



Howdy from Texas

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The Nipely News

It's time to celebrate again.

It's been approximately 2000 years, and we still understand the need to celebrate the greatest event in man's history. Even though much of mankind refuses to believe or acknowledge the importance of the event, God still wants them as heirs in His kingdom.

Titus 3: 3-7 states;

³For we ourselves

were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by men and hating one another; ⁴but when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in virtue of his own mercy,

by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, ⁶which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that we might be justified by his grace and become in hope of eternal life



Ave et Vale

Last Christmas season, after going to press, there were a couple of losses to our family;

Melvin Lewis Pashley (Geri's dad) 05/05/1922-12/24/2004, passed

away at his home in Mannford, OK on Christmas Eve. He had been suffering from Alzheimer's

disease for the last several years, but his death was unexpected because he had been doing fairly well physically.

Albert Risner Nipe (John's Uncle) 12/13/1929-01/07/2005, suddenly

passed away from a short illness. Albert lived most of his life on the family farm in Pedricktown, NJ.



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Texas Facts & Trivia

- The King Ranch in Texas is bigger than the state of Rhode Island.
- Texas is the only state to enter the United States by treaty instead of territorial annexation.
- The population of Texas is 21 million, not including the 16 million cattle.
- Texas has 90 mountains a mile or more high, with Guadalupe Peak in West Texas at 8,751 feet being the tallest.

Mom's Byline

I'm old and crabby and didn't feel like writing anything this year, so there! Actually, that what John says since he put that in to get me to write something. This year I added another great-grandchild, Autumn Upperman, I think that makes 7! I continue to serve on the library board for the town of Aubrey and we have

broken ground for a new library. And how could I forget working one of the concession stands at the annual Aubrey Peanut Festival?

Seriously, my main job is keeping the Bickersons in line and that's a full time job. I am in good health and though John



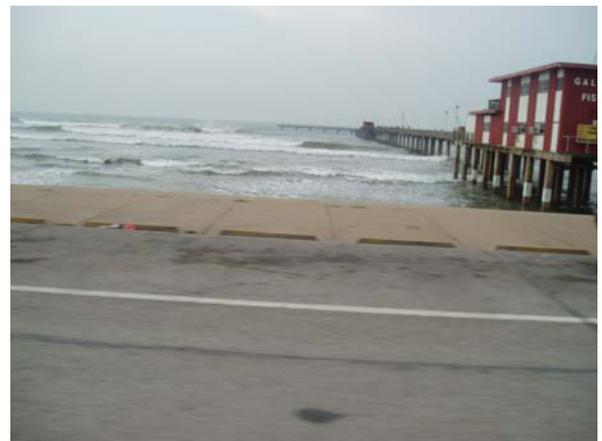
Mom at Joe's Crab Shack for her 84th Birthday party.

sometimes disagrees still in my right mind. I pray for each of you in my circle of friends and family. Merry Christmas.

Galveston, 2005

Geri, Mom, and I spent a long weekend on Galveston Island in late August. We left the island on the Sunday that Katrina hit New Orleans and you can see from the surf in the picture that the wind was already up. The day before the Gulf had been as smooth as glass. For those of

you accustomed to the Jersey Shore, the water in the Gulf of Mexico feels like bath water. But it still has the salt smell of a real beach!



Visitor Log

We had a variety of visitor's this past year and if your name isn't on the list, shame on you. Recently, we met up with Geri's cousin Ruth (Sissie) while she was in Dallas attending a seminar. We probably hadn't seen her in 12-13 years. John's sister

Helen visited as well as her daughter Catherine. John's brother Warren and his wife Ellen sent a couple of days. A niece Jennifer Williamson, her husband Jeff and two kids, Sarah and Jacob also visited.



Jennifer, Jeff, Sarah, and Jacob visiting Danielle's house with Geri and Mom

David and Bailey

I always hate to have news like this, but David and his wife of 2 years have parted ways. This means that our grandson Bailey lives about 200 miles away now and we get to see him less frequently. We've had the pleasure of entertaining Bailey for 2 week visits in the last couple of months.

David is working for a company doing shop repairs for oil drilling equipment. He can be reached at

david@johnnipe.com



David and Bailey had Christmas early!
Yes, that is a tattoo!

Geri says "same old, same old"

For the last 16 years I've had to write Geri's article for her and guess what, nothing changes. She does continue to be the CEO (Chief Economic Officer) of the household. She's still retired but manages to put quite a few miles on the car. She says she enjoys taking care of her

family including the hundreds of fish, turtles, and dogs that live here.

Ask Danielle and David where the best spaghetti in Texas is, and they'll tell you "at mom and dad's on Sunday". Geri doesn't do much with email, so if you want to converse, you'll need to use the phone or write.



It's Danielle!

Once again, Danielle has thrown herself at the mercy of her dad by not writing her own article. She continues to work for PepsiCo and is still fortunate enough to be assigned to the same building as her dad. She protests that this is a hardship, but, since she often borrows soda money, I believe the lady doth



Danielle and Lilly

protest too much. She recently received a promotion and reached her 5th year with the company, she's vested. She and Lilly (see photo) live at 1701 Spyglass, Little Elm, TX. 75068

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The Nipe's

You can also find this newsletter on line at

<http://www.johnnipe.com>.

There are some other trivial things there as well, any critiques and suggestions will be read and noted, but the editor-in-chief reserves the right to completely ignore them.

John's News

Well, this year has been good to us once again (if you discount the fact at the Eagles got beaten TWICE by the Cowboys) and I continue to work for a great company. I am looking forward to the day I can pack it in. Currently, I plan on May 1st, 2009, but it could be as early as July 1st, 2007.

PepsiCo continues to gain on the red cola company and I'd like to be around when that

happens! I made at least 15 business trips this year, mostly to Chicago and Winston-Salem, NC (which is

another reason to look for a hard retirement date). Maybe



The hair transplant didn't take!

in the coming year, I can get sent to somewhere close to where you live and will be able to visit!

I wish you all a Happy Christmas time in the celebra-

tion of our savior's birth and hope your 2006 is a great year!