

The Annual Splinter

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An annual publication from the Wood family

Tom, Christina, Tiffany, Heidi, Kyle, & Madeleine

A Changing Household

The biggest changes this year have been to the house. We repainted most of the downstairs and changed all of its flooring. About half is tile and the rest is new carpet. Next year we will focus on the upstairs.

We got a new puppy, but unfortunately lost him to an accident. Then, later in the year, we got a fish and a cat (good combination huh). We still have our Chihuahua, Chico.

As usual we had a busy summer. The highlights were a week-long vacation at Tom's parent's house, a camping trip to Morro Bay, and the kids went to summer camp for the second year in a row.

Tom

Exciting things are happening at work. At the end of the year the company announced its plans to split from its parent Odetics, and adopted a new name, Iteris. This is in recognition of outstanding performance in the transportation industry and is a rare opportunity for a person to be a part of.

Tom was promoted to manager this year and has four engineers reporting to him. This is in addition to his software development responsibilities and continued frequent trips to Detroit.

He continues to be a Cub Scout den leader, with Kyle in his den. Then den has grown to six boys from last year's four.

Christina

Adopted a new career as a Mary Kay consultant. She is taking this very seriously and has been doing an outstanding job. Although it takes a good deal of time, she does a good job of balancing it with her other responsibilities. She's been to Mary Kay



seminars in Dallas and Pismo Beach and many more will follow.

She is still active with the Girl Scouts, leading a Brownie troop of 10 girls. All of the activities and fund raisers they do keep her very busy, yet she still has found the time to put together the monthly Girl Scout newsletter, a job she volunteered for this year.

Tiffany

Fourth grade has turned out to be considerably more demanding than third. She spends much more time on homework than her brother and sister and is doing very well this year.

Tiffany has decided to learn to play the violin and is taking a music class at school to do so. She really loves it and will be in her first performance shortly.

She has advanced to the Junior Level of Girl Scouts and is now in a different troop from Heidi's (and Christina's). She is still enjoying it as much as ever and always loves making new friends.

Heidi

Still full of energy and excitement. Heidi gets along with everyone and has many friends. She is so talkative that we often have trouble keeping up with her.

She has made a good transition to the third grade and is doing well in all her classes. She participates in all of the school's plays and singing events - she loves to entertain.

Heidi is in her final year in Brownies (Christina's troop). She always looks forward to meeting days, especially when there's a field trip.

Kyle

Has turned into a prolific reader. He is reading full novels now and can finish a 400-page book in just a few weeks. He continues to excel in every subject at school, and is now the top student in the highest math level.

Like Heidi, Kyle loves to entertain, and participates in all of the school events. In the recent Christmas singing program, he even had a solo piece.

He is still in Cub Scouts, this year at the Bear Level. His favorite activities are the projects, especially if there is woodworking involved. He has started to take an interest in mechanical things and will often follow dad around when he is working on the house to learn and help where he can.

Kyle's mother lives in San Francisco now and he flies up there two or three times a month to be with her.

Madeleine

Crawling like a weed. She's been walking most of the year, and is learning new words almost daily. She's even beginning to form short sentences. She is such an easy child and happy almost all of the time.

Like most children, she loves to draw, so we have to be very careful where we put pens, crayons, and markers. Some of her other favorite things are exploring new places, playing in the sandbox, and visiting grandma.

Maddie loves animals, and is always seeking out (and torturing) Chico and Sasha (the cat). In fact, her vocabulary includes the pets, but not "Tiffany" and "Kyle".