

RFNL

Catch The News

January 2013

RFNL 263

RIEL BOWL XXII





RAIN FAILS TO COOL OFF HOT TIMES AT BOB AND LISTY'S HOME

Riel Bowl proved to be a great success despite the rain which made it difficult to enjoy the new outdoor party space at the Gillinghams. Though the red solo cup events didn't fly (not enough room inside for all the cup flippers and stackers), everything else went as scheduled. We started with the usual pre-grazing foods, but as soon as Robert and Karla arrived with the prime rib, the feast was ready to be shared with all.

We had prime rib, veggie lasagna, ham, potatoes, salad, orange

Jell-O salad, veggie chili, and an amazing cake baked by Katy with the Riel Bowl logo displayed.



The present opening was fun as everyone was very generous and many people walked away with a pile of cool baked goodies and fun gadgets as well as an up-dated calendar. Though it had a few errors with birthdates being moved or ages not advancing....it was still cherished by those that were there in person to receive it. Thanks to Birdy and Listy who spent hours on putting it together and to Robert who copied and bound it so beautifully. Any corrections can be sent to us and we'll do our best to make it near-perfect next time....smile

The White Elephant exchange was a little different as we decided to change up the rules and go back to our roots of giving something that might be more playful than a gift card. Listy and Bob created two categories for prizes....the most creative and crappiest gift received. The most creative gift went to Jason and Chavva for the clever quilt made of old running shirts and safety pins.... (a true prize) with this crafty poem:

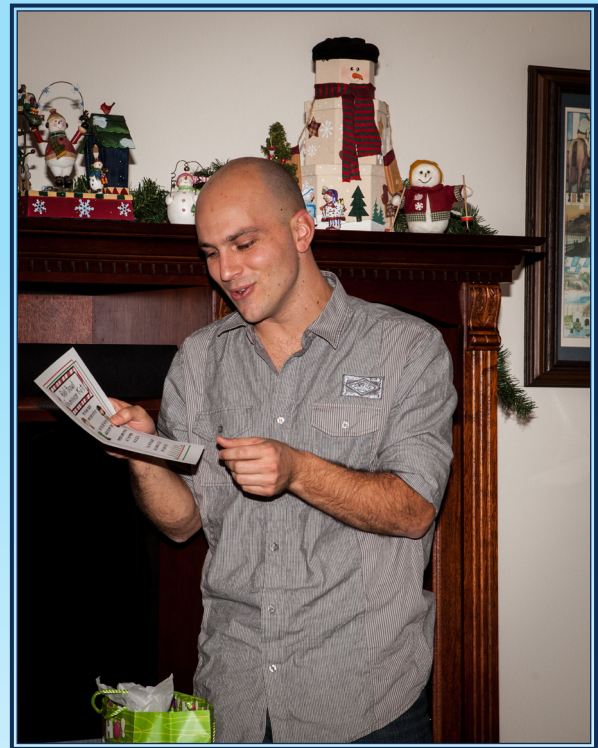
“White elephants have been a family tradition

As is this silly new competition...

It was time to create

Something you might hate

Using my old goodwill donations...”





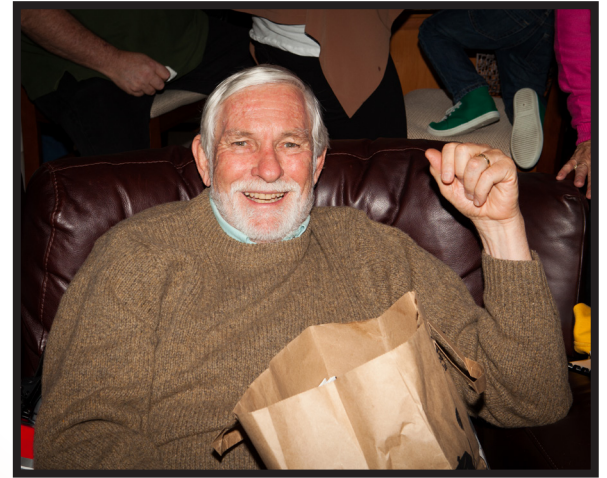
*Dreaming about Francie
(or a new race car)*

The crappiest gift given was the Livestrong Yellow Bracelet that was worn and given away by Bob Gillingham to Ed and Jan Riel. No one can truly appreciate the “white elephantness” of this prize as Bob was one of the last holdouts in Lance’s innocence during the blood doping scandals.

Listy and Bob agreed to host the event next year as long as it doesn’t rain....so that’s the plan. We’re thinking of keeping with the first Sunday after Christmas tradition as that seemed

to work for most....We also are planning on a new twist to the White Elephant rules. You can start thinking about it now. We are instituting a “cool gadget” rule. Which means...the “best and coolest gadget” that is bought or given from your personal stash is what we’ll be judging and awarding.... Should be fun and hopefully, everyone will get involved. Hope you have a great 2013!

For your enjoyment, the following are some family pictures taken during the event:





RIEL HISTORY

A COLLECTION OF PHOTOS FROM OUR PAST



On this page there are several historic Riel photos, starting off with a Picture of Grandpa Frank and Grandma Edith with the family dog Foxy. Yes foxy was that fat and unkempt looking, but Grandma loved her like a child.

Next we have what we believe to be the very first of what have become the "famous sisters" photos. This one had to be taken sometime in the summer of 1958. Not to be out done, the oldest known not-so-famous "Brothers" picture is also shown; it was taken in the spring of 1960.

Finally we have a picture taken on April 14, 1945 in Egypt. On the far left is Grandma Edith's mother, next is her brother Byron and his wife Ophelia, then Grandmother Edith and the fellow on the right it is simply listed as a friend.



Grandpa Frank Spends the Night in Hospital

Around 3:00 pm on Tuesday the 8, of January, Grandpa Frank fell and hit his head while in the bathroom. Grandma Edith who heard him fall was quick to his side and quickly alerted the staff at Merrill Gardens. Because Grandpa is on blood thinners any fall can be serious, so the paramedics were called and Grandpa was transported to Sharp Memorial hospital for some tests.

He was admitted into the emergency room and a CAT scan was performed. Fortunately there were no signs of bleeding in his head, although he had a pretty large bump on it. The doctors decided to keep him overnight so they could run another CAT scan around midnight just to make sure everything was fine.



The doctors requested a family member to stay with him that night so he wouldn't be alone. Carol graciously volunteered while Ed and Jan offered to drive Grandma home. Margaret came in early the next morning to relieve Carol and stayed with Grandpa until he could go home. As it turns out Grandpa had an infection that was affecting his balance so he was given medication to help clear it up. So even though no one likes a trip to the hospital, in this case it turned out for the best.

Hospitals have really changes over the past few years. Rooms now are private; with flat screen TV's that also connect to the internet. Your call button is attached to a keyboard and if there is nothing good on TV you can always surf the net or log onto Facebook to catch up on the latest happenings. The couch folds



down into a bed so visitors can sleep somewhat more comfortably next to their love ones. Grandpa had a nice corner room with plenty of windows to let the sun in. However it should be noted that as nice as the room was, all Grandpa wanted to do was go home and fortunately he got his wish.





Annie, a girl who is always on the go, spent her holiday's visiting Turkey, which is the land of Grandmother Edith's ancestral heritage. She and a few friends toured the countryside and villages of the nation during her off time from work in Spain. We hope to get a full report from her in next month's issue (hint, hint).



Seamus and Kristy have announced that Liam will be getting a baby brother late in May if all goes according to schedule (maybe sooner or later these Riel kids are never on time). Here is the first picture of baby Keith number 2



Carol and family spent some time up in the snow last month and she just couldn't resist a ride down the hill on an inner tube. We are told that she made it all the way down the hill without falling off, once again proving that she is really just a teenager at heart.

FAMILY SHORTS

In last month's edition of the RFNL we ended the article on thanksgiving by asking the following:

Who knows what the following acronym means? AAGTWHBA

Margaret submitted the only correct answer: And A Good Time Was Had By All. As has been the tradition with the RFNL for over twenty years most articles about family events end with this line. Tradition is important but so is change, and to that end we have decided it's time to update the RFNL's logo.

Exactly 20 years ago, the design by Margaret, Michael, Megan and Michelle was selected to be the banner of our family newsletter and it has served us well. But our family has grown and grown and grown, now encompassing 4 generations. So we feel it's time for an updated look, one possibility is as seen below. However we are looking for other ideas so please feel free to send them in for consideration. Don't worry if you're not a graphics designer, just a hand sketch or even a written idea will do. We will make every effort to make your ideas come to life.

