

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News December, 2009 RFNL 226

Family Thanksgiving celebration at Mehan home

Once again the family assembled at the home of Bud and Margaret for another Thanksgiving Day celebration. The group began to arrive at 11:00 a.m., and by noon a crowd of parents, children and grandchildren (plus girl friends) had assembled and were enjoying drinks and snacks. Meanwhile, two turkeys were roasting, but in a non-traditional way. Instead of whole turkeys each had been precut to remove the bones, and subsequently reassembled. This procedure not only produced a delicious product, but in addition greatly simplified the carving process. In addition to the turkey a large salmon fillet was wrapped in aluminum foil and cooked in the outdoor broiler. There were lots of side dishes, including mashed potatoes, yams, salad, vegetables, assorted breads, etc. It was a great meal, served in buffet style and enjoyed by all. Afterwards many of the more active guests adjourned to the upstairs for a game of golf. However, there were no golf balls rattling around the TV room. Instead, the latest computer game technology had been installed. It consisted of a computer hooked up to the TV which displayed a series of typical golf course holes, complete with tees, fairways, bunkers, water hazards, greens, etc. Two contestants each used a hand held device somewhat like a remote. Holding it like a golf club and swinging it in the proper way produced an image of a golfer hitting the image of a ball, thus propelling it from tee to green. It was very realistic, and a lot of fun. In addition to golf the program provides for: tennis, bowling, baseball, and other games. It was a great party, enjoyed by all, and we offer a great big thank you to Margaret and Bud, along with all who contributed food and drinks.



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Friends and Family, December 5, 2009

Before you get too excited, let me clarify...I am doing Bike & Build again this year, not a cross-country summer trip, but an alumni ride over New Years! It's called the [Chris Webber Memorial Ride](#) and goes from Orlando to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. It's reserved only for those who have braved a summer (or two) of cross-country cycling and are jonesing for another blissful Bike & Build experience...only this time it's a tenth of the distance, flat as a board, and still worth every minute.

Now I'm faced with another fund raising challenge, but no where near as intimidating as that staggering 4G I conquered the past summers [FYI, I've ended up raising nearly \$9,000 (including in-kind gifts) for my last trips...thanks to you all]. For CWM, we're required to raise **\$400** in order to go on the trip. This money goes toward the [CWM Fellowship](#) which supports affordable housing projects conducted by Bike & Build alum. Once again, I'm asking for a little help in reaching my fundraising goal. This trip is like Bike & Build on crack, everything happens so quick...my deadline to raise the funds is merely weeks away!! By **DECEMBER 10th** I need to have raised the \$400...so please [donate](#) whatever you can.

Rest assured, I have pledged my commitment to this cause with a hundred dollar donation as well as a firm letter to Santa stating that all I want for Christmas is to do Bike & Build once again. **I greatly appreciate any help you can offer in supporting my trip and the affordable housing cause.** Love, Timothy Riel

We understand from Ed that Tim was successful in raising the money and will be taking the trip as outlined above. We think Tim's participation in this low cost housing building program is very commendable, and congratulate him for his determination. One thing we do ask from him in return is an after the trip report on what they accomplished.

Grandpa, Grandma and Ed revisit Seaworld

It's been sometime since our original Seaworld visit last summer, and with Listy and Birdy not available we decided to repeat the experience. Although we thoroughly enjoyed the first visit, somehow or other we thought that the exhibits were more spectacular than before. It was a cool fall day, so we all were bundled up. Also, the cool weather reduced the number of visitors, which made it easier to better view the exhibits. We took in the Shamu show and enjoyed it, but it was pretty much like the first one. However, the shark and penguin encounters were most interesting. Because of the small crowds we were able to get close-up viewing, so we

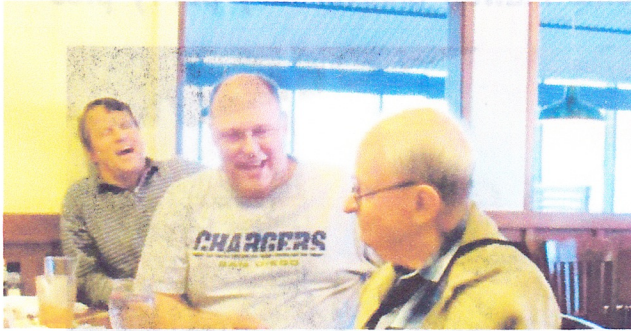
could really appreciate these exhibits. It was a fun day, and we agreed that we would repeat the experience soon.





DADS 91 Birthday Party

Serenaded by the



TWO TENORS

As well as



MOM AND SINGING SISTERS



AND THE ENTIRE RIEL FAMILY CHOIR

Including the staff and other customers at the Red Lobster restaurant (who hearing of, and taking note of the extraordinary occasion) joined in the happiness of the celebration.

Happy Birthday To Our Dad, our Granddad, our Great Granddad and our Editor in Chief

BIRTHDAY PARTY OUTSMARTS THE SMART BOARD

Prior to the birthday festivities, the party assembled at Carol's new schoolroom at Dewey Elementary. Our goal was to overcome the budget shortfalls of the School Board by installing a warehoused "smart board" in her class ourselves.



The heavy construction crew working in concert



with the techno nerds completed the project at budget (\$0) and on time for our lunch reservation.



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Francie and Lyle visit New York

They say home is where the heart is and this Thanksgiving I went "home" to New York with Lyle to see my boys. We were joined there by Alan, Richard and Charmy who were out to visit Karin there as well. (Actually Charmy came to get a haircut and decided to visit Karin while she was there!) Wednesday night we all got together at the Bruckner bar and grill where Brett works and enjoyed some great food. It was fun to hang out with Brett and watch him work in this restaurant in the Bronx. We met two of Brett's regular customers, and friends as well: Two detectives from the police Department Anthony and Eddie. They were a lot of fun and we



were happy to find out that they were looking out for Brett in the big city.

Lyle and I got up early to watch the parade, and then we had a great dinner at a restaurant suggested by Emily, who joined us for a fabulous meal on the



west side of lower Manhattan. Though I missed the family traditional meal, I did my best to enjoy the food we had! Saturday we helped Brett fix up his new apartment in Spanish Harlem. As you can see in the picture, Lyle is enjoying the view from Brett's high rise condo. (OK, he crawled out the window to sit on the fire escape, but it is still a cool place to sit) We definitely did some shopping on black Friday at the "real" Macy's in NYC. It was a great lead in to the Holiday season, and it would have been

perfect if all of you could have been there too! Francie

Some Hawaii anniversary party pics

Last August we reported on the anniversary celebration in Hawaii. Due to the many details reported we did not have room for any pictures. Finally, we have some space to print a couple showing what a great time they were having.



Riel Bowl XIX is coming on January 1st !!

Yes, another year has rolled by, and the annual second Christmas will soon be here. Plan on arriving around 11:00 a.m., as usual. We will have the usual games, the white elephant gift exchange, the gift exchange and lots more activities, not to mention Robert's famous prime rib, plus a fantastic array of snacks and drinks as appetizers, along with a full compliment of side dishes. Please call or email to Karla what food you will be bringing.