



Carbaugh Family News

Beavercreek, Ohio, United States of America

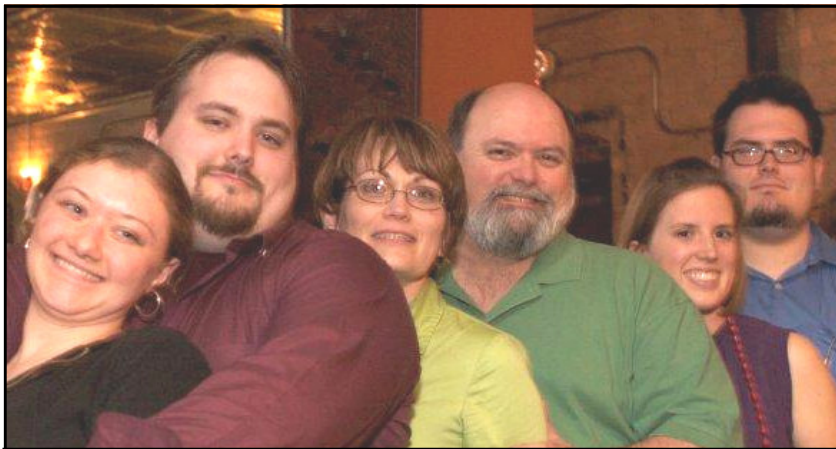
Issue 30 (our 30th Christmas)

December 2009

Dear Friends & Family,

We hope everyone is doing well during this holiday season. We are all well. Unlike last year, we're actually completing our annual newsletter before the end of the year! And what a year it has been. Full of activity as usual. Now for the high-lights.

In the Spring, Aaron graduated from **Grand Valley State University** in Grand Rapids Michigan. He just needs to complete a 4 month internship for an undergraduate degree in Computer Science. Like many of his classmates, he has been applying for the few available positions in both the Grand Rapids Michigan and Dayton, Ohio area. As the year ends, he has had a number of promising interviews so he should be in the workforce soon. Aaron has helped us keep the Carbaugh estate in Beavercreek operating smoothly during his time off from school. At his graduation, Aaron introduced the Carbaugh and Brailey families to Michelle who is also attending **GVSU**. She's visited the Carbaugh Bee Farm a few times this year and we all enjoy her fun spirit and personality. Sam & Kristin were also able to attend Aaron's graduation.



Michelle & Aaron

Lisa & Sam G,

Kristin & Sam J.

And Sam and Kristin celebrated their 3rd wedding anniversary this year. Surprisingly, they are living near where they honeymooned. You may recall they noticed a small school called the **Center for Cartoon Studies** while visiting the village of White River Junction in Vermont. After thinking and praying about it, Sam and Kristin moved from Grand Rapids two years ago so Sam could enroll full time into the school. Kristin found an assistant teaching position and Sam found part time work as he studied drawing and art. He graduated from the center with a Masters

in Fine Arts in June. Lisa, Sam and Aaron drove to Vermont to join Lisa's sister, Krissy and sister-in-law, Nancy to celebrate Sam and Kristin's success. Sam has since had a number of commercial projects to publish his work. He illustrated a children's activity book, **Discover the Desert**, by Kathy Ceceri. It's available from AMA-ZON.COM. Sam of course knows all about Deserts. If you search Amazon for Sam's name, you'll also see another book he is illustrating that is due to be published in June 2010, **Amazing Math Projects You Can Build Yourself**. Sam also posts cartoons at his website, WWW.SAMCARBAUGH.COM, so check it out. Your comments on his work always lifts his spirit. And for more good news, Kristin was offered and accepted a lead teacher's position at her school for the Fall term.



Sam, Kristin & our Grand Dog—Chewie



By the way our road trip to Vermont was in Lisa's new wheels. She has been using our 1998 Chrysler minivan but it recently went past 200,000 miles on the odometer. With the cost of gas, we decided to buy a 2009 Toyota Prius. This high technology car has been a lot more efficient for getting to work. It has voice recognition and navigation features making it fun and interesting to drive. The mileage in town and even on our trip to Vermont and back has been a consistent 46 miles per gallon. Amazing.

Lisa is still working as the facilities manager at **Universal One Credit Union** in Dayton. Besides keeping the daily operations of the main facility and a number of remote offices and ATM locations running smoothly, she has worked to close some offices, move others and even design and build new ones. On top of all the work, she has still managed to work on her undergraduate degree from **Park University** after hours and weekends. Hopefully, 2010 will see her graduation.

Sam has enjoyed working for **Wyle Laboratories, Inc.** for a second year. As a Business Manager, he has helped the Wyle team with other companies to provide engineering and scientific services to the Air Force. He is also assisting the company in its overall Air Force business strategy. This has required a number of business trips around the country. One trip was to Virginia so he took his Harley Davidson and enjoyed a ride through the Appalachian mountains. Sam also organized the company's exhibit at the United States Air, Trade and Technology Exposition at the Dayton Airport. During this event, Sam was treated to a special tour of the Wright Brother's magnificent home called Hawthorne Hill. As if work wasn't keeping him busy enough, he organized fellow flight test engineers to restart the Wright Chapter of the Society of Flight Test Engineers. The group rewarded Sam with the honor of being the Chapter's first President.

Sam also has some car news this year. He had his 1970 Volkswagen Beetle restored. The car had been sitting idle for a few years so it needed a bit of attention. A completely new interior, modern disc brakes front and back, all the minor dings and dents of some 39 years were repaired and a new glossy paint job brought the car back to life - just in time for the annual BUGJAM held at the local VW Parts store. All the work paid off because the car won best in the modified class. And a few weeks later, it was recognized at the Porsche and VW Reunion in Cincinnati. As you will notice in the picture, Sam has re-installed the car top popup tent top he purchased in 2001 while in California. The VW is no longer a daily driver and enjoys the pampered life of being covered in the garage (next to the Prius). Sam continues to keep bees and makes beer from the honey. He also planted hops this year and now taught Aaron brew beer with honey too.



At the end of October, Sam and Lisa flew to Florida for a special event. Earlier in the year, we were contacted about our interest in attending a reunion of Air Force people who have served in Saudi Arabia. It has been 21 years since we left Riyadh but we have kept in touch with a few of the families. We enjoyed the opportunity to get away from Dayton for a long weekend, catch up with friends like our neighbors in Riyadh, Cary & Donna Wallington and recall life in Arabia, for us, before there was a Desert Storm. The reunion was held in a well managed retirement community called "The Villages" which you may have seen advertised on TV. It was certainly an interesting place - we've never seen so many golf carts! Someone called it "Disneyland for Adults" and that fits.

We love to have friends and family come visit us in Ohio. This year, we enjoyed a visit from Sam's cousins from Pennsylvania, Butch & Pat Wagaman and Gene & Barb Flasher. Luci & Keith Albee also made a pit stop here as they were moving cross country. Well, that's all the news from the Carbaughs' in Ohio. We love to get your cards, emails and letters. Happy holidays and best wishes for the coming new year!

