

## Welcome the new millennium! Merry Christmas 2000

It seems to be that time of year again. Time for the yearly update of Sriner family events for family and friends.

During Easter break this year, we went to Grayton Beach, Florida so we could meet up with Krystal and her boyfriend, Mark. We spent a week on the beach enjoying the Florida weather and sunsets. Ask the family about driving 60 MPH in a 15 MPH zone to get to the beach for the last chance to see the sunset before we all went our separate ways in

Krystal &

Mark

the morning. We came North and they went back to Orlando. It was a sad parting as usual.

Is time speeding up, or are Pat and I just getting so old and slow that everything seems to be fast by comparison? We moved

Krystal to Florida during the summer of '99, but it seems like just last summer. Now that I think of it, it was just last summer but we weren't moving her to Florida; we were moving her back from Florida.

Kim

Looking back, I am getting frightened. The first time she moved, it was to a first floor dorm room. As years went by, she kept going up. By the fourth year, she was on the fourth floor and it was a walk-up. We got her moved home from college, and it was off to Florida. Before we were completely rested up, it was back to Florida to move her home to Illinois. She could only stand about a month of "*Thursday night leftovers*" before she knew she had to get her own place. Guess what? We moved her again! This time it was only four blocks away but it seemed like more because she is upstairs again! She is all settled in her apartment and her new job teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade English at Franklin Middle



School but she is already talking about moving again! If I know her, it will be a walk up mountain hideaway. And guess who gets to carry everything up the mountain? She is definitely a moving experience, but we are proud of her independence, even if she is still bringing home her laundry. But not on Thursday night! Leftovers.

At left, Kim and Krystal at the Butterfly Garden in Saint Louis



Science Fair project

Last winter, she was awarded an "exceptional" in the school science fair and a first place at the Regional. She moved on to the State Competition in Champaign where **she received a second place!** We were certainly proud of her. We look forward to a repeat this year!

Kim is in her own world either working on her computer or giving someone at school a piece of her mind if not *the toe of her shoe!* The boys know not to tell any "women belong in the home" jokes around her.



After a boundary change for the new middle schools, many of the neighborhood kids had to transfer back to their old 6<sup>th</sup> grade school even though we were within walking distance of Franklin. Fortunately she was in the gifted program which was centralized this year into Franklin. **Yes, there are two Miss Sriners at Franklin Middle School!** I think they both like having each other around. Kim is doing well with all her classes and she is quickly nearing the end of my math expertise. The gifted program is planning an 8<sup>th</sup> grade summer trip to Orlando to visit some of the educational sections of the theme parks. We think it is a great opportunity but Kim is rather blasé considering all the time we have spent in Florida over the last two years.

After more than ten years at SIU School of Medicine, Pat has moved on to a secretarial job with the Secretary of State, Senior and Community Services Department. The general atmosphere at SIU was getting worse all the time and most of the long time employees had left. She hung in there longer than everyone else. She likes her new job but says she doesn't have enough to do. I guess you just can't win. I know I like being able to pick her up at 4:30 and not have to wait for 30 minutes while she finishes up something. Only time will tell how it goes. I think it is a stepping-stone to another state job.

I am still inspecting homes, but with the soft real estate market, I have had more time to work on my **web site**. I love my computer, but I was born just a little too early to get into it at the right time. The kids today graduating in the computer fields have grown up with it. They are the true computer age adepts. I just need to learn to quit tinkering, but that is just my nature. I crash my computer on a regular basis but I am getting better at resurrection. My web site is WWW.housdoctor.com.

Last October we were able to be with my sister, Carol, and her family at the baptism of "Tanner", Mike and Kathy's new baby. It was nice to get together with the family. It isn't until you get older that you realize how important family is. Carol and Tanner below.



That brings us to the present. There have not been too many changes unless you count moving, new jobs, state championships, vacations, and a potential trip to Florida. Just about the same as last year! The biggest and best change has been having the family together again. It is especially joyful at this **holiday** season. Below, Kim and Krystal decorating cookies on their "snow day."

I hope this finds you all well. And may the joys of the season carry throughout the coming new year. May good health and prosperity be with you always.

With Love and Light, The Sriners. Dulany, Pat, & Kim





P.S. If you have e-mail, we would love to hear from you.

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