

Refior News Bulletin

October 10, 2000

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Greetings from the happy Refiors,

It has been approximately one year since the last *REFIOR NEWS BULLETIN*. You have been extremely busy over the past year, and so have we. Much has happened in your life over the past year, and that certainly is true for us as well. When we sold our house last year and moved into part of what had been all the law office building, our construction work was just beginning. Therefore, my precious Pam has lived in the mist of construction for the past year.

Fortunately we had already converted the original structure back into residential so that Pam had at least some level of normalcy (we lived in what we now call "the cottage" while we constructed the new kitchen, the new walk in pantry next to the kitchen, the new laundry, and major changes were being made for our master bedroom). This was all in addition to the construction of a new garage, workshop, deck, third floor balcony, conversion of a room into a weight/exercise room, and remodeling the second floor bedrooms in the cottage. Pam is relieved that the "end is now finally in sight." The result is extremely nice and we have moved into our very, lovely and spacious home with

a breathtaking view of the lake, leaving the cottage to be a terrific guest house (3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, living room and dining room . . . and the cottage also enjoys the lakeview).

People frequently ask me what I think about living in the same place as my office. They suspect that it would be hard to get away from my work. The answer is that I *absolutely love it!* Obviously I spend no time commuting. I worked a lot of evenings before, and this means that I am "working at home" when I work evenings and weekends. Clients frequently called me at home before anyway. To me it is 100% positive and 0% percent negative.

Over the past year Pam and I have enjoyed many wonderful events and times together. We celebrated our *30th wedding anniversary* by having a week long trip by car in the wine country of California. We had no schedule and we just had a delightful honeymoon. Pam has also joined me in traveling to activities in Kansas City, southern California and upstate New York. It is so wonderful to have the freedom for Pam to be with me when I travel. I had the opportunity to be one of the speakers at Word of Life's "LAW 2000" conference.

Speaking of travel, last May we went on a lovely vacation with Pam's parents, *E.J. & Shirley Petro*, to the outer banks of North Carolina. We rented a house right on the ocean. It was an extremely enjoyable and relaxing time. It also was such a delightful time with E.J. & Shirley. Little did we know at that time that it would be the last vacation we would ever have with E.J. Last fall E.J. was diagnosed with cancer, and six weeks later he went home to be with the Lord (December 10, 1999). We do miss E.J. so much. We are thankful that Shirley lives here in Warsaw so that we have the opportunity to "love on her" and get together on almost a daily basis.

This past weekend Pam and I traveled to Iowa City for my *law school's 25th reunion*. We looked forward to our rendezvous with our very special friends, Kurt and Julie Swaim, and it was fun to see men and women I have not seen in twenty five years. The turnout of 1975 law grads was lower than I expected, however, the Dean stated that it was an excellent turnout. It was fun to interact with classmates. Most of them I had not seen for more than 25 years. While there we took in the Iowa football game. Iowa was suffering through the worst losing streak in its long and glorious history. The game was against Michigan State, a ranked team that recently had defeated Notre Dame. It seemed like I was the only one predicting that Iowa could actually win the game. Although it was bitter cold in the stands, we had a tremendous time and a lift to our spirits when Iowa scored on their last possession to beat Michigan State 21-16. The weekend was truly a delight. We took a little detour on the way home and drove down to Lafayette where we met Nikki and her family to celebrate *Nikki's 30th birthday*. That was special. (We are looking forward to *Laura and Brian* coming out to visit us in just little more than two weeks. At that time we will celebrate their *25th birthdays*. Later this week we will celebrate our grandson David's *1st birthday*.)

After eighteen consecutive years of working with the children at Pleasant View Bible Church Pam and I "retired" from that ministry. Because of the desire for flexibility to travel to see our kids, go on brief honeymoons, go to board meetings with TEAM and NLA, etc., we felt at the present time we should discontinue our Sunday school teaching. We would request that you join us in prayer that

the Lord will soon bring His perfect choice as the man to become the new senior pastor of Pleasant View Bible Church. Pam and I continue to enjoy the ministry of hosting in our home one of the "flock" groups of our church. We meet on Wednesday nights for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer. Our Flock also meets an hour earlier once per month so that we can enjoy a potluck supper and wow ! can those ladies cook !

Nikki and Jon Lambeth, and their two sons Luke (4 ½ years) and David (1 year old on October 13) are doing well in Otterbein (near Lafayette, Indiana). Amazingly, they have moved twice in recent weeks. They thought they had their house sold, and they thought they had bought a new house, but everything fell through at the last minute. Unfortunately they had placed their confidence in a banker and a realtor who had given them a 100% guarantee that everything was in order. So when they were given permission to move into the new house early, they did so. When things fell apart, they had to move out of the new house, and back into their present house. They are almost "back up to zero," as far as unpacking. Probably within a month or so they will have that finished. Despite that heartbreak, and all that extra expense, time, and work, they have a very God-honoring attitude. They are pressing on with life. Jon is busy as the chemistry and science teacher at Faith Baptist Christian High School. He is also the Senior class advisor. Nikki is working hard at home. They are at least now able to enjoy for themselves all of the improvements that they made when they were preparing the house for sale. They are talking about trying to sell their house without a realtor this coming spring. Their only reason for desiring to move is to cut down on the long commute that Jon has to work, and the long trip they have going to and from church. The October, 1999 Bulletin announced the birth of our grandson David. Now he is almost one year old! walking, saying simple words. Both of the boys are so happy . . . and are certainly well-loved.

Laura and Brian White are busy with their work as christian school teachers in Chesapeake, Virginia. They have been fixing up their house and seem to be happily settled in. It is a long way out there. This past Monday I picked up Pam and her mother Shirley Petro at the South Bend airport, returning from a ten day visit with Laura and Brian. With all of the time that Pam spent down at Nikki's helping with the packing, move #1, unpacking, packing, helping with move #2, etc., and now the ten days in Virginia with Laura, I am very ready for Pam to stay put for a while. I use the expression that I am "very married." My life is just not right when I am separated from my precious bride. Laura and Brian attend *Tabernacle Church of Norfolk* which is the church we attended back in the seventies when I was in the Navy and stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. Laura and Brian have made many friends and are involved in the ministries of Tab (just as Nikki and her family have so many friends at Faith Baptist and are so faithfully ministering there). Laura is in her 3rd year of teaching. She teaches 2nd grade. Pam and her mom had the pleasure of sitting in on Laura's classes last week. They report that she is an OUTSTANDING teacher. Brian wears several hats. He is a high school teacher, counselor, administrator, and the head varsity basketball coach. The Whites and the Lambeths are doing very well indeed - all growing in the Lord, serving Him faithfully, happily married, and excelling in their work (3 John 4).

I had the privilege of writing the script for a new evangelistic video to be produced by *Lakeland Child Evangelism Ministry*. We are now making the final preparation for doing the actual filming.

We are trusting that the Lord will move the project along so that the film will be ready for viewing in 2001. Lakeland CEM just finished a very fruitful summer with all of the special summer ministries in clubs, fairs, and festivals.

I have enjoyed very much being on the board of directors of the National Lawyers Association. It is a full-service national bar association. It was created when the American Bar Association took deliberate steps to become a liberal political action association, rather than a professional bar association. The ABA, for example, has taken extremely liberal official positions favoring abortion, and a number of other terrible positions. (anyone who wants information on the NLA can check them on the WEB at www.nla.org).

It has also been meaningful to be on the board of directors of The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM). We need to work while there is light. Please pray with us that the Lord of the Harvest will send forth laborers. And I pray specifically that the Lord will send forth laborers *through* TEAM. Our great friends, Dave and Donna Brown, are on staff at TEAM. Being on the board has allowed us to have increased contact with the Browns.

My black Labrador "Millie" and I go out for a long walk each morning. Our location is ideal for that. For the last twenty years or so I have "been on a diet." With my weight/exercise room now in place I really have no excuse. We will see how Pam and I do on our latest version of a diet/exercise program.

My work at Refior Law Office continues to be challenging. As is the case, I am sure, with you and your work and activities, it seems like I can never get to the bottom of the pile and there never is enough time to get done all of the important things that need to get done . . . However, I do know that God is able. He created time and He owns time. Pam and I strive to maintain proper priorities in the mist of all of the pressure and demands.

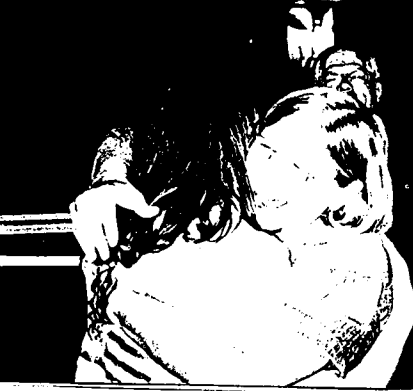
I trust that this finds you well. Just to repeat my Email address: paul@refior.com. Come visit!

Please let us hear from you.

Sincerely,

Paul & Pam Refior

[Here are some family photos taken over the past year relating to the happy Refiors]



Total Surprise!
Laura flew in -
Nikki picked her
up + drove to
Warsaw. Pam +
Paul went to
the car... +
up popped
Laura. What
fun!



Millie
+
Alex



Laura & Paul
"helping" David
to eat



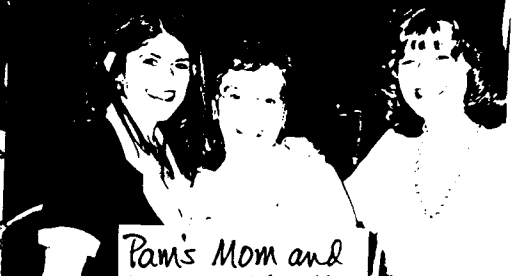
Laura + Brian
when we met
them in KY



The "old"
gang at
our Lake



Lovin'



Pam's Mom and
her granddaughters



5 generations
with
Grandma
Henricks



The
Lambeths



Nikki +
Jon by
the Lake



Nikki
and
Laura
"in days
gone by"



Luke's 4th birthday (April)

David & Millie

The Happy Whites



Nikki & "the boys"

Luke is growing up!



The Happy Refiors



The Happy Lambeths



Total Surprise!
Laura flew in - Nikki picked her up + drove to Warsaw. Pam + Paul went to the car... + up popped Laura. What fun!



Millie + Alex