

I hope this letter finds you and yours well! This year has been quiet for Chris and I and mostly about enjoying each other. Knowing that someday kids will be in the picture, we are enjoying the “calm before the storm”! ;-)

### **Our Jobs**

Chris is still at Vincera Software. They are plugging away and working on some new customers and contracts. Chris recently returned from Philadelphia where he was doing some consulting for a client. He had a chance to walk around town and see Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell as well as enjoy an authentic Philly cheese steak! Chris said that you could see the affects of 9/11 as the national monuments are fenced off and are nowhere near as approachable as they used to be.

Last year, Chris mentioned that I had found some contract work. Our client was so pleased with our work that they asked me and my business partner, Jackie Nickels, to start a software company and build out the product. The product is a deal flow software for private equity investors, which include endowments, pension funds and other corporate investment funds. Our client has now become a part owner in Kerr Partners, LLC. Jackie and I are working hard to get our first boxed version completed by February and will be in sales mode after that. Here we go with another start-up in the family! Keep your fingers crossed!

### **Weddings, Weddings, Everywhere!**

It was another year of out-of-town wedding and we still aren't complaining! We headed to San Francisco, Pennsylvania and Minneapolis. In San Fran, Chris got to reunite with some very dear friends and see Nick and Lylie celebrate their 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary. We ate some fresh sushi and dim sum in Chinatown and enjoyed spending some time in a city we both love. In Pennsylvania, it was a family affair as my cousin Amy and her fiancée, Nolo, tied the knot. We had some great laughs and really enjoyed the time catching up and reminiscing. Minneapolis was another reunion of old, dear friends as our very own “Captain” Mike married the lovely Elizabeth! Minneapolis is a cool city! It's vibe is very similar to Austin. I think our favorite sight was the sculpture gardens – a very diverse and impressive collection of sculptures!

### **Road Trip to Colorado**

One thing that Chris and I have become certain of is that we love the mountains. After a long year, we were itching to get away and see some foliage. So, on the spur of the moment, we decided to head to Southern Colorado for 8 days. We traveled from Pagosa Springs to Silverton, through Ouray and Montrose to Gunnison and then back down through Lake City and Alamosa on the way home. We hiked about 35 miles through the San Juan and Rocky Mountains. They had an early snow shower a few weeks before, so all the mountains were dusted with a coating of snow. It made for a gorgeous backdrop against the yellow aspens and evergreens. We drove through some mountain passes that were breathtaking! Breathtaking because of the views and because of the narrow roads, sheer drop-offs and lack of guardrails! Our favorite hike was the Highland Mary Lakes hike that took us up to 12,000 feet of elevation and to a collection of 5 highland lakes. We spent most of the hike next to a network of brooks and waterfalls of various sizes and shapes. At the top, we were looking out onto the Grenadiers –the most jagged peaks in Colorado. Overall, the trip blew us away. We both returned to Austin recharged and renewed.

The trip was so amazing – I could fill two pages and then some about how breathtaking the scenery was. Luckily, Chris averaged about 138 pictures a day!! He has spent the weeks after the trip organizing his favorites. You can see his pictures at <http://www.hedgefamily.net/pantsinthefamily>

### **Chris' New Hobby**

I should mention that Chris' new hobby is photography. He recently purchased a snazzy digital camera and is having a blast with it. I think he takes awesome photos! He will be posting many of his recent photos out to the website. Oh, and don't you love “pants in the family” portion of the link? Yeah, I just found out tonight that is what he named his part of the website.... cute, honey. I told him that it would confuse people, because they would think it was referring to me! ;-)

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### **Hanging out on our Bikes**

Chris and I have gotten back into our bike riding with a vengeance! The three previous weekends we have averaged about 40 miles a ride. We have been riding in and around Austin and have enjoyed the workout as well as the beauty of landscape. We aren't training for anything this time around – we are just enjoying the high we get from riding our bikes.

### **Becoming Outdoorsmen**

Our road trip to Colorado made us realize that we need to enjoy some of the nature right around us. This coming year, we are looking to purchase a tent and start camping at all of the wonderful Texas state parks and visiting landmarks like Big Ben. REI has become our favorite store!! They have such cool camping equipment and every other outdoor tool that has been invented to date! :-p We walk in there, drool, and immediately think “road trip”!

### **But when are you two having kids?**

C'mon, we know you were thinking it. At least we are positive that our parents are. We are thinking very seriously about starting a family...and maybe soon. No promises, but I will say that we both feel ready and looking forward to finally making some human additions to our family!

That covers most of the highlights for now. I have been pretty bad about updating the website, but that task is now my #1 New Years' resolution. And now with Chris posting his pictures as well – there should be much more activity on our website – [www.hedgefamily.net](http://www.hedgefamily.net). So do bookmark it and check it often! Please drop us a line if you have a chance. Our email addresses are: Alyssa – [Alyssa\\_hedge@hotmail.com](mailto:Alyssa_hedge@hotmail.com) and Chris – [c\\_hedge@hotmail.com](mailto:c_hedge@hotmail.com). We wish you and yours a wonderful new year full of love, peace, joy and most of all laughter. Take good care and please keep in touch.

Love Always,

Chris, Alyssa, Chase, Rosie, Emerson, and Madeline  
[www.hedgefamily.net](http://www.hedgefamily.net)