

# *MERRY CHRISTMAS*

*from SAM, LISA,  
SAMUEL & AARON  
CARBAUGH*

*MAY YOUR HEART  
BE CONTENT,  
MAY  
YOUR SPIRITS  
BE  
LIGHT,  
AND  
MAY  
ALL  
YOUR  
HOLIDAY MEMORIES BE  
BRIGHT!*



## Carbaugh Christmas 1996

*It is time once again to share our lives with close friends and family. Close at heart but far apart as we are still living in Japan. 1996 has been another full year for us all and we hope it has been as kind to you as it has been to us. Enjoy the Holiday Season and a Happy New Year! The Year of the Cow in this part of the world.*



### FAMILY TRAVELS

This year we again managed to travel a bit. Sam went to Australia for a week to attend a United States Air Force Exchange Officer Conference. The whole family didn't get to go along as we had hoped but maybe we'll go some other time.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### MAJOR SAM

It won't be "Major Sam" much longer. The Air Force has selected him to become a **Lieutenant Colonel** ! His line number is 1044 so he'll have to wait until October or November 1997 to actually get to wear the new rank but it is a big relief to be past this milestone.

Sam got something to celebrate his promotion and dull the edge of his mid-life crisis. While we were in the US on vacation, he surprised not only us but Lisa's family too when he came home with what - he claims - is a solid

*(Continued on page 2)*

### LISA'S NEWS

Happy Holidays to everyone! We are busy making preparations for our last Christmas in Japan and look forward to next year when we can be closer to friends and family and celebrate the season in the good old-fashioned way.

A great deal of my time is devoted to teaching the boys while juggling the housework. Without dish-washers, bread stores, central

*(Continued on page 2)*



*FAMILY TRAVELS*

*(Continued from page 1)*

The whole family went on a ski trip to Nagano, the site of the 98 Winter Olympics, with one of the local English Clubs in March. Unfortunately it warmed up and the slopes were wet. It wasn't the best conditions for the family's first down hill ski experience. The ski village, on the other hand was full of free natural hot spring bath houses. Our big trip of the year was a return to the USA in August. The main event was to attend a Brailey Reunion in Grand Rapids Michigan to celebrate Lisa's parents 50th Wedding Anniversary. We also made side trips to Dayton and San Antonio to check on our rental properties and visit friends. We hope to sell our house in San Antonio - see our



*MAJOR SAM*

*(Continued from page 1)*  
financial "investment" - a **Harley-Davidson!**



He didn't ship the HOG back to Japan so it is waiting for him to return in 1997. Meanwhile he's riding a Yamaha to and from work to "stay in practice." No tattoos - so far as we know.

Major Sam is busy with his duties at Gifu Air Base. After more than a year with the Japanese Air Self Defense Force, he's managed to build a number of lessons and figure out the routine.

His latest effort is looking for an assignment to get back into the USAF next year. We don't really know where we'll end up - could be the Pentagon, Dayton again, or even Boston. Where ever it is, it should be interesting. It always is ...

*LISA'S NEWS*

*(Continued from page 1)*

heat and other things we take for granted, I spend more time with kitchen duty, weekly bread baking, and trying to keep warm. At least until the heat comes next summer.

I teach an English class every Thursday night. The home-schooling has kept me fresh in English so I can answer most, but not all questions.

My greatest claim to fame here is cooking. Whenever I meet someone for the first time the usual response is, "I heard you were a good cook." I've taught several cooking classes this year for different groups. The Girl Scouts wanted to learn to bake cookies. I managed to avert disaster during that lesson when one of the young ladies measured out 1/2 cup of baking soda instead of 1/2 teaspoon. English in the written form is well understood by the Japa-

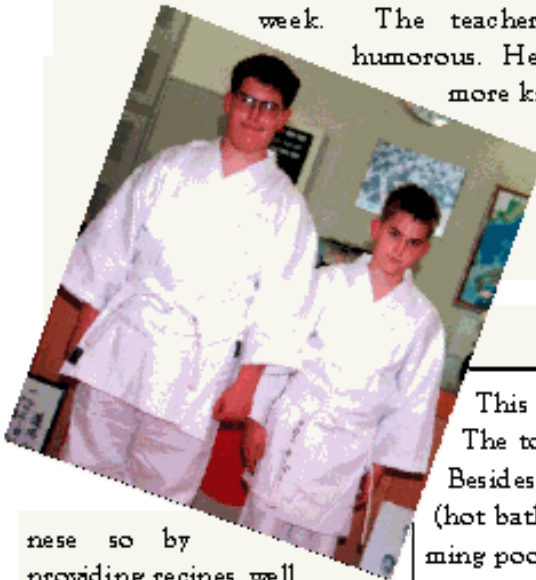


SAMUEL JOSEPH'S CORNER

This year I graduated from 7th grade from Calvert School and then immediately began the 8th grade course. Calvert was interesting because it required me to read many fascinating books and poems. Among my favorites are; Kidnapped, The Story of a Bad Boy, and the poem Blacksmith by Longfellow.

Also this year, I opened up a new talent of drawing and writing. I have developed "Harry" and "Beyond Sanity" comics as a hobby. I am also taking violin lessons using my Great Grandfather's "Copy of Antonio Stratavarious - Made in Czechoslovakia."

My brother and I have also started taking Karate lessons twice a week. The teacher is stern but sometimes humorous. He sometimes has us run 5 or more kilometers, even in our bare feet! So far I've lost 10 pounds so watch out!



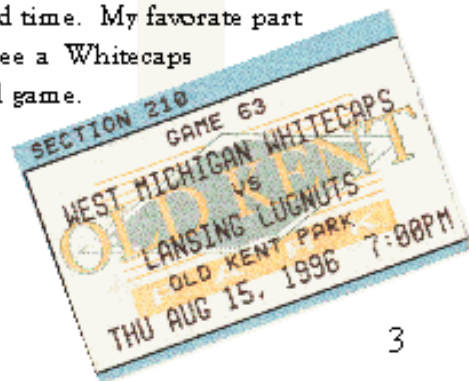
AARON'S CORNER

This last year, when I went skiing, it was very fun. The town we were in was an old Japanese village. Besides shopping, they also had very fancy on-sens (hot baths). The one we went to had a gym, swimming pool plus both in and out door on-sens.

I finished 5th grade and celebrated by burning the Calvert School teaching manuals. My favorite subject was reading because I got to read The Arabian Nights and King Arthur. This year, in 6th grade, I am reading Lorna Doone.

Summer vacation this year was better than ever because I stayed at Bass Lake longer than usual and had a very good time. My favorite part was going to see a Whitecaps (AAA) baseball game.

The Whitecaps won.



nese so by providing recipes well in advance of the class, most of the students know what to do. I'm convinced I could teach cooking and English full-time as the requests exceed the time I can devote to them.

I hope our move next year