

Christmas 2002

The Chowaniec's Great Move



After much anticipation, we moved into our new house in April. Any move is not without it's problems and in our case it was the telephone service.

The phone company informed us that our phone would be installed 2 days after we moved in. When this failed to occur, they rescheduled our installation for a week later. This (of course) failed to occur. We were then informed of the real problem. The southern edge of the city, where we are now located, has been growing at a phenomenal rate. They had not installed enough lines in our



neighbourhood to meet the demand.

Joe requested that they link our home phone number to our cell phone in the meantime. It was very cool to be able to carry our home phone with us wherever we went. Our phone was finally installed 2 months after we moved in and it cost the phone company \$500 to pay for the minutes of use on our cell phone during this time. (The hole they were working in kept filling up with water.)

All the little things that a new house needs have kept us busy and our pocketbook empty this year. Blinds were installed, throw rugs for the hardwood were purchased (so Kira could feel her footing was secure), and a fence was built. Only a few boxes still need to be unpacked 7 months after moving in! The builder is **finally** getting around to fixing the few problems that exist.

Here is our new address:

Rami and Joe

**Chowaniec
411 Byrne Cresc SW
Edmonton, AB Canada
T6W 1C9**

New email addresses are:

**Joe's:
chowaniec@shaw.ca**

**Rami's:
rami1@shaw.ca**

Our phone number stayed the same:

780.435.8030

We have lots of room in our new abode so please come visit.

That Thing Called Work

Joe's position as Program Manager at the Environmental Services Association of Alberta is as challenging as ever. Highlights this year included: a trip to Calgary for the G8 Summit in June, organization of a highly successful Remediation Technologies Symposium at the Rimrock Resort in Banff, and a **very** cold golf tournament in

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September (changed to July for next year).

Rami's position at Safeway has expanded considerably now that she is a **Certified Diabetes Educator**. She is now spending one day a week out of the store involved in diabetes education opportunities.

An article she wrote on diabetes medications has been published in the Safeway magazine "**Managing Diabetes**" October 2002 edition. Rami is also educating patients about diabetes in their physician's offices.

Joe, the dog and the cat, now know more about diabetes than they ever cared to know.

Travels with Joe (and Rami)

Joe spent a good deal of time



south of the border this year with his friend, Elio. Trips included a week in Las Vegas in January for a sportscard trade show, a quick trip to Las Vegas in May for a Britney Spears concert (stuck in a snow storm for way too many hours), and a flight to New York to see 3 NHL and 2 NFL games in a 5 day visit. (Also visited Ground Zero in lower Manhattan.)



Rami and Hilery tagged along with Joe and Elio on a road trip to

the Olympics in February. We managed to obtain tickets to both a Canadian men's and women's hockey game and the women's Giant Slalom. Cheering for athlete's representing your country at an international event is exhilarating. The best quote of the trip was given by Rami upon reaching Salt Lake City. She commented, "**It smells like salt.**" Imagine that!

Our 10th wedding anniversary was in June and we celebrated in style in where else, Las Vegas! We saw Cirque de Soleil at the Bellagio Hotel in "O". Absolutely breathtaking! A trip to Las Vegas would not be complete without dancing at the infamous Studio 54, and we also ascended to top of the

Eiffel Tower (Las Vegas version). For those of you who were at our wedding 10 years ago, where has the time gone?

The girls (Rami and Hilery) decided it was high time for a trip to Las Vegas by themselves in August. They rode 4 roller coasters (3 in 1 day) and recuperated in between sunbathing by the pool.

Animal Antics

Kira and Odo are currently healthy but they both gave us a scare this year. Odo helped himself to some chicken wing bones in May and spent a weekend in the pet hospital. Kira contracted pancreatitis in October that put her in the hospital for almost a week. She was a very sick puppy. She lost 6 or 7 pounds in that time that she quickly regained when she

