



Happy Holidays 2007!



Jerry and Audrey came to visit over the Memorial weekend. Everyone pitched in and really knocked back the overgrown farmyard. The two Jerrys had a large bonfire going to burn blackberry and tree cuttings. Mom and Kristin worked at pruning some of the many old fruit trees. The back area finally looks like a yard and not a blackberry jungle.



We finally made it to the Lochsa River in Northern Idaho. Dad Heilman has been talking about the river for years and the great fishing and camping stories turned out to be true...except for the 100 degree plus temperatures! The Jerrys favorite fishing spot turned out to be a tiny stream at an unnamed spot in South-eastern Washington! Some of the fish on the Lochsa gave them such a workout that Dad had to take naps in between fishing. We also enjoyed stopping at other roadside attractions, including this teapot gas station. It has been closed for awhile, which was given away by the \$1.11 gas price on the sign.



Jerry was accepted in to the Mazamas Climb Leader Development Program. He will have to lead many climbs over the next three years to get full climb leader status. He climbed Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson, and Middle Sister in Oregon and Mt. Daniels in Washington. Jerry is still active in the Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit. He was out on the big rescues on Mt. Hood last winter as well as other not so famous searches for lost hikers. Part of the Mountain Rescue's mission is public education, so Jerry and Todd set up a demonstration at the Benton County Fair.



Our great niece Taylor turned one this August. Jessica gave her a really fun party which included watching Taylor learn how to tear paper off of her gifts. Her uncle Brandon was helping her eat her first birthday cake! She liked the cake, but thought the ice cream was way too cold.





All the hard work on the yard earlier in the year paid off. We finally could invite people over for BBQs and parties. We had Kristin's family over to celebrate Colton's 14th birthday. We actually had to go buy a full sized BBQ since we only grilled on a Hibachi in the past. It was nice to see all five female generations in Kristin's family, especially great, great, grandmother Ruby. We think Colton had fun, but he is in that stage where smiling is not cool, so we were not sure ☺



We are currently raising our seventh seeing eye dog, Hollister. Kristin has already signed up for puppy number eight. Kristin and her mom attended the Fun Day at Guide Dogs for the Blind in Boring, Oregon. The theme was Mardi Gras Mutts and Hollister really seemed to enjoy his new sparkly collar.

Jerry joyfully quit his job at CBI and has returned to school to become a high school biology teacher. We held a big BBQ to celebrate. His co-workers at CBI were pretty upset that Jerry was leaving before they were!



Jerry, Jerry Jr, Chris, Nick, Bob, Rich, and Steven took part in the annual "After Thanksgiving Hike". They went to Umptanum Canyon and enjoyed the nature while trying to stay warm! They saw some mountain sheep and found an old homestead site. They saw a lot of what they thought was beaver activity until they noticed it was just Chris using his hard, pointy head. The ladies did their traditional after Thanksgiving shopping and survived the crowds.



The Jerry's projects this year included rigging up a rope and pulley system to help straighten the leaning bird and trumpet vine tree. Jerry used his mountain rescue rope skills to pull it back up...after testing the system on his sister's car by dragging it across the drive way!



Sending you warm wishes for the holidays and throughout the new year!



Jerry and Kristin
Dogs Yvette and Hollister; Cats Sassy, Tiggy, and Sunshing;
Turtles Scooter, George, and Evenrude

