

RIEL FAMILY NEWS LETTER

VOL 2 NO 8 AUGUST, 1992 PRICE ONE CENT THE COPY-FREE TO FAMILY

FRANCIE'S 40TH BIRTHDAY PARTY ROCKS PHOENIX

Phoenix, Arizona - The long awaited party to celebrate the 40th birthday of Francie Castro came off without a hitch, (almost) due to the fine planning on the part of Francie. It appears, however, that Jose may have been the real party manager, but he modestly took little credit for himself. We all met at the San Diego airport about 3:00 PM on Friday, July 17th. In accordance with the prearranged plan the various guests came dressed in their most outlandish tourist apparel. The official judgment was that Laura Stein won the award for having the best costume.

After an uneventful flight we landed in Phoenix, and slowly proceeded through the terminal until we were met by the transportation team from the Westcourt Hotel. We were transported in three limos to the hotel, and after check in and a brief rest to unpack we were ready for the happy hour reception in the bar. Up to this point your editor had been pleased to note that due to the off-season schedule it appeared that we were just about the only guests in the hotel. This illusion quickly vanished, however, when we entered the bar. The whole place was packed with people who were in the mood to celebrate, and were doing so. Our group had a reserved area in one corner of the place, and we gathered to enjoy the free snacks and half price drinks. Recorded music was playing so loud that conversation was somewhat hindered, but it was a fun event. After most of the food had been eaten the party broke up into small groups who went their own ways. Grandpa and Grandam joined Bud and Margaret to take in a not very good but air conditioned movie.

The next morning the gang signed up for the inner tube float down the Salt River assembled in the hotel lobby, and soon loaded up in limos for the trip to the starting point. On arrival they rented their inner tubes and set out down the river. Everyone was in a festive mood, and there were some water fights and other playful exchanges. It was not easy to keep everyone together, but no one was lost, and all agreed that it was lots of fun.

Those not going on the inner tube float met informally at the swimming pool to plan the day. Fortunately Carol and Jeff had driven over and were staying with friends, who kindly volunteered to provide local transportation. Grandma and the "shop till you drop" twins along with Carol and her friend went off on a shopping trip. This left Grandpa, Ed and Jan to amuse themselves. Carol and Jeff kindly loaned us their Taurus, and after carefully researching the various local attractions we set off, with the aid of a city map, to see the sights. Our first problem was to figure out where we were, and as soon as we did we set out. The first stop was Heritage Park, a downtown area set aside for a series of old homes that had been moved in and restored to their original condition. The feature attraction is the Rossen House, a beautiful turn of the century home built by a Dr. Roland Lee Rossen. The home is fully furnished, including some of the original things. The guided tour was most interesting. We then visited the other smaller restored homes, some fitted out as small museums. One of particular interest was the Doll and Toy Museum, where I saw toys similar

to those I played with as a child. We lunched in one of the homes fitted out as a Tea House, and then set off for the next stop, the Heard Museum. This impressive facility houses a collection of artifacts and art of the Southwestern Indians and the natives of Mexico and Central America. The Gift Shop provided an opportunity for Jan to buy T-shirts for the Riel boys. This completed the sightseeing tour, and we returned to the hotel. Soon the Salt River crew straggled in, some a little overindulged and some with various degrees of sunburn. We all convened for the dinner party, complete with a birthday cake and all of the usual birthday things. Afterwards some of us went to a local bar, and found the same situation we had experienced at the hotel, namely lots of loud music, lots of people and lots of excitement. That finished the day except for a few who took a dip in the pool around midnight. The next morning some of us enjoyed a brunch at the hotel, and we all met at noon for the drive back to the airport to catch the 1:00 PM flight to San Diego.

Unfortunately, the one glitch in the plans appeared. It was discovered that a few were scheduled on the 1:00 PM flight, but most were on the 2:00 PM. The 1:00 PM group were happy until the notice "delayed, mechanical trouble" appeared on the schedule board. The 2:00 PM group thought they would have the last laugh until it was announced that their flight was about 30 minutes late. Finally, the 1:00 PM flight left at about 2:20 and the 2:00 PM flight at about 2:30, so everyone finally arrived home at about the same time. The airport wait was not entirely wasted, since the shopping fanatics spread out and enjoyed some more of their favorite pastime.

All in all it was a great party, and we all owe a big vote of thanks to Francie and Jose for all the arranging they did. Everyone, family and friends alike had a great time, and we all wish Francie many, many happy returns. A number of photographs of the various people and activities are shown on pages 2, 3 and 4.

MORE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS - Grandma treated Bryce, Timothy, Chris and Nathan to birthday celebrations. Bryce opted for Burger King for lunch, followed by a visit to Pic N Save, Toys R us, and then a tour at the park, where the Zoo, the Children's Zoo and the seal show were enjoyed. Then there was a visit to the Science Museum, and home. Timothy decided he wanted to try his hand at golf, so Grandpa and Grandma took him to Stardust for a round on the Palms Course. This was his first try, and he had to use Grandmas clubs, which were a bit heavy for him. However, he caught on rapidly, and made some good swings before we got to the ninth hole. We lunched at the club, and then Tim and Grandma took off for the zoo and then the Toy store. Chris and Nathan also wanted some golf, but they chose the miniature type. Afterwards they were treated to the usual things.

AUGUST BIRTHDAY CALENDAR

Carol Benesch	August 2	38
Nathan Riel	August 13	11
Christopher Riel	August 13	11
Annie Gillingham	August 13	5
Jason Benesch	August 30	11

GRANDMA RIEL LECTURES NEW CITIZENS - Recently Grandma was invited by Listy, on behalf of an organization she belongs to, to address a group of new citizens. As a naturalized but long time citizen Grandma was invited to share her experiences and reactions to being an American. Among other experiences she described her reaction to racial segregation she saw at church, when we first moved to Maryland in 1951. At that time all of the black members of the congregation were seated in the back pews in the church. She was outraged by this expression of intolerance, and to show her feelings she sat with the black people. She used this action to point out how important it is for everyone to express their opposition to racial intolerance whenever they have the opportunity. She also stressed how important it is for new citizens to become fluent in English so that at election time they can inform themselves on the candidates and issues. We understand that the talk was well received, and representatives of the local press took photographs to record the event.

WORD PUZZLE RESULTS AND AWARDS - No doubt you all are waiting anxiously for the announcement of the winners in last months word puzzle. First of all the correct answers are:

1. Something found in a cave in the desert - DEAD SEA SCROLLS
2. Something everyone would like to have - LIFE OF BASE ("BBBBB'S")
3. Something some people like to eat - COCONUTS
4. Something some people like to read - COMIC STRIPS
5. Something few people would like to own - OLD ENGLISH SHREPPDOG

There were quite a few responses, some with all of the answers, some with most of the answers. The winners and runner-ups are:

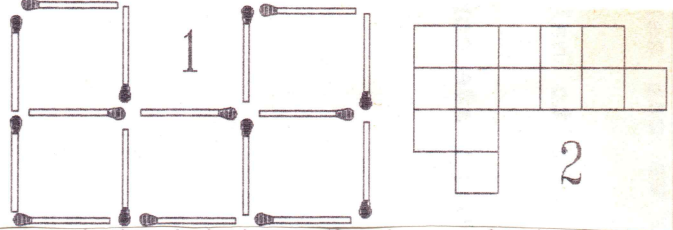
CONTESTANTS	NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS
Jason and Dustin Benesch	5
Katie and Brian Riel	5
Michael Mehan	4
Michelle Hartman/Katie Gillingham	3
Craig and Curtis Hartman	3

Cash awards to each of the winners are enclosed with this issue of RFNL. We had good response, and hope to continue this popular feature.

VACATION NEWS - Recently Bud, Margaret, Michael and Megan took off for a one week visit to Hawaii. We understand they will be on the Big Island, and plan on taking a good look at the active volcanoes located there. Another traveling family is the Hartmans, who recently bought a camper, and took off on a 2000 mile trip into northern California. The first leg was up old highway 101 and 1 to San Francisco, and a visit to Alcatraz Island. The first camp site was Big Basin, in the redwood country. The next stop was on the coast, at Van Damm campsite. Then they proceeded north, almost to Yureka, and spent three days at the avenue of giants area. The return trip was back down interstate 5 and home again. The whole family plus Grandma Hartman had a great time. Bikes were available, carried by a trailer. Bruce reported that they had some minor problems, a fuel pump

and an alternator needed replacement, and fortunately spare parts were located promptly, and he did the installation by himself. It sure is nice to have an expert handy when there is a vehicle problem.

THIS MONTHS BRAIN TEASER - Here are two puzzles for kids to work on this month.



1. In the above sketches there are 16 matches arranged to form five squares, all equal in size. To solve, change the position of 3 matches so that all are used and only 4 squares, equal in size, are formed with the 16 matches.
2. Draw a line, not necessarily straight, which will divide the #2 sketch into two identical halves.

Because of the visual perception of these puzzles, telephone responses are not possible. If you have a solution to propose, you must sketch it out and mail it in. Entries must be mailed no later than August 31st.

FOLLOWING ARE SOME PHOTOS OF THE BIG PARTY AT PHOENIX



HERE WE ARE
CRUSING DOWN
THE SALT RIVER
ON OUR INNER
TUBES. EVERY-
ONE LOOKS AS
IF THEY ARE
HAVING LOTS
OF FUN.



HERE WE SEE
MOM AND DAD
TELLING ALL
OF THE GUESTS
WHAT A WONDER-
FUL CHILD
FRANCIE WAS.



THIS IS THE
MORNING AFTER
AND IT REALLY
IS REMARKABLE
HOW ALERT AND
CHEERFUL THEY
ALL LOOK.



PENCIL SKETCH - RUNNING HORSE

BY

MEGAN RIEL MEHAN

(LOOKS LIKE A GOOD BET FOR DEL MAR)

