



Brendaen Makechnie, then ...

Where Are They Now?

Brendaen Makechnie

By Mary T. Ofenloch
Andover Service Club

In March, 1996, professors at Brigham Young University (BYU) were asked to identify their most outstanding student. He was Brendaen K. Makechnie of Andover. Later, in 1997, Brendaen, who is the son of former Andover Service Club (ASC) member Heather Makechnie and her husband Arthur, received a \$1,000 ASC Merit Scholarship for Continuing Education.

Brendaen and his family moved to Andover in 1985 where he entered AE/MS as a sixth grade student. He spent his high school years at Proctor Academy as an outstanding student, a respected leader, a hard worker, a photographer, and a willing volunteer who loved Andover.

"Brendaen has always been a very handy person, mostly self-taught," his mother, Heather, recalled. "With the help and guidance of many people, especially Howard George, he learned very useful things. He won a Lifetime Membership Award from the Andover Historical Society for a research project on the old Andover Village District Water System, which consisted of piping made from hollowed-out logs."

After graduating from Proctor in 1992, Brendaen attended BYU, where he declared English as his major and Business as his minor. In order to defray the costs of tuition and room and board, Brendaen applied for an ASC Merit Scholarship, which he easily won. Since he was responsible for all of his expenses at BYU, he held various part-time jobs, such as: mechanic, barber, mail carrier, freelance photographer, and property manager. He also received a BYU academic scholarship.

In May, 1997, just before entering his senior year, Brendaen married Jill Anne Lowman of Des Moines, Iowa. Later, in 1998, after graduating, the

couple moved to Wisconsin where they both were employed by Lands' End, a catalog company. Brendaen was inventory manager, catalog merchandiser,



... and now.

and associate product manager.

Hailey, their first child, was born in January, 2000. Two months later, Brendaen joined a Boston-based startup called Upromise, where he played a foundational role in the grocery vertical of Upromise. Over the next 10 years at Upromise, he served in client service, business development, sales, and partnership management roles.

During this time, Jill and Brendaen welcomed Chloe, Ella, and Grace, their beautiful daughters, into their family. Their growing family necessitated a move from a Newton apartment to a house in Needham, Massachusetts. He and a business partner launched a side business selling and installing custom window treatments in the Boston market. But after four years, the economic recession forced them to shut down their business.

Meanwhile, in 2006, Sallie Mae, the
See Brendaen on page 38

Calling All Chocolate Lovers!

LSRCC press release

Chocolate lovers! Come revel in an afternoon of chocolate delights at the 17th annual ChocolateFest Chocolate Challenge taking place on March 3, from noon to 2 PM at Colby-Sawyer College in the Weare Campus Center in beautiful Wheeler Hall, Main Street, New London.

The event, presented by the Lake Sunapee Region Chamber of Commerce (LSRCC), features a smorgas-

bord of scrumptious chocolate desserts and handmade chocolate delights. Professional bakers and chefs, as well as amateur enthusiasts, will compete for top honors of Best Chocolate Creation.

Attendees get to sample with sweet gusto all the chocolate treats and then vote for their favorite. Admission is \$10 per person and kids under five are free. For information, call the Lake Sunapee Region Chamber of Commerce at 526-6575, or visit LakeSunapeeNH.org.

The Constant Quilter

LEPRECHAUN SHOP HOP

Leprechaun Hop press release

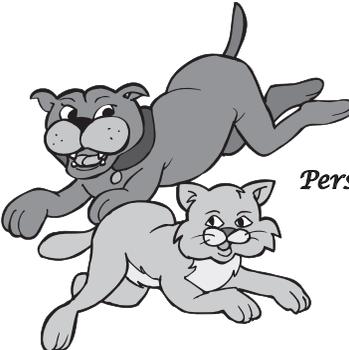
The Constant Quilter, on the corner of Route 11 and Pancake Road in Andover, and The Quilting Corner at Riverfront Place on Main Street in Tilton, along with five other participating quilt shops, invite you to join us in our Leprechaun Hop from Thursday, March 15, through Saturday, March 17.

The month of March is sometimes grim, With grimy snow and sunlight dim. You'll add some sizzle, flash, and pop When you join in this quilt shop hop! For an \$8 registration fee, you will be provided with a 16" Three Heart Quilt Hanger and a shop hop guide/passport.

Over the three designated days, visit each shop, have your passport stamped, and enter to win daily door prizes. Play Leprechaun Bingo for extra fun and prizes.

Completed passports will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing for a chance to win a Singer Sewing Machine donated by the Constant Quilter, or an Aurifil thread assortment.

For more information call The Constant Quilter at 735-4100, The Quilting Corner at 286-3437; visit us; or contact one of the other five participating quilt shops: Pine Tree Quilt Shop, Country Heart Quilters, Apple Tree Fabrics, The Quilted Frog, and The Sewing Diva. Details: NHShopHops.com.



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