



May Our Holidays Help us Heal on all levels, across all Nations



From Joe and Patricia & family: David, Aimée and John, Lois (13) and Tommy (8)



Last year we visited David one week before his 50th birthday party (Dec 9) to avoid the crowd and help him test out the various restaurants he was to host for 60 guests. We visited again this year in late September and met his lovely girlfriend Jessica, and more of his friends. Above center are John, Lois, Aimée, and Tommy under their fig tree on their “ranch” in Murphys. Then, John seems relaxed in the saddle when he and the family drove to Baja to spend a week with David: riding horses, surfing, playing music, and eating all sorts of delicious food. Lots of fun, and all were sweetly exhausted.



Lois was sponsored to attend this summer ski school in Oregon. A month later she attended a Shakespeare festival with her class at Ashland. She still swims on a team, plays volleyball, runs cross country, sings in musicals and acts in plays, bakes; and does her farm chores as well— wears me out just hearing it all. Lots of carpooling.

Lois and her friends beat the heat after the school’s western-take on A Comedy of Errors while her brother watches. Nice country kids.

This seems to be Tommy’s breakout year: building Legos, slugging baseballs, winning first place in his first year skiing for Bear Valley, attending Circus Camp where he learned and still practices the Diablo, a type of large Chinese yoyo.

(2-min video here at his b-day party.)



8th-grader Lois plans to attend Bret Harte HS in Angel’s Camp.



^ David and Jessica decked out for a Christmas celebration. Right, David with his sister Aimée. This is the third year we shared our email gratitudes with many photos and updates. Love how solicitous they are of us, and of all their friends and family...of which there are many.

Pics on their fridge show both John (left) and Tommy suited up at about the same age. We are grateful that the grandkids are starting to bond better as friends, like David and Aimée did at about the same age.