

Merry Christmas



Seasons greetings everybody.

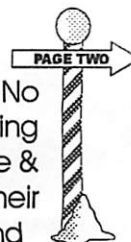
*Make new friends
but keep the old
one is silver
the other gold*

You will see from our letterhead created by Gord, that our Grandson, Benjamin, is growing like a weed. He's so special and it's so wonderful to watch him grow and learn. He will be 2 on May 29th.

We had a busy year. In April Gordon and I flew to Albuquerque, New Mexico. At least that's where we ended up. Because of flight arrangements we took different airlines. We both left Vancouver at the same time. I flew to Dallas, Texas, and was to change planes and go on to Albuquerque. Gord flew to Denver, Colorado, changed planes and flew on to Albuquerque. The only problem was I was held up in Dallas for 9 hours. Good thing we had a Plan "B". Gord had gone to the hotel & checked in. I finally joined him about 3:30 a.m. We rented a car and covered most of the State in a week. Santa Fe was wonderful, the Carlsbad Caverns were astounding and so were the pueblos of the Navajo, Apache and Acoma Indians. There is still so much native culture there. Not only the Indian cultures, but Mexican as well, since New Mexico remained a Mexican territory until 1912 when it became the 47th U.S. state. We even dipped down into Texas and spent a night in El Paso on the banks of the Rio Grande.

Benjamin's 1st birthday was May 29th. Not walking at that point, but very much into birthday cake. The day before Ben's first birthday, Paige suffered her second seizure after going nearly a year without having one. Further trips to the neurologist, KAT scans and also an MRI showed no tumours or irregularities. The neurologist suggested she go on medication, but she declined because of possible side effects and serious possible effects to an unborn fetus should she conceive again. July 16th brought a 3rd seizure. This time she realized she may lose her drivers licence if it should happen again, although all 3 seizures happened while she was sleeping. She then decided to take the medication and is still on it, although the neurologists have found nothing. By chance a massage therapist referred her to a cranial therapist. This therapist told her that everyone has 26 bones in the skull which all move. She has 4 bones on the left side which don't move. By cranial therapy, he is training those bones to move again. He feels it's a result of her accident in 1986 when she was hit by a drunk driver. She is feeling better, no headaches and no more seizures so far. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

A stroke of luck the beginning of June. A one acre corner lot just down the street from us went up for sale. No one was interested because a biker had lived in the house for 16 years and during that time had done nothing - not even to mow the lawn. We looked at the house with Paige and Mitch and saw the possibilities. Paige & Mitch put in a low offer, he countered much lower than the listing and they got the place. They sold their condo in Langley within 1 1/2 weeks and the work began. We worked real hard, stripped the entire house and



replaced everything (carpets, lino, cupboards, vanities, bathroom, laundry & kitchen fittings & most light fixtures). It looks great now (on the inside anyway). Next Spring they will start on the outside. It's a 2 level, 2800 square foot house with double garage & workshop attached, and a separate 1600 sq. foot steel, heated, wired, workshop. Every handy man's dream. Mitch loves it. We love it too, as Benjamin is real close by.

After the Clanceys moved into their house the middle of August, Gordon and I needed a vacation. We flew to the Channel Islands to visit with some old friends who now live on Guernsey. After a week in the Channel Islands, we flew with our friends in their twin engine plane across the English Channel, over the beaches of Normandy to Versailles. Left the plane there & took a train the short distance into Paris. The 4 of us stayed at a hotel just a couple of blocks from the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedral, etc. and just enjoyed the city for 3 days. We then flew to Dijon in the heart of the burgundy wine district. There we stayed in an old Chateau in the small village of Ste. Sabine for 3 days and rented a car to tour around. Then it was on to St. Malo on the coast of Brittany for 3 more days. This is the old city where Jacques Cartier set sail when he discovered the St. Lawrence River. Very historic. Back to Guernsey for a night, then our friends flew us to Exeter in the south of England where we bid them farewell. The 2 of us rented a car and drove through Devon and Cornwall, right out to Lands End. If we were ever meant to get a divorce it would have been those first few days of Gord driving a fairly large car on the wrong side of narrow roads enclosed by stone walls!!!! Gord actually did a great job and we made it back to Windsor and on to Heathrow in a week to catch our plane home without even one scratch on the car!! Great holiday and a good visit with old friends.

Gord is still SCUBA diving and can hardly wait until Benjamin is old enough to join him. It will be awhile yet. I'm working 4 days a week and with 5 weeks vacation, it seems like I don't work very much. I still enjoy my work though and will probably keep at it until Gord decides to retire. The computer business is a boom these days and each day brings something new, so he and Paige are really into it. His new company is doing well and is almost 2 years old. He's trying to keep the staff small (10 employees most of whom came with him from the old company).

That's all the news from the Brow house. We are enjoying good health and hope you and your family are as well. May you all have a Happy Holiday season. Please keep in touch. We really do enjoy hearing from everyone.

