

Radasky Christmas Letter--December 2008

This year was another hectic one, with Arlene overtaking Bill on the “busy scale” with her book publishing activities. Bill continued to work actively, and Kendy moved back to Goleta from Utah. Christi is well settled in San Diego with her family, trying to survive as a Mom with our two grandsons.

Our youngest grandson, Ian Papworth, just turned 3 and is trying to keep up with his older brother Drew Papworth (now 6). Drew is in first grade and has moved away from his interest in dinosaurs to something much more real (roller coasters)! This is quite interesting since he cannot ride most of the ones he likes to talk about. If you want to know which roller coaster is the fastest, highest, highest positive g force (or negative g force), or any other really useful fact (e.g., how many people get sick each day) about any roller coaster in the world, he is your guy! They are both growing rapidly and are learning how to cause trouble, while being cute at the right times (see below).



Bill and Arlene try to spend as much time as possible with the boys so as to be sure that they are sufficiently spoiled. This is of course the job of grandparents. In the spring we visited San Diego while the Papworth house was under expansion and stayed at the Bahia Hotel (on Mission Bay) for the weekend. We were able to spend a lot of time with the boys and actually wore them out for a few nanoseconds (see below).



Bill and the boys share a lot of interest in model trains and in train museums. As seen in the next column, the train museum in Goleta is fun for all.



As for Christi and her husband Bill, when they aren't chasing after the boys, Bill is working with medical lasers and Christi is working part time with medical device production quality control.

Kendy and her husband Matt have returned to Goleta now that Matt has finished his Master's Degree at the University of Utah in Dance. He is working part time in Santa Barbara and is looking for a teaching position in the area or on the West Coast.

All of the ladies of the family (including Arlene's Mom, Lori) are pictured below last month at the Goleta Train Museum.



As hinted in the intro, Arlene was extremely busy this year after she decided not to follow the traditional path for publishing her book, “The Fox”. She started by posting a PDF of her book on various websites (including www.radasky.com). She then chose an on-demand book publisher, and her book can now be ordered on Amazon.com and through two local bookstores. She also recorded her book for Podiobooks.com, so you can also find it there. She is planning her next book (also set in Scotland), for which she will have plenty of time to contemplate in early 2009, when she has each of her knees replaced (January and May).

Bill gets last billing, as he has done nothing really different this year. One real surprise occurred at a conference in Switzerland where Bill tried to tell a joke while presenting awards to colleagues and let slip that it was his birthday. 500 people then sang Happy Birthday, and Arlene then surprised him with a birthday cake (with sparklers)! We thought the Swiss were supposed to be reserved!



The extended Radasky family wishes everyone a healthy and happy holiday season and a Happy New Year.