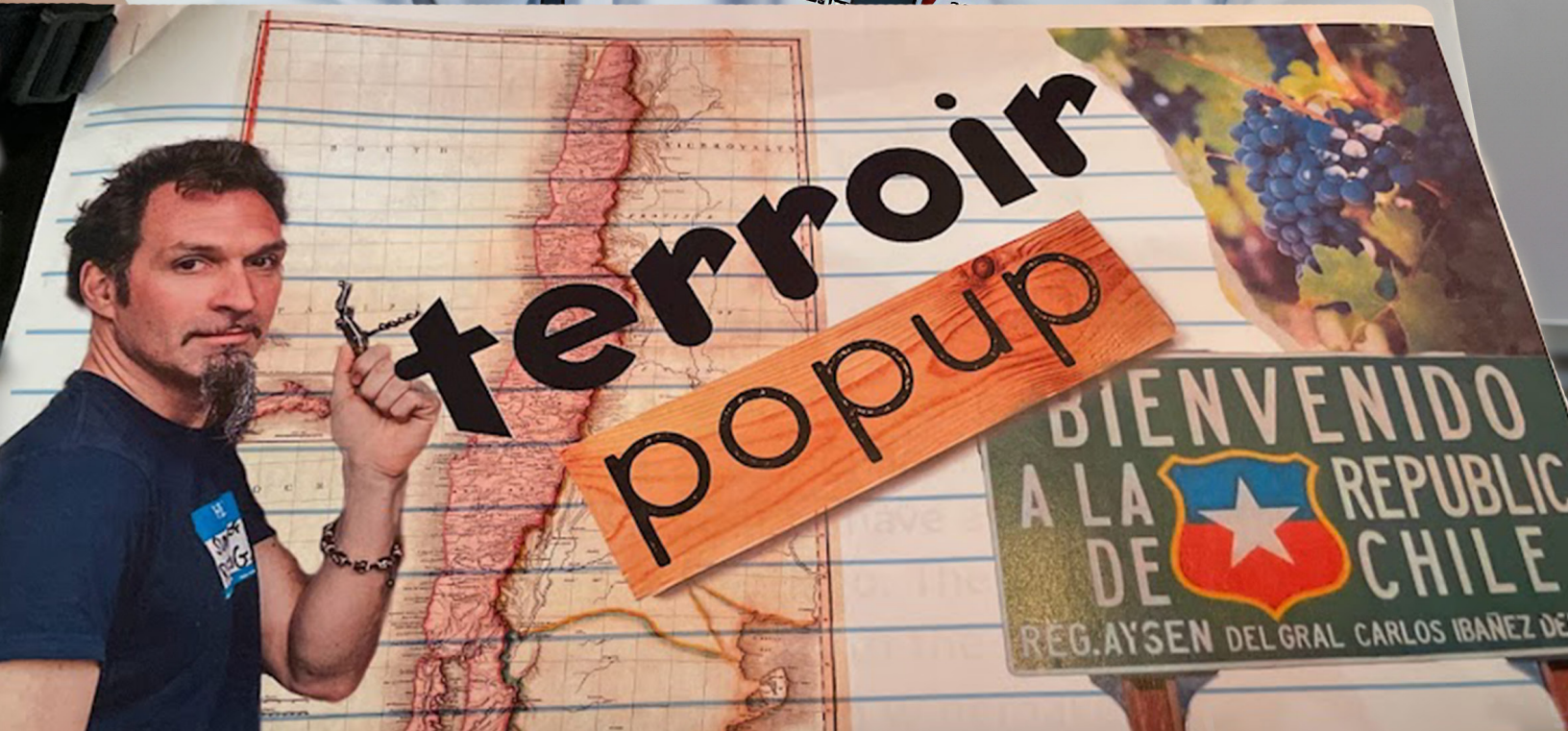


# BRYCE VISITS CHILE!



# Terroir Pop-Up en Chile

By Chef Bryce Sorem

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to take Terroir on a trip down to Santiago, Chile for a pop-up that lasted the whole month of April. Something I probably wouldn't get to do in my career, but ALAS, we have arrived!!! As you all know Bridget delivered me a beautiful baby boy in January, so with her good graces I would be permitted to embark on this culinary journey, and I will always be grateful! Now let's get on with the Trip to Chile!



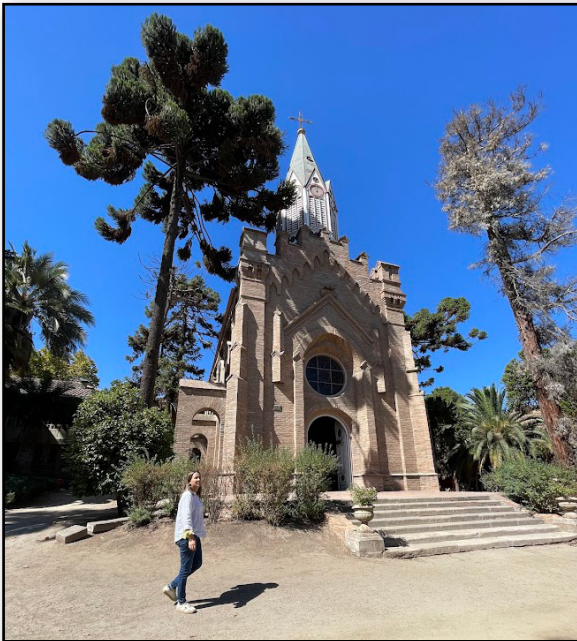
I arrived in Chile via JFK in New York and a short layover in Lima Peru. In total, it was a 12-hour flight which was pretty easy, and before you knew it Paul Grieco (Owner of Terroir and 2x James Beard Award Winner) and I were exploring the streets of Vintacura (a fancy neighborhood in Santiago). We were driven to our Airbnb by the father of Julio Alonzo (organizer of the trip and USA rep for Wines of Chile). The Airbnb was absolutely beautiful and an excellent place to serve as HQ for Terroir.



However, before I could put all my stuff away, Paul and I were on our way to El Toro, the restaurant that would be the gracious host of Terroir during our stay. El Toro is a gorgeous spot in the bottom floor of a larger building and happened to be the epicenter of nightly drinking and revelry for what seemed every night of the week in Vintacura.

We quickly met with the owners and managers of El Toro and sat down for our first meal, which consisted of A LOT of wine (will become a theme) and some fantastic food. Seafood in Chile is absolutely delicious! My favorite was the Spanish Tortilla, which is potatoes sauteed and baked with whisked eggs and topped with some sea salt. The inside was soft and a little runny which was very nice.





We stayed at El Toro all night and you guessed it; we had wine and food for the entire time! Even got to see the owner's daughter and her crew perform Flamenco Dancing, which was cool. Day 2 saw us travel to the outskirts of Santiago to Santa Rita Winery. Santa Rita is the largest and most well-known winery in all of Chile. Paul and I got a nice tour of the estate, which dates back over 100 years!!! There is even a chapel built on the premises, which I know Ya Ya would have enjoyed. The whole property is gigantic and consisted of a nature preserve and a Roman Bath, which I was instructed not to jump into.

We joined the winemaker, Sebastian, for lunch and MORE WINE!!!! Not only was the scenery gorgeous and the food delicious, but it was quite an amazing experience eating dinner with a winemaker trying to impress Paul. Everything was brought out, and because Big Al and Francie raised me right, I made sure I was not rude and tasted and drank whatever was shoved my way. Don't worry Bridget!!!! I was on my best behavior and Sebastian, and I are best friends now.

After the lovely meal and world-class wines, we retreated to El Toro and proceeded to have a long night being introduced to the kitchen team and planning the menu for the following weeks.

The night was topped off with being introduced to Pisco Sours and my now favorite drink, The Pisco-la! Pisco and Cola served with a Lime in a Bordeaux glass. Heaven in a glass if you ask me, and I had several.

Day Three begins with me in the kitchen all day while Paul is swept away to a different winery to film his web series of Chilean wine. I got to meet my new best friend for the next week in Chef Camila and the team. We have been communicating for months now, but today was the day we finally got to show them my food and how I make it in person.

Being in South America everyone spoke Spanish, which if you know me I am super fluent...or not. Google Translate was used frequently, and with my broken Spanish and some timely sound effects, I was able to communicate enough. Before you knew it, the kitchen was already speaking some Bryceisms like "Mucho sexy" and "Easy peasy" among others that aren't appropriate for the newsletter.



That night was the first night for Terroir en Chile!!!! I brought 8 dishes to South America that would be available after 9 pm in El Toro. Paul would also be doing Master classes each night, highlighting another winemaker in Chile and pairing the wine with some of my food. It was a really fun and successful night, and it felt so good to finally have the day come and go. The kitchen team at El Toro rocked and made my time there not only easy but very fun.

I was there for a total of 3 wine classes and by the end of the week the food was looking and tasting amazing. I was very lucky to have the team so receptive to me coming in from NYC and making their lives a little harder for a whole month. So, a big shout out to Camilla for making sure Terroir was a success in Santiago!

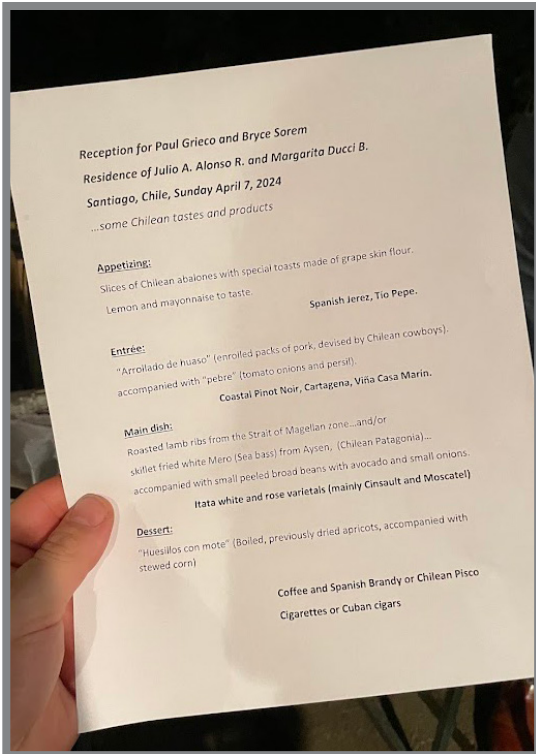
Here are some highlights of the first night:



On one of our last nights, we got to go to dinner with the Parents of Julio, who organized the trip. It was very nice to get to see a Chilean house and have a home-cooked meal with fantastic company. Papa Julio was a fantastic host and regaled us with all tales of Chile and several times during the night made sure to yell at us, "CHILE IS A SLAVE TO THE PACIFIC!!!" He prepared us some local Abalone, Lamb Chops and a Fava Bean Salad paired with some excellent wines which Paul was very grateful for. The star of the night was the backyard kitchen that I will be building in NJ very soon!

It was an incredible trip and a place in my culinary career that I have always wanted to be. I am thankful to Paul and the great people of Chile, where I now have a bunch of new friends!!! I will be returning someday and will bring Bridget, Kieran, and Ronan this time!

Love you all and hope to see you very soon!



# Michael Is Honored as “Coach of the Season!”



By Mike Mehan

I've been coaching my daughters for indoor soccer at the Encinitas Y for the last few years and it's been a great experience. I've been coaching there long enough that I've gotten to know a lot of the girls and it's been fun to have some girls rejoin my team or to play against previous players. Last month I got a call from the San Diego Wave calling to tell me that the YMCA had selected me for the Coach of the Season. They offered our family free tickets to the next Wave so that I could be brought down to the field at halftime to be honored with some of the other YMCA coaches at halftime.







We got down to the game early to tailgate with some of our friends who are season ticket holders. Then later went in to watch the match. At the 35-minute mark, I met the Wave representative near the northwest corner of the stadium. I then chatted with a handful of other YMCA coaches throughout SD county until halftime where they walked us down to the field.

While we were waiting to walk onto the field, we were briefly introduced to retired USWNT player Shannon MacMillon, who works with the Wave on community outreach programs like this one. After some nervy minutes of waiting for our turn to step onto the field, they told us to walk out in a line and stand next to the PA announcer. The announcer introduced each of us and then a member of the Wave staff gave us a customized Wave jersey with our name on the back, which was a really cool surprise. After the PA announcer finished, I had a brief chat with Shannon, and it turns out she's from Cardiff and our Y is her local Y. It was pretty cool to meet a women's soccer legend and to be able to thank her for being a role model for girls like mine.

When I made it back to my seat I got a warm reception from my girls. Addy was super pumped and said: Dad you're famous now! We also ran into David and Bethany and got to meet Avery, which was a real treat. Overall, it was a great night that I won't soon forget.

# HAWAII FUN



By Birdy Hartman Hall

We had the joy of having Scott, Krissy and Zeke join us in Kauai for one week of solid island fun! This was Zeke's first experience on a "tropical island", and he was filled with excitement. In fact, when we landed on Kauai, he perked up and declared, "I just knew the airport would look different from a normal one!" Everything was a first and a thrill.



I won't bore you with all the details of our trip, but I will expand on some of the highlights for all.

1. Bob and Listy overlapped their trip to Hawaii with ours by one day! So, we got to join them at the Marriot for a fun filled pool day. Zeke liked feeding the koi fish and swimming in their expansive pool with his family.



2. We loved golfing with Scott at my favorite course on the island called Makai. It is right on the cliffs above the ocean, and you can't help but be impressed by the beauty that surrounds you.



3. Krissy and Zeke explored the beach below our condo. It is a little bit of a hike, but they made it. They reported that it was filled with sea slugs and crabs. That surprised us because we had never seen that sight. Zeke said that he has a fear of crabs, but now he has a passion for wanting to beat that fear by having a crab for a pet. He spent some of his vacation time researching crab ownership. So, if you have any interest in crab pets, ask Zeke. He is ready to be our resident expert.

4. We did a family train ride through the Kilohana Plantation. The train conductors are always so great, and they are fun for the kids and adults. You get to stop part way through and feed pigs and horses. This was a treat for Zeke and Krissy who are big animal lovers.



5. We also did a boat ride down the peaceful Wailua River to the Fern Grotto. The boat ride winds its way down through lush jungle valleys dodging all the Kayakers that are enjoying the day. The boat brings you to the Fern Grotto which is a natural lava rock cave which is covered in hanging ferns and tropical foliage. The way the grotto is shaped allows it to act like a natural amphitheater. Our guides stopped to play some Hawaiian wedding music for us so that we could enjoy the full Fern Grotto Experience.



6. Beach Days are always memorable. We went to Anini Beach one day and Poipu Beach another day. Zeke and his family were avid snorkelers while Lyle and I lazed in the shade.



7. Game nights are always fun whenever you are on an island. We taught the kids how to play Mexican Train and Zeke was the winner of our first game. It was so nice to relax and play together with this crew.



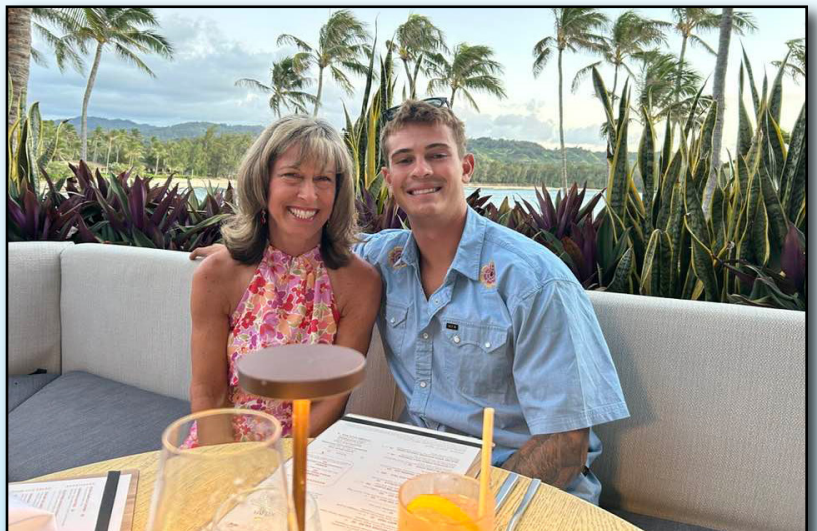
8. Meals are also something that brings people together. We had so many wonderful opportunities to eat, drink and be merry. One of my favorite meals was our last night together at the One Hotel. It overlooks Hanalei Bay and is the perfect way to catch the sunset on the island when you are on the Princeville side. They served sushi and we all went away satisfied with the love of the island.



The kids left us after our week in Kauai for San Diego. Zeke wasn't at all happy that we got to continue onto another island, and they had to go home. We certainly missed them as we hopped over to O'ahu to stay at Turtle Bay. That hotel had one of the most stunning ocean views I have ever seen! We golfed twice in O'ahu. One course was right on property and was gorgeous. The second one was an hour out but was the most spectacular of our visit. It was a golf course truly carved out of a jungle. You just knew that a dinosaur was going to come tromping out to greet you at any of the holes, because you felt so remote and dwarfed by this all-consuming jungle experience. Each hole you faced had canyons or water ponds that reached out to capture your ball. We were warned to bring extra balls and that was the best advice we could have ever had. But the beauty that surrounded us was astounding!

We ended our trip with a surprise visit from a very good friend of ours who I learned just got stationed in O'ahu. His name is Collin Fitzpatrick, and I was his Kindergarten teacher almost 20 years ago. His mom worked in my classroom, and we became close friends during the time she lived in San Diego. She owned a second home in North Carolina, and we went out to visit them a few times during our summer breaks. Laura and Jim were the ultimate hosts, and we always left their home filled with laughter. Seeing Collin brought back so many great memories of our times together. I was so proud of the young man he has grown into, and we both enjoyed hearing about his stories of being a commissioned officer in the Army. He guides the newly enlisted soldiers through their training and acts like a parent as they make their way in their Army life. Seeing Collin was a huge treat for me for sure!

The hardest part of a Hawaiian trip is going home. We love the islands. Lyle never looks more rested and at ease than when we are here. I can't wait to return in October. Aloha!





Happy 7th Birthday to Quinny "Cat Ray" Riel. She's a very special girl who takes care of everyone and is loaded with kindness all the way down to her bones. She wanted a Dino nacho party at the beach with family and friends. So of course we made it happen. We love you forever Miss Quinn! – Mom & Dad!



# From Science Olympiad Projects to Patents

Jason always looked up to Grandpa Riel and loved his drive to create and invent. Jason is following in his footsteps with his second Patent!! He is waiting for his certificates and when they come, he will hang them up next to the one that he has from Grampa Riel. He misses his grandpa and wishes he could share his successes with him. Jeff and I are very proud of his creativity and ingenuity. The following is the first page of a 26-page document of...I couldn't tell you, but I'm sure Jason could... follow the link for more details.



US011922141B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Moss et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 11,922,141 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 5, 2024**

## VOICE AND CHATBOT CONVERSATION BUILDER

Applicant: Walmart Apollo, LLC, Bentonville, AR (US)

Inventors: John Brian Moss, Carlsbad, CA (US); Don Bambico, San Diego, CA (US); **Jason Charles Benesch, Santee, CA (US);** Snehasish Mukherjee, Santa Clara, CA (US)

Assignee: Walmart Apollo, LLC, Bentonville, AR (US)

(10) Patent No.: US 11,922,141 B2 (45) Date of Patent:

Mar. 5, 2024 (56)

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

(57) ABSTRACT

Systems and methods are disclosed for a voice/chatbot building system. The voice/chatbot builder may involve receiving an identified intent, receiving a task related to the identified intent, and receiving a response related to both the identified intent and the task. The identified intent, task, and response may form a first conversation. The first conversation may be linked to other conversations to establish contextual relationships among conversations and determine conversation priority. Voice/chatbot building may also train natural language processing machine learning algorithms.

<https://ppubs.uspto.gov/dirsearch-public/print/downloadPdf/11922141>

And what did he get...An inventor's jacket that only inventors get to have, oh and a little cash as well .





# News From New Zealand!

Dustin gets a promotion and Academic Award!! The following are letters he received.

Hi SCE Product team and SCE Tech leaders,

I am delighted to announce that Dustin Benesch has been promoted to Senior Director, Head of Business Strategy and Operations, effective today.

In his expanded role, Dustin will continue to report to me and lead product operations around pricing and operational support including revenue tracking and business cases for big rock investments.

In addition to this, the role broadens across the following areas;

1) Driving the overarching business strategy that underpins the Product Strategy, leveraging data and analysis by region to segment clients and inform execution strategies that result in sustained revenue growth.

2) Having an expanded focus around capacity management including enterprise Jira Align QBR reporting to ensure we are balancing resources against the top priorities, and that the business has the optimal focus.

Please join me in congratulating Dustin on this well-deserved promotion!

Warmly,  
Dan  
Dan Young  
Vice President of Product, Spend Clarity for Enterprise  
Visa Commercial Solutions

Auckland, NZ



Hi Dustin  
Hope you are well.

Congratulations on being awarded the top mark for New Zealand in the Global Strategy and Leadership paper of the CPA Program. This is a fantastic achievement and I wanted to email and congratulate you myself. We will be inviting you to celebrate and acknowledge this at our next membership recognition ceremony which will be combined with your advancement to CPA status in May next year.

CPA Program academic awards 2024

Recognizing outstanding commitment and achievement by Associate members Certificate of Achievement:

This award recognizes high achievement within the compulsory subjects of the CPA Program in each region. While the Certificate of Global Achievement is awarded to a single member, the Certificate of Achievement is awarded to members who receive the top score among Associate members in their region. To qualify, members must receive a high distinction in Ethics and Governance, Financial Reporting, Strategic Management Accounting or Global Strategy and Leadership. This award is presented every semester.

Winners For Semester one 2024

*New Zealand Global Strategy and Leadership*

*DUSTIN BENESCH*

# Gillingham Back-to-Back Vacations to fully recover from the Marathon!

By Listy Gillingham



June was a travel month for Bob and Listy as we celebrated both of our birthdays and the completion of the Rock and Roll Marathon. We booked a week in Palm Springs to truly unwind and invited Birdy and Lyle to join us as they are our birthday buddies as well. We played golf for a few days and also enjoyed sitting around the pool.



We did have one slight complication, but with being so close to San Diego, we made it work. Braeden Keith was being promoted to middle school on Thursday and we certainly did not want to miss this big event, so we drove to Scripps Ranch on Thursday. We were excited to see the family gathered to celebrate Braeden and made a quick vacation exit right afterwards to return to Palm Desert. It turned out to be a nice escape from the high heat. We returned and met up with the Halls that night to wander around the Thursday Farmer's Market and had fun playing tourist again with Birdy and Lyle. Though the temperatures were high 90's; we loved the relaxed desert atmosphere.





A week later, Bob and Listy were lucky to score a Marriott trade right on the beach in Kauai, so off we went for a week of fun in the sun at a different location. Again, we were thrilled to enjoy down time with hikes, beach time with a great book, and poolside relaxation. We were happy to be in an area where there were at least five great restaurants within walking distance, which made our evenings easy.

We also met up with a friend from my Henry days and were treated to playing golf at a private club that was super fancy! It had a snack bar that was loaded with treats that was placed at the halfway points and offered free snacks to the members (gotta love that kind of perk). We ate lunch around the pool lagoon that was absolutely beautiful and again enjoyed being with friends while on vacation.

Our last day was fun, because we got a special visit from Birdy, Lyle, Scott, Krissy, and Zeke who flew in the day before to begin their family vacation. We had a great day sitting around the pool and enjoying the tropical weather while sitting underneath the umbrellas. We loved having their company and felt lucky to have one overlap day with them!



# FAMILY SHORTS

*Let's Party*

JOIN US FOR  
LUNCH AND  
LAUGHTER  
CELEBRATING

*Carol's*  
70TH  
BIRTHDAY

Friday  
August 2, at 1:00 PM  
Bahia Resort Hotel  
998 W Mission Bay Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92109

RSVP to Jeff, [jeffbenesch@gmail.com](mailto:jeffbenesch@gmail.com)  
or Jessica, 619-204-2767



## Fun in the Sun with the Cousins!!

With Dusty and Lauren bringing their 4 sons to San Diego for the first time since moving to New Zealand 7 years ago, and the Rios family arriving from New Jersey (all to celebrate their Grama's 70th bday on Aug 2nd), Jason and Chavva are hosting an all-cousins pool party and BBQ on Saturday, July 27, at 2 PM.

Their address is 9531 Hillcreek Way, Santee 92071. All cousins and their kids (if applicable) are invited to this gala event. RSVP to Chavva or Jason.



If you guessed it's Grandpa Frank (in his workshop at the new house on Lyndon Rd.) and Megan making a rubber-band paddle boat for the contest. You were Right!



Now can you name each of the little rug-rats shown above and when and where the photo was taken?