

# Family Family







Christmas 2008
Harlan and Diana Faust
Candid Photo at the Faust House

## Highlights for the year:

Harlan travels to Germany in February

Diana attended the women's retreat in March at Mahoney State Park

Grandma Faust and Tornado of June, 2008

Nora Linh Tran born July 2<sup>nd</sup> to Katie and Thang

Jen and Jared announce they will be parents again in 2009

#### Christmas, the New Year and Hope

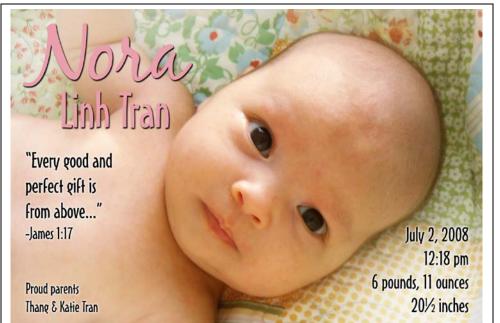
What a year we have all experienced as individuals, as a family, as an extended family and as a nation.

Who knows what is in store for all of us in this coming year and beyond. All we can do is believe in our leaders and government to do the right thing and to keep faith and pray that the right decisions are made.

Our family is optimistic, with one new family member to arrive in the new year; everyone's health is good; business continues with new and exciting projects; Diana's job is fulfilling and rewarding; and the girls and their families are prospering and enjoying their loved ones and friends.

It is time to say thank you to God, and to appreciate our





## \*

Berlin, Germany



Harlan's motel in Danikhorst, Germany



Tree lined street in Firrel,



Modern windmills on the farm fields close to Bad Dithmarschen.

#### Trip to Germany

For the past two years Harlan has worked with a German Company to assist them with the design of a product to be used in the restaurant and hospitality industry. As a reward for participating in the development of the product, Vitrulan invited Harlan to tour their plant in Marktschorgast, Germany and to meet and discuss product implementation.

Harlan spent three days with the Vitrulan staff and the next 5 days touring Germany on his own. After parting company with the travel party in Berlin he went north to the area where part of his family and Diana's emigrated from when they left for America. The trip was made at lightening fast speed (yes, on the Autobahn) visiting cities and burgs, cemeteries, churches, and a variety of interesting sights.

The first stop was in Burg

#### Last Stop While

One of the last stops before boarding the plane in Frankfurt was to see the area where Katie lived for a year. I know she told us how beautiful it is but until Harlan saw it in person he had no idea what a picture perfect setting the Rhineland truly is with vineyards, castles, the river and the hills. Stephenshausen (Katie's home) is a small town a few miles from the Rhine, tucked into a small valley

Dithmarschen, the ancestral home of the Paulsen family in the German state of Schleswig-Holstein, a very small community on the North Sea. It was here that high school German became very valuable as the residents he spoke with could not speak English. Not sure if either fully understood what was being said, but the essentials were met and the point the conversation understood.

After leaving Schleswig Holstein the next stop included several very small communities where Diana's family came from in Niedersaschen, the Pollmann family. These towns included Aurich, Firel. Strackloth. Bagband, incredibly beautiful and quaint farm communities. It was amazing to see the level of pride the Germans take in keeping their



that is nestled in rolling hills. The homes with red and gray slate roofs and white washed walls are aligned along the cobble stone roads. I hope you get the picture, wait a minute I have one or two.

### Diana is busy with Church

Diana continues to keep busy as the Director of Faith Formation at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church. The title is different but the responsibilities are the same – providing opportunities for adults to continue to grow in their faith.

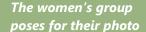
Among the highlights for 2008 were the Women's Retreat held at Mahoney State Park, beginning small groups for an all-church study, and beginning of a new men's study group.

Another program called Divorce Care for Kids was started for kids who are struggling with their parent's divorce. This is offered in conjunction with our Divorce Care



**Divorce Care Staff** 

program for adults. We have touched many lives through these two programs.







Teagan and Nora



2<sup>nd</sup> Cousins having a blast at the wedding





#### Every Friday finds the Grandkids

Diana spends her Fridays with the grandchildren. She has cared for Teagan for the past three years, and Nora joined them in September. Teagan loves to bake, so while Nora weather Weavyilh gather again formakeistroms in thinodreal enost every week. He also enjoys playing games like "Go Fish", "Candy Land, and checkers. Sometimes he

#### Diana's Nephew, Jesse Grimm,

The Naugle family gathered in Lincoln for the wedding of Jesse Grimm and McKenzie Coulter. It is not often we are all able to see each other at one time. Winter storms kept us apart for Christmas 2007.

It was nice getting a chance to catch up on the events and happenings in everyone's life.

With the cooperation of the

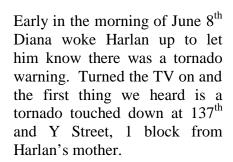


### Other Family News

trees down everywhere



June 8, 2008 Grandma Faust's House



Immediately made the call to see if she was OK and the answer was obvious, she was upset and crying and saying water was running in the house.

Harlan rushed to her house to find the streets filled with emergency vehicles, TV news crews, and neighbors surveying the damage. When Harlan arrived he found his mom being taken care of her neighbors, Sam and Judy.

Once in the house it became

obvious her house had been hit. The roof was gone and water was pouring in from the rain and wind.

It was amazing to see family, friends and strangers pitching in to help. It was only with the help of all these people that her house was secured and a temporary roof placed on the house to protect her belongings. Thank you to all.

From June to October, LaVonne spent time with Maureen and Bill and at our house while the house was being rebuilt. It didn't quite measure up to an "Extreme Makeover", but it came very close. It wasn't until December before everything was finally finished and she begin to say things were back to normal.

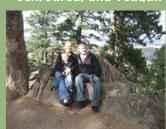


The roof was gone and



Katie, Nora, and Thang







#### Grandkids

Katie, Thang and Nora



Nora for Halloween



Oma and the grandkids



Diana's Dad (Wayne Naugle) and





#### Our new Granddaughter, Nora Linh

Nora is now 5 months old, born on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. She is such a good baby. Katie and Thang are being spoiled. She loves to talk, and tells all kinds of stories. She is going to be a little chatter box when she does start talking.

Katie made the decision that she wants to spend more time at home with Nora, so she will complete her work with the city on December 24th.

Oma and Teagan will miss Nora on Fridays, but are sure that Katie and Nora will come and hang out with them often. It would be so





### Teagan Hensley - Grandson

Teagan loves to go to the Maverick's hockey games, and had decided that he wanted to be a hockey player. However, this past summer he decided that he didn't want to be a hockey player anymore. He wants to be a pumpkin farmer. Not sure where that came from, but we are trying to convince

him that he can be both.

He started preschool this year, and is learning so much. Oma and Opa will enjoy the first of many grandchildren's Christmas programs this year.



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#### This Year's Funnies!





#### Sports

Another season of Nebraska football, only this time there is hope. The new coach Bo Pelini, Dr. Tom came back as athletic director, and yes a winning season once again.

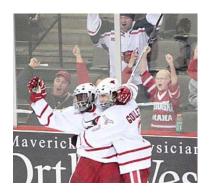
The team is going to a bowl game and will play on New Year's Day. Thought about it, even looked for airline tickets, but finally decided to stay at home, light the fireplace and enjoy a lot of college football on TV.

The Maverick hockey team is off to their best start, ever. At the close of 2008 they are in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the

We have become fans of women's volleyball. It helps when the home state team is and has been a national power. Omaha hosted the NCAA national championship tournament and Nebraska was among the final four.

We went to the matches and watched two of the most amazing opening round matches. Both matches found the teams going down to the 5<sup>th</sup> set. Unfortunately







Coming to the Web!

Watch for Faust Family