



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

414 Harbor Road
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Seasons Greetings:

The news from New Jersey this year is that our empty nest has become larger. Most people, when sending their children out into the world, start thinking of how they can do with less space, but not us! We took advantage of the downturn in the NJ building trades and added on to our house. While the addition is technically for the whole family, the only benefit Rod has seen so far is one parking space in the garage. Suzanne has taken over the livable space for her "office". In physics one learns that "nature abhors a vacuum" and this seems to apply to empty living space as well. Unfortunately while nature takes care of an absence of air, many trips to IKEA (and other furniture stores) are necessary to fill empty living spaces. The plus side is that Rod's office has been returned to him, along with some shelf space for a few of his Science Fiction books.

Suzanne's business has been busy during the year, but is tapering off now. This is due to both the down turn in real estate sales and the normal yearly cycle. It hasn't seemed to affect her schedule however. She is still active in the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (pronounced new-jawbo). For those of you unfamiliar with this organization, its activities are somewhat reminiscent of the "old jawbone" organization whose technological beginnings can be traced to Alexander Graham Bell's invention. Rod can't complain too much, since it is that same invention which has kept him employed over the last 14 years. Suzanne is serving this year as President of the Northern Monmouth Chapter of NJAWBO, which means involvement at the State level as well. She also visited Los Angeles for the convention of the National Association of Women Business Owners. There is absolutely no truth in the rumor that she was picked up by the LA police for rowdy behavior at a local night club.

Rod is still at Bell Labs in Red Hill NJ, working on the ACCUMASTER Integrator. While still involved in the demonstration system for product announcement and marketing, he also worked on the development of a few of the features for the system this year. His office mate is currently wondering why he is expected to develop software with only a single terminal when Rod has a PC, two SPARCstations and an AT&T 3b2/600 on his side of the office. There were fewer business trips with the product but more phone support. A trip to the International Communications Association conference in New Orleans in May gave the whole family a chance to visit New Orleans and see relatives in Lafayette. While Rod had to stay on the exhibit floor all day, Suzanne and Kevin got to see the city.

Kevin is a Sophomore at Trenton State this year, having survived his freshman year with a "B" average and various "art" residuals from the different projects. The one his dad likes the best is the perfect replica of the bottom of a bucket which he obtained by waiting just a little too long to pour the plaster. Kevin spent the summer at home working for Architectural Illustrations. This provided his mom with a lot of help and Kevin with more incentive to look for another summer job next year. His comic strip in the school newspaper is into its second successful year mostly addressing topics of local interest in the Trenton State area.

The Compaq never made it to school, nor did Kevin manage to sign up for any computer science courses during 1990. Without Kevin to keep it company it finally pined away in early September and is now laid to rest in the old computer graveyard. This meant another cycle of computer upgrading and yet more spare parts in the inventory. Architectural Illustrations can now do graphics at SuperVGA (1024x768) resolution. All it needs now is to round up some projects to pay for the upgrade. To help in this regard, Suzanne is registering another trade name, Ampersand Graphics, to attract the non-building trades to her company's list of clients.

Y'all have a good 1991!

Bob, Suzanne, & Kevin