

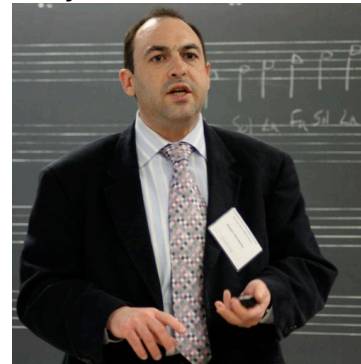


Happy Holidays from the Abrahams December 2008

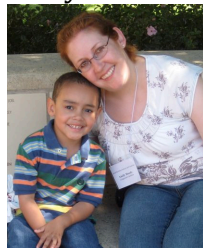
We are going green this season and so many of you are receiving this letter as an email attachment. It is hard to believe that another year has gone. For us, it has been a wonderful year. Dan and Frank continue to work together on the topic of reciprocal teaching. In April, they presented a Saturday seminar at Westminster. This was followed in June by a week in Porto Alegre, Brazil where they worked with graduate students at the Federal University there. In September,



Dan and Frank were in London where they did some sightseeing and attended a conference at Roehampton University where they presented the results of a research project they did together. In Omaha, Dan continues as director of the high school band and orchestra at Bryan High School. He is busier than ever as the program is active and strong.



Emily was the mastermind behind an appearance by the Philadelphia Orchestra at Longwood Gardens during the summer. The concert was a huge success thanks to her hard work and awesome skills at organization. The orchestra will return this summer. Eric continues to work for Health Partners. Eric Jr., is in pre-K at Friends School Haverford. He sleeps over every now and then and we love that more than we can say.



Ellen supervises student teachers at Westminster and Temple University and travels quite a bit throughout New Jersey and the greater Philadelphia area. After 15 years, Frank relinquished the reigns of the Westminster Conservatory Youth Chorale this season, and now has Saturdays at home for quality time with Eric, Jr. But, in the Abrahams tradition, young Eric is busy with birthday parties, play dates and other activities that vie for his time.

Ellen had eye surgery in June, which resulted in her being glasses-free for the first time in her life. That has been fabulous. She REALLY sees. Her mom, who will be 87 at the end of the month, remains in fair health at an assisted living facility near the

house. She was able to join us for Thanksgiving Dinner and we were all thrilled that could happen. Below, Ellen and Eric make Rice Crispy treats for Thanksgiving Dinner.



We all have hope that Obama will indeed bring us needed change. We are so grateful we are all working and look forward to some better times for our country in the year ahead. During the campaign, Emily, Eric and Eric, Jr., went to a rally and saw Obama at Temple University. The guys were interviewed for public radio and when asked “Why Obama?” the little one replied, “Cause he’s going to be the next President!” Little did we know... Ellen taught Joe Biden’s daughter at Wilmington Friends School in Delaware when we first came to Pennsylvania 17 years ago, and remembers how devoted Joe was to the kids at school and how kind he was to all the teachers there.

We both wish you the very best of holidays – whichever you celebrate. All the best,

Ellen and *Frank*

