

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from a battered but still standing Kaiser Klan.

It has definitely been an event filled year, some bad news, but mostly good. So in keeping with the tradition of being upbeat and positive, we'll focus on the good and let the rest take care of itself. This year's edition of the "Kookie Kaiser Klan Kapers" is being brought to you by a new keeper, so if the prose and humor don't meet with your expectations, well.... we'll try it again next year.

Obviously the news that shook us the most this year is the passing of mom. Her passing was thankfully quick and we were all there with her. It is still very hard for me to write about her so I'm not going to say much except we miss you, and we all love you mom. Be with God, and Krys and watch over us from above. See; <http://kaiserklan.com>, for her Eulogy and Guest Book, please leave us a favorite story you may have of her.

Dad is doing great, and you should be pleased to know that he has **NOT** moved this year. Seems like a move was becoming a tradition, so for the record his various addresses are; P.O. Box 456, Deerwood, MN 56444, e-Mail: marvkaiser@charter.net, phone number: (218) 534-3787. Don't be shy, drop him a line, snail mail, e-Mail, phone calls and personal visits are all welcome. He is staying very busy by working with the lake association, on Kraig & Kelly's new addition, on Kurt & Sue's new house, on Alicia & Scott's place, he and Karen even took a trip to Las Vegas. Wow we are keeping him busy aren't we?

Another address to add to your lists is for Alicia & Scott, who recently bought a really great 40 acre place about 5 minutes from dad's to raise kids, horses, dogs, cats, goats, and whatever else wanders into the yard. They plan to replace the current mobile home with a new house some time in the spring, with lots of room for visitors. Their new address is; 20649 Rider Rd, Ironton, MN 56455, e-Mail: booboo@emily.net. In other news... drum roll... they plan to be married May 31st and expect everyone to attend, at least I'm sure you're all invited. Scott is a great guy and I know you will all welcome him to the family as much as I do. More news, Kassie is now in the second grade, ...yea, I know I don't believe it either. I still remember when Alicia & Anita were in the second grade. Anyway she is growing up way too fast and smart as they come, just like her mother. And a little more, Alicia passed her LPN tests this summer and expects to get her RN next spring. WOW!

Anita and her girls, Kryston and Lauren are doing wonderful as well. She expects to pass her LPN tests soon, has a place of her own; P.O. Box 597, Ironton, MN 56455, e-Mail: writeanita@yahoo.com. Kryston is in first grade and pretty as they come, and Lauren... well Lauren is definitely two. What else can I say?

Kraig and Kelly are building on to their house. It's a bit sketchy when they will be done but I'm sure it will end up being a fantastic place for them all. I have it from good authority that Tyler is now in first grade and a better fisherman than his dad, and Trever has made it to age three. Why do kids grow up so fast?

Kurt and Sue built a new house and after a lot of problems and hassles with builders, inspectors and contractors have finally managed to move in, so another new address to add is; 1026 Therisa Marie Dr., New Market, MN 55054, phone; (952) 461-1265, and yes finally e-Mail: kinkokai@yahoo.com, can you believe it?

Karen, well to use her words, "goes to work, goes home, goes back to work, goes home again" and repeats over and over and over. She is our caregiver, our family glue, our "shrink". We couldn't get along without her love to guide us. Her house is her pride and joy and looks ... oh so much better than when she moved in. Stop by and see for yourself, if you can catch her there. Love ya sis.

Don still works at TriMin Systems, hunts, fishes, rides 4-wheelers and his various motorcycles in the summer and snowmobiles in winter. Still one of the best guys I know not named Kaiser. Maybe we could adopt him, hmmm....

As for the KCK's we're all healthy if not wealthy. Brendan recently started working at the Argosy Casino; Shannon has a wonderful job that she loves with the Whatsoever Community Center as a teacher's assistant for pre-schoolers, (<http://www.kaiserklan.com/Whatsoever/index.html>). And Bridget is half way through her second year at The Corcoran School of Art And Design in Washington D.C. Their mom still works at Worldspan, and is a great friend. As for me, many of you have already met the most wonderful woman in my life, Deb LaGrou who has agreed to become my wife. We are planning a quiet ceremony on February 14th and a honeymoon cruise after. Turns out that Don works with Deb at TriMin Systems, and both he and Karen have been keeping her a secret from me for quite a few years now, at least that's my story and I'm sticking to it. Deb has one son named Nathan, a senior in high school who hopes to join the Coast Guard and go to Mankato State after graduation in June.

This letter is way too long, so for all of you still reading, I'll pass along a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and the love of the entire Kaiser Klan.

The "Keeper of the Kaiser Klan"