

News from The Webmaster (aka Joe Tartaglia)

LAPA.com Gets a Makeover



Lillian Vila shows her mother how easy it is to click through the new LAPA website.



forums for teenagers and for younger children so they can stay in touch between LAPA events. Both LAPAnet and the forums will be “moderated” or supervised. Only LAPA members in good standing will be allowed access and posts will be monitored.

You may have noticed starting last November that the LAPA web site, <http://www.LAPA.com>, took on a new “look.” The site design hadn’t changed much since it was first created in June 1996, and it was time for a change.

In addition to making the site more visually appealing, we also made a number of improvements, including a clear Mission Statement on the About Us page, a FAQ that actually has relevant Frequently Asked Questions, and an easier-to-read Events page.

Also, although not part of the web site, we now have the ability to quickly send e-mail out to all of our members that have provided us with e-mail addresses.

If you have not received an e-mail from LAPA, please send your full name and e-mail address to Info@LAPA.com so we can update our records.

We are currently working on some interesting new features for the site. We are starting an e-mail-based discussion list (“listserv” to those of you that are web-savvy) dubbed LAPAnet. By the time you read this article, paying members will be able to subscribe themselves to the list from the web site.

Once subscribed, you will be able to take part in on-line e-mail “discussions” with the rest of the people on the list simply by sending e-mail to a special address or by replying to another subscriber’s post.

Forums or “bulletin boards” are also in the works. This web-based tool will allow us to communicate with one another. In particular, we will be setting up on-line

So surf over to <http://www.LAPA.com> and let us know what you think. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or content to contribute, simply click the Contact Us link that appears on every page and pass them along. ❖

continued from page 1

That was in February of last year. By May we received our assignment, traveled on August 1 and came home on September 7! It was like a magic carpet ride in a windstorm, but it was well worth it.

The second time around is different. While I wasn’t quite so nervous waiting out the moments before my new baby was brought into the room, I was more emotional after I received him. My first son was my “rainbow” baby because I traveled to the other side of the rainbow to bring him home. But I knew from the minute we went to our first LAPA meeting that I would eventually have a child. It was just a matter of time. But David is the second child I had stopped believing I would ever have. Only a glimmer of hope remained to keep my dream alive.

Realizing that dream has brought great joy not only to me, but to my husband and Gabriel as well. David is a beautiful and delightful boy who has made our family happy and complete...then again, I used to think about having a daughter... ❖