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Dear Roots,

It's good to be back in the Hallmanack again. Sorry we missed you last time. You didn't really miss anything, believe me!

Since our last letter, we've had 4 cats, and one dog. The cats are all gone...died, stolen or dropped off....but the dog is still around. It's really a long story, but I'll tell the best parts of it, (and the worst) We inherited this cute little purebred Afgan puppy. All black, with a spot of white under its chin. It all started out okay, except for a little asthma reactions I have with dogs anyway. Then a few days went by, and he started howling at night. We would get up several times during the night to shut him up. Then he had this terrible problem with wetting every time we petted him. (I guess he would get excited or something.) That wasn't too bad, but after awhile it began to attract flies. Every time I opened the door to feed the dog....the flies came IN to feed! I soon began to resent this dog of mine. I hated to feed it...I hated to bath it....I hated to wash down the tinkle stained porch, I hated the howling, and the asthma, and especially the flies!

One day I came home for lunch, and I guess on this peticular day I had had all the dog I could stand! I decided to let him loose, and hope that a friendly school kid would fall in love with him, and take him home. Off I went to work, taking one last guilty glance at the dog. After work that night the dog was gone. Doug was upset, because I had let him go, and I too felt kind of bad for what I had done. One of Dougs friends came over that night, and found a note on the front door. It read:

Your dog was run over by the Mailman today.
It broke his legs, and no one was at home,
so we had the animal controll pick it up.
You can call the police for additional
information, or pick him up at the shelter
tomorrow before noon if you want him back.
there will be a 5.00 charge for his keeping.

....GREAT! Now I really felt guilty. I had caused this poor animal pain, (not so much the dog, just Doug.) and had to dip into the pocket book as well. We decided to take him to the vet, to see what could be done. The decision was ours. We could put him to death, or surgery could repair the broken leg, and it was our luck that the other leg was just a bad sprain, and a little bit hemoraged. We decided the latter. It cost us close to \$200.00 for X-rays, medication, vaccinations, and the surgery. But It was really worth it! He doesn't tinkle anymore when you pet him, and we don't have to chain him up much anymore, cause he won't go near the road, or leave the yard because he is petrified of cars! His name is Simeon. we just call him Sim. Two better names would have been sin, or sum. ('cause he was one ---- of an EXPENSIVE DOG!)

Well...I still work at the Spa, and Doug for Water & Power Resources. I was promoted to Ladies Director, which doesn't really mean much, except that I get paid \$150.00 extra per month to open and close the spa on ladies days, turn on the whirlpools, saunas, steam rooms, ect. fill the toilet paper holders, set the new members up on exercise programs, run three one-hour Jazzercise classes daily, and call the sales reports in to head-quarters in salt lake. I love it! I hope that all you guys are on good exercise programs at home, and if your not....SHAME! I love my job, not only cause It pays exceptionally well, but because I have felt so much better since I have been doing alot of exercise! It really makes a big difference in my life! (and I love to give exercise classes, they are so much more fun than watching that old lady on channel 7 do exercises!) (someday that might be me.)

Doug is doing well in his job also. He just put in for a GS-6 raise. We hope that he gets it! He went hunting this year, but came home with nothing. He has been telling me that he might have to go to a pheasant farm, to get him a pheasant this year....his luck has been bad. He doesn't really want one to eat, he wants one to stuff and hang in the living room. (HELP!)

Remember Doug's first Jeep accident? Well that girl is still trying to sue us. We will be counter-sueing her for 5,400.00. We hope she will just give up and leave us alone. It happened 3 years ago, and as far as we're concerned it's over and done with. We never tried to get anything from her, and we really don't feel like we owe her anything. especially after this long. Oh-well. We'll keep you posted.

for now, this has been a DEN presentation of

HALLMANACK Inc.

THANK YOU FOR TUNING IN?