

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS, 1989

Well! We survived another eventful year and an EARTHQUAKE. None of our various dwellings nor work/school places suffered structural damage during the 7.1 'quake in October. Barbara was stuck in The City, but spent the night with friends and flashlights watching the fires in the Marina District just a few blocks away. Chris' dorm, being quite near the epicenter, was evacuated, but everyone was allowed back in later that night. Mike stayed home and picked up books and broken glass; Dottie found the fallen toothpaste and had whiter teeth. The numerous closed roads in the aftermath added quite a lot of time to Barbara's already-lengthy commute and kept Chris nailed down in Santa Cruz; but when both the Bay Bridge and Highway 17 opened up again (on the same day no less), traveling around the Bay Area resumed.

Barbara and Mike, with an nest empty, enjoyed a few outings. The most notable was nearly a month in Hawaii where we met up with our friend, Sue Grose, for one week and were given the grand tour of the Hawaii Volcano Observatory by another old friend and geology colleague, Dick Fiske. We burned up about 6 rolls of film from a helicopter flying over Kilauea Volcano a few weeks before the volcano burned up the Visitors Center on the coast. Another two weeks were spent on Kauai soaking up sun. Other trips found us in Big Sur and on a nice day hike at Point Reyes.

Barbara's work at Planned Parenthood has been nothing if not intense with the advent of the Webster decision by the Supreme Court. California State then added insult to injury by cutting the funding for the Office of Family Planning. Happily, she has a large new project supervising the fiscal management of 8 community drug and health-care agencies working to control AIDS among high-risk women. In her "spare" time, she is active on the Board of Directors of an inner-city day-care agency for children who come from high-risk families; ones with drug problems, from split families, or who's parents are incarcerated. She also has donated time to the Board of the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Mike's been busy too. The second biannual Boot 'n Blister reunion backpack was held this year at Canyon Creek in the Klamath Mountains and was enjoyed by nearly 30 of his old cronies. During a symposium in the White Mountains, Mike had a chance to haunt his old thesis area and get in a little mountain biking. He also gave two papers on mineral resource potential: one in southern California and one at the Geological Society of America. A new project for him is the Yucca Mountain radioactive-waste project. Problems include everything from potential mineral exploration by future undeveloped civilizations to disturbance of the Desert Tortoise.

Chris had both an eventful school year and a productive, if overly practical summer. He declared his major in Political Theory at U.C. Santa Cruz where he is in his third year. This summer he got a job at Blockbuster Video with which he financed his "new" '77 Datsun. Randy continues to work at Computer Ware whilst attempting to interest investors in business deals. His little rent-free house that was scheduled to be torn down has evaded the wrecking ball yet another year, thereby continuing to put off the realities of living on ones' own. The dogs even had their share of adventures: Dottie figured out how to open the inner yard gate so both dogs had a couple of days of fun doing the Doggie "500" on the lawn and reenacting the China Syndrome in the flower beds. The Odd Couple also got through the street gate somehow and had more adventures than they liked until saved by kind neighbors who took them home in their Rolls Royce. Both gates have been "improved."

The whole gang here in the greater northern San Andreas Fault zone wish all of you good health and peace, and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love,
Barbara, Mike, Chris, Randy, and the dogs, Duffy and Dottie