

Greetings to all of you,

It is the day after Thanksgiving, Ted is on the plane back to Austin, and Anne and I are still feeling the effects of the tryptophan in the turkey. Our Thanksgiving was planned for 10, but celebrated with 4. Anne's sister's husband Charley is trying to finish a second round of running a marathon in every state. He ended up running the New York Marathon with a pain in one leg. When he returned they finally diagnosed a DVT (deep vein thrombosis) from the plane ride to the marathon. He was in the hospital a little less than a week, with orders not to ride in a car or plane in the near future. He is getting back to normal, but could not make the trip from the LA area to northern CA. Their youngest son and family decided to celebrate with them in LA.



Ted with Grandma Carol

This has been a fairly uneventful year for us. Anne's sister is coming to the end of her successful chemotherapy for breast cancer. Anne's mother, Carol, is having back problems but still enjoys having people come to see her. We take her out to eat every Sunday after church. Anne gets together with her during the week usually for lunch and errands.

One of the Christmas presents the family gave her last year was an electronic picture frame. She enjoys watching the pictures and movies we put on from email, She is still amazed that they can be taken in Denver one day and shown to her the next.



Barry's Mother and Grandmother

Barry went to visit his Mom this summer. He saw his Grandma (who will be 101 this December) and took his Mom to visit Karen in Wisconsin. Mom was with Karen in Wisconsin over the Thanksgiving holidays.

Anne continues to volunteer at the Santa Maria Urban Ministry, teaching on Wednesdays in a preschool type program. She is also active at church and is leader of the church book group.

Barry is still with Pelikan Technologies. They have just announced availability of their first product in the US. For more information: <http://www.pelikantechnologies.com/>

Barry is sporadically scanning tens of thousands of old slides and negatives (as well as taking thousands of new pictures). If you want to keep up to date, you can check both of these web sites: <http://bdbriggs.dyndns.org/> or <http://picasaweb.google.com/briggsbd>.

Jon recently changed ITS Companies, but is working the same place. The company he had worked for the last 7 years lost the contract to provide IT services for the Reinsurance Companies he supports, so he went to work for the new one, ATS. Ironically, ATS is based in Peoria and is the same one his Grandfather worked for after he retired from Caterpillar. It is a really small world. Jon visited he Grandmother and Great Grandmother while he was in Peoria this fall for orientation with ATS. Jon was also here to visit us, once on vacation (lots of pictures on the web sites) and once on business to help the local office move to a new building. A highlight of his vacation was attending the Classic Car Races at Laguna Seca. For those of you who saw the movie “Cars”, here is the real thing.



The real Hudson Hornet from “Cars”

We still do not have any grandchildren. That is probably a good thing since neither son is married. We have a grand kitty, Missy, through Jon.

Lately, the hummingbirds at our front feeder have been putting on a show. For some reason they have decided that it is much better than the back feeder. It is not unusual for 5 or 6 to be vying for 4 perches. We have been filling it once every two days or more. More pictures are available on the Google web page.



If you have email, we would enjoy hearing from you (of course snail mail is welcome too).
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Best Wishes for a Blessed Christmas and all the Best in the New Year,

Anne + Barry