

Christmas 2000

Greetings

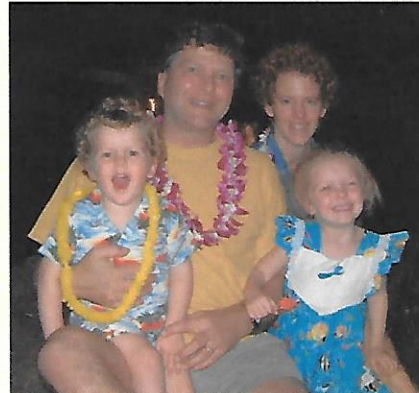
We wish you a marvelous holiday season and a fun filled 2001. Here in Sillycone valley, we had a terrific Y2K. But it came and went so quickly. Arielle is looking forward to her 4th birthday in January. Peter turned 2 in August. Arielle started a Chinese bilingual preschool in September. She loves it. She loves party clothes, dressing up and showing off...a little of both Dorian and Joe. Soccer, dance and gymnastics also started for her. Peter loves puzzles and patiently tackles quite sophisticated ones. He also loves construction 'diggers' of all kinds. We feel so fortunate that both kids are thriving and healthy.

Our Christmas present came early in December when we went for a week in Kauai with Barbara, Joe's mother. We enjoyed sand, sun, rainbows, diving, boating and hiking (If you go, try to walk the Owa-awapuhi trail in Waimea canyon. We expect you will remember the singularly spectacular view for life). Other trips this year included a camp-out Spring trip with Joe's family in Baraboo, Wisconsin (Home of the Awesome "Circus World") and a couple of trips to Lake Tahoe where we hiked, biked, braved the water and had a reunion with Dorian's complete family. Not too much skiing or sailing this year, sadly. So next year, we plan to ski in Steamboat, CO, and maybe sail in Tahiti.

Dorian continues to learn (taking Chinese and other classes) and creating wonderful stained glass masterpieces. She runs a one-day preschool called **COOL SCHOOL** for nine kids Arielle's age. Joe has continued at Hewlett-Packard as a software system architect, now in his 17th year there. Late in 2000, he was interviewing with several small pre-IPO startup firms, but he hasn't decided to leave HP yet. He is delighted being a dad and enjoys all the surprises that come with the title. After years of doing a lot of remodeling on our home, Joe finally spent some weekends getting back to his sawdust hobby. This year has been great for some woodworking tools as well as electronic gadgets...nothing changes there.

Speaking of new gadgets, we anticipated the California power crunch (by coincidence) and have become an official micro-power producer. Our roof is now full of solar cells that generate electricity during the day, spinning our electric meter backwards. Dorian is specially pleased to save CO₂ emissions that require 200 full-grown trees to recover. For info on this 3 KW facility named **Pot of GOLD Power**, try www.martinka.org/solar on the web.

Our best wishes to all of you. Maybe we might see you in 2001. Hope so.



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