

As you are receiving this letter this apparently must have been an exciting year for us with enough news being worth to put into words for a Christmas letter once again. We hope these lines find you well and enjoying the Holidays.

We started off this eventful year in France visiting our friends Cindy and Patrice, where we savored French cooking knowledge and celebrated New Year's Eve. We were happy to get in one day of skiing for the parents, half a day of French skiing class for Meriel ("I did not understand the teacher, but still knew what to do. ☺"), some sledding in the Alps and ice skating in Grenoble.

Since the end of last year, we were on the search for a larger place to live (yes, we had to plan for two more people joining us soon...). In March, we finally moved into a nice place right outside of Munich (please note our new address at bottom of letter).

Gröbenzell has turned out as a great place for all of us - lots of open-minded and friendly people, and plenty of nature and playgrounds while all necessary facilities are close by and for all others Munich is just a short drive away.

After the move, at least for the kids things have not changed too much - Anaise and Meriel still attended their little English speaking Preschool in Munich. We don't want to count the hours and miles we spent in the car. But as much as we were longing for the summer break, it was good they finished their school year in Munich. We have wonderful memories and they still miss their friends and teachers.

Another move, another baby? Sure, here you go: As of 07/07/07 - not at 07:07 but at 4:40 - Quirin Julius completed our cloverleaf. He surprised us in many ways and has turned into a happy little person that brings all the attributes to survive in a family with 3 older siblings: thankful for any attention - especially by his siblings, very forgiving, he greets his older siblings with a big smile when they are coming home from school, kindergarten, and preschools, and gladly accepts the baby role when they play their daddy-mommy-baby-games.

Then came the summer and thanks to McKinsey's generous new parent rules plus most of his vacation time, Andreas was able to spend most of July and August with his growing family. After all those busy weeks, we went on our first summer vacation as a family of six at the Baltic Sea. In spite of the some-what cooler weather, we enjoyed two very relaxing weeks with Michaela, Robert and their family. At least one ice cream per day, the beach as an endless sand box, and even the cold water made the kids happy and Andreas was equally happy about the sometimes quite strong winds and mastered multi-loopings with his kite.

Then, in September, Meriel had her big day and started school: our little girl is now a proud first grader who enjoys school very much. She has a wonderful teacher and found friends among the children in her class. It is fun to see her explore the world of numbers and letters, and we have very few struggles with home work.

Andreas Pecher & Diana Seubert
Zirbelweg 2, 82194 Gröbenzell, Germany
phone: +49-8142-291-3067 email: andreas2@dianandreas.com

Anaise also started at a new school. The local preschool follows a different concept than the previous one; she still settled in well and likes the more open environment. She pretty soon made friends with several children, some of them even in the close neighborhood.

We are very much looking forward to spring and summer, where both girls now know a lot of kids when we go to the playgrounds!

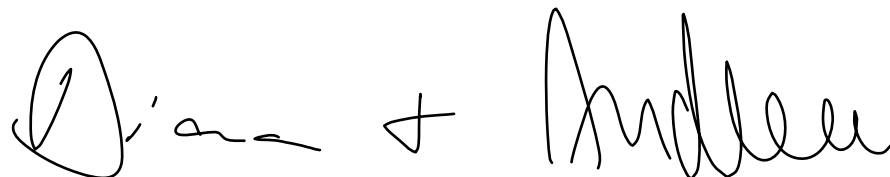
Meriel and Anaise continued taking ballet lessons - we just admired them on stage as little doves in "Snow White". What a moment!

By now also Leander has his own thing going on: three mornings a week he goes to his playgroup without mommy, but with Angelika and his eight little friends.

Anticipating the moment for quite a while, we were happy to welcome another person at the end of October: Mercy, our au pair from Kenya, who will be living with us for one year. I bet she is glad when those cold days are over! It is great to have her around, especially with Andreas being gone most of the week. Not only am I thankful for the extra help around the house, but also the extra pair of hands when it is time to put the kids to bed or to juggle the various appointments. Besides being able to give each child some more special attention, I can finally start thinking about doing something just for myself.

For Andreas the year had its ups and downs - right now an Achilles rupture that happened while playing squash is keeping him from doing the sports he normally does. With adequate physiotherapy he is hoping to be able to hit the slopes (not literally hopefully ☺) towards the end of the ski season. Job-wise this has been a good year with lots of interesting projects, mostly with players in the semiconductor industry and some work for photovoltaics.

All in all this has been a great year and especially precious were the many hours we were able to spend with lots of our friends visiting us from near and afar. Maybe we can include your visit in next year's letter?

A handwritten signature in black ink. It consists of the name 'Diana' written in a cursive style, followed by a plus sign '+', and then the name 'Andreas' also written in a cursive style.

