

| THE RADTKE TIMES |



Dec. 1st, 2004

Happy Holidays! Oh, how we wish we could sit down and visit with each one of you in person! Every year, as we read your cards & letters, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the family and friends God has given to us. We always look forward to hearing from you this time of the year, so please take a few minutes to let us know how you've been, we'd sure appreciate it! Hint Hint!

We've kept busy once again this year as 2004 flew by, but we sure had fun while it lasted. As we reflect over the past months, it seems like a lot has happened and we can certainly see God's hand and faithfulness in it all. This time last year we were preparing to move, but now the boxes are all unpacked and we're all moved in. It was a bit of an adjustment for us to downsize from a 5 bedroom to a 3 bedroom house that is only 1850 sq. ft.), but we love our new house. Its location is perfect with all the open land behind and to the side of us, so the kids can still ride their motorcycles, build their sage brush forts and paintball hide-outs. We also have more family time thanks to less yard work. We used to have 2 acres, but now we live on an easily manageable city lot that takes much less time to care for. Best of all, we've been so blessed again with such friendly neighbors all around us.

* Cassidy & Tyler got to try public school for a couple weeks. We didn't have enough money for the Christian school they've both attended since Kindergarten, so we signed them up for Scarcelli Elementary school (4th & 5th grade). Although it was a great experience for them & they really liked it, we're thankful God provided what we needed to enroll them in Faith Christian Academy a week before it started, 3 weeks later than public school.

* Our family went to Oakland, CA and then to San Francisco with a big group of friends. We took the kid's to their 1st real major league baseball game. We had a perfect view with (in our opinion) the best seats there. It was so much fun for all of us! a few months later, we went on a great trip to Marine World, Dillon's Beach & back to San Francisco once again staying up on the very "TOP" floor of the Marriott!!

* Over Labor Day we rented a trailer & camped, fished, hiked, etc., for 5 days with several of our friends at twin Lakes, CA.

* The kids loved getting to fly all by themselves to/from Salt Lake, Utah to visit Ma Radtke (Glen's mom) & Great Grandpa for 4 days.





✧ CASSIDY:

Cassidy turned a double digit Oct. 26th, she's now 10 years old and is more beautiful than ever before, inside & out. Her love for the Lord & for others is so genuine.

*She had a lot of fun weekends spent at Ma & Pa Jones' farm. Ma taught her how to make her first quilt & it turned out great!

* Over the summer her and a good friend spent 6 days and 5 nights at Sierra Pines Bible Camp in CA. She had a great time there, but we missed her tremendously, as it's the longest that we've ever been apart. I think we'll stick with the 3 day/4 night Bible Camp

that she went to last year.

* Cassidy is sure growing up. We celebrated her b-day with a surprise party at the South Lake Tahoe ice skating rink with her cousins & close friends ~ She was shocked to say the least! We also did a 'While You Were Out' total bedroom make-over using all of her favorite colors, light blue walls, fuzzy lime green bedding & curtains, with just a hint of hot pink: A furry rug, huge pillow & a clock.



* For Halloween, Cassidy sure enjoyed getting all dressed up in a big red hat & a purple dress with lots of jewelry, just like the ladies over 50 yrs. old that join the *Red Hat Lady Association.* Here's a photo of her dressed up on the left ~ You can even see some of her new bedroom too!

* She Played Spring soccer which is much more competitive and loved it. This was her 4th year playing Fall soccer. She scored the first goal of the season ~ It was so exciting for her!

* Gave basketball a try this year. Although it was fun, she feels soccer is definitely more her thing.

* Took 3rd place at Faith Christian Academy's science fair. Her project was "What effect do different liquids (soda, milk and water) have on teeth?" (She used real teeth from a dentist's office in her demonstration). The conclusion? Well, lets just say she doesn't want to drink soda ever again!!

* After watching her brother for 2 years, she finally conquered her fear of jumping off the diving board at the swim center. Now we can't keep her off of it.

* She went to her 1st real concert. We saw *Hilary Duff* (aka Lizzy McGuire), live in Reno. Thanks to our good friends, Cassidy and I along with 3 of her friends all felt pretty special, getting to ride there in a beautiful stretch limo. We had such a blast that night!! (Cassidy's the girl in blue and black).





* **TYLER:**

* Tyler turned 11 in April and made certain that we know he's no longer a child, but a "pre-teen" now. In less than 2 years he'll be a teenager!!! He's sure grown up a lot this year and has the kindest /caring heart ever.

* We celebrated his b-day by having a fun paintball and X-box game sleep-over party with his friends. He loves shooting his new paintball & airsoft guns lately.



* In February he got another retainer, this one is permanent & even has prongs sticking out of it ~ YIKES!! It's to prevent his tongue from pushing on his front teeth, which it has done so far, but he still may need braces soon.

* Amazingly, Tyler caught a fly ball from the famous baseball player Jermaine Dye at the Oakland A's game that we took him to.



* He absolutely LOVES snow-boarding now after joining the local ski club and can't wait to go again this year!. They meet every Sat. during the winter.

* He finally got the racing motorcycle that he's been wanting for such a long time. It's a red Honda CR80 and is so fast! He's now into doing lots of "scary" jumps with it and even has the scars to prove it!

* Tyler also took 3rd place in his class at the school science fair. His project was "Does water temperature have any effect on bubbles?" His conclusion: Yes.

* We are all really looking forward to watching Tyler play the part of one of the "Wisemen" in their school Christmas play in a few weeks with his sister singing in the chorus.

* Tyler had fun volunteering at our Annual Harvest Festival. He ran a game booth this year. He got a lot of laughs dressed up as a hilarious, "inflatable", overweight sumo wrestler. (See photo on right).



* He got to go Chukker hunting with Dad this Fall for the first time. Even though they came home empty handed, they sure enjoyed the quality time spent together.

* Had such a blast spending a few weekends at a time on Ma & Pa Jones's farm.

* Tyler's dream of being in a "rock band" became a reality. He and 2 of his friends formed a band, calling themselves "The Red Flame". They've had two performances so far; the 1st one at his cousin's B-day party & the 2nd in our driveway. They even handed out business cards and autographed photos too. Tyler is the lead vocalist and also plays the electric guitar that Pa Jones gave him and has been teaching him how to play. According to the boys, you don't even need to know cords to be in a rock band.





* **GLEN**: He still really likes his job at the county since it's so much less stress than being in management & more physical work, which he prefers.

* He improved his golfing skills every Wednesday with his coworkers during the summer.

* Rain or shine, he goes on a daily run or walk. He's lost several pounds & a few inches too! I'm not too bias or anything, but he sure looks great!

* Instead of coaching Tyler's baseball, Glen had a good time playing on a baseball team for Douglas County. He hasn't been on a team in 9 yrs!



* **TIFFANY**: In January, a friend of mine won a trip for 10 of us to scrapbook in Utah for 4 days & meet Lisa Bearson (the editor/creator of Creating Keepsakes magazine). What a blast!! Oh & as a bonus, our picture was published in their Sept. 04 issue.

* I sure enjoyed the Ladies Retreat again for the 10th yr. in a row. God is so gracious, no matter how bad things can be in our lives, they all seem to disappear during these 3 day retreats.

* My health remains pretty much the same. Still not much relief yet from the chronic pain, fatigue & insomnia caused by the Fibromyalgia. It's even spread down my arms & into my hips during the past year. I know God will heal me in His perfect timing, hope that's real soon, but in the meantime, I'm so grateful the Lord is gracious when I need Him the most. His grace and mercies never cease.

* I'm so thankful & amazed at how much success I've had selling Juice Plus lately. (www.jplus.net) It

actually sells itself since we all need more fruits & veggies. I love my job helping others get healthy, including my own family. The best part is it still allows me to be a stay at home mom to our kids, which means a lot to us.

* Lastly, I'm so excited. I donated 17 inches of my hair to the locks of love foundation where they make real hair pieces for underprivileged kids who have medical hair-loss. It feels so good being able to do this for them as I know that my hair will grow back over time, unlike these little kids.



Well, if you made it this far, you're caught up at least a little bit on our fun & busy year. In closing, we realize just how blessed we really are & how completely God has taken care of our family. Our prayer for you this Christmas is that you will also know God & feel His presence in your life ~ It's absolutely amazing! If you have any questions about becoming a Christian, please ask & we'll gladly explain just how simple is.

"Merry Christmas"

Love the Radtkes ~ Glen, Tiffany, Cassidy & Tyler

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