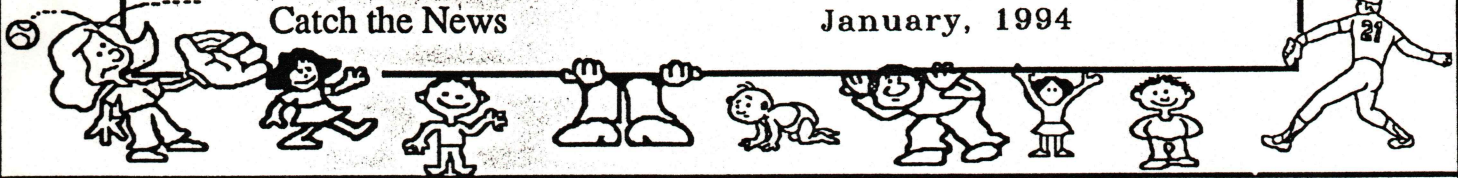




# The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

January, 1994



## FAMILY WELCOMES NEW YEAR WITH THIRD ANNUAL RIEL BOWL



CRAIG HARTMAN	TIM RIEL	JESSICA BENESCH	JASON BENESCH	MICHELLE HARTMAN	KEVIN RIEL	MICHAEL MEHAN	MEGAN MEHAN
BACK ROW - STANDING							
BRETT SOREM				CRIS RIEL		NATHAN RIEL	
CENTER - KNEELING							
BRIAN RIEL	BRYCE SOREM	CURTIS HARTMAN	SCOTT HARTMAN		DAVID GILLINGHAM		
KATY RIEL	DUSTIN BENESCH	"JJ" RIEL	ANNIE GILLINGHAM		KRISTY GILLINGHAM		
FRONT ROW - SEATED							

**FAMILY GREET'S NEW YEAR AT THE BOB AND KARLA HOME IN ALPINE** - The Third Annual Riel Bowl was celebrated on January 1st, and the entire family was present. The first item on the program was a rousing game of touch football, and although no scores were recorded, the game was hotly contested. Meanwhile, some of the earlier arrivals enjoyed a breakfast brunch. The football game was broken up by two events, (1) the televised Rose Bowl football game between UCLA and Wisconsin, and (2) the call to enjoy the main meal. The main entree was a huge section of prime rib roast, expertly cooked by Chef Bob. In addition, we all enjoyed potatoes, candied yams and other side dishes. Grandma Riel contributed her own authentic Greek salad, with home made dressing. Desserts included cake and ice cream. Next came the judging of the cross word family puzzle made up by Robert, with the help of his computer. The finalists in this first round were Margaret and Bud, Jeff and Carol and Bob and Listy. All three solved the tie breaker, but the final question, "what was Old Betsy" stumped all three. After a frantic search in the Riel family book, Listy was lucky enough to find the right answer, and wound up winning the grand prize, which was a final pick on the white elephant gift exchange.



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Next came the opening of presents for the children. The trash bag holder was kept pretty busy stowing away the excess wrapping materials, and everyone, including the parents enjoyed the gift exchange. Finally, the white elephant gift exchange was held. This year the procedure was for each person to draw a number, and number 1 had the first chance to choose one of the many nicely wrapped gifts. Each family had brought two, a nice one and a real white elephant. After # 1 had opened the selected gift, # 2 had the option to take it or select another gift. The process continued, and there were many exchanges as the celebration continued. It was a lot of fun, and just about everyone ended up with something of value. This ended the celebration, and everyone agreed that it was the best ever. We thank Bob and Karla for opening up their home to this mob. Bob reported to us later on that he lost six sprinkler head, broken off

## FAMILY HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS - DECEMBER, 1993

We thought it would be interesting to record how each family celebrated the Christmas holiday, so we contacted each for a report.

Richard and Liz Riel - Presents were opened in the morning, and later on there was a visit to Grandma Drewek's home, and there were more presents to open. The day finished with a visit to friend Gary Law's parents.

Bd and Jan Riel - Bd reported that his family were up at 4:00 am (which probably beats all the rest) to open presents. Wet suits and surf boards were the major items. After breakfast, they went (you guessed it) surfing. The rest of the day was spent visiting Jan's parents, where they enjoyed



## GRANDPA AND GRANDMA CELEBRATE WHILE OPENING PRESENTS

during the activities. Kids, we have to be more careful in this regard, if we want to keep in the good graces of Uncle Bob. Bob asked that we express his and Karla's thanks for the Hungry Hunted gift dinner certificate. They really enjoyed the treat. Bob also asked that we publish the following list of items left at his home. The owners should call him to arrange for disposition.

1. NBA basketball
2. Nerf ball
3. Small football (Grandpa's)
4. Padre cap (Grandpa's)
5. Blue salad bowl
6. Aztec baseball cap
7. Red, blue and black pull over sweater
8. Kids sweat shirt (Yosemite)
9. Polaroid camera
10. Baseball mitt and ball

dinner and further celebrating.

Margaret and Bud Mehan - The Mehan family took the plane to Reno, rented a car and drove to Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Resort, which is just west of Truckee. Margaret and Michael enjoyed some good skiing, but misfortune fell upon Bud and Megan. Megan had the flu and Bud hurt his knee on the second day, and was forced to remain idle for the rest of the trip. In spite of these problems, however, everyone had a great time.

Francie and Jose Castro - Unlike the Bd and Jan family the celebration started at 7:00 am, with the opening of presents. The family then enjoyed dinner, and just sat around for the rest of the day.



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Carol and Jeff Benesch - The Benesch family have a tradition of tying a red ribbon across the stairs, and no one is allowed to cross until the signal is given, which happened at 7:30 am. After lunch the entire family took in a movie, Mrs. Doubtfire. One of the gifts much enjoyed by all was a pool table.

Robert and Karla Riel - Robert reported that they opened their gifts, played with the new toys and just loafed around the entire day.

Bob and Listy Gillingham - The whole family traveled to Beaver Creek, Colorado, to spend the holidays at the Gillingham family condo. There was skiing, riding on the chair lift, and a chance to see an ice skating show starring Scott Hamilton. On Christmas morning they were up at 8:30 am and presents were opened.

Birdy and Bruce Hartman - The Hartman family visited Bruce's father, and then had a visit from Granny Sue, who spent the night with them, at home. Everyone was up at 6:00 am to open presents. Then they went to a family brunch.

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Kristy Gillingham celebrated her 10th birthday by having lunch with Grandpa and Grandma at the Hazard Center fast food mall. It was a quick lunch, and they finished just in time to catch the movie.

## BIRTHDAY CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Edith Riel	January 2	69
Megan Mehan	January 15	10

## RUNNY NOSE DEPARTMENT

JJ Riel showed up on January 9th with a slight cold. However, this did not stop him from going along with Grandma and Grandpa to the bank on business and then to Fedco, where we signed up as an alternate to the Price Club. We then went to McDonalds in Fashion Valley, for lunch, and then back home to rest. JJ wasn't the only sick one, however, since Grandpa also had a runny nose. We both used up a lot of Kleenex. The flu problems were not limited to them, since

October 25 **Jeff Benesch** returned to the Hillcrest business community after 12-years, when Jeff joined Uptown Publications as its new sales manager. Benesch was the founder and general partner of Grains 'n' Greens Natural Grocery and Snaks 5th Avenue, at the corner of 5th and Pennsylvania, now the site of U.S. Grant Florists.

Benesch remodeled the location into the vegie and sandwich emporium in 1980. He sold the business in 1982, moving to the SDSU General Store, but not before making many friends and loyal customers in Hillcrest.

Benesch and Carol, his wife of 14 years, initiated the very successful "Babytime Swapmeet" program to benefit the Mercy Hospital prepared child-birth classes. All three Benesch kids,

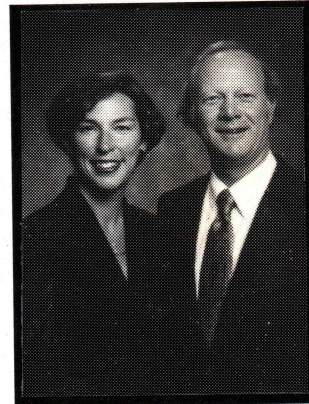
Jason, 12; Jessica, 10 and Dustin, 8 are program alumni.

Benesch has spent the last 12 years in retail and sales management and the import-export gift business. He founded the very successful PARTYWORKS! in Allied Gardens in 1988, which he sold in 1991.

His return to Hillcrest coincides with the dynamic growth of Uptown Publications and its stable of newspapers and direct-mail products. Benesch says, "I look forward to re-establishing acquaintances in Mission Hills and Hillcrest and shar-

ing in the growth of our resurgent local economy. Call me and say 'hi' at 299-6397."

Carol is a lifelong resident of Mission Hills. The Benesches now reside in the San Carlos area.



**Carol and Jeff Benesch**

we understand that the whole Gillingham family suffered the same problem during their visit to Colorado.

## JEFF BENESCH FEATURED IN UPTOWN PUBLICATIONS ARTICLE

We learned recently that Jeff is busy with his new job as Sales Manager with Uptown Publications. The above profile of his background appeared in one of their recent issues.

## ANOTHER SPEAKING TOUR COMING UP

We learned recently that Birdy will be giving a talk at an upcoming meeting of the Kindergarten Teachers Conference sponsored by the ABA. The meeting will be held in San Francisco, on January 15-16, and Birdy's presentation will be one of a number scheduled for the meeting. She expects an audience of 50-75 in attendance, including Bob and Listy, who will go along for moral support. We suspect, however, that there may be more to this junket than just a speaking engagement. We understand that there are

some great shopping opportunities in the area, and who are better qualified than Listy and Birdy to sniff out some great bargains.

## SPORTS NEWS

Aunt Margaret reports that Megan's soccer team had a very successful series at the Coronado Christmas Tournament. Her team won all six games, and never was scored on. That is some record, and they all must have had super games.

Grandpa and Grandma are also in the sports news with their recent participation in the Stardust CC Tournament of Champions. This event is held each January, and involves the winners of monthly matches held throughout the past year. They came in with a better ball net score of 59, 13 under par for 18 holes, which was good enough for a tie with one other couple. However, they lost in a sudden death play-off, after six holes. However, the tie was good enough to qualify for next years event, assuming Stardust is still open next January.



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## SOME ACTION SHOTS AT RIEL BOWL III



OUR OWN JOE MONTANA



DUSTIN RUNS A QUARTEDBACK SNEAK



WHO HAS THE BALL ???



NICE CATCH, BRETT !!



LOOKS LIKE PASS INTERFERENCE ON BOB G



COME ON, BLOCK THOSE PASS RUSHERS !



CYT San Diego/East County presents . . .

5

☆ Starring ☆

Jessica Beneoch  
AND  
Dustin Beneoch

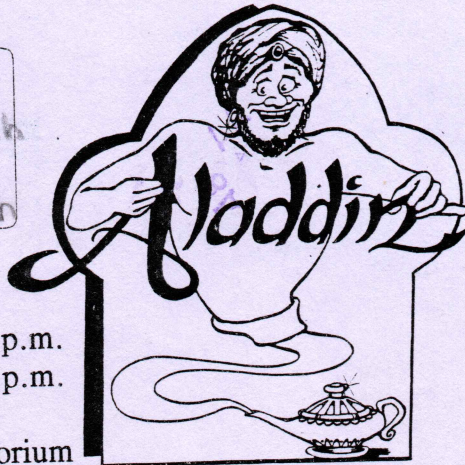
**Show Dates:**

February 17, 18, 25, 26 at 7:00 p.m.

February 19, 20, 26, 27 at 2:00 p.m.

**All performances at:**

Lewis Junior High School Auditorium  
5170 Greenbrier Avenue • San Diego





HARTMAN

# COMPUTER HARDWARE

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#1) IBM (clone) 386 SX

4mb RAM 200 meg HARD DRU.  
SVGA MONITOR

#2) IBM (clone) 386 SX

1mb RAM 50 meg HARD DRU.  
SVGA MONITOR

#3) IBM (clone) 286

1mb RAM 50 meg HARD DRU  
SVGA MONITOR

— NO FAX —



1. Apple II C
2. Mac Plus w/external drive
- 3 Mac Classic
4. Mac Powerbook
5. Email at both work locations (Listy's + Bob's)
- b. Mac Centris<sup>600</sup> (at Listy's work)

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7M



Rich & Liz Riel

Fax line 483-6950

486 PC 2400 modem VGA HP2 laser printer 180 meg hard drive

Margaret & Bud

Fax line 943 1314

MacIntosh, Centros 660 Power book CD player laser printer Apple GS  
1440 modem

Ed & Jan

486 PC 2400 modem VGA HP inkject Color printer 220 meg hard drive  
CD player and sound card



R.F.N.L.  
Runny Nose Column  
AKA Dad Riel

Dear Dad Riel,

Recent events in the on going saga of my health (or lack there of) have made it time to update the family. During the past month I have been experiencing vision problems in my left eye. I have found that whenever I bend over or squat down I loose vision in one eye. The field of vision closes in as if I were looking through a long tunnel.

Friday, January 28th, I went in to see my Neuro-Ophthalmologist and after two hours of testing received the bad news. The Graves disease, which is responsible pushing my eyes out, has advanced to the point that it is pinching my optic nerve. If left alone I will loose my eye sight in short order. Since that isn't an option I want to consider, the course of action to take starts out conservatively. Starting immediatly my dosage of prednisone was brought from 20mg per day to 100mg per day. If in two weeks, (and if my stomach can take it) the nerve compression has not reversed itself we go on to stage two which is that I will have to go in to the hospital and receive prednisone via IV in massive doses. The doctor does not feel sure either will work but wants to try because the next options are not so good. I will be forced into making a decision between radiation therapy or surgery. The radiation only has about a 50/50 chance of working and can lead to cancer in the eye years down the road. The decompression surgery involves cutting out part of the skull behind the eye opening the orbit into a sinus cavity. None of this sounds like much fun but it beats the heck out going blind. Tomorrow morning I'm going in for another CT scan and will see my doctor Wed. I'll update you as soon as I find out more.



Dear Grandpa,

Basketball season has started for me, and I thought I would keep you up to date on what's happening in case you need something for the newsletter. I have tried out for the Point Loma High Freshman basketball team and ~~am~~ I am starting in all of ~~our~~ our games and am the leader in scoring. I have been chosen by coaches in my area to play in our **YMCA** traveling team and ~~was~~ ~~on~~ ~~our~~ ~~first~~ game we beat Mission Valley 56-16. I had 15 points. Our team is named the Peninsula Hornets. Against Downtown yesterday the score was <sup>FORFEIT</sup>. Nathan and Chris are both playing on basketball teams at the Pt. Loma basketball league, and they're both doing pretty good. Well, just thought I'd write you in case you need something to put in the newsletter and to keep you up with what's new!

Your  
Grandson,  
Kevin  
Dial



# RISL-MEHAN

## NEWS

- ① Megan was voted by her class as outstanding student of the month
- ② Michael was ~~picked~~ <sup>selected</sup> ~~voted~~ by the teachers as one of the 3 students of the week ~~was~~ (at of about 1,000 students) last week
- ③ Megan's soccer <sup>AAA Lightning</sup> (team) will be playing in the state cup
- ④ Michael ~~was selected to be~~ is eligible to be part of the John Hopkins Talent Search and will be taking the SAT test in March.

These are two poems Megan wrote - if you use only one she wants it to be the feeling of sadness

The Image of Love

Love is never ending  
it stays with you all your life  
Love can be helpful  
misuse it and love will turn against you  
Love is the passion you have each other  
but don't let looks take you in  
Fill your heart with  
the love for some  
Not the hate for others

Megan

§ The feeling of Sadness by Megan

It hovers over you ~~like a~~  
like a dark cloud.  
Clinging to you like it  
will never let go.  
It swells up inside you  
getting bigger and bigger  
with each step you take.