

talk to. Jean and Larry also came and it was perfect timing as the Sunday after Thanksgiving Latia was blessed. It was a great feeling to watch Joseph, Larry, Jim, and James bless Latia. What great family



Latia

support she has and she doesn't even know it yet. As the year is coming to a close, we reflect upon the things that have happened to us this year. Through it

all, it's still in the 80's in Hawaii. Some things just don't seem to change. It was an amazing rollercoaster ride of a year. We love the grandbabies. They are very precious to us. It is so fun to watch them grow.

We love you all and appreciate all the friendship, fellowship, love, and support we receive from each of you. We pray that you'll be safe this year and enjoy your holidays. Have faith in Jesus Christ. His birth, death, and resurrection were real. He is our Lord and Savior. Love, Always, The Coltons



Hollie and Sam



Latia and Shannon

Don and Lois Colton Family Newsletter Christmas 2002 Edition



May the Joy of this Christmas Season
Lighten Your Burdens
and Encourage Your Hearts

May Peace Reign on Earth
and Good Will Prevail Among Men

May We All Follow the Prince of Peace,
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
Merry Christmas from the Colton O'hana

**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
to
you and yours
from
the Hawaii Coltons**

The year 2002 began with Doris, Lois's mother, coming to visit us. She actually came the day before on December 31st so we were able to let her enjoy the fireworks displayed by the neighbors. We had three potlucks at our house that month. The first was to celebrate Doris's 82nd birthday. The second was to celebrate Elder Ben Colton's return from the Colorado Denver South Mission. It's hard to believe that it happened this year. We of course, were thrilled to have him home.

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Isaac participated in the annual Science Fair. His entry was entitled "Do Computers Rot Your Brain?" or something like that. He did all the research by himself and the tests to administer data. It was quite interesting. You should ask him about it. This year I think we're going to be doing one on putting jigsaw puzzles together.

The other big news item for the month was putting three of the children into braces. I'm sure you'll hear more about that on the individual pages.

Doris stayed with us until President's Day and then she flew back to Seattle. Her flight ended up with a bomb threat and an escort into SeaTac by several military aircraft. They had to then sit out on the runway for quite a while (I guess to see if they'd blow up.) Fortunately it was a hoax, and mom was allowed off the plane and was able to resume her travels home. It certainly made for a memorable trip and Lois decided that Mom would not fly on holidays in the future. The second big news of February was Isaac being pushed down during recess and his arm being broken. Of course, it had to happen in the growth plate and after the cast was put on he spent many hours during the year seeing a specialist. Our next appointment is one year from the date of injury. Do these appointments never end?

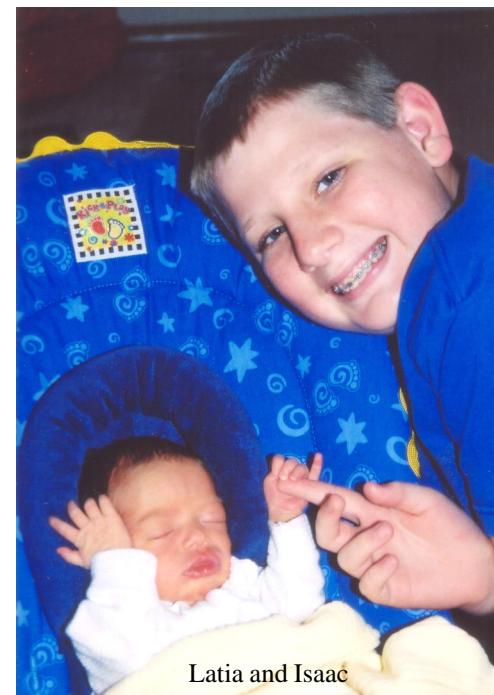
We also bought a cell phone and it was a good thing since the year progressed from one medical appointment to another.

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Isaac

This year I got braces around January but the braces really hurt when they tightened them at our appointments. During school sometime I was pushed and moved my growth plate some. I also got my Arrow of Light this year so that I can go to Blazers. Brother Orr is the leader assistant and Brother Staples is the leader... When I went to Washington I had to live with 2 babies and 1 three year old that visited.

The only thing I can talk a lot about is Computers. While I was gone I could not play on computers but I got to watch TV. I got to play Diablo 2 on my computer at home and my character is a level 21 necromancer and he has a blood golem he is in the third act and he has a sword that does +128 poison damage over 6 seconds.



Favorites

Games:
Diablo II, Starcraft
Lords of magic
Lords of the realm
Command and Conquer
Boulders gate, Warcraft II

Foods:
Lasagna, pizza, tortellini

Books:
Starcraft, There's a boy in the girls bathroom,
Dear mr. henshaw

Friends:
Spencer,Jay,Austin,Daniel

Stacia

Hello World! My life has changed dramatically in the last year. Since I have last written, I have gotten braces, turned 16, gotten contacts, and removed my braces. Now I "look" a lot better, literally.

This year has been full of fun. In June I was able to fly all the way to Iowa for a debate camp and met a bunch of cool, smart people. Then I spent a week or so with Steve, April, and Amy. I also spent a week and a half visiting Ericka and her Granny in Suisun, California. I was able to visit a bunch of her relatives.

Summer ended and I returned to school. I started the debate season on a good note, winning 5 out of 6 ballots. It was a great boost to my self-esteem. I helped teach the new debaters how it's done with lectures, and I even organized a practice tournament. Many of those Junior Varsity debaters are doing very well, and that makes me proud. School itself wasn't as hard as expected. My two AP classes were about the same if not easier than ordinary honors high school classes. I even took an SAT Prep class, but ended up lowering my score by 10 points. I pulled the first trimester off with a 4.2 GPA, thanks to my weighted AP Bio class.

A week or so ago I participated in Con-Con, otherwise known as Congressional Convention. Ericka, Sean, Krystle and I represented the State of Ohio. It was really fun, as it was a more laid back form of debate, but depressing at the same time. We found out that both of our bills were unconstitutional...:-)

Its hard to believe that I am now in 11th grade, and that I only have another year and a half before I will be thrust into the world. For all that care, I am planning on applying to BYU and BYU-H. Who knows where that will take me.

Favorites

Song: Amazing Grace, Heaven by DJ Sammy

Movie: The Count Of Monte Cristo

Shirt: My new navy velvet one.

Foods: Pizza, Lasagna



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Joseph, Don, and Doris ended up all having colonoscopies during the year. Don had a heart procedure to see if he was ticking properly and my mom had lots of tests when she came back in June to see Joseph graduate and ended up hurting her back while doing a floor exercise.

We thoroughly enjoyed the BYUH graduation exercises and dinners to honor Joseph's graduation from College in Computer Science. Unfortunately it was not a good year to be looking for a job. I can't say that 2003 is or will be much better, but hopefully all the family members that aren't working will be soon. We've certainly had high unemployment rates in the Colton clan this year.

The good thing about Doris staying longer than planned was that she got to see Daniel turn into Elder Daniel Colton and leave for the MTC. It's great to have another missionary in the family. Daniel was called to serve in Frankfurt Germany. He flew to Germany on Labor Day and that made Lois nervous, but he made it there safely.

Doris was able to return to Washington at the beginning of August. She was still in pain, but could walk and do most things. At the end of August Lois left for Arizona to "play Grandma" and help Larissa recover from having a baby. The problem was that Larissa was a real trooper and didn't feel the affects of having a baby like most women. Lois was amazed, but we had a good time visiting anyway. Hollie is such a sweetie. She's a very good baby except that she likes to pass gas all the time. Hopefully that'll change as she grows older. Hollie, of course, has changed considerably from August as you can see in the photo on the right. She laughs, rolls over, and still does all the normal baby still like pass gas.



November brought the second "off-island" trip for Lois in the year as she went to Washington State to play "grandma" again as Akiko brought a little one into the world. We now have three granddaughters so dress-up time should be really fun in a few years. Latia was born on November 16, which was 10 days before she was due. It really helped with legal paperwork as Joseph, Akiko, Shannon, and Latia are planning on moving to Japan on January 8th, 2003. Isaac went with Lois this time and was well saturated in TV once more. In Hawaii you have to pay for cable in order to get any channels. We've chosen to spend our money in other ways.

Thanksgiving at Cindy's, was a real experience. Lois and Isaac were able to meet a lot of Eve's relatives and that was great fun. They were a lot of fun to

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Don

Mele Kalikimaka (Merry Christmas). The good news of this year is the increase of our grandchildren from one to three. That and my heart problems. ¶ Eighteen years ago I was diagnosed with a "septal dropout" (a hole in the wall between chambers). Further analysis showed it was not that, but "mitral valve prolapse" (MVP, a valve that allows backflow). Then two years ago I had arrhythmia (irregular heart beat) and to find the cause they did something radioactive. That showed that there was no MVP, but the central coronary artery appeared to be insufficient, creating risk of heart attack. I took meds for two years and this summer had an angiogram that showed evidence of no problem at all. I have come a long way from having a hole in my heart.



What last semester did to Don

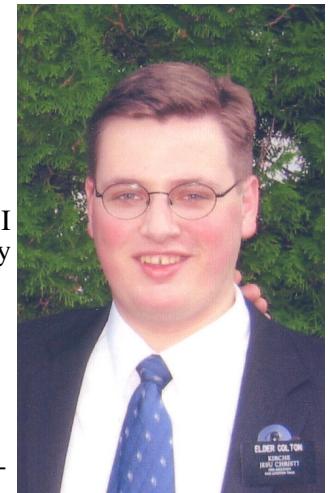
are glad to have Daniel on his mission. The email he sends suggests that he is maturing over there in Germany. ¶ I was recently asked to be a Cub Scout Den Leader for nine-year-old boys (Bears). I feel like a horseback rider who is going full gallop but hanging dangerously off the side of the horse struggling to get on. Every week the boys come. Every week they stay an hour. Every week I get about three minutes of undivided attention. Every week I wonder what to do. Every week the only answer I get is to keep on keeping on. They must be desperate to ask me to be a den leader. In the long run, if we all survive, I should learn a lot. ¶ Life is full of interesting and challenging opportunities. I am glad to be here. ¶ Hoping your 2002 was wonderful, and wishing you all the best for your new year! Love, Don

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Daniel

I went to BYUH during Winter Semester and then took Spring Term off in preparation for my mission to Frankfurt Germany. I entered the Mission Training Center on July 3, 2002 and went to Germany on Labor Day. Sister Lawrence got a bunch of my family and her family to make a memento quilt for me to take on my mission.



Schönen guten Tag. Life in Germany is different than life in America, more specifically it is different than life in Hawaii. but this difference is just different. Life here is also beautiful. Life especially as a missionary brings joys that really only other missionaries and return missionaries can understand. I love working with the people whom I work with. They have a desire in their life for pure religion. Some still need to find that but others have found it through our help. The work I am a part of is the same work Jesus undertook, to bring people to the truth. When I think that I am employed in the same work as Jesus Christ I feel humbled. To bring souls to life in the understanding and acceptance of God's will and truth.



Currently I have only been 'stationed' in Solingen Germany. The Christmas spirit comes alive in Germany and I wish I could show you everything they do to enjoy the time of the year here.

May your Christmas time be just as joy filled as mine will. Ich wünsche Ihnen eine wunderschöne Weinachts zeit!

Elder Daniel Colton
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Ben

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. It was a year of gaining; it was a year of loss. It was the kind of year where you could return home from a mission, to the land of milk and honey, see your family all together. And have them move away to leave a family of three. Our front yard tree was as a barren shrub but a year ago and a voluptuous tree now. A time of gaining braces; A time of gaining a job; A time of gaining an education; And a time of gaining a driver's license. A year to loose a brother to a mission; A year to loose a brother to a family; and a year to loose a brother for a month. The time that Daniel left for the M.T.C. His room became my room; his computer became my computer; and his car became my car. The car was a good car, one of stability and ability, one of trips to the mall and trips to the Wall (-Mart), of friends and Dates, of money and gas rates. Daniel was one of the best of times. I took it upon myself, not to gain a supply of food, but a supply of snacks. And when my car broke, not from a crash like most, but from making the engine a roast, and the computer became a ghost. Those were the worst of times. As the year comes to an end, I have given up some of my age for wisdom, some of my time for money, and some of my money for an easier life. I have hopes of gaining a fridge for my room. Hopes of seeing the movie Two Towers. Hopes for another car and hopes for another computer. Two out of four ain't bad. Truly it was the best of times, and the worst of times.

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Lois

I just reread my "plans" from last year and I'd say that I did pretty well. I totally bombed in the improving my technical skills however. Oh, well, I can work on that another year. Traveling and taking care of grandchildren was a fun and rewarding way to spend part of the year. Having missionaries come and go was another fun part. Having my mom here was mostly fun except she couldn't do anything the second trip and I felt sorry for her. In May my cousin told me he was diabetic. That was kind of a thought provoking thing. I'd been craving sweets, was overweight, and getting older. I thought maybe I should do something about it since my first cousin, my uncle (mom's brother), and my grandmother (mom's mom) were all diabetic. All of them got it when they were older and overweight. Do we see a pattern here? Anyway, I decided to try and live without sugar before my body said that I should. I'd say the first three weeks were pure torture. I craved the sugar all the time. After that it didn't tempt me. It was actually fun not eating sugar. I did have sugar a few times during the next seven months though, but most of those can be named and I can tell you what I ate. It's still probably under 10 times. The jist of all this is that I've lost 28 pounds so far and hope to loose more. I wish it would fall off, but that sure hasn't happened. One of my goals for the next year is to exercise more. I'm going to have Ben haul me over to the Weight room and teach me how to use the machines. I'm nervous about that whole thing, but my body needs it as it's falling apart. I'm also going to go gird up my loins and hit the pool again. My body needs that also as the chiropractor can only do so much. Well, I hope you reach some joys and goals this next year.



Lots of Love,
Lois

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Larissa & Sam Workman

Hello to our wonderful friends and family.

This year has been one of great excitement for us. As many of you know, we have been trying for several years to have a child. This year the Lord blessed us with that gift. Hollie Ann Workman joined our family on August 24th, 2002. She has been the greatest blessing we have received this year and there are no words to describe the love and gratitude we have for our Heavenly Father for letting us take stewardship over this beautiful daughter of God.

Hollie has spent this year growing and changing rapidly. She is anxious to skip all of the "baby" stuff and move on to being an adult. At 3 months she was more interested in learning to walk than in spending any time on her tummy learning to roll over or crawl. It has been a challenge for Mommy and Daddy to make her do the little stuff. She is definitely a part of this family.

Sam is still working for Allegiance Healthcare, who officially change their name to their parent company's name "Cardinal Healthcare" in January. He is working as the Quality Control Specialist in the warehouse. He is also working on writing another fantasy novel, this one hopefully to get published someday. We spend many weekends role-playing the various characters of the book. It is great fun. Sam also spends a lot of time playing Civilization 3 online with his father and other friends.

Larissa has dropped her work schedule down to 2 days a week. It is nice to earn a little more money, but she misses her little Hollie on those days. When she is home, she spends most of her time trying to teach Hollie the many things she needs to learn. She also has been avidly scrapbooking Hollie's life away so that she will have a great way to know about herself when she was little. Larissa has been a little crazy with her camera taking pictures of Hollie all of the time. You can see the many pictures on our website: <http://members.cox.net/samnrissa/>.

The other milestone we reached this year was our 5th wedding anniversary. We are excited to have made it to a point that not many couples in today's world reach. We are very happy and know we will reach many other similar milestones. :-) This year we celebrated our anniversary by moving to a townhome near the Mesa Arizona temple. We are very excited to have a little more space and to be so close to so many places.

Well, that is about it for us this year. Happy Holidays to all!

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Joseph & Akiko Colton

This year we have had a long list of new experiences. Joseph taught his first class "Introduction to UNIX Administration." In June he graduated.

Akiko experienced the mainland for the first time. She also had another baby, Latia. Now she is taking care of two. Shannon learned how to walk, how to say words, and later how to use things like forks and spoons.

Latia experienced Earth life for the first time. She also got a little bit sick, but later got better. We have all been enjoying our stay with Jim and Cindy. Starting in January we will be leaving them and moving to Nagoya, Japan.

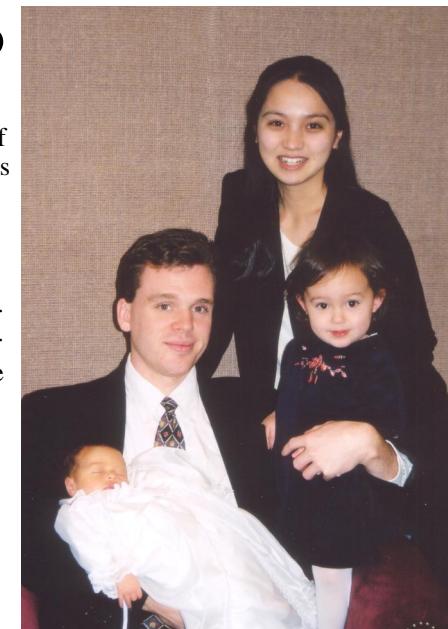
Joseph is looking forward to teaching English in Japan. We expect we will be in Japan for two years. Joseph plans to work on an Open Source email server while we are there so that he will have something for his resume.

Akiko has been looking for Hula schools in Nagoya. She spends a lot of her time working on her recipes and studying the Hawaiian language. She really misses the Polynesian culture and people. She would like to move back to Hawaii after we finish working in Japan.

Shannon can identify the following characters on Latia's diapers: Elmo, Ernie, Big Bird. She likes to spend time watching "Elmo's World" and talking to us about Elmo. Recently she decided that Alma and Elmo are the same person. Now she says, "Elma."

Latia likes to sleep. She also likes to eat. After she eats she sometimes decides she ate too much. Then she is hungry again. She likes to sleep with Mama and Papa. Mama is the best though.

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