



Happy Holidays 2000 to our Family and Friends!



This has been another exciting year at the Erickson and Heilman household. Being DINKs (Duel Income No Kids), we have had a lot of fun and seen a few changes. We added a new member to our family, a guide dog puppy named Thorny. He has truly been like having a baby. Kristin will train and socialize him for a year. He attends school with Kristin and is the 30th member of her 5th grade class.

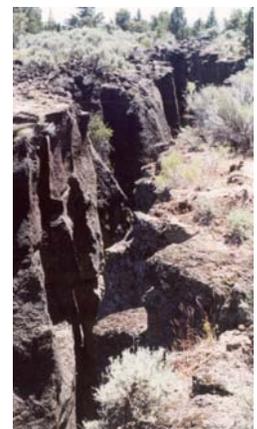
We spent Easter at Mom and Pop Heilman's. The egg and scavenger hunts were once again fun for all. Ariel had to climb a ladder to get to one of the "easier" eggs. Sharon, Brandon, and Colton came with us for Easter. Colton tried his hand at fly fishing for trout with Big Jerry.



We went to the Oregon Dunes during spring break. We hiked down a sandy bottomed river to the ocean. We saw many animal signs at the Dunes including black bear tracks!



We went to explore the Southeast corner of Oregon for Memorial weekend. Here is Jerry and Daisy on a huge dry lake bed in the Alvord Desert. The many hot springs were both beautiful and interesting to explore. Here's Kristin inside and outside of a lava tube once used by the Mason's for secret meetings. Crack in the Ground, from the crust of the earth separating, was really deep! We hiked down in it.



We went to another historical National Park Hotel for our 5th anniversary, the Oregon Caves. The hotel was rustic and the cave tour had many spectacular sights.





Kristin's mom, sister, and nephews Brandon and Colton came down to attend Da Vinci days with us. Brandon got second place in a roller blade contest.



We made new friends this year, Margit and Hogart. They came from Germany to live in Corvallis for awhile



We enjoyed the visit of Jerry's sister and family. Here are Steven and Mary with Jerry at Newport.



A highlight of the summer was a backpacking trip with our nephew Brandon. Jerry and Brandon made it to the summit of South Sister. Brandon became the "official" stove lighter for our meals.



We hosted a Halloween party again this year. Interesting critters attended including tea bags (Heather and Ken), a slice of lemon (Ally), and pregnant cow (Pam). Jerry was a scarecrow. Kristin was mother nature with Thorn the pumpkin.



Our one tragic event this year was the loss of our nephew Britton in a snowmobile accident in March. We continue to send many supportive and loving thoughts to Tim, Lilli and Lauren as they cope with this void. He was only 14 and is greatly missed.

We send you all our Warmest Wishes for a Wonderful Holiday Season!



Jerry and Kristin
Dogs Daisy and Thorn; Cats Missy, Sassy, and Tiggy;
Turtles Scooter, George, and Evenrude

