



Merry Christmas Issue!

December 2012



# The Stout's



## Merry Christmas!

We wanted to let you know how much we are thinking of you and hope that you and your families enjoy this holiday season together. Even when we are far apart, phone calls, Skype, email, texts help us stay connected.

Bob and I are doing well. Having fun at this time of our lives and looking forward to many more years of being together and enjoying life. We are very blessed to still be together and be happy. We will celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary this May!

Bob's knee is finally done; no more cushioning left. He is now riding a bike for his daily work out, but really misses his running! I started a ceramics class and am enjoying gardening as well.



*Year in review from my calendar.....(easier for me to remember that way!)*

**January** ~ After having a wonderful holiday, we said goodbye to Lauren as she traveled back to Colorado to finish her last semester for her master's degree. Then we said goodbye to April, mid month, as she traveled to Leeds, UK for 5 months for her last semester of Penn State study abroad . :( **February** ~ Boring..... A mild winter though, so it was nice to be outdoors some. **March** ~ Lauren worked through her spring break and April was touring the UK. **April** ~ Lauren was home for Easter! Skype'ing with April has been a God send and being able to text daily has been wonderful. **May** ~ On May 6th, Lauren flew into Philly to run the Philly Broad Street 10 mile run with Dion and Bob. I was there to cheer them on! Unfortunately, that was to be Bob's last running event. At the end of May, Bob and I flew to Colorado for a 2 week trip to help Lauren move to her new job in Houston. Week one, we did all the Colorado sight seeing and hiking. Week two, we started south and Lauren's poor Jeep didn't want to make it in the 100 degrees and we were left sitting 150 miles from Houston....We got a tow truck to pull us the rest of the way in an un-air-conditioned rig. What fun! Then, as Lauren started her new job, Bob and I got her settled in the apartment. A beautiful 2 bedroom place with nice balcony overlooking a pool with palm trees. I think we will be headed back down come February! April was in a wedding for her friend from high school who is living in the UK..

**June** ~ APRIL HOME! So happy to have her back. Now comes the adjustment of living back with Mom and Dad. So far....not bad..... **July** ~ Working on pond area, gardening.....celebrated the 4th with the Drzals **August** ~ April graduated PSU on the 11th. Celebrated with a "tailgate" party here at the house. Lauren was home and it was nice to visit with family and friends!

**September** ~ April started working as a greeter and clerk at our local Volvo/Toyota dealer. She flew to Houston to visit Lauren for a week before being in a friend's wedding in Dallas. Bob and I traveled to Arizona with Dan and Karin for Bob's mom's 70th birthday. **October** ~ Downsized our 40' motorhome to a 27' Holiday Rambler travel trailer with a slide. Perfect size for towing and tailgating. We camped in Lancaster with the Drzals for our annual "apples, pumpkins, and mums gathering weekend"! The next weekend we tailgated with the Drzal's at PSU for the Ohio State game. **November** ~ Our 16 year old cat Smokey is not doing well. She has cancer as well as a hyperthyroid condition and is getting weaker as time goes by. On a happier note, Lauren was able to come home for Thanksgiving this year and we were all together. My dad, sister, and brother-in-law came down as well. Dion came to visit and we all went blue spruce hunting on Saturday and tagged our Christmas tree.

*We are looking forward to Christmas and the New Year 2013!  
Best Wishes and.....  
Merry Christmas to all!!!*





# April



April is a graduate of Penn State University Park! She graduated in August this year because she was on a study abroad semester in Leeds, UK until June.

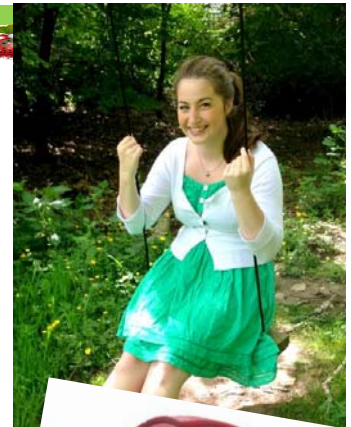
She graduated from the college of Earth and Mineral Sciences with a major in Earth Science and minors in Astrobiology and Geosciences.

She is living at home now and working locally. She is starting a new job as a salesperson and contact for E Waste Experts. She will be helping businesses and municipalities recycle their old electronics and guarantee the proper data eradication and recycling and of the equipment.

She is in a long distance relationship with Stevie Jones who lives in Wales, UK.

She still works on her Computer Maid business now that she is home.

Grad school is not out of the question yet either.

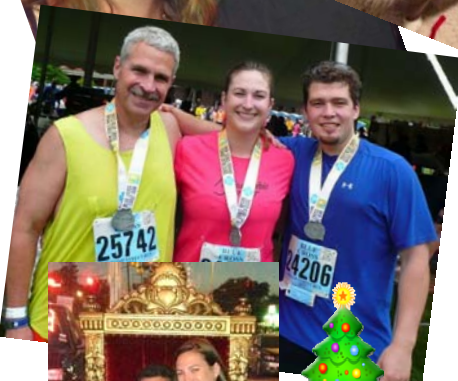
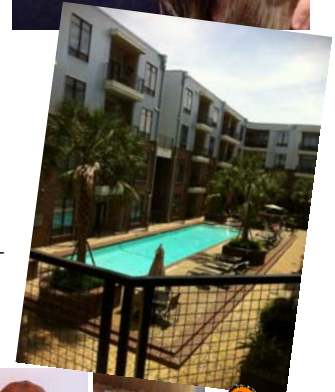
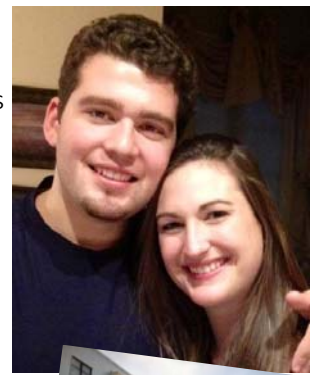


Lauren graduated with a master's from the Colorado School of Mines! She is a petroleum geologist with Southwestern Energy Company in Houston, Texas. She's getting used to living in a warm climate, but so far is liking it, except for the long distance from family and boyfriend Dion who lives in Philly.

Lauren adopted a special needs kitty from the local no kill shelter that she volunteers at. Astrid is a big, lovey kitty. She was shot in the back with a pellet gun and partially paralyzed, but she has recovered some and is doing well. The only time you see her disability is when she wobbles some when running and she can't jump up on things easily.

Lauren is still with Dion, who is working full-time as a laboratory manager at a cancer research center in Philly. He is now waiting to hear from the medical schools he has applied to. They try to see each other as often as they can.

# Lauren



# Pets

Smokey (a grey female cat), Belle (golden retriever), Nicodemus "Nico" (large male grey cat), Wilhelmina "Mina" (our spoiled Basset hound) all doing well except Smokes. :(

