

# The Annual Splinter

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An annual publication from the Wood family

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

**A**s we've been promising for the last couple years, we finally moved into a new, bigger house. What started out last summer as an innocent meeting with a Realtor to see what we could afford, turned into a major move and life change. We chose Corona because we could get much more for our money and Christina wouldn't have to work. We found that we really like it much better than we thought we would. The kids had no problem making new friends and we're very happy with the neighborhood.

The plan was to sell the old house and buy the new. However, after fixing the old house up and putting it on the market for several months, we didn't get a single offer. So we had to keep it and rent it out. So far that is working out well.

One of the new challenges we're facing is year-round school for the kids. It's OK, but we do have to plan vacations and such differently than before since Tiffany is on a different schedule from Kyle and Heidi. We hope to get them all onto the same track next year.

Sebastian (our Doberman) loves his new yard. It's a lot bigger than the old house and he uses every bit of it running back and forth.

We have hard wood floors through-out most of the house and the favorite activity as of late for the kids is sliding up and down the entry way. Sebastian tries to keep up but has a hard time getting going on the hard floors, not to mention stopping on them. It is quite a sight to see all of them sliding around!

## Tom

**F**orty hasn't slowed him down a bit. In fact, he has increased his activities to get in even better shape. At his company's annual 5K run/walk, Tom took first place and has vowed to improve his time for next year.

Still working at Iteris in the intelligent transportation business. His responsibilities have been expanding from technical/engineering to include some business development and marketing. This is a little out of his comfort zone, but a welcome change none-the-less.



Tom is still active with Kyle's Boy Scout activities. He is one of the Assistant Scoutmasters at his new troop and helps out in any way he can with activities and planning.

## Christina

**W**orked a part-time job at Jenny Craig for a while. After using Jenny Craig for more than a year, she liked the system so well that she got a job there. She did very well, helping one of their stores boost sales significantly, and bringing in some welcome cash flow to the household.

Upon moving to Corona, she quit the Jenny Craig job and refocused her efforts on her Mary Kay business that had slowed down in the last year. The effort has paid off and her business is performing better than ever.

As always, Christina keeps heavily involved in all the kids activities. From school projects and activities, to Girl Scouts, to shuttling them around to friends house and other activities, she's constantly on the run, but finds that she can balance work and all of the activities better than in the past.

## Tiffany

**Q**uite the entrepreneur. Tiffany has started taking on baby-sitting jobs and is making a ton of money doing it. She is very disciplined about saving her money and sets long-term goals for what she wants to spend it on.

She entered junior high this year. It is hard to believe that she struggled so much in the past as her grades are better than ever and she takes full responsibility for homework and projects.

Still involved in Girl Scouts, Tiffany chose to stay with her troop in Anaheim. They are working on a Rose Parade float and will spend New Year's Eve along the parade route to have ideal seating for the parade this year.

## Heidi

**A**lready has a full network of friends in Corona. This, of course, has never been a problem for Heidi. Thankfully, her school efforts are keeping pace with her social efforts and she is performing well and feels very proud of her academic achievements this year.

She is still active in Girl Scouts and found a new troop in Corona that she likes. She pursued and was chosen for a Leadership role in her troop.

## Kyle

**T**rying his hand in politics for the first time. He ran for, and was elected, to a class representative position in his school's student council. He has to sacrifice some of his lunch time for this activity and we're proud that he has taken this initiative.

Kyle graduated to Boy Scouts this year, earning the Arrow Of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouts, along the way. He went to summer camp with his troop and earned many advancement and achievement awards. We found a new troop for him in Corona and he was recently elected to a Leadership position there.

## Madeleine

**A**djusted well to her new house. She has a new "best friend" right across the street, and gets to spend lots of time with her.

Now four years old, she's clearly ready to start school. She loves to practice learning the alphabet and writing her name and is doing well with both. She also loves to draw pictures and we frequently find "gifts" from her in the form of portraits of various family members.