

**JOY TO THE WORLD ..... A GRANDSON IS BORN!!!!** Yes, we are now very proud Grandparents. On Monday, May 29th, 1995, at 6:31 a.m., Benjamin John Clancey was born at Peace Arch Hospital in White Rock. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and Paige and Ben were both fine. In fact Paige went home the next morning. Of course, Ben is the most beautiful little boy in the entire world!! Paige was only in labour for 6 hours and had no difficulty at all. Both Gord and I were with them most of the time and it truly was a joy. Ben is now 6 months old and is developing quickly and is more joyful each time we see him.



It seems the birth of Benjamin was the highlight of our year, but we did manage to enjoy some other things as well. In January we signed up for a ballroom dancing course with some friends of ours and had a ball. We have always enjoyed dancing, but usually just did our own thing. It's now great to be able to waltz properly, fox-trot, rumba, samba and cha-cha. The tango is the only one that stumped us. I guess an advanced course will be next.

Our Japanese Daughter was right in the middle of the big earthquake in Osaka/Kobe in January. We tried for days to contact her and finally 3 days after the quake she was able to get through to us. Her apartment in Osaka was damaged, but she only suffered a few cuts and bruises. Her mother's beauty salon was totally destroyed and her Mom's house across the street only suffered a few cracks. Junko works for Proctor & Gamble in Kobe and their building was so badly damaged, they were unable to work in it for nearly 5 months. The photos she sent us were unbelievable and her letter describing the quake itself, heart wrenching.

Gord worked and studied very hard the first 3 months of the year to achieve DIVE MASTER status. This level is second from the highest in SCUBA, being Instructor. The dive master course is long and very difficult. Gord was the only one in his class to pass the physical and written tests the first time. He now is able to escort dive trips and assist the instructors in teaching, which gives him more experience each time.

As Gord mentioned last year in our annual letter, we sold both Basic Business Systems Ltd. and Prime Leasing Ltd. and Gord had a 2 year employment agreement. In April of this year, Danka, the company who bought us out, decided they didn't know enough about computers and dictation equipment to continue with those products. Their claim to fame is photocopiers. They made Gord a proposition to take back the computers and dictation portion of the business, keep the name "Basic Business Systems" and take the staff who worked in those divisions. So, guess what – you're right, we're back in business. Gord and 7 of his original staff are now operating as "Basic Business Systems (1995) Ltd. Paige, of course, is still working with Gord, but her Husband, Mitch, as a copier technician is still employed by Danka. Now that Gord has set up the new company, he is working on a plan to gradually turn it over to his employees, act as a consultant and work toward retirement. To this end, I started working 4 days a week in March and can truly say I am enjoying it. I firmly believe that as you get older they make the days shorter and you don't get as much

done.

Our 30th wedding anniversary was on February 12th, so to celebrate the occasion we went on an 18 day cruise with some friends of ours who celebrated their 40th anniversary. We flew to Miami, Florida, then boarded the Crown Princess. Many relaxing days were spent at sea, but day long stops were made at Montego Bay, Jamaica; Cartagena, Colombia; through the Panama Canal; Puerto Caldera, Costa Rica; Acapulco and Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; San Francisco and right back to Vancouver. This was our 7th cruise and truly the most interesting. As we transited the canal, the temperature was 118F with 95% humidity. The air-conditioning on the ship was a welcome comfort.

It was only a couple of weeks after our return that Benjamin arrived and, of course, many of our summers days were spent with Paige, Mitch and Ben. In July Paige had a seizure and was rushed to hospital by ambulance. Tests were done and two EEGs have indicated she has a predisposition to further seizures. She has never had a seizure before, but specialists feel a combination of things (including breast-feeding, being over-tired and low blood sugar) at the time caused an "over-load" situation. She hasn't had another one and the longer she goes without having another, will mean it less likely she will. She is taking very good care of herself and has been advised not to SCUBA dive.

In September the Brow\Clancey clan (Gord, myself, Mitch, Paige and Ben) set out for Saskatchewan for a family reunion. We rented a 29' motor home (my way of camping) and travelled via Kamloops, Jasper, Lake Louise, Calgary to Regina. Had a great visit with my many, many relatives and everyone met Ben. We returned through Montana, Lethbridge, Idaho and Washington State. It took 18 days and we enjoyed wonderful hot weather except for one day of rain. Ben was very good and has slept through the night since he was just a couple of weeks old.

We are looking forward to sharing Ben's first Christmas. He plans to hang up his stocking at our house. Christmas Day we will all have Christmas Dinner with Mitch's parents and his sister and family.

Gord is busy planning a location move of the office (only a few blocks in distance) and at the same time looking forward to Paige's return to work in January. She has been working from home, but in January will return to the office on a regular work basis.

For those of you who can communicate by email our email address is "gbrow@uniserve.com". At the rate things are moving, perhaps before too long we will be sending our Xmas letter by email. It's truly amazing what can be done.

We hope this letter finds each and everyone of you enjoying life as we are. May you have a very happy holiday season and all the best in the New Year ahead.

