



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

A letter from Dad: 19 Mar 2012

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Sun, Mar 18, 2012 at 10:23 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

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

FACEBOOK FRIEND REQUESTS:

**Ayla Soares**Universidade Federal do Piauí (UFPI) · Teresina
185 friends · 83 photos · 1 note · 50 Wall posts

Three mutual friends: Walane Bastos, Busologo Santos, Roberta Fernandes

Rose McGuirePensacola Junior College · Pensacola, Florida
249 friends · 122 photos · 3 notes · 170 Wall posts

No mutual friends.

**Dheylla Lorrany**Unidade escolar professor pires de castro · Teresina
204 friends · 6 photos · 3 notes · 9 Wall posts

No mutual friends

Giovani FariasUnidade Escolar Alcenor Candeira · Parnaíba
434 friends · 21 photos · 23 Wall posts · 2 groups

Two mutual friends: Tiago Ibiapina, Junior Lima

Hello Dear Phillip,

Pictures: Okay, I hope this works out for you just fine. Rather than copy lots of individual pictures I've created four zipfiles. The computer you're on should be able to decompress the files with no problem, and then you can move them onto your USB flash drive. Each file is somewhere between 6 MB and 7 MB. I'll be sending them in 4 separate emails so that there won't be any chance of the email being to large.

These are all the pictures from the calendar. I shrank them so that the longest side is only 1024 pixels. If a picture was already smaller than that then I didn't shrink it. Hopefully this works out!

It felt like summer here on Sunday. When we left church it was 78 degrees. That was such a huge change that it felt way too warm. It was so nice though. Joyce and I took a walk this evening a couple of times around the loop. There were people out BBQing. There were boys playing roller blade hockey. There were people throwing a football around. Last week we had several days in the low 40s and kind of raw. That felt more seasonal. Winter isn't even over yet and it's already 78! We heard peepers on March 14th. That's pretty early for peepers.

The Toyota and the Saturn passed inspection, but the Saturn needed new front rotors. I've been doing some research on minivans. I'll need to take care of that in the next 3 or 4 weeks at the latest.

General Conference time is just around the corner. It's kind of hard to accept that six months have gone by, but they have. In preparation for the upcoming conference I listened to all of October conference again. I finished that up Friday morning. It was good to relisten to all those talks and ponder the messages again.

Joyce and I went to the Noels' home Saturday evening. Brother Fletcher gave a three hour class on "Positive Parenting." It was a very interesting class. He has given this class dozens of times all over North and South America. I wish we had had the class 30 years ago when we were just getting started. All in all we both felt that we had done pretty well. We did a lot of things "right", but we could have been better. I'll let Joyce explain more about it if she so desires.

Friday evening was rehearsal for the stake play "Savior of the World". They have been using the stake's portable sound equipment for that. Well, some young men that weren't familiar with the equipment were trying to be helpful and connect everything up. Unfortunately when they connected the power to the mixer they rotated the circular connector by 120 degrees and forced it in. That put the wrong voltages in places they shouldn't have been and the "magic smoke" escaped. I picked up the mixer Saturday and have it taken apart on my work bench. I'm hoping to be able to fix it with some parts purchased at Radio Shack.

Julia's Sunday School teacher, Mike Groves, was one of the speakers in Sacrament meeting today. One idea that he talked about was the need to keep learning. I started to mull that over in my mind. He approached in the context of becoming like little children and how that is required to be able to enter the kingdom of heaven. Children are constantly learning. I asked myself if and what I'm still learning. What am I learning? I don't have a specified course of study. Am I learning? What should I be learning? It seemed an odd thing to me. I need to figure out what to learn. I know that gospel knowledge is important. We are also directed in the D&C 90:15 "And set in order the churches, and study and learn, and become acquainted with all good books, and with languages, tongues,

and people." Our youth are counseled to get all the education they can. When does that stop? Just because I'm not involved in formal education, such as classes in a college, does that mean I can stop learning? Hmm.... I need to ponder on this more.

Learning is important because it keeps the mind active. If we're not learning, does that mean we're regressing?

Friday evening Heather took Julia to see a movie. Then Julia slept over at Heather's apartment and helped her clean on Saturday. Joyce and I were alone for dinner and the evening. It seemed a bit odd, but it was a taste of what is to come in not too many years. That will be the new "normal". It seemed okay, but a "taste" isn't the same thing as the real thing. We're happy to know that our children are doing good things.

We're trying to "launch" all of you to be successful adults, contributors to society, forces of good. Hopefully it will all work out as we hope. We're certainly very proud of you and all your efforts and the great growth that we sense in you.

Politics. Last Tuesday's contests: Santorum won Alabama and Mississippi. Romney won Hawaii and other islands. Overall he got more delegates on Tuesday than Santorum or Gingrich. Sunday was Puerto Rico and got all 20 delegates. So, the totals now are: Romney 518, Santorum 239, Gingrich 139, and Ron Paul 69. A candidate needs 1144 delegates to clinch the nomination. This Tuesday is Illinois with 69 delegates. Saturday is Louisiana with 46 delegates. The next 3 contests won't be until April 3rd for 98 delegates and then there are five contests on April 24th in the northeast for 277 delegates. Romney is expected to do very well in the northeast.

So, this primary season keeps dragging on.

Hope things are going well for you. I love you bunches and pray the Lord to continue to bless you and your companion with health, strength, and success!

Love,

Dad

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<http://larsen-family.us>

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