



# News from the Blue Ridge



Claire & Lorin Cranford

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## Family Events:

The end of March brought a delightful visit from Dr. and Mrs. *Timothy Chen*. Timothy is a former MDiv student and now is head of the Biostatistics Section of the University of Maryland and professor in the Dept. of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine. His lovely wife, Meei-ming works as librarian at the National Library of Medicine at the NIH. These wonderful Christians have made significant contributions to the cause of Christ both here and in their native Taiwan. We had a delightful visit together and are looking forward to going to Potomac MD sometime this summer to visit with them.

*Good Friday* on Apr. 2 brought a very delightful experience. Two former students in the GOAL evening school are members of First United Methodist Church in Stanley, NC -- about 45 miles northeast of Boiling Springs. Their church presents an annual Easter Pageant to the community. *Paula Hammerly* invited us to attend and we were able to. The presentation was very impressive and quite well done. She and *Lynn King* were a part of the cast. This pageant made our Easter celebration extra meaningful.

The second weekend of April brought another visit from a former MDiv and PhD student, Dr. *Steve Harmon*. Steve ran in the Charlotte marathon on Sat. morning, then came over to spend the night with us. He teaches in the divinity school at Campbell University in the northeastern part of the state. The 26+ mile run was completed in just over 4 hrs by Steve. He was a bit sore and tired when he arrived about 4:00 pm Sat. So, what did we do? Took him to Chimney Rock for some sightseeing and dinner at Larkin's On The Lake in Lake Lure. He attended church with us Sunday morning before heading back home after lunch. The short time was a wonderful opportunity to visit and catch up on things. Soon after the end of the spring semester Steve plans to come back for a longer time of sightseeing in the Blue Ridge Mts.

The third weekend brought a devilishly delightful time to help "roast" a colleague. *Jack Partain*, Prof. of OT in our dept., retired last Dec. and the department hosted a dinner on Sat. evening, Apr. 17, in his honor. With some responsibility for planning the program I had the opportunity to secure the "services" of long time GWU colleagues, long time missionary friend Earl Martin, a childhood friend and Baylor college roommate, and two sons who took great delight in sharing some tales out of Jack's very colorful life. Jack has made a very significant contribution to Gardner-Webb and to God's kingdom over the years. We are already missing him in the dept. But he seems to be taking to the idea of retirement quite well with that very "relaxed" look on his face in occasional appearances in the office.

105 Twin Lake Drive  
Shelby, NC 28152-0660

**For all kinds of info about us as well as a PDF copy of this newsletter, check out our homepage *Cranfordville* at <http://www.shelby.net/cranford>**

Ph: 704 434-5657  
Fax: 704 434-5618  
e-mail: [cranford@shelby.net](mailto:cranford@shelby.net)



## University Happenings:

One of the by-products of getting more involved with computer technology is the growing responsibility of using it in the classroom and in reports to various faculty groups. For example, in the report on the distance learning conference in Orlando, I prepared the graph below to begin a Corel Presentation slide show as the basis of the report. Sound bites as attention grabbers (in German and French included) were attached to each slide.



A really neat aspect is the ability to create all kinds of graphics etc. for enhancing the teaching in the classroom. With GWU moving toward technologically equipped classrooms, the possibilities are enormous for enhancing teaching.

One innovation currently under testing comes from a recommendation of Bob Metcalfe, inventor of the Ethernet and founder of 3Com, in a Mar. 22 article of *InfoWorld*. Several companies are developing online PIMs (Personal Information Management software). I'm testing out setting up my personal calender with AnyDay.com on the internet. The company is working with me to develop ways of linking it up to Cranfordville and/or students enrolled in my GWU classes. Once we get it operational the students needing to set up an office conference with me can go directly to the web site any time day or night, request a conference time, receive a confirmation of its acceptance, then both they and I will automatically receive e-mail reminders in advance of the day of the appointment. For family members, you will be helped because I have set birthday/anniversary reminders automatically triggering an e-mail to me far enough in advance to get a card off to you on time. With over 30 such dates to remember in our immediate family, this should help keep Claire and I from being late getting cards etc. out to you.



## 😊 Claire's Musings

April 24, 1999

I can't believe I skipped a couple of months of writing my newsletter column. It's amazing how time flies. It seems to drag by so slowly during the day at school and races by when I am at home. Home is my favorite place to be and always has been. I think I'm just a home person at heart and am always wishing for more time to be there. It's nice, too, that Lorin and I both feel the same way. For the last year, though, we have both worked long hours at school and continued that at home. By the end of this school year we expect things to get a little easier.

We are really looking forward to our first trip back to Texas in July. We never intended to wait this long, it just happened that way. It will be difficult trying to visit with everyone, so we will probably have get together in groups as much as possible. We have missed some of the Texas restaurants and especially good Texas barbecue, so if we work it right we can visit and eat at the same time.

All I have done for the past eight months is "school". So I enjoyed spring break even more, which was the first week of April. I finally had a chance to unpack some more moving boxes and began organizing areas around our new home. It was fun and, of course, the week flew by much too fast. This summer I plan on not taking classes. At this point, I am ready to give up on my Masters degree. I will leave that to those who are younger. It's been quite a while since I took any time off during the summer. Besides our Texas trip, I plan on exploring the countryside around here. Anyone interested in exploring with me?

This school year has been extremely difficult for me, and I know I don't want to teach fourth grade again. I am much better with the younger ones. It has been an excellent learning experience for me and I believe I have become a better teacher for this experience. I will be looking around this summer for a teaching position with the lower elementary grades. Wish me luck!

This afternoon Lorin and I made our second shopping trip since we have moved here. He bought six shirts and two pairs of slacks in less than one-half hour. I just don't understand that. How can anyone shop for clothes and not try on anything? Needless to say when I shop I don't take him with me - it would absolutely drive him crazy.

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Subject: Bubba and Earl

Two rednecks, Bubba and Earl, were driving down the road drinking couple of bottles of Bud. The passenger, Bubba, said "lookey thar up ahead, Earl, it's a poll-ice roadblock!! We're gonna get busted fer drinkin' these here beers!!"

Don't worry, Bubba", Earl said. "We'll just pull over and finish drinkin' these beers, peel off the label and stick it on our foreheads, and throw the bottles under the seat".

"What fer?", asked Bubba.

"Just let me do the talkin', OK?", said Earl.

Well, they finished their beers, threw the empty bottles under the seat, and each put a label on their forehead. When they reached the roadblock, the sheriff said, "You boys been drinkin'?"

"No, sir", said Earl. "We're on the patch".



## ✌ Lorin's Musings

Several have commented on the helpfulness of the musings from April comparing the SBC and the CBF. Requests have been made to keep that material available for reference to students and others who might be interested. The article from the Texas edition of CBF news has now been posted in Cranfordville under Interesting Places & Info. In order to access just go to Cranfordville ([www.shelby.net/cranford](http://www.shelby.net/cranford)) then to Interesting Places, then to Information about Baptists. Direct access is via [www.shelby.net/cranford/cbf.htm](http://www.shelby.net/cranford/cbf.htm).



Summer vacation plans are falling into place for a trip back to Texas the first of July. Here is our tentative schedule, especially for friends and family in Texas:

- July 1, Thur*: leave NC and drive to Ark to spend the night
- July 2, Fri*: arrive at Bill & Beverly's in Tulsa, OK about noon
- July 3, Sat*: leave Tulsa in early afternoon and drive to Lynelle and John's in Rockwall, TX
- July 4, Sun*: spend day in Rockwall w. Lynelle & John
- July 5, Mon*: drive to Ruth and Billy Allen's in N. Richland Hills by noon  
Stay with Ruth and Billy -- Mon - Fri (817 838-3993)  
*During day, visit with friends and family at breakfast and noon times especially*
- July 6, Tue*: after lunch go to Mineral Wells to visit Nita
- July 7, Wed*: lunch with Harry Hunt; go to Birdville Church supper and Wed evening services
- July 8, Thur*: dinner with Chris, Charis & the kids
- July 9, Fri*: drive to College Station in afternoon to Greg and Jennifer's
- July 10, Sat*: spend day in College Station
- July 11, Sun am*: leave College Station for home in NC, spending night on road
- July 12, Mon*: arrive home in Boiling Springs in late afternoon.

We want to see as many people as possible during the trip. Let us know if you're going to be around during the week we're in Fort Worth. We would love to get together for lunch or breakfast.



Kevin and Sheila Griffith have shared their summer plans with us that are quite exciting. They are both finishing their PhD degrees at the University of Virginia (Sheila in NT; Kevin in OT). Kevin will return to Jerusalem again this summer to continue working on modern Hebrew skills as well as doing research, while Sheila has received a grant to spend the summer in Rome, Italy in an intensive Latin translation program that includes some oral skill development. Sheila has had two papers accepted for presentation next Nov in Boston at the national SBL meeting. Both Kevin and Sheila have had articles accepted for publication in the upcoming *Reader's Guide to Judaism* edited by Michael Terry. Way to go! I'm sort of a proud papa to these two exceptionally gifted young people. We have already "put the squeeze" on them to come to Boiling Springs at the end of the summer to share all their experiences.