



Christmas 2010

# Duelm Family Newsletter

*from Julie, Brian, Tony, and Brock in The Woodlands, Texas*

## Happy Holidays!

We hope this festive season finds you healthy and happy, with excitement for the year to come. We also hope you enjoy our family tradition of pictures and stories from the past twelve months.

## The Eagle Has Landed

After a decade in Boy Scouts, Brock earned his Eagle rank in April. The benefits started immediately when he was asked to be an aquatics instructor at a summer Scout camp. Although he did need to sweep a colony of spiders from his tent before moving in, "roughing it" has its limits. Brock added a mini-fridge, fan, and stereo. He graduates this May and will continue his outdoor career in Environmental Engineering at Texas Tech or Texas A&M.

house; the place resembles an episode of "Hoarders."



Brock's senior picture

## The "Hood"

After three attempts, Brock's last accident finally did enough damage to require a body shop. (You just can't drive at night when one headlight points into space.) When the estimate came in, Brian saw that one-third the cost was to paint a new hood. Since he's stingier than Scrooge, his order was to find a matching used hood. The result? We now have a white truck with a black hood. Brian calls it a hot rod. Julie calls it the ghetto mobile. We suspect "the hood" is where we'll be moving if the neighbors have their say.



Tony worked this fall at the Renaissance Festival

## Economist in Action

Tony concluded his sophomore year with soul searching that led him to shift from Engineering and Physics to Economics and Business at Texas A&M. At the same time, he moved off-campus into a house that, while it was designed for four, Tony maneuvered to add two more roommates to split the cost even further. Now *there* is an economist we need in Washington! Of course, there are some downsides to six guys in a



Brock and Tony at the Houston Rodeo



## Cutting a Deal

Consistent with his direction towards business, Tony decided to pursue a commission-based job this summer, and began selling Cutco cutlery door-to-door. In one of his sales pitches, the quality of the product got the best of him. While demonstrating the incredibly sharp blade, he slipped and cut his finger wide open. Incredibly, he made the sale, albeit with bandages provided by the customer. We're not sure if the sale was for sympathy, but recommend that he not "cut a deal" again.



Julie and Brian in Jamaica for her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday

## Forever Young

Julie reached an important milestone this February, which called for a serious roasting by friends and family. Of course, those same folks know that 50 was a physical milestone only. In her mind and heart, Julie will forever be living in her 20's, and occasionally in her teens when the situation requires a temporary lapse in judgment or morals...or both. Brian and Julie celebrated the occasion with a return trip to Jamaica, where among other highlights, Brian played the word AOUAD in a Scrabble championship, a word he considered the Holy Grail of Scrabble play.

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Brock and Tony cutting down this year's Christmas tree

## In Other News...

Julie continues to work on her street corner as a crosstitute (a.k.a. crossing guard) for the local school district. Brian turned 21 this year (with Hewlett-Packard and Compaq that is), and continues to work in the HR organization. And, Tiger continues to eat, sleep, notify us to change his litter box, pet him, let him outside, and...well, you get the picture.



Tiger - Guardian of the remote

*Merry Christmas!*

