

# Refior News Bulletin

August 30, 1999

## *Greetings from Pam & Paul Refior,*

Many wonderful things have been going on over the past year. This is probably the longest gap between "BULLETINS" since we started sending them years ago. Allow us to give a joyful report about our children and their families and then we will report about what is going on in our lives.

NIKKI is scheduled to give birth to their second child in approximately six weeks. We have been careful to protect our schedule and calendar in October so that we can make it down to Lafayette as soon as we get word that Nikki is in labor. Nikki is healthy, taking good care of herself and she is looking quite pregnant these days. Nikki's husband Jon is in the final stages of his work on his PhD in bio-chemistry from Purdue University. He hopes to complete the program by the end of 1999. In addition to his PhD work Jon is again teaching at the christian high school which is under the auspices of Faith Baptist Church in Lafayette. Jon loves his students and is an outstanding teacher. Their three year old son LUKE is a happy, lively and well behaved young man (which is a testimony to the excellent parenting by Nikki and Jon, since Luke seems to have a natural strong will). Luke is precocious in every way. He is stretching up and is quite a handsome red headed boy. Pam and I had the delight of attending Luke's very first public performance of his life. His little childrens group had a brief presentation and song at their church. The heat wave and drought played havoc with their garden this year. They continue to be very active at Faith Baptist and we are so proud of them and their walk with the Lord and their service for Him. They recently celebrated their 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are a very happy couple.

LAURA Last school year Brian and Laura both taught at Heritage Christian in Indianapolis and had very fruitful teaching experiences and ministered in significant ways to their students. Brian taught Bible in the high school and was the junior varsity basketball coach. Laura taught first grade and was a junior varsity cheerleading coach. Brian's junior varsity teams the past two years did better than any previous JV teams at Heritage Christian. Laura's JV squad developed into well-disciplined and talented cheerleading squad. Pam and I had the pleasure of observing Laura teach her 1<sup>st</sup> graders and to watch Brian coach his team

to victory. Laura and Brian love their students and they are outstanding teachers. This summer Laura and Brian moved to Chesapeake, Virginia (by Virginia Beach). Starting this week Laura will be teaching second grade. Brian is now the head varsity basketball coach at Greenbriar, and he has assumed both administrative and teaching responsibilities. Laura and Brian also celebrated their one year wedding anniversary this summer. They are also a very happy couple. They are now renting a house near the school and they have been working hard to fix it up just right. They took the plunge and got a puppy beagle named "Alex." Laura reports that Alex is not quite house broken yet, but they are making good progress in preparing Alex to be home while they are off teaching. They are searching for just the right church to become involved in. Laura is now living in the same area where I was in the Navy, Laura was born when we lived there. Laura and Brian are praying about when the best time will be for each of them to start graduate studies.

**PAUL & PAM** We are doing great. We are wonderfully in love and enjoy each other even more now than ever before. We are making plans for a two-week trip to California to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We came up with a plan which seems like a good plan, but apparently it is not going to take effect at least this year. We decided to put our house up for sale "by owner" with the intention of converting part of the law office structure into a beautiful condominium. Shortly after our house went up for sale we entered into a contract to sell the house *contingent* upon the sale of that couple's house. Because they have a beautiful house at the new golf course we thought that they would easily and quickly sell their house. However, they have not sold the house and the term with our contract expires September 1. Some other people were interested in buying our house but they were leery of that first right of purchase with that first couple. It appears now that there is a strong likelihood that we will NOT sell our house this year after all, and the plan to move into part of the office is put on hold.

Here is some news about what we have been doing over the past year. Because both girls were visiting in -laws over Thanksgiving Pam and I decided to "take off" just the two of us. We had a delightful honeymoon in Lexington. We stayed at the Marriott and ate our Thanksgiving dinner at the historic Mansion. We enjoyed our long drives through scenic horse country. One of our family traditions is for the whole family to go together shortly after Thanksgiving to select and cut down a live Christmas tree and then decorate the tree and our house. Nikki and Laura and their families surprised us by coming home to carry on that tradition. Then we had everyone home again for Christmas. We started a new family tradition of having a formal dinner together on Christmas Eve. Luke continues to be the center of activity.

In January Pam, Nikki, Luke and I went up to Whitewater, Wisconsin to join my Dad's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. The entire Refior clan joined together and it was a wonderful time.

We have had the delight of Laura and Brian making two trips back to Warsaw since they moved to Virginia. A couple of weeks ago we had everyone together. We thought at that time it might be the last such time in our house before we moved, but now it is looking more and more like we will have more family gatherings in "the old home place." I was recently elected to the board of directors of The Evangelical Alliance Missions (TEAM). That is the mission agency we served under as short term missionaries back in 1980-81 when were in Takamatsu, Japan. An upcoming radio show will be noteworthy from our stand point. A long-running christian radio series is entitled "**UNSHACKLED**" and it is carried throughout the country and in many countries of the world. The episode on Unshackled which will be on the air starting Sunday, September 5, 1999, (and run throughout that week following) will actually feature the story of Paul Refior and how I became a Christian and some of my life since becoming a Christian. It was fun to go to the Pacific Garden Mission in downtown Chicago to watch the taping of the episode and to see and hear the actors record their parts. Our dear friends Dave and Donna Brown met us there, which was very special. In May Pam and I had a very delightful vacation to the outer banks of North Carolina. Pam located a large house to rent right on the ocean. We met Pam's parents, EJ and Shirley Petro, there in Avon, North Carolina. We enjoyed our time with EJ and Shirley thoroughly. It was a wondrous week with very delightful walks along the beach, sightseeing to lighthouses and other beautiful places, and a high dose of relaxation. Pam and I tried out a touring two-man kayak and decided that would be wonderful for exercise and mutual fun. So we purchased a kayak and it is now parked in our "kayak garage" behind the office, ready to be easily put into Center Lake. We've enjoyed our times together in the kayak. It can easily convert into a one-man boat and I have enjoyed doing that. While I was in North Carolina I did have some extra time to work on the novel I am writing. It is a romance and my target is to finish it in time for Pam's "**50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**" which will be this coming October 18<sup>th</sup>. I have made excellent progress, but there is quite a bit left to do so I need to stay focused on that "along with the other zillion things going on". I now have proof positive that Pam did get up to see the sunrise. I captured the moment on video tape. From our balcony we actually could see the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, as well as the continuous magnificent ocean surf.

We rejoice about what all the Lord has been doing. Pam and I continue to teach our precious second grade Sunday school class ( we are finishing our 7<sup>th</sup> year with the second grade, which was preceded with ten years of leading the children's ministry at church). This past Sunday we said "goodbye" to this class now we are excited to welcome a whole new class of "puppies" (my experience is that when second graders arrive they are at the tag end of the puppy stage of life, while few of them have any vestige of that "puppieness" by the time they enter third grade). It is always fun to receive our next class. I have been deeply involved in the initiation of a new ministry for men at church. It is called simply "THE MEN of PVBC." We got off to an outstanding start and next month we will begin the second year of the ministry which is designed to encourage, educate, challenge and exhort men to be the sturdy men of faith which the Bible calls for, and to be effective husbands, fathers and

workers as we serve the Lord together. Our senior pastor, Les Lofquist, was recently tapped to become the new executive director of the Independent Fundamental Churches of America (IFCA). That means that our church is in the process of looking for a new senior pastor. That is a matter for persistent, fervent prayer.

Another significant development was the completion of the production of the evangelistic video by Lakeland Child Evangelism Ministries entitled "*THE WINNING TICKET.*" Sometime ago I wrote the script for the video, with the significant assistance of Laura. Even though it was what they call a low budget production, the final product is a very functional tool for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. All praise to God, there have already been a significant number of children and adults who have indicated decisions to receive Christ after viewing the "The Winning Ticket." That makes Laura and me very thankful to the Lord. I hope to write another script for a new adventure/evangelistic video to be produced by Lakeland CEM within the next year.

At the beginning of this year I became convicted about the need to lose weight. Back when I developed arthritis in my knees I stopped jogging. It did not seem to be a big deal at the time as I was gaining five pounds per year. But according to my math, and my waistline, five pounds a year for ten years means fifty pounds of extra bulk. Actually I had become more than fifty pounds over weight. I am having a good degree of success with my program and I am on track to reach my "fighting weight" by the end of this millennium.

Things at the law office are excellent. There is always more to do than I can get done, but I am sure that is true for each of you as well. I am blessed with a wonderful staff and I do enjoy my work every single day.

Assuming that our house does not sell, the next major event on the Refior calendar is the October birth of our next grandchild. We will surely be clearing our schedule to be there. Pam and I are "pumped" about the coming grandchild.

Please write or Email us.

Sincerely,

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Purdue beats Iowa 😊

FOR SALE  
BY OWNER  
4269-4599  
4269-6649



Christmas



Grandma Henricks  
and Great-grandson Luke



Easter



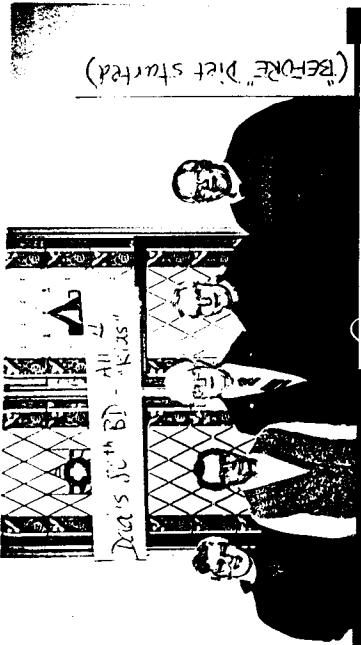
(RC) 😊



Mothers Day



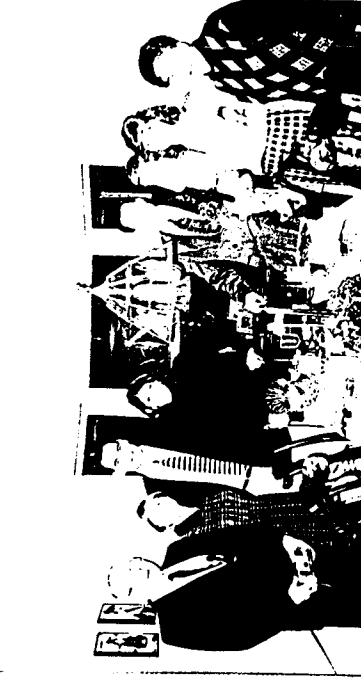
Visiting and reading to  
Laura's 1st Grade class



(BEFORE" Diet started)



Outer Banks of N.C.



Christmas Eve Dinner



At the North Carolina Beach



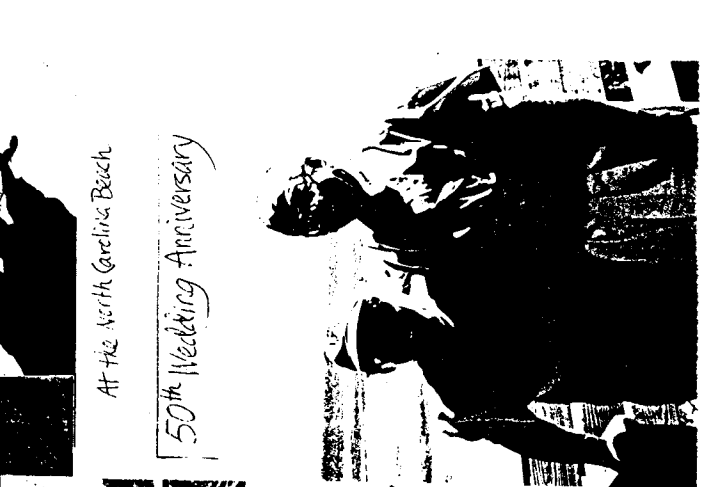
Outer Banks of N.C.



Thanksgiving at the Mansion



Christmas



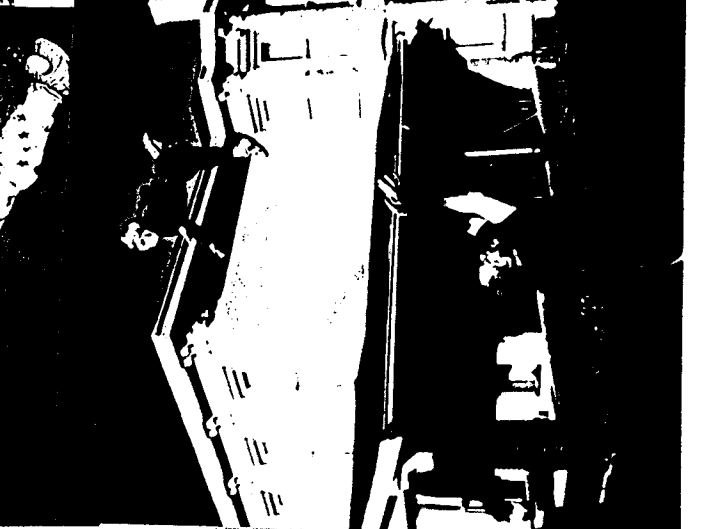
50th Wedding Anniversary



A genuine snowstorm



Both Teachers - Pam & Laura



Both Teachers - Pam & Laura