

Merry Christmas!

December 2005

Every year we try to take a minute to let our friends and family know how much we love you and think about you during the year. We love to hear your news and we hope you like reading our news also. If you don't, well, just throw this letter away right now!

This is what's up with us-----

Dale is still working at Kawasaki as a systems programmer. This coming April he will mark his 30th anniversary there. He also still runs sound for concerts on occasion, filling in when the soundman at Living Traditions can't be there. This year he sang a wonderful solo of "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" for our church choir's Christmas concert. He and long-time friend and fellow-picker Howard Simpson have formed a new group to present musical offerings during worship, such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" and a little ditty called "Life is a Ballgame" during the World Series. They have a lot of fun and sound great!

Matt is still going to Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village (Lake Tahoe), majoring in computer animation. His classes are challenging and interesting, with chances to go to conventions and on behind-the-scenes studio tours. He and his girlfriend Jennifer went on Sierra Service Project last summer and fixed the roof of a church and homes of the elderly in downtown L.A., the first time SSP has worked in the inner city. It was a very rewarding experience for both of them.

As for me, I am now halfway through the three-year Masters of Divinity program at Claremont School of Theology. One of my five classes this year is an internship at a local church. I am very fortunate to be working at Santa Margarita United Methodist Church, serving a young, growing congregation with an incredibly gifted pastor. I am on track for both graduation and ordination in 2007.

We spent a few days in Yosemite in the summer, enjoying our favorite place together. Dale and I also spent two weeks in Berkeley while I took a class at my dad's alma mater, Pacific School of Religion. Overall, it was a rather hectic summer, with Matt at various conferences and me teaching summer school and Dale working. It was still a great summer! We enjoyed our time together when we had some!

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may the light of Christ shine on you and your loved ones, lighting the way to hope and peace in your lives and in the world in 2006. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Love from Dale, Sharon, and Matt McCart

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