



## Family celebrates Easter at the Francie/Lyle home

After many years of celebrating Easter Sunday at Lake Murray Park, this year a new location was volunteered. Francie and Lyle graciously agreed to open their home, with its extensively remodeled yard and semi-outdoor bar, pool table, and assorted amenities. Thus, the days of football and soccer in the hot sun were replaced by the more sedate pool shooting and talking, drinking, and snacking. In addition to the facility, Lyle graciously volunteered to broil whatever entrée each family brought. As you can see in the below picture, he did a great job, and everyone enjoyed this new freedom of choice for their meal. In addition, there was salad, baked potatoes, veggies, and lots of snacks, dip, and drinks. Cold cuts and cheese sandwiches were OK at Lake Murray, but this Easter was by far the best.



**AND A HAPPY EASTER TO ALL !!**

# The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

May, 2006

## JJ volunteers for “Young Neighbors In Action” program

Will spend two weeks in June/July in Gallup, NM

Recently we received the following letter from JJ telling us about his summer volunteer work with a church group. We congratulate JJ on spending some of his summer vacation helping those who need help.

This summer I will be joining a team of youth and adults from my church, Ascension Catholic Parish, who have set aside a week of their time to help needy children and families in other communities. We will be joining other participants from across the country in a program called *Young Neighbors In Action*.

My team will consist of 20 youth and 4 adults, have volunteered to work in Gallup, New Mexico. We will be helping that community during the last week of June into the first week of July.

I am responsible for raising funds for my expenses for this week of charitable work, that is why I am writing to you, to see if you would help support me to raise the funds I need for this project. Your donation will be greatly appreciated.

Enclosed is some additional information about Young Neighbors In Action. Should you require more information, please feel free to contact me at my home phone, 1-858-277-7547 or you may also contact Dan or Delores Collins at Ascension Church, (858) 279-2752 Ext. 24.

Please return your generous and tax deductible donation in the enclosed envelope by, June 14, 2006. Checks should be made payable to Ascension Church marked YNIA. Once again, thank you for your generous support.

For last year's YNIA trip, we went to Texas. Here is how it works. Months before the trip we know what state we are going to but we do not know what we are going to do in that state. We do not figure out until the night before we leave. Last year in San Antonio, Texas, I got to help the mentally challenged at Mission Hills facility. I learned that they are not so much different from us. Most of them can still play and read and talk, they just have social problems when it comes to talking to us. This information helped me understand them better and taught me more. This was a great experience for me and that is why I am hoping you will help me go this year.



## Grandpa and Grandma both sick

After lunch at the Easter day celebration Grandma suddenly became violently sick, and had to be helped to the car and taken home. She was cared for by her daughters, especially Margaret, who came home to help get her into bed. Fortunately, by nightfall she was somewhat improved and later on got a good nights sleep. It is not clear what caused the problem. Perhaps the chicken dish she ate during lunch was not fresh, and also she soon afterwards developed a severe cold. Grandpa also caught the cold, and both were fairly sick. We finally (on the following Sunday) both checked in at the urgent care facility and were prescribed medication which helped out, and we both felt better at the end of the following Sunday. We were told later by Listy that husband Bob, who helped get Grandma to the care at Easter was also sick during that night. We understand he has recovered nicely.

In addition to all of the above health problems, the wrist Grandma injured during the fall she experienced last month has not really improved very much. She visited her back surgeon once again, and he suggested she discard the removable brace she had been wearing and replace it with a more conventional cast. After two weeks the cast was removed and her wrist was x-rayed once again. Like all of the various prior x-rays, the doctor could find no fractures of any kind. However, her wrist is still quite tender, and the doctor has recommended physical therapy. No schedule has been established so far, but she hopes to begin very soon. Hence, April was not a very pleasant month, but we are hoping for some improvement in the near future.

## Bob Gillingham's father, Dave, has heart attack

We learned recently from Listy that Dave experienced a heart attack when he and his wife, Martha, were away from their home in Palm Springs. He was hospitalized briefly, and now has a pacemaker. We understand he is OK now, and back at home. Martha also is not well, and is experiencing painful back problems which have put her in a wheelchair. We certainly hope that both are doing better, and send our best wishes from our entire family.

## Ed Riel was also sick recently

In March and April, Ed was quit sick for several weeks. He told us that he acquired a cold which seemed to get a little better but then return. Finally, after suffering for several weeks he called his doctor and told him that he needed some help. After describing his symptoms the doctor prescribed some medication. That solved the problem, and he made a rapid recovery.

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[Grandpa's picture in the literacy web site](#)

## Welcome

**Volunteer for The San Diego Council on Literacy and change a life today! from the S.D. Council on Literacy taken**

Our Mission is to champion a more literate community in San Diego County by providing creative leadership to new and existing literacy efforts.



Thank you for visiting The San Diego Council on Literacy Website. The council is composed of over 20 literacy centers which provide learning opportunities in adult basic

education, GED, English as a Second Language, and youth and family literacy.

**Our Sponsors:** The council supports these literacy organizations by raising literacy awareness in the community and placing volunteer literacy tutors and adult learners with literacy programs that best suit their needs.



If you need help with your reading, writing, math skills,

please call our hotline at **1-888-850-READ (7323)**. The San Diego Council on Literacy 2515 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 111

The above is a small excerpt taken from the Council's web site, and shows Grandpa working with one of his learners, Ruby Greys. He has two learners, and is teaching English, phonics, math, writing, and arts and literature. He was pleased to learn that Listy participated in the recent Race for Literacy marathon, which is one of the most important activities supporting the literacy programs.

## Kristy wins scholarship award

Recently we received the following e-mail from Listy.

Hi Dad,  
We have some proud parent moments to share. Kristy has been initiated into the Phi Beta Kappa Society for being in the top 10% of her graduating class at USD. This organization has been around since the 1700's and we're very proud to have Kristy be inducted into

this club.

Listy



We congratulate Kristy for this scholastic achievement, and wish her the best in her future. In a recent conversation she stated that her plan, after graduation, is to spend a year at SDSU in order to win her teaching credentials. After that she plans on teaching English in the local high school system.

## Latest news from Curtis in Korea

Birdy has shared with us two recent e-mails from Curtis, as follows.

I am sorry that I have been out of touch. When I got back from the leave I immediately went on a two week training mission up in Pyongtaek. It was a class and then a practical exercise where we ran a mock investigation for a week. There were 14 people ranging from PFCs like me to a couple Sergeants and one major in the class who had been each selected because they were the best in their respective office. At the end we presented the results of the investigation to a colonel and Sergeant major. To make a long story short at the end of the presentation the head instructor said that the instructors had selected two students as the best overall in the class and so I was one of them. I got one coin from the Colonel and one from the instructors. So - yea. My first time meeting our new battalion commander and I got a coin from him. That was cool. So that is my news. I miss you guys. I am sorry that I couldn't call on my birthday, but I was in class from 7 am to 10 pm and then I slept. I hope everything is ok back home. I love you guys.

Hi mom,  
Happy mothers day! How is everything at home! Sorry that I can't call you right now, I am up in Seoul for a useless training. Blah, a week and one half wasted "learning" how to use a computer system that is broken. It will be fun because a lot of my friends are here for the same class, but overall it is something of a pain to be away from the barracks where all of my stuff

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is. I miss you guys a lot. I hope everyone is having fun. I am sorry that I have been so far out of touch lately. I will try to be better. Work is going well, we have a new detachment commander at the MID, which will help a lot with the organizational problems that we have been having. I got another coin on Friday from a colonel on post when I met with him and spoke with him about our office and the programs that we can run. So that was exciting. Anyways, let me know what everyone is up to. You are a great mom and I miss you tons. (PS Thanks for the Easter basket, it put a huge smile on my face. I loved the movies. Thanks, dad, for the South Park DVD from the Tivo.)  
Your son, Curtis



## Jessica graduates from Continental Flight Attendants School

Thursday, April 13, 2006 was the big day for Jessica and the 32 other members of class 0606 of the Continental Airlines Flight Attendants class. As Jessica pointed out in a recent communication, (See April RFNL) it was a tough and demanding series of classes and exercises, and many did not survive. However, Jessica came through with flying colors,



and when last seen was heading back to the Continental base in New Jersey. From there she took off on duty for a flight to Cleveland. We are not sure where she is now, but assume she is busy flying around the country or world. We look forward to news from her as she travels, and hope she checks in here in San Diego from

time to time. We congratulate her on successfully completing the course, and wish much success in her new career.

## Brett graduates from San Francisco State University

As you can see from the following announcement, Brett will finish at SFSU at the end of this month. According to Francie, he is planning on spending a year studying performing arts in New York City. When he finishes he will be looking for work in the movie industry. We hope to see him soon, and learn more about his future plans.



*San Francisco State University  
Announces that  
Brett Richard Sorem  
Is finally freaking graduating  
With a  
Bachelors in Cinema  
And a  
Minor in Performance Arts*

*He will be in a ceremony  
For theater  
May twenty-seventh  
Two thousand and six  
At nine in the morning.  
Come and enjoy the show,  
Or send best wishes.  
(Send a check or acceptance)*