



## School news 2004-2005 term

Usually we publish in the September RFNL the status of each grandchild. However, we had so much travel news in September that we put off the usual kids status list to this month, so here it is.

Kevin Riel	Graduated, Working and getting ready to enter graduate school
Michael Riel-Mehan	Graduate School USC
Jason Benesch	Graduated, job hunting
Chris Riel	Working at Sea World
Nathan Riel	Sophomore SD City College
Michelle Hartman	Senior SDSU
Tim Riel	Working in San Francisco
Brett Sorem	Senior SFSU
Jessica Benesch	Senior UCI
Craig Hartman	Working
Kristy Gillingham	Junior USD
Megan Mehan	Junior UCB
Curtis Hartman	Junior SDSU
Dustin Benesch	Sophomore UCSB
David Gillingham	Freshman SDSU
Scott Hartman	Freshman SDSU
Bryce Sorem	Freshman Arizona State U
Katy Riel	Freshman SDSU
Lyle Hall	Working
Annie Gillingham	Senior Francis Parker HS
Brian Riel	Sophomore Granite Hills HS
Frank JJ Riel	Freshman USD HS

## And still more travel news!!

We still have more news of the family travel activities in the past summer. We have the following from Listy.

Hi Dad, Here are my "words" about our trip...smile

Bob and I wanted to celebrate our 25th anniversary in a faraway spot, with a little romance tied to it...so of course we had to pick Paris...after all it's the city of love and the place where Lyle was so inspired that he asked Francie to marry him...and, of course, home of the Tour de France - Bob's not-so-new favorite sport of all times. Without a doubt, we loved Paris. I don't know why people say it's dirty or the Parisians don't want us...we only experienced friendly and thoughtful people wherever we went and thought the city looked fabulous from every angle. And believe me, we saw every angle...we walked every quadrant getting a sense of the history, the fashion (go Listy), and the culture. We loved the Eiffle tower (had dinner at the base twice and climbed the stairs as far as we could), the Louvre (seeing the D'Vinci Code first hand...), the Latin Quarter (full of medieval relics) and Notre Dame (those Catholics know how to build churches). Trying to

describe everything we experienced during the nine days we were there is impossible...but trust me, if you haven't been, you need to visit this city

We also spent 3 days in London. This was our second trip to London and

we thought we had arranged to stay in the same hotel as we did before. Unfortunately, we didn't quite remember the name correctly and ended up in an old, trying to be restored - but really tacky, hot, overpriced, room that had zero ventilation and remained a constant temperature of too hot to sleep in...We decided to tough it out, but we highly recommend doing better research - such as air conditioning - to make the trip a little more comfortable if you're planning to be there in August. Our solution was to close out the bar at midnight as that was the only cool place in the building. We did have a great time hanging (no pun intended) in the Tower of London, walking along the Thames River, and checking out the theater (Les Miserables). It was nice to be able to understand the waiters and be able to experience meat and potatoes in so many different fashions, but the



very best part was having two weeks together to reflect on the last 25 years, talk about our current crazy lives, and plan for whatever the future might bring. We decided we travel much better together than we did on our honeymoon (amazing what

living together and raising three kids can do). We're both in better shape than back then (got marathon/triathlon?), and we still feel a wonderful spark of love between the two of us...how good is that? Those are my "words" regarding our trip...and "what we did during our summer vacation." Much love to everyone. Listy



# The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

October, 2004

## More travel news – Bryce and Brett

We have the following reports from Bryce and Brett on their last summer's travel in Europe.

### Hey Grandpa

Well, about Europe. It was a really fun trip. We started in Barcelona and drove through France and all over Italy. We visited Nice (in France), Venice, Florence, Rome, Cinque Terra, and Milan. The Cinque Terra was the most beautiful place we visited. It was 5 cities on the coast of Italy and the only way to get around is either hiking to each of the cities or by train. No cars could make the trip to the cities. Also, Brett made a movie about our trip so you should have him send a copy to you so you can check it out.

On another note, I'm having lots of fun at ASU. I just recently got a pledge to the Delta Chi fraternity. I never thought I was going to rush one but these guys are really cool and I'm having a great experience and meeting lots of people. I hope this helps your newsletter. If you want to know anything else don't hesitate to e-mail me back the questions.  
Bryce

Hey Grandpa - How is everything going in the Southern California world? I hope all is well. As you know, most likely I have been the busiest person since I got out of school last May. I went out to New York and Virginia to visit friends, Hawaii with Mom and Lyle, Europe with Dad and Bryce, Portland to visit a friend, and just all over the place. I am finally back and settled down here in San Francisco, so I decided to send you an email about my European trip.

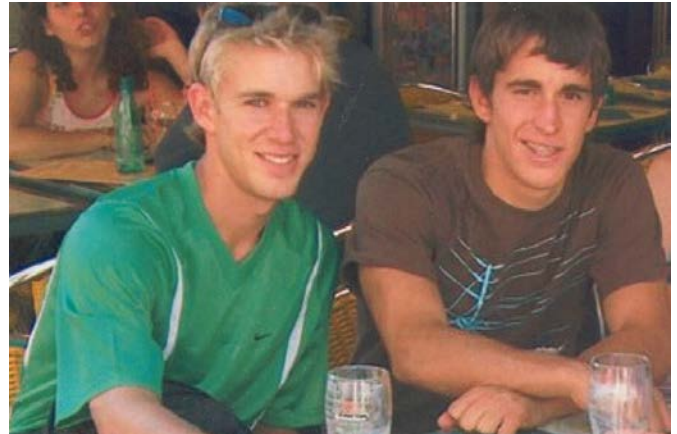
There are way too many stories to tell, so I will just cover the basics. We went for two and a half weeks and covered three different countries, Spain, France, and Italy. We spent most of our time in Italy. However, I left my heart in Barcelona. Just from being there a hand full of days, I can already call the city one of my favorites. It has all that I love in a city and more. The people are wonderful, the food is ten times better than in the States, and there is great skiing and beautiful architecture. We also visited Nice in France; this, however, was not one of our favorite places, mostly because of the people. We traveled all throughout the northern and mid country of Italy, hitting most of the major cities, Florence, Rome, Pisa, Venice, and Milan. We also had an opportunity to experience the sensation of Cinque Terra. This was the smallest and least popular tourist trap of all the places we went in Italy, and it was by far the most breathe taking and comforting. I could never live there because there is absolutely nothing to do besides sit and enjoy the view of the sea. However, it would be on my top three places in the world to go back and visit for a week.

The Sorem family Europe trip was probably a lot different than most other family trips to Europe, for a few reasons. One, we would be renting a car, which was awesome until we nearly blew up the engine. Two, instead of going to all the cities and looking for the best museums to explore, we just walked/skated around looking for skate spots during the day, and searching for the most popular bars at night. We have stories that I don't even want to go into, such as putting diesel fuel in a normal car. There were just too many mishaps to mention. However we did meet an individual in France, our hostel mate Jerry. He is from New Orleans, 22 years old and was traveling Europe on his own. We sort of adopted Jerry and took him with us for half of our trip.

In the end we finally made it back to the States in one piece. I did make a DVD about our Europe trip, so for further detail, you might have to refer to the video, I am a busy college student so I must go. Thanks for everything Grandpa, I miss and love you. PEACE.  
Brett

Thanks, Brett and Bryce, for this interesting account of your summer of 2004 travels. Be sure and bring the DVD to the 2005 Riel Bowl, so we all can share your adventures in

Europe.



### BUD AND MARGARET DO SWEDEN

Bud and Margaret added a little pleasure to one of Bud's business trips in early September. Bud's responsibility to serve as an 'external examiner' of a PhD student at Gotenberg University was the official reason for their trip. The PhD defense in Sweden is much more formal than in the US. Bud was the sole examiner of the PhD student in a two hour oral exam that took place in front of the student's PhD Committee, members of the faculty, friends and family-an audience of about 150 in all. Bud reports that the student did an excellent job answering his questions-and they headed for a big celebration. About 100 people "roasted" and toasted the new PhD; Margaret and Bud left the party at 1:00 because of jet lag-but they were told that is when the band came-and the party lasted until 5:00 Am. They study hard. They party hard! Bud and Margaret were treated to visits to two different islands off the coast of Gotenberg-one hosted by the PhD candidate and her husband; the other hosted by her advisor. These two excursions gave them a taste of the village life that accompanies city life. Those who can afford it have summer



and weekend homes where people retreat for boating, swimming, fishing, and wonderful food.

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October, 2004



In addition to traveling to Sweden, Margaret tried some back and forth traveling, as described in the following note and pictures.

## Margaret Takes off on the High Trapeze

Some of you might remember that Margaret had her first experience on the high trapeze when she turned 50 during a trip to Canada. Well, she has been thinking about a return to the high wires even since a group of circus people set up in the North County. Bud gave her a push to the swing by buying her a gift certificate for her birthday this year. So, once again she soared through the skies, but has yet to learn the part about "the greatest of ease." It is, in fact, very hard work. Megan took a few tries but found the height and the concentration were not as compelling as her new hobby, diving into the depths of the ocean. But Margaret loves the sense of flying. She did manage to get the timing right and get caught by the circus stars.



## Megan takes up Scuba diving

Some time ago we published a report on how Kristy Gillingham had taken up sky diving, and parachuted out of an airplane.



Now we can report that Megan has gone in the opposite direction, descending into the Pacific Ocean off the Northern California coast. She took some interesting pictures of some of the

creatures she encountered on a recent dive.



Horn Shark



Leopard Shark

## Grandpa and Grandma do a little traveling

Although it is pretty small journey, compared to some of the above, Grandpa and Grandma did take off for Las Vegas in September. We had an uneventful trip, enjoyed some success in the casinos and some good food. We also had lunch with our friends Bob and Mary, and exchanged the latest news about each other.



# The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

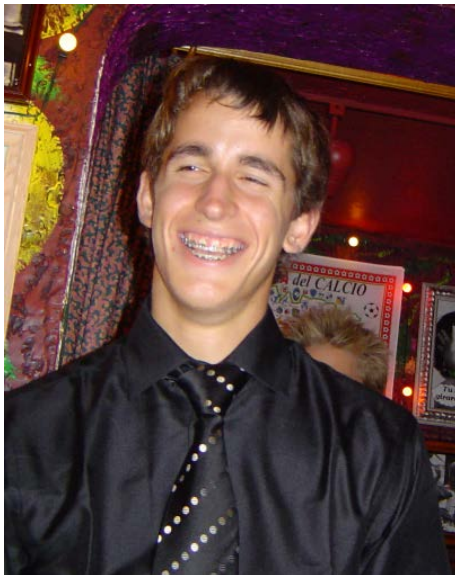
October, 2004

## Update on Grandma's back pain problem

On September 29<sup>th</sup> Grandma met with Dr. Richard Manos, the surgeon who will perform the proposed back surgery. Grandma was pleased to learn that he is Greek, and they got along great. He outlined the procedure he will follow, which involves repositioning the vertebra that is pressing on the nerve. Once realigned, the bone will be restrained by metal pins connecting it to adjacent vertebrae. The operation is fairly major, and involves an approximately 10-12 inch incision. There are the usual risks associated with this kind of treatment, but he was optimistic that her leg pain would be gone. There may be some minor residual back stiffness and pain, but not enough to be concerned about. He said that after a reasonable recovery period (a couple of months) she will be back on the golf course. Since there is a chance that a cortisone shot may provide some temporary relief, this option will be tried first. The first of three authorized shots will be given on the 13<sup>th</sup>, with additional ones (if any) dependent on how well the first one goes. We will keep you posted as the treatment proceeds.

## Francie and Lyle host graduation dinner party for Bryce

We are a little late reporting on this event, but it deserves coverage. In June Francie and Lyle invited a small group of friends to celebrate Bryce's HS graduation. The party took place at the Mira Mesa Buca di Beppo. We enjoyed a wide selection of Italian food and a lot of celebrating. We were



pleased to see Richard Sorem, Alan's brother, and Richard's wife Charmy. Richard practiced law in San Diego for many years, retired recently, and moved to Susanville, near Sacramento. They are operating a bed and breakfast facility, as defined in the following

brochure. If you ever find yourself in that area be sure and look them up.

## Roseberry House Bed & Breakfast



### Innkeepers

Richard & Judith Ernst  
Richard & Charmy Ann Sorem  
609 North Street  
Susanville, CA 96130

530-257-5675

[www.roseberryhouse.com](http://www.roseberryhouse.com)

### History of Roseberry House

Viola May Lowry, one of eight children born to Permelia (Smith) Lowry and Joseph Flemming Lowry, was born May 16, 1860 near Etna, Scott Valley, Siskiyou County, California.

In 1871 at the age of eleven years, Viola moved with her family to Adin, Big Valley, Modoc County which is about 40 miles from the site of the Modoc Indian War. In her late adult years she wrote an account telling of her fright when, at 13 years old, there was an unexpected attack on the settlers in Big Valley by the Modoc Indians. (The original manuscript is in the files of the Modoc County Museum in Alturas, California.)

Her advantages for education were limited but her ambition and determination kept her reading and studying until she acquired a wide general knowledge. Being naturally artistic she started painting at an early age. Over the years she produced many fine landscape paintings, 2 of which hang in the stairwell of Roseberry House.

On May 22, 1877 she married Thomas Alexander Roseberry of Adin, California, a partner in the General Merchandise Store of Roseberry and Knight. From 1885 to 1887, Thomas Roseberry served in the California Legislature as Assemblyman from Modoc and Lassen Counties. He later engaged in Real Estate, Insurance and the Livestock business in Big Valley. They raised a family of 2 boys, George K. and Thomas A. Jr., and 2 girls Daisy T. and Mary Allen.

1892, Thomas A. Roseberry was appointed Registrar of the United States Land Office and the family moved to Susanville where she continued painting as a hobby, giving many fine landscapes to friends and acquaintances. Many of these still adorn their homes and are highly prized as works of one of Northern California's pioneering early women artists.

In 1902 the Roseberrys built and occupied their Susanville home, Roseberry House, which at the time was considered one of the community's finest. It still stands at the original location on North Street at the end of N. Lassen Street.

Viola May (Lowry) Roseberry passed away in her home on March 24, 1936 and was buried beside her husband in the old Susanville Cemetery.

Biography provided by her grandson,  
George McDow, Jr. - 1984



It was a great party, and we congratulate Bryce on this special day. As we reported on page one, Bryce is already enrolled and studying at Arizona State University.