

A letter from Dad: 30 April 2012

John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Sun, Apr 29, 2012 at 9:57 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

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

FACEBOOK STUFF:



Luana Ingride wants to be friends with you on Facebook.

Ensino medio compelto \cdot Teresina 238 friends \cdot 15 photos \cdot 1 note \cdot 29 Wall posts



Victor Sud wants to be friends with you on Facebook.

80 friends · 12 photos · 7 Wall posts · 2 groups

And he sent a message below

oi Victor Sud

1:05pm Apr 28

elde oi elder larsen sou joao victor da ala poti olembra? me adciona ai

facebook



Gwendolyn Larsen posted on your Wall

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"Dear Nephew Phillip, Keep up the good work! You're doing a great job bringing joy to lots of people. Love, Aunt Gwendolyn

Hello Dear Phillip,

Sunday evening here, again. Joyce attended the Heritage Park Ward Conference today, so it was just Julia and I together in our meetings. Our meetings were good today. In Sacrament Meeting Kristiana Fox was the youth speaker. She has matured so much. She is looking more and more like a blonde version of Sarah Fox. It's kind of strange how it seems to have happened over night. Elder Godfrey, one of our full time missionaries, was the next speaker. I kept imagining how you could be doing the same thing in your ward in Brazil. His companion has just about the same amount of time left as you. They are both very focused on the work and seem to love their missions, much like you do. Brother Henkel was the last speaker. I always enjoy hearing him speak.

Brother Noel was release as Scout Master after about seven years of service. Brother Hawkins was sustained as Scout Master. I'm sure he will do a good job. Being Scout Master is a challenging job. I did that for one year, and tried, but I was no where near the caliber of Brother Noel. I think it takes a special talent and ability to be a scout master.

Saturday evening was our annual Stake Priesthood Meeting. It also was a very good meeting. I was asked to play the organ, which I gladly did. I didn't get a rootbeer float afterwards though, because I was too busy talking with Brother Carl. He has been working for Dell for about 18 months and has been doing a good job. However, some higher up Dell manager out of state has decided that the whole group that John works for (and Brother Fry too) is being transferred over to Dell's facility in India. That means Brother Carl and Brother Fry won't have jobs after the end of June or July. That's a hard thing to go through. You might try to remember to keep them in your prayers. In addition to all that, Brother Carl spent three days in the hospital this past week. He was having chest pains on the right side of his chest and went to the emergency room about it. They kept him there and have done all sorts of tests. He has a condition called "ventricular tachycardia".

From Wikipedia: "Ventricular tachycardia (V-tach or VT) is a tachycardia, or fast heart rhythm, that originates in one of the ventricles of the heart. This is a potentially life-threatening arrhythmia because it may lead to ventricular fibrillation, asystole, and sudden death."

He is on a beta blocker right now and they will be doing more tests in early May. He

received a blessing Saturday evening from his brother, Jim Carl, and is pretty calm about it all.

Saturday afternoon we went to a building in Westford, MA, where Bradford's girl friend, Amy Lee, and her trio performed a concert. They did a great job. I'm always so impressed with individuals who have dedicated themselves to the extent that they have perfected the skill of playing an instrument. I'm far away from that level of playing, but I do enjoy playing anyway.

I finally got a haircut on Saturday. I was way overdue. It had been 3 months 2 days since my last haircut. I like having shorter hair because it takes less time to shower. On the way to the barber I stopped in at the cemetery again just to spend a few minutes pondering things of eternal significance.

Saturday I also raked the front yard for a little over an hour. I used Joyce's rake that is made of metal. It does a much better job, but it is also harder work.

Joyce and Heather were at "Celebration of Needlework" Friday and Saturday. I'm glad they can do that together. That left Julia home alone on Friday. In hind sight I should have taken a vacation day that day and done something with her. I didn't think about that until too late. I'm bumping up against the "use it or lose it" concerning vacation time at work. I've never been in that situation before, where I have so much vacation time accrued that I'm forced to take vacation or lose it. In three weeks I'll hit the limit. So, I'm going to need to take some Fridays off I guess. That's how Rob Rickless has been dealing with it. It took every Friday off for about a month to give himself some vacation breathing room.

I wasn't very good at going to the gym this past week. I did Monday and Tuesday, but then I got sucked into video editing again. Plus it was vacation week for Julia so I couldn't practice the sax in the mornings. Plus it wasn't fun waking up earlier than everyone else. I did set my alarm for 6:00 AM most mornings, but on Friday morning I had a dental appt at 8 AM so I slept in until 7 AM. Anyway, this week I'll do better.

Last Wednesday evening was the youth temple trip. I went there directly from work. We were understaffed on priesthood because Bishop Nelson was sick, Brother Parker got tied up at work, and other people were out of town. Good thing I went. It is always an enjoyable time being with the youth.

No Merrimack band rehearsal last week. I only practiced the sax a few times this past week. I did run through all the songs Sunday afternoon. Our concert is coming up on May 12th, which is turning out to be a very busy day.

I got Julia signed up for EFY. She will be roommate with Emmy again this year.

Maryann and Emmy will fly to NH on July 28th. EFY is July 30th through Aug 5th. Julia has YW camp starting Monday Aug 6th and Emmy and Maryann will fly back to NM either Aug 6th or 7th. So, their time here will be shorter. Joyce and Maryann will hang out together during the time Emmy and Julia are at EFY.

My next Egypt trip might be in the first part of July. That's kind of an aggressive schedule because there are still a serious software bug that needs to be worked out, a bug that could take weeks to figure out. In order to be ready for a July trip the equipment all needs to be shipped out by the end of May or first week of June. That doesn't really leave a lot of time to get it all done.

I think I told you that I purchased the 30 lesson course on Egyptian Arabic. I'm on lesson 16 right now. It is fun to learn a new language. I'm hoping to get all the way through the lessons and maybe even have enough time to go through them all again before the trip. Each lesson is about 30 minutes. I takes me 4 passes through before I'm ready to move on to the next lesson.

Talking about the Egypt trip... I woke up this morning in the middle of a dream where I was on my trip to Egypt. For some reason Rachel was also on this trip along with John Maher. Somehow in my dream I had arrived in Egypt but had forgotten to pack any suitcases for the trip. I had nothing but the clothes on my back. I was completely confused and wondering what to do. That's when I woke up and was thankful that it was only a dream.

Sorry, but no pictures this week.

Well, I've been sitting here for about 5 minutes and nothing new has gone through my fingers to the email. So, it's time to get ready for bed and start a new week.

Love you!

Dad

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