

Disney FILES

MAGAZINE

SPRING 2008  VOL. 17 NO. 1



CLASSIFIED FOR MEMBERS ONLY

James Lamb joins Katie Winn of Marlborough, Mass., Member since 2003, for a hike along the trails of The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve in Central Florida.

Disney

FILES MAGAZINE



Disney Files Magazine is published by the good people at Disney Vacation Club
P.O. Box 10350
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

E-mail the magazine staff at:
DisneyFiles@DisneyVacationClub.com

All dates, times, events and prices printed herein are subject to change without notice. (Our lawyers do a happy dance when we say that.)

MOVING?

Update your mailing address online at www.dvcmember.com

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Contact Member Services from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily at (800) 800-9800 or (407) 566-3800

TTY telephone number for Members with hearing disabilities: (800) 800-9837 or (407) 566-3320

Fax Number: (407) 938-4151

E-mail Member Services at: members@disneyvacationclub.com

Stay up to date on the latest Disney news between magazines online at www.dvcmember.com



Disney Files Magazine proudly uses recycled paper and soy-based ink.

DVC-MBR-65-B

A wise frog once said, "It's not easy being green." (Okay, so it was a wise man with his hand in a felt facsimile of said frog, but you get the point.)

With all due respect to the rainbow-connecting amphibian, being green really isn't that tough. In fact, as the frigid months of winter give way to the warm promise of spring (those sub-70 temperatures here in Florida were brutal), now's the perfect time to enjoy the greener side of Disney.

Let's start with The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve, pictured on our cover. More than 15 years ago, The Walt Disney Company entered into a relationship with The Nature Conservancy and other visionary agencies to preserve thousands of acres just minutes from the *Walt Disney World*® Resort at the headwaters of the Everglades ecosystem. Owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy, the protected land supports lakes, swamp systems and more than 300 wildlife species.

Today, this meticulously restored sanctuary of natural Florida is being hailed as a model for land-protection efforts around the world. You'll find details about hiking the preserve on pages 15-16, so get your boots ready.

For those who prefer leaning to walking, there's Disney's Wilderness Back Trail Adventure, a gloriously effortless journey through Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort & Campground on an environmentally friendly Segway® X2 Personal Transporter. And, since Disney Vacation Club Members enjoy a discount on the tour, the conservation extends to your wallet.

Look for more information about that cutting-edge tour on page 3, where you'll also find details about a Member discount on the people-powered Gardens of the World tour of *Epcot*®. This foliage-focused walk through the Park coincides with the return of the *Epcot* International Flower & Garden Festival, and you'll find a few ideas for impressing your fellow festival goers on page 8. (Not that you aren't capable of impressing on your own. You're quite something.)

These green vacation options would be music to the fuzzy little ears of Pocahontas' forest friends if they weren't so busy chasing Jessica Biel on page 11. (Lucky deer.)

Of course, the ideas showcased in this edition are just the beginning. Whether you're learning about your hoofed and feathered neighbors at Disney's Animal Kingdom Villas (which reminds me...don't miss the Jiko recipe on page 25), "adopting" sea turtles at Disney's Vero Beach Resort or just recycling this magazine after giving it a second thorough reading, we hope you'll agree that it's pretty darn easy being green. (Again, no disrespect to the frog.)

Welcome Home,

Ryan March
Disney Files Editor



Disneyphiles (Diz-nee-fyles) noun, plural:
really cool people who love, or are attracted to, all things Disney

Disney Files (Diz-nee-fyles) noun, plural:
a really cool magazine for Disney Vacation Club Members, the ultimate Disneyphiles

FROM THE DESK OF JIM LEWIS

top news & perspectives

By Jim Lewis, President, Disney Vacation Club



YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED

Listening is serious business here at Disney Vacation Club. (What would you expect from a company that uses ears as an icon?)

The annual Condominium Association Meeting is one of our greatest forums for Member feedback, and I'm pleased to say that more than 500 Members were part of that forum in December. We consolidated our 2007 Home Resort meetings into a single gathering, alleviating the need for Members who own at multiple resorts to attend multiple meetings. The move also helped us reduce costs associated with these meetings, which are funded by your Annual Dues.

Members applauded this enhancement, as well as the broad range of changes we announced throughout the meeting, from Member Services' expansion to a seven-day operating schedule (9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Eastern daily), to the expanded availability of the Disney Dining Plan (look for details in this edition of your magazine), to the planned elimination of the daily Internet access fee for Members staying at our Disney Vacation Club Resorts (watch for more details in your summer magazine), to the introduction of shorter Interval International® exchange options.

The meeting also served as a forum to discuss mixed feedback we've heard about other changes, such as the smoke-free

policy implemented at our resorts last year. While a few Members aren't in favor of the change, we hope everyone understands that the policy is designed to enhance the enjoyment of as many families as possible.

Finally, the 2007 meeting gave us another opportunity to address questions raised during our 2006 meetings. Among the topics raised last year, for example, was the availability of nutritional information for food served in our resorts. We looked into this issue and learned that, while chefs' varying ingredient proportions don't allow for the sharing of consistent nutritional information, ingredient labels are, in fact, available upon request.

These are just a few of the topics covered during the meeting, and I invite you to be part of our next gathering on Dec. 9, at the *Walt Disney World*® Resort. Watch *Disney Files* Magazine and your Member Web site for more details.

MAKEOVER MANIA

When I wrote to you in your winter magazine, I spoke of our first collaboration with the hit ABC show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," which still ranks among the highlights of my career.

Moved by that experience, we continued our work with the show and hosted the Chapin family at Disney's Vero Beach Resort. If you watched that episode, you saw not only some familiar sights along Florida's Treasure Coast, but also a shining example of just how powerful a single family can be in changing a community. We were so moved by the Chapins' community outreach that we lent a helping hand to one of their leading causes, a Seattle-area food bank, by presenting a veritable treasure trove of donated food.

For our third episode (slated to air as this edition of your magazine goes to press), we went "across the pond" to London, England, where show designer Ed Sanders led the Hughes family of Louisville, Ken., on a VIP tour of his hometown. Our friends at the Royal Garden Hotel (part of our Concierge Collection) rolled out the proverbial red carpet for this remarkable family and served as a luxurious base of operations for this memorable

vacation, which you'll read more about in this edition of your magazine.

Both the Chapin and Hughes families will enjoy more memorable vacations with us for years to come, and we look forward to welcoming them home again soon. We are deeply honored to have these amazing families in our neighborhood.



The Hughes family
in London

MEMBER PERKS

magic with Members in mind

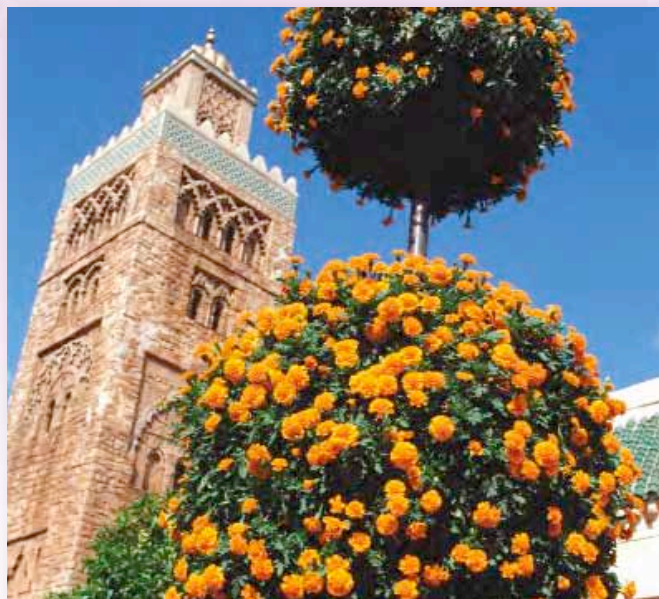
GARDENS OF THE WORLD

As Disney gardeners put the finishing touches on the upcoming Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival, Disney Institute programmers are finalizing plans for this year's immersive tours of the Park's World Showcase gardens.

The three-hour tour (raise your hand if you just started whistling the tune from "Gilligan's Island") will explore the vital role plants play in the "Disney show," using World Showcase pavilions as living classrooms. Guides will explain the five principles of the Disney horticulture program, examine the role landscaping plays at the *Walt Disney World*® Resort, discuss methods of adapting Disney landscaping techniques at home and reveal the secret to growing one of those man-eating plants from *Little Shop of Horrors*. (Okay, that last one's not part of the tour. But imagine how cool it would be if it was!)

This Gardens of the World tour is scheduled to take place March 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29; April 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26 and 29; and May 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29 and 31. **Disney Vacation Club Members enjoy a 15 percent discount off the regular price of \$59 a person.**

For more information, or to book the tour, call (407) WDW-TOUR (939-8687).



DISNEY'S WILDERNESS BACK TRAIL ADVENTURE

Walt Disney was known to have one foot in the past and one in the future. (Neat trick.)

Guests can be a little more "Walt-like" with Disney's Wilderness Back Trail Adventure, a journey through the rustic woods of Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort & Campground on a cutting-edge Segway® X2 Personal Transporter. (This "off road" model features deeply treaded tires and higher ground clearance than other Segway models.) Blending the frontier landscapes of this original *Walt Disney World* Resort with the modern mobility of a Segway transporter, this new tour was an instant hit during a test run in 2007 and has

become an ongoing offering.

Specially trained Cast Members lead Guests in a brief orientation of the two-wheeled, self-balancing gizmos before guiding the adventurous pack on a gliding tour through the pristine Florida landscape in and around the resort.

And here's the *really* good news: **Disney Vacation Club Members enjoy a 15 percent discount off the regular tour price of \$85 a person.** Note that while no experience is necessary, some age and rider restrictions do apply. For more details, or to make advance reservations, call (407) WDW-TOUR (939-8687), and remember to identify yourself as a Disney Vacation Club Member. Same-day walk-up appointments may be available at the Fort Wilderness Marina, though advance reservations are recommended.

GO GREEN: According to the Environmental Protection Agency, about half of the more than 900 million drives Americans take every day are less than five miles long and are taken by solo drivers. Segway experts estimate that replacing even 10 percent of those trips (assuming an average distance of three miles a trip) with rides on eco-friendly Segway transporters would reduce gasoline consumption by 6.2 million gallons and carbon dioxide emissions by 286 million pounds a day.



DISNEYLAND® DINING

Nothing rounds out a *Disneyland* vacation like a generous cut of meat at Steakhouse 55 or a cheesy slice of goodness at Pizza Oom Mow Mow. (Plus, it's just fun to say Pizza Oom Mow Mow.) These are just two of the **50 dining locations currently offering Disney Vacation Club Members a 10 percent discount*** at the *Disneyland Resort in California*. It's a lot to digest, so *Disney Files Magazine* is here with a complete rundown of the participating locations at press time.

DISNEYLAND PARK

Bengal Barbecue
Blue Bayou Restaurant
Blue Ribbon Bakery
Café Orleans
Carnation Café
French Market Restaurant
The Golden Horseshoe
Hungry Bear Restaurant
Plaza Inn
Rancho del Zocalo
Redd Rockett's Pizza Port
Refreshment Corner
River Belle Terrace
Stage Door Café
Tomorrowland Terrace
Village Haus Restaurant



DISNEY'S CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE® PARK

Ariel's Grotto
Award Wieners (your Editor's favorite eatery name!)
Burger Invasion
Cocina Cucamonga
Corn Dog Castle
The Golden Vine Bar
Pacific Wharf Café
Pizza Oom Mow Mow (say it again!)
Taste Pilots' Grill
The Vineyard Room
Wine Country Trattoria

DISNEYLAND HOTEL

Croc's Bits 'n' Bites
Goofy's Kitchen
Hook's Pointe
The Lost Bar
Steakhouse 55
Wine Cellar

DISNEY'S GRAND CALIFORNIAN HOTEL® & SPA

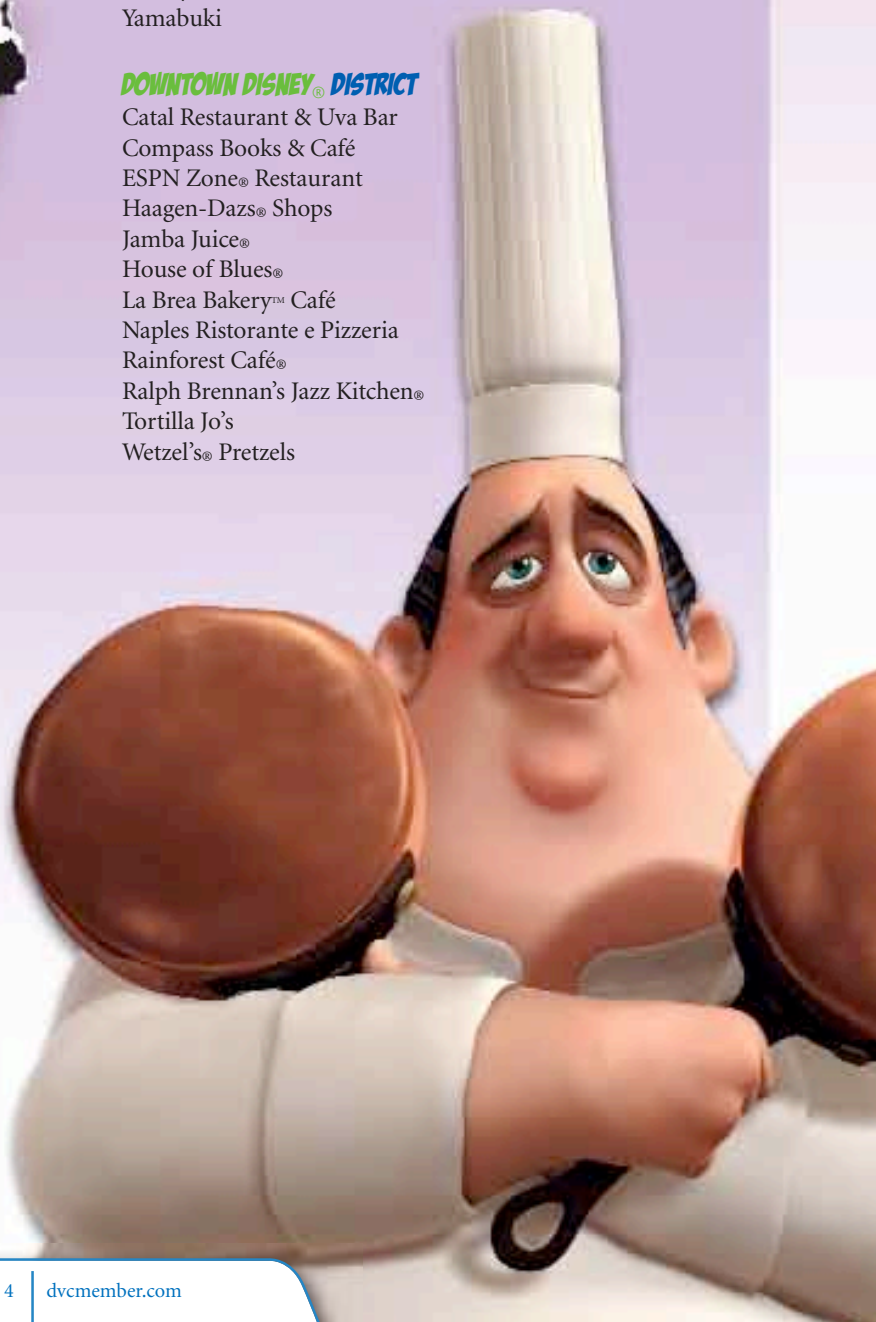
Hearthstone Lounge
Storytellers Café
White Water Snacks

DISNEY'S PARADISE PIER® HOTEL

Disney's PCH Grill
Yamabuki

DOWNTOWN DISNEY® DISTRICT

Catal Restaurant & Uva Bar
Compass Books & Café
ESPN Zone® Restaurant
Haagen-Dazs® Shops
Jamba Juice®
House of Blues®
La Brea Bakery™ Café
Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria
Rainforest Café®
Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen®
Tortilla Jo's
Wetzel's® Pretzels



**FOR PRIORITY SEATING AT TABLE-SERVICE LOCATIONS,
CALL (714) 781-DINE (781-3463).**

*All offers are subject to change without notice. Restaurant discounts do not include gratuities, tax or alcoholic beverages unless noted otherwise by the restaurant. All restaurant discounts are valid for a maximum party of eight, including the Member. Theme Park admission is required where applicable.



MEMBER GETAWAYS

discover a whole new world

JOLLY HOLIDAY

For centuries, London has captured the imaginations of tourists who know the country through its starring role in *Mary Poppins* and other classic stories. But **England** has an array of other splendid destinations outside the city walls, from lush forests in the countryside to medieval towns on the coast. Your Disney Vacation Club Membership gives you several opportunities to visit England by arranging an Interval International® exchange, and *Disney Files Magazine* is here with tips for making your English vacation practically perfect in every way.

LYMINGTON

Nestled between the New Forest and the English Channel, **Lymington** combines the best of the land and sea in one charming village. Search for English antiques and relics on the town's Georgian-style High Street nearly any day of the week, or plan to stay for a Saturday, when the lane comes alive for a vibrant street market. Schedule a day of sailing lessons at Lymington's harbor, where boats launch onto the **Solent**, an outlying bay of the English Channel. The Solent has gained an international reputation for its superb sailing conditions, and adventurous seafarers can take the half-hour trip to the inspiring Isle of Wight just across the bay. If you'd rather dip your toes in the sand than test your sea legs, take a short drive west to the pebble beaches along the southern coast. Later, enjoy a dinner of fish and chips at one of Lymington's pubs or restaurants, where you're sure to see fresh-caught cod and mackerel on the menu.

Yachts on the Solent



Wild ponies in the New Forest



HORSING AROUND: Take a day to explore the tranquil New Forest near Brockenhurst and Lymington. You'll have the chance to see lizards, deer, and even wild ponies.

LAKE DISTRICT

High school students everywhere are familiar with England's Lake District, though they may not know it. This region was home to Romantic poets such as Shelley, Wordsworth, and Coleridge, whose descriptions of picturesque places like **Ambleside** and **Bowness-on-Windermere** are now recited in literature classes around the world.

The district gets its name from Lake Windermere, the largest lake in England and a prime tourist destination for Brits. Mingle with locals on the cobblestone streets in **Ulverston**, an offbeat village that hosts numerous festivals throughout the year. After enjoying the Furness Tradition or the Dickensian Festival, take a trip to the **Hoad Monument** on Morecambe Bay, a lighthouse where the lake views are nothing less than poetic.

In Ambleside, get well versed in outdoor activities with a hiking trip through the nearby ridges and hills. Closer to town, keep an eye out for the Stock Ghyll Force, an impressive 70-foot waterfall. For a historic perspective, wander through the ancient Roman ruins of nearby **Fort Galava**, or meet some friends and countrymen for a pint at the Golden Mile, one of Ambleside's premier pubs.

Bowness on Windermere



Dartmouth Castle



ROYAL RIVER: The coastal city of Dartmouth has preserved its medieval heritage to the current day. Dartmouth Castle has guarded the River Dart since the 1400s, and many houses on Bayards Cove date from the 17th century.

CROMER

Once ruled by the Danes, **Cromer** and the Norfolk region are now firmly in the control of seafood lovers, resort visitors, and sailing enthusiasts. Cromer is sometimes called the "Gem of the Norfolk Coast," and its crabs and lobsters are a shining example of English coastal cuisine. Visitors coming by land or by sea are sure to notice the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, a medieval cathedral that dominates the Cromer skyline. However, take some time to notice the town's less obvious architecture, and you may catch a glimpse of the unique turrets and columns designed by the area's builders. If your visit takes place in the warmer months, look for a variety of special seasonal performances at Cromer's pier.

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MEMBER
GETAWAYS TO ENGLAND AND BEYOND,
CONTACT MEMBER SERVICES OR VISIT
WWW.DVCMEMBER.COM**

Photos courtesy of www.britianonview.com

DISNEY DESTINATIONS

news & tips from the places where dreams come true

SPACESHIP EARTH RE-IMAGINED

WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort: Updating a classic isn't easy. Re-imagining one of the most iconic attractions on earth can be downright daunting.

"You definitely approach the project with a healthy amount of respect," Walt Disney Imagineering Senior Show Producer Bob Zalk said of his team's recent update of Spaceship Earth, now open at Epcot®. "The challenge is maintaining what made the attraction so popular in the first place while introducing new ideas to keep the experience relevant to today's audience. I think we've done that."

In a world where digital downloads and videos on demand have pushed one-size-fits-all entertainment offerings to the brink of extinction, Imagineers set out to make the Spaceship Earth experience more personal than ever before.

"As soon as Guests board their revamped time machines, they enter their hometown information on newly installed on-board touch screens," Bob explained. "This information, along with a captured image of the Guests, plays a key role in the attraction's customized finale and post show experience." (More on that in a minute.)

Guests also use the touch screens to select the language in which they'd like to hear the narration, a first for a *Walt Disney World* ride vehicle. (Academy Award® winner Judi Dench provides the English track.)

Beyond the tricked-out vehicles, enhancements throughout the attraction aim to engage the senses and spark the imagination.

Most audible among the enhancements is a dramatic new musical score composed by Emmy Award®-winner Bruce Broughton, and recorded by a 62-piece orchestra and 24-voice choir.

"Bruce did an absolutely phenomenal job," Bob said. "To infuse each scene with musical styles and instruments

appropriate to that scene, and to have that score transition smoothly as vehicles travel from one time to the next is extremely difficult. The first time we rode through the attraction accompanied by that music, we were amazed."

Other enhancements are feasts for the eyes, from animated cave paintings and new ice age action sequences to new costumes on most of the attraction's *Audio-Animatronics*® "cast members."

"It was a great opportunity to go in and add a lot of the details we've long imagined for this show," Bob said. "In some cases, Guests may not be able to put their fingers on the changes, but they know something's different."

Mind you, not every change is subtle, as some called for entirely new scenes.

"What once was a story focused solely on the evolution of communications has broadened to explore the building blocks of time, examining how the progress of one generation influences and inspires the next," Bob explained. "We bridged that concept with three new scenes, including one in which a 1970s man builds the first personal computer in his Northern California garage." (Look carefully at the "tech-news" stories posted in that garage and you may spot some familiar *Epcot* headlines.)

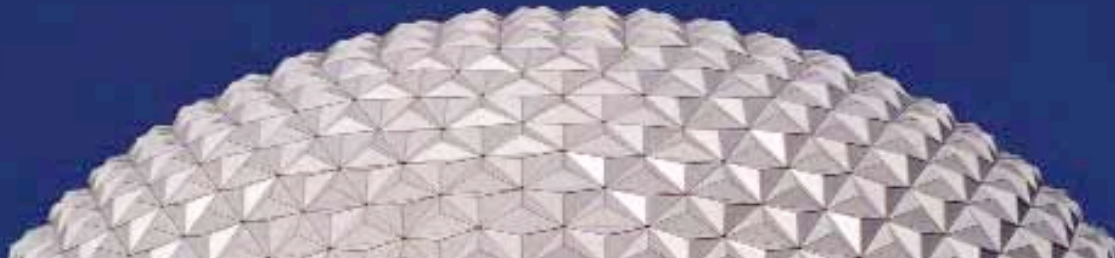
Okay, back to those touch screens. Using Guests' captured images and personalized information, the screens literally place Guests in their imagined future, creating a one-of-a-kind attraction finale.

The personal touch continues even after Guests exit their time machines and enter the interactive Project Tomorrow experience, where their photos appear above a centerpiece globe before descending upon their hometowns and leaving that area of the globe aglow.

"Stop by for a look at the globe toward the end of the day," Bob said, "and see where everyone was from."



SPACESHIP EARTH



BE A FLOWER & GARDEN GENIUS

WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort: The 2008 *Epcot®* International Flower & Garden Festival, blooming for a record 75 days this spring (March 19-June 1), promises to offer more floral fantasy, gardening insights, themed events and family fun in the sun than ever before. Everyone loves a know-it-all, so to enhance the festival experience of those around you, *Disney Files* Magazine presents a few fun facts to help you impress (or annoy) people at key spots in the Park.

What: Surfing Goofy topiary

Where: *Epcot* main entrance

Genius quip: “You know kids, Walt Disney was a lousy surfer. He gave it a whirl during a Hawaiian vacation in 1934 but didn’t have much luck. In fact, stories of his comic misadventures on the waves inspired Goofy’s surfing antics in the 1937 animated short ‘Hawaiian Holiday.’”

What: Minnie’s Magnificent Butterfly Garden

Where: Near the Mouse Gear shop in Future World

Genius quip: “Think *we* travel a lot? Monarch butterflies fly more than 2,000 miles from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico each winter and make the return trip north each spring.” (If that doesn’t impress your group, tell them that *sisohpromatem* is metamorphosis spelled backwards. Doesn’t get much smarter than that.)

What: Flower Power Concert Series

Where: America Gardens Theatre

Genius quip: “When Davy Jones — one of the artists scheduled to appear during this year’s concert series — first returned home after becoming famous as a Monkee, his dad wouldn’t let him into the house without a haircut. He reportedly bribed his way in by purchasing the family a new house.” (Maybe that’ll work on *your* kids.)

To learn more about this year’s festival, which is included with *Epcot* admission, visit www.disneyworld.com/flower



NEW STARS IN THE 'HOUSE'

DISNEYLAND® and WALT DISNEY WORLD Resorts: Talking tools, a globetrotting quartet and the world’s most famous mouse are among the latest Playhouse Disney friends engaging young minds beginning this spring in the new Playhouse Disney - Live on Stage! shows at *Disney’s Hollywood Studios*™ (formerly *Disney-MGM Studios*) and *Disney’s California Adventure*® Park.

These new stars are the latest “residents” to move into the interactive stage show, which now will invite young Guests to sing, dance and play along with stars from “Handy Manny,” “Little Einsteins,” “Mickey Mouse Clubhouse” and more.

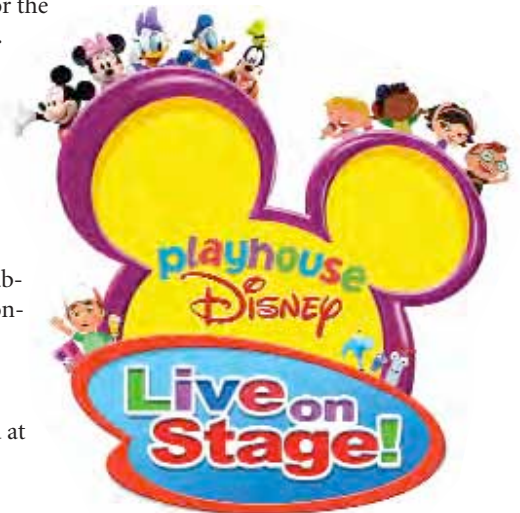
The new additions represent three of the hottest preschool shows on television, a fact not lost on any parent who has ever struggled to get that exuberant “Hot Dog!” song from “Mickey Mouse Clubhouse” out of their heads. For the rest of you, here’s the scoop about the some of the TV shows behind the revamped stage show.

“Handy Manny” is a multicultural animated series designed to infuse preschool viewers with an enthusiasm to take on life’s challenges and to make things work, most notably interpersonal relationships. With his playful set of talking tools, hardworking handyman Manny Garcia helps his neighbors by taking on repair projects big and small.

“Little Einsteins,” meanwhile, is an interactive series that follows the global adventures of four friends – Leo, Annie, Quincy and June – who travel the world and beyond in a quest to compete missions while learning about nature, world cultures and the arts.

Last, but certainly not least (we know where our bread is buttered), is “Mickey Mouse Clubhouse,” a computer-animated series in which Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Pluto, Goofy, Donald Duck and Daisy Duck help viewers develop early math skills and learn to identify shapes, patterns and numbers, and more, celebrating their daily accomplishments with the aforementioned musical salute to encased meats.

Look for these Playhouse Disney favorites on stage at *Disney’s Hollywood Studios* now and at *Disney’s California Adventure* Park later this spring.



DISNEY DESTINATIONS

CEL-ABRATING THE PIONEERS

DISNEYLAND® Resort: Snow White and Buzz Lightyear have more in common than fair skin and impressive box office numbers.

Both were cinematic pioneers, with the apple-biting beauty starring in the first feature-length animated film and the galaxy-defending space ranger starring in the first feature-length computer-animated film. Plus, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* and *Toy Story* share the distinction of being the only animated motion pictures on the most recent American Film Institute list of the top 100 films of all time.

Fitting then, that these films share the spotlight once again in two new exhibits inside the Disney Animation pavilion at *Disney's California Adventure®* Park.

"The Fairest One of All" is a rare collection of concept art, story sketches, animation drawings, backgrounds and cels from *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, now celebrating its milestone 70th anniversary. The company acquired many of the pieces from a private collection, including several that have never been displayed publicly.

Among the rare items on display in the pavilion's Courtyard Gallery entrance hall are visualizations of such early concepts as a



panther companion for the story's Evil Queen, redheaded and blonde versions of Snow White, story gags not used in the film and depictions of the Queen based on actresses Joan Crawford and Katharine Hepburn.

Meanwhile, Guests in an adjoining gallery can experience the new Toy Story Zoetrope, a three-dimensional, 21st century variation on a Victorian novelty device that presented early "moving pictures." Originally created for the "20 Years of Pixar Production Art Show" at New York's Museum of Modern Art, the Zoetrope displays three-dimensional models of *Toy Story* characters on a spinning disk that, when lit with a strobe, creates a convincing illusion of animation.

Both exhibits represent a continuing legacy of animation excellence at The Walt Disney Company.

TASTEFULLY EXTENDED

DISNEYLAND Resort: The popularity of Disney's California Food & Wine Weekends at *Disney's California Adventure* Park has inspired event planners to expand the culinary celebration beyond weekends in 2008. Now known as Disney's California Food

& Wine Festival, the event will feature food and wine marketplaces, culinary demonstrations, special-ticketed events and more from April 11-May 4. Watch for more details in the "News" section of www.dvcmember.com.

PIXAR ON PARADE

DISNEYLAND and WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resorts: Disney•Pixar processions are hitting the streets on both U.S. coasts this spring, with the new Pixar Play Parade debuting in California and the popular Block Party Bash moving from the Golden State to the Sunshine State.

Roz, the ever-effervescent task master from *Monsters, Inc.*, takes the lead in the new Pixar Play Parade at *Disney's California Adventure* Park, followed closely by the *Toy Story* crew, the candy corn-loving Heimlich and his little friends from *A Bug's Life*, the heroic members of the Parr family (better known to fans as *The Incredibles*), Crush and company of *Finding Nemo* fame, and the rats of *Ratatouille*, pictured here.



Add a finale featuring Mater, the toothy tow truck from *Cars*, and you have every Disney•Pixar picture on parade.

The Pixar Play Parade replaces Block Party Bash, which heads east to engage Guests at *Disney's Hollywood Studios*™ (formerly *Disney-MGM Studios*) in a high-energy street party complete with parade floats, trampoline artists, aerial acrobats, more than 20 Disney•Pixar characters and more.

"Block Party Bash is the steppin' out party for the Disney•Pixar characters," said Walt Disney Entertainment Creative Director Marilyn Magness-Carroll. "This show charges out of the gate, and it stops and invites you to step out on the street and have a ball!"

TOY STORY—THE MUSICAL

DISNEY CRUISE LINE®: Sing along everyone: “You’ve got a friend at sea... You’ve got a friend at sea. When the road looks rough ahead, and you’re miles and miles from your nice warm bed, just remember what your old pal said... Boy, you’ve got a friend at sea.” What, that’s not how the song goes? Well it should.

In March, the Walt Disney Theatre onboard the *Disney Wonder*® cruise ship is scheduled to officially lift the curtain on *Toy Story – The Musical*, a new original production inspired by Disney•Pixar’s first computer-animated feature, *Toy Story*. With seven original songs (plus the popular tune botched shamelessly in this story’s intro), elaborately themed costumes, complex choreography and advanced technology, the musical promises to be one of the grandest stage productions in the history of the high seas. (That’s a long time.)

“All of us at *Disney Cruise Line* are excited to unveil this show,” *Disney Cruise Line* President Tom McAlpin told *Disney Files Magazine*. “We’re forever committed to delighting our Guests with fresh and engaging entertainment, and this new production is absolutely fantastic.”

The show marks the second time a non-musical Disney•Pixar film has been adapted as a musical stage show, following the successful debut of *Finding Nemo – The Musical* at *Disney’s Animal Kingdom*® Theme Park. Like the *Finding Nemo* adaptation, *Toy Story – The Musical* is backed by an all-star creative team with resumes spanning from Hollywood to Broadway.

Members of folk-rock trio Groovelily, for example, have created music and lyrics in the style of Academy Award® winning songwriter Randy Newman, while acclaimed scenic designer Sibyl Wickersheimer has masterminded a larger-than-life set offering a toy’s-eye view of Andy’s room.

“Aside from being visually spectacular, the show preserves the great humor and tremendous heart of the film that appeals so strongly to children and adults alike,” said *Disney Cruise Line* Vice President of Entertainment and Shore Excursions Jim Urry. “With *Toy Story – The Musical* joining *The Golden Mickeys* and *Disney Dreams... An Enchanted Classic*, the *Disney Wonder* continues to offer a theatrical experience unlike anything else at sea.”



UNLOCK YOUR DREAMS

TOKYO DISNEY RESORT®: April 15 may not be cause for celebration in America (unless you work for the IRS), but it’s a great day in Japan!

The Asian nation got its first true Theme Park with the opening of *Tokyo Disneyland*® Park on April 15, 1983, and the now expanded resort will kick off a grand celebration of its milestone 25th anniversary on April 15, 2008. The yearlong extravaganza will play out under the theme “Unlock Your Dreams,” and will, according to creative briefs obtained by *Disney Files Magazine*, “provide Guests with the keys to unlocking or realizing the dreams that they’ve always had in their hearts.” (Aww!)

The Park that started it all will mark the occasion with a new daytime parade that will, according to those same documents, “invite everyone to embark on a heartfelt journey to share their dreams and rediscover the magic of the beloved place they call home.” (Is anyone else getting misty?)

The celebration also will feature the debut of two highly anticipated new destinations – the *Tokyo Disneyland Hotel* and the first permanent *Cirque du Soleil*® theater built outside of North America.

The new Victorian-themed hotel, scheduled to open on July 8 at the entrance to *Tokyo Disneyland* Park, will include 706 Guests rooms, four banquet rooms, two restaurants, a themed lounge, a children’s pool, four merchandise shops and more.

The *Cirque du Soleil* theater, meanwhile, slated to open in the fall near the Disney Ambassador Hotel, will feature an innovative design that *Cirque du Soleil* Vice President Francois Macerola says will “harness the energy of the sun to warm audiences’ hearts.” (Seriously, where’s the tissue?)

To learn more about the celebration, access the *Tokyo Disney Resort* Web site through www.disneyparks.com.



DISNEY DESTINATIONS

SHOOTING STARS

DISNEYLAND® and WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resorts: A new crop of stars are living their Disney dreams through the famed lens of Annie Leibovitz.

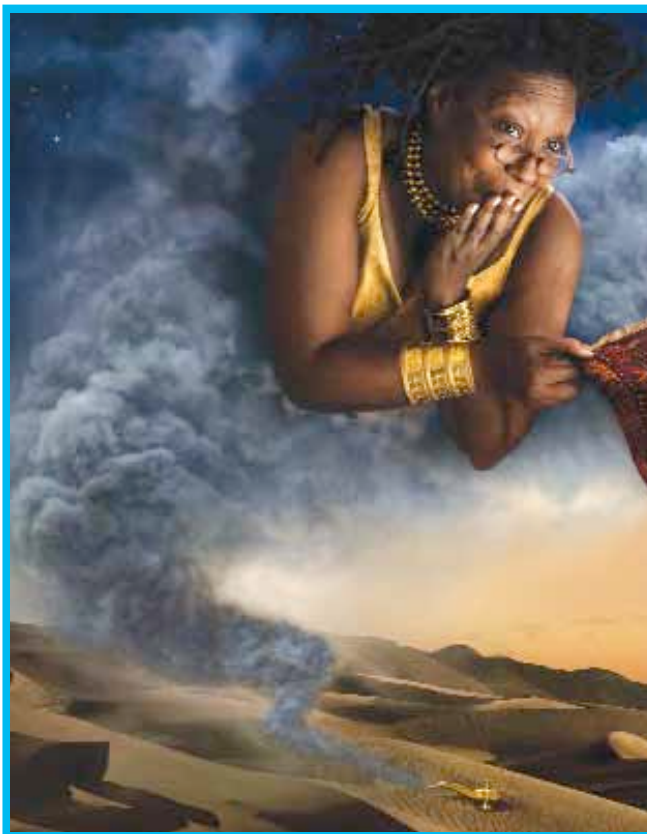
As part of the extended *Year of a Million Dreams* celebration taking place at the *Disneyland* and *Walt Disney World* Resorts through 2008, the renowned photographer has turned actress Jessica Biel into Pocahontas, supermodel Gisele Bündchen into Wendy Darling, actress/writer Tina Fey into Tinker Bell, dance legend Mikhail Baryshnikov into Peter Pan, actress/talk show host Whoopi Goldberg into The Genie, actress/singer Jennifer Lopez into Princess Jasmine and singer Marc Anthony into Aladdin.

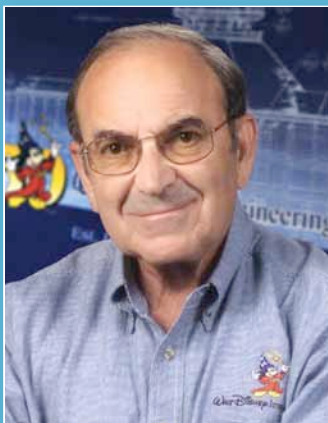
The striking images, which place stars in classic Disney fairy tale settings, continue the “Disney Dream Portrait Series” that launched in 2007 with Golden Globe®-nominated actress Scarlett Johansson (*Lost in Translation*) as Cinderella, singer/actress Beyonce Knowles (*Dreamgirls*) as Alice, and British soccer idol (and current Los Angeles Galaxy icon) David Beckham as Prince Phillip. Since then, everyone from Disney Legend Julie Andrews to Academy Award® winner Rachel Weisz have taken their turns in front of the lens.

“It’s thrilling to have an opportunity to re-create the characters we all loved as children,” Leibovitz said of the evolving project. “The stories are real to my own children now, and their belief inspires me.”

The shoot was a dream come true for Jessica Biel, who said, “I was a huge Disney fan growing up as a kid, and Cinderella, Snow White, Pocahontas, Ariel – all those characters were huge for me, so I definitely did dream. I never thought I would make it! So this is pretty exciting.”

The photos are appearing in leading travel, fashion and lifestyle magazines as the *Year of a Million Dreams* continues. To learn more about the celebration, visit www.disneyparks.com.





PARK PERSPECTIVES

BY MARTY SKLAR

Disney Files Magazine is proud to present the perspectives of Disney Legend Marty Sklar, the longtime leader of Walt Disney Imagineering and the only Cast Member to have been part of every Disney Park opening on earth.

Ryan March, Editor of *Disney Files Magazine*, picked a very auspicious time to ask me if I would write a recurring column for these pages. It was onboard the *Disney Wonder* ship during Disney Vacation Club's Disney Legends cruise. How could I say "no" with my fellow cruisers (all Disney Legends) X. Atencio, Alice Davis, Virginia Davis, Richard Sherman and Dave Smith on board, and the impresario of the Disney Legends program, Jeff Hoffman, shepherding our group? As a former Editor myself (of *The Daily Bruin* student newspaper at UCLA, the original *Disneyland News* and *Vacationland Magazine*), I know the drill well: meet or beat the deadline and you get invited back! So here it goes...

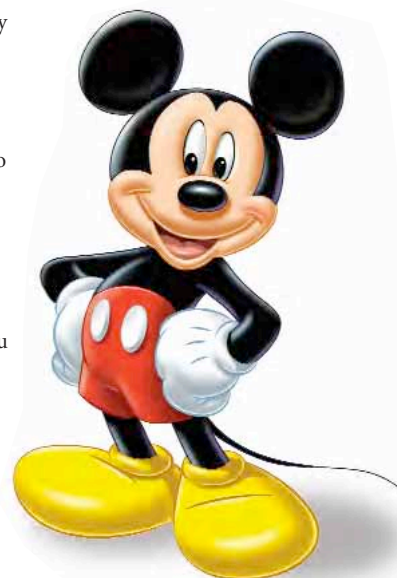
About 25 years ago, when the home of that famous Tea Party was still several decades away from finally celebrating a World Series victory, I made a talk to the Boston Art Directors Club. Frankly, I never thought of it as significant. But as I look back with that 20-20 advantage of hindsight most critics possess, it turns out to be a milestone for me. That speech was where I first delivered "Mickey's Ten Commandments."

I had been asked many times by groups and organizations in and out of the parks and resorts business to categorize and codify the principles Imagineering uses in creating our Disney venues around the world. The Boston meeting turned out to be my first go at achieving this goal. But since that time, I have presented these principles — and two associated follow-ups called "Mickey's Ten Commandments – The Leader's Bible" and "The Leader's Bible – Part 2: Leadership is earned and must be exercised daily!" — to audiences far and wide. For my first participation in *Disney Files Magazine*, Ryan has asked me to "start at the beginning." So here are "Mickey's Ten Commandments."

MICKEY'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. **Know your audience.** Identify the prime audience for your attraction or show before you begin design.
2. **Wear your Guests' shoes.** Insist that your team members experience your creation just the way Guests do it.
3. **Organize the flow of people and ideas.** Make sure there is a logic and sequence in your stories, and in the way Guests experience them.
4. **Create a wienie (visual magnet).** Create visual "targets" that lead visitors clearly and logically through your facility.
5. **Communicate with visual literacy.** Make good use of all the non-verbal ways of communication — color, shape, form and texture.
6. **Avoid overload — create turn ons.** Resist the temptation to overload your audience with too much information and too many objects.
7. **Tell one story at a time.** Stick to the storyline; good stories are clear, logical and consistent.
8. **Avoid contradictions — maintain identity.** Details in design or content that contradict one another confuse an audience about your story or the time period it takes place in.
9. **For every ounce of treatment, provide a ton of treat.** In our business, Walt Disney said, "You can educate people — but don't tell them you're doing it! Make it fun!"
10. **Keep it up! (Maintain it.)** In a Disney Park or resort, everything must work! Poor maintenance is poor show!

If you can master these principles, consider yourself a potential Imagineer! And if you want to lead a project team at Imagineering, stay tuned to future editions of this magazine for "Mickey's Ten Commandments - The Leader's Bible" and "Part 2." As we like to say and do at Walt Disney Imagineering, *take a chance!*



DISNEY DIVERSIONS

enjoying Disney between trips



TELEVISION

“Special Agent Oso:” Disney Channel has begun production on the new Playhouse Disney computer-animated series “Special Agent Oso,” starring *Academy Award*®-nominated actor Sean Astin as the voice of Oso (pictured above), a fuzzy, lovable, bumbling special agent-in-training who enlists the help of viewers at home to complete his missions.

Paying homage to James Bond and other Hollywood special agents (each episode will consist of two adventures featuring such titles as “Gold Feather,” “Live and Let Ride” and “A View to a Book”), the series will follow the adventures of the endearing, yet slightly clumsy teddy bear who works for U.N.I.Q.U.E. (United Network for Investigating Quite Unusual Events), an international organization of stuffed animals charged with helping kids accomplish such everyday tasks as mailing a letter, cleaning their room and learning how to use the library. Along the way, the accident-prone Oso will maintain his sunny outlook, as well as his catchphrase “it’s all part of the plan.” (“Shaken, not stirred” just isn’t “Playhouse Disney appropriate.”)



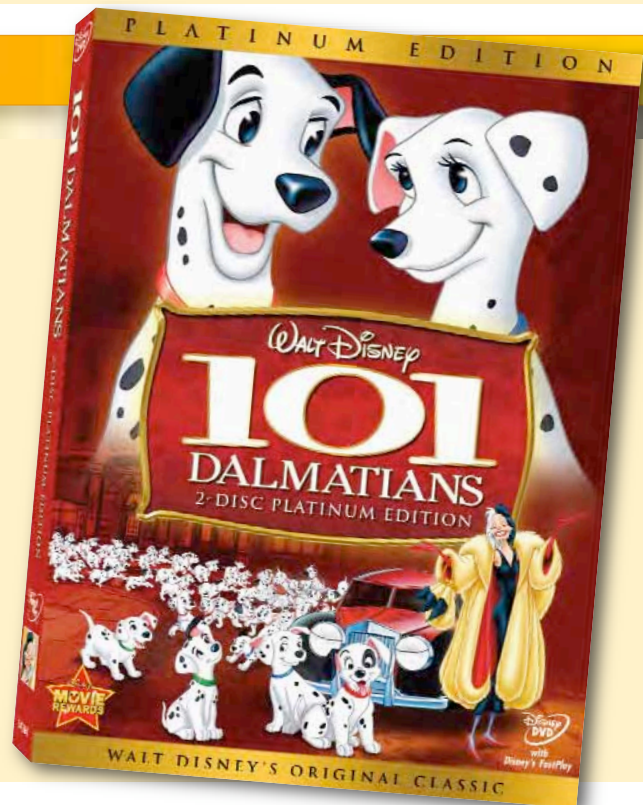
ESPN HD: ESPN will launch its third HD service in the U.S. on March 30, when ESPNNEWS begins telecasting in high definition. The shift to HD will enable ESPNNEWS to make the most of the 16 inch-by-9 inch high-definition television viewing area. ESPN’s innovative new HD Sideline graphic, which will debut on ESPNNEWS HD, will wrap around the top, left and bottom of the HD screen. The HD Sideline will offer the display of textual information, headshots, news and scores, while still delivering a window to accommodate all video highlights in 16x9 HD. The format will offer additional content not available on the standard-definition version of ESPNNEWS, which also will contain a redesigned bottom line graphic.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

101 Dalmatians: For the first time in nearly a decade, 101 of the most famous dogs in animation history are leaping out of the Disney Vault and onto a new two-disc Platinum Edition Disney DVD set.

The March 4 release of *101 Dalmatians: Platinum Edition* features the classic 1961 film as it’s never been seen before, fully restored with enhanced picture and sound. But every DVD fan knows these releases are all about the bonus materials, so *Disney Files Magazine* dug up some details.

Perhaps the biggest headline grabber is Disney’s Virtual Dalmatians, a game that lets you adopt, name, train and care for your own virtual dalmatian. Other extras include a new music video from Disney Channel star Selena Gomez, deleted songs, pop-up trivia, a behind-the-scenes featurette, an inside look at the creation of Cruella De Vil (ranked on the American Film Institute’s Best Villains of All Time List) with the late Disney Legend Marc Davis, a peek at actual correspondence between Walt Disney and Dodie Smith (author of the book *The Hundred and One Dalmatians*) and more.



MOVIES

College Road Trip: Choosing a college can be the most exciting time in a young woman's life, unless that girl's overprotective father isn't quite ready to let her go. In that case, you have all the makings of comedic mayhem. Such is the setup for Walt Disney Pictures' family comedy *College Road Trip*, opening in U.S. theaters on March 7.

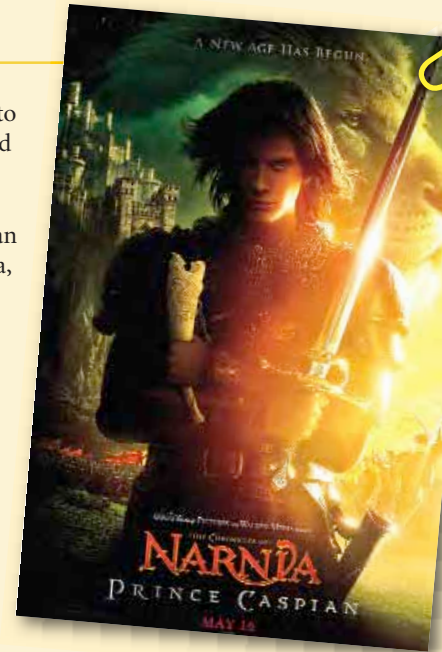
Rachel (played by Raven-Symoné of Disney Channel's "That's So Raven") is looking forward to a girls-only road trip to check out prospective universities. But when her police chief father (played by *Wild Hogs* co-star Martin Lawrence) insists on escorting her instead, Rachel sees her dream trip turn into a nightmare adventure, filled with the kind of comical misfortune and turmoil that makes you crave artificially buttered popcorn and 64 ounces of cherry soda. (At least that's what they're hoping at the concession stand.)

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian: The characters of C.S. Lewis's timeless fantasy come to life once again in this new installment of the *Chronicles of Narnia* series from Walt Disney Pictures and Walden Media, opening in U.S. theaters on May 16.

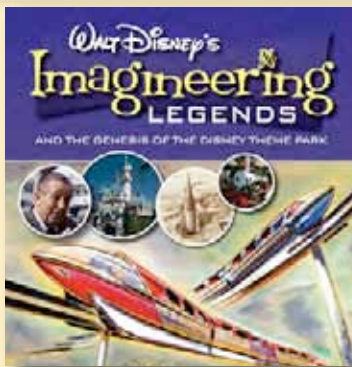
One year after the events of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, the Pevensie siblings find themselves back in that faraway wondrous realm, only to discover that more than 1,300 years have passed in Narnian time. During their absence, the Telmarines have conquered Narnia, placing it under the merciless rule of the evil King Miraz. ("Great, we turn our backs for 1,300 years, and the whole place falls apart!")

The kids soon meet young Prince Caspian, an intriguing character who is the rightful heir to the Narnia throne but is forced into hiding. You see, the aforementioned Miraz is young Caspian's uncle, who has plotted to kill the boy in order to place his own newborn son on the throne. (And you thought *your* family had issues.) With the help of a kindly dwarf, a courageous talking mouse named Reepicheep, a badger named Trufflehunter and a Black Dwarf named Nikabrik, Peter Pevensie must join Prince Caspian to lead the Narnians in a search for Aslan and a quest to return Narnia to glory.

Directed once again by veteran director Andrew Adamson (who previously directed some hit animated films about a big green ogre whose name we can't recall), the film features a screenplay by Andrew Adamson, Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely; and is produced by Mark Johnson, Andrew Adamson and Philip Steuer.



BOOKS



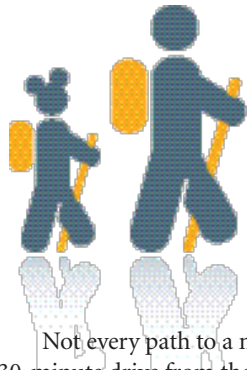
Bound by Disney: Three new books from longtime Walt Disney Imagineer Bruce Gordon and noted Disney historian Jeff Kurtti are slated to hit shelves this spring.

Walt Disney's Imagineering Legends and the Genesis of the Disney Theme Park explores the individual relationships between Walt Disney and the visionaries who created the Disney Parks. Exploring their creative breakthroughs and failures, as well as their rivalries and professional politics, this candid and lavishly illustrated narrative salutes the exceptional talent behind Parks that have withstood the test of time. *The Art of Walt Disney World* features an unprecedented collection of artwork that inspired the world's most visited Theme Park. Conceptual materials, sketches, layout drawings and paintings are meticulously reproduced in this large-format book, a complement to the previously released *Art of Disneyland*. Finally, *Walt Disney World Then, Now and Forever* guides readers through the decades as the wondrous story of the *Walt Disney World*® Resort unfolds through insightful stories and revealing images.

We are sorry to report

Co-author Bruce Gordon, a 25-year veteran of Walt Disney Imagineering and a vital force in the creation of numerous Disney attractions around the world, passed away recently at his Glendale, Calif., home. He was 56 years old. "Bruce had an amazing and inventively creative mind," songwriter and Disney Legend Richard Sherman said of the news. "... He was my great and very dear friend, and I will miss him forever." Co-author Jeff Kurtti added, "Bruce was one of the most sensitive, generous, caring, smart and funny people that ever graced our lives."





take a hike

Not every path to a memorable vacation is paved. Just a 30-minute drive from the *Walt Disney World*® Resort are the picturesque hiking trails of The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve, a 12,000-acre sanctuary of natural communities at the headwaters of the Everglades ecosystem.

The sprawling preserve is the product of an innovative relationship between The Walt Disney Company, The Nature Conservancy (which owns and manages the land) and other ecologically minded organizations. The area's pine and scrubby flatwoods, dry and wet prairies, freshwater marshes and forested wetlands harbor more than 300 wildlife species, including bald eagles, Florida scrub jays and sandhill cranes, Sherman's fox squirrels, eastern indigo snakes, gopher tortoises, a wide variety of butterflies and more. But the place wasn't always so pristine.

Centuries of human activity, including land alterations for agricultural purposes, had negatively impacted the area's landscape. Ditching, cattle grazing, logging, out-of-season burning and other activities greatly altered the land's hydrology, as well as native plants and animals. To make matters worse, the human introduction of invasive species seriously threatened native habitats.

With support from The Walt Disney Company and other groups, The Nature Conservancy employed natural land management techniques (filling ditches and removing other artificial water obstructions) to restore natural water levels and damaged lands. The efforts continue today, as scientists, resource managers, educators, students and volunteers work together to repair drained wetlands, reintroduce natural fire cycles, replace non-native pest plants with native vegetation, and study and monitor threatened and endangered species (17 such species call the preserve home).

"We are incredibly proud of the relationship we've developed with The Nature Conservancy through the years," said Jerry Montgomery, Senior Vice President of Conservation and Environmental Sustainability for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. "Our company's focus on the environment goes back to Walt himself ... and this relationship with The Nature Conservancy has created a conservation and sustainability model that has been replicated around the world.

"What's really important to me is that the conservation

efforts here are functional, efficient, and they actually do real work. There are lots of examples around the world where good intentions haven't led to great results. At the preserve, The Nature Conservancy and The Walt Disney Company have created a project that's tremendously beneficial to the environment here in Florida and has created tremendous results. All you have to do is look around this place."

That resulting landscape offers an increasingly rare look at Florida as it would have appeared centuries ago, and provides a welcome home to previously displaced species. One such species is the federally endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, which once thrived in the old-growth forests of Central Florida.

Why old growth? (Glad you asked.) The birds feel most at home in mature pines with heart rot, as the loose core makes for easy boring and nesting. With that in mind, The Nature Conservancy science team installed man-made cavities into restored longleaf pine trees before scientists released five pairs of the rare birds into the preserve last fall.

Jerry points to that culmination of a 15-year effort, and to the high probability of the birds' survival, as just the latest example of the project's measurable results.

"Those results are great for everybody," Jerry said. "Great for the environment. Great for the woodpeckers. Great for our Cast Members and the people of Central Florida who have an opportunity to come out here on a weekly basis if they want to. Great for Guests, because just a short drive from the *Walt Disney World* Resort, they can see a model for conservation and sustainability that they can try to replicate in their home countries or towns."

Jerry expressed personal pride in the preserve, saying, "I love coming out to preserve for a number of reasons. For one, I'm so proud of the relationship between our company and The Nature Conservancy that created this place. Secondly, I'm a father, and I'm a grandfather. I love knowing that my kids, and their kids, are going to have a place in Central Florida where they can come back time and time again, and experience in a very real way what Florida was like 500 years ago. I think that's not only going to be a great experience for them, but I think it's going to continue to instill in them the passion and desire to preserve and sustain this planet in a meaningful way."

Learn more online at www.nature.org/florida.



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



Eric Blackmore

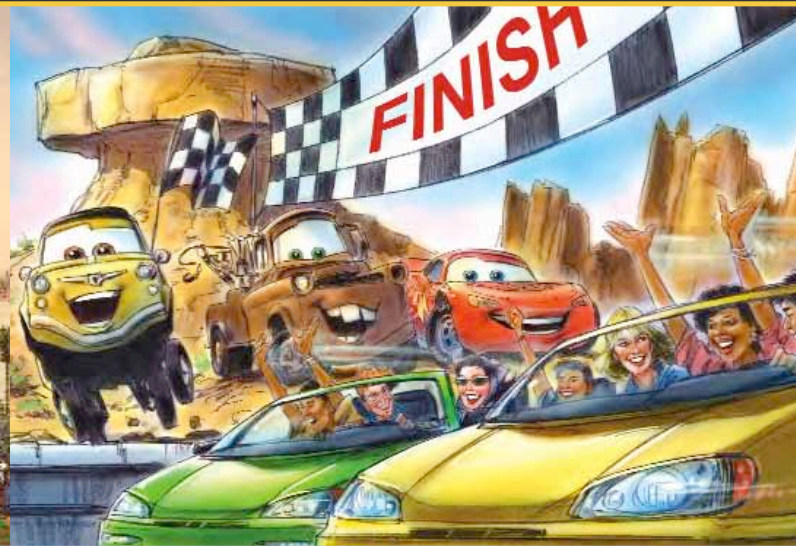
See for yourself

The preserve is open on weekdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Eastern, except on major holidays. Entrance fees are \$3 for adults, and \$2 for members of The Nature Conservancy or children ages 6-17. Call (407) 935-0002 for more details.

To get there, exit the *Walt Disney World*® Resort on Hotel Plaza Boulevard, and turn right on State Road 535. Travel about 3.8 miles and then make a right turn onto U.S. Highway 192, followed in less than a mile by left turn onto N. Poinciana Boulevard. Stay on that road for about 14 miles, and then turn right onto Pleasant Hill Road. Less than a mile later, turn left onto Old Pleasant Hill Road, and begin looking for the preserve at 2700 Scrub Jay Trail. (Or just use your favorite mapping or navigation system to find 2700 Scrub Jay Trail, Kissimmee, FL 34759 from your exact location.)



Cheryl Mall/TNC



DISNEY'S (RE-IMAGINED)

Nobody in American history embodied the spirit of “California Dreaming” quite like Walt Disney. Renting a small space in a Los Angeles realty office in 1923, Walt established his first cartoon studio and began a California adventure that would see him completely redefine the concept of family entertainment.

The Golden State Walt discovered was unlike anything he’d ever seen. Clanging bells signaled the arrival of trolley cars on city streets. Swirling spotlights illuminated majestic Hollywood theaters and star-studded premieres. And winding roads inspired travelers to place the journey ahead of the destination. California was as much a state of mind as it was a state of America.

Drawing from that inspiration, Walt Disney Imagineers are setting out to re-imagine *Disney’s California Adventure* Park with a transformation plan unlike any in Disney Theme Park history. As the multi-year effort unfolds, not even the front gate will be left untouched.

WALT DISNEY PLAZA

“We’re bringing more of Walt Disney into *Disney’s California Adventure*,” said Bob Weis, Executive Vice President of Walt Disney Imagineering. “All of our Disney Theme Parks tell stories, and the first act in those stories is the way you enter the Park, the things you experience when you first walk through the gate ... When you enter *Disney’s California Adventure*, you’re going to have the feeling Walt must have had when he first entered California in the ‘20s. It’s going to be a collage of wonderful, rich architecture. It will have a great scale, a great sort of

embracing, immersive quality. And it’s going to capture that optimism and excitement people feel even today when they come to California.”

Red Car trolleys reminiscent of the old Pacific Electric Railway will travel up and down the main street of what will be known as Walt Disney Plaza, home to a broad slate of new shopping, dining and live-entertainment experiences. At the heart of plaza will be a towering reproduction of Los Angeles’ historic (and now non-existent) Carthay Circle Theater, where Walt premiered 1937’s *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. Inside the theater, Guests will discover an interactive tribute to Walt’s California experiences and enduring entertainment legacy.

“We think the emotional connection of that piece of architecture as an icon for *Disney’s California Adventure* is really powerful,” Bob said.

CARS LAND

While Walt Disney Plaza will be the Park’s most immediately visible transformation, the biggest change will come in the form of an entirely new 12-acre addition called Cars Land.

Inspired by the hit Disney•Pixar movie *Cars*, Cars Land will celebrate the spirit of Route 66 and California’s love affair with automobiles. Highlights will include a major “E-ticket” attraction called Radiator Springs Racers (where Guests will race through hairpin turns and steep banks after a quick briefing from Doc and Lightning McQueen), new family-friendly rides featuring Luigi and Mater, character greeting areas and more.



CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE

“It’s going to put our Guests right in the middle of the movie in an amazingly detailed way,” Bob said.

PARADISE PIER

The Park’s Paradise Pier area, a sprawling salute to California’s beach culture, also will undergo an “Extreme Makeover,” with new character-inspired attractions, midway games and more.

Beyond the previously announced Toy Story Mania! attraction opening this summer (look for more details about this interactive attraction in the summer edition of *Disney Files Magazine*), the revamped Paradise Pier will welcome the first major ride based on the animated film *The Little Mermaid*. Flipping your fins may not get you far, but this ride should do the trick, sending Guests through the most memorable musical moments from the beloved Disney classic.

And when fun in the sun gives way to moonlit nights and twinkling lights, the world will become a carousel of color. Wonderful, wonderful color. (If reading those words doesn’t make you break into song, you probably didn’t watch much TV in the ‘60s. Or maybe the ‘60s took a toll on your memory. Anyway...) The imaginative spirit of “Walt Disney’s Wonderful World of Color,” a popular television series from 1961-1969, will come to life in *Disney’s World of Color*, a new nighttime spectacular over the waters of Paradise Pier.

“It is going to be a panorama of fountain effects and projection unlike anything you’ve ever seen,” Bob said. “It’s really going

to transform the nighttime environment of *Disney’s California Adventure*.”

Speaking of transforming the environment, a new 9,000-person viewing area will provide prime waterside views and will double as a venue for live entertainment, music festivals and even outdoor film premieres.

THE REST OF THE STORY

“We have so many ideas for *Disney’s California Adventure*, and so many things that are going to be built over the next several years that we’ve decided to build a Preview Center [scheduled to open later this year] right in the heart of the Park,” Bob said. “We’re going to take all of our models and artwork down there. The center will host events and announcements, and will help us really connect with Guests and keep them up to date on what’s happening next.”

Bob sees the massive plans as a natural evolution on a grand scale, saying, “It’s part of what all Parks go through – constantly being refreshed and added to because our audiences grow and always want to see new things.”

It’s a fitting tribute to a California dreamer who described his original Park as a piece of clay that could be constantly reshaped and revamped.

“*Disneyland* will never be completed,” Walt said. “It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination left in the world.”

More than 50 years later, it appears the imagination supply is in good shape.



VAULT DISNEY

by Disney-history expert Jim Korkis

REMEMBERING DISNEY'S DOLL MAKER

The Walt Disney Company lost a beloved Disney Legend this winter in Joyce Carlson. Known by her peers as “Miss Joycee,” this talented artist lent her humor, style and youthful spirit to a variety of projects but will be remembered most for her enduring influence on “the happiest cruise that ever sailed.”

Joyce started her Disney career at the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, Calif., in 1944 as a “traffic girl,” delivering mail, art supplies, coffee and other necessities to various departments on the lot. She later transferred to the Ink and Paint Department, where she spent 16 years inking cels for such classic animated features as *Cinderella*, *Peter Pan* and *Sleeping Beauty*.

In 1962, the ambitious artist moved to Walt Disney Imagineering (known at the time as WED, which stood for Walter Elias Disney) to apply her talents to three-dimensional work. It was a life-changing move for Joyce, whose vision helped shape the Carousel of Progress and “it’s a small world” attractions for the 1964 New York World’s Fair.

While both attractions later found Theme Park homes and achieved “classic” status, “it’s a small world” emerged as a global sensation. Joyce was instrumental in bringing that attraction, not only to *Disneyland*® Park in California, but also to other Disney Parks around the world.

The later years of Joyce’s career were spent in Florida, where she served as the resident “it’s a small world” expert (even developing new dolls for the attraction, including those representing Israel and Korea), helped maintain *Audio-Animatronics*® figures and even helping Disney Legend John Hench select the color palette for the Park’s iconic carousel horses.

Upon her retirement in 2000, the *Walt Disney World*® Resort honored Joyce with a *Main Street, U.S.A.*® window (one of the highest honors a Cast Member can receive) that reads, “Dolls by

Miss Joyce. Dollmaker for the World. Shops in New York, California, Florida, Japan and Paris. Owner and Founder Joyce Carlson.” Another tribute came later, when Imagineers added a Joyce Carlson-inspired doll to Florida’s “it’s a small world” attraction.

I had the pleasure of knowing “Miss Joycee” and thought I would take this opportunity to share highlights from some of my favorite conversations with her through the years.

Jim: When you started with the company, I understand that there was quite a separation between the Ink and Paint staff and the animators. Tell me about that.

Joyce: We’d get a talking from the boss: “You’re not supposed to fraternize with the animators.” We were known as the “nunnery.” All women ... We’d sneak over to see the animators and maybe run into Walt on the elevator over there.

Jim: And then what?

Joyce: Oh, Walt was very warm and friendly ... It was such a pleasure to see him in the halls. Everybody admired Walt. He knew what he wanted, and we all wanted to help create his dream. He was a man you looked up to ... I miss Walt.

Jim: Your first Imagineering assignment was the Carousel of Progress. What do you remember about that project?

Joyce: I worked with Leota Toombs, who was later the model for Madam Leota in *The Haunted Mansion*. We didn’t have all the necessities to work with, you know. So for the show models, Leota Toomb’s father gave her some chewing gum, wires and a



bag of earrings. We'd use everything off those earrings; the little jewels, the back piece of the earrings for the little hinges on the refrigerator and such. We didn't have a lot of supplies, just string and wire and paper and cardboard to work with. Secretaries started bringing in bags of their old jewelry so we could use it. That was fun. We didn't know they were testing us to see what we could do. When we finished, Walt used to bring guests to show them the projects and he'd say, "Do you believe that this whole set was built on earrings?" And everybody would go, "Earrings?!" Anyway, I guess they liked it, because I got moved over to work on "it's a small world."

Jim: What was that like?

Joyce: For the World's Fair version ... just about everything was made out of foam, and then we added things like plastic flowers and jewelry and glitter. When we brought [the attraction] back to California, we repainted [and] freshened it up ... We had slapped it together for New York, so we had to do some redesigning. We expanded it and improved on the characters.

Jim: I know you worked closely with Disney Legend Mary Blair on the attraction.

Joyce: Mary was very friendly and very artistic. She used to have a lot of different colored contact lenses. She used to wear green or blue or any color to go with the outfit she was wearing that day. Maybe that affected her [project] colors. Her colors were always bright. She used theatrical gels and cut them up and put them on top of her artwork. I had to match the colors she picked, and that was a problem because those colors didn't exist with the paints we had. I had to go and get some of the paints from the Ink and Paint department and mix them in with our paint, and they didn't always mix well.

Jim: You must have heard that theme song quite a bit.

Joyce: Every day. All day, we'd hear that song over and over and over. They gave us the album. I never opened it. Never cracked the seal. I guess now it is a collector's item, and I should put it up for sale.

Jim: With "it's a small world" attractions now spanning the globe, do you have a favorite?

Joyce: The one in Paris is a little different. It's got new scenes, backgrounds, different toys and all. So it is an entirely different show than the one here in Florida. They are all a little different ... they're all my kids. I couldn't choose. You might say I've got a big family in "it's a small world."

Jim: We talked a bit about your interactions with Walt, but what about his brother, Roy?

Joyce: [I remember] working on a zebra for the Jungle Cruise. We put wire in the lashes because, in the Park, the birds would come and pull out the hair for their nests, so I had to put in wire so they would stay on the zebra. We had this horse hair and a needle you stick into the skin. Roy was balding and said, "Joyce, could you put a little hair on the top of my head like the zebra and the tail?" And I said, "Sure, but it'll smart a little." So he walked away and later on came by and said, "I changed my mind. If it smarts, I don't want it. I'll just stay the way I am." He was fun and very sweet.

Jim: Anything you would have changed about your life, Joyce?

Joyce: No, I wouldn't have changed a thing about my life. I always wanted to be in the creative end, and I got my dream. I still get out into the Parks. I still ride "it's a small world." I like to see the smiles on the kids and parents when they go through. That's what Walt wanted, for people to be happy.

Thanks to Joyce, our small world is home to a lot of happy people.



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

news & notes from your magical community

MICHAEL BROGGIE DEDICATES CAROLWOOD PACIFIC ROOM

The Iron Spike Room inside The Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge has officially become the Carolwood Pacific Room, marking a labor of love for one Michael Broggie.

"This is a proud day for me," Michael said at the recent re-naming ceremony, "and it was a long time coming."

To understand the significance of the new name, you have to start at the beginning. From 1950-1953, Walt Disney transported friends and family through his sprawling backyard in Holmby Hills, Calif., on a 1/8th scale train system dubbed the Carolwood Pacific Railroad (named for the street on which the home was located). With more than 2,600 feet of track, intricately detailed cars and a big red barn that served as a private workshop, the backyard railroad was Walt's "happy place."

Young Michael Broggie, whose father, Roger, was one of the studio staffers who helped build Walt's railroad, was among the few children outside of the Disney family to ride aboard the Carolwood Pacific.

"I vividly remember my first ride, straddling one of those train cars as it rocked back and forth," Michael recalled. "I remember entering a long tunnel, which was absolutely pitch-black. You could hear the chugging of the engine echoing off of this long tunnel. You could smell and taste the coal smoke. You could feel the vibration of the track. Walt had created a sensational experience that touched every one of your senses."

Soon, Walt was chasing a new dream, imagining a world in which audiences wouldn't just watch stories unfold on screen, but become part of those stories through three-dimensional, multi-sensory experiences. To make it happen, Walt began casting what would become known as Imagineers, starting with Roger Broggie.

While Walt and his team would go through many ideas before *Disneyland*® Park opened its gates, one thing was certain. "I just want it to look like nothing else in the world," Walt said. "And it should be surrounded by a train."

The team stayed "on track," and on June 18, 1955, Walt took his first ride aboard his *Disneyland* Railroad, with an excited young Michael Broggie in tow. (The Park opened on July 17, 1955.)

Decades later, with trains surrounding Disney Parks across the globe, Michael helped Imagineers assemble a detailed collection of Carolwood Pacific Railroad artifacts for the main gathering space of The Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge. When the resort opened in 2000, everything was perfect. Almost.

"The Iron Spike Room name fit the railroad theme, but I wanted to see the name truly represent the backyard railroad that played such an important role in Disney history," Michael said.

Remembering the "four Cs" Walt taught him during the early *Disneyland* years (Curiosity, Confidence, Courage and Constancy), Michael worked through the years with Imag-

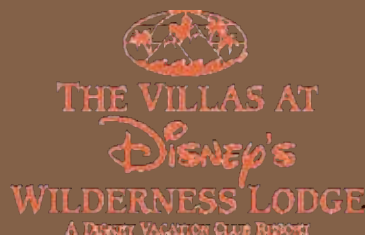
ineers to change the name to the Carolwood Pacific Room.

"It looks fantastic," Michael said as he unveiled one of two brass signs bearing the new moniker. "This is the real deal."



Michael Broggie unveils a brass sign to dedicate the officially renamed Carolwood Pacific Room.

Did you know? In 1998, the barn from Walt Disney's Holmby Hills backyard was relocated to Griffith Park in Los Angeles. Volunteer members of the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society operate tours of Walt's Barn on behalf of the Walt Disney Family Foundation. Visit www.carolwood.org for more details.



LEARN MORE ABOUT WALT'S LOVE OF THE RAILROAD DURING "A CONVERSATION WITH A MAGIC KINGDOM® STEAM TRAIN SPECIALIST," A COMPLIMENTARY EXPERIENCE AVAILABLE ON SELECT TUESDAY MORNINGS IN THE CAROLWOOD PACIFIC ROOM AT THE VILLAS AT DISNEY'S WILDERNESS LODGE. ASK A FRONT DESK CAST MEMBER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

RHYTHM AND HUGHES

Remarkable can be an overused word. But used to describe a young man named Patrick Henry Hughes, it's something of an understatement.

Born without eyes or the ability to straighten his limbs, Patrick Henry started playing piano at 9 months of age and has become an accomplished pianist, trumpet player and vocalist, all while earning "A" grades throughout high school and into college, where he continues to excel. The determined prodigy even performs in the University of Louisville's Cardinal Marching Band with the help of his father, Patrick John, who maneuvers his son's wheelchair through the band's formations.

Imposing physical disabilities have proven to be little match for the spirit of a young man whose motto is, "Big deal, so God made me with no eyes and unable to walk, so what?"

A more daunting match emerged in the form of the Hughes family's modest Louisville home, which made it increasingly challenging for Patrick to navigate his surroundings. Inspired by Patrick's story, Ty Pennington and his crew from the hit ABC show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" stepped up to the challenge in an episode that aired recently in the U.S., and Disney Vacation Club was on hand to send the Hughes family to London, England, while work was underway on their old Kentucky home.

The trip "across the pond" included a stay in the luxurious Royal Garden Hotel (part of the Disney Vacation Club Concierge Collection); guided visits to royal palaces, Big Ben and other iconic destinations; a ride on the famed London Eye observation wheel; a cruise along the River Thames; a performance of Disney Theatrical Production's *The Lion King* at London's Lyceum Theatre and more. Patrick Henry even took to the Lyceum stage, meeting *The Lion King* cast and leading their vocal warm-ups before the show.

"The whole trip was wonderful, but I'd have to say that my favorite part was being able to perform with that talented group of actors in the theater," Patrick Henry told *Disney Files Magazine*. "I was a big fan of the movie, so to meet those performers and

feel those costumes was awesome!"

Patrick John added, "My gosh, the things we've seen. The River Thames and Big Ben, learning the difference between the Tower Bridge and London

Bridge, and seeing the Crown Jewels for heaven's sake! We are so grateful to Disney Vacation Club for this experience."

While the *sights* of London dazzled most members of the Hughes family, which also includes Patricia (Mom), and younger brothers Jesse and Cameron, the *sounds* of the city captivated Patrick Henry.

"Just to hear the chimes of Big Ben live was unbelievable," he recalled at the end of the trip. "Oh my goodness. That's something I've wanted to experience for a long time."

To help the Hughes create even more memories, Disney Vacation Club surprised the family with years of future vacations.

"I'm still picking my chin up off the floor," Patrick John said of the gift. "As if getting a beautiful new home wasn't enough. Now we can choose from more than 500 vacation destinations around the world? It's just remarkable."

There's that word again. To the remarkable Hughes family from all of us at Disney Vacation Club, "Welcome Home."



Patrick Henry Hughes enjoys a touching moment with stars of *The Lion King* at London's Lyceum Theatre.



"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" producer Herb Ankrom (left), designer Ed Sanders (standing, center) and the Hughes family prepare for a segment of the show with London's Big Ben providing a dramatic backdrop.

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. It's executive produced by Denise Cramsey. David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

ART IMITATES TIME



In planning the art collection for Kidani Village at Disney's Animal Kingdom Villas (now in development at Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge), Walt Disney Imagineers pondered a profound question: What separates humans from the animal world?

After careful consideration and consultation, they concluded that humans are perhaps the only animals with a true understanding of time. (We would have gone with the obvious "we're the only ones in pants," but the whole time thing is far more thought provoking.)

The concept

"The concept of time enables us to mark both the rhythms of nature and the cycle of our own lives," Imagineers explained in a creative document acquired by *Disney Files Magazine*. "The understanding of the rhythms of nature has enabled us to develop a sophisticated system of agriculture, which in turn, provided us with the leisure time to create an advanced civilization and an intellectual pursuit in the comprehension of our universe. Man plus agriculture plus time equal creation and knowledge." (And nice pants.)

To highlight the importance of time, Imagineers are working with New Orleans-based African art dealer Charles Davis to acquire and commission a variety of pieces from African artisans.

"The artwork in the existing lodge already explores man's relationship with the animal world, so this focus on the concept of time allows us to shift gears in the villas and focus on African culture," Charles explained during our visit. "It's a complex, layered story that goes back thousands of years, and it's the classic chicken-and-egg question. Which came first, the art or the

culture? We'll explore that with the collection of objects we're displaying throughout the resort. Where did they come from? Why are they there? What's the origin of the concepts behind them? By answering these and other questions, we hope to send people away, not only knowing more about Africa, but perhaps even about themselves." (Heavy stuff. Though we still think our "Hall of Pants" idea has legs.)

The process

"We wanted to anchor this collection with a strong symbol; a logo if you will," Charles continued. "So we looked to the Asante people of Ghana, who make these fabulous faux time pieces as objects of prestige and as symbols of this great concept of time. With that design inspiration in mind, I went up to a small village in the mountains of Cameroon, where I hired some old friends at a brass foundry to create a 30-inch-by-22-inch bronze sculpture that could make an immediate visual impact as Guests enter the Kidani Village lobby." (Remember, this is a sculpture, not an actual clock, so you may not want to set your watch by this thing. Just look at it, appreciate it and ponder the very essence of man's existence on this planet.)

Charles provided conceptual design sketches, complete with a hidden Mickey, to the local artisans, who created the piece through what's known in Africa as the "lost wax cast process." Here's how it works.

Artists sculpt the detailed work of art out of beeswax (decidedly easier than carving bronze) before covering their creation in

The wax sculpture melts out of the mud-encased mold in a kiln before artisans bury it in the ground for cooling. Artists later fill the mold with molten bronze.



Disney's ANIMAL KINGDOM VILLAS

Local African children proudly sport their new Mickey Mouse pins. ▶

wet mud. The mud hardens into a terracotta-like shell, with only a few strategically placed holes exposing the wax inside. Next up is a trip to the kiln, where the intense heat melts the wax, which escapes through those holes. Artists carefully remove the remaining “terracotta” mold from the kiln and bury it in the ground to allow it to cool slowly and to avoid breaking. (Or as Charles put it, “exploding.” Yikes!) Once cooled and unearthed, the mold is filled with molten bronze, which is allowed to harden before artists break away the shell.

“Since both the wax and the resulting mold are disposable, this can obviously only be done once,” Charles pointed out. “So this process results in true one-of-a-kind works of art. It’s a very difficult process, particularly on a large piece like the one we commissioned for the resort.

The people

“It’s a fascinating process,” Charles said. “There are no modern tools or machines, just basic, natural materials, things like pieces of wet burlap instead of gloves, and most importantly, extremely skilled artists who create absolutely perfect finished pieces. There’s not a single flaw in the casting. They’ve been doing this since they were children, and it’s a family tradition passed down through generations. Interestingly, one of the young men I met at the foundry in 1974 has grown to be an accomplished artist, and he is one of the people involved creating this piece for us.”

The end result is a work of art representing not only the concept of time, but the evolution of African culture.

“One of the ideas we’re exploring in this art collection is this idea of imports,” Charles explained. “In other words, what effects have other cultures had on Africa, and in turn, what effect has Africa had on other cultures? This particular timepiece has obvi-

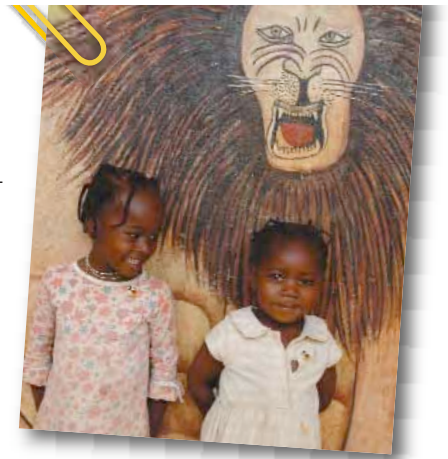
ous influence from the European clock design. Until Africans were exposed to this more measured approach to marking time, they marked time by the passage of the moon.

That’s still the case in some areas of the African bush. Through most of my career travels to Africa, I’d explain to locals when I’d be coming in terms of moons. I’d say, ‘I’ll be back in five moons,’ and they’d know exactly when to expect me ... So artwork reflecting this concept of measured time became something of a status symbol. In fact, sculpted gold watches, even without actual time mechanisms, were worn by Asante kings. We have four examples of those watches that we also plan to showcase at the resort.”

The mouse

So do African artists who measure time by the passing moon, bury fired molds in the earth and protect their hands with soaked burlap understand exactly where the fruits of their time-honored labor will end up?

“Tim Warzecha at Walt Disney Imagineering helped me pull together some fun little Disney gifts for the locals, including some Mickey Mouse trading pins and even some writing pens bearing the Disney Vacation Club logo,” Charles said. “Every person I gave these to in the remote villages looked at that mouse with absolute bewilderment. There are plenty of Disney fans in African cities, but these villages are among the last places on earth to know nothing of Mickey. They were so excited about these gifts and couldn’t wait to put their pins on. So the word’s out now.”



Artists carefully remove the mud casing from the finished bronze sculpture.



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD



RECIPE: Golden Chanterelle and Morel Mushroom Soup

As Disney Vacation Club Members enjoy their new “home” at Disney’s Animal Kingdom Villas, *Disney Files* Magazine is pleased to present the recipe (and a breakdown of fancy words) for a hot dish that’s drumming up “soupy sales” at Jiko – The Cooking Place, courtesy of Jiko Chef Brian Piasecki.

Recipe serving size: 1 gallon

Soup ingredients:

- 1/3 cup dried morel mushrooms
- 3/4 cup golden chanterelle mushrooms
- 3/4 cup portabello mushrooms
- 3/4 cup celery, rough chopped
- 3/4 cup leeks, rough chopped
- 3/4 cup raw carrots
- 3/4 cup sweet onions
- 1/2 teaspoon parsley, chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon thyme, chopped
- 1 1/4 quarts vegetable stock (fancy word for broth)
- 1 1/4 quarts heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/3 stick whole butter
- Kosher salt and fresh ground pepper to taste
- As many toasted pumpkin seeds as you’d like as a garnish

Soup steps:

1. Reconstitute (fancy word for soak) the morel mushrooms in hot water for 30 minutes the day before you prepare the soup. Drain thoroughly, rinse well and dry. Store in an air-tight container in your refrigerator.
2. When you’re ready to prepare the soup, remove and discard the stems from the portabello mushrooms and toss with half of the olive oil. Add salt and pepper to taste, and dry the coated mushrooms on a baking sheet in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes.
3. Clean the golden chanterelle mushrooms and save some of the small ones for a fancy garnish.
4. Roast the sweet onions in a baking pan in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes or until nicely caramelized (fancy word for brown and limp, which doesn’t sound nearly as tempting as caramelized).

5. Wash and rinse the celery, leeks and carrots before cutting into small pieces.
6. In a large saucepan, heat the butter and remaining olive oil on the stove over medium heat until the butter starts to slightly bubble. Add the celery, leeks and carrots you just cut and sauté (fancy word for heating with fat) over medium to medium-high heat for about 10 minutes. Add the portabello, golden chanterelle and morel mushrooms, as well as the onions, thyme and vegetable stock. Simmer for one hour, add the cream and simmer for another hour. (Nobody said this was going to be quick.)
7. Bur mix (fancy term for using one of those cool hand-held stick blenders) the pot, then finish in a standard blender before adjusting the seasoning with salt and pepper to taste.
8. Serve garnished with toasted pumpkin seeds, those golden chanterelle mushrooms you set aside earlier (you may sauté those if you wish) and truffle whipped cream. What, your grocer doesn’t sell truffle whipped cream? No problem. Here’s how to make it yourself...

Truffle whipped cream ingredients:

- 6 ounces heavy cream
- 1/2 ounce truffle oil
- Kosher salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Truffle whipped cream steps:

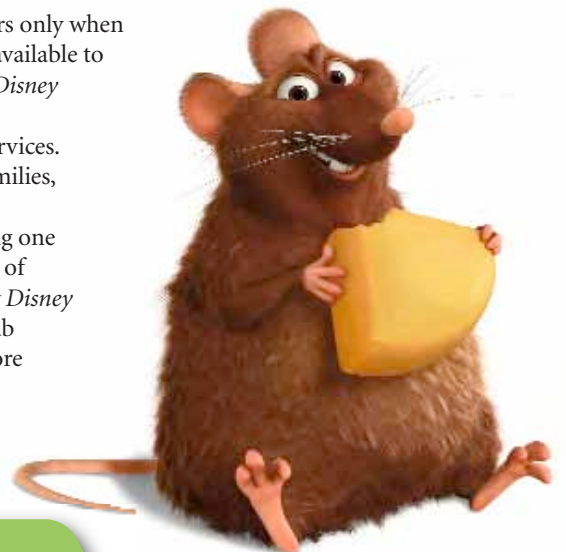
1. Whip heavy cream in an electric mixer set on high speed, and add salt and pepper to taste.
2. When the mixture starts to thicken, add the truffle oil and continue beating until light and fluffy.

THE PLAN EXPANDS

The Disney Dining Plan, previously available to Disney Vacation Club Members only when staying in a Disney Vacation Club Resort at the *Walt Disney World*® Resort, now is available to Members staying on Vacation Points in The Disney Collection Resorts at the *Walt Disney World* Resort as well.

“We’re extremely excited about this,” said Marcy Reed, Manager of Member Services. “The Disney Dining Plan has proven to be extremely popular with our Member families, and now more Members will be able to enjoy this offering than ever before.”

The Disney Dining Plan helps families save money on dining by pre-purchasing one of three packages that include a daily combination of meals, snacks and, in the case of Disney’s Plus Wine and Dine Package, a nightly bottle of wine. More than 100 *Walt Disney World* dining locations participate in the plan. Remember that Disney Vacation Club Members may book the Disney Dining Plan *only* if they do so at least 48 hours before checking in at their resort. Visit www.dvcmember.com for more details.



Fridge-o-Fame

A refrigerator is more than just a place to store the leftovers you'll ignore until they stink up the joint. It's a place of family honor, a surface on which to display glowing report cards, treasured award certificates and kids' well-intentioned drawings of the family dog. Like a proud parent, *Disney Files Magazine* celebrates the achievements of Members and their families here on the "Fridge-o-Fame."

DVC



Star spangled salute: Cast Members selected United States Marines veteran George Honses of Metairie, La., Member since 2000, to serve as the Honorary Veteran of the Day at the Magic Kingdom® Park in Florida. The moment was one that George and his wife, Jamie, say they'll never forget.



Little drummer boy: Even rock stars dig Disney. Chris Guglielmo, part of the Guglielmo family of Wantagh, N.Y., Members since 2002, has risen to fame as the drummer for the rock band Bayside. With multiple album releases, a string of concert tours and even an appearance on NBC's "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" keeping him busy, you can't blame Chris for napping during his Disney vacation.

Honor your family

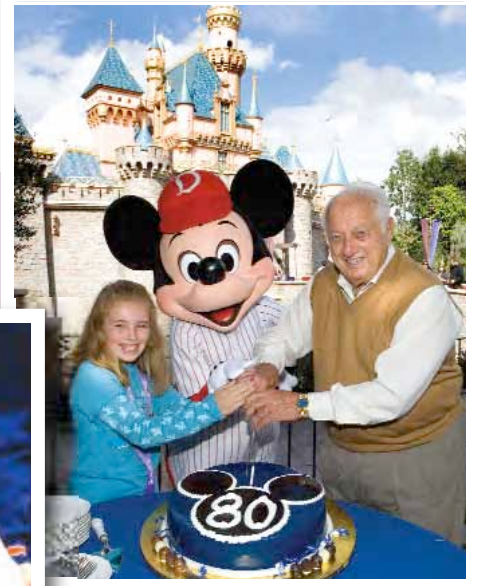
Share your family's achievements! Maybe your kid isn't a rock star, but maybe someone in your family won a spelling bee. Or perhaps Uncle Carl drew a million hits with that disturbing online video of his *High School Musical 2* dance routine. No accomplishment is too small (or odd) for consideration. Send your family's news to *Disney Files Magazine's* Fridge-o-Fame, Disney Vacation Club, 200 Celebration Place, Celebration, FL 34747. (Submissions become property of Disney Vacation Club and will not be returned.)

FRIENDLY CHATTER

the happiest interviews on earth

Baseball Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda doesn't just *work* for the Dodgers. He *lives* for the Dodgers. Part of the organization for more than 50 years as a player, manager and executive, Tommy maintains that, if you cut him open (please don't), he'd bleed Dodger blue. The often nostalgic leader is feeling particularly sentimental this spring, as the Dodgers enter what could be their last Spring Training camp just down the road from Disney's Vero Beach Resort at historic Dodgertown (the team soon will train in Arizona).

Disney Files Magazine chatted with the proud Dodger, fresh off his 80th birthday celebration at the *Disneyland* Resort.



Disney Files: First of all, happy birthday! How was the party?

Lasorda: Well, thank you. It was absolutely fantastic! We got to see where Walt lived in the Park, which was a great honor, and I just loved *Soarin' Over California*TM. I could sit there four or five times in a row. It's quite a thing!

DF: Another milestone awaits as you prepare to bid farewell to Vero Beach. What does that place mean to you?

Lasorda: Wow, such memories. I've been going to Vero since 1949. It's a great place with a lot of wonderful people. We aren't leaving Vero Beach because we don't like it. Quite the contrary. But the team started training there as the Brooklyn Dodgers, and most of those fans are no longer around. So the move to Arizona will let more Los Angeles Dodger fans see what Spring Training is like. I'll be sad to leave Vero Beach, but I guess it's about time.

DF: What will you remember most about your time there?

Lasorda: I'll remember a time when we used to stay in barracks, six to a room; when we had 26 farm teams, 780 players in uniform, and no heating or air-conditioning. Now we have gorgeous facilities that we simply didn't have in those days. And we certainly didn't always have that beautiful Disney resort just down the road. What a tremendous place that is!

DF: No argument here. Okay, silly question. Are you still bleeding Dodger blue after all these years?

Lasorda: Without a doubt! My love for the Dodgers comes right from my heart. When I was offered a three-year deal in 1976 to manage the Montreal club for \$50,000, \$75,000 and \$125,000, I turned it down and coached third base for the Dodgers for \$17,000. And I never regretted it for a second. People think I'm crazy, but I just can't imagine putting on another uniform.



NOTEWORTHY

good to know before you go

Cheer like a Champion: As part of a new alliance with Hanes-brands, Inc., The Ballpark at *Disney's Wide World of Sports*® Complex at the *Walt Disney World*® Resort is now Champion Stadium. Major League Baseball's Atlanta Braves are conducting their 2008 Spring Training camp at the renamed stadium through March 29. Tickets are available online at www.ticketmaster.com and in person at the *Disney's Wide World of Sports* Complex box office.

Catch some Rays: Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays will take on the Toronto Blue Jays in regular-season action April 22-24 at Champion Stadium at the *Walt Disney World* Resort. For more details, visit www.raysbaseball.com.

Get your name in the game: Guests may purchase personalized baseball gear and authentic on-field equipment at Rawlings Making the Game, a new exhibit located inside the Team Mickey store at *Downtown Disney*® Marketplace at the *Walt Disney World* Resort.

ESPN the Weekend: More than 70 athletes and ESPN stars will take part in live and taped broadcasts, celebrity motorcades, interactive talk shows and more during ESPN The Weekend Feb. 29-March 2 at *Disney's Hollywood Studios*™ (formerly *Disney-MGM Studios*). Learn more online at www.espntheweekend.com.

Feel the Force: *Star Wars*™ characters, celebrities and experiences will take over *Disney's Hollywood Studios*™ June 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 and 27-29, for *Star Wars* Weekends, the ultimate intergalactic fan fest (included with Theme Park admission). Visit www.disneyworld.com/starwars to learn more.

Big Blue World (Wide Web): Can't get enough of "Big Blue World" and other catchy tunes from *Finding Nemo the Musical* at *Disney's Animal Kingdom*® Theme Park? The show's soundtrack, featuring the music of composer Kristin Anderson-Lopez (*Along the Way*) and songwriter Robert Lopez (*Avenue Q*), is available for download at www.iTunes.com.

Backstage Magic: Walk in Walt's footsteps through Southern California with a visit to Walt Disney Imagineering headquarters in Glendale, a tour of the Walt Disney Studios lot in Burbank, a backstage look at the *Disneyland*® Resort in Anaheim and more through the new *Adventures by Disney* Backstage Magic trip. Call Member Services for details.

Got your number? Please remember to have either your 12-digit Disney Vacation Club Member ID number, or your Club ID number, whenever calling Member Services. This will help Member Services Vacation Advisors serve you more efficiently. Also note that Member Services now operates seven days a week, answering calls from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily.

Pool hopping: As a reminder, pool hopping isn't available at Uzima Pool at *Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge* or Stormalong Bay at *Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resorts*. Due to expected high occupancy, pool hopping won't be available at any *Walt Disney World* Resort hotel Feb. 17-23, March 15-29, May 23-26, June 28-July 5, Aug. 29-Sept. 1 and Nov. 24-30, 2008, and Dec. 14, 2008-Jan. 4, 2009. Complete details about this perk are available in *Portable Perks* and at www.dvcmember.com.

WEB-FOOTNOTES

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

BUY n LARGE

It's easy to get lost on the information superhighway, so *Disney Files* Magazine zeroes in on the coolest stuff (in our not-so-humble opinion). Here's our pick for the best site we've seen since the last time we wrote this column.

www.buynlarge.com — Learn about the company that produces robots in the future to do the work neglected by humans, as portrayed in *WALL•E*, a new Disney•Pixar animated feature rolling into theaters this summer. Don't miss the site's robotics section, where the company proclaims, "Our robots were designed from the ground up to do the tasks we humans were never really meant to do – tasks such as lawn mowing, vacuuming, surgery, food preparation and political decision making." Oh, and if you're wondering what *WALL•E* stands for, it's Waste Allocation Load Lifter - Earth Class. "Kiss your waste worries goodbye with *WALL•E*," the Buy n Large company says of the robot. "Combining the latest in waste-compaction technology with the quality and dependability of BnL, your trash will soon be a thing of the past!"

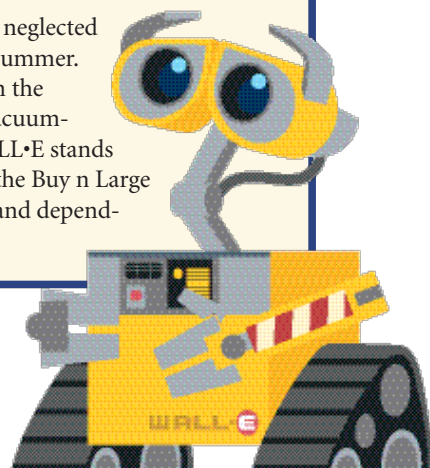


PHOTO FILES

memories worth a thousand words



Looks like six more weeks of winter.



THE SHADOW

Kaitlyn, part of the Konis family of Arizona, Members since 2006, makes like Punxsutawney Phil and admires her shadow during a Disney vacation. (According to her mother, the Mickey ears have become her favorite accessory.)

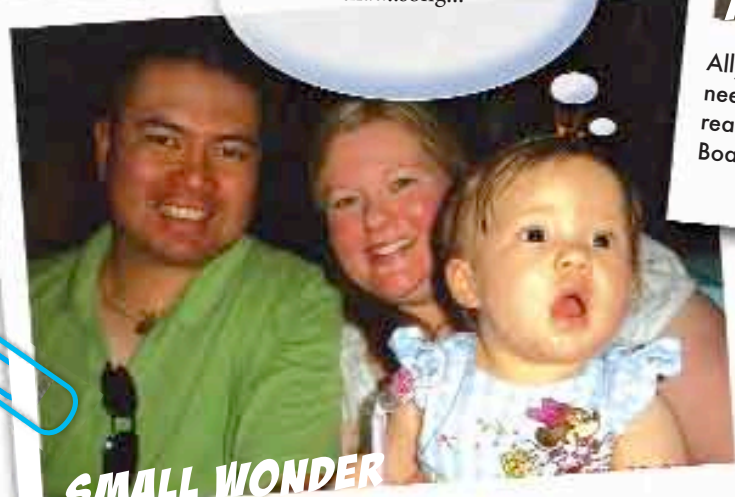
Where's that Wayne Szalinski when I need him?



TINY PRANCERS

Allyson, part of the Koch family of Ohio, Members since 1999, needs one of those handy electro-magnetic shrinking machines to realize her dream of riding the miniature carousel at Disney's BoardWalk Resort.

Can't...stop...singing... that...song...



SMALL WONDER

Maya, part of the Salita family of Pennsylvania., Members since 2005, is entranced by her first voyage through the "it's a small world" attraction at the Magic Kingdom® Park in Florida.

Ready for their closeups

Your *Disney Files* staff loves a good close-up. Those sweeping shots of gleaming castles, packed parade routes and Imagineered mountains are lovely, but we have enough of those to wallpaper every cubicle in the building. (Not a bad idea.) The tight shot, however, gets our attention. Seeing kids' reactions to a character, carousel or even their own shadow reminds us why we do what we do. With that in mind, here are some of our favorite tight shots, courtesy of Members who aren't afraid to use the zoom.

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

Send your vacation photos to *Disney Files Magazine*, Disney Vacation Club, 200 Celebration Place, Celebration, FL 34747. Note that submissions become property of Disney Vacation Club and will not be returned.

Tip: Photos that tell a story have the best chance of getting into the magazine. So look for your best candid shots that focus more on people than places, and be sure to explain the stories behind your photos. If you can make the staff laugh or cry, you're one step closer to fame. (Also remember to include your name, hometown and "Member Since" year so the staff can credit you with the submission.)

Mom and Dad take me out to eat, and I get stuck with the bill. Get it? Duck bill? That's comedy gold, I tell you. Gold!



DINE AND DUCK

Ashley, part of the Mar family of Texas, Members since 2007, meets Donald Duck during a character breakfast at Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park.

Got the ears. Got the shirt. Now if only I could distract pan-and-broom guy long enough to pry away this sculpture.



ALL EARS

Grace, part of the Caruthers family of Indiana, Members since 2003, outshines Minnie with her infectious smile. (Is it just us, or is the Minnie on Grace's sweatshirt admiring her own bronze likeness?)

I'm one unbuckled safety restraint from floating out of this place!



Someone want to lend a hand here? These tiny Mickeys aren't going to pick up *themselves*!

ONE KID'S TRASH...

Alexandra, part of the Ritter family of Pennsylvania, Members since 1997, gives the aforementioned pan-and-broom guy a breather by picking up Mickey Mouse confetti in the Park.



WHERE DREAMS COME INFLATED

Sofia, part of the Restivo family of New York, Members since 1997, contemplates the possibilities as she embraces her birthday balloon.

BACK FILES

Disney through the rear-view mirror

Disney's Wilderness Preserve is just one example of the company's ongoing support of conservation efforts. This longstanding commitment dates back to company founders Walt and Roy O. Disney, pictured here (from right) enjoying the natural landscape of their childhood home in Marceline, Mo. Environmental issues were of deep concern to Walt, who once said, "If certain events continue, much of America's natural beauty will become nothing more than a memory ... Our forests, waters, grasslands and wildlife must be wisely protected and used. I urge all citizens to join the effort."

