

Culler



Connection

Fabulous fotos:



President Oaks, President Nelson, President Eyring



Sunset in the valley (sent by Sandy)



New life (also sent by Sandy)

Winter - January

2018 Edition

Fun Stories

My 3-year-old grandson, Cruise, has always been impressed with Grandpa's mighty machines, which include a tractor, an ATV and a snowmobile. One day his mom said to him, "Let's go to Grandma's to use her sewing machine." He quickly responded, "Can I ride it?"

My dog, Shadow, is smart as a whip, but she sheds like crazy. One day Shadow brought me a tuft of her black fur. I thought, I wonder where she found that? But I rewarded her with a treat and put the fur in the trash. Later, she traded a second clump of fur for a treat. When she brought me another one, I realized it looked familiar. Sure enough, there was no fur in the trash. Shadow was trading the same tuft for treats. She knew she was busted and innocently put her head on her paws and fell asleep.

My nephew asked, "Why does Nana have so many Bibles?" I said, "She's studying for finals."

After dinner one night, I asked my son Jimmy to fetch a broom from the back porch so I could sweep the floor. Complaining, he said, "But it's dark out there. I'm afraid." I said to him, "It's OK, God is with you." Slowly Jimmy opened the porch door and said, "God, if you're out there, would you hand me the broom?"



Special Days

January

- 7 Bonnie and Rich's
Anniversary
- 18 Savannah Wise
- 23 Rebekah Wise
- 30 Michael and Celeste's
Anniversary

February

- 1 Jenny and Garth's
Anniversary
- 12 Tina Wilkinson
- 15 Chloe Wyatt
- 17 Jenny Cahoon
- 20 Michael Culler

March

- 16 Leah Culler
- 23 CaSandra Culler

April

- 3 Kai Culler
- 4 Sarah Wise
- 11 Rick Culler
- 14 Norm Jr. and Rachel's
Anniversary
- 17 Lindy Wilkinson
- 23 Jaxon Wise
- 24 Katie Wilkinson

May

- 12 Kayla Culler
- 15 Rachel Wilkinson
- 26 Stewart Wise
- 26 Celeste Culler
- 27 Pearl Culler
- 28 Ciara Culler
- 31 Matt and Amy's
Anniversary

June

- 5 Mackenzi Faith Wyatt
- 6 Suzie Culler
- 13 Amy Peterson
- 22 Patrick Wise
- 24 Andrea Wise
- 27 Randy Wilkinson
- 27 Tom and Sandy's Anniversary
- 28 Sandy Culler
- 29 Lilianna Cahoon
- 30 Aubrey Wilkinson

July

- 3 Frank Culler Sr.
- 7 Alexandra Culler
- 7 Anandi Wilkinson
- 26 Job Wise
- 26 Nicole Peterson

August

- 8 AJ Culler
- 15 Norm Wilkinson Jr.
- 18 Frank Culler Jr.
- 24 Sally Wise
- 24 Sally and Stewart's
Anniversary
- 25 Carol Wise
- 26 Bonnie Limone
- 28 Sarah Culler

Sept.

- 3 Frank and Peggy Ann's
Anniversary
- 12 Garth Cahoon
- 16 Rick and Suzie's Temple
Sealing Anniversary
- 17 Tom Culler
- 18 Job and Sarah's
Anniversary
- 19 Rick and Suzie's
Anniversary
- 24 David Wilkinson

October

- 3 Cheryl Wilkinson
- 4 Emily Wilkinson
- 8 Keziah Wise, Skyler Wise
- 9 Peggy Ann Culler
- 13 Norm Wilkinson Sr.
- 28 Richard Limone

November

- 10 Autumn Culler
- 22 David and Anandi's Anniversary
- 24 Zachary Culler
- 24 Emily Culler
- 24 Peggy and Norm's
Anniversary

December

- 1 Haley Wilkinson
- 5 Matt Peterson
- 21 Peggy Wilkinson
- 22 Frank Sr. and Pearl's
Anniversary



Bonnie's Bylines

Everything here is as usual. As Mom told me often "I am in as good a condition as the condition I am in."

When I was attending BYU (1964) I was in the Grant building studying an exhibit. In fact several students were there doing the same thing. (We had been assigned to describe it in one paragraph). A warm yet peaceful feeling touched me. Three men in suit had stopped on their way out to see what we were doing. A very short exchange took place and then the men continued walking. When they were out of ear shot one girl shouted, "Did you feel that? That was President McKay!" He and his counselors were the three men.

Love, Bonnie



President McKay with his family.

President McKay once taught, "The dearest possession a man has is his family. In the divine assurance that family ties may transcend the boundaries of death, and may continue throughout endless ages of eternity, I find supreme consolation and inspiration" (Llewelyn McKay, [*Home Memories of President David O. McKay*](#), 213)



Frank's Faire



We were all together before Christmas and did this picture with silly faces. (Kai, Peggy, Celeste, Michael, Leah, Autumn, Frank, and AJ.)

We were able to have our whole family together before Christmas this year. Leah flew in for Seattle and we had Michael and his family up for "awful" waffles. That is waffles with strawberry jam and whipped cream on them. It was a very nice celebration.

Leah has started a new quarter in school and is taking a heavy load of classes. Last quarter she finished her practicum and will be doing an internship in the spring. Now she is just taking three demanding classes.

Michael has started to work on front end web design. He has been working hard to learn how to design web pages and taking classes from treehouse. He sold his first web page and is looking forward to selling more. Celeste and the kids have been fighting the usual winter colds. AJ is in high school at Farmington High. This year he is taking welding classes and really enjoys this class. He said he would like to take automotive classes too. He is working hard on the core classes.

Peggy and I are doing ok. Peggy just got called as one of the Gospel Doctrine teachers in the Sunday school. She team teaches so only has to do it every two weeks. We still go to the Temple in Albuquerque to work one week end a month. It is a treat to work there. Judy Sewell and Cindy and Mike Lewis also work once a month on the same week end that we do. It is nice for all of us to be together there once a month.

I remember President David O. McKay the most. He was the president of the church that I remember all my growing up years and he signed my mission call papers. I remember how he was always very nice and considerate to his wife and that even though he was in a

wheel chair for part of the last years he would open the door for her and help her with her coat.



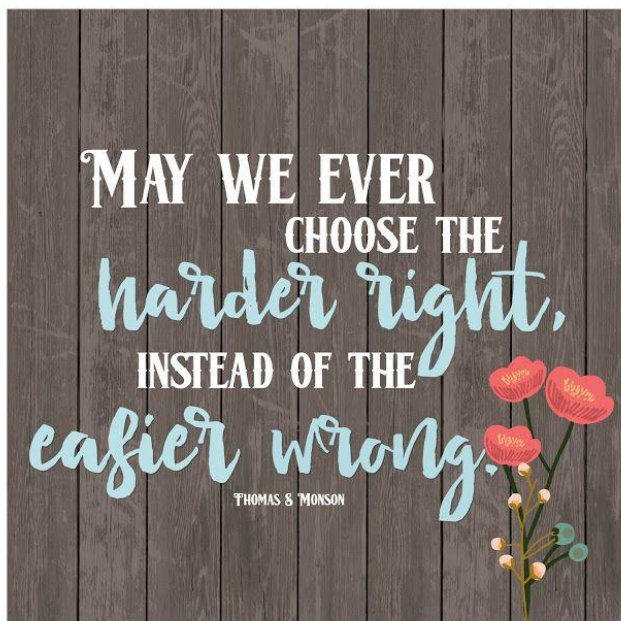
(President McKay and his wife, Emma) President McKay was the prophet from 1951 to 1970

I also remember his son reading his talks the last year that he was president.

I was in the mission field in Dothan, Alabama when he died. I remember hearing of his death and the calling of Joseph Fielding Smith as his successor. I got a confirmation from the Spirit that it was God's plan and that Joseph Fielding Smith was the prophet called then.

I remember President Kimball telling us to "Just do it".

love you and all the family, Frank



Peggy's Page



My favorite missionary

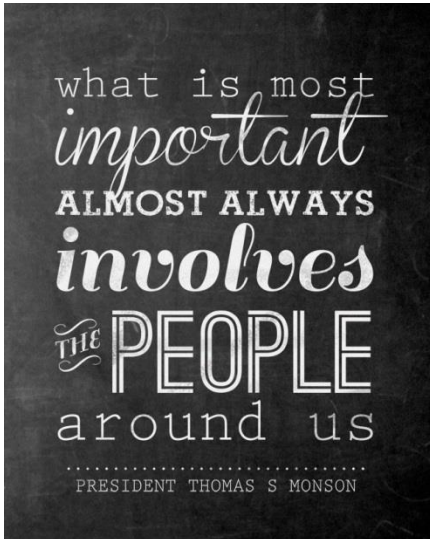
When I was at BYU I went to hear Joseph Fielding Smith speak at a fireside. His wife was with him and she was a famous opera singer. She spoke first and as a part of her talk she sang a song. Then President Smith sang a song with her. When he announced the song he said that his wife called it a "duet", but it was more of a "do it". I remember thinking that was cute. A funny thing about that same night is that Mary Hawkins noticed as we were leaving that she had on one brown shoe and one blue shoe. She had another pair just like it at home. ☺ They were the same style just different colors.



Joseph Fielding Smith and wife Jessie Ella. President Smith served from 1970 - 1972

President Joseph Fielding Smith was the prophet after President McKay. President McKay became president the year I was born and died when I was a freshman attending BYU. I was able to go to the viewing. We were about 2 miles back and the line was eight people across and of course it was raining. I remember that he looked so thin and not like I remembered him, but it was still a cool thing and I did not mind the wait.

love, Peg



Sally's Section

June marked some milestone birthdays. Patrick and Lilianna turned 12 and went from Primary to Young Women and Young Men. Patrick was ordained a Deacon by his dad.

In July here in Oakdale we had our 20th annual 4th of July pancake breakfast. Jenny had carpal tunnel surgery but that did not stop her from her vacation. Jenny, Garth, and Lili had their turn to go to Washington. Carol and Amy and Nicole joined them there and they had a good time celebrating Job and Nicole's birthday on July 26th.

In August we celebrated our 38th Anniversary. Carol came to California so she and I could also celebrate our birthdays.

Job was in the play "Little Women". Then school --- for Garth studying welding, Carol teaching at BYU-Idaho, Patrick and Lili in 7th grade, Keziah in 6th, Jaxon in 4th, Savannah and Nicole in 1st, and Rebekah in pre-school.

December brought Carol back to Oakdale and everyone had a nice Christmas. Mom, Dad, Andi, Jenny, Garth, Lili, and Carol here in California, Job and Sarah and family in Washington, and Amy, Matt, and Nicole in Idaho. Each year I, Mom, am reminded just how blessed we are as a family.

This coming weekend Garth will be moving to Idaho. He got a job working for a company out of Boise. Jenny and Lili will be here for a while packing etc., and plan to join Garth at the end of the school year. He will be staying with friends until he finds a place for them to live. It will be quite a change for all of us, but change happens. We feel confident that this is where the Lord wants them to be.

Like my older siblings I remember President McKay and his wife. I remember seeing them sitting by each other and holding hands. I just remember thinking how cool it was that old people could be still romantic. ☺



Of course I remember President Kimball as he was the prophet I got to meet at youth conference. I was assigned to introduce him as speaker at the youth conference banquet. I was SO nervous! When I stood up to go to the pulpit he must have sensed this, because he stood, shook my hand, and said, "just breathe". I think I was even more nervous then, but his confidence in me helped me make it through the introduction. Brother Mortensen was given some pictures that the press took and he gave me this one. I thought it was rude for anyone to take a photo during the sacrament, but it is the only one with me and President Kimball so I kept it.



I remember that Dad was one of the Priesthood bearers that lined up to make a path for the prophet to enter. He said that he was surprised that President Kimball was so short. ☺

Thanks for all the great stories! I love you all! Sally



Tom's Times

The other night Kayla gave us a family home evening all about the new Prophet, President Russell M. Nelson. I really liked learning about him. Lots of times you hear about the good childhoods that prophets had. We learned that his parents were not active while he was growing up but they sent him to Sunday School every Sunday. He would often ditch and play football with the "other ditchers" at Hyde park. When he was sixteen he had a "change of heart" due to a home teacher and became more active in the church.

If you want to learn more here is the link from Kayla.

<https://mormonhub.com/blog/faith/lds-church-leadership/biography-of-russell-m-nelson/#.VGJrVvnF-jM>

One of my favorite stories is one of President Kimball when he was in the airport. "A young mother on an overnight flight with a two-year-old daughter was stranded by bad weather in Chicago airport without food or clean clothing for the child and without money. She was ... pregnant and threatened with miscarriage, so she was under doctor's instructions not to carry the child unless it was essential. Hour after hour she stood in one line after another, trying to get a flight to Michigan. The terminal was noisy, full of tired, frustrated, grumpy passengers, and she heard critical references to her crying child and to her sliding her child along the floor with her foot as the line moved forward. No one offered to help with the soaked, hungry, exhausted child.

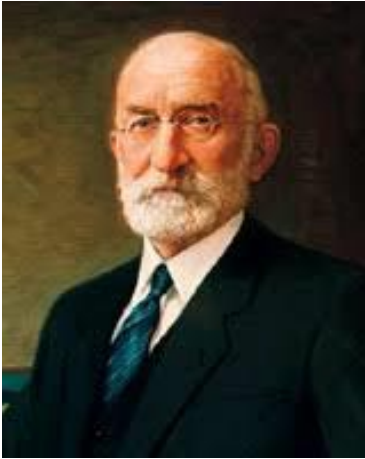
"Then, the woman later reported, 'someone came towards us and with a kindly smile said, "Is there something I could do to help you?" With a grateful sigh I accepted his offer. He lifted my sobbing little daughter from the cold floor and lovingly held her to him while he patted her gently on the back. He asked if she could chew a piece of gum. When she was settled down, he carried her with him and said something kindly to the others in the line ahead of me, about how I needed their help. They seemed to agree and then he went up to the ticket counter [at the front of the line] and made arrangements with the clerk for me to be put on a flight leaving shortly. He walked with us to a bench, where we chatted a moment, until he was assured that I would be fine. He went on his way. About a week later I saw a picture of Apostle Spencer W. Kimball and recognized him as the stranger in the airport."

TEACHINGS OF PRESIDENTS OF THE CHURCH: SPENCER W. KIMBALL
CHAPTER 8: SELFLESS SERVICE



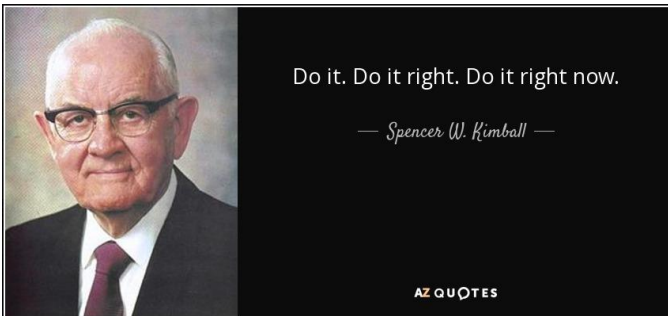
I think of that story almost every day when I push the mail along with my foot. ☺

I also like President Heber J. Grant. He was amazing. I remember a story that there were two men fighting. They had fought for many years. He called them into his office and they were still angry. He told them to sing two hymns. After they sang the hymns they were able to settle their problems.



President Heber J. Grant was called as an apostle at the age of 25! He served as President of the Church from 1918 – 1945

Sandy's favorite prophet is President Kimball because he was "her prophet". She really likes that he is the prophet that told us to just DO IT!



President Spencer W Kimball served from 1973-1985

CaSandra likes President Nelson's story of being on an airplane. They were having trouble and were told to put their seatbelts on through the turbulence that would come. All the people were panicking, especially one woman who kept screaming. President Nelson was glad that he knew the plan of salvation. He knew that faith was stronger than fear. The plane landed and everyone was fine.

Sarah says, "President Hinckley is my prophet". She will always remember his talk about the six B's. It shaped her youth because they talked so much about it in young women's etc. At the same time she was really sick with asthma. One of her friends got to shake the prophet's hand at conference and she thought, "if only I could shake his hand I would be well". (Like the woman who touched Christ's robe).

"Tonight I am going to let your teachers give you the A's that I hope you earn. I want to talk about some B's. You get the A's; I will give you the B's."

Be grateful.

Be smart.

Be clean.

Be true.

Be humble.

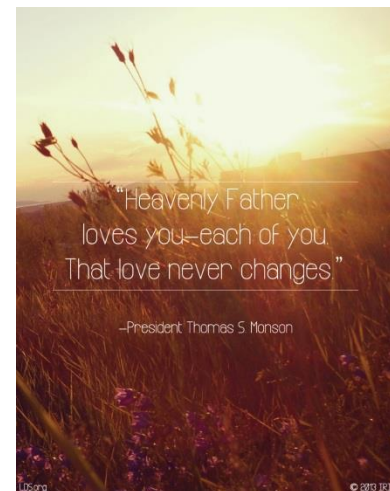
Be prayerful." President Gordon B. Hinckley

Kayla had a hard time thinking of her favorite prophet. She did the family home evening on President Nelson. She really likes all of the Book of Mormon prophets!

Tom's tribe have been busy as usual bringing baby calves into the world, working at schools, pushing mail around....etc.



Love, Tom and family



Rick's Review

Well things have been a little up and down here. My foster "little old man" Marshall passed away. We all loved him dearly. I had a hard time with his passing. Then I listened, read, and studied the talk, Broken things to mend, by Elder Holland. It really gave me peace. It ends with a poem "The Carpenter Of Nazareth". Very good if any of you want to look it up and read it. **I looked it up to include it.*

The Carpenter of Nazareth

*In Nazareth, the narrow road,
That tires the feet and steals the breath,
Passes the place where once abode
The Carpenter of Nazareth.*

*And up and down the dusty way
The village folk would often wend;
And on the bench, beside Him, lay
Their broken things for Him to mend.*

*The maiden with the doll she broke,
The woman with the broken chair,
The man with broken plough, or yoke,
Said, "Can you mend it, Carpenter?"*

*And each received the thing he sought,
In yoke, or plough, or chair, or doll;
The broken thing which each had brought
Returned again a perfect whole.*

*So, up the hill the long years through,
With heavy step and wistful eye,
The burdened souls their way pursue,
Uttering each the plaintive cry:*

*"O Carpenter of Nazareth,
This heart, that's broken past repair,
This life, that's shattered nigh to death,
Oh, can You mend them, Carpenter?"*

*And by His kind and ready hand,
His own sweet life is woven through
Our broken lives, until they stand
A New Creation—"all things new."*

*"The shattered substance of the heart,
Desire, ambition, hope, and faith,
Mold Thou into the perfect part,
O, Carpenter of Nazareth!"*

George Blair



Rick and Marshall



One of my favorite pictures of Marshall

Suzie had surgery and had to get over a bad infection. She is doing good now. I'm getting ready to start a second job during the day while Jimmy is gone to his day program. Hopefully the company can find another client to live with us and I can just devote all my time to them and the family.



Jimmy

Alex is taking art classes and design classes. Working on her degree in art and graphic design. She has finished all her general education classes.

Emily and Zach are going through the junior year in high school. Their counselor told them junior year is the hardest one. They both are doing real good mostly A's and a B here and there. I'm real proud of all of them.

Emily looks so much like a young picture of Mom. And Zach looks a lot like Dad.

Alex looks just like her mom. I'll include some pictures.



Emily and Mom



Zach and Dad



Alex

A story about a prophet, I need to have two. When the stake at home was split Elder McConkie came to officiate. Everyone had been asking me about going on a mission. I told everyone I didn't know.

Elder McConkie was walking up to the stand and shaking hands with people. He stopped and walked over to where I was sitting, placed his big hand on my shoulder and asked, young man are you going on a mission? I said "yes sir". Tommy told me I had to go now that I couldn't lie to an apostle.

My other story is when I watched the 60 Minutes interview with President Hinckley. I was worried they were going to try to make fun of the church or try to

make him look bad. But he calmly and confidently answered all the questions. In the true spirit of a prophet as he talked you could feel the spirit and my testimony grew. He never got rattled or nervous, he just spoke the truth and let the spirit work.



President Gordon B. Hinckley,
President of the church from 1995 – 2008

*taken from this site...

<http://www.ldsliving.com/When-Gordon-B-Hinckley-Was-on-60-Minutes-and-What-That-Meant-for-the-Church/s/84727>

President Hinckley also made a lasting impression with his last exchange with Wallace on the show after talking about heaven and how families can be together forever.

"We know it's there. We have an assurance of that," President Hinckley told Wallace.

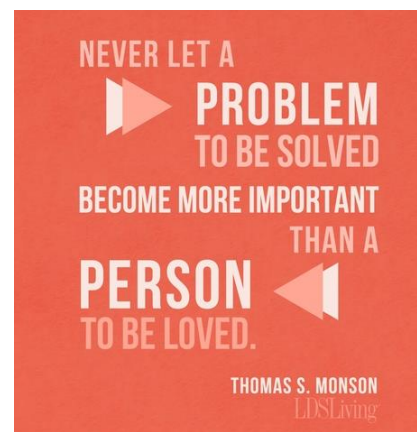
"There's a lot of us that don't," Wallace replied.

"Yeah, I know that," President Hinckley said. "But you could."

"I've thought about it. I've not been able to persuade myself," Wallace said.

"Well, you haven't thought about it long enough," President Hinckley says.

----- I love you all. Love, Rick



JUST FOR FUN

Thanks to all of you, my amazing family, for supporting the newsletter. Sometimes I feel so far away from everyone. It does really help me to feel connected.

I know that often we feel like there is nothing to say because our lives just seem so routine. I feel that way. But I was thinking about yesterday, February 1st. Just in that one day, Aubrey had her cardiac appointment, Peggy had knee surgery, Jenny and Garth celebrated their 15th anniversary, Andi got a new ipad ☺

I love hearing about Bonnie's canasta games and doing puzzles with her friends. I love hearing about Frank's flowers and their travels. I love hearing about Aubrey's antics and Katie's mission. I love hearing about baby calves being born, or school, ranch work, or pushing the mail around. I love hearing about Zach and Emily learning to drive and how Jimmy is doing. Just to name a few. All these things seem routine, but what we do every day is a big part of our history.

So.....Thank you!!!!

Here are some snippets from the past...January 2008

Bonnie's Bylines

It is cold here! Lot's of snow! Although I was talking to mom on the phone the other day and I said that we had 10 inches of snow and it was still snowing. Her reply was, "So, you don't have very much snow?" I guess everything is relative.

Frank's Faire

AJ came up Christmas morning and stayed two nights with us. It was nice we played rummy cube, cootie and read stories. Michael left here taking a load from Mancos, Colorado to Leland, North Carolina.

Peggy's Page

Oh, funny story about the MTC. Emily went with us the day of the Christmas Devotional. We were hurrying to a building I'd never been to before when we came to a statue of Samuel Smith. I told Emily that was her cousin and that he had been the first missionary for the church. She said something about wanting to meet him so I told her he was already dead, that he had lived back when Joseph Smith was alive. She said, ' Ohhhh, I never even knew I had a cousin...and now he's dead!!'

Sally's Section

Christmas was terrific although the holidays went by too quickly. Having the girls here was great and we were able to actually spend some time with them. When Amy came home from her mission she was only home for 4 days and then we had our trip to Idaho, but it was just too short. It was great to be a family again for 3 weeks. It was great to see Carol again too. It is always good when it is their first time away from home to have time together again. I'm not sure that she misses her family going to school in Idaho, but I do know that she misses California sunshine! ☺

Tom's Times

Sarah's cow had a calf and it is silver. She named her Mulan. I said that she should have named her Mushoo, because she moos when we shoo her around. ☺

We have LOTS of snow. The other day I was delivering the mail in the snow storm. I had to get out of the car and walk up to the mailboxes with the snow as high as my knees.

Rick's Review

I continue to be busy with my calling and work. Cearra is also busy with work. And we are all enjoying watching Chloe grow. Soon we will be celebrating her 1st birthday. Time has certainly gone by quickly.

Some fun pictures of history....



moving the house to Romeo



Dad gives David a haircut



Four generations of Ellen



Easter Sunday 1956



Tom and Frank



Mom rocks Rick to sleep

Next Newsletter – April edition of Asa Culler letter – so start collecting history. ☺ love ya