
KLETKE NEWSLETTER

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Summer 2006

A Summer of Travel and Fun

Hello again! The summer finally over and I find myself, like so many other students, staring at another year of classes and text books like an oncoming train. The only question is whether I will get on board or get run over in the process. With the school year just starting, it seems like a good time to recount our adventures this past summer and look forward to what will be expected this next year.

The spring quarter ended well. In terms of grades, it was one of my best yet - anywhere. I had



a couple of weeks off at the end of May and the Lampson family descended on St. Louis. Tricia's dad, sister and brother came to stay with us and for a few days we all just relaxed. It was good time for all and long over due. To my knowledge, the Lampson family hasn't been together like that since our wedding 13 years ago when Grandpa and Granny were still with us. I hope it won't take another 13 years before we all get together again. After a couple weeks off, I went back to school and took two classes through the month of June - Psalms & Writings and The Church of the Late Middle Ages. Both of these classes, taught by Professors Egger and Robinson, were both very enlightening and a joy to attend.

The last two weeks of June, Dietrich's regular day care mom left for vicarage with her husband and so the grandmothers came to the rescue. My



mom came out for the third week of June and Tricia's mother came out for the fourth. Even though our families are out of state, it is a real blessing that they are willing to come and help when needed. THANKS!! After classes ended in June, we drove Tricia's mother home to Michigan and stayed

for the 4th of July weekend. This time, the larger Jarvis family gathered at Vince & Lynn's summer cottage up north and everyone enjoyed a picnic and good company beside the lake. Dietrich even went swimming in the lake for the first time.

July brought the tragedy of summer. On July 19th, two days before we left for Oklahoma to visit

with the Kletke family, a storm hit St. Louis. It was a short lived storm with only light rain, but the winds were strong and knocked down a lot of trees.

The news later reported that half a



million people were without power and that the National Guard was called in to prevent looting. Fortunately, Tricia and I lost power for only a couple of hours, but one of those trees fell on top of our family car. All the doors opened and closed properly, and the car was still drivable; but the roof was severely damaged and needed to be replaced. State Farm looked at it first and estimated over \$4,000 in damage. I have never been so glad to be insured.

We left in our crinkled car for Alva, OK, the following Friday and had a great weekend with the Kletke family. On Saturday, we gathered at my Aunt Joyce's home and had a BBQ/pot-luck dinner. It had been several years since Tricia and I had been to Oklahoma and the last few trips were for funerals. Although this trip was prompted by my Aunt Joyce's battle with cancer, it was so nice to see everyone in a more congenial atmosphere. On Sunday morning, Uncle Jason had arranged with his pastor for me to guest preach. It was a unique opportunity that I could not have turned down. Zion Lutheran is where the Kletke family has attended since they moved to Alva in the early 1900's and where my father was baptized and confirmed. The sermon went very well and from all the reports, I believe I did not embarrass the family honor.

Tricia and I had two more weeks at home before we headed out on our next trip. Then on August 3rd, we left again in our crinkled car - this time for Denver. We arrived on Thursday night and on Saturday we went down to Canõn City to witness

our niece Bethanny's baptism. I had never seen a good old fashioned Baptist dunking and this was quite a sight to behold. Literally, down at the river, there was a short service and then the baptism. It was a beautiful day and a joyous celebration – followed by another picnic/pot-luck dinner. I would not have missed it for the world. Tricia and I left Dietrich in Denver Sunday morning and went up into the mountains to celebrate our 13th anniversary. The mountains were green and majestic – truly a breath of fresh air.



Tricia flew home on Monday to go back to work while Dietrich and I played in Denver the following week. We rolled around in the grass and played on grandpa's trampoline. Overall, we rested and got ready for another trip. On Friday, we piled into the car with grandma and grandpa and headed to Kansas City. This time for our nephew Andrew's wedding. We arrived at my brother's home Friday evening and met back up with Tricia who had flown in from St. Louis. Saturday Dietrich played with all the cousins and then Andrew's wedding was Saturday night. It was a simple yet very elegant service. I know that events like this take incredible amounts of planning; but this wedding went off as smoothly as any I have seen. Andrew and Lindsay are a great couple and we are very pleased to welcome her into the family. Congratulations.



On Sunday afternoon, August 13th, we drove home and it is nice to finally be back where we belong. At the beginning of the summer, Dietrich had just learned to crawl and this past week, just before he turned 11 months old, he took his first few steps; in between he has met and played with just about every relative he has. It has been a very long and tiring summer; but rewarding and fulfilling in so many ways. Thank you to everyone who hosted us and fed us along the way. We greatly appreciate your love and hospitality. We pray that you had as good a summer as we did and that we will see you (again) sometime soon.

In His Care,
Dan, Tricia & Dietrich

Tricia's Corner

As I sit here and watch Dietrich munch on raisins and cheerios in his high chair, I think back to the days just after he was born. His cry was this new sound that I wasn't quite sure I liked. Now I realize that a newborn cry is much better than the tantrum of an 11 month old. He is such a dear and great fun to be around. He is walking and getting into everything. He looks like Frankenstein with his arms out front and how he totters just a bit. Dan has put child locks on the kitchen cabinets. No small feat I might add. He enjoys looking at books and eating a few in the process. If it rhymes he'll sit still just a bit longer. He likes to sing and dance. We often spend our evenings cracking each other up. His laughter is contagious and once one of us gets going it's hard to stop. It doesn't hurt that Dietrich is very ticklish. We had lots of fun visiting family and friends this summer. He first learned what a stair was at my mom's house in Michigan. To our fear, he liked to go over the one step head first to the next room. He worked hard on his stair skills in Denver. Dale spent many hours teaching Dietrich how to turn around so he would go down the long staircase on his belly. Since we don't have stairs at home, whenever he sees a staircase he does whatever he can to get to them to practice. Most evenings you can find Dietrich and me sitting on the floor stacking blocks or playing with noisy toys. After we tickle each other for a while, he takes a very splashy bath. We enjoy the time we get to spend together. Hope all of you are doing well and that you had a great summer. Keep an eye on the website as we will post pictures of Dietrich's first birthday.

Love and Hugs,
Tricia

