



1998 Carbaugh Christmas Newsletter

Wow, yet another year has come and gone. It is hard to believe it is time once again to build our traditional holiday card and newsletter. As always, we have had a busy and rewarding year. Not quite so radical as other years - but still plenty to fill this letter to all our many friends and family. With our distribution list of well over 100 across a few countries, it is nice to have the convenience of a newsletter.

Have a wonderful holiday and a terrific new year!

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

The year began with the Carbaugh family very busy at work and school. It was so busy sometimes it seemed we never had time to stop and smell the roses - or poppies, but that would be getting too far ahead.

Sam has been very busy at his job as the Director of Engineering at the **418th Flight Test Squadron**. The people in the unit and at the Flight Test Center are absolutely the best! In the summer, he was asked to assume another engineering management position but was able squeeze another year to

finish some things he started at the squadron. With all the changes being made in the Air Force to combine organizations and reduce manpower or contract work out - it is only a matter of time before Sam will have a new job. While he has worked in many positions in the last 18 years - he's never been quite so happy as he has been here.

LOCAL INFO

This part of California - the high desert just north of Los Angeles and just south of Death Valley - received an unusual amount of spring rains. This rain produced an explosion of color in the desert as the wild flowers bloomed. The native poppies were especially abundant.



Sam, Joe, & Aaron - Poppies, Poppies, POPPIES!



We spent an afternoon after church driving around the desert – sort of like a Spring “color tour.”

TRIP BACK EAST

We finally made a family trip to visit family. We drove cross country to visit Sam’s parents at their new “estate” in Missouri and then went on up to Michigan to visit Lisa’s family. It was a lot of driving – 3000 miles– but worth it. We missed the trip as a family last year and really enjoyed the chance to visit and to see the USA again!

RENO AIR RACES

Speaking of traveling – Sam finally got to take a trip on his Harley. He attended the annual **Society of Flight Test Engineers (SFTE)** symposium in Reno



Nevada. The **US National Air Races** just happened to be underway at about the same time! Sam met some old friends and made some new ones at

the conference. He also got to experience one more of those “*always wanted to see*” events. It was an outstanding air race!

CONFIRMATION

Samuel Joseph finished his studies with the **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church** and was confirmed as a full member. This was a very special and long awaited for event. The church ceremony was also special. We didn’t think about it until that day – but Sam was confirmed in the same church, and by the same pastor as he was baptized – 15 years ago! Where has the time gone? Aaron is currently finishing his studies and will be confirmed next year.

MATHLETES

One of Aaron’s big events was placing 5th in a regional school program for advanced math students – called “Mathletes.” It was held in Bakersfield and included a school team of 8th grade classmates.



SAM’S SPORTS

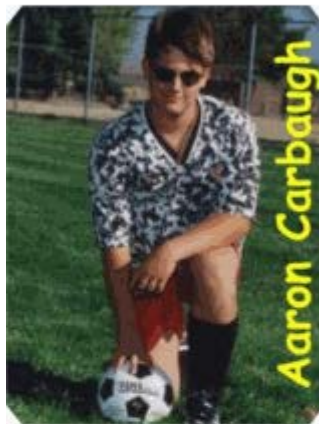
Sam has been very active in High School sports – he wrestled & played football in the Junior Varsity (JV) programs. Wrestling was cut short when Sam’s shoulder would come out of it’s socket – he had seriously injured it when learning Karate in Japan. He underwent surgery in the Spring to re-attach the ligaments. He was then able to play football in the Fall. About midway into the season, he injured his thumb so it was back to the hospital. His shoulder also began to experience some pain so it was best to wait out the season.

Sam was honored by his team when he received the **“Most Inspirational**

Player award. He is not wrestling this year (he is in the 10th grade – High School Sophomore) so his shoulder can heal for next year's football season.

AARON'S SPORTS

Soccer has been AC's



sport of the year. He joined the Edwards AFB Youth Soccer Club's age 13-14 team called the **Rebels**. Aaron's asthma didn't slow him down as he helped the team win a place in the local play-offs. He played so aggressively he even put one player in the hospital. During a game against California City, he was able to defend his goal from an opponent. Aaron skillfully managed to get the ball away – but unfortunately the other player missed his step and

had a bad tumble – breaking his collar bone!

Sports are rough when you are a teenager...

HONOR ROLLS

Both boys have been outstanding in their studies. Both have made the school's Honor's List. Both made the school Honor Roll regularly. Aaron was nominated for the **National Honor Society**. Sam was listed in the 1998 book of honor students. He has also become quite an artist too. His life-sized drawings of a swing band helped his class win the Best Prom Float Award.

LISA'S NEWS

Since January, Lisa has been working for a company that maintains the **NASA** Dryden Research Library. She has enjoyed the low stress job and the chance to stay abreast of all the local technology happenings. She was selected the company's **Employee of the Quarter** just before Christmas which capped a terrific year!

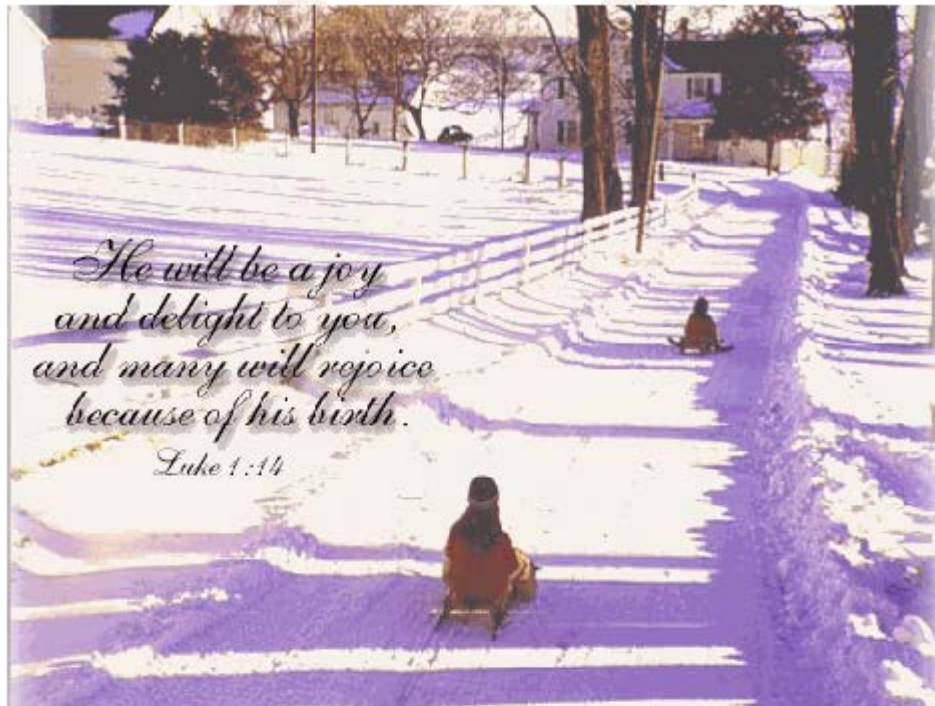


COMMUNICATION

After nearly 14 years, we have closed our CompuServe account. Now everyone in the family has their own email address. In fact, we have 3 computers in the house all connected together *and to the Internet with a Local Area Network in our house!* We qualify for the Digital Family of America prize (if there was one).

Hopefully by the time you get this newsletter – we will have our family website set up. If you want our website address – please send email.





*He will be a joy
and delight to you,
and many will rejoice
because of his birth.*

Luke 1:14



Jesus is the reason for the season