



MERRY GRINCHMAS!

Greetings

Christmas 2001

The year held many surprises for all of us. We are pleased to write you that our family is strong, healthy and well. Here are some highlights of our year:

In March, we did some skiing with Joe's brother Mark and Wisconsin friends at Steamboat in Colorado. We planned to put Arielle in two days of ski school but she wouldn't settle for less than four. She looks forward to this ski season. Hot Dog!

In April we sailed with ten others in the British Virgin Islands on a sloop and a catamaran. We dove, snorkeled, and partied w/o kids. Grandma Barbara watched the kids for that week. Unexpectedly, Peter was potty trained when we returned. Diaper service cancelled forever. Grandma knows all the tricks after six sons!

Arielle and Peter attend the same bilingual Chinese preschool. Joe is worried he'll never understand them! Arielle is into her "Pink years". Both she and her brother regularly parade as pink princesses around the house with wands, veils and the works. Arielle went on a couple of San Francisco Bay sails and took the wheel of a ski boat for speedier times on Lake Tahoe.

Joe balances work, family time and hobbies. He's still at Hewlett-Packard in spite of lay-offs. He made some more sawdust in the garage building cabinets and carts. He's started teaching preschool at our church with much success. At first the four year olds terrified him, but now he is really enjoying the time with them. We attended his 25th reunion at the Naval Academy in late September. Joe caught up with lots of buddies. One of them took us out in a Navy sailboat for a memorable sail on the Chesapeake Bay.

Dorian still loves teaching and learning. She's enjoying storytelling to groups of preschoolers and helping Arielle begin to read. She likes helping Arielle and Peter learn little Chinese songs and poems. She also continues to teach classes for the teenagers at the church. Her big project this year involved sewing Wizard of Oz costumes for the whole family. See our web page for pictures.

Other trips for us included a visit to Wisconsin to visit Joe's family. We had all the Martinka cousins (seven in all) together for the first time.

We feel very fortunate for being Americans. We sincerely wish you all health and happiness for the coming year. We hope to share some time with you.

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HAPPY WHO YEAR!

