



JEANETTE BENNETT, UTAH VALLEY

MAGAZINE: What's the best part of being a stay-at-home mom?

MELISSA PETERSON, OREM: I love being involved with my girls and interacting with everything they do. I can't imagine not doing that every day.

MELISSA GLEASON, SPANISH FORK: Maybe it's because I'm a first-time mom, but I laugh all day.

JEANETTE: That's better than crying! (laughter)

NIKKI EYRE, SPANISH FORK: I love the chaos. I love the neighbor kids, the interaction, the running around. They say "stay-at-home mom," but I'm never home.

KORI MORGAN, SARATOGA SPRINGS: I



NIKKI EYRE, Spanish Fork

People don't know how much we accomplish every day. Although sometimes accomplishing nothing is what you want to do ... But other days I work my tail off. I'm exhausted, and it doesn't look like anything got done.

have older kids, and so I like that I'm home when they get home from school. When I worked, the only time we got to be together was from 7:30 until bedtime.

NIKKI: When everybody's tired.

KORI: Yeah, when it's dinner, and you hurry and do homework, and hurry and take a bath, and hurry and get to bed. So that's what I enjoy most — that I get to see them and interact with their friends. And just be a mom!

CHRIS OLSON, CEDAR HILLS: My favorite part is when my kids get home and I get to hear everything — the good, the bad and the ugly. As my kids have gotten older, we have great relationships because we shared so much when they were little. They still tell me things and their friends will say, "You're not going to tell your mom, are you?" (laughter) I love that. They're my kids, but they're my friends.

JEANETTE: On the flip side, what's the hardest part of being a stay-at-home mom?

MELISSA G.: Sleep. Definitely sleep.

CHRIS: Making lots of mistakes. I remember the era when I couldn't even cut peanut butter sandwiches right. "You wanted triangles today? I'm sorry, I did squares." (laughter) I was a working mom for a while, and so to go from all that feedback and praise at work to "I can't even keep the house clean" is a big difference. You are never done.

NIKKI: Mine has to be the chaos again — it's the best and the worst. I'm a widowed mom, so that's hard. And I'm always together with my kids, which is good and bad. We love each other's company, but we also get on each other's nerves.

KORI: It seems like I don't have any alone time. My kids are in school, but that's when I'm running errands so I can be home when they're home. I'm busier now than when I was working full time.

MELISSA G.: I was surprised at how hard it was to go from working and having a

Meet the Moms

CHRIS OLSON

AGE: 44
HOMETOWN: Cedar Hills
SPOUSE: Mike Olson, CEO of American Fork Hospital
CHILDREN: Eric (20), Adam (17), Matthew (14), Nathan (12), Madelyn (9), Emily (7)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: All in school

KORI MORGAN

AGE: 31
HOMETOWN: Saratoga Springs
SPOUSE: Rob Morgan, owner of Monarch Honda
CHILDREN: Brandi (14), Chelsea (11), Jake (8), Maddie (5), Baby Boy (this June baby had yet to make his appearance at press time)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: All in school

MELISSA GLEASON

AGE: 27
HOMETOWN: Spanish Fork
SPOUSE: Zachary Gleason, photographer, student and information systems associate for Trophy Homes
CHILDREN: Ruth Ann (1)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: With her mother-in-law

MELISSA PETERSON

AGE: 30
HOMETOWN: Orem
SPOUSE: Sam Peterson, senior vice president of technology for Overstock.com
CHILDREN: Rylee (8), Samantha (6), Danielle (2)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: Her sister tended the 2-year-old and picked the 6-year-old up from school

NIKKI EYRE

AGE: 35
HOMETOWN: Spanish Fork
SPOUSE: Rusty Eyre, accountant. He passed away in 2006.
CHILDREN: Canyon (9), Aleeta (6), Gunner (4)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: Two were in school and her sister watched the 4-year-old

JEANETTE BENNETT

Roundtable moderator, editor of Utah Valley Magazine and a mom
AGE: 32
HOMETOWN: Cedar Hills
SPOUSE: Matt Bennett, publisher and co-founder of Bennett Communications (with Jeanette)
CHILDREN: Nathan (9), Hailey (7), Carson (3), Lindsey (2)
CHILD ARRANGEMENTS DURING LUNCH: Two were in school, one was at pre-school, and one took a nap in the storage room at her Orem office (under the attentive ear of an associate editor)