



Kochert Kronicles December 2005

Available online at
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2220 North Slickrock Drive; Columbia, MO 65202

La Kocherosa is DONE!

We are so blessed to have completed this house. There were several touch and go moments, but we have survived and made the move to the new house. It is wonderful to be able to spread out again. A year in the duplex was almost too much!

We were able to host two open houses this summer for friends and family. It was wonderful to see so many people travel so far to help us celebrate this milestone.

For those who attended our July 4th party...again, we are sorry if we scared your children and they never want to see another fireworks display again! We promise next year will not be as traumatic.

Just as we got the last open

house finished, Steven's outage at the plant started. He spent most of September - Thanksgiving working overnight hours. Everything went well, finishing in record time. He is now back in the Control Room working on shift. As of this writing he is finishing up his last night shift until the end of the year. I think he plans to just rest and relax.

Steven is also busy planning his 15-day summer bike trip in the Canadian Rockies. We will post pictures on the web page when he returns.

Jamie is thrilled to be back at REDI. It is almost like she never left. We cannot emphasize enough how much happier she is these days. And, the family is certainly less stressed as a result of the change.

Yes, grand- parents...or in Jamie's case... Diva!



Ashley is due to deliver our first grandchild any day now (due January 1). While this was not the way we pictured events to unfold, we love our daughter and will support her as she undertakes the most important job she will ever have. We pray that she have your continued love and support.

Steven is so excited! He cannot wait to be a grandfather. Jamie is taking a little longer to come on board, but in time we know she will get there. She has already rediscovered the baby sections in too many department stores.

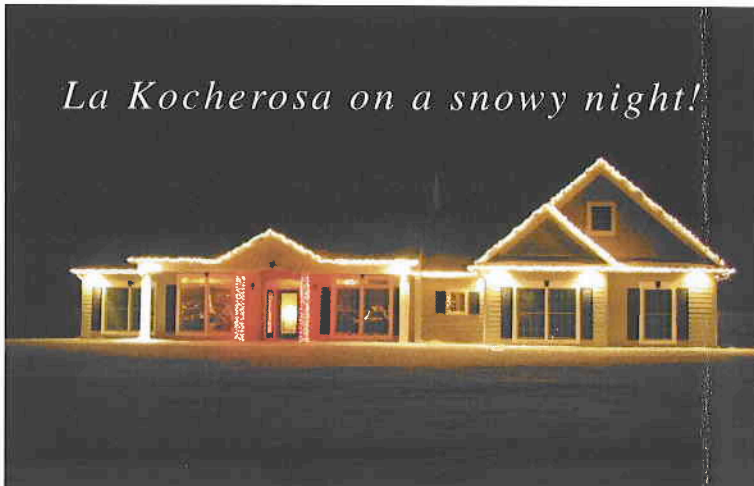
Melvin (the father) is currently in the picture and we pray that, for the sake of the baby, he will always be a part of his life.

That's right..."HIS" life. Ashley is going to have a little boy. At the time of this writing, the name of choice is Mordecai. For the curious, refer to the book of Esther.

This little man and his mother will need your prayers. Ashley welcomes your advice and suggestions to her email. She is counting on all of us!

Do We Look Like Grandparents?

La Kocherosa on a snowy night!



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Well, as we said on the flip side, **Ashley** is pregnant and due to deliver January 1st. The first six months were really difficult as she had morning sickness that would not go away for days at a time. But, other than the usual pregnancy related issues, the last couple of months seem to have gone better.

She has also been blessed with three baby showers over the last couple of months. And, as a result, seems to have all of the essentials that any new mother could need. She is still working full-time at the University of

Missouri in the Biographical Records Department.

Finally, she continues to work toward finishing her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. If all goes well, she hopes to finish by the end of summer... December 2006 at the latest.

What she will do after that is anyone's guess. Some days, she plans to move to another city...some days she plans to move back home.

We will keep you posted!

For those who keep on with the family at our web site, you are aware

that **Joseph** was looking for a new job. Well, last month God answered our prayers. Joseph found a job at a local downtown appliance store. His primary responsibility includes

delivering new appliances and making repairs. He really seems to be happy. He gets to move around town, different houses, different projects...seldom the same thing. In time, the novelty may wear off, but for the time being, Joseph is happy.

There is also a woman in Joseph's life. It is serious enough that they have decided to move in together. (804 Moon Valley Rd, Apt. 6—Columbia, MO 65201) Her name is Jenny Hrabik. She is from Cape Girardeau, MO. She is a senior at the University of Missouri. They really seem to compliment each other. Ashley says that she tries to make Joseph

more serious and Joseph tries to make her less serious.

None of us knows where this may lead, but for the time being, they seem to make each other happy!

As for college, Joseph takes a class every now and then. He just cannot seem to decide on any kind of major. Maybe working for a while will help him decide. If

not, we know Joseph will be just fine! He doesn't require much to get by.



ON THE PET FRONT

Franklin the snake has relocated to Joseph's house.

Ashley's cat, Puss seems to have disappeared.

And, we had to put Barney (our cocker spaniel) down at the end of October. He was approaching 17 years old, blind in one eye, almost deaf and found it harder and harder just to get up. Even at the end, his love for us was evident...as was ours for him. We miss Barney!



As for Bella, she is lonely.

Sandy is doing well. She loves the new house and enjoys her added space.

She is still working as a crossing guard at West Boulevard Elementary. It pays very well and gets her out of the house. Sandy is also looking forward to sharing day-care duties for her great grandson. She has found a new church nearby and seems to like it. She has even added Wednesday night services to her weekly schedule.

Finally, we are all very blessed that she continues to have good health.

THOUGHT FOR THE YEAR (Author Unknown)

Every day is Christmas when you have the kind of mind,
That stores up all the goodness and the sweetness it can find
When you don't need an occasion to spread a bit of cheer,
But just keep on a-giving of yourself throughout the year

Every day is Christmas with a gaily wrapped surprise,
When you've learned to see the friendship in someone else's eyes.
When you try a little harder and complain a little less,
Holding fast to all the fervor of the faith that you possess

Every day is Christmas when you've found that you can be

More concerned with words like "you" and less with "I" and "me".
When it's fun to do a favor and to lend a helping hand,
When being understood means less than when you understand

Every day is Christmas with a beauty deeply cast,
When you find it doesn't matter if you're first or if you're last
When you can face your conscience and be glad of what you are,
Then every day is Christmas with a stable and star.

**May you celebrate Christmas each and every day!
Love...Steven, Jamie, Ashley, Joseph, Sandy and
very soon...Mordecai**