

HAPPY HOLIDAYS 2009!

It's December again - so soon!

Risa is now a Senior at Glenwood Springs High School. She is still getting good grades and studying hard, but we suspect that she may be about to get a case of senioritis! She also enjoys being involved in programming and running the stage lighting for plays and concerts at the high school. Much of her time this fall has gone toward filling out college applications. Her academic honors include being a National Merit Semi-finalist and she has received a number of scholarship offers from colleges around the country. Right now, she plans to attend University of Washington in Seattle as a Materials Science (nanotechnology) major, but she won't have to make a firm commitment until spring.



Risa in the fall colors

Van is a Junior at the University of Colorado. He was recently admitted to the competitive



Van at Ivory Drive's Album Release Show

Bachelor of Fine Arts program for film majors. He loves making films and making music, and does quite a bit of both. He still plays keyboards and sings in Ivory Drive. The five members have been together for over a year now and are experiencing some success, including a growing internet fan base. They released their first full length album this fall. We are big fans, and we try to get over to Denver to hear them play as often as possible. If anyone wants an album, we'd be happy to send you one for free by snail mail, or you can get it on iTunes as well.

Sailing in St. Croix



Bruce, Trina, and Risa took a couple of trips this year. We went to St. Croix for spring break and enjoyed relaxing on the beach and touring old sugar plantations. They still make rum there, and it is good and cheap! We also took a trip to the West Coast in July to look at colleges. We got a

chance to visit with friends and family along the coast as well. Cousin Pat and family gave us a wonderful tour of the Seattle area, and we are looking forward to seeing more next year.

Trina still rides her horse. We're down to one horse of our own, but have two other horses staying at our place. We have about 6 acres in hay which we bale ourselves each year (if Bruce can keep the baler and tractor working). This year, Van made a funny film about picking up the hay called *Hay Cheetahs* featuring Van, Risa, and her boyfriend Billy that you can see at www.youtube.com/pharaohstudios.



Bruce bales hay for the Hay Cheetahs

We hope all is well with you and yours, and wish you a fabulous 2010!

Love,

BRUCE, TRINA, VAN, AND RISA