

The LoPresto Family 2008 Christmas News Letter

Subtitle



Happy Christmas to all and seasons greetings to all of our much-beloved, sorely missed and missing friends, family, acquaintances, and strangers who we have grown to love. Our apologies for not talking to you since our last Christmas Letter... please don't read anything into that.

While we're on the topic...

Top 10 Reasons Why We Haven't Contacted Any of You This Year

- 10) Ben is still waiting in line for Boy Meets World Season 4 on DVD.
- 8) Ben is upset that you all seem to like Mark better than him.
- 7) The vacuum has no wireless connectivity. (Mom)
- 6) You didn't call me either...
- 2) Katy (Katie, Kahy-tee, sp?) is too confused by alternate spelling(s) of her name(s).
- 1) We're just not that into you... it's not you... it's us. We just need some time to find ourselves.

Now I'm sure all of you are doing well and had a wonderful year. But this letter is not about you. It is about us and how many different Christmas Letter techniques¹ we can cram into a single letter. So sit back, relax... and read on...

¹ Including but not limited to Top 10 Lists, Name adjective game², Poems, Misdirection, Embellishment, etc.

Courageous
Heroic
Really, really ridiculously good-looking
Inspired
So ahead of his time
Talons (really sharp)
Opalescent
Punctual
Hammerhead shark
Euphoric
Really, really ridiculously punctual

Chris arrived at Chateau Lo (712 Walnut Hill) on Monday night, December 22, after an uneventful journey down the New Jersey Turnpike. He stayed on the Turnpike because there was an accident on 295, which is funny because typically it's the other way around. And why the heck are there so many people out there who still don't have EZ Pass? I mean really. Anyway, Chris finally pulled up the driveway around 9:26 pm and unloaded his bags out of his well-worn blue 2001 Saturn SC1 with the unbelievably convenient rear 3rd suicide door, now complete with new HD radio. He was running just a little too late to meet mom, dad, and Katy (sp?) out for dinner, but luckily they brought him back a crab cake sandwich, which is funny because Chris doesn't even like crab cakes.

Majestic
Awesome
Totally awesome
Tarantula
Harry Potter
Elegant
Wow that guy's elegant

Janky
Employed (Un)
Sorry
Sympathetic (Un)
Italian (Un)
Clean!
Athletic

Do it on one side, do it on the other

Long name
Oh my God this is a long name
Plug it in
Rambunctious
Effervescent
SPI Pharma, no we do not sell farm animals
Tap dancing
Obama mama (not pregnant... or is she?)

As we all know, Matt and Jess celebrated their love for each other by getting married last year. This year they welcomed a new addition into their family... Sasha!



*Sasha, Matt's new midnight blue tornado Vespa.
December 2008*

Sadly, you may have heard Jess recently lost her job at Lilly Pulitzer. The company is not doing well, and now neither is she. Going from two incomes to one has caused much stress on Matt and Jess's marriage. We'll provide further updates in next year's Christmas Letter.

Beast (I'm a)
Enigmatic
Notorious for eating giant "pig in a blanket"
Jalapeno
Ate a sandwich
Man
Is a man
Nugnut!



Ben's Kaytie (sp?) Impression

These days Ben keeps pretty busy as the sports director for the YMCA. When he isn't working (G-chatting and playing darts on his iPhone), he kills time by working on his Caitie (sp?) impression (above).



Ben (bottom right³) at work.

Convenient
Athletic
Trainer
Hasn't graduated yet... still
Reasonably priced
Iron
Misspelled



Kaytieh Purchasing Her Latest Iron

Kahy-tee (sp?) arrived home on the 16th around 4:30 having left Elon around 9:30, which is funny because that's surprisingly fast for that long of a trip. She went from Elon, NC to Delaware to Philly to Hoboken back to Philly before finally officially arriving in Delaware for the holidays Sunday night around midnight.



Katie didn't graduate this year... as usual. Good news though, she's on schedule to complete an Ironing minor⁴ by May.

Misbehaved
Adopted
Ritalin
Kid

Mark's second-grade year has been, shall we say, tumultuous. He quit Little League, Drama Club, Cub Scouts, Drama League, Jazz Dance, Jazz Piano, Jazercise, and Quilting. He is filling his now-copious free time by smoking because "it makes him look cool" ... and let's face it... he's right.



*Mark LoPresto
School Portrait 2008*

If any of you are interested in babysitting, or better yet... adoption, please let us know.

Messy
Asthma causing
Relaxed
Ice **I**c Baby is a good song
Eureka vacuums are unacceptable

Mom wrote a seasonal poem to the mouse recently found within a quarter mile of our house.

2008 Christmas Poem

by Marie LoPresto

Christmas... Hark!
Rodent Infestation
Setting Traps
Mice Are Scared

Pathetic
Apathetic
Unmotivated
Loser

As usual Dad went on Christmas vacation immediately following Thanksgiving vacation in order to give himself ample time to make several mountains of the most delicious Christmas cookies this side of the Mason Dixon (yee-haw). First he traveled through the seven layers of the candy cane forest, past the sea of swirly twirly gumdrops, and then he walked over the Delaware Memorial. Well not really... we just wanted to remind you that this picture of 'Papa Elf' is still funny.

When not celebrating Christmas, Dad was out fighting crime this year. In his most recent adventure at the Christiana Mall, he knocked out a would-be thief attempting to escape with stolen merchandise. The mall guards were very appreciative that *Super Paul Incorporated* did their job for them.



Really Funny

Miscellaneous 2008 Updates

Baggage Claim

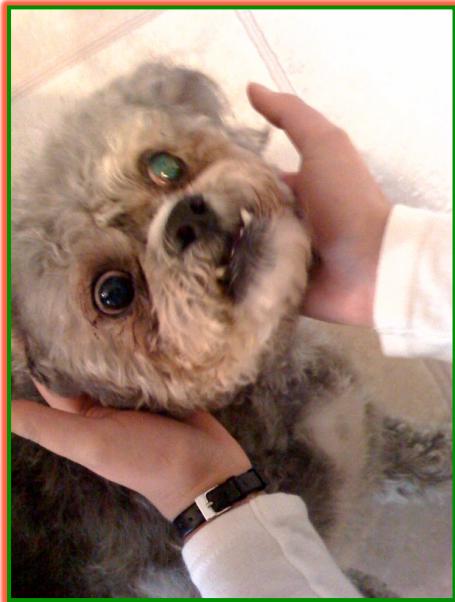
On a warm day in October waiting for a ride at the Raleigh Durham Airport, Ben spoke those fateful words that would rock the very foundations of music, and perhaps society, as we know it..."Hey Jess, you wanna start a band?" Jess turned, and her eyes swimming with rhythm, tonality, and the musical intuition that flows in her very veins and replied... "Heck yeah!"

The band promptly launched itself to the top of the Airport Indie Rock Charts (a surprisingly large genre) with its smash hits "Creepers Welcome" and "AWESOME!" Rolling Stone Magazine has hailed their first album *Now Arriving at Gate Awesome* as "God's gift to Jesus."

Despite their newfound success, the band has remained humble and true to its roots, working mostly in Dad's office, recording songs from conception to finished product in under 20 minutes each. This somewhat nontraditional formula seems to be the secret to their success.

Pierre

Pierre is doing well, having survived multiple calls by neighbors to Animal Control regarding "some sort of animal".



Pierre

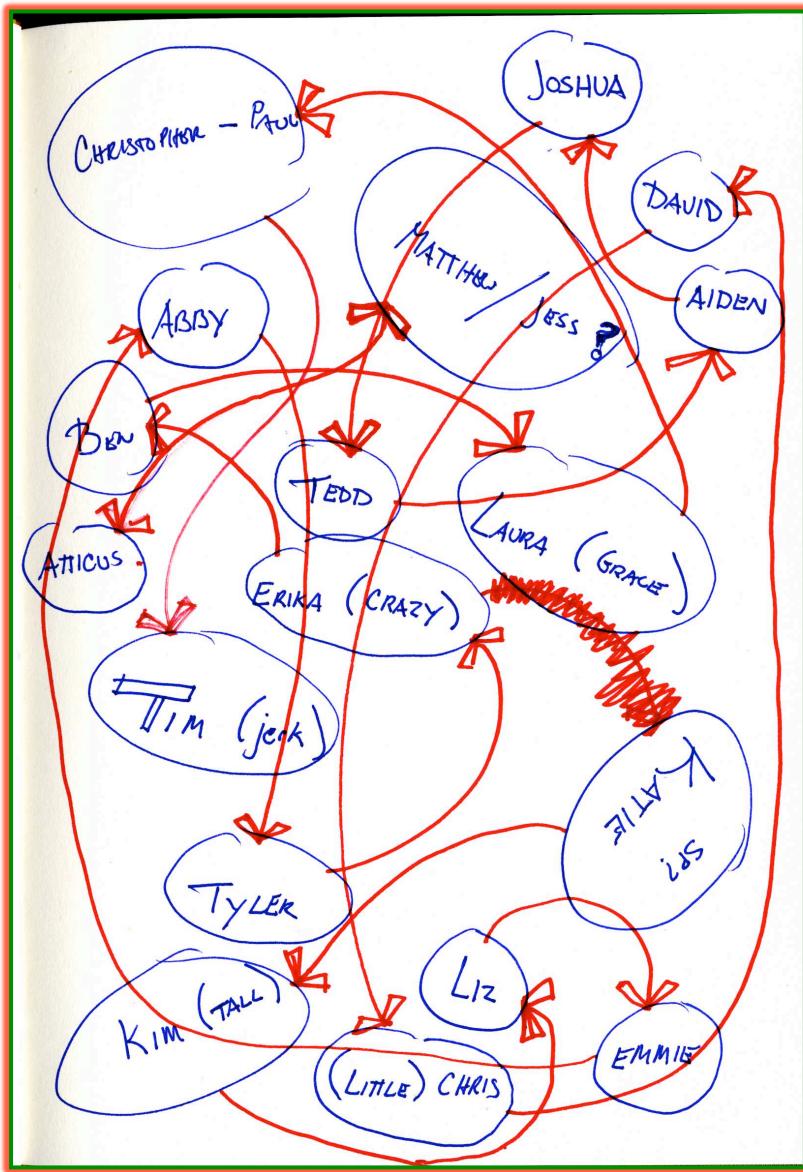
December 2008

Meat

Both Katy and Jess became vegetarians this year. Ben restored balance to the family and to Baggage Claim by becoming a meatatarian.

Cousin Gift Exchange

The undisputed Head Elf Ben has declared the 2008 Cousin Gift Exchange the most successful yet. Ben would like to extend special thanks to Matt for the following flow chart, which clarified and salvaged an otherwise chaotic process.



Flow Chart
December 2008



Merry Christmas!
-The Los