

St.Sometimes

Summer of Fun

When you have no family of your own, no commitments, and no responsibility, it's up to you to travel to your friends and family. I didn't stop moving the entire month. Friend to friend, family to family. I was like a homeless man with a rental car. The rental was my suitcase. My suitcase was empty until I went shopping and bought all new clothes from head to toe.

Cover Photo - Fireworks on Kelly Lake



Meet Izzy: she's a year old, a border collie & poodle mix "borcoodle" (?) that runs like a deer through the fountain and hogs up most of the bed. She will chew up anything left within reach of her snout. I had a great summer hanging out with this little beast, but my favorite remains to be Phoebe. She always will be.

Family Time

Every summer I come home, the nephews and nieces have grown up more. Uggh. Look at this handsome devil driving the boat! TJ is a "spittin' image" of his father. Smart, elegant, organized, and genuine. A person everyone is impressed with. Yes, like father like son in every way.



TJ is in school to be a surgeon just like Jason and dad. The third generation of oral surgeons is being groomed, and he's turning heads. Next year he'll be celebrating his White Coat Ceremony. Impressive to say the least. TJ is in line to be the next greatest surgeon to come out of our family.

As his uncle, I still remember when TJ was an infant living in Milwaukee with his mom and dad. I always will. TJ is the first of Jason's family and he's got some very professional shoes to fill. It was so much fun to see TJ with his family over the summer!

Waiting, Waiting...

I spent the entire month waiting for word from the company. It was clear to me, not to anyone else, that I could be denied employment at any time. The only fact I had to go on was the date July 28th. That was the date I was tentatively due to leave the country. It wasn't "for sure" but it was the only information I had to go on.

Instead of calling the company over and over, to find out what they couldn't know - if I was officially hired - I just waited. The company had to send my health test results and background information to the Saudi government for final approval. I just had to have faith.

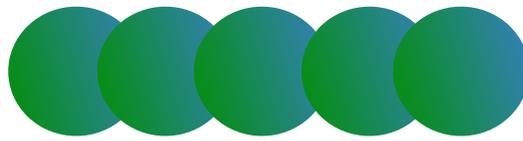




What a bunch of animals in this family. It's difficult to keep track. Yeah, let's include the older Dr. Lemoine in the animal group!



The Family



1. Ahh, Piper the huge doggy.
2. Bacon. My family knows I crave bacon when I'm about to leave for a country where bacon is forbidden.
3. Chickens! Yes, Jason's family has lots of chickens. They even have a few of those furry feather footed chickens!
4. Watch out world. This wake boarder will wave to each and every person she goes by. The only way to stop a "round" of boarding around the lake is to run out of fuel in the boat.
5. What a funny animal! - and I'm not talking about the dog.
6. Sisters by marriage. Lynn (right) and Erin (left) are my sisters. I don't call them sister-in-laws. I consider them much more than "in-law sisters". They set the bar so high. Any woman I consider marrying will have to answer these two!
7. Friends for life! Alison - Ali. 5 minutes and we are caught up on life.
8. Teddy turned 7. Way too fast.
9. Finally a picture with Samantha (third from right). I'll have to focus my camera on Samantha and feature her in her own newsletter soon.
10. Why does Sam hide?
11. The Minni Lemoine Ladies! Beauties of the northern lands.
12. Legos. I love playing legos with my nieces and nephews.
13. Brothers! I look a little spooked and quite a bit overweight. Uggh. Jeff (right) and Jason (left) look better than I do.
14. Colin the entertainer. Colin the college student. Colin the amazing. Colin the Hoosier.

Alison "Ali" Bachhuber. Friends since I was seventeen, away in Germany for a year. It was great to see her again!

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Business Class All the Way to Saudi

My first time, that I remember, flying in anything other than coach.



The Trip to Saudi Arabia

Back in 2009, I flew from Miami to Venezuela in first class. All I remember was taking off and landing. I never even got to use the real silverware. After 45 hours of travel, I just passed out.

One bicycle, two suitcases, and one carryon. That's how I travel. Oh, and my Aramco lapel pin. The onboarding instructions stated we had to wear it. Supposedly, there would be others on my flight. I didn't see anyone until Frankfurt.

The business class came in handy. The layovers allowed me access to

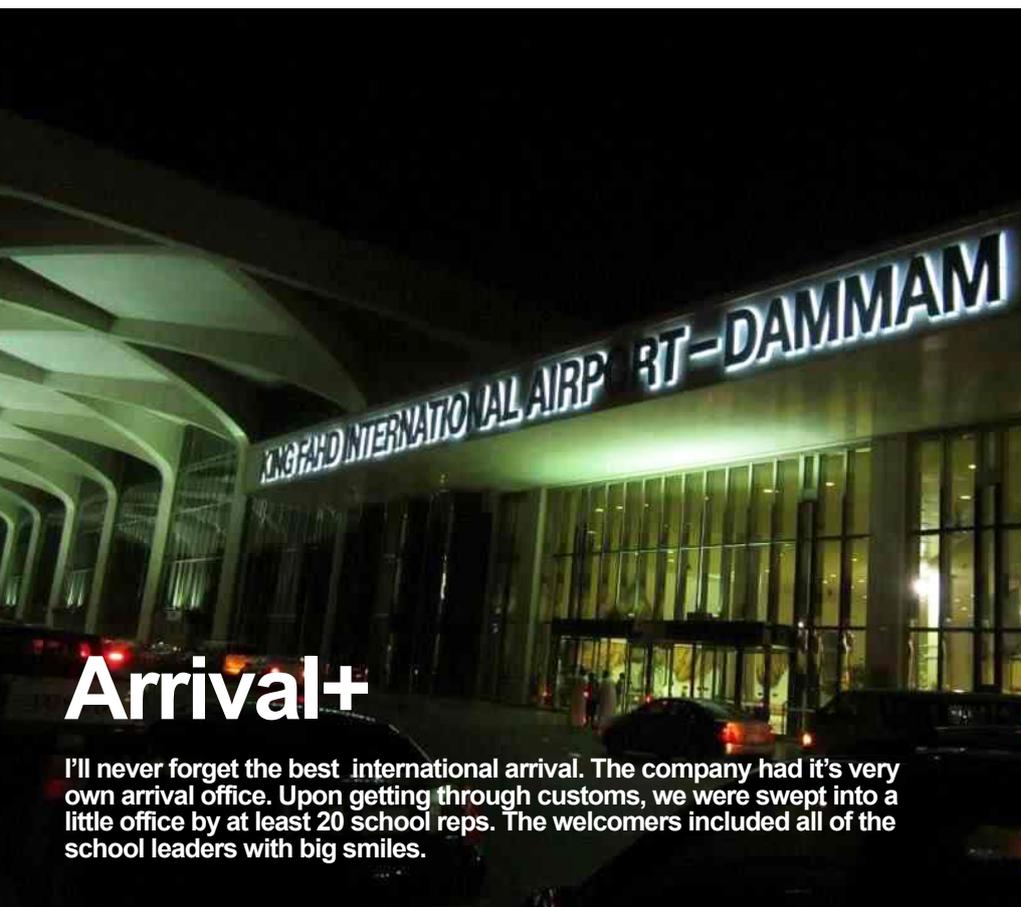
the lounges. Frankfurt was awesome. I just drank beer and napped in the lounge. Too bad they didn't have bacon. That would have been primo!

The worst part of my trip was in the departure gate. I was sitting and watching this younger couple try and juggle two kids and two carry-on seats that were huge. I didn't get up and help them. Crap. I was reading my book and just wasn't sure if they were in our group.

When we boarded the flight for Dammam, Saudi Arabia, I looked

around for some other lapel pins. Nope. But I did see the young couple sitting right next to me. Before we took off, I introduced myself. It turned out that everyone in the business class was Aramco. Everyone started standing up and shaking hands and introducing ourselves to each other.

The arrival was the most amazing entry I have ever had from an international school. Everything was smooth. I fell into my own apartment and went to sleep knowing that I had to be awake by 9am for my mentor. He was taking me for a rental car.



I'll never forget the best international arrival. The company had its very own arrival office. Upon getting through customs, we were swept into a little office by at least 20 school reps. The welcomers included all of the school leaders with big smiles.

