

## The 49ers Party



This year, there was a decision to have a 49ers party for Chris and Dirk. For a little while both of them would be 49 years old. It was decided that Wasserbahn hotel and water park in the Amanas would be the location. Needless to say it was a blast.

A call was put out to all Millers to see who wanted to attend. The final participants were Chris, Ann, Dirk, Lori, Charley, Pookie, Mike, Amy, Katlyn, Ryan and Kim. We had reservations for a couple months now since the rooms are in high demand in the winter.

We did almost have a disaster. On Friday, Lori called over to verify the room and make sure everything was set. She was told that she didn't have a reservation. The rep said she had a reservation for January 23<sup>rd</sup> but didn't show up. She also told Lori that Pook and I didn't have a reservation. Needless to say Lori was a little upset. Lori called Pook and me to let us know. She had to meet with a customer so Pook and I told her we would take care of it. Pook called the hotel and finally got a hold of the manager. Dirk and Lori originally had one suite with two rooms; they ended up getting two rooms joined together for the same price. Pook verified our reservation was still set. Disaster averted and we had everything we needed.

Dirk and Lori rode over to the Amanas with Pook and me. It was a fun trip over. We left Ankeny around 9AM and arrived around 11AM. We got checked in and hit the water park. Wasserbahn is fun. They have a pool with a basketball hoop, a kiddie's splash area, this cool round pool that has a strong circular current which almost carries you. They also have two fun slides and a huge hot tub. We spent about an hour in the water park. Mike and Amy arrived at noon. We had lunch and then went back to the water park.

Pookie was the hero of the day. They had a lily pad area that was about four feet deep. She noticed that there was this little girl in the water who couldn't touch and was struggling and going under. Pookie quickly reached in and pulled her out of the water. The mom didn't know where her daughter had gone. She was very grateful to Pookie.

Chris and Ann arrived around 3PM. We all stayed in the water park until about 6PM. We were going to go to Buffalo Wild Wings for dinner. We thought that maybe Iowa basketball was playing and it would be packed. We decided instead to eat at the Ox Yoke. They served dinner family style. It was fantastic. We had chicken, roast beef and ham along with a bunch of sides. We even had this awesome broccoli salad even though Ann resisted us getting it. It was the best restaurant ever.

After we all pigged out, we headed back across the street to the hotel/water park. We went back to the water park. We all went down the slides several times. It was a rush. The slides at night are completely dark. You see nothing! It was fun. We also had a Lily Pad challenge. Yes, Dirk, Charley, Mike, Ryan, Amy all attempted getting across these floating Lily pads with the use of an overhead net. I made it to pad 3 of 6. Ryan believe it or not got right through with no problems. I bet I looked like a Ninja or gymnast.

We headed back to our rooms at about 10PM. Needless to say we were all a bit tired. We were going to get back together in Dirk and Lori's room for some games. Pookie and I never made it, we crashed hard. From what I understand, Dirk and Lori and their kids played games for awhile.

Sunday we got up and headed to the pool for a brief dip. We checked out at 11AM. We couldn't finish off any Miller get together without eating so we went to Olive Garden for lunch.

It was a fantastic weekend. Like all get togethers there were tons of stories, eating, sarcasm and joking. It was really nice to see Chris and Ann who we don't get to spend as much time together with as we would like. We decided this is going to be another annual tradition. A water park in February. of course it should be tabbed a water park and lots of restaurants in February.

Keep an eye out in the galleries. In the next couple days I will have pictures from the weekend as well as pictures of the two 49ers.

Happy birthdays to the two 49ers.