



In This Issue:

Our Year in Review

What's Up with Those Nuges?

Eleanor's Photo Corner



"Is Christmas over already?"



Stay in Touch!

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A Holiday Nugeletter



Happy Holidays everyone! We hope this Nugeletter finds you jolly and healthy. We admit we're not sure where this year went. It seems like we just mailed out last year's Nugeletter and now another Christmas season has nearly gone! But looking back, we found surprising proof that an entire year has actually passed. So here are some 2009 highlights for the Three Nuges.

The first part of the year The Nuges vowed to get out and see more of our new city/state. So we started with a day trip to Winter Park, a ski resort North of Denver. The Three Nuges boarded the famous Ski Train at Union Station with our coats, hats, and ski gear, then witnessed some breath-taking Colorado scenery on the two hour ride. Jim skied for the day while Judy and Eleanor played in the snow. Sadly, a few weeks later, the Ski Train stopped all service due to escalating costs. We are grateful that we got to experience one of its last runs through the mountains.

April was a significant month for several reasons. The first and most exciting was that Eleanor learned to use the potty! Despite all the horror stories we heard about the process, Eleanor grasped the lesson in only three days and has been diaper-free ever since! Then Judy consulted with her ENT about getting hearing aids. And finally, we experienced our first big snow storm as Colorado residents. It was so exciting to wake up and see the world covered in snow (after living in warm states for several years). We love Colorado winters! Unlike winters back East that are gray for months, Colorado winters are sunny. Even after a big storm, the sun comes out and melts the snow, making driving and shoveling much easier!

In May we helped Jim's brother, Dave celebrate his beautiful new house in Boulder and have enjoyed visiting him there regularly ever since. In June we headed to the annual Nugent Family Reunion in Geneva, Ohio. Eleanor enjoyed spending time with all her cousins and playing at the parks and in the lake!



Continued on back ...



Summer was jam-packed with fun this year, with Judy teaching a childrens' improv class, regular visits to the zoo, and lots of hiking on beautiful Colorado trails! We also enjoyed a steady stream of visits from friends and family.



In September Judy finally got her hearing aids! It took a few weeks to adjust to the new level of noise, but she is so happy to be hearing the world again. (She'll never forget the first night with her new devices when she realized she was hearing crickets for the first time in about 18 years!) Jim had a slightly harder time adjusting. For nine years Judy told him to "speak up" and now she tells him to "quiet down!" Judy renamed the mute setting to her "Jim button."

October took Judy back to

India for business, but this time via Singapore, which she very much enjoyed. It is hot like India, but there are no mosquitos and no gum (it's illegal to chew gum or spit there). An early snowstorm hit Denver in October, dumping almost



24 inches. Soon came Halloween, with Prince Jim escorting not one, but two Snow Whites around the neighborhood.



November was a big month for celebrating. We had Thanksgiving at our house with Jim's parents and brother, which is always enjoyable. We also celebrated Eleanor's third birthday by having a pajama party. Eleanor's mini-school friends came over to make pizza, get their nails done, and watch movies in their jammies. Judy celebrated her special day with a spa getaway with her great friend Dawne Knobbe who shares the same birthday. Judy and Dawne also toasted the release of Dawne's first book, *Runaway Storm*, recently published and now available on Amazon.com. (Contact Judy for a signed copy!)

Now suddenly it is December. After reviewing the details of this busy and snow-filled year, we find ourselves once again feeling happy, hearty, and grateful for all we have in this life: great family, great friends, great times, and great memories. We wish the same for you and yours in the new year and beyond! ❄

What's Up With Those Nuges?

Jim has been enjoying his job at Visa, serving almost two years now in Implementations bringing new banks online with Risk Management products. Jim has had fun this year on projects at home too, such as painting Eleanor's room and refurbishing her cool dollhouse style bunkbed that Judy found on Craigslist. He also enjoyed upgrading Eleanor's bathroom and adding crown molding and a ceiling fan to the guest room (hint: come visit!). Judy drafted Jim into the office choir, which was surprisingly fun and a great way to meet other people in the Denver office.

Eleanor has made significant strides in her development this year, amazing us in every way, especially with her language skills. It's so fun having real conversations with her and hearing the latest funny one-liner ("Come check this out!"). Eleanor is coming out of her shell now and shows a definite interest in singing, dancing, and art. She loves watching Dora, playing dress up, and having Mommy do her nails. She still attends Miss Martha's mini-school during the week, which continues to be a place of support, love, and fun for her. Each day together is a joy!

Judy is relieved to feel more settled in Colorado now and is looking forward to getting out more in 2010, including getting herself and Eleanor on skis! At Visa for 12 years now, Judy brought more creativity to her life in 2009 by going to more live shows and by forming a choir at work that sang its first holiday concert in December! Another bright spot for Judy this year was meeting her favorite actor, Ed Harris at the Denver Film Fest, securing some great new babysitters so she and Jim get to have dates, and spending time with some newly made friends.

Eleanor in 2009

