

The Berry Patch

News & History of the Herbert & May Berry Family
February 1996

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Subscription envelope enclosed

The Berry Patch NOW ON-LINE

The Berry Patch now has its own Web Page on the Internet. At any time, you may check out the page to see news of the family. The page is up 24 hours per day. So send us your family news at any time via E-Mail (or even snail-mail), and with your permission, we will add it to the Web Page. Otherwise, we will hold your family news till the next issue of The Berry Patch.

Our Web Page address is <http://www.cnet.com/~r2d2>. Our E-Mail address is r2d2@ccnet.com. You can even type in E-Mail to us directly from our Web Page. Drop us a line. If you don't have Internet access from your home or office, you might check at your local library.

COUSINS GET-TOGETHERS—FOR ANYONE WHO LIVES NEAR PROVO, UTAH

If you live in Provo-Salt Lake area, don't miss the cousins get-togethers held each Fast Sunday after the CES fireside broadcasts at the home of Bonnie & Chuck Middleton, 173 East 1864 South, Orem, UT 84058. If you need more information, phone Bonnie at 224-5289. The next gathering will

be March 3, and everybody goes there directly after the CES fireside, typically arriving about 8:30. The Cousins Get-Together in April will be held Easter Sunday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. Due to conference that day, there will not be a CES Fireside. If you're in the area, try and make it to that one, the last before the end of the semester.

LOOKING BACK ON: MISSOURI BERRY REUNION 1995 by Marilynn Barnes

The Russian Comedian, Yakov Smirnof, often follows up on his humorous observations of life in America with the phrase "what a country!!!".....perhaps it could be said of the Berry's after a reunion....."What a Family!!!"

The terrain was not the familiar Arizona setting....the temperatures were hot (in fact, record breaking). however, some obscure scientific law was proven out during the sweltering days of last August, and that is, where ever and when ever a bunch of Berry's gather for a reunion, the spirit of Grandma and Grandpa preside. The love that permeates such a phenomenal gathering is rejuvenating, healing and solidifying. All who attend such an event leave spiritually stronger, more committed to family and with a great sense of roots and belonging. Such was the out come of the Berry Reunion, 1995.

From the very first day, all made the best of the oppressive heat. Spirits were high and the determination to have a good time was infectious. As relatives straggled into camp through out the day and into the evening there was a continuous outpouring of hugging, kissing and 'catching up'.

The facilities were wonderful with most all the amenities of home. All

who saw it agreed it was the best set-up kitchen they had ever seen. Meals and clean up seemed to go off without a hitch under the capable organization of Janice Falls (Grandma/Aunt Maree use to say that Janice reminded her more of Grandma Berry than any of the other Grandchildren—right down to her hand movements and walk).

One quiet highlight was the changing of the guard from David Berry to Janice Falls as president of the family organization. David has put in countless hours and tons of effort into leading us the last few years and there is not thanks enough for his loving efforts in our behalf. Our prayers and support go now to Janice in her new responsibilities.

In spite of the heat, Joycell led the traditional trek to the Sugar Plumb Tree. It was a thrill for all the little ones who participated. The most notable comment came from Aaron Hubbard (Rory and Angel's) to his Grandmother Joycell. As he looked in wonder at the candy covered tree he turned and said "Oh Grandma, I must return to this place".

There were the usual late night talks (where all sorts of family info and updates are exchanged) and group games. The younger cousins were kept busy during the day with the swimming pool and lots of organized activities. There were mini classes on timely subjects. Everyone fought to attend Joycell's class on 'keeping your marriage strong.' Even the men wanted to attend just to hear Joycell's jolly perspective on things.

The talent shows were the usual high quality. The children's was held in the after noon. Songs and poetry were the main fair, all done with style. The adult talent show held that

evening, was definitely one of the high points of the reunion. From a song in Phantom of the Opera to a puppet production of "Bricket Leg"—and every song, dance and story in between—it was a production enjoyed by all.

Stories from the Mature generation was a wonderful tradition continued, and brought many smiles and a rush of memories for those who listened to the retelling of familiar family lore.

Without a doubt, the brightest point was the family auction, held to benefit the Berry Patch. Beautiful handwork was donated, along with several boxes of family artifacts discovered in "Aunt Maree's Attic" collection. As various letters, sticheries and photographs came up for bid, the bids would rapidly escalate. One would suppose tension would settle upon such a group, but there was an opposite effect. Often, the winner would present the loser of the bid with the prize. At other times, the winner was the person everyone in the room was rooting for. A strong spirit of love and affection grew every bit as high as the Berry Patch Fund did. Some of the artifacts were saved for the Berry 1996 reunion at the Whiting Homestead.

The testimony meeting allowed all to express their love and appreciation for this wonderful family we belong to.

In the end, perhaps we could borrow from Aaron Hubbard as we each look back on this last reunion—and those to come—in each relative's heart will be the thought "I must return to this place".

The Berry Patch INFOBASE PROJECT

We are now ready to step into the 21st century by using CD Rom and scanner technology to preserve, protect and catalog the Berry Family History. We would like to gather all books, articles, journals, genealogy and photographs that have ever been written about the family. The resulting comprehensive family history will be placed on CD Rom disks, and made available at nominal cost to each member of the family. The only limits: copyrights and our own imaginations.

How will the Berry Patch Infobase work?

The system can be run on any computer with a CD Rom drive. The CD Rom disk will be usable in DOS, Windows 3.1, Windows 95 or on a Macintosh. It will be on a Folio infobase, which indexes all data.

What will it contain?

The storage capacity of the Folio Infobase system is phenomenal. We will be able to store the equivalent of 5,000 pictures, 100,000 pages of text and 30 minutes of sound. We will include all issues of The Whiting Tree, The Berry Patch, "The Story of Edwin Marion Whiting and Anna Maria Isaacson" edited by Annette W. Farr, diaries from several ancestors, patriarchal blessings, writings from the collection of Louine Berry Hunter, biographies, genealogy, and identifiable photographs—from the earliest known photos, to current pictures of each family unit. We will include sound bites, too, such as Grandpa Herbert Berry playing his mandolin. This collection will be as complete as each of us makes it.

What help is needed?

Everyone is needed to help collect information. Begin immediately to sort through your family papers, and collect photos, letters, documents and any other information that would be of interest to the Berry family. As you find things, put them in one designated storage space. We hope everyone will collect as much information as possible and transfer it to computers at the Berry and Whiting Reunions this summer.

Photo identification is important. We need help with clear, detailed identification of treasured family photographs. We will have cataloged photos available to identify at the reunions.

Those members of the family who have computers can volunteer to become a PC Transcriber, entering non-published or hard-to-scan material into a computer, then submitting the disk to Diana Rice. If you have access to a scanner contact Chuck Middleton or JoAnn Larsen for specifications.

A few genealogy specialists will be needed to pull together the latest, most complete genealogical records. Family History projects in process will need to be completed. We would like to have comprehensive life histories of May and Herbert Berry and each of their seven children. We also would like material from current family members—especially photos of each family group in each generation.

Additional help will be needed for proofreading the final text. Anyone who likes to read can volunteer as a proofreader—we can send you printed material to check for errors, or if you have a computer, we could send a floppy disk.

If you would like to volunteer as a PC Transcriber or Proofreader, please let Diana Rice know, and you will receive an assignment. The more volunteers we have the more quickly this dream will become reality!

How will information be submitted?

We will accept it in any form you submit it: mail, personal delivery, or E-Mail. But perhaps the safest and easiest way to submit your collection, is to bring it with you to the Berry or Whiting Reunions where scanners will be available to scan each item directly into computers. All information that is mailed should be sent to Diana Rice, 2047 Essenary Avenue, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. If you have access to Internet, you can E-Mail information (photographs too, if you have access to a scanner.) directly to Diana Rice's e-mail address: r2d2@ccnet.com.

A few final thoughts:

Imagine the luxury of having a complete collection of our family history permanently protected on a disk that is the size of an audio CD. Every photo and story will be indexed so that access will be immediate, sorted by name, title, author, or subject. With everyone's help this will be possible with the Berry Patch Infobase.

Questions?

For more information contact Editors, Diana Rice and JoAnn Larsen, or Project Manager, Chuck Middleton.

FAMILY FLAG CONTEST

Great minds (right!) have decided that we need a family flag....one that will fly proudly over each Berry reunion (right under the USA flag). The rules are simple and as follows:

1. The contest is open to all ages...and anyone interested (in-laws-out-laws, etc.).
2. You may enter as many times as you wish....(in case you have more than one good idea).
3. Each entry should be a detailed description, drawing or prototype of your idea (or all three).
4. Your entry should present your idea of a flag that would best represent the spirit of the Berry Family.
5. Flags may include symbols, mottoes, artwork, etc. (use your imagination).
6. Be sure to include color/colors and exact position each part of the flag is to be placed.
7. Dead line for submitting entries is April 1, 1996. Mail each entry separately.
8. Send to Marilyn Barnes, 2734 S. Rogers, Springfield MO 65804. (417)889-1092, or E-mail KUMALIK@aol.com on America On Line.

All entries will be displayed at the next reunion. Once an entry has been chosen, we hope to persuade a certain artistic cousin (do the initials SL give a clue???) to draw up the final draft. It will then be made into a flag. We hope at some point to have smaller versions made so that interested family members may purchase them at a reasonable price. They could be autographed by the older generation, framed, put into Books of Remembrance, etc.

Please let your imaginations run free but make sure your entry is simple enough to be able to reproduce in a flag form.

Hahnike's First Adventure

Isaac Ellsworth is six years old and in 1st grade. He recently wrote this story for his Young Author's Club at school.

The spring Hahnike was ten he had many adventures. Let me tell you about one of them. Hahnike lived in India.

One day he asked his Mom if he could hunt for tiger tails but she said

"No", so he made a plan. Here is what the plan was. He snuck out of bed in the middle of the night before the bell struck twelve. He got scared. Hahnike climbed over the city gate. Hahnike saw a tiger asleep. Somebody told him that if he went hunting at night the tiger wouldn't see him very well. Hahnike picked up a sharp rock. He tiptoed towards the tiger. The tiger heard Hahnike's footsteps and woke up. That tiger was mad. Hahnike turned around and ran as fast as his legs could carry him. The tiger was right behind him. Hahnike saw a dark hole. He didn't waste any time. He just jumped right into the hole and waited till morning.

The next morning he snuck into his bedroom very quietly and fast so that his when his mom came to wake him up she would think he was asleep. All day long he thought of another plan.

That night he saw that his Mom forgot to close the window. He snuck out of the window. He climbed on the city gate and out into the jungle. Hahnike thought that he could pull off the tiger tail with a swift jerk. This time he tiptoed over. He was careful not to step on any rocks. When he pulled the tiger tail the tiger woke up. Hahnike held on with all his might. The tiger ran and ran in circles. After the tiger ran around a thousand times he got tired and fell asleep. Hahnike hurried home and went to sleep because he was very tired from running around so many times.

The next morning when his Mom wasn't looking he snuck out the front door. He saw a stick, a piece of string, and a sharp rock. He thought a little while. "Hemmmm" he thought. Then he knew what to do.

This is what he did. First of all he looked in his pockets. In the left pocket he had the only pocketknife his family had. He sharpened one end of the stick and stuck it into the ground near a tree. He tied the sharp rock to the stick with the string. Then he found a smaller rock that wasn't sharp. He climbed up into the tree and grabbed the stick and bent it and held onto it tightly. Then he threw the smaller rock to wake the tiger up.

The tiger went searching for Hahnike. When his tail was in the right spot, he let go of the stick. The stick flew like

the wind with the rock attached to the stick. The rock chopped off the tiger's tail. The tiger was sad to lose his tail because he liked to chase it. He ran home to his mom.

After the tiger was gone Hahnike climbed down out of the tree and grabbed the tiger tail. He climbed back over the city gate as fast as he could because he knew the tiger would come back with his mom. When the tiger and his mom came back Hahnike and the tail were gone. Hahnike hung the tail on a board near his bed so could look at it and remember his very first adventure.

Effie's family

Lynn & Jamie Ellsworth

Luke & Elizabeth Ellsworth

Things are going well for us here in Wyoming. Liz and I keep ourselves very busy with work, church callings, child raising, etc. **Isaac** (6) is doing well in 1st grade, and recently wrote an amusing story about a boy in India hunting for a tiger's tail. [editor's note: story above] **Nicholas** (4) is enjoying his last year at home before beginning Kindergarten next fall, and **Emily** (2) is a curious little girl who is fascinated by everything around her.

Brent & Effie Kitchen

We are currently living in American Fork, UT while **Brent** commutes to SLC to work as a marketer for Questar Pipeline Co. **Tyler**, 5, is enjoying kindergarten, and socializing with playmates. **Ryan**, 3, just started Primary, and is looking forward to playing sports. At this age, he sure wishes he could somehow play the "big game" —baseball. Our newest little arrival **Jamillynn**, (names after her grandparents **Lynn & Jamie Ellsworth**) is almost 4 months and is a cute little bundle of joy. She is blessed to have 2 older brothers who absolutely adore her. We are tickled to finally add the "little-girl" addition to our family. —Effie Kitchen

Lindsay & Esther Pugmire

We have been in St. George for a year now and are feeling settled in finally. We purchased a home in May and were fortunate to finally sell our home in Tucson in July. **Lindsay** is the Cub Master in our ward and

enjoys working with our cub scouts. He also stays busy working at the care center in Hurricane and treating home health patients when he isn't there working. **Esther** is still doing medical transcription at home most nights. She got a scroll saw and enjoys tole painting when she can find the time. **Kylie** is 5 1/2 and enjoys kindergarten. She recently won an art contest at our local recreation center for her age group, which was exciting! **Ashley** is nearly 3 and recently decided to start using the potty. She is a sweetheart and loves going to nursery each Sunday. She just missed going to Primary by a couple of months so she's one of the older children in nursery. Her little sister **Marissa** will be joining her soon as she is now nearly 16 months old. **Marissa** talks non-stop. Unfortunately we don't quite understand what she is saying. She is cutting 8 teeth right now and is quite a trooper as she rarely complains about it.—Love, Lindsay and Esther Pugmire and family

Richard & Elaine Ward

The Richard and Elaine Ward Family is alive and well. Mom and Dad now have an empty nest, and are grateful for a warm home this winter. The entire family (except for Jenny and Doug) spent Christmas together in Utah.

Eric is a freshman at BYU, living in Deseret Towers. **George** and **Steve** are also students at BYU and both are teaching part-time at the MTC. **Matt** is at Rick's College now and is happy to be back in school.

Melissa (Ward) and **Jason White** (married July '95) are busy newlyweds while both are going to BYU and working.

Jenny (Ward) and **Doug Pearson** are in Pittsburgh while Doug attends law school and Jenny works at a law firm.

Julie (Ward) and **Jon Hardy** and their four children— **Aimee** "animal lover", **Jonathan** "Mr. Friendly", **Christina** "flower child", and **Benjamin** "little Linus", are enjoying their home in Spanish Fork, UT.

—Julie Hardy

Van & Patti Ellsworth

Van is still working for Bechtel Engineers and is just finishing up an assignment in Philadelphia where he has been working since September, just home on weekends. **Van** and **Patti** are living with Uncle Lee and Aunt Virginia, and **Patti** is taking care of them full-time. **Van's** children from oldest on down are all doing well. **Mike** is going to school at the University of Utah, studying to be a physical therapist. He's not married yet, but we hope he is looking. **Traci** just got engaged and is getting married late this summer. We are all excited for her and never have seen her more happy. Dad's happy because someday he might get to be a grandpa! **Kerri** is going to school in Fredricksburg, Virginia and is doing very well. She is in her first year of a two year course to become an X-ray Technician. She is at the top of her class and wish her the best. **Ryan** is a senior in high school at Hillcrest High in S.L.C, living with Mike and enjoying the view (girls). We look forward to his Graduation in June. **Patti** has three children. Two boys, **Matthew** and **David**, who live in Alaska, and a daughter, **Jackie** who is in her third year at BYU Hawaii and is doing very well there. All in all, we all seem to be doing reasonably well. **Van's** just getting older. —Van Ellsworth

Pat and Evelyn Gwartney

All is well here at the Gwartney household. The kids are progressing well. **Pat** is still working for Dept. of Treasury. He doesn't have a lot of free time after his long work hours, a long hard commute (120 miles round trip) so there's no time for a lot of interesting hobbies, etc. It's all he can do to fit in his church calling. He does go out on travel about 1 week out of 4.

Evelyn quit her job as a secretary for the Dept. of Navy, lots of complex reasons. She is a primary teacher right now. She enjoys being home with the kids.

Warren still lives in Birmingham, AL. He is still doing just fine.

Nathan has been home from his mission for a year now (South

Korea). He spent one year here in Fredericksburg working and going to school. He is now at Ricks College working on an Associates Degree.

Sarah is a junior at BYU. She is a Zoology Major. She is thinking about going on a mission in about a year.

Troy is in Fredericksburg with us. He is preparing for a mission this summer. He is the head projectionist at the RC theater here and just got promoted to assistant manager.

Emily is now thirteen and still keeps at her music. She probably will become a journalist when she grows up. She loves to write.

Seth is still our baby even though he is 9 1/2 years old. He is an avid reader, has a lot of friends, he has enjoyed playing in the snow we have been having.

—Evelyn Gwartney

Maree's family

Jack and Joycell Cooper

Jack and **Joycell** are enjoying their work in the Dallas Temple so much they have their building in Missouri for sale, and have put it in the Lord's hands. If He wants the building sold, then they will spend the rest of their lives working in whatever temple they are needed. If not, then they will probably still spend the future working in a temple. When they get so old and decrepit they can't get around any more, they will have a drawing to see which child gets them for the first three months! (How's that kids?) In December, Elder Hales from the Quorum of the Twelve, came to Dallas and set Jack apart as a Sealer in the Dallas Temple. It's changed our lives and has had a profound effect on Jack. We sure don't make the money we did in dentistry (not that we made much) but the blessings and peace of mind are sure a lot greater. We are over all the Excursion Groups that come to the temple each month. We have 54 stakes and units and that really keeps us hopping. **Jack** does all the telephoning and arranging, and I do all the reports on each group, do all the release letters and make all the badges for each new EOW. I also

make all the welcome posters for each excursion coming the next day. (Sometimes we have 3 or 4 in one day—all except Saturday when there are no excursion groups. We have a cozy little one bedroom apartment and for the first time in our lives have some free time in the evenings and weekends. We have Monday off. Our children made it possible for us to be here and how grateful we are to them. Now for the interesting news:

JANICE'S JEWELS

Brett is working in Arkansas. **Garrett** will be moving to Salt Lake in the spring. He will be staying with **Vaylene** and **Mariah** and they are excited. **Heather** and **Dean** are expecting baby #2 the 27th of February. **Dalton** is 2 and will be shocked to find he has to share mom and dad. **Amy** is expecting a little girl in March (busy time for Janice.) Her 3rd (She has two boys **Cazdan** and **Conner**) and **Kyle's** first. I hope that little girl can survive her two big brothers. **Cazdan** is in kindergarten and **Conner** looks like a line backer for the Cowboys. **Amy** says his favorite trick is to pull up a chair, get a glass and go get a drink of water out of the toilet! (Yuk!!) Needless to say, she keeps the toilets sparkling clean and no one wants to kiss **Conner** on the lips! **Brenna** is working hard trying to earn money to continue her education. She and **Austin** have fixed up a mobile home and are comfortable and happy. **Mariah** is in Salt Lake, sharing an apartment with **Vaylene** and working hard, looking for a part time job also, so she can start college soon.

MARTY'S MARVELS

Marty is busy being branch president, Financial Planner for the City of Clinton, and doing consulting work for cities wanting to expand. Right now he is working for Kinberling City, down by Branson. **Susan** goes to work full time, mothers four children and a husband, works in the Family History Library and is in Young Womens. **Chelsea**, 13 in June, came in 3rd in the Pre-Teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program for the state of Missouri. She goes to Nationals July 2-7th. She was asked an impromptu question "If you were stranded on a

desert island, what 3 things would you want with you?" Her answer was, "1. My family, 2. My scriptures, 3. My satin blanket!" **Chance** plays baseball, and basket ball, and is quite the athlete and is also good in school. **Caitlin** is doing fine and likes her own space and to do her own thing. **Michaela** is 2 and runs the entire family.

SHAWN'S STARS

Shawn is hooked on "The Work & The Glory" and got **Linda** started and now she's upset because she can't get her housework done! They are all as busy as ever with **Shawn** working during the week in San Luis Obispo, and Saturdays are taken up with watching and coaching ball games for **Casey** and **Chris**. Both are doing very well in the basket ball area. **Chris** is on Varsity and was pictured on the sports page of the paper. (This is his grandmother speaking.) **Cory** is driving all over California and **Linda** is relieved, because she doesn't have to get up at 4:30 a.m. to take her to swim practice. **Casey** is not only a great athlete, but he is also taking guitar lessons. Atta way to go, **Casey**, just remember **Grandma** when you go to Nashville!

LANCE'S LOVES

The 3 musketeers are doing great. **Dane** is five and the twins are one and a half. **Lance** is still teaching and coaching and moonlighting so that **Kathy** can stay home and be a full time mom, and it sure tells on their children. She spends time with them, reads to them, plays with them. and as a result they are smart and well-behaved (Grandma again). They are hoping to sell their home and move to a small town up by the Utah border and get out of the hectic pace of Las Vegas.

ANGEL'S ANGELS

Well, **Aaron** and **Jonah** have become so bonded with the family we can't remember when they weren't a part of our family. They keep us in stitches and speak English all the time. They are both in Kindergarten and made the honor roll. They are so excited because they get a free soda at the CreeMee drive-in, and can rent a video free at the Video Shop. We are anxious for them to attend their first

reunion and see what kind of a family they really belong to. They are being sealed to **Angel** and **Rory** the last of March in the Dallas Temple. What a thrill it will be for their Grandpa will be able to seal them.

VAYLENE'S VA-VOOM

The baby of the family (24 this month!) lives in Salt Lake City in a nice little apartment with her niece, **Mariah**. She is working and hopes to get her hours changed so she can find an evening job to save for school. She and **Mariah** decided to work a year and get residency so the tuition will be less. She loves the mountains and all the places she can go free of charge. She's seen *Legacy* I don't know how many times. Every time someone visits, she takes them to see the movie. I think she knows the dialogue word for word. She's doing great and is available for some tall, good looking, rich, devout Mormon man to elope with her to the temple. (Just kidding, **Vaylene**.) She does go to the Temple every Tuesday, and that is her favorite place to hang out. She is coming to Dallas for the boys' sealing, and it will be great to see her. She's grown up and we are very pleased with the way she turned out—as we are with all our children and grandchildren.

Well, we expect to see every one of you at the reunion. If not, I will personally put a hex on you! Time is going by and I want to get as much visiting in as possible—the way I'm aging, I want to get it all said before I go! SEE YOU AT THE REUNION!!!
—Joycell Cooper

Leilani's family

Wayne & Marilynn Barnes

The **Wayne** and **Marilynn Barnes** family continue to 'hang-in-there' with the rest of you.

Family, church and work take up most every waking hour (and sleeping). 6 yr. old **Justin** is doing well in kindergarten. He loves school and just brought home the 'Miles of Smiles' award, given to the student who is always cheerful and helpful to class mates. He obtained his yellow belt in karate/kick boxing a few months ago. He was the youngest person testing to advance...even more remarkable to his family was

the fact he had to run 3 miles and test for 4 hrs before judges. His favorite Christmas present was a wonderful castle, with knights, draw-bridge and catapult, that he got from his mother Kim.

2 yrs. old **Bryan** continues to make the family laugh....and pray a lot. He repeats all he hears and sees, so the family has learned from hard experience to watch carefully what is done and said around him.....if he observes or hears it, you can lay money down that he will repeat it at the most inopportune moment....no one is safe. He has recently added to his list of adventures (which last year included 20 lbs of potatoes in the toilet) getting his head caught in the dish washer (too long to explain—just use your imagination) and blowing out all the fuses in the house by sticking a key in a wall plug. The dishwasher event ended with his having 5 round indentations in his forehead for several days, the light-socket episode resulted in melted car keys (that flew across the room), but no injury to Bryan.....just a new look of interest in electricity across his face.....we have learned that Heaven watches over Bryan (and its a good thing).

Lest you think there are no redeeming qualities....he truly has the sweetest nature, and a very Berry sense of humor. but he is 'creative'. Next time we'll tell you about the time he put himself and the dog in the corner after causing an avalanche of food and drink while getting into the refrigerator.

Waynes' 14 yr. old son now lives with us. **Jimmy** is in 8th grade and a computer genius. He has taught Marilynn a great deal about the world of cyberspace (and it wasn't easy). For his science fair project he gets to spend 10 hrs. with the family veterinarian and watch surgery and work in the lab.....everyone is jealous and wants to go too.

Jenna continues to work as a supervisor at Grayhound bus. She has become great friends with the local police and drug squad from the FBI....and their dogs! They check buses on a regular basis and bust

people all the time. She just watched 10,000.00 be confiscated because the dogs picked up drug residue on the bills. There was a shoot out last week when one young man decided not to give up his stuff willingly (no one was hurt...he was hauled off to jail) Jenna says she has learned to duck and write up bus tickets at the same time We have to hear a lot of the stuff on the news, its so common place to Jenna she forgets to tell us.....she takes it all in stride and we worry

Kara and John are in the middle of a move to Kansas City , where John was offered a good job. They are hoping it will hold some permanence for them, as they have moved many times in the last few years, with school and work. Kara graduated in December and has been student teaching regularly, once they are settled she hopes to find something permanent. 21/2 yr. old Kerry is recovering from eye surgery and it seems to have been successful, They removed an unusual membrane that was causing her to lose her vision. She is doing well....don't ask Kara and John what they think of their HMO unless you want to observe an agitated, frustrated conversation.

Kellie, Mark and 2yr. old Jerick were able to come down for Kara's graduation. It was so good to see them. Jerick is a little doll and was a big hit with Juston and Bryan.....Kerry being the only girl and very feminine...holds herself apart from the rowdy boys. Kellie is still counting money for the State of Alaska and Mark still works with the tourist industry.

Kim is now working for 3 attorneys in Juneau as their Paralegal....they are paying for her education which is a real blessing. She has also started a business doing papers and documents for business people from out of town who are there for a short time....she is busy, busy, busy!!!

At this writing, **Jason** was still in Anchorage as part of his electrician school. He is almost finished and will be a journeyman soon. He brought **Stephanie** to the Reunion in August and she survived, so he felt it was

safe to pop the big question....she said yes and they will marry sometime this summer.

we love and miss you all....until next time!!!!. —Marilynn Barnes

Keith and Jeannine Larson

The Keith Larson household sends our love and best wishes to all of you. We miss you all and think often of each one of you. We moved to Utah in June of 1993 and wish to report that we are happy here and have no regrets as to the decisions that we have made. We live in a very peaceful countryside beneath the shadow of the beautiful Manti Temple. Keith has retired from teaching and Jeannine teaches 14 students from 1st to 11th grades in a home schooling situation.

Shane and Adrienne Larson live in Logan, Utah where Shane is completing his Masters and will graduate in June. This next year he will be teaching at the University in Logan. Adrienne has an excellent job at the University as Staff Assistant to the Dean. She is very busy keeping up with two wonderful children, **Emily** who attends second grade in Logan and 1 year old **Mitchell** who reminds us of his father.

Troy and Jennifer Lynn Larson are expecting number five about the middle of April. Troy has one more year to get his Journeyman's license in the plumbing business, and then he will be his own boss. Jennifer Lynn spends her days trying to harness and corral four beautiful blonde children: **Jessica** who is seven and in first grade, **Josie** who is five and in Kindergarten, **Dallin** who is three and **Daniel** who is two. They live on a little farm with a few sheep, chickens, cows and a horse or two.

Brian and Melinda Larson moved to Nashville, Tenn. last fall when Melinda signed a contract with Opryland. She just finished the holiday season and begins a new show called "I hear America singing" which takes the history of American music from the 20's into the 90's. Brian is working for Opryland as Stage Manager for the main show. They both love Nashville and the

many doors it is opening for them in the entertainment field. They have three wonderful children, Miranda who is five, Zachary who is three and Alexander is one. [editor's note: read Brian and Melinda's letter following this one.]

Daren and Angela Larson live in Salt Lake City where Darin works in the LDS Church Office Building as Senior Accounting Clerk in the Finance and Records Department. He is trying to build up his own business in accounting and bookkeeping. Angela baby-sits two additional children besides her own two. On top of that, she has seven piano students. **Michael**, the computer prodigy, is three and his little sister **Megan** is two. Both keep them hopping.

Jennifer and Kent Braddy live in a quaint little house just two and a half blocks south of the temple. Kent works in construction and does printing and computer work on the side. Jennifer is expecting her third in August and chases after two and a half year old **Marah** and one year old **Jesse**.

Margaret and Chris Rogers also live in a quaint little house on the west side of Manti. Chris works in the meat department at Kent's market in Ephriam. Margaret and Jennifer have spent a good deal of their time making some beautiful patch work quilts.

Sarah and Gordon Jenkins live just two blocks from Margaret and Chris. Gordon is learning the construction business after spending many years in the health field.

Matthew is 18 and **Jared** is 15 1/2 and they are still at home. They are happy here in Manti and love the work that we are doing. We have made many wonderful friends here in San Pete County. —Jeannine Larson

Brian and Melinda Larson

We have taken on a new life in Nashville, Tennessee and we love it! We moved there last September and we have been involved in Halloween shows and Christmas shows for Opreyland USA. **Miranda**, 5, and

Zach, 3, have the shows memorized and they still watch them all the time on video! We are making a lot of really great friends here so who knows how long we will stay! We know the Lord will guide us and is pleased with us!

Brian is involved with all kinds of entertainment jobs. He is currently a director's assistant for a show that opens on January 27 and will be a stage manager for a show all year called "I Hear America Singing" at Opreyland. He has definitely found what he likes doing!

Melinda is performing in shows all year for Opreyland too, and loves to bring all 3 children into the theater when she can! She recently choreographed the showtime company tour show in Rexburg, Idaho in January and got to spend a few weeks in Utah with the children! She also loves performing extra TV gigs and teaching workshop dance classes for teens. Life is so full of opportunity!

Miranda is our 5 year old angel! She is getting ready to start school this next September and loves to take dance class with her friends. She draws a lot and is starting to read and write words too! She keeps us busy spelling for her!

Zachary is our 3 year old imagination! He loves to watch musicals and fast forward to all the musical numbers and perform with them. Then the next minute he will go around the house being an elephant for an hour! He is also very attached to his animal collection!

Alex is our busy busy boy! From the moment he wakes up in the morning he is walking, eating and playing until he goes to bed again. He communicates very clearly what he wants and has a squeal that is ear piercing if he doesn't get it. Hmmm—this is just how Brian was! He is definitely Daddy's boy. It is so fun to watch them together!

We are grateful for the Berry Patch and the work put into it so we can all keep up with each other's lives! We love you! —the Brian Larson family

Joycell adds: Troy and Jennifer Larson are expecting their fifth child. They are living in Preston, Idaho, and love it. They live out in the country and have fixed up their house. They raise pigs, chickens, and have a cow or two. Troy works at the plumbing business while trying to go to school, and is YM President in the ward. Jennifer said their oldest two girls, Jessica and Josie are in school now. Their biggest problem is getting Josie home. Twice she has fallen asleep on the school bus and the bus driver has taken her home (evidently he does not check the seats when he's through.) has gone inside his house, and when she wakes up, she's all alone. She's the last one to get off. The last time this happened, his neighbor heard her crying, and took her inside, fed her milk and cookies and let her watch Batman while she called Jennifer. (I think I'd have a talk with the bus driver.) Now, Josie is looking forward to falling asleep and getting a free meal and video. Jennifer says she's kept busy at home with kids and laundry, and learning to sew, and laundry, choir practice, and laundry, housework, meals, and laundry, finding time to do crafts, grow intellectually, and spiritually, and laundry, having another baby, and laundry. Other than that, her time is her own. May I suggest disposable clothes?

Kay's family

David & Sharon

Dear family and friends: We are so happy and grateful to you our dear family. So much has happened this year and as we look back we see so many, many blessings and happiness our Heavenly Father has given us.

Dave has worked in Fresno all year at the Corrections Dept. of the State of California. He has really enjoyed this dental position and has learned so much and considers it a service and good opportunity. We have been trying to sell our home, but we have felt a strong calm feeling that everything is fine. We have been given some great opportunities to do missionary work and in our small way have really enjoyed this blessing.

Amy is our last one home and keeps us on our toes. She helps us stay young. She is a really great gal and very talented. She loves being with friends, Beehive Presidency, dancing, etc. She is 13.

Mike left on his mission in June and is serving in the Colorado Denver North Mission. He is Mission Secretary and is so happy that he is able to work with the President and also do missionary work in the evenings. He is loving this area and the missionary experiences there. He has learned how great it is to serve others. We have all developed a great love for missionary work since he left. Yes, Mike, there is life after football!

Michelle married **Perry Mills** just before Christmas in 1994, and is expecting any minute. They are very happy. He is going to BYU. He worked for Terminex down here this summer in California, so it was neat to have them close.

Stacey and **Steve Smyth** have a new darling baby boy that looks like both of them. He never holds still. He is always "leading the singing" like his Grandpa says and is such a delight to everyone. They are living in Provo too.

Julie and **Kent Lundin** have three children and Kent has taken on a new challenge of teaching a business class at UVSC on top of being in the Bishopric and "being the best Dad and husband in the world.", so Julie says. Julie is feeling a lot less stressed after being released from YW President. We spent Christmas in Utah this year. It was fun to wake up early with the children and see what Santa brought. We were also able to move Grandma Berry to her new Condo.

Cindi and **Brian Watkins** are living in San Dimas and are really close compared to everyone else. This July they had a lovely little girl who is really the best baby we have ever seen. This makes it an even four for them.

In June, Sharon had two shoulder operations and has been in Physical

Therapy and is recovering nicely. Sharon was able to meet old friends from Long Beach and show off her handsome husband at her 35 year class reunion. We had a great time dancing to the old music.

We enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving with our children and grandchildren. We have the greatest, neatest sons-in-law we could ever ask for and the most beautiful grandchildren—each new spirit adds so much to our family.

Life has been a challenge this year, but it has been such a testimony that Heavenly Father is in charge and will bless us if we do our part. We keep trying. Have a great new year and don't forget us. We love you. —David & Sharon Berry

Perry & Michelle Mills

Just a quick note to say Hi! Perry and I have been married 13 months now, and we are still in love!! Our goal is to still be on our "honeymoon" when we are 102 years old. News flash!!! By the time you all get this, we will have had our baby. The due date is February 18th. We think it'll be a boy, but who knows—one or the other, we are very excited!!! Perry's trying to finish up his degree in Clinical Lab. Science—he's a go getter! I'm sure thankful for such a wonderful and eternal best friend. We will be going to California or Albuquerque, N.M. this summer to work for a pest control company. It's a great way to not have to work during the school year. Ya-whoo! The gospel is true!! Love, Perry & Michelle Berry Mills.

Julie Tanner

I am living in Orem now with 5 of my 6 children. **Lisa Joy** is currently serving in the Chicago Mission, Spanish speaking.

I teach resource at an elementary school nearby. I have initiated a parent and community volunteer program to tutor at-risk students in reading. Last summer I was able to complete my masters' degree at San Diego State.

We enjoy the winter snow here. Some of my kids have taken skiing

lessons. **Aundrea** (11) also takes ice-skating and gymnastics.

Last summer **Wendy** (17) took a trip to New York after winning a scholarship competition. It was a great experience for her.

We are working hard and feel grateful for the ways the Lord has blessed us. —Julie Tanner

Lee's family

Jean Arbuckle

is now living in Florida and enjoying the sunny weather. She reminds all of us how nice it is in Florida whenever any of us have a major winter storm.

Her oldest daughter, **Cristi** was married on New Years Day to **Doran Skalak**, a long time friend.

Her son **Jeff** and his wife **Patti** have: 3 year old **Jessica** and 1 year old twins, **Daniel** and **Jamie**. Jeff is busy during the day with his medical practice and busy at night playing with his three babies.

Eric Arbuckle was married last year to **China**. They had a beautiful Korean, Chinese, American wedding with gowns and traditions from all 3 cultures. The invitations were in red for good luck.

Steve and Judi Berry

and their whole family are living in the same state. That is pretty amazing any more with families spreading out all over the country. They love Utah and all the many recreational activities. Steve and Judi will become grandparents later this year.

Patricia Berry

and her group live in Virginia and are happy to be close to Mom and Dad and the Ellsworth relatives.

Eileen and Bob Luke

love Washington, but find their kids are spread all over the world.

Jennifer is graduating from BYU in April. She teaches Portuguese at the MTC and loves it.

Shannon is a freshman at BYU and is the gospel doctrine teacher in her ward. Her seminary teachers nearly died laughing when they heard.

Juliann is a missionary in Madagascar, part of the Durbin South Africa Mission. She and her companion are the first permanent Sister missionaries there. It is a very unusual mission: she has a guard, a driver who also translates French to Malagasy, and a cook. The 2 Sisters live in a house with 4 Elders. She loves being a missionary.

Jon is a missionary in Rio de Janeiro carrying on the family traditions of Grandpa, Uncle Steve, sister Jenn, all going to Brazil. He has run into lots of spiders, bugs, fleas, etc. but also loves being a missionary. He dreams of his mother being there with a washing machine.

Our youngest, **Missy**, enjoys being the only one at home. She always gets her choice. She actually misses her brothers and sisters occasionally.

Uncle Lee and Aunt Virginia

Dad has been very ill since Christmas. He was in the hospital for a couple of weeks and is now at home. He is having trouble recovering. The family is very appreciative of Patti and Van Ellsworth, who live with Mom and Dad. Patti takes care of them, cooking, cleaning, running errands and chauffeuring them. They have been wonderful to Mom and Dad. We also appreciate Evelyn and Elaine who fill in during emergencies. We appreciate your prayers for his recovery. —Elileen Luke

Norma's family

Roger & Diana Rice

We seem to be in a "Noah mood" this year—most everything is coming by twos. Two graduated from BYU last April: **Stephanie** graduated with a teaching credential in dance education, and **Michael** received a bachelor of science degree in Physics to begin post-graduate work in astrophysics. Two graduated from public schools in June, **Brian** from elementary school, and **Christopher**

from high school. **Stephanie** managed to handle two huge commitments at the same time, Choreographer for the Oakland Temple Pageant, and taking a final tour as a BYU Folkdancer to Canada in July. Roger and Diana received two new callings this summer in our ward: Roger is High Priest Group Leader and Diana is Relief Society President. Two children spent the summer at home with their parents: **Anna** got a great job that has paid for an entire school year at Ricks College, and **Brian** spent the summer helping his mother plan weddings.

Yes, you've probably heard that two couples in our family were married this summer. After a two month engagement, **Cindy** married **Aaron Case** in the Jordan River Temple July 29, 1995. **Stephanie** married **Jared Taylor** in the Oakland Temple August 12, 1995. Our two brides had two receptions each. The two began teaching school in August: **Stephanie** is the dance teacher in the P. E. program at Provo High School, and **Cindy** teaches grade two as an intern at Crestview Elementary School in Pleasant View, Utah.

Two of our sons are on BYU folkdance teams: **Christopher** is on the SPAC team that will tour elementary and junior high schools throughout Utah in May. **Randy** is on the PAC team that will tour Norway and Sweden with one stop in St. Petersburg Russia during the summer. (In March **Randy** will be on the mid-semester tour through Southern California. Anyone who lives in L.A. or San Diego, let us know if you'd like more information).

We are awaiting the births of two grandchildren: **Michael** and **Emily Rice** are expecting their second child in mid-March, and **Jared** and **Stephanie Taylor** are expecting their firstborn in May. That brings us to spring again, where we will again have two graduations: **Cindy** will graduate officially from BYU in April, the day before **Anna** graduates with her AA degree from Ricks College. In the summer, we will be sending off two missionaries: **Anna** and **Christopher** are both planning to go on missions after school is out.

Benson, our only grandchild (at this writing) will turn two in July. We are looking forward to the two Reunions: we'll see you in July! —Diana & Roger Rice (*two for one special*)

JoAnn and Barry Larsen

This last year has been a great one for our family. May 19 our only daughter, **Julianne**, got married to **Kerry Muhlestein**. He is a great young man and we are thrilled to have him in the family. **Kerry** is finishing his master's program in May and will enter a Doctorate program somewhere (probably in the East) in the fall. **Julianne** will graduate in August, so the timing is perfect.

Four days after **Julianne's** wedding **Keith**, our second son, entered the MTC to learn French in preparation for his mission in the West Indies. We miss him a lot, but know that he is doing the Lord's work. He is loving the work and is a great missionary. I am sending a portion of his first letter about traveling to the mission [See page 18]

David, our oldest, is at BYU and enjoying it there. He is working hard and studying hard. He loves his Ward and seems to never lack for things to do. He enjoys teaching Gospel Doctrine. He is a man of action and determination. He has always set a great example for his younger brothers.

Brad is a senior this year. We are trying to imagine life without him, but it seems too bleak. He had a great year at football, and was chosen All League and then All Metro. He was a key reason the team won all league. This is a school that has had a winning team only once (1974) in the 30 years of the school's history.

Jared, our youngest, is a junior. He was also a starter on the football team and had a great year. He is the type of young man that is always aware of what is going on around him. He is great at figuring things out. It is hard to believe that he has grown up so fast.

Barry is still working for an auto auction and really enjoys his work. He is still teaching early morning and is

Young Mens President in the ward. Right now he is coaching the young men's basketball team. He worries about the boys (especially his own son's) of getting tired of him, but they love him.

JoAnn is 2nd counselor in Young Women's. She loves being at home and has started a little desktop publishing business out of her home. She designs ads for a small newspaper and really enjoys it. The extra income helps. She really enjoyed going to the Missouri Reunion and didn't know how much she needed it until she was there. It was great seeing everyone, but it was way too short!

The Middleton's

Life is busy! Our two oldest children are on missions. **Chuck** is serving in Munich, Germany and **Emily** is serving in Toronto, Canada. **Cathy** is currently studying in Jerusalem for a semester. She will also be our first wedding! She will be married August 31. She is marrying **Brant Wilson**, who is from Texas. The other four children are deep into school life. Chuck, the dad, has left his job at word perfect and is currently setting up his own business. **Bonnie** is serving in the stake young women's presidency as second counselor. Bonnie had the best time at the family reunion in august. One of the neatest things was hugging her cousin Ginny after twenty plus years. We hope to see whoever can make it to the next reunion. The last reunion was so much fun I didn't want it to end.

Helen's family

Brian Andelin

was on the Leeza Gibbons Show in September, and made comments as the lawyer of one of Leeza's guests. -DFR

Robert and Ginny Leavitt

Benjamin returned from a mission in Finland last May, and we enjoyed having all eleven children home this summer. (We especially enjoyed the Berry reunion!) Benjamin, Bonnie and Sara are all attending BYU this year. We are expecting a baby in May. -Ginny Leavitt

Dean's family

Anna & Bruce Wood

We are just plugging along - nothing unusual here. We like Virginia and we have actually been here 4 and ½ years. This is nearly a record. Our lives are full of the usual, you know what I mean. The lack of sleep, running the kids around, early morning seminary, sports, and ortho appointments - well, they are just real bonding moments knowing that all my other cousins are doing the same thing!!! Happy 1996 everybody....and we hope to see you all at the reunion. Please come!!!! It's just about the only time we get to see everyone.

Jake - well, Jake has discovered sports this year and played freshman football and is currently wrestling varsity as a freshman at Langley High School. Life is good. Church is good. Girls are good. And what else? As Jake would say, "Whatever."

Melissa - is looking forward to high school at Langley High next year. Homeschool with mom is sometimes great and sometimes OK. Basketball is definitely a plus as well as skiing. She's ready to try snowboarding! She's nearly finished her personal progress as a beehive and is looking anxiously to being 14 (and eligible to go to stake dances).

Sam - the mighty third grader is the "pest" according to older siblings. You know, he does things just to bother you at times. And then at other times he is the sweetest most lovable thing around?! Can you figure it out other than he's 8? He loves basketball and skiing too. He's a good kid.

JoAnna - is a head taller than everyone else her age. As she says, "No one in any of my classes is as tall as I am". And it is true . . . any bets on her adult height? My guess is nothing less than 6 feet tall. She's sweet, a helper, a reminder of all that we forget to do, and a true joy.

Brent and Laurlyn Berry

We have a brand new baby girl. 8 pounds and 8 ounces. This is exciting. Her name is **Brianna Lee**. Mother and child are very healthy.

Brent enjoys wrestling, baseball, hide and seek etc. with his boys. He is also coaching the deacons basketball team with his assistant at his side. (Kendall, age 4)

Laurlyn, after the never -ending pregnancy, and 10 days overdue was about to name the baby "Reluctance" or "Bashful". We thought better about it and named her **Brianna**. So far she just likes to burp and eat.

Kendall has enjoyed the recent masses of snowfall by sledding with dad and Kirk and neighborhood friends. He also enjoys making big igloos. However, he asked dad the other day when the snow would go away so they could play baseball outside. Kendall only wears 2 outfits: he calls one his baseball clothes and the other his basketball shirt. Mom can hardly keep up with the laundry and he often pulls the shirts out of the dryer himself. Kendall is learning to draw letters, write notes, and "read". He continues to be a great big brother.

Kirk is a little engineer absorbed in the world of choo choo trains. He creates new track layouts everyday and runs his wooden engine and cars along it. When he's not playing with his train tracks he wants to watch his "Thomas the Tank Engine" video. Occasionally he will take a break from trains to watch Winnie the Pooh or play baseball with Kendall. Then it's another blank page and crayon to momma for another choo choo drawing request. Kirk also loves puzzles, cars, dogs, and playing with dad.

Jon Berry

My new job is everything I expected. I have been put in charge of redesigning all their software. The company is called Pulse Instruments. They are located in Torrance. I found a place to stay during the week in Gardena (310) 327-7398. Pulse Instruments specializes in making and testing infra-red cameras. With this job, I have the opportunity to use all my design skills. I can still be reached in Costa Mesa on the weekends.

Karen and Brent Mitterling

Brent is busy with family, greenhouses, and bishopric as usual.

The greenhouses are full. We plan on a great spring. **Karen** is continuing with Sunshine and having fun with that. **Justin** is reading a book a day and he's memorizing multiplication tables now.

Jason can't wait to go to first grade. He's writing his first and last name. His last name is a major feat!! He enjoys school.

Jessica continues to rule the roost. She reminds everyone of the rules and reinforces them. And when she cries she wails.

Ashley continues to be the mischievous one. She loves to sneak around and get into things she's not supposed to. And when she cries she whines.

Kaci is our major manipulator. She flirts and is a major actress. When she cries, she whimpers.

And Chocco, the brute dog, finally captured the possum that had been sneaking nightly into his dog food bag. This is truly amazing because he's on a chain. Every time we come outside, he properly mounts his kill between his fangs and struts it around. It's quite spectacular because it's frozen solid. I wonder what he's going to do when it thaws out?

Matt and Juana Berry

Matt, I and Gypsy (our cat) are well and thankful for that. Juana is really excited about her sister Elida's wedding in March. Both of us are delighted that we'll be seeing the Almaguers and the Berrys again. Matt hasn't been out of Japan since Christmas 1993, so this will be interesting!

The other day Juana's students were talking about some of their favorite dishes. Of course, there's the usual grilled fish, onigiri (rice ball), miso soup, sushi and tempura dishes, but some of the stranger dishes are shiokara (squid guts with soy sauce and salt), natto (fermented beans that smell like ammonia) and grilled intestines and cow's tongue. Matt's tried the shiokara and natto. In fact, he was eating natto every day for a while. Matt will try anything!

Gypsy's new thing this week is taking all of Matt's computer paper off the shelf. She keeps us laughing.

We hope everyone is well and miss you all much. Love, Matt and Juana

Mark and Lynne Berry

Lynne - With a love of photography, Lynne braved wrigley kids and impatient adults and snapped numerous shots of family and nature in Deer Valley over Thanksgiving. Determined to capture each moment, Lynne succeeded in other ways. After a full day of directing, Lynne discovered pictures cannot be produced without film. She has been wondering lately why her portfolio of pictures has not materialized. As a side note, this has only happened to Lynne one other time. Low and behold, it was 15 years ago in Park City, Utah. Strange, isn't it?

Mark - I am striving to keep a million details organized in an eight hour period. As always, something slips through the cracks. My latest slip up is calling for a hotel reservation in Phoenix and writing down the confirmation number and the person's name who took my reservation. You would think I would also write down the hotel name. I have been calling every hotel in Phoenix to see if I am registered there for the weekend. If I don't find it soon, I'll be charged for it.

Austin - Despite his active nature, Austin is quite sensitive and compassionate toward others. We just found out from Austin's teacher at school that Austin has taken it upon himself to help a mentally disabled boy in his class. He helps by further explanation and demonstration of what's going on in class. Because of his help, Austin has been permanently assigned the seat next to this boy. All this has been done without any prompting from the teacher and without Austin's knowledge. The teacher is afraid the natural balance of the friendship will be altered if Austin is aware he is doing something wonderful. So we try to praise Austin in other ways. Austin has also been drafted by the Viejo Braves. They signed him up after his hitting success at the Little league try-outs.

Trenton - Mr. Smiles is excited about his new bike. He has grown so fast, his old bike was just too small. It was obvious as you watched his legs go a

thousand miles an hour to keep up with Austin on his bike. He is also quite the comic. He thought it would be funny to dump "gak" on top of his head and let everyone see it run down. Well, he learned some things are not funny as it took Lynne a couple of hours to get it all out of his hair. Trenton will be playing T-ball this year, I feel sorry for the ball already. He hits just as well as Austin at the batting cages. A ball standing still has no chance of survival with Trenton at the plate.

Brigette - Our grown up daughter cannot wait to go to school. She talks about it all the time, she also cannot wait to be out of her car seat. During the day, Brigette can be seen creating whole worlds with her animals and dolls or she will spontaneously perform some needed house chore. The other day Lynne found her cleaning up an ant infestation in the kitchen. "Just cleaning up the ants, mom."

Dalton - He walks! He babbles! He is everywhere! Don't Turn your back on him for a second! He is the amazing vanishing child! Born with a natural toilet bowl homing beacon, he can usually be found splashing joyfully in the bathroom. He is also a living wrestling dummy for the other children to tackle at will. He loves it. What a bruiser.

Thank You To:

Louine Hunter, for the wonderful articles on Howard W. Hunter, **JoAnn Larsen** for transcribing the article "We are a Family of 9" by May Berry, and for scanning photos, **Bonnie & Chuck Middleton** for being Berry Family Treasurers, **Marilynn Barnes** for writing the Reunion 95 report and the Family Flag article. **Janice Cooper Falls** for writing the Reunion 1996 information pages, **Roger Rice** for making order out of the chaos on the computer, and for helping the Berry family go On-Line, **Chuck Middleton**, for being Project Manager of our Infobase Project, and **everyone who contributed to the family news section!**

—Diana Rice, editor

Family Weddings



Matthew and Anna Marie Hales



Matthew and Kristie *Berry* Beddes



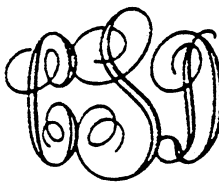
Kerry & Julianne *Larsen* Muhlestein



Aaron and Cindy *Rice* Case



Jared and Stephanie *Rice* Taylor



Wishing you joy this holiday season

Cristina Joy Arbuckle

and

Doran Arthur Skalak

are pleased to announce their marriage

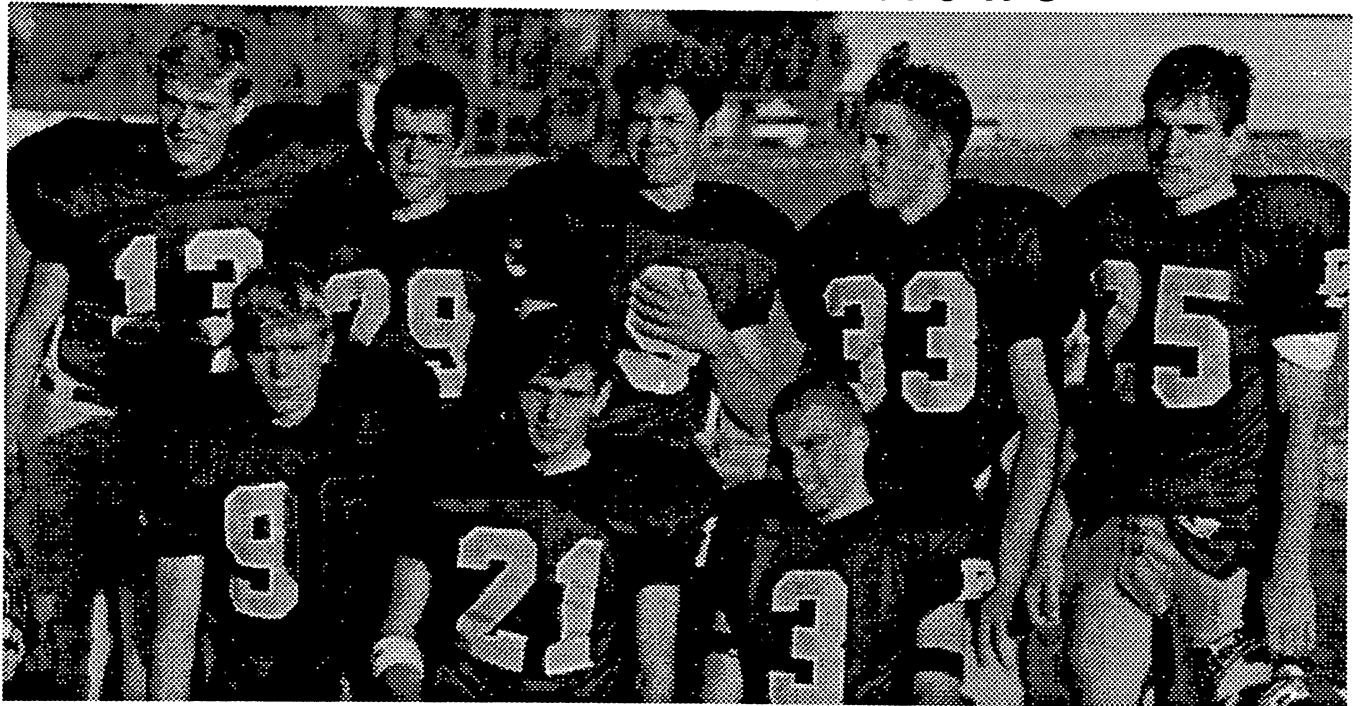
on Monday, the first of January

nineteen hundred and ninety-six

at the Woodlawn Plantation

Mount Vernon, Virginia

Cousins in the News



Jared Larsen is #21 and Brad Larsen is #25. See the accompanying article on the next page.

LDS youths lead Del Campo to first playoff appearance

By Saul M. Hernandez

SPECIAL TO THE MESSENGER

When one thinks of Del Campo High School sports, usually its dominating "futbol" (soccer) teams come to mind. However, this year "futbol" has a new spelling and meaning — "football."

The Del Campo football team finished 8-2 — undefeated in the very competitive Capital Athletic League — and on its way to the No. 1 seed representing the CAL in the high school football playoffs. It is the first year in the 32-year history of the school that it has made the playoffs, and only the second time it finished with a winning season.

Much of this team's success has been credited to eight Latter-day Saint youths. The strength of these youths has earned them respect on and off the field.

"These guys have such a positive impact on the team that they all serve as role models," Coach Steve Kenyon said.

The LDS players are led by senior standout Brad Larsen. Brad finished as one of the top five receivers in the area. He also finds time to excel in the classroom, with a 3.5 grade-point average.

His determination to help Del Campo's football program get on track has not been without pitfalls. During Brad's sophomore season, he was called up from the junior varsity squad to finish the year with the varsity team. This allowed him to play alongside his brother, Keith, who currently is serving a mission. However, during his junior year, Brad broke his leg, forcing him to sit out the entire season.

Brad has worked hard for his senior year and others seem to be watching as he has drawn interest letters from such colleges as San Diego State and University of California at Davis. Recently, Brad was honored as the offensive player of

the year of the Capital Athletic League and first team all-conference, which is voted on by coaches within the league.

"It is great to have teammates that share the same standards as you," Brad replied about his LDS teammates, including his younger brother, Jared. Both Brad and Jared are members of Northridge Ward in Carmichael Stake.

Jared Larsen stands 5 feet 9 inches and weighs 145 pounds. However, this junior starting defensive back has shown he should not be taken lightly. Jared has been a key ingredient to Del Campo's tough defense, which has stopped such football powerhouses as Grant, Roseville, Casa Roble and Nevada Union.

Other members of Del Campo's defense are the Brasher brothers. Matt Brasher, who is a senior, and younger brother Ben, who is a junior, have learned to watch over each other's shoulders as both play as defensive backs. Both are members of Fair Oaks Second Ward in Carmichael Stake.

Two others, senior Troy Ewing of Northridge Ward and senior Coram Hughes of Citrus Heights Second Ward also play for Del Campo's solid defense.

Another of Del Campo's solid defensive backs is junior starter Scott Russell. Whether Scott is tracking down fly balls as a member of the baseball team or tracking down opponent wide receivers, he usually catches his target. Scott, who moved to Fair Oaks during his freshman year from San Diego, said he was the only member of the Church on his high school's sports teams in Southern California.

"Having members of the Church on your team and especially in the defensive backfield sure does give you a source of strength," said Scott, a member of Fair Oaks Second Ward.

The most noted LDS defensive

“
These guys have such a positive impact on the team that they all serve as role models.

— Coach Steve Kenyon

”

standout is senior linebacker Scott Blaser. Blaser, who is 5 feet, 11 inches and weighs just 170 pounds, stands tall to introduce himself to anyone who dares to come in his area.

Coach Kenyon speaks highly of his defensive captain.

"In my 15 years of coaching football, Scott is perhaps the best defensive player I have ever coached," Kenyon said. "Scott's success has been his ability to be near the ball in key situations."

Coach Kenyon refers to Scott as a "nose for the football" type of player. He has blocked several punts and field goals through the season. Scott is a member of the Citrus Heights Second Ward in the Citrus Heights Stake. Blaser has been named a first team all-conference defensive linebacker.

An example of how these LDS youths have worked together to achieve their wins on the field happened during their first Sac-Joquin Division I playoff game Nov. 18 against Burbank. Blaser blocked a Burbank punt and Russell grabbed it out of the air and went 20 yards for the touchdown. It was the deciding factor in the Cougars' 21-13 win. Del Campo, ranked No. 7 in the area, was to play top-ranked Valley High School Nov. 24.

Although Coach Kenyon is proud that both Brad Larsen and Blaser have made first team Capital Athletic League honors, he said he has even more respect for the standards that these two players and their LDS teammates project.



We are a Family of 9

by May Whiting Berry

"Will you marry me?" "Yes", I said as fast as I could. "I have a cow and two horses," Herbert Berry timidly volunteered.

"Oh, that's all right, I also have a cow, so that will give us two cows and two horses."

May, that's my name. It was May Whiting then.

"Would you like to take our honeymoon at the Sheep Camp? We could hear the coyotes in the moon light, while we work night and day - helping the ewes lamb." That did it. I was speechless. Herbert hurriedly explained that Joe Patterson had a sheep herd that was to lamb by mistake in February instead of the proper time in June.

You see, Joe offered Herbert all the lambs, if the mothers lived. But if they died we were to pay for all the sheep.

"Isn't that gambling?" I questioned.

"Well," hesitated Herbert, "if a blizzard or heavy snow comes in February, we lose...But if warm sunny weather comes, then Joe loses."

"What are we waiting for?" I questioned.

"The Wedding," Herbert reminded me.

Driving our own two horses and a borrowed wagon as the red sun was setting in the west: 8 hours later, we jogged the last lap of the road to the Sheep Camp.

"Is that little Mexican adobe hut the bridal chamber?" I giggled.

"Yes May. We can both get in there I think."

During our courting days, as we held hands, Herbert said, "Some day I will be a dentist."

His father had a big family and no money. My father had nine children and about the same financial standing.

I wondered how Herbert was ever going to be a dentist. But I kept silent. I remember he quoted from Orison Swett Marden's book, "He Can Who Thinks He Can." So that was the vehicle that was to carry us on.

I wondered why he wanted to be a dentist. Didn't his father and my father do all right without a profession? "But," explained Herbert, "if we have faith in ourselves and in God, we can if we think we can."

"Herbert, what's that?" I whispered about midnight the first night.

"That's only a rat carrying off our only bar of soap."

"Well if that's a rat he must have hobnailed boots on," I giggled.

The snow was fighting the wind. Herbert called out the little window to the old Mexican herder. "Juan, drag your bed in here," he shouted. "You'll freeze to death out there."

We shared the floor, where our bed was made of blankets spread on the dirt floor. Juan's bed filled the floor space.

By morning the worst blizzard Arizona had seen in fifty years was on the rage. I shuddered when I tried to figure how many years it would take to pay for a dead sheep herd at \$1.50 per day wages.

"This is only January 30th," Herbert suggested hopefully. "They may not start to lamb till February 3rd."

Sure enough, that February day, first one little bleat, then another began. With the lambs came glorious sunshine. It spread over us like a magic carpet. We sang and danced for joy.

"I think I see a dental school door's open and waiting for me," Herbert called out.

I felt that doubt, but didn't want to hamper that happy smile, so I just kept quiet and wondered what our parents would think.

The next day we sat on a rock under a cedar tree to rest. I asked in all soberness, "How much does it cost to go to dental school?"

"More than we have," he smiled, "but someday."

June came and Joe Patterson turned us 1/3 more fat lambs than there were mothers. Good sheep have twins and sometimes triplets. With our money we bought half interest in a saw mill, where Herbert worked days.

At night we both studied school books, trying to improve ourselves.

That first year brought us a baby girl. Effie we called her.

A few years after much studying we both passed the county school teachers examination. This meant money and the dental college for Herbert, I thought.

"There is a Mexican school up the river," Herbert suggested. "I can get it."

"But where could we live?" I questioned. There's only a few Mexican houses and they are all occupied."

"That's O.K.," Herbert smiled. "I traded a saddle for a lumber house on a knoll about the Mexican. So we're all O.K."

Another little girl came that year. We called her "Maree".

After two years teaching these Mexican children, they could read "Theese ees my hot, see zee cow." We were so happy to help them.

We bought one hundred heifers at \$15.00 per head and paid all the checks on the heifers. No rent, no heat, no water or light bills.

"Why break the checks?" I asked.

"May," he answered, "we'll make it next year."

But next year brought our first son, Kay. Nothing is more important than your first son. "We'll make him a dentist too," grinned Herbert.

Now Herbert could work summers on the saw mill and teach school winters. Too much snow to run the mill [in] winter. Two more years and everything was in the swing.

"Yes, May!" Herbert sang out one night as he sat down to the supper table. This next year will be the one.

I waited till he was leaving for school the next morning and called to him. "Herbert, we can't go next year. I'm going to have another baby."

"That's fine," he answered. "We need the extra time to get ready." But I knew he was thinking of his dental school.

"How much money does it take" I asked again, "to finish a dental college?"

"I don't know yet," Herbert laughed.

I slumped into a chair and began to figure. If we waited much longer there would be too many train tickets to buy. Of course Mrs. Sherwood, the mid wife, only charged \$4.00 for each baby. She came to our home and did the nursing for 10 days besides delivering the baby. So that wasn't bad. \$16.00 for 4 children.

Lee came next. He was ten months old when the huffing, roaring train stopped in Holbrook, Arizona. Only minutes to pick up seven blanketed Indians, two gaudy Mexicans and one white family. We were the white family.

Herbert had to literally shove Effie and Maree on to the train. they had never seen a train before and were frightened. I dropped Lee into a seat and made a dash for Kay who was headed for the steps. Herbert placed the suit cases and bags in a neat row on the racks over our heads.

From there on to Chicago all we had to do was get drinks of water, bags of cookies and parade to and from the rest rooms. I was worn to a rag.

Had our parents been right when they said we were crazy. Was a neighbor Kendall Overson right when he said, "You don't need any more education. It just makes you miserable."

We were about ready to agree with them all when we stepped off that train in the middle of Chicago. My husband was carrying two suit cases with pillows strapped to them. One he dropped in his mad dash into the street-just in time to jerk Kay from the path of an automobile.

By this time a mounted policeman, bless his heart, noticed the unusual display at the west, and came forward to clear a way for us to get ourselves into a taxi.

But our troubles were not over yet. The following day we went house hunting. Every place the same answer. "No children and no dogs!" One woman said, "Good heavens, four!" and slammed the door. Then she opened it again and snapped, "You ought to know better than that!"

"Lady," I replied with dignity, "Do you suggest we drown them?" Again a slam.

We were so discouraged when we found a lovely apartment waiting for us. Such a kind landlord who took a special liking to our two little girls.

From that first morning the neighbors began counting. "Yes I'm sure I saw two little girls." "Yes I saw a baby at the window." "One little boy came up the steps." So that makes 4" agreed the neighbors.

"You people from the sticks make me sick. We know you for what you are." That was my greeting from Mrs. Burdett in apt. #1. "You're getting free rent for janitor service while your husband is registered in Chicago College of Dental Surgery."

"Your children are beautiful," volunteered kindly Mrs. Dally in apt. #4, "but for heaven sake don't have any more."

I made no promises and after Herbert graduated we had three more—Norma, Helen and Dean.

One night I said, "Herbert, I'm going to teach school in Arizona. Our money is going faster than we planned." A disappointed look flashed over his face. Then the old optimistic smile was back again.

That was my last stay in Chicago.

I took the children to Alpine, Arizona where I taught in a one room school in the mountains. One small house consisting of a bedroom and kitchen housed us. It was not enough house to keep out the snow. I kicked the snow off my own bed, built the fire in a wood stove, took the top quilt off the children's bed, carried it to the door and shook off 2 inches of snow. None of us had colds or got sick that winter. I waded in snow drifts to milk my cow, but was never late for school.

Herbert and his cousin Frank Brown roomed and boarded together. He was there in the medical school. They bought day old bread, canned corn and fruit from a fire sale. They managed to live on the very least possible.

Herbert graduated from the Chicago College of Dental Surgery in 1916. He is now practicing in Lynwood, California.

Our son Kay graduated from the U.S.C. Dental College in 1938. He is now a dentist in Alhambra, California.

Lee graduated from the University of Maryland in 23 December, 1943. He is now a surgeon in Alhambra, California.

Our youngest daughter married a buck private in 1942. He is Dr. Aubry Andelin, a dentist in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Norma served as a secretary in Washington D.C. during the war.

Maree has been a school teacher many years.

Effie was a radio announcer at K.O.Y in Phoenix.

Dean is now a pre-medical third year college student at U.S.C.

This year Herbert is at U.S.C. together with our granddaughter, Mrs. Joycell Cooper, where they have been studying XRay work. Joycell's husband, Jack, is a junior now taking pre-dental at Compton College.

That makes seven children besides ourselves. We are just an ordinary family, like other American families. Any family can "who thinks he can" if they live good clean lives, have faith in them selves and in their God. There is no end to progression in this life or the life here after.

May W. Berry 11716 Long Beach Blvd, Lynwood, CA



Come Unto Christ by Following the Brethren

a farewell talk given in May 1994

by Charles F. Middleton IV

Elder Middleton is serving in the Germany Munich Mission and returns home 6/96

If I were to give a title to my talk, I should probably use the same theme that is printed in your programs: "Come unto Christ by following the brethren." This beautifully brief statement is like a line of a poem. I've been given only seven words on which to build my talk, but those seven words can give so much. My talk will be an explication, a look into this theme.

First of all, the term, "brethren," ought to be defined. It might seem obvious to you, what is meant by the word. But we should realize that our use of the word is somewhat different from what might be expected. The theme might then be restated as this: Come unto Christ by following the leaders of our Church that have been called and ordained by those in authority, which authority comes from Christ himself. This new version defines just who these "brethren" of ours really are: our ecclesiastical leaders, ranging from the Prophet to the Bishopric.

I was somewhat stunned when I learned that this was to be our topic, because it hadn't occurred to me that following the leaders of the Church was much of a problem. We hear about apostates all the time, and with much sadness. But I wondered why such a theme would come up in our own ward.

Then I realized that this is always an important topic, not because we are struggling with it ourselves, perhaps, but because, at any time in history, there are always those who rebel against the authority of the leaders of the Church. There are also those who don't openly rebel, but simply pick which commandments they want to follow, as if it were up to them. The theme is given for those who are wondering, those who are doubting, and also for those who don't have a problem with it, because we all need to be reminded now and then. The theme isn't accusatory, in any way, and I am grateful that it was chosen.

Questioning authority, that is, looking for the right answer and making sure you are right, is an important thing to do. If Martin Luther or Joseph Smith had not questioned the authority of the religious organizations of their times, they would not have done such great services to us. But consider how Joseph went about it, and at only fourteen years old. He didn't accuse any one church as being wrong, but inquired of the Lord humbly, asking what was right. We should look to such an example if we are to become sincere seekers of Truth. And once we know who is in charge, rebellion or disobedience is wrong. Let me then give you my testimony that President Benson and his counselors are called of God, as are the other leaders of this Church, and they have the authority to give us commandments that the Lord wants us to have.

Lately there has been much criticism about President Ezra Taft Benson's health, people saying things like, a prophet should be a man who wears a toga and lives on a high mountain, and how can this man, in such poor condition, lead our Church. This kind of attitude frustrates me, because his health has little to do with his position, especially when the power of God is considered. He is still

the prophet and seer of the Lord, just as Joseph Smith was. He is serving in this capacity, despite the difficulties of his health, for a reason. Anyone willing to offer such criticism ought to spend some time with Section 102 of the Doctrine and Covenants.

When I received the call to serve a mission in Germany for the next two years, many things about the letter struck me. Of course, I was excited to learn where and when I will be going. And many other things said in the letter were enlightening. But scribbled at the bottom of the page was the unmistakable signature of our dear Prophet. The letter closed, "Sincerely, Ezra Taft Benson, President." It wasn't done with a rubber stamp, or merely typed onto the page. Looking at it, you can see that it must have taken great effort for him to do this. The letters are somewhat unclear, and his hand must have been shaking. But he took so much effort to sign my mission call, so that I would know that this is what God wants me to do. It is very comforting to have had the President of the Church sign it for me. Only a few days before I received this letter, I attended a concert in Salt Lake City, where I met the great violinist, Itzhak Perlman, who signed my program. I also have the signatures of Joshua Bell and Christopher Parkening, two other great musicians, and I have seen the names penned on the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution. But none of these come close to the significance of what is carried on this letter that I have, signed by the Prophet of God. I will never forget this gesture of his.

But, returning to the topic, perhaps the theme needs further elaboration. I have restated it as this: "Come unto Christ by following our priesthood leaders," but what does it mean to follow them? Of course, we don't have to physically follow them around, and go wherever they go, although I'm sure much could be learned that way. Following the leaders of the Church must mean that we take them to be our leaders, and therefore do what they tell us to do.

A friend pointed out to me that the Lord, himself or through his servants, doesn't command us, but instead gives us commandments. We immediately think of what the Savior said, "A new commandment I give unto you..." (John 13:34).

The fact that we are given commandments emphasizes our own agency. The commandment is there before us, but we have a choice. Consequences are attached to each choice, of course, but the choice is ours. There are places in the scriptures where the Lord does say, "I command you. . ." but in saying this, he is still giving it to us, as though he were giving us a gift.

What kind of gift is that? More rules? These days, breaking laws and ignoring commandments has become fashionable. We hear people say, "My individuality is squelched when I have to obey so many rules. How can I be creative under so many restrictions?" Conformity is frowned upon as ignorance or cowardice, as if living your own life is far more daring than following a path made by another.

Indeed, conforming to the wrong thing is a terrible mistake. But conforming to Truth, living a life of perfection, as Christ did, is certainly what our Church advocates, and what God wants from us.

The goal of all of our commandments is this: to come unto Christ, and there to find happiness. Thousands of years, billions of lives, and countless experiments and attempts at finding joy have shown that the only way to be truly happy is by coming unto Christ. I'm sure a majority of this congregation would agree.

C. S. Lewis wrote, "What Satan put into the heads of our remote ancestors was the idea that they could "be like gods"—could set up on their own as if they had created themselves—be their own masters—invent some sort of happiness for themselves outside God, apart from God. And out of that hopeless attempt has come nearly all that we call human history—money, poverty, ambition, war, prostitution, classes, empires, slavery—the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy."

As Moroni said in the twelfth chapter of Ether, "Whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world." And we know that we must do more than accept Jesus as our Savior. We have to come unto him.

One more look at our theme may help. Now that we know who the brethren are, and what is meant by following them, perhaps we should call them our brethren, rather than the brethren. If someone had wandered into our building this morning, not knowing anything about our Church, they would, as I have said, been puzzled by the phrase, brethren. If they went to their dictionary, they would learn

that "brethren" is different from "brothers," in that brothers are related to one another by having the same natural parents, and brethren are related to each other because of a common goal.

It is fair to assume that the leaders of our Church share with us a common goal. In fact, I don't even have to assume it. I'm very sure of it. They desire all to come unto Christ, and find happiness there. Because of this common goal, they are our brethren just as we are theirs. This doesn't mean that there isn't a difference between us. They are still our leaders. But they are also our friends.

To conclude my talk, I would like to bear my testimony. I sincerely know that salvation comes only through our Savior, who is Jesus Christ, the son of God. Those of us here who are called Mormons are members of His Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the only true Church. I also know that it was Joseph Smith who restored this Church, and also gave us such a wonderful translation of the Book of Mormon, and so many other great things. He was the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, and today Ezra Taft Benson fills the same position. And I can testify of the truth of this theme that the Bishopric has given us for the month of May, that following the inspired guidance of our leaders will help us to come unto Christ, and there we will find happiness. I am very excited to go and serve a mission, as quixotic as it might seem. This may be my last chance to thank everyone who has helped to bring me to a realization of this, my testimony. So I will go and share it with any who will hear, and thereby show my gratitude to all of you who have had such an inestimable influence on me, to whom I will be forever grateful. I say this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Letter from the Mission Field

written by Elder Keith Larsen- after his first-ever plane trip, August 1995

When we walked down the stairs off the plane (in Trinidad) all of the sudden we were in a sauna and started sweating. It took us almost 2 hours to get through all of the immigration officers and get our luggage. We went outside and the AP's were sitting there waiting. We loaded our stuff in the van and one AP drove us four elders and the other AP had a car and drove the couple missionaries.

When we started driving (on the left side of the road), I thought I was going to die. The people were all over and almost hit each other all the time. We got on the highway and were about 10 minutes from the Mission Home and Elder Hadlock said to me, "The day that never ends". Almost 30 seconds later we saw sparks on the other side of the median (2 times as high as ours), and a car came flying over and hit us head on. We spun around and then flipped on our side and slid for a hundred feet. Everything happened so slow and it all seemed like a dream. We all walked out the front window and made sure we were all right. Everyone was fine but the van was sure messed up. We all had glass in our hair that we had to wash out...

We were at the accident for about an hour while the other AP went to get the President. The President got there and took care of things. We didn't get [to the mission] home until after midnight.

I finally got to leave for Guadeloupe. I went to St. Lucia for a 5 hour layover. When I got off this plane and walked through a small room (the size of our living room), I was all the way through the airport and right across the street was the beach and the ocean. It was a really cool island. I just chilled on the beach with my suit and luggage for about four hours, but it was cool because I was able to give away a Book of Mormon.

I finally got to come to Guadeloupe and by this time I was so glad to get here and stop living out of a suitcase. I got off this little plane that I thought was never going to make it because of how much turbulence there was. But I made it and I was safe. I went into the airport and the first thing that I noticed was that everything was in French. I walked to the customs and immigration booths, but no one was in them so I just walked through, got my luggage and walked out the airport. I was relieved that I didn't have to speak French to the immigration officers. I walked out of the airport and all of the Elders here (3) were waiting. We went and got something to eat, then went [to our new] home.

Elder Larsen is currently serving in the West Indies Mission, and will return home 5/97 You may notice in the family directory that his mail is sent to France.

MY LIFE AS A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF PRESIDENT HUNTER

By Louine Berry Hunter

Editor's Note: *Louine wrote this article in January, 1995 by request. Due to the death of President Howard W. Hunter, we postponed publishing it until now, and include another article about experiences their family had at the funeral*

Dad and HWH

My father and Father Hunter were good friends; Dad served as a counselor to HWH in the Pasadena Stake Presidency for many years. A few days ago my Scott, 32, shared something special with me about his two Grandpas: about twelve years ago Dad sat our boys down and gave them some tips about their "other Grandpa," like, "He may not initiate conversation, so you take the initiative, ask him questions, ask his advice. He gives real good advice, but you have to ask for it." I thought that was interesting – one grandpa giving advice on how to succeed with the other. Only my father would have thought of it.

Dad used to entertain us with replays of some of the humorous incidents at HWH's meetings. One tale was the slick way he managed to get new chairs for the high council room by inviting each to pay for their own chair!

This early incident was later made into a humorous song for a "This is Your Life" presentation in 1985 – the result was the hit of the evening as a red leather chair was rolled out, and young singers and dancers regaled the audience with a musical history of "the Howard Hunter Chair."

That special evening was my dad's last public appearance; he died three weeks later, but I doubt anyone enjoyed the reunion more than A. K. Berry.

New Apostle

John and I were in our first year of marriage when Father Hunter became an apostle, and Robert was three weeks old. Because of the new baby, Claire was at our house to spend a week after my Mom had gone home, but after a couple of days she got that memorable phone call from Howard, who was in Salt Lake to attend general conference. When she hung up the phone, she said she had to go to Salt Lake, unexpectedly. She didn't say more, but she didn't have to. I'd heard her say, "I'll support you," and I'd seen the tears, so I knew he'd been called to a new position. Because I'd heard my father predict for many years that HWH would be an apostle someday, I strongly suspected that he was to fill the vacancy in the apostleship.

The "Startle" Factor

Being part of an apostle's family has many rewards, but since he's become the President of the Church,

some things are hard to get used to, things I'll call "the startle factor." We're always startled when we see huge displays of his books, but I'm more startled to see pictures of my children's grandpa FOR SALE, in all sizes and prices! We even have a magnetized picture of him on our refrigerator that Scott bought for \$2.29.

Matt attends BYU-Hawaii. He says he never tells anyone who his Grandpa is, unless they ask. He says, "It is so weird to walk down the hall of the dorm, glance into the rooms of other students, and see pictures of MY GRANDPA ON THEIR WALLS!"

Jim recently said to me, "Now that Grandpa is the Prophet, have you thought about what that REALLY MEANS?" He answered his own question with, "That means OUR GRANDPA is the most important person in the world...our Grandpa!" We all get very sober when we think about these things, the personal responsibility it brings, the possibility that others could judge the Church by how we act. We all agree we should think more about it than we do, we have to keep reminding ourselves.

For me, it's hard to get used to having him quoted extensively in Church meetings, magazines, newspapers, lesson manuals, radio and television. You'd think I'd be used to it, because he was an apostle for so long, but I'm not. It is never-ending wonder, and always startles me. We're all very proud of him, and thankful to be part of his family.

When I'm introduced to people, often my connection to HWH is included in the introduction, which never fails to startle me – to realize my connection to him is the most important thing to know about me. It surprises me to find that our family ties are on people's minds so much.

Recently a man brought his children up to John and startled him when he said to his children, "I want you to always remember that you shook the hand of the SON OF THE PROPHET OF GOD."

This may sound strange, but I'm startled when I hear people testify, "I know President Hunter is a Prophet of God." Even though I know it too, the words make me realize that I have some special insights into the life of a Prophet of God.

Because we've lived in the same ward for twenty-five years, people here accept us for who we've always been, so our lives haven't changed much. But for our children who live in other places, the change is more startling – they have a new identity as grandchildren of the Prophet, so their lives have become much more visible as people pick up on their name.

With their new identity comes certain assumptions. People ASSUME they have leadership qualities, musical talents, and speaking ability. They're asked to give talks

about "What it's like to be the grandchild of the Prophet," or "How being the Prophet's grandchild has influenced my life." John and Richard are frequently asked to talk about their Dad at firesides, and we're all pumped for information about him for publications.

Two recent incidents in Utah made me glad we live in California. After October Conference, I stayed on nine more days to supervise emptying out HWH's home (they recently moved into an apartment near his Church office). Father Hunter and Inis moved the things they wanted, but left much behind to be divided among the children and grandchildren. After we all took what we wanted, we made three piles: one for Deseret Industries, one for the Church Historian, and one for trash. Half the garage was piled with trash that needed to be hauled away, but Church Security was anxious there not be a dumpster sitting outside to advertise that the house was empty, or attract souvenir hunters.

So I called a trash-hauling company to take it away in one quick swoop. My niece, Kathleen, called to make the arrangements, gave her name as Kathleen Peterson (her married name, thereby deliberately avoiding the Hunter name) and gave the address of HWH's home. "Is this your home?" she was asked. "No, it's my Grandpa's home," she stated.

When two workmen pulled up they had on tank tops and looked rough and worldly, so we were relieved, and speculated, "There isn't a chance they know whose home this is." But they knew! Although they were not Church members, nor were the staff who took the incoming call, the company had a telephone system much like the police, to help prevent crank calls. When Kathleen's call came and she gave the address, the name of the homeowner showed on the screen. Because they were Salt Lakers they recognized his name and knew who he was, and when she explained it was her Grandpa's home, they knew who she was when they arrived.

The next day I had a similar experience when I went to Provo to pick up a pair of glasses I'd ordered. Before the young clerk showed me the glasses he started apologizing, saying he thought there had been a mistake because, "They just don't LOOK like glasses LOUINE HUNTER would have ordered," and apologized for having the wrong frames with the right lenses. (He was correct, the frames were wrong.)

I was taken aback because the name Louine Hunter seemed to mean something to him, but I let the comment slide – thinking that because the frames looked man-ish, he meant they didn't look like frames a woman would order. But he kept on..."Now who was the girl who came by Thursday to pick up the sunglasses?"

"That was my niece," I replied.

"Now, is she Richard's daughter or John's?" I was stunned he knew so much about our family and said so. He explained that he'd watched the video about HWH

that played on TV between conference sessions, and remembered that President Hunter had two sons, John and Richard.

"Kathleen is Richard's daughter," I said, "and I'm John's wife." I laughed and continued, "I just figure that Hunter is a common enough name that people won't pick up on it, and I'm surprised when they do." (In California they seldom do.)

Going the Extra Mile

Once Claire told me about how she spent the day washing all their windows inside and out. When HWH came home, he inadvertently turned on the sprinklers, negating much of her efforts. When she called his action to his attention, he promptly went out and wiped down all the wet windows. That's a good man.

Mom once astonished me by making the following statement: "Being married to ONE MAN ALL OF YOUR LIFE, THAT ALONE SHOULD MAKE YOU A CANDIDATE FOR THE CELESTIAL KINGDOM!" I can remember how loudly I laughed when she said that, because my parents had a great marriage, but her statement reminds me of two things HWH has done that surely merit him a place in the Celestial Kingdom – if I were the judge.

Claire told me this story many years ago: When they were young parents, HWH was going to night law school, and also working full-time during the day to support his family. Because they didn't have, and couldn't afford, a washing machine, HWH volunteered to wash all the diapers by hand – which he did, until he was out of law school and could afford to buy a washing machine without going into debt. These facts came straight from Claire; he never mentioned it.

The other act was his tender care of Claire, who suffered a lingering illness (an Alzheimer's type) for fifteen years until she died. HWH was her loving caretaker and I doubt that ever a man was more patient, caring, sensitive and thoughtful than he was during those difficult years.

When he could no longer take her with him when he traveled, he hired live-in help during the day, but always took over her care at night, which meant getting up several times during the night – and sleeping very little. He kept this up until he had a heart attack and his doctor said if he didn't get night help for Claire, he wouldn't survive to take care of her, so he followed the doctor's orders, reluctantly.

There were three or four disappointing caretakers before Mrs. Thomas came to stay. Claire responded to her almost as well as to him. It was obvious that she dearly loved Claire, and her help and presence was a constant comfort to him and to us.

Unfortunately, Claire spent her last eighteen months in a nursing facility, in a coma, and Father Hunter visited twice a day. When he was away on Church trips, Mrs.

Thomas visited. Each day they discussed the positives of her condition, "I think she was a little better today, not as restless as yesterday," and so it went. To the very end he did what few (if any) men have been called upon to do, to combine the endless duties and travels of an apostle with the constant care of his wife. It was a remarkable love story.

Early Visits

Back in the early days, when he was a new apostle and we lived an hour away from the airport, he used to visit us when he was in the area for stake conferences, and often stayed overnight. He always had his camera and took lots of pictures of the kids.

He's a good fix-it man and would often spot a broken window pane or a dripping faucet and proceed to fix it; there was always something.

Sometimes we would go to nearby stake conferences to see him, hear him speak, and give him our support, and we often drove him back to the airport to catch his plane. This happened so often that a childish misconception set in. One day Robert, about five, started talking about Grandpa. "Which Grandpa are you talking about?" John asked.

"You know, the one who LIVES AT THE AIRPORT," Robert answered.

Whenever he traveled, he kept a little notebook in his coat pocket, and when someone said they knew us, he'd jot down their name, a brief message, and report back to us. It was always fun to hear from our old friends this way.

He always has interesting things to tell about what's happening in the Church around the world, but we sometimes press him for answers to THE SECRETS like, "Where is the Urim and Thummim now?" but he just laughs.

Holidays

When Howard and Claire used to come to our house for Thanksgiving or Christmas, they always brought the turkey. Claire sometimes cooked the turkey as well. She'd make the dressing, stuff the turkey, cover all with two layers of foil, seal it tight, cook it at 300 degrees for several hours, turn off the oven, then let it stay in the oven for a couple more hours. Her turkeys always turned out tender and delicious.

I always asked Father Hunter to carve the turkey because he did it so well (and John always refused to do it when his dad was here). After dinner, he'd strip the turkey for me, getting the last of the meat off the bones, and divide it into piles: bones, meat, and scraps for the dog.

After any meal at our house, he always dried the dishes. I always appreciated the way he stuck with me until the kitchen was clean again, and I appreciated the

good example his actions provided. It was a good time to visit too.

Family Reunions

When we had family reunions it was a real change of lifestyle for them. Claire was an immaculate housekeeper and their home was quiet, tastefully decorated, and orderly. Being around so many grandchildren must have been extremely challenging for both, but they were good sports.

Usually we'd rent a big house at the beach and spend a week together, and often HWH would pay for it. We put on talent shows, played games, had sandcastle-building contests, head-standing contests, and one year we filmed a movie at the beach.

Twice we had reunion shirts made, picturing all of us playing at the beach and HWH relaxing on a lounge in the sand – another example of life's interesting twists – recently the CHURCH HISTORIAN asked for (and received) HWH's two reunion shirts, for a future display at the Church History Museum!

Family reunions are changing now that he's President of the Church. At our last reunion in August, to accommodate him, we had an overnight reunion just a half-hour from his home. Two security men came two days early to check out the hotel facilities for a security plan! They checked out his schedule, the facilities we'd be using and when, and inspected his cottage. HWH and Inis arrived in a big, black, bullet-proof car driven by security personnel, and because security doesn't allow anyone but HWH and Inis in the car, her daughter was driven separately in a following car.

None of this is much to his liking. When he was just an apostle, he'd often slip away from security for family occasions, but that is not an option now, so he doesn't come to visit for either Thanksgiving or Christmas because he is sensitive to the needs of others – it would mean his security people would have to be away from their families for the holidays as well.

Trips

In 1969, John and I flew back east for a three week Church history trip with Howard, Claire, Nan and Richard. (At the time we had six small children and four foster children – I've always considered that just getting out the door was the greatest accomplishment of my life. Imagine asking ten different families to keep a child for three weeks! I don't know how I got so brave. Then washing, packing and delivering them and their belongings all over two counties. When I think back on it, I still applaud myself for getting to the airport on time.)

Landing in Boston, we rented a car and drove to all the eastern historical sites and recalled the happenings at each place. We were in Nauvoo at a Bed & Breakfast as we watched the astronauts walk on the moon.

Traveling with an apostle was very special because the red-carpet was laid out all the way with special treatment, great service, and invitations to private homes, which added sweet memories to the trip.

But probably our most vivid memory is that Father Hunter would never stop to eat! We'd start out in the car in the morning, intending to stop somewhere for breakfast and lunch, but because he did most of the driving and food was low on his list of priorities, most days he wouldn't get around to stopping until dinner time.

After awhile Nan and I figured we'd be ahead if we could promote the idea of everyone agreeing on one meal a day – if we could just know ahead of time which meal it would be! Hunger was a memorable part of that trip.

I also think fondly of the eight days I spent with him in 1978 as his companion at the re-dedication of the Hawaiian Temple, and a more recent trip to Oahu and Kauai with HWH, Inis, Nan, Richard, and John. On the latter occasion we were guests at his yearly Beneficial Life Convention.

One of the highlights of both Hawaiian trips was going to the Polynesian Cultural Center with him. The idea for the center was conceived by him and his committee as a way for Polynesian students to work their way through BYU-Hawaii. So he is greatly loved and revered at the popular tourist attraction, and it was something wonderful to be part of his group as tributes and presents were presented at each native village.

A Numerous Posterity

He was promised in two patriarchal blessings that he would have a numerous posterity, but with just two sons to carry on the Hunter name, he wondered how that could be. But things picked up in the next generation and from his two sons (with the help of Nan and Louine) came eighteen grandchildren, so things are picking up numerically.

Perhaps he had the promises of his blessings in mind, for each time Nan or I had a new baby, he'd give us a hundred dollars. Well, the babies kept coming and after awhile Nan and I wondered if he'd like to pay us to quit! But no, when I got to my tenth baby, he gave me a THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Now he has twenty-two great-grandchildren. When we had a family picture taken in October, everyone in the family was present, fifty-seven people, so you see how posterity can mushroom in just one generation!

Eightieth Birthday

He turned eighty-seven last November, but his most memorable birthday celebration was his eightieth. We wanted to have a big family party to celebrate, but we had a hard time getting his consent. Finally, Richard

made a bargain with him, "Dad, if you'll let us have this party, we won't bother you again until you're ninety!" He laughed heartily and finally agreed.

So we had a big, formal dinner at his home, beginning with appetizers in the library, then a gourmet dinner by Nan, followed by the grand entrance of a cake blazing with eighty candles, which lit up his laughing face as we dimmed the lights.

After dessert we sat around the table and took turns expressing thanks to him, telling stories, and bearing testimonies. When we finished, it was time for a response from Grandpa. "Tell us some words of wisdom, Grandpa. Tell us what you've learned in eighty years."

Without missing a beat he cleared his throat and began, "When you take a shower, always put the shower curtain on the inside of the tub."

Marriage to Inis

He was single for several years after Claire died. Both of our families live about 700 miles away, and we hated to think of him coming home to an empty house, so we let him know we would be very pleased if he were to remarry. But it was a few more years before he took the step and married Inis Stanton, someone from our distant past. (She had been in his ward when he was a young bishop, and they had been friends for many years.)

Inis has truly been a blessing in his life. Her companionship and loving care, combined with her unflinching positive attitude about his failing health, has been an inspiration to all of us, but I think the quality he likes best about her is this, "She's such a happy person."

Final Thoughts

When our Jeane finished reading Howard W. Hunter, she said she couldn't believe one person could pack so much into one lifetime, and I think that is the impression most readers have. But not everything can be collected together or written in a book, and much more could be added about his life and accomplishments.

He has been at death's door so many times—and then made miraculous recoveries, that it is hard to think that his present bone cancer may be the final chapter in a life well-lived. In the last ten years there has been so much physical pain, followed by recovery, that we wonder what lessons can still be learned from pain. But this we know, that he will live until his work on earth is done, and at his passing he will continue his work not very far away.

My association with him has greatly blessed my life.

(Written in January, 1995, for my personal history.)

THE FUNERAL OF HOWARD W. HUNTER

(Died March 3, 1995)

by Louine Berry Hunter

Attending the funeral services, March 8, 1995, of my beloved father-in-law was a very stirring event. Everyone of his descendants was present (except those too young to be seated in the tabernacle). Jeane's family came from Ohio, Matt from Hawaii, and cousin Merrily came from London, so it was a great family occasion.

It started out in fine style too – when Jon Huntsman insisted on sending his private Leer-jet to Santa Barbara to pick us up. His two pilots and steward greeted John and I, Kristy, Ryan, Meghann, Chelsea, Julene, Baby Hayden, and Billy. Three nephews had previously boarded in Salt Lake, flew to Santa Barbara with the crew, and returned to Salt Lake with us, just for the joy-ride.

We climbed aboard the jet on a day that was supposed to be filled with rain and thunder but instead the skies were blue and sparkling and we could see the ground the entire distance. We felt like the king's family as the steward shifted pillows, chairs and tables around for our comfort, served drinks, spread out catered food, and presented us with Utah newspapers with headlines and stories about HWH.

Jon Huntsman, was Grandpa's stake president for many years, lived just up the hill from him, and was a close personal friend, as well as a well known humanitarian, and gave the tribute at his funeral.

Before the Funeral

There were many details to take care of when we arrived. It was not a family funeral to be planned by us – the funeral and events had already been planned, and only awaited our approval. No family members were scheduled to speak, so we planned a private family service as well.

With Inis and Barbara, John and I, and Richard and Nan, went to the mortuary to select a casket and vault, and spent a few minutes in the viewing room.

At the mortuary Brother Hardy (the personal secretary of HWH) shared an unknown detail of his last moments. He reported that until two or three days before President Hunter's death, he brought work to the apartment every day, which they worked on together. But in the early morning of March 3rd, he felt a sudden, strong prompting to get over to the apartment NOW, so he went immediately. After greeting the president, he worked on paperwork, sitting where he could watch the President, who was fully awake, but resting in bed. After working quietly for a few minutes, Brother Hardy glanced at him, saw his eyes open very wide – while looking at something near the ceiling of the room. Brother Hardy said that when he saw his eyes open wide, he knew it was almost over, and it was, he died in a few moments, with his eyes open, obviously beholding a marvelous sight.

To me it seemed a miracle to die of dreaded bone cancer, but not be in a coma at the time of death, or drugged into unconsciousness. Although in pain, he was awake, speaking well, and his mind was clear until the end.

Like Brother Hardy, Nan had also felt a strong prompting to go to the condo early, and had been there just before Brother Hardy arrived. After exchanging greetings, she asked him how he was. He replied, "Fine," and she soon departed. A few minutes later he was gone.

The next morning John and Richard went back to the mortuary to dress their father in his burial clothing.

Viewing Days

On Monday night there was a private viewing for the General Authorities and their families. Standing near the casket, John, Richard, Nan and I, Inis and Barbara (Inis' daughter) stood in line for several hours – meeting, greeting, and receiving loving condolences, truly an uplifting experience.

In the reception room stood a large, recently completed painting of the President, which captured his likeness in a remarkable way. The laughing eyes followed you, no matter where you moved in the room. Each time I looked at the picture, I felt my father-in-law was in the room, looking into the eyes of all, smiling, happy and giving his warm approval.

Prominent in the painting was a gold and diamond ring on his finger, a gift from Beneficial Life, received for years of service on their board of directors. The unusual ring was upon his finger still, as his hands lay gracefully crossed in his casket.

The next day there was a viewing for the public. Long before dawn, friends and admirers began gathering to pay their respects to the 87-year-old church leader.

More than 4,000 church employees and their families filled the building before 9 a.m. The public came by the thousands during the day and evening.

Nan and Richard and their family occupied a seventh floor condominium, which overlooked the grounds of the Church Office Building, from which we could see the throngs of faithful waiting patiently for a last glimpse of their president and prophet. Toward late afternoon the long lines snaked all around the beautiful gardens as they waited patiently, a truly a moving sight.

As afternoon shadows faded into a bright orange sunset, then darkness, the lights shone on the temple in the background, and provided a breathtaking sight of the seemingly endless lines. When the hour arrived for the public viewing to end, there were still hundreds, perhaps thousands, still waiting in line. Knowing what President Hunter would say about it, the door was not closed until

the last person came through, and the official count was 20,212.

During the final hour of public viewing, we held our family service in an adjoining room. Present were family members, relatives, a few close friends, and invited aides and staff. Conducted by Robert, the oldest grandchild, the speakers were John, Richard, and Barbara, and some musical numbers were sung by family members.

After our service we had a private family viewing at which the spirit of our loved one seemed present as good-byes were said.

A lovely dinner was then served at the Eagle Gate, prepared by the Relief Society of the Eagle Gate Ward (their home ward) which provided an informal occasion to visit and dine with family and close friends.

Funeral

The next day was the official funeral, at noon. We were all in our best dark clothes for the occasion (most of them purchased the day before). We assembled at 11:30 a.m. for a family prayer by Richard, and the closing of the casket, an emotional moment for all – as we glimpsed the face of our beloved relative for the last time.

Just before the casket was closed, Brother Hardy, took the ring from Grandpa's finger and handed it to John, who slipped it into his own pocket. A stunningly beautiful spray of flowers covered the entire casket which was carried by the grandsons to the hearse, while family members followed, and we all got into several black cars to drive the half-a-block to the tabernacle. As we exited the cars, TV cameras and photographers were assembled along our pathway, and recorded our walk into the Tabernacle and the congregation stood respectfully as we entered.

The general authorities, were seated in front, as if a general conference were in progress. There followed a fine funeral service conducted by President Hinckley. The opening hymn was "I Need Thee Every Hour," sung by the Tabernacle Choir. The invocation was by Elder M. Russell Ballard, after which a fine tribute was given by Jon Huntsman, followed by "How Great Thou Art," by the Tabernacle Choir.

The next speaker was Elder James E. Faust, probably Grandpa's closest friend among the general authorities. We were then addressed by President Boyd K. Packer, then another hymn by the choir, "Nearer My God, to Thee."

President Thomas S. Monson then gave a fine address, followed by concluding remarks by President Hinckley. The choir sang "Abide With Me; 'Tis Eventide" for the final hymn, and the benediction was by Jeffrey R. Holland.

Burial

When the service concluded, the grandsons carried the casket to the hearse, while the general authorities left the stands, and most shook our hands as they filed by.

The audience stood quietly while we walked from the hall and boarded the black cars for the ride to the burial site.

At this point a rather humorous thing happened. Julene's baby was only 2 1/2 weeks old, and she needed to return to our apartment for a breastfeeding, where her husband, Brian, was tending Baby Hayden while she attended the service. So she did not get into the black car to ride to the burial, but instead started walking briskly toward the Gateway, two blocks away. As she neared the main entrance to Temple Square, the foot traffic was blocked off by ropes while the black cars passed by. Somehow it was roped off just after Julene passed, so she was standing alone and just a few feet away as the cars passed. As each black car passed and saw her standing there, family members thought she had been left – and motioned for her to come and get into their car – she just shook her head, laughed, and motioned for them to keep going. Unbeknown to her, the TV cameras were rolling across the street recording the exit of the cortege, and later in the day some of her friends in California called to report, "We saw you on TV!"

As the cortege moved down main street, passing buildings, shops, houses and apartment buildings, people stood waiting quietly as the procession passed by. As the black cars turned north toward the mountains into a residential section, whole families stood reverently with their little children and neighbors. For me, this was one of the most moving sights of the entire week.

Finally entering the cemetery, where most of the general authorities were already assembled, the pallbearers carried the casket to its final resting place next to Claire's grave. We were directed to seats under an awning on a bright, sunny, but windy day.

As soon as we were seated, President Hinckley stepped to the microphone and introduced John, who proceeded to dedicate the grave and offered a fine prayer that was partly recorded for TV audiences. Afterward, he was interviewed by KSL for more news clips.

We greeted those present and received condolences and sweet words from old friends and new. I was introduced to a gracious young gentleman dressed in purple vestments who greeted me warmly, saying he was there representing the Episcopal Church in Salt Lake.

We stayed for a long time visiting – aware that the public and invited guests, which included members of our extended families, had not been able to arrive in time for the dedicatory prayer that was begun too promptly.

As the crowd dwindled and most visitors had departed, there was time to look at the many floral tributes that surrounded the grave. One that I especially noticed was of golden mums that spelled out "NAACP" in very large letters.

We entered our black cars again and departed for the Eagle Gate where another lovely dinner had been prepared by the Relief Society General Presidency, headed by Elaine Jack and assisted by members of the

ward Relief Society. It was another delicious meal where we could relax, receive nourishment, and visit with our extended families.

Family Testimony Meeting

In the early evening we assembled at the Stone's condo for a family testimony meeting which Kathleen recorded on video as each spoke of their memories and told how Grandpa had influenced their lives. We were moved as John spoke of being with his father in Jerusalem when the lease for the Jerusalem Center was signed. Although the Center had been completed, there was still no lease for the land upon which it stood, and for awhile it looked as if there would be no lease. He told how his father suggested they celebrate the signing by going to his favorite place in the world – the Garden Tomb – which they did, and John choked up with reverence as he spoke of the special feelings the group experienced on that occasion.

The next day was filled with clearing out the presidential office and basement storage, to make way for the new president. Countless boxes were filled and hauled to Robert's basement to await dispersal to family members at a future time. Other boxes were taken to San Jose for more careful examination by Richard.

Arrangements were made for a headstone, and there was much discussion about the size of the stone and the proposed inscription (for weeks to come). The result was a modest headstone and inscription, thought by some to be too modest for the President.

The Presidential Condo

The condominium that HWH and Inis shared was constructed for the security of the church president. It has large picture windows (bullet-proof and don't open) on two sides of the building and a breath-taking view of temple square, the church property, the Capitol Building, and much of the city. Inis and Elayne had just finished extensively decorating the condo when he passed away.

Adjoining the front door is a large security station where two aides monitor visitors to the building, provide assistance to the President, and watch a dozen security monitors. A private elevator drops to a tunnel in the basement providing direct access to the two church office buildings, the temple, and the tabernacle, without ever having to go outside. Because of the security measures, it was necessary to quickly make alternate living arrangements for Inis.

A little sidelight – Sister Hinckley commented to Nan and I when we saw her in the hall (she was taking out the trash) that they would prefer not to move at all, as they were very comfortable where they were (on the floor below). Unfortunately, for security reasons, that was not an option.

Reflections

So ended a lovely, memory filled week, with much to reflect upon. The very moving, outpouring of affection for John's father, filled us with wonder.

As I drove toward Provo the next week, it seemed entirely fitting to see two large billboards near the freeway in Salt Lake with these words: "In loving memory of Howard W. Hunter, beloved president and community leader."

Upon returning home we were overwhelmed at the dozens of condolence cards, letters, and even gifts, sent by old friends and associates, members and non-members. Some even contained Howard Hunter stories, which I am trying to collect.

Final Gift

While visiting Robert and Kenna after the funeral, Rob asked if I'd seen the back page of the current Ensign. I had not, so he showed me a picture of a mother and child, and beneath were these words: "Surely we need not look far to see the sometimes unnoticed heroes of daily life. I speak of those you know and those I know who quietly and consistently do the things they ought to do. I am talking about those who are always there and always willing. I am referring to the uncommon valor of mothers." It was signed, President Howard W. Hunter.

Reading those words warmed my heart more than I can say. You may recall that he nearly always talked about the Savior in his talks, saying little about family life until he became the President. I showed the back page of the Ensign to Nan, who had not seen it either.

"Look, Nan," I said. "It's his final gift to us."

The New Occupants of Grandpa's House

It is with much pleasure that we announce that Grandpa's house has not been sold as planned, (although two offers were received the very day he died). Upon his death John and Richard became the legal owners. For awhile there it looked like Inis was going to move back in, but later she decided to move to Southern California to be near Barbara and Elayne.

Because the whole family was reluctant to let the house pass out of our hands, we finally came up with a solution. Robert, Kenna, Rachel and Mindy, the only members of the family who live in Salt Lake (or want to), have moved in, and they are slowly buying it from John and Richard. We are all happy with this arrangement. Kenna and Robert have entertained us all for years. After each general conference they have hosted a dinner/get-together in their small home for all family members who came to conference or lived close enough to attend, and often entertained us for Thanksgiving and other occasions as well. Now they are continuing that tradition, but now there is room for all.



Pasadena Stake presidency and wives. Kay and Elizabeth Berry are two over from the left, standing next to Howard and Claire Hunter. Photo taken in mid 1950's.



Claire, Howard, Louine, and John, with first child and first grandchild, Robert Mark Hunter

DIRECTORY OF FAMILY GROUPINGS WITH ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

EFFIE ELLSWORTH'S FAMILY

Lynn and Jamie Ellsworth Box 776 Eager AZ 85925	602-333-2962
Luke and Elizabeth Ellsworth 14 Wardell Ct Rock Springs WY 82901-7248	307-362-5744
Brent & Effie Kitchen 37 North 800 East American Fork UT 84003	801-756-1689
Lindsay & Esther Pugmire 479 N 2200 E St George UT 84790	801-652-0202
Robert and Amy Eakins 301 4th Street Brodhead WI 53520-1129	608-896-8302
Paul & Kathy Ellsworth 71 N 1100 W #11 Provo UT 84601-2432	801-373-1626
Gary Ellsworth P O Box 359 Spring City UT 84663	801-462-9302
Richard & Elaine Ward 206 Haystack Lane Wilmington DE 19807	302-428-0725
Jon & Julie Hardy 891 N 200 West Spanish Fork UT 84660	801-798-1388
Doug & Jenny Pearson 439 Protectory Place Pittsburgh PA 15219	
George L Ward 530 E 500 N #1 Provo UT 84606	801-75-3213
Stephan Ward 1000 E 450 N #9 Provo UT 84606	
Jason & Melissa White 597 N University Ave #2 Provo UT 84601	
Matthew Ward 251 W 4th South #8 Rexburg ID 83440	
Eric Ward W-321 Deseret Towers Provo UT 84602	
Van & Patricia Ellsworth 1414 Laburnum Street McLean VA 22101	703-425-5928
Mike, Traci, Kerri, Ryan Ellsworth 536 South 1000 East Salt Lake City UT 84102	801-575-6002
Pat & Evelyn Gwartney 6316 Wendover Court Fredricksburg VA 22407-5061	540-786-6849
Warren Gwartney 2145 16th Ave South, Apt 6 Birmingham AL 35205	205-933-6815
Nathan Gwartney 545 South 2nd East Rexburg ID 83440	208-359-5803
Sarah Gwartney 560 East 500 North Provo UT 84606	801-375-5326

MAREE HAMBLIN'S FAMILY

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Jerome and Janice Falls 500 Walnut St Pierce City MO 65723	417-476-5494
Brett Falls 500 Walnut St Pierce City MO 65723	
Kalen & Heather Willard Rt 1 Box 233 Crane MO 65633	417-723-5583
Kyle & Amy Bladh 4509 S Meridian Circle Salt Lake City UT 84123	
Austin & Brenna McMillen Rt 1 Box 568 Brookline MO 65619	
Anna Mariah & Garrett Falls 1475 W Brookbury Way #103 Salt Lake City UT	801-262-8614
Marty & Susan Cooper 194 NW 351 Clinton MO 65735	816-885-5123
Shawn & Linda Cooper 7046 Lime Grove Way Fair Oaks CA 95628	916-863-7012
Lance & Cathy Cooper 1871 Hillsboro Henderson NV 89014	702-434-3206
Rory & Angel Hubbard 309 Commercial Pierce City MO 65723	417-476-2891
Vaylene Cooper 1475 W Brookbury Way #103 Salt Lake City UT 84123	801-262-8614
Leilani Silvers & family 841 Hwy 60 Lot 5 Monett Mo 65708	417-235-3138
Wayne & Marilyn Barnes 2734 S Rogers Springfield MO 65804	417-889-1092
John & Kara Tinklepaugh 429 B Hutton Lane Jefferson City MO 65101	
Kenneth & Sallie Pryor 31632 Jolly Mill Drive Pierce City MO 65723	417-235-5892
David Silvers 2034 West College Springfield MO 65086	
Larry & Lucinda Watson 505 5th St Monett MO 65708	
Markay Hamblin 615 East 82 Ave Anchorage AK 99518	907-344-2008
David & Genette Largeant Rt 1 Box 98A Inola OK 74036	918-543-2854
Leo & Michele Hamblin 8648 S 300 W Sandy UT 84070	801-562-8856
Daylynn & Lori Hamblin 5250 E Courtland Blvd #8 Flagstaff AZ 86004-8307	602-527-3958
Tim & Victoria Hamblin Rt 1 Box 98B Inola OK 74036	918-543-8496
Keith & Jeannine Larson 303 East 100 North Manti UT 84642	801-835-5575
Shane & Adrienne Larson 30 West 470 South Richmond UT 84333	801-258-5529
Troy and Jennifer Lynn Larson 972 N State St Preston ID 83263	208-852-0431
Brian & Melinda Larson 613 Brooksboro Terrace Nashville TN 37217	615-361-4611
Darin & Angela Larson 538 Catherine Street Salt Lake City UT 84116	801-521-2532
Kent & Jennifer Braddy 353 E 100 N Manti UT 84642	801-835-5368
Amy Vogl 445 E 500 S Apt A-6 American Fork UT 84033	801-756-1427
Chris & Margaret Rogers 261 South 300 West Manti UT 84642	801-835-7647
Gordan & Sarah Jenkin 255 West 100 South Manti UT 84642	801-835-4673

KAY BERRY'S FAMILY

Mrs Elizabeth H Berry 253 E 4700 N Provo UT 84604	801-224-7475
David & Sharon Berry 3554 Ryan Drive Escondido CA 92025	619-480-7379
Brian and Cindy Watkins 610 Country Oak Road San Dimas CA 91773	909-592-1291
Kent and Julie Lundin 345 W 200 S Provo UT 84601	801-373-8002
Stephen & Stacey Smyth 141 South 500 West Provo UT 84601	801-371-0671
Perry & Michelle Mills 343 W 200 S Provo UT 84601	801-375-6033
Elder Michael Berry 11172 North Huron Suite 21 Northglenn CO 80234	
John & Louine Hunter 1190 El Toro Road Ojai CA 93023	805-646-3240
Robert & Kenna Hunter 2833 Sherwood Drive Salt Lake City UT 84109	801-582-8889
Steve and Tracy Hunter 3318 Lucian Avenue San Jose CA 95127	408-259-6609
Scott & Kristy Hunter 1190 El Toro Road Ojai CA 93023	805-654-0121
David and Amy Hunter 1074 N 800 E Orem UT 84058	801-221-4772
Dan Hunter 851 N 600 W #3 Provo UT 84604	801-375-2669
Jim & Kathy Hunter 871 North 600 West #1 Provo UT 84604	801-375-9064
Tracy & Jeane Thayne 5601 Neptune Way Fairfield OH 45014	513-874-4002

Julene Hunter 22702 Pacific Park Drive C-28 Aliso Viejo CA 92656 714-643-8411
 Alan & Betty Berry PO Box 609 Seneca MO 64865 417-776-3339
 Greg Berry 182 E 800 N #2 Provo UT 84606
 Matt & Kristie Beddes 511 North 100 West #4 Provo UT 84601 801-374-0840
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 Sister Lisa Tanner Illinois Chicago Mission 1319 Butterfield Road Suite 522 Downers Grove IL 60515
 Doug Berry 253 E 4700 N Provo UT 84604 801-224-7475

LEE BERRY'S FAMILY

H Lee & Virginia E Berry 1414 Laburnum St McLean VA 22101 703-536-4769
 Jean Arbuckle 908 Kings Boulevard Sun City Center FL 33537 813-634-8674
 Doran & Cris Skalak 317 N Howard St Apt 103 Alexandria VA 22304-2368 703-823-8930
 Jeff & Patty Arbuckle 819 Westridge Drive Hockessin DE 19707 302-234-4318
 Eric & China Arbuckle 9425 Talisman Drive Vienna VA 22181 703-319-1442
 Steve and Judi Berry PO Box 215 Montecello Ut 84535-0215 703-815-3396
 Bret & Stephanie Fairbanks 19 West 500 North Provo UT 84601 801-373-1742
 Annette, David, Michael Berry 1140 North 185 West Orem UT 84057 801-344-2639
 Patricia Berry 6912 Cedar Crest Drive Fredericksburg VA 22407 540-786-4487
 Bob & Eileen Luke 6365 NE 193rd Place Seattle WA 98155 206-481-0764
 Jennifer Luke 225 E 500 N #28 Provo UT 84604 801-344-5178
 Soeur Juliann Luke IVN 76 ANKADIFOTSY PO Box 5094 ANTANANARIVO101 Madagascar--Indian Ocean
 Elder Jon Luke, Missao Brasil Av. Das Americas, 1155, SALAS5021503 Barra Da Tijuca Rio De Janeiro-RJ
 Shannon Luke S 523 Deseret Towers Provo UT 84604 801-371-3469

NORMA FIFE'S FAMILY

Roger & Diana Rice 2047 Essenay Ave Walnut Creek CA 94596 510-939-3272
 Jared & Stephanie Taylor 323 N 1080 E #2 Provo UT 84604 801-370-9946
 Michael & Emily Rice 240 Wymount Terrace Provo UT 84604 801-371-2257
 Aaron & Cindy Case 2092 West Carriage Avenue Riverton UT 84065 801-253-3913
 Randy Rice 500 N 530 E #1 Provo UT 84604 801-377-8289
 Anna Marie Rice 156 Viking Dr Rexburg ID 83440 208-356-8446
 Christopher Rice V-204 Deseret Towers Provo UT 84604 801-371-3057
 Barry & JoAnn Larsen 5542 Fleetwood Drive Citrus Heights CA 95621 916-967-8391
 David Larsen 956 N 900 E #1 Provo UT 84604 801-373-5457
 Kerry & Julianne Muhlestein 747 North 700 East #2 Provo UT 84606
 Elder Keith Larsen RTE. De Baduel 97300 Cayenne La Guyane, Francaise France
 Chuck & Bonnie Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem UT 84058 801-224-5289
 Sister Emily Middleton 1023 Centre St N Whitby, Ontario Canada L1N4V3
 Elder Charles F Middleton III Deutchland-Mission Munchen Boschetsrieder StraBe 10a 81379 Munchen Germany
 Cathy Middleton: Jerusalem Center, Cathy Middleton #403, P.O. Box 20218, Jerusalem 91196 Israel
 Randy & Christa Fife 4063 West 9880 North Cedar Hills UT 84063 801-785-0217
 Brad & Susanne Fife 29084 Palm View St Lake Elsinore CA 92530 909-245-9861

HELEN ANDELIN'S FAMILY

Aubrey & Helen Andelin PO Box 219 Pierce City MO 65723
 Lane & Darlene Andelin 140 S Jameston Springfield MO 65809 417-882-8407
 Brian Andelin 4400 N Scottsdale Rd #9326 Scottsdale AZ 85251 602-830-6111
 Helena Andelin & children 2553 Beverly Street Salt Lake City UT 84106
 Bob & Dixie Forsyth 4375 E Kingsbury Springfield MO 65809 417-882-9408
 Melissa Forsyth 910 N 900 E #114 Provo UT 84604 801-371-6544
 Steve & Kristine Hales 13323-J Shepard Drive Sterling VA 20164 703-378-5853
 Matt & Katie Smith 505 E Staunton Ave Sterling VA 20164
 John & Cindy Andelin RR #3, Box 626 Williston ND 58801 701-774-0237
 Robert & Ginny Leavitt Rt 1, Box 592 Pierce City MO 65723 417-476-5407
 Benjamin Leavitt 910 N 900 E #209 Provo UT 84604 801-371-6636
 Bonnie Leavitt 910 N 900 E #114 Provo UT 84604 801-371-6544
 Sara Leavitt 910 N 900 E #214 Provo UT 84604 801-371-6644
 Paul & Judy Andelin Rt 1 Box 953 Pierce City MO 65723 417-476-2074
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 Craig & Merilee Saunders 8626 E Starlight Way Scottsdale AZ 85253 602-941-4802

DEAN BERRY'S FAMILY

Dean & Beverly Berry 1768 Glendon Avenue #1 Los Angeles CA 90024 310-470-9432
 Bruce & Anna Wood 11100 Burywood Lane Reston VA 22094-1412 703-430-7321
 Jonathan Berry 1932 Meyer Place B-2 Costa Mesa CA 92627 714-548-6624
 Brent & Karen Mitterling Rt 3 Box 432 Lewisburg PA 17837 717-568-1898
 Matt & Juana Berry 1JO 15 CHOME, 5-12-402 MIYANOMORI, CHUO-KU SAPPORO 064 JAPAN 81-011-622-7547
 Mark & Lynne' Berry 272 Nogal Mission Viejo CA 92692 714-582-6246
 Brent & Laurlynn Berry 2133 East Stanwick Road #12 Salt Lake City UT 84121 801-942-1325

The Berry Reunion 1996

will officially start Tuesday morning, July 2nd and end Thursday night, July 4th.

What could be more fun than planning for another Berry Reunion at the Homestead in Arizona? Next to missionaries and grandchildren, I can't think of a thing!

I've had the chance to talk with many of you by phone and mail and the response is just great! It was so wonderful to see so many at our reunion last year in Missouri. I am so grateful to those who made it possible. I know that David & Sharon Berry put many many hours towards that effort, as did a lot of Fifes (group title we all recognize), Uncle Dean's crew, and even a few Coopers. As always, it was a group effort enjoyed by all.

On the reverse side of this Berry Patch insert, is a proposed "duty roster" that we kind of put together this last summer at the reunion. This is not set in cement--we are definitely open for suggestions and /or volunteers. Anna Berry Wood and , Pat Gwartney as Vice Presidents of the Berry Family Organization, and I, Janice Falls as President, are looking forward to another GROUP EFFORT. We truly need your help.

I would like to ask three things of each family:

#1. MAKE THE COMMITMENT RIGHT NOW! Reunions are more than just visiting, eating, and camping under the stars (though I have to admit--that alone sounds great to me). Reunions are about love, connecting, acceptance and even forgiveness. Reunions are about helping build testimonies, about strengthening our children and grandchildren. Reunions fill our emotional and spiritual cups. Reunions enable us to catch an eternal glimpse of the possibilities the gospel affords us. And they are also about visiting, eating and camping out under the stars!

#2. PLEASE SET ASIDE MARCH AND APRIL FAST SUNDAYS TO INCLUDE OUR FAMILY! David Brown tells me that there has been very little moisture at the homestead. I know that if we will fast and petition the Lord in prayer, asking him to bless the homestead with ample moisture and good weather for the reunions, he will do so. I know this to be true. I have seen it work. I would also like to ask each member of the Berry Family who is old enough to fast, to please fast and pray for each other. We can ask the Lord to help those in need find the means to accomplish the trip. We can ask the Lord to help those of us who are able, to be mindful of other family members who need help. This is such a great family and I know that the Lord loves each and every single person in our family.

#3. LOOK OVER THE LIST AND GET INVOLVED! We need each other. I hope that every single family member, whether born in or married in to the family, will roll up their sleeves and make this the best reunion ever. If we want our children and grandchildren to enjoy the same blessings we have reaped--which can come only from being at the reunions, then we have to do what our parents and grandparents did--**MAKE THE EFFORT!** It is not always easy, but look at the payoff. **Call or write me, Janice Falls, ASAP! and let me know if you'll help.**

I want you to know that I love the Lord. I know this gospel is true. It is because of this wonderful church that we know each other and love each other so well. I am so grateful for parents who taught me correct principles. I am grateful they saw to it that I spent at least one week out of every other summer high in the mountains of Arizona. What wonderful memories--flipping hot cakes at the cook shack, flipper contests, the outhouses (now a thing of the past!) with my cousins running around camp at night, listening to family choirs under the pines, Grandma Hamblin (Aunt Maree) in her teepee, Uncle Kay & Uncle Lee telling stories and laughing at themselves, Aunt Norma singing with my mom and Nathel Burdick, Aunt Helen always looking like she just stepped out of a catalog, Uncle Dean sewing up another cousin, Uncle Keith pitching horseshoes with my dad. What a wonderful gift of love. I love my parents very much, and the best way I can honor them is by sharing them with you, and your children, and your grandchildren--just as I hope you will share your families with me and my children. Now, it is up to us to make memories. I love you all

--Janice Cooper Falls.

The Whiting Reunion

will start Friday morning, July 5th and end Sunday July 7th at noon.

EVENT	PERSON IN CHARGE	PURPOSE
Old Family Songs	Aunt Joycell, Uncle Dean	Teach younger generation
Family Feud Game	Karen Mitterling, Randy Fife, JoAnn Larsen, Joycell Cooper	Teach family stories and facts
Berry Funniest Home Videos	Leo & Michelle Hamblin Daylynn Hamblin	Promote reunion memories film family ads during day for programs
Children's Talent Show (ages 3 to 11 years old)	Susie Cooper, Angela Hubbard, Lori Hamblin	Cousin participation
Adult Talent Show	Darin & Angela Larson	Adult Star Search
Berry Cousin Map	Eileen Luke, Diana Rice	Show where we all live
Berry Picture Walk of Fame	Steve Berry, Rosalee Byers	Pictorial family tree
Berry History Time Line	Pat & Sara Gwartney	Historical perspective
Berry Choir	Sharon Berry	Food for the Soul
Family Dance	Jonathan Berry, Stephanie Rice Taylor and siblings	All kinds of music for family dancing fun
Flipper Contest	Alan Berry, Uncle Dean	carry on family tradition
Sugar Plum Fairy walk (for 2 years to 5 years old)	Christa Fife, Eileen Luke	Fun for the kiddies!
Children's' Activities	Mariah Falls, Christie Berry, Vaylene Cooper, Brenna Falls	Fun for the bigger kiddies!
Horseshoe Contest	Jack Cooper, Darin Larson	Friendly competition
Teen & Young Adult Volleyball	Lance Cooper, Brent Berry	Friendly family competition (serious male bonding)
Arm wrestling--Men Arm wrestling--Women	Brad & Randy Fife, Tracy Ellsworth	Still more friendly competition
Berry Fund-raiser Auction	Garrett Falls, Tim Hamblin, Bonnie Middleton, JoAnn Larsen	Raise \$\$\$ for Shower Fund and Berry Patch Infobase
Berry Quilt for Auction	Evelyn Gwartney, Michelle Hamblin	See Fund-raiser above
Teenage night climb up Sierra Trigo	Garrett Falls, Jason Helf, Pat & Greg Berry	Ice Breakers
Registration	JoAnn Larsen, Bonnie Middleton, David Berry	Collect Berry \$\$\$ to pay reunion expenses
Program Slide Presentation	Marilynn Barnes & Kara	Teach family stories
Posters	Shane Larson, Joycell Cooper	Family humor
Photo Reunion History	Steve Berry	Preserve Memories
Written Reunion History	Louine Hunter, Elaine Ward	Preserve Memories
Teen-age Activities	Anna Wood, Brad & Susanne Fife	Ice Breakers
Video Reunion History	Van Ellsworth	Preserve Memories
Service Project	Troy Larson, Shawn Cooper	Contribute to the Homestead
Food	Janice Falls, Angela Hubbard, Lynn Ellsworth	Feeding the masses!
Bear Hunt (ages 5-10 yrs)	Alan Berry, Lynn Ellsworth	High Adventure for kids
Testimony Meeting	Pat Gwartney, Elaine Ward	Fill our cups
Run-Sheep-Run	Warren Gwartney, Mike Ellsworth	Cousin fun!
Sardines	Steve Berry, Randy Fife, Brad Fife	More Cousin fun!
Midnight Teen Campfire (12+ years)	Marty & Susie Cooper	Reinforce Gospel to Youth
Camp Nurse	Judi Berry	Patch up old fogies!
Bath House maintenance	Lindsay & Esther Pugmire, Brent & Effie Kitchen	assign families to cleanup, check to make sure it is done
Physical facilities	Pat Gwartney, Marty Cooper, Bob Luke, Dennis Byers	Cleanup

The cost for the Berry Reunion will be approximately \$5.00 per person per night (nursing babies not included.) Cost for food per person will be \$20 for the reunion, including a full-time cook!

May 20, 1996

Dear Family,

I hope this letter finds all of you healthy, happy, prosperous, spiritually motivated, content, and moving forward! (Take your pick of any of the previous or fill in the blank_____).

Well, my dear relatives.....this is one of those good news-bad news letters that a person takes little pleasure in having to write. After talking with the family officers (Anna Berry Wood, Pat Gwartney and Diana Fife Rice) we have had to make a tough decision. The bad news is that there will be no Berry Reunion in June of 1996 (this year), because of the following reasons:

#1. The homestead, which is surrounded by National Forest, is under a major fire alert (officially called a red-flag signal) meaning, at this point, no big groups, no fire permits, nothing. According to David Brown, this is the driest year for the homestead and surrounding area since the late 1880s. There is a serious liability problem should a fire result from any reunion activity. In fact, our family service project was to be backfilling the trench for the new water line that was to be brought down from the Little Giant Springs. But the Forest Service will not let Jack Albert's crew in the forest because of the fire alert. I know you have all been watching the many fires in Arizona....Flagstaff, Tucson, etc. It is a very serious situation.

#2. At this point, there is a strong possibility that there will not be a Whiting Reunion, as well. However, the Whiting officers will make that decision Memorial Day Weekend. However, most of the Whitings & Browns live in or near Arizona. Look at our Berry Patch mailing list.....we are scattered all across the United States.

#3. As officers of the Berry family we were faced with some problems that we felt needed to be addressed NOW. The first being - we have so many cousins that have to make very long distance transportation arrangements they needed to know which way to go. Cancel or purchase....reschedule or refund.....rent or get a deposit return.

So, after many prayers, consideration and telephone calls, we made a unanimous decision. **NO BERRY REUNION in 1996.....support the Whiting Reunion, if there is one, and move on.** As Evelyn & Pat Gwartney pointed out - we were fortunate to have a reunion last year in Missouri, so we need to cut out losses and move on!

NOW FOR THE GOOD NEWS - and there is lots of it!!! The Whiting Reunion in 1998 is going to be a 50th Anniversary of Homestead Reunions and many plans are in works already, for a great event. To coincide with that, we have already reserved the homestead for a Berry Reunion preceding the Whiting Reunion.

So...please **PAY ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING:** As a younger generation (35 years and older) we have been able to "coast on the generosity of our elders" for a long time. For the most part, the Whitings absorbed the lion's share of reunion costs and homestead improvements. For years it was the Uncles Kay, Lee & Dean and others who generously made the Dinkey Creek reunions possible. Those days are over. It is now our responsibility. As the next generation family officers, we feel the greatest reunion challenge is the cost. Young couples with children, middle aged with missionaries out, etc. Most of us face some challenges \$\$\$.

We have a couple of possible solutions. Please consider them and let us hear from you.

First of all - Anna Berry Wood has suggested a "silent Berry memorabilia auction" (kind of like a Jackie Kennedy Onasis - look at the catalog event) in which people could contribute family heirlooms, great or small,

we'll publish a little catalog and then hold an AUCTION BY MAIL. Since this was Anna's idea, I can think of no one more able to be in charge! We all agree that the auction in Missouri was just about the high light of the reunion. So start digging through your private collections and get ready to help raise money for the next reunion.

Secondly - We are enclosing coupons for the newly formed "Reunion Cost Reduction Club". The plan is this.....if each family would contribute \$5 monthly and mail that contribution, together with the family coupon, to Bonnie Middleton, we have two years to greatly reduce the cost of the reunion. These funds would be spent only on reunion debt reduction.....such as food, cook & cost of the homestead use. Those who can contribute more....that would be wonderful.....those who would care to make their monthly contribution in one annual payment of \$60, that's great too! The goal is still the same. Each of us helping someone else (which means our own families).

For those who presently cannot afford a contribution of any kind, that's alright too. At some point in the next two years, you can contribute some small amount and know that we are all wanting the same thing.....the opportunity for ourselves, our children, grandchildren and yes....great grandchildren to have that incomparable...not to be found anywhere else on the face of the earth..... Homestead experience!!!

We know it will take work.....but I feel it is kind of like the Fast Offering Program. I know that if we, as the descendants of Herbert and May Berry, make a real effort....Heavenly Father will bless us. I know He will. So let's get moving.

To all of you who have been working on reunion projects, who agreed to chair different events, this gives us two years of preparation.

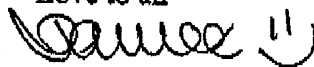
To those who were not going to be able to attend, due to finances or previous commitments, this will give us all two years to prepare and save and contribute to reunion plans and debt reduction!

So let's review:

- #1. No Berry Reunion preceding the Whiting Reunion. However, if the homestead receives a substantial amount of rain between now and the first of June, we will see you at the Whiting Reunion.
- #2. Plan on a big Berry Reunion in 1998 to coincide with the 50th Whiting Reunion Anniversary.
- #3. Get involved.....help us reduce the future reunion debt. Join the Berry Reunion Club now.....mail contributions to Bonnie Fife Middleton.
- #4. Contact Anna Berry Wood regarding the silent auction. WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP.

May God bless our wonderful family. It is one of the greatest single blessings in our lives. Let us hear from you.

Love to all















Janice Cooper Falls

Berry Reunion Cost Reduction Club

- Help defray the cost of the 1998 Berry Reunion for everyone.
- Money to be used for Homestead use, food and cook.
- Help everyone attend!
- Pay \$5 or more.
- Pay by the month or yearly.
- Enclose a coupon with each payment.
- (No guilt if not able to help out at this time.)

Check out the
Berry Patch internet page
at
www.ccnet.com/~r2d2

<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club June</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club December</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>
<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club July</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club January</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>
<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club August</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club February</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>
<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club September</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club March</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>
<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club October</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club April</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>
<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club November</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>	<p>Reunion Cost Reduction Club May</p> <p>To: Bonnie Fife Middleton 173 East 1864 South Orem, UT 84058</p>  <p>Amt. \$ _____ From: _____</p>



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Walnut Creek CA 94596

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Comments

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