HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE HEISEL FAMILY

Another year has gone by, and boy did 1999 go extremely fast. We can't tell you how much joy (and work) our four children are. We wish everyone well, and we turn you over to the update. There is a photo of the kids on the back...

<u>Paul</u>

What else is new? Paul now works for FM Global (the merged name of his old company) as the Information Technology Specialist, which is just a long title for 'Computer Guy'. Hopefully one day he'll know what he's doing. At least at work he doesn't find Tinker Toys jammed into the CD ROM. Paul keeps on writing, and has placed some of his writing at http://sites.netscape.net/lpheisel/lphweb1, so if you're so inclined (and Internet ready), go ahead and read a bit. He's looking forward to Y2K because it's a known event. He's also designing web sites, so go to http://chateaubianca.com and check it out.

<u>Deb (26)</u>

Deb is busier than ever with the kids, activities, and volunteering at the church. She's always involved and volunteers at the school to help out in Robbie and Rachel's classes. In her spare time (yeah, right) she still reads a lot and has recently discovered the wonder of the Internet. E-commerce has replaced a few trips to the outlet mall, and buying books is easier than ever. Deb is looking forward to getting the kids further into school so she can have somewhat of a normal day. She still works at Valley Medical, but has reduced her hours. With all of the extra time (yeah right), she did some decorating around the house and it's beautiful!

Rachel (7-1/2)

Second grade! Can you believe it? Rachel is a great reader (fourth grade level) and we do homework all of the time. She played soccer again this fall and really blossomed, which means she actually *kicked the ball and ran after the ball*. This summer she spent a lot of time in the inflatable pool, and has become a good swimmer. Also this summer, she started rollerblading, which will take some time for her to become proficient. She has earned a couple nicknames this year, including "Magellan" (for getting lost riding her bike to a friend's house that's 3 blocks away) and "Gnocchi Girl" (for her apparent dislike of the Italian dumpling). We think Rachel's favorite thing to do is ask questions - we have never seen this child accept a single answer to a question.

Robbie (6)

Kindergarten for Robbie this year, which has gone well, and for the first time in his schooling he's in a "normal" classroom. He works hard at everything, and we're working on his letters and numbers. Many of the children have taken a liking to Robbie, and some have become protective of him because he's a little different. Dinosaurs are still his favorite thing, and he's always enjoyed using the computer. Robbie is also a swimmer, and spent a lot of the time this summer in the water with Rachel. Robbie is the "Ice Man" because of his love for frozen confections (Popsicle).

<u> James (4)</u>

James started preschool this year and is doing extremely well. He has a great disposition and has one of those outgoing personalities everyone loves. He's riding a bike with training wheels and seems to want to play every sport imaginable. He's always kicking a ball, swinging a bat (sometimes at a sibling though), or throwing a ball. He even asked if he could have some golf clubs. The thing he seems to like most, though, is Hot Wheels. Whether it's a Hot Wheels video game, race set, or just the cars, it can occupy him for hours. He hasn't changed his name this year, so he's out of that phase.

Joseph (1-1/2)

This kid's in everything. His favorite thing to do is remove everything from drawers and spread it across the entire room. When he not doing that, he's trying to keep up with his siblings and do everything that they do. JoJo (as he's called most of the time), is talking up a storm - "I want that", "What?", and "Shower" are a few phrases. Of course he's walking and running, and the cutest thing is how he gets down stairs. He slides down on his belly (feet first) and rockets down. Right now he's in that phase where if he can get his clothes off, he'll do it. Another thing he loves to do is take things apart - I've never seen a child dismantle a toy as he can. Of course you ask him where the pieces are, and he opens his mouth and lets everything fall out.

