

The Lettini Newsletter

Christmas 2011

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Highlights



At the Wedding



Joce's 6th Birthday Party



Where did my tooth go?



Charlie's 2nd Birthday Party



Inge's New Car



Caitlin's birth – A family picture ... Kim's wedding ... and a lot more.

2011 – Wow – What a year !!!!!

So much to talk about ... and so many big events. Charlie turned 2 ... Jocelyn turned 6 ... Kim and Danny got married ... AND Caitlin was born to Kara and Darin on August 4th. So we now have four grandchildren. Jocelyn, Charlie, Dominic and Caitlin.

First, some sad news: we had to put our 23-year-old cat, Ashes, to sleep. The Vet did everything he could do to save her. But she was just too sick. Now when I go downstairs I keep expecting Ashes to come running over to me. She was well, loved and always returned her love 1,000 times over. RIP Ashes.

Jocelyn is now in Kindergarten, Dominic is in first grade, and Charlie is in Day Care ... and from what I hear he already has a Harem. When he gets to Day Care the girl's yell out, Charlie is here and they all run to him. All are doing well.

Kara took maternity leave after having Caitlin, but is now back at work. Caitlin goes to the same day care as Charlie, so big brother gets to check on her anytime he wants. Kara will sneak over and visit her while on her lunch break, but since she's only 4 months old, she's usually sleeping! Kara helped out with the fifth annual Touchdowns for Tots auctions. All proceeds go directly to Seattle Children, and this year they raised \$20,000! Kara and Darin attended the annual conference

for Washington Association of Vehicle Subagents (for the licensing office they help run). At the conference, Kara got elected to the Board of Directors. She really enjoys being so involved.

Kara and Darin moved to Tacoma in order to be closer to the licensing office. Commuting over an hour every day was not very fun, especially with small kids! They found renters for their home in Shoreline and found a great house to rent while looking for a house to buy in Tacoma. They also joined the Tacoma Golf and Country Club. They've made some good friends through the club and have enjoyed the social events. The club is very family friendly and the kids are always an instant hit among the staff and other members.

Darin really enjoys working for Tribal Fusion, a global ad network selling online advertising to major advertisers in the NW. He works from home and I understand the pay and benefits are fantastic. He has some pretty powerful clients and enjoys entertaining them at events like Sounders games. He's even taking them indoor skydiving! Very adventurous stuff. He maintains his love for golf and had a three handicap until Caitlin was born. He's working to get it back down again. He's still working on his technique for smoking ribs. We happily serve as his guinea pigs



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!!!**



Kim and Danny's Wedding!

every time he makes up a new sauce or rub.

Kim is still working at Bonney Watson and still pretty much runs the place. She coordinates most of the company events and supervises about 20-25 people (administrative team). She found out that she is considered one of the senior managers, which is nice! She's been there for over 4 years now! Danny is a developer at Microsoft and is doing very well. They got married on August 11th in a civil ceremony. Danny's family was there for the wedding. Danny is renting his house in Woodinville and both are renting a house in Bellevue, which is about two blocks from Jocelyn's school and just across the bridge from us.

I forgot to mention that Kim joined the Woodridge PTSA - parent, teacher student association and did her first volunteering stint at the school assembling their classroom emergency backpacks and buckets.

Of course Inge had her usual great garden – tomatoes everywhere. Red, yellow, purple, green, orange, etc. She fed the homeless on Thanksgiving while I went to Kara's for diner – Kara and family prepared a great dinner – I may not eat for several days. And Inge got a new car – a Luxury Subaru loaded with everything Subaru offers. It has about a hundred buttons and switches and All Wheel Drive.

I had a bit of bad luck this year – I fell down the stairs (stairs that I been going down for 35 years) and broke my ankle and a rib. I was out of commission for three months and now have a metal plate and five screws holding my left ankle together. Inge took good care of me. Consequently the Viper saw very little action this year. But I did replace my 21-year-old Jeep with a Subaru Forester. Currently I am re-studying Quantum Physics (it gives me head aches) and trying to learn X-Code (the Apple programming language).

Charlie is very mature for his age. His

teachers say he is the most mature kid in his class. His teachers say he is the only one who knows all the names of all the kids. And he loves his sister – he will kiss her and caringly hold her. I expect he will be a good big brother. When Caitlin cries, he says, "Ok, Caitlin, it's ok!" Very cute.

Joce is doing very well in school and starting to learn to read. She loves books. One day when we were looking after her ... I had to read the same book (Grump) five times. She also is very loving and caring. And smart. She will either be a Social Worker or President of a company.

Dominic is also doing well. He love Lego's and is always creating something with his Lego Kits. Maybe we have a budding Engineer in the works. He gets along with his new sister very well.

Caitlin is growing rapidly and is starting to look a lot like her handsome brother Charlie. She is always happy and smiles a lot. She's even starting to laugh and coo. We may have a couple of models in the future or a lot of girl and boy friends. Uh oh!

We had a rotten summer this year. One of the meteorologists was tracking the number of minutes that we went over eighty degrees – it came out to about four and a half days. Now we are waiting for el Niño to hit this winter. We have already had some severe rains. In spite of the weather Inge still had a good garden.

Inge teaches a meditation class once a week and baby-sits our new neighbors little girl once a week. She and her friends occasionally go to the Outlet stores and local Indian Reservation Casino. She usually wins at the Slot machines.

On occasion we have one of the grandkids for an overnigher or weekender. They are all soooo good. Never have a problem with them and we have lots of fun. Inge usually takes Jocelyn to either of her favorite places – Target or the Value store. Of course they usually wind up buying a toy. I finally got the family to stand still for a family photo. Now, whenever Charlie sees a camera, he says "Papa take a picture!"

Happy Holidays to all.