

the  
**Selzer family**

annual "what's up" bulletin by Ronni Selzer

## Coming Up!

December 20  
Aidan arrives for his winter break!

December 20  
My mom arrives for Christmas!

December 20  
My Birthday

December 24  
Christmas Eve

December 25  
Christmas Day

December 30  
Aidan turns 9



## Highlights from 2011

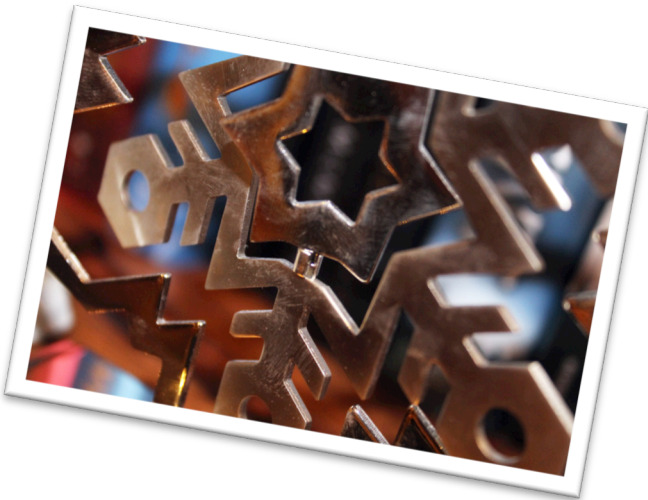
I don't know about you, but time definitely seems to be going faster. Is it really almost Christmas 2011 already? How in the world did that happen? What a year it's been! Full of exciting things, changes, and love.

2011 kicked off with a low key New Year's Eve celebration in our apartment. Just a few days later, Adam and I boarded a plane and headed to Orlando to visit my favorite mouse in the whole world. This Disney trip was especially cool because Eli and Melissa were there running the marathon(s), and Cassidy & Lola, Sharon, and Rich were there, too! Disney World in January is challenging. The crowds are low, but the weather is unstable. Some days, I was in full winter gear, other days, I was in tee-shirts. It never got quite warm enough for shorts.

February brought the most disgusting blizzard ever. People were calling it Blizzaster and Snowmageddon. Lake Shore Drive had to be shut down, and cars scattered everywhere as passengers abandoned their vehicles. It was truly frightful. We recovered from that just in time to meet "Weird Al" Yankovic at the Children's Literature Breakfast. This event rendered Aidan totally shy and totally cute.

March and April went by with nothing major happening, and in May, I got to meet one of my favorite authors ever again! She totally recognized me, too.





June marked the return of Aidan to Chicago for his fourth summer, and we kicked things off with a trip to Disney World! (Yes, I got to go twice in one year. How lucky am I?) After we got back, my mom flew in and spent a few days in Chicago, but I was working so much that I didn't get to see much of her.

In July, we adopted a new kitty cat. Well, Fi isn't exactly new. I got him as a Christmas gift in 1999, and I left him with Aidan when I moved to Chicago. I got the opportunity to get him back and jumped on it. I'm so happy to have Fi living with me again. He's 12 years old and an awesome cat. He's all black, silky, and has green eyes. He's super chill, always purring, and almost always by my side.

As usual, the summer months in Chicago go way too quickly, and it before we knew it, it was fall again. By this time, I had left my job at Schawk and resumed working freelance, and Adam started doing ghost tours for Chicago Hauntings again. He's enjoying his tour work very much! I took on a work/study gig at Moksha Yoga Studio. I edit their newsletters in exchange for unlimited free yoga. How awesome is that? In addition, I am still working for Loyola University, and I get the chance to work on other neat projects here and there. I'm currently searching for a part time job so I can have steady income, but that's proving to be quite a challenge.

In September, we got to see a test taping of The Rosie Show which was neat. I'd never been in a studio audience of a huge production like that before. We took a drive to Ohio to visit my family. I got to reconnect with family members I hadn't seen in more than ten years, and Adam and I got to ride horses for the first time ever! I also got to feed a giraffe. That was a great experience!

October passed in a blur. It proved very busy for Adam, as he worked six to seven nights every week to keep up with the ghost hunting tour demand. I was very busy with my own projects and deadlines. Before we knew it, it was November!

Adam released two books: EXTRAORDINARY, and SPARKS (under the pen name S.J. Adams). We got to see a real taping of The Rosie Show. We flew to Atlanta to celebrate "Thanksmas," a combination of Christmas and thanksgiving. This trip was extra special because it was Aidan's first time in Atlanta. He had a great time at Grandma Sharon's and Grandpa Rich's, and he loved playing with little Lola. They were so cute together!

Aidan continues to thrive in school. He's doing very well in all his classes, and he's enjoying singing in the choir.

Life is good. Here's hoping and praying that 2012 is chock full of good fortune, good health, good weather, blessings, love, and gratitude for all of us. ★

# Happy Holidays! ☺

I hope you all have an magical and blessed holiday season, and that 2012 will be awesome in every way. Thanks for reading!!

'Til next year! ♥

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