



## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



This year Glastonbury residents were struck hard by the tropical storm *Irene* in August and snow storm *Alfred* in October. Falling trees destroyed overhead lines nearly everywhere in Connecticut state. We were without power for about one week both in August and October. Pictures below show our backyard in October, 2011, after storm.



We had to remove 15 trees from our backyard that were partially or totally destroyed by storms. I have been trying to remove limbs, branches, and brushes on my own. However, this job was too heavy and finally, we decided to call a tree pruning and removal company. All our storm debris have been chipped and spread as a mulch. Step by step, we are replacing fallen trees with spruces and pines.



This year we did even more renovations and alterations to our house than last year. We also built a shed with storage and living areas. I want to bring authentic Polish folk furniture to the living part, which is totally wood finished. This will be in the future a "Little Poland".

**Janina's** duty is supervising handy men and purchasing building materials. She also spends a lot of time with **Alex**, our grandson, 4, **Karolina** and **Steven's** son.





**James Connor** (or **JC**) was born on September 26, 2011, at 11:41 pm in Pasadena, CA. Proud parents are **Izabella** and **Kris**, happy grandparents - **Janina** and **Jacek**.



**Izabella** is entitled only to 3-month maternity leave. She must return to Huntington Memorial Hospital to lead Clinical Engineering Department by the end of January 2012. Otherwise, she will lose her executive position. She is now looking for a responsible babysitter since JC needs a lot of love and patience.

**Kris** is a General Chairman of *Earth and Space 2012* Conference, Pasadena, CA, USA, April 15-18, 2012 <http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2012/index.html> Symposium No 4 devoted to ballistic impacts and challenging issues will be co-chaired by Prof. W. Binienda, University of Akron, and Dr R. Goldberg, NASA. Unfortunately, all Polish "experts" in investigation of aircraft crash have denied to participate in this Symposium and discuss Smolensk Tragedy with NASA scientists.



**Karolina** and **Steven** travelled a lot this year both nationally and internationally. **Alex**, 4, is a lovely and smart boy. He loves going to preschool and staying in grandparents' house. He has recently visited his baby cousin **JC** in Pasadena, CA.



**Michael** has turned 21 this year. He is now third year University of Connecticut student. He finally decided to major in Technical Physics.



The 2nd edition of my book "*Linear Synchronous Motors: Transportation and Automation Systems*" came out in August this year. Publisher: Taylor & Francis (CRC Group).