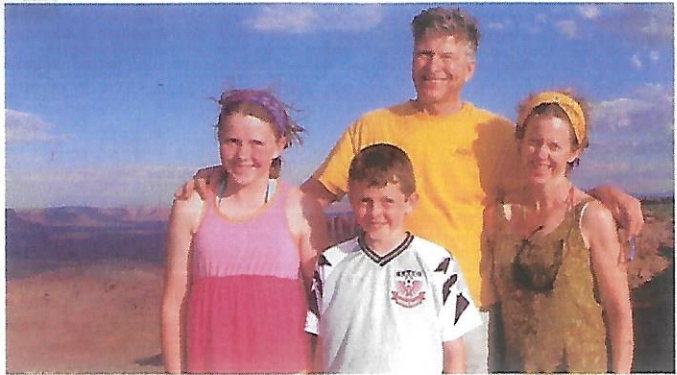


## Christmas 2009

Happy New Year, to all of you! Once again we are writing at the holidays. We were reminded once again how it is wonderful to have traditions as we decorate grandparent trees with 50+ year old ornaments.

Our family spent 3 weeks this summer for the traditional "Family Western Camping Trip" to visit 9 National Parks and monuments. Our highlights included the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, a perilous hike to Angels landing in Zion, a teepee camp at Bryce, and some extraordinary geyser blasts at Yellowstone. The beautiful terrain across Escalante National Monument and Capitol Reef N.M. in southern Utah are amazing!



Arielle is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Cupertino Middle school and her 6<sup>th</sup> year of Girl Scouts.

She continues to play on soccer and basketball and plays baritone horn on the school band. Last spring she acted in "Dear Mr. Henshaw," a professional play by the California Theater Center that played for 2 weeks to school and family audiences. December, she is in her second CTC play, "Madeline's Christmas". For both of these plays she has taken 2 week independent studies in order to be on stage

every week day morning. She's really loving this opportunity.

Peter started Middle School this year. He plays clarinet in the band. Last winter he graduated from cub to boy scouts. He has earned his Tenderfoot badge and is proceeding to first class requirements. In the summer he spent a week at camp and he enjoys monthly camping trips with his troop even in freezing weather. He also plays basketball and soccer as well as continuing in Kung Fu.

Joe continues to take long week-end bike rides, and a weekly summit to the top of Montebello Road, an hour climb in the mountains by our home. Saturday night before Mother's Day, he endured a pricey Breakfast-in-Bed at the Stanford Emergency Hospital at the end of the fast cruise down Montebello. He was found in the road by some motorists. He was torn up a bit, but nothing was broken. Since then he's been down Montebello many times, but he still has no memory of the crash and is cautious and thankful. Joe continues to take be involved with Peter's Boy Scout troop activities as well as family backpacking.



Dorian is taking the 2009-10 school years off to spend a bit more time with her mom, work-out, take classes and volunteer. She continues to commute a lot on her 26 year old Novara, but loves to jump on her 17lb Cerulean Trek 5000 to pursue Joe up a hill. In April, she attended a fabulous women's water coloring retreat in Manzanillo, Mexico. Now she keeps her paints in a travel bag to grab when there's an opportunity.

We wish you all the best for 2010. If you find yourself traveling to the San Francisco Bay area, please give us a ring.