



Est. 1986

Weekly News

CHRISTMAS EDITION

Issue 342

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

When you're home for ten months, it really gives you time to organize boxes from your childhood. In among the pages of a scarpbook from the 1980s was this gem. Newsletter No. 1 produced by me and Papa in 1986 (I was 4yrs).

Well, when you find something like that, you realize two things:

1. Explains a lot about why I look after so many newsletters, and
2. We had to publish a 2nd edition, 34 years later to see the differences between Comodore 64 and modern PCs. For your enjoyment a COVID year in review.



THE GANG WENT CRUISING (PRE COVID)



In February, a group of dashing gentlemen, and the belle of the ball charted a course for the Caribbean aboard the Celebrity Equinox, a no-masted, luxurious city on the waves. Having spent years vacationing at all-inclusives, we decided to take the plunge and see what the hype was about cruising on a luxury liner. From the moment we arrived it felt like being a first-class passenger aboard the Titanic (without the iceberg). Seven nights, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Dominican Republic, Bahamas, live shows, casino, drinks and, who can forget, the rum punch. It was a blast! We arrived back in Florida just as the world was starting to feel the effects of COVID, and who knew, at the time, it would be our only great adventure this year.

We won't see the high seas next year but, crossing our fingers and with a hope and a prayer, we are booked to chart a course for the Caribbean again in January 2022.

CHEF JESSE'S TIPS

Need some tasty chocolate chip cookies for the holidays? Here is a recipe that is simple and easy.

Step 1 - Go to Costco and pick up a case of frozen cookies in the freezer section. No need to pre-order, they have lots.

Step 2 - Bring that case of 120 cookies home and find some room in your deep freezer.

Step 3 - Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Step 4 - Remove desired amount of frozen raw cookies from the case. (numbers may vary based on hunger levels)

Step 5 - Spread them out on a cookie sheet, and cook for 12-14 minutes.

Step 6 - Remove from oven, place on a decorative plate and serve to your family. (repeat steps 4-6 as required)

PIKACHU OUR BEST FRIEND



In early January we lost our beloved Pikachu, a fawn greyhound rescue who wanted all the love he could get and spent most of his life napping. Pika gave both of us such joy throughout the years and two guys could not have asked for a better dog to be our friend and keep us company.

As the year has gone on we have missed him ... tripping us, yelping and making us laugh and everything he did. As hard as it was to let him go, we knew that it would have hurt us more to watch him suffer.

ADVENTURES OR LACK OF

We love adventures! We work hard so that we can get out and see the world, check out the sites near and far and experience everything this world has to offer. 2020 has made this difficult but we still have had a chance to do some things that maybe aren't epic adventures:

- St. John Ambulance bourbon tasting,
- A drive through Paris.... Ontario,
- Hotdog at the closed beach in Port Dover,
- A few backyard BBQs with our bubble buddies,
- Weekend Camping at Earl Rowe P.P.
- Hiking 8 waterfalls trails in Hamilton,
- Stoney Creek Battlefield and the Hermitage photo day,
- RBG boardwalk and a few other nature walks,
- Late night trip to see Niagara Falls, (too dark for pictures)
- Moving Jay's parents to their new house.



Let's hope that next year we are able to make up for what we couldn't

do this year, and have much more to report on in the 2021 Christmas edition of weekly news.

EDITORS CHOICE BEVERAGE

On a brisk halloween eve, the wolves howl, and the children scavenge for candy. We sat in the driveway at Aunt Darleen's sipping this fine spirit produced in the heart of Amhurstburg, Ontario.

Wolfhead Coffee Whiskey glistens of a deep toffee brown, and gives the aroma of roasted coffee. Its tastes of sweet indulgent honey, chocolate, and vanilla against a palette of mild Canadian whisky (that's what the LCBO tells us). It is tasty for sure, and would be grand on a cold night watching the lights of your christmas tree, FaceTiming with your friends or poured over a bowl of ice cream.



This year's Christmas edition of Weekly News has been sponsored by the lack of things to do on the weekend during a pandemic.

We must give a hats-off to the the late Ross Webster (Papa) who made the first edition so many years ago. I know he would have gotten a kick out of this one!

**Will there be an issue next year?
Only time will tell.**

CAMPING



For a year spent mostly in the confines of our home, we really didn't get to go many places. But we did manage to get out for a weekend of roughing-it in the woods. Well... more like Provincial Park camping at

Earl Rowe, in the trailer, and a day trip to Collingwood to see the sites. Along for the adventure, were two of our Bubble Buddies Jeff & Gary who kept us company, feasted on some great food, and kept warm by the roaring fire with wine.

LIFE IS FULL OF FIRSTS

You are never too old to continue to experience things for the first time. In 1986 it was the first time I attempted to ski, ha... something I would attempt once more in high school and decide it's really not for me. This year has seen many firsts as well. First time working from home for a prolonged period of time, for both of us. First experience using Zoom web conferencing to keep in touch with friends, colleagues and family, and first attempt at building a website: www.jasonburgoin.com This list does sound somewhat sad in comparison to years past. Let's hope that the list of firsts is much more exciting next year!



The halls have been decked, and the tree has been trimmed. The cards have been mailed, and we're running low on our supply of Christmas ale.

It should be no secret to anyone that Christmas is a favourite time of year around our house. We have invested a bit more interest into the decorating this year for the Holiday, to hopefully add some cheer to our neighbourhood, and keep our spirits up in the house. We might not be able to make the rounds to visit our family and friends as much as we have in the past but we know that we are blessed to have so many wonderful people in our lives and look forward to the day when we can hang out again.

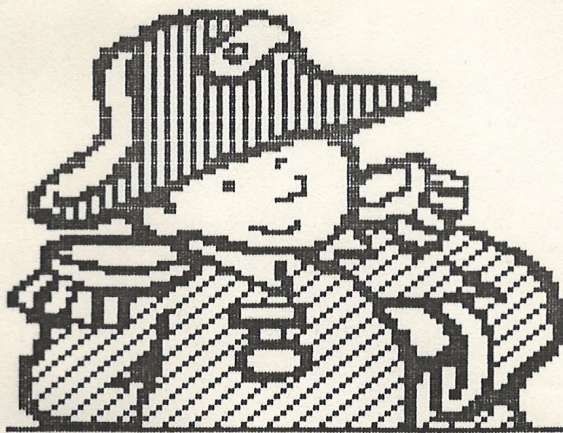
Both Jesse and I hope that Santa is good to everyone this year, and encourage all to help others who are in need, if you are able. We know that there are many out there who struggle during this time and can always use the benefit of a caring friend to keep them going during the long winter months. **Merry Christmas to All!**

Special Thanks and Honourable Mentions:

Our Bubble buddies (Austin, Andrew, Becky, Jeff & Gary) for keeping it real during the pandemic. Without you guys we would be going crazy.

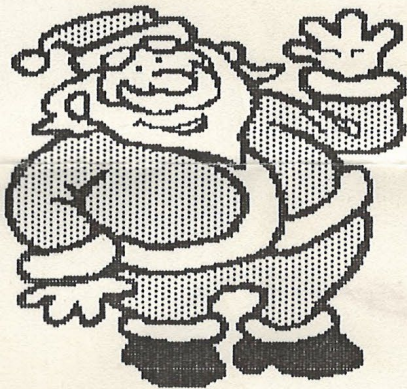
Our families. We have not been able to see you all as much as normal, but hopefully in 2021 that will change.

Adam & Matt we are glad that you will be back from deployment by Christmas, and thinking of those friends who are still on operations.

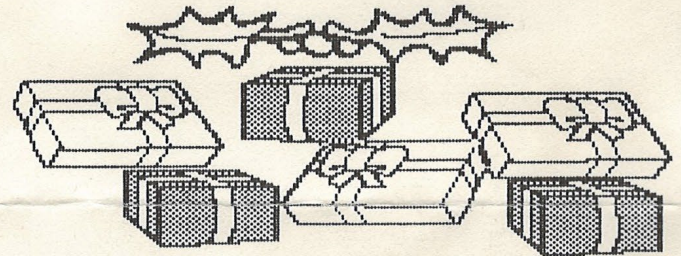


Jason's Weekly News

CHRISTMAS ISSUE



It was a great Christmas. Everyone came to see me, including Mom, Dad, Uncle Chuck, Aunt Debbie, and Great Grandma. Of course Papa and Nanny were already here. Santa came too.



We ~~X~~ received lots of presents from Santa and everyone.

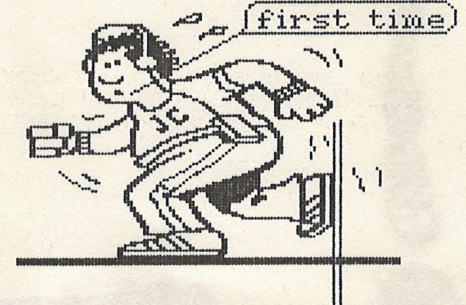
My cousin Sarah came

Uncle Chuck and Aunt Debbie brought Sarah for her first Christmas. It was a lot of fun to have some one smaller around to see how I moved when I was little. We had dinner together and everything. She was very well behaved and did not have much to say.



My first Skiing

My first day of skiing was very exciting although most of my time was spent laying down. Nanny managed to pick me up often enough to enjoy the sport. For future events I will try not to laugh so much so I can try to stand up more. Nanny says we may get Papa out.



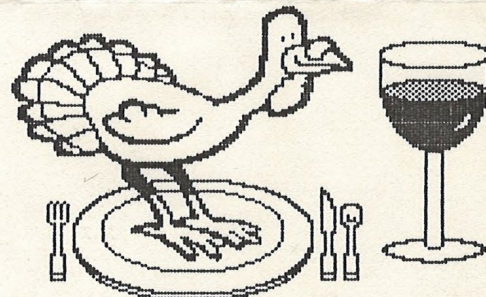
Red gets a Christmas Bone.



Friendly Red was given a Christmas Bone left by Santa and delivered by Papa. It took Red almost 30 seconds to bury it forever. I

guess he has more fun burying it and spending the rest of the winter looking for it. Perhaps in the spring I can help him look for it when I get my tractor out again to help Papa.

CHRISTMAS DINNER



Christmas dinner was a great success again this year. Nanny bought a 30 pound turkey and spent two days cooking it to perfection. Although the turkey did not look

to happy he will be thought of for days. I am sure Papa and me will look forward to turkey sandwiches for the next few weeks.