



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

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## A letter from Dad: 25 June 2012

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John Larsen <john@larsen-family.us>

Sun, Jun 24, 2012 at 9:58 PM

Reply-To: john@larsen-family.us

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

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

Hello Dear Phillip,

Sunday evening here. We got back from Beverly's funeral a little while ago. It was a very nice service. Joyce had been asked several weeks ago to speak at the service on the topic of "Family". She did a great job. I volunteered to provide prelude music and accompaniment for the two hymns that were sung by the congregation. Joyce had previously volunteered to play the piano arrangement of "Be Still My Soul", but she was really rusty at it and didn't feel comfortable about it. So, I gave it a try Saturday afternoon and then practiced through it many times. That's the piece that I played in our sacrament meeting about 4 years ago, but it has been that long since I played it. I got it into good enough shape to play, and I don't think people could pick up on the mistakes I made. Bradford was an Usher for the service and Heather also attended. Julia was at BYD and then off to a sleepover at Tracy Cole's after that. Rachel stayed in our house because she was dealing with a headache and still is right now.

Saturday was pretty much a stay at home day except for about an hour when Joyce and I went over to the Dieberts' to a graduation party for Carolyn. It made me think of six years ago when we did the same thing for Spud. That was when Stanford was recovering from surgery and was dealing with some pain. It was weird being in their home again. The predominant thought in my mind was about Stanford. Joyce and I really didn't fit in with the crowd of people that were there celebrating.

The rest of Saturday I worked on the budget, read my Nook, rendered videos, and completed the shredding project. It is amazing how much volume shredded paper takes up. Three or four budget file folders fill up the hopper on the shredder. I filled three or four large black garbage bags with shredded remains during the month I've been working on the shredding project. I also filled up many kitchen garbage bags with shredded paper when I took out the trash. Four boxes worth of old budgets are now gone! It's good to have that project done.

I keep working on Egyptian Arabic. I'll be travelling to Cairo on Thursday, July 12th. We'll be there for a week and return on July 19th. I'm hoping to go see the pyramids

this time. I'd also like to visit the famous Museum there in Cairo. Paul Hureau is going on this trip to do training. He is also interested in seeing the sights there if we have a chance. I want to try out my Arabic. I've put a lot of time into learning that. It will be fun to see if I can learn more while I'm there.

Joyce, Heather, and I went to the temple Friday evening after work. It was ward temple night, and there were actually people there from the ward! We saw the Schinns and the Burgesses. Jacob and Christine are visiting from Korea this week and there were also in the temple. The temple will be closed for three weeks in July. I heard that the steeple is leaking and there will be extensive work done in that area to figure out what is causing the problem.

It was really hot several days this past week. It was about the same as what you were having there in Teresina. The Toyota was in the shop Mon, Tues, and Wed to repair rust on the left and right side rocker panels. I was driving the Saturn those days with nice AC. I then chose to drive the Saturn Thursday and Friday as well so that I could have AC. That poor car is really struggling. I think the spark plugs need to be replaced again. It shudders at certain speeds and doesn't have much power on hills. We also used the central AC in the house 24/7 from Tues until Saturday afternoon when the temperature finally broke. That made a huge difference in the comfort level in the home.

This past week I had two more chiropractor appointments. According to the doctor, my body lately has been doing much better at retaining the adjustments that I've been receiving. The doctor said Wednesday that I'm doing well enough to start spacing out the visits. My next one will be the week I leave for Egypt and then another one the Monday after I get back. We'll see how well my body does with all that traveling. I'm hoping to get the appointments spread out a lot more. My back does finally seem to be responding to the treatment. The sensation that I was having that prompted me to seek Chiropractic care in the first place seems to be going away now. That was the goal. Dr. Linatsas has also given me stretching exercises and also helped me tweak my gym weight training schedule and approach. At some point I think I'll sign up with a trainer at the gym for some sessions like Joyce did. I just need to get my mind in the right frame of mind to do something "different"... gasp!

Joyce, Heather, Rachel, and I just got back from a Sunday evening walk around the loop. We did two laps at 9:00 PM. The weather conditions are those needed for fireflies to show up, and sure enough, right at the end of our walk we saw fireflies! Do they have fireflies in Brazil?

So... this Thursday morning I get my permanent crown. My temporary crown fell off last Tuesday and I had to swing by the dentist Wednesday morning. Fortunately I already had a chiro appointment that morning and was able to get it done right after.

I'm planning on taking July 5th and 6th off work as vacation days. I keep bumping the "use it or lose it" limit so by taking 2 days at that time I'll get a 5 day "weekend". Then the week after that I'll be heading to Egypt.

Well... that's about everything that pops out of my mind at this time. My emails are just kind of a mental dump of everything that has been going on. I suppose it serves a purpose.... It isn't really very spiritually nourishing. However, it's what is really happening. I love you bunches. Keep the faith!

Love,

Dad

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