

Merry Christmas And Happy New Year!

Frohe Weihnachten



that we were expecting Baby Gill #2. How fun! So in Jun and Jul we stayed close to home as Davina got through the first trimester. Then Aug came and it was time to get ready for our second trip to the States. Before we continue we want to say that throughout the year we so marveled at Corinne's development and growth. Most amazing was her language increase – now she does have a mother who loves to talk so maybe this isn't so much of a surprise! Now back to Aug...

Merry Christmas 2009 and Happy New Year 2010 from Germany! We have had yet another action-packed fun-filled year with more adventure coming soon as we prepare for the birth of our second daughter at the end of Jan or beginning of Feb.

We kicked off the year with Robert finishing up his 6-month deployment to Iraq and with Davina and Corinne in Germany. Davina and Corinne took a trip to Rome in Jan with their friend Emily and had the great honor of seeing the Pope. We also enjoyed much pizza, pasta, and the occasional gelato.

On Feb 5th Robert surprised Davina and Corinne with a 2-week early return. He showed up right at the house early in the morning. It was a great reunion. We were happy to be together again. Before returning to work Robert had some time off and we took a trip to Berlin.

In Mar and Apr we stayed close to home and enjoyed time together and with friends. Easter was more fun this year since Corinne understood the concept of hunting for Easter eggs and her Easter basket. It was a beautiful day.

In May we prepared for our first trip back to the States for 2009. We spent time in OH and PA. We had a great time visiting Robert's parents and our friends the Timmermans. We spent time catching up and playing. We also celebrated Robert's 40th birthday with dinner at 'The Melting Pot.' My, how time flies

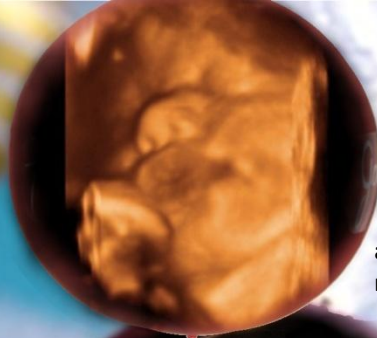
In PA we celebrated Davina's parents' 50th wedding anniversary. They had a big party at their house with over 40 people in attendance. It was a great day of chatting with "old" cousins and meeting the newest "young" cousins.

Upon returning to Germany we found out

In the 2nd half of Aug we boarded our trans-Atlantic flight for the States once again. This time we went to Dayton, OH; Roanoke, VA; and Rehoboth Beach, DE. Robert's parents met us in Dayton and then we visited with his brother Donny and his family, Davina's aunts, and our University of Dayton friends. From Dayton we traveled with Robert's parents to Roanoke to visit his sister Amie and her family. We enjoyed a great long weekend there and celebrated Davina's and Ryan's (Amie's son) birthdays. In both Dayton and Roanoke Corinne enjoyed a lot swimming pool time with her grandparents and cousins.

For our last stop we spent some time at Rehoboth Beach for part two of the 50th anniversary celebration. Davina's family was split among three adjacent townhouses near the beach. We enjoyed the sand, some surf, and lots of rides and games. Soon enough it was time to re-pack our





And finally in Dec we did our last trip of the year and before the baby arrives. We spent a long weekend in Rothenburg, Germany about 2 hours from our house. The town dates back to the 900s and is a walled city. We stayed inside the wall and enjoyed the Christmas market and Christmas shopping. Robert's cousin Kelly and her boyfriend joined us for part of the time as well. It was a relaxing visit and quite pretty with the snow.

For Christmas Davina's parents and her sister Gloria came for a visit. Corinne was non-stop entertainment for them prompting Grandpa to ask her when her naptime is. We enjoyed a nice Christmas Day as Corinne helped hand out and open all of the presents. She was a joy to watch in action.

For New Year's Eve Corinne, Robert, and Davina enjoyed a night of movies and snacks. We were hoping Corinne would make it to midnight to see the fireworks our last year here, some even landed in our yard, but she was asleep by 11:15...Oh, well.

suitcases – keeping them to less than 50 pounds of course – and head back to Germany. This was our last trip to the States before our move back in Jul 2010. We didn't let our suitcases relax for long because in early Sep we spent a couple of days in Brugge, Belgium – “the Venice of the North” – with our University of Dayton friend Ray and his fiancé Celine. The weather and town were beautiful. We enjoyed a horse and buggy ride as well as a boat ride through the canals. Of course, we sampled the famous Belgian chocolates.

Trying to fit in as many trips as possible before moving and before the arrival of baby #2, we went to Prague in Oct. It is a beautiful city rich with history. We walked all over and enjoyed the sights. We also took in a dinner cruise to see the city and the Prague Castle at night.

With the dawn of 2010 we quickly realized baby #2 will be coming quite soon and started preparing for her arrival. We also found out that Robert received an assignment to Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. We will be moving in July. So there will be much to share in the 2010 Christmas letter!



This letter only scratches the surface of our 2009. If you have a moment, visit our website at www.twogills.com for more photos and videos. We enjoy sharing with you.

We also enjoyed a fun Halloween this year. Corinne was dressed as a clown hobo and had a great time trick-or-treating. She figured out the concept of how to fill up her candy bag quite quickly. Halloween also brought the arrival of Robert's cousin Kelly Frutchey to Germany. We love having her so close by!

We wish you peace and joy in the New Year!

*Love, Robert & Davina
...& Corinne*

In Nov we squeezed in another trip – this time to England. We visited our friends the Blooms and their three children. Their eldest is the same age as Corinne. We had a nice time playing with the kids and touring the area. We spent a day in Cambridge and a day in London – neither of which was long enough. It was a great visit and fortunately we didn't have to drive!



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