





Family and Friends we hope and pray your Christmas Season is special, as our busy year has been. Full sized photos are at <http://www.walden3d.com/photos/...> . . We start off this year in our back yard (1), where we spent most of the year attempting to turn cement into a garden. Turns out roots from the big Cypress Tree broke a pipe on the pool, and it was an experience getting all of the roots dug out and the garden actually planted. This was to get the back yard ready for Rachel and Garret's Houston reception. It rained. We did get the garage cleaned out and can park a car in the garage now (2). The wedding was perfect (3), the Salt Lake Reception was wonderful (4), and we were able to spend time with Heather (5), Sara, as well as Audrey and Paul and their families. Andrea hosted a Relief Society Enrichment night when we returned (6), and the weather was nice. Matt went with us to the San Jacinto Monument (7). Andrea and I went to Copenhagen, Denmark (8 is a panorama from our hotel room), Helsinki, Finland (9 shows the inside of Temppeliaukion Kirkko a church quarried into bedrock), and Amsterdam, The Netherlands (10 shows windmills from one of Andrea's tours) for business meetings and the EAGE (European Association of Geoscientists & Engineers). We came home and helped with the Nelson Reunion (<http://nelson.walden3d.com>), and were able to spend time with Aunt Sara's and Paul's families (11). The Nelson Family entered one of two floats in the Cedar City July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade (12). The truck says "Bengt Nelson, Sr. Builder of the Future" with a cardboard replica of SUU's Old Main. The wagon full of grandchildren says "Roice and Emma Nelson family building the future through Education." Later Aunt Sara sent me a photo of my cousin Paul driving sheep through down town Cedar City (13), and since we often want what others have, it seems appropriate to include this photo as a something Roice sometimes misses. Our friends Jeff (former Chief Reservoir Engineer ConocoPhillips) and Paula Jurinak invited us to join them when Eldon Schumtz, Andrea's former Bishop, did water witching on their property outside of Richfield, Utah (14). Fun. Rob (15) and Matt (16) showed up the old man deep sea fishing. Melanie and Jared and family moved to Houston for Dental School (17). Andrea made several quilts, including one for Avalyn Ashby (18), who was born shortly after the Wrights arrived in Katy (19). Roice took Colby Wright to Lafayette on a business meeting, where Colby saw the 4-Wall CAVE (Computer Aided Visualization Environment), a 2-D treadmill in a 3-Wall CAVE, and other state of the art visualization technologies (20). Roice and Andrea were back in Utah for the Hafen Reunion on Labor Day Weekend in Pinto (21). Roice and Andrea were back in Utah a few weeks later for the dedication of the Noble Blast Furnace Replica (22) based on research in Morris and Kathryn Shirts' book "A Trial Furnace." Grandma Shirts cut the ribbon at the dedication (23). We got a photo with Andrea's brothers Steve and Russell and Russell's son Danny, Andrea's brother Randy and his wife Kathryn, Andrea, Grandma Shirts, and Roice (24). We drove up Cedar Canyon after the dedication, and loved seeing the beautiful fall colors (25). On the weekend of November 6<sup>th</sup> 9 of our 10 kids (Heather is biking semi-professionally and had a conflict), 4 and an almost spouses, and 5 of 9 grandkids gave Roice a surprise birthday party. It was an absolutely wonderful and amazing weekend, with special gifts and service that will always be remembered. We did not get to see Ethan and Sarah this year (27). Tim proposed to Sara Ellyn last weekend (28). Audrey and Joshua and Kate and Paul are expecting. We hope you are also looking forward to 2010!

With Love, 

---

H. Roice Nelson, Jr. &  
Andrea Shirts Nelson  
1307 Emerald Green  
Houston, TX 77094

---

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and yours!