

The Lettini Newsletter

Christmas 2007

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Highlights

Kara and Darin get married



Jocelyn turns two



Kara is now an attorney



Michael back at Boeing



Ella and Jocelyn



Darin and Kara



Jocelyn and Kim

Kara and Darin's Wedding

It's been an unbelievable year. Kara got married and is working as an attorney at the Otto Law Group. Kim got a new job as an administrator at Bonney-Watson. Jocelyn turned two, is in Day Care and is talking up a storm. Inge got her picture in the Seattle Times and had her usual spectacular garden I went back to work at Boeing on contract on a part time basis. That's it ... oh you want to know more ... OK.

Kara married Darin Robb on September 15th at an elaborate ceremony and reception in Seattle. I think I may have bought half of the Seattle Waterfront Marriott hotel. Hundreds of people came – some may have even come off the street and the luxury liner parked across the street. They honeymooned in Hawaii and bought a house in Shoreline – a Seattle suburb, north of Seattle. Most people who attended agreed that it was the best wedding that they had ever been to.

Darin and Kara made me wear a Tux at the wedding ... I wanted to wear my new sweat suit ... but I gave in. Jocelyn and Ella (Darin's niece) were the flower girls. During rehearsal Joce and Ella did real good ... Joce even took Ella's hand and they walked down the aisle together. But I guess they were overwhelmed at the wedding ... Joce set a world speed record – running down the aisle. Ella went down with her Dad.

Darin is an account executive with Microsoft Digital Advertising and Kara joined the Otto Law Group in Seattle as an attorney after passing a bar ... woops, I mean the bar exam. He won a big sales award at Microsoft, and just celebrated his one-year anniversary there. They are very well suited to each other and very compatible – we think that they are soul mates. I went over to see their new house and wound up getting put to work ... mowing the lawn, installing lights and helping to build a work bench. Next time I'll ask if anything needs to be done before going over.

Kim decided to move on to more fertile ground ... and after a grueling several months of testing and interviews ... went to work for Bonney-Watson on the management staff as an Operations Assistant. She passed all the tests and interviews and has been there since this past summer. They can't seem to get along without her and she is getting more and more responsibility as time goes by. She does just about everything – including setting up events and parties. She also took some on-line classes in Human Resources to further her career.

We only baby-sit Jocelyn on occasion now, because she is enrolled in Day Care. Since she started attending her vocabulary has increased dramatically. Whenever we see her she talks non-stop. One of her favorite expressions is "No Way" ... said in a very adult and clear voice. Sometime when Kim is caught in traffic we pick her up from Day Care and take her to our house. It's amazing, but she remembers where all the candy and goodies are located. She turned two in October and had an elaborate birthday party ... for a while I thought it was Christmas with all the presents she got.

Inge had another productive garden ... here it is Thanksgiving and again this year she is still getting tomatoes. She still takes care of the elderly lady across the street and does most of her finances, bill paying and gets her medication, etc. She also volunteers at the local markets directing traffic and wearing one of her three dozen weird hats. One day the Seattle Times showed up and took her picture and interviewed her ... and put her picture in the Seattle Times as a celebrity. She also got an award from the Kiwanis for helping out at the charity fireworks sale. Actually she practically ran the whole show.

I went back to work at Boeing to help out with the 787 Dreamliner, and to create a standardized method to conduct projects - and working with a portfolio

Jocelyn at Halloween

Happy Holidays

Lets be thankful for what we have



We hope that everyone has a Great Holiday Season and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year



Happy Holidays to ALL!!!



manager database (which I seem to be one of the few people who understand it) as well as a bunch of other stuff. I am on contract to Boeing via CTS Technical on a part time basis, which on a few occasions has become full time. My original contract ran out in October but Boeing renewed it for another six months ... and like a dummy I agreed. I work twenty hours a week (that's about all I can take) and am in a Physics job category, fortunately **not** an executive – so I don't have to worry about the people and budget issues, although I have been consulted with on numerous occasions. The good thing is I only have to work when I feel like it and can quit any time ... but I guess I'm too conscientious.

The amazing thing is that after five years in retirement ... I come back and not much has changed. Same issues, same problems ... it's like I never left ... it only took me two days to get up to speed. It's a far cry from being an Executive and responsible for ALL R&D support to all the airplanes and the pay isn't as good ... but it paid for most of the wedding. The 787 will be a great airplane as soon as they get some supplier problems ironed out. I probably won't extend my contract beyond April, since I like the freedom of retirement.

We had Thanksgiving at Kara's house this year, minus Jocelyn – who stayed with Todd for Thanksgiving. She loves airplanes, every time she sees one fly by she shouts out airplane and we thought he might take her to California to see her other grandparents ... but that didn't happen. Kara and the girls cooked up a fantastic meal and Darin's mother joined us for a very joyous occasion. The Robb's have a big screen HD TV ... so I watched football games while the ladies cooked up the meal. Welllllll ... what did you expect?

Kara's house is really nice and cozy with a great backyard – it even has a small pond. They had koi fish in the pond for about 5 hours until the neighbor's cats ate them And a great party room downstairs with a bar built by Darin ... and now they spend most of their time down there. She joined a Children's Hospital Guild, which has raised over \$5,000 to pay for treatment for kids who can't afford medical care.

Our summer was rather unspectacular ... between work and very little warm weather ... we didn't take much advantage of the good weather we did have. It certainly wasn't as good as last year. But we did have a bumper crop of fleas ... it was the worst year in many years ... and they loved eating on Jocelyn. She got numerous fleabites ... I had to spray the whole house and backyard to finally get rid of them.

We had a wind storm last winter and lost power for almost a week. I burned almost a cord of wood to keep warm ... and decided to buy a generator just in case it happens again. It's a 7.5-kilowatt generator, which should enable us to keep the furnace, freezer, refrigerator and microwave going. The windstorm caused severe problems throughout the area ... several hundred thousand homes lost power and the utility services just couldn't keep up with restoring power. We had crews from all over the country helping out ... some from as far away as Pennsylvania.

I'm now officially on Medicare (yeah, I made it to sixty-five) ... talk about a confusing mess ... this country has to do something so that everyone can have affordable Health insurance. Why does the government make things so complicated ... oh yeah – we need to make sure that the insurance companies make exorbitant amounts of money and to hell with the people. I have read dozens of pamphlets and booklets and still don't have a clue as to what I should and shouldn't sign up for. A large portion of my pension will now go to paying for health insurance.

With work and the crappy weather I didn't get out to do much hiking this year. I only went out on one outing with Mark ... hiking around Seattle, an urban hike. Even the Viper didn't get much exercise ... just participated in one charity car show. Besides at eight miles per gallon – or is it eight gallons per mile – either way it's getting expensive to drive it.

Inge is coping with her health ... she is on a special diet and visits her doctors periodically to check her kidneys and blood. But she is doing very well, considering. She still does a lot of volunteer work – at the church and Markets. She always seems to be helping someone out. She is still involved with the church rummage sale, which raises money for the pre-school.

We went to Kara's swearing in ceremony after she passed the bar exam. It was a nice ceremony with a really nice Judge. We have a video if any one cares to see it ... let me know. She really enjoys her job as a high priced attorney and is doing very well.

More on Joce ... she is learning to speak words now ... the other day she came over and starting yelling out Hey ... guess that's from pre-school. She loves to pretend cook ... I got her some pots and pans and made a cardboard oven for her ... now she cooks up meals for me all the time. For Christmas she will get a whole Kitchen set ... oven, refrigerator, sink etc.

Have a great New Year!!!

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