

The Pazdera Times

December 2005

Merry Christmas and holiday greetings to all of the descendants of Joseph and Julia Pazdera. Once again we find ourselves at the end of another year with more experience in each of our pockets. Births, deaths, illnesses and successes have all been a part of another exciting and worthwhile year. Please take a moment to sit down and read the updates from members of this great family from all over the country and reflect on your own blessings. How grateful we should all be to Joseph and Julia who braved the unknown to travel to Pennsylvania in the late 1800's and begin a new life for himself, his wife, his new baby boy and more importantly....for all of us.

FRANK PAZDERA BRANCH:

Tom Kunz writes (December 2005):

Hello from the Texas Kunz's. 2005 was a wild ride with Hurricane Rita and Katrina and while we did not have any direct impact, we were faced with a lot of disruptions at work. We also had opportunity to serve those who were impacted on weekend excursions to both Slidell (outside of New Orleans) and Lake Charles). It was a grim reminder for our family of the importance of being prepared for disasters. We now own a generator and have our own well!

Our kids continue to grow up. Mauren continues at BYU and will graduate next year in Communications with a emphasis in Public Affairs. She is involved in all sorts of things, including the Red Cross, 2 jobs, the Student Public Affairs club and a busy church responsibility. She is doing great though and looks forward to one more year of college. Tyson and Chelsea are at BYU-Idaho and you can read their own submittal. Kira married Brian Conley in August of this year and they also submitted their own update. Weston is a senior and continues to do well, being in the top 20 of his class of over 400 students. He also recently earned his Eagle rank in Scouting. He will graduate in May and then prepare for a mission for our church in the fall. Garen is a sophomore and eats drinks and plays basketball. He is the starting point guard on the sophomore team and is a team builder. The rest of the guys just play better when he is on the

hardwood. Garen is also a very good student and is concientious about putting first things first. Chase is now 12 and is really growing up. He did an all night 15 mile hike a month ago and was ready for more before some of the adults tossed in the towel. He is an excellent student and a leader in his 6th grade class. MiCayla is in 5th grade and is playing basketball in the community league. She loves poly pockets and playing neopets on my computer. She too is an excellent student, although she probably worries a bit too much.

LaDawn and I just keep getting older, but enjoying the bounteous blessings of a wonderful family, a job that pays the bills and church activity that inspires us. LaDawn recently purchased a new puppy to keep her company, a beautiful white Maltepoo (mix between a poodle and maltese). Lacee is quite a puppy and fits right in with an already active family.

We wish everyone a wonderful and Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

Tyson Kunz writes (December 2005):

Tyson & Chelsea Kunz are currently living in Rexburg, Idaho. They are attending Brigham Young University - Idaho. Tyson is Majoring in Construction Management and will graduate in December of 2006. At this writing Chelsea is 28 weeks along in her pregnancy. We will be having a baby girl on March 12th. Tyson will be doing an internship the summer of 2006 with Pulte Homes in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Tyson is currently self-employed doing remodels, and other types of construction. We are very happy together and wish a very Merry Christmas to all.

Kira Kunz Conley writes (December 2005):

Brian and Kira Kunz Conley were married this past August in the Houston, Texas, Temple. They are currently are living in Provo, Utah where they are both attending Brigham Young University. Brian is an Exercise Science Major, with the hopes of some day going into the medical field. Kira is an Physical Education, Teacher Education major and hopes to one day coach High School Girls Basketball. We both have about 2 years left of school.

Dorothy Pazdera writes (December 2005):

Dorothy says Hello from Greenwood, Arkansas! Life has been busy, exciting and full of different events. I still go to work most every day at Farmers Bank, and continue to enjoy what I am doing and working with some really nice people! The bank continues to grow, with a new building going up in a neighboring community and plans for additions in other areas. I stay really busy, but with the flexibility to take off when I want to be "retired".

A new white Cheverolet Uplander (van) sits in my garage, with 46 more payments to be made! It was buy me now or buy me later, and I did not think they would cost less next year. It rides and drives nicely, and hopefully will enjoy it many, many, many more years to come.

Traveling is still a favorite activity, and trips are made when there is time, money and a "reason to go". I do not ski, but went with my "adopted family" the Shepherds, to Red River, New Mexico, for 5 days in February. We all came home with no broken bones, and memories of a great time shared! I have been to a favorite destination, Branson, Missouri several times.

I surprised niece Ellen Kunz Hickernell for her 50th birthday celebration in Louisville, Colorado in May! The "big" trip was made Nov. 26- Dec. 3 when sisters Mildred and Cecelia and Cecelia's daughter Darlene and I took a cruise to the Western Caribbean, stopping at Costa Maya, Belize, Grand Caymans and Cozumel. We did see some signs of hurricane damage in Cozumel, and saw how folks live differently in another part of the world. It was a balmy, warm, "sweaty" day in Belize with the temperature at 89 degrees! We were on the Grand Princess cruise line, a big, beautiful cruise ship, with about 2596 other folks. We had a wonderful time! Cecelia even won playing Bingo - that made us all happy!

As this year comes to a close, may we remember gratefully and with affection those family, friends and events that shape our lives. Best wishes for a healthy, happy and beautiful New Year, 2006!

Tom Pazdera writes (December 2005):

We moved from Arkansas to Virginia in August of 2003. I got a new job as Fiberline Superintendent for Meadwestvaco Corp.—leaving International Paper after 22 years. We live in Covington Virginia- which is in western Virginia in

the Allegheny Mountains. We are 20 miles from the VA-West Va. border.

This year:

Libby began working full time in September after spending two years at the local community college as a career coach for area High Schools. She is now a Title I reading teacher @ Callaghan Elementary School. Libby got to go on a ten day cruise of the Great Lakes with her (retired) Aunt Sarah in late August/September.

Zachary is in 5th grade @ Falling Springs. He plays basketball in the fall and baseball in the spring. He has just completed his Weblos scouts and is preparing to move up to boy scouts. Katie Beth is in the 8th grade @ Clifton Middle schools. She is the tallest female in this Pazdera household @ 5'-9 1/2" and 13 years old. Katie completed a 12 week program this year @ Barbizon modeling school. Hopefully she will be a millionaire before her father. Katie got to fly back to Arkansas this past summer (by herself) and spent three weeks with friends back in the diamond state. She is going to NYC in the spring with her fellow student council representatives.

Monica is sixteen years old and will be a junior @ Allegheny High School in January.

She has spent the last five months as a foreign exchange student in Brisbane Australia. She had the opportunity to attend a private Catholic school while in Brisbane (she loved the uniforms). She is now an affirmed kangaroo & koala lover who eats vegemite. Her best friend in Australia was a girl from Albania who has invited her to spend the summer in Italy & France. I don't think that daddy can afford this one.

I got the opportunity to visit China this year on company business. Spent 17 days doing business evaluations on two different trips. Visited Shanghai, Hong Kong, Zibo, Xian, Quindao, Zuhai with stops in Tokyo.

Have had the opportunity to take some really great vacations with the move—Chesapeake Bay, Virginia Beach, Myrtle Beach, Williamsburg, Washington, DC, along with whitewater/canoeing/kayak trips on the Gauley, New, James, Jackson, Maury, and Shenandoah Rivers. Every except me has become quite proficient in snow skiing at the area ski resorts.

Hope everyone is doing well.

ANNIE PAZDERA PIGEON BRANCH:

MARY PAZDERA NOVY BRANCH:

Rose Minden is doing well in Fort Smith. She keeps the seven year old great grandson one day a week. Or is it the other way around. Raised a small garden this past year. Sends wishes to all.

Anna Minden Morrow writes (December 2005):

Our family faced our challenges whether or not they resulted in disappointment or cheers this past year and eagerly await 2006. Don and Patty, are parents of daughters, Lindsay (22) and Sarah (18). Lindsay has opted for employment rather than college at this point, while Sarah will graduate high school in May and plans to attend our local regional community college. She is active in the high school choir and is looking forward to forensics again next semester. Don has been employed by Sprint for the past 8 years and was tapped to work out a proposal that will integrate inventory and distribution centers with the Sprint-Nextel merger agreements which took place earlier this year. We're all cheering for him as his long awaited presentation day is coming close. Steve and Diane are parents of Scott (12) and Rachel (3). Scott started Middle School this year and adapted really well to changing classes and rooms every 40-50 minutes. It's taken a little longer for him to appreciate the huge increased homework load. He plays both indoor and outdoor soccer and has been in the limelight a few times as his team's goalie – not a position every soccer player wants to do. Rachel is a happy beautiful little girl and faces life each day as only a toddler can – with all the wonder and awe that we adults wish we still had. Rick, my youngest, will be very close to his B.A. in May. But may be 4-5 hours short. He has been working full time for years and taking the accelerated evening courses for the past 4 years. He needs to take 17 hours this semester to be totally complete. His job in the inter-modal freight industry requires much overtime and he's not sure he wants to take the additional load and possibly lose his 3.7 grade point. He's averaged 15 hours per semester the past 2 years and can really sympathize with his nephew, Scott, about homework overload. Some of

my health problems are OK while this past year has seen a deterioration in some parts of my body. But we deal with the Lupus autoimmune factor in whichever way it decides to manifest itself in the body. I am blessed to have a strong family unit and thank all of you for your continued prayers. May we all experience the peace and serenity of that first Christmas throughout the coming year.

Alicia Minden writes:

Greetings to all the relatives. A sincere hope for a great 2006!

Finally managed a trip to Minnesota to see a girl friend for the first time since 1975. I had seen her family only through pictures and e-mails. We had a great week. The local economy was enhanced somewhat. Was a thrill to see the fabric mills, even better buying the material. Suitcase was overweight, so some had to be shipped back. Has been fun making items since then. Several hours were spent fringing polar fleece. A trek down the St. Croix River, watching the locks lower and fill, touring the Red Wing shoe company on its 100th birthday, plus seeing how wool from sheep and alpaca is taken from shearing to final product and a stop at Mall of America made for a full week.

Angela Minden Cyr writes (November 2005):

Juli/Justin Have moved from Yuma, to Chandler, to Glendale, Arizona since June '05. Julie is teaching at a K-8 school, Justin is working at FITLIFE in Peoria, AZ

Jenn - lived at the same apartment for a YEAR! !

Angie: still teaching, this is my 30th year - went to Arizona for Thanksgiving.

Not much going on this year.

Julie Cyr Walters writes (November 2005):

Hey there! I do not have a hurricane update; however, I will write some news down for Justin and myself for the holiday newsletter.

Juli and Justin Walters, and their dog, Cocopah, have moved once again this year to settle in the Phoenix area. Juli is working at Marshall Ranch Elementary School (K-8), still teaching Physical Education, but this time to the younger ages of students. She is also helping coach the 7-8th grades volleyball team this year and hopes to coach softball and basketball as well. Justin finished up

working with the Chicago Cubs organization as a strength and conditioning coach and is currently utilizing those skills at an organization called FITLIFE in Peoria, AZ. They have finally settled into a one-bedroom apartment in Glendale, AZ and are currently turning it into a home--putting up the finishing touches. They love to have visitors!

Take care and we love and miss you all.

Both Lucille Moore and Inez Guerian had cataract surgery this fall.

ELIZABETH PAZDERA DOUBNICH BRANCH:

Carole Chi writes (December 2005):

I am working on the last two classes and thesis for my master's degree and presently teaching middle school art. My husband is now enjoying his sixth year of retirement. This year we decided to invest in a cottage up north in Michigan on 10 wooded acres and a pond. Mom and Aunt Helen are living quietly on the west side of Detroit. Mom had a few health issues this year and a minor surgery, but recovered just fine.

Mike and Terri are still splitting their time between their home in Redford and their cottage up north--they're gearing up for snowmobiling. Mike's son, Jody, has a good job as a systems administrator for Optimetrics in Ann Arbor, Mi.

Chuck's widow, Mary is still working in downtown Detroit at the Veterans' Administration and pursuing her bachelor's degree in music. Chuck's kids are working--Dawne for a photography studio, Ed's a driver for Fedex, and Al is a Sales Engineer at Creform Corp. in Wixom, Mi. Dawne and her boyfriend recently bought a home on the edge of Lake Erie.

Tony and Linda are successfully raising two sweet adolescent children. Andy is a junior in high school and his high school band got invited to play at Carnegie Hall in NYC this past April. Molly is a talented dancer, aspiring flutist and is now in the sixth grade. They are both pulling all A's academically as well!

We'll all be together having dinner and exchanging gifts at Mike and Terri's house on Christmas Day as we do every year. We all wish all of you PEACE, a warm and loving Christmas, and a healthy, happy, prosperous New Year!

JOSEPH PAZDERA JR. BRANCH:

Clint Pazdera writes (December 2005):

Nancy and I have moved again, we now live in Berkeley Heights, NJ. We are in the adjacent town to where we used to live and are now in a Townhouse.

My daughter Kristen Dwyer and her husband Liam have a beautiful baby girl, born July 8th, named Charlee Amelia. Everyone is doing fine. Not to be outdone, my son Cap, Clint Andrew Pazdera, and his wife Karen and Brother Clint James, 2, welcomed a beautiful baby boy into this world name Peyton Ramsay Pazdera. He was born on November 10th and weighed in 7 lbs. 13ozs. His middle name is Karen's maiden name. So we now have 3 grandchildren and that keeps us very busy. We are so lucky in that both our married children live within 3 miles of us.

Charles, our youngest son, is in his third year at Westchester University, in Pennsylvania and is doing quite well. He got a taste of the commodity business this past summer as he worked with me for the New York Board of Trade as a ring reporter and did very well. He seems to have gotten the bug to work on the floor and now has something to look forward to upon graduation.

I hope this finds you and your family in the best of health. I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year.

ROSA PAZDERA FRIGA BRANCH:

Update on the *Tony Friga family* (2005):

Happy Holidays from the Tony Friga family. Will try to catch everyone up on the happenings of our family over the past year. We had two weddings, Billy Jackson, eldest son of Brenda and Bill Jackson, was married on March 5th to Jessica Fleetwood. On August 6th, David Jackson was married to Quincey White. Kem and Debbie Friga, our eldest son, became grandparents for the second time on June 8th when Ryan Bradley Friga was born to Tony and Laura Friga.

We had several graduations this spring. Kate, daughter of Pam and Earl Henry graduated from Central Missouri State University, and is now serving in the Peace Corp in Bangladesh. Another daughter, Betsy, graduated from high school and is now attending Southeast Missouri University in

Cape Girardeau.

Kayla, youngest daughter of Rodney Friga, graduated from grade school and is now going to high school in Nixa, Mo.

Emily Stir, daughter of Diane and John Stir, graduated from Mannheim American High School in Mannheim, Germany and is now attending Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. We were able to attend all the graduations. While in Germany we traveled to the Czech Republic and spent a couple of days in Prague. Found out that Pazdera is quite a common name there. Also traveled to Scotland and France. While returning home, we were changing planes in Newark, New Jersey when Tony suffered a heart attack. He underwent quadruple bi-pass surgery and repair of a valve at Newark Beth-Israel Hospital, before we could return home almost a month later. Our wonderful family took turns coming out to be with us. He has recovered quite well, and now has a defibulator implant. Diane, John and family are now back in the states and stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Ks.

On October 29th, we attended the 60th birthday party for Tony's sister, Rosalia Friga, at Oran, Mo. It was quite a turn-out. Regina, Dean, and Elizabeth Reeder, and Christine Tracey, Pauline's daughters, from Virginia and North Carolina were there, as were Pazdera cousins from Charleston, Mo. The brothers and sisters were all there, and many, many friends and family. The next day, we held our Friga family reunion. It was a wonderful week-end.

Now we are looking forward to the holidays and the birth of our 7th great-grandchild before the year ends. Love to all. Tony and Barbara Friga

Loretta Friga Winters writes (December 2005 Christmas card):

Enjoyed Sister Rosalia's 60th birthday in October and the Friga Family Reunion.

Son, Ron's kids are in college. Daughter, Julie has moved to Chaffee, MO so gets to see her more often.

Doing well after a hospital stay in early October.

CECELIA PAZDERA O'BOSKY BRANCH:

Joseph and Sandy Mekonis write (Fall 2005):

For the newsletter we would like to share some good news.

Joseph Mekonis and his wife Sandy Mekonis, of Saco, Maine announce the birth of their first child, a daughter on September 19, 2005. Laina Nicole Mekonis is the granddaughter of Carmella (O'Bosky) Mekonis and Tom Mekonis of Bridgeville, PA and the great niece of Josephine O'Bosky of Canonsburg, PA.

ANTON PAZDERA BRANCH:

MARTIN PAZDERA BRANCH:

Joe Pazdera Jr. writes (Fall 2005):

This is Joe Pazdera Jr. Me and all of my immediate family are fine. We suffered no ill effects from the hurricane, we didn't even leave the house, we were prepared to stay for it. I had already weathered Alicia in 1983 and it was a cat 3 storm so I was ready for this one. My mom and dad (Joe and Dolores) are Ok too. They did do the evacuation thing and ended up staying on the road for over 20 hrs. trying to make a two hour trip! Now that was tuff.. BTW, I got married recently, July 29, 2005, to the greatest woman I have ever known, but then again I am biased, LOL! Together we have five children. Oldest to youngest- April-17, Cory-17, Branson-15, Kaysie-11, Robert-7. Talk about a houseful. Our two oldest will be graduating this year. April will be pursuing her dream of becoming a veterinarian, and Cory is wanting to come to work for me in the family business or go to technical school, time will tell.... Love ya all. JOEY

Mary Ann Pazdera Nelson writes (Fall 2005):

Hurricane Katrina hit the Louisiana and Mississippi coast hard on Aug 29 and we all heard awful stories of New Orleans flooding, the aftermath of Katrina. We, Texas Gulf Coast citizens, are very much aware of the devastation that a hurricane can create and with Katrina fresh on our minds, we didn't think twice about evacuating when they said Hurricane Rita was on her way as a category 5 hurricane.

We packed up important papers, mementoes, a few clothes, water and food into our automobiles and ran. We did put things in plastic bags and up high in our houses, so in case of flooding maybe it would be OK. We prayed that it would all be there

when we got back.

My husband, Donnie and I left early Wednesday morning before mandatory evacuation started. That means that you can go where you want to go. We traveled north and at the time thought we would be well out of the way of Rita. Our daughter-in-law Cyndi and granddaughter, Chloe came soon after us and we went to our place on Lake Livingston. We were lucky as we did not get stuck in traffic. This trip only took us 3 hours to make and usually it is about 1 hour and half.

Later that afternoon, a couple and their daughter joined us. This family is originally from Columbia and never had any idea what they were about to experience. They joined us, because by this time all hotels and motels were booked. No room in the Inn. They made the trip in a little over 5 hours. Approximately same trip that we had just made in 3 earlier in the day.

Another couple, their 2 sons and their 2 dogs left early Thursday morning 2AM and arrived the next evening. About 15 hours total. Same trip. Randy, our son, came up Friday after all the traffic cleared out and made it in less than 2 hours.

Our son Ricky and his wife Robbie were on their honeymoon in Florida and returned early to join in the evacuation. They joined our daughter, Lisa and her family as they headed toward San Antonio. They pulled a trailer, so they did have a place to stay once they made it. From their stories, they had the best experience once they arrived after many hours of traveling.

Robbie's daughter had packed up her room while waiting for Mom to get home. She packed EVERYTHING including curtains! She got it all in the vehicle some how.

Back to us at Lake Livingston, Thursday the weathermen had changed the destination of Rita. She is headed right for us. What to do! Get on crowded roads and travel for hours to get to nowhere? Stay and hunker down where we were? We stayed. Gas was the next worry. We had 2 boats that had gas in them so we siphoned the gas out and filled up all the vehicles for the trip back home. About 2AM Saturday morning the lights went out. The wind blew 117 miles per hour, but we were safe. Tree limbs bent, trees blew down, shingles blew off the house, but we were safe. Thank God. Very little rain so we were blessed. We decided to return home Saturday afternoon

(Sept 24) and as we were all leaving, word came out to evacuate the Lake Livingston Dam area. The dam had been damaged from the high pounding waves which displaced rip rap on the face of the dam and they were going to release water that would probably flood the area below it. Our trip home was uneventful and we found everything in place. We even had electricity and AC and TV. The trip was a little eerie as we passed shopping malls that were completely closed during day time hours. Towns were shut down. No traffic at all. Very few automobiles on the road. No grocery stores or gas stations open. We became addicted to the TV to watch as people returned in staggered stages. We started putting things back in place and yes cleaning too. We were tired but safe. No one in our immediate family sustained any significant damage. Will we evacuate next time? YES. There are lots of stories and everyone keeps asking everyone else, where they went and how long did it take them to get there. Newspapers are full of stories everyday about how people helped people out. Sad are the deaths that happened, mostly from the heat while stuck in the massive traffic jams. Our leaders have much to plan for the next time, but just think how enormous the evacuation was, it was amazing that so many were safe.

Please keep all those effected by the hurricanes in your prayers.

Lisa Burnam writes (December 2005):

I am Lisa Burnam granddaughter of Josephine and Martin Pazdera and daughter of Don and Mary Ann Nelson. Me and my husband Kelly Burnam have been married now for 7 ½ years. We have two kids Bryce (4) and Aubrea (3). Bryce just finished his first year of tee ball and Aubrea is in her first year of dance. All is well around our neck of the woods.

RAHON FAMILY

Elsie Rahon writes (December 2005):

Another year.

Ed had a five by-pass surgery. The doctors said he is doing excellent. He only has to take one pill a

day. From what I hear, others take lots of pills. He is 81.

I have no serious complaints, so far.

Lisa survived the hurricane and is renting her Bed and Breakfast to FEMA by the month with no end in sight. Great business.

I will get you the family tree, someday, I promise.. (from the Rahon's side)

Lisa Rahon writes (Fall 2005):

We were planning to ride out the storm here in our house, stocked up on food and water, John started boarding up the windows. We got up at 7:30 in the morning and saw it was a category 5 hurricane and it was headed straight for us we decided to go. John finished boarding up our 42 windows and I started packing. We took out 100 lb black Lab/rottweiler mix one of our cats and our two birds in our jeep wrangler. Our second cat we could not catch he thought he was really smart getting away from us, but I bet he regretted it two months later when we had not returned. He has a cat door and we left him months worth of food and water in the kitchen so I thought he would be fine.

We didn't make it to Baton Rouge when we had to go on back roads because I-10 was a parking lot. I called ahead every town on the map but could not get a room. Emergency workers were offering us public shelters, but we did not want to do that so we drove on. It took us 21 hours of driving in traffic to make it to Waco, TX at 6:30am the next day where we ended up staying for three days because we were so exhausted. People in Waco were really kind. The Olive Garden gave us our dinners for free as did some other places.

At first we thought New Orleans had dodged the bullet. We heard the levee broke on the inter-coastal canal we were not surprised because there had always been a rumor that the City would blow that levee to save the French Quarter, which is on our side of the canal. When we heard the second levee breached by the lake then we knew it was really bad. That breach and the third one filled the city with water. We were very frustrated with the news coverage because all they were showing was the worst places and we had no news about our neighborhood or even the French Quarter. It was also very embarrassing to see the Convention Center and the Superdome which only represent a small percentage of the poorest folks in the city. I

got some really rude comments from people in Texarkana on our way to Kentucky. I highly recommend not visiting that place.

We spent 2 days in Austin, one in Texarkana and two in Memphis on our way to Kentucky where our close friends Heather and Adam volunteered to put us up. Adam is an Army Captain, West Point graduate, with 15 months in Iraq and Heather is a nurse. They were terrific. When we heard that we could visit the city again soon, we decided to get closer and join our neighbors at a hotel on the beach in Panama City FLA courtesy of the Red Cross. We had a nice time there with our friends, once we heard that our area did not flood. After a month there cooking out on white sandy beach, we came home to a ton of debris in our yard, a refrigerator full of fruit flies and our poor cat, Mr. Him, was nowhere to be found. I had my neighbor Kathy looking for him for days before we got back to no avail so I posted him on Petfinder and started calling shelters. Our dog Jackson kept getting back in the Jeep, which is really funny cause he wanted nothing more than to come home the whole time we were gone.

The neighborhood was relatively empty but the bars were open. I stayed behind to feed our pets while my fiancé and my neighbor Kathy went to BJ's bar which is just up the street. It's the funniest thing, but there on the table at the bar was Mr. Him. He had been there for days and was getting petted by all the patrons. Everyone in the neighborhood was telling me what a great cat he is, of course they thought "he" was a "she" and were calling him "Katrina". The owner was going to call the SPCA but one of the bartenders in the neighborhood stopped him cause he could tell this was someone's good pet. He said that he refused food and water and just wanted lovin'.

Anyway I was very happy! The whole family made it. Our neighborhood (Bywater), the French Quarter and Uptown are all ok which is good news for New Orleans tourist industry. You can tell when someone returns because their fridge is in the street. There are young National Guardsmen in humvees patrolling the streets and hippy kids volunteering and passing out food. There are almost no children, elderly or blacks. Most of the restaurants in the areas are open again. Help-wanted signs everywhere. It's really quiet, almost like we are out in the country somewhere.

Our neighborhood sometimes seems normal, but as soon as you go to one of the other areas you realize the devastation. The rest of the city is in bad shape and the amount of work to be done there is overwhelming. Most traffic lights are not functioning but it is ok because there are few cars. It's really eerie and hard to explain.

It's weird to visit Lakeview with mountains of debris and completely devastated luxury homes and then return to our neighborhood to have sushi and cappuccino.

Our inn did fine with a couple days of clean up. My fiancé John is an over-achiever and got things together pretty fast. He and a friend of ours are replacing our upper roof and there was some damage to some sheetrock in one of our suites. Our suites are filled with New Orleans folks who were not as lucky as us, including a holy Lama from Nepal who's Dahrma Center was flooded and some gentlemen who's film production studio was flooded twice. FEMA has taken over paying for their stays.

I am now flooded with paperwork for insurance and all types of things. Everything goes really slowly here. All utilities are functioning but a trip to the store or post office can take half a day. Hope you all can visit once our beautiful city is back on its feet. Thanks for reading. Our website is www.LookoutNewOrleans.com,

my email is info@lookoutneworleans.com

Lisa Rahon

the Lookout Inn of New Orleans

888-947-8188

BITS AND PIECES

If you would like to receive the news electronically, please give me your e-mail address. Thanks to those that sent in changes of physical and/or electronic addresses.

Here is the updated website—

<http://comp.uark.edu/~aminden/>

We are missing mailing addresses for:
Mauren Kunz, Tyson & Chelsea Kunz, Kira & Brian Conley, Michael S. Pazdera, Mike Pazdera, Maria & Mark Fleig, Carol Jean Pigeon Livesay, C. Lane & Kayla Price, Jason & Kathleen Stark, Peggy Titsworth, Brian Friga, Nikki & Brian Langford, Kelli Friga, Diane & John Stir, Ralph & Leona Friga, Ron & Kathy Winters, Julie Winters, Tara & Casey Wilkins, Richard & Robbie Nelson

Those whose e-mails have come back as bad, overquota, etc. are:

Mary Jo Jindra, Rodney Friga, Alan Hampton, Penny Fisher, Tracy Pazdera Lee, Sabrina Savage, Sarah Bagley, Katrina J. Vigil, Dennis Johnston, Annette Leffler

If you will give me either a new one, updated one, etc., I will put you on the listserve. Thanks.

Genealogy

Nothing was submitted.