

THE HASELEYS – ALLAN, KELLY, EMMA, ERIN, JAMES

Bells, Balls, Balloons and Banff

BELLS



Allan, Lynne, Sue and Karen at Jordan's wedding.

Kelly and I attended 5 weddings in 2024. Funny how we did not hear a single Wedding Bell at any of them... We started off in February with Erin's wedding in Cary, NC. The wedding and wedding weekend all went great and we were excited to welcome James Watkins and his family to our Haseley extended family. Since James has been writing the Haseley Herald news for Erin for many years now and he has been to Rensselaerville and he already knows everyone in the family....and they live together, we figured it was about time to let him officially join the family.

Three of the other weddings were also family members, or at least family as we define "family". One was for our niece Emily Miller and the others were Jordan Malik and Kaylee Pott. Jordan and Emily's weddings were both in Raleigh and Kaylee's, who is from Denver Colorado, wedding was in South Carolina. Jordan is the son of Steve Malik, Allan's best friend and Kaylee is the daughter of Kelly's life long friend Kerrie Malone. We wish all the newlyweds the best and look forward to them all celebrating their 1st wedding anniversaries next year when Kelly and I are celebrating our 35th!

BALLS



Pickleball, Golf, Tennis, Basketball, Football, Ping Pong and other sports, games and fun were at the center of many of our trips and daily activities in 2024. Some of the highlights include playing lots of Pickleball and Ping Pong at our mountain house in Beech Mountain NC or in Charlotte at one of our four Pickleball Charlotte Indoor locations. Kelly continues to enjoy her weekly Tennis Leagues and Clinics and although neither of us really play golf much anymore, we



always look forward to playing with Ed and Mike at the annual Cancer Classic Tournament in New Bern.

Attending Carolina Panther home football games have been painful this year, but one bright spot was going to an away game in Washington DC with Erin and James, Emma and Logan and our friends the Hensleys. The result of the game was no different than all the home games, it actually was very bad, but at least we got to have a great time with friends and family and Allan was able to see the team that he grew up watching, the Redskins, play at their home stadium.

BALLOONS

We really did not have any balloons, but we did celebrate Kelly's 60th birthday at Palmetto Bluff in South Carolina while attending a wedding. We enjoyed good food, friends and lots of bike riding. Erin and Emma were both able to join us and now Allan is not the only one in the family in his 60's anymore. Happy Birthday Kelly!

BANFF

Banff Canada has been on Kelly's bucket list for many years. We had heard stories of how pretty the water and views were and had planned to visit someday. When Emma and Logan invited us to come join them the week of July 4th, while they were traveling the US and Canada on their



Emma Allan Kelly and Logan

van trip, we jumped at the chance to check off an item from our list. The stories and pictures were all true and the trip was awesome. We even joined Emma and Logan on a long bike ride (we rented E-Bikes) and we stayed with them for a few nights in Canmore (outside of Banff) and a few nights at Moraine Lake. No, we did not stay in the van. See their article for more details on their incredible 3.5 month trip in their Ford Transit Converted Van. Kelly and I hope to

follow in their footsteps one day in the near future...maybe not necessarily in a Van, or at least not the whole time.

Next year will be our 30th anniversary of starting our business, Sports Connection. We hope to have a weekend celebration of games and fun in November, 2025. All are welcome to attend. More details later.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Allan & Kelly



Allan, Emma, Kelly, Erin and James

ERIN & JAMES

Erin and James Get Married

We got married on February 17 surrounded by our friends and family in Cary NC. Thank you ALL for joining us - it was truly the best night ever, and it really would not have been the same without all the Haseleys rocking the dance floor.



After recovering from the wedding, we flew to Belize where we spent a wonderful week in a rainforest resort visiting Mayan ruins, bird watching, and drinking rum by the pool. We are already planning when we can go back and explore more of the country.

The rest of our year was admittedly less exciting but still fun. We went to several weddings (shout out to Jordan & Bethany and Emily & Shoji!), visited family and friends in Atlanta, Charlotte, Greenville, Charleston, NYC and DC, and spent many weekends at Lake Tillery. Erin traveled to Portland and NYC for work, while James joined our friend, the singer Ian McConnell, as he toured across the US.

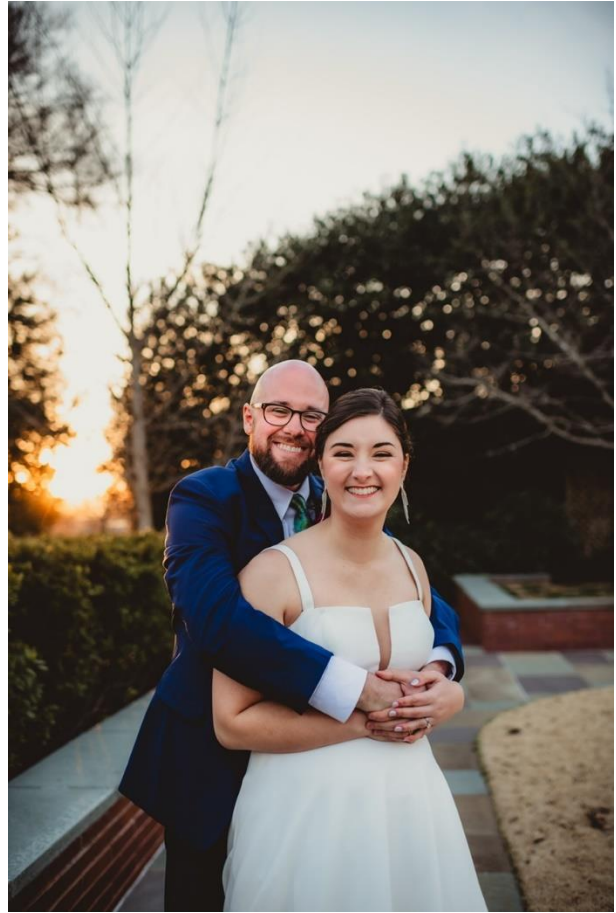
Erin is still at Duke and enjoys it as much as anyone could enjoy working for the pukey Dukeys. And James is still working on publishing his first novel; he was slowed down a bit with hernia surgery and a horrible case of poison ivy.

Our cats are doing wonderfully; they are spoiled as ever and want to thank Grandpa Allan for building them toys, Aunt Emma for visiting so often, and Grandma Kelly for keeping them company while their parents were in Belize.

That's it for this year - can't wait to see what next year brings!

Love,

Erin Haseley (yes I didn't change my name!) and James Watkins





EMMA

Hello, Haseley Herald 2024!

It is hard to believe 2024 is almost wrapped up. It has been a crazy eventful year for me, filled with so many wonderful memories with friends and family and travel experiences I will treasure for the rest of my life. So, let's dive into it!

My favorite sister and brother-in-law finally tied the knot in February. The day went off without a hitch and with one too many donuts and Girl Scout cookies in my stomach. Sneak a peak at some of my favorite shots from the day:



While Erin and James relaxed in Belize, Logan, my parents, and I hunkered down for two intense weeks of work retrofitting our van to transform it into a fully livable camper van! We did everything – starting with tearing out the manufacturer's insulation, flooring, and lights. Then, we built out new frames for the floor, walls, and ceiling and filled them with insulation (it only helped so much – we still got very cold and very hot at various times during our trip!). Then we added walls, built-out cabinets, seats, and our 'garage' area, and we called it a success! For two weeks of work, we did a pretty good job. We could not have done it without the help of our parents and Mr. Johnny!



The next few months consisted largely of trip planning and enjoying time in DC with our friends before departing on our trip on May 1st. Here are some photos from then:

Finally! The big trip. We hopped in our van (which we call Flat Vanley) and left from our house in D.C. on May 1st.

Superlatives

Superlative	Emma	Logan
Best Food	<p>This is a tough one. The fresh beignets at Cafe du Monde in New Orleans were pretty killer, especially coupled with the live jazz music and oak trees in City Park.</p> <p>But... the last meal of our trip has to take the cake. In our drive back to DC, we stopped over for gas just outside of Indianapolis. The smell coming out of the restaurant attached to the gas station was too good to ignore. We had one of the best Indian food meals EVER!</p>	Steak dinner in Boulder, Utah, at Hell's Backbone Grill & Farm.
Worst Food	Same as Logan!	Chunky, undercooked mashed potatoes in Grand Tetons. Honestly, still delicious though in their own right
Top National Park	We went to fourteen National Parks on our trip! While it is really hard to choose, I think Zion National Park was my top park. The landscape was so otherworldly, and it was such an interesting combination of arid red rock and sandstone and lush greens with hanging gardens. We biked through the canyon and hiked through the famous Narrows, galoshes and all!	North Cascades
Most surprising National Park	I was pleasantly surprised by many national and state parks. We decided last-minute to travel from Bellingham, WA to North Cascades National Park. As one of the least-visited national parks, we enjoyed a quiet, peaceful hike and a magical rainforest-esque evening at our campsite in the woods by an icy river.	Arches. The Landscape Arch (the big, iconic one) is way bigger and more stunning than you would expect.

Place we most want to go back to	One of my favorite parks was the Grand Tetons. We went on an incredible hike and saw a black bear and an adult moose! I definitely can't wait to go back and go for a longer backpacking trip in hopes of seeing more wildlife.	Portland, Oregon; Point Roberts, Washington; and the entire state of Montana
Most unexpected encounter/experience	Despite our highly thought-out itinerary, we still had many amazing, unexpected moments on our trip. We decided to re-route and stopped in Gallup, NM at an incredible campsite nestled in the beautiful Red Rock Park. We got up early the next morning for a hike and the views were unlike anything I've ever seen before.	Last minute Waxahatchee concert in Birmingham was definitely a surprise.
Biggest travel fail	I left my phone in Winslow, AZ (near the corner) and we had to backtrack an hour. Luckily, it was still there!	Sprinting a mile in scorching New Orleans weather after a full mean thinking the van had been stolen.
Most shocking/beautiful nature	The beautiful slot canyons in the Upper Antelope Canyon!	Grand Canyon all the way - it really meets all of the hype
Biggest travel win	Getting to float in the Great Salt Lake - This is a big win because it is fading away and also Dad always talks about Grandpa Ed floating there with his feet poking out of the water.	Finding Planet Fitness locations (showers) in most places.
Most memorable moment	Sandboarding in Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park, UT.	Any of the nights spent sleeping in cracker barrel parking lots
Most adventurous moment	Mountain biking in Sedona, AZ. It was completely terrifying but so fun! Plus, we treated ourselves to pizza with Mike and Bre afterward!	Same as Emma

Most unusual discovery	Petrified wood! Look it up.	Yeti Coolers don't keep stuff cool for nearly as long as you'd think...
Favorite animal friend	We saw so many animals on our trip – bison, a javalina, an eagle, some elk, a road runner, and a bear! However, my favorite animal encounter by far was seeing humpback whales off of Vancouver, Canada.	Moose!
Most scenic drive	Canada! We took two incredibly scenic drives in Canada. First, the Sea to Sky Highway (Highway 99) from Vancouver to Whistler. The ice-blue lakes and small towns were so lovely. Second, the Icefields Parkway, from Lake Louise to Jasper. This drive is insane. You literally drive through rocky mountain peaks and ice fields!	Sea to Sky all the way
Least scenic drive	The drive from Denver back to DC (a full 24 hours) was probably the least scenic. However - there were some unexpected spots of beauty along the way, especially once we got back into the lush east-coast ecosystem.	I-70 from Denver to Kansas City is America's waiting room...
Most fun roadside attraction	We stumbled upon the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, UT. This is the largest no-kill animal sanctuary in the U.S. It is a really interesting place - the landscape has all of the beautiful red-rocks of southern Utah combined with hundreds of cats, dogs, horses, and other animals that have been rescued!	The Golden Spike!
Most challenging weather	Freezing cold outside of Bryce Canyon. We did not expect it to be so cold here! We almost froze to death while sleeping just outside of Bryce Canyon in a national forest.	New Orleans humidity...

Favorite car snack	Pink Starbursts and Funyons	Slim Jims
Best smell	Fresh pie at the Gifford Homestead inside Capitol Reef National Park. We were lucky and snagged a last-minute spot at a campsite inside the park and woke up to fresh pie across the street.	I know its cheesy but probably crisp mountain air?
Worst smell	Logan's shoes after wearing them for three straight months.	I'm pretty sure Emma included this category just to comment on my smelly feet...
Best place to sleep on the road	Cracker Barrel!	Anywhere that had no one else for 1+ miles

We got back to D.C. in late August, and Logan and I moved into our first place together. We spent the fall busy catching up with friends after a summer away. Some of my favorite fall memories with friends are doing the DC Bike Ride (20 miles around the National Mall), sauce day (we made fresh tomato sauce using 100 lbs of tomatoes!), camping in Maryland, Halloween in Boston, and football tailgating with family and friends.



