



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 13 Feb 2012

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Sun, Feb 12, 2012 at 11:43 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

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

Hello Dear Phillip,

Here we go again! Summarizing another week. It seems they are going faster and faster lately.

The first thing to mention is that my trip to Egypt was postponed. I'm glad for that. The civil unrest in Egypt has been growing again. There was a soccer match in a city outside of Cairo about three weeks ago. At the end of that match there was a riot between fans of the teams and 79 people were killed and around 900 were injured. Then the next week at Tahrir Square in Cairo there was an uprising and about 600 people were injured and 4 people shot and killed. Because of all this unrest it was determined that if we went over there to do our system demo that the generals would either not even show up or they would be so distracted that we wouldn't achieve our goal. So, Carl decided to postpone. Right now the trip is scheduled for Thurs, Apr 5th through Tues April 10th. If things haven't settled down by then it will probably be delayed again.

Over this past weekend I ordered a new Wii console to replace Stanford's console that quit working. I was able to find an eBay site that sells just the console since we have all the other stuff that goes with it. I've dawdled for probably half a year before finally doing this. That way we'll have a working system again and Julia and play games. Also it will let us easily stream Netflix movies again. It should arrive this week.

It's Sunday and we just finished dinner. Before dinner a bunch of us played a game of Dominion. The players were Heather, Adam, Bradford, Julia, and me. This was only my third time playing the game so I was kind of slow at it. The others have played many more times and were very familiar with the cards. I didn't come in last, but I certainly wasn't first either. Bradford had that honor.

Since I didn't go to Egypt we are able to have Heather's birthday celebration today. That's why Adam is here, and Rachel is also here. Julia and I drove up to SNHU after our meeting block and got Rachel so she could join us for the festivities. You can see the family celebration and candle race in the attached pictures. Joyce won the candle

race again. That's twice this year. Rachel was a close second. Stanford was the first candle to go out followed by Bradford then Julia. Then Adam, me, Heather, Rachel, and then Joyce. Yup yup yup.

Amy Taylor gave her missionary farewell talk today. She did a great job. She appeared quite nervous at first, but then settled down as she got more into her talk. It is very evident from her talk that she has spent a lot of time studying the scriptures. I think she is going to be a great missionary.

This past week Rachel went with the Sister Missionaries in her ward to help them teach in an investigator's home. Rachel was really pumped about the experience and will be going again this Friday. She intends to go with them every week. She also has a weekly ride to her institute class now so she will be able to attend that. She also has a calling in her ward. She is co-teacher of the Gospel Principals class. She taught for the first time today and enjoyed it. Rachel also had the Elders in her ward over for dinner. She had them come to the SNHU cafeteria and they got to select their food and then they ate together. That's a good way to do it.

Saturday morning at 8:00 AM was the two hour World Wide Leadership Training satellite broadcast from SLC. The stake center was very busy that day with basketball during the day and a stake YM/YW dance in the evening. I set up TVs in the RS and Multipurpose rooms. The training meeting was very good and I'm glad I was there to participate even though I wasn't on the attendance list. Since I had to set up TVs for it anyway, I decided to stay. The rest of the day I reworked the score for "Make Me Smile" and watched an episode of House with Julia. In the evening Joyce and I dropped Julia off at the church for the dance and then we went to Chunkys for dinner and a movie. That is the first time I've ever been to Chunkys. It was interesting. It is like a drive in theatre but without the car bodies. The movie we watched was "One For The Money". It was all right, but nothing that I'd want to watch again. This was our Valentines celebration because the 14th I'm busy in the evening.

Thursday evening was the NHSS open house. Joyce went to that and met Julia's teachers and scheduled parent/teacher conferences for later. Julia is doing very well in all her classes and, of course, her teachers love her. Thursday was my Mom's birthday so I ended up calling her about 11:00 PM to talk for an hour. She is in Mesa, Arizona visiting your great aunt Casey and Don. I think she is spending about eight weeks with them. Casey and Don sold their trailer recently so this will be their last winter in Mesa. They will just stay in the Murray, Utah home full time now. They move back to Utah in early March.

Wednesday evening was "Nashua Sings" held in the NHSN auditorium. It was held the same evening as NHSN's open house, so the parking lot was jammed packed. I wasn't expecting that. I ended up parking out in the boonies and walking in. It made

me about 5 minutes late, but they start with the elementary schools choir so I didn't miss anything. The choir Julia was in sang last and did very well. It's gratifying to see talent expressed through song. Since I got there late almost everyone was already inside. Stanford's junior high school band teacher, Mrs. Olsen, is the director of bands at NHSN. She was kind of running the show at the ticket table and saw me there. We talked for a little bit. She asked if I had a child performing and I said yes, Julia. She asked how old Julia was and I said she was in 10th grade. She couldn't believe how the time has gone by. I then told her that that day was Heather's 30th birthday. She was amazed by that too. Heather had babysat for her a few times.

Tuesday evening was the first rehearsal for the Merrimack Community Band since last December. We are preparing now for our May concert. As you know, I've been practicing a lot lately so I was looking forward to playing in a group again.

Monday was family home evening. We watched another episode of Downton Abby. Heather got season 2 for her birthday. Before starting season 2 we want to watch through season 1 so that we are completely familiar again with all that was going on.

So, that was the week. Of course there was work in there everyday with its required commuting. I also made it to the gym 4 times.

Love you,

Dad

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

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