

Family celebrates Easter 2007 at the Francie/Lyle home

For the second year the Family gathered at Greyling Drive to celebrate the end of Lent and the beginning of spring. By noon most of the crowd had arrived and were beginning to set out the various food items they had prepared. By 1:30 everyone was there and the various food items had been spread out on tables in the back yard. Lyle was busy grilling sausages and hamburgers, and the sandwich bar, with cold cuts, cheeses, vegetable snacks was busy. Everyone enjoyed one of the best lunches ever. Many commented on how much nicer the back yard and picnic area was compared to the prior Lake Murray park location. This was especially true this year, since there was a slight bit of rain, forcing the group to retreat to the covered area or the fireplace bar protected by an umbrella. The pool table got lots of use, especially with the grandchildren. Other favorite after lunch spots were the two TV sets tuned in to the Masters Golf Tournament. It was another great party, and we thank Francie and Lyle for opening up their fabulous and beautiful back yard for all of us to enjoy.



The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

April, 2007

Robert celebrates 50th birthday

Surprise party arranged by Karla, Katy, and Brian at Best Western Hotel in Mission Valley - many family and friends enjoy drinks, dinner, and a chance to roast Robert

Although Robert actually turned 50 on April 9th, the surprise party took place on Saturday, the 7th. He was told by Karla that she and the children were taking him to dinner at a restaurant, he did not know about the big plans they had made. The affair was in a large private dining room, and all guests ere asked to wear black and white clothing, to show mourning for his advanced age. He arrived on time, and was duly surprised (sort of) by the assembled crowd of family and friends. Richard had set up his computerized music equipment, and provided for that part of the program. After a great dinner (prime rib or salmon) the formal speech making about Roberts past began. Everyone who wanted to had a chance to tell their favorite recollections of Robert growing up. After lost of fun and laughter Robert was allowed to rebut the various items, which he did. Then came cake and good wishes expressed by all. Finally, Robert commented on how close the family has been and is, and on how much interaction there is, especially when one member needs help of support from the others. It was a great party, and we all wished for Robert and his family many more happy and exciting years!!



And a great big happy birthday to Robert from all his family and friends!!!!

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Termites turn up in Encinitas

We got the following news from Margaret by e-mail.
Hi Dad,

The Riel/Mehan household had some unwanted guests that were hard to get rid of. They tried freezing the litter buggers a few years ago but they just marched west for the winter and were back kicking out what they didn't need. The company went out of business and termites remained active as ever. The ads on the radio and in the paper kept promising "no fuss" x-orange ways of making the house less hospitable to termites. However, when the agents came to the house they shook their heads and said that tenting was the only choice. Well, after lots of damage and wishful thinking, Bud and Margaret trimmed, moved, and tied up plants, bagged all their food and moved out for two days. The house was certified bug free for a day. And now there are carpenters and painters sanding, replacing, "souring" the word to termites and painting with texture (Bud likes the idea of sour wood). When it is finished, we should never have to paint again. But who knows if the sour wood on the outside will keep the termites from finding the tasty wood on the inside.



Alls well that ends well? Not so fast. According to Margaret the agreement they signed with a painting contractor included repair of any termite damage prior to the application of an anti termite treatment and a 30 year warrantee paint. When they started the work they found considerably more termite damage than expected. Therefore they pointed out in the fine print of the contract an exclusion for the damage uncovered. This required a renegotiation of the agreement. After some hard bargaining Margaret and Bud were able to establish a price and scope that was very close to the original contract. The work is now virtually

complete, and the house is termite safe for a long time. It looks nice, too, so all did end up OK.

Some Family news items

At the Easter party we were told by **Kristy** the good news (no, not about the wedding, which is on schedule. The official wedding photos were taken a few days ago) that she had landed her first job, at her first interview. Starting in the fall semester she will be teaching English in the 7th grade at the Francis Parker School campus in Linda Vista. Also, **Michael** told us that a technical paper based on the research he and colleges are doing has been accepted for publication. Michael will present the paper at a conference being held in Vienna this summer. He has promised us a copy so we can review its contents in a future RFNL. **Megan** has applied for a position at UCSD, and hopes to be working with a team evaluating new cancer treatment medications. **Jessica** was in town recently, but had to get back to work before the last week-end parties. According to Carol, Jessica now is flying exclusively on international flights, mostly to and from Italy, one of her favorite places. Curtis is very busy in **Korea**, and reports that he will be visiting Texas, to take part in a special training course scheduled for a couple of weeks, in late April. Margaret reports that **Bud** recently got another teaching award. We will have details in the May RFNL. Also, **Margaret** recently returned from a business trip to Chicago (cold and snowy) and we will have a report from her on that trip. Carol reports that **Dustin's** Lacrosse team recently scored a lopsided victory in a recent game. Bob G. recently competed in another iron man marathon, and finished this grueling race in good time.

Another new car

The latest new car buyers were Margaret and Bud, who opted for the popular Toyota Prius hybrid. They were kind enough to drive us to the Robert 50th party in it, and it surely is a fine automobile.



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Catch the News

April, 2007

Hello, Bobby, well, hello Bobby
It's so nice to get this chance to say
hello
You're looking old...Bobby
We can tell Bobby
You're still growin, you're still
baldin,
And you're grayin too
We hear your friends sayin
As the band's playin
Robert looks way older than he
really is...
So, take his hat, fellas
Don't take any of his crap fellas
Bobby'll never be a lad again...

Hello, Robert, yes hello Robert
We all know you through the years
as the Co-mish
You think the game playin
Keeps us all stayin
But it's really just the rib roast, that
is so delish..
So....make those silly rules Bobby
Hold that Scepter high Bobby
If it makes you feel real good just do
it now, but..
We all want your beef, Bobby
Bring us that juicy treat, Bobby
We don't care just why or how
Come on out and take a bow
Just give us a little Angus Cow
Right now....(Sorry Craig)

Hello Sweetie, well, hello Sweetie
Carla's pet name really doesn't
seem to fit
Cuz your feet are stinky
Right down to your pinkies
How she touches them just makes
us really very sick
But she's your wife, Robert
We tried to warn her, Robert
And dear Katy and young Brian
know the drill so

Carla gets a thrill, Robert
Rubbing those nasty dogs, Robert
Grab that barca- lounge now,
Peel those socks and blow some
ctow
CARLA'S IN A RUBBING MOOD
RIGHT NOW

Hello, Bobby, Well, hello Bobby
We hope we aren't embarrassing
you at all
You're looking round...Bobby
Not profound...Bobby...
And you're runnin, and you're
workin'
But asleep by six
We feel the room sayin
As the band's playin
Robert Riel thinks he's the boss of
all of us
But, Golly gee, fellas
He's not all that key, fellas
Bobby is turning old today
Bobby is really old today
Bobby is finally fifty years of age....

Some more 50th birthday

The song lyrics shown on the left column were written by Listy, to be sung (?) to the tune of "Hello Dolly" by the RFNL Choir at Robert's 50th party. Due to circumstances beyond their control the members had only limited time to practice, hence their rendition at the party was not really up to the high standards which they have performed to in the past. However, their rendition was much enjoyed by Robert and the audience.



SD Citadel Alumni Club holds Muster Formation meeting.

The meeting was held in the top floor of the Perk Tower condominium building in the Bankers Hill area. Since one of the top floor units was vacant, Richard made arrangements with the owner to use the facility for the meeting. The



"Muster Formation" format has the members forming a circle, arranged from the oldest to

the youngest member present. Starting with the oldest each person read off the name of a classmate who has passed away during the past year. As each name is read all reply "here, Sir". It was a very moving ceremony. There was one slight problem associated with the meeting cite. Upon arrival we found that the elevator was not working. In order to get to the meeting area everyone had to walk up twelve stories. We all made safely, a tribute to the physical condition of Citadel grads. By the time the meeting was over the elevator had been fixed.

Margaret celebrates birthday

We were a little late celebrating a March 6th 57th birthday, but we enjoyed it anyway. We set out to find a suitable lunch restaurant, but had some difficulty. The Gathering (Washington St. was still closed due to a fire some time ago. Remodeling is still in work. Another restaurant across the street also was closed. We went down Washington street to the Saffron, only to find that it seemed to serve only chicken dishes. We finally settled for a Japanese restaurant Yoshido, where we enjoyed a nice meal. It was a fun day, and we wish Margaret many, many more of the same.



History of waste disposal in SD

Here is a continuation of the Curtis Hartman report we printed in Nov. 2005, Feb 2007, and Mar 2007.

Two months later the City declared the wharf to be unsafe and had to close it. *Utilissimo* then operated out of a pier at the foot of what is now the Pacific Coast Highway. Prominent businessman J.D. Spreckles owned the pier next to the one used to load *Utilissimo* with refuse. He complained that the garbage pier was "unsightly" and claimed that the garbage rotting on the pier caused 20 of his workers to get sick. In response to the pressure of Mr. Spreckles, the City proposed that a new refuse collection facility be built at the foot of Hawthorne Street.

The Hawthorne Street proposal appeased Spreckles but left the residents of the area around the proposed collection site furious. Led by Alonzo Horton the residents demanded that the Harbor Commission put a stop to the City's plans. Sensing an opportunity to force the City into doing what the Commission had wanted all along, the Commissioners passed a resolution ordering the City to move refuse collection to the wharf at the foot of 9th Street. The City refused to comply and the resulting stalemate lasted for a year.

(to be continued)