

Rocky's Holiday Gazette —2001

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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

CHRISTMAS 2001

Seemed Like a Mexico Kind of Year

On our first trip to Mexico (Puerto Vallarta) a few years ago, we succumbed to the highly

skilled, highly polished, slick sales pitch of the resort Time-share salesmen, and ended up buying, jointly with our favorite neighbors and friends, Jim and Bev O'Rourke, a lifetime or two of vacations.



Sunset dinners and Margaritas—lovely!

In case we can't go every year (like last year), we can deposit our weeks and use them later. This

year, we did manage to use our time, plus another week we had deposited, so it was off to

Puerto Vallarta in February and Mazatlan in November. We do enjoy the heat and sunshine—especially at those times

We Had a Visit from JoAnn and the French Kids...

Since we missed our usual "every-other-year visit-the-kids" trip to France last year, we were excited, happy, anxious, (and lots of other emotions) to have them visit here in the US this year.

JoAnn, Zoë, and Ian arrived in early July and were here visiting me and in Hood River visiting

Susie for nearly six weeks. Zoë is sure growing up. Again, I'm so impressed with her English! She not only speaks fluent English, but loves to read in both languages. Ian, on the other hand, had never had the opportunity to be immersed in a completely English speaking situation for such a long time before, so his French was pretty good! The first thing Leonor taught him to say was "What's the problem, Dude?"



Ian and new kitty

He is such a clown that he loved the attention this phrase brought him! Now, the sad news: it



Zoë showing off her cast—she broke her wrist.

looks like JoAnn's marriage to Jean-Louis is ending in divorce... So sorry...



Another So-So Year for Tennis

Maybe you remember my last year's whining about my so-so year in tennis... This year was my first in the 55-year-old category, so I had great hopes! Well, it was every bit as mediocre as last year. I only played in three tournaments, and only won one.

My team tennis successes were somewhat better. Our adult team did pretty well, going undefeated through the season, and went to the sectional playoffs with great hopes of going to the Nationals in Tucson, AZ. We lost a close one in the final match, and lost our bid for the Nationals.

My senior team also played in the sectional playoffs, but with less success. We weren't even close to playing for the Northwest title and a trip to the Senior Nationals in Palm Springs. This is the first year I have not played in a National tournament in several years.

Oh, well, there's always next year...

More Pictures



Nick & Zoë



Carly & Nick swimming.



Zoë, Nick, Ian and Carly



Jesse and Nick playing Game Boy.



My girls, Kelly, JoAnn, and Jennifer



**Nick, Jesse, Zoë,
Ian and Carly**



Leonor & I enjoying a "Nick sandwich"

If you haven't been to my web site yet, come on over! See more pictures there, plus my Family Tree research. www.rockyp.com

Jen & Doug

Nothing really remarkable this year for Doug & Jen. We had a lot of fun with them this summer while JoAnn was visiting. They continue their jobs—Doug as a landscape company manager, and Jennifer still is a phone sales person for Eddie Bauer (I love it! I sure get nice clothes and accessories as gifts!).

They have their job schedules set so they have a minimum of day care time, and a maximum of quality Mommy and Daddy time. They are sure wonderful, loving parents to Nick and Carly. And wonderful daughter and son-in-law to us.

My work load right now is just about right. Plenty of work to do to keep me busy, but not so much that I feel undue pressure like the last couple of years. I like that—looks like we will be able to make our trip to Paris to visit JoAnn and family next year.

Jesse continues to live with us. He



Jeremy's first day of kindergarten

is now 11 and in 6th grade—Middle School here. All of a sudden this year, he has a large helping of homework—not his favorite thing, but he is adjusting to it. His little brother, Jeremy, is a regular visitor here, much to our pleasure. Leonor keeps very busy in her retirement, doing stuff for her kids, grand-kids, and me. I think she had more free time when she was working!

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