



Merry Christmas from the Gullman's



BAMBOO
GIANT
NURSERY

www.bamboogiant.com

**Our new Life at the
Nursery**

BAMBOO GIANT NURSERY
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Overview of the Nursery



**MSB
Technology
building in La
Honda (www.
msbtech.com)**



**David eating
Chicken feet
(David and
Larry spent 2
weeks in China
last month)**



Hello Friends and Family,

Christmas 1999

Life would seem a little crazy if you did not believe God had a plan for your life. We started the year taking off on an extended sailing trip. Most of us had a great time but Lisa suffered from chronic seasickness. Even anchored in the relative calm of Santa Cruz, she was sick week after week. Larry and the kids spent some time ashore with bicycles looking around and just happened to look at some real estate in Aptos (nearby).

To make a long story short, we ended up trading our sailboat for a bamboo nursery. We also bought the land with several houses. This spring, we moved off the boat and onto the property. Larry's sister Lynn, husband Robert and family, niece Willow and fiance Bob, and nephew Elijah all moved from Minnesota to get involved in the nursery.

Now we are all together for the first time, living and working in close proximity each day. In the long run we are excited about this but have had some difficulties getting along.

We enjoy running a nursery. The kids are all involved, and are gaining experience with sales, installations and landscaping. It is great to be involved with the earth. Lisa and Rachel give tours and handle customers. David works with installations. The younger kids do what they can.

Santa Cruz is a fun place to live. It is a little warmer here, we are in a protected part of Monterey Bay so the ocean is a little warmer and the beaches nicer. We are three miles from the beach and close to shopping but still feel like we are in the country. We have found several great churches in the area. We attend Santa Cruz Bible Church (membership of 4000 or so) on Saturday night. We enjoy the excellent teaching and music. Sunday morning we attend a smaller local church, Calvary Chapel in Aptos. The kids are more involved here. They also attend youth meeting at Aptos Christian Fellowship which is just down the street. It is a great change after the isolation of La Honda.

Larry still runs up to La Honda from time to time to work at MSB Technology (just over an hour away). Although not required on a day to day basis, he enjoys staying involved with product design and international marketing. He and David spent 2 weeks in Taiwan, Hong Kong and China in November. It was great to travel at a more leisurely rate than in his consulting days!

Next summer (late summer) we plan on spending several months in Europe. We will attend a bamboo conference in England in August. Then we will travel around and visit our MSB Distributors in each country. We will also see as many bamboo nurseries as possible. Bamboo caught on earlier in Europe so the industry is more developed than here.

Here's the rundown on the kids:

David - graduates high school this spring. He took a horticulture class at the local community college this fall and enjoyed it a little - he will try out a computer class in the spring semester. He lives in a little apartment at the Nursery and enjoys the freedom of playing internet computer games late at night.

Rachel - Rachel will have her driving licence soon and become mobile. She enjoys youth meetings at two churches, manages much of the household tasks and takes violin lessons.

Julie - music lessons, school, pets and chores keeps her busy.

Jonathan - He has remodeled his bedroom and added a bathroom. He is eagerly learning all the building skills. He visits MSB and is becoming a competent technician.

Rebecca and Daniel - They are active inside and out and are up for anything. They are really enjoying having the cousins close by!

How are all of you. We surely enjoy your letters and cards,

Larry, Lisa, David, Rachel, Julie, Jonathan, Rebecca and Daniel

We still receive our mail and have our phone in La Honda, but a more direct contact can be made here:
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