

FAMILY TIES

Vol. 1, Issue 17

January 1, 1994

We wish you all a very beautiful new year. May all our families be filled with our Lord's joy, peace and love!

It's 1994 -- only six years until the next millennium (or seven, if you want to be picky), the year 2000 (or 2001). It's going to be interesting to see how the next 6 (or 7) years are for our family, our nation, the world. It has certainly been an interesting century, particularly the latter half and we hope this brand new year will present many opportunities for our huge, wonderful family to keep and stay in touch.

Let us hear from you all during the coming year -- we're an interesting bunch!

Susie Aki and Carol Miller, Editors

As usual, we have address changes, and here they are:

Andrew and Tami Walker
6808 E. Belleview St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
602/423-1015

Patrick Walker
900 Henderson Ave., #2008
Houston, Texas 77058
713/333-0411

Sgt. Jason K. Doran
Marine Corps Recruiting Services
401-3 Bedford Eules Rd.
Hurst, Texas 76053

Republica of Moldova
Cahul, Cahul
Str. Stefan cel Mare 134
liceul teoretic "Ioan Voda"
Mark W. Doran
The Republic of Moldova

(This is right - Mark's address starts with Moldova's name and ends with the same -- some sort of postal logic).

Ann and John Achenbach
1300 W. Ohio
Midland, Texas 79701

+++++

FAMILY NEWS BRIEFS

Alan Graham is recovering nicely from hip surgery. You can't keep him down long! Keep him in your prayers for continued progress.

A new grandbaby for Doug and Patty Ingram, their second. Jake Scott Conly was a little Christmas angel (not so little--he weighed 12 lbs. 12 ozs.)

Say a prayer for Jessie Young, Henry Young's mother. She has had a severe stroke, and needs the Lord's help.

And congratulations to Henry Young. He passed the Captain's test with flying colors - number 11. He is now a captain in the Garland Fire Department.

Pop (Grandpa, Uncle Charles, Great-Grandpa, just plain Charles) has taken up cribbage -- before long, Hugh will have everyone in this family playing cribbage. Pop loves all the cards and letters and visits from everyone. '94 should be the year of KIT (keep in touch) with Pop.

Ann and John Achenbach are in the process of getting out of the Army life. They are currently in El Paso, but not for long. John will be out in February and they are looking for work/home in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Matt Fabro graduated from the Academy for the Arts, moved into his own apartment and plans to take some courses at Columbia and is working on his music career.

Chris Fabro turned 21 and is interviewing for jobs in the East after graduation from the U. of Conn. in June.

Al and Diane Fabro celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in December -- and Diane finally quit smoking!

Susie Walker is in hopes of being accepted into the OT (occupational therapy) program at TWU in the fall.

Pat Walker has become engaged to Tamy Gibson in Houston. Wedding bells sometime in the fall.

Andrew and Tami Walker have relocated to Scottsdale, Arizona with their family. So far, they love it.

Wally and Jean and family are selling their "Old Kentucky Home" and making ready for when Wally leaves the Special Forces in May. They plan to move to Dallas. Any job offers will be carefully considered.

Ed Aki is on the road a lot now. As close as Louisiana and as far as London. He hopes to squeeze in a home visit on trip to Hawaii. Susie - besides trying to keep up with all of the above, is saving her monies to "go on the road" with Ed. London wouldn't be a bad trip for the spring, now would it!?

All the Van Gilders are busy, happy and growing (the kids/grandkids are growing up -- and the rest are growing better). Marianna and Jim (or Jim mostly) will be traveling a lot in '94 and so will Jim, II. Chuck will be selling computer supplies -- all the girls -- well, they are trying to keep up - on the run!

83RD TIME 'ROUND

We again had a family reunion (smaller version) for Pop's birthday last September. The "eight" were there, plus various spouses, grandchildren,

great-grandchildren, etc. Marianna and Susie, as usual, spread the festivities between their homes, and CC and Pop (plus Marianna and Susie) made their homes available for out-of-towners. The food was great, the company even better, and, judging from the noise level, everyone had a marvelous time. Next year, Jimmy Van, Jr. has offered his home and culinary skills for our get together. Sounds like a deal to us!

ALMOST ANNUAL AFTER CHRISTMAS LADIES LUNCHEON

December 29, 1993
(To Old MacDonald Had a Farm)

Susie Aki had a party, EIEIO!
And at this party she had some girls, EIEIO!
With a CC here and Marianna there,
here a Julie and there a Jamie,
Everywhere an Addie Mae,
Oh, Susie Aki had a party, EIEIO!

With a Louise here and a Margaret there,
Here a Susan, there a Shannon,
Everywhere a Debbie & Michelle,
Oh, Susie Aki had a party, EIEIO!

With a Katherine here, and a Linda there,
Here a Mary, there a Whitney, Taylor, Christiana,
EIEIO!.

WE MISSED THE REST OF YOU!

Linda and Paul flew to Dallas for the hen party. Jennifer and Chris were in Crested Butte snowing skiing with their church youth group.

Happy New Year!

Linda Lundquist

All the Parker kids were home for Christmas. Jimmy is as taken with planes as his mother (CC) is with horses. He is stationed in Pensacola, Florida. John, Elizabeth and Julie are all doing well in college. Jamie and Jack are still at home holding down the fort and keeping CC in line (very difficult). James is a junior, 16 and driving, and

Jack is in 8th grade and ready for high school next year.

AT HOME AND ABROAD

Mark Doran has two plus years left as a volunteer with the Peace Corps in Moldova where he is teaching English and German. Times are, apparently, kind of tough in Moldova and this stint will age very slowly as time goes by -- particularly the winters. The country is still under Communist (and Mafia) control, is without fuel (no transportation, little heat and limited refrigeration for food -- spices are of real interest to Mark!), and it's a world of experiences for a young man.

Jason Doran is stationed in the Dallas area for three years starting last September. This is quite an adjustment for us as Jason has not been in Dallas much at all in ten years -- and an exciting adjustment. Unfortunately, Jason and his young wife, Kelli, are terminating their marriage.

Frank Doran

TEXANS SETTLE IN or "Wise People Live in Texas"

The biggest news this year was that we realized our dream of designing and constructing our new home. We started in April and moved into it October 15. It is private and quiet, and the house has the best features of all those houses we lived in over the years. Johnny says that we got everything exactly the way we wanted, whether we really wanted it that way or not! We live about 23 miles northwest of Austin in the hill country on five acres of land. The boys still go to the same school they have attended since we moved here. They love it out here, and they have big plans to build a fort back in the forest. Our family belongs here and fits perfectly.

Becky is teach 3rd grade in Leander and has a really tough 10 minutes drive to school amidst all that rush hour country road traffic! Jimmy is in the 5th grade and getting taller by the day, probably about 5' tall now. He was one of three kids in his class chosen by his peers to go to a leadership camp recently.

Bobby is in 2nd grade and has gotten very involved with Cub Scouts this year. He is a bobcat and working toward his Wolf Badge. His den was the colorgaurd at the last pack meeting and he was the scout who said, "Post the colors!" What an accomplishment this was for a kid who has had so much speech therapy!

Charlie is in the 1st grade and really enjoying school this year. He is in love with his teacher, and saving up the reward tickets he gets in order to have lunch and a soda with his teacher. He's in Tiger Cubs this year and can't wait to go to Scout Day Camp this summer.

We all miss all of you, but we are so thankful for the benefits that this move has given us. Our family has thrived on the simple act of being all together and as a result of this move, we're closer than ever. We also have gotten to see a lot of our families this last year. Letting the boys get closer to their grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins was one of the many reasons we came back to Texas. Overall, the Wise family has much for which to be grateful.

John and Becky Wise
and Jimmy, Bobby and Charlie