

6/21 Thursday

Everyone made it to the airport safely. We had a nice breakfast together and I really enjoyed beginning getting to know everyone...In Chicago now, making the final goodbye calls, experiencing sadness but also an extreme amount of excitement.

6/22 Friday

As soon as we landed in Stockholm, we each had to have our bags looked through and frisked because I guess a big group of Oklahomans is scary. When we were landing in Tallinn I couldn't believe how beautiful it was. After the sleep-filled bus ride to the center, we were surprised by a concert. It was so special to have these children sing just for us and then a delicious meal followed. Our first night in Ahja, we were able to join in a town celebration. It was lots of fun, a fire, bands playing and many friendly faces. Then I was out as soon as my head hit the pillow, so exhausted.

6/23 Saturday

Today we began working. We have already learned to be flexible and everyone did a very good job with that today. We weren't able to go to the social house to clean because of the holiday, so instead we did some mudding, getting crafts ready and wallpapering. Tonight Tiari and her family invited us out to her farm for a cookout and St. John's celebration. The food was delicious, of course. They taught us so many fun (and physical) games, we all had a blast. We also enjoyed the fellowship around the fire. But I also know that we all wish that Debbie could have been there with us and we are all praying that she gets to feeling better very soon.

6/24 Sunday

This morning we were all pretty worn out from a late night. In the morning we went to the Karsa church. It was a beautiful building and the paintings inside were very pretty also. Paula, Erin Rose and Eric played some beautiful music for the service. Deber and I read scripture, and Steve and Roger gave testimonies. The service in Rapina was very nice also. Debbie was able to come and gave a very nice sermon which I really enjoyed. Now we are all relaxing, some are playing dominoes, some are emailing and we are just trying to rest so that we are ready to start working hard tomorrow morning.

6/25 Monday

Today was a day full of wallpapering, but I must say that Deber, Melissa, Erin Rose and I are getting must better at it. Paula and Debbie wrote postcards today. Steve had to make many trips with Rein and Uno to get supplies in the midst of doing many other things. Eric was busy mudding with a few helpers. Wayne and Roger did lots of technical stuff that I couldn't even begin to explain (something with anchors) and some wallpapering in the other room. I had an experience with a dead mouse today but luckily Keimo came to my rescue. Erin Rose and Eric played football with the kids tonight and we all tried to relax again.

6/26 Tuesday

This morning Deber, Paula and I went back to wallpapering and painting. Erin, Roger, Erin Rose and Melissa went to the social home to move furniture and begin tearing down

wallpaper. Steve and Wayne went to Rapina to dig the trench for the gate. After lunch we all went to the social house to finish taking down the wallpaper and then put up some sealant. In the evening we had some card games and preparation for children's day.

#### 6/27 Wednesday

Today we finished wallpapering at the center! We also got most of the painting done. At the social home, they got two coats of paint on the ceiling and paint on the window. I also hear that Melissa got an admirer. I think we are all anxious for children's day tomorrow.

#### 6/28 Thursday

Today was children's day. It was very fun. The language barrier wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. The kids seemed to really enjoy the crafts and have a lot of fun. We had the little cookout/bonfire which was a lot of fun. The kids also really enjoyed getting to pick out their hats.

#### 6/29 Friday

Today was our last, and our biggest work day. A lot of us spent our whole day at the "nasty house." Others finished the sleeping rooms at the center. At Juhan's, we did all the wallpapering, painting, cleaning the floor and then putting the furniture back. I know we were all exhausted after a tough week of work but we should all be very proud of the work we did throughout the week.

#### 6/30 Saturday

This morning was the farewell party. It was very sweet and also very sad, there were a lot of emotions. It was hard to leave all of the amazing people we have met in Ahja and Rapina. Then we made the bus ride to Tallinn and went straight to the dance festival which was amazing, it was definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity. I enjoyed it so much.

#### 7/1 Sunday

This morning we got to watch some of the parade of the singers and dancers, it was a lot of fun. Then we went to church in Tallinn, it was a very nice service. Then we walked along with the parade to the singing festival. The day was so much fun, the singing was amazing and the food was great. It was also great to have Rein there explaining what the songs meant to the country. The whole place was packed. We even got to walk along the beach on the way back.

#### 7/2 Monday

That is the most shopping I've done in one day in my entire life. Old town was so beautiful. I loved all of the shops, it was so much fun to go look in all of them. It was also fun just to walk around outside because of how beautiful it was. We had our nice team dinner at the Peppersack, the food was really good. They also had a dance come out (she danced for Roger) and a little fencing skit, it was very entertaining. Then we had to go and perform miracles to get everything to fit into our suitcases.