



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 23 May 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Mon, May 23, 2011 at 9:27 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hello Dear Phillip,

Your Lockheed account statement arrived the other day. It shows that you made one withdrawal using your Visa card at "Vista Empreedimentos Teresina Brazil." It was for \$4.91 and there was an international service assessment of \$0.05. So, at least for that transaction it was only five cents.

You received a Facebook friend request for Luciana Carvalho N Ferreira. What do you want to do with that one?

Attached are some pictures. Someone took a picture of Winston being his normal lazy self. They had Toga day for Julia's latin class. I finally decided what to use my personal money for. For months I've been debating between a large screen TV, a new digital camera, or a new tenor saxophone. I finally decided to buy myself a new tenor saxophone, hence the 4th picture. The money I used came from the finders bonus I got for getting Dave Huntington a job at TCC and also Heather. I have a little left that I'll use to buy another mouth piece in a while. I want to get used to the horn first and then I'll be in a better position to choose another mouthpiece.

Did you know that Joyce was an animagus? Attached are two pictures taken at dinner time on Sunday. Proof positive!

I bought the saxophone this past Saturday, May 21st, at the high school. They were having a "Music and Arts Regional Instrument Event." Mr Courrounis had told me a couple months ago that this was coming up, so I planned to attend and buy a horn. I tried out 5 different horns and settled on this one.

Saturday and Sunday were our Stake Conference. It was a satellite broadcast conference like the one you attended in the TLM. Sister Ann Dibb spoke at ours just like she did at yours, but the other speakers were all different. We heard from Elder Zwick of the 70, Elder Russell M. Nelson of the 12, and from President Eyring of the 1st Presidency. It was a good meeting. The Nashua 1st Ward Choir was asked to sing "This is the Christ" for conference. This is the song that they sang at our Ward

Conference. The spirit I felt at Ward Conference was incredible, as I mentioned in an earlier email. I decided to sing with the choir for this. The first rehearsal I attended I was hardly able to sing the words because I was overcome with the spirit. I was finally able to start singing and it was an awesome experience to sing that for stake conference. I could tell that many people were touched by the spirit as we sang.

I've decided to follow your Mom's example. For quite a while now she has been taking notes at all meetings in a notebook that she brings. I've taken notes on occasion on "brain cells", but that isn't very lasting. I told her that I wanted to start taking notes so she gave me a journal like the ones you have. Today I started that journal by taking notes during stake conference. I'll just keep it with my hymn book that I use for organ playing.

It looks like I'll be travelling to Egypt in the near future for work. TCC's new optical encryptor, the DSD72B-SP, that I've been working on for almost 3 years is in the final stages of development. It isn't fully ready, there are still bugs to work out, but Carl has stated that it needs to be ready to ship to Egypt for a demo. Carl is going to Egypt this week and will find out when they want a demo system to try out. Once the demo system ships, I'll be going a week later to set it all up and demonstrate.

I told Joyce that I'm going to the land of our ancestors. She said, "We don't have any ancestors in Egypt!" I then asked her what tribe she was from. As you know, our patriarchal blessings state that we're all from the tribe of Ephraim. I then asked her who the mother of Ephraim was? Joseph married an Egyptian woman, so Ephraim is half Egyptian. Therefore, I'm going to the land of our ancestry.

Speaking of patriarchal blessings, a new patriarch was sustained Sunday in Stake Conference. Brother Farar is moving to Texas as soon as they can sell their house. The new patriarch is David B. Huntington. On Saturday President Coopridge told us all at the evening session that a new patriarch would be sustained the next day. I started thinking about who it might be and David Huntington came into my mind. I take that as a prompting from the Lord for my own benefit and assurance. I think it is neat.

I also think it is interesting that Joyce and I have had a personal relationship with all 4 patriarchs that have served in our stake since we moved here. We knew Brother Murdock, Brother Garbutt, Brother Farar, and now Brother Huntington. That is kind of unusual I think that we should know the patriarchs like that.

You wondered about how to include Bradford more. I don't think he felt left out of the telephone call. He spent some of the time during the call downstairs doing laundry, but he could hear everything because I was recording it on the computer in the basement and the volume was up. I don't think he had much to say in a public

conversation like that. Bradford is still connected to the family and there is love there. Keep praying for him just like Joyce and I do, that his heart will soften and that he will come back.

Concerning relationships with friends. Those are forced to evolve as situations change. When you're the one "left behind" then it is harder in some ways. The people that move are having the new experiences. We just continue on with life the way it was, except that our friends are gone. Once someone graduates from high school everything changes. Everyone moves on to other schools and activities. It is a rare thing to have a lasting relationship with anyone from high school. So, for now, the best you can do is to be the best missionary that you can. Be a friend to those you teach. Share these experiences in your emails home. Things will work out. Heavenly Father is in charge.

I finished mp3s of the D&C and April General Conference for the 3rd time this past week. I've started in on Conference again and this time I'm alternating with the Pearl of Great Price. It's been a while since I listened to the PofGP. There is amazing stuff in that book. I'm really enjoying it.

Well, it's Monday morning and I'm at work now. I'd better send this off so it will be there when you get to the Internet Cafe. Your Mom is going to mail the box today. I printed out the stuff I emailed to you on March 27th, from my mission journal and log book.

I love you and am very proud of you. We pray for you everyday.

Love,

Dad

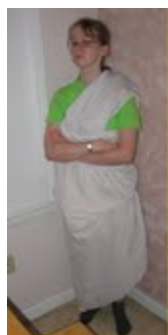
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6 attachments



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