a friend and Mer went with him.

Mar. 19 - Sat. Ray worked in his garage shop on a piece of furniture he is refinishing and Mer watched him while they visited. Watched "The Best Two Years" and it was a good movie. Had dinner, then went very early to the evening session of Stake Conference. Elder Charles Didier of the Seventy Presidency was one speaker, and an Area Authority was another speaker and both were very good.

Mar. 20 - Sun. Left early for conference but there were so many reserved seats and so many people saving whole rows that we had to sit on hard chairs after all. That doesn't bother me but Ray was royally "ticked". There was an extra large crowd as their Stake Pres. was being replaced. Had dinner then just read until Barbie and Neil and their baby, Jessie, came for the evening. Judy and Stewart also came by. We visited and had cake and ice cream. Their baby is a BIG boy and just a darling. It was fun seeing all of them again.

Mar. 21 - Mon. After breakfast Ray worked in the yard and in the garage and Mer just tagged along and listened to Ray talk. I went with Kirma to DUP meeting, which was OK.....at least it was something to do. We took R & K out to the "Country Buffet" (like the Home Town Buffet) for dinner. From there we went to the temple grounds to see the wonderful Easter Pageant they put on every year but it was not being held until Tues. We were really disappointed. Went back to their home and watched a movie produced in India called "La Gan" about how really terrible the British treated the Indians during Colonial times. It had English subtitles which give Merlin a pain but I do OK with them. Anyway, it was a really riveting movie and I liked it.

Mar. 22 - Tues. Up and at it but still didn't leave R & K's until 9:00. Drove to Nebekers to get the stuff they wanted us to bring home for them.. Went the Page way and it was

beautiful. Had an ice cream cone in Page at a store we have patronized on other trips. Drove on to Kanab and got a room which was very clean and very comfortable. Ate deli food in our room. Watched the News Hour and Antiques Road Show.

Mar. 23 - Wed. Drove home with no problems. Arrived about 3:00. Took care of all our trip stuff. Mer picked up the mail from the Post Office and we sorted through that. Checked the answering machine and the email messages. Made phone calls. Had dinner and watched the News Hour, called and sang "Happy Birthday" to Ricky. Had a powerful email from Lori.

Mar. 24 - Thurs. Once again I had no hairdo as Melanie was out of town. This is the longest I have ever gone without a shampoo and I don't like it!. Back to our walking. Mer once again tried to stop the toilet tank from leaking but couldn't so he repackaged it to return to the store. They had told him he could bring it back if it didn't work and they would refund his money. Chris called and said he had put another coat of finish on the hardwood floors so I can't work at the project house tomorrow. Watched the New Hour and then called and sang "Happy Birthday" to John.

Mar. 25 - Fri. Started reading the D & C with commentary. Did housework. Mer took back the toilet tank then he went to help Tough exercise.

Mar. 26 - Sat. Did Bea's hair. Went looking for a toilet and went to six stores. Some are very expensive. Don't like any of them. One salesman told us about a demolition store so we went there and saw and measured a blue tank that might work! Watched "55 Days in Peking".

Mar. 27 - Sun. Nice Easter Sacrament Meeting. The Bartholomeusz were the speakers and the choir sang. Took raspberry jello and lots of whipped cream out to L & C's for dinner. Lori had a neat presentation on death and the resurrection that we all took part in and then we sang two Easter hymns. We enjoyed our time together and appreciate their inviting us and wanting us to come.

Mar. 28 - Mon. After our walk and breakfast we went to the viewing for Craig Johnson's mom, Clairene. She and her husband, "Moose", are neighbors of Leah and have been good friends. I went Visiting Teaching to all four of my ladies. It was raining today and one of our cars was in for servicing and Mer had to go up to help Tough, using the other one, so he dropped me off at Darlene Smith's and I intended to walk to my next appointment, but when she found out I had no car she insisted on driving me there, but it wasn't for awhile, so she drove me home, and Mer returned home in time for the next visit. Very nice of Darlene as she has to take along her portable oxygen supply and that is a nuisance. Went to see "The Slipper and the Rose" at the Hale Theater. Our kids and spouses gave us season tickets (I probably already recorded that nice gift). The play was very well done and most impressive staging on that small space.

Mar. 29 - Tues. Played 1 ½ games of Oh, H with Bea and Cliff, then some Fan Tan. Mer to Geri Olsen Home Teaching. I to project house. Did MEGA vacuuming, wet cleaning the appliances and counters. Got about half done cleaning the fridge. Was there from 1:00 until 5:30. Mer tried to hook up the used toilet tank and it leaked. He was so frustrated that he called Manwill Plumbing and a man came.....went and bought different parts, returned, installed them but it sill leaked so he only charged \$105.00 instead of \$150.00. Mer will try another used tank. What a MESS. Bea went to the Dr. to get a prescription for the infection in her hand where she had a cancer removed.

Mar. 30 - Wed. Snowy and cold. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Mer went to

help Tough. Went to Sweet Tomatoes for dinner and saw Kent and Jeanine Acomb there. Mer went HT to Flittons. Mer gave Kenna a ride home from work. I had a long talk with Casey. Don is not doing well. Casey had a biopsy on her nose bump and it will be 10 to 20 days before she knows the results. Talked to Lori about Mark and Dixie. Oh, WOE. Lori has been having some pains in her heart so had an examination and it was determined she has no visible problem.....that is very good.

Mar. 31 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Mer thought he detected cracks in the second used toilet tank so was unwilling to even install it and find out. So, we went to Lowe's and bought a new unit. Mer paid to have a plumber come install it. I felt sure Mer could do it but he was feed-up with the whole mess and didn't want to try. Watched the News Hour, then "An Easter Promise."

April 1, 2005 - After walking and breakfast I went to the viewing and funeral for John Redd. Mer stayed home as the plumber was coming to install the toilet. Then, after all this toilet "saga" the plumber got it set crooked! Bummer!. Came home after the funeral and intended to go to the project house but Doug was here to visit so I didn't go. We talked about his apostate-leaning change of heart. This is very hard to endure.

Apr. 2 - Sat. Boiled and deboned two chickens and cooked 6# of potatoes for dinner on Sun. It is the 175th Semi-annual Conference of the church. The talks were wonderful and the music beautiful. Did much housework. Casey called. Her leg gave out on her at Weight Watchers and she fell on the floor. They helped her get into her car and she went home and called Jeri who took her to emergency. There she had an X-ray and was relieved that nothing was broken, but she is in much pain. They put on a removable cast for use when she is standing. Since this sorry turn of events Gary will fly down on Thurs. and drive them home on Fri. and Don is having a fit about it. He thinks he can drive them himself and is being very mad about the whole plan. Mer went to Priesthood Mtg. Doug, Jimmy, ALEX, Ricky and James met him there then came here for ice cream and those who wanted to played pool. Had a long talk with Lori.....she really does need a Sabbatical but there is no way to get one with her demanding and busy schedule. Called and invited Heather to come to dinner tomorrow but she has to work.

Apr. 3 - Sun. While Conference was on and before, and in between, I prepared a big pot of chicken noodles, two pans of "Funeral Potatoes", orange jello and whipped cream, broccoli and etc. Mer set up the tables and he put on all the dishes, cutlery and so forth and got the chairs rounded up. There was seventeen of us here; Doug and his whole family except for Jeff, Melanie and Conrad; Lori and Chris and their four; Barbara and the two of us. When it was time for ice cream Alex took the orders and helped dish it up. We also celebrated Suzanna's up-coming graduation from BYU. We had a 7-Up toast to her. They brought balloons, crepe paper for decorations, and a cake. We all had a good, fun, caring time together. Sarah was the one that wound the crepe paper around the stair railing to make the occasion more festive. Cute of her to do that. It really surprised me that Suzanna was graduating as she has only been going to college for two years. She took advanced placement classes in high school and has taken summer classes as well, which made this possible. She will now begin her Masters program. James has changed his major and it will take him two years to graduate and so he and Susanna will be finished at the same time. They have moved into the basement of James' parents home to save money while they go to school.

Apr. 4 - Mon. Walked, then went to the viewing for Parley Rushton's wife. He is a man (91

yrs. old) that we have met while walking in the Cottonwood Mall and with whom we have become friends. He is a wonderful man who has been taking care of his sick wife for years. Had breakfast then went to the project house where I spent 5 hours vacuuming walls, cupboards, drawers (inside and out), and etc. This fine, heavy dust was created by Chris having to re-sand the hardwood floors after water got on the kitchen floor. He had already applied one coat of sealer and it all had to come off so there would be an even, good looking finish. Terrible job for him and for me! Mer went to help Tough. Watched the News Hour on channel 11 as we ate dinner later than usual.

Apr. 5 - Tues. Walked, then met Bea and Cliff at Nebekers at 10:00 to clean their house for their return. Mer came down while we were working and drew me aside and said that he was "all fritters" about having the toilet reset. He was so leery about it I told him to call Lowe's and tell them we would live with it the way it was. He called, but the salesman insisted on sending an expert to take it up and do the job right. I went to the project house and worked for several hours. Mer mowed the lawns. Dinner late again, then we went to bed.

Apr. 6 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry and there were fewer volunteers than usual so there was much left to do when we all left at 12:00. Another plumber came and reset the toilet, and patched the carpet so it is hardly noticeable. He truly was an expert and was very nice. He wanted to be sure I was pleased and I was. Mer to Tough. Cliff came over and pruned the grape vines for us and we appreciate it. Watched the News Hour.

Apr. 7 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping, then we went to the project house. Mer worked putting the vinyl siding on the garage and got most of it done. We worked until 8:20 then came home, had dinner and went to bed.

Apr. 8 - Fri. Walked, read N.T., breakfast. Went to project house. It was raining and snowing so Mer could not work outside. The carpet men came and finished that job. After Mer got back from helping Tough he spent a long time vacuuming all the carpets using Chris' big shop vacuum and had to bend over the whole time in order to keep the attachment together. Killer on the back! I was doing the usual paint repair stuff. Came home about 6:30 and went to Sweet Tomatoes for dinner. Gary and Nebekers got home 11:00 PM.....a fifteen hour trip, as they had to stop every 100 miles and force Don to walk around the car to guard against blood clots. He was mad as an irritated hornet.

Apr. 9 - Sat. Woke up at 4:30 and couldn't go back to sleep so got up at 5:30 and got ready for the day. Wrote in my journal. Walked, breakfast and read. Went to project house. Mer started painting the patio overhang. I was still doing paint repair. Chris is suffering with his allergies and he is so stressed he is half sick.....I feel very sorry for him. Mer carried loads of stuff from the house into the garage so that the house is almost empty. Came home for a quick dinner. Went to see Nebekers for about 15 minutes then went to the Marriott School of Dance to see Susan Holt dance. She was in 4 out of about 18 numbers. We saw Riley and Beth Draper there, and the Holts, too. Susan is a very good ballerina and she is so pretty. It was quite fun.

Apr. 10 - Sun. Fast Sunday, since it was Conference last week. Barbara here, so after dinner we went see the project house. She really likes it. We played no games but did have ice cream in front of the fireplace.....probably the last for the season.

Apr. 11 - Mon. Went with to Casey to Kinko's and did our visiting there while we waited for them to open. To Dr. Connolley for front tooth repair. Missed 27th So. so went to I-80 to go to 13th E. only to discover there had been a big accident and all the eastbound traffic was shuttled into one lane. It took 15 minutes to get from 7th E. to 13th E, so I was late, but he still

did my repair. It cost \$74.00. Mer drove me to the project house and then he went to help Tough. When he returned he painted on the patio overhang and worked until after 7:15. Mer drove Kenna home from work.

Apr. 12 - Tues. Casey had a Dr. appointment so couldn't play games, so Mer and I went and played one game of Oh, H with Bea and Cliff. Cliff is really not his usual self I don't remember if I have recorded that we think he had a small stroke a few days ago. I went to the project house. Mer mowed the lawns but it was too long for the mulcher to work and he had to use the bag which doubles the work and is much more tiring. He is not at all sure he will be able to do it when the weather gets hot. I came home so we could eat and be through before the Paramours arrived to do their VT and HT.

Apr. 13 - Wed. Temple. PHD in the laundry. Mer to help Tough. Had dinner, then Mer went to the project house to fix the dead bolt problem.....it now locks as it should. Kay has to go to Mesa to have an invasive cancer removed from he nose. Her Dr. down there is a plastic surgeon and operated on her nose a few years ago and did a very fine job. Mer

cut back his roses and fed them. I went to Enrichment meeting at the church. A lady gave a lesson on streamlining our homes. The first task is to "get rid of junk" and I know we should do that but it takes time so we never get around to it.

Apr. 14 - Thurs. Casey and I walked in the park a little. Her Dr. said all her leg bones are in great shape and that is good news. We parked at the golf course and could see new houses being built on the north edge, so drove over to east 48th So. and saw 7 or 8 houses under construction.....we don't like that at all. Mer went to see Bill Thomas. Hairdo and a little shopping. We went to project house and Mer painted the overhang and I finally forced myself to paint the dreaded windowsills.....UGH!

Apr. 15 - Fri. Walked in the park then talked. Breakfast, then read, then to project house. Mer to Tough. Some time during mid-April Cliff started acting rather odd (not his usual self) and Bea thinks he has had a small stroke and he needs to be checked with an MRI to be sure and determine what damage has been done.

Apr. 16 - Sat. Mer and I walked in the Mall. After breakfast and reading I went to the project house. Mer was going to mow the lawns but there wasn't enough to mow so he came up later. Worked until 5:00. Home and had dinner, then went to the Stake Center for a talent show and a live band which was fun to hear and watch. We had banana splits for dessert, but we had ours minus the bananas. There was some homemade ice cream that was wonderful. Ah, memories of our own ice cream making days when it was so plentiful the kids would ask "Is there anything else for dessert besides ice cream?" They laugh about that now. It was a fun evening. There was a good sized crowd overall but not many from our ward. Lori called and left a message. They were in Cedar City and would be home about midnight.

Apr. 17 - Sun. Barbara here for dinner and games. Had another fireplace fire.

Apr. 18 - Mon. Casey able to walk a little further this day. Mer mowed the lawns. I went to the project house and Mer came later. He went to help Tough but it just turned into a visit as Tough was not up to exercising. Mer came back to P. house. We left at 5:00 to have dinner, then to the airport to greet John and Joyce who came for Heather's graduation and to help get her and her much stuff ready for the return to NH. Joyce went home with Acombs and John rode with us so he could get the Cad for their use while they were here. He visited with us until 10:30 then went to sleep at Acomb's.

Apr. 19 - Tues. Casey picked me up as John had the Cad and Mer needed the Olds to go to the mall. J & J went to breakfast at D & G's house then they visited until 4:00. We and they went to L & C's for dinner. Had a good time together. Mer and I left at 9:20 but J & J stayed until after 1:00 and Joyce slept at Acomb's and John came to our house.

Apr. 20 - Wed. Temple just for sealings. No time in the laundry as we wanted to be home when John awoke. However, he slept in until noon! After breakfast and a good visit John did "clean up" work on my computer. Also found that the reason my floppy disk didn't work was that the drive was not connected, so he fixed that. He showed us pictures taken with his digital camera.. Went to see the project house. Mer drove Kenna to work. J & J went to the Joseph Smith Memorial Bldg. to attend the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Kent and Jeanine.

Apr. 21 - Thurs. Casey picked me up for walking. No hairdo as Melanie canceled out. Many interruptions during our reading, which is most aggravating. Late grocery shopping. Mer and I went out to school and picked up Randy and drove him home. We were going to Heather's graduation but decided not to as there was nothing personal in it, but was for the whole university graduating class. John and Joyce spent the whole day with Heather, then came to our house to sleep. Mer and I went to the wedding reception for Eric Taylor and Suzanne Larsen. He is the son of Elaine Larsen Taylor and the bride is not related to our line of Larsens. Saw lots of family members there and that was enjoyable.

Apr. 22 - Fri. Went to Heather's Convocation ceremony.....8:00 to 10:00. Afterward there were nice refreshments for everyone outside; also much picture taking and the graduates saying "good bye" to those they will most likely never see again...rather a hard experience. We all went to Heather's apartment to help get all her stuff packed for shipping. There was a LOT of it and she had already shipped some boxes. She hadn't been able to get everything done and had been up all night and was in tears of frustration and we didn't really know where to begin as this was a four girl apt. & three of them were moving out and there was STUFF, STUFF, STUFF everywhere. That is when Gwen stepped in and put herself in charge and things really got done. She drove everyone crazy with her bossiness but she did a wonderful job and it was just what was needed! There were 15 boxes all filled, taped, addressed and taken to a UPS outlet which was in a very inconvenient location. Gwen transported them in her van. They got put out on the curb and she had to go as she was past due back in West Jordan. I stayed with the boxes while John took a load on a little dolly. Mer went with John to stand with the boxes on the other end while he made the necessary trips. He had to go through a door, down a hall, into an elevator that took him down one floor, down another hall to a different elevator that took them up a floor in another part of the building and into the UPS outlet! What a process. When a UPS employee saw how many boxes there were he said we could have just driven the van directly into an area where they could have been unloaded right there.....too little knowledge too late. Then we had to walk back to the apartment, which was several blocks away, and Mer and I did not have on walking shoes so it was rather uncomfortable to say the least. We also brought home nine more boxes of Heather's stuff for Mer to ship later when they were taped and addressed. All this shipping cost over \$700.00 and a lot of the bulk was because what she wanted to keep was mixed in with what should have been thrown away.

John, Joyce and Heather went to Lori's and John installed all Heather's neat computer stuff as they gave it to Lori. John has new equipment for Heather as, (with his connections) it cost less to buy new than to ship it to NH. Lucky Lori! J, J and H went to the Olive Garden and met Kevin Lund, his wife and his parents and they had dinner together. Kevin lives out of state but

was up here for a family wedding so they were able to get in this little visit. After dinner they returned here to load their luggage in the cars and we drove out to the airport by 10:30. Mer let Joyce, Heather and me out to stay with the luggage and boxes while John and Mer went to park the cars, however, Mer missed the turn to return to the terminal and drove clear into the 6th So freeway exit, went one block east then one block north and pulled into the left turn lane to go get back on the freeway. John was following behind so Mer got out of the Olds to tell him what had happened and just automatically locked the car door, and the motor was running! There was nothing to do but drive back to the airport where I had a spare key in my wallet. It is a wonder that this did not make them miss their flight, but thankfully, it didn't. Mer and I drove back to the Olds and got there 15 seconds before a police officer came as someone had reported an abandoned car. Mer showed the officer his car key and told him what had happened. The officer was very nice.....checked Mer's ID and let us drive away. What a weird experience. What a wild day!

Apr. 23 - Sat. Went to walk in Cottonwood Mall but the Salt Lake Marathon was underway and all the streets going east were blocked, so we went to Fashion Place instead. Casey and I went to see the fancy house that has been built by the Mick Riley Golf Course. Last fall she had asked the builder if we could come see it when she returned from Mesa and he said we could. We had talked to him a few days ago and set this time up. Casey had made them a beautiful card with an iris on it and also had brought them a start of "Zandria" which they could plant outside right away or keep in a pot until after it bloomed. She is so thoughtful. Anyway, we saw the house and it is very original and we really like it. Had breakfast then read awhile. Mer mowed the lawns. I went and worked on the project house. After dinner we started watching the DVD "Return to Me" but Mer couldn't understand what they were saying and there was writing in French on the screen and I couldn't figure out how to get rid of it. Finally gave up and went to bed.

Apr. 24 - Sun. Missed all our meetings. Went to Doug and Gwen's ward as they were the Sacrament Mtg. speakers. I think the girls gave short talks, too????????? Jimmy was supposed to give the opening prayer but wouldn't get up and get to church. Ricky said the closing prayer. We stayed for their whole block of meetings. Ricky was ordained a Teacher today. They wanted us to come over for awhile, so we did and stayed for about 1 1/2 hrs. Ricky played his cello and Sarah played her violin for us. We had some nice visiting with the kids. Amy and Sarah's room was cleaned up and that is the first time I have ever seen it clean. They have reached a point where they don't want a mess anymore and are willing to make the effort.....YEA! Barbara here for dinner and games. We had another fireplace fire and ate ice cream in front of it. Casey called and Don has fallen on the steps of the church. He, and all of us, hope he hasn't messed up his hip replacement.

Apr. 25 - Mon. After our walk, breakfast and reading Mer and I went to the project house and worked for some hours. Casey took Don to the Veterans Hospital where they took X-rays and found he'd broken four ribs! Very painful, and there is nothing they can do about it but have him take pain pills. They were at the hospital from 9:00 to 5:00 and Casey was just "beat" as she had to push him in a wheelchair all over the hospital. Sorry, sorry, sorry for both of them. Bea went with Cliff for his MRI and he has had a stroke and that is threatening because if you have had one you can have another. It has affected the part of his brain which makes it possible to track a thought so now he is having problems knowing what needs to be done and when. More trouble. Mark called and told about going as a chaperone with Elizabeth to Winter Guard competition in Ohio. They were able to visit their old neighborhood,

which was fun for both of them.

I went VT and got three of my ladies.

Apr. 26 - Tues. Games at Nebekers instead of Cashes as Casey needed to be home in case Don needed her. Cliff sat right by us and talked so much we could not concentrate. He would have known better than that if he hadn't had his stroke. It is quite likely he will have to stop driving and that would be awful.

Watched "The Substance of Denial" and "Beyond Denial". Alex was one they interviewed as a recovering meth addict and he did a good job and we are so hopeful and proud of him. I copied it on a VCR so he can have a copy.

Apr. 27 - Wed. Temple service. Out by 11:30. Went to Geri Kip's to get 13 geraniums to plant in my pots. He gave me one free for Mothers Day. Mer went to help Tough. Had an early dinner, which I like. Wrote an email to Pam Hickman to give her Krista Jensen's address but it wouldn't send so I copied it and mailed it regular mail.

Apr. 28 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Mel Thayne and Mer took Tough out to lunch for his birthday. His son, Jim came to town to help celebrate and he went with them which was not very enjoyable as he talked about himself too much and the three friends didn't get to really visit.

Apr. 29 - Fri. Mer mowed the lawns. I went to the project house. In the evening we drove Mabel Allred to the Stake High Priests Social. It was a fun evening of short talks, a violin performance by MANY musicians.....some of them very young; a vocal solo and a duet. We played some fun games and had refreshments. It was an enjoyable time.

Apr. 30 - Sat. After our walk, reading and breakfast I went to a Visiting Teaching Conference at the church. There was a short instruction time then a lunch of salads and croissants, which was very delicious. We went to the S L Temple for the sealing of Greg Schwarz and Bianca (?). Bro Hess performed the ceremony. He was surprised to see us there. He is one of the Sealers we work with on Wed. mornings. He did a good job. Came home for awhile then went to the Grand America for the wedding reception. It was a sit down dinner for 230 people!!! There was a program interspersed with the dinner. Such an extravagant affair I have never before seen and am not likely to ever see again. It was fun to see how the people with money do things.

May 1, 2005 - Fast Sunday. Baked 36 large-sized Rhodes rolls and they were beautiful. Went to D & G's for an early Mother's Day celebration and for Sarah's birthday. There was no cake so Doug put candles on 9 rolls and she blew them all out and was very pleased with herself. No candle race this time. We took out 1 ½ gallons of ice cream and brought jam. The kids were very loving and "huggy".

May 2 - Mon. After walk, breakfast and reading I went to the project house for a very long day. Mer went to help Tough, then came to P J house, too.

May 3 - Tues. Walked with Casey. Had breakfast and read. No games as Casey has no time. Mer to Veterans Hosp. for a check up. Mer came to the P J house and worked on and finished the siding on the garage. He did a great job. While he was working on the top row of siding he would put his hammer on the garage roof and once it fell off and hit his head a glancing blow and knocked one lens out of his glasses onto the ground. Chris came just at that time, found the lens and popped it right back in the frame. Mer was not hurt and we are most grateful for that! Came home late again. Casey flew to Mesa for the operation on her nose to remove an invasive cancerous growth.

May 4 - Wed. Temple. PHD in the laundry. Mer went to help Tough. Since Mer feels he might not be able to mow the lawns anymore I tried doing it with him walking me

through the process. I think I could do it if I had to, but it is really a big job and the mower is hard for me to handle. I tried the front and the south lawns and was quite tired out. Mer doesn't want me to do it, either. Mark has offered to pay to have it done by someone else if Mer can't. Doug and Natalie came and took the bed that was in the north bedroom and we are glad she wants it.

May 5 - Thurs. Mer and I walked around the neighborhood for an hour. No hairdo as Melanie had the flu. Usual reading and shopping. Mark and Dixie had UPS deliver a Mother's Day gift. It is the complete set of "Faerie Tale Theater" on DVD's and I am delighted.....and also \$40.00 worth of gift certificates to "Sweet Tomatoes".....lucky me!! We watched "Sleeping Beauty."

May 6 - Fri. Walked outside again. **Mabel Allred died today.....what a SHOCK!** Read, ate breakfast and then I went to the project house. Mer went to help Tough. Saw "To Kill a Mocking Bird" at the Hale Theater and they did a very good job. Doug & Gwen, Lori & Chris to our house after for ice cream.....like times past.

May 7 - Sat. Raining, so we walked in the mall. Did Bea's hair. House work stuff. Watched "To Kill a Mocking Bird" on VHS to compare with the play as Mer thought the kids acting in the play were really bratty and they were not in the movie.....but they were.

May 8 - Sun. Mother's Day. Two speakers and a song by the Primary. The Mother's Day gift was a delicious mint chocolate. Made orange jello, whipped cream, and broccoli as my part of dinner at Lori and Chris'. Lori made pot roast, mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls. Her good chocolate chip cookies and ice cream for dessert. Very nice dinner. Marnie and Hunter made special cards for me and Lori. They gave me the DVD "Finding Never Land" and two Symphony chocolate bars (which I love), and Lori wrote a special letter to me. Very appreciative and sweet. We took a walk around the neighborhood. Fine day!

May 9 - Mon. Walked outside. Melanie feeling OK so she gave me a perm. Mer went to help Tough. I went to the project house. Pam Hickman called and wants to help pay for flowers for Mabel. Went to Freddy Copier and took money for me and for Pam.

May 10 - Tues. Walked in the mall. No games as Cliff was "sick as a dog." Mer and I went to visit Don for about 1 1/2 hours. He is doing remarkably well. I went to project house. I used paint stripper on the stainless steel sink down stairs and got all the paint splatters off so went upstairs to do the same to the kitchen sink. Poured some remover in and started scrubbing. In a minute or two I realized something was very wrong as the finish started looking cloudy. I hurried and washed it down the drain and discovered it had eaten the sink where the remover had puddled in the rounded corners. This sink was made of some *synthetic* material and I had never even heard of such a thing! It had a shiny black finish to match the stove and the dishwasher, and the remover made it look like there was mineral deposits that needed cleaning off. I was totally devastated! I thought all sinks were either steel or ceramic but the manufacturers have discovered how to make things of cheaper materials but still charge big money for them. Jeff Ammon called on the phone and we had a nice visit. Melanie and Connor were in MD for 3 weeks.

May 11 - Wed. Temple service. Was out of the laundry by 10:30. Came home and put two family sized lasagne in the oven for the Allred family. The Relief Society prepared dinner for 130 people for after the funeral. I couldn't stay and help as we had to be out to D & G's to house sit and oversee the 5 kids. All went well. The kids are all well behaved and nice to each other. Sarah and a friend and the friend's brother walked home from school in the rain and were soaking wet. She had received permission from Gwen to walk home and stop at a fast

food place for ice cream. Anyway, I took the kids coats and put them in the dryer. The girl friend put on a pair of Sarah's pajama bottoms and I dried her pants. There was nothing for the little boy to change into so he had to wear his wet pants. They thought it quite an adventure! I cooked frozen meat pies, and some peas and heated up some mac-and-cheese so cooked a sort-of dinner. Watched "Finding Never Land". Natalie had to work and Jimmy also. When we went to bed and were saying our prayers I remembered it was our wedding anniversary and neither one of us had thought about it all day.....pretty busy day.

May 12 - Thurs. Natalie needed a ride to school as a friend was going to pick her up but didn't come. After all the kids were off to school we came home. Mer went H T to Bill Thomas. I did grocery shopping. Called Bea and her operation is feeling better but Cliff is still sick. Called Casey in Mesa but she was not at Jeri's and Brent didn't know where she was. Doug called and they are having a good time. Back out to D & G's house by 2:35 to be there when the first kid got home from school. After dinner and some home work we watched "Music Man."

May 13 - Fri. After the kids went to school we came home. Worked on the weedy ditch bank. Have really let it get out of hand this year. While I was weeding the mailman came and put mail in the box, then he kept doing things inside his truck, got out and walked to the back, and reached inside, then on the other side, then back to the driver side. I asked him if he was doing some housecleaning and he said, "Yes, I have taken my laundry and put it in your garage and will pick it up after you get it washed.". I laughed and said, "Well, let me think. Today is Fri. so I can wash it tomorrow and it should be ready by Mon." He said, "That will work out just fine, but you will find I get my clothes really dirty." We had a few more comments back and forth, but I don't remember just what was said. It is fun when two people can pretend a ridiculous situation and have such a funny off-the-wall conversation! Went back to D & G's by 2:30. Natalie started watching "Return to Me" so dinner was about 6:00. D & G came home at 7:00.

May 14 - Sat. Walked. Rolled Bea's hair. Worked outside for some hours. Planted 13 Geraniums in 5 pots. Mer mowed the lawns again, then hung tubing for the swamp cooler, then finished up weeding the north end of the ditch for me. Jeri sent me two pictures of Casey undergoing the operation on her nose. UGH! It looked sore and miserable. Had a long talk with Casey and she is doing OK. It is wonderful there are skilled plastic surgeons to do such needed work.

May 15 - Sun. Woke up at 4:30 and couldn't go back to sleep so got up at 5:30. Carl and Pat Christiansen gave their homecoming talks on their mission experience in Zimbabwe but I was so sleepy I got very little out of it.....much to my disgust! Barbara came for dinner and games, then she went home early as she was not feeling well. Mer and I had ice cream and read awhile. In bed a little bit earlier than usual.

May 16 - Mon. Mer and I walked outside and took time to walk around Mint Green Circle and Julep Circle to find out how they fit around the church propertya few surprises there. Mer read to me while I ate, then I went up to the project house. Going one more day should be enough to do what I planned to do. It is finally looking good. I hope it sells SOON. Home by 6:30, prepared dinner and ate. Mer talked with Mark while I was gone. Wrote in journal.

May 17 - Tues. Walked in the mall. Played games with Bea and Cliff. Casey called at Bea's and said her stitches were removed yesterday and she is healing well. Bea's stitches were also removed yesterday but were covered with tape so I couldn't check them out. Mer

and I went to visit Leah. She is feeling well but her memory leaves a lot to be desired. It is a real MAD-HOUSE there with Donna and her two grandkids (which she tends), her boyfriend and a cat that thinks it is a person! We stopped in to visit with Don but he had just lay down for a nap so we didn't stay.

May 18 - Wed. Temple..out by 10:30. Came home and ate breakfast, then I went to the project house for 7 hours. Was home by 8:00 and fixed dinner and ate. I am through helping so brought all my working stuff home.

May 19 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. We went to a new, beautiful rehabilitation center called "Aspen Ridge" to visit Earl Christensen and also Naomi Moore who are there for help. He had injured himself in a fall and she was in a car accident. Casey returned home from her operation in Mesa. Cousin Sally arrived just two hours later for a 5 day visit. Kay loves her but it is not a good time for a visit. Kay tried to discourage her coming but Sally was determined and came. She loves Kay and assured her she would be no trouble and that she (Sally) would take care of Casey. (It didn't turn out that way, of course.)

May 20 - Fri. Walked with Casey. Her nose job looks amazingly well. It pays to go to a plastic surgeon for such an operation. Read, then did washing and yard work. Pulled up all the tulips. Had dinner at the "Amber".

May 21 - Sat. Walked. Worked in the yard. Sprayed the weeds on the ditch bank and other weedy areas. Mer made ditches in the garden and "set" them so they are ready to plant. Doug came by and said he would mow the lawns each week if Mer needs him to. Very nice of him to offer as it takes the pressure off of Mer, but he will still try to do it himself. Gwen took me to the "Bead Fairy" where I made a pair of earrings to match my pantsuit. Gwen paid for them as a late Mother's Day gift. Very nice of her.

May 22 - Sun. Ward Conference. Bishop Jepsen and Stake Pres. Hogan were the speakers and both did very well. Barbara here for dinner but was not feeling well so left by 8:00. We had our usual ice cream and read the newspaper awhile, then went to bed.

May 23 - Mon. Saw Clark and Laura Holfeltz (this is father and daughter). Laura had her dog (Bridget) in a special cart she had bought for her as the dog is getting old and they walk a long distance and Laura was afraid it was too hard on her.....very tender and caring. Did a lot of washing. Had a long talk with Dixie and a short talk with Mark. I went down to Nebekers and played two game of "Oh, Hell" with Sally and Casey.....they each won one game.

May 24 - Tues. Went with Casey to drive Sally to the airport, then Casey and I went to see the project house for the last time. Chris has done nothing since I was there and there are things that need finishing but I wonder if he will just "blow them off". Washed the new sheets bought for the queen sized bed in the north bedroom. They are Black, white and grey in varying widths of stripes. Mer helped me move the mattress off the bed so I could remove an old, too small, wrong color dust ruffle. I started making a new white one, which should look great. It has been years since I used a gathering attachment on my sewing machine but I will read the instructions and use it. It is a very neat attachment. Went to Randy's school (Robert Frost Elementary) for a program put on by the three first grade classes. It consisted of singing and poetry and was very well done. Randy's teacher had her class present, (in unison) "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening" and it amazed me that those little kids could memorize the whole poem and present it so well. It happens to be one of my favorite Frost poems, too. Used the hat loom while Mer read to me for an hour.

May 25 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Mer had an appointment with a

man at the State Library to find out if he is able to read on tape for the blind. There was too much traffic for him to be able to get to the appointment on time so he returned home and canceled until later. Went to Ricky's middle school for an orchestra and chorus performance. They made good music and it really surprised me as the last time we went to one it was quite a disaster. Ricky plays the cello. Casey to the Dr. for some kind of test.

May 26 - Thurs. No hairdo as Melanie has gone to Lake Powell. Went VT to Bonita. We called and sang "Happy Birthday" to Lori.....will celebrate it later. Went grocery shopping. Went to the wedding reception for Hilary Walkenhorst and her new husband had a real mariachi band to surprise her (he is Latino) and the band was dressed in native costumes and were very good and I loved it. Great entertainment!! Dr. Schlisman told Casey that every thing inside her looks great, and Kay is glad, of course, but she still has a lot of pain.

May 27 - Fri. Worked on dust ruffle while Mer read. We went to the store and bought 25 tomato plants and 36 Vinca. Couldn't find any Dahlias and didn't feel like looking for them elsewhere. Mer planted cucumber seeds and we planted the tomatoes. Glad to have them in the ground. Went VT to Jeanie. Watched "Princess Bride."

May 28 - Sat. Sewed while Mer read. Bought six Chrysanthemums for Memorial Day on Mon.....6" ones were 3 for \$10.00.....good price. House work. Went to the marriage for Kimberly Bowers Harvey and Don Ray. I am so happy for her. We were supposed to have sent in an RSVP by May 1st, but I goofed and hadn't, so we didn't stay for the buffet as we were not counted as coming. Made a chocolate cake for Lori for tomorrow. Put roast in the slow cooker.

May 29 - Sun. Relief Society and Priesthood met together and Pres. Hogan gave a lesson on being self sufficient. Our dinner was delicious. After dinner we (L & C & the kids, Barbara, Mer and I) walked down to the "river" to see how high the Spring runoff was. We met and visited with Beth, Riley, Julie and Andy Draper and Andy's 5 kids who were coming back from the creek. Then Merilee and Andrew Larsen and their 4 kids came down and we visited with them. On our way home we met Brad & Tami Charles and their daughter and her friend and their dog, and talked with them. This was all very fun.....like really old days gone by. Came home and C & L played outside games with the kids. Mer and Barbara looked at his WWII letter case with pictures and etc. I put candles on the birthday cake and set up the candle race plate. We had cake and ice cream. Marnie won the candle race. Marnie broke a window in the south side of the garage and was devastated until I was able to assure her it was not a disaster and didn't really matter. We had a really happy time together.

May 30 - Mon. Memorial Day. It was raining really hard but we went out to the cemetery to put flowers on my brother Doug's grave but didn't stay very long. Barbara didn't come but Mer and I went to Brigham City anyway. It continued to rain until we came to Willard and then it wasn't raining.....almost as though someone had turned off a faucet.....pretty funny.

Harold went with us to the cemetery and we put flowers on six graves. Harold didn't want to stay and walk around as in years past. We took him home then we drove to Logan to visit with Yvonne. Took her out to lunch at a new upscale restaurant she wanted to patronize. My salad was good but theirs were just terrible and we will never eat there again. Went to an ice cream store and had big waffle cones full of ice cream and it was very delicious. Visited awhile then came home. Arrived at 8:30. This was another good day.

May 31 - Tues. Games with Bea and Kay, VT to Darlene Smith. Mer mowed the lawns. I did yard work.

JUNE 1, 2005 - Wed. Temple service. Out of the laundry by 11:30. We drove around the Gate Way shopping area as we had never been there before. It is interesting, just by way of information. I would not want to go shopping there, however, as I prefer enclosed malls. We went to the BIG State Library complex where they gave us a tour. Mer applied to read books on tape for the blind. He will hear later if they can use him. Chris came and replaced the window that Marnie broke. Mer could have done it but it is nice he doesn't have to. Alex called and he, Suzanna and James came by for a short visit. They had been golfing at the Mick Riley Golf Course. We had ice cream together. We called Shirley and Hilton and sang Happy Birthday to them and talked for awhile.

June 2 - Thurs. Hairdo and short shopping. Went to Amy's school where they put on "The Taming of the Shrew". Amy had the part of Catherine, the shrew. She did a good job of it.....having her lines memorized very well. It was a real challenge for those young kids and some of them were not really well prepared, which was not fair to those who were. It was fun anyway. Amy seems to have a talent in that line.

June 3 - Fri. Mailed a Thank You card to Dr. Margetts. On the 5th it will be four years since my operation and all is well. I am so grateful. Made a double batch of coconut cookies and some oatmeal-raisin cookies for tomorrow. Planted 36 Vincas. Staked up the Painted Daisies and the Fleabane Daisy. Didn't feel like doing any of it so had to force myself the entire job. Fixed dinner, with much reluctance. Watched "My Fair Lady" again.....it is always delightful. Chris and Lori have an offer on the project house!!

June 4 - Sat. Mixed up seven gallons of lemonade.....ingredients furnished by Bea and Cliff. I did it as I have the big insulated containers and it is much easier for me to do it than it would be for them. Went to the Jordan River Temple for the sealing of Joseph and Hayley Nebeker. We are so thrilled for them. We were all invited back to their home for a barbecue. We were late getting there and lots of people had already eaten and I was very embarrassed. This time it was Mer's fault, not mine. At the end I left two gallons with Hayley and Joseph, brought one gallon home for us and Bea & Cliff took a gallon for them.....it would all have been drunk if we had been there on time. Went to the evening session of Stake Conference. Our speakers were Boyd K. Packer and David Evans (1st Quorum of Seventy)..... pretty high powered stuff!! Pres. Packer opened up the meeting for people to ask questions and it was very interesting. I should have taken notes because at this time (Aug. 22) I can't remember any of the questions.

June 5 - Sun. Very informative and interesting conference session. Barbara not feeling well but came to dinner. She has Colitis and also sciatica.....sorry, sorry, sorry for her. We played 3 games of Rummikub, then she went home early.

June 6 - Mon. We had much rain until after 1:00. Casey and I went to Fashion Place Mall to walk. Mer went to Cottonwood Mall for his walk. After our reading Mer went to Welfare Square to volunteer some time. He didn't feel needed (sort of make-work stuff that should be done by the hired staff), so it was not a good experience. I hope he will try again in another area. There must be something he could do that is really useful.

June 7 - Tues. Games with Bea and Casey. Bea won both and that is good for a change. Casey is having awful pains in her lower torso. Even brought her heating pad to play games as that is the only way she has found for relief.

June 8 - Wed. Temple service. Out of laundry by 11:30. Went to Sweet Tomatoes for early dinner.....compliments of Mark and Dixie. Went back to the Temple to attend

the 5:45 endowment session on which Joye Tholen received her endowment. There was a big group of ward members, and other friends and relatives were there. It has been some years since Mer and I did an endowment but I still remembered it all without a hitch. Nice evening.

June 9 - Thurs. To Melanie's but she was in tears over Carli and so upset she couldn't do my hair. Carli had taken her sleeping bag and told Melanie she was going to sleep over at her friend's house, which she does from time to time. Instead she had gone with a fellow to the Senior Sunrise which is held out in the desert, so the kids are there overnight without any adult supervision and all sorts of stuff goes on. Carli knew her parents would not let her go if she asked so she did it this sneaky way. Mel had found out about it when another friend called to apologize for not connecting with her at the Sunrise thing. Melanie was really upset, knowing that Carli had done something that would cast doubt on her standards. Carli assured Mel that nothing improper had gone on with her and the guy and of course, Mel is thankful for that but was very angry for the deception. Carli is very seriously "grounded". Went shopping to several stores. Came home and made me plant 12 flowers and spread small bark in the North corner. I don't enjoy it like I used to. Shortened the legs of Mer's grey Sunday pants while he read to me. Today is Trevor Brimhall's wedding day, he was married to Jodee Allen. Wish we could have been there. We are so happy he has repented and is well on the gospel path again. They will receive their temple sealing in about a year.

June 10 - Fri. Usual walk and talk with Casey. Mer read to me over an hour. He put fertilizer on the lawns. I pulled out the dying Grape Hyacinths and thinned the Cosmos. Had a long talk with Lori. As always, she is too busy and too tired although she tries to do better.

June 11 - Sat. Walked over an hour. Had breakfast then went to the baptismal service for Anna Flitton and another little girl. Mer gave the closing prayer. He is the Flitton's Home Teacher. Lisa put cages on our tomato plants.....nice of her. Mer went to visit Tough. He was very miserable with a rash all over his body. His granddaughter, Sarah, has gotten divorced, which is a very sad choice. Mom Larsen's old electric broom died. Too bad, but such things happen. I will have to buy another one as I really liked it.

June 12 - Fast Sun. We were invited to D & G's for an early Father's Day dinner. I baked 40 rolls and took a pint of jam. It was a good dinner. Gwen had us all sit on the deck and take turns saying something nice about Grandpa. She tried to record it but that didn't turn out. It was very thoughtful of her. Gwen and I, Sarah and a girlfriend walked over to, and around, the hospital just for the fun of it. Sarah picked wild flowers (weeds) for me. At home I arranged them in a vase and they looked right pretty.....yellow and purple small, lacy flowers.

June 13 - Mon. Did sewing while Mer read to me. Did dusting and swept the porch and walks. Things don't get very dirty anymore with all the messy trees gone. There is a lot of loose grass that tracks into the house because Mer uses the mulcher instead of catching it in a bag or whatever it is called. Paramours came VT and HT. Brother P does most of the talking. Watched the News Hour, then The Miracle at Philadelphia #1.

June 14 - Tues. Games.....Bea and Kay each won one. Mer drove Tough to the barber shop, then they went to Skippers for bite to eat. I worked on the computer and also had an IM with John. Ordered product from FLP. Mer read while I sewed. We replanted the cucumbers for the third time! Did a little yard work. Casey went to the Dr and found she has a hernia and will need an operation. **Huibert Wohler died today.** He really needed to, bless him.

June 15 - Wed. Temple service. PHD laundry. To Applebee's for dinner....compliments of Chris and Lori. Leah was operated on for her restricted throat problem. We went and had a short visit with her. She is feeling fine. Her memory is increasingly muddled and she didn't even remember she had been to the hospital.

June 16 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Bought me a new Hoover electric broom. Used it in the kitchen on the linoleum, then in the hall, the bedroom and the bathroom carpets and like it fine so will keep it. The Relief Society went to see "South Pacific" at the Murray Amphitheater for our Enrichment Mtg. this month. Merlin came along and also a couple of other husbands came. Penny McNair is Enrichment Leader and she had candy in Baggies for each of us.....very nice of her! The play was well performed and we enjoyed it (even Merlin said it was well done.)

June 17 - Fri. Walked with Casey. Mer and I went to the cemetery for the grave side funeral service for Huibert Wohler. Mer gave a prayer, then it was opened to anyone who wanted to pay a tribute to Huibert and Elizabeth. It was very nice as many people did this. Had a long talk with Lori. Casey went to St. Mark's Hospital for a hernia operation and it went well. What a relief! We hope she will be pain free when she recovers from this. Mer received a Father's Day card from Mark. Went to a High Priest's get together to hear Pat and Carl Christiansen tell about their experiences as missionaries in Zimbabwe. They had lots of souvenirs on display which were neat. It was a very hard but interesting mission. After their talks we had banana splits and cookies for refreshments.

June 18 - Sat. After walking and breakfast we went to the project house to collect my shop vacuum. Chris has not finished the things he needs to do and it worries me CRAZY. On the way home we stopped into Marie Callendar's and bought a fresh strawberry pie for Casey to give Don for Father's Day tomorrow. We delivered it to her but hid it in the fridge so Don wouldn't see it and spoil the surprise. Eric Collier was there so we had a short visit together. Did house work. Went to the wedding reception for David Oveson and Susan Halladay. They were married in the Salt Lake Temple, which is a miracle as he had a lot of repenting and changing to do first, and he has done it, which really thrills me. His grandmother, Eleonora Anderson, would be so pleased if she knew it. It was the Collier family reunion today but I didn't go.

June 19 - Sun. Father's Day, and two men spoke on the importance of being fathers. John called to wish Merlin happy Father's Day. I cut up and seeded a whole watermelon for dinner at Lori and Chris'. They gave him the book "1776" by David McCollough, which we know will be wonderful, and a can of cashews. Marnie and Hunter and Charlotte made cards for him. It was a very good dinner, of course. We played ½ game of Shanghi with Marnie, Hunter and Chris. Had brownies and ice cream for dessert.

June 20 - Mon. Casey and I just sat and talked as she is not able to walk yet. Did a lot of washing. Cucumbers are coming up...Yea! Cliff and Bea came and planted more squash seeds as their other seeds didn't produce many plants. Mark called to wish Mer a happy Father's Day. Received cards from Clint, Nina and the kids.

June 21 - Tues. Picked up Bea and we played 2 games of Oh, H at Casey's. Sewed while Mer read to me. Mer went to visit Earl Christensen. Went to Marnie's Dance Review, which lasted over two hours. Lots of cute costumes and talent but it is simply not our area of interest.

June 22 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Mer trimmed the roses and the grape vines. Mary Gail Hobbs friend, Casey, called and gave us an update on Mary Gail,

Harlan and Hayley. Things are very hard for MG and Harlan. Hayley is doing very well.

June 23 - Thurs. Hairdo, and shopping at one store. We went to a four hour drivers safety class that makes us eligible to receive a discount on our car insurance. Have to attend it every three years. There was a very heavy thunder storm while we were there but when it was time to go it was clear again.....fun weather. Pam Hickman called and gave us an update on her life. She loves her job; would like to find a nice man to date, of course, but nothing is moving there. She hears about Craig and his new wife from the girls. Her son will have nothing to do with his dad, but the girls have switched their loyalty over to their dad, which I will never understand. He is a most charming man when he wants to be, and the girls think Pam is too hard on him.....insisting that he pay her alimony! Boy are they naive!

June 24 - Fri. Casey and I walked in the park again. There was MUCH water in the Little Cottonwood Creek. Went back to Nebs and got Casey's camera, then back to the park where she took many pictures. I took off my shoes and sox, pulled up my pant legs and waded to the bench where we sometimes sit for a rest. The water was just a few inches below the seat of the bench. I took pictures of Casey, too. It was a very fun morning.

June 25 - Sat. Went to see and hear a music performance in which Hunter played his violin. The stage was set up in the street next to the Chapman Library. The wind was blowing the music off the stands and that caused a problem. Also, there was a garage fire up the street a little way and so fire engines, police cars, an ambulance, another fire engine all went roaring by and the program went right on!!! Made it difficult to really hear the kids but they were real troopers. No one was injured in the fire. Went to the Assembly Hall to hear the six finalist in the Gina Bachour piano competition. Very wonderful. Saw Kent and Jeanine Acomb there as they are very involved in putting this on each year, volunteering hours and hours of time and effort.

June 26 - Sun. Reg. meetings. Barbara sick with Colitis and feeling rotten. She did not go to church and did not come for dinner, but did spend the evening with Brad and Sharon. It becomes rather boring without her here. Ended up watching the old movie Random Harvest, which is an upper, so it was a nice evening. Called and sang Happy Birthday to Andrew. Forgot to send his card and check so it will be late. Talked to John and Joyce and they are worried about Heather. She has no job as yet and is not very motivated.

June 27 - Mon. Casey and I talked with Keith Harrop for awhile behind the church, by the Mick Riley Golf Course. He is having a very hard time without his wife, and his boys are driving him "crazy", and "everybody" is trying to line him up with someone else, but they are not Joanne so he is not interested. Poor guy, we feel sorry for him. I sprayed Roundup on the ditch bank and the north parking. Mer mixed and poured Miracle Grow on the tomatoes and cucumbers, which is something he has never done before. Went VT to Bonita. Mer and I played a game of Scrabble. This time I won by a few points. After the game we sat outside and ate brownies from those Lori made for Father's Day and I have had in the freezer. Beautiful, warm evening for sitting and talking.

June 28 - Tues. Games with sisters. Went with Casey to Costco to pick out frames for her new glasses. Got some calcium tablets for me. Worked outside pulling bind weed off the ground cover and wanted to do other stuff but a thunder storm chased me inside. Worked on my hat loom while Mer read. Watched "Rip Van Winkle" a one hour Faire Tale Theater version.

June 29 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry.....guess it is never going to slow down as there was a full cart still left when our time was finished. Early dinner. Worked in

the yard. Jeff, Carol, Jason & Bernadette and their four kids are here for a brief visit on their way to Moses Lake, Washington, where Jason will be setting up his medical practice for at least two years. They are a very neat family. Jeff and Carol slept over at Nebekers but spent the days with Bea and Cliff. They will help Jason and all get settled then return to Ark.

June 30 - Thurs. Saw Carol Cash for a few minutes after walking with Casey. Hairdo and shopping. Kris and Jeri Brimhall here for a few days to visit. They only get to see Skye, (granddaughter) about once a year. They are on their way to visit Jeff and Juliette and their son, Nicky, then will go down the coast to visit Kris' mother, then on to Mesa. I asked Chris about the project house and the selling deal has been DONE and they hadn't even bothered to tell us! Unbelievable that they wouldn't know how worried we have been and how much it means to us to have it sold!!!!!! KIDS!!!!

JULY 1, 2005 - Fri. Talked with Jeri a few minutes through the bathroom door.

Did some yard work. Wanted to go visit Cashes but it wasn't convenient for them. Jeff and Jason were doing repair jobs on the home (much needed). The female family members were out shopping and etc. Went to Sweet Tomatoes for dinner. I read a Reader's Digest short story just for the fun of it.

July 2 - Sat. We went over to Cashes at 7:30 for a nice visit. Jason and Bernadette's children are very beautiful.

July 3 - Sun. Fast Sunday.....a really uplifting Testimony Mtg for a change. Thought Doug and Gwen might have us over to celebrate birthdays for James and Alex but they didn't. Barbara here for dinner and games. She is feeling somewhat better but not entirely.

July 4 - Mon. Went to the Flag Raising ceremony at the park at 7:00. The speaker was Congressman Matheson and it was a very short talk. I was rather disappointed. The band performance was enjoyable, as always. Other family members who attended were Casey, Cliff and Bea, Flannery, Antonia, Lori, Chris and their 4 kids. We treated L & C & family to breakfast in the bowery. This is always put on by the Lions Club. The cost for we four adults and the four children was \$30.00.....we are going to have to stop doing this, I'm afraid. Watched the parade. Came home and watched "1776". Made 3 gallons of lemonade and went to Nebekers for a patio dinner. Those there: Gary, Joy and their four kids, Adam, Melanie, Skye and Zinnia, Kris and Jeri, Cliff & Bea, Jeff & Carol, Flannery & Antonia, Jackie and Lud, Kay & Don and the two of us. We had a very good time but Casey had much pain in her belly area so it was hard for her. We other females did the cleanup and it is the first time Casey has ever had to sit while others did the work.....VERY hard on her. We were home by 10:00 and watched the fireworks from Murray Park in front of Elda Hardwick's house. Out in the street we can see all but the lows ones so it is convenient. Fidler's even supplied chairs for us this year. Good day.

July 5 - Tues. Kris and Jeri left to visit their son Jeff, Juliette and grandson, Nicky. Casey went in for an ultra sound to find out what is causing her intense pain....hope it is successful.

July 6 - Wed. No temple service as it is closed for two weeks. Boiled 12 eggs for tomorrow. Went to Smith's and bought watermelon for Randy's birthday. It was .39 a pound and that is a terrible price. I had brought a cookie sheet and a butcher knife in the car trunk, so took it out there and cut the end off. It was not a good melon as it was way too ripe. Took it back in the store and the produce man picked me out another one, took it back into the storage area and cut it open, showed it to me and again it was too ripe. I asked him if these melons had been the ones that had been sitting in the sun in front of the store and had been on sale for 15 cents a

pound, but he denied it. He was very annoyed but said he had some that had been delivered just that morning but that they were under a lot of other stuff and it would take him awhile get at them, and in a testy voice he announced that this was the last time he was going to cut one. I waited. He brought another cut one out, and although it didn't look all that great it was not too ripe, so I said OK. He took it back into the storage area and wrapped it in plastic wrap for the trip home. When I got a good look at it one end was stunted in its growth and was not even edible. That was a sneaky trick and I should have reported him but didn't.

July 7 - Thurs. Got a permanent. Went shopping. This was our first grandson's first birthday and I had purchased a card but forgot to send it. Of course, he wouldn't know but his parents probably did. We are not sending a money gift to great-grandchildren. Went to Thrift Town and bought yarn for making more hats. Bought 8# of potato salad and mixed in a dozen boiled eggs to take to Liberty Park for the picnic with the people who work in the temple Clothing Dept. It was fun to meet other workers and volunteers from other days other than Wed. We all look quite different when dressed in our "civilian" clothes. The young ones played volleyball and the rest of us just visited. Fun occasion.

July 8 - Fri. Jeff & Carol and two granddaughters left for the trip to Washington. Casey had two Dr. appointments as they still try to find out what is wrong with her. Worked outside a few hours. Watched Second Hand Lions, a really cute movie but Mer could not stay awake to watch it.

July 9 - Sat. Mer read to me while I cleaned the kitchen and utility room floors. It took me two hours. Mer went out to visit with Earl Christenson. I did more outside work and was really tired-out. Watched The Frog Prince, a Fairie Tale Theater version, but again, Mer slept through most of it.

July 10 - Sun. Regular meetings. Barbara feeling better but not 100%. Had dinner then played Rummikub. Suzanna called but made it short as we were playing games.

July 11 - Mon. The doctors still have not found what is the matter with Casey. Started washing the bedroom window curtains but had to stop as we went to a Senior Citizen's Center to hear a musical group sing. They were all seniors, themselves. It was mostly a patriotic program and was very enjoyable. Dixie Whitaker (cousin) is the director of it and was very surprised to see us there. One of the singers used to be in the Olympus Male Chorus with Mer and had told him about the group, thinking that perhaps Mer would like to join. He is not interested.....too bad. We saw Grant Morris and his wife there. Grant stops and talks to us in the laundry at the temple. He and his wife are steady patrons. Mer went to Leatherby's and met Doug for malts and talk. I came home and washed some windows. Finished the curtain job. Mer mowed and watered all the lawns. He also cleaned out a plug in the swamp cooler.

July 12 - Tues. Casey went to the Radiology Dept at the hospital but her attack had quit and she has to be having one while they use the machine on her so she will have to try again. Played games with Bea and Casey. Mer took Tough to the barber shop then they went to Baskin Robins for ice cream cones.

July 13 - Wed. Temple closed. Lori, Chris and the kids took the trailer and went camping up at Redman. It makes me happy that they have it and are using it. Francis Maldonado went with me to the RS potluck social held in Marilyn Jensen's lovely backyard. There were about 50 sisters there, the food was wonderful, and it was very enjoyable. We played a fun game using "white elephants" we all brought; sang patriotic songs and visited. Other years when we have had the social there we have had to fight the hornets for our food.....they were

so “brassy” they would land right on our plates. This year I took Bounce fabric softener sheets and we put several on each table and had NO hornets!! Judy Owen had emailed me a whole list of uses for Bounce and that was one of them. It either really works or there just were not any hornets around. Anyway, it was a lot more enjoyable without them for whatever reason!
July 14 - Thurs. Hair do and shopping. Watched a really cute movie named “Second Hand Lions.”

July 15 - Fri. Was scheduled to feed the missionaries but they canceled-out. Fine with me as I had not done any cooking for it yet.

July 16 - Sat. On their way home from camping Lori and Chris brought me Harry Potter #5 and I am so excited!! Went with Govert and Freddie Copier to see a big-screen presentation of the 15,000 voice choir, plus thousands of dancers and flag marchers and etc. I was held at Rice-Eccles Stadium. It was called Day of Celebration in honor of the 200th birthday of Joseph Smith and also for the 175th anniversary of the organization of the church. We had been given the wrong information, so arrived at the Stake Center one hour early, then the program was 2 hours long.....too long, and we old people were very tired of sitting.

July 17 - Sun. Barbara here for dinner. We played one game of Shanghai, then had our usual ice cream. When she went home I read some Harry Potter, just for the fun of it. Bea ran over the washbasin in her bathroom and soaked the carpet. She spent hours sopping up the water with towels; drying the towels and sopping up again. She didn't let anyone know her problem or she could have used a shop vacuum and saved herself that miserable job. Sorry!

July 18 - Mon. Usual walk with Casey. After breakfast and reading I worked outside for many hours.....Mer did too.

July 19 - Tues. Games, but Casey was in so much pain one game was all she could handle so she went home to lie down as that is what it takes. Mer went HT to Ethel then went to visit Earl Christensen. I used some hours reading HP #5 and enjoyed it. Went to bed but couldn't sleep so got up and read until 11:30. Bea and Cliff's bathroom now smells

like an open sewer because of the wet carpet, so now it will have to be removed and replaced.

July 20 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Home by 1:00 and ordered 50 pieces of chicken from Albertsons. Picked it up and 3:15 and went to Redman where D, G and family were doing family camping. L, C & kids came, too. All there but Conrad. Had dinner then the kids all played games; went with Lori to “big rock”, then to “Ghost Rock” for one of her on-the-spot stories. All but Doug, Mer, Charlotte and I joined in playing Whiffle Ball and had great fun. I sat with Connor watching. Had some great Smores, too. Charlotte and I had a one-on-one conversation and it was so fun. She is one very smart 4 year old. Took birthday gifts to James, Jimmy, Alex and Sarah as this was the first chance we had since their birthdays.

July 21 - Thurs. Melanie out of town again so no hairdo. I hate missing as my head gets so itchy, but I survive, and it does save \$10.00. Did some grocery shopping. Spent time washing our smoke saturated clothes and sheets on our bed, too, for the same reason. Lots of extra work for a few hours camping, but it was worth it. We are really glad they are carrying on the old tradition.

Went to join our Stake for a 6:30 temple session. Left home in what we thought was ample time but the traffic was backed up on 4500 So from State Street to the freeway so we drove on State St then West Temple and it was crowded there, too. There was no parking and the Conference Center as there was a special events program going on. We went to 1st north to that church parking lot, and drove almost to 2nd north. By then we knew we could never walk to the temple in time for that session so came home. BUMMER! I read the paper for awhile. Mer went to bed. I was up until 1:00 reading to finish HP. It was good but not as

riveting as the other books, and I didn't like the way it ended.

July 22 - Fri. Bea is going to have new linoleum in her kitchen and bathroom. Lori and Chris gave us their tickets to Pres. Hinckley's birthday party so we went to the Conference Center with 21,000 other people and it was great. He has a great sense of humor and is wonderful man. The program was very enjoyable. Mike Wallace was there and his is a very funny man. They are great friends.

July 23 - Sat. Doug came and visited about two hours. Some of his ideas are nuttier than Mark's. It upsets Mer a lot. I'm not happy with their apostasy either, but have accepted that they have their agency and I can do nothing but love them and work at staying faithful myself.

July 24 - Sun. All the meetings were unusually good today, of course, the subject was honoring the pioneers, and even Mer thought enjoyed them. Barbara here for dinner. Ray and Kirma came but they had already had dinner but had rolls and grapes. We visited, then had cookies and ice cream.

July 25 - Mon. Went out to L & C's for Hunter's birthday. We were there for 5 hours. Had a good dinner. Went for a walk around the neighborhood. Saw a lawn with pansies growing all over it like weeds! And I can't even grow any when I try....(frown and pout). Hunter had so many gifts it like Christmas. Not a good idea in my view.

July 26 - Tues. Games with Bea and Casey. Kay was having one of her dreadful attacks but toughed-it-out and we played two games. Went VT to Jeanne. Talked to Bonita on the phone. Went to Aleesha's home and saw her daughter who gave me the new phone number. Went to see Naomi Moore who is glad to be home after four months in the hospital and rehabilitation after her car accident.

July 27 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. Watered all of Lisa Anderson's flowers and lawn. Gwen sent us a copy of a Tribune article and picture of Suzanna running. Really neat!

July 28 -Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Mer took a saw and cut down my grapes vines. I am sad. He feels stupid and sorry. Called and talked to Suzanna to thank her for the article and that is when I found that Gwen had sent it. Suzanna and James are working on their kitchen in the basement of James' parent's home. Sent an email to Pam Hickman.

July 29 - Fri. Ray, Kirma and Barbara came here to go to Logan and Mer asked Ray to drive our Cad as he hadn't slept a wink all night and didn't trust himself driving. We met Harold and Norma and Yvonne at the Copper Mill for lunch. We bought ice creams on the way to Yvonne's home. Visited and had dessert until about 5:00. Mer was upset by Ray's driving, but Ray would have even more upset if Mer had been driving. I had told Ray that Mer is a dreadful backseat driver and that I refused to ever drive if he is in the car. After the trip home Ray said he understood just what I meant and he would never drive again with him in the car either.

July 30 - Sat. Spent all day (after walk, breakfast and reading) doing housework getting ready for Mark and Dixie and children coming. Mer spent hours cutting the grape vine out of the fence. Put it in the dumpster at Catmull's.....they had said we could get rid on anything we wanted to put there as they didn't need all the room. That was a piece of luck. Our fence will not have to be replaced, as Merlin had declared it would.....thank goodness. Mer and I played Scrabble and he won by 38 points.

July 31 - Sun. The Primary Presidency were released. New: Sue Berry Pres, Bobbie Nichols, and Kay Hawks the counselors with Geri Cartwright as Secretary. Barbara here for dinner and games. I forgot to put the rolls out to rise so we had none.

AUGUST 1, 2005 - Mon. Casey and I went to a little park on Murray-Holladay Rd for a change. Picked 4 cucumbers today and also one pint of raspberries. Mer read for two hours while I did washing and pressing. I used the shop vac and cleaned all the spider webs and etc out of the garage. Did some cleaning work in the sheds. Moved empty fruit jars out of the garage into the shed. These are the 100 jars Lois Hodgkinson gave me and I think Suzanna will like to have them when she starts bottling stuff. Anyway, this cleaning up will make it more pleasant for hiding the Easter eggs and finding them.

Aug. 2 - Tues. Decided to wash curtains in the South bedroom. Mark, Dixie and family arrived about 7:30. Andrew and Elizabeth have grown really tall. Kimmy is now 10 years old and is delighted to use the pool sticks. Played several games. Got in bed late.

Aug. 3 - Wed. Temple service. PHD in the laundry. There were two carts piled so deep we didn't even get one done in our four hour shift. On the way home Mer told me he had stated to Bro. Hess that polygamy is evil and that the only one who like it are those in charge. Bro Hess had said "NO"! Mer is saying and doing irrational things lately. Mark and Dixie along with Lori and the seven kids went to Lagoon. We went to bed before they got home. Filled the eggs with candy, ready to hide for the hunt.

Aug. 4 - Thurs. Cooked eggs and toast for the kids. Mer taught the grandchildren how to play Rummikub and they loved it. Doug, Mark and Lori went to lunch together. After that D & G, Ricky, Amy, Sarah, M & D and their kids went to Pioneer Village. The plan was to spend the rest of the day together but when Mark found out that Doug was going to go play games with his friends, Mark came here and had dinner and visited with us. Seemed very rude of Doug to me.

Aug. 5 - Fri. Had breakfast, then Mer played pool with the kids. They then went out to L & C's for the day time. In the evening it was "couples" dinner and we went to Sweet Tomatoes out on State St. Mark and Dixie paid for all of us, as usual, which is MOST generous of them. Chris was sick and stayed home but his sister, Ronnie, was in town so she came in his place. After dinner we went for a walk on the Jordan River Parkway South of 78th South. Very enjoyable time together. During this outing the children were at L & C's. Home very late but we had already gone to bed, being "old people".

Aug. 6 - Sat. Saw Andrew's stop animation production "Potato Style".....very clever. This was a big day. We had the egg hunt which is always fun and funny. Then to Liberty Park for our picnic and games. After that M & D and kids, also Amy went to the pool at L & C's park. Home late again. I cleaned up and put away all the picnic stuff. Put a roast in the slow cooker for tomorrow.

Aug. 7 - Sun. All Mark's family slept in late. Got up just in time for church. They all went to Sacrament Meeting, then they came home but we stayed for the other meetings. Barbara here. Dinner pretty good but the roast was rather tough for some contrary reason. Mer and Barbara stayed home and the rest of us went down to the "river" and were gone quite awhile. Barbara left early. Mer and kids played Rummikub and had fun. More pool was played. Had ice cream to top off the day. Liz said it was a "perfect day."

Aug. 8 - Mon. Grass too long. Mer mowed the south lawn, had to use the catcher. Had to stop as it was too hard. Mark mowed the rest of it. Dixie made phone calls to LDS Social Services and to state aging services. They have extensive Retired Senior Volunteer Program with 70 organizations to choose from. Mer should be able to find a niche there. The kids watched The Dancing Princesses. Dixie did washing.....stripped the beds and etc.

They left here about 1:30 to go say a final goodbye to Lori and kids. Elizabeth left her new Rebocks here so they had to come this way after being at Lori's. They stayed at Lori's until 7:00 PM! Came here after that to get the shoes and ate some chicken, then left for a motel in Boise. That really fouled up their schedule, but they seem to do it every year!

Aug. 9 - Tues. Mer to Welfare Square for four hours working in the dairy facility packaging Atmit for starving people. Wonderful program. Played games with Bea and Casey. Mer met with the bishop about getting counseling help for depression.

Aug. 10 - Wed. Temple Service. PHD in the laundry. Mer called Verlie and got Bro. Hess' phone number and called him and apologized for his comments last week. He is very agitated in spirit.

Aug. 11 - Thurs. Mer said he didn't sleep a wink all night and he is exhausted. I went for my hairdo and then did shopping. Mer had mowed the South lawn. He was on the livingroom floor trying to go to sleep. I bought Tylenol sleeping tablets for him and he finally slept about 3 ½ hrs. He ate a little and went back on the floor to sleep. Got up, took two more pills and went to bed.

Aug. 12 - Fri. Mer went to Dr. Pierce. His medications are still OK. He mowed the other two lawns. Mer told me he was afraid to tell me something as it was really a dynamite subject. He said he no longer believes in Joseph Smith nor the B of M!!! Where do we go from here? Mark would be delighted if he knew. Heaven help us all.

Aug. 13 - Sat. Took a birthday card to Casey. Her health problems continue.....awful. Went to visit Leah but she was not home. Left the aluminum cans for them. Went to Bea and Cliff's to checkout the new paint job being done on their home. Watched "Finding Never Land".

Aug. 14 - Sun. Charlotte's 4th birthday. After Sac. Mtg the Bishop sat on the bench with us and asked Mer what he wanted to do about going to a counselor. Mer said he wanted to go, so the Bishop said he'd call tomorrow and set it up and the counselor would call Mer. We went to Lori and Chris' house for dinner and birthday celebration. Barbara was invited but had other plans. As always, it was a good dinner, good cake and ice cream, good time with the family and we appreciate being invited.

Aug. 15 - Mon. Even sleeping pills are not helping much and Mer is exhausted.

Aug. 16 - Tues. Mer mowed the front lawn and said he couldn't do it anymore. I went to play games with my sisters. The counselor from LDS Social Services called and set an appointment time with Mer for Tues. 23rd. Mer went to Dr. Pierce and asked to have an MRI to check for a possible stroke but the Dr told him his problem is behavioral, not physical. He gave Mer a prescription for depression. Mer bought it then upon reading the possible bad side effects he dumped all the pills down the disposal.

Aug. 17 - Wed. Temple. PHD in the laundry. Mer almost refused to kneel at the alter during the Sealing Session and it was very embarrassing. Doug came to mow the South lawn and the back. Amy came with him. We had raspberries, brownies and ice cream after. Toasted and sugared almond slices for the salad for tomorrow.

Aug. 18 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. Made salad. We picked up Tough and Eris and drove to the gate of Thayne's canyon where we car pooled up to the cabin. Eris is in a very poor physical shape and it is hard for her to move around. She has to use a walker and getting from the car to the cabin was a major task even with the men helping her.....she is such an uncomplaining, brave lady! We had a good time together.....well, I had a good time. Mer hardly said a word all evening.

Aug. 19 - Fri. Went VT to Darlene, to Jeanne and to Bonita. Set up for Aleesha but she had to baby sit her sisters kids and called it off. Went to visit Naomi Moore and took her a pint of raspberries. Had a nice visit. She is beginning to feel better. Went to see Freddy Copier just for the fun of it but she was not home. Stopped in to see Lisa Meyer but she wasn't home either. Went to see Beverly Higgins and had a good visit. Jack came home while I was still there so it was nice to see him again.

Aug. 20 - Sat. Went to the Assembly Hall and enjoyed a performance put on by 10 flute players, 1 cello, a harpsicord and piano players. Very nice.

Aug. 21 - Sun. Reg meetings. Baked 40 rolls and cut up cucumbers. Went to D & G's to celebrate Suzanna's birthday. Natalie was at work and Jimmy was not home. Jimmy is going to move into an apt with some friends. I am so sorry. He says he still plans to go on a mission in a year and we hope he will. Mer talked with the Bishop and "confessed" only Heaven knows what. He says he will likely be excommunicated. Agonies!

Aug. 22 - Mon.

Aug. 23 - Tues. Went with Mer to fill out papers. His counselor is Jim Walker. He told Mer to get another prescription for medication, which he did. After talking with him he told me that we should get cable TV so Mer would have some stimulation in his life. I was so shocked that my chin nearly hit the floor. The counselor laughed at my expression and said he knew that there is a lot of garbage on cable, but there are really good things such as the History Channel, the Travel Channel, the Discovery Channel, the Military Channel and the Biography Channel among others. I said I thought Mer needed to be interacting with people rather than to watch TV. I don't think we will go the cable route. Mer took sleeping pills but they didn't work. He kept moving and muttering "I can't sleep.....I can't sleep.....I can't sleep. This kept me awake, of course, so I finally went to sleep on the couch. He came looking for me and I told him to go back to bed and let me get some sleep or I would not be able to function myself. What to do????

Aug. 24 - Wed. Didn't wake Mer but got ready to go to the temple. He woke up at 4:30 but knew there was not enough time for him to get ready. He took two more sleeping pills and went back to bed. I left and it seemed very strange going to the temple without him. This was the first day for his taking medication for his depression. Mer insisted on seeing the Bishop and talked to him about his youthful transgressions. I'm sure the Bishop didn't want to hear about that and it didn't need to be confessed as it already had been done years ago to proper priesthood authority. Being a Bishop must be a very difficult job. Mel Thyne called and told us that Emma Lou has breast cancer! How awful! But her reaction was one of gratitude that it wasn't anything wrong with her mind.....she is a really strong lady. Mer would not let me sleep so again I had to go on the couch.

Aug. 25 - Thurs. Walked, and we saw "Baskerville" again. Casey had to go for a test where they put a bitty camera up her nose and down into her stomach.....how miserable can it get? Hairdo and shopping. Mer went to Dr. Hansen for two biopsies ---- one on his elbow and one on his leg. Mel Thyne came by and brought us a picture of Clint & Eris, Mel and Emma Lou, Marion (but Malcolm was the one taking the picture) and Mer and me. It was taken years ago when we were young and were having a party at our house. I put the picture on the fridge to remind us of how we used to look. We gave Mel a pint of fresh raspberries to take home. He is such a neat, thoughtful friend.

Aug. 26 - Fri. Casey and I walked on the Mick Riley golf course and saw the water where the big Canadian Geese hangout. We drove to see the new houses that are being built No. of the

golf course, then also to see those condos on 9th E So of 4500 So. They are so crowded together they give me the creeps. Mer mowed one more lawn then called Doug to come do the back one. His mowing days are over unless he gets to feeling stronger. Doug ate dinner with us. He came on his bike and Gwen was to pick him up. We went to see "Forty-Second St" at the Hale Theater. L & C came home with us for ice cream. I enjoyed the play but Mer didn't.....no surprise there. He is one really glum man.....there is no joy in his being as far as I can tell.

Aug. 27 - Sat. Walked.....had to let Mer rest twice and walk slowly. Cut off limbs of the white lilac bush and cut them up to fit in the garbage can. Need to cut off more. Mer watered the garden, which was a big challenge as it has all grown together and is hard to get the water down the rows. Picked almost a whole bushel of tomatoes. Picked raspberries.

Aug. 28 - Sun. Very good Sac. Meeting. A young couple who have been serving in the youth detention center gave wonderful testimonies of the truth of the gospel. Barbara here for dinner and 4 hands of Rummikub.....she won. She finally noticed that the grape vines were cut down but we didn't tell her why. Mer in a bad way but put up a front, so it was OK at least for now.

Aug. 29 - Mon. Casey too miserable to walk. We talked in her bedroom so she could lie down. She also has diarrhea and is nauseated.....awful! Picked raspberries. Picked 15 cucumbers. Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf states as a category 4 storm. Total evacuation was ordered in New Orleans and some other places but many people had no way to leave. The storm wrecked GREAT HAVOC in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Aug. 30 - Tues. A levee broke in New Orleans and the city is 80% flooded. This is the worst disaster in American history. Played games with my sisters but Casey was in misery. She finally lay on Bea's couch with a heating pad on her stomach. The pain got so bad Cliff had to drive her home. She called an ambulance and went to emergency. She is almost positive that it is another hernia. She doesn't want the same Dr who did the first hernia op to have anything to do with her. They recommended another Dr. Drove Mer to the counselor, who had me come in alone to talk, then Mer went in alone to talk. The counselor is going on vacation so Mer won't see him for two weeks.

Aug. 31 - Mer got partly ready to go to the temple then chose to stay home. He says he feels unworthy to go. I went alone again. It was PHD in the laundry. Margo helped iron the sashes and she is quick so kept me hopping to fold them. Mer was all upset as Doug has not mowed the lawn as soon as Mer thinks it "must be done" or the lawnmower won't handle it. So he did the South lawn himself.....couldn't do anymore, so quit. I bottled 14 quarts of tomatoes while Mer dumped his anticipatory disasters and past failures on me. I get so churned up inside it feels as though I would explode. Lori was doing housecleaning for a customer and was stocking footed and stepped on a needle and it broke off in her foot. She didn't know it was still there but decided to go for a tetanus shot. It hurt so bad they took x-rays and there it was lodged into her bone. She was at the clinic for 5 hours while they probed and prodded and finally got it out. VERY painful ordeal.

September 1, 2005 - Thurs. Picked raspberries. Walked with Casey. Also walked with Mer. Doug came to mow but the grass was too wet with dew. No hairdo as Melanie was on a cruise. Did some shopping. The computer won't work and that is so frustrating!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sept. 2 - Fri. Walked with Casey. Came home and walked with Mer. He hardly slept all

night worrying about the lawn being too long for the mower to handle. MEGA over-reaction. Drove Mer to the dermatologist to check on the biopsies. His leg is OK but his elbow has not healed up yet. Doug came and mowed with ease and speed. He even used the grass catcher and it looks better than it has for a long time with no dry grass on it. I am most pleased. Doug ate dinner with us. He had raspberries here and took some home, too. Also took tomatoes and cucumbers for Gwen and the kids. Mer picked the raspberries. Gary came and took my computer to fix.....bless him! Mer and I started watching a special on Tom Paine but he couldn't get anything out of it so we turned it off.

Sept. 3 - Sat. Walked with Mer. Picked berries with Casey. She has an appointment with Dr. Vorhees but not until the 22nd. Bought a new toaster. It is quite a jazzy style and has a bright-blue LED that pleases me. It has openings wide enough to accommodate half-bagels, so that is nice. Picked our berries again and also cukes and toms. Almost forced Mer to drive to Tough's and take produce to them. He is very nervous about driving so I guess I am stuck with it.....and I don't want the job. We tried to watch a movie but Mer didn't like it as it was "too confusing". I am afraid we are in deep trouble.

Sept. 4 - Sun. Reg mtgs. I baked 3 dz rolls before our meetings. Remembered late that I was supposed to substitute in the library. The 6th Ward librarian had run off our ward's bulletin and she also briefed me on using the copy machine (which I had forgotten how to do).....Bless her! She helped me out of a tight spot. Went to D & G's to celebrate Natalie's birthday. Three of her friends came for cake and ice cream, we then played Charades and it was fun.

Sept. 5 - Mon. Walked with Casey then came home and walked with Mer.

Sept. 6 - Tues. Walked with Casey then picked berries. Walked with Mer. Played games with my sisters. No counseling for Mer as Mr Walker is out of town. Picked tomatoes and bottled 12 quarts. Gary brought me a NEW computer and installed it!! Mark and John paid for it and Gary did all the leg-work and etc! OH, WOW!!!! They are all so generous. Gary said to think of my old computer like a parking lot that would hold 1 1/2 cars and the new computer like a parking lot that would hold 150 cars. Needless to say, I am not really qualified to have such a magnificent model, but I am not complaining! It will take some time and effort to get used to this new one and I will never be able to do it justice.

Sept. 7 - Wed. I to temple. During my second Sealing Session Verlie Storms beckoned me out and said Mer had called 911 and was in the Cottonwood Hospital. I changed and came home to change into pants as I knew it would be many hours at the hospital and I didn't want to be dressed up for that. And I was right about the time as we were there 5 1/2 hours basically doing nothing. They could tell he hadn't had anything really serious happen, so put him on an IV, as he was dehydrated, and left him, to take care of other patients. Later a Crisis Prevention person came in and asked him lots of questions to determine his state of mind. When she determined to her satisfaction that he was not a danger to himself nor to others she said the Dr would have to come in and sign him out. We waited and waited and waited and I finally threatened to unhook him from the drained IV and we would leave, with or without the Dr saying so. That got some action and the Dr came and released him. So, there were no new problems but he was experiencing panic at being left home alone. That effectively stopped my temple service as I knew I could not leave him alone again for long periods of time.

Sept. 8 - Thurs. Mer walked alone just a little while. I to Melanie's but she was still on vacation and hadn't told me she would be gone that long. Did some shopping. Drove Mer to the dermatologist for a check-up on his elbow and it is doing OK. Mer had to miss

his class reunion in Brigham City as he was not mentally fit to go. Mel and Emma Lou
Thayne, Tough and Earl Christensen went up together. I picked raspberries for Casey.

Sept. 9 - Fri. Mer walked alone. Mer to Bel Tone to take his left hearing aid again.
He drove himself but later had me drive him to Lowes to get some swamp cooler pads. Doug
mowed the lawns. He had berries and ice cream after. Doug helped Mer get the pads in the
cooler and set up again. Went to the wedding reception for Eric Bowers. It was held in
their back yard, which is being worked over and looking much better.

Sept. 10 - Sat. Walked together. Picked tomatoes and bottled 21 quarts. Mer said he
cannot reconcile the bank statement.....I tried but he won't leave no alone to think things
through, so I quit trying. I watched "Marty" but Mer wasn't interested in it and went to
bed. It was an old, very cute movie.

Sept. 11 - Sun. Regular meetings. Barbara went to a family birthday celebration. I sat
and listened to records for some hours. Also read the church section of the paper, then read the
B of M until time to go to church. Mer got his shin skinned a little when chairs fell at
church. It was just a small wound, thank goodness. Had dinner then turned on a nature
program, then saw a National Geographic special. Things are too quiet and more boring
without Barbara coming to dinner and playing games.

Sept. 12 - Mon. Walked, then picked berries at Kay's. Picked berries here, too. Had a
long phone conversation with Lori. Tried to balance the checking account for July but don't
really know how. Mer and I went to a notary at the bank to have our signatures verified.
Sent that paper along with a General Power of Attorney copy to Security Benefit Life so I can
access our money. After dinner I left home and didn't return home until 12:15 AM ...I
was a "run away" wife.

Sept. 13 - Tues. No games today as Bea, Cliff and Jeff Cash have an appointment with a
lawyer to setup their finances so Jeff can take care of them from now on. Neither Bea nor Cliff
can do it anymore. I drove Mer to the counselor at Church Social Services and he said
Mer's medication needed to be increased up to 20 MG (this was the Fluoxetine), plus using
another medication for anxiety. Went to Dr Pearce for the prescription. Called six pharmacies
to find the best price. Went to Hyland Drug and bought it and gave Mer 1/2 of a pill. I hate
using all these medications!!!!!!

Sept. 14 - Wed. No temple service as I no longer dare leave Merlin alone that long. Gave
Mer 1/2 of new pill. Evening time, gave him one whole pill and it helped him sleep
overnight and that was the first time in some weeks. I hope they continue to help in that way
as interrupted sleep is hard on him and me.

Sept. 15 - Thurs. Casey was again operated on for a hernia.....they determined that the
stitching in the first hernia operation had come loose as it had not been done properly. What a
horrible Spring & Summer she has had. Went to Melanie's for my perm and etc. Mer
called for me to come home as he was frightened. I told him I couldn't come until Melanie was
finished but that I would not go shopping but would come right home. On Mel Thayne's
suggestion I took Mer to the Veterans Hospital but they have "hoops" to jump through before
they will admit someone in as a patient. They setup an appointment with Dr. Rasmussen, Mer's
Primary Care Dr up there. It is to be at 1:00 tomorrow. Doug came and mowed the
lawns, then had dinner with us before going home. Jimmy has been in a car wreck and
was not badly hurt but now has no car. We are grateful he wasn't injured.

Sept. 16 - Fri. No walk with Casey, but did talk. I picked the raspberries for her. Went
to the Farmer's Market in the park to check out their peaches, which turned out to be \$27.00 a

bushel, so I will bottle no peaches this year.....better luck in 06. Went back to Veterans Hospital but Dr. Rasmussen was not even in the hospital!! Another young man who is in training asked Mer lots of questions then had a Dr come in and he asked some, too. Mer said he didn't think he is depressed but they very positively stated that he IS. They recommended that Mer see a psychiatrist and they would call me Monday to set it up. The Dr increased Mer's Fluoxetine to 40 MG, beginning Monday.

Sept. 17 - Sat. Bottled 14 more quarts of tomatoes.

Sept. 18 - Sun. Barbara here for dinner. Played three hands of Rummikub. Mer had a hard time playing and was very slow. Mark called but I asked him to call back after Barbara was gone, so he did, and we talked awhile. Raymond called. Mer missed calling him on his birthday so Ray knew something was really wrong.

Sept. 19 - Mon. Picked berries. VA called. The young man said he would call back with info on the appointment with the psychiatrist, and who he would be, but he never called back. We slipped through the cracks somehow. I canceled the appointment with Mer's Counselor at LDS Social Services. Emma Lou Thayne has knowhow and connections and arraigned for Mer to be admitted in the psychotherapy unit at the University Hospital. Mel Thayne went with us and stayed through all the paper work stuff.....bless him, bless him, bless him. I really appreciated his support as I felt totally lost. He stayed until 10:15 PM, when Mer was taken upstairs to the unit where he would stay. I went upstairs with Mer to help him get ready for bed and bedded down. Didn't leave until 12:15.....then I got lost twice trying to find my way home. Very STRESSFUL day.

Sept. 20 - Tues. Doug, Gwen, Amy and Sarah left for a trip to MO. They will stay overnight with Ammon and Melanie in Ft. Collins, then on to MO. This trip is for the purpose of doing a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings.....complete with armor, swords, authentic clothing and etc. It is pretty crazy to me but Doug just loves it. They will spend the nights at Stew and Marilyn's so that will save a lot of money not renting a motel. They will do their own eating thing as Marilyn is not up to it nor can they afford it. Natalie and Ricky will be home so Doug and Gwen asked Jimmy to move back home while they are gone, and he has agreed to do so. Played games with my sisters and finally Casey has no pain.....what a blessing! Went up to the hospital to see how Mer is doing. He is not wanting to stay there, of course. Had him change into clean clothes. I thought he would press me to stay with him but he started saying, "I'll let you go now", and kept saying it often, so I left. Mel Thayne came for a short visit and brought Mer a Symphony candy bar. He is such a good friend. I came home to many phone calls which I had to answer. CRASHED into bed by 8:00.

Sept. 21 - Wed. Walked with Casey. 9:00 meeting with a Social Worker and Dr. Hunziker who will make an appointment for a neurological exam to find if Mer has early Parkinsons Disease!! Mer ate a good breakfast. I sat by him while he ate then we went to his room, then back to the lunchroom. I tried to get him to walk in the long hall but he only went a little way. He kept saying, "I'll let you go now", so I came home. There were more phone calls but before I talked on the phone I took a 2 hour nap. Govert called and said that **Alan Bertoch has died**. It is good there is a way out of this "lone and dreary world".

Sept. 22 - Thurs. Hairdo and shopping. I had to buy new circular lights for the kitchen and replace the failing old ones. Went up to see Mer and stayed a few hours.....no improvement that I can see. Went to the Amber for dinner.....all alone.....and very different.

Sept. 23 - Fri. Went VT to Jeanne and then to Bonita. Went to see Mer one hour before his dinner then stayed until 7:00. He was very agitated and wanted me to stay. He offered to

sleep on the floor so I could have his bed. I had to leave him feeling very upset and I am sorry, sorry, sorry.

Sept. 24 - Sat. Had to add coolant to the Olds. Fortunately Mer had told me about that problem some time ago and so I got out the owners manual and found out how to do it.....so did! I am learning to do things I never wanted to have to do. Mer was in a more active mood so we walked in the long hall, once with his walker and two time without it. That was good. Came home, changed clothes, went to the R S General Conference at our Stake Center. I missed the dinner served before as I goofed on the time. Came home and ate a cheese sandwich, then tomatoes and cottage cheese. I must not stop eating although have no appetite.

Sept. 25 - Sun. Went with Barbara and Antoinette to hear DJ Huish report his mission to Brazil.....very well done. He was an excellent missionary. After meeting we went to Jack and Karen's for visiting and a fine buffet. It was most enjoyable and I am sorry that Mer had to miss it. Came home, changed clothes, and went to see Mer. There was a Sacrament Mtg held in the UNI section and it was Fast Sunday. Several patients bore their testimonies, including Mer, who rambled on and spoke so quietly he could hardly be heard. After the meeting we went into the long hall and walked, then sat, then walked again. I left at 5:00 when they brought up the food trays. Called John and talked quite a long time. Hung up and Mark called me and we also talked a long time. Dixie joined in for part of the time.

Sept. 26 - Mon. Went down to walk with Casey but all her lights were out. I sat there wondering what to do, then decided to leave. Had just started the car and she came running out in her nightgown. She had overslept (which is almost unheard of) so I waited while she dressed and we walked. Both Tough and Malcolm called me to check up on Mer. Bro Paramore and Helen came to see me. He will give Mer a priesthood blessing when he is home. Had to go a different part of the hospital to pick up the CAT scan they did on Mer to take for the neurologist to study. Picked up Mer to bring him home. Had to stop at the pharmacy to pick up two new medications so I'll have everything he has been prescribed to take to the neurologist tomorrow. I am most GRATEFUL that we can get his medications at the VA as it saves us hundreds of dollars. However, there was not time to get the new medicines from VA. I hate all this medication stuff as there are always side effects.

Sept. 27 - Tues. Got up early and gassed the car before walking with Casey. Mer had a 9:00 appointment with the neurologist, a Dr. Goldstein, who I really liked. He commented that that was a lot of medications to be taking and he "wondered if they were a part of the problem". It really surprised me that he would say that. He could see nothing to suggest Parkinsons but recommended that Mer have an MRI on his head and neck. I agreed so he set up an appointment for Thurs. Home and I picked cucumbers, tomatoes and berries. I turned on "Shadow Lands" so Mer could watch it while I bottled 14 quarts of tomatoes. It was too sad a movie for his feelings now, so had to turn it off. Had dinner, then when Bro. Paramore came he spent an hour talking to us, saying that we should do something together every day just for fun; he went on and on saying what wonderful people we are and etc. It was almost too much praise. He then asked Mer if he should give him a blessing and Mer said "You have already blessed me", and so Bro Paramore left! I was very upset and asked Mer why he hadn't let him give him a blessing. So Mer called and asked him to return. Bro. Paramore brought Jim Robertson with him. They took turns giving Mer a blessing. I guess I was out of tune with the spirit as it gave me no comfort nor encouragement at all.

Sept. 28 - Wed. Woke up at 2:30 and had very little sleep after. Went walking with Casey.

Mer was still in bed at 8:05 so I took care of the bottled tomatoes. Did other house work. He accused me of not coming home when I said I would be here. He said he was never going to eat again so he could starve himself to death. I left his food on the table in front of him and turned on "Mr. Holland's Opus" and after awhile he ate breakfast and I was glad. Did some sewing and Mer was a non-stop talker.

Sept. 29 - Thurs. Took Mer to Valley Mental Health to sign up to see another psychiatrist and to participate in group therapy. Hope I can make him do it. Came home and Mer ate some breakfast. I picked berries then cut out the dead stalks. Went to Wasatch Neurological for an MRI on Mer's head and neck. Also had blood drawn for testing. Home, and fixed dinner.....I wish I had a cook.

Sept. 30 - Fri. Walked with Casey. Came home and Mer was still in bed. I awakened him and he said he felt "mean" and although he is not a swearing man he "felt like swearing". I told him he probably needed some food in his tummy and I would fix breakfast while he got ready for the day. He shaved and etc and I came down the hall to tell him his food was ready but then he went all crazy, he came at me with his fist doubled up and said he wanted to "hit" me and "hurt" me. I tried to calm him down but couldn't. He kept threatening me and throwing things and knocking things around in the kitchen. I was terrified and called 911. The man who answered the call told me not to hang up, that he was relaying the information to the police. Mer was trying to get the phone from me so I ran into the bathroom and locked the door. He followed and was pounding on it when the police arrived. He fought with them and threatened to kill them, but they "muscle" him outside on the breeze way and restrained him, then gave him a sedative which didn't calm him at all. The ambulance came and they took him to the ER at St. Mark's where they gave him a heavy-duty shot which should have knocked him out cold but didn't. When I got there he was still fighting mad and refusing to lie down. I am not going to go into anymore details but it was the most terrifying experience of my life. From St. Mark's they took him back to UNI South. My world has been turned up-side-down. I was too unnerved to sleep at home so went down to Nebekers for the night.

October 1, 2005 - Sat. General Conf. I wasn't up to going to see Mer, but Lori went. Did lots of food preparation for tomorrow. Slept at Nebeker's again. Doug, James, Alex and Ricky came after Priesthood Mtg for ice cream. Oh, yes, Alex brought a friend from the Singles Ward with him. Seemed very strange for them to be here and no Merlin.

Oct. 2 - Sun. Good, really good conference. Here for dinner: Chris, Lori and four kids, Doug, Gwen and all kids but Conrad and Ammon (& family), Barbara Baldauf and Gordon Maughan and me. The kids all played together and the cousins had a ball. It did my heart good to see them. None of us made it up to see Mer. Doug was supposed to go in between sessions but it was too much driving back-and-forth. Slept at Nebeker's.

Oct. 3 - Mon. Walked with Casey. Went up to see Mer and he is most upset to be back in UNI and doesn't really understand why he has to be there. Slept at Nebeker's.

Oct. 4 - Tues. Same as Mon.

Oct. 5 - Wed. To the Jordan River Temple with Casey, Bea and Cliff. Went to the Golden Corral for dinner. Went to spend time with Mer. Slept at Nebeker's.

Oct. 6 - Thurs. Same as Mon.

Oct. 7 - Fri. Walked with Casey. Went to see Mer. Went with Lori & Chris and Casey to Hale Theater to see "Camelot". Sorry Mer had to miss it as it was a very well-done play. To our house after for ice cream and visiting. Slept at Nebeker's. Just haven't

been comfortable enough to sleep at home.

Oct. 8 - Sat. Walked with Casey. John came from NH to be with and help me for a week. Lori picked him up at the airport. John and I went up to see Mer. With John here I finally slept at home again.

Oct. 9 - Sun. John and I visited with Mer before going to Doug's for dinner to celebrate his birthday. We all had a good time. Played a fun two-group game.

Oct. 10 - Mon. Walked with Casey. John replaced a bulb in one of the headlights in the Oldsmobile, checked the oil, and filled the window washer tank with fluid. He topped-off the coolant tank as it was down a little. I told him I had done that just a little time ago and he said it shouldn't have been down again so checked hoses and etc, could see no leaks.

Oct. 11 - Tues. Walked with Casey. All the coolant in the Olds had run out on the garage floor! Took it to Met Auto for repair. I surely am glad John is here to help me. He spent most of this day working on our financial records to figure out where we are. Mer has not been able to really figure it out since June and I haven't known there was any problem. Since he has always done such a superior job of handling our finances I know very little about them and haven't wanted to learn although he really tried to get me to. John will put everything on a computer program called "Quicken" and teach me to use it. He can access my computer from his in NH and "talk me through" the program until I learn.....hope I am up to learning it. John will also set me up with Caller ID, also on-line DSL and he will pay for it each month!!

Oct. 12 - Wed. Walked with Casey. John went with me to pick up the Olds. The repair cost \$228.00, which was a shock to me!! Acombs took John and me to Mimi's for dinner. They eat out a lot and know many good restaurants and this was a good one. We came back to our house for pie and ice cream and visiting. A most enjoyable evening.

Oct. 13 - Thurs. Walked with Casey. Hairdo at Melanie's. Casey told me that my cousin Ina May's son **Glen just committed suicide!!** This is so terrible especially since their son, Joe, also did this. I can't even imagine how devastated they must feel. Dr. Bushnell talked to John, Mer, and me and explained about ECT treatments.....that they help over 90% of the patients who have them. Mer said "yes" to having them and signed the papers. This is a real relief to me as I was going to authorize them myself, since I have Special Power of Attorney for medical decisions. John went to dinner with Randy Bennett at the Joseph Smith Memorial Bldg. They had a very enjoyable time together. Randy was John's favorite missionary companion and they had not seen nor talked with each other since those days.

Oct. 14 - Fri. Doug, John, Lori and I met with Dr. Hunziker and Kevin Clark (Social Worker). We saw a video on the ECT treatment process showing how it is given.....very improved over years ago when Mom Larsen had them. I hope they will help Mer as much as they helped her. John trimmed the three tall shrubs and edged the lawns. Doug did the mowing and things look just great! John spent time with Lori and put a part in her computer. He then went to dinner with Pres. and Sister Broshinsky .

Oct. 15 - Sat. Walked with Casey. Mer had his first ECT.....no headache nor nausea nor extreme fatigue.....GOOD! Lori came and drove John to the airport. We returned home then went to see Garden Terrace, which is a top-of-the-line care facility. Also went to see the Avalon Valley Rehabilitation facility, which is not very desirable. Slept at home alone this night and was not nervous and I am very grateful for that. This evening would have been the 50th wedding celebration for Dick and Ina May Johnson but they had to cancel it because of Glen's death. Sorry, sorry, sorry.

Oct. 16 - Sun. I went to Sac. Mtg at our ward, then hurried to UNI to attend the ½ hour Sac.

Mtg with Mer, then stayed until dinner time at 5:00. He told me he had gotten mad earlier in the day and had doubled up his fist and threatened to "punch-out" the whole nursing group. Bad behavior, which is bad news.

Oct. 17 - Mon. Govert and Freddy went again to visit with Mer. They are just the nicest and most thoughtful people.

Oct. 18 - Tues. Mer had his 2nd ECT treatment. This time it caused him to have a headache and he was very confused.

Oct. 19 - Wed. Barbara followed me in her car and we went up to see Mer. Riley and Beth Draper went to see him, too. I had a long talk with Judy Owen.

Oct. 20 - Thurs. Mer's 3rd ETC. Went VT to Bonita and Jeanne. Had a half hour talk with Mark. Up to see Mer. Got his signature on a form giving John access to our bank accounts. Drove to the Jordan River Temple with Karen Douglas (who used to live in our ward). We did an Endowment Session. Will try to do this together once a week. However, she has two teenage kids so it might not work out.

Oct. 21 - Fri. VT to Darlene Smith. Spent the usual 2 hours with Mer. I was going to the Stake Center to see a program by a man representing Willard Richards but was too tired.

Oct. 22 - Sat. Mer's 4th ECT treatment. Walked with Casey. Came home and went back to bed.....clothes and all! Got up at 10:00. Talked with John for a long time. Up to

see Mer and he is feeling much better. Walked about ½ hour in the long hall. He is not shaking now and that is a good improvement. Talked with Kim Mose quite awhile.

Doug and Ricky went to see Mer. Went to bed and slept until 2:00 AM. Since I am not sleeping at all well and tomorrow is Sun. I took a sleeping pill, which is something I do not intend to get caught-up in.

Oct. 23 - Sun. Went to our Sac. Mtg, then to Mer's little meeting at UNI. While there Lori, Chris and the kids came to visit Mer. I went to their house for dinner. We then watched "The Work and the Glory". Got home at midnight.

Oct. 24 - Mon. Mer's 5th ECT treatment. Went to see the second movie in "The Work and the Glory" series. It is very well done. Went to lunch at the Amber with Casey, Bea and Cliff. Went up to see Mer and he is doing better. I had to take sleeping pills again.

Oct. 25 - Tues. Games with my sisters. Went up to see Mer and this time he was sitting reading the Scriptures, which pleased me a lot. We walked out in the long hall, then went outside on the patio for about 50 min. and visited. Just got back in the long hall and Mel and Emma Lou Thayne came to visit.....they only had about 10 minutes but Mel brought Mer a couple of candy bars. They are very attentive and thoughtful. I helped set Mer up for his dinner, then came home. Always there are many people who have called and want to talk, so I talked to Lori, to Malcolm and to Kay. Lisa Anderson brought us some apples from off their tree, and she visited for awhile. I ate good left-overs Lori had sent home with me.

Oct. 26 - Wed. Walked with Casey, then went with her to leave her car for servicing. We rode a shuttle back to her house. I came home and went back to bed and got up at 10:45, which was a bad choice. Worked on the North flower bed doing Fall cleanup. Was late getting up to see Mer. Alex and Suzanna came. We went out on the patio first, then to a little conference room and talked until 5:35. It was a fun visit. I got Mer set up to eat then came home. Did washing and made phone calls. Serviced Mer's razor.

Oct. 27 - Thurs. Walked with Casey then we went to her house where we emptied their water heater as they are getting a new one. Casey had a hose attached to the heater and would fill buckets and I would carry them upstairs and empty them into the bathtub. Quite a process, but

very doable since I have a good back and good leg muscles. Charlie is in the hospital and they do not know what is wrong with him, but he can barely walk. Jan and Ron bought tickets for Cliff and Bea to come to their house for Thanksgiving and a two week visit. I am happy for them as they get lonely for their family. Went up to visit Mer and Kim Mose was there. The three of us walked the long hall for about 40 minutes and talked. I am glad people come to see him. Went with Mer to eat in the cafeteria and it wasn't any better than when he gets a tray brought up to him, and I had to pay \$6.15 for mine and it was not worth it!! So, I won't do that again.

Oct. 28 - Fri. We walked in the F P Mall as it was stormy. Later Casey picked up Bea, Cliff and me and we went to visit Jackie and Lud and see their re-done kitchen, which is just beautiful. We had a nice visit. Came home and I forced myself to rake leaves off the south lawn. Didn't get finished. There is much more Fall cleanup needed. Up to see Mer. Came home and ate dinner. Listened to Jim Lerher for the first time in weeks. Also watched Washington Week in Review.....it has been a bad week for Pres. Bush. Slept for two hours then got up and did paper work and Quicken until 1:15 AM. Took no sleeping pills but was able to go back to sleep.

Oct. 29 - Sat. Casey and I walked outside. Mer had his 6th ETC. Was going to work outside but it started raining. Was talking to Mer on the phone and Mel and Tough came to see him. I did dusting and vacuuming and other housework. Went to a violin recital in which Hunter played. Enjoyed it a lot. Up to see Mer and stayed while he ate dinner and we visited with a lady patient for quite awhile, then walked in the long hall about ½ hour.

Oct. 30 - Sun. Went to our Sacrament Mtg then made a jello and whipped cream. Went to see Mer and to his Sac. Mtg and stayed until 5:00. Came home and changed clothes and went to Lori and Chris' to celebrate Chris' birthday. His friend, Art Silver, was there. Art gave Chris a commercial-size air hockey game!!!! Art is a very rich man so could afford to do such an extravagant thing.

Oct. 31 - Mon. Walked. John called. Mark called and we had a nice long talk. They may be coming here for Christmas! Up to see Mer until 5:00.

November 1, 2005 - Tues. Walked. Raked leaves, filled the big garbage can. Also cut out the raspberry canes that had no berries on them. Also pulled up the Cosmos. Up to visit Mer.

Nov. 2 - Wed. Walked. Raked more leaves and now have seven 30 gal garbage bags full and in the ditch. Lisa cleaned out our tomato plants and stacked the cages and pulled up the re-bar and other support metal. Bless her heart.....she is so nice and thoughtful and helpful. I really appreciate all she has done. Up to see Mer.

Nov. 3 - Thurs. Walked. To Melanie's for hairdo. Again I did no grocery shopping. Went to Dillards and bought two pair of pants and a blouse all for \$40.00 dollars. Conrad sent me his U.S. Mailing address so now I can send his birthday card and check. Got an e-mail from Dixie and they plan to be here on Dec. 22 for Christmas.....that will really be an emotional support for me. Of course, that is why they are coming, as it would be a lot easier on them to stay home and have their traditional Christmas. They are wonderful to sacrifice that for my comfort and benefit. Up to see Mer. Again, I went to the Amber for dinner all by myself. Sometimes I just can't face coming home and having to prepare something for myself.

Nov. 4 - Walked in Fashion Place Mall as it was raining. We parked in our usual place behind the Vine St Church facing the golf course. We saw the dog we have named "Baskerville", and his owner, for the last time until next Spring when Casey gets back. Sigh. Lori, Doug and I met with Dr. Hunziker, Kevin and Dr. Riley. Mer is so much better they no longer think he has dementia, but that his behavior was totally caused by depression, so they cannot refer him to a care facility, so they think he can come home. Mer gets his 8th ECT tomorrow. Then he will stay there one more week for observation. If I want interim care I will have to pay for it myself and that is very expensive. Many decisions to make.

Nov. 5 - Sat. Kay and Don and Gary left for Mesa at 4:00 AM. I walked outside, alone for 45 minutes.....have to keep exercising for the good of my health and also for the mental help it gives me. Up to see Mer.

Nov. 6 - Sun. Attended Sac. Mtg and Sunday School then the Bishop beckoned me into his office to get and up-date on Mer. Bryan Capson interviewed me to get my temple recommend renewed. Went to Doug and Gwen's for dinner to celebrate Gwen's birthday. Didn't have time to visit Mer first.....have only missed 3 days while he has been there. The celebration was a nice, noisy time together. Alex said that he had done baptisms for the dead during the week!!! I am heart-happy with the change in his lifestyle.

Nov. 7 - Mon. Walked outside by myself. Doug and I went up to get Mer and took him out to Temple Square. We saw Legacy. He said it felt good to "get out of jail". We parked behind the church on 2nd No so he did quite a bit of walking. He looked good and was very cooperative. Back to UNI by 5:00 and in time for his dinner. Doug mowed the lawns in the dark! I prepared some dinner for us and had a small bowl of raspberries for him. It was a good day.

Nov. 8 - Tues. Walked in Cottonwood Mall, after voting first. Then went to the Sanitary District to vote for the trustee. Cliff, Bea and I went to the Jordan River Temple for one Endowment Session, then after to the Golden Corral for dinner. Came home, changed clothes and was going to go visit Mer, but on the answering machine was a message from Mel saying he was going to pick Mer up and bring him home for a short visit!! He did that, then took Mer to Mt. Vernon Cove club house to vote. He is such a great friend. Ray and Kirma called, also Pam Hickman, also Casey and also John.

Nov. 9 - Wed. Walked. My aloe order arrived. Paid bills. Talked to Kevin Clark and Mer will be released from UNI tomorrow. Talked with Lori about this. Garden Terrace called with lots of questions to expedite filling out forms tomorrow. Medicare might help with the expense after all. We hope so.

Nov. 10 - Thurs. Walked. Melanie was very sick, so no hairdo. Lori and I to Garden Terrace and finished filling out the forms. Went back to the unit where Mer is now assigned and he is very unhappy as it is a unit for people with mental or physical problems, or both. Mer is the only one not in a wheelchair. He can't see what is there that will help him for when he comes home. Mer has gained weight and his pants are too tight around the waist so I will have to buy some new ones. Gwen and Sarah came to visit Mer in this new location to help him feel more comfortable.

Nov. 11 - Fri. Walked 45 minutes. Let out a pair of Mer's pants 2 inches. Bought another pair of light-colored pants size 38. Had him try them on and they are way too big. Now what to do? Mer was sitting out-of-sight and all alone in his room and bored to death. I told him he needs to be out in the hall and get to know people. Took him to the in-house beauty parlor for a haircut.....best one he has ever had! At dinner time he sat at a table with 3 other

men and I stayed there visiting with them until the meal was brought. They are 3 nice, friendly men, so I hope he will get to know them better. At home I watched "Lady Hawk" and enjoyed the break.

Nov. 12 - Sat. Walked only 15 mins. Did lots of washing. Let out another pair of pants for Mer. Also moved buttons on 2 pair to get about 3/4" more room. John helped me on the phone and the computer to reconcile the Oct bank account. Confusing, but I will learn. Riley Draper went up to UNI to visit Mer, not knowing he had moved.....too bad. When I went to see Mer he was in another residence's room visiting with him and his family. I was really pleased. At dinner time he sat at the same table with the men he sat with yesterday and that was good.

Nov. 13 - Sun. I was able to sleep in and it felt really good. Went to all my meetings and that was nice, too. Up to see Mer. His meeting was too early for me to attend. I stayed there until his dinner time.

Nov. 14 - Mon. Walked one hour. Visited Mer. Talked to Malcolm, also to Ruth Ann Young, also to Shirley, also to Barbara and also to Casey.

Nov. 15 - Tues. Walked 45 min.....the temperature was 27°. Mel and Tough went to visit Mer. All my flowers froze last night. Bonita Robertson went and visited Mer for two hours. He says she is a very good listener. Mark called and read a seven page clinical report on his throat problem. I only understood it a little bit. Had a long talk with Judy Owen. Also talked with Casey.

Nov. 16 - Wed. Walked 40 min. temperature was 27°. Lori and I met at Garden Terrace with the team caring for Mer.....7 people!! Lori visited with Mer for about ½ hour but I stayed until time for his lunch. Valley Mental Health picked him up and took him for a meeting with the psychiatrist there who is handling his medications. I visited with Ethel Hart. Bought a different electric blanket. Visited Leah and Donna. John called and we talked about 45 mins. Casey called. I called Bea.

Nov. 17 - Thurs. Walked 45 minstemperature 29°. To Melanie's for permanent and etc. Grocery shopping at Reams. Up to see Mer. Gwen and Sarah went to visit Mer, then came here for 10 min. Casey called. Bought a 14# frozen turkey and put in the fridge to thaw.

Nov. 18 - Fri. Walked. Went to the temple with Cliff and Bea. To dinner at the Golden Corral again. Went to visit Mer.

Nov. 19 - Sat. Walked over to Bea's and picked up some books to return to the library for her. This was my walk for the day.....took about 30 min. Cut down the raspberry canes and cleaned them up. Pulled Geraniums from the pots. Did washing. Up to see Mer. We walked outside around the building once and Doug and Natalie showed up so the four of us walked around twice more. Out to Lori and Chris' and along with Marnie we went to see Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. It was OK but the book was much better, of course.

Nov. 20 - Sun. Went to D & G's Sacramento Meeting as it was their Primary Program. Sarah read a story and did so well that Grandpa would have been proud of her. Came home and went to all our meetings, then changed clothes and went to visit Mer. Again, we walked 4 times around the outside of the building. I stayed until time for his dinner. Came home and ate something then read the paper, then read some chapters of the B of M. Casey called. John also called. Don Christensen skipped Sunday School and Priesthood Meeting and went to visit Mer for two hours. Very nice of him.

Nov. 21 - Mon. Walked. Roasted the turkey. I will include the dark meat with the

turkey I will cook for Thanksgiving dinner as most people prefer dark to light. Froze the whole breast sections for use for Christmas buffet. It took much longer to cook than the instructions on the bag said so I checked it every 10 mins to see if the button had popped up.....It took forever! Drove me crazy. Got the turkey cut up and frozen. Boiled the bones and will use the broth for gravy on Thanksgiving. Cooking remains a real pain for me. Went to see Mer. My new Visiting Teachers came....they are Freddy Copier and Kathleen Searle.

Nov. 22 - Tues. Walked 50 mins. Returned Mer's pants to Wal Mart, the electric blanket to Shopko and Bea's book to the library. Went to the bank and to the bread store. Checked out four video tapes at the Library. Went to Bel Tone and got Mer's right hearing aid repaired. Went to see Mer and was going to walk with him but Kim Mose came and we visited for an hour. I watched "The R M", a really crazy Mormon-made movie.

Nov. 23 - Wed. Walked 50 mins. Went for a hairdo and did a little shopping. Made a birthday cake for Mer for tomorrow.....spice cake with caramel nut icing, of course! Cooked fresh cranberries. Chris came and took the card tables and chairs so I won't have to hassle with them tomorrow and that helps me a lot. Went to see Mer and we walked once around the building with Nandeeda (his physical therapist) then he spent 1/2 hour in the physical therapy room with her working with him. Got the 23# turkey ready and in the cooking bag. Mel Thayne and Clint Holmes bought malts and went to visit Mer for his birthday tomorrow. They are so thoughtful. Watched "Cyreno de Bergerac", an oldie I really like, starring Jose Ferrer. He did a really wonderful acting job.

Nov. 24 - Thurs. Up at 5:30 and put the turkey in the oven. Made bread dressing. Cut up the roasted turkey. Made gravy. Put all things into the car and arrived at L & C's by 3:00. Doug and Jeff Ammon went to Garden Terrace and picked up Mer and brought him there. It seemed very strange after these long weeks of going each day to see him. There were 24 persons to dinner: all of D & G's family, L & C and their 4, a single friend of Lori's whose ratty husband has deserted her, James' sister, April, and Mer & me. The tables looked lovely. The food was delicious and plentiful. We had candles on Mer's birthday cake and sang Happy Birthday.....didn't have a candle race as there were too many people involved. Conrad looked GREAT. It was a very busy, noisy, fun day and everyone got along well together. A happy time. Games were played. John called and talked to Mer then to me. Mer got very tired so Doug and Ammon took him back to Garden Terrace about 9:00. Mark called but it was after Mer had gone. He talked to Lori.....I suppose he talked to me also, but it is June 6th 2006 that I am typing this and I can't remember and my notes do not say.

Nov. 25 - Fri. Slept in, then didn't want to go walk but made me do it anyway. Went with my new VT companion, Evelyn Charles, and visited with Bonita Robertson. Worked over the turkey bones. Cleaned up the kitchen which was still messy from yesterday. Went to see Mer and we walked around the building five times. Casey called. Watched The Dead Poet's Society, a good movie but a sad one.

Nov. 26 - Sat. It was raining so I walked in Cottonwood Mall. Did washing and other house work. Put the new warming blanket on the bed and checked to be sure it was working right. Hope Mer will like it when he comes home. Watched "Sleepless In Seattle".

Nov. 27 - Sun. A warming blanket is wonderful! Went to all three of my meetings, well, not really, as I spent all RS time talking to Linda Willis in the hall. Went up to see Mer and he is his usual glum self. All the same complaints about the crummy food; how "dead" the unit is; how he is going downhill from how he was at UNI and etc. Guess I'll bring him home

someday this week if I can find the courage. He has not made much improvement there, if at all, and at \$5,000 per month it isn't worth it.

Nov. 28 - Mon. Did a 45 min walk in the mall. Went VT to Aleesha Johnson. Mailed a Birthday present to Judy Owen. Returned videos to the Library.....won't be doing that again any time soon.....I have too much to do to watch that much stuff. Went to check out the Heritage Center in Murray and it is a very nice Senior Citizen Center and has some possibilities for when Mer comes home. Returned some books to Linda Fitt. I was going to read them but can't take the time right now. Went to the Mount Olympus Sr. Ctr and it is also nice, and somewhat closer to home. Both have classes and activities that are a possibility for Mer. Some for both of us, like learning line dancing. I want him to take a beginners computer class. Went to see Mer. Casey called me. Lori, Marnie and Charlotte went to see Mer.

Nov. 29 - Tues. Walked 45 minutes. Took our bedspread and a comforter to the Swishy-Washy for a wash and dry job. It cost \$11.00. Glad to get them done. Mark called and we had a long talk. Just hung up from talking to him and Lori called and we talked a long time. Just hung up and Barbara called and we talked quite awhile. I love to hear from them but I don't get anything done! Went to see Mer and decided to bring him home Thurs afternoon. Casey called. Didn't get much sleep thinking and wondering about having Mer home.....how I will feel and how to handle him.

Nov. 30 - Wed. Walked 45 minutes. Went to Meier and Frank and bought a little pocket radio with earphones to have something if the power goes out as it did last year. Bought a book of Word Search for Mer to do. Also a foam board on which he can do jigsaw puzzles so they can be easily moved from the table. Bought a small dry-erase calender on which to write scheduled activities so he can keep track of them easier. Also two Sunday-through-Saturday pill holders to help keep track of his medications and supplements.....one for the morning and one for the evening meds. Called Valley Mental Health to schedule more appointments with them as followup on Mer's medications and also counseling. Have an appointment with the counselor on Friday and I am to be there, too.

December 1, 2005 - Thurs. Walked. Melanie called and Carli is threatening to have a miscarriage, so they had to go to the doctor, so I had no hairdo. Did some grocery shopping. Went to Garden Terrace at 2:00 to bring Mer home. Mel Thayne was there visiting. Came home and got things put away, then I had to get back into the preparing dinner routine.....what a DRAG. Both of us were a little nervous. Mer seems to really feel displaced. Put his meds into the little boxes I bought for that purpose.

Dec. 2 - Fri. I got up at 5:30. Mer up later and we went to Cottonwood Mall to walk by 8:30. I walked one lap with him then went up on the second level and walked my speedy walk until 45 minutes was up. Did much washing. Mer did one Word Search then read the paper a little. He talked to Earl Christensen and to Tough. Met Lanetta at Valley Mental Health and decided Mer should join their Masters Program for group therapy and interaction with other people. Judy called. Doug and Gwen came and assembled the Christmas Tree and put on the lights. Bless them!! Mer was dreading trying to do it and I don't think he could have. He was agitated watching them do the job as they did not do it like he has always done.....very methodical and balanced, but it looks fine to me and I really appreciate it even though the cords are every-which-way and it will be a challenge taking it down after Christmas. I will do it to save Mer's nerves.

Dec. 3 - Sat. To Cottonwood Mall by 8:00 and walked the same as yesterday. We worked on Christmas Tree and house decorations. Went to Scout Court of Honor for four boys in our ward who were getting their Eagle Scout Award. They were Levi and Matthew Nielsen, Taylor Capson and Everett Hinckley. A man gave a talk about eagles and he had a live one there who was very "vocal" and impressive.....it was exciting. People were happy to see Mer there. Chris came and installed safety bars in the bathtub. Bless his willing heart! He also installed a handheld shower head which may work better than for Mer to try sitting down in the tub. Did more decorating. Mer hung lights around the window on the porch. Had dinner and started watching "Waking Ned Divine" but it was not a good copy so threw it away. Bea and Cliff came home from Oregon. They had a busy, good time, and I am glad for them. Casey called.

Dec. 4 - Sun. Fast Sunday. People glad to see Mer there. On coming home from church we found a box of orange sticks on the step. Keith Mose had left them there. Mer called to thank him and we invited him to join us and Barbara here for dinner. He also brought a frozen Sara Lee pie, which I popped into the oven. Had dinner. Played 2 hands of Rummikub.....had warm pie and ice cream. Nice time together. When filling the pill boxes that hold Mer's medicine I discovered there are not enough of some pills for the week so have to go to the VA and get refills.....this is going to take some getting used to for me.

Dec. 5 - Mon. Mer was picked up by the driver to take him to Valley Mental Health to participate in their Masters Program. Mer is not really interested in doing this but Dr. Hunziker said he should as it will help him get involved with other people in a friendly, helpful way. Hope it works. After Mer had gone I went to Cottonwood Mall and walked 45 min. He returned home about 2:30 and stated that he doesn't feel that it is a program that will be of any value to him.....sigh. I knit hats while listening to a Christmas special by Andy Williams.....then another program with Andre Rieu. I enjoyed them but Mer gave up and went to bed.

Dec. 6 - Tues. Mer left home at 8:20 for VMH. I went again to the mall to walk. Called Garden Terrace to have them FAX Mer's Discharge Summary to the VA. Mer has to see Dr. Rasmussen before he can get the new meds from the VA. We have to buy them for the interim and it will cost between \$400.00 and \$500.00 for a 30 day supply and it will be 49 days until his appointment!!! MEGA STRESS. Dr. Pierce gave Mer free samples of Lexapro, enough to last 11 months, so that is one break. Mel and Tough each called Mer. I called Casey and Lori. Govert Copier has to have a prostate gland operation.....that is too bad.

Dec. 7 - Wed. Mer to VMH. I went to the temple with Cliff and Bea. Drove out to the Jordan River temple only to find it was closed for two weeks, so we went into the SL Temple instead. Parked in the terrace under the Conference Center. Saw Thomas (the young man with no legs that sits outside the Temple and people give him donations). Hadn't seen him since Mer and I stopped going there. Talked a little while and I gave him \$30.00. We missed the 11:00 Endowment Session by two minutes so had to wait until 11:45. When we went back to the car I couldn't remember where I'd parked it and it took me 20 minutes to find it.....DUMB!!! We drove to my house as I was sure Mer would be home by then, and he was in the garage running the Cad, just for the good of it. He didn't want to go out to dinner with us so we went to Chinese Gormet without him. Came home and we went to Hyland Pharmacy for new meds which cost \$338.19.....less than I thought they'd be but still way too much.

The rash on Mer's knees and calves is getting worse and his medicine for it is about gone....that is also a prescription item. Dwight Nichols and three of the boys from the Young Men's

organization came and brought us a nice Christmas treat: a box of crackers, two apples, one orange, one banana, two little candy bars, a granola bar and some fruit snacks.....very unexpected and very nice of them, and it lifted my spirits.

Dec. 8 - Thurs. Mer to VMH. I to walk in the mall, which helps my frustrations as well as my physical health. To Melanie for a cut and style. Carli is feeling better as she is not nauseated any more. Grocery shopping and arrived home just minutes before Mer came. We talked awhile but solved nothing, of course. Did some work on Quicken. Talked to Freddy Copier and she said Govert's operation was a very miserable affair. She stayed at the hospital all night to help him. This was very miserable for her, too, as she only had a recliner, no bed to sleep in. Didn't talk with Casey as I was so tired I went to bed by 9:00.

Dec. 9 - Fri. Mer to VMH. I walked my usual 45 minutes in the mall. Talked with Lori too long. I need a head phone arrangement like she has so I could work all over the house and talk at the same time. Brought in the old shop vacuum from the garage and did the mini-blinds and around the edges of the carpets. Drove Mer to a dermatologist to get something for his rash. His usual Dr was not there so again he had to see someone else. That Dr prescribed two more ointments to use twice a day. This cost \$45.00 dollars.....seems as though there is no end to this "Dr and medicine" mess. Talked with Casey.

Dec. 10 - Sat. Walked one lap with Mer then the rest of 45 minutes alone up on the second level. It got up to 33° so I cleaned the corner windows. Used Lime Away on them and they look much better. Did much more vacuuming. John helped me balance the bank statement and other computer stuff. I was on the phone about two hours. I greatly appreciate his help. Measured out all the ingredients for two batches of fruit cake. Cut up the nuts and etc. Will make twelve two-pound cakes.

Dec. 11 - Sun. Good meetings. Spencer Charles played his oboe and it was beautiful. Had an easy dinner of grilled cheese sandwiches and soup. Went to Balls for their annual pipe organ open house. It is very impressive and most unusual. Linda is a very good organist. They have a buffet in the kitchen/family room which is very nice. Barbara did not want to come as she would know no one but us. Went to our Stake Christmas Fireside program and it was very enjoyable, too. Busy, fun day.

Dec. 12 - Mon. I walked 45 minutes. Took knit hats to the Heritage Center. They have a project to help the needy, so it was closer than going to the Humanitarian Center.....that's why I took them there. Did some shopping. Drove Mer to Norelco repair store for new batteries. One less thing for him to stress over. Had dinner. Tough called Mer. Played 3 hands of Rummikub with Mer. It is not as fun with only two persons, but better than nothing.

Dec. 13 - Tues. Walked 45 minutes. To Casey's to gather up some items she needs. Packaged them ready to mail. Went VT with Evelyn Charles to Bonita. To Post Office to mail stuff to Casey. Started making six fruit cakes. Mer came home from VMH and started reading to me out of Abigail Adams.....it was enjoyable after such a long time of not reading.

Dec. 14 - Wed. No walk. Picked up Bea and Cliff and we went to the Salt Lake Temple on the 9:30 session. I saw Thomas again and I gave him \$50.00 out of my aloe money. We went to Chinese Gormet for dinner again. Came home and Mer and I went to VMH to meet with Dr. Isabella and Carrie. We had over an hour discussion, and one medication was cut back just a small amount. Mer is convinced the whole program is useless for him.....sigh. We went to our Ward Christmas party. They had a very good dinner and lots of people came. The

Tongan Choir was scheduled to perform for us but found they were double-billed and the other people were more important than we were. Weston Brewer (our Gospel Doctrine teacher) sings with a double quartet and he got them to come and it was just great! They are called "The Acapellas" and are very talented and full of energy. A most fun evening.

Dec. 15 - Thurs. Only had time to walk 30 minutes. Hairdo. Very little shopping. Paid \$8.00 a pound to have pecans for decorating the fruitcakes.....awful price! Will save them in the freezer for special things. Cut 6" off the width of our velux blanket so it won't drag on the floor. Mer came home and started reading to me while I decorated the cakes. They look delicious. Darlene Smith brought me a loaf of pumpkin-chocolate chip bread from Great Harvest, which was very nice of her. Went to tithing settlement.

Dec. 16 - Fri. Walked 45 minutes. Wrapped fruitcakes in plastic wrap. Packaged three to send to Casey, to Jeri and Judy. Went to Nebekers to get FLP product to take to Kay's customer, Suri. Went to UPS and mailed cakes. Wrote checks for out-of-town grandchildren for Christmas. Did grocery shopping at Smith's.

Dec. 17 - Sat. Met Barbara, Shirley and Hilton and she drove us to Logan where we met Harold, Norma and Yvonne at the Copper Mill for lunch. We then went to Yvonne's and visited for awhile. Left there about 3:15 as Barbara wanted to go to her ward Christmas party at 6:00. I made six more fruitcakes even though it was a late start.

Dec. 18 - Sun. We had a nice Christmas Sacrament Meeting. Decorated fruitcakes. Made a raspberry jello to take to Lori and Chris' for dinner. Had a lovely dinner then played a fun game that both Randy and Mer could join in. Mer was anxious to get home and to bed so we didn't stay for dessert. Even though it was bitter cold the kids still "raced the car" (not Charlotte, who thought it too cold). How long they will continue this fun nonsense I don't know, but I love it.

Dec. 19 - Mon. Went out and shoveled snow so Mer's shuttle-bus driver could get out of his van without getting wet. It was quite deep and after they left I finished the whole driveway and the porch steps.....quite a workout. Didn't go walk. Wrote Christmas Cards, went and mailed them. Got back just before Mer got home from VMH. He told them at VMH that the program was not doing him any good; that he is not required to come so he won't be going anymore.....so I guess that is the end of that. Can't say I could see any great results either, but of course, he didn't make any real effort to make it work.

Dec. 20 - Tues. No one came to pick up Mer so I guess they know he is through. Drove Mer to Bill Thomas' apartment to do Home Teaching, then picked him up after. Cooked two roast beef roasts and sliced and froze them for Christmas buffet. Don and Mary Christensen came to visit and brought a loaf of homemade wholewheat bread, bottle of Elderberry gelly and a cube of butter.....what a nice gift!! Got a card from Mark and Dixie containing a \$50.00 gift certificate to Sweet Tomatoes and another for 1# of Sees chocolates, and up-to-date pictures of the kids. Great! Had a good talk with Casey.

Dec. 21 - Wed. Walked. Mer went Home Teaching to Ethel Hart and also to Geri Olsen. He doesn't feel he knows how to talk to anyone anymore so it is hard for him. Beth and Riley Draper came to visit. Beth gave me a cute storybook called "The Red Buckets". Called Casey.

Dec. 22 - Thurs. Walked with Mer again at the mall. Hairdo and shopping. In the evening part of the Draper family came to our house Christmas caroling and also brought us a box of goodies.....very nice of them and we enjoyed both the music and edibles. Gwen went to the airport to pick up Mark and family. Their plane was late. I had cooked two big

Papa Murphy's pizzas for dinner, and other stuff. We got in bed very late.

Dec. 23 - Fri. Lots of talking and activity going on. Watched a DVD Mark had compiled of the kid's activities. They are all very involved in many good things.

Dec. 24 - Sat. Got potato casseroles ready to cook; sauteed onions and celery for stuffing; made jello and got other things done for tomorrow. Mel and Emma Lou came so we gave them their fruitcake and they also took Holmes' to them, and since Mer can't drive and I am so busy I really appreciated that service. We were going to Sweet Tomatoes for dinner but it was not open in the evening hours so we had to eat here. Read the Christmas Story from the Scriptures. Saw "It's A Wonderful Life".

Dec. 25 - Sun. Had a one hour Sacrament Meeting at 11:00 with the Sixth Ward.....it was not well-done and that was disappointing. Came home and got all the tables and chairs and TV trays set up. Mark and Andrew were big helpers. Dixie helped get all meats, cheese, crackers and etc ready.....also table cloths, dishes, flatware and etc.....BIG help! There were 24 of us here for buffet. Then Alex went and got his girlfriend for games and dessert. Mer had a hard time with all the noise and confusion.....he was sort of Zombie-like and seemed to feel lost. Clint called and had a long talk with Mark.

Dec. 26 - Mon. Mer and I walked in the mall. All the kids and Mark slept in late. After dinner Mark, Dixie and the kids met with Doug, Gwen and their kids at Temple Square to see the lights, then to D & G's for the evening.

Dec. 27 - Tues. Walked. Mark, Dixie and the kids went sledding with Lori, Chris and their kids. They had a really fun time. I cooked a big lasagne for dinner. Watched "The African Queen", which everyone enjoyed.

Dec. 28 - Wed. Walked. Mark took the Olds in for service and paid for it and also had a headlight replaced.....bless his generous heart! Mark brought from home a speaker box that is just like the one we have that is not working right and replaced it. Mer, Dixie and I went to check out the two closest Senior Centers.....the one close to Cottonwood Mall and the other down close to the Fashion Place Mall. Dixie and I liked the Mt. Olympus one best. However, I paid for tickets to dinner and entertainment for Mer and me for Friday at the Heritage Center. We shall see how that goes and if it sparks any interest in Mer. Mark & Dixie took us to dinner at the Sweet Tomatoes, their kids, too, of course. Mark doesn't think it necessary to leave a tip at that type of restaurant but I do so I left one when he wasn't looking. We came home after and they then went to Leatherby's for ice cream with D & G, L & C. The kids were at L & C's for a "late over" with the cousins. Elizabeth let Mer and me watch her new copy of The Slipper and the Rose, which I liked but Mer didn't, of course.

Dec. 29 - Thurs. Walked. Mark, Dixie and the kids got the bedrooms all put back in place and Dixie washed some of the sheets and made beds. Mark vacuumed all downstairs and the livingroom carpets.....WOW. They left things in good shape! Doug and Gwen came and drove them to the airport. The house is awfully quiet now and I don't really like it. We played four hands of Rummikub. Need more than two to really be fun. Went to visit Bea and Cliff for an hour or so.....Mer slept most of the time and never said a word.....tough circumstances.

Dec. 30 - Fri. Walked. Went to Heritage Center at 10:30. Sat at a table with Barbara, Pauline and other of Barbara's friends. The program was not very well done. The food was just OK.....nothing special. I had paid \$14.00 for them and Mer was quite critical about the whole thing.....sigh. Lori came and we took Mer to Uni for assessment. He was angry and felt betrayed. They recommended he come back for a few more ECT treatments but

since we knew nothing would be done over the weekend we brought him home until Mon.
Something needs to be done to help more.

Dec. 31 - Sat. Walked. Washing. Did an imperfect job of cleaning the kitchen and utility
room floors. Some grocery shopping. Called Lee and Dorcus. Lee is in a much

worse shape than Mer except his attitude is still up-beat and that makes a ton of difference.

Watched the New York Philharmonic New Year's Eve Gala Concert. This lasted two hours and
was very enjoyable. After that we sat in the banana chairs in front of the fireplace and listened
to our Messiah records. Mer gave up and went to bed but I lasted it out. At midnight there
were fireworks and other Happy New Year noises in our neighborhood.....then I went to bed.