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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE HEISEL FAMILY



Another year – history! Y2K was a dud, and so was the New Year's party in Seattle. The kids are growing, and becoming great little people. We wish everyone good fortune for 2001! There is an updated photo of the kids on the back...

<u>Paul</u>

The year 2000 began with a fizzle with Paul spending January 1 at work doing lots of nothing. He's the Information Technology Specialist at FM Global (it still means computer geek). Paul continues his writing career, and now writes for http://storitime.com, is a mentor for other writers, and edits for authors when he has time. His first novel, First Frontier, will be shopped to agents in 2001. Cross your fingers. If it gets published, Santa will make sure that nice people get signed hardbacks, and naughty people can buy the paperback. This summer he painted the house and started a tee shirt selling business (Internet based) with his brother, Jeff. E-mail him at lpheisel.wa@netzero.net.

Deb (25)

Deb's age keeps going down, if you didn't notice. Last year she was 26. If you're wondering, she's actually older than Paul. She's as busy as ever with the kids, our school, and volunteering at the church. And when she's not busy volunteering, she helping neighbors with their kids and runs the children everywhere. Deb keeps in touch with her friends by participating in book clubs and women's clubs, so there isn't lack of activity ever! Deb doesn't have much spare time, as you probably inferred, but when she does, she's become the e-mail queen and reads everything she can get her hands on. Next year, all of the kids will be in some sort of pre-school or school, so perhaps she'll have some sanity. This summer she redesigned the family room into a cozy little place. Next is the dining room. E-mail her at debdeb@address.com.

Rachel (8-1/2)

Third grade! We never knew third graders could have so much homework! Rachel does very well in class, and enjoys school. She played soccer again this fall and did well. This summer her favorite thing to do was when we went to the family reunions and swam in the pools at the hotels. Recently, Rachel asked me if she could learn karate so she could learn to hit her brothers harder. That is a frightening thought! Rachel asks questions like there's no tomorrow, and she won't stop until she has some sort of answer. She's like the Terminator. Except the Terminator you could turn off...

Robbie (7)

He graduated from Kindergarten, and went into first grade. He's learning to read rather well, and he's coming along in math. He's a favorite of many of the kids in his class, and he a little social butterfly! Although he's a bit different, he's a lovable little boy. Dinosaurs rule, of course! Robbie likes to play Game Show Host where he asks questions, determines if you're correct, and then he congratulates or consoles you based on your answer. He loved swimming this summer at the hotels, as Rachel did, and keeps wondering when swim lessons will start up again. He's the King of Candyland (the board game), so if you'd like to kill about 15 consecutive hours in Seattle, stop by and play Candyland with Robbie.

<u>James (5)</u>

James continues to be a charming little boy. His happy disposition and personality helps him in that regard, and remains a favorite playmate at school. He's in pre-school for the remainder of the year, and then he'll be in Kindergarten. He's riding a scooter when he can, and really likes baseball and golf. James discovered the Playstation and computer this year, and would probably forgo eating and sleeping if we would let him play games all day. At times, he can be rather precocious and recently grabbed Robbie in a headlock and said, "Say your prayers!" Robbie promptly replied, "In the name of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit."

Joseph (2-1/2)

There isn't a part of this house that JoJo hasn't touched. We had to put slide-locks on the doors so he couldn't escape! He's discovered the Power Rangers and Teletubbies (go figure that combination – would Po really whack an alien with a Quasar Saber?) He's riding a bike much earlier than our other three, and he's really stubborn. In the morning, all he wants is candy! He'll go to pre-school next year, and he should do just fine. This kid definitely keeps us running around in circles. He moved into the bedroom with Robbie and James this year, and loves being in a big boy's bed.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year From the Heisel Family





