



Christmas 1999 Greetings From the Jahns of Scarborough

Last year on “My Three Sons and a Daughter” the intrepid Lahn family was in the process of moving to a new neighbourhood in Scarborough. Let’s join them and see what they’re up to this year...



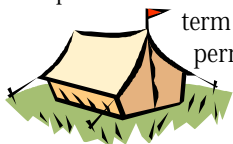
We were excited and at the same time overwhelmed by the work involved, the decisions to be made, and the adjustments we were to go through. Well, all went exceedingly well in the move and by about March we had finally cleared away most of the moving boxes. That’s when we decided that we needed to make a *new* mess – and what could be messier than renovating!!

That’s right, in March we contracted with Four Seasons Solariums to extend the kitchen to make a beautiful glassed-in eating area, and to enclose an existing breezeway to create a work area for Nancy’s business. Well, nearly nine months after the first down payment, the work is *finally* coming to an end. By Christmas the renovation should be over, and we will at long last be settled in.

The neighbourhood is more than we could have asked for. Wonderful neighbours helped each other during the massive snow storms last winter, and all through the summer people were back and forth chatting and visiting. The kids have found some great friends on the street and at school, and have really made a smooth transition to life on Groomsport Crescent. We, along with another new family, organized a neighbourhood Victoria Day fireworks display in the park, and in the late summer there was a community garage sale (where I think most of us simply exchanged items!!). Even at Halloween, some of the retired neighbours actually *brought* around candy for the kids a few days before, as they were going to be away and didn’t want the kids to miss out.

The Church

We’ve had an exciting year at the church with a renewed emphasis on prayer. Nancy and Murray continue to lead the musical worship on a regular basis and work in the mid-week “Club House” program for kids. The highlight this fall has been the missions outreach project – “*Totes for Tents for Turkey*” – where the group raised over \$5700 for the Turkish Earthquake victims through the sale of reusable, cloth Christmas Gift Bags. All materials and labour were donated (through contacts with Nancy’s business) and so all the proceeds will be going directly to the earthquake victims for the purchase of tents for their long-term use as more permanent dwellings are gradually rebuilt.



Jordan



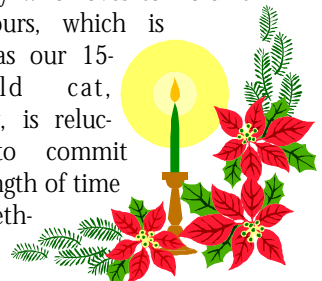
Jordan graduated last year from Pauline Johnson Jr. Public School with the distinction of winning the Mathematics Award and has now settled into Grade 7 at John Buchan Sr. Public School. He continues to read up a storm and excel academically.

Jordan continues to work on his piano (with a new teacher this year) and has taken up the trumpet as well

as part of his music program at school.

Mom and Dad have found him a great help this year around the house, especially now that he is able to baby-sit his younger brothers while Mom and Dad pop out to the store, or for a walk.

This fall, Jordan was also able to talk his parents (or is that *con* his parents) into the acquisition of a new bunny rabbit, “Woodchip”. While the rabbit is technically Jordan’s it is Bethany who loves to hold it for hours, which is great, as our 15-year-old cat, Spooky, is reluctant to commit that length of time to Bethany!





Timothy

Tim has made many new friends and has settled right in to the new neighbourhood. One of the first items on Tim's agenda following the move was a pet, and so Mom and Dad purchased a pet hamster, "Adventure", for him to care for. He has done a wonderful job, with Adventure escaping only four times.

In the summer, Tim tried his hand at baseball for the first time. With the ball being pitched from a pitching machine at approximately 40 mph Tim did remarkably well at learning the game. In the end his team won the league championship and came second in the Scarborough City Tournament.

Tim is also continuing his piano and still wants those drums!



Daniel



Daniel has now settled into full days in Grade 1 at Pauline Johnson. He is eager to learn to read and is coming along quite well in all areas at school. Star Wars continues to be fascination, and of course the whole family had to go see the *Phantom Menace* when it was released in the Spring.

Daniel's big accomplishment this past spring was learning to ride a bike, and throughout the summer he rode like a mad fiend around and around our crescent with the neighbour kids.

Bethany

Our little girl is growing up quickly. At age 3 she works very hard to keep up with her older siblings. Everyone is her "friend", whether she knows them or not!

This year, Bethany attended a Ballet Class where she participated with exuberance. The highlight of the year was a "recital" where four little girls pranced around for a total of about 5 breathtaking minutes!

Extended Family

This year has been an exciting one for our extended family as well. Murray's brother, Randy, announced his engagement to Kim Knowles, (the wedding's next May) and Nancy's brother Stephen was married to Dorothy Apedo, from Uganda. Our kids are now excited to have another cousin, Juliet, who is Dorothy and Steve's 13-year-old daughter.

The year came to a close with Nancy's sister and brother-in-law, Brenda and David being called to a pastoral position in Woodstock. They'll be moving in June to a lovely new house in a very nice neighbourhood in Woodstock. We're certainly looking forward to having them closer to both Toronto, and London.

Murray's Mom continues to exhaust us all with her busy schedule, and Nancy's Mum and Dad finally took the plunge this year and bought a new computer and now have email!



Playschool and "Wee Wonders" at the Metro Zoo also prepared her for her upcoming Kindergarten this fall.

As we approach the end of the year and the beginning of a new millennium, for some it will be seen as a time for parties. For others, it will be seen with fear, as they anticipate the fallout of Y2K. Our hope however, is that it will be a time of thanksgiving and anticipation, and a time of prayer for our families, our friends and for our world, that this year will bring about a spiritual awakening and a deepening of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Murray + Nancy Jordan Tim Daniel Bethany

