

Christmas 2013 (and 2012, and 2011)

# Duelm Family Newsletter

## Merry Christmas!

We hope this festive season finds you healthy and happy, and looking forward to 2014. It's been three years since our last Christmas newsletter. Rather than offer excuses for interrupting your subscription to "Days of Duelm," we'll just share a few stories to catch you up.



The Family Tradition Continues

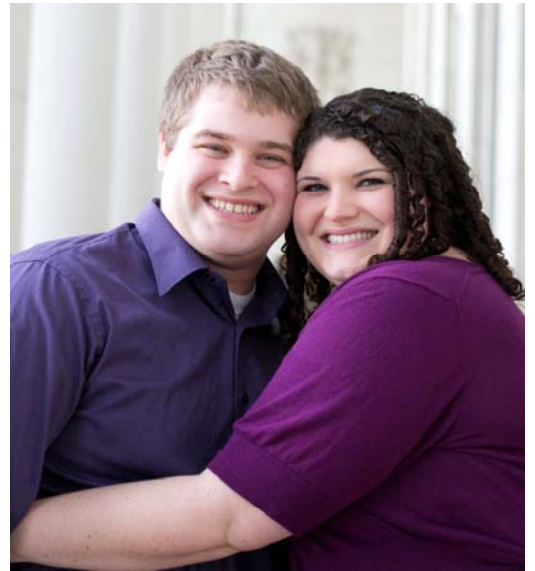
## We Had a Movement!

In late 2011, after Brock left for college, we decided to "right-size" to a smaller home. However, the closing almost didn't happen. We scheduled the sale and purchase meetings an hour apart. Unfortunately, we left a toilet plunger in the old home, and during walkthrough the buyer decided that must mean we've had sewer problems. He required that all of the plumbing be scanned by camera before signing. With just minutes to spare, our home had its first colonoscopy.

Our new address is 227 South Crimson Clover, (yes, like the song...over and over), in The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Our new email address is [jbduelm@gmail.com](mailto:jbduelm@gmail.com). Our home phone number is still 281-292-0791.

## Our Daughter Arrived!

This November 2 we were blessed with a beautiful new daughter, Katie Cowart Duelm. Before you calculate whether Julie is past child-bearing age, here's the story.



Announcing! Tony and Katie Duelm

Tony met Katie while they were finishing college at Texas A&M. They were married on Tybee Island just outside of Savannah, Georgia. Katie is the Managing Editor of Texas A&M University Press and Tony is an agent with New York Life. They are a fun couple who enjoy (or at least tolerate) all the games we like to play.

## Old Dog, New Tricks

Most men who hit their mid-life crisis decide to buy a Corvette. Brian decided to retire instead. Actually, in late 2012 HP offered an early retirement package, and it was time to say good-bye 23 years after Brian joined Compaq and we moved to Houston. The life of leisure didn't last long though. In April, just before his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, Brian accepted a role with McKesson Healthcare here in The Woodlands. The change was a blessing. Brian returned to his passion of training and is enjoying learning a new industry.

## New Dog, Old Tricks

Another milestone this year is that Brock turned 21. With everyone now “of legal age,” the five of us made a beeline to Las Vegas to enjoy shows, gambling, and an inside tour of Hoover Dam. Julie endured a timeshare pitch and worked her magic to score extra tickets to five shows. We won’t ask how she scored, but she did say “What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas!”



The First Taste of Freedom...to Lose Money



Hoover Dam - From the Inside Out

## Merlot on Tap

One thing we know for sure is that miracles happen. In 2012 Julie had back surgery following an injury during our move. After two good months, the fusion failed and she went back under the knife again this July. Finding the right surgeon was a saga, but thanks to a Jamaican expert, she is better than ever, walking up to five miles a day. We’re expecting wine to flow from the faucet any day now, and we keep five loaves of bread and two fish handy just in case company drops in. Yeah mon!

## Blending In

Sometimes you just don’t catch the significance of a picture until you see it later. We now understand why someone asked which side of the fence the exhibit was on.



At the Houston Zoo

## Silver Bells

One of us is growing silver, and the other might be, but the world will never know. Together we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2012.



Celebrating 25 Years

Have a Very  
Merry Christmas!