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26 December 1988

Happy New Year:

Procrastination strikes again. This year things were so busy in December that the supervisor in charge of Christmas letters did not prod the typist soon enough, hence a 1988 New Years letter. With luck this will reach you sometime before you have to pay your 1988 taxes. Part of the problem was the custom card, you know the story about how the cobblers children are shod. Suzanne's business has become a full time job in 1988, to the extent that drawing has become work and less pure fun. She has, however, stopped filling the office space with furniture. Now she just sits and wonders whether a 10,000 sq. ft. addition will be enough or whether it really should be 100,000 to provide room for growth. Usually a couple gentle taps with a college catalog (a rolled up financial aid form works well too) and she comes back to earth.

In mid 88 Rod made a move from the joys of administration back to the heartache of the technical work for which he was trained. He has actually been heard whistling on the way to work! It was a good time for a change, since the project he had been managing since 1983 had reached maturity and was due for a funding cut in 1989. He is now working on software to support the announcement of a new AT&T product in 1989. Rod has shown great improvement in his culinary activities in 1988. Chef Pease discovered an Indian food store which has provided new dimensions in his preparation of legumes (that's beans for you mere "cooks"). In recognition of his new stature, relatives in Louisiana have been sending him packages of Cajun food, merely hoping for inclusion of one of their offerings in one of his renowned masterpieces. It is a totally unfounded, scurrilous rumor that they have also sent concurrent sympathy cards to Suzanne and Kevin. Rod is still driving his 1974 Valiant - nobody else in the family will. In honor of its having reached the 100K mileage mark, he is actually shopping for a new car. Current estimates are that the purchase will happen any year now.

Kevin is in the middle of his Senior year at Manalapan High School. His major activity is filling out forms for college - somewhere with a Graphic Design program. Apparently Kevin has had enough science and math in high school and is ready to work with the other half of his brain for a while. He has been accepted at Rochester Institute of Technology, but seems more likely to go to Trenton State in NJ. Visits to both schools have left him with the impression that they are equivalent programs (in Graphic Design) and the costs at Trenton are less than half that of RIT. Rod favors Trenton sight unseen!

Vacations this year have been to college towns. We saw the University of TN in Knoxville this summer, with side trips to SIGGRAPH in Atlanta and to the Smokies. In November we visited RIT and Syracuse on a long weekend to look at those schools. Rod and Suzanne are looking forward to not having to plan their vacations around a public school calendar once Kevin is in college.

Best wishes in the coming year.

Rod, Suzanne, & Kevin