

# FAMILY TIES

Vol. 1, Issue 15

December 31, 1992

1992 -- has come and gone -- and with a family this size, many happenings have taken place. Some have lost loved ones, but knowing they are with Our Father does help to lessen the pain. It is never easy nor are we prepared for their absences--you are all in my prayers, especially at such times. Life does go on though, and several of our young families have been blessed with new additions to this wonderful family. About 60 of us had the fun-filled pleasure of celebrating Pop's 82nd birthday in San Antonio at Jean and Jim Baggett's acreage. What a party!! We had Andrew and Iniki come huffing and puffing into our lives. Thank God most in our family were spared this trauma. We elected a new President.

I had the very special privilege of attending the first International Conference for the Lay Missionaries of Charity in Rome. It, too, left me with many lasting memories. I think the one thing that stands out above all else was meeting and talking with other LMC's from "former" communist countries. I saw how devastated a country, a people can become when they are denied the right to worship God. It is a freedom we take for granted. In our families, we must practice our faith--not just for ourselves, but for our children and for our neighbors. We can be the little lights that help to light this world through dark times.

May 1993 be a year filled with Our Lord's light shining in and through each one of us. God blesses and loves you all.

Susie Aki, Editor

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## ADDRESSES!!!

The last issue of Family Ties was returned which we had sent to the following people -- whoever knows, please send us the correct addresses for these:

Christine & Donald Arpin  
Rt #10, Box 12  
Lockport, IL 60441

Brenda & Mark Bevis  
1422 James  
Garland TX 75042

Frank and Sharon Graham  
4522 Laren  
Dallas TX 75234

Mike O'Hara  
14610 42nd St., Apt. 201  
Tampa FL 33613

Also, if you have any college-age kids whom you would like to receive this Newsletter, please send me their addresses.

## NEW ADDRESSES:

John and Becky Wise  
2701 Hopewell Court  
Leander Texas 78641  
512/259-3619

Jason and Kelli Doran  
156 Fishing Creek Lane, #24  
Hubert, NC 28539  
919/326-5339

Mark Doran  
19947 East Wagon Trail Dr.  
Aurora, Colorado 80015  
303/699-5562

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## AFTER-CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Ladies Annual Christmas Party was the best yet. All seemed to have a really nice time. Addie Mae Doran's niece, Jennie Glass, played the harp and her daughter, Katie, played the flute and did an Irish reel and jig-- really very talented people! There was a nice crowd and the food was great--not many leftovers!



JIM & MARIANNA TRAVEL  
"DOWN UNDER"

Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Australia -- our itinerary. Believe it or not, we have people in Australia interested in the corrosion-killing, protecting capabilities of our product.

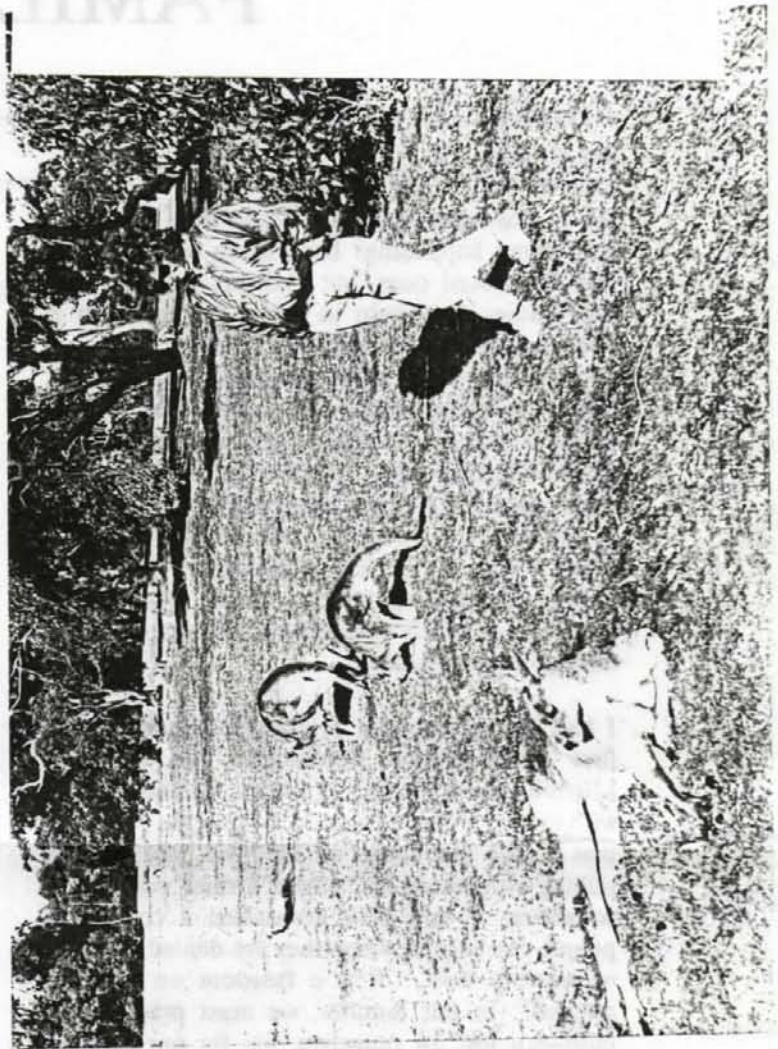
Sooooooooo -- we "had" to go last September. A busy, fun trip. All business trips should be like this one. All Aussies are very nice and refreshing people. They make travel a pleasure. In Brisbane we visited with prospective customers that have found history in between 600 and 2,000 feet of ocean about 60 miles off the coast. At the end of WWII there were U.S. aircraft carriers in the South Pacific loaded with new fighter planes, P51s, Grumanns, etc., engines stored in barrels of oil -- about 200 plus planes.

These guys have researched, studied, spoken to the U.S. and other governments, checked legal rights, etc., etc. They are now ready to start pulling these planes up and will need our product to make sure these planes stay free from corrosion. There are many museums interested, including the Smithsonian. Wouldn't it be great fun to be on the barge when these antiques are brought up?

It was not all work--we did see some kangaroos-- plenty on a golf course, like flies, and they were very tame. We saw the Opera House in Sydney, again. We ate fresh abalone. We flew to Cabourture, Caloundra, Toowoomba in a small plane to see the restoration of WWI planes. We ate the very BEST steaks EVER at Breakfast Creek Hotel in Brisbane. We visited a Chinese temple. We bought boomerangs. We lit candles for Mama and Michelle at St. Mary's Cathedral in Sydney. We shopped (some) at Queen Victoria Bldg. in Sydney. What a wonderful old plane!!

We came home with smiles and we'll have mega smiles when our orders roll in.

Jim and Marianna Van Gilder



Marianna Van Gilder in  
Australia - with her  
"golfing buddies"

RESIDENT COMPUTER WHIZ!

Pop is becoming quite an expert with his computer. His computer now *talks* to him! Way t'go, Daddy!



Katherine Wise had a cataract removed just before Thanksgiving (and is doing great)! "Seeing the light" again inspired the following poem from our very own family poet:

#### TO MY DOCTOR

You removed my cataract  
And it's wonderful to see.  
Or at least I thought so  
Until I looked at me.

I didn't know my face  
Was wrinkled so bad,  
Or my hair so white  
And I'm not glad.

I wore mis-matched clothes,  
And happily.

One blue sock, one black sock  
Looked good to me.

I see dust and dirt  
In every cranny and crack.  
Hey, Doc, I want  
My cataract back.

Katherine Wise

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#### DORAN UPDATE

Mark Doran completed his studies at the University of Texas and returned from Wurzburg, Germany in October when he completed his German studies through an extension program with UT (and took a couple of months to see some of Europe). He appeared to have really enjoyed Germany and made a wide number of trips where, among other events, he and a German friend resisted a group of pickpockets in Paris and were involved in a confrontation and lucky to get away unharmed. He ran with the bulls at Pamplona, spent weeks in eastern Europe, etc. Mark is now living in Denver where he went shortly after his return.

Jason married earlier this year. His pretty young bride, Kelli, is from Montgomery, Alabama, and brings two really neat young children to our family.

Johnathan is 5 years old and Morgan is a sweet little blond 2-year old, who calls Jason, in her already developed Alabamian drawl, "Big Daddy."

Jason is in Marine Corps Reconnaissance. This year he completed training with the French Marines in the Grenadines, paratrooper school, and has his "jump wings" and an eight-week specialist school in scouting/stalking.

Frank visited Kelli and Jason at their home outside Camp LeJeune, NC in October--it was a real treat for him.

Jason's former battalion in Saudi was the first of the Marine troops sent to Somalia. Jason's present unit will be sent on "float" on an aircraft carrier in the early part of 1993 for six months at sea and ports unknown.

Frank Doran

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#### FABRO FAMILY - YEAR IN REVIEW

Christopher turned 20 and is a junior majoring in Business at U. Conn. He's learning to balance a budget -- living in a townhouse with two other students and making car payments!!

Matt is a senior at the Chicago Academy for the Arts -- has added congo drums to his classical guitar studies and hopes to add marimba. We don't know where next year will take him.

Diane turned 50 in September - is fully recovered from radiation treatments and is almost fully recovered from a fractured left hand and right clavicle (bike accident at the beginning of the summer).

Al took Diane to New York City for the weekend to celebrate her birthday -- then Denise and Karen surprised her with a party -- with many, old, old, old friends.

All in all, it's been a good year with many surprises and good times.

The Fabros  
Al, Diane, Chris & Matt



## RETURN OF THE TEXANS

A few months ago, after years of John's work keeping him on the road more than half the time, we decided that this was not the way we wanted our life to be. We also have very much been missing our families. So we decided to move back to Texas.

At the end of October, we moved to the Austin area. We are now just a 3-1/2 hour drive from our parents, and 3 of our 4 siblings live in Texas. We are living in a small town about 25 miles north of Austin. We are going to build a house in the spring, possibly on 5 acres of land we own near here. The boys are in kindergarten, first, and fourth grades in a great school which would also be their school if we build on our land.

Becky is substitute teaching while waiting for a full-time position to open up. John is investigating several job opportunities in the computer field but may end up doing something completely different! We really feel lucky to have this change to do exactly what we choose!

We welcome any and all guests. We specialize in short-notice accommodations! We are all very happy and wish the same for all of you.

John and Becky Wise  
& Jimmy, Charles & Bobby

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## MARSHALL TALK

1992 has been filled with wonders and terrors.

Sarah maintained her first violin section status at McQueen H.S. and was also elected Senator of her sophomore class. Sarah was an exchange student for five weeks in Freiburg, Germany, and we delighted in hosting Marion Lutz from the same city.

Peter worked as a summer Science Carnival demonstrator of liquid nitrogen and a live boa constrictor -- but not at the same time. Peter also went to Puerto Vallarta with a friend and his family to enjoy some cultural immersion while testing his high school Spanish.



Peter and Sarah Marshall  
(and friends)

In the animal kingdom, Bunns the rabbit was returned to "his" master and turned out to be a female--which explains why he did so poorly as a stud. Taffy, our young retriever, died of cancer in the spring but was replaced by another, The Unsinkable Molly Brown II -- Molly for short. A fourth cat joined the menagerie. Rita rescued an emaciated part-Siamese cat from Libby Booth School, after which it has been named.

A late fall storm broke a buoy chain, and our sailboat Cygnus, blew onto the rocky north shore of Lake Tahoe--just hours before Pete and I arrived to haul it out. She groaned for about a day before being snatched off her perch and is now undergoing major rehabilitation.

We travelled to Carmel for the christening of grand niece, Mary Carolyn King, and mixed it up with the parents (Rob and Margaret), sister Carolyn and their friends. Later in the summer the Beemans from Illinois managed a family reunion at the Lake, and we enjoyed our visit with them. Regretably, Sue's sequined baseball cap jibed when we tacked and became a reluctant offering to Tahoe Tessie. And over the present holidays we will be visiting Rita's parents in Maui. Snorkeling is scheduled!

Rita is committed to her disadvantaged (largely



Hispanic) elementary charges who are trying to learn English as a second language. John's work at the university is replete with unanticipated challenges which keep the job interesting.

'Twas the 20th year we have been together in a family way. The blessings continue to be tangible and our lives full. We all hope your holidays were joyful and that your 1993 is loaded with good news and graceful fulfillment.

Rita, John,  
Sarah and Peter Marschall

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### SLEIGH BELLS RING!

Susie and Ed had all of their kids and families home for the holidays (at one time or another) and took a "sleigh" ride through Highland Park to look at the Christmas lights. It was wonderful -- just seeing the grandkids' faces light up made it all worth it!



Susie and Ed Aki and their "crew" sleighing the holidays away.

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### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JIM!!

Jim Van Gilder celebrated 60 years on November 1, 1992. We all, family and friends, helped him through the day with a big Mexican Fiesta. Charles, our brother, did send Jim the "same ol' card" again. These two have been exchanging the same card for about 30 years (half your lifetime, Jim). Happy birthday, Jim, and may you have many more.



Jim Van - for the 60th time!

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### MORE DICKSENS!

This fall-winter brought two new Dickens to our family. Bob and Kelly had a baby girl, Kelsey Anne, on October 12. Mike and Carol had a baby boy, Andrew Michael, on December 1. Big brothers Jordan and Kyle are very excited!! May you all have a blessed holiday season and new year!

Mike, Carol,  
Kyle and Andy Dickson



Andrew Michael Dickson  
Dec 1 1992 9 Lbs. 2 Oz.





**SANTA CLAUS!! -- and**

**Charles M. Lundquist**  
**Chicago - Dec. 1913 or 1914**

**Brian Miller**  
**7842 Vernwood**  
**Houston TX 77040**



**CAROL MILLER**  
**1300 W. OHIO**  
**MIDLAND, TX. 79701**