

# Our Franco Family Newsletter - 2010



## Happy holidays from our family to yours!

As of January 1, 2011 I am officially retired from work – I have been working since age 14 so now it's been about 45 years. So what to do – well, get another job, something that will be fun and helpful. Not sure what it is yet, but sure that I'm getting another job.

I plan on visiting all my relatives and friends that I have not seen in years – so be sure to send me an invite so I can stay with you 😊

Family is still so important to me – I have to say that my love for family has grown – I love them, I love all my in-laws and pray that we can always love one another and let past problems be past.

I have such great and wonderful children, they are kind and loving people and care of others, I could not be prouder of them!!

I firmly believe that families are forever, and if you doubt me, just check out <http://www.mormon.org> if you have any questions. Or visit my Blog at <http://happyman4.wordpress.com/>

You all have a blessed new year!!! You all will be in my prayers!!!



## Nancy's Year



Well, it's been difficult and wonderful this year.

John had many health issues we have had to deal with these past few years. Cancer, heart problems, gall bladder surgery, motorcycle crash, hospitals, two collar bone surgeries; John almost died three times. But the hardest of all was taking care of my dad after his strokes. I am glad I was able to help him and care for him but it has been the hardest thing I have ever had to do. I can't even begin to explain, but only those who have had to take care of their sick elderly parents know what I mean. My dad passed away in April when I was in Utah for Johanna's college graduation. I was at the Bridal shop trying on the dress I wore to her wedding, when I got the call. I went through a very difficult time after his passing, I also have had health problems, but they have gotten better. I hope to put it all behind me and move forward.

We visited John, Nicole, Patrick & William at their beautiful home this fall. Wow, it's fantastic! They are great parents and the boys are so much fun! We are so proud of them and love them so much.

We had a lot of fun this year spending more time with Melissa. She has a cute house that's warm and cozy. She's been up to MD a number of times and we have

enjoyed every minute of it! We are so proud of all she does and all she has accomplished. She's awesome!

Some very exciting news... Larry & Megan got engaged in August! Their wedding is June 24, 2011 and we can't wait! We are so happy for them! Megan is a wonderful girl and we welcome her into our family with open arms. She and Larry are perfect for each other!

Some great news is that Johanna and Aaron were married in a Holy Temple of our Lord, Jesus Christ. What a blessing! Not only to be married for time (this earthly life) but also for all Eternity (into the life to come). The only place on earth to receive such blessings is in the Holy Temples of our Lord. We are so very happy for them! Aaron is an awesome young man, we love him too. He has a great family that we loved meeting here in MD and in Hawaii; we love them all! Everything and everyone was fantastic. I want to thank all of my family who attended their reception; we were so happy that they celebrated with us. A week in Hawaii and a second reception was... what can I say? Great! Hawaii is so beautiful; we enjoyed being together, our family and the Eskaran family. We went to all of Aaron's favorite sites and had all of Johanna's favorite foods, it just couldn't have been any better ☺

Liz had a study abroad with BYU in London. She was to start with a week in Ireland. Since Liz and I visited Johanna when she did her study abroad in Italy, Johanna and I decided to tour with Liz in Ireland the week before her classes began. Most of my ancestors are from Ireland and I thought it was a great opportunity to show my daughters where they are from.

We went to some of their home counties and might possibly have found some relatives; I'm still working on it. Ireland is truly a beautiful place, so green. Lovely green rolling hills looking like patchwork, outlined in dark green bushes. Ireland also has a lot of great history and castles. We had a super week! And last but not least... Liz and Steve got engaged! Steve is awesome! We love him! We are so happy for them!

I have a wonderful opportunity to teach the youth (14-18) in our church a seminary class every morning before high school. There is no better way to start your day then to study the scriptures with others who want to learn. We feel the Holy Ghost so strongly as we study, I love it! I love these youth so much, they are awesome!

As usual my article is the longest, so I'll end here and say Happy Birthday to our Savior and MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of you! I hope everyone has a great 2011! Love, Nancy

## From Lizzy



Ah, another year has passed. It's true what they say... the years go by faster as you get older. I remember a year seeming like an eternity. Now I don't know where the time went. One thing that hasn't changed over the years is

my love for Christmas. Maryland has sure changed with the stinkbug plague and I have sure matured, but Christmas is still the same. We still bake cream wafers, get our PJs on Christmas Eve, wake up early Christmas morning, take a picture on the stairs and open our presents. It's a ritual or tradition that has lasted ever since I can remember. It's something I can count on. Living so far away in Utah makes me appreciate all I have in Maryland. My time at BYU has taught me a lot about myself and about the world. I even had the opportunity to go on a study abroad this summer. It was stationed in London, but we traveled to Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Paris. I was in Paris for my birthday and it couldn't have been more perfect. We traveled to Liverpool and I was just in heaven! We went to the Beatles museum, Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields. It was a great experience and I love the UK. Right after I returned from my study abroad, my beautiful sister, Johanna, got married! I was the maid of honor and it was a beautiful wedding and reception. Then our whole family traveled to Hawaii for another reception! Hawaii is one of the most beautiful places on earth. Our family really bonded with Aaron's and now we're one big Ohana. Right after our time in Hawaii, I went straight back to school. Let me tell you... BYU is hard. But I have a wonderful fiancé, Steve, who takes care of me when I get stressed about finals or a 10 page final paper. We're so excited about our engagement and what the future holds for us. Steve is graduating from BYU in April and he applied to many Law Schools. We've heard back from a few schools and we're looking at our options. It's exciting to see where he gets accepted and potentially where we'll live for at least the next three years! I love my family,

I love Steve, and I love God. God has blessed me with so much. Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

### *Jo And Aaron Eskaran –*



2010 was a great, great year for us! We got engaged near the end of March (if you're interested in the story you can read it on our blog: [www.aaronandjohanna.blogspot.com](http://www.aaronandjohanna.blogspot.com)). My Mom helped me out a ton with all the wedding planning. It was a really fun task actually. In June Mom, Liz, and I took a week long trip to Ireland! We are mostly Irish, so it was really exciting to see where our ancestors came from. Yet again, Mom did a fabulous job with planning our vacation. We rented a car and made life long memories together. The countryside there is so picturesque. Before we knew it August came around. We were married on the 13<sup>th</sup> and we had a reception in Maryland on the 14<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who don't know, Aaron is from the North shore of Oahu, Hawaii. Consequently, we also had a reception in Hawaii on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August. Aaron's family traveled to MD/DC and got to see some of the sites, and my family got to travel to Hawaii and go to the beach (I think the Franco's got the better end of the deal, haha). We absolutely loved being around our families for a few weeks straight! We couldn't have asked for a better marriage between two families; there is so much love between the Franco's and

Eskaran's! We honeymooned on a neighboring Island in Hawaii. Aaron actually broke his tooth and needed to get a root canal done while we were in Hawaii; he was a really good sport about it and didn't complain at all... but why would he? This "unfortunate" event delayed us from returning to Utah for two more weeks! We loved every minute we spent in Hawaii. Aaron and I are both working in Utah right now, and we are both in the process of applying to graduate school at BYU. We are so happy to be married, life is good! We hope that everyone has a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

### *Melissa Lynn*

Hi everyone. Another year, another update. I'm still with Whole Foods Market as the Team Leader of the Whole Body department. Things have been crazy there this year, but I'm in a great place and learned a lot about myself and people. Homeownership has been a trip...I love it!! It's expensive, but so far all the money has been voluntary, as opposed to necessary. I've closed in my back screened in porch and converted it to a laundry room, which included running plumbing out there. That was the big project, but I also managed to put up a bamboo fence in my back yard. Of course I did a lot of yard stuff: digging up and planting. I used Dad's truck for several months. I never would have believed it when I was younger, but I want a truck!! They are just so darn useful.

Of course the big news of the year for the family was Johanna's wedding. It was really beautiful. I'm so glad that the Eskarans were able to come to MD for the ceremony and stay with us. One big happy family!!! It was really

an amazing experience. I feel so lucky to have such a fantastic family joining ours. Shout out to all the Eskarans, but especially my fellow Baltimore fan, Ammon. Go RAY!!!

So life is good. I've got a house I love, projects to keep me busy, an inspiring and challenging work environment and a loving family that just doubled in size. Happy holidays!



**John, Nicole & Family**



It has been a good year for the Franco Family located in New Jersey. The boys are getting bigger. Patrick did his third year of baseball and started playing flag football. He enjoyed playing flag football and he has started his 2nd season of wrestling this fall. At the first wrestling tournament this year he placed first in his weight, taking home his first wrestling trophy. William is getting bigger and enjoying trying to keep up with his big brother. He has moved into his "big boy bed" and loves playing with his trains and trucks. We raised more chickens this year since we are done with the house renovations and this past week we started getting eggs. The boys love to

check the coop and bring the eggs to the house. We enjoyed Johanna and Aaron's wedding and look forward to next year for Larry and Megan's. Have a good holiday.

Love,  
John, Nicole, Patrick and William

**Larry and Megan**



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Another year has past and we are as busy as ever. Larry and I finally remodeled one of the bathrooms in our house and now we have two functioning bathrooms in our humble abode. We have been chipping away at getting many home projects done in and outside of the house and hopefully, Larry will have a "Manland" in the next year or so. We are looking forward to our wedding this June 24<sup>th</sup> in Cape May at the Hotel Alcott. The ceremony is planned to be on the beach, be prepared to wear flip-flops!

Speaking of weddings, the highlight of 2010 was being part of Johanna and Aaron's wedding this August. We enjoyed spending quality time with family. We traveled to Hawaii and enjoyed even more time together in one of the most beautiful places on Earth. We had a hard time leaving and can't wait to go back in the future. We swam with sea turtles! Megan is still trying to get back as soon as possible to be one with the turtles

again. Larry is still in withdrawals from the waves and pristine waters. Needless to say we loved Hawaii and all of the new family we had a chance to spend time with while we were there.

We really appreciated all of the love and support this year on our engagement! We are looking forward to a spectacular 2011. All the love and best wishes to you all! Love,

Larry and Megan

