

Staying Connected

Phone Number:	XXX
Address	XXXX XXXX
Home Page:	XXXXXX
E-Mail:	XXXX XXXX

File: XXXX

Seasons Greetings



Hope you *soar* into 1999!

Woods Tribe Tribune 1998

This was a **great year!** The Girls were Junior Olympic Medallists. Dad helped launch the space station. Mom took her third grade class to Florida. Bryce joined the Boy Scouts, and is becoming a tennis star! We hope you had a fantastic year as well!

Spring Break - Comets and Snow!

During spring break, we visited Family back east. We saw the Wagners, Huffmans, Hendersons, and Stewarts! We really enjoyed watching comet Hale-Bopp in the clear Mountain Skies! The children enjoyed playing with their cousins: Bryce with Luke and Cody, while the girls enjoyed "mothering" little Paige. Our children had their first experience sleigh riding in the snow around the Henderson's beautiful farm house.

4th of July and Summer Fun!

The 4th of July was spent at Hide-away Lake at our cousin's, the Drew's wonderful new house. We had such a great time that we kidnapped MARRISA and Laura for a week of fun in Houston! They cheered their cousin's on for one of their national qualifying track meets. Alex and Tasha both enjoyed having their cousins around for a week. Mom also held her "summer camp" with fun activities and tours such as: an offshore oil platform, the Alabama Coushatta Indian reservation, and a tour of a replica of the hidden city of China.

Pensacola & Relaxation!

We invaded our favorite beach for the 4th year in a row – Santa Rosa Island, off the coast of Pensacola, Florida. We visited the Naval Aviation museum, and Gulf Island National Seashore. The girls and Bryce continued training for the AAU Track Nationals, at Gulf Breeze High School, and with beach runs. The whole family enjoyed relaxing on the beautiful white beaches. In May, with help from Denise's sister Colleen, Mom and Dad escaped for a long weekend for their anniversary and pretty much did nothing. Its amazing how enjoyable that can be sometimes!

Pensacola Again??!

Denise took here 3rd grade class to Pensacola and Santa Rosa Island for a "Class On Location" in October. Denise organized, developed the curriculum and orchestrated the week of learning activities. The children became Junior Rangers, met the Navy's Blue Angels, learned a lot about the Pensacola Area and Panzacola Indians. For example; Pensacola was actually first settlement in the new world by a European Nation, predating St. Augustine by 5 years, and Jamestown by 20 years! It was a fantastic learning experience; watch out Mrs. Frizzle!!

Children on the Loose!

Alex got straight A's in her first semester of 5th grade. This year Alex tried out for and joined a "Blue Team" in Soccer! She is old enough now to help review and file mom's School papers. Alex was selected for a special choir group, which was chosen to sing for the astronauts. She likes country music!

Tasha enjoys Tennis and Track. Especially when she can run her Dad around the tennis court. She is turning into a real "60's girl"! Freckles, our dog, keeps a guard on Tasha at night.

Our little pirate, Bryce, did very well in track and tennis this year. He loves playing with Legos. He joined the Boy Scouts and got to go camping with Dad and his troop. That was a lot of fun. His 8th Birthday was celebrated with Laser Tag and his friends from the Boy Scouts and School. His teachers call him the "little man" because of his somewhat deep voice and sometime too serious outlook. Bryce's top bloopers for the year: "I want to be the "green weeper" for

Halloween!" (= "Grim Reaper"), and "Lets go eat at "Snake and Snail" (= "Steak and Ale").

We wound up this year, with a week in Palm Springs California visiting with Grandma Kay. We had fun playing tennis, visiting cousins and family in San Diego. We also visited the San Diego Wild Animal Park; they wanted to keep the kids for observation, but we were able to sneak them out.

Junior Olympic Medallists!

After 6 months of training and track meets, in August the girls competed in the AAU National Junior Olympic games in Norfolk VA. Grandma Colleen and Grandpa "Handsome" were there to act as tour guides, and to cheer on the children. We stayed on the Colonna Family Houseboat, which was a real treat. Making a long story short, Alex won a Bronze medal, while Natasha won the Gold medal in her age group. In fact they both set their all time personal bests in the 1500 meter race-walk, and Natasha came within 2 seconds of setting a new United States National record! Real proud parents and grandparents were cheering them on to the finish line! Since we were in the neighborhood, Grandma Colleen put on her "Tour Guide Cap", and took us to visit Ellen Britton on the eastern seashore. We enjoyed our visit with Ellen as we reviewed and learned more about the Colonna Family history. We also visited Cape Hatteras, and Kitty Hawk.

Sad News

Donald's Grandfather, and namesake, the Actor Donald Woods passed away this year. He was in many TV shows, and movies, including: "Tale of Two Cities"; "Watch on the Rhine", and "Anthony Adverse". His sense of humor would always bring a smile to your face. He left Bryce a poster for a movie called "Barbary Pirate" in which he was the star. On the back of this poster he recommended that Bryce not pursue pirating as a career!

How to Make a \$Million\$

The Patented "Bryce Woods Method"

- 1.) Check all of the vending machines and telephones in front of any store you visit.
- 2.) Use school milk cartons from the cafeteria and scotch tape to build cars, buildings, computers, and dinosaurs. Then sell them to the children at the lunch table.
- 3.) Check under sofas and on the floor of Dad's car!
- 4.) Sell tickets to visit the "clubhouse" he built in his room "Only \$1.00!!" per person! 😊

Kitty Hawk to Space Station? It's About Time!

After a little more than 10 long years, 5 major redesigns, and 2 companies, Dad finally got to see his "4th child" take its first steps. After being nominated and selected as a "Launch Honoree" by NASA, the company flew Donald and Denise to Kennedy Space Center for a week of fun and excitement. We attended receptions with cosmonauts, astronauts, leaders of NASA, and the Russian Space Agency (it really is an "International Space Station"!). We also toured the cape and had VIP passes to watch the launch close up. The launch was brilliant (a nighttime launch is something everyone should see at least once). The **cover of this card is a photo of the Shuttle Launch** from Kennedy Space Center for the Space Station! Donald then flew home to work at Mission Control for the next 8 days. It was exciting! The International Space Station's first two components are now assembled and the software that Donald has been working on for the past 3 years is running the show! Amazing to think that every 90 minutes the Space Station will be passing over head! Look for more Space Station excitement later this year!

That's all folks!!

Hope this new shorter format finds everyone still awake! Have a wonderful 1999, and come visit if you are out our way. The welcome mat is always out, the new sofa bed is real comfortable and we will leave a light on! Until next time!