

KENNETH EDWARD BLUNCK AND MARY ISABEL COOK BLUNCK

On a hot summer day almost 70 years ago Henry C. Blunck hurried off to find Rosie Selck who was the midwife that delivered a baby boy to Henry and Hattie at Herbert, Idaho on July 1, 1911. The baby boy was Kenneth Edward Blunck.

We had to make our own fun in those days. There were not many toys to play with so we made them out of anything we could find. One day when Mother and Dad went to town leaving us boys to home, (George, Bill, Leo, Rulon and I) Leo took me down and shaved off my hair and eye-brows! Boy! Was Mother angry when she saw me!

We plowed, planted the seed, and pulled the harvester with horses; all farm work was done by horses and men. We had 21 head of horses and had to run them to Moody Creek to water. It took all summer to summer-fallow. We had milk cows. The last one we had Rulon had to milk. Mother had chickens every color of the rainbow.

We went barefoot and our feet got so tough we could run in the thistles and not feel them. When anyone came we hid behind the cellar. One summer Dad took all the boys but me to camp. I stayed home with Mother. I rode a horse down to the creek and caught more fish than they did. Mother sure bragged me up.

Herbert had Fourth of July celebrations up in the timber. I was riding a horse behind Leo. My horse bit his horse on the back leg and his horse kicked my leg which is still scarred today.

They had dances over at Herbert Church and sometimes they lasted a long time, so they put the children to sleep on the benches. Leo and I used to collect all the stray dogs and make dog teams out of them to pull a wagon we had made.

It sure was fun when we got a tractor and model T Ford. I worked for Dave Davis on his dry farm, Orville Jeppeson on his dry farm a summer and fall. I worked for Uncle Joe Johanson in the fall in potatoes. I worked for the forest service spraying trees for beetles. I worked with a team and wagon on W.P.A. for \$5.00 a day.

In the spring of 1937 I went down to Leo's in Menan and they had this girl that lived across the road come over. I saw her off and on during that fall and winter as I lived with Leo and Irene. All the neighbors had a hand in seeing both of us were included in the get-togethers and dances.

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Mary Isabel Cook Blunck was born November 7, 1916 at Salt Lake City, Utah. In those days it was Winder Ward out in the county. My mother told me it was election day and it was a stormy day. The family moved to Menan, Idaho in February, 1917. I promptly caught chicken pox as Uncle Ed Gunderson's children had them. We stayed at Uncle Ed's and Grandpa and Grandma Gunderson's while getting furniture and livestock, which was shipped by train to Menan, across the Snake River on the ice as there was no bridge.

We moved to a farm west of the Menan Buttes. The log house consisted of two rooms with dirt roof and dirt roofed porch. We lived there until I was 12 years old. We moved to the home site where my brother, Walter, now lives.

I remember going to Rexburg in horse and buggy with Mother to shop. She drove the team and I watched along the road to see all the

flowers, birds, and rock chucks. The road was west of the Menan Buttes and we came into Rexburg on the west side of town. It was a long, lonely ride and Rexburg with its trees and green lawns was beautiful to see after the dry, dusty, and sandy road.

We did not see many people and when they did come to visit I hid under the table that was covered by a cloth that hung to the floor. Tramps came up the canal from Roberts. They stopped at our place for food and slept in the barn in the manger on the hay. Their feet were wrapped in gunny sacks, and their clothes were raggy and dirty.

We walked two miles to catch the bus that was to take us to school. This bus was a horse drawn wagon with a covered box with a back door and two doors in front with glass windows where the driver sat to drive the team, and benches on each side where the students sat. In the winter we went in canvas covered sleighs. Five miles is cold in a sleigh. We had quilts to cover us to help keep us warm but it did not do much for cold feet.

We did not have electricity. We used lamps and lanterns. I helped to do all chores and all other things on the farm.

In the spring of 1937 one bright spring day, Irene called and said to come over, she had something to show me which turned out to be Ken. I do not think he was much impressed. That fall he came to live with Leo and Irene. During the winter all the neighbors included both of us in the get-togethers which included card parties, dances, and such.

Ken took me to Rexburg to meet his father and sisters. His father was not there but I met his younger sisters and they were beautiful girls. Bill and Ruth and Lula and Dean were there and seemed real nice too. Ken and I were married September 30, 1938 by Ken's uncle, Bishop Joseph Johanson, at Egin, Idaho. In June 1940 we went to the temple in Salt Lake City and were sealed.

I topped beets for Bill and Lee Clark that fall after we were married. We lived in a small trailer house parked on the south side of my parents home. We had an electric cord strung from a light socket in the house to the trailer house for a light and to run a small radio. Our heat was a small stove, which I also cooked and baked on. That winter when we would awaken icicles could be seen hanging from the ceiling.

In the spring we moved to the dry farm and set the trailer house up there. We hauled water from Lyman Creek to wash on the board. The wash water came in a 500 gallon container and the drinking water was hauled in 10 gallon cans. When the weather got warm we moved the trailer house down in the grove of trees. That fall Ken got a job on the railroad. We stayed in cabins at Caldwell, Nampa and Boise. Some of the time I had to stay with the folks. In the spring we went back to the farm and followed this pattern for a couple of years.

On May 7, 1942 a beautiful baby girl arrived. We named her Mary Ellen. She was blessed by Grandpa Blunck. We went up to the farm in this little trailer house with our new baby. As before when the weather got warm we moved the trailer house down in the grove of trees. One night in a pit that Ken had dug to put vegetables in we heard a rattle snake. With me holding the flash light, Ken shot the rattle snake with his 22 rifle. He went to get a pitch fork to pick up the snake and another snake let him know he was there so the process was repeated. Next morning when I opened the door to throw out the bath water a buzzing sound let me know another snake was curled up practically on my door step. I quickly shut the door and waited for a while then I opened the door and the snake had crawled to the back of the trailer so I picked up Ellen with one arm and broom in the other I made it to the car and drove up to the house. Leo went down to see and he came

Lionel Mark Durtschi 4 September 1968

Started Jr. High this past year. He is an honor student and Star Scout. He loves sports, especially football.

Lane David Durtschi 12 December 1971

A third grader where his favorite subject is art. He won 1st place in a poster contest. He loves cub scouts and fishing.

Lance Allan Durtschi 4 December 1973

Enjoying 1st grade. He is learning to read but thinks recess is the best part of school. His dream at the moment is to own a pair of roller skates.

Mary Margaret Durtschi 19 October 1975

Wants to be able to go to school. She would rather play football than dolls. (Mother waited all those years for a girl!)

Mary Malinda Durtschi 14 August 1977

A three year old who loves being a girl, plays with dolls and loves her kitten.

Lynn Spencer Durtschi 3 October 1978

A typical two year old trying hard to grow up but still demanding a lot of attention. His favorite thing at the moment is playing trucks and cars.

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Peggy Jo Blunck Meyer 15 February, 1944

Peggy is married to Jack Warren Meyer, Jr. and they live at 536 Ashmont Road, Madison, South Dakota 57042. (phone 605-256-4700) Jack works for A.H. Meyer & Sons Honey Farms. Besides beekeeping they have various businesses

related to the beekeeping business. For the last two years he has been the President of the National Honey Producers and is now on the Board of Directors.

Jack is the Branch President of the Madison Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He is a member of the Scout committee of Troop 255 of the St. Johns Lutheran Church. He belongs to the local Karate club and is presently a 2nd KYU brown belt.

Peggy is a housewife and keeps generally busy. She teaches in Relief Society and Primary. She has group of eleven little girls in a Bluebird group. (Campfire)

Kenneth Henry Meyer 14 December 1966

Will be a freshman in high school. (1981-82) He does well in school. He has participated in basketball and DeClam. His interests include chess, belonging to the United States Chess Federation, Scouts, and Karate. He is presently a 2nd KYU Brown Belt.

Laura Jean Meyer 7 November 1968

Will be a 7th grader, plays the piano, recently called as the Branch organist, plays the clarinet also. She participates in basketball, track, and Karate and likes gymnastics. She is a straight A student.

Melissa Meyer 6 July 1970

Will be in the 6th grade, plays the piano, and bass clarinet. Plays basketball, participates in track and belongs to the Karate Club. She is the Primary secretary and leads the music in church.

Anndrea Meyer 17 April 1972

Will be in the 4th grade. Plays the piano well, and is called as the Branch assistant organist. She likes to sing. She likes to go to school. She likes to play and ride her bike.

Geraldine Meyer 19 May 1973

Will be in the 3rd grade. She likes the piano. She also likes to

be in plays. She likes playing with her friends, riding her bike, and going to school. She belongs to the Sunny Bluebird group.

Alice Meyer 4 December 1974

Will be in the 1st grade. She has enjoyed school so far, likes playing with her friends.

Dorothy Deanne Meyer 15 May 1976

Will be in kindergarten which she is looking forward to. She likes to go to the library story time for pre-schoolers.

Karen Marie Meyer 27 December 1977

As a three year old she is only interested in running, playing, swinging, etc. She likes story time also.

Jonathan Blunck Meyer 12 November 1979

1 year old. Just discovered the out-of-doors this year. Likes to play in the sandbox.

Salley Jo Meyer 27 October 1980

6 months old. Likes to sleep, eat and play with her crib playthings.

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Louise Blunck Benson 19 November 1952

Married George H. Benson, October 4, 1973. We live in Lyman, Idaho an area south of Rexburg. We attend Lyman 1st Ward of the Rexburg Idaho East Stake. George holds the position of a Seventy. He really enjoys missionary work and is thankful to be involved with it. George has a contracting business in which he contracts electrical, building construction, concrete, and insulation work. We feel very blessed as George has always had a good continuance of work. The last year he has had to travel a great deal because his work has taken him out of the Rexburg area. As everyone, we feel our greatest assets are our children. They bring us our happiness and joy! We hope we can bring

them up pleasing to the Lord. I am very proud of the heritage that I have. I can not give enough thanks to my parents for the help they have given us.

Adrienne Benson 7 August 1974

She attends 1st grade at Lyman School. She has a wonderful teacher that has helped her extremely alot. She loves school. She does well in math. She likes to play baseball, do gymnastics and all kinds of physical activities.

Danielle Benson 23 January 1976

She is age 5 and waiting impatiently to go to kindergarten. She is a big help at home, playing with the younger children at home. She is quick to learn new things.

Jessica Benson 25 March 1977

She is age 4. She wants to be as big as her sisters and has a hard time coping. She likes to be the funny one. She is our only brown-eyed child.

Lyndi Benson 7 September 1978

She is age 2. She is a very good little girl. Has always seemed to be able to keep herself occupied. Likes to be as big as the rest, also.

Quinn George Benson 4 November 1980

He is 6 months old. Our only BOY! Gets an extreme amount of attention. He is very good natured and already has both grandmas wrapped around his little finger!