



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 13 Jan 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Wed, Jan 12, 2011 at 10:42 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hi Dear Phillip,

It's Sunday the 9th of January, and it's your Mom's birthday! She's 29... again. Heather and Bradford are over as is Rachel. Actually, Rachel came over yesterday and slept over in the drawer under Julia's bed. Church is at 9:00 AM these days, so it works out best if she sleeps over. I baked a carrot cake for Joyce earlier this afternoon. Bradford and Heather are doing the dinner. I'll take pictures when the celebration begins so that you can see them. I'm sure it will be very much like years past.

Do you remember that huge fabric snowman that Joyce won several years ago? It has been living in the attic taking up lots of room. Joyce finally was able to let go of it, but what to do with it? At first she suggested taking it to Salvation Army. I wondered if SA would even take it. Then she had the idea to sneak it onto the Noels' front porch without their knowing. That sounded great! So, I loaded it into the Toyota this morning before church and we took two cars to church. I left church ten minutes early and drove over to the Noels' and did the deed. It's too early to know if anything will come of it like that jester being passed around the ward. I've attached pictures taken with my cell phone.

I spent several hours today creating a blog at ElderPhillipLarsen.blogspot.com. I made posting for the cleaned up versions all 17 of your emails home. I essentially copied what I had sent out to the forwarding email list. I then included all the pictures that you put in your emails as well as all the scans of the pictures you snail mailed home while in the MTC.

Now that there is a blog, I will be able to post a short status on your Facebook account with a link to the blog posting. That way people can have easy access to it.

It was a surprise to hear that you were transferred to New Mexico. I looked up about Hobbs on Wikipedia. After seeing where it is located it made more sense why it would be part of the Texas Lubbock Mission. Nashua is about 80,000 people. When you include the greater Nashua area of Hudson and surrounding towns, then it grows quite

a bit. Manchester is about 120,000 people and it is only 15 miles away. Population is certainly more dense here.

The candle race is over. For the first time ever Rachel won the candle race! Now on to presents time.

10 Jan 2011 - Mon

I attached several pictures. My camera finally rolled over. I have taken 10,000 pictures with that camera and it has started over with the numbering. These pictures are all of the birthday celebration for your Mom except for the picture of me getting ready to eat a popcorn ball.

12 Jan 2011 - Wed

SNOW DAY! And is it ever a snow day! It has been classified as a blizzard. I woke up before my alarm at 6:00 AM and waited until the alarm went off, then went into the living room to look outside. The snow plow was going past the house just at that moment and cleared off Cherokee. There was no way I was going out at that time of the morning. I came downstairs and worked from home for a couple of hours and then looked again. The snow was still dropping heavily. It's supposed to keep going all afternoon and finally stop at about 8 PM. I've decided to stay home. No sense taking the risk to drive to work when it isn't absolutely needed. I'll take some pictures later when I'm shovelling so you can get a sense of how big the storm was this time.

(It's later....) It took me 2 hours to shovel everything. Julia came out in the second hour and helped some. Pictures 27, 28, 30, 31, and 33 give you an idea of the amount of snow. I stuck the yardstick in the backyard in front of the van and it measured 20 inches. Julia invited Rachel over this evening so we drove over about 6pm to get her. The roads were still kind of slick in places. When we returned her home at 10pm the roads were in much better shape. They had salted the hills and cleaned up the side streets.

So, even though I will be taking a vacation day for today, I ended up working from home anyway. I probably put in a full day of work throughout the day. But, it was more relaxing and I took some time for reading and watching a little TV with the family. We had a fire in the fireplace burning our last log. We'll have to pick up some more.

Our stake conference is this weekend. The stake presidency has asked us all to read the Sermon on the Mount in preparation. We read Matthew 5 yesterday and Matthew 6 today. Those chapters are very full providing lots of pondering material.

Well, dear Phillip, it's time for me to get ready for bed. Oh, I forgot to mention that Joyce finally joined the Best Fitness gym this past Saturday. The lady that has taught her yoga class will be moving in March. The gym had a no enrollment fee holiday

special and \$19.99 per month membership, so we signed her up. They have three different yoga classes during the week. The plan is that we will go to the gym together tomorrow morning after Joyce gets back from dropping the seminary kids off at the high school. I'll give her an introduction to some of the various machines and we'll take it from there.

We pray for you every day as a family an individually. We know the Lord will bless you as you serve him diligently. I love you and am very proud of you.

Love,

Dad

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

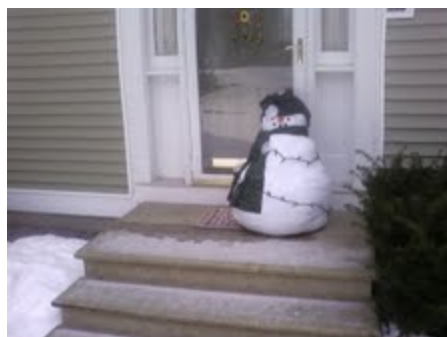
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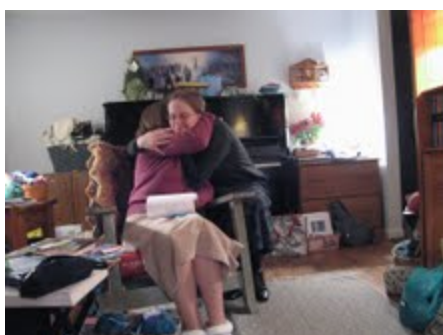
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