



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 6 Jan 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Thu, Jan 6, 2011 at 7:52 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

To: Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Dear Phillip,

29 Dec 2010 - Wed

I'm glad I happened to look at my email before leaving for my noon walk. I saw your advance notice and was able to immediately send off what I had already put together. I also called Joyce so she would know she had only a few minutes if she wanted to get an email to you. (The attached pictures are all explained below except for the SSPX pics of Heather wearing the fish hat she made, and a close up of the fish hat. She made this for an Elder that served in Heritage Park and Lowell for a while. We took these pictures during our noon walk in the park in Concord. She gave him the hat that evening at his farewell testimony meeting. He really liked it.)

30 Dec 2010 - Thu

Another day at work. Heather drove in again today as well as yesterday because her car was closest to the street. We both worked two days this week. It was kind of nice knowing that it would be such a short work week.

31 Dec 2010 - Fri

So, after a kind of slow start to the morning I was in the shower. Mentally I was finally getting up the desire and energy to actually seal the new bathroom doors and the cupboard doors. Then Joyce knocked on the door while I was drying off and said that Heather's car had stalled and it wouldn't start.

Now that's a nice way to end the old year and start the new! Heather was coming back from the Pheasant Lane Mall going west on Spit Brook Road. She stopped at the light just before going under the Route 3 bridge. Her car stalled and she couldn't get it started again. Julia made the initial call for help to my cell phone, but I didn't hear the call because I was in the shower at the time.

Heather described to me exactly where she was. Now, you need to understand that this past Tuesday, Dec 28th, Heather's battery had run down to the point where the car wouldn't start. I used jumper cables and was able to get her car started and she drove all the way to Hampton Falls area to take Megan back home. Her car also

worked fine Wed and Thu when we rode into work together.

I assumed that it was battery trouble, but knowing where she was I also knew that I wouldn't be able to put our cars nose to nose. So, I pulled the battery from the minivan and took it with me. That allowed me to carry the battery to her car and use jumper cables to hook it to her battery. Well, that worked fine and she could crank the engine just fine, but the car wouldn't start after multiple attempts.

At that point, not knowing what to do more, Heather called AAA and arranged for the car to be towed to Hanson's Automotive Service on West Hollis Street. It took about 50 minutes for the tow truck to arrive. I drove us all to Hansons to meet the tow truck operator there. Hansons was closed because of the holiday. Heather wrote a note and put it in an envelope provided by the AAA employee along with a note explaining what had happened.

I've attached pictures 1.jpg through 6.jpg of this episode. Heather's car is at Hansons and she is borrowing the Saturn until her car is fixed.

As you know, for the past seven years we have celebrated New Year's Eve with the Wilsons at their home. Sadly for us, the Wilsons moved to New Mexico this year around August. We chose to stay home and celebrate with just four of us: Joyce, Rachel, Julia, and John. However, to keep some of the tradition going, we had a video chat with the Wilsons using Skype. The chat started at about 10:00 PM EST and went until after midnight EST time, welcoming in the new year in New Hampshire. New Mexico is 2 hours later. Below are a few pictures taken during the chat. Joyce went to bed shortly after midnight. Julia and I stayed up until about 1:45 AM chatting with the Wilsons. As usual, Brother Wilson fell asleep in the chair.

Picture 9897 shows the video chat in progress. During the call I explained to Andrew that he can send emails to you, but you can't email back, but have to write back. He thought that he could only send hand written letters. He lamented that it is so much easier to type for him because he has such a hard time writing. He sounded pleased to know he can send email. I'm hoping that you will get something from him soon. I also got an email address from Maryann and then I forwarded all of your emails to them like I've done to other people. I am sure they will enjoy reading them.

1 Jan 2011 - Sat

I've spent several hours at my "hobby" again, the budget. Oma and Papa sent you a check for \$25 for Christmas. I have deposited that into your account, so know that you have \$25 to spend!

2 Jan 2011 - Sun

Wow, 9:00 AM church! It's a little harder to get out of bed earlier, but here we are, all

done with church and hours left in the day. I tried setting up home teaching with the Carls for today, but they were already booked. So, I have it set up for next fast Sunday. Last Sunday we finished using all the hymns that you selected for Sacrament Meeting. Today we started using hymns selected by Sister Schinn. I thought about the fact that the efforts of your former music calling have now been completed. I enjoyed being "Brothers Larsen and Larsen" doing the music in Sacrament Meeting.

Brother Newey attended our meetings today and asked how you were doing and where you were. I explained that you were in Texas and doing great. He asked to receive your forwarded emails. So, when I got home I sent him all your Texas emails. I didn't want to overwhelm him with everything all at once. So, he will be getting your emails too now.

6 Jan 2011 - Thu

How did it get to be Thursday already? I just got back from the gym. I've made it there everyday this week. One more day and it will have been a "perfect" gym week. Work has been demanding this week. I was home late last night because hardware guys needed my help. On Tuesday Heather and I drove in together and then she got stuck late. We didn't leave until about 7:45 PM.

We have been trying to do better at family scripture study, again. It seems to be a challenge for us. However, this week we've done a little better. I've been pondering some in the Book of Mormon. In the years just before Christ came to the Americas, the people went through quick cycles of wickedness to righteousness and back to wickedness. How was that possible? What happened? I thought about our times now and wondered if the brethren are worried about something like that. What was it that allowed the people to swing between extremes like that? I haven't solidified my thoughts on it, but I take it as a warning that no one is ever "safe". If we start to get complacent, or casual in our observance, or even a little rebellious at times, we lose power and protection, and allow satan more influence in our lives. It is an ongoing daily struggle. The more exact we are in keeping the commandments, the more power we have to resist the evil one.

I hope things are going well for you. We pray for you every day. Your drawings are still on my white board. They remind me every work day of you and your work. Keep the faith. Do the little things. Seek for the spirit. Repent as needed. Seek, find, and teach.

Love,

Dad

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John R Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

<http://larsen-family.us>

8 attachments



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SSPX0492.jpg
499K



SSPX0499.jpg
527K



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313K



2.jpg
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3.jpg
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