

My  
Retirement Years  
2000-2020

By  
Douglas  
Mackenzie  
Scribner



*So, what does a person do when they retire? Yes, of course, we decided to travel and went to visit my brother Steve on the East Coast.*



Family  
names  
wherever  
we went.



*Another trip was to Hawaii. Robert and Christy had moved there so Rob could attend BYU Hawaii. So we decided we should visit them.*



Beaches  
near BYU.

*This was just a warm-up for a cruise we took with Steve and Mary to Tahiti. It was amazing and we loved it, but one cruise was enough.*



Cruise to Tahiti with Steve & Mary



*The year 2000/2001 was also a time of special events. Scott graduated from UVSC and Gina graduated from BYU. We also got to visit Spencer at Cal Poly. The most important event of all was Jim's marriage to Stephanie Miller in the Oakland Temple. It was sacred!*



Spencer at Cal Poly



Gina at BYU



Jim and Stephanie  
at the  
Oakland Temple



*The year 2002 brought a major change in our lives! The Apostle Dallin Oaks was coming to our April Stake Conference to release our Stake Presidency and call a new one to replace us. After the Saturday evening session, Elder Oaks came to our home and stayed overnight. Before retiring we had a wonderful personal visit and he recounted how he met his current wife after his first wife died. It was a memorable evening.*



President  
Smith

President  
Scribner

President  
Daley

We had served together for  
many years.

***A personal letter of appreciation from Elder Dallin Oaks.***

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS  
THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES  
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

April 22, 2002

President and Mrs Douglas M Scribner  
3153 Montecito Meado Dr  
Santa Rosa CA 95404

Dear President and Sister Scribner:

Back in my office, I have sweet memories of my visit with you and the leadership and membership of the Santa Rosa California Stake. I was deeply impressed with the receptive attitude of the members of your stake and with the good spirit I felt in our meetings. Please express my appreciation to all who assisted with the many details of the conference weekend.

It was a delight to be with you in your home and to meet the wonderful members of your family. Thank you also for the delicious meals.

President Scribner, I want to take this opportunity to express my commendations for all that you have done these past nine years to bless the lives of the saints in the Santa Rosa California Stake. You are well loved and highly respected. The saints will never forget the things you have done to strengthen their testimonies and to bless their lives.

You and your family have my best wishes in all that you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dallin H. Oaks", written in a cursive style.

Dallin H. Oaks



*During this period of time I tried two different types of part-time employment. Neither one worked out very well. The first was a consulting company (LLC). I figured that with all my experience in manufacturing management I could be a consultant in that field. I created a company named “TechZecs” but it never really caught hold.*



<p><b>Douglas M. Scribner</b> Group Manufacturing Manager Microwave &amp; Communications Instruments</p>	 <b>HEWLETT PACKARD</b>
<hr/> <p>Hewlett-Packard Company 1412 Fountaingrove Parkway Santa Rosa, California 95403 707 577 4735</p>	

<p><i>TechZecs, LLC</i></p>	<p><b>Douglas M. Scribner</b> Principal</p>
<p>3153 Montecito Meadow Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Cell Phone: 707.975.4323 Home Phone: 707.526.6219 Email: doug_scribner@techzecs.com <a href="http://techzecs.com">http://techzecs.com</a></p>	

	<p><b>Agilent Technologies</b></p>
<p>Innovating the HP Way</p>	
<p><b>Douglas M. Scribner</b> Agilent Year 2000 Product Program Manager</p>	
<p>Agilent Technologies, Inc. 1400 Fountaingrove Parkway MS 3LSM Santa Rosa, California 95403</p>	<p>707 577 4735 telepho 707 577 2104 facsimil doug_scribner@agiler www.agilent.com</p>

*The second endeavor was to be a substitute high school teacher in the field of mathematics. I did this several times until I learned an important lesson. If a substitute teaches for a long enough period to give an examination, they are then respected by the students. However if they only substitute for a short period in the classroom they have no respect at all from the students.*

## *A Mission Call*

*In June 2003 we received a phone call from Elder Charles Didier. He asked, "Would you consider serving a two year mission as directors of a Temple Visitors Center?" He mentioned several locations which would need new directors starting in January 2004. One of them was New Zealand. We felt a strong spiritual impression and I responded, "Elder Didier, Cecile and I have both served missions in Australia and have a great love for the people in that part of the world."*

*We didn't hear any more until the end of August. Elder Didier then informed us that the First Presidency and the Council of the Twelve Apostles had called us to serve in the New Zealand Auckland Mission as Directors of the Visitors Center at Temple View, Hamilton, New Zealand. We were to report to the Provo, Utah MTC on 12 January 2004 and leave for New Zealand on January 17.*



	<p><b>President Dirk Smibert</b> <b>Sister Kerry Ann Smibert</b></p> <p><u>Home Address</u> P.O. Box 7221 East Brisbane QLD 4162 Australia (07) 3392 - 0288</p>
<p><b>New Zealand Auckland Mission</b></p>	<p>dirkerry@yahoo.com.au July 2002 - July 2005</p>

We were called to serve under the direction of President Dirk Smibert and his wife, Australians



*The Visitors Centre was directly across from the New Zealand Temple, which was the first Temple built in this part of the world. It was done under the direction of President David O. McKay, and was truly the "Gold" at the end of the rainbow.*

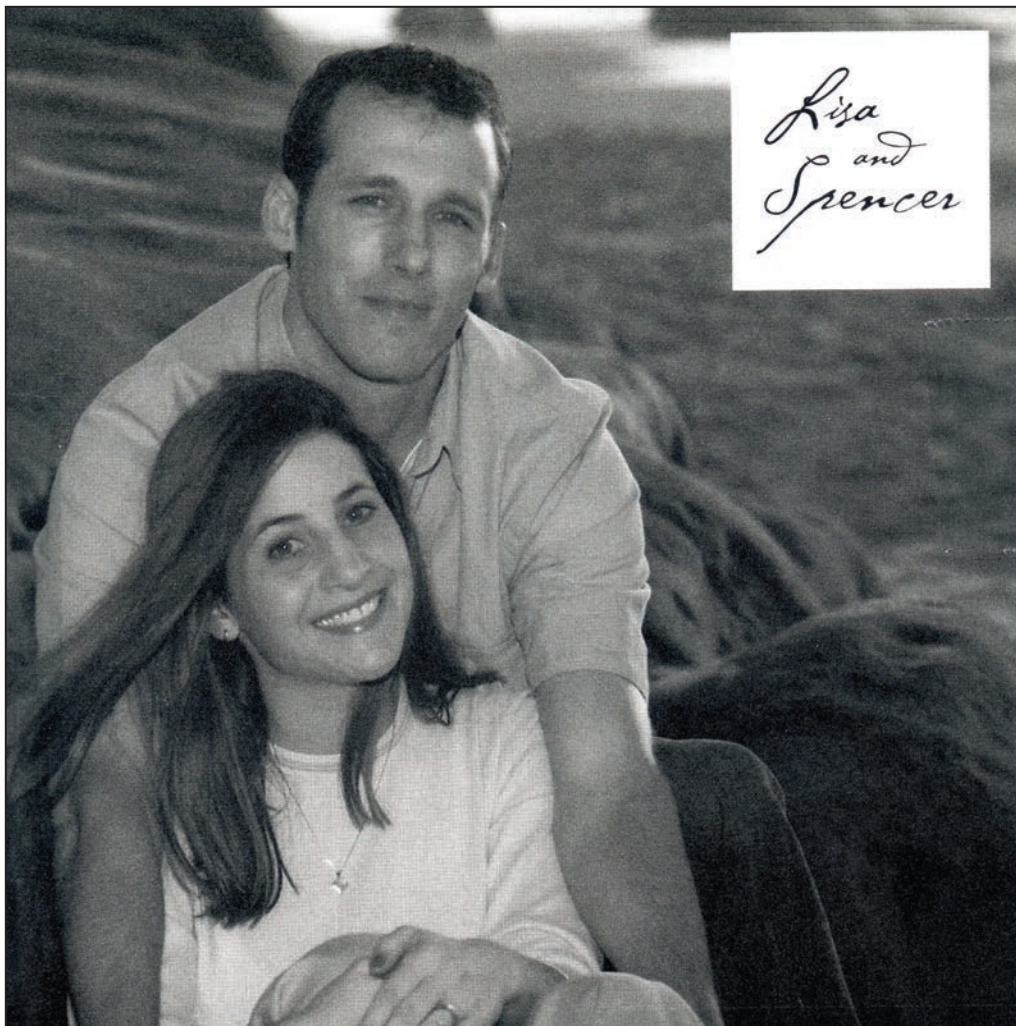
There were no tour buses coming to the Visitors Centre.



Most of those coming were temple patrons.



*An exciting event that occurred in May of 2004 was our son Spencer's wedding to Lisa Marie Castro. They had met as students at Cal Poly University and had fallen in love. The wedding was held in the Catholic Church in Pleasanton, California. I felt that my responsibilities at the Visitors Centre were so great that I could not attend the wedding but Cecile was able to go. She left New Zealand on May 17 and returned on May 26. Scott designed the invitation for them.*



*When Cecile returned she brought Lora with her. Lora wanted to serve a mission and had submitted her papers to the Santa Rosa Stake President, Perry Bingham. She stayed with us until her call came on 26 June 2004 to serve in the Texas Fort Worth Mission. She was to report at the Provo MTC on August 4.*



*Cecile and I had a wonderful set of missionaries assigned to the Visitors Centre. Some were full time couples and others were local part time couples and older single Sisters. We also had at least two fulltime Sister Missionaries who were temporarily assigned to us and would then return to other locations. We became attached to every one of them.*



*Some of the full-time sisters were local while others had come from America & Australia.*

**Sister Katie Mill**  
**Mission Address**  
 NZ Auckland Mission  
 P.O. Box 33840, Takapuna  
 Auckland, NEW ZEALAND  
**Home Address**  
 3060 Indigo Circle North  
 Fort Collins, CO 80528  
 U.S.A.  
 Email: [katiebmill@hotmail.com](mailto:katiebmill@hotmail.com)



**Sister Kristina Northgrave**  
 NZ Auckland Mission  
 P.O. Box 33840,  
 Takapuna, Auckland,  
 NEW ZEALAND  
**Home Address**  
 4276 Westbrook Drive  
 Bartlett, Tennessee 38135  
 U.S.A.  
 Email: [knorthgrave@yahoo.com](mailto:knorthgrave@yahoo.com)





*With such wonderful missionaries at the Visitors Centre, the question was “How do we get more people to come here?” We did set up a series of Sunday evening firesides but this wasn’t enough. We felt the answer might be a pageant celebrating the 150 year history of the Church in New Zealand. Since Cecile had produced a similar pageant in California, we felt it could be done again here.*

*She wrote a script and we sent it to the Area Presidency for approval. We changed a few things at their request to make it fit a broader scope of cultures in New Zealand and not be “too Maori.” A director was called named Sheryl Butters. She was a daughter of Mihi Strother who had been brought into the Church by Grandma Delma and her husband Leroy Bott.*

*We had difficulty working with Sheryl because she wanted a much longer pageant. So we compromised and it went on for four nights in September 2004 at the Hamilton City Theater with a cast of about 400. In the end over 4,000 people attended and were inspired by the show.*

**Sesquicentennial Pageant**



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE  
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN NEW ZEALAND

*Legacy of Faith*



**Founders Theatre - Hamilton, 7:30pm**  
**Tuesday - Thursday 28-30th September**  
**Tickets \$4.00 at Temple Visitors' Centre**  
**Phone 07 847 8601**

A Multi-stake Cultural Event, assisted by **Hamilton City**  
Making a Difference



*Scenes from the Pageant*



THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

NEW ZEALAND  
AUCKLAND MISSION  
PO Box 33-840, Takapuna  
Auckland, New Zealand  
Phone 0-9-488 2351  
Fax 0-9-488 2373

October 1, 2004

Dear Elder and Sister Scribner,

We are writing to express to you both our hearty congratulations for all you have done to make the Sesquicentennial Pageant, "Legacy of Faith", such an outstanding success.

From preparing the script, all the way through to the final production, you have both demonstrated and epitomized a "legacy of faith".

Every aspect of the production was not only a quality performance, but also embodied and reflected the objectives of the Brethren who have asked for a season of celebration. Indeed it portrayed so well how the influence of the gospel has united and blessed each and every culture represented here in New Zealand – the dominant culture being the gospel culture.

We recognize many of the challenges you have faced and faithfully overcome. You have been so generous in sharing all you have in time and talents to assist this great work. Many lives have been touched and strengthened as a result of the pageant, both member and non-member. We have heard praises from far and wide. Just today, one missionary told us over the phone that after taking his investigators to the pageant, he was able to set a baptismal date with them the following night as a direct result of the spirit they felt there. That was just one isolated experience but representative of many.

Words cannot express the gratitude and love we have for you. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do.

Love,



President and Sister Smibert

*Two major things happened in our family during October 2004. Lora arrived in Texas to serve her mission. Her mission president and his wife were brother and sister Crockett. They were pleased to learn that we were in New Zealand because he served his first mission in the Hamilton and Temple View area. He knew many of the people here, especially Rangi Parker who helped us with the pageant.*



Lora in Fort Worth  
with President and  
Sister Crockett.

*The other family concern was the passing of my brother Ken. He was on Oxygen and was suffering so it was a blessing for him and for his wife Doreen. Fortunately I had communicated with Ken shortly before he died so I could express my love and concern.*

Ken and  
Doreen  
a month  
before he  
died.





*A Visitor Centre missionary with a special story was Sister Enna Taulanga from Tonga. Her father and mother were not members of the Church and her father left the family when she was nine years old. He moved to Auckland, New Zealand to live. Enna and her mother later joined the Church and eventually Enna was called on a mission to serve in the Auckland Mission.*

*I received a phone call from President Arthur of the Tamaki Stake in Auckland to say that Sister Taulanga's father was then investigating the Church and was coming on a Stake bus excursion to the Temple and the Visitors Centre. He asked if I could arrange for <sup>him</sup> to meet his daughter. We had Sister Taulanga bear her testimony and then she was allowed to embrace her father. It was a tender mercy.*



<p><b>Sister E. Taulanga</b> NZ Auckland Mission P.O. Box 33840, Takapuna, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND <b>Home Address</b> Kanokupolu Hihifo, Tongatapu TONGA IS. Email: enna_g03@yahoo.com</p>	
---	--

*Sister Taulanga and  
her companion,  
Sister Hales.*

*After leaving the Visitors Center Sister Taulanga was transferred to Auckland and was actually able to witness her father's baptism. Cecile and I were also privileged to attend that baptism service.*



*The question was, "What should we do now that the Pageant is over?" I had been researching the life of the Prophet Joseph Smith, especially from his mother's account. I took extensive notes and when Cecile read them she said, "I could write a Reader's Theater from those notes. So, that is what we did! Each of the five performances were held in the Visitors Centre and drew large crowds. Through the windows the audience could see the beauty of the Temple behind the actors. Each cast came from many different cultures but they were excellent in their part. It was a bit like "Just-In-Time" production because we would be writing the next script while performing the one before it.*

*History of early Church  
presented in New Zealand*



**HISTORICAL**

Through hymns and words from prominent members, taken from journals and early histories of the Church, performers in New Zealand present readers' theater about life of Joseph Smith.

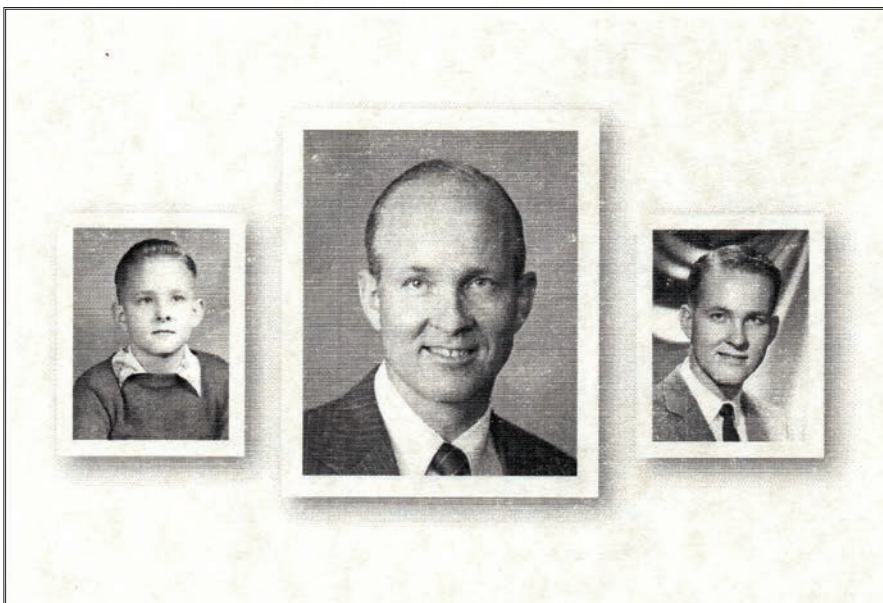
After a visit to South Island, we returned home.



*In the year we returned home there were several funerals of friends and family members. One who died before we reached home was Cecile's nephew, Ron Hirschi. He was the victim of an accident who was riding his bicycle when he was hit by a truck. It seemed that he was much too young to be taken away.*

*In addition Cecile's sister-in-law Lorna James passed away. Then, in Santa Rosa our Tongan friend Seteki Fakalata suddenly died. He was only 50 years old and was a counselor in the Stake Presidency. Then he was followed by our friend Jack Hershey who we had first known in Los Altos and then had also moved to Santa Rosa.*

*The biggest surprise came when our friend Reed Ogden died. He had been the Santa Rosa Stake President whom I replaced. We had known Reed and Beverly when we were at BYU and he was on the Honor Council. Reed had been seriously injured in an automobile accident in 1993 a few months after he was released and though he lived another 13 years, he had never fully recovered. They were living in Alpine, Utah when he passed away. Following the funeral Beverly held an open-house for old Santa Rosa friends who had also moved to Utah. We were there even though we had not yet moved.*



Reed  
Watson  
Ogden.



*One person at Beverly Ogden's open-house following Reed's funeral was Amy Schulz Johnson who lives in Beverly's ward. I was Amy's Bishop when she joined the church in 1978. Then in 1980 she was called to serve a mission in England. Her father, cartoonist Charles Schulz (of Peanuts fame) came and spoke at her mission farewell. On her mission Amy met Elder Johnson. They were attracted to each other so when his mission was over he wrote to Amy and proposed marriage. Her mission president released her early so she could go home to be married. They then lived in Alpine with their nine children.*





*While we were living in New Zealand Gina was living in our rental house in Santa Rosa. However, after she remarried the house was too small for them all. So, in April 2006 she held a final party at the house and they moved into a larger home in Windsor, California. The rental had tripled in value while we were gone and we did not want to pay the capital gain tax. So we decided to purchase a place in Utah on a “1031 Exchange.” Since we were selling a rental the requirement was that the place we purchased also had to be a rental for at least two years.*

*When we discovered the home in Elk Ridge, the owner agreed to sell it to us and that he would rent it back for at least one year. Then we had to find another renter for the second year. In that second year we didn’t rent the basement apartment so we were able to stay in it when we came to visit.*



*Elk Ridge House  
(Approved by all our  
children)*

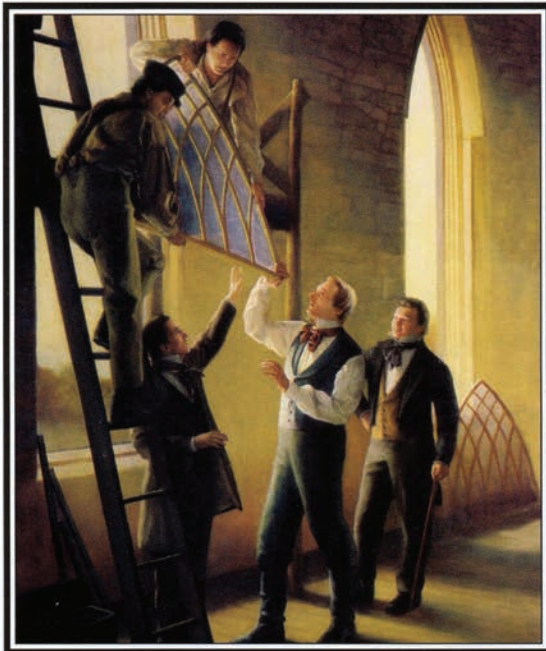


*Scott, Spencer, Craig,  
Doug, Jim, Russ*



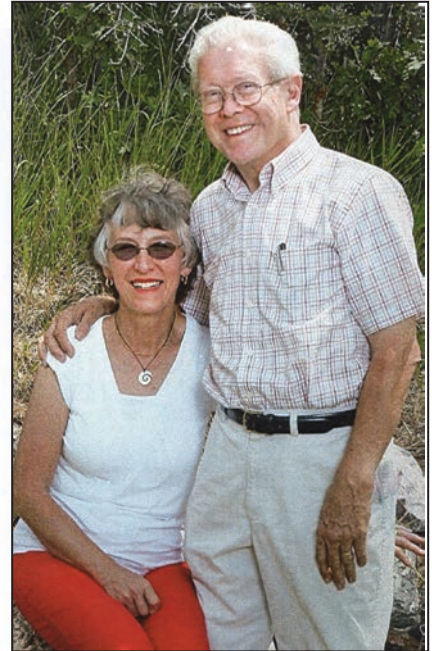
*In addition to buying the house in Utah during 2006 we also started putting on Readers Theater productions in Santa Rosa. Lora returned from her mission and went back to school at BYU Idaho. While there she participated in their travelling dance program. Lora got reacquainted with an old friend Mark Spencer. Mark had also served a mission in Texas so they had a lot in common.*

Welcome to the  
**Readers' Theater**  
"The Family and Friends of the Prophet  
Joseph Smith  
In The Ohio (1831-1837)"



(Fall 1835 - Joseph Smith with Joseph and Brigham Young, Oliver Cowdery and Sidney Rigdon in building the Kirtland Temple)

Friday, August 24th and Sunday, August 26th, 2007  
7 p.m.  
Santa Rosa California Stake  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



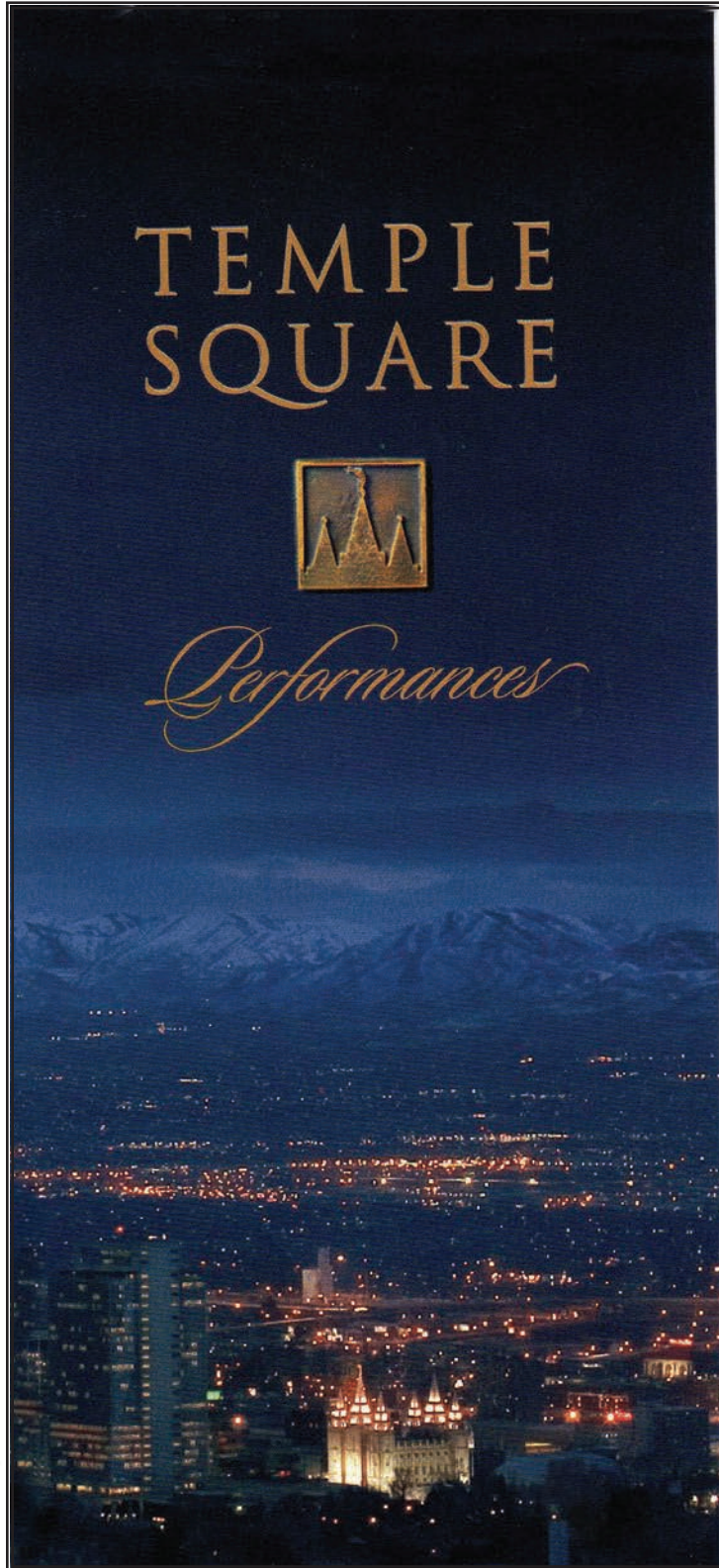
Happy with home



Lora the dancer



*In February 2007 we were honored to have a short portion of our Readers Theater titled “The Family and Friends of the Prophet Joseph Smith” performed with other presentations on Temple Square.*



## TEMPLE SQUARE *Performances*

### “A Testimony from Our Hearts”

Excerpts from works by the recipients of the  
2006 Deseret Dramatic Recognition Awards

February 23 and 24, 2007 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem . . . . . *Michael Turnblom*  
No Place for a Lowly Traveler  
Haste Ye This Way  
Jesu Christe

A Restored Christmas . . . . . *Shari Pingel*  
Sumpthin’s Up  
Suddenly a Light  
Will They Remember?

The Friends and Family  
of the Prophet Joseph Smith . . . . . *Douglas Scribner*  
Songs of the Heart . . . . . *Cecile J. Scribner*

Out of Small Things . . . . . *Carrie Maxwell Wrigley*  
Out of Small Things  
There Once Was a Boy  
Borrowed Light  
How Is a Boy to Know?

A Mission—A Family Tradition . . . . . *Rodney G. Barnes*

Who? . . . . . *Allene Winters Heiner*

Songs of the Prophets . . . . . *Kaye Starr Heninger*  
Behold Your Little Ones . . . . . *Grant Barton*

Commitment, Commandment,  
Conversion . . . . . *Gwen Moore Coltrin*  
If It Really Happened



*Lora and Mark Spencer were married in the Oakland Temple on 24 March 2007. They had their reception in our home. We were planning on selling the home and downsizing but we promised her that we would wait until after her reception was over. So, in May 2007 our friend Jackie Bunnell put our house on the market. It sold in one day for the asking price.*



Mark and Lora's  
Temple Marriage  
in Oakland.





*Jackie not only sold our beautiful Montecito Meadow home but she also found us a smaller but very lovely house to buy in the Bennett Valley of Santa Rosa. This placed us in a different ward but we already had many friends there and we loved the environment.*



Jackie Bunnell



Our Montecito Meadow  
Home



Our Vista Del Lago  
House



*In addition to directing Readers Theater Productions in Santa Rosa we also managed to meet Christy and Rob and their children at Mount Rushmore in the South Dakota Custer State Park. It was a fabulous area with great scenery and wild life. We thought it might be a great place someday to have a family reunion.*



Santa Rosa Cast



Christy & Rob at Custer Park



Mount Rushmore



Honoring an Indian Chief in the Park



*In 2008 I became involved with the BYU Fulton School of Engineering and Technology. Sterling Magleby and Dean Parkinson asked me to serve as chair of the Globalization Committee. I felt that the BYU School of Engineering should establish a presence in India. So in February 2009 we took the committee to India to connect with potential sponsors for BYU Engineering Interns. One of these visits was with the Hewlett-Packard operations in Bangalore.*



Dean Parkinson  
and his wife

Sterling Magleby  
and his wife

Me



*Finally in June 2008 the move to Elk Ridge was complete! We love the members of our ward and we are especially grateful to live near Cecile's brothers and sisters. She is the youngest in her family and was eager to live close to them. Of course once settled, we started our productions of "The Family and Friends of the prophet Joseph Smith" with a cast from the Elk Ridge Fourth Ward.*



Richard & Tommie James  
 Lois & Ernie Winfield  
 Cheril Snow & Cecile  
 Tom & Roberta James  
 Joyce & Alf Ridge

---



Elk Ridge Fourth Ward Cast.



*Now in 2020, as we all get older, more family and friends pass away. Ernie Winfield, Tommie James, and Alf Ridge have gone from the family. Bill Sullivan, Danny Davis and Alfred LaVoy Daley have also died. We continued putting on Readers Theater productions until they also faded away. Cecile and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014. Now we simply serve wherever we can and look forward to Cecile's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2021 with a family reunion at Mount Rushmore.*



Doug the fill-in



Cecile the Producer



Jim the pianist



Ray Smith the musician  
(in Santa Rosa)





*We wish you all  
A Merry Christmas  
from  
Doug and Cecile Scribner  
50 Christmases Together! (1964-2014)!*



*Christmas 1964 - Palo Alto, California*







We spent our 50th Anniversary with our children at Clear Creek Ranch near Zion's National Park . . . (10 children and grandchildren were unable to come) . . . But it was wonderful!! They did all the work and planning and cooking and cleaning and entertaining! A memory we will long remember and cherish. We are grateful to our Father in Heaven for these wonderful kids of ours. Another event this year was my (Cecile's) 55 year Orem High School Reunion - I loved every second of the two-day reunion and enjoyed old friendships. Doug and I finished our two year part-time mission in Family Research in Salt Lake City in September. And in November we did another Readers' Theater, "Nauvoo, the Beautiful" - such an amazing cast with such a wonderful Spirit. We have been so blessed this year. Please come and visit anytime. 62 West Cove Drive, Elk Ridge, Utah 84651. New email [cecilescrib@gmail.com](mailto:cecilescrib@gmail.com)

Now, I just know that you would feel bad if this Christmas Card didn't have a bit of rhyming going on. A few Christmases ago I sent a beautifully written poem that Doug gave me on our first Christmas in 1964. He has written several beautiful poems to me, so yes, I will now share this "beautifully written poem" that I wrote on our 50th . . . just for Doug . . .

*To Doug . . . With love, from Cecile (2 June 2014)*

*The time has come for one last word  
Of all the poetry you've heard.  
A "Love Poem" I will now compose  
To Doug - and this is how it goes . . .*

*Fifty years I've lived with you  
And done those things that lovers do . . .  
We've laughed and cried and raised eight kids -  
If that's not love, what is?*

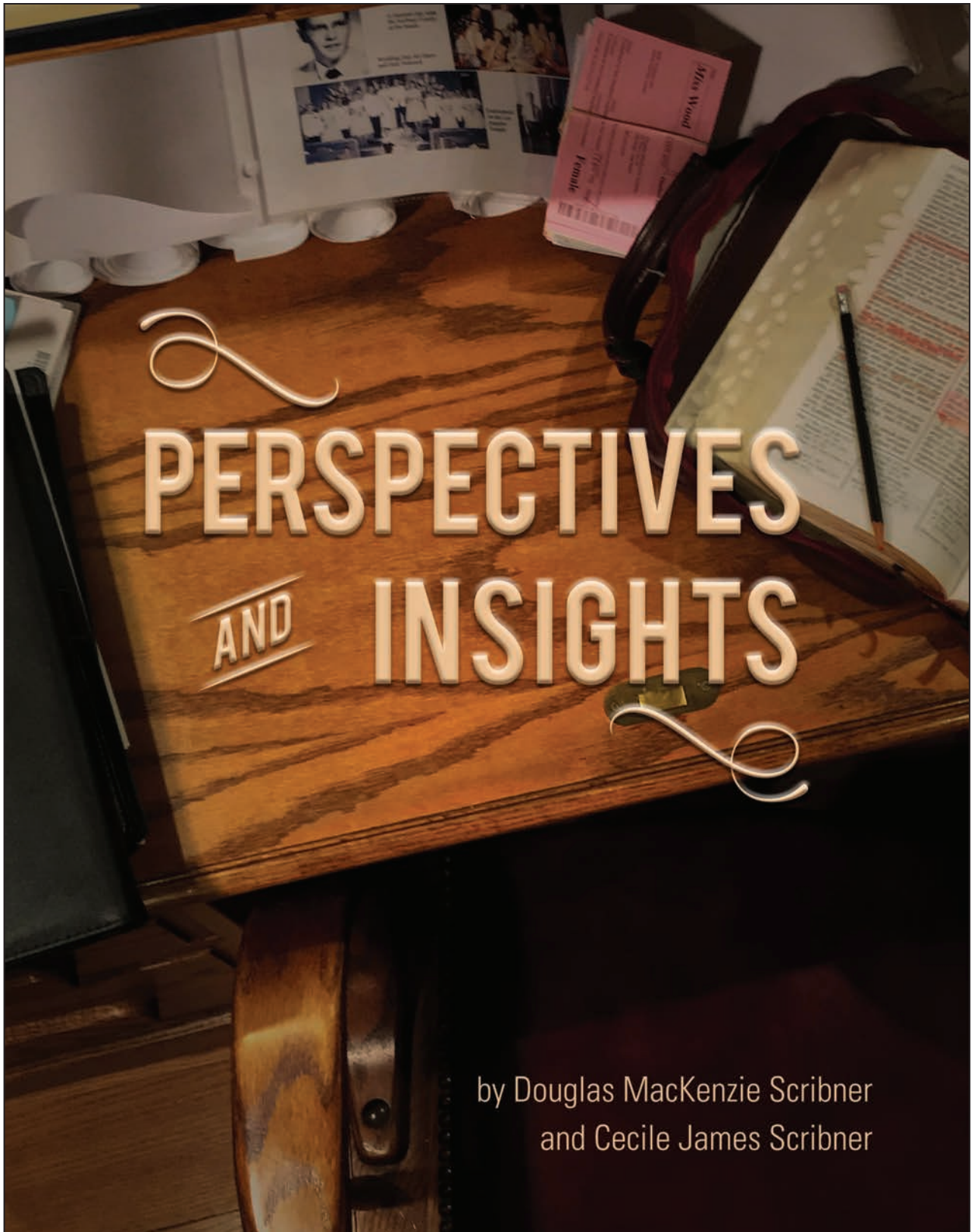
*We've slept on floors, in beds, hotels,  
In tents and beaches and motels,  
We've gone on missions, trips and such -  
It must be love - and very much.*

*We've built a home and family life,  
We've lived with joy and been through strife,  
A house afire, and floods amiss,  
If that's not love, what is?*

*Love is more than dreamy eyes  
And the beating of your heart;  
It's more than breath upon your neck  
Or crying when apart.  
Love is dancing very close,  
A waltz, a jitterbug are sweet,  
But, most of all, love is . . .  
A nice warm body for my cold feet!*



*In 2017 I completed and published our new book, “Perspectives and Insights.” Though I put it together, parts of it were written by Cecile.*





*Though I did not sell the book, I gave over 200 copies to friends & family. Many responded but this reply from Harry Schenck is best.*

Dear Doug and Cecile,

Wow! Thank you so much for the copy of your "Perspectives and Insights".

The "research" obviously took a lifetime ... of service and growth. I am sure the writing and editing also took a lot of effort, first to get your ideas down, then to edit and organize, and finally to "publish" it in an attractive and readable format. I am particularly impressed that it is a joint effort. I like your decision to alternate authorship and then write together when it counts ("I Thee Wed"). I am sure your family will treasure it for generations to come.

I am glad that you decided to share it with friends and associates as well. As one of those long-time friends, I value your thoughts and descriptions of many memorable parts of your life. Doug, although your conversion story is different than mine, the questions you had, the explanations you discovered through study and experience, and your conclusions parallel mine closely. Undoubtedly, they will interest and influence others who are searching, and thus I consider that chapter a valuable missionary tool, and will share it in that spirit when the opportunity arises. Harry