

### **Christmas 2017**

# **Duelm Family Newsletter**

# **Merry Christmas!**

We hope this festive season finds you healthy, happy, and looking forward to the year ahead. We also hope you enjoy our family tradition of pictures and stories from the past twelve months.

### **Milestone**

June marked our 30th anniversary. The expected idioms apply, such as "It feels like yesterday" and "Time flies when you're having fun." However, the reality is that we're still the same kids as 1987; we just have to act grown up at work (to get paid) and in front of children (to prevent extended therapy bills).



Celebrating our 30th in Greece



#### Leave Home Without It

This year saw us return to a hectic travel schedule, and new rules posted by airport security had a significant impact. We were surprised and completely unprepared to see this warning sign.



Items we had confiscated included our propane tank, gas can, and three gallons of perfectly good semi-gloss house paint. The good news is that we avoided the extra charges for overweight luggage.

### The Kids

Tony passed his exams to become a Certified Public Accountant, and continues to provide audit services with MaloneBailey of Houston. Katie continues as Managing Editor at Texas A&M University Press. And Brock will complete his degree in Construction Management this May at Sam Houston State.



Hay ride to pick out Tony and Katie's Christmas tree

## **Bread my Butter**

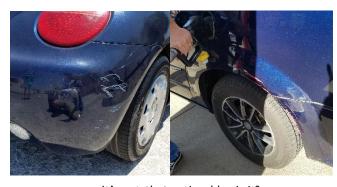
Texas boasts one of the largest state fairs, and regional cuisine is on full display. There is only one kitchen appliance required, a deep fryer. This particular fine dining establishment advertises the original fried butter, because you never know when your chicken-fried butter might be a knock-off.



There are sooooo many things wrong with this picture. BUT, the deep-fried cheesecake-stuffed, chocolate-covered strawberry balls next door were awesome!

# Blue Cars, Car Blues

We learned two important things about our rental cars this year. First, a back-up camera is only as good as the driver using it. Second, the warning sound the car makes when nearing an object doesn't sound like screeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeetch. It turns out that the optional insurance might actually be a bargain.



It's not that noticeable, is it?

# Harvey, Irma, and Maria

This year's hurricane season was a family affair. First, Hurricane Harvey arrived on August 25, bringing with it record amounts of rain to Houston. We were blessed to stay dry, though many friends were not so lucky. Next, Irma lashed Florida where Julie's sister, our niece, and cousin all reside. And finally, Hurricane Maria displaced Julie's brother from Puerto Rico. Everyone came through the storms safe.

# The Rest of the Story

Brian continues to work for McKesson, facilitating leadership and team development programs for The US Oncology Network. Julie continues to work as a crossing guard for the local school district.

#### **Contact Us At**

We're still at 227 South Crimson Clover Circle in The Woodlands, Texas 77381. Our email address is jbduelm@gmail.com, and home phone number is 281-292-0791.





Have a Merry Christmas!