

The Goughs' Christmas Times

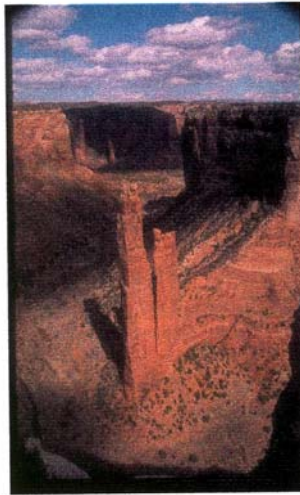
December, 1996

Oregon Year Seven

1996 was a watershed year for the Oregon Goughs as Chris graduated from UCSD, Dick retired after 35 years in the computer biz, Corey turned 21 and backpacked across Europe, and Diana had Dick underfoot while furnishing and decorating a second home from scratch. Some photographic details...

Retirement. Oooooee, I'm outta here!

Don't believe 'em when they tell you that you'll be bored stiff with nothing to do. What with travel, investments, computers, gourmet cooking, photography, wine collecting, reading, golf, skiing, hiking, and building a second home, there still isn't enough time — I've got a list of books I still haven't read.



Spider Rock, Canyon de Chelle - 3/96

We began our retirement with a sabbatical trip during February–March prior to the “official” date. After seven years at Intel, you're eligible for eight weeks off with pay, and Dick took that before leaving Intel on April 10. We used it for a three-week car trip through the Southwest. Visiting along the way: Tucson, Phoenix (Kay & Don Heise joined us for the weekend), Prescott, Sedona, Grand Canyon, Flagstaff, Canyon de Chelle, Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Taos. We had a

great time, saw a lot, got snowed on (12 inches) in Prescott, nearly froze photographing sunrise at Grand Canyon, and eagerly searched for laundromats and car washes upon entering a new town.

We had a wonderful time, and by staying mostly in B&Bs, we got a more “homey” feel for the many towns we visited. Of all the places we saw, Sedona, AZ. was

the spot we enjoyed the most, although Grand Canyon and Canyon de Chelle were certainly the most dramatic.

Besides the Southwest, we also took trips to Laguna Beach, San Diego, Victoria BC, Black Butte Ranch, and Ashland. We also spent lots of time in Newport OR.

The “Boys”

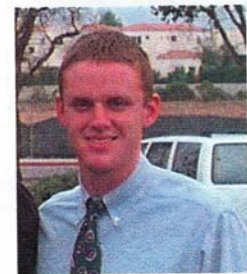


Chris at UCSD - 6/96

Chris graduated in June from UC San Diego with a degree in computer science. Dick, Diana, and Corey all attended the ceremony and sweltered in the unaccustomed 80+ degree sun (Oregonian sun tan oil is WD40). We celebrated that evening with a rousing dinner party with Chris' roommates and other family members.

Chris was hired by Intel as a software engineer and started July 1. He's currently working on telephony and advanced power management for PCs. For graduation, he got a white water rafting trip through the Grand Canyon which he'll take this summer...more details next year.

Corey took off the spring quarter and backpacked through Europe for eight weeks while successfully fending off two mugging attempts (London and Barcelona). He visited the UK, Ireland (North & South), Belgium, Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy, Monaco, France and Spain. His favorite cities were Prague and Rome. One of the things he most enjoyed doing was “canyoning” near Interlocken, Switzerland. You don a wet suit and helmet and ride the glacial melt down canyon walls. After his trip he worked as a summer intern for Intel testing programs for their new MMX chip. Corey celebrated his 21st birthday this summer, and having survived the celebration, is now back at the grind, finishing his junior year at the University of Oregon.



Corey in San Diego - 6/96

The Big Kids



Diana with friends in Sedona, AZ - 3/96

Diana continued her activities in both AAUW, where she edits the monthly newsletter, and in Oregon Master Gardeners, where she works a Q&A hotline. In addition to this, she's an avid reader, computer gamer, bridge player, and — more recently — golfer.

One of her major challenges was having Dick home full time while juggling her pre-retirement activities and planning for a second home.



Dick in Victoria, BC - 8/96

Dick is thoroughly enjoying retirement with his principal new hobbies being golf and digital photography. The photos here are all taken with an electronic camera which uses no film. The shots are stored on a small memory card (which keeps its contents when removed from the camera) and are electronically transferred to his PC. This goes well with

his other new toy — a color inkjet printer. This Christmas letter is courtesy of that printer.

Dick still gets three newspapers a day and this plus the Internet, combine to make sure he's not getting out of touch with world events.

Our Oldest

Buttons, in his 17th year, is still hanging in there, though we got a scare this summer. It seems there was a mix-up in his medication, and he was erroneously getting tranquilizers instead of heart pills. He seemed totally disoriented, had difficulty walking, was incontinent, etc. We seriously thought this might be "The End," when Diana discovered the error and Buttons made a speedy recovery. This permitted him to return to the task at hand — sleeping. However, he was able to master a doggie door at our new home on the Oregon coast. He does his thing as long as he can successfully avoid being blown off the deck during storms.



Waiting for Santa - 12/96

The Coast

After three years of planning and execution, our coast home was completed this September. It overlooks the ocean on a 100 foot bluff north of Yaquina Head Light in Newport, Oregon. While it was a lot of work, we are really pleased with how it turned out. So far we're spending about 30% of our time there, but only time will tell what the "steady state" split will be between Lake Oswego and Newport. However, after three months, we're still waiting for a phone line from US "Worst."



Our new home on the Oregon Coast - 11/96

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season & the New Year

Well that's our year in brief. Everyone's health is good except for Buttons who now sleeps most of the time. We trust everything is well with you and wish you all a Merry Christmas and the best of New Years.