



Happy Holidays 2008!



It has been a really busy year for us. Jerry has completed his student teaching and is waiting for his license as a middle/high school science teacher. He will substitute teach this winter and look for a full time job in the Fall. Kristin has kept herself busy being the best 5th grade teacher in the world and helping her family this year.



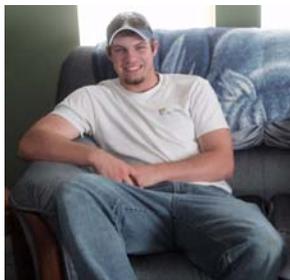
Jerry continues to work towards getting accepted as a climb leader with the Mazamas. He did climbs of Unicorn Peak, Middle Sister, Jefferson, Broken Top, South Sister, Thielsen; and McLoughlin this year. We both went on a trip to the Olympic Peninsula, where Jerry climbed Mt. Ellinor with a group of Mazamas - average age about 70! We enjoyed seeing the area and want to go back to explore Olympic National Park.



Jerry is still active in the Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit. He hasn't been able to participate in many rescues this year because of his school schedule. He looks forward to assisting in more searches now that he is done with his schooling!



Our nephew Nick graduated this year. We weren't able to attend the party, but heard it was a good time. Congratulations!



Our niece, Amber, got married to Adam in July. We went and helped get the folk's place ready for the festivities. Everything looked wonderful! We survived the very HOT day and everyone had a great time!

Kristin participated in a research project with Guide Dogs for the Blind this year. She was taught how to use a clicker to train her current puppy, Forsythe. She really enjoyed learning from the professional trainers and getting to use such a positive training technique. Forsythe has been a difficult pup to train and she is happy she had the clicker and food to reinforce good behaviors.



Kristin continues to enjoy training the pups and some of the fun activities associated with it. Kristin and Forsythe dressed as a clothes basket and a pile of dirty laundry for Halloween this year! Forsythe should go back for his professional training this winter. He is the eighth puppy we've trained!



Our guide dog puppy, Hollister graduated in August. He is happy living in Minnesota as the first guide for a young man named Dylan. As you can see from the pictures, they seem to have a lot of fun together.

Our big project with mom and dad Heilman this year was helping them finish the renovation of their rental house. They spent a large portion of this year repairing and updating the house. They were really happy to sell the house within a month of finishing the remodel this Fall.



Kristin's aunt Jay unfortunately died of cancer this year. When we were in graduate school, we really loved the time we had with her and John. Kristin will miss the craft fair shopping with her.



Kristin's uncle John came to celebrate Kristin's grandmother Ruby's 97th birthday this year. It was a nice time for everyone to see each other and talk about old times. We were especially glad we had this opportunity, since Ruby died about a month later. She lived a long life and was able to spend her last days with Kristin, Sharon, and Bunny.

Jerry, Dad Heilman, and uncles Bob and Less went on the annual day after Thanksgiving hike. They explored a canyon that went back into Manashtash Ridge. The canyon was settled at one point and still had an old cabin. No snow, but it was pretty cold, so they threw together a fire at the end. Warm!



Sending you warm wishes throughout the new year!

Jerry & Kristin
Dogs Yvette & Forsythe; Cats Sassy, Tiggy, & Sunshing;
Turtles Scooter, George, & Evenrude

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