

Solstice approaches  
Darkness encroaches  
The Yule log burns  
Light returns  
We gather together  
In cold winter weather  
With sparkling snow  
And candles aglow  
To wish you good cheer  
Throughout the New Year



## Holiday Greetings!

We hope you have had a fantastic 2000. Our family rang in the new millennium with a bonfire and fireworks at the country home of some friends. It was a memorable night for



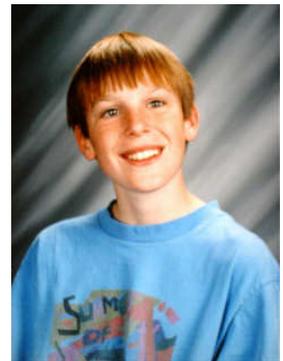
both kids and adults. As 2000 began,

mother nature lost her mind and brought us spring in January, so our ski season was a bit rocky and slushy. We consoled ourselves with a trip to Hawaii for volcano viewing, snorkeling, and boogie boarding.



In May, Van finished grade school with a choir competition in Denver where their fourth and fifth grade won the Judge's Choice trophy for best choir in the competition. They were competing against high schools, so it was a big honor. Risa's teacher awarded her "Best All Around Student" in her second grade class. She had this teacher for two years, and was very sad to say goodbye.

Over the summer, we had visitors from Bruce's Michigan college days. In July, Bruce Sanderson and family stopped for a short visit. John Kelly brought his family out from California in August to camp with us at our favorite site up the Frying Pan river. We also enjoyed family jeep trips in the mountains, and jazz concerts in the park. We still love it here in Colorado.



Fall brought a new era for us: middle school. Van loves it, and says it is *way* better than grade school. This is the first year they can take band, and he is playing the saxophone. They had their first performance last week. He assured us that any squeaks or wrong notes we heard were not coming from him!



Risa is in third grade and still loves school. Math and music are her favorite subjects. She was voted the "Humanitarian Award" by her classmates for showing kindness and concern. Her brother would probably disagree...

Van and Risa have joined the dot com world! They each have their own web sites with their own names. Check out [www.risawampler.com](http://www.risawampler.com) and [www.vanwampler.com](http://www.vanwampler.com).

In November the elk herd returned to winter in our area. Some mornings they are right out in our pasture. We let friends hunt on our land and their thirteen year old daughter got her first elk from our backyard. Van got to help track it, which he thought was pretty cool, and we get some elk to eat, which we think is very tasty.

Van and Risa are still taking piano lessons and will perform in a holiday recital. They have a wonderful teacher and are making great progress. We have a lot of fresh snow on the ground and are planning to do a lot of skiing this week (before the tourists arrive en masse next week).



We hope you have a pleasant holiday season and wish you a wonderful 2001!

Bruce, Trina, Van, & Risa