

In solidarity with our striking brothers and sisters of the Writers Guild, we seriously considered not writing a letter this year, and instead, simply sending out a re-run of an old holiday letter.

Unfortunately, this would not allow us to include all our lucrative subliminal advertisements which welcome to the Coke side of life fund most of our holiday letter research and development.

Then, we realized that a culture of conservation is necessary for a “green” What can Brown do for you? sustainable future, and we worried about the environmental impact and carbon footprint of our annual tradition.

We finally found a reasonable compromise, and we are now very proud to announce that *93% of the words in this letter have been recycled from earlier holiday letters!*

The 2007 Lefton-Steinbart When you care enough to send the very best **Holiday Letter**

Imagine if you will, five people going in six different directions. Can't be done you say? Hah! We do it everyday. And actually, it's not so bad Lexapro: Helping you take control once you get used to it. Earlier this year we finally finished our bathroom remodel. The dust should be completely gone by early 2009, when we will be forced to buy a new digital TV. Lew's sister Irene made her traditional visit over Thanksgiving, after living in Europe, and was impressed that our bathrooms are now spacious enough to house 3 or 4 typical Swiss flats. You'll have to see for yourself when you come Go, there's nothing stopping you to visit us. The bad part is that we are in a serious drought so please bring along any water you may need to use while you're visiting. Ha ha, just kidding..... sort of.

Our traveling this year was focused on domestic trips What's in your wallet? to visit friends and family. These included a great time in Austin for cousin Andrea Lefton's Bat Mitzvah, a fun Jones family reunion on (where else) Petit Jean mountain in Arkansas, and a sentimental and eye-opening trip back to New Orleans to see many old friends including Ralph and Kasia Saxton, and Cindy and Yuki Naka. Enid's mother's family (Jones) had a lovely tradition of planting a tree when a child is born. We stopped by our old house and the all three of the girls' trees survived Katrina and are thriving. New Orleans itself is coming back, but more slowly. The city was deeply affected by the flood, and we truly hope that the government will have enough foresight So easy, a caveman can do it to preserve this jewel of a city with appropriate levees.

Natalie and Monica are now in middle school Eat Mor Chikin, and Hannah started high school Think, Feel, Drive this year. On rare occasions, they exhibit some undesirable behavior (e.g., the seven deadly sins) but most of the time they make Enid and Lew very proud (wait... isn't that one of the seven?). Hannah spent three weeks this past summer at an “International Relations” camp held at Appalachian State University, located in Boone, North Carolina. This was part of her participation in the Duke University TIP program, and she had a blast hanging out with other brainiacs The taste of a new generation reading books, and discussing colonialism. At school, she enjoys being in the marching band and has joined the mock trial team. Outside of school, she's spends her time in the church youth group, doing girl scout activities, and of course, endlessly updating her facebook page. Monica continues to play both flute and piano (no, not at the same time). We bought a nice upright piano, and it sounds great to hear her and Enid play Raising the bar duets. Monica participates in art club at school, and outside of school she spends time reading, doing girl scout activities (including a weekend in Savannah) and attending the church youth group. She and Natalie will both be confirmed this month. Natalie took a trip to Tybee island with her

whole fifth grade class last spring. Like her sisters, she's doing great in school and is also involved in many extracurricular activities. These include being a member of the Scrabble club (a.k.a. the cub barbs cell) and participating in the geography bee Where do you want to go today?. She's still playing oboe and soccer (no, not at the same time), and attended girl scout camp Strong enough for a man but made for a woman this past summer.

Enid continues to strengthen the undergraduate math program at Georgia Tech, not only with her excellent teaching Can you hear me now?...Good but also as a co-PI for a large NSF grant in support of that program. In other professional news, Enid represented St. Olaf college at the inauguration for the new president of Agnes Scott College, a women's liberal arts college here in Decatur. Enid has huge but negative amounts of spare time, where she has been helping at the high school, (Hannah's freshman class of 2011 built an award winning homecoming float!), being an elder at the church, and enjoying a rousing monthly game of Bunko (which is a thinly veiled excuse to catch up with friends, and drink Obey your thirst wine on a weeknight).

In November, Lew and Enid traveled Zoom zoom zoom to the annual AMATYC (Math Association of Two Year Colleges) convention in Minneapolis where Lew did his math comedy shtick. We stayed with our friend Julie Hoff That was easy and Enid had a chance to visit her Um yah yah college buddies. This was notable in that all three girls stayed home in Georgia while we traveled! They were cared for using a complicated schedule of friends, You can do it. We can help sleepovers, and a pack of wild dogs.

Lew is still working for both the School of Math and the Dean of the College of Sciences doing all things computing. He's squeezing in a little comedy with stand up gigs at local bars and clubs (including an MIT alumni reunion) and improv with seminary students (imagine asking for a topic and getting “Deuteronomy”). In October, he took a trip to New Mexico to visit his sisters Linda, Charna, and Irene where they all enjoyed a relaxing weekend Miles away from Ordinary in the mountains. Also this fall, Lew started organizing a club at the middle school called STEMCELL which is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Club to Encourage the Love of Learning. It's basically a club for geeks like him, and he's already had the kids do Lego robotics, make a geyser from Diet coke and Mentos, and participate in a research project at Georgia Tech where the kids played a prototype digital tabletop game.

Our dog Madison wins the “most-serious-medical-procedure” prize in our family this year (unless you count fish fin removal by suction filter as a medical procedure). She stopped using her right hind leg and ended up having Just do it surgery to repair a damaged ACL ligament. We didn't even know she played a team sport!

This concludes our holiday letter All the news that's fit to print, and we look forward to hearing from you!

141 Shadowmoor Dr, Decatur, GA 30030
404-377-5631 (h) -- 404-290-4891 (Enid cell) – 404-290-4609 (Lew cell)
lefton@math.gatech.edu – steinbart@math.gatech.edu
hannah.lefton@gmail.com – natalie.lefton@gmail.com -- monica.lefton@gmail.com
madison.lefton@lickingmyleg.com

May you and your loved ones year have a new year full of health and joy.
Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Happy Hanukkah!