New addition! (BY Monty)

I call her Merry Bee. We bought a boat. Spring and Summer were fun as we had many family outings. I wanted to get my money's worth, so I forced the kids to continue skiing when the weather got cold



this Fall. It was fun until after the first snow. It got a bit worrisome at that point, but they are hanging in there and have developed new winter weather survivor skills.



SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES (BY MONTY)

When we were boat shopping we thought we had found the one. Before our test drive we were ready to buy it, but had prayed for guidance. Just a few minutes in, I looked back to see smoke billowing out of the engine compartment. The engine was as hot as a firecracker and had melted the vinyl cover above it. I handed Mari Beth a life jacket and

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readied the fire extinguisher. There were no flames and it eventually cooled down. After we flagged down a fisherman and got towed to the dock, we realized that maybe it was a sign that this wasn't the one. We didn't buy that one.

50th Anniversary

& Family Reunion

On July 1, 1960 John and

Fern Moreland were married. Exactly 50 years later all of



their 5 children and all 11 grandchildren came to Boise to celebrate! Many other family members and friends joined in as we had a big party.

FIRST TIME AWAY

(BY MARI BETH)

I visited Alabama for almost two weeks



this
Summer. I
was blessed
with a free
ticket
(thanks

Jerry and Diane!) and God blessed me again by a wonderful husband, awesome in-laws and super friends taking care of everything while I was away. The kids did a great job using the homemaking skills that we have taught them. I was so proud of them! It was good to be with my sisters and friends and provide some



comfort for Craig and Melinda as Craig battles cancer. Please keep Craig and Melinda in your prayers.

BY AMELIA

I am 5 years old and I learned to ride my bike without training wheels. I like to go swimming with my whole entire family. I like to play ball with my little cute doggie, Dasher. I like to play house and hop scotch and I am learning to read.

BY ABBY

In Co-op this semester I took a jewelry making class. That got me going and I've been in to jewelry making. l also enjoy knitting and crocheting. I started my first blog in 2008, and now I've accumulated 3 more. Haha. It's ok, you can call me crazy. I really enjoy writing, and even though I'm not sure what I want to do when I get older, being an author is on my list. But, I'll leave that up to God to decide. God has blessed my family very richly this year! (Although He takes care of that every year.) We have had the luxuries of camping, boating, rafting, water skiing... you name it. Not to mention all of our basic needs like food, a warm home, great friends and plenty



more. Does anybody else ever wonder how God can love us so much that He provides all our basic needs, and then some? I enjoy studying the Oregon trail and pioneer life. I have put my love for the Oregon trail and writing together, and have decided to write a very short novel; 50-100 pages at the least. I've read many books, watched many movies, visited museums about it, not to mention I was born in Oregon, the end of the trail. I now live where some of them settled and most traveled through and I've actually walked along the Oregon trail myself. (: Well, you can wake up now, I'm done! Overall, we all had a great year, despite some difficulties, and I hope you all had the same. God Bless!

followinggodeveryday.blogspot.com abbyscrafts.blogspot.com simplenaildesigns.blogspot.com howdoweboilwaterblog.blogspot.com



BY MATTIE GRACE

I am 8 years old. This year I have learned to crochet and have made two scarves, a dishcloth and pot holders. I like to play bitty baby with Amelia. I love to read and I'm learning to swim. I like to draw. I

like to make up new games. I like to write stories.

BY KENDALL

This year I am in the eleventh grade. We got a new boat and I am learning how to water ski. I have also started making videos and video special effects. I am hoping to go to college and learn how to make movies. Early in December I became an official Idaho driver.

The ski season has just begun. I



have snow skied for three years now and I have become pretty good at it. I want to learn how to snowboard as well.

CAMPING (BY MONTY)

We enjoy camping and were able to get out to some of the same locations we went to last year: Cascade Lake & Redfish Lake. A new location we visited was Three River Crossing, where



pioneers traveling the Oregon Trail crossed the Snake River. My Dad and Mom were able to come and spend an afternoon with us twice.

This year has brought many reminders of how precious and fragile life is. We are saddened by the losses in our extended families of Uncle Neil, Aunt Flo, and cousins Sondra and Stephanie. They will be missed, but we put our hope in a great reunion that God has promised.

We have studied Hebrews together this year and wanted to pass on this thought:

Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let's not let it slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let's walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help.

Hebrews 4:14-16