



Season's Greetings, 2010

I really wanted to start this earlier in the year as I have done in the past, but I'm sure all of you know how things can slip away from us. So here we are, on December 10, 2010 and I will try to re-cap the last 12 months by memory...and that scares me...

The year has actually been pretty quiet. Finances have prevented Carlos and me from doing the traveling we used to do, but we make do with what we have at home and locally. We did manage to get away to Ft. Lauderdale in July for a few days get away. It's always nice to take a long weekend to a familiar location. That's pretty much the only trip this year for enjoyment. We did go to Honolulu just last week and returned late last night. As many of you know, my step-dad, Art, and my mom are very heavily involved in the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, and this year marked the 69th anniversary of the attack. A new visitor's center was opened and dedicated this week, so the national convention was held from December 4-10. Carlos and I were involved in the registration of about 700 people so that kept us very busy for 4 of the 6 days we were there. We did manage to get out on a drive Wednesday and took Art and Mom around the island for some relaxation.



October 10 saw us with a new addition to our family. Matt and Kate welcomed their daughter, Julianna Elizabeth Bruns...now this may be coincidence, it may be a sign of something special...but her birthday of 10-10-10 at 10:10 a.m., weighing in at 6 lbs 4 oz ($6+4=10$) and 19 inches long ($1+9=10$) I think will have some bearing on her life. She is absolutely gorgeous, and though I haven't seen it yet, her smile is going to break hearts. Mom and Art as great grandparents couldn't be more thrilled, and Grandma Georgia, Matt's mom, Grandma Sandy, and of course me, the old fart, couldn't be happier.

Kristina, now 12, is quite the young lady. She is in the 7th grade...something I simply cannot comprehend, and doing very well in school. She is the very proud big sister, as you can imagine. She is a big help to Kate in taking care of Julie. As you can see here, Kristy is quite the beauty. Our whole family could not have any more pride than we do of our two young ladies who bring such joy and happiness to our family.



Scott is still in Bakersfield, and in March will turn 33. He and Liz have decided to end their relationship which is probably for the better. It's best to find out now than wait. They parted as friends, which is the way it should be. Scott is teaching in a school for alternative education, and is very very happy in his new position. I am very proud of him for everything he has gone through.

Kate will be 31 next week, and still works for the County of Los Angeles. She will go back to work from maternity leave on January 3, 2011 and Georgia will be the baby-sitter as she is retiring from TSA on December 31. The timing could not have been better.

We lost Lady in April, and as sad as it is to see a pet go, we have the beautiful memories of her and the joy she brought us for so many years.

That about wraps it up for another beautiful year. I am a firm believer that we make our own joys in our lives, as well as our own sorrows. We make do with what we have, and somehow, it always seems to work out.

I wish you the warmest of holiday seasons, and a new year filled with joy and love and peace.

Warmly,

Michelle