



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

Week 5?

Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

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To: John@larsen-family.us, joyce@larsen-family.us

Oi Familia!

How are you all doing?

Wow the time is flying by, already week 5! Pretty soon we're going to be the oldies in our residence hall!

We just got done with a temple session and went straight to a computer lab to email from. I like this way better rather than going to the laundry room and trying to email with all the noise.

It was a shock to read the letter about Brother Eberhard. Its a very strange feeling, yet when I read that I was happy because I knew that Tony was progressing to the next part of life and helping those who have passed on already recieve the gospel. The Eberhard family and the Ward have been in my prayers, but how great a blessing it is to have a knowledge of the plan of salvation. This is actually the lesson that we have been teaching to investigators here lately. We are going to start teaching in all Portuguese next week, we are already doing a lot in our teaching practices in Portuguese. We talk a lot in class and at meals in Portuguese and the best way to learn a language is to just speak it.

So some cool stories from the MTC this week. Well first off, Irmau Taylor, one of our teachers told a story about how he got to go eat lunch with an apostle, and then while they were in the cafeteria, President Monson came in and said hello and asked if they would come upstairs to his office so he could show them some stuff. He got to go into the office and see some stuff that President Monson had and they had some cool stories about each thing he showed them. It seems like a cool experience to have, and it made for a great story!

One thing that I have been grateful for this week was being prepared to give a talk at Stake Conference every time. We have to prepare a talk for Sacrament meeting here every week so that wasn't too much of an adjustment, although they have to be in Portuguese and we usually leave them for the last minute... whoops... O_o

I saw Danny... err Elder Marks this Wednesday! It was really cool to be able to greet someone I knew that was coming in to the MTC. I know how much of a blessing it is to

know someone here. It was a little hard at first when I arrived, me not knowing anyone really until I saw Jordan Hopkins and Ryan Hill. Its pretty awesome!

The weather here this week has been a lot better. It has been sunny everyday and the sun shines on the mountains and they look amazing. We also got to go to the field this week and play soccer, I'm becoming more Brazilian every day! :P
We don't have gym time on P-days so I hope the weather is nice for tomorrow.

So I have seen about close to 10 other Elder Larsen/Larson's here at the MTC. One of them is from Denmark and I was not sure if we are related at all because of that email that you got from distant cousins. I think I mentioned this in my last email or a letter I sent. Speaking of letters did you get the snail mail I sent you? I hope you enjoyed it.

Dad - Good luck with the gig tonight! Let me know how it goes! Did Bro.Houton make it in time? Thank you for sending me all the DearElders this week, even though they had some unfortunate news, it has been nice to hear from home. I still haven't recieved the pictures yet in the mail. I am hoping to get them today, but we'll see. I got another oil container like the one Geoff gave me, except that one is leaking too. I am wondering if it is the little bottle inside the container that is really the problem, but I'll try to figure it out.

Mom - We have been having a lot of good meals lately, I've really enjoyed them although it is kind of getting annoying how there is always the option of deep-fried food. I am trying to watch what I eat so I can be healthy. They had stroganough a couple of days ago, I didn't see it before I got a different meal but I bet it wasn't as good as yours. As for visa situations go, there hasn't been any news yet on visas being recieved for Brazilian missionaries, and we are going to be getting 90 more over the next few weeks I've heard. That is awesome that Ricky got his Visa though! They have been reassigning missionaries that are almost done their stay here at the MTC.

Heather - How has work been doing and are you getting ready for the Con that is at the hotel near your house? You'll have to tell me how it is! Andrew said that they went to a Con in Albuquerque NM. It was more like Kamikasi Con, smaller than Anime Boston, but bigger than the one at Manchester. I have been thinking briefly on what type of costume I want to make and I am leaning towards making an awesome steampunk one when I get the chance after my mission.

Bradford - So we have found out a lot of primitive photo shop techniques here at the MTC. We managed to get a picture of me "flexing" but a buffer Elder in my district is the one actually flexing but it looks like I am... kind of. Also we managed to get some pretty cool lightsabre pictures by using scripture marking mechanical pen led held closer to the lens in the picture. They actually look really awesome, I'll send some pictures over of these things when I get the chance to.

Julia - How has the writing been going? How are you liking choir? Are you getting ready for your concert more now? Getting more homework now that the year is broken into? How do you like block scheduling? Have you texted the Wilsons a lot? Beat Mr.Heaton with magic this past week at the gaming club? Geoff and Sam said they made a new game. Have you heard anything about it? They won't tell me in their letters, all they say is that the game is awesome, but I want to know what it is! What are you going as for Halloween this year? Are you going to go with Rachel?

Nanowrimo is coming up soon! Are you going to all participate (Mom, Julia, Heather, Rachel) That will be cool if you do! I have had some ideas for story stuff and I've been writing them down when I get the chance so I don't forget. I'll have a big idea booklet by the time I get back.

Also I've been able to talk with a lot of British people here at he MTC. One sister that I was talking to told me that I was probably the only person in Utah that knew of Keeping up Appearances. Also I heard that flight costs to go to Britain were about \$500 round trip. I don't know what you have to go through but someone was talking about how awesome it was. Every British person I have talked to and mentioned Doctor Who to knows what it is which I think is pretty flipping awesome!

I'm glad you got to go King Richard's Faire. I hope I'll be able to see pictures of that soon! Did you use the sword dad?

Timer is blinking again, time to end the email.

Love you all a lot and I hope that you are doing well and hope to hear from you soon!

-Love Elder Phillip Larsen

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