

Dave and Megan's Engagement Bash !

By Bruce Hartman



Ole', Ole', Ole! ...

Saturday, September 26th, we celebrated Dave and Megan's engagement with a fiesta at our home (La Casa de Hartman). We enjoyed a fantastic turnout of friends and family that included a great showing from Megan's family. Her mom, dad and sisters flew in from Spokane to spend a little time with Megan and it was fun to see them all. It was also great to see the Gillingham's show up in force. Dave, Bruce, Libby and Jim (David's other uncles and aunt) joined in the celebration along with their significant others. As would be expected, the extended Riel family was also very well represented. There was just short of 60 guests in all (which was a little tight in our humble abode) but a lot of fun.

El Tapatio Catering served up a great spread of Carne Asada and Pollo Asada tacos grilled on-site with fresh handmade tortillas and all the salsa & trimmings you could ever want. We also had cheese enchiladas for those preferring non-meat options. Beer was flowing all evening from a Keg of Ballast Point Yellowtail as well as a selection of white and red wines while fiesta music played in the background.





It was a beautiful evening and much of the party was enjoyed outside where we could spread out and delight in catching up with so many friends and family. No celebration of this magnitude could ever be complete without a song written by Bob and Listy and set to the melody of Yellow Submarine by the Beatles. They didn't disappoint! Everyone joined in to serenade Dave and Megan with the great humored song.

Later in the evening we enjoyed a Tres Leches Cake (milk cake). I didn't have any of it but based on how much of it was consumed it must have been tasty! The beer, wine and food outlasted the guests and by 10:00 things were winding down nicely... an end to a great evening! Congrats to Megan and Dave! ...oh yeah..."And a Good Time Was Had By All"... R.I.P. Frank!



Editor's Note: We are reliably informed that Bob Gillingham, while trying to hit the "high" note, only sustained minor injury to his vocal cords and that no permanent damage occurred. He quickly regained his voice after a massive transfusion of beer.

Francie and Lyle Visit Florida

By Francie Sorem



Travel, travel everywhere, my car never wants to go any route but to the airport. Our latest trip was to Orlando Florida where the weather was probably less humid than San Diego, which is a hard concept to wrap your head around. I did get to see some rain and hear some thunder, something that I can hardly remember experiencing in San Diego.

We stayed at the Waldorf Astoria and while Lyle participated in the AFSA convention (American Fire Sprinkler Association), I made sure to head off to Disneyworld for a couple of days to catch some of the magic. For those of you that have not traveled there, let me tell you that the part that resembles Disneyland in Anaheim is called the Magic Kingdom there and our entire Disney space would fit in the parking lot for the magic Kingdom in Florida. The other parks include Epcot Center, which features future world and other world showcases.



As you can see we stopped in Paris for some Champagne!!!! Then we made sure to visit Canada and the replica of Butchart Gardens. The beautiful landscaping inspired me to plant more flowers when I got back home. We also sampled from the food and wine festival and in general, had a great time.



The next day, we visited Hollywood Studios (of Florida) and made sure to catch the fun and crazy rides and exhibits. We rode the Aerosmith Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, which was a pretty cool adventure!!! It is an awesome ride and the lines were not too long.



We had a great time checking out all there was to see and later that evening we were able to go to Universal Studios for the convention party.

The "minions" were out enforce and it was fun to ride some of the exhibits that were only open to our party. I love the magic of the fantasy worlds available to get away from the daily grind of work and the rest of the world-ly responsibilities. It so reminds me of the time we spent at Disney as kids.



Those of you who remember the very lame Mission to the moon would be amazed by the Mission to Mars at Epcot. Through the Disney Imagineering (and a space shuttle that spins at a tremendous rate of speed) you are able to feel the pull of g force as you take off towards the planet mars in your space module. A far cry from the original ride at Disney in Anaheim. It would be fun someday to take a family trip there to relive those days we spent in the shadow of the Mouse.

Oh yes, Lyle did attend the convention and I'm sure he learned a lot but let's just face it... I was here to relax, and not just to look at rusty old sprinkler pipes!



Katy Participates in the Escondido Renaissance Faire

By Katy Riel

Twice a year I get together with my guild, The Rogues of Avalon, to pillage, plunder, rifle, loot, kidnap and ravage alongside the folks at the Escondido Renaissance Faire. For two weekends this last September we took over Felicita Park, setting up camp and getting ready to entertain the patrons. There is a lot to do and see during the faire and we pride ourselves on putting on a good show. You can watch the Queen's procession, watch the pirate brawl, and the battle between the pirates and the Queen's men. All day there are shows on four different stages where you can enjoy a juggler, singing Dutch men, and even learn to belly dance with the gypsies.

At our camp we have the stocks, where we enjoy locking up the patrons and watching them squirm under our cat-o-nine tails. We also give (completely made up) readings with oracle cards. This year it was ridiculously hot. The first weekend saw temperatures over 105 which made wearing full armor unbearable and as it turns out unsafe. After the big battle on Saturday over 50 people were seen by the medical

staff on site for heat related injury/sickness. So much so, that battle was cancelled on Sunday. The next weekend, while still hot, was much cooler and we were able to enjoy more of the event. We all had a blast and would love to see you in the spring at our next faire.



Robert and Karla Visit Chicago



Chicago, one of my least favorite places to visit. Why you ask? Well besides being the murder capital of the United States, it's also a place where I learned first-hand how corrupt and inept the city officials are. But I digress, that is an old story and most of you know it by now, so I will spare you from the details of a trip that happened almost 13 years ago.

This year we were visiting because the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) was holding its annual convention there and as many of you also know Karla and I regularly go to this event. So off to Chicago we went, leaving on Thursday the 25th of September. Lucky for us we decided to get there a day early because on the next morning a disgruntled FAA employee decided to set fire to the air traffic control system that managed all traffic in the Midwest. This resulted in canceling over 2,000 flights nationwide and major disruptions in getting to Chicago. We heard many stories over the next few days of 5 hour waits in lines, traveling through multiple cities and even renting cars to get there.

On a side note, NECA does not have the best luck in picking convention sites. Last year it was in Washington DC, during, of course, the government shutdown. A few years earlier it was scheduled for New Orleans, but a little rain shower called Katrina canceled the whole event. And then there was the other time it was scheduled in Washington DC, which was September of 2001.





Now I'm not a superstitious guy but I do think there might be something to the NECA curse. Next year it is in San Francisco so I hope there is not going to be a major earthquake next October.

Back to Chicago. One thing I will say is that it has wonderful cultural sites with many museums and parks. We had our opening event in the Field Museum which is one of the finest Natural History museums in the world. Also at the convention we enjoyed keynote speakers Chris Gardner whose life was documented in the movie "The Pursuit of Happiness" and Robert O'Neil, team leader, Seal Team 6 and lead the assault to bring "Captain Phillips" back home safely (you may also recall that movie as well).

We also had plenty of free time to explore and walk around Millennium Park which was very close to our hotel. In the park two things caught my eye. First was a sculpture of what can only be described as the world largest coffee bean made of chrome plating. As strange as it sounds it is actually very interesting as it reflects the city's skyline very well and make for very interesting views.



Next was a waterfall (actually two of them facing each other with a reflecting pond between). The first thing you notice is that the two facing sides are made up of blocks that are actually video screens. When viewed together they project images of faces that move around, laughs and even spits at you! Only in Chicago!

As I mentioned earlier, next year's convention will be in San Francisco and we're already looking forward to it so we can have an excuse to visit with Tim and Megan in their home city. Tim, Megan, dinner is on us next October!!



Lyle's Back to Racing!



By Lyle Hall

A few weeks ago I needed to get my race car back on the track after many months of an extensive (and expensive) motor rebuild. The original race motor lasted for seven race seasons which is pretty much unheard of, especially for a Nissan (not a Datsun) 350z.

Being that it was also my mother Celestine's, 87th birthday weekend we decided to make it a family affair. My sister Leslie along with her husband Howard, her son Christopher and his girlfriend Brittany, my uncle Ron and his wife Anny and my brother Ed all made the trip and camped out in the track infield in their RVs. John, my mechanic / motor tuner / nutritionist / psychiatrist and life coach, kept the car (and me) together and focused for the weekend.

As it turned out there were also about 1,000 Subaru WRX's ("Subies ") there since it was their annual SubieFest, a car show / music festival and speed event on the infield race track.

Since this was what we refer to as a "test and tune" or "open track day" we were not competitively racing. Just trying to get the car running at its peak performance. To sum it up we were producing just shy of 475 horsepower at the rear wheels and calculated out on an open track should be seeing speeds in excess of 175 mph with the current gearing. The downside is the gas mileage is only about 2.5 miles to the gallon on 100 octane fuel. - Thank you to all the Prius drivers!!

Anyway, back to the Subies. Somewhat of an obnoxious crowd they are. Loud rock-n-roll music and such. Time to have some fun.

Out of about 150 cars that posted lap times, we had the fastest time on track for both Saturday and Sunday. They were not a happy Subie crowd and after hearing who was fastest they began to play sad and depressing music like Joan Baez and Gordon Lightfoot.

For us the car was flawless for the most part. Thank you John!

On Sunday my Mom was feeling a little frisky and wanted to race so we suited her up (helmet) and put



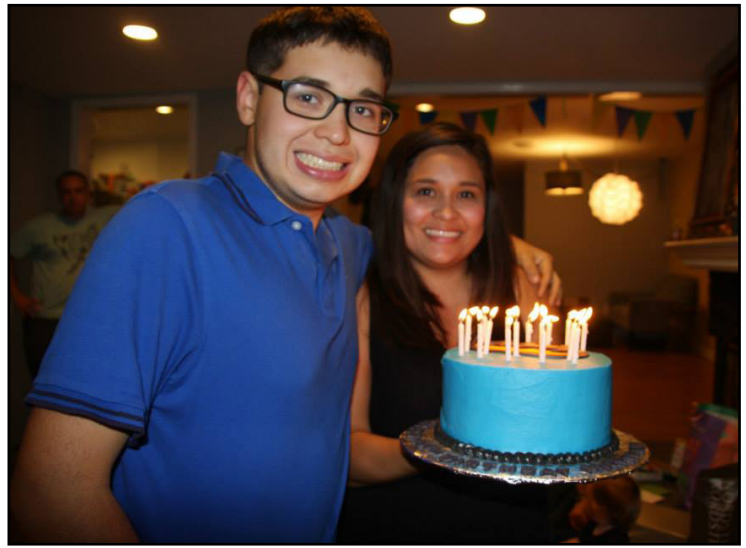
her in her race car (wheelie chair) and raced the "Phantom Racer". After Mom took the checkered flag the Phantom Racer immediately put his car in the trailer and headed out the gate. Victory is sweet!! Go Mom!!

Just remember, speed has never killed anyone, suddenly becoming stationary.... that's what gets you.

Matthew Hartman Turns 16!

By Bruce Hartman

Saturday, October 11th was a special day for a very special grandson. We were invited to help celebrate Matthew's sixteenth birthday with a party at Craig and Ana's home.



We enjoyed a fantastic Italian dinner that included gnocchi in marinara, 6 or 7 different pizzas, penne with basil pesto, salad and more! All are Matthew's favorites and though there were leftovers, I doubt any of them lasted long with a sixteen year old bottomless pit around!

Curtis, Lauren and Cora came down from Long Beach for Matthew's party so it was a lot of fun! We especially enjoyed watching Josie and Cora (the girl cousins) playing together! They are soooo dang cute! I'm pretty sure it was smoke I was seeing coming out of Birdy's camera... she is worse than the Papparazzi when her grandbabies are around! Dave and Megan joined the fun as well as Ana's mom and sisters with their version of innocent bystanders in tow. It was quite a turnout of well wishers on Matt's special day!



Watching Matthew open his gifts was a lot of fun. He was so appreciative and delighted...it warmed my heart! For many of you that don't know a lot about Matt's interests, he is quite the writer! Matt has been working on a script for several months for a film he that wants to produce. In support of his efforts the "big gift" for this birthday was an HD video camera. Now he will be ready to start shooting as soon as he completes the writing. He also received generous gifts from family that any sixteen year old young man would want ...CASH MONEY! So let me put this all together...Endless amounts of his favorite foods, a new video camera, lots of cash and a bunch of loving family... What could make for a better 16th birthday? He was all smiles and it was a memorable evening!



FAMILY SHORTS



On October 5th not only did the Chargers destroy the New York Jets, but we also had a birthday celebration for Katy during our tailgate party. Because Karla and I were in Chicago for the previous home game we swapped our tickets with my work and ended up with 6 additional tickets for the Jets game. We asked Katy if she wanted to go but she had already made plans to be with friends celebrating her birthday in the parking lot.

So we invited Bob, Listy, David, Megan, Doug and Kim. They all joined in in wishing Katy a happy Birthday, both before and after the game. It seems that Katy's party was a big success and about 15 friends and family watched the game from our RV in the lot.



It's Halloween time again and the kids soon will be out trying to find the best pumpkin to make into jack-o-lanterns. Moms and yes even Grandmas will be working overtime helping their kids/grandkids with their costumes and getting them ready for the big event!

Once again the RFNL is announcing the 3rd annual, 2014 family costume contest with two categories; adults 18 or over, and kids. Frist Prize for each category is \$50.00 and to enter just send in a photo with a short paragraph (or two) as to why your costume is the best. There is no theme, just impress the judge with your costume and remember follow the kiss program (Keep It Super Scary)!

Jan who is now officially retired, reports that she had a wonderful time at Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival which she attended with Ed, Tim, Shannon, Joe and Kathy Harvey. The festival is a free event held in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, and featured over 100 musical artists on 7 stages.



Heartwarming moment of the week: Owen is obsessed with elephants in his books. While shopping at Target, I saw this amazing, plush, stuffed elephant for \$10. I came home from the store to a super cranky baby. When I told him mama brought him something from the store and showed him the elephant, it's like the rest of his world melted away. He since sleeps with "ele" and walks around the house with him in his arms declaring "ele!, ele!" -Michelle



Jan Retires



Family and Friends Attend Retirement Party

Last Friday, September 26th, Thurgood Marshall Middle School gave Jan a party in celebration of her retirement starting in October. It was strategically held in our neighborhood of Ocean Beach at the O Bistro, the restaurant that Nathan once managed. It was well attended by both co-workers and family. For the last several years, as a result of school budget cuts, she has been the only one working the library, and as repeatedly mentioned by everyone from principals, to staff, to teachers, her library was at all times second to none and she will be missed.



Jan with Michelle Irwin Principal of TMMS



Jan with David Braun Vice Principal of TMMS

But, none the less, for Jan and me, life just got a lot easier. Good job sweetie. - Ed





Riel Bowl Fantasy Football

It's that time of year again, the weather starts to cool, leaves start to change and there is a glow of anticipation in the air. Yes Riel Bowl fantasy football is back in swing and so let the bragging begin. Nate has jumped out to a great start winning all of his games. Then on the other end we have Brett, who just can't catch a break.

The rest of the teams are right in the middle with only a game or two separating them. The top eight teams after week 13 will advance to the playoff rounds. With just under half the season "in the books" no one has been eliminated (even you Brett). We should be able to separate the pretenders from the contenders in next month's issue of the RFNL.

Standings			Schedule	Playoffs	All Time	Current Standings ▾			
Rank	Team		W-L-T	Pts For	Pts Agnst	Streak	Waiver	Moves	
1	naterade		6-0-0	786.14	641.26	W-6	12	4	
2	Big Daddy		4-2-0	730.08	628.34	W-1	11	9	
3	Deadweight		4-2-0	701.16	626.56	W-2	10	3	
4	BeneschBowl		4-2-0	605.02	605.30	W-2	9	21	
5	Ah nice marmot		3-3-0	688.08	604.88	L-2	8	9	
6	Cool Brees		3-3-0	631.80	578.40	W-1	7	9	
7	Broadway Bro		3-3-0	626.40	667.18	L-1	6	6	
8	Shadynasty		3-3-0	620.76	661.38	W-1	5	15	
9	AZ Devils		2-4-0	757.98	790.06	L-1	4	2	
10	Frank 'N Berries		2-4-0	670.24	709.24	L-2	3	5	
11	Charger Bob		2-4-0	655.62	758.76	L-1	2	4	
12	Band Wagon Robbers		0-6-0	524.18	726.10	L-6	1	4	

Last standings update: Tue Oct 14 01:29am PDT