

Provo, Utah
December 10, 1982

Dear Nancy and Ida Rose,

How are you? I think of you so often and hope all is well. We still have missionary activity going on in the ward. Ross Woolf, Karen Jonsson, and Damon Darius arrived home within days of each other. Karen has reported her mission and Ross and Damon will report this coming Sunday. Barbara Taylor's farewell was Nov. 28. She's such a special lady. She has been bothered by phlebitis in her leg quite a bit lately, but she's still hoping and praying she will be well enough to enter the MTC on Dec. 16. Melissa Erickson received a mission call to serve in Dearborn, Michigan. She will leave in February. Brian's farewell will be on Jan. 9.

We've had an exciting event in our ward the past few weeks. As you will recall, Aurel Soceneantu and his son Dan left Aurel's mother, wife and daughter in Romania when he and Dan left 2½ years ago. They are friends of Jens and Helen Jonsson, and have been living in Alley's basement. Aurel has been trying to get his family out of Romania ever since he left. After much hard work by many people, and unbelievable anguish, they are finally reunited as a family. Aurel's mother arrived here a few weeks ago and his wife and daughter came on Thanksgiving Eve. They were having such a hard time getting all the papers finalized both in the United States and Romania, things looked very bleak. On a Tuesday many in our ward held a special fast. The following week the papers were completed. I know our Heavenly Father helped out. Dan was baptized by Sheffer Clark about three months ago. We're hoping the rest of the family will join the church soon. I'm afraid they're going to be leaving our ward though. They want to buy a house, but they can't find one they can afford in our neighborhood. This family has been a blessing to all of us. I think we have all learned to appreciate our freedom a little more.

Our stake had a 30 year Anniversary Ball on Nov. 12. Pres. Benson organized the stake 30 years ago. He was a special guest at the Ball. Joyce Ridge was in charge of the dance, so it was very much like one of our great Gold and Green Balls. The talents of PV I were very evident.

The holiday season has begun. Joyce has already hosted a Young Women and their families dinner and the Primary officers and teachers party will be there also. She's quite an entertainer.

We've had several people in the hospital lately. Max Hill have to have a quadruple by-pass heart operation the middle of November. He's doing well and plans to return to work in January. Sister Boardman has been in again with a variety of problems. Clara Crosland fell and ruptured two discs in her back. They were hoping to relieve the pain with a brace, but it didn't work, so she is scheduled for back surgery next Tuesday. El Tueller fell this past week and broke her hip. Her hip has been replaced and she is recovering in the hospital. I'm sorry people have to suffer.

Last Sunday night the Church sponsored a special youth fireside on morality. It was carried on TV. Pres. Hinckley was the speaker and they showed an excellent film. The bishop in the film was our own Lon Keith. He really did a good job. The whole program was very well done.

I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas. This is such a special time of the year. I feel so indebted to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings He has given me. I'm so grateful for the gospel and the influence it has in my life and the lives of my family. I'm so grateful for you and the great example you are to me as evidenced by your willingness to serve the Lord in the mission field.

May the Lord's blessings be with you and may you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Love,
Kathryn*