

THE CLAYTON CHRONICLE

The Scottsdale Scoop

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SOCIALIZING, SICKNESS & SUPERHEROES

The first 20 days of October were pretty routine, although we were pretty socially active, hosting several groups at the house. We held our traditional General Conference After Party (with the Reinsteins, Egberts and Harrigans), Marnie's 6th birthday party (when we shortened the pool portion of the party due to shivering, blue-lipped girls), and a get-together of some other Phoenix-area friends (the Millecams, Maws, Olsons, and Paul Krey). In between the events, we finally had the tile installed in the kids' bathroom, and spent time painting and installing new hardware and light fixtures.

By the 20th, life was no longer business as usual. Angie's parents flew in for a week long visit, and Ken and Angie celebrated (?) their arrival by getting sick. Once healthy, Angie showed her parents a good time, taking them to a movie, miniature golfing with the grandkids, and on day trips to Montezuma Castle and Well, Sedona, and Oak Creek Canyon.

Grandma & Grandpa flew back to Florida on the 28th, and that afternoon we drove to Disneyland to spend a two days in the parks with the Reinsteins and for Mickey's Trick or Treat Party. The three youngest kids (Jeff, Lexi Reinstein, and Marnie) dressed up like video game characters Link, Zelda, and Tetra (an alternate version of Zelda) for the party, and several fellow gamers in the parks were excited about their authentic outfits (courtesy of Angie and her mom's sewing skills). On Halloween, the family decided to dress up in a family theme, but adults aren't allowed to wear actual costumes (except during parties). We finally settled on tee shirts representing Hawkgirl, Wonder Woman, Flash, Green Lantern, and Batman. If Dan would have met us (as he was originally planning), he would have been Superman. Apparently he got a better offer (?).



Meet the Clayton Superhero Family

price of pets

Although it only cost \$233 to fly each human (Grandma and Grandpa Liscom) from Orlando to Phoenix, Continental charged them \$250 to fly their Chihuahua Gizmo in her under-the-seat carrier.

Gizmo is probably lucky she didn't get left at the check in counter.

mouths of babes

Jeffrey gave mom a big vote of confidence one day when he said, thoughtfully: "There are more pros than cons with you, mom." Seeing the look on her face, he added, "Way more pros."

When newborn Brooklyn Egbert arrived with her parents, Marnie gushed: "I love babies! They're my favorite kind of human!"

the birds

Tired of waiting multiple cycles for the dryer, Angie pulled it away from the wall. Ken was called in when she noticed the vent duct had become detached. As he was working on it, he found a dead bird on the floor and another dead bird inside the duct.

Apparently they flew in through the exhaust vent and through ten feet of duct before dying. Blech.

BIRTHDAY & DISNEYLAND

By Marnie

OCTOBER 11 & 29-31

I had my 6th birthday in October, and my party was the next weekend. My invitations had pictures of penguins swimming on them, and at the party, we were so cold in the swimming pool that it was just like Antarctica! The people who came to the party were Brigid, Bella, Sophie and Ellie. From Bella I got shrink art jewelry. From Brigid I got a bracelet that had sparkly letters and said my name. From the Rosers, I got a Barbie. I named her Melissa.



My favorite rides at Disneyland were California Screamin'. It was scary but really fun. Orange Stingers was one of my very favorite ones because I liked when there was a little pole in the middle, and they raised it, and we just spun around, and it felt like you were going to fly out into the water. Jingles is Mary Poppins' horse on King Arthur's carousel, and I got to ride on her.

It was the only one with bells on. I liked Tarzan's Treehouse with all the story books, and how you got to play with all his inventions. The elevator part of Haunted Mansion was scary. I loved all the treats at the party.

There's a new area at Disneyland where I got to meet some of the fairies. I met Silvermist, Fawn, and Tinker Bell. It was pretty cool.



LINK GOES TRICK OR TREATING

By Jeff

OCTOBER 29-31

Our first day at Disneyland, we wore our costumes. I had the idea to dress up like Link and Zelda with my friend Lexi as Zelda. My mom



made our costumes. Marnie also wanted to dress up like one of the characters from the Zelda games, so she was Tetra from Wind Waker and Phantom Hourglass. People thought our costumes were pretty cool, and one couple even asked if they could take a picture with us at the Halloween party!

We talked with Crush (from Nemo) in the Turtle Talk exhibit, and I got to ask him a question twice (once each time we went there). I asked him who he was going to vote for in the upcoming presidential election. He brought out a bikini and asked if I knew what it was. After a few other weird things, he brought out a Buzz Lightyear figure and said he was going to vote for him. The funniest part was when he said his campaign motto: To infinity and beyond! He asked if the bikini made him look fat, and I said, "Do you want to look fat?" Crush thought that was a good answer.

Lexi and I wore shirts from the movie High School Musical 3. They were doing a show in the park with music from the movie, and the singers were pointing at us because of our shirts.

My favorite rides in Disneyland California Adventure were California Screamin' (definitely the top), then Grizzly River Rapids. My favorite rides in Disneyland were going to Tom Sawyer Island, along with the three main coasters (and one flume): Space Mountain, Big Thunder Mountain, Splash Mountain and the Matterhorn. I also decided that Chip and Dale are the coolest!

MEDITATIONS ON DISNEYLAND

By Chad

OCTOBER 29-31

Disneyland was the same old place as always. After 3 days, my feet were not in the happiest place on earth. Our friends the Reinsteins were also there and Zach and I spent most of our time hanging out together away from our families.

I wanted to see ASIMO (Advanced Step in Innovative Mobility), a robot in Innoventions in Tomorrowland because I hadn't seen it before, and I had done some reading on it. It was not all that it was hyped up to be; it was cool, but boring. Disney did their whole thing where they have to make everything with a story behind it, which made the exhibit feel a little "kiddy."

On the first day, Zach & I went on California Screamin' (a rollercoaster in Disney's California Adventure) 11 times. Whenever we got tired over in DCA, we would go on the Orange Stingers ride two or three times to rest our legs. There is never a line on the Stingers, so you can just ride it over and over.

In Disneyland, my favorite rides were Haunted Mansion and Space Mountain. Haunted Mansion is always really good around the holiday season because it has a Nightmare Before Christmas theme. While in Disneyland, I had possibly my best Disney food ever, a Banyan Beef Skewer at Bengal Barbecue in Adventureland. I would totally recommend it. It was very spicy.

The Trick or Treat party was pretty much just extending my park time by four hours because Zach and I didn't get much candy. We just rode the rides. The rest of the group was trick or treating and got pounds upon pounds of candy.

FROM ANGIE'S EASEL



[Left] This one was a piece of cake to do, and I did it during General Conference. I like the colors, although it reminds me a little bit of melting ice cream.

[Right] Narrows. This is on a smaller canvas and was pretty easy to do. The tree and water were tricky, but the light and shadows on the rocks were easy.



Redo of pink rocks – I decided to revisit this painting because I was never satisfied with it; it seemed unfinished. The newly finished product was much more interesting.

...AND KEYBOARD

Angie continues to blog at Mormon Matters, although it's getting a little cyclical at this point:

- *What is the Point of Religion?*
- *Virtual RS/PH #18: Beyond the Veil: Life in the Eternities*
- *Witch-Hunting*
- *Virtual RS/PH #19: Stand Fast Through the Storms of Life*
- *The Envelope and the Message*
- *Joseph Smith & the Parable of the Money Digger*

PAELLA RECIPE



Heat 4.5 cups of chicken broth and 2 pinches crushed saffron in a pan (real saffron is best, but you can use a packet of Sazon Goya in a pinch).

Sautee ½ diced onion and two minced garlic cloves in olive oil (I use the spray). Add one green, one yellow, and one red diced bell pepper. Add & sautee one diced tomato. Cook to evaporate all juices. Add 2 cups Arborio or Spanish short grain rice (Trader Joe's carries Arborio rice--do NOT substitute regular rice; it's not the same). Ladle the saffron broth over the rice, stirring to mix. Bring to a boil.

Transfer to a paella pan (or similar). Arrange chicken pieces from ½ a rotisserie chicken, raw peeled shrimp (frozen's OK), steamer clams (Trader Joe's again), in an appealing design. Scatter the top with one cup of frozen peas and some slices of bottled roasted red peppers. Add a little sweet paprika. Cook uncovered in 400 degree oven for 25 mins. To serve, add lemon wedges to the edges of the pan, and enjoy!

That sounds a lot harder than it is. Believe me.



Get-together with Phoenix friends on October 18

MEDIA ROUNDUP

AT THE MOVIES...

The Duchess

The true life story of a whacked out arranged marriage that turns into a reluctant but civil ménage a trois. Ralph Fiennes is superbly understated and detestable, and Kiera Knightly does a good job portraying a woman caught in an impossible situation.

Angie ★★★½



RANDOM NOTES

- Ken survived another quarter end, which made the first fifteen to twenty days of the month fly right by.
- The kids dominated church on the 12th. Chad gave a talk in Sacrament Meeting, Marnie gave a talk in Primary, and Jeff did the scripture in Primary. This was also the same Sunday Angie was teaching Relief Society.
- Jeff and Marnie had parts in the Primary program during Sacrament Meeting on the 19th. Marnie also did a special singing number with a few other girls.
- Nobody likes being sick, but Ken was very disappointed when he threw up on October 21st. It ended a streak of 11 years, 4 months, and 3 days without vomiting.
- The whole family drove through Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon on the 25th, stopping in Flagstaff for lunch before heading back south to go to the ward Trunk-or-Treat party.
- At the party, we asked the Mad Hatter for his professional opinion about Marnie's abscessed tooth (for the record, it was our Home Teacher, Paul Nielsen, and he's really a dentist). We are fully prepared to provide him accounting or travel advice in return.
- We spent Sunday the 26th in the Liscom family traditional way: playing family games and eating popcorn. Marnie learned how to play dominoes, and she was very good!