

Merry Xmas

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NOBODY BELIEVES ME

when I tell them I've just turned 40.

Everyone guesses I'm younger than am, often by a decade. Dad thinks it might be that I'm graying very slowly with a full head of hair. Or it could be that I'm just immature.¹

This year, I've been dancing at a new, better level. Consequently, I get to interact with a new, better caliber of dance partners.²

The rest of my life has been fairly routine this year, with the unfortunate exception of Grandma Bert's demise in May.³

I'm still working at the same contract as last year, which is a good way to ride out the current recession.⁴ A couple of Austin's remaining tech boom-era startups, one of which once had the smarts to use my services, have been gobbled up by Commonwealth companies. Henceforth, three o'clock manager meetings will be accompanied by tea and crumpets.⁵ Another former client, Dell, recently updated its Web site



universal resource locators. Because my online resume links to Dell, a representative asked me to update those links, in exchange for a company T-shirt.⁶

In April, I attended the almost-world premiere of the operetta "Queenie Pie," from the files of Duke Ellington, at the University of Texas' Performing Arts Center. I say "almost" for reasons too tangled to delve into here.⁷

I caught the flu twice this year, but I didn't feel any more swinish than usual.⁸

Daredevil Robbie Knievel, who's learned from his dad's mistakes, leapt over two beer trucks in front of the state Capitol. One wag said he would've been impressed if Knievel had surmounted Austin's budget deficit.⁹ Burglars stole several Picasso paintings from a West Lake Hills house. Police are looking for a man with his eyes and nose on the side of his face.¹⁰

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Love, **Dan**

NOTES

- ¹ Eisler, Dan. Letter to Mary R. Kiser, 3 Aug. 2009; Eisler. "Re: Swine Flu." E-mail to KT Hernandez Woods, 28 Apr. 2009.
- ² AD No. 127n32 (Sep. 21, 2009).
- ³ AD No. 124 (May 12, 2009).
- ⁴ AD No. 120n2 (Dec. 9, 2008).
- ⁵ AD No. 124n7.
- ⁶ AD No. 123 (Apr. 22, 2009) .
- ⁷ AD No. 123n29.
- ⁸ AD No. 124n4; AD No. 128 (Nov. 7, 2009).
- ⁹ AD No. 125 (June 20, 2009).
- ¹⁰ AD No. 126n14 (Aug. 10, 2009).