



News from the Blue Ridge



Claire & Lorin Cranford
June, 1999

Volume 2

Issue 6



Family Events:

Here's an update on the July vacation plans as we anticipate getting together with various individuals when in the metroplex:

- 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)
family get-together in evening
During day, visit with friends and family at breakfast and noon times especially
- July 6, Tue:* Lorin: 10:00 am meet Bob Hedricks; after lunch go to Mineral Wells to visit Nita; Allen-Harris family get-together in evening
- July 7, Wed:* Lorin: 7:30 am breakfast with Mike Brinkley; lunch with Harry Hunt & Alan Brehm; go to Birdville Church supper and Wed evening services
- July 8, Thur:* dinner with Chris, Charis & the kids
- July 9, Fri:* Lorin: 7:30 am breakfast at Paris Coffee Shop with Bill Holt and Glynn Mathis
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.

The excitement about the trip is growing, even though we realize we will have but limited time to see as many as possible. The anticipation got a big boost with the news that Carrie, Angie and Clay will be coming out for a visit June 19-26. That will give us some quality time with the girls and grandson. Carrie has stayed in our new home, but Angie and Clay only saw an empty house at Christmas that might become our home. Their trip out is all the more exciting. Claire is already making special plans for that week.

With summer school beginning May 27, I have been working on the academic sections of Cranfordville spiffing them up with more materials available for the students. You may want to check them out. The two sections of New Testament intro were moved to a multi-media room in Hamrick for the summer term so that I could project illustrations etc. directly from both the web pages at Cranfordville and run a Corel Presentations program in the classroom directly from the computer in my office across campus. The ability to use more sophisticated audio-visual materials for teaching enhancement is quite satisfying.

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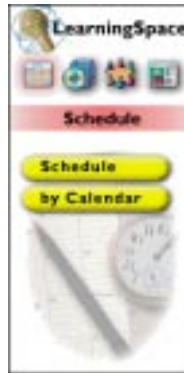
For all kinds of info about us as well as a PDF copy of this newsletter, check out our homepage [Cranfordville at http://www.shelby.net/cranford](http://www.shelby.net/cranford)

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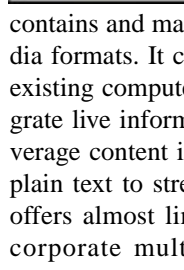


University Happenings:

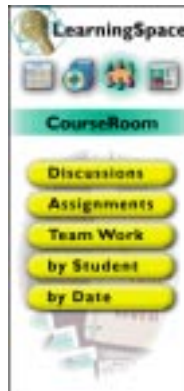
May has brought the commitment of GWU to use the Lotus *LearningSpace* software with Lotus Notes as the basis of the Online course program to be launched this fall. A first-class software system for this type of program, it will enable us to put up a top-notch set of course offerings during the beta phase of development during the academic year of 1999-2000. A short overview of the basics from the student's view:



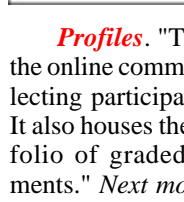
Schedule. "Acting like a road map, this module guides participants through the course assignments. It sets the objectives and expectations for all of the coursework and links participants to assignment resources, quizzes, surveys and self-assessments. Instructors can design courses that are organized by specific time frames or modules, allowing for flexible team-based or self-paced instruction."



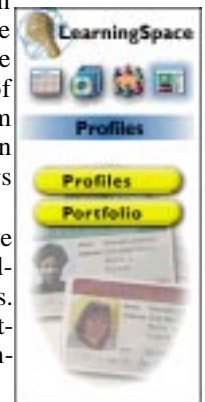
Media Center. "This shared knowledge-base contains and manages a wide variety of media formats. It can serve as a repository for existing computer-based training CDs, integrate live information from websites, or leverage content in a variety of formats from plain text to streamed video." This module offers almost limitless opportunities to incorporate multi-media materials into a course.



CourseRoom. "An interactive, facilitated environment that enables teams to work collaboratively on course assignments. By allowing participants to choose privacy levels, the CourseRoom supports multiple levels of communication within teams and with the instructor." This is the cyberspace equivalent of the on-ground classroom where interaction between students and professors takes place.



Profiles. "This database helps to create the online community and familiarity by collecting participant descriptions and photos. It also houses the participant's ongoing portfolio of graded assessments and assignments." *Next month, the prof's view.*





😊 Claire's Musings:

May, 1999

Well, I have survived my first year of teaching North Carolina fourth graders. It has been a true learning experience for me. One thing I learned was that I enjoy teaching the younger children much more. They tend to have less of an "attitude." I made some great friends at my school, but there will be a lot of changes next year. The last teaching day was May 31 and the last day of teacher "stuff" June 4. I started the year with new teacher meetings the last of July, 1998. It sure seems like the summers are getting shorter and shorter.

For those of you who e-mail me and wonder if I will ever e-mail back - honestly I will begin in about a week when I get my own new computer set up -- a Pentium III 500Mhz, 128Mg SDRAM with stereo sound, 32Mg video card, DVD etc.! I am looking forward to being able to use the Internet for my school work, too. I have had several computer classes and now will finally be able to put some of that knowledge to work.

Lorin and I have really been enjoying the weather recently. We have been able to leave the windows open for over two months and just enjoy the coolness. I kept thinking it would start getting hot, then I remembered that I was not still in Texas. I'm afraid I am becoming spoiled with the weather and all the beautiful trees and mountains. Sometimes it still seems like a dream. We recently purchased a patio set for our deck and now we can enjoy the outside even more. Memorial week-end began our outdoor grilling on the deck. Lorin planted a variety of flowers and plants in front of our front porch, it sure spruced up things considerably. The hanging baskets and two flower beds -- one with wild flowers -- are quite attractive. Two of our neighbors have been tempting Lorin by insisting he use their John Deere lawn mowers to mow our yard.

I am excited about the end of the school year. I am anxious to finish up arranging our "stuff" in our home. I can't wait to start roaming the countryside and take pictures of old barns and quaint country homes. I haven't had much time recently to read (for fun) or to crochet. The two months will go quickly, but I intend to enjoy every moment I can.

One of the most exciting things, including our trip back to Texas, is that Carrie, Angie, and Clay will be coming to visit us for about a week the last of June. We are so excited and can hardly wait. Lorin will get to listen to the three of us giggle a lot. The girls and I tend to do a lot of that when we are together. We have so much fun together and with Clay it is even better. I miss them and family and friends so much.

I want to see as many of you as I can when we are in Texas and hope that we can get together in groups. See you soon !!



✌ Lorin's Musings:

From the ABP comes a helpful set of suggestions regarding e-mail hoaxes and how to spot them:

CUPERTINO, Calif. (ABP) -- Charles Hymes, senior human-factors engineer with Hewlett-Packard Co., and an authority on Internet hoaxes, offers these tips for spotting an e-mail hoax on his Web site (www.nonprofit.net/hoax/).

☞ *If you get a message that asks you to send it to lots of other people, or perhaps everyone in your address book, don't send it unless you know personally that the message is true.* "The more urgent it sounds, the more skeptical you should be."

☞ *If you really want to forward a message, check with the originator.* "This is the best way to tell a hoax or prank. Just reply to the first sender, and ask them if it is true. If they can't tell you, then don't send it."

☞ *Beware of old hoaxes that keep making the rounds.* Common examples are the Neiman-Marcus cookie-recipe story, the plea for the child who wants to receive postcards before he dies, the kidney-theft story and various warnings about computer viruses that purportedly will destroy your system if you open a certain e-mail message.

For more information on e-mail hoaxes, visit the "Urban Legends" Web site at www.miningco.com.

On Friday, May 14, our department surprised Alice Cullinan with a "retirement party." Alice is "retiring" as department chair after serving two terms. Ron Williams will assume the chairmanship of the department this summer. We all had a delightful time at lunch. Each of us as well as GWU owes an enormous debt to Alice for the marvelous way she has led the department over these years. Her organizational skills and quiet persuasion have guided our dept. into a top notch department and has laid the foundations for a very, very bright future for us.

May has also brought to a climax the search for a replacement for Jack Partain who retired in December, but continues to do adjunct teaching for us. Two outstanding young Old Testament professors are to begin in the fall: Paula Qualls is coming from Cambellsville University in Kentucky, and Joel Burnett, fresh from finishing his PhD this May at Johns Hopkins University and earlier an MDiv at Princeton, is beginning his teaching career with us. Both are Hebrew specialists, and Joel is already on the national SBL program next November in Boston with a paper presentation. We are elated at having these two outstanding young professors on board to help relieve the teaching load. One can feel the excitement in our department as we move toward curriculum expansion and ever growing academic standards in our program.

For information about the online MDiv course on 1/2 Thessalonians go to GWU's divinity school web page, <http://www.gardner-webb.edu/GWU/main/Divinity/divinitypages/distlearning.htm> or DSNT401D at Cranfordville. A special student status is possible for those not enrolling for degree credit.