

A LITTLE LATE THIS YEAR..

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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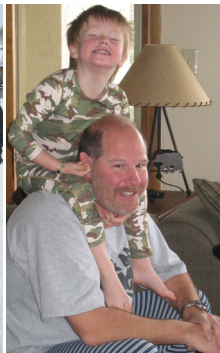
Alek rode the Cal-lope at Train Town in Sonoma.



We rode the mini steam train in Berkeley with AJ, Amy & Peter, and Aunt Carla.



We did our annual Crash & Burn trip to Crested Butte. Ross & Chantal joined us this year. Alek & Grant made snowmen during the cold single digit days. Alek skied well and really loved his long underwear a lot.



Alek & AJ took swim lessons together. AJ paid more attention..



Alek & I joined AJ, Amy, & Peter for some skiing. Alek & AJ get a story before bed while Peter sets a good example.



Alek helps me do the annual bike cleaning and polish in the spring.



Alek caught some butterflies and then set them free in the back yard.



Alek tried t-ball. Not happening..



Alek's sense of humor continues unabated. He demonstrates his talent at a birthday party.



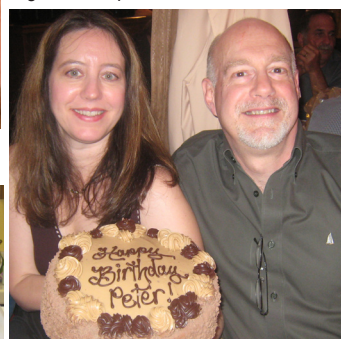
St. Patty's Day with Diane & Kari. And a natural high, so to speak.



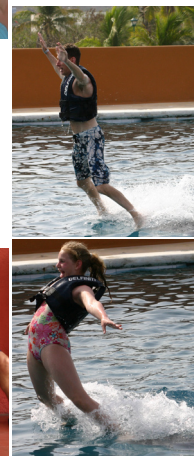
Alan & Gail celebrated their 50th Anniversary this year. We partied in Ixtapa. The kids did the trapeze. Some tortured the dolphins, and then they got even. Everyone got plenty of sun and beach time too. And did I mention there was a lot of food..? An incredible milestone to share.



Alek's fascination with bugs and crawlies continues with enthusiasm.



Pete celebrated his birthday this year. And we helped!



Judy, Ted, & Family came to visit us. Alek bonded with Jenny & Teddy again. It was a fun time.



We celebrated The Fourth at Mike & Nancy's with June & Dave, bunch of other people and kids, and some hats.



Naoko got pregnant! She was not alone. Caroline threw a baby shower for her.



Alek discovered the joys of eating BBQ this year.



We helped Ethel celebrate her 90th birthday in NY when everyone came to town for the Alan & Gail 50th party. The cousins; Bryn, Sabrina, Alek, Mara, and Jady got to know each other much better.

We helped throw a party in NY for Alan & Gail's 50th Anniversary. Well over a hundred friends and relatives came by the house over the course of the day to congratulate, socialize, and reminisce. And I got to see my HS buddies and try to play a little bass. I didn't remember anything, but they humored me..



I had arthroscopy on my knee! And it worked!



Kimiko came to visit for a few months, even Uncle Ishmael came to meet her. And for good reason. David & Naoko had Lina! Alek likes new babies too.

Alek graduated from Pre-School!

In NY for Memorial Day we got to do some kid tossing in the Rabbi's pool.



Alek Loves the beach!!

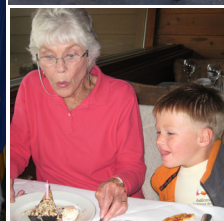


Tet & Brian visited us in Mammoth. Alek drowned a bunch of bait. And then we played poker - Alek helped Roy pad his college fund.

We spent most of a week in Mammoth, very dry this year. Sam & Sioban and Katie & Edmund Families were there too. Alek discovered he Loves fishing - Caroline's genes on that one.. And then Alek decided he really liked playing UNO. Everyone got to play! On a hike Alek decided he was tired, but Caroline wasn't giving up! And we celebrated Sarah's birthday!



We helped Nancy & Dave celebrate their birthdays in true Dave & June style.



We went to the beach with Kyle & Owen. We do lots of activities with them throughout the year.



After Mammoth we spent a few days in South Lake Tahoe with Steve & Maria, and all their toys. Alek caught his first fish - ever!! We played, ate, drank, and had a great time. And I got to jump off Steve's boat. We "toasted" at the castle in Emerald Bay too.



Thom & Kip got married - After all these years! Alek did a flip over it at the reception in their pool.





David & Monica did a "Brokie" tour and visited us, in full rodeo regalia.

Mikey had another birthday, celebrated in true Mikey style.

Alek turned 5! Complete w/Bug cake and a pile of friends. The party was at Coyote Point, lots of animals to see. And we did some tatooing, bugs of course!

Aaron & Stacey came to see Lina, and the rest of us too. Bryn bonded with Alek. We brunchted, chatted, ate more, the usual convivial family get together.



Thanksgiving is a big holiday for us. It starts with Alek's school show. And then we have a feast at our house with lots of family, which now includes Sally, Sarah & Roy's new dog. And a post-meal soccer game to settle everything before desert. And lets not forget the next day's hike at Rancho San Antonio, to prepare for leftovers of course.



The White Elephant Party is Caroline's favorite event of the year. It starts with a Brunch where I cook some omelettes. Pam was very pleased with her newfound treasure. Chantal got some new lingerie. Rob got some too! Ross got something for his new dashbord. I got Caroline & Vivian! And Alek helped everyone open their treasures.



Alek got festive for the holiday song singing at school. He's sort of a Commando Elf.



Barb & John came to visit The Bay Area. We took in the sites while the munchkins tromped around.



Alek was a Swamp Monster for Halloween. One that happens to stick his tongue out and giggle a lot.



Xmas was another orgy of food, presents, and good cheer. Alek joined Rich & Karen's family under the tree. Uncle Don got a little robot spider to play with.



Caroline got Light Sabers for her birthday. Alek used one for his Super Ninja Jedi Cat routine. Doesn't everyone go through that phase..?



We taught Alek how to inline skate this fall. He also learned how to ice skate. He's pretty durable!



This summer Keith taught Alek how to catch and throw a Frisbee. Now he's got another reason to love the beach! He's pretty happy with Keith too.