



*“Holiday Greetings from the Zweibohmers”
Travis, Britta, Matthew and Kelsey
2015*

Kelsey is excited to begin high school next fall and is doing everything within her power to accelerate the pace, in fact she will have taken six high school courses before ever even having stepped foot on campus. As a current eighth grader, Kelsey is a proud member of the Junior National Honor Society, student council treasurer and executive director of the school's televised morning announcements. She is also a member of the Ambassador's Club which assists new students and she's had great fun as “Woffie” the school mascot at assemblies and sporting events. She just recently began tutoring a fellow student and is currently helping start up a newly formed robotics club. There are times we feel as if she over extends herself, but she seems to find great joy in pushing herself and achieving goals. Kelsey recently won three awards including a “Character Counts” award which is bestowed upon only one student at each of our area schools. She also earned the honor of competing at the state history fair and just won a science project award in which she will be going to the district finals next month. Kelsey's never ending energy is both inspiring and tiring-- and we can't wait to see what the future holds for her!

Matthew is currently a high school sophomore, has his driving permit and is looking forward to getting his driver's license this spring. He has maintained excellent grades throughout the years, therefore a car is in his future. He too is involved in several extracurricular activities, although Matthew tends to gravitate toward larger groups and year-long projects. For the second year in a row, Matthew played alto saxophone in the marching band and clarinet in the concert band. His favorite activity though seems to be “MUN” which stands for Model United Nations. Much like his Grandpa Mueller, Matt has always had a great fondness of world history and has immersed himself in learning the background and political alliances of various countries, so MUN is a natural fit for him and incorporates all the things he loves. His group has traveled to several conferences throughout the state to discuss world events. Matthew also enjoys the “Future Business Leaders” club and was awarded first place in the district finals for his project on “Management Information Systems.” He went on to place fourth at the state finals and is currently working on a new round of projects. In his spare time, you'll often find Matthew gaming with friends or watching European soccer. He was overjoyed to have visited four soccer stadiums during our vacation to England and France this past summer.

Britta was happy to have visited Europe for the third time in five years. Although her parents grew up in Germany, she especially loves visiting England and is drawn to their tea rooms and quaint antique shops. She and Kelsey had tea at the Ritz in London and the entire family enjoyed having tea on a quintessential double decker bus while touring London's most famous landmarks. Traveling was an important part of Britta's childhood, so she is excited to be carrying on the family tradition. We visited the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, Arc de Triomphe, Stonehenge, the London Eye and Big Ben to name a few—and even took in a theatrical performance. For once, our timing seems to have been good and we consider ourselves blessed to have missed both a major mass transit strike and terrorist attacks. With all the unfortunate recent world events, we will be traveling within the United States this summer and already have a trip to the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam, and Las Vegas booked. Travel has proven to be a wonderful bonding experience for our family and we relish our time together exploring new sites.

Travis is exploring sites here in Florida on his new 2015 Harley Davidson Road King. He joined Jacksonville's “Hog Club,” (Harley Owners Group), and has logged in many miles traveling with the group to beautiful destinations throughout the state. He's also taken the time to partake in several of the club's volunteer events for community betterment. Travis continues to practice Jiu-Jitsu and enjoys the competition and camaraderie that accompanies it. He and Matthew were excited to attend three matches of Orlando City Soccer Club's inaugural Major League Soccer season as well. Most recently, Travis led his team at work to release a critical new medical device three months ahead of schedule. The product, used for navigated sinus surgery, is now available for sale in Europe and will available for sale in the US early next year.

As 2015 comes to a close, we find ourselves feeling incredibly blessed with the many scholastic, work and travel opportunities that we've experienced. It seems there are new opportunities to broaden our horizons at every turn and we're so happy to have moved to Florida four years ago. Although we are Iowans at heart, the move down south and our extensive travel has taught us that there is a great big world out there ready to be explored and adventures to be had. Here's hoping you find yourself equally as happy with this past year. We wish you a joyous holiday surrounded by those you love and a new year filled with peace. Merry Christmas to our dear friends and family!