



Kowalski Christmas Chronicle



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Happy Holidays!

December 2007



YEAR OF THE LADYBUG

Two-thousand seven was definitely the Year of Liliana Yuhuan Kowalski. At the start of the year, she was still a toothless little baby; now at the end of it, she is a charming (if feisty) little girl. Liliana has a fluent signing vocabulary of over 100 words, which is not almost matched by her verbal vocabulary. She is a happy girl who likes to laugh, paint, color, and play outdoors. She loves to sing and dance, and has developed a deep fascination with ducks and Elmo. Without a doubt, she keeps the staff here at the Chronicle delighted... and busy!

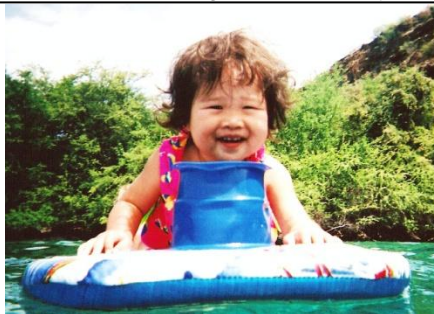


LILIANA CELEBRATES 1ST



On March 19, Liliana turned 1 year old, an event celebrated across the country throughout the month. In February, Liliana and Bailey traveled to Florida to celebrate Lili's birthday with grandparents, Judi & Jerry, and the family.

There, she was thrown a family party marked by presents and an entire cake just for Liliana. In March, Liliana, Bailey, and Travis were joined by Travis' mother Patty to celebrate Lili's birthday again. There, Lili was thrown *another* party, this one attended by friends and kids, but still marked with presents and an entire cake just for Liliana. Suffice it to say, Liliana is much loved and is now full of cavities.



GRANDPARENT PILGRIMAGE

2007 was the Summer of Grandparents for the Kowalski family. In June, Liliana, Bailey, and Travis packed up their sunscreen and bathing suits and headed to sunny Hawaii to spend time with the Grandparents Franz, Jerry and Judi, on the Big Island. There, the family snorkeled often, watched manta rays, and hiked through Volcano National Monument. While in Hawaii, Liliana learned to snorkel-board, beach-comb, and charm the pants off everyone she met. In August, the Kowalski gang headed out to southern California to visit her Grandparents Schuler, Bruce and Patty, at a Schuler family reunion. While in California, Liliana learned to trampoline, moon-bounce, and to further hone her pants-offing charm. Then, finally in October, Liliana and Travis flew to Las Vegas to meet her Grandparents Kowalski, Bob and Sue, for a quick weekend getaway. While in Vegas, Liliana learned to strum a guitar, play with animals, and to make folks love her from coast to coast and everywhere in-between.

A FAMILY FOREVER

On November 13, The Kowalski family celebrated a very special double holiday. Not only was it Bailey's birthday, it was also the first anniversary of Forever Family Day, the day that the family was united for the first time. Though Forever Family Day itself was marked by the trio going out to dinner with Bailey and Liliana opening presents, the real celebration was (like any holiday) held on Forever Family Day "Observed," that Saturday. Liliana, Bailey, and Travis marked Lili's one-year-ago arrival to the family with a traditional Chinese-style group dinner, surrounded by several of their friends from Rapid City. Liliana, wearing a red silk dress made in her province in China, was the bell of the ball, munching down on noodles and blowing kisses across the table to everyone. The food was delicious and the company was charming. It is hard to believe that it has only been a year!

SAVED BY THE BELL

Another year, another class of eager young minds. This year found Bailey and Travis hard at work educating the minds of tomorrow. Bailey continued to be the most popular 8th grade math teacher ever at Dakota Middle School. A technology trailblazer, Bailey is using new wireless and touch-screen technology to bring exciting interactivity into her algebra classes. This year she was recognized for her hard work by earning tenure at DMS. Just down the street, Travis continued teaching and doing mathematics at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. This year he is spearheading four undergraduate research projects, and his paper *Using a ruler to calculate angles* was accepted by the College Mathematics Journal, and will appear in March 2008.

FURTHER RESOURCES

To read the most up-to-date stories and see photos of Liliana, please visit our websites at <http://ladybug.komplexify.com> and <http://komplexify.com>



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All of the opinions published in the *Kowalski Christmas Chronicle* represent the opinions of the authors, who wish all of our friends and family the best for the holiday season.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Love and Peace Always,
Bailey, Travis, and Liliana Yuhuan