

2 December 1978

Seasons Greetings to Everyone:

The Pease family is spending its second Christmas in New Jersey, and is a little more settled in than we were last year at this time. We are finally getting used to being nonstudents, a difficult task considering the amount of time spent in school versus out. Kevin is our only student now. He is seven and in the second grade at Central School. This year at school has been better for him due to having a better teacher than he had last year. He continues to show the most interest in academic subjects and in art, which is understandable considering his parents interests. He enjoys romping inside and out with our one year old mutt named Josh. Their weights being equal now, it is a tossup who will win when they start playing tug of war with an old bicycle tire.

Suzanne is continuing her painting and has been improving her portrait ability, enough to produce a recognizable self-portrait. She has a job three days a week with a local nursery school which keeps her repertoire of stories about kids full. Unfortunately it does not produce as many dollars as it does stories, but she has a proposal in at Bell Labs for doing the preliminary study for day care there. If the study is funded she will have a more challenging job next year.

Rod is working in West Long Branch, N.J. now since his department was moved from the Holmdel facility. He is working on the same large project as last year but has inherited the mantle of 'expert' on the code after everyone who knew anything either left the department or the Labs. He is learning a lot about how projects are handled (or mishandled) in the real world, but not very much about computing. Science Fiction and gardening have taken up much of his free time. The gardening season is much longer here (and the bugs more prolific) than in Pullman, so adjustments still need to be made, but the claim of New Jersey to " The Garden State " seems well merited.

The family took no long trips this year, but managed a few long weekends. We visited Washington D.C. and saw a good portion of the Smithsonian this fall. Hopefully the short vacations will leave Rod with enough vacation time for a longer trip next summer to visit the relatives in Louisiana, by way of Disneyworld in Florida. Kevin has already approved the plan, so only minor administrative details have yet to be settled.

We hope all of you are well and happy this Christmas season and look forward to hearing how the last year has treated you.

Suzanne, Rod and Kevin Pease