



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 26 Sept 2011

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Mon, Sep 26, 2011 at 9:52 AM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

Cc: Joyce Larsen <joyce@larsen-family.us>

Hello Dear Phillip,

FACEBOOK REQUEST:

Picture attached

[Bispo Ferreira](#)

392 friends · 12 photos · 3 notes · 20 Wall posts

It's Monday morning. I think this is the latest I've ever been writing your email. I'm waiting for the door installer guys to show up. They are supposed to solve all the problems with the installation job they did on the 13th. I hope they can fix the problems. I wish they had done the job correctly in the first place.

I finally had the dentist fix my top left front tooth. It has been repaired more than once over the years. The previous restoration was crumbling some and it has been gouging a groove in my saxophone mouthpieces. Last Friday was my quarterly visit to the dentist and I asked if they could smooth it or if it would need to be redone. Turns out that it had deteriorated to the point that it needed to be redone. I haven't tried it out on a mouthpiece yet.

I'll go through the week in reverse this time. Sunday was our Fast and Testimony Meeting. It was a good meeting. Bishop Nelson conducted and so he was the one to open with his testimony. There were many good testimonies, but the one that I remember best is Gwen Noel's. She commented about the youth temple trip last Wednesday evening and how she was reading in the Book of Mormon in the baptistery chapel and was reading in Jacob. She read this scripture:

Jacob 2:28 For I, the Lord God, delight in the ^a[chastity](#) of women. And ^b[whoredoms](#) are an abomination before me; thus saith the Lord of Hosts.

She said that it really stuck with her and she pondered it a lot. Then Saturday evening was the homecoming dance at her high school. She is on the student council and was required to be there because this was the activity that she was responsible for.

She got quite emotional while telling this and explaining how terrible the dance was. The scripture kept going through her mind as she observed the kids doing their grinding. She didn't say "Sex with clothes on" as Stanford coined it, but that is what it was. She left the room and waited outside. She commented on the marked difference in the spirit between the temple and the dance. She also felt sorry for the kids because they just didn't know. She expressed how grateful she was for the gospel.

The Hawkins gave a fireside Sunday evening at the Noel's. It was all about their experience being in the cast of the Hill Cumorah Pageant. It was lightly attended, only 8 people plus the Noels and the Hawkins. I was one of the 8 that went. I fell asleep during the middle part of the presentation, but the parts I heard were really interesting. The couch was just too comfortable. During refreshment time afterwards I talked with Sister Noel and told her how much I enjoyed Gwen's testimony. We talked more about Gwen's experience. Gwen had called her mom during the dance in anguish about how dark it felt at the dance. I made the comment of "sex with clothes on" and Sister Noel nodded in agreement that that is what it is like. I mentioned how church dances were one of the things that really impressed Rachel. Sister Noel said that is also one of the things that Kelly Nelson liked too. Kelly had been going to church with them for a while and then quit going for about a year and a half. Then she called the Noels and asked if she could go to church with them again.

I went last Wednesday to the temple to help with the youth temple trip. It is always a wonderful experience to be there. I'm impressed with how good and righteous the youth are. I think back to when I was that age and recognize that the kids are stronger, more faithful, better prepared, and really have testimonies. My own children are like that. They're all great kids. We need to be patient with Bradford, but I firmly believe that at some point he will come back. He will be able to have faith again.

Saturday evening was the General Relief Society satellite broadcast. The Stake Relief Society President asked me to set up the projector for the broadcast. I stayed the whole time so that there would be priesthood in the building. I listened some, but again, the couch was too comfortable and I fell asleep in the middle. The talks I heard were really good. I look forward to relistening to all those talks as well as all of general conference this coming weekend. Hopefully you'll be able to listen in English. During my whole mission there was only one time we got to listen to any of general conference. Because of the 7 hour time difference, the broadcast came late at night. My memory of the whole experience is kind of fuzzy, but it was audio only and came via a telephone call. That meant the audio quality wasn't very good. Back then long distance calls were analog and not digital. That means that the farther away the call the more noise got added. Of course the session was in French. As I recall, I didn't understand much of the session at all. With satellite broadcasts and now with the internet, general conference goes to the whole world in high quality. It is an amazing

thing and a great blessing in the lives of all members.

I talked with Kenta Hood Sunday at church and asked him if he had ever been in a rock band before. He said he had played drums and guitar in rock bands. I explained how we're looking for a keyboard player because Rick Nelson probably won't have the time to devote to our band anymore. He was very interested in playing in the band. He said he had been wanting to be in a band again. So, that is good news. I hope it works out. He's a great guy and is a talented piano player.

The door guys have been here and left. These are the experienced ones. They looked at all the problems and knew what was going on. Apparently the original "saggy pants" installers didn't do it correctly. They got the vertical alignment correct, but they didn't make sure the threshold was level. So, the hinge side is lower than it should be and that's why the deadbolt doesn't work and the storm door doesn't fit properly. This is a bigger job than they could do today, so they will have to come back next week. It will take them about 3 hours to do the job. Essentially they are going to have to do it over. I'll bet "saggy pants" gets a talking to over this one. They screwed up.

Well... I'm needing to get to work now. Sorry that there aren't any pictures this week. There will be next week. We'll be going to Ruby Tuesdays Saturday and take the missionaries with us again. Elder Jones will actually be going for the second time in a row with us! That has never happened before.

We're planning on going to King Richard's Faire again on Oct 10th, Columbus Day. I think this will be 4 years in a row for me. The first time was 2008 and that's when I met "The Rachel" for the first time. She's planning on going with us to the faire and also planning on being here for general conference weekend.

We're all well. Winston is doing better now that he has insulin injections twice a day. The weather is beautiful. The fall leaves are changing. The cars are all working. The church is true. The Atonement is the central point of our existence. The Savior lives. God lives. We're are greatly blessed.

Love,

Dad

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