



Travel news in July - Bob Riel in Guam on business, followed by family vacation in Hawaii - Margaret, Bud, and Megan visit Beijing, China

July was a big month on the travel front, and we have the following first hand reports. Margaret provided the following account, with pictures.

MARGARET AND BUD JOIN CONFUCIAN ORDER

During the time that Margaret, Megan, and Bud were in Beijing, China for an international telecommunications conference, they were convinced to join a Confucian religious order by local religious zealots. Margaret said that she was overwhelmed by the purity of thought associated with the religious group. Bud said it was the heat-temperatures ranging from 95-115 degrees while they were there.



When Margaret was not accosting people arriving on planes to join their new sect, she participated in the 7th Annual I*learn Conference. The conference is composed of teachers involved in the "ministry" of education from 60 countries. They all share ideas about ways to improve teaching, especially concerning vital social issues such as racial conflict, world health, hunger, exploitation of child labor, and preservation of the environment. The teachers and their students use the internet as a means of communication and to design exciting educational activities.

Megan, too, participated in a conference while in Beijing- the

4 th Annual I*learn Youth Summit. Students from around the world met in daily workshops to report on their educational experiences and to plan future socially-relevant educational activities. Megan renewed friendships with past participants and made new friends as well. She also found time to teach local Chinese residents some swing dance steps and to dance 'till dawn in the conference disco.

Serving as "designated spouse", Bud had slightly more freedom to visit Tienanmen Square while Megan and



Margaret were locked into air conditioned conference rooms. However, Margaret escaped from the conference long enough to visit The Forbidden

City, the Silk Market, and the Summer Palace. The conference provided tours to the Great Wall and Ming Tombs.

The most striking memory Bud and Margaret report is the juxtaposition of abject poverty and the most modern of office buildings. Beijing is extremely clean and punctual and inexpensive transport costing. .12 for the busses and .40 for the underground. The underground runs 31 miles from th e eastern to the western edge of the city of 12 million.





Thanks, Margaret and Bud for this interesting report on your latest trip.

We also have a report from Robert on his business trip followed by a family vacation in Hawaii.

Travel News from Canada to the South Pacific

June was a busy travel month for the Riel's of Alpine. On June 13, Karla and I left for Vancouver B.C. so I could attend a three day conference relating to work. However, by Friday when the rest of the group went golfing (why would someone want to do that?) we went exploring the great northwest. Both Friday and Saturday were spent on the road and in the hills above Vancouver. We hiked 3-4 miles the first day and about ten miles the next.

We visited several of the local falls and spent a lot of time walking along the many rivers in the area. We visited a posh ski resort (very little snow was left) and realized that skiing was very compatible to the Riel girl's lifestyle. Not the skiing, mind you, it's the ski villages, they're nothing more than a big shopping center! Well, fortunately for me Karla dislikes shopping as much as I do, so we spent less than 30 minutes there and the rest of the time in the redwood covered hills.

We arrived back home on Sunday afternoon (Father's Day - that's why we were not at the ball game) and the following Sunday I was off to Guam to speak at an international conference on career training. I was a guest of the United States Department of Labor and spoke to a crowd of a few hundred including the Governor of Guam, U.S. Secretary of Labor, Congressman, Senators, and dignitaries from all of the Pacific Rim countries.

Guam is as close as you can get to being in a foreign country without actually being in one (Guam is a U.S. protectorate). They have their own language and you still have to pass through customs to enter or leave. However, if you overlook the high heat and humidity it's a nice place to visit. Shopping is the number one attraction there and the local economy is based on tourism and the military. 90% of the tourists are from Japan and shopping is so important that the airlines have placed check in booths at the shopping centers. This way an individual can shop until the last moment and then, boarding pass in hand, be bussed

directly to the waiting airplane. The twins would call this Paradise. I call it nuts!

After three days in Guam I was back on a plane to meet the rest of the family in Kauai,



Hawaii (say that ten times, fast) for a weeks vacation. We all had a fun time hiking in the local mountains and swimming in the ocean. The following are reports from Katy and Brian.

Hawaii was so much fun, and we did a lot of hiking, snorkeling, and a ton of shopping. One of the best days was when we went hiking along the Napali coastline. The view was breathtaking. As we came around a corner Mom said it was time to take a rest, so we stopped, took pictures, and sat down on a rock. Well, on this particular corner it happened to be very windy. I had my favorite 49's hat on (just to make my Dad mad). The wind was coming from behind me and my hat was on backwards. A very strong gust came along and knocked it off and down a cliff. My Mom knew how much I loved that hat so she climbed down a windy cliff to rescue it. That was probably the best part of the trip. - Katy Riel

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

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Hawaii is the best place I have ever been to. We hiked, snorkeled, and shopped. The best day was when Mom, while feeding some fish got attacked by a school of big silver fish. She started to scream really loud through her snorkel. Then parrot fish came and all other types of fish came and helped eat the food we had. We fed them sardines and chicken wieners. We were all laughing. She even thought it was funny. Brian Riel

Many thanks to the Bob Riel family for this great report on what must have been a great trip.

More travel news

As we mentioned in the last RFNL Francie and family are vacationing in the Caribbean Islands, and we are looking forward to a full report for the next issue.

Recently Bob and Listy spent a week vacationing in Oregon. Listy reported that they spent a great week hiking, boating, river rafting and generally relaxing (no kids). Listy will be going to Lake Tahoe soon, on a business trip. We hope to hear all about it next month.

Some sports news - Katy Riel competes in Summer Finals



Katy, along with her friend Allison has been participating in Hartland's summer swim league, and on July 29 the finals were held at El Cajon High School. According to Katy, both girls had tons of fun at the champion swim meet. Katy was entered in the Medley relay with Allison, the 50 free, and the 100 free. In the Medley they placed 10th out of about 30 teams. In her 50 free style she placed 24th out of 37 and in the 100 free she placed 12th out of 26. Mom And Dad along with brother Brain were there to

cheer them on.

In another sports oriented activity we have the following report from Francie. We did not have room in July, but better late than never.

Dear Dad:

Even though Brett was not able to spend all of Mothers Day with me, he was doing what he loves to do most, skateboarding, and what could make a mother more content than to know that her children are happy. He placed 5th in the Van's SOCAL 2000 tournament and received a nice plaque with that designation. He also received an additional plaque for being a semifinalist in the Van' World championship of Amateur Skateboarding, which will take place in Anaheim on June 30th. I am very proud of the time and effort my son has put fort in haim passion for this sport, and hope that he will experience the continued success that comes from determination and hard work.

Francie

Birthday celebrations

There were two birthday celebrations in July. Kevin Riel



celebrated his 21st, and we started the fun with lunch at the Black Angus restaurant on Friars Road. Afterwards we went to Admiral Baker Golf Course for a

round of golf. As you can see in the picture Kevin showed great form in getting out of a sand trap. We had a great time, talking about the things Kevin experienced in England.



We had a chance to be a part of Carol's 46th birthday, in that we had planned on taking in a ball game with the Benesch family. One of our regular nights happened to fall on the eve of Carol's birthday, so we met in the parking lot for a tailgate party. We all enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs expertly grilled by Jeff, along with lots of other food.

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As we were heading into the stadium Carol commented that the van was low on gas, and might be a problem getting home. We agreed that we would meet after the game, so we could follow them to the nearest gas station. When we got back to the cars (after a Padre win!) we found out that the van was not low, it was completely out of gas and dead. Therefore, we took Jeff to the nearest station, where he got a gallon of gas. The van still would not start, and we finally took Carol, Jessica, and Dustin home, while Jeff and Jason waited for help from the Auto Club. Believe it or not, the tow truck was out of emergency gas, so they towed the van to the garage. Finally, it was determined that one gallon was not enough, and a second gallon did the trick. It was an unexpected birthday celebration for Carol,



A night out at the Summer Pops concert

Once again Carol and Jeff are working their Active Graphics stand at the Summer Pops series, and we were invited to enjoy one of the shows. We were joined by Bruce and Birdy, and we enjoyed sandwiches and drinks prior to the program. The feature attraction was Doc's Big Band Show - Starring Doc Severinsen. The program included many of popular big band classics, with Doc on the trumpet, and Lynn Roberts doing lots of vocals. It was an outstanding performance, enjoyed by all, and we certainly thank Jeff and Carol for treating us to a most enjoyable evening.



but we were able to sing "Happy Birthday to You" in our car at the stroke of midnight, as we were driving Carol and kids home. In spite of the van problem it was a fun day, and one we will not forget. Anyway, we wish many more happy ones for Kevin and Carol!

Birthday calendar for August

Carol Besech	August 2	46
Nathan Riel	August 13	19
Christopher Riel	August 13	19
Annie Gillingham	August 13	13
Jason Benesch	August 30	19

Mystery photo of the Month

Recently we received from a top secret source the following photograph. As you can see, it is a picture of a cheerleader team mugging it up for the camera. Since they seem to be all boys (in spite of the grass skirts), we can rule out Jessica as the secret family kid in the team. However, who is the family kid included in this oh so cool group???

Mission Hills-How We Got Here From There

We have room for another chapter in the history of our neighborhood, as follows.

The Space Race

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The last of the Mission Hills development took place after the war. Remaining service personnel joined in the quest for housing with those who had come to San Diego during the war. Many could not afford to live in Mission Hills, but their presence pushed prices higher and created a "space race."

It was also a time of changing values and images. Author Oakly Hall would come back from the war to write "The Corpus of Joe Baily" in 1953. The book challenged the image of propriety in Mission Hills and caused an immediate sensation among residents. Some even talked about running the 1934 graduate of Grant Elementary out of town. Finding gasoline to do the running was getting less convenient though. After the war there were at least five full service stations in Mission Hills. That would drop to one self-service station within 30 years.

(To be continued in a future issue)