

Scott Family Gazette

December 2010



Greetings everyone. We hope this newsletter makes it to you in time before Christmas. We can't believe how quickly time has gone by... another year! We have been keeping busy with Kayla and Melissa, it has been a lot of fun with lots of giggles and tickles. Susan has been off work for the year taking care of the girls and will be going back to work soon. The girls started daycare at the beginning of December and will be spending their time there for the first two weeks while Susan organizes the house and prepares for the holidays. The daycare is closed for the last two weeks of December, so the girls will be back at home with mom.

As a family we've had many fun events throughout the year beginning with the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. We were fortunate enough to get tickets and attended three events: mens' ski jumping, womens' hockey, and womens' curling. We saw the Olympic Torch as it went through our community about 10 blocks away which was really cool to see, and we spent a day downtown where the cauldron was lit and crowds of people were lined up everywhere to see Olympic displays. It was truly a fun, celebratory event with all the people wearing red and white. There was so much energy and Canadian pride. We had no problems with getting to and from the events with the children and thought the events were very well organized.

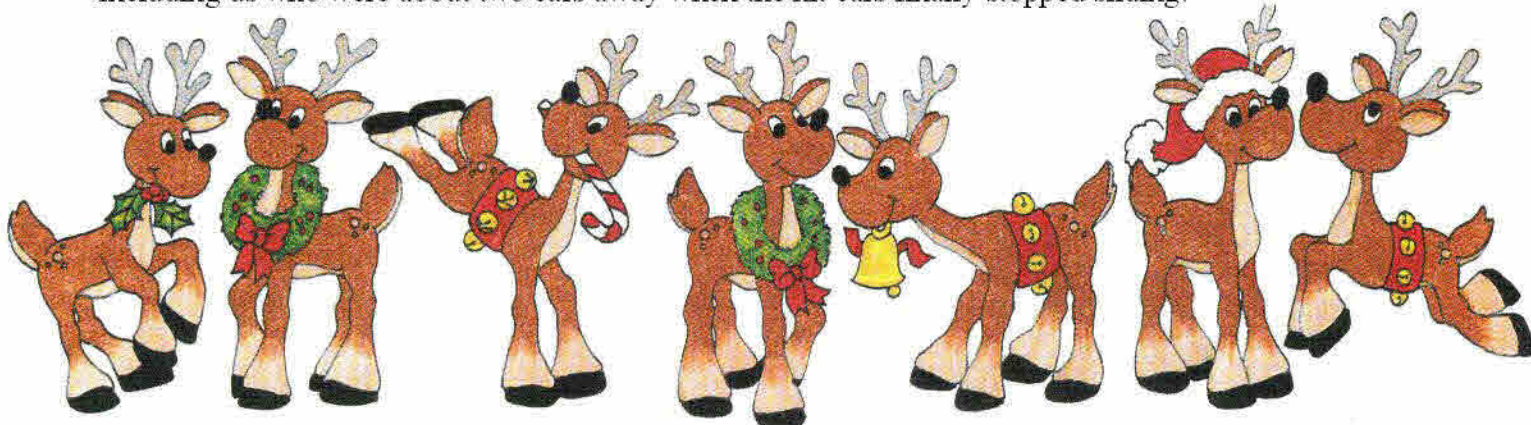


Our first family photo with Santa. Melissa wasn't impressed.

After the Olympics finished and things quieted down in the city, we went for our annual ski weekend to Sun Peaks Resort with two other fami

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On the Borders tab, in the middle select the thin line, on the lies, the Stratfords and the Yaps. It was a fun time with the ladies skiing on one day and the men skiing on the following day. The snow was fantastic and it was nice to go into the hot tub on the deck afterwards. The one thing we learned from this ski weekend was that you DO NOT wear ski boots while driving. While in the parking lot on our last day of skiing, we saw a lady crash into 12 parked vehicles. Fortunately no one was injured, including us who were about two cars away when the hit cars finally stopped sliding.



We did many weekend trips to the cabin at Shuswap Lake throughout the summer. The water was not as warm as usual, but we still had fun boating and tubing. Kayla really enjoyed riding the tube. We did some tent camping this year. We went for one night at Harrison Lake and then in the summer we went on a one week road and camping trip up north to the Smithers area. We met up with Glen's parents and brother's family and we all stayed at Tyhee Lake Provincial Park for three nights. Glen's dad grew up in the Telkwa and Smithers area and we all toured around to see where he lived and went to school. It is very beautiful up north, very green and a real Canadiana feel with the sound of the loon on the lake every morning at 4:30. After our visit in Telkwa, we decided to head further north to Fort St. James since we figured it would be unlikely that we would be this far north in the near future. We stayed at the Paarens Beach Provincial Park for two nights. It was very nice in Fort St. James, but it was a little bit rainy and windy when we were there. The girls enjoyed camping and sleeping in the tent so we will look at more camping trips next year.

To celebrate our 10-year wedding anniversary, our big trip for this year was to Maui where we stayed at a lovely ocean-view condo for one week. The girls really enjoyed the outdoor pool. Kayla keeps talking about jumping, snorkeling and using the boogie board (which was really just a kick board) in the pool. We did a little bit of snorkeling; one day drive to and from Hana along a very windy road (about 600 turns) to see waterfalls and caves; hike inside the Haleakala Crater as well as viewed the sunrise; and a hike down through boulders to see a blowhole where the ocean sprays hard through the rocks. Maui is a very pretty place to visit.



Kayla at the crater in Maui

Susan took the girls to Calgary in November for one week to visit her parents. Susan's parents are planning to move to Vancouver next year, so she wanted to do one more trip to Calgary before they moved. Glen drove to Calgary for the weekend to pick everyone up. We had a nice relaxing two-day return drive to Burnaby. We celebrated Melissa's first birthday with a family dinner in Calgary, but her actual birth date was spent driving from Salmon Arm to Burnaby. We stopped at the Kamloops Wildlife Park for some fun on her birthday. Melissa had a very nice, friendly rapport with all the animals, except for the cougars. They raced to the fence when they spotted us, and were licking their lips and growling as they stared at Melissa. We guess the cougars were a bit hungry and they thought Melissa looked sumptuous with her chubby cheeks. Needless to say, we didn't stick around the cougars' cage for very long. Our last get-a-way before the holiday season was a weekend ski trip to Whistler with the Yap family. Melissa enjoyed being pulled on the baby sled by her big sister. Apparently tourists were quite amused seeing Kayla pull the sled with Melissa napping. The skiing was good but the legs felt like jelly afterwards.



Melissa enjoyed her cupcake on her first birthday

Kayla turned three this year and Melissa turned one. This past year Kayla has been involved in music, swimming and gymnastics. She really enjoys swimming and gymnastics, as well as making crafts, reading, baking with mom and making french toast with dad, playing card and board games, and anything Dora. Melissa is very cuddly and easy-going. She enjoys music, story time, playing and visiting with other children, and getting involved with whatever Kayla is doing. She is able to say bye-bye, up, mama, dada and makes some sort of neanderthal sound while pointing to Dora. Melissa took

her first step about one week after her first birthday, and about a month passed and she is now walking. We guess she was quite content and efficient at crawling, so she wasn't as determined to walk.

Glen changed jobs in February. He is now developing software at McKesson Medical Imaging Group in Richmond. He worked at McKesson about seven years ago before he went to IBM. The job's keeping him busy but he is enjoying it. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with the girls, playing with his train set, and is looking forward to playing with his new electronic drum kit.

Susan is returning to work in January full-time. While on maternity leave, she was transferred to BC Housing in Burnaby and will be working as a communication specialist in the corporate communications department. In her spare time, Susan's been exercising again and going to yoga once a week.

We'll be having Christmas dinner at Susan's cousin's home, and then we will head to Shuswap Lake on the 26th for one week to celebrate the rest of the holiday season with Glen's family. His parents are making a special trip this year from their snowbird routine, since it has been over five years since they have spent Christmas in B.C.

In the new year we are looking forward to more ski weekends and hiking. We are planning the Bird reunion golf tournament at Harrison Hot Springs in the summer. The Bird reunion is Glen's mom's annual get together. We and Glen's brother's family are the event organizers this year. We'll see what else we can fit in throughout the year with work and the girls. We're not exactly sure how this work and family life balance is going to happen once Susan goes back to work, so wish us luck.

We hope you and your family have a very warm and happy holiday season, and we look forward to visiting or talking to you in the new year. Keep in touch.

Hugs and kisses,
Susan, Glen, Kayla & Melissa



Merry Christmas from the Scott Family



Ready to hit the road and trick or treat



Kettle Valley train in Summerland