

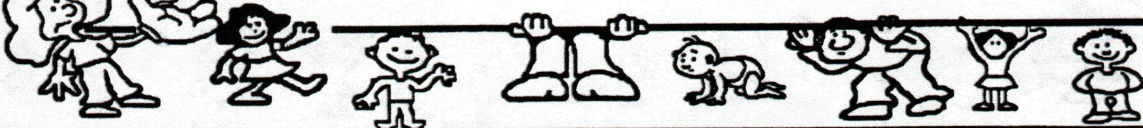
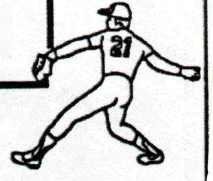


The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

February, 1999

RFNL0951



A new look for Riel Bowl VIII Benesch family wins new Family Challenge game – Kids enjoy White Elephant gift exchange

January 1, 1999 was another exciting day for the whole family. The members began arriving at about 11:00 a.m., and enjoyed some snacks and drinks. Shortly thereafter, Robert introduced the latest addition to the Riel Bowl festivities, the Family Challenge game. The families were divided into eight color-coded teams, and each given a flag with the team color and a package of contest items. In addition, some common use tools were provided in the garage. The object of the game was to start at a given point on the tool shed wall and follow a complicated set of instructions requiring a knowledge of the family make up. In order to determine direction, each team had to improvise a compass, using a cork and a magnetized needle floating in a pie dish of water. With the help of the compass each team had to locate its flag at the proper place. The winning team was the one that came as close as possible to the correct target location., as determined by Commissioner Bob. After a certain amount of confusion, all of the teams placed their flags as directed. The winning team, the Benesch family, missed their target by only about two feet. This win qualified Carol for a spot on the Jeopardy game contest.

In the meantime, Committee Member F. Riel verified the crossword puzzle contest results, and a tie was declared between Listy and Birdy. Consequently, the tie breaker puzzle was used to resolve the second spot on the Jeopardy Game. Birdy had the most correct responses, and was declared the winner.

Lunch was served next, and the prime rib roast cooked by Bob was great, as usual. There was lots of other food, and everyone enjoyed their fill.

The Jeopardy game was next on the program, and the third constant spot was selected by blind draw. Listy was the winner, but she graciously gave her place to Ed. The game was hotly contested, and the eventual winner was Carol, who ended up with \$1400. Birdy was second, with \$1200, and Ed third, with \$800.

During the Jeopardy game the kids had a White Elephant gift exchange, monitored by Michael. Commissioner Bob ran the parent's exchange, and afterwards the gifts were

distributed to everyone. Listy and Bob won the RFNL dine out certificate, and are checking out restaurant options. Thus ended the best celebration ever, and we all owe Bob and Karla a big **THANK YOU** for once again inviting us into their home for this great party. It was a great way to start off 1999.

We took a lot of pictures, and a few are shown below.



took a while to find a suitable date. However, January 17th was ok, and we started off with lunch at the Peking Palace buffet line. This restaurant, located behind the Red Lobster on Sports Arena, serves a great buffet, which we have enjoyed on several occasions. After lunch we saw the movie "A Civil Case", which we enjoyed. The birthday photo is not yet available, so it will appear in the February issue of RFNL. We extend to Jason and Kristy a big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Meet a relative from South Carolina



This is Alex Silverman, the son of Susan (Riel) Silverman, hence grandson of Aunt Eloise. Alex is six years old, and his father is Dr. Jason Silverman, who is a professor of history at Winthrop University, in Rock Hill, South Carolina. You may recall that a few months ago Jason kindly sent us a copy of the book "A Rising Star of Promise", which he and a colleague edited, and we enjoyed reading.

Jessica wins lead role in new play

Carol informed us recently that Jessica has been selected to play the lead role in a new CYT production scheduled for next March. We understand she now is very busy learning her lines, and getting ready for the beginning of rehearsals. We will have more details and a program schedule in the next issue of RFNL.

Black eye department

As you can see in the following photo, Bryce Sorem has acquired a black eye and a big scrape on the right cheek. This problem arose during a recent visit to Big Bear, where Alan, Brett and Bryce were vacationing. During a snowboarding session Bryce discovered that two people

couldn't occupy the same space at the same time. The result was a big collision, and the injuries shown in the picture. Fortunately no major harm was done, and we understand Bryce is on the way to a full recovery.



Bad news - Mehan home robbed

A few nights ago Margaret and Bud were awakened at about 4:00 a.m. by the noise of someone moving about in the dining room or living room area. Thinking Michael might have gotten up early they called out, but got no response. They then heard the front door slam, and realized something was wrong. When they went downstairs they found the door to the patio open, lights on, a bureau drawer open, and other evidence of an intruder. Margaret's video camera was gone, along with her purse. A search along the street revealed some of the contents of the purse, but credit cards and her driver's license were gone. She had to cancel her credit cards and close her bank account. The losses are covered by insurance, but the other problems must be dealt with. We certainly hope that there will be no additional problems, and that they will consider better locks for all doors.

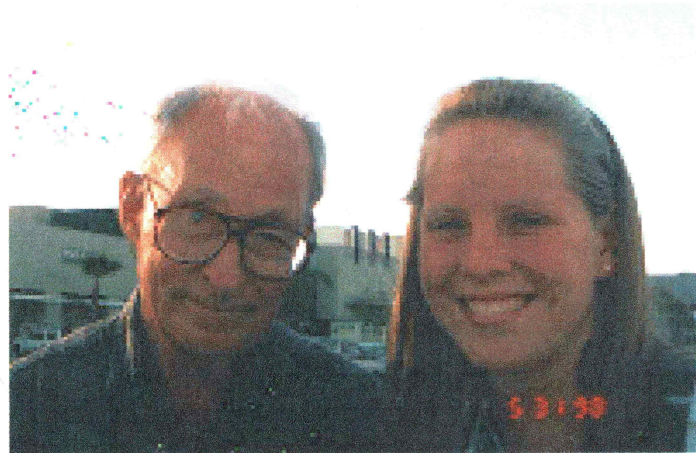
Birthday calendar for February

Michael Riel-Mehan	February 10	18
Brett Sorem	February 10	16

Travel news

Margaret and Megan took off on the 23, for a business trip to New York. We will have the details in the next issue of RFNL. Probably you all are aware that Michelle was one of thirty-six juniors who were selected from all over San Diego by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge to

attend a Leadership Conference this summer in Washington, D.C. The selection process included writing an essay, getting letters of recommendation, and finally an interview. The trip will include a three-day visit to Washington, D.C. The trip will cost \$1100, and Michelle has to raise \$600 on her own, in order to make the trip. If you have not already been contacted, she would greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide. Checks should be made out to FFVF, San Diego Chapter, and forwarded to Michelle. We certainly congratulate Michelle on this award, and wish her well in raising the necessary funds to make the trip possible.



Chevy Classic progress report

We received the following report from Birdy. Unfortunately, the pictures did not show up in the message. We hope to have them for the February issue.

Frank Riel
 From: Dezidoc@aol.com
 Sent: Sunday, January 24, 1999 6:23 PM
 To: frank@riel.org
 Subject: truck up date

Hi dad,
 Bruce and Craig got the truck all apart and ready for the paint and body shop. It is now down in Chula Vista and we won't get it back for 8 weeks. Poor Bruce and Craig don't have any clue what to do with themselves with it gone. Before shipping it off, they got the Ford 9 inch rear end in and discovered that the wheels weren't quite centered in the wheel wells. The problem was remedied the next weekend by removing the springs and turning them around. Thus pushing the rear end back the 3 inches necessary. We removed all the glass and finished dismantling the interior. Basically stripping it to an empty hollow shell, and away it went. The pictures show Craig with his milk, crate, seat and the completed rear end...

I sent two folders of pictures for you!
 Hope it works
 love,
 Birdy

Listy Has "Run In" With Another Driver

Listy reports that she had a small accident last week. It seems that she was hit by another car that ran a stop sign. Listy is fine but her car is

in the shop and may not make a full recovery. Fortunately the other driver's insurance is going to pay for the repairs.

Coincidentally, this is the same week that Kristy started her driver education training. What a good example you are Mom!

Holiday shopping season finally comes to an end

The RFNL shopping team was in full cry throughout the holiday season, and as you can see from the following photos, no expense was spared to make sure they were up to the task. Every special store event was attacked with vigor, and every sale checked out for bargains. The last big



event attracted such a big crowd that parking became a terrible problem. Not only that, traffic was backed up a long way at all the roads leading into Fashion Valley, and it became impossible to even get close to the area, let alone park. The ever-resourceful team resolved this problem by early arrival. However, lunch presented a problem, since Grandpa refused to come anywhere near the malls. Grandma therefore drove the team to the TGIF restaurant on the south side of I-8, where we met for lunch. It was decided to leave her car at the restaurant, and have Grandpa drive the Team back to the mall. After several attempts to find a way to get back to the mall, Grandpa suggested that he drop them off at the Handlery Hotel, and that they walk the rest of the way. They agreed, and when last seen they were headed for Fashion Valley and another big sale.

Dear Grandma YaYa and Grandpa Riel,

This last October I applied for a Leadership Conference with the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The conference includes going to Washington D.C. for three days. The selection process was a series of small tasks. I had to write an essay, get letters of recommendation, and have an interview. Only thirty-six juniors from all over San Diego were selected to go on the trip and I was lucky enough to be one of them. The cost of the conference is \$1100. The Freedoms Foundation is giving me \$500 as scholarship, and wants me to raise the other \$600. So far I have raised \$175. I have written letters to organizations in my community to ask for their help in funding my trip. I am writing you this letter to ask for your help as well. Please do not feel obligated to donate anything. I know that sometimes it is hard to fund everyone that you would like. If you would like to help toward this trip, please do not make your check payable to me. Make the check payable to FFVF, San Diego Chapter. The reason for that is if you make your check out to the foundation, it is tax deductible for you. I really appreciate your consideration for this trip. I know that I will have a great time!!

Love Always,

Michelle J. Hartman

Dear Mom and Dad,
Zürcher Ansichten

7H 099



We're here! What an
adventure! We love Zürich!
So much to see and do! We
took a flat boat (see photo)
up and down Lake Zürich!
The boats are just like
buses here. You can get
on and off wherever you
please. We saw our
1st European Churches
today! I was amazed
by their beauty! Tomorrow
we will take a train to
Germany. LOOK out
world - Here we come!
♡ Bird + Bruce

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Frank & Edith Riel
1875 Lyndon Rd.
San Diego, CA ~~92104~~
USA 92103