



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

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## A letter from Dad: 1 Aug 2011

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John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Sun, Jul 31, 2011 at 11:59 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

Cc: joyce@larsen-family.us

Hello Dear Phillip,

Facebook Friendship Request:

Karla Acosta - I attached her profile picture

### ANSWERS AND RESPONSE TO LAST WEEKS EMAIL:

I don't know anything about missionaries getting excommunicated after their missions as you described. I've never heard anything about it.

I know that the Wilsons had your correct email address on a postit note because I saw it while we were there. However, I don't know if Andrew is using the correct email address or not.

About debit and credit cards... The financial institutions always send new cards a few weeks before the old one expires. I just put the contents of that letter into an envelope and sent it to you. I haven't activated the card yet because I didn't want to send an active card through the mail. When you receive it let me know by email and I will then activate the card.

I attached scans of the brochure to the Nuclear history museum so you can get an idea of what was in the musuem.

I put Jesse's letter in an envelope and mailed it to him. He should get it probably on Tuesday. Rachel got his address from him via Facebook. He sounded excited to be getting a letter from you.

### NEW STUFF:

A new bishopric was sustained today. The new bishop is Brother Richard Nelson. He retained the same counselors, so there is opportunity for confusion here. We have

"Ricky Nelson" and "Ricky Hann", but we also have Brother Nelson and Brother Nelson, or is that Bishop Nelson and Brother Nelson? Anyway, it will be a great bishopric. It might have an impact on the band however. It is very probable that Bishop Nelson won't be able to fit the band into his schedule. No decisions have been made about that yet, so we're in a "wait and see" attitude right now.

I was talking with Jeremy McFadden at the farewell openhouse Sunday evening. He said that in his last PPI with President Coopride that he was asked what special things he was doing with the ward to explain the wonderful things that are going on in the Nashua 1st Ward. We have 70% sacrament meeting attendance. Of the endowed members, 92% of them have current temple recommends. These are just two of the statistics of many. Bishop McFadden responded that it wasn't anything that he as bishop was doing. He said that the members of the ward are just good, humble, faithful people. It has been that way for many years, even before the experience with Stanford that really united the ward in a strong way. I do love our ward. With so many people moving out I've worried that something will change. I hope that we can continue to be a "Zion" ward.

A couple weeks ago Rachel asked Bishop McFadden if she could give a talk in sacrament meeting before she went back to school. So, the next week Brother Hawkins had a white slip for her with a topic, to speak on Eternal Families. She has been studying and preparing this past week and was all set, nervous but ready. Then, with the bishopric change on Sunday the program was changed and she and Brother Hawkins were bumped. Rachel will speak in two weeks. I read through her talk and it is a good talk. One thing I learned while reading the talk is that her mom and step dad got divorced sometime in the last few months. I was very sad to hear that and actually cried a little bit. Rachel has strong desires for a temple marriage. She mentioned how she can feel the spirit in the members' homes that she has been in. She mentioned how wonderful the feeling of the spirit was when she was being taught the lessons in our home before she was baptised. August 16th will be 2 years since you had the privilege of baptising Rachel.

Ewe'll Love It closed for the last time on Saturday. The shop is no more, and it is a sad day. Beverly had an open house at her little cottage in Amherst on Sunday, at the same time as the McFadden farewell open house. Joyce went to Beverly's open house first and then came over to the Noels'. She got to the Noels' at about 7:30 PM. She came in and told me that as she made the right turn onto Forest View that the brake pedal in the van sunk clear to the floor and the brakes didn't work. She was going slowly enough that she was able to stop and then drove the van to where the circle is that the Noels live on. I went out and investigated. I couldn't see any brake fluid, but the brakes certainly weren't working. It was definitely unsafe to drive. So, I called AAA and had them come tow the car to Hanson's. I think the brake master cylinder has failed, which will probably cost several hundred dollars to fix.

Julia and Emmy had a wonderful time at EFY this past week. This week is YW camp. Joyce will be spending all day on Monday and all day on Wednesday helping out at the camp. She won't be spending the nights, but won't get home until about 9:00 PM both nights. It will be somewhat lonely in the house those days, just me and the cat.

I finally got around to finishing some stuff in the new bathroom. The fact that Jonathan Wilson will be staying with us for a week, and also that Emmy is also here, made me want to make the downstairs bathroom more "user friendly". I got a nice clock which is above the towel ring. I installed a robe hook on the wall up above the towel bar. I got a spring loaded vertical shower caddy that has baskets. I also put a valve inline with the shower head so that the amount of water flowing out of the shower head can be adjusted. Lastly I installed some hooks on the back of the bathroom door. All those things make that bathroom very functional now. I've attached pictures of all that stuff.

The Wilsons have this really cool clock by their front door. It turns out that they bought it in the museum gift shop when they visited the Nuclear Science Museum. So, when I went on my visit I looked to see if they still sold them. They were all out of clocks except for the display model which had been operating for about 2 months. So, I bought that clock. We brought it home in Joyce's suitcase and I installed it yesterday in the kitchen replacing the big white clock which is now in Bradford's old room. I attached a picture of the "gear clock".

Amy Taylor and McKayla Scott are back from BYU Idaho for a few weeks. When they go back they will have a new room mate, Arial Scott. Also, Amy will have her mission papers in soon and expects to receive her call in September some time. That is very exciting.

The past couple of weeks I've been listening to a series of podcasts from [radio.lds.org](http://radio.lds.org) which is the official radio voice of the church. The series is called "The Joseph Smith Papers" and is interviews with scholars and historians who are involved in the project to publish all the known documents having to do with the prophet Joseph Smith. It has been fascinating to listen to and has strengthened my testimony of the prophet. It is truly amazing what he accomplished in his time on the earth.

The missionaries in our ward, Elders Jones and Stephens, taught the 5th Sunday lesson in the combined Priesthood/Relief Society Meeting on Sunday. They did a wonderful job of walking through the [mormon.org](http://mormon.org) website and explaining how member profiles work. I need to spend some time and make a profile of my own. Elder Jones said that one in five baptisms is the result of the individual visiting [mormon.org](http://mormon.org). That is an amazing statistic. They also spent about 25 minutes going through many sections of "Preach My Gospel". I am always impressed with the quality and calibre of the missionaries serving in our ward.

## DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED PICTURES:

These were all taken the evening of Sunday, July 31st, at the Noels' home. The event was a farewell openhouse for the McFaddens who are flying out to California on Monday, Aug 1st, at 3:00 PM. Most of the pictures are self explanatory. I'll add some notes for a few.

601: Sister Burgess is holding Ephraim Blanchette

603: Sister Schinn is holding Ephraim Blanchette

604: Garrett Hawkins was out on a family bike ride on Saturday, July 30th, when a bee flew into his open mouth and stung him inside his mouth. His face swelled up into quite a strange shape.

606 & 607: A few games of Magic were played at a table underneath the big deck off the kitchen slider.

Scans of the Nuclear science museum brochure.

608: The cool "Gear Clock" we bought in New Mexico

609 to 612: Bathroom improvements

## FINAL PARTING COMMENTS:

Well, another week has flown by. It is late Sunday, almost midnight. I need to get to bed and also still need to get some stuff for the girls for YW camp. I trust that everything is going well for you. I love you and look forward to hearing from you again on Monday.

Love,

Dad

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John R Larsen <[john@larsen-family.us](mailto:john@larsen-family.us)>

<http://larsen-family.us>

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26 attachments



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