



# Moore Family 2001 Newsletter

<http://homepage.mac.com/tomem/>



Volume 18

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2001-2002

## Events

**Ski Trip:** Tom and Whitney headed for Pennsylvania for a ski trip in January. The adults came equipped with DVDs and a laptop, but got distracted playing Spoons in the evenings anyway. Tom tried his hand at snow boarding and was advised to try some skateboarding before coming back.

**Ulcer:** Tom suddenly found himself in the hospital again in Feb., this time with an ulcer. Luckily, it was a case of helicobacter pylori infection, and it responded promptly to antibiotics. Great to be rid of that!

**Driving:** Whitney was soon thereafter taking Driver's ed and trying to revive Dad's ulcer. No, really, she's an excellent driver, takes it seriously, and can even parallel park a Grand Caravan (well maybe second try)!

**Confirmation:** This was Confirmation year for Whitney; and now she's teaching a weekly youth catechism group.

**Double lightning:** We had double lightning strikes this summer! One took out most of our appliances at the MaineStay, just before we arrived there this summer. The day before we headed home, the second strike exploded our fireplace chimney in Maryland, trashing a skylight and parts of the roof decking, and wetting down the family room.

**Renaissance festival job:** Whitney worked the "Maryland Renaissance Festival" this year, for 10 weekends, Sept-Oct. This is something that has to be seen to be believed (the festival, not Whitney working)! We'll post some photos on our web page.

## Visitors

This year was a great year for family visits. Grampa Bob and Jolene visited us once last winter, once in late spring, and once in the fall (for the 'Ren fest', which they recommend highly). Carol, Haley and Derek Wells of Huntsville visited during spring vacation, and Dixie Williams of Huntsville also came by in May. We also had fun visits from the Kevyn Fowler family and the Dunn family, both of Maine.

## Sound Bites

**Roxie** has proven to be highly trainable, and is an authoritative judge of boys seeking to date our daughters. She barks up a storm when anyone approaches the house, whether we are here or not. Use your imagination, or come visit so you can hear it first hand.

**Amy** made the big transition to middle school this year, and blossomed onto the Principal's honor roll, at a school that was rated tops in the state this year. "Middle School has been really great because of all



Moore's on Aspen Mountain: Jessica, Whitney, Amy, Gwen, Tom

the new friends I've made", says Amy.

**Jessica** continues in pursuit of photographic excellence on the school newspaper staff. She is also class vice president. "Live, learn, and go to Colorado" is Jess's advice.

**Whitney** is striking out into the world of work. "Dad,... we *really* need another car so I can get to work without bothering you or mom. Driving Rox!"

**Gwen** has taken over the Girl Scouting organization in Crofton, but continues to work with teens both in scouting and religious education.

**Tom** is nonplussed by his newfound talent for landing in the hospital. "Ok, so it takes more maintenance when the mileage gets up this high, but this is ridiculous!"

## Travels

**Business:** Tom traveled on various business trips to the "people's republic" of Berkeley, CA for a project meeting at UC; to Boston, MA, for the spring American Geophysical Union Meeting; to the University of Michigan for his first visit to Ann Arbor; and to Huntsville, AL for a second IMAGE project meeting.

**Pleasure:** The whole family (less Roxie), traveled out west as Tom participated in the annual Geospace meeting at Snowmass Village, Colorado. We visited with school mates Terry Baxter in Boulder and Roger Piwowski in Denver, and the girls were definitely impressed with the Rockies. Our

annual trek to Maine followed soon after the Colorado trip, but we stayed close to the beach or lake this year, and had visits from Christina Miller of Crofton, and Michelle Murphree of Huntsville! Finally, we traveled with the Michael's to Harper's Ferry, MD, a railroading town in the Potomac River valley (where John Brown led an abolitionist raid on the Armory), near the Antietam battle field, which we also visited.

## Reflections

Looking back on this year, it is difficult not to dwell on the horrific terrorist attacks on NYC and DC. We are relieved that we did not lose family members to them, but mindful of the losses so many others suffered. A former student, Max Hammond, was lost on one of the planes that hit the Trade Center, and we know others whose families have been affected greatly by losses during the attacks and in the hostilities since, to whom our hearts go out.

## Outlook

Looking forward, it is easy to be anxious about the future course of east-west relations. Nevertheless, we can hope that increasing communication and cultural exchange will quell current hatreds as both sides realize their common humanity and interests in a peaceful world of religious tolerance. Seasons best wishes to you all for a peaceful and joyful new year.