

Note: Virginia and Barry did not get the house they were hoping to. The other guy sold his house on Sat. Night. His time was up Sunday. They are very disappointed.

June Hallmanack

Dear Family:

Well, we had a wonderful week (four days) (coming and going) at the Stanford Family camp at Lake Tahoe in California. Liz and Marty, did you know about that camp? They run it somewhat like the Aspen Grove camp, except that their facilities are a lot nicer than the ones at Aspen and I don't think you have to take your own bedding. Someone told me that it is a flat \$1400. per week per family. That would be higher than Aspen for most of us, but Tracy would luck out. Maybe they exclude anyone who has more than four children. After all! One of the cars at the conference had a bumper sticker saying "----- (something) Just one!

If we had just had one child, look what we would have missed. I wouldn't give one of you back. And could one child have produced 30 grandchildren for us? Nay.

Sherlene didn't get her chocolates until May 31st. They must be sitting on the mail in White Plains, although I think they were sent United Parcel. Liz did you get yours? Yes, you did. It is Ginger who I don't know if they got the chocolates.

Those chocolates were so good that the local flower receivers are probably complaining or they would if they had tasted those chocolates. Oh, well, if you really want to, you can buy them in the Mall in Provo. And if you are in the market, they are really good. Just called everyone to twist their arms for a Hallmanack. Nancy is out getting some sod for Doug so he can finish his sprinkling system. He started out to find a leak in a water main, and while he had the tractor decided to get involved in putting a sprinkling system in. David and Karen and family had just arrived home from a trip to the San Dunes and Charlotte's. Delta had their "Renesaince ??? (misspelled.) Fair, in which she and Bryan modeled costumes of the era. Charlotte's must have been ~~what~~ the latest in Renaissance ??maternity wear was. Tracy's answering service said he was not available. Please leave a message at the Beep. He'll learn. Just for that, they'll make him Bishop and he'll have to take it out. Betsy says she had it installed to channel calls on Home Schools into time she had instead of constant interruptions. Virginia says the delivery man put the chocolates in the car. The windows were up. It was a hot day. They were all melted. Yuuck. They said they ate them anyway, after a brief stay in the refrigerator (for the chocolates) Tomorrow is the day that they may get another chance at the house they want.

The desert is beautiful. I have never seen it so green. It was green all the way to California except just before we entered the mountains around Carson city. Dad still has a lot of congestion, and has finally admitted that the blue pills for decongestion really help him. He's a hard guy to get to take a pill.

He gave a very good talk. They housed us upstairs in the lodge. The lodge overlooks the lake and it was lovely. We considered staying another day (we could have stayed two more) but decided that everything would be burning up, at the farm, and it was. We got to the farm ~~after~~ ^{for} breakfast at Charlotte's, about 10:30, and spent most of the rest of the day watering the plantings which we had put in before we left. *Thank'd Charlotte. It was a delicious breakfast.*

We laid down about 75x100 feet of black and transparent plastic, with eight inch holes cut ~~in~~ every four feet on the square. We planted Butternut Squash, Pumpkins, Buttercup squash, and the big squash. (3) The rest of the holes were planted in cucumbers, and (mostly) cantaloupe. We also planted three rows of corn, and a row of beans. If they all grow, don't ask me what we are going to do with it, but we hope to have pumpkins for Halloween for all the grandkiddies who want one.

The sky, crossing the desert was blue, blue, with white fluffy clouds that reminded us of the beautiful skies in Zimbabwe. Along the road approaching Delta was wild grasses which were lavender and lacy as they were blown by the wind. It was if the road were lined with about four inches of the grass, and the early morning, slanting sun just hit the grasses right to reflect the beautiful color.

This is a beautiful world the Lord has made for us.

Dad is out to the farm working on a soaking system to water all those planted holes. He is determined to get it done tonight. I just called out to the farm, and the boys who are helping him (he wouldn't even come to the phone) said that he said they would be home about nine o'clock. I told Steve (Browning) to tell him I was more interested in having a live husband than a finished soaking system. He got up about 4:30 this morning. *[He got home at 10 PM]*

The only reason I didn't want to come home was I didn't like coming back to cooking three meals a day again. It was also great to have no telephone ringing all the day.

Those meetings are just an excuse for a drinking party. The meetings were in the morning. Afternoons were free (they drank all afternoon) and then there was a happy hour at five. By six when supper was served, they could have served them boiled dog and I doubt if they would have known the difference. There were several LDS Scientists there. One young couple from Ephriam, who had two small children, *and* another *man* who works in California. Etc.) We got to meet all of them when Dad gave his talk.

It has been very hot the last week in Utah, so we did miss that. It is a little cooler today, but I doubt if Dad thinks so while working on the farm.

While I was gone, I asked Nancy to pick the strawberries, and she said she got almost a case of them. It almost killed her, I guess, ~~too~~, because in her condition to do all that stooping was no easy task. It takes about two hours to pick the patch. You wonder if it's worth it.

I picked the patch this morning and got about four quarts. I saved a couple of small baskets for tomorrow, and put up one recipe of frozen jam, and froze the rest without sugar. I add these, frozen whole, to punch, and to fruit cocktail during the winter. They can also be made into jam if I need to.

I have harvested the first crop of rhubarb. I juiced it in the steamer, and got about six quarts of juice. This I will freeze to make a slush for drinks.

I also harvested all the spinach. I cut it off and it comes up again. We had some before we left, and in the cooler weather, it was lovely and mild. I got a bushel basket of spinach which I blanched and froze, except for a little to make a spinach salad for tonight. Since Dad isn't coming home, I will have it tomorrow.

I spent last night and this morning watering the whole place. The only thing I haven't watered to date, is the inside plants.

Monday evening: I tried to call Tracy and Betsy to give us a Hallmanack, but as mentioned before, their answering service didn't return the call. David, Nancy, and Tracy are on my black list, definitely. I don't believe that they are any busier than the rest of us. Carli Ann has come down with the chickenpox and she has a TERRIBLE case. Dad and I spent the day on the farm. I, weeding and watering, and making my tennis elbow more difficult, and Dad working on the sprinkling system. He has it almost finished. It is to the stage now that he can water the whole patch by hooking up the hose. He will connect it to the underground water, and put on a timer.

Love, MOM

If you think we're crazy - you're right!