



Jeous-is the reason for the season

# 1997 Carbaugh Christmas Newsletter

Another year has swiftly gone by. We have many memories to share with you on this joyous holiday season. We are now closer to many old friends as we have returned from Japan and are living in California. But we are now far away from our many new friends we've made in Japan. For our Japanese friends, this will be their first American Cristmas 1 e t t e r



#### **FAMILY TRAVELS**

This year we managed a few trips to finally see some of Japan for a change. While we've been there for 3 years, we were too busy to actually see Japan on our own. In May, Lisa's youngest sister, Kristine, visited from Chicago and spent 2 weeks with us. We stayed a week in Tokyo and saw the sights. Then, after spending some time at our home in Gifu, we made trips to Kyoto and Takayama.

Our other travel of the year was connected with our return to

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#### LT COL SAM

Sam finally pinned on his new rank in November. He had to wait over a year but it was worth it. This was a great milestone in his Air Force career which will now go beyond 20 years of service. He's now past 17 years and beginning to feel like (and some say, look like) an old foogle.

His latest military hurdle was finding his next military assignment. Up through Lieutenant Colonel, the service lets the individual scan the available jobs (via the internet) and then volunteer for the jobs they are interested in. Since he had to move because someone was coming to replace him in Japan - if he didn't find a good job - the system would find one for him (usually not what other folks volunteered for...) His luck held out and he was selected

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### LISA'S NEWS

I'm behind again this year. It feels like a year's worth has happened since we returned from Japan. The biggest event in Japan was having my sister, Kris, visit. I enjoyed introducing her to our Japanese friends and was so happy at the great hospitality shown her. After she returned to Ameri-



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#### FAMILY TRAVELS





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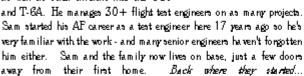
the United States. We left Japan in August and spent a few days in Honolulu, Hawaii - to catch upon Jet Lag and to see a little of the 50th State. We stayed at the military owned Hale Koa Hotel on Waikiki Beach and toured the USS Arizona Memorial. After buying the required beach wear, the boys tried to wind surf while Lisa managed a little tan. The trip was capped with a traditional Hawaiian Luau. We all agreed that Hawaii is a great place to visit - we plan to return.

A final trip was just for Sam as he made a dash back to Michigan (by way of Minnesota). He picked up our new van which he then used to haul his Harley-Davidson and VW bug plus other stuff he had stored - all back to California ~ in just 3 days. He even remembered to get Barney, our wayward Bernese Mountain Dog we left with friends some 3 years ago. Sam also managed to visit his parents new home in Missouri.

#### LT COL SAM

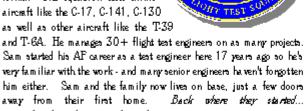
timued from page 1) for just the job he wanted.

Sam is now the Deputy for Engineering of the 418th Flight Test Squadron at Edwards AFB, California. The squadron tests airlift aircraft like the C-17, C-141, C-130



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bat things have sare changed...







## LISA'S NEWS

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paring to move and our many farewells. We certainly miss our friends in Kakamigahara and our missionary friends and congregation in the Tokyo area.

It was very hard for me to come directly to California and not visit our families. We did get our house quickly and the boys were in school within two weeks. Three different shipments kept me busy; especially with my helpersin school or at work. Still not sure I could call us settle as there is a lot to organize yet.

There are lots of "ghosts" on this base of all the friends we remember from our first assignment. It seems as if they should still be here. We have folks in the community to contact yet. Everything has been going fast.

I hope everyone is well this Christmas Season. We plan to visit home next summer and on the way show the boys some sights of the southwest US. Hope to see you.

God's Blessings,



#### SAMUEL JOSEPH

The year began as most years do, full of promise, hope and joy. This year though all of these things were indeed carried out. As you may know we were on the home stretch of our Japan tour so this made us happy and anxious at what lay ahead, and so the questions began to arise... Where would we live next? Would we make new friends? Would I fit in? Is the double guarter pounder still around?

In time we found answers to these and many others and I can tell you they're all postive. The biggest concern was of moving, it took ages to leave that house, but after two years memories pop up. It causes one to reflect on the years and see all the so called "forgotten memories & embarassments," the nude outdoor hot springs... psycho karate classes with a post-nazi instructor... my creation of "Harry"... and load of other junk and souvenirs of "memory lane." Even though

Japan was possibly the hardest of all assignments, it had it's ups.

The end was in sight when we left for Hawaii and ended on a low note with one of the worst plane flights ever, but man was Hawaii worth it!!! The warm sun, the beating surf, the skillet-hot beach with many pot-bellied tourists with chaulk-white skin... but it was totally relaxing and made the Japanese Carbaugh export ready for delivery.

The base we amived at was E d w a r d s California, my birthplace. Well the story is short so here goes. We got a house the next day, 7 days later we got our first shipment, Aaron and I started public school at Desert

High School. Things are just getting interesting as I've made new friends and joined the wrestling team. Wrestling is my sport because in my first tournament, I pinned a guy in 14 seconds!

Well as you know now, my year



# AARON CLARK "AC"

This year has been a busy one so I don't remember much. The main event in Japan was when Aunt Kris came to visit. We went all over the area with her. we visited friends before we had to leave Japan.

We were lucky enough to stop in Hawaii on our way back to the mainland. in Hawaii we stayed at a military hotel. We did a lot of fun things including my first windsurfing lesson and a luau which was one of the finest events. I loved the scenery and accomodations. I want to go back, though I'll get better goggles next time.

We flew to LA. I was scared because it was nightime. We were lucky to get a good rental car. Then we left post haste for Edwards. We stopped at a Denny's because we hadn't been to one in 3 years. When we got to Edwards I thought it was barren, desert wasteland because a coyote was there to greet us with a rabbit in its mouth.

I started the 7th grade on time in August I thought it was a good school with good teachers but I found out it was only about 75% good. I'm in an advanced math class and a wonderful science class with lots of animals (real ones, not students). I'm currently waiting to get a cast off my left arm ~ tripped in gym class...

I miss all my friends and relatives and hope to see many of you next summer!