

THE YEARLY PRESS

Volume 8
December 2005

IT WAS ANOTHER YEAR!

Another one has come and gone and what can we say? I remember when I turned 16 my father asked me if the past sixteen years had passed slowly. I replied, as only a teenager can, "Yes, it has been SO slow and I can hardly wait to be grown." Daddy, with a twinkle in his eye and with his eyebrow raised in his inimitable way replied, "Well, the next sixteen won't." You know, it has been sixteen years and then sixteen more, and it's working on the third sixteen since then and Daddy was right...it has passed at lightening speed. JR and I both turned 59 this year. Why do we feel like we are **still** sixteen (other than a few aches and pains now and then)?

All is well in Charlotte and points west. We continue the work on our mountain house and have, in fact, employed a new architect who has done some astonishing things to our plans. Although it will be a few years before we move there permanently, the place is taking shape and we are excited. We envision a place where our family can come and be rejuvenated in the calmness and peacefulness of the hills.

My sister, Mary, and her children joined our household in July. They

moved from Texas after the death of Mary's husband so they could be closer to family. Mary has recently completed the requirements for an undergraduate degree in business administration and her future looks very bright, indeed. She has been working as a teacher assistant at a middle school here in Charlotte and wants to continue her education as a special education teacher. She will have to begin as lateral entry, but she has a real gift for teaching, so I expect her to be very successful. The entrance of this family into our household has been so good and has been a blessing to us!

Both our mothers are still living. JR's mother is not as well as we'd like, but

she keeps on ticking at 94. My mother is doing pretty well and is glad for Mary to be home. We keep on doing that work thing. JR is still with Pactiv (Buy more chicken!) and, you won't believe this, I have committed to assisting on a part time basis the opening of Charlotte's newest high school. 59 isn't too old, is it?

Have a great 2006!!!



The Riggsbees 2005
(Sorry about the bad lighting)

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Jon and Patti

What do you say about a young family with three children when the oldest one is five? Busy, busy, busy.

Nevertheless, the three grandchildren are the joy of our hearts and we can never get enough of them. Luckily, we have not been put to the test for long periods of time! :):)

Katie (5) has begun kindergarten and has taken to it like a duck to water. I've already reported to you that she is as bright as a new penny and she has also developed a creative side with which I cannot keep up. The other night she had a parade that had rotating leaders. The leader had to make up songs on the fly. She did great...I was sorely pressed.

Reni (2 1/2) has begun pre-school which she loves. The middle child, she is mild mannered, sweet, and affectionate and we love her to pieces.



Jonathan, the baby, turned one year in October and is a typical spoiled youngest son. He is TOO cute and we love to be with him.

Jon works, Patti parents. They are a great little family and we love them passionately!

Adam and Shanna

Adam and Shanna are still in Chapel Hill, living in Jim's home place. That will probably be coming to an end soon as Adam will be receiving his PhD in May. He has some options for gainful employment at this time and I just hope his choice is not too far away. However, if it is...have car, will travel...or fly...or whatever. Nothing will keep me away from my new granddaughter.

That's right...a NEW GRANDDAUGHTER is expected in early May at the Chapel Hill Riggsbee's. We are so excited that we can't stand it. I have already shopped for the little thing and can hardly wait to see her little face.



Shanna has been working this year as a school counselor and loves it. She is enthralled at the prospect of parenthood, as is Adam. They are, of course, nervous, but so were we!