



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 17 Feb 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Thu, Feb 17, 2011 at 8:32 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hello Dear Phillip,

Here it is, Wednesday evening and I haven't written a word yet this week. The time has flown by. I'm actually at work right now typing a bit between builds and loads of broken code that I'm trying to fix.

So, last Friday (I think it was Friday) Joyce asked me what she could do to help me get home earlier in the evenings. I've fallen into a bad habit of getting to work between 9:00 AM and 9:30 AM. That means I end up working later to make up for it. Anyway I've made a concerted effort to get up at 5:45 AM. That forces me to get to bed a little earlier. I also make sure that I'm completely ready with lunch and any other preparations the night before. So, in the morning I get to the gym right away and leave the house for work by 7:30 AM. So far the morning part has worked, but the evening part at work hasn't. I get caught by one person or another asking questions, or I get stuck on a problem just when it is time to leave. That is what has happened today. I checked in a bunch of code and thought it was working, but it isn't. So here I am trying to figure it out. bleh.

Okay... I gave up because Paul broke the build. I'm home now and it's 8:43 PM. Dinner is warming up.

We had the missionaries to dinner on Saturday. Elder Wilder's birthday was the previous Wednesday (I think) so Joyce picked up a cake and had the bakery put his name on it. He was really pleased and enjoyed it a lot. I like taking care of the missionaries here with the hopes that others are taking care of you just as well.

Saturday morning was the Worldwide Leadership Training broadcast. It was a very good meeting and I'm glad I went, even though I was on the attendance list. It is a good thing I went because there were several little things that went wrong. The funniest was about half way through the broadcast when a strange sound like a vacuum cleaner started coming over the speakers. We were in the Relief Society room instead of the chapel because basketball was going on in the gym and would have been distracting. I had the chapel sound system on so that we could get good

audio through the RS room ceiling speakers. However, when set up that way the chapel microphone is also on. The chapel being empty, the brother assigned to clean the chapel had gone in and started vacuuming. It took me about 15 seconds to figure out what must be happening and I ran to the chapel. I unplugged the microphone so he could continue cleaning and the rest of us could hear the broadcast vacuum free.

Saturday evening was the stake youth valentine's dance. Julia went and I drove her there. It's a good thing I went to that too. The new DJ didn't have a clue how to hook up the sound equipment and had everything wrong. They hadn't noticed the nice pictures explaining how to hook everything up. Also, since the previous dance some important cables have disappeared. I got them set up in mono mode and then went to Radio Shack and bought replacement cables. That made the dance go well. Then during the next couple of hours I sorted out the TVs and DVD players and remotes in the library. This is a project that Jeana Lopez-Carrasco asked me to do a few weeks back. I figured out what remote goes with which TV or DVD player and then used duct tape and string to attach the remote to the device. I need to do a more permanent arrangement, but it was too late to do anything more at that time. Jeana is the seminary teacher and was getting quite frustrated with being able to play videos during seminary. She never knew if there would be a working setup or not. So, I came up with this solution to help her out. She used it Monday morning and it worked great.

Sunday I worked on my talk some. Bradford came up and Heather came over and we had a family birthday celebration for Heather. There are pictures attached of that event. I won the candle race. :)

The rest of the week has been long work days and short evenings. On Tuesday we finally got Julia signed up for EFY at Amherst, MA. Emmy didn't get in the pre registration pool so we had to wait until open registration. Fortunately there were plenty of openings. A funny thing here though was when I put in the group code so Emmy and Julia would be in the same room. The form wouldn't let me use the group code because Emmy and Julia are in different age groups this year. They provided an 800 number to call to talk with someone, but it was after 5PM mountain time and the office was closed. So, I modified Julia's information and said she was born in 1995 instead of 1996. That made her old enough to be in with Emmy. So, Julia grew a year in one day. :)

I found out Sunday that I'm no longer Sister Stevens' home teacher. She has been reassigned to Brother Fletcher. That is convenient because Sister Fletcher is her visiting teacher. I've also been partnered up with Brother Hann as HT companions. We'll see how that goes.

We're going to a play this Saturday evening. It is a stage production of "Cold Comfort Farm". We've been looking forward to it for several months. Rachel will be staying with

us this weekend, the first time in about a month. Bradford will be coming up Saturday, and we'll all go to see it. That's John, Joyce, Heather, Bradford, Julia, and Rachel. It is being directed by Brother Nanto who is a High Councilor.

I've been pondering my talk for a week and a half now. I have the outline kind of worked up and have lots of ideas. I just need a block of time to be able to concentrate on it. That will have to be this Saturday.

Nothing else comes to mind right now. I'll set this aside for the night and sleep on it. If there is anything else I'll add it in the morning.

I'm at work now. It's 8:25 AM on the 17th. I reread your email from Feb 10th. You mentioned the satellite broadcast Stake Conference you attended. It so happens that is what was on when I was trouble shooting the satellite receiver problems in our building. I listened to several of those talks. I remember they mentioned the area where this broadcast was going, which was Texas and New Mexico. I wondered at the time if that was where you were serving. It turns out that it was.

Well, time to tackle the problems of the day here at work. Hopefully I can stomp out some of these bugs I've been dealing with. I love reading your emails. It gladdens my heart to feel your testimony and love of the Lord and his work. I pray for you daily. Keep working hard and trust in the Lord.

Love,

Dad

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6 attachments



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