

*Season's Greetings from the Fjelend-Burns family!*



*Where has the time gone? It seems just like yesterday I was putting stamps on the last batch of Fjelend-Burns 2002 holiday cards and here we are again. That guy really was right in that song where he sang about time tickin' away.*

*2003 saw its share of joy and sorrow for the family. Let's get the sorrow out of the way so we can focus on the joy!*

*Just this past November we had to say goodbye to our beloved family terrier, Sir Barksalot. Barky, as he was dubbed, was 7, which is 174 in dog years, so it wasn't a complete surprise that he passed. Of course we will have to wait 'til the ground thaws to bury him, so for now Barky's final resting place is the deep freeze in the basement.*

*Martin is still out of work. This economy has been so tough on everyone, and until there is a need for butlers again, it looks like we're going to continue to be a one income family. But Martin, bless him, is enjoying his free time. He's gone back to his first love, woodworking. He can spend hours upon hours out there in the garage, just whittling away. He's such a perfectionist he won't let anyone see what he's working on, he won't even let us in the garage anymore. He's even taken to putting newspaper up in the windows so you can't even peak in, even if you tried. I've had to start parking the station wagon in the driveway. It sure is no fun scraping the ice off all 12 windows every morning at 6 am, in the dark.*



*Now for the joyous news! It was a time of new beginnings for the Fjelend-Burns children. Our twinlets Tabitha and Tamatha started their first day of kindergarten this fall. Yes I had hoped to keep them at home, but with me working full-time at the pharmacy, it's pretty much impossible to home school. I just hope their father and I have instilled in them the teachings of the gospel and the good Dr. Laura enough that they will find good footing on the right path. Not like their older sister Joan, who we do not speak of anymore.*



*Like I said I'm staying busy, working at the pharmacy, teaching Sunday school and running the Thursday night woman's sewing circle. I'm also on the planning committee of our 10 year high school reunion, go Panthers! There is so much to do, with renting the gazebo at the park and organizing who's bringing what side dishes to the potluck. I'm planning on making my award winning rhubarb crumble, of course.*

*That's all from the Fjelend-Burns clan. We hope your holiday is full of happiness and cheer and that 2004 will bring you and yours much prosperity and joy.*

*God Bless,*

*Marietta Fjelend-Burns*

