



# Seasoned Greetings



All the News That Fits...With a Little Spice

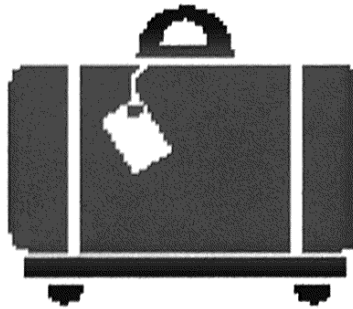
December, 1999

## Greetings and Welcome:

This and past issues of Seasoned Greetings have tended to be a combination of an itinerary of the events of the past year along with some philosophical ramblings. I've realized that the two are not really different. After all, Life is not where we go, but the journey. The "itinerary" itself is what life's all about. So to one and all, newcomers to Seasoned greetings and "Seasoned" Veterans: *Have a happy trip!*

## TRAVEL

Steve felt he wasn't involved with enough projects and activities (ha, ha), so he recently took on another role. He is now an independent Travel Agent with Global Travel International. It sounds a bit more involved than it really is, though. He is an official travel agent, but is mostly doing it for his own family and some friends. But then again, with the way managed care is going, who knows, maybe he'll need a second job!



### **Medium:**

They also made some weekend excursions to Woodloch Pines in

the Poconos (twice), and Mohonk Mountain House. Business mixed with pleasure with trips to Washington D.C. for Steve's American Psychiatric Assn. Conference, and to Florida for a weekend conference.

### **Short & Local:**

Local short trips rounded out their travel experiences, with day trips to Great Adventure / Safari Park, Sesame Place, "Touch-Me" kids museums (Wonder, Discovery, and Cotsen), the Philadelphia Zoo, and multiple street fairs and festivals.

### **Long & Far:**

The Resnicks stayed domestic with their travels this year, not leaving the country. A trip to California gave them an opportunity to sightsee as well as visit family and friends (Joan has many cousins there). They enjoyed the hospitality of the

Chaknova Hotel, just outside of San Francisco. Their trip included Muir Woods, Monterey, and Santa Cruz. Initially, Joan and Steve were pretty nervous about the hassles of traveling with a three and a five year old. Miracles happen though, and both Zoe and Claire were wonderful traveling companions, well behaved, and fun!



## TECHNOLOGY PAGE

Despite Joan's School district defecting to the "other side", the Resnick household has remained loyal to Macintosh. The house now has 3 working computers...plus a palm

pilot...plus another computer (G4) "on the way". Zoe has her own, but Claire has to share hers with Joan. Zoe's showing good mouse aptitude, Claire loves art programs, Joan is getting to be quite a good surfer, and Steve, well, let's just say, man's best friend, when a dog is not practical, is his computer. Steve now uses the computer for shopping, finances, investments, his to-do list (still too long), schedule, and email. Joan and Steve email each other a lot during the day (and you thought it was just done in silly commercials and sitcoms!) Steve also uses email to coordinate a poker game.

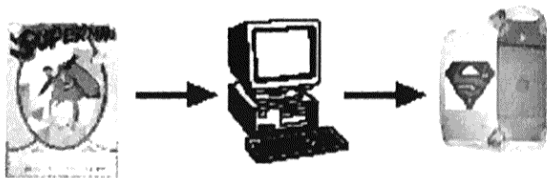
Steve and Joan have found talking face-to-face to be passé. Though they still try to go out for dinner together regularly to talk (to remember the old ways), they are trying to maintain their cutting edge with the latest trends. They email each other several times daily, have a digital camcorder, upgraded their cell phones to digital service, and just bought family walkie-talkies...purchased on the net of course!

*We do not quit playing because we grow old.  
We grow old because we quit playing.*

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

*(Does this mean we should all have a lot of grown-up toys ?!)*

Steve's been learning a bit about digital video editing on the computer and is planning on getting a new G4 "Super-Computer" and digital video editing program. It's been a lot of work learning about it and deciding: which kind of hard drives, digital formats, importing, exporting etc. Despite their need to "do less" & relax more, Steve needs a creative outlet, so in addition to Halloween stuff (see Halloween sidebar), and Seasoned greetings, Steve plans on playing with video. As a child, Steve loved Superman comics, collecting all the issues of Superman, Legion of Superheroes, Superboy, etc., so it's quite fitting that he's returning to his roots, getting a Supercomputer!



Steve has a professional website: [www.MindAndBodyInfo.com](http://www.MindAndBodyInfo.com)

He also has a family website (which needs to be updated). He expects to post this Seasoned Greetings there, as well as some recent pictures of the family, hopefully in January or February. The family webpage can be reached through several URLs:

<http://members.aol.com/stevexr/stevespage.html> (without banner ads)

[www.SteveR.webalias.com](http://www.SteveR.webalias.com) (with banner ads)

[www.SteveR.andmuchmore.com](http://www.SteveR.andmuchmore.com) (with banner ads)

# T H E A R T S

Our sampling of the arts has spanned a wide range. One indicator of taste is what our VCR timer is set for (though the majority of Americans do not know how to program their VCR, do you?). Our current TV shows are: King of the Hill, Simpson's, Futurama, South Park (all Steve / all animation), Friends, and Frasier (both Steve & Joan), Joan also likes Ally McBeal.

We've also seen many events at McCarter (an award winning local theater): Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Trinity Irish Dance, Kodo Drummers of Japan, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Learned Ladies, Alvin Ailey, Tom Chapin, Design for Living, Fool For Love, Paul Taylor Dance Co., the Importance of Being Earnest, Lyle Lovett, and Nutcracker.

We've ventured into the Big Apple to see Powertown, the Lion King, Civil War, and "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change". Claire and Zoe have started to see movies in theaters now. Last but not least, we also find that we get a tremendous amount of entertainment just watching the kids!

## It Could Have Been Worse

Several events occurred this year, which caused us to look at "the big picture". I guess we expect to have a "revelation" now and then, like the life changing events in the movies. In reality, though, the changes are usually more subtle, shifting one's perspective, or allowing one to let down some defenses and see things more clearly. "Close calls" can do that. They allow us to get just to the edge, getting as close as we can to something, without actually experiencing it.

It started at Services for the Jewish High Holy Days, a time of thought and introspection. These holidays are the Jewish New Year, and a time to fast and reflect on the things we've done in the past year, changes we want for the new year, and our relationships with others. As I was sitting at

the sermon, I was trying to find some new "insight" to take home. Nothing. Then I heard the sound of a truck removing trash outside, which was a bit disruptive to the service. But that was what I was waiting for, the "insight". He was taking out the old, so there would be room for the new. We have to work on our own stuff and let go, before we can get the new stuff and grow. Also, being able to be open and creative is crucial, like seeing trash removal as an enlightening experience. It could've been worse, but worked out well: Instead of a noisy garbage truck, we learned something about life.

A few weeks later, Joan got in a bad car accident, she was ok physically, but was quite shaken up, thinking about what could've happened. The car was totaled, and there was

a lot of hassle: Insurance stuff, car rental, and looking for a new car. It could've been worse, but worked out well: Instead of something terrible happening to Joan, we got a new car (a neat Saab wagon).

Shortly after that, Joan got an anonymous threat at school. It was a big hassle as well, involving administrators, police, teachers' union, and much emotional stress. It could've been worse, but worked out well: they found the one who threatened her, and took appropriate action, without any danger to Joan.

Things could have been worse, but like a noisy garbage truck, if we look at things the right way, we can still learn and have fun. (Admittedly, trying to keep a good perspective can be a lot of work and very difficult).

## DO YOU WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

Match the family members to their preferences:

Steve	(1) Music
Joan	(2) Art
Claire	(3) Cooking
Zoe	(4) Eating

Steve	(A) Bacon
Joan	(B) Cereal, Vegetables
Claire	(C) Sauces, Dips
Zoe	(D) Oreo Cookie Ice Cream

Are these your final answers?  
If so, turn this page over to check!

*For Halloween Steve was  
the Cat in the Hat:*

*Now how about that,  
I'm the cat in the hat.  
And as their greatest fan,  
I'll introduce my clan:  
So, as a cat I'm not alone,  
Here's Catwoman Joan.  
Our daughter Claire,  
Is Tarzan's Jane, so fair.  
And though you've already seen  
her,  
Here's Zoe the Ballerina!*

*I just ask a bit more time,  
As I continue this rhyme.  
We'd like something sweet,  
For our trick or treat  
And then we'll disappear  
As we thank you for your ear!*

## Miscellaneous

This year we've been to Bat Mitzvah's, birthday parties (young & old), and a wedding. We've shared in friends' illnesses, losses, and pregnancies. Steve is continuing to do mild jogging, and Joan played some tennis and is trying to get into a routine at a health club. Joan was happy that we finally did some landscaping. She was also happy when she found she could fit into a children's' size vest from Gap Kids!

Steve's been doing a lot of lectures and presentations, had a radio appearance, and some newspaper articles. He's also organized a poker game every 2-3 weeks since April (guys night out), and spent a weekend hiking with close friends in the Berkshires.

Both Zoe and Claire went to camp for the summer, and Claire did some soccer during the year while Zoe went to music class.

The girls' Birthday parties this year both had artistic themes: Zoe had her party at our house, with the help of the teacher from her weekly music class. Claire had her party at a local art store, where they made sand art. Claire loves rainbows, and when we walked out of the store on her birthday, up in the sky, was a beautiful rainbow. After looking more carefully though, we realized it was a double rainbow!

Do You Want To Be a Millionaire, Matching Answers:

<p><i>Have a Wonderful New Year!</i></p> <p>Please try again next year, and in the meantime: ..Unfortunately, we have had 17 contestants who have already won one million dollars, so our funds are depleted.</p>	<p>Answers: Steve - 4, B Joan - 3, A Claire - 2, D Zoe - 1, C</p>
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