

THE NORRIS NEWS

Volume 10

9490 Norris Lake Rd. NW, Nowthen MN 55330, (763) 441-3444

2014

April Showers?



"They" say "April showers bring May flowers." What does April snow bring? It looks like it brings a Bonnie to the rescue. This is a picture of Bonnie shoveling snow back on April 17th. All of the snow was new and Bonnie loves to get out in the snow.

Several years back, Warren and Arthur prepared acorns to be used to make pancakes. Not to be outdone, Bonnie and Arthur collected acorns in the fall and like a couple squirrels, saved them for spring. Barbara mixed up some pancake batter and added in the acorns.



Bonnie Appleseed



Bonnie has made several attempts to grow her own tree from seed. Nothing seemed to take root until this June when an apple seed was planted and started to grow. By fall, the tree was about a foot tall. Bonnie is looking



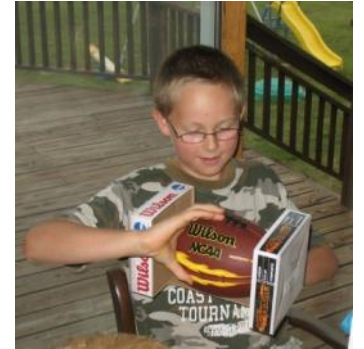
forward to planting her new apple tree out in the yard this spring.

Bonnie's gardening powers do not stop at apple trees. She grew a huge sunflower in her garden along with carrots, peas, corn, and marigolds. In her spare time, she raised a couple caterpillars into butterflies.



10-6 Stand By

Bonnie turned 6 in July with **HOT PINK** cake and Warren turned 10 in August with coconut cake.



Now that Bonnie is 6, she is doing many of the things that Warren is doing. Warren played baseball and Bonnie soccer in corner league. Arthur was asked to lead the younger baseball boys. He declined and took an assistant coaching position with the older boys upon Warren's request.

Warren completed third grade this spring and started fourth grade this fall. Bonnie is following in Warren's footsteps and started kindergarten this fall. She wasn't sure how she would like it. It didn't take long to find that she loves it!





This fall, Warren and Bonnie are both in the AWANA program at church. Warren is in T&T and Bonnie is starting out AWANA with the Sparks. They both seem to enjoy themselves and have great leaders. Warren seems to have about half of the Bible memorized. Bonnie has made a great start by memorizing many verses.

Nowthen Threshing Show

The family spent a day at the Nowthen Threshing show. We rode the train, watched the blacksmiths, saw rope making, wool spinning, small engines, large engines, small tractors, HUGE STEAM TRACTION ENGINES! and even this busted old car...



What is an adventure?

Warren had been bugging Arthur to go on an adventure since last summer. The hardest part seemed to be defining what an adventure was. Exploring around in the backyard or in the neighboring woods just wasn't enough.

They had to go somewhere, stay overnight, cook over an open flame, do new and exciting stuff! You know, an **Adventure!**

With camping gear and food supplies pack, Warren and Arthur head up north to St. Cloud. Their first stop was an orchestra reunion party at Arthur's orchestra teacher's house (they have a pool!). Much food was consumed, a little bit of chatting, and they both

wrinkled up into prunes by staying in the pool too long.

Then it was down to Clearwater where our adventurers set up camp in the wilds (also known as Dennis and Tammy's back yard). They hiked around the woods and found a good spot to make camp. They built a fire, cooked beans in a can, hot dogs on a stick, and even roasted corn on the cob which turned out great!



After sunset, our adventurers made their way to Warner Lake for even more swimming. Eventually they came back to camp and got some Zs.

In the morning, they struck camp and headed up to Lake Mille Lacs with Dennis and Tammy to do some sailing. After a slight rainstorm delay, Warren piloted the sailing boat out to a nice spot for more, yes more, swimming.

Warren and Arthur went on another adventure around Labor Day. They were invited to what they hope was the first annual fathers and kids outing. It was hosted by a friend from church at his 320 acre farm. They hiked, camped, cooked out, played, 4 wheeled, and Warren got to shoot a real gun for the first time. He did a great job. He loved shooting the cowbell with the semi-automatic .22, Pow! Ding! Pow! Ding! Pow! Ding! Pow! Ding! Pow! Ding! Pow! Ding!

It was a cold night camping out. Arthur and Warren were able to stay dry and warm in Arthur's 32 year old Diamond Brand tent.

They had a great time. That is why they hope it was the first **annual** event so they can do it again next year.



Meeting Uncle Ine & Aunt Kathy

Arthur's Uncle Ine (AKA Warren A. Cox) and Aunt Kathy were in St. Cloud for a short visit. Warren and Bonnie were sprung from school to go up on a Monday to meet them.



Many hours were spent looking at each other's tablets where the digital world brings young and not quite as young together.

The Football Player and The Cat



With a last minute idea, Warren turned himself into a football player for Halloween whereas Bonnie had been planning her cat costume for at least two months. She is good at getting ahead of the holidays. She even wrapped Christmas presents so far in advance that she forgot what was even in them!



Pumpkin carving resulted in two great Jack-O-Lanterns. Can you figure out which one was Bonnie's and which was Warren's? Arthur helped scoop out the goo and converted the pumpkin seeds into a delicious snack.

After Halloween, Barbara converted the Jack-O-Lanterns into several bags of pumpkin, some of which has been turned into pie already. The rest was frozen for future use in bread, pancakes, etc....

Violin

Warren is still playing the violin. We had him sized this summer and he moved up from a 1/2 size to a full size violin. He likes the new violin and plays well on it. At his recent recital, he went up to play his piece, O Come O Come Emmanuel, and didn't use his music. He was the only one that night who played without music.

Oh I'm a lumberjack...

One of Arthur's summer projects is to collect dead trees for use in our wood stove. Warren and Bonnie helped with this project by carrying logs out of the woods and loading them into the trailer.

In the fall, Arthur rented a log splitter for a full day and split wood from 9 in the morning until 7 or so at night when it got too dark to continue.



He was unable to get all the wood split, so he has some work to do.

In addition to coaching baseball, watching Warren play basketball, and playing lumberjack, Arthur is still working at Adestinn. He has been able to play some basketball at church on Wednesdays after Warren and Bonnie are done with AWANA. He was able to bruise some of his ribs the first night which took about two months to heal.

Happy holidays to all!

*Arthur, Barbara,
Warren, & Bonnie*