



# Seasoned Greetings



"All The News That Fits...With a Little Spice"

December, 1995

## Note From The Editor

We have made several changes in this publication, the most obvious being it's name. There has been a debate about our original name, "*The Holiday News*". One side felt we should change it, since this time of year is not a major "holiday" in the Jewish religion. The other side wanted to keep the name to maintain this newsletter's tradition, and felt that "holiday" should not be taken literally.

We finally came to a decision. The staff at *Seasoned Greetings* has decided to break with tradition and change our name. We agree that a holiday doesn't have to be mandated by Hallmark, and that any day can be a holiday, being special and magic if we allow it to be (see

**Letter**). We also feel that we should change our focus, from emphasizing "news", to sending "greetings" to family and friends. We also respect our traditions and old friends which are "seasoned" and comfortable, while welcoming new friends and family who add spice or "seasoning" to our lives.

We have also made some technical improvements. We've gotten rid of the problems with web pages on the Internet. Now, with this issue of *Seasoned Greetings*, when you see a **Hyperlink**, you won't have to sit and wait for the next website to download. Thanks to the advances engineered by our technical staff, you merely turn the page to the related article,

and can start reading it almost immediately! We want to thank our techies for their tremendous achievement in this area.

You will notice the expanded format of this issue. We had to do it to be true to our motto, "all the news that fits...".

There is also a new addition to our staff, joining Steve and Joan, and David Patrick. She has starred in many videos with Red Dog Video (puppy division), and has also directed, produced, and filmed her own videos, but because of political pressure from Hollywood, Disney and Spielberg, who are fearful of the competition, she has decided to take up writing. We at *Seasoned Greetings* welcome Claire Bear Resnick as our new *Cub Reporter*.

## Travel: Resnicks Reach the Rockies

The hunger for adventure never ceases for the Resnicks. Returning from the Temple of Doom, Indiana Joan rounded up her band of desperados, Red Dog & Claire Bear, and went out west to join her cousin David and his bride-to-be Jane. They went to see the Rockies as well as a non-rocky, smooth, wedding.

They first set up camp at David and Jane's. Then after spending a relaxing time at the hilltop home, off the Resnick's went: a cog railway up Pike's Peak, car rides through new

trails, and hikes with Claire Bear carried on Red Dog's back with fearless Indiana Joan leading the way. After crossing the Continental divide using a horseless carriage, with views which were so emotional they brought tears to their eyes, they came to stay at the Stanley Hotel (built by the inventor of the Stanley Steamer), the inspiration for the movie "the shining", where they rested up before the wedding weekend.

David and Jane were married at their mountain home. Many celebrities from the west were

there, including Bernie, Marge, Helen, Jeff, Sam, Dan, and Paul. The outdoor wedding started off with menacing skies, but miraculously, just as the band started playing "Here comes the bride", the clouds went away, and the sun started shining.

Joan and Red Dog were initially nervous about taking Claire Bear on the journey, but she was a real trooper, in high spirits and well behaved on the plane, on the ground, and on Papa's back!

## Business Report

After the birth of Claire in October '94, Joan stopped working as a teacher in the Special Services Department at West Windsor - Plainsboro High School. Instead, she focused her energy on teaching her daughter some of the basics of life. Claire now loves to walk around holding a phone to her ear. She is also now quite experienced at shopping. This is one reason why Steve was so happy when Joan returned to work this past September. Joan now has less time to shop!

Joan has been practicing to join the circus as well, perfecting her fabulous juggling routine: balancing teaching, homemaking and mom-ing. Fortunately, she has been assisted by our nanny, Vicky, who is wonderful with Claire.

In addition to his main babes: Joan and Claire, Steve has another "baby" of sorts: his Psychiatry practice. It's been growing nicely, but like a real baby, the fun and pleasures of watching someone (or something) you created grow has many responsibilities, and takes a lot of work. Steve gets

around, with his main office in Princeton, a second in Somerville, as well as working in Hamilton and Rancocas. Much of his work is with managed care insurance, which helps the practice grow, but has many headaches. Fortunately for Steve, better than Tylenol or aspirin for the headaches, has been his office manager Dana, who has been a great help in building and maintaining the practice.

Joan and Steve keep pretty busy, with the practice, teaching, Claire, and all the usual errands of life, while also trying to maintain "outside" interests, traveling, and keeping up with friends. They've had to make an effort just to spend time together. She usually leaves for work while he's still asleep, and he usually gets home after Claire's fallen asleep, with Joan not far behind. Just like those vacation commercials, the two of them often have to pull out their appointment books just to schedule a lunch together or a rendezvous at a health club.

Life's been hectic and stressful, but fun!

## Sports Corner

This has been a year of the outdoor life.

Memorial day weekend, Steve went camping with "the guys" which included Leon, Mike, Neal, Jamie, and Rich. Some of the highlights were a blazing campfire, hiking, sleeping under the stars (and observing them with a telescope), and a pre-made ratatouille dinner one night, with macho beef to make up for it on the other night.

The adventurous Resnick family (see **Travel**) were not stopped by one of the hottest weekends of the year. With temperatures reaching above 102', they went camping in Stokes State Forest, with friends Michael, Sandy and Rebecca. They all did some good hiking, with Claire in Steve's new Fathers Day present: a fancy, all-wheel-drive, turbo-charged, child carrier backpack. Diets were put on hold, with a trip to Dairy Queen, and on Saturday, Steve's birthday, with a surprise delivery of a birthday cake by Michael's daughter, Wendy.

Sports activities shifted this year. There was less tennis and biking. Steve started jogging, running his first race, a 5 mile run, on November 2nd. Also, they both now exercise by chasing Claire, and Steve has started surfing (the Internet).

## THE YEAR'S BIRTHDAYS

Steve sweated (quite literally) through his last birthday before "the big four-oh" (see **Sports Corner**).

Joan had a surprise bash for her birthday, with Steve being helped by co-conspirators Jamie & Nili, as well as Donna, David, Lindsay, Lauren, and Alix, along with many friends and family which helped out. The biggest surprise to Joan was that Steve was able to color coordinate the napkins and plates!

Claire also had a birthday this year which was special in several ways. It was her first birthday, she won her first contest, and it occurred on Friday the Thirteenth! WPST, a major New Jersey radio station, had a contest to win a Vermont Teddy Bear for the best fax. Well, Steve couldn't resist, wrote a fax, got called by the station on the 13th, and Claire won the Bear! (Part of the fax is shown to the right)

*"...But alas, an event looms ahead with a reputation for bad luck: Her First Birthday falls on **Friday the Thirteenth!***

*It is our responsibility as adults to pave the way for the future generation. We must show them that the forces of good are stronger than evil. I can think of no better way to prove this to Claire, and to all the children of the world (or at least the WPST listening area), than by having the greatest radio station in the land send her a sign that good is stronger than evil. That even on Friday the Thirteenth, we can have GOOD luck. That the all powerful WPST can send a Vermont Teddy Bear to a small one year old named Claire on her First Birthday. A gift she will remember for the rest of her life."*

## Letter to the Editor

*(letters may be written to the  
Resnick's home address,  
or may be e-mailed to Steve at:  
SteveXR@aol.com)*

Dear Editor;

My friend Tiny Tim says that there is magic all around us, like the Chanukah lights lasting eight days, and Santa Claus bringing presents, but my parents say there is no such thing as magic. I would appreciate your comments on the validity of my parents claim.

- Virginia

Dear Virginia;

Even though you should always listen to your parents, many adults are confused about magic. They are correct when they say that pulling a rabbit out of a hat is not magic. It is just illusion and slight of hand. But what *is* magic is the fun we can have playing with rabbits and hats, and sharing it with our friends and family who we love. Sadly, when we get older, we often forget how to find magic. We need children like you, Virginia, to remind us that there is magic all around us, and we just have to be open to enjoy it. For Steve and Joan, it is having each other, their friends and their family.

Sometimes they need some special magic to help them appreciate it, though.

So to answer your question: yes Virginia, there is magic, and for Joan and Steve, her name is Claire.

From all of us at *Seasoned Greetings*:

*May this season  
and the new year  
bring you  
fun, health, happiness,  
and  
some magic in your heart.*

- Steve, Joan, and Claire Resnick

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