

January 1 2010

Team Gossip:

Kathy Zaffore, CPA, principal, ventured to California twice - back to the beach for 10 days of sun and sand and then to San Francisco and Wine Country just in time for the fall harvest (and lots of amazing food). The air was rich with the scent of grapes. A delight. We spent a few more days hiking around Pt Reyes National Seashore to an effort to shed the pounds gained eating and drinking with friends and family. Back at the ranch, I continue to take Italian lessons in the hope that someday I will be able to converse with the competency of a 5 year old child. John has started to study Latin American Spanish. We recently discovered a branch of the Zaffore famiglia in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Maybe we will drop in on them ☺.

Kim Ruane, CPA, practice manager, is the owner of the epicenter of happy gatherings. Her home has hosted several large family affairs, Bunko, Bible Study - you name it. Everyone wants to go to Kim's house. Why? It truly is a happy place. She continues to scrap book and is showing great talent at creating greeting cards - a new business in the budding? Kim, almost an empty nester (two still in college here in Colorado and one on his own in Chicago - a biochemical researcher - wow!), keeps tabs on the whole busy family.

Kathleen Bell, CPA, accountant extraordinaire, now has two high schoolers - where does the time go? When Kathleen and I first started working together her son was a tiny baby. Now he is a senior and Student Body President at his high school and has started to investigate colleges with an interest in engineering. Kathleen continues to hone her skills as a chef in her home kitchen, regales us with tales of mouth watering feasts and shares her recipes with us. And she bakes! Still the best lemon bars I have ever tasted anywhere. Period. We are always happy when Kathleen brings treats to the office.

Lorie DeBerard, Paraprofessional and Admin, bookkeeper/admin, Lorie and family received a wonderful honor this year. Her husband John was promoted to Commander in the US Navy. The whole family flew out to Seattle and got a hero's welcome at the ceremony. John will soon be deployed again to the Middle East, Afghanistan this time. Keep the DeBerard's in your thoughts and prayers this year. In her everyday life, Lorie scoots all over Douglas and Elbert Counties, keeping up with the activities of two teenage daughters. Her son graduated in June and is a happy camper at CSU this year, Lorie's alma mater. Go Rams!!

Vicki Stevens, IT Specialist and Overall Computer Wizard and Bookkeeper and Software Designer and ..., not only keeps our systems up and running, with great humor and fun (she has to have a sense of humor to deal with all of us non-techies), but can occasionally be talked into QuickBooks training. She continues to sell her own software product, AllReports, a nifty add-on for doing state unemployment reports, W-2s and 1099s with QuickBooks and Peachtree (see www.granitesoftware.com for details). Vicki hops around town with her high schooler's special needs' sports teams, while also overseeing a college student

(older daughter). In her leisure, she continues to work on a variety of home projects—she is reflooring the house in hard wood. Is there anything she cannot do? She is back in school and I suspect will graduate as a Master Carpenter.

Marj Spies, Admin Assistant, is a familiar face to many -- she worked as a banker for years in town and now she and Tom own and operate Alpha Gymnastics. Alpha is just about to open its Off Track Gymnastics Camp Program which promises to be a raging success. Check it out if you are looking for a fun week long experience for your kiddoes when they are Off Track this year. We hope Marj will find time to help us keep our clutter under control. She is a pro at that, too!