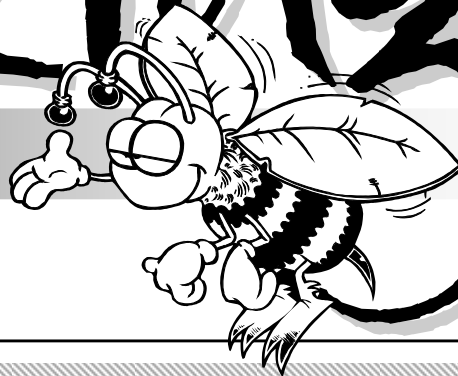
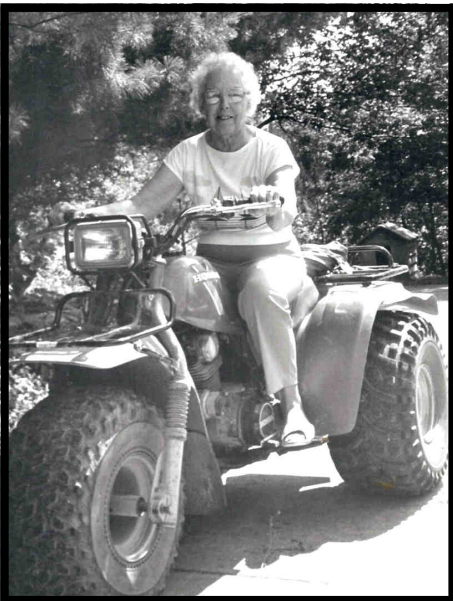


Buzzings

The latest happenings from the family of
Albert & Rena Bakker



GRANDMA BAKKER



June 24—Went for a ride with Bob & Arla, Leah, and her friend to Fallsburg Park to see the covered bridge. Randy went ahead on his motorcycle to show us the way. Also showed another bridge farther north. It was the hottest day of the summer—96°.

Went to Elaine one night for supper after which she showed me lots of old slides in the basement. Brought back old memories.

I rode in the parade in Byron Days. Had a bad storm a couple weeks ago. Lots of damage especially in Sparta area where lots of fruit trees were destroyed.

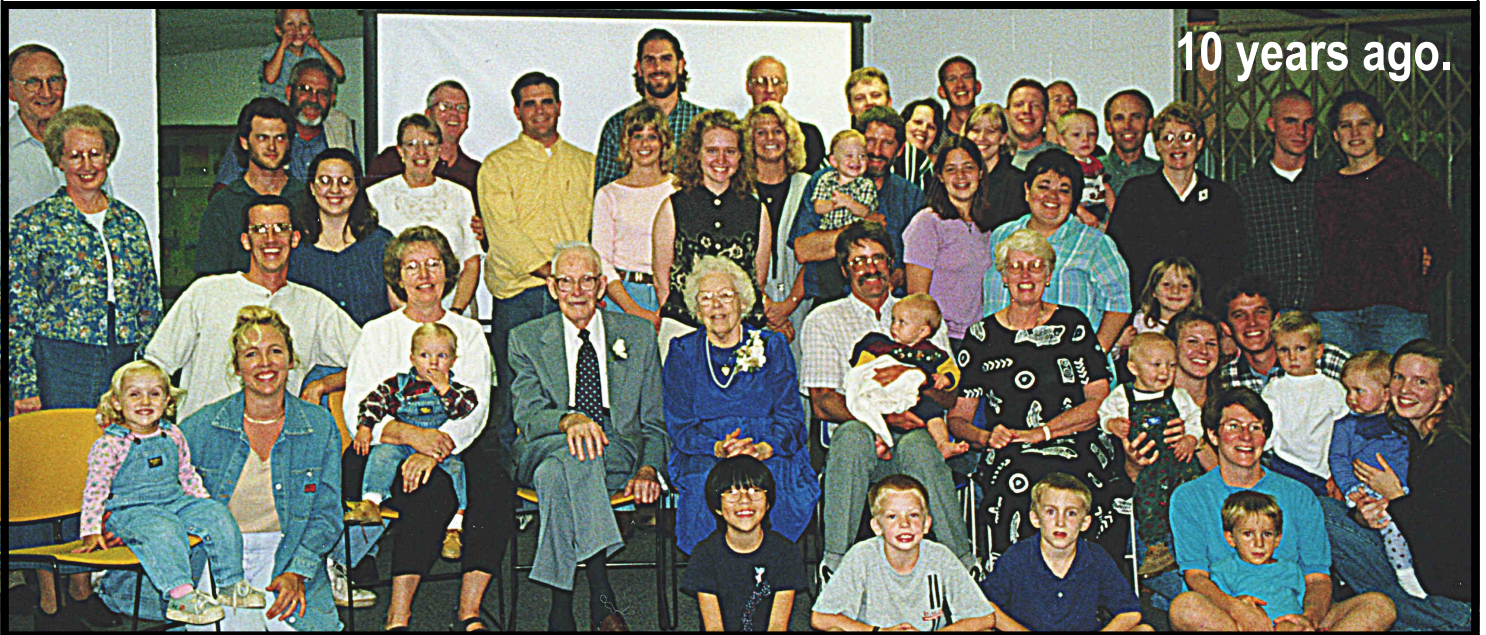
I go for a walk now and then around this building if the weather permits. It's too windy lots of times.

Still have a program here once in a while. Some good, some not so good. We still have video church here Tuesday & Thursday nights from Byron Center First CRC.

Well, this is all for now.

Love and God bless you all.

Grandma



Next newsletter deadline: NOVEMBER 1, 2009

**Autumn
is a season
for big
decisions –
like whether
or not it's
too late
to start
spring
cleaning.**

BOB & ARLA

Hi family;

Not a lot of BUZZ here, but living along the lakeshore is like a vacation every day ! We love walking the beach & the boardwalk to the end of the pier & don't forget the sunset's & icecream !

Bob continues to drive cars & his pocket change job is now taking him overnight on the road to NJ, Ohio, Penn. NY, Nashville & Memphis TN.

Arla is still doing her sample / demo job's in the Spartan Stores & a very popular demo this summer was making rootbeer floats with Hudsonville icecream. Yum - o !

We took a day off & visited Shippshewana with friends & found a few fleas at the Flea Market & enjoyed an Amish dinner at the Das Dutchman Essen Haus.

We had fun taking the 3 granddaughter's to the Circus on Harbor Island. They all said the elephant tricks were the most fun to watch, plus they enjoyed the pony ride's & cotton candy.

We also had a few overnight sleepover's here with the grandchildren & took them on Trolley rides around town & to the Tri-Cities Museum.

It rained off & on during the Coast Guard Parade & we did not stay for the firework's this year, so we just watched them from our driveway. Remember when we were kid's we sat on the Milkhouse roof to watch the firework's in Moline?

We braved all kinds of weather this season for our Worship on the Waterfront Service's. The kids & grandkid's all came to W.O.W. on August 16.

The city of Grand Haven is celebrating 175 year's & it was a pleasure to watch the FREE concert by the American Wind Symphony Orchestra. The Point Counterpoint II, arrived along the shore & it looked like a patriotic barge & when it unfolded the hatch into a large stage, the 35 entertaining musician's gave an awesome performance. The barge / stage just came in from Paris & travel's all over the world.

That's all from this side of Lake Michigan,
Blessings to all, Bob & Arla

TOM & DENISE

Hi once again from the Minnesota Bakkers. We've had a busy summer!

Daniel has stayed busy with sports, Little League in the morning and sometimes Summer BB League in the evening. Janine did plenty of swimming at friends who have a pool this summer. It hasn't been a very hot summer though! Now it's back to school and Volleyball has started. She plays on the JV team and loves it. Daniel is in sixth grade. He plays soccer on the Junior High team. He's also been collecting bugs for school. Janine is a Sophomore and has to start collecting leaves for school. No one in our family is in college right now for the first time in a long time! Trevor continues to do auto body work and lives with some friends near his job. Katrina continues to live at home when she isn't working or hanging out with her fiance Josh Erickson. They plan to be married Nov 27 the day after Thanksgiving day. Those plans are in progress and the men are staying out of the way! Denise is sewing the dresses, has 4 done and more to go! It's quite a project!! We're all pretty happy, Josh is a great guy!

We were also able to take care of Ellie for about 10 days while Brice and Sara went to Haiti again. Now She's in kindergarten at Central Christian in Prinsburg.

Even though we haven't taken any long vacations we have managed to get away a little. We did go to a Laura Engels Wilder Pageant at Walnut Grove MN which was an evening thing. It goes back 100 years or so and is an interesting story. We also went to the North Shore north of Duluth for a few days. We like to watch ships come under the famous aerial lift bridge into the harbor & and it's nice to drive around and see the sights. We also hiked along lake Superior, looked for agates, Saw Gooseberry Falls & Split Rock lighthouse. It's beautiful up there.

We don't have any cattle this year but recently a friend brought Boone and Fi a couple of young quarterhorses over to eat our grass for awhile. They look nice out there and even though some here who think they should stay they won't be here when the snow flies. They're nice pets for now! It's the easy way to have horses.

How about the Vikings and Farve? Any bets on the Super Bowl?
That's about all the news from Bakkers Acres in Minnesota



Katrina & Josh

CAL & LISA

Summer this year has been a mixture of fun and challenges for Cal and Lisa.

Lisa's sister-in-love (the other Lisa Viviano) has fought a long and brave fight against cancer. As of this writing she is still with us, but not expected to live here on earth much longer. Lisa was told she had just a short time to live in late May, but vowed she would see the end of summer and the birth of her first grandson – Aiden was born on August 12th. She's a fighter and wants to see her children settled in another Christian home before she goes to be with her Lord and Savior. The children (teenagers 15 and 17) will be living with friends of ours, and we will have easy access to our niece and nephew and be a consistent part of their lives. Please pray for our family and Lisa's, for a transition blessed and led by Jesus every moment. The two older boys who live out of Lisa's home will need God's direction and His healing spirit as they are both wounded by the broken home they had to endure and their dad's seeming disinterest over the past 13 years.

Lisa Bakker's dad was diagnosed with terminal cancer in early August and told he will have 3-6 months. He is doing poorly and in a lot of pain. Dad is a very proud man and is unwilling to accept or ask for help at this point. Please pray that The Lord will soften his heart to the healing power of Jesus in his life and for his salvation. Pray also for our family as we again will lose someone close to us and for God's direction in knowing how to minister and help Lisa's step-mom as she goes through this passing of her beloved husband, and for Lisa and her siblings – two of whom are unsaved – as they minister to their Dad in his last weeks.

As some of you know, Lisa underwent major surgery August 11th. She is "camping" out at the lake for a few weeks while she heals, but is doing better and getting stronger every day. We plan to take a vacation and travel the east side of the state the third week of September before she returns to work. Early in the summer we spent a week traveling and camping in the National Forest camps in the Western and central part of the state near Bitely. We visited with sister Karen and Zac at their cabin, and spent one night in our camper sitting in Karen's driveway so Cal could get the lay of the land there.

Cal has spent the summer gardening and playing with his three grandsons. Morgan and Cody live just a half mile down the road now, and have been allowed to ride their bikes down to "play" with grandpa when he's awake in the afternoons. They have helped pick up stones that the plow left in the middle of the lawn, and also to plant in the garden. Grandpa shoots targets with them and shows them how to build bird houses, play tether ball, catch, bocci ball, ladder ball and fix bikes. Braden began talking at about 8 months old, and his first word was "Papa!" Papa is one of Braden's very favorite people, along with Nanna, Mama and his new Daddy. He thinks his little friend's blond hair is "Pretty!" Tells us "Hi!" and "Bye Bye," and like every good Dutchman, uses "Ya!" appropriately in most every sentence. Braden has been a very special blessing in our lives – he will turn 1 year old on Labor Day.

Cal and Lisa took Morgan and Cody to tour the replica Columbus ships Nina and Pinta while they were moored in Petoskey. The Nina was built actual size, 65 feet long, 18 feet wide, and the Pinta a little larger. They seemed pretty small to use on the ocean. Some of the yachts in the harbor looked bigger than these ships.

Lydia and Brian managed a camping trip with the rest of the family at Higgins Lake over Memorial Weekend, and we've gotten together with them at their home in Fort Wayne for a few days over the 4th of July weekend. Lydia also spent five days camping with Lisa and Anna in early August.

Jared arrived home from his year working at Taylor University in Ireland on May 14th and spent most of the summer at home in Gaylord before beginning the last leg of his schooling journey this past week. Jared is now attending Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago to obtain his doctorate in Clinical and Neuro-Psychology. His email and phone numbers remain the same.

Hope this Buzzings edition finds all of you healthy, happy and blessed as we have been these last months.

Love to all of you Cal and Lisa

RYAN & JAYNE

Wow, what has happened in our family since the last newsletter? Jake (6) had a fun t-ball season. Currently he is working on riding a two-wheeler, and is making great progress. Darcie (4 ½) is working on mastering the hula hoop, and is a 100x better than her mother is! Natalie (2) has just learned how to pedal her hot wheels, and is amazing us with her vocabulary every day. And we enjoyed raising monarch caterpillars inside. Unfortunately, we only got to set one of them free and had to bring the other 2 chrysalises to a neighbors' house while we camped.

Other highlights are picking veggies from our garden, picking strawberries/cherries/blueberries, and fishing. I've done 3 weddings just this summer, my next is not scheduled until January. I also was "craft lady" for our church's VBS, putting everything together for 150 kids (our theme was "Boomerang Express", an Australian theme). Ryan is plugging away at his Masters in Public Administration- he'll be taking 9 credits in the fall, and is hoping to be finished next summer. We have one more camping trip planned in September to North Higgins Lake State Park in Roscommon.

Other than all that, we're just waiting for the kids' baby brother, due October 21. Next newsletter we'll have a picture of him . . .

Jayne and family



GREG & BETH

Even though we never really had the opportunity to experience summer weather, we did experience the busy lifestyle that always seems to coincide with summer. Now, we return to the normal busy life that school always seems to bring. Tyce will be entering 4th grade at Hudsonville Christian and Paige will be starting 1st grade at HCS as well. Dylan will continue to go to "Sandy School" (4 days a week) with our wonderful day care lady, Sandy.

This past summer, we experienced, baseball, softball (Paige, Greg and Beth), football camp, football practice, gymnastics, and the occasional stay-cation. We did some camping at Sand Lake, and took a weekend to return to Imlay City for Greg's annual golf outing with his high school friends.

Now that fall has arrived, Tyce is playing football and Paige will probably be re-summing gymnastics again soon. Dylan has the privilege of being carted to practices and games and hopes there is a playground nearby. Greg is wrapping up fall softball and will be referring Basketball again all winter. Beth will be playing volleyball with her friends again as well.

We feel very blessed that Beth has survived all of the layoffs at work. Her company has downsized quite a bit as they are tied into the woodworking industry. Fortunately she still has a job.

Greg continues to work for KIDS HOPE USA in the National Office. We're still living in Hudsonville. That's it for now. I'm sure there is a lot more that happened, but I can't seem to remember what it is or was.

Until next time.... Greg

ELAINE

I can hardly believe it's September already; it's been 5 years since I started the first day of school and then retired. Where does the time go? We are all creatures of time, pilgrims on this planet looking towards the eternal time with our LORD and Savior. What a time to look forward too!

It was a wonderful summer; 4 days spent on Mackinac Island at the Grand Hotel while Steve had a conference there. Lilacs were in bloom...ahhhh! Brenda, Todd, Danielle, and I had many opportunities to enjoy the area, one morning of which was biking the 8 miles around the island. We had a GRAND time in many ways.

Shari had a week off from her nanny job so we took a day trip to brush up on history at the Greenfield Village and the Ford Museum in Dearborn. What changes time makes in a hundred years.

I also took a bus trip, my first bus trip, with about 50 people to Chicago. We had a tour of a candy factory in Indiana, got acquainted with Navy Pier, Millennium Park, and a architectural boat tour down the Chicago River between the towering structures on either side; Wow, a pain in the neck? After a good meal in Indiana the bus wouldn't run. We had to wait for a bus from Grand Rapids to rescue us, but we did arrive home ... at 3am. Would I go on a bus trip again? You bet!

Also rounding out the summer I enjoyed a Picnic Pops Concert and also the American Winds Symphony on a barge in Grand Haven. Arla had great seats reserved.

Some ladies made 3 quilts using Oscar's clothing; they are treasured beyond what words could say; nice memories.

The flowers of summer have passed their peak but the yard still looks good with less work, or maybe I'm getting lazy? I've collected a few monarch caterpillars from my 5 milkweed plants and they now go to Shari's classroom in the chrysalis stage along with 2 caterpillars just found. Ohhhh...what wonders for the kids to see!

Soon I'll be starting some hours at school but also looking forward to a scenic trip to the Grand Canyon in October with cousin Alice

Elaine



Memory Quilt

BRICE & SARA

Hi. It's been months since we've contributed to the newsletter, so I thought it was about time. We moved home from Haiti this spring. We had a wonderful experience there. Brice and I actually went back for a visit in July for 10 days. It was good to meet all of the new volunteers and see the kids again. Ellie has started kindergarten at CMCS here in Prinsburg. She has made a lot of friends already. I've had numerous people stop me and ask how school is going for her. I don't think there are many people in town who don't know who she is now. She likes it, though she is exhausted at the end of the day.

Now that Ellie goes to school three days a week I decided to get a job. I work part-time at the bank in town on the days Ellie is in school. It was strange to reenter the workforce after having so many years off, but I really enjoy it. Brice is working on starting a new business in Willmar and has been busy setting up shop.

We've enjoyed our summer, though it was very busy and we're looking forward to settling into our new routines this fall and praying about God has planned for us.

Sara

ALAN & LYNN

Quick update from Lynn via voicemail:
Just finished with cherries - huge crop.
They will be starting up
apples soon but are first
going to the UP for a little
camping in the rain.

Went to the 4-H fair
with the boys who raised
lambs this year—they did
really well. Came home
with a puppy who is happy
with the big dog.

Went camping with the boy scouts on
South Manitou Island.

That's about it!



DON & MARY

Hello everyone from Caledonia
MI. Work has been slower than usual here
in Michigan this summer which resulted in
Matt and Ross (college employee) installing
a new brick walk in front of our house. They
also put in some brick walks back by the
greenhouses which make it much easier to
pull a wagon full of plants - plus using the
snowblower this winter.

We enjoyed a few days at the Apol
reunion in July. We were at Stoney Haven
Campground near New Era MI. We had
Michael, Jonathan and Luke with us the first
part of the week, then we went home and
Matt's family came for a few days. The last
Apol reunion was 13 yr ago so the numbers
have greatly increased since then.

Dan, Bonnie and Artimus were in and
out in August and took our trailer to Muske-
gon for a volleyball tournament. Dan says
he'll be back in October again for more vol-
leyball.

Hope you all enjoy the colors of the
upcoming season.

Don & Mary

DAVE & KAREN

This week has been one of the busiest
of the summer. Abi started Kuyper College
in Grand Rapids on Tuesday, and Zac
started Calvin College on Wednesday. We
also went for Parent meetings at Kuyper on
Friday and went to Orientation meetings with
Zac early in the summer. The two colleges
are just a few miles apart. We hope they
both have a great year learning!

We made a few trips East this sum-
mer. In July we met Chris somewhere near
the Ohio/Pennsylvania border and he
took Abi and Zac back East with
him. They dropped Abi off
in Washington DC at
Emi's and then Zac went
with Chris to Virginia
where he worked on the
golf course with Chris for
the rest of the sum-
mer. After about 10 days in

DC, Dave and I drove there to pick up
Abi. She had spent a lot of time touring mu-
seums. We picked Abi up and then headed
up to New Jersey for a quick visit with Dave's
brother. About two weeks ago Karen and Abi
went back to DC and Virginia to pick Zac
up. We put a lot of miles on the cars. In fact,
we traded in the old 2000 Chrysler Van for a
used 2005 Trailblazer.

We were able to spend quite a bit of
time at the Hidden Creek Lodge this sum-
mer. We would love to be able to live there
full time. Maybe someday!

Dave started a "new" job this school
year. He will be principal of the G.T. Norman
Elementary School in Reed City. This is the
same school he has been the Assistant Prin-
cipal at for the last two years. His duties will
change, and he will be in charge of more
than 650 students and lots of teachers and
staff members.

Karen continues to try to sell real estate
- not an easy job in this economy, but a lot of
folks are looking! If anyone knows of anyone
who wants to buy a house or property any-
where in Michigan, send them my way!

Here's hoping for a Warm Winter!



JASON & JOLEEN

I've asked the kids...what have we
been up to lately? The response varies from
"I don't know" to an exuberant teen saying
"knee boarding".

When I look back over the past couple
of months, we have been doing a lot. We
bought a boat in June and have been using it
weekly for either fishing, tubing or knee
boarding. We took it up to Stoney Lake
camping with the Apols in July and have also
visited Miner Lake, Gun Lake, Payne Lake,
Spring Lake/Grand River and the Kalamazoo
River by Saugatuck. So I guess you could
say we've covered traveling by land, sea and
air!

Jason has been busy doing many
quotes the past few weeks. We're hop-
ing that some of the quotes turn into
work for him this fall. He still is
working on his own and has not
been doing much traveling outside
of Michigan.

Alex and Sam have been working for a
neighbor helping to clean up his fields/drains
and mowing for him too. They can ride their
bikes there and usually work on Saturday
afternoons. They've also helped my Dad bale
hay a couple of times this summer.

Alex, Esther and Sam entered a couple
items in the Hudsonville Fair. David is fully
recovered from his broken leg in January.
Bee is 5 and learned how to ride her 2 wheel
bike earlier this summer.

I've been busy taking pictures—
weddings, families, church directory photos
and even senior pictures for a neighbor! Still
lovin' it!

Jason took Alex, Esther, Sam and David
to Oshkosh, WI for the air show at the end of
July/early August for 2 nights. Jason flew to
the show on Thursday with two of his pilot
friends, then drove with the kids on Friday,
driving home on Sunday. That left Bee and I
home to take care of the critters (16 chick-
ens, 3 cats, 2 bunnies and 1 dog). I think the
kids enjoyed stopping in Chicago at the Lego
Store more than going to the air show.

The kids and I have been canning Salsa
and pickles the past few weeks.

I'm looking forward to settling down to a
regular schedule soon. All the kids will start
soccer again on the 24th of Sept. Even Bee
gets to play this year!

Joleen and the crew.

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This is the most current information I have! Please update me on current addresses!