

Mothers Day 2010 celebrated with dessert bar at Francie/Lyle home

Mothers Day this year included two family gatherings. The first one took place at about 9:00 a.m, but since Grandma and Grandpa did not attend we have a report from Carol, which will be added to this one. Francie's party was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. A good crowd arrived and quickly enjoyed several flavors of ice cream plus a variety of toppings. Afterwards the RFNL Chorus, ably directed by Francie, sang a song to the tune of The Beach Boys "Wouldn't It Be Nice", with lyrics by Listy. Several others expressed their thoughts on this special day, including Jeff, whose poem, along with Listy's lyrics, is reproduced herein. Lots of pictures were taken, as shown.

Wouldn't It Be Nice ?

By Listy gillingham

*Isn't it so nice to be a mother?
 Where we get to have our own day?
 Isn't it so nice to be a mother
 Raising kids, our very own way?
 We didn't know our lives could be much better,
 As we all grow - up, together!*

*Wouldn't it be nice if we could wake up
 Having our breakfast made every day
 With cards and promises of special favors
 Giving us hugs and a bouquet!*

*The happy times together we've been spending
 We wish that Mother's day was never ending...
 Wouldn't it be nice?*

*Maybe if we work and play and hope and say...
 It might come true
 Yes, then there wouldn't be a single thing
 We couldn't do
 And we are happy, and we are happy
 Isn't it so nice?*

*You know it seems the more we **talk** about it
 It only makes us want to dream about it
 Instead of say, We love you!
 Isn't it so nice?*



The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

May, 2010

(RFNL2312)

Cirrus street condo flooded!

When Grandpa and Grandma went downstairs to retire on Friday, May 7th they were in for a rude shock. The back rear corner of the room, beside the bed, was soaking wet. They quickly found that the water had soaked through the carpet under the bed. The water apparently was coming from their next door neighbor's (not home) outdoor patio. They were assisted by their next door neighbor Kevin, president of the home owners association. He climbed over the patio rear wall and turn of a watering hose. Although the patio has several drains, they apparently were plugged, and the water was three inches deep. The next day they learned that their neighbor,

Renee, was watering when she got a phone call about a sudden death in her family and she left at once to be with them. She also said that she had ample personal liability insurance coverage, and would assume complete liability. With Kevin and Grandpa present, Renee contacted her insurance agent. After hearing the details he connected her with the Farmer's claim facility and they got the information to file a claim. They also agreed that we should take action at once to dry out the wet area, to prevent mold growth. They recommended a company, *ServiceMASTER*, to take over the drying out task. Their representative arrived late Saturday afternoon and set up blowers and dehumidifiers. He determined that the water had invaded the wall as well as the carpet. Therefore, the lower area of the drywall would have to be replaced all along the east wall of the bedroom and adjoining closet. A claim adjustor inspected the damaged area on Tuesday, and we were told that the Company damage report estimate was \$3000. This did not seem nearly enough, and that opinion was discussed with the claims representative. She indicated that the \$3000 figure was open to revision as the work revealed the full extent of the damage. She assured they that all reasonable expenses would be covered. After discussions with the *ServiceMASTER* representative it was agreed that after the dry-out they would replace damaged items and prepare the area for the installation of the new carpet. They have decided to take care of the selection of the carpet and its actual installation. Work started on Tuesday May 18. The picture reveals the carpet staining damage.



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Count down to Riel Bowl XX

Recently we received the following item by Robert, and in a telephone call he requested that we include it in the May RFNL. We do so with pleasure and urge our readers to provide the material he needs to help put together the items he will distribute to family members on January 1, 2011.

RIEL BOWL XX

MAY UPDATE

As many of you know, plans for Riel Bowl XX are well under way and with the help of my loving little sisters, Listy and Birdy, we are about 20% complete with a special project. However, we could use some assistance from the readers of the Riel Family Newsletter.

Since the RFNL has reported on every Riel Bowl held and most of the readers have actually attended one or two, I would like to get from you your best memory of attending and/or reading about the Riel Bowl. It can be as short or as long as you wish, hand written or typed, whatever is easiest for you. Also, we are looking for any pictures and/or videos you might have of any of the Riel Bowls. You can email them to me at briel@dyna-sd.com or simply mail them to Bob Riel, 2431 Victoria Meadows Drive, Alpine, California, 91901. If possible, I would like your responses as soon as you can, but hopefully by August 1st.

One last comment; since Riel Bowl XX will be the last one I will preside over as commissioner, I have a final request. I understand that for our out of town members of the family it is difficult to be here for both Christmas and New Years. But if at all possible, I would love to see the **ENTIRE** family and all boyfriends/girlfriends at this year's Riel Bowl. So make plans now to be here on January 1, 2011. After all, you don't want to be the only one left out of the family picture, do you?

Breaking news from Boulder, CO

-Michael Riel Mehan

Ashley and I bought a house! It is a single family home in a town called Louisville, which is about 10 minutes south east of Boulder. The layout of the house is called a tri-level, which means that the first and third floors are stacked on top of each other, and the second floor is next to them halfway in between. You enter the house on the second story, which contains the kitchen, a small dining area, and a sitting room. Down a half flight of stairs is the living room, office, and bathroom. The upstairs has the bedrooms. We have been loving the new house so far and Ashley has already started working on improvements. The first big one will be



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Catch the News

MAY, 2010

some new paint. As soon as all the snow melts I have some work to do on the outside as well. We planted our live Christmas tree and started a garden. It's quite a change from LA to actually have a backyard! I Also, I recently caved in to pressure from my friends out here and bought a road bike. I have been riding the 7 miles to and from work and have been having a lot of fun with it. The ride to work is a breeze, pretty much all down hill. The final three miles of my trip home are all up hill though, so I usually stumble into the house on wobbly legs. That's all the news for now. Hope all is well in San Diego. See you soon.



was very relaxing and really nice to walk around after sitting for soooooo loooooong. Table top mountain is really cool looking and all around it they have those amazing looking African trees that look like umbrellas I've only ever see them in movies. Yesterday was extra awesome since we got paid 14 hours to just kick it. The hotel is beautiful. Today we should start working whenever the scientists off load themselves and their equipment. Well, I'm off to meet the guys and the port engineer for breakfast. I love Ana, Matthew and Corbin and miss you all.

Yesterday we went to the South African Museum which was incredible! We spent most of the day there and even went to the Planetarium. That was a blast since the woman running the show was so dorky and clearly loved astronomy so much. After that we checked out the Parliament building, National Gallery (which was closed) and spent the rest of the day at the port. It was such a nice day. And being paid for it wasn't bad either. Ha-ha. I promise that today we'll actually get to work so don't get too jealous. In fact, I'm not even sure I'll be able to email you once we get on the ship. It depends on the ship tech getting us hooked up to their satellite system.

Report from Cape Town

-Craig Hartman

In the April issue we reported that Craig had been sent to Cape Town by his company, to do diesel engine work on R and D research vessels. We have the following report:

Craig recently went to South Africa to work on the Woods Hole Oceanographic Ship, Research Vessel Knorr, for Hawthorne He spent two weeks there repairing one of the many engines on board. He was fortunate to spend the first three days in Cape Town as a tourist because customs did not allow the scientists off the boat or new people aboard until proper bribes were paid (go figure). So Craig and the other two workers got to goof off on the companies' nickel. Not a bad trip. Once the work started, they had to work 14-16 hour days to catch up, but Craig said it was worth it.

Here is a collection of some emails home from his trip.

We arrived here in South Africa yesterday at about 9 a.m. and had a fun day. The flight was unsurprisingly tedious but luckily I took the sleeping pill for the second leg of the flight and slept through the majority of it. I didn't get to see any of England since the airport is about 50 kilometers away and I only had about 3.5 hours to play with. We slept in this airport hotel that was called Yotel and it was super cool. It looked like a tiny Ikea room. You should check it out online for pics. The good news is that Randy arranged for us to get paid 14 hours a day so that's two hours more than I expected. Yay!

South Africa is beautiful and I wish you were here to see it, and I wish I had more time to see it. We went to a somewhat boring museum yesterday and just cruised around the port. It



Well, we're finally done for this trip. It's been a pretty good trip so far even though the work days were long. The ship was great, our room was nice, the bed was comfy and the food was excellent. They were so great about providing me a vegetarian option at every meal sometimes making me feel something special. All of it was really good. The crew was very helpful and ended up cleaning the majority of the parts and doing almost all of the logistics of getting heavy parts in and out of the engine room. What a help that was. I skinned the bridge of my nose while there so I'll be returning slightly uglier than I left. Hopefully you'll take me back. Happy Easter family, I miss you all, especially Matt since he would love it here so much. You would, too, but it's a great kid vacation since there's not a ton of what a kid would consider "boring history stuff." We just got back to the hotel and are going to enjoy some quiet until 6 p.m. when we're going to dinner. Craig

The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

May, 2010

(RFNL2314)

As mentioned on the page one report on the Mother's Day celebration, there was a breakfast celebration involving some early risers, and we have the following report from Carol.

Mother's Day Breakfast at Barbarella's Restaurant in La Jolla



Mother's Day just wouldn't be Mother's Day without the traditional breakfast/brunch outing. While trying to come up with a good place this

year, Lauren googled top Mother's Day breakfast locations and came up with Barbarella's in La Jolla Shores. I'm still not sure if it was the illustrated menu or the fact that there was a doggie menu that enticed her, but what ever it was, we decided to give it a try. The reservation time, 9:30 A.M. was perfect for most moms attending, but when we told Dad, he said, "9:30! Your mother will never be ready that early". (Boy, have the tables turned. I still remember all those Sunday mornings where 9:30 was



considered sleeping in until noon). I'm sure they would have made it, if their bedroom hadn't turned into a swamp requiring them to sleep at Bruce and Birdy's the night before.

The moms, Margaret, Francie, and Carol were joined by various husbands and 2 kids, Dustin and Lauren (yes, the only two kids this year). We all choose different items off the unique menu and shared with each other. The location, food and company were the best ever which made for a very nice start to a great Mother's Day.



As we mentioned on page one, Jeff read his poem to Mother's Day, as follows.

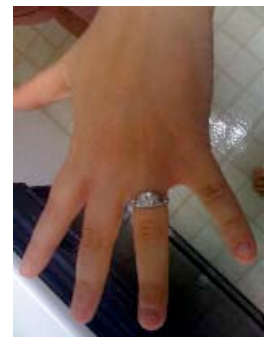
Jeff's award winning ode to Mom's Day

I married a beauty named Carol
You mention her age at your peril
All the sisters, like wine
Have matured, oh so fine
But it's their husbands that remain oh so veril.

Lady Riel's are born with a gene
That makes shopping a daily routine
Edith leads the sorties
To Macy's, Ross and Nordies
As the men ponder what might have been.

And as the cousins are each picking a mate
Some are setting yet another wedding date
Breaking Riel News

Curtis officially asked Lauren Cooper to marry him! They are planning a two year engagement period so that he can graduate from Catholic University and come back to San Diego for the wedding! Yahoo!!! We will celebrate their engagement in August. Our family just keeps growing! It is a blessing for us all.



What is it?? Win a prize!

Kids, put on your thinking caps. What is the strange looking item shown in the following picture; Is it a fish trap, part of a filtration system to purify water, a fisherman's net, or what? There is a cash prize for the first three grandchildren who emails the RFNL editor the correct answer. The email site is frankthetutor@aol.com. The answer will be published in the June RFNL

