



Merry Christmas from Barb, Mark, Matthew, Katherine, and Jennifer!

It's been quite an exciting, eventful, and scary year for us! Mark's father had a quintuple bypass this summer, which he's thankfully recovering from quite well. Barb was teaching a Continuing Education class for Georgia Tech on September 11 in one of Atlanta's high-rise buildings. The authorities recommended that her class evacuate, but all but one decided to stay—Atlanta's streets were already packed with people evacuating, so there was nowhere to go.

Work has been good this year. Mark's first books came out: A textbook in late December, and an edited volume this summer, both on the programming language *Squeak* that he teaches. Barb has been working for another Computer Science professor, Janet Kolodner, on building software for middle-school kids to use. She's filed for two patents based on her work with NCR.

The kids have busy social and activities schedules, as ever. Matt and Katie did soccer in both the Spring and the Fall. Katie took ballet classes in the Spring, while Jenny took pre-ballet. Matt has progressed to brown stripe in our martial art (Modern Defense), while Katie progressed to orange-stripe. Jenny's big exercise achievement was scaling Stone Mountain over the Thanksgiving weekend — she's still pretty excited about that. Matt is going to be the Second Wise Man in the church play on his 10th birthday this December.

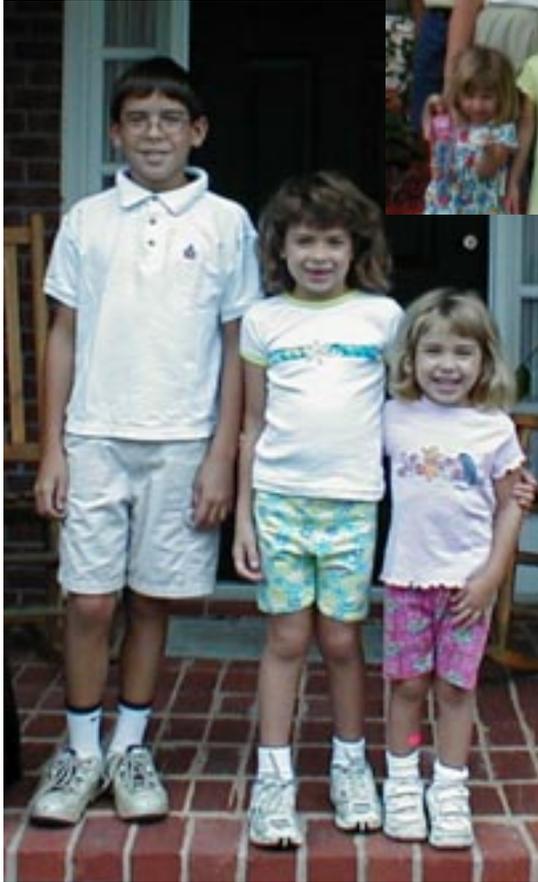
Barb and Mark are trying to keep up their exercise, too. Barb is riding Sport four days a week. Her instructor saw a national horse show in D.C. recently, so he's taken to having her jump higher and higher—up to four feet! The riding is not only fun for Barb, but she still looks much younger than the 40 year mark we celebrated this year. Mark passed a long and *verysweaty* black belt test in August, demonstrating his ability to sweat quarts of water in a mere two hours.

A conference took Barb and Mark to Canterbury, England, this last June, while Grandparents Guzdial played with their grandkids. We went to London and spent some time with the Brickendens whom we knew in New Jersey. We visited Grandparents Ericson in their new Fort Myers, Florida, home last April. The week before Thanksgiving we took a trip to Disneyworld with Grandparents Ericson while the prices and crowds were low.

The kids are growing bigger and still adorable. Matt is an avid reader (especially fantasy) and loves "Magic the Gathering" cards, Mage Knights, and playing in an on-line text-based world called *MOOSE Crossing*. Katie is athletic (loved soccer, dances in the living room to anything on the CD player) but is still concerned with her hair looking just *so*. She's starting to read for fun. Katie and Jenny play and fight over their Barbies and make-believe play. Jenny is four, still carries her ragged pink cloth "baby," and tells us "I'm Jenny, your sweetie!"

We hope this letter finds you all well, hugging your loved ones close, and grateful for another good year.





(From upper left, weaving) Disneyworld; Visiting Barbs' folks in Florida; Girls at Ballet; Barb and Mark in England; Kids on first day of school; Grandma Guzdial's birthday in July; Visiting Great Grandma Guzdial in July in Michigan; Also on Grandma Guzdial's birthday; Skiing last December in Michigan; and Mark with his wood from board-breaks after his test

