

The Gough Christmas Times

Oregon Year Nine

- Corey graduates from U of O
- Dick & Diana travel to Italy
- Intel sends Chris to Taiwan (for a while)

Pictures on the reverse. Details follow...

The Big Kids

The big kids were joined by "The Boys" as we attended the 1998 Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA. Despite having been born and raised in southern Cal, Diana had never attended a Rose Parade (or Game). We picked a tour off the internet and journeyed south despite some concerns that El Nino would transform the usually sunny weather into the first Rose Bowl downpour in 20 years (bright sunshine). There's a picture of Corey, Chris and Diana at the Rose Bowl with Corey intently trying to handicap the point spread (Michigan beat Washington State, but it was close). Since Diana's birthday is Jan 1, we all celebrated New Year's eve with a special dinner at a neat restaurant called Rockenwagner in Santa Monica. Out front there was a 20 foot high Christmas tree sculpture made from stacked chrome shopping carts; it sounds hokey, but you had to see it. Must have been 50 carts. All had a wonderful time.

Keeping with the theme of escaping the winter rain in Oregon, we headed for Palm Desert, CA in March for hiking and golf. We were blessed with great weather and no El Nino effect, although earlier rains had created the conditions for spectacular desert wildflower blooming. Neat! There's a picture of us with a friendly Joshua tree in the National Park of the same name. You can tell that we Oregonians are not totally adjusted to sunlight yet.

Our big trip this year was to Italy. This was our first ever vacation in Europe, though Dick had made several biz trips there over the years. To prepare, we took Italian at the local community college. We both feel that it made the trip more enjoyable, especially as the instructor was able to spend time on Italian culture and customs. There's a shot of Dick at the Arch of Constantine in Rome

and one of Diana throwing a coin into the Trevi fountain, also in Rome. Legend has it that if you throw the coin over your left shoulder as Diana is doing, you will return.

During our annual trip to Laguna Beach, we visited with Gloria Forster, Diana's sister. We had a fine time, got driven off the golf course by an El Nino rain storm, but returned to finish the round. There's a shot of the "Sisters".

We also spent lots of time at our place in Newport. There's a sunset picture taken from our home there. Diana is continuing with her gardening and we have a shot of some of her handiwork (you should see the back yard!)

The Boys

The big event this year was Corey's graduation. Corey got his degree in Computer Science from the University of Oregon in June and joined Intel as a software engineer, like Chris. He leased an apartment in the in downtown Portland in the "Northwest District" (lots of action). Everything seems to be working well for him, but if he needs it, his apartment is only a block away from the medical center.

Chris (who hit the quarter century mark this summer) is busy conducting development courses for Intel. This year he's been to San Jose, Palm Springs, and this fall to Taiwan. In between all this travel he also works at his real job, software development. There are recent shots of both "boys" taken at our place in Lake Oswego.

Well, that's a quick overview. We hope everything's well with you and wish you a Merry Christmas and the best of New Years. Let's all enjoy it as it's the last one before the dreaded Y2K hits on 1/1/00 (double ough?).

The Oregon Goughs